

## Russell Clark named Underhill Highway Supervisor

By Jennifer Silpe, Underhill

### Finance Officer and Human Resource Administrator

The Town of Underhill announces the promotion of Russ Clark to Highway Supervisor and looks forward to his leadership of the Underhill Road Crew. The rest of the crew is still in place and working on hauling winter sand and completing several roadside projects as well as regular grading and maintenance of roadways and town property this summer.

Russ was born and raised in Underhill and was a member of the Underhill Jericho Fire Department for 18 years. Russ lives in Cambridge with his wife Kate and two sons, Tyler and Ryan. When he's not working, he enjoys quality time with his family, hunting, and watching his boys play sports.

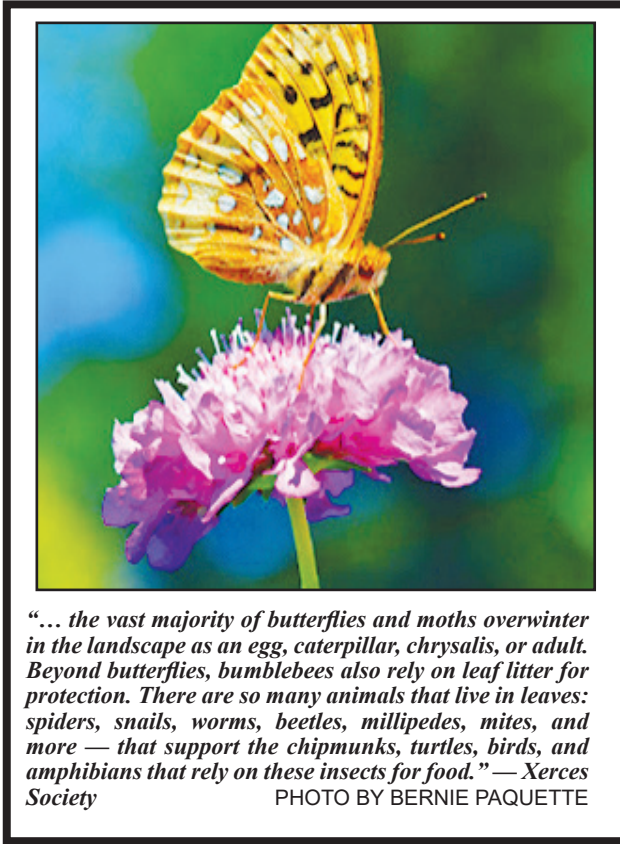
Professionally, Russ worked with his family operating Clark's Truck Center in Jericho, VT for 35 years.

You may see Russ on the roads. He's the guy who always puts his window down to say hello with a big smile. The municipal world may only be a year young for him, but while at Clark's Truck Center he worked with many municipalities and since joining the team last year, he has proven to understand the intricacies of municipal policies and procedures. Russ also smiles when he's driving a big truck — actually, he's always smiling.

Russ is excited to focus on accountability, communication, and safety as he enters this new phase of his employment with Underhill and we are encouraged and eager for him to lead the team and work with them and the Underhill office staff, boards, and committees to help maintain Underhill's highway infrastructure.

All inquiries related to Underhill Town roadways and rights-of-way can be directed to Russ at [rclark@underhillvt.gov](mailto:rclark@underhillvt.gov) or by calling the Town Garage, 802-899-9959.

Congratulations Russ!



“... the vast majority of butterflies and moths overwinter in the landscape as an egg, caterpillar, chrysalis, or adult. Beyond butterflies, bumblebees also rely on leaf litter for protection. There are so many animals that live in leaves: spiders, snails, worms, beetles, millipedes, mites, and more — that support the chipmunks, turtles, birds, and amphibians that rely on these insects for food.” — Xerxes Society  
PHOTO BY BERNIE PAQUETTE

## Safety alert: trail construction at Mills Riverside Park

We would like to make the users of Mills Riverside Park in Jericho aware of trail construction on West Fieldstone Loop. This project will be continuing through August, and into September depending on weather conditions.

Along with the construction there will be times when large dump trucks carrying stone material will be entering the park and delivering their load to a designated area.

Upon entering the park, dog walkers need to have their pets on leash at all times until they are beyond the work area. Parents and groups with small children also need to be alert to large construction vehicles operating within the park.

As we are excited to upgrade the trail system at the park, but we also want to make sure all of our patrons remain aware and safe from the current construction. We appreciate everyone's help in making this improvement as easy as possible for all our park visitors.

## Bolton tax bills to be mailed August 17

By Amy Grover, Bolton Town Clerk and Treasurer

Yep — you are right, you have NOT received your tax bill for FY 23-24! We anticipate the FY 23-24 tax bills to be in the mail on Thursday, August 17, 2023.

Please note: due to printer delays, the envelope will not say “TAX BILL ENCLOSED” as it has in years past, it will be a regular business envelope — be on the lookout! Thank you.

## Lamoille Valley Rail Trail news

At Governor Phil Scott's press conference on Tuesday, August 8, VT Secretary of Transportation Joe Flynn announced the reopening of part of the Lamoille Valley Rail Trail (LVRT): about 30 miles of the Trail, between Swanton and Cambridge Junction is available for use by the public.

Full repairs to the LVRT will take much longer.

## Help fund Jeffersonville Veterans Monument cleaning, repair

The Jeffersonville Veterans' Monument, carved from an enormous boulder and decorated with plaques commemorating those who served in World Wars I and II, turns 100 this November.

After a century, it's in need of some TLC, which American Legion Post #35 proposes to do with the services of Champlain Monuments, which has worked on stones in several Cambridge cemeteries. Champlain Monuments estimated that the work would cost approximately \$1700.

The work to be done includes a complete cleaning of the boulder surface, a light scrubbing of the plaques, the filling and repairing of a notch on the top platform that could be a tripping hazard, and smoothing and filling any gaps in a step that currently has a patched crack.

Donations may be sent to American Legion Post 35, Attn. Monument Repair, P.O. Box 96, Jeffersonville VT 05464; or donations may be sent via GoFundMe, <https://gofund.me/499fc0fe>.

## Town of Jericho road work: Skunk Hollow Road

By Paula Carrier, Assistant Town Administrator, Jericho

Two cross culverts below Tyler Place were scheduled to be completed by August 1, with paving construction from just above VT Rt. 117 extending 1.25 miles up the hill past Tyler Place expected to be done by Thursday, August 17 — weather permitting.

Below is a schedule of what work will happen during this time, again weather permitting. The road will be open and down to one lane, and there will be delays. Please seek an alternate route if you can.

- August 1-4: finish culvert, start on islands; finish dirt work.
- August 7-12: mill; full depth reclaim and start fine grade; finish fine grade if needed; pave.
- August 14-17: pave; guard rails and shoulders; finish shoulders; line striping.

## Estate/yard sale to benefit Neighbor Helping Neighbor

As many may know, several homes were impacted by flooding in the Great Halloween Flood of 2019. Since then, six homes have been working with the Town of Huntington to secure a buyout and it is finally happening.

While there is sadness to all of this, there is also opportunity. On Labor Day weekend, there will be a yard/estate/garage sale to benefit Neighbor Helping Neighbor (NHN), a community service fund hosted by the Huntington Community Church. Many neighbors have contributed to this fund over the 12 years it has existed, and many have benefited from it. In the same spirit, donations to this sale are coming from many sources (not just homes being bought out), and all proceeds will be given to the NHN fund to serve the local community.

There will be large items (trailers, lawn tractors, generators, furniture, etc.), medium items (power tools, shop cabinets, bicycles, etc.) and small items (dishware, hand tools, clothing, books, etc.) available for sale. Please consider setting an hour or so aside on that weekend to visit us and help this cause. Who knows, you may find that special something you've always wanted! You'll almost certainly bump into a neighbor!

Please direct any questions, including location and hours as we get closer to Labor Day, to Michel, [mlucagilbert@gmail.com](mailto:mlucagilbert@gmail.com).

## Jericho updates, upcoming meetings and events

This month we feature Jericho's Town Library Director, Catherine Bass. To read more, go online to <https://jerichovt.org/Celebrating-Each-Other>.

**Meeting changes:** Due to summer scheduling the Jericho Conservation Commission will not hold a meeting in August and the Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion meeting will be moved to Wednesday, August 23 on Zoom.

**Selectboard:** The Town of Jericho, along with the Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission (CCRPC) is working with Stantec engineers to conduct a scoping study to examine the feasibility, impacts, and costs associated with a new 5- to 10-foot-wide shared use path to connect the Jericho Corners area to the Riverside Village/Underhill Flats area. Read more here: <https://jerichovt.org/connecting-jericho-corners-and-riverside>.

At the Selectboard meeting on July 20 some modifications to previous plans were presented, including the suggested implementation of a traffic calming measure known as “Advisory Lanes.” Watch the Multimodal Path presentation at the July 20

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## FLOOD INFORMATION

### Cambridge Village tax bills

By **Georgiana Little, Cambridge Village Treasurer**

I want to apologize to all property owners in Cambridge Village. I just sent out the tax bills for this year. I know the timing is awful, but I had to get them out. If it helps any, I'm in the same situation as you are. The tax is due by Friday, September 15, but I won't be assessing penalties until November 1.

If anyone would like to set up a payment plan, please contact me. My email and phone number are on the invoice. We will all get through this and have a lovelier Village in the end.

### Free test kits for well water affected by flood

From the VT Department of Health

If your drinking water comes from a private well or spring that was affected by recent flooding, you can get a free test kit to make sure your water is safe to drink. To get your free kit:

- Have one mailed to you by calling the Department of Health Lab, 802-338-4724.

- Pick one up at your Local Health Office: <https://www.HealthVermont.gov/Local> (in Chittenden County, you can pick up at the Department of Health Lab: <https://www.healthvermont.gov/lab/contact-usdirections>).

- Pick one up at a flood resource center (MARC): <https://vem.vermont.gov/flood/marc>.

For more information, go online to <https://www.HealthVermont.gov/WaterTesting>. There, you can watch a video on how to take your water samples and find more information on where to get safe water, understanding your results, and what steps to take next.

Remember, until you receive your results, assume your water is contaminated and do not drink or use it.

### Cambridge Greenway flood repair update

By **Laird MacDowell, Chair, Cambridge Trails Committee**

In last week's *News and Citizen* newspaper, the Town of Cambridge posted a Public Notice advertising for contractor bids to repair the Greenway Path from flood damage. The 1.25-mile-long path was heavily damaged in several sections from the July 11 flood, which will require reconstruction of 6500 feet of crushed gravel recreational path, 195 feet of Lamoille River stabilization and 135 feet of Brewster River stabilization.

Contractor bids are due to the Town Administrator, Jonathan DeLaBruere, by Monday, August 21 and the construction cost is estimated to range from \$250,000-500,000 with the majority covered by emergency FEMA funding. The project is expected to be completed by fall, assuming State permits can be obtained quickly.

For both public safety and liability concerns, the Greenway is closed to all uses until repairs can be completed. VTrans just announced that the LVRT section from Cambridge Junction to Swanton is now open to all users, so that path is available for pedestrians and cyclists in place of the Greenway. The Missisquoi Valley Rail Trail, which intersects the LVRT in Sheldon Junction, is also open for all users.

### Applications open for VT Business Flood Assistance funding

By **Pat Ripley, Lamoille Economic Development Corporation**

The VT Department of Economic Development has created the Business Emergency Gap Assistance Program (BEGAP). This \$20 million grant program is for businesses and nonprofits that suffered physical damages from flooding dating back to July 7, 2023. Applicants must intend on restoring, reopening, and

bringing their employees back to work as soon as possible and will utilize these grant funds for that purpose.

The fund is being distributed on a *first-come-first-served* basis so it is important that you file your application as soon as possible. Incomplete applications will be returned to applicants for revision and will take more time to process. Applications will be approved on a rolling basis until all funds are expended. The application portal is now open.

To apply, go online to <https://accd.vermont.gov/economic-development/flood-emergency-funding>.

### Portions of Lamoille Valley Rail Trail back open

By **Pat Ripley, LEDC**

The Agency of Transportation (AOT) announced on Tuesday, August 8 that it has reopened two lengthy segments of the Lamoille Valley Rail Trail (LVRT) after completing damage assessment and some repairs from the recent flooding. This comes as great news to area businesses who see important revenue from LVRT users.

The 30.3-mile section from Swanton to Cambridge Junction and the 19.5 miles from St. Johnsbury to Walden at the intersection of the trail and VT Rt. 15 are now open for public use. AOT's District Maintenance crews repaired minor washouts, completed surface repairs, and removed debris from these segments of the LVRT in order to reopen them to the public.

The LVRT runs from St. Johnsbury to Swanton and is approximately 93 miles long; the reopened sections total 49.8 miles. The entire trail was assessed for damage from the recent storm events and flooding. The most significant damage was through the central part of the state, leaving the eastern and western ends of the LVRT with only minor damage.

The remaining 43.2 miles of the LVRT between Cambridge and Walden remain closed until further notice due to many different types of damage — including complete bridge washouts, complete culvert washouts, and severe slope failures that are blocking the trail or have washed out the trail altogether. A total of 103 sites remain damaged and closed. The Agency has hired contractors for 57 of the sites and is working to get the remaining work under contract for repairs soon.

Among the damaged and closed sites, 16 require civil engineering planning and will be long-term projects with repairs that are not likely to be completed until sometime in 2024. The specific timelines will be dependent on materials, contractor availability, and permitting required to complete the projects.

AOT anticipates reopening additional sections of the trail during the next several weeks and months and into next year. The next area of focus will be the 15-mile segment from Cambridge Junction to Morrisville, with an expected reopening later this month.

*The remaining closed segments of the trail are fully closed to all trail users and must not be accessed by the public. Although some closed areas may appear passable, the surface and embankments are compromised and could present unseen hazards.*

Trail updates are posted on the Vermont Rail Trail System website at <https://railtrails.vermont.gov/trail-updates/>.

### Flood-related hazardous materials collection sites

From **Lamoille Regional Solid Waste Management District Board**

In conjunction with the U.S. E.P.A., the VT Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) is offering disposal assistance for flood related hazardous materials. Please see below for details. To protect solid waste workers and public health, it is important that businesses and their contractors, cleanup crews, and volunteers separate flood-related hazardous materials

from trash and ensure they are transported to an appropriate destination.

The U.S. EPA is working with the State of Vermont for a limited time, so please take advantage of these resources while they are available.

If you have any questions, please call the DEC Solid Waste Management Program at 802-828-1138.

Residents, businesses and towns can self-transport flood-related hazardous materials to local collection locations and events listed online at <https://dec.vermont.gov/flood-related-hazardous-materials-assistance>. Please contact the sites directly for operating hours and drop-off instructions.

**Accepted materials:** Flood-related hazardous materials must be a part of a flood clean-out and commonly include: cleaners, chemicals, paint, paint thinners/stripers, pesticides, gasoline, oil, propane and other gas cylinders, batteries, fluorescent bulbs, mercury thermostats, mercury thermometers, and other dangerous or toxic wastes.

**Materials not accepted:** explosives, fireworks, flares, ammunition, sharps, electronics, non-hazardous flood debris, or solid waste. For assistance disposing flood-related explosives, fireworks, flares, and ammunition, contact your local fire or police department.

Businesses may bring up to ten (10) 5-gallon containers of flood-related hazardous materials to the State of Vermont collection site in Middlesex. Any business that exceeds the above amount can call the Hazardous Materials Program at 802-828-1138 for assistance.

Towns that have collected flood-related hazardous wastes from residential or business clean-outs may self-transport to the Middlesex location. Alternatively, if a town would like to arrange a pickup or to host a temporary collection site, please call the DEC Solid Waste Management Program at 802-828-1138.

**Other flood recovery resources**

For more information on flood recovery resources from the Agency of Natural Resources, Department of Environmental Conservation, Fish and Wildlife Department, or the Department of Forests, Parks, and Recreation, visit <http://www.ANR.Vermont.gov/Flood>.

### Flood recovery resources from WOW

From the organization Women Owning Woodlands VT (WOW), an initiative of Vermont Coverts, Vermont Land Trust, Vermont Woodlands Association, UVM Extension, Vermont Department of Forests Parks and Recreation and Vermont Department of Fish and Wildlife — here are links to resources for Vermonters:

**Resources to help in the recovery process:**

To apply for federal financial assistance, visit <https://www.fema.gov/disaster/4720> or call 1-800-621-3362

Find out if your community is under a boil-water notice: <https://anrweb.vt.gov/DEC/DWGWP/license.aspx?Report=Boil>

Agency of Natural Resources Flood Recovery Resources: <https://anr.vermont.gov/flood>

Road closures: <https://newengland511.org/>

Forecasts and water levels for specific rivers: <https://water.weather.gov/ahps2/index.php?wfo=BTW>

**Woodland specific flooding and recovery resources:**

How to manage flood damage to trees: <https://extension.umn.edu/planting-and-growing-guides/how-manage-flood-damage-trees>

Vermont's Forestry Acceptable Management Practices Website: <https://fpr.vermont.gov/forest/managing-your-woodlands/acceptable-management-practices>

Landowners Guide to Forest Access Roads: <https://www.landcan.org/pdfs/accessroads.pdf>

Learn more about NRCS funding for trail erosion, water quality, and soil issues: <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/conservation-basics/conservation-by-state/vermont/local-service-centers>

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SB meeting at <https://mtvmansfieldctv.org/jericho-meetings/>.

Watch a webinar on Advisory Lanes/Edge Lane Roads from Local Motion here: [https://www.localmotion.org/webinar\\_edge\\_lane\\_road\\_a\\_solution\\_for\\_vermont\\_towns](https://www.localmotion.org/webinar_edge_lane_road_a_solution_for_vermont_towns).

**Planning Commission:** At their August 1 meeting the PC heard from the chairs of each Town Committee to receive feedback on the Town Plan draft. The slides for each of the Town Plan information sessions are posted on the Town Plan 2024 page (Updates & Results button). Click here for the links to read the Town Plan Draft, see Results of the most recent survey, and other updates: <https://jerichovt.org/town-plan-2024>.

You can send feedback on the plan to Town Planner Linda Blasch, [lblasch@jerichovt.gov](mailto:lblasch@jerichovt.gov) or 802-899-2287 x103.

**Mobbs Farm Committee:** Lots happening at Mobbs Farm including an upcoming work day on Thursday, August 17, and blueberries! Read more here: <https://jerichovt.org/Mobbs-Committee>.

**Trails Committee:** Visit the Trails Committee page for a list of upcoming local walks led by members of the committee: <https://jerichovt.org/Trails-Committee>.

We are working to reach more Jericho residents. Please help by letting your friends and neighbors know they can receive the bi-weekly newsletter email by registering on Join in Jericho at <https://jerichovt.org/register>.

**Meetings schedules:**

First Monday: Diversity, Equity, Inclusion Committee: <https://jerichovt.org/diversity-equity-inclusion>

First Tuesday: Planning Commission: <https://jerichovt.org/planning-commission>

First Thursday: Select Board: <https://jerichovt.org/selectboard>

Second Monday: Trails Committee: <https://jerichovt.org/Trails-Committee>

Second Tuesday: Affordable Housing Committee: <https://jerichovt.org/jericho-affordable-housing-committee>

Second Wednesday (as needed): Development Review Board: <https://jerichovt.org/DRB>

Missed a meeting? MMCCTV records and posts videos of our Selectboard, Planning Commission, DRB, and Affordable Housing Committee Meetings. To view past meetings click on the MMCCTV button, which can be found on the right side of each respective JIJ committee web page, and find the videos posted in chronological order for each committee.

## COMING EVENTS

### Fall book discussion at Richmond Congregational Church

We are excited to offer another opportunity for community members to come together for a book discussion! You are invited to join a three-part discussion of the book *Saving Us — A Climate Scientist's Case for Hope and Healing in a Divided World* by Katharine Hayhoe at the Richmond Congregational Church on three dates: Mondays, September 18, October 2, and October 16. The discussion group will meet from 6:30 – 7:30 PM, both in person (in the church parlor) and by Zoom. You are welcome to join all three events or any that work for your schedule. On September 18, the group will discuss the first section and second sections, pages 1-83.

Called “one of the nation’s most effective communicators on climate change” by *The New York Times*, Katharine Hayhoe knows how to navigate all sides of the conversation on our changing planet. A Canadian climate scientist living in Texas, she negotiates distrust of data, indifference to imminent threats, and resistance to proposed solutions with ease. Over the past fifteen years Hayhoe has found that the most important thing we can do to address climate change is talk about it — and she wants to teach you how.

In *Saving Us*, Hayhoe argues that when it comes to changing hearts and minds, facts are only one part of the equation. We need to find shared values in order to connect our unique identities to collective action.

Please purchase a copy of the book or borrow a copy from your local library! A limited number of paperback copies will be available at the Richmond Congregational UCC at a cost of \$15 each. Join us! And let us know you are participating, and/or want the Zoom link sent to you, by emailing RCC administrator Jen Greenwood, [church@rcucc.org](mailto:church@rcucc.org).

No matter who you are or where you are on life’s journey, you are welcome here. Richmond Congregational Church is an open and affirming congregation of the United Church of Christ (<http://www.rcucc.org>).

### Weekly literature group meets Tuesdays on Zoom

Michael Sevy of Jericho co-leads a weekly virtual book group, the Burlington Literature Group, and would welcome new committed readers to the weekly sessions. The group has been in existence for years meeting in a physical space, but since the pandemic has changed to online Zoom sessions, every Tuesday at 6:30 PM.

The group breaks 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](mailto:info@nereadersandwriters.com).

On August 8 we started a three-week session reading and discussing three short novels by 2022 Nobel Laureate Annie Ernaux. Ernaux’s books are short so we will do one book per meeting: August 15: *A Woman’s Story*; August 22: *Shame*. After Ernaux we have scheduled Orhan Pamuk, Laurence Sterne, César Aria, and Roberto Bolaño.

### Ongoing Events

**Underhill Historical Society Open Schoolhouse:** The Underhill Historical Society welcomes you to a weekly Open Schoolhouse this summer! Visitors will be able to view two floors of Underhill History. The Open Schoolhouse will welcome visitors through September 16 on Saturdays, 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM at the District 5 Schoolhouse, located at the corner of Pleasant Valley and Stevensville Roads in Underhill Center.

**Craft Group:** meets twice a month on Thursdays (August 24; September 7, 21; October 5, 19), 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](mailto:atowerinvt@gmail.com), or Julie Hehir, 802-899-3199 or [juliehehir@comcast.net](mailto:juliehehir@comcast.net).

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## COMMUNITY COLUMNS



## The Ring of Nature on Jericho's Town Green

By Bernie Paquette

Rings are often considered symbols of love in part because of the cyclical and eternal seamless form of their circle. There are many examples of circles in nature, some caused by natural growth, some formed by wind or water impact, and some created by animals.

Circles represent unity and protection.

If a wolf pack surrounds them, muskoxen will form a tight circle, all facing outward, forming a phalanx of heads and horns.

Research has found that our brains feel safer around circular objects. In the Book of Circles, data visualization researcher Manuel Lima explains that circles are a 40,000-year-old human fixation because we are especially compelled towards the shape.

The circle is also used as a protective sign in many cultures.

"Rounded shapes tend to lean towards feelings of community and the more social aspects of life — hence *circle of friends* or

*social circle.*" — Iron Dragon Design

We associate smooth curvature with healthy living organisms. Circles promote *openness, togetherness, and warmth.* — Kerrie Woodhouse

So what's with the rings or circles of fencing on the Jericho Town Green?

As part of their effort to broaden understanding and implement wildlife and people-friendly landscape with climate in mind, The Jericho Conservation Commission is working to improve tree vigor and create some winter habitat for invertebrate life.

They recently installed picket fencing formed into a circle around some of the large trees and planted plugs of violet and PA Sedge. One of the trees in the project has considerable grass growing vigorously within the drip zone, so the strategy there is to use a cardboard cover approach, similar to how they started the pollinator garden. They will come back in the fall with soil coverage, shade-tolerant perennials, and leaf mulch.

The fencing will help to protect the shallow roots of the trees from compaction and will contain fallen leaves within the drip line of each tree. Fallen leaves provide nutrients and an overwintering home for many species of insects including pollinators.

Signage may be added on-site to encourage folks to try the whole nine-yard approach underneath trees in their own homesteads.

"Our task must be to free ourselves by widening our circle of compassion to embrace all living creatures and the whole of nature and its beauty." — Albert Einstein

Remember to leave room for the wild things!

## Couples Hiking in the North Cascades

By Peter Ingvaldstad

In the North Cascades

July 2023

I have been vacationing in the North Cascades of Washington state with my wife and grown children... lots of hiking to beautiful lakes surrounded by very rugged mountains. Hiking gives me too much time to think, I guess, because I start to question weird things...

Hiking in the North Cascades

I noticed couples hiking man in front with lady close behind seemed kind of chauvinist I thought

My wife Mary started hiking up front but found she would have to stop and wait then she began to hike close behind just to motivate

I posted this little piece (on PPF) and a (got a) few responses. One I would like to respond to because it really got me thinking. The response was that this person didn't think it was chauvinistic of a man to walk in front while hiking in the mountains and woods of the North Cascades in Washington state as there are bears that can be very dangerous and she appreciated that her husband was going first to protect her. My response to her was that she is very lucky to have another person who cares enough to want to protect her... I believe — or at least I hope — that I would be stepping in front of my wife as well if there was a huge grizzly bear standing on its back legs in front of us looking angry.

This all got me thinking that the word or idea of chauvinism has gotten a bad rap. Is the idea of a man holding a door open for a woman a bad thing? Is the idea of one person protecting another a bad thing? Is the idea of persons of one sex holding persons of another sex in servitude bordering on slavery okay? I think the answers to these questions are pretty obvious for most of us but there are lots of interactions between people that may not be so obvious... And all of us have to try to ensure as much as we can that all people, young or old, dark or light, male or female or whatever the difference is, are treated fairly and with respect...

And for sure, walk slowly backwards with the ones you love behind you if you see a grizzly in your path. Also do not let the idea of a bear encounter keep you from experiencing the beauty of the mountains and lakes of the North Cascades if you have a chance... Just keep the bear spray close at hand...

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**Cribbage Group:** meets the first Tuesday of the month (September 5), 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM in the meeting room at Deborah Rawson Memorial Library, 8 River Rd., Jericho. It's okay if you're a little rusty — come join us for a friendly game.

**Calvary Episcopal Church Soup and Bread Supper,** on the last Thursday of the month (August 24; September 28), 5:00 – 7:00 PM, Calvary Episcopal Church, VT Rt. 15, Jericho. Come and enjoy some great soups and fellowship with your friends and neighbors.

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

## Coming Events

Saturday, August 19

**Rescheduled: Testing Monarch Caterpillars and Butterflies** for disease, feeding, tagging and releasing your monarch, 10:30 AM, Deborah Rawson Memorial Library, River Rd., Jericho. Join the Underhill Conservation Commission for this final of three workshops on rearing monarchs from egg to butterfly! Learn how to test for disease, teed and tag monarch butterflies then send them of on their 2000+ mile journey to Mexico for the winter. This workshop is geared towards adults and children. Please register in advance by emailing [trinity.schroeter@gmail.com](mailto:trinity.schroeter@gmail.com). This final workshop does not limit the number of participants. Children must be accompanied by an attentive adult.

**Bats of Vermont Walk, 7:30 – 9:30 PM, Krusch Nature Preserve,** 316 North Cambridge Road, Cambridge. Attention all bat admirers or those who want to learn about bats... Bat enthusiast Bill Giezantner will lead a bat walk to search for bats on the Krusch Preserve using sound technology. Join us on this walk to learn more about Vermont's bats, how to help protect them, and be part of discovering what species occur in this area. Bill is a resource management specialist and expert in conservation education, long affiliated with Mass Audubon, and was instrumental in the early planning for establishing the Krusch Preserve. Bring a flashlight and wear sturdy shoes. Please make a reservation at [events@kruschnaturepreserve.org](mailto:events@kruschnaturepreserve.org).

**Final Fire Theater of 2023,** 8:00 – 9:00 PM, 353 Browns Trace (back yard), Jericho Center. Summer is winding down, but there is one more Fire Theater event at our backyard venue! Join us for an evening of enchanting acts, assembled to delight your visual senses. Fire hooping! Fire breathing! Daring stunts on a fire bike! And fire dancing of all sorts from Cirque de Fuego performers! ([www.cirquedefuego.com](http://www.cirquedefuego.com)) The opening act features amazing aerial performances from Murmurations Aerial Dance! (<http://murmurationsaerial.org>) Doors open 7:30 PM; showtime 8:00 PM. Kids under 5 free. No dogs, please. Bring your own chair/blanket, drinks, bug spray, and anything else you need to be comfortable outside. No restroom on site; please plan ahead. Popcorn and snow cones are available by donation (Venmo/cash). Outdoors rain or shine; in the case of seriously inclement weather (torrential downpour, thunderstorms, or severe wind), we will cancel the event and refund ticket holders. Otherwise, tickets are nonrefundable. Tickets at: <https://sevendaystickets.com/events/firetheater>.

Sunday, August 20

**Walking Tour of Jericho Corners,** 1:00 – 1:30 PM, meet at Jericho Town Hall, 67 VT Rt. 15, Jericho. Jericho's own Gary Irish will be reprising his tour of "the Corners." Learn about the people, buildings, and events making up the history of Jericho Corners. The tour will begin at the Jericho Corners School (a.k.a. Town Hall) and finish at Chittenden Mills (a.k.a. The Old Red Mill). Join us for refreshments at the Mill following the tour. The event will be recorded by MCCTV. Rain date: Sunday, August 27.

Saturday, August 26

**Jericho Pet Parade,** 11:00 AM – 12:30 PM, Jericho Center Circle, Browns Trace, Jericho Center. Come show off your favorite (or at least most portable) pet at the annual Jericho Center Circle Pet Parade — or come to watch the most adorable procession you'll see all year! Prizes in the following categories: Best Group Costume; Vermont Strong; Best Shout Out to Community Helpers; Best Literary Reference; Judges' Choice. Pre-registration for Pet Paraders is encouraged and comes with a chance to win a free creemee. Pre-register online at <https://forms.gle/WVXuacjCYhjP8XK7>. Same day registration will begin at 10:15 AM. Theme is *All Together Now*, originally selected to mirror our summer reading program, but now significant in light of the recent flooding. Participation in (and viewing of) the Pet Parade is completely free, but we will be taking voluntary donations on the day of the event to support nearby communities impacted by flooding.

**Managing Forests for Carbon and Climate Change,** 1:00 – 3:00 PM, Catamount Community Forest, 592 Governor Chittenden Road, Williston. Dr. Tony D'Amato joins Chittenden County forester Ethan Tapper for this presentation.

**Family Art Saturday,** 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM, Burlington City Arts (BCA), 4th floor Education Studio, Burlington. Free make-and-take art activity inspired by our current exhibition *Outstanding: Contemporary Self-Taught Art*. Kids and caregivers will create their own multimedia shadow boxes inspired by artists June Gutman and Thomas Stetson, who explore dreams and other imagined spaces in their highly detailed work.

Sunday, August 27

**Paint and Sip: paint a sunset,** 3:30 – 5:30 PM at The Barn at Boyden Farm, 64 VT Rt. 104, Cambridge. Join Elizabeth Cleary Adams to paint your very own Lake Sunset painting! The finished product will be a 20" x 16" acrylic painting on canvas. The class will be taught in step-by-step format. All supplies provided. All abilities welcome! BYOB. Space is limited; reserve your spot online at [https://www.elizabethcleary.com/classes/standard\\_products/lake-sunset-paint-sip](https://www.elizabethcleary.com/classes/standard_products/lake-sunset-paint-sip).

Friday-Sunday, September 8-10

**Woodlands for Wildlife training,** Kehoe Conservation Camp, Castleton. Do you love your woodlands, enjoy seeing wildlife, and want to learn how a healthy forest can enhance wildlife habitat and provide recreational and timber benefits? Learn about managing your woodlands and reaching out to others in your community by attending. This program connects you with resource professionals, landowners, and others while learning how you can improve your woodlands. To learn more, see a sample agenda, or download an application, visit our website at [www.vtcoverts.org](http://www.vtcoverts.org). You can also contact us at [info@vtcoverts.org](mailto:info@vtcoverts.org). This training is free (a \$100 deposit, refundable upon completion, is required to hold your spot). Questions? Please feel free to reach out to Sabina Ernst, who went through the training in 2019 and went on to complete the advanced training as well.

Saturday, September 9

**1800 and Froze to Death,** 1:30 PM, Brick Meeting House, Westford Common, Westford. The Westford Historical Society presents this talk by Howard Coffin. Handicapped accessible. Free and open to the public, though donations gladly accepted and appreciated. For further information please contact Caroline Brown, 802-878-8890, or Glenn Rogers, 802-878-4524.

Saturday, October 7

**Painted Theater Curtains,** Brick Meeting House, Westford Common, Westford. The Westford Historical Society presents Christine Hadsel's program and highlights Westford's own curtain. Handicapped accessible. Free and open to the public, though donations gladly accepted and appreciated. For further information please contact Caroline Brown, 802-878-8890, or Glenn Rogers, 802-878-4524.



**Walking Tour of Jericho Corners, 1:00 – 1:30 PM, meet at Jericho Town Hall, 67 VT Rt. 15, Jericho. Join Gary Irish in a reprise of his tour of "the Corners" — the people, buildings, and events making up the history of Jericho Corners. Meet at the Jericho Corners School (Town Hall) and finish at Chittenden Mills (The Old Red Mill) for refreshments. Rain date: Sunday, August 27.**  
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## The Mountain Gazette

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## HEALTH NEWS

**LHH&H Hospice volunteer training**

Are you looking for a rewarding experience? Consider becoming a Hospice Volunteer at Lamoille Home Health & Hospice (LHH&H). This is an opportunity to serve the people within Lamoille County, who are receiving hospice care. Hospice Volunteers provide much needed comfort to those receiving hospice care, and respite to the families and caregivers.

LHH&H will be offering, free of charge, Hospice Volunteer Training starting Thursday, September 7 and continuing each Tuesday and Thursday evening, from 5:30 – 8:00 PM, through Thursday, September 28. Training is held at Lamoille Home Health & Hospice, 54 Farr Ave., Morrisville. Please contact Charlene at 802-888-4651 or [ccamire@lhha.org](mailto:ccamire@lhha.org) for more information.

Register today. Training is free and space is limited.

**Cleaning up mold after a flood**

From the VT Department of Health

*Mold and mildew* are general terms used to describe kinds of fungus. There are hundreds of different types of molds that vary in color and appearance — some molds are black in color, but there is no one specific “black mold.” Mold is common in nature and can also be found indoors. Mold can grow on foods, building materials, upholstery, clothes, and other surfaces.

If your home or building has been flooded and you were not able to dry it out within 24-48 hours, assume you have mold growth.

**Mold and your health**

How you may react to mold depends on several factors including the type of mold, the amount of mold, the amount of time you are exposed, and your overall health.

Exposure to mold can lead to asthma attacks, eye and skin irritation, and allergic reactions. You may have more severe reactions if you have mold allergies. If you have a weakened immune system or breathing problems, you may get a serious lung infection when you are around mold. Although rare, it is possible to get a respiratory fungal infection, which means the fungus grows on or in your body tissue.

Talk to your health care provider if you have health concerns or questions.

**Testing for mold**

Testing for mold is not necessary or recommended. Understanding the results can be difficult because there are no standards to compare the results to. Test results cannot be used to say a building is “safe” or “unsafe.” No matter how much or what kind of mold is in your home or building, the action steps to fix the problem are the same: dry it out and clean it up.

**Protect yourself from mold**

Protect yourself from mold by wearing protective clothing — including masks (N-95), gloves, and goggles. Children, people with breathing problems, and people with weakened immune systems should not help clean up after a flood.

Use portable air cleaners with HEPA (high efficiency particulate air) filters to reduce your exposure to mold in the air. Learn how to select the right air cleaner for your home or building in the EPA’s Guide to Air Cleaners in the Home ([www.epa.gov/indoor-air-quality-iaq/air-cleaners-and-air-filters-home](http://www.epa.gov/indoor-air-quality-iaq/air-cleaners-and-air-filters-home)).

Have your heating, ventilating, and air-conditioning (HVAC) system checked before you turn it on to prevent spreading mold throughout your home or building.

**Fixing a mold problem**

To fix a mold problem, you must completely dry out your home or building first. Mold will come back if your home or building is not completely dry. Open doors and windows. Use fans and dehumidifiers when electricity is safe.

Once dry and clean, remove mold by following these steps:

- Clean moldy items that do not absorb water (glass, plastic, marble, granite, ceramic tile, metal) by using soap and water. Surfaces in contact with floodwater should be disinfected after they are cleaned.

- Throw away and replace materials that easily absorb water (cushions, mattresses, drywall, carpet, insulation, and ceiling tiles).

- Wash clothes and other fabrics. Wash all clothes worn during the cleanup in hot water and detergent, and keep them separate from uncontaminated items.

- Vacuum with a HEPA filter vacuum.

**Hiring a contractor**

Flooding can cause significant mold growth. If mold is covering more than 100 square feet, you will probably want to get help from a contractor that specializes in mold cleanup. As with any contractor, get references to assess the contractor’s experience, past work success, and if other clients liked their work. Please note there are no federal or Vermont certifications or licenses for mold remediation.

A contractor is not needed for a small mold problem of less than 10 square feet. For areas between 10 and 100 square feet, use your judgment to decide.

**No “black mold” species**

No species of mold is named “black mold.” Many kinds of mold may be black, and the color of mold does not describe what type it is or how hazardous it is. *Stachybotrys chartarum* (*S. chartarum*) is a mold species that often is incorrectly called “black mold.” It has also been featured in news reports as more toxic than other molds. Currently, it is not known whether exposure to *S. chartarum* causes more illness than exposure to other mold species.

**Renters and employees**

If you are a renter or employee, talk with your landlord or employer about mold problems. If the problem is serious and conditions persist, renters may want to call their Town Health Officer ([www.HealthVermont.gov/find-your-THO](http://www.HealthVermont.gov/find-your-THO)), and employees may wish to contact the Vermont Occupational Safety and Health Administration (VOSHA).

More information at [www.HealthVermont.gov/Flood](http://www.HealthVermont.gov/Flood).

**Family meals**

Parents have been hungry to ask me what they can do to ensure the health and well-being of their children — and my response is family meals. That’s right, family meals. Here are the reasons why:

**Improvement of social and emotional health** — Studies have shown that family meals that occur at least three times a week have been found to improve the social and emotional health of children by providing time for children to talk about their day and how they are feeling.

**Better nutrition** — Then there are the nutritious advantages of family meals in that they have been found to be 20% healthier in food content. Children who eat with their families are less likely to snack on unhealthy foods and more likely to eat fruits, vegetables, and whole grains. In fact, children who participate in family meals show a 35% decrease in experiencing an eating disorder and a 12% decrease in the likelihood of becoming obese.

In addition, a child is more apt to try a new food if they see their parents enjoying that food during a family meal.

**Plan, prepare, and enjoy** — Making a family meal happen may be easier said than done, so let me help provide an approach to make these meals happen more often than not: plan, prepare, and enjoy.

Plan family meals in advance and choose a time when you know everyone in the immediate family can be there.

Prepare by having your children and teens help get the meal ready — whether that’s setting the table, pouring a beverage, or helping to cook or taste test a dish you plan to serve. Being upbeat and pleasant as you prepare the meal can help rub off on your children and helps family see the fun in working and eating together.

Enjoy the time together at the table. Make the mealtime a safe space for everyone to decompress, speak openly about their day, and be together as a family. For teens, having family meals may be a chance for them to reconnect and even seek advice and counsel that they might not otherwise seek.

Hopefully, tips like these will be a just dessert when it comes to recognizing the importance of you and your children enjoying a family meal together at least several times a week.

*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*

**Breath of Life yoga classes**

Christine Wilkens is the sole instructor for Breath of Life Yoga. She is a 2021 Yoga Alliance Registered Yoga Teacher (RYT 200), a 2021 Certified Yoga Teacher (CYT) and a 2020 graduate of Yahweh Yoga Teacher Training Academy.

These are six-week sessions Breath of Life Yoga, yoga with Christian meditation, beginning the week of September 11 at Covenant Community Church, 1 Whitcomb Meadows Lane, Essex. The classes are open to adults over age 16 (beginner to intermediate level). Suggested fee is \$10 per class or \$50 for six classes. (If the fee causes you a financial hardship, feel free to pay whatever you can.)

To preregister or if you have questions, contact Christine at [chapelwood.wilkens@gmail.com](mailto:chapelwood.wilkens@gmail.com).

De-stress, Refresh and Restore: Tuesdays, 4:30 – 5:45 PM is a six-week beginner/adaptive Christian meditative Yoga class, introducing five Yamas and five Niyamas.

Faith with a Twist: Mondays, 8:00 – 9:15 AM offers five six-week sessions of yoga poses paired with the Yamas and Niyamas of Yoga integrated with Christian meditations.

## LEGISLATIVE REPORTS

**Flood recovery: help families with back-to-school**

By Kesha Ram Hinsdale

State Senator, Chittenden-Southeast Senate District

The Queen City Saints held an event on Sunday, August 13 in the Williston Walmart parking lot to fill backpacks with back-to-school supplies! Please find details below, as well as other ways to help.

It has been an extremely wet and perpetually unpredictable month since the initial floods in early July. More communities have been impacted by subsequent storms, and continued flood warnings are on the horizon. As glaciers melt and fires rage, our weather hardness as Vermonters, along with our physical and social infrastructure, will be put to the test.

There are relatively few of us left in the Legislature who served during Tropical Storm Irene, but one thing I took away from that time is that the brunt of the impact to displaced families is still yet to come. Many hard-hit Vermonters are just learning about financial gaps in the support they expect to receive, and they will run out of places to stay and emergency resources as winter approaches.

We are continuing to hold hearings with the possibility of directing additional support to communities this fall, but in the meantime — it is up to each of us to stay Vermont Strong and help our neighbors. As we continue to distribute much needed clean-up supplies, PPE, dehumidifiers, and camping gear, Queen City Saints is now turning our attention to our impacted kids, who need to know we are there for them as they start the school year after a difficult summer.

We were grateful to be able to start with 100 backpacks to stuff, generously donated by Burton! We have gathered and are gathering the following new supplies: youth backpacks; composition books & notebooks; construction paper & school scissors; pencils, pens & pouches; crayons, markers & colored pencils; art supplies; insulated lunch bags; binders & folders; stationery; rules & protractors; gently used tech (e.g. graphing calculators, tablets); athletic equipment; gift cards.

Thanks to Rep. Angela Arsenault and the Williston-Richmond Rotary Club for joining us to volunteer. If you couldn’t make it and still want to help, please take a look at our Amazon Wishlist ([https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/l/22FYI27IY3L6G?ref=wl\\_share](https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/l/22FYI27IY3L6G?ref=wl_share)) or purchase the items above locally and drop them off at Lyric Theatre, 11:00 AM – 3:00 PM on weekdays.

Let’s show our kids we care, and that the challenge is great, but Vermonters are greater.

**Statewide Business Emergency Gap Assistance Program**

By Thomas Stevens, State Representative

Washington-Chittenden House District

I am sharing this press release that I received from the Vermont Housing Finance Agency:

The Vermont Business Emergency Gap Assistance Program (BEGAP) opening today (August 3) can assist a variety of small businesses impacted by July flooding, including landlords. Landlords may receive assistance up to \$20,000 for up to three properties. Properties with extensive damage may qualify for up to \$100,000.

This webinar recording answers many questions pertaining to assistance for rental property damage: <https://accd.vermont.gov/event/webinar-business-emergency-gap-assistance-program>.

The application portal is open, and submissions will be approved on a rolling basis until all funds are expended. Applicants with questions can email the Business Emergency Gap Assistance Program at [ACCD.BizFloodGrant@Vermont.Gov](mailto:ACCD.BizFloodGrant@Vermont.Gov).

Visit the Business Emergency Gap Assistance Program page

to learn how the program works and what you will need to have in hand to begin the online application process: <https://accd.vermont.gov/economic-development/flood-emergency-funding>.

Here are some of the basics of the Business Emergency Gap Assistance Program:

- Grantees can get up to 20% of their net, uncovered damages after factoring in other funding sources like insurance coverage and other grant awards.

- Most organizations can receive up to \$20,000. More could be available for entities that suffered \$1 million or more in physical damages.

- Physical damage includes damage to real estate, improvements made by lease holders, inventory, and equipment.

Of the \$20 million devoted to the Vermont Business Emergency Gap Assistance Program, \$1 million is being set aside for the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets to disburse to farms and farm businesses.

This \$20 million grant program is intended to help businesses and nonprofits restore, reopen, and bring their employees back to work after suffering physical damages to their property beginning on July 7, 2023, when severe storms swept into Vermont.

**Grating to hold informal “office hours”**

By Rep. Edye Graning, State Representative

Chittenden-3 House District

New State Representative Edye Graning will be holding “office hours” at Jericho Ale & Bean on Thursday, September 28, 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM. Please stop in with any questions that you have about laws that were passed in the last legislative session, bills that are being considered for the next session, flooding remediation or impacts, or anything that you would like to discuss. This is a very casual opportunity for conversation. No appointments needed. I look forward to chatting with you!

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

**Gratitude**

To the Editor,

Perhaps this forum is a place for thoughts such as the following. I thought especially today (July 30) that I need to take a stand. Where do I stand in the name of justice? Where do I stand in the name of how I treat our earth? Where do I stand on how I treat others?

What does taking a stand look like?

I don’t believe there are any right answers here.

I do believe, however, that there are principles defined by our collective age-old wisdom that inform taking a balanced fair stand.

This is wisdom of every walk of life. Every religion. Every political persuasion. Young. Old.

Left. Right. And so on...

It is days like this, when I can ignore any divide, that the potential of unity speaks.

This is hope. A hope that allowed me to smile today.

John Connell  
Underhill

**Please don’t trap a mama**

To the Editor,

What’s cuter than a little baby bunny, or adorable masked baby raccoon, or pudgy fuzzy baby woodchuck? There’s lots and lots of precious babies out there this time of year!

Letters continued on page 5

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## LIBRARY NEWS

**DEBORAH RAWSON MEMORIAL LIBRARY**

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. Curbside pick-up is still available. Call the library at 802-899-4962 to arrange.

**Adult programs**

Wednesday, August 16, 3:00 – 5:00 PM: Mah Jongg. Join us as we explore the tile game of winds, dragons, and number tiles. If you like Rummy-style card games, you'll love Mah Jongg! All are welcome, no experience necessary!

Wednesday, August 16, 6:30 – 7:30 PM: Mindful Minutes. Meet in the fireplace room for some self care discussion and crafting. Bring ideas about your favorite ways to be mindful and we will craft a cozy warming/ice pack plushie.

Thursday, August 17, 3:00 – 6:30 PM: Book Sale! at the big red barn next to the Farmer's Market. Shop at the Farmer's Market, then come help us clear out the barn for the fall sale. Special deal — buy one bag for \$5 and get a second bagful free! Bring your bags or use one of ours. Looking ahead: book donation days for our September sale will be Saturdays, September 2 and 9, 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM. Three boxes per family. Please, no textbooks, magazines, encyclopedias, computer manuals, religious books, VHS/cassette tapes, Reader's Digest Condensed Books, or travel books older than five years. Unfortunately, we cannot accept any book donations before those dates.

Thursday, August 17, 7:00 PM: Library Board of Trustees meeting, held in-person. A virtual meeting is available for those who wish to remain remote. Please contact Holly ([drawsonmemlib@gmail.com](mailto:drawsonmemlib@gmail.com)) to receive the link. As part of our strategic plan review we will be beginning to discuss a possible building expansion. Please join us for the discussion — community input is very important to us.

The Board of Trustees would like to thank the towns of Underhill and Jericho for a recent ARPA grant the library received. The money will be used to update our HVAC system to a more energy efficient one.

Thursday, August 24, 6:00 – 8:00 PM: Crafters Group. Join us at DRML for a few hours of crafting and conversation. All are welcome, beginner to expert, in any craft you can transport. Hope to meet you there! For questions please contact Amy Tower, 802-355-9671 or [atowerinv@gmail.com](mailto:atowerinv@gmail.com), or Julie Hehir, 802-343-0034 or [juliehehir@comcast.net](mailto:juliehehir@comcast.net).

Tuesday, August 29, 7:00 PM: Mystery Book Group. We will be discussing *Along Came a Spider* by James Patterson. If you need a copy call the library or request a copy on our online catalog using your library card. We meet in person in the program room. A Zoom link is available. Email Holly at [drawsonmemlib@yahoo.com](mailto:drawsonmemlib@yahoo.com) for a link.

Wednesday, August 30, 4:00 – 5:00 PM: Candied Oranges and Flowers. Learn what you can make with a simple sugar syrup and how to preserve a harvest of edible flowers! You will get to take home recipes and a sample of each.

First Tuesday of each month (September 5), 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM in the meeting room: Cribbage Group. Meets the first Tuesday of each month. It's okay if you're a little rusty — come join us for a friendly game.

**Youth programs****Ongoing**

The summer program "All Together Now" is here! Register online and enter for raffle prizes at [bit.ly/jusrp23](http://bit.ly/jusrp23), then pick up your goody bag at DRML or JTL. Read at least 60 minutes per week and mark it in your reading log, then show the log to a librarian at DRML or JTL and you can pick a prize from the treasure box! You may visit one treasure box one time per calendar week. Bonus community prize: if we can all read 550 hours this summer, DRML will host cosmic bowling at the library!

Tuesdays, 10:30 AM: Baby Story Time [birth to PreK] Join us to meet other parents, caregivers and little ones! We will play finger games, do lap bounces, sing, dance, and read a story or two. No registration necessary.

Thursdays: Library booth at the Jericho Farmers Market. DRML and JTL will be taking turns at the farmers market again this summer. We will have book giveaways, some games, probably bubbles, and a lot of fun. See you there!

Here is what's going on this month! All programs meet in person at DRML, unless otherwise specified.

Friday, August 18, 3:00 – 4:00 PM [ages 6+] LEGO Club. Can you build your summer in one scene with LEGOs? Show us what you did, or whatever your imagination can come up with! Remember to sign up for this popular program when you call, email, or visit the library.

Saturday, August 19, 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM: Touch a Truck and End of Summer Celebration [all ages]

Can you believe summer is pretty much over! Neither can we. You all did such a great job, so come and celebrate yourselves and all the people who help our community run.

Wednesday, August 23, 3:00 – 4:30 PM: Read to Wyatt [all ages] Spend the dog days of summer with the best dog of all (in our very biased opinion). Wyatt doesn't care if you read perfectly or make mistakes, he'll just be happy to see you and hear your voice. Sign up for a 15-minute spot when you call, visit or email the library.

Thursday, August 24, 3:00 – 4:30 PM: Nintendo Switch Games [ages 8+] Beat the heat inside the air-conditioned library while you play video games with friends. No registration or experience necessary!

**Letters continued from page 4**

Please do not catch and relocate anyone! It could very likely be a mama with babies! Baby raccoons stay with mom till winter and often right through the winter. If you split up the family, the babies won't be able to care for themselves and would probably starve.

Please consider an electric fence, which will keep everything out.

Plus, it is illegal to trap and relocate raccoons and many other species.

It is very disappointing and discouraging to have all your hard work in your garden destroyed, I understand very well. But please consider these little creatures' well-being — they are only trying to eat and survive, too.

There's a place in this world for each living thing.

**Carol Winfield  
Westford**

Please visit [drml.org](http://drml.org) or call 802-899-4962 for the most up-to-date information.

Contact information: [rawsonlibrary@drml.org](mailto:rawsonlibrary@drml.org); [www.drml.org](http://www.drml.org); 802-899-4962.

**JERICHO TOWN LIBRARY**

Summer hours: Tuesdays 10:00 AM – 7:00 PM; Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM. We are completely mask-optional and fully reopened.

Do you love libraries, literature, or helping out with community events? If so, we'd love to have your help at the Jericho Town Library! We're also interested in hearing community feedback about what programs you'd like to see offered in the summer and fall. Please contact [catherine@jerichotownlibraryvt.org](mailto:catherine@jerichotownlibraryvt.org) or 802-899-4686 if you'd like to volunteer your time or a program idea!

Did you know that Jericho Town Library offers a home delivery service for patrons unable to physically access the library? If you would like to sign up for a one-time or recurring delivery of library materials, email [library@jerichotownlibraryvt.org](mailto:library@jerichotownlibraryvt.org), call 802-899-4686, fill out a paper form (available on our website, [jerichotownlibraryvt.org](http://jerichotownlibraryvt.org)) or complete this Google form: <https://forms.gle/m7NCPEUEKF5dZjKK7>.

**Children's events**

Wednesdays, 10:30 – 11:00 AM: Family Storytime (ages 0-5). We invite families with young children (ages 0-5) to join us on the second floor of the library for half an hour of stories, songs, and fun!

Thursday, August 17, 10:30 – 11:15 AM: Music and Movement with Miss Emma. Miss Emma will return to the Jericho Town Library for a morning of music and movement, exploring the changes of the seasons and celebrating the joyful everyday moments with our kiddos! Expect scarf play, jam sessions, and call-and-response songs!

Saturday, August 26, 9:00 – 10:00 AM: Outdoor Yoga with Ginny Churchill. Adults and ages 12+. Bring your own mat!

Don't have a library card yet? Just drop by; getting a library card takes only a minute! We just need some quick contact information from you and you'll be all set, no ID or anything else needed.

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

**VARNUM MEMORIAL LIBRARY JEFFERSONVILLE**

The Varnum is open for normal hours and all previously scheduled events will commence!

Hours: Tuesday-Thursday 9:00 AM – 6:00 PM; Friday-Saturday 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM; Sunday/Monday closed.

Heartfelt gratitude to all who have pitched in to get us up and safely running; community is everything and we are so fortunate to be among such kind, generous and skilled people. You are appreciated!

All Johnson Public Library users will be honored and welcomed at the Varnum while the JPL rebuilds to the community hub it is. JPL patrons can use their accounts at the Varnum and we will do all Inter-Library requests as Johnson patrons are accustomed to. We are all in support of each other and will continue to pull together through this challenge.

**August events:**

Tuesday, August 15, 3:30 – 4:30 PM: Scavenger Hunt

Saturday, August 19: Adult Crafting

Tuesday, August 29, 3:30 – 4:30 PM: Crafternoon

Wednesday, August 30, 4:30 – 6:00 PM: Dungeons and Dragons

Tuesdays, 10:00 – 10:30 AM: Toddler Time.

Wednesdays, 10:00 – 10:30 AM: StoryTime

Wednesdays, 3:30 – 5:30 PM: Board Games

Thursdays, 10:00 – 11:00 AM: Coffee and Conversations

Thursdays, 3:00 – 4:00 PM: Baby and Me

Every word of kindness and compassion, and every moment given to each other truly multiplies. We are all greatest when we come together. Thank you all!

The Varnum Library, P.O. Box 198, 194 Main St., Jeffersonville, <http://www.varnumlibrary.org>, [varnumrequests@gmail.com](mailto:varnumrequests@gmail.com), 802-644-7112.

**WESTFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY**

Westford Public Library — openings for two Library Trustees: Be part of a dynamic team helping plan and shape the library for the future of Westford. Trustees review library policies to keep them relevant to the times and the community, are a voice for the library in the community, create an annual budget, and work closely with the Director to create and implement a strategic plan. Westford Public Library enjoys a great reputation in Westford and the Vermont library community. Help support our library and our wonderful director and staff by becoming a library trustee. Trustees must be Westford residents and at least 18 years of age. Interested in becoming a trustee? Send a brief letter of intent before Tuesday, August 8 to the Board of Trustees, c/o Bree Drapa, [westfordpubliclibrary@gmail.com](mailto:westfordpubliclibrary@gmail.com), or drop off at the library. All candidates will be interviewed after that date.

Read and Win at the Fair! (Free tickets!) Do you want a FREE ticket to the Champlain Valley Fair? Are you entering grades K-8? Have you read at least three books this summer? If YES! then stop by the Library for your free admission to the Fair, good any day Friday, August 25-Sunday, September 3! Also good for free ice cream, free ride, and free book. Available all August at the Library — needs a parent/guardian signature.

Thursdays, 6:30 – 8:00 PM: Maker Group. Fiber Arts is back as the Maker Group, now open to all makers — whether you knit, crochet, make jewelry, sketch, paint, paper craft, or any other art — or if you are a tinkerer — all are welcome!

Thursdays, 11:15 AM on the Town Communion until August 31: Storytime. We will sing songs, read stories, move and do crafts! No sign up needed, all ages are welcome. Part of the Summer Reading program, outside (in gazebo if rain) until August 31. August 17, 24: no storytime. August 31: Back to School (and back inside).

Wednesday, August 23, 7:00 – 8:00 PM: Adult Book Group. *Americanah* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie. A modern classic about star-crossed lovers that explores questions of race and being Black in America — and the search for what it means to call a place home. As teenagers in Lagos, Ifemelu and Obinze fall in love. Their Nigeria is under military dictatorship, and people are fleeing the country if they can. The self-assured Ifemelu departs for America. There she suffers defeats and triumphs, finds and loses relationships, all the while feeling the weight of something

she never thought of back home: race. Obinze had hoped to join her, but post-9/11 America will not let him in, and he plunges into a dangerous, undocumented life in London. Thirteen years later, Obinze is a wealthy man in a newly democratic Nigeria, while Ifemelu has achieved success as a blogger. But after so long apart and so many changes, will they find the courage to meet again, face to face? Fearless, gripping, spanning three continents and numerous lives, the National Book Critics Circle Award-winning book is a richly told story of love and expectation set in today's globalized world. (from [Amazon.com](http://Amazon.com)) Print copies available at library; ebook and audiobook copies available on Libby.

Tuesday, August 29, 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM: Coffee and Cards.

Wednesday, August 30: first day of school!

Thursday, August 31, 11:15 AM: Storytime moves back inside.

We have a new website: [www.westfordpubliclibrary.org](http://www.westfordpubliclibrary.org). Check it out! If you are not seeing something new, make sure to clear your cache. If you bookmarked the old one, make sure to delete that and bookmark the new one.

The library hours of operation (meaning come in and browse the shelves, use the computer, grab a DVD, etc.): 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 and we can work something out. We want nothing to impede you from using the library.

The Westford Food Shelf is now open twice a month, on the first Wednesday of each month (September 6), 4:30 – 5:30 PM, on the third Saturday (August 19, September 16), 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](http://www.facebook.com/westfordpubliclibrary)) and Twitter ([www.twitter.com/WestfordVT\\_pl](http://www.twitter.com/WestfordVT_pl)). Bree Drapa, Librarian. 802-878-5639; [www.westfordpubliclibrary.org](http://www.westfordpubliclibrary.org); [westfordpubliclibrary@gmail.com](mailto:westfordpubliclibrary@gmail.com).

**FAIRFAX COMMUNITY LIBRARY**

Please sign up at least one week before the program date; all events free unless noted. Please contact [libraryfairfax@gmail.com](mailto:libraryfairfax@gmail.com) or 802-849-2420 to register for events!

**Youth events**

Wednesdays, August 16, 23, 30, 10:30 AM: Preschool Story Time. Join us for stories and songs! Children's books will be available to check out as well. Before you leave, pick up an activity to make at home!

Wednesday, August 23, 3:00 PM: Paper Bag Book. Make a cute little book out of a paper bag! Materials provided. Please email [libraryfairfax@gmail.com](mailto:libraryfairfax@gmail.com) or call 802-849-2420 to register!

**Adult events**

Thursday, August 24, 4:00 PM: Library Book Club. The book this month is *This is How it Always is*, by Laurie Frankel. Book club will meet in the library. A Zoom link will be available for anyone who wants to attend remotely. If you would like to borrow a copy of the book, or request the Zoom link, please contact the library at [fairfaxlibrarian@gmail.com](mailto:fairfaxlibrarian@gmail.com) or call us at 802-849-2420. All are welcome!

Through September 4: Good Citizen Challenge. This summer, kids in grades K-8 are encouraged to get out and learn about and participate in their communities! Kids will be given a bingo card with different challenges to get them involved in their communities. Once they complete a bingo, they will be eligible to win prizes, including a chance to win the grand prize: a \$100 gift card to Phoenix Books and a free trip for two to Washington D.C.! You can pick up the bingo cards at the library if you are interested in participating. For more information, please feel free to visit the Good Citizen Challenge website.

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

The library offers passes to local museums and parks; view our full list of passes at <https://fairfaxvlibrary.org/passes.html>.

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

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

**RICHMOND LIBRARY**

Thank you to the Friends of the Richmond Free Library for providing funds for this summer's youth programming. We had a busy summer running the youth reading program, holding twenty in person programs and setting up Storywalks, community murals, and scavenger hunts. Funding from the Friends group allows us to reach many children and is greatly appreciated.

Photo Show: during the month of August our walls will feature the photography of Richmond resident Jared Katz. From his very first Brownie he has enjoyed shooting wildlife from Connecticut to Kilimanjaro, with birds being a constant interest. Recent travels to Kenya, Panama, Costa Rica, Puerto Rico, and Belize provided fantastic opportunity to develop a passion for these winged marvels into an obsession. Visit the library to see a small sample of some of his favorite flyers.

Free Covid Tests: Free at-home Covid antigen tests are available at the library thanks to the Vermont Department of Health. Individuals may pick up two kits (four tests) per person. Ask for them at the circulation desk.

Blood pressure monitors available: Is it time to take a reading on your blood pressure? The Library has several blood pressure monitors to loan.

Trustees' Meetings are on the second Monday of the month (September 11, October 9) via Zoom until further notice.

The Friends of the Richmond Free Library Booksale is scheduled for Friday, December 1 (5:30 – 8:30 PM) and Saturday, December 2 (9:00 AM – 3:00 PM), with a bag sale 2:00 – 3:00 PM on Saturday. All proceeds benefit the summer youth program and many other library services. We are accepting donations Monday, September 18-Friday, November 17. Bring donations to the circulation desk for review during operating hours. (One box at a time, please.)

Weekly Children's Programs resume: Children's programs resume after Labor Day and run September through May and

**Libraries continued on page 6**

## MISCELLANEOUS NEWS



**VERMONT**  
**Poet Laureate**

**Call for Nominations**

The Vermont Arts Council along with its partners Vermont Humanities, Poetry Society of Vermont, and Sundog Poetry invite you to submit nominations for the appointment of a new Vermont Poet Laureate. The nomination deadline is Monday, October 30, 2023. Serving as Vermont's ambassador for the art of poetry, the Poet Laureate is not only honored for their own work and accomplishments but can raise awareness and a greater appreciation of the reading and writing of poetry. All nominations are welcome, regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, cultural heritage, socio-economic background, physical ability, or poetic sub-genre in the pursuit of the Poet Laureate being representative of the rich and diverse cultures of poetry in the State of Vermont. Self-nominations are also eligible. For more information about the Vermont Poet Laureate position, criteria and selection process, and the online nomination form, go online to <https://www.vermontartscouncil.org/programs/vermont-poet-laureate/>.

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

**X**  
By Kimberly Madura  
For Etienne

Burning,  
I got what I wanted in  
the moment.  
In the madness of  
smoke and flame,  
light and shadow,  
I hurt you.  
At the equinox of  
hate and love,  
please forgive me.

### Clutter Barn tag sale August 26 — half price summer clothes

The final Clutter Barn Tag Sale of this summer is Saturday, August 26, 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM. Summer clothing will be half price under the tent behind the church. Most of the

children's and teen's books are also under the tent behind the church; paperback spinners will remain inside the Clutter Barn.

The Clutter Barn is next door to the United Church of Underhill on Park St. in Underhill Flats. Since our July sale, our community has donated a whopping collection of gently used items... from the useful to the unique. We have household items, electronics, CDs, DVDs, LPs, toys, books and games, puzzles, linens, fabric, crafts, sewing and knitting supplies, sports equipment, furniture, canning jars, tools, fall and winter clothing, and tons of jewelry!

Besides sales at the Clutter Barn, books for adults are on sale at the Damkot barn, 379 VT Rt. 15 (1.5 blocks from the Clutter Barn). Look for the painting of *Starry Night* on the barn doors.

Only two donation days are left this season: Saturdays, September 2 and 9, 8:30 AM – 12:00 PM. We are now accepting fall and winter clothing... no summer clothes please.

Our final sale of the year is Harvest Market on Saturday-Sunday, September 23-24. Thanks for supporting this community effort to reuse useful goods at extremely affordable prices.

Miscellaneous continued on page 7

### Walking down a North Cascades mountain trail

By Peter Ingvaldstad,  
in the North Cascade mountains,  
July 2023

Walking down  
a North Cascades mountain trail  
I started to hear things  
that before had gone unnoticed

I heard the sound  
of my boot hitting the gravel trail  
but I did not hear  
a Harley rumble

Then I started  
to be aware  
of a mountain stream  
far below the trail I followed

I can not describe in words  
the sound the water made  
as it moved against  
the rocks below

Then I felt and heard  
a gentle breeze  
just quietly blowing  
caress my ears

I heard a bee and a fly hum by  
I heard a cricket hop up in front of me  
and suddenly I understood how  
it got its name

But all this time  
as I walked down this mountain trail  
I did not hear  
a Harley rumble

In Vermont in our beautiful state  
is there a place  
on our highest peaks  
you can not hear a Harley rumble

### Libraries continued from page 5

follow the MMUUSD schedule for vacation days and weather closure days.

Wednesdays, 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM: Storytime/Playgroup. The good times kick off with stories and songs in the Library's Community Room and then it's outdoor play time with old and new friends. For Storytime, families will spread out in the spacious community room. After Storytime we will move outside to the playground for playtime for as long into the fall as weather allows. Once the days are too cold for outside play we will see if a transition to inside playgroup is wise. Co-sponsored by the Library and the Lund Center. Kids from infant – five and their grown ups are invited to join the fun.

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

Need Tech Help? We're very happy to announce that Jim Poulin of Richmond has volunteered to help patrons take charge of their devices! Are you stuck on how to use Libby or Hoopla? Does your Windows laptop go on strike when you tell it to do something? Jim can help and will be at the Library the last Wednesday of the month, 5:00 – 6:30 PM.

New: Cookbook Club — Calling all bakers, cooks, and foodies! Richmond Free Library is starting a cookbook club. Each month we'll read the same cookbook and prepare and share recipes at the next meeting. The first meeting will be on October 14 at 12:00 PM. Can't make it in October? We'll have copies of *My Vermont Table* available at the library for our November meeting.

Friday, August 18, 4:00 PM: Classical Kids. Craftsbury Chamber Players are bringing classical music for children to Richmond! Join us as the *Kompass Quartet*, a talented group of young musicians from NYU, play music specially chosen for our younger listeners and their families.

Wednesday, August 23, 7:00 PM: Movie Night (new date). We'll be showing the Pixar film *Turning Red* (PG). Mei Lee, a dorky 13 year old torn between being her mother's dutiful daughter and the chaos of adolescence, "poofs" into a giant red panda whenever she gets too excited. Make your own yummy ice cream sundae to complete the evening! No registration required. All ages are welcome.

Saturday, September 9, 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM: Fiesta Latina. Join native Spanish speakers, Chichi and Eva for a special outdoor Spanish immersion environment in which we will read, dance, and play games on our back lawn. We will celebrate summer with Latin beats with DJ Churro. Bring a snack or picnic, chairs or blanket. Kids of all ages and families are invited. This program is a great introduction to Spanish for young children and a nice way for parents of older children placed in the Spanish Immersion Program to hear and celebrate the language. No registration is required for this event.

Tuesday, September 12, 6:00 PM: (Mostly) Fiction Book Group. Contact Gwen Landis (802-434-5012 or [gwennie1972@yahoo.com](mailto:gwennie1972@yahoo.com)) for information on participating. Join us in the Mezzanine to discuss *Shrill*: Notes from a Loud Woman by

Lindy West. *Shrill* is an uproarious memoir, a feminist rallying cry in a world that thinks gender politics are tedious and that women, especially feminists, can't be funny.

September 20, 6:30 PM: Documentary Screening and Discussion: Plastic Wars. What happens to all that plastic? Why don't we have alternatives to single-use plastics? With the plastic industry expanding like never before, and the crisis of ocean pollution growing, *Frontline* and NPR investigate the fight over the future of plastics. Join us for a screening of this impactful documentary.

Thursday, September 21, 7:00 PM: Mystery Book Group. Contact Maureen Parent (802-434-2055 or [mparent@gmavt.net](mailto:mparent@gmavt.net)) with any questions. Join us in the Mezzanine to discuss *The Violin Conspiracy* by Brendan Slocumb. Ray McMillian is a Black classical musician on the rise — undeterred by the pressure and prejudice of the classical music world — when a shocking theft sends him on a desperate quest to recover his great-great-grandfather's heirloom violin on the eve of the most prestigious musical competition in the world.

Saturday, October 14, 12:00 PM: Cookbook Club, first meeting. Calling all bakers, cooks, and foodies! Richmond Free Library is starting a cookbook club. Each month we'll read the same cookbook and prepare and share recipes at the next meeting. Can't make it in October? We'll have copies of *My Vermont Table* available at the library for our November meeting.

Lawn Games (new): Thanks to support from the Richmond Recreation Committee we have several fun lawn games to loan out, or if you prefer, enjoy a game on the back lawn when you visit the library: Bocce Ball, Cornhole, and Ladderball. We also have several pairs of excellent trekking poles to lend — try out a pair on your next hike.

Guessing Jar Winners: If you have been guessing how many jelly beans, magnets, packing peanuts, pen caps, etc. are in the weekly guessing jar, make sure you check the winner sheets posted in the library foyer. There have been eight lucky winners each week and every winner is entitled to a free book from the prize boxes. The winner sheets will remain posted through the month of August.

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](mailto:rfl@gmavt.net).

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

#### BROWNELL LIBRARY, ESSEX JUNCTION

Contact us at [frontdesk@brownelllibrary.org](mailto:frontdesk@brownelllibrary.org) or 802-878-6955.

Brownell Library, 6 Lincoln St., Essex Junction. Contact Main Desk 802-878-6955, Youth Desk 802-878-6956, Reference Desk 802-878-6957, or [frontdesk@brownelllibrary.org](mailto: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 – 2:00 PM.

We still have free Covid tests and gun locks. No library card needed.

Closed on Wednesday, August 16 for Bennington Battle Day.

We are Vermont Strong! The Library is collecting items needed for flood relief. Due to space constraints, we are collecting only the following items: diapers, AA and AAA batteries, cleaning supplies, and work gloves. If you have larger items (tools, pumps, generators, etc), please contact Leonora Dodge, [vlatina@gmail.com](mailto:vlatina@gmail.com), or Dennis Thibeault, [dbt@aol.com](mailto:dbt@aol.com).

#### Children's area

Musical Mondays, 11:00 AM: Rock'n'read with Miss Noreen! No storytimes August 14-31, resumes September 4.

Wednesdays, 11:00 AM: Storytime with Ms. Emily. Stories and songs for young patrons. No storytimes August 14-31, resumes September 4.

Fridays: Grab'n'Go Craft Kits, while supplies last. Exploration Station — see the blue table for this week's challenge.

Storywalk ® along the back garden fence. [How to Find a Fox](#) by Nilah Magruder.

#### Adult area

Thursday, September 7, 12:00 – 1:00 PM: Noon Book Group restarts with *Bernie's Mitten Maker* by local author Jen Ellis. A raw and honest account of the joy, stress, and shock of sudden internet fame. The author shares her struggles with childhood trauma, infertility, and homophobia and shows us how crafting can build community and generosity can bring joy.

Thursday, September 7, 6:00 – 7:00 PM: Jen Ellis author visit and book discussion. For adults. Meet local author Jen Ellis to discuss her book *Bernie's Mitten Maker*. Adult themes and issues will be discussed. Followed by...

Thursday, September 7, 7:00 – 8:00 PM: Jen Ellis Q&A and book signing. Meet the local author of *Bernie's Mitten Maker*! Appropriate for all ages. Co-sponsored by Phoenix Books. Copies of the book will be available for purchase.

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. Meet at the reserved table on the Mezzanine.

Friday, August 18, 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM: Labor on Location by the Vermont Dept. of Labor. Career resources, job search support, business services — check out how DOL can help you! No sign-up required.

Museum Passes are available for year 'round fun! State Parks, ECHO, Shelburne Museum, and more! <http://Essexfreelibrary.org/MuseumPasses>

Requesting donations: seeking board games. Must have all pieces including instructions and be in very good condition. Please call/email first due to limited space.

Digital resources: <https://essexfreelibrary.org/DigitalResources>

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

Essex Free Library, 1 Browns River Rd., Essex; 802-879-0313; [@essexfreelibrary](mailto:@essexfreelibrary); website <https://www.essexfreelibrary.org/>.

Miscellaneous continued from page 6

## One free pair solar eclipse safety glasses

It is vital that people know how to safely enjoy the amazing, often once-in-a-lifetime spectacular that is a total solar eclipse — as northern Vermont will experience next year on April 8, 2024.

It is never safe to look directly at the sun's rays, even if the sun is partly obscured (by clouds or by the moon). When watching a partial eclipse, you must wear eclipse glasses at all times if you want to face the sun, or use an alternate indirect viewing method like a pinhole projection (<http://solareclipseus.wengine.com/make-pinhole-projector/>) or a telescope with a solar filter.

If you attempt to view a solar eclipse directly without eye protection, you can cause permanent eye damage or even blindness.

The organization Solar Eclipse US (<https://solareclipse.us/>) has pledged to donate over 25,000 pairs of glasses for free for the 2024 total solar eclipse. These are ISO certified, made in the USA solar eclipse glasses. There's no catch, just an envelope and a stamp. We believe in keeping things simple.

To get your free pair, simply send a self-addressed stamped envelope (SASE). Once we receive it, please allow up to eight (8) weeks for it to be returned to you. We'll keep sending them out as long as we have them, and we'll update <https://solareclipse.us/eclipse-glasses/free-solar-eclipse-glasses/> when we run out. Please, limit one pair per request.

To get yours, grab a business size envelope (#10 envelope) and address it to yourself and place a stamp on it. Place it inside another #10 envelope and address that one to: Solar Eclipse US, P.O. Box 219, Centerville, MO 63633-0219. Then drop it in the mail.

## Meals on Wheels seeking volunteers in Lamoille County

Your local Meals on Wheels program is looking for volunteers.

Six of our 45 weekly delivery routes are open on various days of the week. Meal pick-up is at 10:30 AM at 21 Munson Ave., Morrisville. Most routes take about two hours or less to deliver. We pay mileage, and you are welcome to enjoy lunch. Deliver weekly, monthly, or seasonal, whichever works for you.

We have one open kitchen prep position on Tuesday or Wednesday (two to three hours), anytime between 8:00 AM – 1:00 PM. Enjoy lunch with us every time you volunteer.

Our volunteer application is online at <https://www.mowlc.org/>, or call Nicole to find out more at 802-888-5011 ext.1

## Register now for VT Hunter Education courses

If you or someone you know would like to go hunting this fall but have never taken a hunter education course, this is the time to act. Vermont's volunteer hunter education instructors are now holding a limited number of courses throughout the state.

A person must pass the basic hunter education course (find more general information at <https://vtfishandwildlife.com/hunt/hunter-education/find-a-hunter-ed-course>) before they can purchase their first hunting license.

"Most of these courses are held in August and September," said Vermont Fish and Wildlife's Hunter Education Coordinator Nicole Meier. "All of our instructors are volunteers. They teach because they are passionate about hunting and want to ensure that Vermont's safe hunting legacy continues. We credit Vermont's strong safety record with our volunteer instructors... Hands-on and in-person learning from an experienced instructor are the best ways to become familiar with the skills associated with safe hunting."

Courses are available in basic hunter education, bowhunter education, trapper education, and combination hunter-bowhunter education. We expect more classes to be posted throughout August and September, so check our website frequently.

Beginning on September 1, you must be 18 years old to take the online hunter or bowhunter education courses.

The courses will be listed as they become available on Vermont Fish and Wildlife's website [www.vtfishandwildlife.com](http://www.vtfishandwildlife.com). On the Home page, click on Hunt and then Hunter Education and Find the Right Class for You. To register for a course, go to this link: <https://www.register-ed.com/programs/vermont>.

A Vermont hunter education card entitles you to hunt in all 50 states, as well as some international locations.

The Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, experience level, sex, or gender identity. Reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities are available on request at no cost to the student. Please include a description of the accommodation you will need and include your contact information. Requests should be made as early as possible. Please send an email to [Nicole.Meier@vermont.gov](mailto:Nicole.Meier@vermont.gov); or call 802-828-1193 (voice) or 1-800-253-0191 (TTY).

## Boulders and logs increase flood resilience: leave them be

Leave boulders and logs in rivers to increase flood resilience and help fish populations impacted by the July flood.

After the recent July floods, the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department is asking recovery efforts to prioritize river resilience and help impacted fish populations when possible.

"The first priority in flood recovery is human safety," said Aquatic Habitat Biologist Will Eldridge. "During Tropical Storm Irene, we learned that retaining and recovering river habitat that buffers against future floods and helps impacted fish populations rebound lines up with that human safety priority."

Rivers with features like fallen trees, large boulders, and winding channels provide better fish habitat and are more resilient to floods. These features reduce flood impacts for landowners and downstream communities by slowing flood waters. They also provide fish with shelter and places to forage that can be the difference between successful recovery and lasting impacts for fish populations.

"After Irene some recovery efforts removed trees and boulders from rivers and ended up making rivers more vulnerable to floods and slowing fish population recovery," said Eldridge. "We are asking Vermonters to leave downed trees and boulders and in rivers and streams whenever doing so does not create a risk for people, roads, or infrastructure. These features will help fish populations recover and help our rivers weather future floods."

Impacts to Vermont's fish populations and river habitats from the July flood will take time to assess. But based on data from Tropical Storm Irene, the department says that trout populations in some rivers may be significantly reduced by this year's flood.

"Trout populations can drop by around 50% after extreme events like we saw this month, and can take two or three years to recover," said Eldridge. "How badly trout in a given river are impacted and how well they recover has a lot to do with habitat."

Landowners, businesses, and towns planning recovery work in rivers and streams are required to follow protocols from the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation. For more information on flood recovery resources, visit <https://ANR.Vermont.gov/Flood>.

## United Way volunteer opportunities

GET CONNECTED TO VOLUNTEERING — United Way's Volunteer Connection site is set up to help connect agencies and volunteers. Agencies are working hard to navigate volunteering during this time, but opportunities are increasing. Go online to the Volunteer Connection (<https://unitedwaynwvt.galaxydigital.com/>) to learn more about these and other opportunities.

FLOOD RECOVERY — The State of Vermont has asked that people interested in volunteering register at <http://vermont.gov/volunteer>. Volunteer needs in the wake of the storm are evolving and we know the need will be great and ongoing. The state will connect volunteers who register to local United Ways to coordinate responders, so volunteers do not endanger themselves and first responders. Here's a link to a to more information about United Way's Flood Response: <https://unitedwaynwvt.org/flood-response/>.

READ TO THEM — RSVP of Northwest Vermont is seeking Read to Me Volunteers, age 55 and over, to share their passion for reading with children in Head Start Programs. Volunteers help children develop literacy skills so they will be ready for kindergarten. Children in Head Start programs in the New North End of Burlington, Winooski, Colchester, St. Albans, and Swanton are ready to welcome readers! Background check required. Contact Danielle Schwer, 802-861-7821 or [danielle@unitedwaynwvt.org](mailto:danielle@unitedwaynwvt.org).

BE A BUDDY — RSVP of Northwest Vermont invites volunteers age 55 and over to become RSVP School Buddies. These buddies share time with elementary school children who have been identified as not meeting academic standards. Volunteers serve one to two hours a day, once or twice a week for the school year helping children with math, reading, spelling, and other academic areas, supervised by a classroom teacher. Background check required. Contact Danielle Schwer, 802-861-7821 or [danielle@unitedwaynwvt.org](mailto:danielle@unitedwaynwvt.org).

MENTOR! MENTOR! — Spectrum Youth and Family Services is looking for volunteers, age 21 and older, to serve as mentors to young people between the ages of 12-22. You don't need to be a trained counselor or a superhero, just spend time with a young person, sharing mutually enjoyable activities, being a positive role model, and helping to set goals. Mentors and mentees meet at least twice a month and can share time bike riding, cooking, shooting baskets, exploring career options, and so much more. Background check required. Training is provided. To learn more, call 802-864-7423, Ext. 321.

## Jericho Underhill Green Burial Alliance

The Jericho Underhill Green Burial Alliance (JUGBA) meets on the second Thursday of every month at 6:00 PM at the Deborah Rawson Memorial Library, River Rd., Jericho. Have questions about Green Burials or Conservation Burials? Please join us or check out our website, <https://jerichounderhillgreenburial.weebly.com>.

Natural Burials reduce carbon footprint and contribute to the natural eco cycle and may include municipal or religious cemeteries, privately owned or land under conservation easement.

Each year in conventional cemeteries across the U.S., more than 800,000 gallons of embalming fluid are buried with bodies. These fluids often contain the known carcinogen, formaldehyde.

Nationally we also put more than 100,000 tons of steel, 2700 tons of copper and bronze, and over a million and half tons of reinforced concrete in the ground with our dead.

These archaic practices continue to pollute our planet. It's time we consider the alternatives.

## Family Services Division: meeting a family's needs

From Vermont Family Services

VT Department for Children and Families

Sharon, a caseworker for Vermont's Family Services Division, received a call about a concern of child neglect and unsafe conditions at a home.

DCF's Family Services is the state agency responsible for making sure children are safe and their basic needs are met. They help families develop plans to make their homes safe, keep their children home, and strengthen their families.

When Sharon went to the home to make an assessment, one of the parents met her outside. They sat on the porch and talked. Sharon heard about the various stressors in play with the family, with lack of funds being a catalyst for many of the issues they were facing.

"The work we do requires a lot of creative thinking. We do not have cookie-cutter solutions to address each family's needs. We know that people end up needing help for a myriad of reasons, and every family's needs at any moment in time are unique. In my work with families, I start by talking with the parents to understand their specific situation.

"I talked with the parents to identify what they needed to thrive as a family. Next I collaborated with them to rally the support they needed, including help accessing individual counseling and substance abuse treatment, children's integrated services, and vouchers for essentials," said Sharon.

Over time, the parents learned how to advocate for themselves and their family, how to set safe boundaries, and how to repair vital relationships. Their extended family stepped up to help make the home safe and provide childcare.

Sharon added, "I believe that families know families best, so I sit with each family to talk about what safety looks like for them, and how we can work together to create that. Empathy certainly is a huge component. Our job is not to catch parents in a bad act. We work together with families to meet their needs and ensure safety. After all, we are all human, we all love our kids, we all need connection, and no matter what choices we have made in our pasts, together we can come up with a solution that supports each family to be the best they can be."

## VTrans project updates: Richmond, Bolton, Williston

Richmond-Bolton U.S. Rt. 2 Rehabilitation

Thursday, August 10

Traffic impact: Traffic Control with one-lane of alternating travel; motorists can expect traffic delays. Motorists can also expect to be traveling on a gravel surface between The Crate Escape to the I-89 interchange. Please slow down and follow the posted speed limits.

Project update: Slab removal continued and placement of sub-base material on U.S. Rt. 2 on the west end of the project. Continued paving the base course of pavement from Bridge Street and proceed west. New guardrail installation between the VYCC Farm and Snipe Ireland Road.

Construction activities: The following is the anticipated work schedule for the week beginning Sunday, August 13, 2023:

- Sunday-Friday (morning), 7:00 PM – 7:00 AM: Continue concrete slab removal and roadway reconstruction activities on the west end of the project proceeding west to the I-89 interchange.

- Monday-Wednesday, 7:00 AM – 6:30 PM: Weather permitting, final paving with the wearing course beginning at the east end of the project in Bolton proceeding west.

- Thursday-Friday, 7:00 AM – 6:30 PM: Weather permitting, continued paving the base course of pavement on the gravel roadway on the west end of the project.

Please use caution and follow the posted speed limits! Please email [sbarrett@coibsinc.com](mailto:sbarrett@coibsinc.com), reference US-2 Richmond, if you would like to receive weekly project updates via email.

Completion date: July 2024

Richmond US Route 2 Bridge #29 Replacement

Thursday, August 10

Traffic impact:

- U.S. Rt. 2: Traffic control will be present allowing for one-lane of alternating travel.

- Monday-Friday, I-89 both southbound and northbound high speed lanes will be closed from 5:30 AM – 3:00 PM, and the right shoulder remains closed all within the vicinity of the project area below interstate.

Project update: Continued support of excavation within the median on I-89 for new bridge pier. Work continued on temporary widening on the west side of the bridge on US Rt. 2. Completed tying rebar and placed concrete for Abutment #1 footing.

Construction activities: The following is the anticipated work schedule for the week beginning Monday, August 14, 2023:

- Monday-Friday 6:30 AM – 6:00 PM: Begin building form for rebar placement on the I-89 median for a new bridge pier. Continue work for bridge Abutment #1 wingwalls. Pave and stripe the temporary widened area on the east side of U.S. Rt. 2 to shift traffic onto.

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

Please email [sbarrett@coibsinc.com](mailto:sbarrett@coibsinc.com), reference Bridge#29, Richmond, if you would like to receive weekly project updates via email.

Completion date: September 2025

Williston Intersection Project U.S. Rt. 2 and Industrial Avenue

Thursday, August 10

Traffic impact: Flaggers will be present during daytime work hours to allow for construction vehicles in/out of the construction area with minimal impact on the traveling motorists. Possible lane shifts within the work area to allow for equipment operations.

Construction update: Began the installation of concrete sidewalks in various areas along U.S. Rt. 2.

Construction activities: Below is the anticipated work schedule for the week beginning August 14:

- Monday-Friday, 6:30 AM – 6:00 PM: Continue sidewalk installation, weather permitting. Continue placing topsoil in various areas.

Please follow the posted speed limits! Project type: Installation of new drainage improvements and full-depth reconstruction.

Projected completion: Fall 2023

Please email [sbarrett@coibsinc.com](mailto:sbarrett@coibsinc.com), reference U.S. Route 2, if you would like to receive weekly project updates via email.



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## ART/ MUSIC / THEATER



Have fun with creativity at Family Art Saturday on August 26, 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM. Drop in at Burlington City Arts (BCA), 4<sup>th</sup> floor Education Studio, for a free make-and-take art activity inspired by our current exhibition *Outstanding: Contemporary Self-Taught Art*. Kids and caregivers will create their own multimedia shadow boxes inspired by artists June Gutman and Thomas Stetson, who explore dreams and other imagined spaces in their highly detailed work.

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

**Wednesday Chamber Music Concert Series at St. Mike's** — The Craftsbury Chamber Players' 2023 season at the Elley-Long Music Center (St. Michael's College) in Colchester continues on Wednesday, August 16, 7:30 – 10:00 PM, the program features Haydn's famous *String Quartet in D major, Op. 20 #4*, Schubert's *Sonata in a minor "Arpeggione"* for viola and piano, and Dvorak's *Quintet #2 in A Major, Op. 81* for strings and piano. This will be a wonderful, romantic evening. There will be a pre-concert chat at 6:45 PM and a reception after the concert. Tickets are available at the door: adults \$25.; students \$10, children under 10 free. Free tickets are available at your local public library. Find more information online at <http://craftsburychamberplayers.org>, or call 1-800-639-3443.

**Paint and Sip:** paint a Lake Sunset! Join Elizabeth Cleary Adams on Sunday, August 27 to paint your very own Lake Sunset painting! The finished product will be a 20" x 16" acrylic painting on canvas. The class will be taught in step-by-step format. All supplies provided. All abilities welcome! BYOB. The class will take place from 3:30 – 5:30 PM at The Barn at Boyden Farm, 64 VT Rt. 104, Cambridge. Space is limited; reserve your spot on my website, [https://www.elizabethcleary.com/classes/standard\\_products/lake-sunset-paint-sip](https://www.elizabethcleary.com/classes/standard_products/lake-sunset-paint-sip).

**The Bryan Gallery** in Jeffersonville hopes everyone is doing well and did not experience any damage from the July flooding. The Gallery did take on water in the basement, but thankfully our pump was able to keep the water impact to a minimum. We are certainly counting our blessings no water made its way into our exhibition space or vaults.

We are open to the public as a means for people to escape the stresses of the flooding and provide a sense of normality to everyone. The current exhibition *The Creative Process* is on display in the Main Gallery through Sunday, September 3, 2023. The gallery's newest exhibition is *Nature's Playground*, running through Sunday, September 3 in the Middle Room Gallery. The exhibition features a collection of artworks in various two-dimensional mediums, capturing the beauty and allure of this remarkable region and highlighting the ever-changing scenery that transforms with each passing season. Admission to the exhibition is free, offering an accessible opportunity for art enthusiasts and the general public to engage with the extraordinary talent on display. For more information about *Nature's Playground* and other upcoming exhibitions and events, please visit [www.bryangallery.org](http://www.bryangallery.org). Bryan Memorial Gallery, 180 Main St., Jeffersonville; open Wednesday-Sunday, 11:00 AM – 5:00 PM or Monday-Tuesday by appointment. For more information contact Stephen Gothard, 802-644-5100 or [info@bryangallery.org](mailto:info@bryangallery.org).

**Live in the Gardens Music Series**, every other Friday through September 15 (August 18, September 1 and 15), 6:00 – 8:00 PM, 5901 Pleasant Valley Rd., Cambridge. Join us in the gardens at Snaps & Sunflowers and enjoy the tunes and blooms! We'll have snacks, non-alcoholic beverages, and PYO flowers for sale as well as charcuterie boxes from the Hearth & Candle, and pizza sold by the slice from the Family Table (pre-order a whole pie or box to ensure you get yours). Adults \$10; teens and seniors \$8; kids 12 and under free. BYOB and your own lawn chair or blanket!

**Westford Sunday Night Concerts on the Common**, from Michael Kirick. For information, contact [mkirick@hotmail.com](mailto:mkirick@hotmail.com). Here's what's coming up:

August 20 – *Les Dead Ringers*: Another newly formed band by D. Davis, of *Red Hot Juba*, *Larkspurs*, and *Cookies Hot Club* renown. This one is bluegrass-based, so I've heard...

August 27 – the *Dimmer Triplets*, rescheduled after being rained out on a previously scheduled date.

**The Emile A Gruppe Gallery welcomes back artist Tom Walters**, presenting his exhibit of all-new Vermont landscape paintings, *Reaching New Heights*. The exhibit will run Thursday, August 17-Sunday, September 24, with an artist's reception Sunday, August 20, 1:00 – 3:00 PM. Tom will also be in the gallery to greet patrons Thursday-Friday, August 17-18. The Emile A. Gruppe Gallery, 22 Barber Farm Rd., Jericho. For more information contact 802-899-3211 or [www.emilegruppegallery.com](http://www.emilegruppegallery.com).

**The Bright Ideas project** is calling all Vermont visionaries to submit a New Year's Eve event concept to the Bright Ideas Project by Sunday, August 27. The Bright Ideas Project is the engine for crowdsourcing one-of-a-kind programming at Highlight, Burlington's official New Year's Eve celebration. Selected projects will receive up to \$8000 in funding to make your brilliant ideas come to life. Learn more and apply at <https://highlight.community/>.

**Call to artists: My Dog and the Wolf** at the Richmond Free Library — Radiate Arts Space is sponsoring an art exhibit about the dog-wolf connection: about people and their dogs, about people and their role in the domestication of the wolf, about why and how it has resulted in such a variety of

breeds from mastiffs to teacup chihuahuas, and about our role in this evolutionary process. Science and art meet here. This is an unjuried community exhibit and will be on display for the month of December at the Richmond Free Library, Richmond. There will be a celebration of the artwork open to the public in December, with guest speakers in the field of wolf biology and the canine genome.

Most works should be two-dimensional and ready to hang on the wall. There is room for some smaller three-dimensional work. Please respond by Wednesday, November 1 to express your interest. Include an image of your work with dimensions, title, and media. To respond or if you have questions contact Julie, [mauie@gmavt.net](mailto:mauie@gmavt.net).

Radiate will sponsor several free art workshops with a variety of materials in October and November, workshops designed to foster creative thought. In these workshops there are no right answers and you need not consider yourself an artist. You don't even have to have a dog. Details about the workshops will be available towards the end of the summer.

**Johnson's Tuesday Night Live** is a new season of free, family-friendly concerts at the Tuesday Night Live Outdoor Stage at the Legion Field on School Street. Tuesday Night Live is free thanks to the support of local businesses. Just bring a blanket or chair. A variety of vendors with food, including the Historical Society with slices of homemade pie, will be on site. Parking is along School Street, in the Elementary School parking lot, and at the McClelland Building lot on College Hill. Rain or shine. Summer showers may dampen the enthusiasm for a few minutes; but it is lightning and thunder that stop the music.

We have never had an issue with dogs at TNL performances until recently. We saw dogs being aggressive with one another and owners unable to control or quiet their animals. This is unacceptable in the middle of a seated crowd with children. Legion Field has "No Dogs" signs, but until now we have not needed to enforce them. Our audience has grown too large to safely combine dogs, food, and moving people. Going forward, NO dogs will be allowed on Legion Field from 6:00 – 8:30 PM; the only exception will be for bona fide service dogs. This rule complies with a town ordinance and will be enforced. Please do come and enjoy the evening, but leave Fido at home. Thank you for your compliance, Howard Romero, Chair TNL Committee.

Upcoming Tuesday Night performances include: August 15, *High Summer*, whose sound is a visceral groove, with original compositions complimented by covers that highlight the group's dynamic musical exploration by members Andric Severance — keyboards, Jon McCartan — bass guitar, Jason Thime — drums, Al Teodosio — guitar, Matt DeLuca — percussion, Matt Davide — baritone saxophone, Jacob Deva Racusin — tenor saxophone, percussion, and Miriam Bernardo — vocals; August 22, *Blacklist* featuring *Senayit*; and August 29, *Dead Sessions Lite*. Tuesday Night Live is planned and delivered by a volunteer committee of the town of Johnson. All are welcome, free. For more information contact 802-635-2943.

**Burlington City Arts (BCA) Center Gallery** has extended its summer hours and is now open Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays, and Sundays 12:00 – 5:00 PM and Saturdays, 11:00 AM – 8:00 PM. Take the extra time to explore *Outstanding: Contemporary Self-Taught Art*, which features the work of eight artists boldly changing conversations on "outsider" art. Just up the stairs, Hyunsuk Erickson's vibrant installation *Thingumabob Society* creates an imaginative space filled with playful organic forms that merge sculpture and craft traditions.

Sunday Classical, through August 27, 10:00 – 11:00 AM, BCA Center Patio, City Hall Park, Burlington. Start your day on a high note with our new summer series, Sunday Classical. Sip a free cup of coffee from Scout while the state's top classical players pair the summer breeze with an hour of musical vibrancy and relaxation every weekend. *VSO and the Eclectica String Quartet* August 20, and *VSO and Skylark* August 27. For more information: <https://www.burlingtoncityarts.org/events>.

**Splash Dance** — Fridays, 4:00 – 5:30 PM and Saturdays, 1:00 – 3:00 PM at City Hall Park: Cool off and get down at our twice-weekly DJ-fueled dance party for kids and caregivers in City Hall Park's interactive fountain. Local DJs such as Disco Phantom, DJ Dakota, Fundanzo and the Wondermuffs, and more spin tunes that keep the good vibes flowing all weekend long.

**Summer Stars: five films, comedy and music**, through August 27. Come to a celebration of culture and community as the Jewish Community of Greater Stowe (JCOGS) presents Summer Stars, five films and one evening of comedy and music. All are welcome! Tickets for all events available online at <https://www.sprucepeakarts.org/summerstars/>.

Wednesday, August 16, 7:00 PM, Phantom Theater, Edgecomb Barn, 970 Dump Rd., Warren: the Stowe Jewish Film Festival presents *That Orchestra with the Broken Instruments*. Gathering for a one-night concert in Jerusalem, an orchestra of diverse musicians creates music and social harmony with broken instruments.

Sunday, August 27, 6:00 PM, Savoy Theater, 25 Main St., Montpelier: the Stowe Jewish Film Festival concludes Season 2023 with the simultaneous screening of two films: *The Story of Annette Zelman* (for teens and adults), a feature film set in Nazi-occupied Paris that brings to light a tragic true love story; and *Where is Anne Frank* (for children 10+ and teens) is an animated feature film that follows Kitty, Anne Frank's imaginary friend to whom she addressed her diary.

**Burlington City Arts (BCA)** has announced the recipients of the 2023 BCA Community Fund. Established in 2016, the BCA Community Fund is designed to foster a robust, healthy, creative community, encourage social innovation through the arts, and support artists and organizations that contribute to the public good through art. This year, with support from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), BCA was able to create two separate funds of \$35,000 each. The 2024 Community Fund is supporting 11 single artists and artist groups as well as 10 arts organizations grants of up to \$5000 each. The diverse and talented recipients span a wide range of artistic disciplines and reflect the vibrant and dynamic arts community in Burlington. The funded projects and initiatives will contribute to the cultural landscape and enrich the lives of community members. For more information about the 2024 Community Fund and the funded projects, please visit <https://www.burlingtoncityarts.org/funded-projects>.

**Call for applications: Artist Development Grant and (new) Flood Relief Funding.** With the recent flood disaster in Vermont and due to the generosity of an anonymous donor, the Vermont Arts Council is pleased to be able to offer new flood relief funding as a part of our Artist Development Grant program. Artist Development Grants support artists at all stages of their careers. Grants can fund activities that enhance mastery of an artist's craft or skills or that increase the viability of an artist's business. Funding may also support aspects of the creation of new work when the activity allows the grantee to accept a rare and important opportunity. New Flood Relief Funding: If recent flooding has significantly and adversely affected your ability to produce, perform, and/or market your work and created a need for immediate relief funds and/or assistance, please see below for eligible expenses.

The maximum grant award for flood relief is \$3000. Artists may apply for both Artist Development Grant and Flood Relief funding, using separate applications for each. For Artist Development Grants, you may apply for any amount up to \$2000, and for flood relief, you may apply for any amount up to \$3000. We strongly encourage applicants to apply for the LEAST amount of funding necessary for their request. Money is limited, and we want to be able to support as many artists as possible. While we will do all that we can to fully fund as many projects as possible, some proposals may be partially funded.

Artist Development Grant amounts are dependent upon federal, state, and private funding and are subject to change. Eligible expenses for such activities include, but are not limited to: advanced study of technique or practice with a mentor attending a professional conference to build business or artistic skills or knowledge contracting professional services including photographic documentation of work, contract preparation or business incorporation, creation of accounting systems, developing e-commerce on a website, creation of marketing materials, etc. marketing, planning, purchasing some materials, or renting studio space (outside of your home) to create new exhibitions or performances travel within the United States.

Flood relief is for: damaged tools, materials, and/or equipment related to your art practice or artistic business; lost revenue due to canceled shows, events, exhibitions, road closures, or vehicle damage; and damage to studio space requiring repair. Award notifications will be made as quickly as possible within three weeks of submission.

For questions — including specific deadlines — please contact grant manager Dominique Gustin, [dgustin@vermontartscouncil.org](mailto:dgustin@vermontartscouncil.org) or 802-402-4602. The Council accepts grant applications via an online form. If you require an alternate format or assistance to access the application, please contact the grant program manager listed above or Michele Bailey, accessibility coordinator, 802-402-4614. Voice and relay calls welcome.

Applications are open; learn more at <https://www.vermontartscouncil.org/grants/find-a-grant/artists/artist-development/>.

## COLLEGE NEWS

**Mary Batsie** of Jericho, VT has been named to the Spring 2023 Dean's List at St. Lawrence University, Canton, NY. Batsie, who attended Rice Memorial High School, Burlington, VT, is a member of the Class of 2024 majoring in English.

**Carly Hansen** of Jericho, VT has been named to the Spring 2023 Dean's List at St. Lawrence University, Canton, NY. Hansen, who attended Mount Mansfield Union High School, Jericho, VT, is a member of the Class of 2025 majoring in biomedical sciences.

**Kaylee White** of Jeffersonville, VT has been named to the Spring 2023 Dean's List at St. Lawrence University, Canton, NY. White, who attended Lamoille Union High School, Hyde Park, VT, is a member of the Class of 2026 majoring in English.





The Emile A Gruppe Gallery welcomes back artist Tom Walters, presenting his exhibit of all-new Vermont landscape paintings, Reaching New Heights. The exhibit will run Thursday, August 17-Sunday, September 24, with an artist's reception Sunday, August 20, 1:00 – 3:00 PM. Tom will also be in the gallery to greet patrons Thursday-Friday, August 17-18. PHOTO CONTRIBUTED



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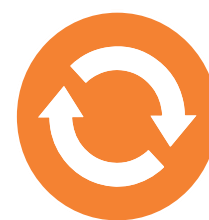
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**NOW OPEN** Tuesday – Saturday in Essex, Milton, South Burlington & Williston from 8:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.



Vermont Kin As Parents will be at our booth at the Champlain Valley Fair beginning August 25. Our last summer event will be our Kinship Conference, which will take place at beautiful Lake Morey Resort on Friday, September 15. For more information please call 802-871-5104. Stay tuned next quarter as we begin our series Meet Vermont Kin As Parents. Each issue we will briefly introduce a staff member or PASTA family member. Let's get to know each other a bit better. For more information, contact Jeana Lavalley, jeana@vermontkinasparents.org. PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

**SENIOR NEWS**

**Meals on Wheels seeking volunteers in Lamoille County**

Your local Meals on Wheels program is looking for volunteers. Six of our 45 weekly delivery routes are open on various days of the week. Meal pick-up is at 10:30 AM at 21 Munson Ave., Morrisville. Most routes take about two hours or less to deliver. We pay mileage, and you are welcome to enjoy lunch. Deliver weekly, monthly, or seasonal, whichever works for you.

We have one open kitchen prep position on Tuesday or Wednesday (two to three hours), anytime between 8:00 AM – 1:00 PM. Enjoy lunch with us every time you volunteer.

Our volunteer application is online at <https://www.mowlc.org/>, or call Nicole to find out more at 802-888-5011 ext.1

**Age Well meals in Bolton**

Bolton will now have Age Well (Meals On Wheels) delivered to the Bolton Fire Station on the second Wednesday of each month (September 13, October 11). Pick up is 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM. We provide services to individuals 60+ and their spouse or caregivers, and a disabled person(s) living with the senior, regardless of financial status.

Discover all that we have to offer and let us help you age well.

**Seeking substitute volunteer Meals on Wheels drivers**

Central Vermont Council on Aging (CVCOA) is extremely grateful for all the volunteers who have stepped up to assist with flood recovery and clean up. It's truly inspiring to see the community come together to address this challenge!

For those volunteers who are looking for a way to continue supporting the community, please consider becoming a substitute volunteer driver for Meals on Wheels. Senior centers and meal sites across Central Vermont are in need of substitute drivers, a need that has been exacerbated by the recent flooding and recovery efforts.

Most Meals on Wheels sites across the region need one or more volunteers to fill in for drivers who are out of town, in need of a break, or away from their regular route for a variety of reasons. Routes typically take less than an hour and a half to complete and can make your day!

For more information, contact AmeriCorps Seniors Volunteer Coordinator Anne Greshin ([agreshin@cvcoa.org](mailto:agreshin@cvcoa.org) or 802-241-4840).

**New Tai Chi schedule at Cambridge Community Center**

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

The benefits of Tai Chi / Qi Gong include release stress, improve balance, increase energy, mental calmness, physical well-being, better circulation, overall health.

Tai Chi classes will be held Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM at the Cambridge Community Center, 22 Old Main St., Jeffersonville. Admission is \$15. Wear clothing that is comfortable and easy to move around in. All ages, beginners and experienced participants welcome! Bring a Friend!

Contact Instructor Wade Prescott for easy registration, 802-309-6114 or [inst.wade@gmail.com](mailto:inst.wade@gmail.com), or just come on down.

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Contact Brenda Boutin at [mtngazette@gmavt.net](mailto:mtngazette@gmavt.net) to reach readers in our regular coverage area of Bolton, Jericho, Underhill, Cambridge, Jeffersonville, Westford, plus Hinesburg, Huntington, Richmond, Essex and Essex Junction.

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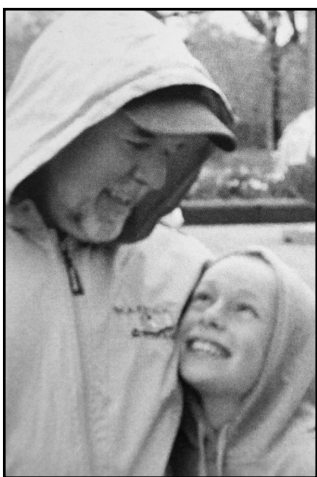


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## OBITUARIES

**Michael Gilbar**, affectionately known as “Dappy”, 65, and his grandson **Joseph Perry**, 15, both of Jericho, VT, passed away on Wednesday, August 2, 2023 as a result of an accident while vacationing in Maine. Michael was born February 16, 1958, son of Donald and Lucille Gilbar. He grew up in Vermont and Massachusetts. He loved learning about history and genealogy. He loved to travel to places rich in history. Most recently, he, his wife Ileen, and grandson Joseph spent time exploring Italy. Michael married Ileen (LaPenna) on May 26, 1979.



Together, they raised their two daughters, Tara and Erinn, at their home in Jericho. Michael worked in Purchasing for much of his career, first at Digital, and then at Wesco. He retired in 2021 and enjoyed his retirement job at Hannaford in Essex, VT. Joseph was born on July 11, 2008, adored son of Thomas and Erinn Perry. He was the light of their lives, and the lives of those who had the privilege of knowing him. He was into history like his Dappy; loved traveling; he spent time in Mexico and Italy with his grandparents. He recently completed his first Spartan Tri-fecta in Utah with his father and was ready for another upon his return home. Joseph was heading into his sophomore year at Mount Mansfield Union High School, Jericho. He just started driving in July and was doing an amazing job. Joseph was smart, kind, witty, patient, and understanding; he was wise beyond his years. Michael and Joseph spent a lot of time together, whether it be vacationing, boys’ nights out with Thomas, yard work, or helping neighbors. They both were known for always being willing to lend a hand. They were kind-hearted, giving men, who loved their friends and family fiercely. In the words of Joseph

Perry, “We will get through this together.” Michael is survived by his wife Ileen, daughters Tara Gilbar and Erinn Perry and best friend Thomas Perry. He is also survived by his brother Dan Gilbar (Stacy), sisters Donna Reese and Tracy Hulbert (Dan), and brothers Bob Gilbar (Dot) and Thomas Gilbar (Annie); and many amazing nieces and nephews, aunts and uncles. He was predeceased by his parents, and brother Kenneth. Joseph is survived by his ever-loving parents Thomas and Erinn Perry, and best friend and grandmother, Ileen Gilbar; his paternal grandparents Luke Perry and Julie Perry. He is also survived by his aunts and uncles, Tara, Curt, Danny, Luke Jr, David, Tyrone, Camisha, and Tameika, as well as many great aunts, uncles and cousins. A celebration of life for Michael and Joseph will be held in September.

**James Allen Bedell** of Underhill, VT passed away Monday, August 7, 2023 at the age of 63 with his family by his side. Prior to his passing he was in good health and was living his days to the fullest. Jim was born at the University of Vermont Medical Center on June 27, 1960, the son of Langdon and Sylvia Bedell. He grew up in Jericho with his parents and three siblings Jeff, Judy, and Jerry. Jim graduated from Mount Mansfield Union High School (MMU), Jericho in 1979. While at school, he met Jennifer Hitchcock, his high school sweetheart, future wife, best friend, and soulmate. When he wasn’t spending time at school or with his honey, he was hanging out with friends, working, and watching or playing hockey. Jim was a phenomenal hockey goalie and someday dreamed of playing in the NHL. Jim worked with his father for several years doing excavation and construction, worked in HVAC for New England Air, and Northeast Sheet Metal. When Jim’s father passed, he eventually took over the business, now called J.A. Bedell Excavation. He also owned a snow removal company that would occupy his winters up until his passing. Jim was a hard worker and took a lot of pride in the work he did. In 1983 Jim and Jenny got married and moved into their first house together in Westford, VT. They continued to do almost everything together, and created a lot of great memories with friends and family. In 1991, they welcomed their daughter Heather (or as Jim nicknamed her, Minnie) into the world. When

Heather was three years old, the family moved from Jericho to Underhill, VT, to the house that was built by Jenny’s father and previously owned by her parents (June and Tom Hitchcock). The family of three built their own traditions and made lasting memories, such as annual trips to Myrtle Beach, cruises, family hikes (Belvedere), snowmobiling trips, watching the Bruins, and Jim’s famous Thursday night pizza (with chef salads from Mountain High). Jim was excited to have acquired a son when Heather married Joe Precourt in July of 2022. Jim was the best father and



husband. He was present, loving, and playful. Jim worked hard, but he played even harder. Jim enjoyed hunting, hiking, biking, hockey, and spending time with friends and family. He loved to be out in nature and exploring terrain. This past year he got to fulfill a lifelong dream of doing a big hunt, going to Canada with one of his best friends and coming back with a big caribou. His wife and daughter often made jokes about the amount of time he would spend on the phone with his friends talking about hunting and hockey (or really anything for that matter). He sure knew how to laugh and enjoy all that life had to offer. Jim is survived by his wife Jenny and their daughter Heather (Joe Precourt); his mother Sylvia Bedell; his three siblings Jeff (Lisa), Jerry, and Judy; and his large extended family. Jim’s “family” stretched much wider though, and he will be forever missed. On Saturday, August 12, 2023, there was a memorial service at The United Church of Underhill. In lieu of flowers, you may give a donation to the Mount Mansfield Union High School Boy’s hockey team.

## 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 Rd. at 195 VT Rt. 15, Jericho, and also over Zoom; please contact [info@mmuuf.org](mailto:info@mmuuf.org) or 802-899-2558 for how to join virtually. Learn more at [www.mmuuf.org](http://www.mmuuf.org) and [www.uua.org](http://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](mailto: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](mailto:secretary@ucu.church). For instructions on joining worship from home, please see <https://unitedchurchofunderhill.com/joining-worship-from-home/>.

**Second Congregational Church, Jeffersonville**

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

**Jericho Congregational Church**

“An Historic Church Proclaiming an Eternal Message”  
On the Green in Jericho Center, VT  
Senior Pastor, David Coons and Youth Pastor, Pete Anderson  
Summer Worship Service at 9:00 AM  
Fellowship at 10:30 AM  
Nursery care provided  
Youth group 6:15 PM Sundays in our Sunday school building  
802-899-4911; [officejcc@comcast.net](mailto:officejcc@comcast.net); [www.jccvt.org](http://www.jccvt.org)

**All are welcome at Good Shepherd, Jericho**

You are invited to worship at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church on VT Rt. 15 at 9:00 AM every Sunday. The building is accessible — all are welcome! There are varied musical styles in worship services, including Folk, Contemporary, Celtic, Latin American, and traditional. Weekday online offerings include Centering Prayer. We are an open-minded Christian community with a focus on social justice issues, where people from different faith traditions, along with those who aren’t sure where they belong or what they believe, seek the support of a spiritual home. We welcome you in the name and love of Christ. More information is at [www.goodshephrdjericho.org](http://www.goodshephrdjericho.org) or contact Pastor Arnold Isidore Thomas at 802-899-3932 or [pastorthomas@goodshephrdjericho.org](mailto:pastorthomas@goodshephrdjericho.org).

**Calvary Episcopal Church**

Calvary Episcopal Church in Jericho worships on Sundays at 9:30 AM. If you would like worship service information, please contact the parish administrator at [calvarychurchjericho@gmail.com](mailto:calvarychurchjericho@gmail.com), or call 802-899-0453. All are warmly invited!

**St. Thomas Catholic Church**

St. Thomas Catholic Church in Underhill Center invites you to join us in person for the Holy Mass at 8:30 AM every Sunday. There is also a vigil Mass at 4:00 PM on Saturday evenings. Our priest, Fr. Richard Calapan, also celebrates Mass during the week, on Tuesdays at 6:30 PM and Fridays at 8:00 AM. Confessions are available on Tuesdays before Mass. Visit us at [www.stthomasvt.com](http://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](mailto:watervilleunionchurchvt@gmail.com); 32 Church St., Waterville.

Send your news to the  
**Mountain Gazette**  
at [mtngazette@gmavt.net](mailto:mtngazette@gmavt.net)

# Mountain Gazette

## Publication & Deadline Dates 2023

The Mountain Gazette publishes on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month. The deadline for receiving copy is Thursday, a week before publication, at noon.

The advertising deadline is Thursday, a week before publication at 5:00 PM.

***For more information, please contact Brenda Boutin***

Publisher of the Mountain Gazette

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On the web at [www.mountaingazetteofvermont.com](http://www.mountaingazetteofvermont.com)

### DEADLINE DATES:

#### THURSDAY

January 3

January 26

February 9

February 23

March

March 30

April 13

April 27

May 11

May 25

June 8

June 29

July 13

July 27

August 10

August 31

September 14

September 28

October 12

October 26

November 9

November 30

December 14

### PUBLICATION DATES:

#### THURSDAY

January 12

February 2

February 16

March 2

March 16

April 6

April 20

May 4

May 18

June 1

June 15

July 6

July 20

August 3

August 17

September 7

September 21

October 5

October 19

November 2

November 16

December 7

December 21

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For information Brenda Boutin • 802-453-6354

## SPORTS NEWS

## MMU Youth Field Hockey Camp for K-8 in August

Join us at the 2023 MMU Youth Field Hockey Camp! The camp runs Monday-Friday, August 21-25 at Mount Mansfield Union High School, Browns Trace, Jericho, and is open to 2023/2024 school year grade K-8 Rockstars and to all levels of play. This camp aims for lots of fun building skills and a love for the game.

The registration form can be found at <https://mmu.mmuusd.org/cms/one.aspx?portalid=476094&pageid=547469>.

Scholarships are available. Please don't hesitate to reach out if you have any questions.

## Westford Rec fall youth soccer registration open

From the Westford Recreation Department

Westford's youth soccer starts Tuesday, September 5, at the Westford School fields:

PreK-K, Saturdays 9:00 – 10:00 AM: fun and skill development. \$35.

Grades 1-2, Mondays and Wednesdays, 5:30 – 6:30 PM: fun and skill development with a couple of games. \$45.

Grades 3-4 Boys practice TBD; Girls, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 5:00 – 6:15 PM: includes shirt, league games, and a tournament. Cleats and shin guards required. \$50.

Grade 5, Mondays and Thursdays, 5:00 – 6:30 PM, at the Westford School fields: cost TBD includes shirt, league games, tournament. Cleats and shin guards required. Possible special Tuesday practices; games on Saturdays.

For more information and to register, go online to <https://westfordvt.us/recreation/>.

Hope to see you on the pitch!

## Dragonheart Vermont for fun on the water

Have you ever wanted to paddle in a dragon boat? Are you a cancer survivor recovering from treatment or presently undergoing treatments? Perhaps it has been years since your diagnosis and you are looking for an activity that will help you on your wellness journey! Come paddle with a fun group of breast cancer survivor members from Dragonheart Vermont!

Here are the dates and locations: Tuesday, August 22 and Friday, August 25, 5:30 – 7:00 PM, Waterbury Center State Park. Registration is required for each event.

Experience the thrill of dragon boat paddling, the second fastest-growing water sport in the world. Feel the physical benefits, enjoy the camaraderie, and learn the history of how an ancient water sport became a recommended path for breast cancer patients. All abilities are welcome.

Advance registration online at <https://forms.office.com/r/5puMV8ca7w> is required. Water shoes and moisture wicking lightweight clothing are suggested. All paddling and safety equipment will be provided.

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.

## Fan-favorites return to Thunder Road victory lane

After the July Vermonters have faced, Thunder Road in Barre finally got a break in the form of a perfect day for racing on Preston's Kia Night. Partly cloudy, minimal humidity, and a comfortable breeze made many a crew member happy in the pit area and the filled grandstands certainly proved the same sentiment was felt on the other side of the fence. When all the dust settled, several fan-favorite drivers made the trip to Thunder Road victory lane, with the Thunder Road legend continuing in year 64.

All-time wins leader Tommy "Thunder" Smith alongside Scott Weston brought the 32 car rk Miles Street Stock field to green and kicked off feature racing action on Preston's Kia Night. While Thunder took off with the lead, he did so with a rear-view mirror full of Tyler Whittemore. As the field stretched out with both Smith and Whittemore catching lap-traffic, the first real action would come on lap 17 with Jesse Laquerre broadside on the start/finish line, collecting Taylor Hoar and Kasey Collins as the field went berserk around the wreck.

Restarting the restacked field, Tommy Smith took charge on the bottom lane. While looking to ride it out to the checkered flags, Weston and Kyle MacAskill tangled on the frontstretch, skidded along the grass and collected a gaggle of cars in turn one to call out the final caution with four laps remaining. Although Whittemore kept his foot in the firewall, it was Tommy Smith taking his 37<sup>th</sup> career rk Miles Street Stock victory followed by Tyler Whittemore and a first podium finish for Todd Raymo in third.

Under the leadership of top rookies Luke Peters and Tyler Pepin, the Lenny's Shoe & Apparel Flying Tigers thundered off into their 40-lap feature event. The white-knuckle battle at the front kept the 24 car field side-by-side behind them with just the bumper cover deciding who led which lap until Pepin confidently took over on lap 10. At the halfway point, Colin Cornell cleared himself a spot in second and began to hunt down Pepin's lead. After smacking the widomaker frontstretch wall in the middle of the pack, Mike MacAskill slammed hard into the turn one wall at the pit road entrance before coming to a stop against the tire barrier. After bringing out the red flag on lap 23, MacAskill was able to climb out of his machine under his own power while his ride could not say the same as it took a trip behind the Paul's Sunoco wrecker.

Side-by-side at the restart, veteran Cornell would take it high, wide, and handsome up top to claim the lead as Cameron Ouellette followed him around Pepin. As the laps weaned off, Ouellette took to the outside lane over Cornell and drew up alongside under the white flag. In a drag-race to the line, Colin Cornell took down his fourth career Thunder Road win followed by Ouellette in his second-consecutive runner-up finish and Tyler Pepin in his first winner's circle visit.

With Scott Coburn and Cody Schoolcraft at the helm, the Maplewood/Irving Late Models took the green flag following their fan-fare driver introductions and wave-off to the large Sunday crowd on hand. After Coburn catapulted to the lead, everyone else could only follow as point leaders made the most of the race ahead. Coming from 13 on the grid, Nick Sweet found his way to the battle for fifth within the opening 10 laps. At the halfway point, Sweet, Cody Blake and Cooper Bouchard began hot-potatoing the third-place position just before Chris Roberts' spin on the backstretch called out the first caution.

Coburn held onto the lead under the restart green, but Schoolcraft battled back up on the outside to lead lap 30 with Nick Sweet in tow before Keegan Lamson, Scott Dragon, and Tyler Cahoon went sliding into the infield. For the first time on the night, Coburn would restart on the outside and dropped back quickly, allowing Nick Sweet to fly around Cody Schoolcraft to lead lap 34. Now with pressure from Marcel Gravel and Stephen Donahue, Sweet kept up the momentum on the outside groove and rode it all the way to his second win of the season followed by Gravel and Donahue to round out the Preston's Kia podium.

The Burnett Scrap Metals Road Warriors finished off the evening's racing activity with Corey Martin and Keegan Tabor leading the insanity. Karsen Murphy would overtake Martin at the line to lead lap 7 as the field continued to stretch before a pile-up including newcomer John Prentice, David Wilder, and Ryan Sayers in the turn one tire barrier brought out the first caution. Murphy looked to be shot from a cannon on the restart as both Martin and Brodie Frazier could only watch as the kid from Northfield grew his lead.

Although Murphy was declared the winner in victory lane, post-race technical inspection eliminated the win for Karsen Murphy and the third-place finish for Brodie Frazier with the discovery of illegal suspension components. Corey Martin would earn his first Thunder Road victory with Nate "Tater" Brien and Neal Foster moving up to complete the podium.

The Thunder and Lightning of New England's greatest stock car racing spectacle returns to Quarry Hill on Thursday, August 3 for Cody Chevrolet-Cadillac Night featuring the championship finale for the Myers Container Service Flying Tiger Triple Crown Series — with 100 laps on tap for the Lenny's Shoe & Apparel Flying Tigers in the chase for the first Thunder Road championship of the season. The Maplewood/Irving Oil Late Models, rk Miles Street Stocks, and Burnett Scrap Metals Road Warriors join the night's festivities.

For more information, contact the Thunder Road offices at 802-244-6963, [media@thunderoadvt.com](mailto:media@thunderoadvt.com), or visit [www.thunderoadvt.com](http://www.thunderoadvt.com).

## 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Brain Freezer 5k

Calling all runners and ice cream lovers! Join us for the 11<sup>th</sup> annual Brain Freezer 5k, a fundraiser for the local non-profit organization People Helping People Global. The Brain Freezer 5k is Saturday, September 16, 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM, and starts and ends at North Beach Park in Burlington.

How it works: Racers have two choices: join as a competitor and down an entire pint of ice cream at the midway mark; or join as a fun runner and eat as little or as much as you would like at the midway mark. Both competitors and fun runners enjoy a beautiful race course along the bike path in Burlington, ice cream, music by the *Smokey Newfield Project*, and prizes!

Register today using this link: <https://runsignup.com/Race/VT/Burlington/BF5K>.

If running is not your thing, please consider signing up to volunteer. Volunteer signup link: <https://runsignup.com/Race/Volunteer/VT/Burlington/BF5K>.

Please feel free to contact 802-373-1562 or [icgamm@gmail.com](mailto:icgamm@gmail.com) with any questions.

# Send your news to the Mountain Gazette.

## Engagements, weddings, births, graduations, obituaries and more.

## Clubs, organizations, sports welcome as well.

### Print for free. Includes photos.

## Send them to [mtngazette@gmavt.net](mailto:mtngazette@gmavt.net)

### PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the Mount Mansfield Unified Union School District (MMUUSD), including the towns of Bolton, Huntington, Jericho, Richmond, and Underhill intends to destroy the special education records of all students who exited from any special education program during the 2017-2018 school year.

A permanent record of the student's name, address, phone number, grades, attendance record, and year completed is maintained without time limitation.

Any former student, who has reached 18 years of age, may review and/or receive these records upon request. Also, any parent of a student who is 18 years of age or older, who has retained parental rights, may obtain these records.

Please contact the MMUUSD Special Services Office at (802)434-2128 by October 31, 2023. If no student, parent, or guardian responds to this public notice prior to or by October 31, 2023, the school district will assume consent to destroy the entire record specific to the student. Destruction of these records will begin on November 1, 2023.

### Mt Mansfield Unified Union School District (MMUUSD) Early Childhood Programs

*Are you the parent of a three, four or five year old child? Do you have concerns about your child's development in the areas of...*

*Understanding & use of language?*

*Clarity of speech?*

*Balance, strength & coordination?*

*Using small muscles to eat, dress, & play with toys?*

*Play skills & social interactions?*

*Ability to cope & regulate emotions?*

The MMUUSD Early Childhood staff are available to address any concerns you may have regarding your child's development.

An individual appointment for you and your child can be scheduled by contacting:

#### **Richmond Families**

Richmond Elementary School  
434-2461

#### **Bolton Families**

Smilie Memorial School  
434-2757

#### **Huntington Families**

Brewster Pierce Memorial School  
434-2074

#### **Jericho & Underhill Families**

Underhill ID Elementary School  
434-2962

## MMUUSD

### CHILD FIND NOTICE 2023 - 2024

Any individuals from birth through age 21 with disabilities currently residing within Bolton, Buel's Gore, Huntington, Jericho, Richmond, or Underhill, and who are in need of special education and related services need to be identified, located and evaluated by Mt Mansfield Unified Union School District (MMUUSD). This includes children: not enrolled in school, attending private or independent schools located within the aforementioned towns, enrolled in home study programs, suspected of having a disability despite advancing from grade to grade, who are highly mobile (such as migrant children), and who are homeless or wards of the state. Any person with information about any disabled person fitting these descriptions should contact:

Special Services Director  
10 River Road  
Jericho, Vermont  
Phone: 802-434-2128

In accordance with MMUUSD policies and with 34 CFR Part 99 (the Family Education Rights Privacy Act of 1974), this public notice informs all parents within their jurisdictions about how information is maintained when it is collected during identification, location and evaluation of all people with disabilities.

- Personally identifiable information will be protected by each school.
- Personally identifiable information about people eligible, referred or considered for special education services is maintained.
- Parents have the right to know what types of information have been designated as directory information (i.e. contained in a student's education record and is not generally considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if disclosed). This information includes the student's name (unless otherwise requested), address, phone number, date/place of birth, major field of study, participation in officially recognized activities/sports, weight/height, membership in athletic teams, dates of attendance, degrees/awards received, and the previous school attended.
- Parents have the right to know the types and locations of educational records kept by the school and the titles and addresses of officials responsible for the records.
- A list of the names and positions of employees within MMUUSD who have access to personally identifiable information shall be available for public inspection.
- If anyone other than an authorized MMUUSD employee looks at the educational record of a child, that person shall so indicate by signing his/her name, date and purpose for reviewing the record on a form to become part of the education record.
- Parental permission will be obtained prior to disclosing confidential information to anyone who is not an authorized employee of MMUUSD.
- Information relevant to a child's specific disability (such as: medical information, intelligence test results, social/developmental history, comprehensive evaluation report and the individualized education program) will be part of the education record.
- Personally identifiable information will be gathered from screenings, qualified diagnostic centers and other sources, as deemed necessary, to complete a comprehensive evaluation. Parents, or an eligible student, will be able to access personally identifiable information and inspect and review their education record(s) no later than 45 days after the request is made.
- Parents have the right to a response to reasonable requests for explanations and interpretations of the educational records.
- Parents may obtain a copy of the educational record without a fee for copying, if a fee will be a financial burden and/or will prevent them from obtaining the records.
- Parents have the right to request the education record be amended. The school district will decide whether to amend the record within a reasonable time of the request. If the district refuses to amend the record, it shall inform the parent and advise the parent of the right to a hearing. If, as a result of the hearing, it is found the educational record must be amended, the school district will amend the record and inform the parent in writing. If, as a result of the hearing, it is found the disputed information is not inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the privacy right of the child, the school will inform the parent of his/her right to place in the educational record a written statement commenting on the information or stating any reasons for disagreeing with the results of the hearing. This written statement will become part of the educational record and will always be included whenever the contents of the education record is properly viewed or requested.
- Parents have the right to a hearing to challenge the educational records of their child.
- Parents will be notified prior to the school district's destruction of personally identifiable information about their child.
- The parent has the authority to inspect and review records relating to his/her child unless MMUUSD has been advised that the parent does not have the authority under applicable state law governing matters such as guardianship, separation and divorce.
- Parents have the right to file a complaint with the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the MMUUSD to comply with this policy.

NOTE: If there are parents within the below mentioned schools who need this information interpreted, please notify your local school.

Brewster-Pierce Memorial School 434-2074	Smilie Memorial School 434-2757
Richmond Elementary 434-2461	Jericho Elementary 899-2272
Underhill Center School 899-4676	Underhill ID Pre-K 434-2962
Browns River Middle School 899-3711	Camels Hump Middle School 434-2188
Mt Mansfield Union High School 899-4690	

SCHOOL NEWS

**Changes to Lamoille North staff, student email accounts**

To better align the Lamoille North school community and improve communication between our parents/caregivers and Lamoille North teachers and staff, all school-based Google accounts are currently being transitioned into a single system.

This means the email addresses for all Lamoille North employees and students are being updated to @*lnsd.org*. This includes teachers, staff members, and students at all Lamoille North schools except for Green Mountain Technology & Career Center which will remain @*gmtcc.net*.

This change will ensure a more seamless transition from one school to another for our students, will improve student data management, and will allow for better collaboration across our school district.

While any emails sent to old email addresses will be automatically forwarded to new accounts, parents, caregivers, families, and community members are asked to please update any Lamoille North email contacts they may have saved.

Students will have access to their new @*lnsd.org* emails and accounts on the first day of school. If they need access sooner or have questions, please contact the Lamoille North IT department at their specific school.

This Google transition was completed the week of July 31. Email addresses have already been updated in our online school directories.

**JES PiE is September Hannaford Community Bag Program beneficiary**

For the entire month of September, store leadership at Hannaford's Essex Junction location has selected JES Partners in Education to receive a \$1 donation from every purchase of the \$2.50 Hannaford Community Bag.

The Community Bag Program facilitates community support with the goal to make a difference in the communities where shoppers live and work. More than \$1.2 million has been donated to over 5000 local nonprofits since the program launched in October 2015.

JES Partners in Education (PIE) is a nonprofit parent and school partnership organization at Jericho Elementary School. The organization aims to enhance and strengthen the educational and social environment for JES students. Together, we as parents and caregivers, faculty, and staff make a difference in ways large and small. Past and ongoing projects include building an outdoor classroom, purchasing a new keyboard for the music classroom, and beautifying the grounds.

All JES families are encouraged to join us! Learn more about JES PIE by visiting <https://bit.ly/JerichoPIE>, find us on Facebook and Instagram or email [jerichopie1@gmail.com](mailto:jerichopie1@gmail.com).

For more information on the Hannaford Community Bag Program, visit [hannaford.2givelocal.com](http://hannaford.2givelocal.com).

**Adopt A Backpack school supplies drive**

It's early to talk about going back to school, but not too early to start organizing our Adopt A Backpack school supply drive.

Started a few years ago handing out supplies at the Essex-Jericho-Underhill Food Shelf, we have grown and last year handed out over 100 backpacks filled with school supplies. We also handed them out in area schools including Essex, Jericho, Underhill, Williston, Winooski, Milton, and more. In addition, we purchased scientific calculators for high school students and provided gift cards to teachers to help them buy school supplies for their classrooms. Each year our needs have increased. It takes about \$25 to fill a backpack and we hope to again supply scientific calculators to high school students.

We are looking for individuals, businesses, and social clubs to help sponsor Adopt A Backpack in 2023. Also, if you know of families that would benefit from our donations, please let us know. For more information about our drive or references please reach out to us.

Checks can be made out to one of us or to the EJU Ecumenical Food Shelf, and mailed to LuAnn and Grant Clarke, 20 Tillotson Dr., Jericho, VT 05465; 802-355-0645 or 802-363-1632.

Supplies list: loose leaf paper (two-packs), index cards, markers (12-pack), composition book, scissors, rulers, 1" binder, scientific calculators, pens, eraser, eraser tops, 1 subject spiral notebooks, graph paper, crayons (24-pack), folders with pockets, personal size hand sanitizer, highlighters, glue sticks, headphones, pencils (12-pack), colored pencils (12-pack).

**Needed: a few heroes to help exchange students**

With the school year quickly approaching, some heroes are needed to help some exchange students out. Would you be a hero for one of them?

They're waiting on pins and needles to find out if a family has chosen them and will take them in as part of their family.

You choose your student, choose one that's best for your family! You do not have to have a teen to host.

Email [epaula@flag-intl.org](mailto:epaula@flag-intl.org) for more information or to learn more about these students or others. For more information, go online to <http://www.becomeahostfamily.com>.

Adam is a reliable and creative boy from the Czech Republic who loves the outdoors! He enjoys hiking, skiing, water sports, and cycling. In his free time he likes to take photos, play piano, and cook.

Agathe is a motivated and funny girl from France who loves hip hop dancing, swimming, and gymnastics. In her free time she likes to sing, listen to music, and spend time with friends.

Jan is a friendly and dedicated boy from Germany who loves to play basketball, ski, and go to the gym. In his free time he also likes to do DIY projects, read, and spend time with his friends and family.

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