

Cambridge: ARPA funding opportunity

In January 2022, the U.S. Department of Treasury issued an *Overview of the Final Rule for the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF)*, a part of the American Rescue Plan Act. These federal funds were extended to state and local municipalities to address impacts of the pandemic, with substantial flexibility on how the funds can be allocated based on the local need. The four eligible use categories are: replacing lost public sector revenue; support the COVID-19 public health and economic response; provide premium pay for eligible workers performing essential work; invest in water, sewer, and broadband infrastructure.

The Final rule provides extensive information about allowable spending, and the emphasis on spending to address impacts on those disproportionately impacted by the pandemic. For more information, please see the Final Rule at <https://home.treasury.gov/system/files/136/SLFRF-Final-Rule-Overview.pdf>. Frequently asked questions (and answers) are available at <https://home.treasury.gov/system/files/136/SLFRF-Final-Rule-FAQ.pdf>.

The Town of Cambridge ARPA Advisory Committee is a five-member committee, appointed by the Town Selectboard, to review requests for use of the funding that has been allocated to the Town of Cambridge and make recommendations to the Selectboard. The ARPA Advisory Committee has outlined the following process to collect input from the community. This process is intended to be simple and allow for those requesting funds to do so without providing extensive information or investing significant time. Additional information may be requested by the Committee as part of Phase II. Please note that all funds need to be obligated by December 31, 2024 and expended by December 31, 2026.

- Complete the Phase I application form for each project or funding request and submit it to the ARPA Committee by Friday, September 30, 2022. Completed applications may be submitted in person to the Town Administrator or via email to townadmin@cambridgevt.org.

- The ARPA Committee will review Phase I applications and respond within 30 days.

- All Phase I applications will be shared with the Selectboard when final recommendations for funding are made.

- A Phase II application may be required if your request is selected for further consideration.

The Phase I application is available on the Cambridge town website at <https://cambridgetownvt.documents-on-demand.com/> (under ARPA ADVISORY COMMITTEE, select *Forms & Documents*).

1705 VT Rt. 128 Project update

By Melissa Manka, Westford Town Planner

As some residents may have noticed, a For Sale sign has gone up at the 1705 VT Rt. 128 property.

As the Planning Commission (PC) has explained previously, the 1705 project had many significant hurdles to overcome before it could move towards final planning and design. One of those hurdles was the current owner of the property and the Vermont River Conservancy (VRC) and the Vermont Housing Conservation Board (VHCB) reaching agreement on the terms of a purchase contract.

Unfortunately, after significant good faith effort, those parties have not been able to come to mutually agreeable terms. The owner has decided to list the property for sale. The parties are free to continue discussing the terms of a potential sale to VRC, if they choose. If VRC does not purchase the property, then it is unlikely the Town will be able to acquire a parcel of this land for future Town Office expansion.

The PC would like to extend its deepest appreciation to the property owners for their patience and cooperation during the past three years while we worked to see if a collaboration with VRC and VHCB was viable. The PC would also like to thank the community for its questions and comments concerning this potential opportunity for the Town. We appreciate the community involvement.

Update - Westford wastewater project

By Melissa Manka, Westford Town Planner

After a longer than anticipated delay, the Westford Planning Commission is resuming its public outreach for the proposed community wastewater system and is planning for a bond vote in 2023. We are hopeful that we can have that vote at Town Meeting 2023.

As we explained earlier this spring, the civil engineering firm leading the proposed system's preliminary design and permitting work for over two years was forced to cease operations due to staffing issues. This resulted in a delay as the Town worked to find a qualified engineering firm to fill the void. We are happy to report that Stone Environmental (stone-env.com) will serve as the Town's wastewater project engineers.

The Town began its relationship with Stone Environmental in 2008, when the Planning Commission commissioned its first wastewater study for the Town Common Area. We are happy to be moving forward again and look forward to providing updated information to the community as it becomes available.



A younger Gary Irish enjoying an antique car is honored by Underhill Historical Society.

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Underhill Historical Society to honor Gary Irish

On Sunday, September 11, 3:00 – 5:00 PM, there will be a special gathering at the District 5 Schoolhouse, in Underhill Center at the corner of Pleasant Valley and Stevensville Roads.

Gary Irish, beloved archivist of Underhill (and Jericho) history will be honored. He will receive the annual Lucius Jackson award for contribution to the preservation of the history of our towns. Light refreshments will be served.

Controlling your dog

By Liam Kearney, Cambridge Dog Control Officer

"When two dogs meet you cannot be certain how things will go."
I've had several questions and a few complaints about unleashed dogs. Some dog owners have declined to leash their dogs when asked to by folks on the town's walking trails. Some point out that their dog is friendly and not aggressive.

Most dogs are indeed friendly most of the time, particularly when they are with people they know. However, no dog is always friendly. When two dogs meet you cannot be certain how things will go. When both dogs are leashed there is a good chance both dogs will stay under control. When one of the dogs is loose all bets are off.

Please spare a thought for the people you meet with your dog. Some folks get very nervous around dogs. Dogs may interpret a person's fear as unpredictability, which can make the dog defensive and therefore more unpredictable. Do keep your dogs on a tight leash around strangers.

The town's dog ordinance is clear: "No dog shall run at large in the town."

A dog is "running at large" when is it not "on a leash" or "in a vehicle" or "on the owner's property" or "on the property of another person with that person's permission" or "hunting with the owner."

When dogs are caught running at large they are impounded and the owner is liable to be fined. You can find the full ordinance at this link: https://www.cambridge.vermont.gov/emergency_services/animal_control.php.

NEWS BRIEFS

Village of Jeffersonville water test analysis results

By Trevor Welch, Village of Jeffersonville Head Water/Wastewater Operator

The State of Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation sends us a monitoring schedule each year. It tells

us which hazardous compounds to test for, when to test for them, and how often to test for certain compounds.

This summer I collected samples for inorganic compounds, a test that is required once every nine years. The test included 14 potential hazards such as arsenic, manganese, mercury, cyanide, iron, and a bunch of other elements I had never heard of. I am

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COMING EVENTS



Vermont Crafts Council's 30th annual Fall Open Studio Tour will be held on Saturday-Sunday, October 1-2, throughout Vermont. Local participating artists include Gerald K. Stoner, whose sculpture and photography have been displayed throughout New England and in group exhibitions in Colorado, Illinois, New York, and Texas. Visit his sculpture display at his River Road, Underhill home and studio (map #9). Story page 9.

PHOTO FROM

[HTTPS://WWW.VERMONTCRAFTS.COM/GERALD-K-STONER/](https://www.vermontcrafts.com/gerald-k-stoner/)

Vermont Open Studio Tour celebrates 30 years

The second Open Studio Weekend in the celebration of our 30th year will be held during Saturday-Sunday, October 1-2 from 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM each day. It gives visitors and collectors the opportunity to plan a tour that brings them through the small towns of Vermont to studios where they can view and purchase beautiful well-made things and talk with the artist that made them.

Open Studio Weekend is a celebration of the creation of craft and artwork and the work life of Vermont artists. With a focus on the studio, including work space and materials, the event aims to illustrate both that creating art requires an investment of time, specialized tools, and equipment, and that the process is accessible and rewarding.

The Vermont Crafts Council holds that creative problem solving is an essential human skill that will be strengthened with engagement with non-digital materials, clay, wood, metals, glass, felt, thread, cloth, paper, and paints. The history of craft traditions in Vermont presents a window into past community life that is again being embraced by a new generation seeking a grounded connection to handmade, functional artwork that is used in everyday life.

During the two-day event, artists statewide open their studios to visitors to discuss and demonstrate their work. Visitors can purchase work directly from the artist, often choosing from a wider selection than is available online or through galleries. Many artists will accept custom orders and offer seconds and discontinued designs for sale on this weekend. Visitors can also use the tour to visit over twenty small galleries and art centers that exhibit and sell the work of a variety of local artists. Each small gallery has its own collection of local artisan work. Several of these centers will feature groups of artists and themed displays and special sales for the weekend.

Glass blowers, potters, metal workers, jewelers, weavers, painters, woodworkers, photographers, book artists, printmakers, felt makers, dyers, basket makers, and rug hookers are among those that invite visitors to come behind the scenes into their studios. Ask questions, view demonstrations, and purchase original handmade artwork. A key part of the Open Studio experience is planning your own route through the Vermont countryside. Use the printed map booklet, available at many Vermont information centers and rest areas, or download it from <https://www.vermontcrafts.com/visit-open-studio/>. Also available there is an online Google map, updated with the latest information, and artist pages with information and pictures of artwork.

Friday-Saturday, September 2-3

Labor Day Tag Sale, 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM both days, Jeffersonville Second Congregational Church, Jeffersonville. Lots of goodies to sell: clothing, shoes and boots, rocking chair, dishes appliances, miscellaneous furniture, linens, jewelry, craft items, toys and games, books, videos, decorations, hardware, and more. Donations welcome until Sunday, August 28. No computers, helmets, or child car seats. Call Becky, 802-644-8827, or Melody, 802-644-2409, to arrange drop off. Please do not just leave items at the door. Proceeds support church activities, which include the Cambridge Food Shelf, AA meetings, free bone builder exercise classes, scout meetings, etc.

Saturday-Sunday, September 3-4

Jeri Hill Senior Housing yard sale, 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM Saturday, 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM Sunday, Jeri Hill Lane (off Brookside Drive), Jericho. During Labor Day weekend, the Jeri Hill Lane Senior Housing will host a community-wide yard sale to benefit the improvement of our grounds. This improvement of our grounds will bring more beauty to our wider surrounding community and will make it a pleasure to visit. As in any yard sale there is sure to be something for most people and invite everyone to attend to help us in our beautification and improvement efforts! For more information contact Dana Smith, Manager of the non-profit Jeri Hill Senior property, 802-859-8857, or resident Judy Wade, 210-913-2281.

Tuesday, September 6

LHH&H Hospice Volunteer Training, 5:30 – 8:00 PM, Lamolite Home Health & Hospice, 54 Farr Ave., Morrisville. Beginning September 6 and continuing on Tuesday and Thursday evenings through September 27 (seven sessions). Hospice volunteers provide much-needed comfort to those receiving hospice care, and respite to families and caregivers. Please contact Charlene, 802-888-4651 or ccamirelhha.org for more information. Free, but space is limited.

Wednesday, September 7

Craft Group, 6:00 – 8:00 PM, District 5 Schoolhouse, Pleasant Valley Rd. (corner of Stevensville Rd.), Underhill Center. Spend a couple of hours working on your current project while socializing with your neighbors. The group meets every

two weeks. Open to everyone. For questions or more information contact Amy Tower, 802-355-9671 or atowerinvt@gmail.com, or Julie Hehir, 802-899-3199 or juliehhehir@comcast.net.

Saturday, September 10

SunnyView Run, 12:00 – 1:00 PM, SunnyView Dr., Jericho. Rising MMUHS freshmen Kai Merchant and Noah Bouchett will be hosting a foot run to raise money for a school trip to Spain. The route will be two laps around the SunnyView Dr. loop, starting at the northwest corner of the loop. You can park at Jericho Elementary School and walk the trails behind Jericho Elementary to get to the starting area. Entrance fee \$25. To participate, contact noahbouchett@gmail.com or kaidoucet19@gmail.com.

GMPR Pug Social, 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM, Rutland Recreation Community Center Athletic Fields, 134 Community Dr., Rutland. Rain or shine! Green Mountain Pug Rescue celebrates 20 years at this annual event, with lots of fun family activities. All dogs are welcome, especially our pug friends! Activities include a pug café, silent auction, dog bag raffles, sales tent, crap raffle, 50/50 raffle, pug races, costume contests, pug-friendly cake eating contest, talent contests, and vendors/crafters with dog/pug related items. For more information, go online to <https://www.gmpr.org/pugsocial.html>.

Getting Started on Your Family History, 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM, on Zoom. You've watched the TV shows about genealogy and now you're excited to learn more about your own family. Then again, there is so much to learn. Where does one start, and how do you know you're doing it correctly? Lynn Johnson will explain different types of sources, judging whether the pieces fit, and the importance of documenting your findings. Lynn will use examples from work on her family lines to go over where to find records, common errors, and helpful hints. Handouts will be included. All classes at the VT Genealogy Library will be Zoom webinars; cost is \$10. Please visit our website www.vtgenlib.org for additional details and for registration.

Saturday, September 14

Essex Community Historical Society Tales and Treasure, 2022, 7 PM, Memorial Hall, Towers Road, Essex. ESSEX CENTER-THE VILLAGE – “TO BE AND NOT TO BE” Was there ever a Village of Essex Center? Or is this just another thing to confuse the voters? Hint: There was such a village. But where was it? Is it still there? If not, what happened? Hubie Norton will walk us through the history of this village that existed for 27 years, 11 months and 25 days.

Saturday, September 17

Next Steps in Organizing, 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM, on Zoom. Presenter Suzanne Blanchard. All classes at the VT Genealogy Library will be Zoom webinars; cost is \$10. Please visit our website www.vtgenlib.org for additional details and for registration.

Wednesday, September 21

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

Saturday, October 22

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

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pleased to report that all 14 potential hazards were absent within our drinking water. They all came back as “below detectable limit,” which means they didn't find any.

As always, I am happy to share any of the test results with anyone who asks. All of my records are open to the public and can be shared through email or paper copies.

Add UJFD dispatch number to Life Alert devices

By Andy Forsberg, EMS Supervisor/Captain, UJFD

Our Dispatch centers have changed. If you or a loved one have a *Life Alert* device, that device only calls the numbers you list in your contract with *Life Alert*. We ask that you please add the Underhill Jericho Fire Dispatch number (802-985-8051) in addition to the ambulance service that services you. We generally arrive 10-15 minutes earlier — and in emergencies, minutes count. If you have any questions, please reach out to 802-899-4025.

The Underhill Jericho Fire Department (UJFD) is always looking for new people to help as firefighters, fire police, and EMS providers. If you have any interest, please reach out at 802-899-4025.

The Underhill Jericho Fire Department has to date run 52 calls for the fire department to include three structure fires, car accidents, alarm activations, and mutual aid calls. We have also run 321 EMS calls for service. Of those, 200 calls have been in Jericho and 121 in Underhill.

Our station in Underhill is staffed Monday-Friday, 7:00 AM – 6:00 PM, and we welcome people stopping by for tours or if you have any questions.

Jericho Energy Task Force seeks members

Concerned about climate change? Want to help your neighbors save energy? Interested in learning more? The Jericho Energy Task Force (JETF) is looking for new members.

The JETF meets the third Monday of the month, currently by Zoom. Current projects are working with the Underhill Energy Committee (UEC) to get out the word about saving energy at the Farmers Market.

The JETF and the UEC are putting together an EV event with GMP and *Drive Electric* to demonstrate EVs and talk about current rebates. Also with the UEC, the JETF with *Local Motion* will have an active transportation demonstration on Saturday, September 24 at the Harvest Market. Anyone with an E-bike who would like to be in the parade or is willing to spend a little time on Saturday to talk with others about your experience, please contact catherine.mcmains@gmail.com.

For those who are interested but don't have additional time for outside events, the JETF also assists the Planning Commission with the energy section of the Town Plan. In the winter, we put together a movie and lecture series.

For Zoom link to JETF meetings, contact catherine.mcmains@gmail.com.

Essex/Colchester - VT Rts. 2A and 289 schedule

Thursday, August 18 update

Project Type: Resurfacing

Location: VT Rt. 2A and VT Rt. 289, Essex-Colchester.

Projected completion: October 14, 2022

Traffic impact: none.

Project update: Guardrail replacement is complete; milling continues on VT Rt. 289.

Please follow the posted speed limits!

Please email sbarrett@coibsinc.com, reference “VT Route 2A - Essex,” if you would like to receive weekly project updates via email.

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

Thursday, August 18 update:

Motorists can expect traffic control to be present, allowing for one-way alternating travel. Motorists can also expect to be traveling on unpaved roadway in the constructed area. Motorists are urged to slow down while driving on the unpaved roadway. The work includes replacement of culvert pipe under U.S. Rt. 2 just east of the intersection of U.S. Rt. 2 and Jericho Road/Bridge Street, Richmond.

Please use caution and follow the posted speed limits!

The following is the work that was anticipated for the week beginning Monday, August 22:

Monday-Friday, daytime:

- continue roadway excavation and slab removal between Cochran Road and Snipe Ireland Road, and

- weather permitting, paving base course in Bolton from the Long Trail Parking Lot to Boys Club Road;

Monday-Thursday, 7:00 PM – 6:00 AM:

- drainage and slope repair between I89 Exit 11 interchange and the westerly end Richmond Village.

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

COLLEGE HONORS

Zachary Burns of Jericho, VT has been named to the Spring 2022 President's Honors List at the University of Hartford, West Hartford, CT. Burns is a member of the Class of 2022 majoring in Music Production & Technology.

Anxhela Cannizzaro of Underhill, VT has been chosen to receive the Key Award by Elmira College, Elmira, NY. The Key Award is presented to outstanding students in their junior year of high school or preparatory school; the Award includes an \$80,000 scholarship over a four-year period upon enrolling at Elmira College.

Celia Weigand of Jeffersonville, VT has been chosen to receive the Key Award by Elmira College, Elmira, NY. The Key Award is presented to outstanding students in their junior year of high school or preparatory school; the Award includes an \$80,000 scholarship over a four-year period upon enrolling at Elmira College.

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COMMUNITY COLUMNS

A Vermont train journey – 1953

By Bill Schubart

Traces of opalescent light emblazon the western horizon as we drive south along Route 100 with the car radio tuned to WDEV. The evening edition of the *Trading Post*, a kind of radio lawn sale, absorbs us. A jovial announcer details the items offered: a freshened Guernsey — a PTO pulp saw, “needs a new drive belt” — an International Cub tractor with belly mower “runs good” — a Maytag wringer-washer with stainless tub “like new” — an Emerson floor model radio... “needs a rectifier tube” — an American Flyer sled... “faster ’n a Ford — a 450-pound sow... “good mother, good breeder, eatcha outta house and barn, best offer, will trade.”

As we arrive in Waterbury, Dad drives through the well-lit downtown and parks next to the pale red-brick station, where I will leave soon for my first trip to New York City to visit my grandmother. I am eight.

We step out into the cold night air and climb the freshly painted wooden steps into the cavernous warmth of the station where a pot-bellied Prussian General woodstove, topped with a chromed oak leaf cluster, sits in a corner on the trackside of the station radiating heat from the coal fire inside.

Dad chats with the stationmaster, whom he’s known since he first drove the Couture jitney between Morrisville, Stowe, and Waterbury. A Dutch door separates the stationmaster’s office from the waiting room. The narrow shelf on the lower door functions as a ticket counter when the upper half is open. Inside the stationmaster’s office a bay window juts out from the station onto the platform so that he can see either way down the express tracks and the siding without going outdoors. Several telegraph keys and sounding boxes sit on the tidy oak desk along with a black Bakelite phone. The far wall is covered with brass hooks from which a dozen oak clipboards hang, clutching sheaves of schedules and freight manifests.

The waiting room has recently been repainted off-white, its peeling plaster simply painted over leaving the impression of frozen whitecaps on the walls. Four varnished hardwood slat benches with concave seats on both sides dominate the center of the waiting room.

The silence is interrupted by a burst of telegraphic clicks. The stationmaster sticks his head out to say that the train’s just passed the Jonesville grade crossing and will arrive in fourteen minutes.

Dad beckons me to follow him, winking at the stationmaster, who shakes his head in a gesture of disapproval. I follow Dad outside towards the grade crossing at the far end of the platform. This crossing connects the town proper to warehouses, a grain depot and a rambling carpentry shop that makes the new steel-edged skis that are all the rage in Stowe.

At the end of the platform, Dad jumps down, ignoring the stairs, and signals me to jump into his arms, one of my favorite things. He glances at his watch and then pulls a worn silver half-dollar, a Lincoln penny and a roll of adhesive tape from his pocket. He positions the penny in the center of the half dollar and tapes the whole to a steel rail.

“When you get back,” Dad smiles, “I’ll have your own 51-cent coin for you. You won’t find many in town except the ones I made.”

Then, to my surprise, Dad takes my head firmly in his hands and gently forces my left ear onto the cold steel rail.

“Hear the train yet?” he asks. I wait with my ear uncomfortably pressed to the cold rail for several minutes and then blurt out. “I hear it! I hear it!”

I hear the faintly rhythmic clackety-clack radiating from within the rail. Dad releases his grip but I keep listening to the mesmerizing rhythm as it slows and grows louder.

Suddenly, in the far distance, a deep-throated train whistle roars through the night. “It’s coming into town now,” Dad says. “That’s the Bolton Road crossing at the far end of town. C’mon, let’s go.” I follow Dad back to the platform.

Inside, the stationmaster shakes his head and smiles, “I never should ‘a taught-cha that as a young’un. Mind, the Missus don’t find out. Don’t want him losin’ his head to the Washingtonian!”

We go back out onto the cold platform in time to hear the slow, deep chuffing of a steam engine, but see nothing. My eyes drill into the dark.

Suddenly, a blaze of vibrating white light sweeps out along the gentle curve of the tracks and the deep, toiling sound of the engine increases. Then, as the rhythmic chuff slows, a whistle blast again rips through the night as the train nears the grade crossing where Dad taped the two coins to the rail.

A conductor in a dark blue uniform steps off the still-moving train carrying an iron footstool, drops it on the platform and hustles into the station.

I stare into the moving undercarriage of the massive steam engine. A last stygian blast of escaping steam obliterates my view as the engineer applies the brakes and the massive engine stops, the steam condensing in the cold air and enveloping everyone on the platform.

The conductor returns with a sheaf of papers under his arm, aligns the footstool with the car’s iron steps, and invites people to board. As I’m about to step onto the stool, Dad lifts me up and hands me up to the porter.

“My name is Mr. J. Wha’s yer name?”

“Billy,” I answer, staring at his face. The porter understands that I’ve never seen a Black person before.

Dad hands Mr. J. my ticket, which he pockets without a glance. Mr. J leads us into the sleeper car along a corridor lined with heavy blue drapes. Brass number plates are riveted to the



The Montreal-New York Ambassador at the train station in White River Junction on August 27, 1951.

PHOTO BY JIM SHAUGHNESSY

curtains near the top and bottom. At the end of the car, he pulls back the curtains to reveal a turned-down bed and lifts me onto the edge of the lower berth.

Dad and Mr. J. converse in whispers and Dad hands him a neatly folded piece of white paper and a dollar bill.

“This’ll be fun. Do what Mr. J. tells you and tomorrow you’ll see your grandmother.” That said, Dad kisses me on the forehead and leaves.

I hear two furious whistle blasts and a loud chuff. Our sleeping car lurches forward as the engine takes up the slack in the couplers. Tears well up.

The train gradually picks up speed, accelerating along the moonlit Winooski River Valley. My fear soon gives way to curiosity and I roll over onto my stomach to look out the window.

The sconce light in my berth is off and my eyes adjust quickly to the moonlit countryside. The night is lit by a fingernail moon, emerging periodically from backlit banks of dark clouds to flood the landscape with a nacreous light. The train picks up speed along the straight railbed that follows the river.

In the meadows that border the river, Holstein cows stand like cemetery statuary, their black and white patchwork evident in the moonlight. Here and there, the pale lights of a farmhouse glow in the distance. The familiar landscape and the heartbeat rhythm of the rails allay my fear.

“Time to get ‘cher PJ’s on and tuck in,” I hear.

Mr. J.’s warm, smiling face appears between the curtains as he holds out a waxed paper cup of ginger ale. “Drink this. It’ll settle yer up. Then put on your PJ’s.”

He reaches in and flips a small toggle switch that floods the berth with a pale yellow light filtered through an etched, amber-colored glass sconce.

“Put your clothes in the net up there and be sure to fold ‘em nice so you look good for your grandmamma. I’m gonna close your curtains for you. Just stick your head out when yer done with your ginger-ale.”

I get into my pajamas, hearing the faint sound of snoring somewhere in the sleeper car and roll over again to look out the window.

“Time for you to tuck in, boy, and rest up for your grandmamma tomorrow.”

I tuck into the crisply ironed sheets and Mr. J., humming to himself, pulls the sheet and wool blanket up to my chin, then reaches over and clicks off the yellowish light.

Alone in the berth, I roll over to watch the moonlit panorama scroll by. The persistent rhythm of the rails brings to mind my mother and I see her face with its sadness and hurt as I kiss her goodbye. I suddenly realize I’m alone on a train snaking through the dark countryside toward New York.

* * *

“We’re comin’ in. Time to get dressed. Don’t wanna keep grandmamma waiting! Be there in ‘bout 30 minutes. Get yourself dressed.”

I blink and sit up. My window is flooded with daylight and there are buildings as far as I can see. Cabs nose their way through littered streets as the train slows down through Queens. I pull off my pajamas and put on my pants, shirt, and socks.

Opening the curtain, I look anxiously for Mr. J, but he’s

nowhere in sight. I walk down to the bathroom only to find it occupied by a large man shaving at the sink. I edge by him into the toilet and, on leaving, am too shy to ask him to let me wash my hands.

At my berth, the drapes are pulled back out of sight, the bed’s gone, replaced by two large, upholstered bench seats facing each other where my bed had been.

A young woman sits on one seat and, somewhat confused, I take a seat across from her. Mr. J appears with my suitcase and sets it down next to me.

“Stay here and keep this lady company. I got lots to do. We’re comin’ into Penn Station in ‘bout fifteen minutes. I’ll be back for you when we get there.”

Taught by Dad to greet everyone I meet, I venture a “hello” to the woman across from me. She looks puzzled, as if I asked her for something she doesn’t have, nods, and then looks out the window.

The train approaches from high on a rail trestle and I can see down into the streets below: people, cars, and a few dogs. There are many more people like Mr. J.

Suddenly, the street scene disappears in darkness, interrupted periodically by the appearance of a pallid light bulb burning against a stone wall, lighting small sections of the dark tunnel through which the train slowly moves. Under one light bulb, an old man sits in a shabby suit with oversize shoes fumbling in a paper bag for something he seems to have misplaced. The man doesn’t seem to notice as the train rumbles by but keeps fumbling in the bag. The intermittent lights flash slowly by for several more minutes and then, with a burst of bright light, the train emerges into the maze of tracks and platforms that signals our arrival in Penn Station.

“We’re here,” Mr. J. announces, grabbing my suitcase with one hand and me with the other. I say good-bye to the woman on the opposite bench as Mr. J leads me out to the passageway between cars as the train slows. Suddenly, with a loud burst of steam and a shriek of iron brake shoes, the train comes to a stop and people carrying their luggage jostle one another in the small passageway.

Mr. J, who is being questioned now by several people, holds my hand firmly. “Mind you don’t slip down the crack,” he says with a smile as I step carefully over the space between the train and the concrete platform.

A German woman stands waiting, and Mr. J, sensing that she is there to meet me, hands me to her, pats me on the head and says, “See you on the Montrealer.”

Fledging time

By Anita de Waard
Special to the Mountain Gazette

Like the geese who circle the pond, honking their desire to travel to warmer climes, we packed up our camper last week with totes and bags and headed south to take our youngest to college. After all the applications and acceptance and intro zoom calls and emails and registration portals and payments and lists of things you need at college, the long-awaited Day of Departure was finally there, and we left Vermont, for him (who wants to be a doctor so this is a 10-14 year educational journey) possibly

Community columns continued on page 5

The Mountain Gazette

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HEALTH NEWS

Copley Hospital 5-Stars, cardiology move, and events

Copley earns 5-Star quality rating! We are very proud to announce that your community Copley Hospital was recently awarded a 5-Star quality rating from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS). We are one of four Vermont hospitals, and the only Critical Access Hospital in Vermont, to receive this distinction.

The 5-Star rating, based on more than 40 quality measures, is determined by our patients through patient satisfaction surveys, which let us know what we do well and where we can do better. Congratulations Team Copley for your dedication to providing excellent community care for us all.

Cardiology Services on the move: effective August 30, Copley Hospital's Cardiology Services is in a new location. Patients will be seen in a newly expanded space in the Health Center Building, building "A." The new location on the first floor of the Health Center Building provides roadside drop-off and pickup in addition to convenient parking. The newly renovated space has a welcoming patient and family area and includes spacious exam and procedural rooms. Only cardiology patients will be seen in the new clinic. Patients for Neurology and General Surgery will continue to be seen at the clinic in the hospital.

Craft Fair at Copley: join us on Saturday, September 10, 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM, on the Copley Green for Copley's first Fall Craft Fair. Get a jumpstart on your holiday or all occasion shopping! Copley crafters, family, and friends will be set up on the lawn behind the Health Center Building. Crafts include jewelry, dried flower wreaths, swags and angels, stained glass items, wood signs, wool sweater quilts, pot holders, baby blankets, sewn goods for home and pets, wood flowers, bookmarks and magnets, soaps, and more.

Are you Moxie Ready? Copley's second annual Gravel moxie bike ride is scheduled for Saturday, October 15. This year's event has several options including a 50-, 25-, or 10-mile family fun ride. Enjoy the backcountry of Lamoille County while riding on some of the best gravel in the Green Mountains. This year's proceeds benefit the cardiology department at Copley Hospital. Register at <http://bikereg.com> or call 802-888-8302.

Become a hospice volunteer

Become a hospice volunteer and make a difference in your community by enhancing the quality of life for hospice clients and their families. Hospice volunteers provide companionship and respite for individuals and families at home and at the McClure Miller Respite House in Colchester.

Our volunteers are carefully trained through our 11-week program, held twice a year. The next training begins Thursday, September 8. Space is limited, so reach out to us today to learn more!

For registration and training details, contact the Hospice Volunteer office at 802-860-4411 or voloff@uvmhomehealth.org.

News, upcoming events from Healthy Lamoille Valley

"Back to School!" These words bring up a range of emotions for parents and caregivers. Excitement, anticipation, celebration, the joy of new adventures and challenges, worry, stress, anxiety. Now, think about what the kids and teens in your life are experiencing. It's probably amplified. We encourage you to take time to set a foundation of communication for your kids and teens as you all enter the upcoming school year. Visit our website for a few ideas and resources to create this foundation: <https://www.healthylamoillevalley.org/back-to-school-2022>.

With a new school year, starting we wanted to let you know that Healthy Lamoille Valley is continuing to host our online community for parents/caregivers of middle and high school students. If you would like to participate, please email Jessica@healthylamoillevalley.org with your name, school district or homeschool, and the grades of your kids. This group requires an invite to participate. Learn more at <https://www.healthylamoillevalley.org/parent-caregiver-community>.

We are now accepting nominations for our 2022 prevention honors. Please nominate any individuals and organizations that you see doing great work around preventing youth substance

misuse and encouraging youth to make substance-free healthy choices. This could include increasing the protective factors that support youth or working to reduce the factors that put them at risk in the community. Think about people or organizations you know of that support positive youth engagement, businesses that take steps to prevent youth substance use, towns that create safe public spaces and parks, youth coaches that go above and beyond. Can you think of an individual or organization like this? Nominate them today! Use this online form to submit your nomination: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2022preventionawards>. The form can be used multiple times.

Wednesday, August 31 was International Opioid Overdose Awareness Day. You can help prevent opioid misuse in our community; visit our website for three opportunities to make a difference: <https://www.healthylamoillevalley.org/opioid-awareness>.

Upcoming events include:
Wednesday, September 14, 4:30 PM, Lamoille Family Center (LFC) Virtual Annual Meeting: Celebrate staff and awards recipients, honor our supporter of the year, learn about LFC's impact, accomplishments and future goals. Please RSVP, to julia@lamoillefamilycenter.org. For more information: <https://www.lamoillefamilycenter.org>.

Thursday, September 29, 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM: Vermont Suicide Prevention Live Online Symposium. Are you looking for best practices and innovations in the suicide prevention field? Look no further than the 2022 Vermont Suicide Prevention Symposium, where national, regional, and Vermont-based practitioners will share their experience and expertise. Join us for live virtual keynote speakers and workshops. The theme of the 2022 Vermont Suicide Prevention Symposium 2022 is *From Hope to Prevention to Connection*. More information is available at <https://vermontsuicidepreventionsymposium.org>.

Peer pressure: how to help your child

Parents have been pressuring me for tips on how to help their children deal with peer pressure. I shall try to decompress concerns and provide some useful information.

Peer pressure can have both positive and negative effects on your child. If a peer of your child teaches them how to better play a sport or learn a subject they are having difficulty with, then that is a positive benefit of having peers.

Sometimes, however, peers can have a negative influence. Despite this, children will go along with that influence to be liked, fit in, or to prevent being made fun of by others.

Ways to help your child
Openly talk about peer pressure. Tell your child to listen to their gut. If they feel uncomfortable, even if their friends are okay with what's going on, then they shouldn't go further into that situation.

Teach them ways to say "no." Give them strategies, such as telling them to:

- try and change the subject;
- change the plan — say, "Let's go play basketball," instead of doing something that your child knows is wrong;
- blame you as parents by saying, "I'll be grounded for life."

You could also tell your child to simply say, "I'm in training" if they play a sport and are being pressured to try smoking, drinking, or other risk-taking drugs. If they're told everybody does it, teach them to say, "I don't care. I'm not everybody and therefore I won't do it."

Arrange a rescue code phrase. This prevents your child from losing face but gets them out of a difficult peer pressure situation. An example could be calling home to say they are not feeling well (and that is likely to be true due to the stress of peer pressure).

Find a friend. Have your child choose a buddy who believes in standing up to peer pressure. Two can be easier than one in resisting.

Seek adult help. If the situation proposed by peers is considered dangerous by your child, remind your child to seek adult help before anyone gets hurt.

Hopefully, tips like these will take the pressure off of worrying what to say to your child when you want to help them deal with the problem of peer pressure.

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

Age Outdoors: Bike and Walk for a Healthy Future

From the Central Vermont Council on Aging

Grab your bicycle and/or walking shoes on Saturday, September 10, 8:00 AM – 2:00 PM, and join Central Vermont Council on Aging (CVCOA) for Age Outdoors: Bike & Walk for a Healthy Future! Support CVCOA's healthy aging programs and services for older adults in Central Vermont by registering and donating today. All funds raised during this event will support CVCOA's healthy aging programs and services, supporting Central Vermonters to age with dignity and choice.

For complete event details and registration, please visit <http://www.cvcoa.org> or call 802-476-2662. Event Day Registration will be a suggested \$50 at our Registration/Check-In if you prefer to get your tickets on the day of the event.

This fundraising event on the Lamoille Valley Rail Trail will feature a biking route and a walking route, both starting from our registration/check in table at Oxbow Park in Morrisville. The suggested biking route is about 15 miles one-way to Jeffersonville, or seven miles one-way to Johnson. The walking route is about three miles round-trip. Both bikers and walkers will start at Oxbow Park and return to Oxbow Park to complete their route. We suggest bikers start their route by 9:00 AM, and walkers start their route by 10:00 AM. However, our registration/check-in table will be open until noon, so feel free to start at your leisure and turn around at any point that is comfortable for you on the route!

We encourage all registrants to create their own fundraising campaign to support this effort. Ask your friends and family to contribute a dollar amount for each mile biked or walked, or suggest a fixed donation amount. Checks can be mailed to CVCOA after the event, or contact <http://www.cvcoa.org> or 802-476-2662 for help creating your own unique fundraising page online.

Lunch will be available for sale at eateries in downtown Morrisville upon returning to Oxbow Park from the biking and walking routes, with a special discount for registrants. Grab a map of participating eateries from our registration table.

In addition to a special discount for eating/drinking in downtown Morrisville following the routes, River Arts is hosting a free multi-generational drop-in art space (supplies and materials provided), 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM.

Are you unsure if your bike is safe for the trail? Power Play Sports in downtown Morrisville will be providing free safety checks for anyone registered for Age Outdoors! Lamoille Valley Bike Tours will be providing two free e-bike rentals for this event. Please arrive early if you would like to utilize one of the e-bikes as it will be first-come, first-served!

Event Schedule: 8:00 AM: registration table opens in Oxbow Park; 9:00 AM: suggested time for bikers to start their route; 10:00 AM: suggested time for walkers to start their route; bikers and walkers return to Oxbow Park after their route for list of participating local eateries and discount sheet; 11:00 AM – 2:00 PM: lunch at Morrisville eateries and/or attend open studio at River Arts.

Add vaccinations to your back-to-school list

From Vermont Department of Health

As a parent, you want to keep your children safe. Routine childhood vaccinations are an important way to make sure your child and community stay healthy and protected against serious diseases like measles, polio, whooping cough, and of course, COVID-19. Make an appointment with your pediatrician or health care provider today so your child is ready to return to school, sports teams, and other activities — with their recommended vaccinations.

All routine vaccines are offered at no cost for Vermonters under 65. If you do not have a health care provider, call 2-1-1 to be connected to care. You can also get vaccines through your local health office. For more information, visit <https://www.healthvermont.gov/immunization/parents>.

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Senate update: Inflation Reduction Act, and more

By Kesha Ram Hinsdale, State Senator, Chittenden District
August 15

Thank you for coming out to vote on August 9 in what was the

second highest voter turnout for the Primary election in Vermont history.

As a Vermonter of Indian descent, I also want to wish you a happy 75th India Independence Day! Many nations who had borders redrawn during their fight for independence in the post-WWII era are coming up on their 75th anniversaries this year and next. This holiday is bittersweet for my family, as it is also the 75th anniversary of the Partition of India, when the area my family was from became Pakistan, forcing our family to become refugees. The small but mighty Indian community in Vermont came together at the Maple Street Park yesterday to celebrate, and it was a wonderful reminder that, regardless of our families' experiences in the past, Vermont is now our home.

Many of you have probably been hearing about the historic investments of the Inflation Reduction Act in reducing prescription drug costs, investing in climate solutions, and supporting rural and disadvantaged communities. You might be wondering what it means for you, and I will try to share information as it unfolds. In the meantime, there are efforts underway to ensure transparency and access of this funding under the banner of *Justice40*, a set of

principles that at least 40% of climate funding go to communities that have not previously received proportionate investment. You can use the "Funding Finder" tool here to see what kind of dollars are available for our communities here in Vermont: https://ajustclimate.org/justice40_funding.html.

I continue to meet with medical providers, advocates, and concerned residents about the rollbacks of constitutional protections and civil rights in other states that impact us here in Vermont. Please share your thoughts as we develop a response tailored to the needs of all Vermonters, and particularly those at risk of losing civil liberties.

Please be in touch generally, and know that I am honored and excited to be teaching a class on Environmental Justice at Vermont Law School this fall, so I may be a little slower to respond than in the past. Finally, if you have a young person in your life looking for an internship, I am now seeking fall and spring interns, and they can email me to inquire further or send a resume and writing sample to apply — kramhinsdale@leg.state.vt.us.

Add vaccinations to your back-to-school list

From Vermont Department of Health

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

CSWD needs new MRF (murf) facility

By Paul Ruess, Underhill, Board Chair
CSWD; pruess@cswd.net

We are a state full of committed citizens who care about the future of our planet and the preservation of our natural world. Every day, we make individual decisions that, when taken collectively, really make a difference. Especially when it comes to recycling. While recycling is second nature to many of us, there's a lot more that happens once your blue bin is picked up or taken to a drop-off center. All that material — upwards of 50,000 tons per year — is taken to the Materials Recovery Facility, or "MRF" (pronounced "murf") in Williston, where your blue bin materials are sorted and prepared for market. Vermonters make individual decisions to recycle, and the MRF captures these recycled items to create a collective system that diverts tons of materials from the landfill.

As I enter my second year as Chair of the CSWD Board of Commissioners representing Underhill, I've been able to peek behind the curtain and learn a lot about how recycling works in Vermont, and how impactful it really is. I've also been well acquainted with the issues that our current MRF is facing. This facility is nearly 30 years old and suffers many of the inefficiencies that come with something that age. Believe it or not, much of the material is sorted by hand — hardly necessary in today's world where much more efficient technology exists. Plus, the MRF is at maximum capacity, bursting at the seams with materials you so carefully divert from the landfill. Bales that should be stored under cover are left outside in all kinds of weather, degrading their value while waiting to be sold to companies that turn the material into new products. And the lack of innovation at the current MRF limits the type of materials that CSWD can accept. Vermonters want to recycle, and they want to recycle as much as possible. They would be able to do more with a new facility.

This November, the voters of Chittenden County can solve the capacity issues and the lack of innovation at the MRF. CSWD is requesting a bond of no more than \$22 million to build a new, innovative MRF that will have the technology and space to handle our recyclables for decades to come. And while CSWD is a municipality and the MRF is publicly owned, *the cost of the new MRF will be paid back through CSWD operational revenue — with no charge to taxpayers. Let me repeat: there will be no property tax increase to build the new MRF.*

The new and improved MRF will be more efficient and equipped with the kind of modern technology that not only separates recyclables more effectively but expands the list of materials we can accept for recycling. And it will also pave the way for better, highly skilled jobs for CSWD's employees. The current lack of space that leaves bales piling up outside will not only be solved with a 40% increase in capacity, the new MRF will allow for growth over the next 30 years! The state-of-the-art technology will not only do a better job with the materials and packaging that are recycled now, but it will also allow Vermonters to recycle more and allow the MRF to adapt and recycle new materials and types of packaging that don't even exist yet. This is truly forward-thinking and necessary if we are to keep up with what Vermonters expect when they put recyclables in their blue bins.

Efficiency, innovation, and flexibility are all critical components in the fight against climate change. The new MRF will allow us to recycle more efficiently, conserving natural resources and helping reduce Vermonters' carbon footprint. The new MRF will be able to process up to 70,000 tons (140 million pounds) of recyclables every year. That's huge. It is equivalent to removing 52,500 passenger vehicles from the road. Recycling all these materials saves 634,000 trees from being cut down every year.

Every day we're faced with choices that impact our state and our world. Vermont is community-minded. We think carefully about how our actions affect the greater good. Now is the time to build a new MRF that can process more and more recyclable materials and keep them out of the rapidly-filling landfill in Coventry. You CAN make a real, tangible difference in our state and for our planet.

This November, please vote Yes on the bond issue for the new MRF.

Thank you to almost all local drivers

To the Editor,

I do a lot of cycling in Jericho and the surrounding towns, and I am almost always pleased at the wide berth given to me by passing motorists. Motorcycles, trucks, sedans, vans, you name it — almost all are incredibly courteous.

However, what generally prompts my almost annual thank you is that one jerk who doesn't give an inch, like the driver this morning on Skunk Hollow Road who was apparently unable to wait for the single car coming the other direction to pass me, leaving significantly less than the four feet Vermont law indicates as appropriate for passing "vulnerable users" which most definitely includes gray-haired women on bicycles.

My continued thanks to those of you who give me that courtesy. It is greatly appreciated.

Phyl Newbeck
Jericho

Bear encounters —
in the woods, not your yard

To the Editor,

Several postings about acting aggressively toward bears to get them off your porch or out of your yard (your territory) may be okay if you can quickly get safely inside.

But if you are out in the woods (neutral territory) and encounter a bear, one of the two worst things you can do is act in a way that the bear may see as aggressive, like screaming and yelling. The bear may take you up on it — especially if there is a cub near by — or it may just be a grumpy old male.

The other worst thing you can do is run. Predators are stimulated by prey running away. The back side is the attack side. Facing them gives them uncertainty. Long ago story in New Jersey: Three college students encountered a bear. They ran. Bear chased. One student killed.

Quietly facing the bear is the best approach. Typically, the bear

will run off maybe forty feet, stop and turn to see what you're doing, and then continue to lope off into the woods. It's always a trilling experience.

I've encountered maybe a dozen bears in my hikes. But the best story came from a gal with a baby strapped on front, with a black lab. She came up a trail I was on. She had just encountered a bear with a cub. "What happened?" I asked. "My dog ran toward the bear. The cub ran toward my dog. They both stopped short. Cub ran back to momma bear, lab back to me. And here we are."

Happy hiking!

David Edson
Underhill

Thanks for Cambridge
trailhead clean-up

To the Editor,

Thanks to the work of about eight community volunteers, many of whom are local Rotarians, the Cambridge Junction trailhead park was cleaned up this morning (Saturday, August 13). Trees were trimmed, failing shrubs removed to await replacement plantings, and flower beds were weeded. Train cars were swept, musical instruments were repaired, and the engine's bell is ringing again!

As we worked we were able to witness how popular this trailhead is. From cyclists and runners to a little one who'd just awoken from a nap, there were many folks enjoying some of their day at this lovely park. We had fun helping to keep it beautiful. Won't you come join us next time?

Nanci Lepsic
Jeffersonville

Heads up for dog owners
using local trails

To the Editor,

We had quite a scary occurrence with our 5½ month old puppy this weekend after returning from hiking with her. Once home, she suddenly got very sleepy and wobbly when walking so we rushed her to BEVS, with no clue as to what was causing this concerning behavior.

As it turns out, she tested positive for THC! Since she's young, she is always on a leash and we watch her very closely so that she doesn't get into anything she shouldn't. All we can figure is that she grabbed the source and quickly swallowed it. According to the emergency vet, this is not such a rare occurrence but it was very scary for us.

For reference, we did a short walk at the Kikas Farm and then headed to the Hill Side at Mobbs. I just want to let others know, THC sources are out there on our trails.

Sarah Lehto
Jericho

Community columns continued from page 3

for good.

We got to the Land of Malls and bought the things on the list: the "Full XL" sheets (it seems America's colleges have made a sly deal with retail stores to require the hardest size of sheet to find), a shower caddy (which he in the end didn't need, like a true Vermonter all he needs is a ratty towel and a somewhat leaky bottle of Dr. Bronners), shower shoes (which are essential in the less than pristine dorm halls), a water boiler and a minifridge and fairy lights that comply with the oddly Soviet-style standards that these big concrete institutions where we send out kids off to decide are within their narrow definitions of Acceptable.

And then we drove up at the allotted time to the allotted curb, with other parents from near and far with cars full of totes and lamps and bags and hopes and fears and, not infrequently, a beloved bear or stuffed bunny perched on top, to remind everyone that this strong independent striving student was just a kid, very not so long ago. Since his is a gender-inclusive dorm, about half the parents had pride stickers and little rainbow IKEA bags: all of us anxious and excited for their (gender) queer kid to start a new chapter with a gaggle of other self-invented teenagers who named themselves after trees or gods or the weather, about to discover each other as well as themselves, while we, the adults who care for them, walked after them with the boxes and bags, worrying that the world will not be as kind or understanding as we have tried to make it for our anxious, whip-smart, blue-haired teens.

But it's out of our hands now, they're running up the stairs to their new nests and want us to — thanks so much mom, dad, but, like — LEAVE already! So they can get on with the business of growing up, growing into the person they are becoming, starting their bio or poly-sci or dance or not-completely-sure degree, at this school with 10,000 new fledglings in the Class of 2026, Go Bears or Ducks or Seahorses or whatever the mascot is, some of them actually partaking in sports or plays or orchestras, in larger arenas, others watching and cheering on, I'll go if you go, wanna hang out after, let's crash the cast party: many options to make frantic or fantastic connections.

And it is the time to say goodbye: the fridge is in the only corner of his concrete little nest where it fits, with the water boiler on top of it, and the new cover has been shoved around the old comforter and there really is nothing more to do and our kid cheerfully says "Now for a teary goodbye!" and suddenly it hits me like a ton of bricks: this is it, he is leaving. And a tear opens in my heart as we stumble down the concrete steps with our empty boxes, and I sob in the truck in the parking lot, there is nothing more to do, nothing else I can give or help with, he is staying here and we are leaving, alone, back to the home we created, but without the young it was wrapped around.

And we get back to Vermont, back on the deck. We hear the geese honking in their V, and smile wryly at each other. Good luck down there, you guys. Say hi to our goslings, if you see them...

Trembling aspen: a profile

By Ethan Tapper
Chittenden County Forester

Aspens, also known as poplars or "popple," are trees in the *Populus* genus. Vermont is home to four species of poplar: bigtooth aspen (*Populus grandidentata*), eastern cottonwood (*Populus deltoides*), balsam poplar (*Populus balsamifera*), and trembling or "quaking" aspen (*Populus tremuloides*).

While all the aspen species are unique, trembling aspen is perhaps the most enigmatic of the bunch. It is the most widely-distributed tree in North America, with a range that stretches from Alaska to Newfoundland and south into Mexico. It is the only upland deciduous tree in parts of western North America and defines aspen and aspen-birch forests — some of the most common forest types in the lake states and some western states.

All the poplar species' leaves "tremble" or "quake" — shimmering in the wind. They do so because the petiole — the stem that attaches leaf to twig — is flat. This trembling appears to be an adaptive quality: reducing leaf herbivory, lowering leaf temperature, lowering transpiration (the loss of water from leaves), and helping light reach lower parts of aspen crowns.

Trembling aspen is shade-intolerant, requiring nearly complete sunlight to establish. Aspens seeds are small, wind-borne and abundant, spreading far and wide across the landscape. While most of the seeds produced in a given year don't land on an appropriate site, their mobility increases the chance that a lucky few will — usually the aftermath a large disturbance. Once established, aspens grow at a dizzying rate (for a tree) easily out-competing other, slower-growing species before declining and dying young (for a tree) — usually at around 60-80 years of age. Like white birch, trembling aspen is so intolerant of shade that its presence in your forest is almost certainly an indicator of a large natural or human-caused disturbance in the past. If you were to count the rings on one of your aspens, it would tell you about how many years ago that disturbance occurred.

Due to its short lifespan, trembling aspen is often considered a relatively ephemeral species in our forests. However, one of trembling aspen's most interesting qualities is its resilience. Cutting an aspen tree often results in an abundance of fast-growing root sprouts, clones which may grow four or five feet tall in a single growing season. Especially in the western United States, this quality means that the life span of an aspen can be indefinite — it can continue to clone itself for generations. An aspen clone in Utah called Pando, or "the Trembling Giant," is considered by some to be the oldest and most massive organism on Earth, covering more than 100 acres and estimated to be between 14,000-80,000 years old.

In Vermont, trembling aspen provides important habitat for many wildlife species, including several bird species in decline. It is important habitat for ruffed grouse, which use aspen stands of several different ages to complete different parts of

their life cycle. Trembling aspen is also important for pileated woodpeckers, which forage for grubs and insect larvae in its soft wood, often creating cavities (holes) used by a huge variety of wildlife species for dens and nests.

While not commonly used in lumber, aspen wood is light, soft, and pretty, often becoming purple-ish as it ages. It is a poor firewood, although sometimes used by maple sugar makers for boiling sap. Throughout its range, aspen's most common use is as pulp for paper. At present in Vermont, demand and prices for aspen timber and pulp are generally poor.

Due to its low market value, aspen is a species that I manage nearly entirely for wildlife. Creating some larger (at least two-acre) canopy gaps where all or nearly all of the trees are cut creates potential habitat for the species, as well as a variety of other early-successional trees, plants, and shrubs and for the pollinators, birds, and mammals that depend on them. Cutting some larger aspen within these gaps will inspire them to produce clones, creating a vibrant young aspen forest relatively quickly. Outside of canopy gaps, I leave most aspen trees as legacy trees. These trees live out their natural lives, eventually declining, becoming riddled with cavities, dying and becoming dead wood on the forest floor. In life and in death, trembling aspen provides so many benefits to our forests.

Ethan Tapper is the Chittenden County Forester for the Vermont Dept. of Forests, Parks and Recreation. See what he's been up to, check out his YouTube channel, sign up for his eNews, and read articles he's written at <https://linktr.ee/ChittendenCountyForester>.

Don't try this at home

By Bernie Paquette

Don't try this at home, UNLESS you want to be astounded, entertained, calm and relaxed, and less stressed.

Taking a closer look at the insects, including pollinators, in your backyard can help you get to know them better, leading to an even greater appreciation of every life form in nature. Such observations can help you be more calm and relaxed. Natural environments reduce stress. Growing a deeper connection with all life forms can help us be more compassionate and understanding of each other.

Observing insects, like bird watching, is good for one's physical and mental health. It helps connect people with nature and addresses the problem of "Nature Deficit Disorder" in children. And by posting some of your observations, you can help scientists.

And there is more: you can be entered to win a creemee at the Jericho Country Store or Palmer Lane Maple. There will also be a pizza prize from Mountain High Pizza.

Read how to be part of the Jericho Observing Life in Nature contest at <https://jerichovermont.blogspot.com/2022/04/joinpc-jericho-observing-life-in-nature.html>.

LIBRARY NEWS



The Master Gardeners have been dealing with this summer's hot, humid weather by ensuring the plants are well-watered and keeping our eyes open for plants under stress. August's garden largely takes care of itself, but there's always work in the vegetable patch. We look for and remove potato beetles, as well as weed around the vegetables. The squash and carrots will be ready soon. The vegetable harvest is the reward for all the hard work. In the perennial garden, we have taken note of which plants need to be thinned or moved. We have removed a large aster and replaced it with "Kim's Knee High" Coneflower *Echinacea purpurea* (shown in photo, above). This is a shorter version of the well-known native purple coneflower. Its small stature makes this cultivar a great choice for small gardens. It tends to grow slowly, so it will not overtake neighboring plants. August is the best time to dig and divide perennial flowers in your garden (such as hosta, Oriental poppy, lily, daylily, ornamental grasses, and bearded iris). Use a spade to lift the plant from the ground. Be careful not to damage the root ball. Once the clump is out of the ground, use a large spade or bread/garden knife to cut it into smaller pieces. Then, replant the smaller pieces or divisions as soon as possible. Now is also a good time to stop fertilizing roses, trees, shrubs, and perennial flowers. Feeding plants in the late summer and fall encourages new growth that probably won't survive the winter. If you stop fertilizing now, your plants will toughen up before freezing temperatures hit. PHOTO BY SUZANNE FREITAS

DEBORAH RAWSON MEMORIAL LIBRARY

Adult programs — ongoing

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

Sunday hours return! The first open Sunday will be Sunday, September 11, 1:00 - 4:00 PM.

The library will be closed the weekend of Harvest Market, which is Saturday-Sunday, September 24-25.

Art work this month features a special collection of Tasha Tudor's works on loan from Peggy Rodgers, and watercolors by Lanie Kanat.

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

Book Donation days at the Big Red Barn next to Mills Riverside Park are Saturdays, September 3 and 10, from 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM. Please no textbooks, magazines, encyclopedias, computer manuals, religious books, Readers Digest condensed books, travel books older than five years, VHS or cassette tapes. Limit three boxes per family.

Wednesdays, September 14 and 28, 6:30 - 8:30 PM: Mah Jongg. Please join us as we explore the tile game of winds, dragons, and number tiles. If you like Rummy-style card games, you'll love Mah Jongg! All are welcome; no experience necessary!

Friday, September 16, 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM: Tech Talk. Do you have technology questions you would like help with? Bring your device to the library for assistance! This week we will also be exploring how to use Mango Languages, a language learning service available for free to all DRML card holders. We will be meeting in the program room. If you plan to attend, please be sure to email program_assistant@drml.org.

Thursday September 15, 7:00 PM: Board of Trustees, in-person at the library. A virtual meeting is available for those who wish to remain remote; please contact Holly, drawsonmemlib@yahoo.com, to receive the link.

Saturday-Sunday, September 24-25: Annual Book Sale. Please join us at the Big Red Barn next to Mills Riverside Park for the annual DRML book sale to support the library! On Friday, September 23, 4:00 - 7:00 PM, there is a special early bird shopping event which requires a \$5 admission fee. This lets you shop the day before the general public on Saturday-Sunday. The general public sale will run 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM on Saturday and 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM on Sunday, with no admission cost on those days. Please bring your own bags or boxes for shopping. Masks are recommended but not required. It is a small inside space. Prices: \$2 hardcovers, \$1 trade paperbacks, and \$.25 regular paperbacks. All children's books are \$.25 and we have a few DVD and Audiobooks for \$.25. Come stock up for the coming colder months! All proceeds of the sale benefit the Deborah Rawson Memorial Library.

Library Strategic Plan: The Board of Trustees is currently working on the library's strategic plan. Please help us by taking a short survey! Your input is very important to us and helps us

plan for the future of the library. Paper copies are available at the library, or you can take the survey on our website (drml.org) or by typing bit.ly/drmlsurvey.

Youth programs — ongoing

Tuesdays, 3:00 PM: Story Time [PreK - K] Time change alert! Story time is moving back to afternoons for the school year. We hope to see you for jokes, stories, songs and fun!

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

Check out these great programs!

All programs meet in person at DRML. Masks are recommended, but optional.

Fridays, September 2, 16, 3:00 - 4:00 PM: LEGO Club [ages 6+] Spaceships, monster trucks, and more, oh my! Come build whatever you can imagine, and it will be put on display in the kids room. Space is limited so please sign up by stopping by the library, or contact 802-899-4962 or youth_librarian@drml.org.

Wednesday, September 7, 3:30 - 5:00 PM: Minecraft Social [ages 8+] Love Minecraft? So do lots of other kids. Come make new friends, or hang out with old buddies while playing Minecraft! Please bring your own device. Space is limited. Please sign up by stopping by the library, or contact 802-899-4962 or youth_librarian@drml.org.

Saturday, September 10, 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM: Read to Wyatt [all ages] It's (almost) Wyatt's birthday and he's turning 2! Come celebrate by reading Wyatt your favorite stories. Please sign up by stopping by the library, or contact 802-899-4962 or youth_librarian@drml.org.

Saturday, September 10, 1:00 - 2:00 PM: Parent Toolkit Cafe [parents] We are thrilled to be working with Becky Sargis of The Children's Institute at Jericho (TCIAJ) to offer time at the library for parents to get together, talk about being parents, learn new parenting skills, and unlearn things that no longer serve them. No registration required. Coffee and light refreshments provided.

Thursday, September 15, 3:00 - 4:00 PM: Older Kid Craft: Kindness Stones [ages 8+] Let's get together and put some kindness out into the world by painting stones with kind messages on them. When you're done, leave the stone somewhere for others to find the hopeful message, or take it home for yourself. Please sign up by stopping by the library, or contact 802-899-4962 or youth_librarian@drml.org.

Wednesday, September 21, 3:30 - 5:00 PM: Roblox Social [ages 10+] Bring your own device and join fellow players in the myriad worlds of Roblox. Please sign up by stopping by the library, or contact 802-899-4962 or youth_librarian@drml.org.

Thursday, September 29, 3:00 - 4:00 PM: Little Kid Craft: September Suncatcher [ages 4+] What better way to appreciate the golden light of September than through a beautiful suncatcher? Little ones will love tearing up tissue paper and sticking it to contact paper to make a one-of-a-kind piece of art for your windows. Please sign up by stopping by the library, or contact 802-899-4962 or youth_librarian@drml.org.

All information accurate as of 8-24-22. Please visit drml.org for the most up-to-date information on programs at Deborah Rawson Memorial Library.

Contact information: email rawsonlibrary@drml.org; website www.drml.org; phone 802-899-4962.

JERICHO TOWN LIBRARY

We are open 10:00 AM - 7:00 PM Tuesday, 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM Wednesday-Friday, and 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM Saturday.

Wednesdays, 10:30 AM: Storytime takes place in our programming area on the second floor of the library and is intended for children aged 0-5 (though all are welcome!). We usually share a few books together and a related craft or activity. Please note that masks are required indoors for everyone over 2 years old.

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

VARNUM MEMORIAL LIBRARY JEFFERSONVILLE

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

Wednesday, August 30, 10:00 - 10:30 AM: Two-Book Tuesday Story Time! Come join us and share in a relaxed story time, followed by a craft to make or take. We will aim for the front porch, weather depending. If indoors, masking is requested.

Wednesday, August 31, 12:00 - 1:00 PM: One-on-One Technology Wednesdays. Join the Varnum staff for individual technology help. Bring your questions and/or device, and we will try to help you figure it out.

Wednesday, August 31, 3:30 - 5:30 PM: Scavenger Hunt (all ages). A new challenge either around town or in-house. If a clue-sheet is a bit more complicated, we will have a simplified one available for younger participants. All ages and abilities are welcome and encouraged. This is a fun activity that can be done individually or as a group. Sleuths be ready!

Thursdays, 4:00 PM: Dungeons and Dragons. Are you curious about Dungeons and Dragons? Are you an experienced player that needs a party? Come join us — no experience needed; all ages welcome!

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

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

WESTFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Fiber Arts Group that normally meets at the Westford Public Library on Thursday evenings will be on break this summer and will start again in the fall.

Do you have a document that needs to be notarized? The Library now offers notary public services: Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays, 5:00 - 7:00 PM; and Saturdays, 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM. We will only be able to offer these services at these specific times; please call ahead to confirm notary public availability.

The library hours of operation (meaning come in and browse the shelves, use the computer, grab a DVD, etc.): Tuesdays 10:00 AM - 7:00 PM, Wednesdays 1:00 - 7:00 PM, Thursdays 10:00 AM - 7:00 PM, Fridays 1:00 - 7:00 PM, and Saturday 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM, no appointments needed. Patrons of all ages are

welcome, children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult. If you feel you need curbside service, for whatever reason, please email Bree at the library and we can work something out. We want nothing to impede you from using the library.

Events for everyone

The Westford Food Shelf is now open twice a month, on the first Wednesday of each month (September 7), 4:30 - 5:30 PM, on the third Saturday (September 17), 8:00 - 9:00 AM. With increased openings, they need more inventory! The Westford Public Library has food collection bins at all curbside pickups from now on. These bins are for non-perishable food and household items.

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

FAIRFAX COMMUNITY LIBRARY

We are asking everyone to please wear a face mask in the library. To help meet the needs of all library users, Curbside Pickup Services will be provided on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 3:00 - 7:00 PM upon request.

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

Hours: Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays 10:00 AM - 5:30 PM; Tuesdays and Thursdays 9:00 AM - 7:00 PM; and Saturdays 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM.

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

RICHMOND LIBRARY

Library hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday, 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM; Wednesday, 10:00 AM - 8:00 PM; and Saturday, 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM. Our webpage, Facebook, and email reflect this information.

Booksale! Scheduled for Friday, September 23 (5:30 - 8:30 PM) and Saturday, September 24 (9:00 AM - 3:00 PM). After three cancelled book sales, the Friends of the Richmond Free Library are hosting a book sale. Yay! We have a great selection of fiction and non-fiction books for all ages and hundreds of music CDs and movie DVDs. All proceeds benefit the summer youth program and many other library services. Donations will be reviewed by staff when the library is open.

Richmond author Amy Klinger will be reading from her debut novel *In Light of Recent Events* and taking questions on Wednesday, September 14, 7:00 PM. The novel has been described as equally acerbic and heartfelt; an endlessly engaging piece of storytelling and a fascinating commentary on workplaces, families, and fame. The book is available at the library and also for purchase at local bookstores and online booksellers.

Weekly Children's Programs will resume after Labor Day; weekly programs run from September-May and follow the MMUUSD schedule for vacation days and weather closure days.

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. Adults and children over the age of two will be asked to wear masks. After Storytime, we will move outside to the playground 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-5 and their grown ups are invited to join the fun on Wednesdays from 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM.

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. Mondays at 10:30 AM.

(Mostly) Fiction Book Group, reading *Between Two Kingdoms: A Memoir of a Life Interrupted* By Suleika Jaouad. A searing, deeply moving memoir of illness and recovery that traces one young woman's journey from diagnosis to remission and, ultimately, a road trip of healing and self-discovery. Tuesday, September 13, 6:00 PM. Contact Gwen Landis, gwenie1972@yahoo.com, for information on participating.

Mystery Book Group: September's book is *The Magpie Murders* by Anthony Horowitz. Masterful, clever, and ruthlessly suspenseful, this is a deviously dark take on vintage crime fiction. Contact Maureen Parent, mparent@gmavt.net, for information on participating. Thursday, September 15, 7:00 PM.

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

BROWNELL LIBRARY, ESSEX JUNCTION

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

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

ESSEX FREE LIBRARY

Open Monday-Friday 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM and Saturday 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM. Please check our website <http://essexfreelibrary.org/> for special events, programs, and any holiday hours. Register or renew for an Essex Free Library Homecard in person or on our website <https://essexfreelibrary.org/RegisterForACard>.

Curbside pickup is available during our regular business hours.

Check out the dynamic collection of books, audiobooks, DVDs, CDs, magazines, large prints, book club sets, board games, puzzles, plus more. We have free WiFi services and public access computers, printing, copying, scanning, and faxing assistance. We provide guidance with reference questions, book recommendations, and technology assistance on personal devices, social media, Zoom, etc. You can make an appointment or come on by!

Monthly — First Thursdays, September 1: Noontime Book Discussion

Thursdays: weekly special events; check event calendar

Fridays: Take and Make Crafts (while supplies last)

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

INFORMATION PROP 5/ARTICLE 22

Facts about Proposal 5 / Article 22

Note that the ballot in November will refer to Article 22, not to Proposition 5.

The *Mountain Gazette* and the Editor refer readers to the *Ballotpedia* page on Proposal 5, which proposes to add Article 22 to Chapter I of the Vermont Constitution: [https://ballotpedia.org/Vermont_Proposal_5_Right_to_Personal_Reproductive_Autonomy_Amendment_\(2022\)](https://ballotpedia.org/Vermont_Proposal_5_Right_to_Personal_Reproductive_Autonomy_Amendment_(2022)).

Information presented below is from that *Ballotpedia* website. The text of Article 22 is as follows:

Article 22. Personal reproductive liberty.

That an individual's right to personal reproductive autonomy is central to the liberty and dignity to determine one's own life course and shall not be denied or infringed unless justified by a compelling State interest achieved by the least restrictive means.

On the web page cited above, *Ballotpedia* states: "Currently, the right to abortion is protected in state law. In 2019, the Vermont State Legislature passed a law that stated, 'The State of Vermont recognizes the fundamental right of every individual who becomes pregnant to choose to carry a pregnancy to term, to give birth to a child, or to have an abortion.'"

Those who support Prop 5, who include many Vermonters and the University of Vermont Medical Center, ACLU of Vermont, and the League of Women Voters of Vermont, believe that without an unequivocal provision in the state Constitution, the 2019 state law is not enough going forward to guarantee that fundamental right to make that individual choice and decision.

Those who oppose Prop 5 include many Vermonters and the organization Vermont Right to Life, as well as Vermonters for Good Government — which notes that if Vermont amends its Constitution, voters cannot ever directly instigate removal or further amendment, "as amendments must originate in the Legislature... The amendment language is very simple and short, but that makes it all the more open to judicial interpretation, and unintended consequences." (quote from the *Ballotpedia* page)

Statements from supporters of Prop 5 include this from Dr. Harry Chen, former Vermont Health Commissioner: "Reproductive care, including abortion, is essential health care. I firmly believe that patients should have the freedom to make reproductive health care decisions like they do any other medical decision: with their health and well-being at the center."

Statements from opponents of Prop 5 include this from Annisa Lamberton, a spokeswoman for Vermonters for the Common Good: "The vague language in Proposal 5 of the 'right to personal reproductive autonomy' will likely be interpreted to mean taxpayers will be responsible for funding more than abortions, but it will also include fertility treatments, gender transformation surgery, sterilizations (even of minors), and any number of services and procedures that could conceivably fall under this 'reproductive' umbrella. This vague concept goes far beyond what most people consider responsible action, without informing Vermonters of the costs for taxpayers or to potential impacts for minors."

Commentary on Prop 5/Article 22

By Patricia A. McDonald
Former state representative (Berlin);
served the State in appointed positions
and as VT Commissioner of Human Resources

As someone who has always been pro-choice, I have talked to many Vermonters about Prop 5/Article 22, the constitutional amendment on the November ballot. They are supportive because all they hear is that it's about a woman's right to do with her body what she will, and how can you say no to that? But they have second thoughts when they find out that it allows for an on-demand abortion up to and including nine months.

Nine months — think about it a minute. When is a fetus a baby? I don't know the answer, but I would think that at nine months at the very least it can be referred to as an unborn baby. All systems are a go — heart, lungs, brain, limbs, etc. All the unborn baby needs is one breath of air and it's off to the races — a new living, breathing member of the human race.

I asked someone from Planned Parenthood about Prop 5 and she assured me that no one in Vermont would have an abortion at nine months. So I asked her why they wrote the amendment to include on-demand abortions through the entire pregnancy. I said, if you wrote the amendment with reasonable limits, more of us would support you. She chose not to answer my question. I took that to mean that this is what Planned Parenthood wanted — just because they could. And you and I know that if it's available and legal someone will take advantage of it.

Don't misunderstand me. I support a woman's right to have an abortion, but only during the first trimester, with some exceptions after that — such as, of course, if the woman's life is in danger or other tragic circumstances. For those who say, "it's a woman's right," I remind you that with every right comes responsibility. You and your partner are responsible for ensuring you do not get pregnant. There are before-, during-, and after-methods that both you and your partner can take advantage of. Yes, sometimes life plays tricks on us and women find themselves pregnant.

But you wouldn't know by reading Prop 5/Article 22 that it is allows on-demand abortions up to and including nine months. Its language is deceptive because it only focuses on individual rights. I'm not sure in this day and age of transparency why it's worded the way it is — but here we are. I cannot imagine that Vermonters would support this amendment if they knew what the language allows.

Many are upset about the Supreme Court's decision to reverse *Roe vs. Wade* and leave it up to the states to regulate abortion. But is this really what Vermont wants as part of its Constitution?

I am hoping that Vermonters vote against Prop 5/Article 22 and require the Legislature to go back to the drawing board and create a more reasonable proposal — one that mirrors *Roe vs. Wade*. I have always supported *Roe vs. Wade*. When it became law, I was glad that women would be able to get a safe abortion

because we all know that women are going to get abortions with or without the law being on their side.

Please consider the impact of Prop 5/Article 22 and vote no. I know many of you consider this a woman's right — but remember as noted above, with every right comes responsibility. Be responsible and have the Legislature create a proposal like *Roe vs. Wade* that includes appropriate exceptions.

How may the VT Constitution be amended

[Note: the letter above seems to imply that Planned Parenthood wrote Article 22. In fact, very specific requirements for generating and adopting amendments are laid out in our state Constitution. The following is from the website of the Vermont Secretary of State: <https://sos.vermont.gov/vsara/learn/constitution/amending-the-constitution/process/>. In short, Proposal 5/Article 22 is a product of Legislative action.]

The Ten-Year Time Lock

In 1870 the Vermont Constitution was amended to allow the general assembly to propose amendments every ten years. Proposals originated in the senate and, if they received a two-thirds vote, they would be presented to the house where majority approval was required. In the next legislative session, following new elections, the surviving proposals had to be approved by senate and house majorities and then put before the voters for ratification. This system lasted from 1880 until 1970.

There were various attempts to shorten the ten-year time lock over the years, beginning in 1880. In 1965 the ten-year time lock came under renewed scrutiny when the federal courts ordered Vermont to reapportion the house on the basis of one person/one vote. The general assembly complied with the court order, ending town representation. Vermont's Constitution, however, still mandated town representation and could not be changed until the time lock opened in 1970. Consequently the new 150 member Vermont House was in technical violation of the Vermont Constitution until an amendment reflecting the new apportionment scheme was approved by the voters on March 5, 1974 (50,420 to 26,439).

On the same day voters made it easier to amend the Constitution by reducing the ten-year time lock to four years by a 45,884 to 33,238 vote.

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS

Zero-interest loans from Efficiency Vermont

Have you seen it? That slight tinge of yellow in the trees? Last week's cool weather was a reminder that pretty soon we'll need to switch the heat back on. If today's fuel prices are making you sweat, now's the time to make a plan for winter. Aside from rebates, we often get questions about whether we have financing options that can help break project costs down into monthly payments.

The answer is, yes!

With the Home Energy Loan you can finance 100% of your project costs (up to \$20,000) with 0% interest for low-moderate income Vermonters. It covers qualifying projects like heat pumps, weatherization, efficient appliances (ENERGY STAR refrigerators, washers, dryers, and more), and wood and pellet stoves.

For example, it's possible to have a heat pump installed and pay about \$80 a month with NO interest (plus additional discounts from us and your electric company).

Check it out online at <http://www.encyvermont.com/home-energy-loan>.

And, in case you missed it: Efficiency Vermont just announced an increase in our weatherization rebate, which you can also use the Home Energy Loan to pay for. Get up to 75% off weatherization project costs, up to \$5000, and pay for it with no interest financing.

Learn more about this new weatherization offer, online at <http://www.encyvermont.com/hp>.

Cambridge Reuse Shed

For those of you who do not know about the Reuse Shed (Cambridge Mall) in Cambridge, here is some information about this great resource. It is located at the Cambridge Transfer Station on VT Rt. 104 about a mile west of Boyden Farm. As you get to the top of the hill and round the corner it is right in front of you. The goal is to have a place for good reusable items that people can drop off and others can take for free instead of being taken to the landfill or Goodwill.

We often get almost new items, clothes (sometimes new) shoes, boots, books, lots of unusual items, and all kinds of everyday stuff. All bikes are accepted as they are passed on to a place that repairs and gets them to people in need. Please have items presentable, which helps re-home more items.

One of our goals is to be totally funded by returnable bottles, cans, and donations to pay Casella for items we have to throw away, repairs to the building and for gas to Goodwill/ReSource for good items no one takes.

We are open Saturdays 8:30 AM – 1:00 PM, and Wednesdays 8:30 AM – 12:30 PM, if we have volunteers to check items in. No drop off is allowed unless someone is in attendance. Stop by and check it out, and read our information near the door.

Our Community Cares, Leadership Adventure Camps update

Many thanks to everyone who supported the 2022 Our Community Cares Camp (OCCC) summer session! We focused on creating a caring and nourishing community for Chittenden East children. In addition to many enriching activities designed to allow each child to find success, we provided campers with two meals a day prepared with fresh, high-quality ingredients.

Miscellaneous continued on page 8

WORSHIP SERVICES

Mount Mansfield Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

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

Jericho United Methodist Church

Jericho Congregational Church, "An Historic Church Proclaiming an Eternal Message" on the Green in Jericho Center, VT; Senior Pastor David Coons and Youth Pastor Peter Anderson. Summer schedule: Worship Service at 9:00 AM, Fellowship at 10:30 AM. Regular schedule (beginning September 11): Sunday School at 8:30 AM for all ages; Fellowship at 9:30 AM; Worship Service at 10:00 AM. Nursery care provided. Youth group, 6:15 PM Sundays in our Sunday school building. 802-899-4911; officejcc@comcast.net; www.jccvt.org.

United Church of Underhill

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

Second Congregational Church, Jeffersonville

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

Jericho Congregational Church

Jericho Congregational Church, "An Historic Church Proclaiming an Eternal Message" on the Green in Jericho Center, VT; Senior Pastor David Coons and Youth Pastor Peter Anderson. Summer schedule: Worship Service at 9:00 AM, Fellowship at 10:30 AM. Regular schedule (beginning September 11): Sunday School at 8:30 AM for all ages; Fellowship at 9:30 AM; Worship Service at 10:00 AM. Nursery care provided. Youth group, 6:15 PM Sundays in our Sunday school building. 802-899-4911; officejcc@comcast.net; www.jccvt.org.

All are welcome at Good Shepherd, Jericho

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

Calvary Episcopal Church

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

St. Thomas Catholic Church

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

Waterville Union Church

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

Send us your news.
mtngazette@gmavt.net

How to add UJFD as first response contact on medical alert systems

Do you have a medical alert system for yourself or a loved one?

Do you know how the system gets help for you or your loved one in times of an emergency?

Medical alert systems have saved thousands of lives and have become an invaluable asset as people live their lives out in the comfort of their own homes. They provide a sense of security to the user and the family, knowing that with the push of a button someone will answer and send help. But do you know how that happens?

Contrary to popular belief, when you or a loved one pushes their medical alert button, or if they fall and the medical alert system activates, it does not usually dial 911. Most often the system calls the medical alert company who then tries to determine the nature of the emergency and what help to send. The medical alert company will then use the information provided by the user to contact family, neighbors, friends, or the appropriate emergency response agency. The medical alert company does not usually dial 911 either.

So why is it important to know how the system works? In July of 2019, the Underhill Jericho Fire Department (UJFD) started to provide emergency medical first response services to the communities of Underhill and Jericho. We utilize the Vermont 911 system and Shelburne dispatch to notify our members of emergencies throughout the community. Once notified, we typically will arrive at your door to provide emergency care minutes before the ambulance can arrive on scene. The early response of the UJFD can make a significant difference in the outcome of the emergency for you or your loved ones.

When the medical alert company summons emergency medical help for you in Underhill and Jericho, they are calling either the Essex Police Department to send Essex Rescue or Shelburne dispatch to send Richmond Rescue to their coverage area in Jericho. In these cases, no 911 call is made and the UJFD First Response team does not get early notification of the call to be able to respond and provide emergency care. You may ask, why is that? It is because the UJFD First Response program is relatively new and most of the medical alert companies don't know we exist. They also cannot change who they call based upon a request from the UJFD. The account owner — you or your loved one — must be the person to make the call to the medical alert company to add the information for the UJFD First Response program.

So how do we fix this? The users of the medical alert devices need to contact their service providers — i.e., Lifeline, Phillips, ADT, LifeStation, etc. — to update the information on their account to include calling Shelburne dispatch to notify the UJFD of the emergency and our need to respond. The number to reach the emergency dispatchers at Shelburne dispatch is 802-985-8051.

DO NOT REMOVE THE INFORMATION FOR THE AMBULANCE LISTED ON YOUR ACCOUNT. The information on your account for an ambulance needs to remain; the information for UJFD First Response is *in addition* to the information about the ambulance.

Please contact the Underhill Jericho Fire Department, 802-899-4025 or Info@UJFD.Org, if you have any questions regarding this information.

Thank you for your support, and everyone please stay safe.

Miscellaneous continued from page 7

We are grateful to the MMU School District, Camel's Hump Middle School and the Transportation Department at MMUUSD. Their help made this camp a success for our community's children and teens! We are so thankful to our private donors, our monthly sustaining donors, AG Supermarkets for the coins to community programs, all of the five town municipalities, fundraisers like Iyengar Yoga, Western Slopes, local town businesses, the Richmond Food Shelf, Jericho/Underhill Ecumenical Group/Jericho Food Shelf, MMUUSD, and all of the special Grantors who help support our Mission to feed children and provide a safe and enriching camp experience!

We packed exploring, field trips, friendships, music, art, and more into every minute! CLIF (Children's Literacy Foundation) presented and all campers chose two free books to take home. Buddy Dubay taught children to explore music, instruments, and singing, culminating with an hour-long talent show put on by the campers. STEM activities were introduced and the campers made volcanoes, oobleck, kept journals, and more. Field trips included the Audubon Center, Underhill Town Pond, Maple Street Park, and the Richmond Green and Library. Campers enjoyed our art program with origami wonders, creating sea creatures, and bead creations. Local author and illustrator Diana Dunn visited and held story writing and bookmaking workshops. During our Cooking Program, campers enjoyed making fresh homemade bagels, smoothies, healthy muffins, and more. Our former OCCC Director, Wendy, joined us for making pretzels and leading a morning of "potions." Of course, our campers were outside at every chance! There were games of kickball, wallball, gaga ball, badminton, basketball, soccer, chalk art, and "water days."

Our staff of counselors, counselors-in-training, and directors are an essential part of the camp! Many are students from MMUHS, Essex High School, and CHMS who are new and returning counselors. In addition, OCCC had several college students working with us this summer.

The kitchen was expertly run by Stephanie Lafreniere and Angela Boisvert. Jaren Skinner and Hanna Johnson also returned, along with a culinary intern assistant. They provided thoughtfully prepared fun and healthy meals for our campers and staff, which included smoothies, house-made muffins, blueberry/peach breakfast bake, pizza, fresh fruit/veggies, and a salad bar.

Volunteer Opportunities with United Way

LEND A HAND. VOLUNTEER — United Way's Volunteer Connection site is set up to help connect agencies and volunteers.



Guy W. Leadbetter Jr., 96, of Cambridge, VT died peacefully on Sunday, July 24, 2022 at home with family by his side. He was born in Washington D.C. on July 26, 1926 to Guy and Alice (Johnson) Leadbetter. He graduated from Bowdoin College in Maine and went on to Johns Hopkins Medical School in Baltimore, MD. Guy and Nadia, his wife of 72 years, shared an adventurous life together. He interned in Urology at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston, MA. He

came to the University of Vermont Medical Center, Burlington, VT in 1966 to practice urology as well as teach at UVM Medical School. Guy was passionate about his work in the medical world. He cared deeply for his patients, nurses, and colleagues. He was well known worldwide as a surgeon and inventor of several surgical techniques. Nature, conservation, skiing, biking, photography, backpacking, and camping were among his many passions. Family always came first. He is survived by his son Guy W. Leadbetter III (Gig) and his wife Ann, daughter Linda Leadbetter Sheehan and her husband Richard Florence, daughter Andrea (Annie) Leadbetter, his sister Patricia King, grandchildren Robby, Annie, and Dana Larkin, and Lillian and Wyland Seibert, and Kate Leadbetter Pettis, Molly Leadbetter, as well as three great-grandchildren Trey, Phoebe, and Keller. Memorial contributions in Guy's name can be made to the Nature Conservancy. Private services were held. Please visit awrfh.com to share your memoirs and condolences.



Stanley Richard Beaugard Jr., 55, died at his home in Jeffersonville, VT on Friday, July 1, 2022. The youngest of six siblings, Stan was born in St. Albans, VT on June 27, 1967 to Stanley and Jacqueline Beaugard. Stan is survived by his two sons, Robert and Jonathan Beaugard, and by his wife, Pamela Beaugard. Stanley was an excellent carpenter, comedian, chef, father, and friend. Inspired by his oldest brother Mark, Stan became a very skilled cook who made countless

5-star meals for his wife and children. Many people around town enjoyed his cooking skills as well, since he always made extra baked goods and bread for family and friends. When Stan wasn't cooking, his focus was on carpentry. He was truly a master of his craft, and his sons got to learn a lot from him by helping him with jobs when they were growing up. They would help him with anything from tearing an old house down to putting a new one together, and everything in between. The whole time they would get to enjoy Stan's light heart and sense of humor. Stan approached everything with a light heart, and everyone knew him for his ability to make anyone smile. He was never in short supply of jokes and never held back from making one. That's just what Stan did — he made jokes, he made art, he made amazing food, and he always made things original and unique because he was an original. He was one of a kind who was dearly loved and will be missed very much. A small private service is planned at Sterling Pond. Honored to be serving the Beaugard family is the Heald Funeral Home, where messages of condolence are welcome at healdfuneralhome.com.

Margaret Evelyn McClellan Allen was born June 16, 1938 to Artie J and Doris Bolio McClellan. Margaret grew up on a farm on English Settlement Road in Underhill, VT, where everything was done by hand and horses. Margaret graduated from Jericho (VT) High School in 1956 in a class of 13. After gradu-

ation she worked at two local restaurants; then she went to work at Many's Diner in Essex Junction, VT. In 1959, she went to work at Remington's Dry Goods store as a clerk. In August 1960, she went to work at E.W. Baily Feeds in Essex Junction as a bookkeeper, and in 1970 became manager of the feed store. She worked for four different owners until retiring from Depot Home and Garden in 2011. On November 27, 1963, she married Donald P. Allen, Sr. They lived in Williston, VT for over fifty

years. Margaret was instrumental in getting clean drinking water for her neighborhood. Margaret leaves her son Donald Jr. and wife Sally of Richmond, VT, and two grandchildren, Devin and wife Jillian of Milton, VT and Shelby of Richmond. She leaves one brother, Peter McClellan of Underhill. She also leaves sisters-in-law Barbara Magee, Rose Allen, Ruth Allen, Lucielle Allen, and brother-in-law Harold Allen, along with many nieces and nephews. She also leaves special cousins Linda LaRock and Teresa Connor, Joan Mendes and husband David, and Sandy Owen and husband Tom. Margaret's husband Donald predeceased her on February 25, 2020. She was also predeceased by her brothers and their wives, John and Dawna of Essex, VT, Douglas and Estel of Richmond, and Lee and Arlene of Hinesburg, VT; and Peter's wife Yvonne. We would like to thank the staff at Green Mountain Nursing and Rehabilitation in Essex for the exceptional care Margaret received over the last several months. We would also like to thank the staff and volunteers at McClure Miller Respite House in Colchester, VT for their loving care during Margaret's final days. A graveside service will be held on Saturday, September 17, 2022, at 1:00 PM in Underhill Flats Cemetery, Park St., Underhill, VT. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Green Mountain Nursing and Rehabilitation 475 Ethan Allen Ave, Colchester, VT 05446. Please address your donation to either Resident Activity Funds or Employee Recognition. Arrangements are in care of Corbin and Palmer Funeral Home, Essex Junction, VT.

Patresia Jean (Kittell) Wells, 95, a lifelong resident of Jeffersonville, VT passed away at her home peacefully with her children by her side on Sunday, August 7, 2022. She was born on December 23, 1926 to Iva and Schuyler Kittell in Jeffersonville (on the hill, she always called it). Schuyler passed in 1931. Iva then married Howard Barsha in 1938 who helped raise her and her brothers like his own children. Patresia graduated from Cambridge (VT) High School in 1947. She married Charles Harvey Wells Jr. on October 17, 1953. Together they raised four children. As a couple they enjoyed going dancing, bowling, snowmobiling, and being with friends. Charles died in 1977 so she was like a mother, father, and best friend. She began working as a payroll clerk at the Mary Fletcher Hospital in Colchester, VT. She was active in the American Legion Auxiliary, where she became a lifetime member. She enjoyed walking in the 4th of July parades with her American Legion colleagues, carrying the American flag with so much pride. She loved selling her poppies and doing fundraisers for the American Legion. She loved to play solitaire every day and also played canasta on a weekly event with friends. She was also a lifetime member of the Eagles Club. She sold Fuller brush products for a long time, along with Amway, where she saved her money to buy a snowmobile for her

and others. Spoiler alert: they're from impersonators. The details vary, but the scammers are after the same thing: your money and your personal information. You may get a text from scammers pretending to be USPS and asking you to confirm your debit card details so you can get an undelivered package. Or you might get texts about a chance to win a free gift card or a power tool. To claim your "reward," you're told to click on the link, answer some questions, and pay for shipping. Don't do it. If you click on those links and submit your card information, you'll end up with nothing — but you'll find unauthorized charges posted to your account. No matter what the unexpected text says, the advice is the same:

- Don't click on links or respond to unexpected texts — including ones asking you to fill out surveys to get free items. If you think it could be legit, contact the company using a website or phone number you know is real. Don't use the information in the text message!
- Don't pay to get a package redelivered. The real USPS won't contact you out of the blue about a delivery (unless you submitted a request first and give a tracking number) — and they'll never demand payment to redeliver a package.

Have you spotted an impersonation scam? Report it at <https://reportfraud.ftc.gov/#/>.

Cambridge Rotary thanks sponsors

By Peter Ingvaldstad, CAR president

As president of our Cambridge Area Rotary Club (CAR), I would like to personally thank Lee and Alisa Anderson of the company Three Mountain Roofing, Tom Wyckoff of the Lodge at Wyckoff Maple, and Lee Ann Macrery of My Favorite Things restaurant for their generous sponsorship of all the great things our Rotary Club does.

Our sponsorship program is for all of our locally owned businesses to help us support our community local, national, and world-wide. While their financial sponsorship was very different, their motivation was the same. They all love their community and share in our desire to make our community and world a better place to live.

If you or a friend of yours owns a business in town, or you are an individual who wants to help in our work either financially or through volunteering your time, please contact me (802-793-7210 or pingvaldstad@gmail.com) and we can talk about all the possibilities.

Thank you all so much...

OBITUARIES



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Obituaries continued on page 9

Miscellaneous continued from page 7

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Our staff of counselors, counselors-in-training, and directors are an essential part of the camp! Many are students from MMUHS, Essex High School, and CHMS who are new and returning counselors. In addition, OCCC had several college students working with us this summer.

The kitchen was expertly run by Stephanie Lafreniere and Angela Boisvert. Jaren Skinner and Hanna Johnson also returned, along with a culinary intern assistant. They provided thoughtfully prepared fun and healthy meals for our campers and staff, which included smoothies, house-made muffins, blueberry/peach breakfast bake, pizza, fresh fruit/veggies, and a salad bar.

Volunteer Opportunities with United Way

LEND A HAND. VOLUNTEER — United Way's Volunteer Connection site is set up to help connect agencies and volunteers.

Agencies are working hard to navigate volunteering during this time, but opportunities are increasing. To learn more about these and other opportunities, go online to Volunteer Connection at <https://unitedwaynwvt.galaxydigital.com/>.

MAKE A FRIEND — Age Well is looking for volunteers, age 55 and over, to help seniors remain independent by becoming part of their Vermont Senior Companion Program. Volunteers provide companionship and assistance to older Vermonters in Chittenden, Franklin, and Grand Isle Counties by helping with shopping and other errands and simple tasks. Senior Companions receive a non-taxable stipend, mileage reimbursement, paid holidays, and vacation time. Contact Erica Marks, 802-662-5249 or emarks@agewellvt.org.

VIDEOGRAPHER NEEDED — Green Mountain Habitat for Humanity is looking for a videographer to capture all they do at their job site. They are looking for someone with a background in videography and editing, skilled professional audio capture, and of understanding of social media and current video trends. If interested, send two or three samples or a social media handle to Bridget, bmientka@vermonthabitat.org.

AT THE STORE — Green Mountain Habitat for Humanity needs volunteers at its Habitat Store in Swanton. Join for a day of service or become a regular volunteer helping to unload donations, stock shelves, test electronics, and/or serve customers. Flexible Thursday-Saturday schedules, 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM. Contact volunteer@vermonthabitat.org.

ENGAGE WITH OUR NEIGHBORS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS — ANEW Place invites volunteers to engage with guests at their sober shelter at 89 North Street, Burlington from 6:30 – 8:30 PM, Monday-Sunday. Sign up for a specific need or for general volunteering. Background check and COVID-19 vaccination required. Must be at least 18 years old. Contact volunteer coordinator Andre Clark with any questions, aclark@anewplacevt.org.

That random text might be a scam: don't click that link!

From the Federal Trade Commission

That unexpected text from the Postal Service (USPS), Costco, or The Home Depot telling you about an unclaimed package or a survey you can complete to claim a freebie is NOT from them. It's a scam.

The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) has seen a spike in reports from people getting text messages that look like they're from well-known names like USPS, Costco, or The Home Depot,

and others.

Spoiler alert: they're from impersonators. The details vary, but the scammers are after the same thing: your money and your personal information. You may get a text from scammers pretending to be USPS and asking you to confirm your debit card details so you can get an undelivered package. Or you might get texts about a chance to win a free gift card or a power tool. To claim your "reward," you're told to click on the link, answer some questions, and pay for shipping. Don't do it.

If you click on those links and submit your card information, you'll end up with nothing — but you'll find unauthorized charges posted to your account.

No matter what the unexpected text says, the advice is the same:

- Don't click on links or respond to unexpected texts — including ones asking you to fill out surveys to get free items. If you think it could be legit, contact the company using a website or phone number you know is real. Don't use the information in the text message!

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Thank you all so much...

ART / MUSIC / THEATER



Cricket Blue with Trio Arco will perform at the First Congregational Church of Essex Junction (FCCEJ) on Sunday, September 25 at 3:00 PM. Their music is evocative of literary voices. Laura Heaberlin and Taylor Smith are equal parts musicians and storytellers. They were voted "Best Folk Group" in Vermont's Seven Daysie Awards and they've played stages and folk festivals around the United States and Canada. Cricket Blue plays with string trio John Dunlop, Laura Markowitz, and Sofia Hirsch (Vermont Symphony Orchestra and Eclectica String Quartet). The performance is part of the Community Concerts at First music series celebrating artists from Vermont and New England. Suggested donation, \$20 per adult (under 18 free), by reservation or at the door. Concert proceeds support FCCEJ community outreach and Ukrainian relief. Space is limited; for reservations contact 802-878-5745 or welcome@fccej.org. FCCEJ is located at 39 Main St., Essex Junction.

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Vermont Open Studio Tour celebrates 30 years

The second Open Studio Weekend in the celebration of our 30th year will be held during Saturday-Sunday, October 1-2 from 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM each day. It gives visitors and collectors the opportunity to plan a tour that brings them through the small towns of Vermont to studios where they can view and purchase beautiful well-made things and talk with the artist that made them.

Open Studio Weekend is a celebration of the creation of craft and artwork and the work life of Vermont artists. With a focus on the studio, including work space and materials, the event aims to illustrate both that creating art requires an investment of time, specialized tools, and equipment, and that the process is accessible and rewarding.

The Vermont Crafts Council holds that creative problem solving is an essential human skill that will be strengthened with engagement with non-digital materials, clay, wood, metals, glass, felt, thread, cloth, paper, and paints. The history of craft traditions in Vermont presents a window into past community life that is again being embraced by a new generation seeking a grounded connection to handmade, functional artwork that is used in everyday life.

During the two-day event, artists statewide open their studios to visitors to discuss and demonstrate their work. Visitors can purchase work directly from the artist, often choosing from a wider selection than is available online or through galleries. Many artists will accept custom orders and offer seconds and discontinued designs for sale on this weekend. Visitors can also use the tour to visit over twenty small galleries and art centers that exhibit and sell the work of a variety of local artists. Each small gallery has its own collection of local artisan work. Several of these centers will feature groups of artists and themed displays



and special sales for the weekend.

Glass blowers, potters, metal workers, jewelers, weavers, painters, woodworkers, photographers, book artists, printmakers, felt makers, dyers, basket makers, and rug hookers are among those that invite visitors to come behind the scenes into their studios. Ask questions, view demonstrations, and purchase original handmade artwork. A key part of the Open Studio experience is planning your own route through the Vermont countryside. Use the printed map booklet, available at many Vermont information centers and rest areas, or download it from <https://www.vermontcrafts.com/visit-open-studio/>. Also available there is an online Google map, updated with the latest information, and artist pages with information and pictures of artwork.

VT Arts Council offers new Creative Aging Grants

The Vermont Arts Council is offering a new grant program to provide meaningful arts learning experiences for older Vermonters, hoping to ease the social isolation that sometimes arrives as people age.

Creative Aging Grants provide up to \$4000 for organizations to provide skill-based arts instruction and intentional social engagement led by experienced teaching artists for older adults aged 60+.

More than 9% of Vermonters are at least 65 years of age, and Vermont is on track to be the oldest state in the nation (age 65+) by 2032. Vermont also has one of the highest life expectancy rates, at nearly 80.

Vermont nonprofit organizations, educational institutions, agencies of state government, counties, and municipalities are eligible to apply. This includes arts organizations, senior centers, and area agencies on aging. Collaborations with or among such organizations are welcomed.

Example projects that the grants may support include: hiring a teaching artist to lead a series of photography workshops in an assisted living facility culminating in a community exhibit; hiring a teaching artist to lead remote workshops for older adults in their homes, supplying materials, providing opportunities for social engagement, and giving support to caregivers; and hiring teaching artists or mentors to work with older adults to capture and/or create a series of stories or poems through a partnership with an agency serving older adults.

Applications may engage artists on the Council's Creative Aging Teaching Artist Roster, which comprises experienced teaching artists that trained with Lifetime Arts to design creative aging programs that include skill-based instructional lessons and intentional social engagement opportunities. Applicants may submit proposals for projects led by teaching artists not on the roster. Priority is given to projects led by Vermont artists.

The grant application submission deadline is Tuesday, January November 1, 2022. Applications will be reviewed based on artistic merit (40%); impact (40%); and project management (20%). Fundable project activities must take place between January 1-August 31, 2023.

For more information about the Creative Aging Grant Program, visit <https://www.vermontartscouncil.org/grants/organizations/creative-aging>.



When you visit Old Mill Park (behind the Old Red Mill on VT Rt. 15 in Jericho), you are greeted by an open meadow with Clay Brook running through the middle. This meadow was a beaver pond, but now only the beavers' lodge and broken dam — both covered with dense vegetation — are left as evidence. This meadow is in transition, from pond to shrubby thicket; it will become more and more like the surrounding forest until beavers return and create a pond once again.

PHOTO BY SUZANNE FREITAS

Tasha Tudor and Lanie Kanat: The Deborah Rawson Memorial Library, 8 River Rd., Jericho is currently hosting two artists' displays: three lovely original Tasha Tudor paintings, on lend from Peggy Rodgers; and a lovely display of water color prints and note cards by Lanie Kanat. The Tasha Tudor paintings are not for sale, but Lanie would love to sell her art, both the prints and note cards, and there will be a price list at the circulation desk and contact information for the artist. The art will remain on display through September. The library loves hosting local artists; feel free to leave your name if you are interested in displaying any time after September,

Jericho through the Eyes of an Artist: Present, Past and Future at the Jericho Town Hall, presents an exhibit of established and emerging artists scheduled to run Tuesday, September 6-Saturday, December 31, 2022. For more information see the Jericho Town website, <http://jerichovt.org/>. The exhibit is one of an ongoing series of shows that are part of a collaborative effort between the Town of Jericho and a committee of volunteers involved in the arts. Committee members include Catherine McMains, SelectBoard; Emilie Alexander, gallery owner; and artists Dianne Shullenberger and Carla Hochschild.

Artisan Openings for Harvest Market — Harvest Market 2022 at the United Church of Underhill is Saturday-Sunday, September 24-25. There are openings for artisans who make their own creations (no food please). You get a space measured 8' long x 6' deep; bring your own table. Spaces are located inside the church, first floor and basement. Leave tables set up for day two. The building is locked overnight and security is included. Cost: \$55 for both days; funds go into United Church missions to help others. For more information and secure a space, contact artisansmarket@underhillharvestmarket.com.

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

Spruce Peak's Summer Concert Series on the Spruce Peak Village Green, Stowe concludes a great lineup of concerts this

summer with *The Lone Bellow* with special guest Pete Kilpatrick, on Thursday, September 1. The Green opens at 5:00 PM; music begins at 6:00 PM, the main show starts at 7:00 PM. Lawn seating (no lawn chairs allowed): \$40 per person, kids 5 and under for \$5. Table seating (maximum 10 persons per table): \$50 per person, kids 5 and under \$10. All tickets are general admission; part of ticket sales goes to Spruce Peak Cares partner charities (VT Foodbank, Meals On Wheels, Clarina Howard Nichols Center, United Way of Lamoille County, The Current, and the North Country Animal League). For more information and for tickets, go online to <https://www.sprucepeak.com/concerts>.

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

Milton Artists Guild's upcoming workshops: Cartoons, caricatures, and book illustrations: Introduction to Acrylic Painting: Sunday, September 18 and 25, 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM. To sign up for a workshop, go online to <https://www.miltonartistsguildstore.com/workshops>.

Burlington City Arts: BCA's exhibitions are open Wednesdays-Fridays and Sundays 12:00 – 5:00 PM, and Saturdays 12:00 – 8:00 PM. On exhibit from through Saturday, October 8, *More Than an Object: The Contemporary Still Life* on the first floor, and *Sky Hopinka: Fainting Spells* on the second floor. Presenting the creative possibilities, vitality, and inventiveness of the still life tradition, *More Than an Object* features work from nine New England and international artists including Susan Abbott, Christina Erives, Oona Gardner, Ori Gersht, Libby Paloma, Mike Pelletier, William Ransom, Zachary P. Stephens, and Christopher T. Terry. In our second-floor gallery, multimedia artist Sky Hopinka layers memory, language, myth, and longing in two experimental films — *When you're lost in the rain* and *Fainting Spells* — exploring themes of culture and homeland as he reflects on the complexity of Indigenous identity. Summer gallery hours: Wednesday-Friday and Sunday, 12:00 – 5:00 PM; Saturday, 12:00 – 8:00 PM.

Obituaries continued from page 8

family as a surprise to all. She was very committed to helping with the school programs for her children. She was a very strong willed person. She overcame many, many obstacles as a child, wife, and mother, but never let that bring her down. She always put one foot in front of the other and picked up the pieces and carried on, never complaining, beating all odds that were thrown her way. She loved being a part of her children's life, engaging in any activity of their choice. Her love for her children was unconditional, and she was there for them every moment of their lives. Her smiling face will truly be missed by all. Special thanks to the team at Lamoille County Home Health and Hospice Agency for helping us all carry out mom's last wishes of her life. For them we are very grateful. Patresa leaves behind her children: sons Jeffrey Charles Wells of Highgate, VT and friend Susan; Brian Keith Wells of Waterville, VT; Terry Jay Wells of Jeffersonville; daughter Paula Jayne Turner and husband Charlie of Fletcher,

VT; brother Landon (Tink Kittell) of Jeffersonville; four grandchildren: Ryan Wells and wife Kelley, Brock Wells and wife Kaley, Skylar Whitney and husband Ryan, and Jacob Wells; four great-grandchildren: Preston Whitney, Logan Whitney, Aubrey Wells, and Daxton Wells; two feline companions, Fat Cat and Black Cat; and several nieces and nephews and a brother-in-law. She was predeceased by her parents, stepfather, her husband, brother Schuyler (Jack Kittell), and many close friends. A private graveside memorial service will be held in the family lot in South Cambridge Cemetery with Reverend Elizabeth Griffin offering prayers. A Celebration of Life was held on Friday, August 26, 2022 at the Eagles Club, Jeffersonville. Memorial contributions in Patresa's memory may be made to American Legion, Post 35, P.O. Box 96, Jeffersonville, VT 05464; or Eagles Green Mtn 3210, P.O. Box 326, Jeffersonville, VT 05464; or Lamoille Home Health & Hospice, 54 Farr Ave., Morrisville, VT 05661. Please visit awrfh.com to share your memories and condolences.

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



You are a little too close for a ‘safe’ Covid hug, aren’t you? But thanks anyway. I have been feeling a little blue lately, and sure do miss hugs. (Insect Comic #21, August 16, 2022) Pictured: Margined Calligrapher (Toxomerus marginatus), also known as the calligrapher fly, is a common species of hoverfly. It is found in many parts of North America. The larvae are predators of thrips, aphids, and small caterpillars. Adults feed on a wide range of flowers. Smith & Chaney 2007 finds T. marginatus is the most numerous of the Syrphidae species, controlling aphids in lettuce fields on California’s Central Coast. — Wikipedia PHOTO BY BERNIE PAQUETTE

SCHOOL NEWS

MMUHS freshmen plan foot race to raise funds for school trip

Rising MMUHS freshmen Kai Merchant and Noah Bouchett are hosting a foot run on Saturday, September 10, 12:00 – 1:00 PM at SunnyView Dr., Jericho to raise money for a school trip to Spain. The route will be two laps around the SunnyView Dr. loop, starting at the northwest corner of the loop. Participants can park at Jericho Elementary School and walk the trails behind Jericho Elementary to get to the starting area. Entrance fee \$25. To participate, contact noahbouchett@gmail.com or kaidoucet19@gmail.com.

Advance your career with tuition-free courses

The state is providing Vermonters who are unemployed or looking to advance their careers with up to two tuition-free courses to build their skills through courses provided by the Vermont State Colleges System (Castleton University, Community College of Vermont, Northern Vermont University / Lyndon and /Johnson, Vermont Technical College). This legislative funding can also be used for wrap-around services and supplies to access your education and training, including things like computers or paying for childcare. With a variety of courses, flexible options, and a team to support you, this free training opportunity allows you to embark, progress, or grow your career. For more information, go online to <https://vtworkers.vsc.edu>.

Saxon Hill has preschool openings for 2022-23

Saxon Hill School has openings for the 2022-2023 school year in its three-day Green Class that meets Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays, and in its three-day Blue Class that meets Monday, Wednesday and Fridays from 8:30 AM – 12:00 PM. Extended Day options are also available! These available spots are now open to children who will turn 3 by October 31 (students can start once they turn 3). More information can be found online at <https://saxonhillschool.org/registration.html>, or contact Registrar@SaxonHillSchool.org.

Open your home and heart to an exchange student

Host a high school exchange student! Students from around the world come to Rice Memorial High School to learn and grow. Some students play on our prep hockey teams, which prepare them to play at the collegiate level. Other students come for academics and seek the American experience. Our International Student program depends on the generosity of host families who welcome these students into their homes. Will you consider this rewarding experience? There are many benefits to hosting a student: learn about another culture and share our culture, build a friendship that can last a lifetime, select a student based on nationality, age, or gender that shares similar interests. A monthly stipend for room and board is provided. This program works best when international students are treated as family and they integrate into the everyday experiences of life with your family. You will be an important part of making their dreams come true! To learn more about this opportunity or to speak with a former host family, contact Heatherly Allard, International Admissions, at Rice Memorial High School, at allard@rmhsvt.org or 802-862-6521 x214.

MOUNTAIN GAZETTE RATE SHEET 2022

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

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

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

TOTAL REGULAR CIRCULATION - 4500
(During the pandemic it has varied at the present time we are back up to 3500 and rising. We plan to be back to full circulation by May 2022.)

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

Business card - \$33.00 3 1/4" x 2"	1/4 page - \$170.00 3 1/4" x 12" 5" x 8" 6 1/2" x 6"
1/16 page - \$49.50 3 1/4" x 3"	1/2 page - \$290.00 10 1/4" x 8" 5" x 15 1/2"
1/12 page - \$66.00 3 1/4" x 4"	Full page - \$390.00 10 1/4" x 15 1/2"
1/8 page - \$99.00 3 1/4" x 6" 5" x 4"	

Business directory ads: \$18 each, must buy 5 consecutive issues (\$90.00 pre-paid)
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Classified ads: \$6.50 for 25 words, 10 cents for each additional word

Prepaid contracts available - Save up to 20%.
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Publication First and Third Thursday/Month
Deadlines: Thursday before publication
Copy - 12:00 Noon
Advertising 5:00 PM

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

CLASSIFIED ADS

Place your classified ad in the *Mountain Gazette* for a nominal charge.

The first 25 words for \$6.50 and ten cents for each additional word.

Contact Brenda Boutin at 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.

Plot Points on Betrayal
By Kimberly Madura

The castle door was purple.
Walk through the rooms of
endless echoes
and Shakespearean stages.
Take a turn on the carousel.

Alas,
a medieval dagger to
the heart.
We are still
quite primitive.
So much depends on the
elements of betrayal.

Beware,
Lady Macbeths are everywhere
these days.

SPORTS NEWS

**A new trail race:
(Valley) Dream Big 10k and 3k**

There's a new trail race in Jeffersonville — the inaugural (Valley) Dream Big 10K and 3K on the Brewster River Mountain Bike trails will be held on Saturday, September 10, 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM. This event is a fundraiser for Girls on the Run Vermont, an organization that aims to help young girls gain confidence, independence, self-worth, and more through the sport of a running.

The 10K is the more "competitive" race, but both races are great for beginners! If you want to dip your toes into trail running and racing, then these are the races for you. The organizers hope to see lots of younger runners sign up for the 3K!

All proceeds will go directly to Girls on the Run Vermont, which has a chapter in Lamoille county! If you aren't interested in running but would like to support, you can help by volunteering (there is a form on the website) or by simply spreading the word. The event is capped at 75 people, which includes both races, so help us sell it out and raise a lot of dough for this amazing organization!

For more information, go online to <https://dreambigrace.weebly.com/>; register at Ultrasignup, <https://ultrasignup.com/register.aspx?did=96425>.

**Support Essex HS football
with Essex Football Gold Cards**

By Peter Armata III, Westford
Offensive and Defensive Line, #77

2021 Division 1 Football State Champions

I am a Senior at Essex High School this year and have been a part of the Essex football program since second grade. We are selling our annual Gold Cards, which support fundraising efforts for our football team. Proceeds help to cover our equipment and other program items, like our homecoming jerseys.

If you would like to support our cause, the cost is \$25 per card and it will get you great discounts at places like Grazers, Vespa's Pizza, Mark BBQ, McDonald's, Jericho Tavern, Cody's Irish Pub, Black Flannel, and more!

To buy a card online, go online to <https://supporter.goldathletics.net/campaigns/116/users/8607>.

My goal is to sell more than 30 cards this year, so I appreciate any support you can give! If you have questions, or would like me to stop by to sell you a card in person, contact me at parmata@VT.ewsd.org.

Thank you so much!

**Fly fishing contest
along the Winooski**

Come join the Mad Dog Chapter of Trout Unlimited on Sunday, September 11, for this 4th annual catch and release fly fishing event — call up or text and ask your favorite fishing buddy to team up with you (teams of two; limited to 20 teams) for this year's event to support The Vermont Trout Camp for Teens!

The tournament will take place along the Winooski River and its tributaries (excluding the trophy stretch in Waterbury), meeting at The Fly Rod Shop in Stowe. In this dry/dropper fly fishing catch and release tournament, any combination of flies may be used but the top fly needs to be fished dry.

All proceeds will benefit the Vermont Trout Camp: <http://www.vermonttroutcamp.com/>.

The cost is \$100 per team (plus processing fee). Register online at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/388354407487>. For more information contact Shawn Nailor, nailorvt@gmail.com.

Fall sports are approaching fast

From Healthy Lamoille Valley

Time to sign up your youth for fall sports! Not sure of what fall sports are available and where? Check out the Youth Sports Directory sponsored by the Lamoille Area Coaching Collaborative, <https://www.healthylamoillevalley.org/sports>. If you notice the need for an update, email alison@healthylamoillevalley.org. (Please note: some deadlines for registration will have fallen before the start of school on Monday, August 29.)

The Lamoille Area Coaching Collaborative, a workgroup of Healthy Lamoille Valley, is a network of people dedicated to improving our community through youth sports and building protective factors for our youth to prevent substance misuse. We have quarterly meetings and an online communication group. Let us know if you are interested in joining.

**Register for Westford Fall Soccer
2022 by August 31**

By Heather Rodriguez, Westford Recreation Coordinator

Westford's fall soccer registration deadline is Wednesday, August 31. Late registration is subject to Rec Coordinator and coach approval, and requires a \$10 late fee.

Register online at <https://westfordvt.us/recreation-dept-line-registration/>.

We are in need of a coach for grade 3/4 boys and girls; if interested please email recreation@westfordvt.us.

Season dates: September and October; practice and game times TBD.

What you need: It is recommended that players have cleats, shin guards, and a water bottle. All players in grades 3-4 are required to have cleats and shin guards. We provide balls for practice and games; however, players are welcome to bring their own. Please label all of your player's gear.

**Steer clear of worry
about your teen driver**

More than 5500 teens die in this country every year in car crashes, so it's important to teach your teen as they learn how to drive what they need to know to stay safe on the road. Let me take the wheel and provide some information about actions you can take.

Model good driving

Parents: be a role model for your teen driver. That means you

need to wear your seat belt at all times, never drink and drive, never eat or text or do anything else that will distract you while driving, and please stay within the speed limit as you obey all traffic laws.

Stay current on the laws

Know the laws related to graduated driver's licenses, including what the restrictions and limitations are on teen drivers who have permits and provisional licenses. Even if your teen has had sufficient hours of practice with a driving instructor or with you, there is no harm in doing even more supervised practice such as night- and bad-weather driving.

Agree on a contract

A great idea is for you to create a written parent-teen driving agreement or contract even before your teen gets their learner's permit. This agreement can lay out rules and expectations for your teen as they learn to drive, and tie those rules to privileges and consequences that might be relaxed as your teen gets older. For example, insist in that agreement that your teen tells you where they are going and with whom. Set a certain time that they will have the car home. And, perhaps for the first few months after they have their license, include a rule that they will not drive at night. Have them agree that they will not drive under the influence of alcohol or text on their cell phones, and will always use their seat belt.

Other important precautions

If your teen is on a medication, check with his or her health care professional to make sure that they are okay to drive with that medication in their system.

Make sure the car that is being driven is safe and in good condition, and if your teen wants to buy a car and it's a used one, make sure it has been inspected before they buy it and that its safety ratings are good.

If you don't think your teen is mature enough to drive or is not interested in driving, don't force your teen or encourage them to rush into getting licensed.

Hopefully tips like these will steer you in the right direction if you want to keep your teen safe when they drive on the road.

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

Rifle and skeet instruction offered

Lamoille Valley Fish and Game Club in Morrisville welcomes area youth ages 11 to 17 for a 4 week introduction to rifle or skeet shooting. program will occur on Wednesday, September 7, 14, 21, and 28 (rain date October 5) from 4:00-5:30 PM.

Offered are basic rifle safety and marksmanship with close instruction and supervision, including extensive target shooting or basic shotgun safety and introduction to clay shooting sports, with close instruction and supervision, extensive shooting opportunities.

Cost for either program is \$50.00, including use of firearms, instruction, targets, and ammunition.

Call Keith Ulrich to register at 802 730 9340

We would like to offer archery as part of this youth program, and are seeking volunteers to run it. Please contact Keith Ulrich for more information, or to volunteer.

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love to bike?



Same roads,
same rules.

Information from Local Motion Vermont: <https://www.localmotion.org>

Make Sure Your Bike Is Working: Check your bike over before you go for a ride. Make sure the brakes work, the tires are inflated and the chain is properly lubricated.

Control Your Bike: Most bike crashes don't even involve a car. Make sure you know how to control your bike before you take it out on the road. Local Motion offers classes to help you improve your riding skills.

Obey All Traffic Laws: Bicyclists have many of the same rights as drivers, but you also have many of the same responsibilities. For example, bike riders have to make a complete stop at stop signs and red lights. Save \$162.*

Use Lights At Night: Use a headlight and a red rear reflector (or better yet, a red taillight) when riding at night. Save \$76.*

Claim Your Space and Be Predictable:

Ride on the road, take the space you need to be safe, and ride straight. For a practiced rider, the street is generally a safer place to ride than the sidewalk, as you are much more visible to drivers when you are on the street.

Yield to People Walking: On busy streets or when riding with children, you may decide to ride on the sidewalk, which is legal in Vermont unless specifically prohibited by local ordinance. But people walking on sidewalks always have right of way over people biking. Be courteous — when approaching from behind, slow down and ring your bell or give a friendly greeting.

Ride In the Same Direction as Traffic: Riding against traffic is dangerous. Follow the law (and common sense) and ride in the same direction as cars.

Signal Your Turns: Look back before you make a lane change or a turn and make sure it is safe to change positions. Use your arm to signal where you are going.

Ride to the Right: Ride on the right side of the rightmost lane. Exceptions: if there are hazards in the road, if you are turning left, if you are in a right-turn lane and not planning on turning right, or to stay out of the "door zone" of parked cars. Stay as far right as is safe: generally at least two to three feet from the edge of the road. Ride two abreast only where not prohibited by local ordinance. Save \$100.*

*amount represents 'waiver' penalty. Actual fine amounts may vary

love to drive?



It's a privilege,
not a right.

Information from Local Motion Vermont: <https://www.localmotion.org>

Be Alert And Control Your Vehicle: One moment of inattention can take someone's life. Don't take the road for granted!

Slow Down: Don't drive faster than the speed limit; slow down when conditions are poor or hazards are present. If you hit someone walking when you are going 20 MPH, they will likely live — but at 40 MPH, they will probably die.

Avoid Distractions: Use of any handheld electronic device while driving is illegal in Vermont. If you must make or receive a call, pull over. Do not text while driving. Save \$162* and 2 points.**

Pass Bikes Only When Safe: Unless specifically signed otherwise, cyclists have a right to be on the road. Don't pass until it is safe. When you do, plan ahead so you can pass with a recommended 4 feet of clearance in compliance with VT laws. Save \$277* and 4 points.**

Yield At Crosswalks: People walking always have the right of way at all unsignalized crosswalks, including mid-block crosswalks. They also have the right of way at signalized crosswalks unless the "do not cross" signal is solid. Give them space. Save \$220.*

Don't Block Sidewalks Or Bike Lanes: People need to get through, especially those in wheelchairs or with other mobility impairments. Never park on or across a sidewalk or bike lane. Save \$50.*

Keep Your Cool: Throwing things at people who are walking or biking is illegal, as is opening a door in the path of someone on a bicycle. Save \$392* and 4 points.**

Don't Pass Stopped School Buses: Children are our most vulnerable road users. There is never a good reason to pass a stopped school bus. Save \$249* and 5 points.**

Yield Anyway: When in doubt, yield. Preventing a crash is more important than being right. Think about it.

*amount represents 'waiver' penalty. Actual fine amounts may vary.

**Points refer to those against you on a Motor Vehicle record.

Sunflowers honor Ukrainian people

Three rows of sunflowers planted in the garden at the Deborah Rawson Memorial Library in Jericho by Master Gardener Volunteers to honor the Ukrainian people.

PHOTO BY SUZANNE FREITAS



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Register at:
bikereg.com/copley-gravel-grinder

More information:
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