

CALL YOUR MOTHER, SUNDAY, MAY 12 Spring flowers are in bloom with more on the way as the warm temperatures and (hopefully) sunshine. Find tips on gardening and upcoming plant sales. Page 13



CALL YOUR MOTHER, SUNDAY, MAY 12 Mother's Day is celebrated in the U.S. on the second Sunday in May. It recognizes mothers, motherhood and maternal bonds. It was first celebrated May 10, 1908.



CITY WELCOMES A NEW BAKERY The Pies the Limit opened May 1 has "sold out" of local favorites nearly every day since. The shop is located at 56 Strongs Ave, Rutland. Page 16



CELEBRATE BIRDS, MAY 11

Celebrate World Migratory Bird Day, Saturday. VINS will host a beginner bird walk.

Volunteers green up two rivers

By Curt Peterson

Hundreds of volunteers in small towns along the Route 4 corridor filled biodegradable bags with roadside litter Saturday, May 4, during Vermont's Green Up Day.

Fourteen intrepid outdoors folk waded, dug and dragged a full dumptruck full and three full pickups worth of "river litter" from the White and Ottauquechee Rivers. This particular clean-up group was organized by Upper Valley Trout Unlimited, led by Conservation Chairman Marty Banak, and Woodstock Inn and Besort

White River

salvage included

11 tires, a

120-gallon

propane tank, a

hot water heater,

a 55-gallon

drum and some

shipping skids.

Fly Fishing Shop, organized by shop guide Owen Ward.

"Our group cleaned up the White from the West Hartford bridge to the dam in Sharon," Marty Banak told the Mountain Times. "I scouted both rivers during the week to identify areas that were particularly in need."

The Woodstock Inn volunteers are members of the resort's "Green Team," which is dedicated to improving

and maintaining the area's environment. They policed the area from East End Park through the Billings Farm property bordering the Ottauquechee.

Unlike the back roads of Hartland, the rivers attract some significant debris. Banak said the White River salvage included 11 tires, a 120-gallon propane tank, a hot water heater, a 55-gallon drum and some shipping skids.

"One issue is plastic bale wrap," Banak said. "The round bales stored near riverbanks get washed into the river, the rocks tear the wrap off, and it ends up tangled in trees." He said one large wrap strip was 30 feet above the normal

water level, probably ending up there during floods.

Detritus was taken to the Quechee Green, where green-up managers accepted everything but the tires, which had to be taken to Hartford Town Hall.



By Curt Peterson

Page 25Jordan Dennis tosses plastic bale wraps into the dumpster.



By Jerry LeBlond

FREE

May 8-14, 2024

Peavine Whitewater Race excites paddlers

The Peavine Whitewater Race took place Saturday, May 4, on the White River. The annual downriver paddling event benefits the Ridgeline Outdoor Collective. Above: Justin Reich and Doug Pietrzak finished 18 overall in their tandem canoe.

Killington Resort announces hot summer events lineup

Killington Resort is charging into summer with a loaded events lineup including golf tournaments, mountain bike competitions, food celebrations, free concerts and more.

"When the snow melts, we switch gears at The Beast and celebrate all the great things summer in Vermont has to offer," said Mike Sutcliffe Killington Resort events manager. "We've got a packed agenda of family-friendly events and no shortage of on-mountain activities planned for the warmer

months. New this year is the Play Forever Mountain Clean Up presented by Pepsi and we are especially excited to welcome back Alex Showerman for the Foundation Women's Freeride Progression weekend."

Resort events line-up \rightarrow 5

Twice defeated: budgets in Rutland County school districts fail again

Staff report

OUNTAIN IMES

Last Tuesday, April 30, three of the four school budgets in Rutland County that failed on Town Meeting Day, failed again upon a revote. Voters in Rutland Town School District, Otter Valley Unified Union School District, and Barstow Unified Union School District again voted down school budgets.

The fourth Rutland County district that failed its budget on Town Meeting Day, Slate Valley School District, will hold its revote May 9 — and attempt to overcome a deficit of 534 votes that failed its original budget.

Vermont schools that don't have a voter approved budget by the end of the fiscal year, June 30, can borrow up to 87% of the current year's budget — a move that would likely further negatively impact school programming and offerings.

Rutland Town revote failed by 33 votes Rutland Town School (RTS) District's \$10.6 million budget failed 692-659 at the revote. While voter turnout was significantly higher with 164 more total votes (578-609), the margin remained close, failing by 33 votes instead of 31.

The Board credits the decision to mail ballots (paid for by the town) as a likely reason for the increased turnout.

The second-round budget was reduced \$156,100 from the district's initial proposal and included cuts to the seventh-grade trip, Budget revotes $\rightarrow 2$

Haff appointed as full-time zoning administrator

By Curt Peterson

Selectman Jim Haff said he was completely surprised by his nomination for the permanent zoning administrator position in Killington on Monday, May 6. Select Board chair Steve Finneron read the Planning Commission's recommendation for the appointment.

"I wasn't at the Planning Commission meeting when they decided on this recommendation," Haff said. "So this is new to me."

Haff has been acting as interim zoning administrator for more than 18 months after Chuck Claffey left town, vacating the position. Prior to Claffey, Preston Bristow served as zoning administrator.

The job also comes with the additional title of Zoning Administrator for Act 250 Representative, which Haff said is basically acting as the email addressee for anything related to Act 250 in Killington.

Haff, as acting zoning administrator, was instrumental in organizing and implementing Killington's short term rental (STR) registration system that was begun by his predecessors. When he assumed the project there were more than 700-800 properties being used as STRs; it was created to bring properties into compliance with occupancy limits, parking regulations, noise controls and fire regulations, etc.

Haff said if all STRs had to be registered, the town would receive registration fees enough to administer the program. A third-party contractor monitors the STR advertisement websites to find ads that offer accommodations for which the properties aren't approved and registered.

The registration program has been a success, with other towns looking to Killington for help setting up similar programs.

The zoning administrator position has always been a fulltime job, Haff told the Mountain Times.

"It's a lot more than managing the STR program," he said. "Zoning issues make up the majority of the work. I handle all permits — signs, additions, new construction. I write up violation reports. And I perform all site plan reviews, including subdivisions."

While the interim position was a part-time position paid hourly, Haff says he often worked late at night and on Saturdays to get the jobs complete. The full-time position more accurately reflects the true number of hours the job takes, he stated.

Other board appointments

On Monday, May 6 the Select Board appointed Dave McComb and Guy Keefe to the planning commission.

An alternate for the development review board has not yet been selected. Interested candidates should email Town Manager Michael Ramsey.

Candidates interested in filling the remaining term on the Select Board seat vacated recently by Steve Finneron through next Town Meeting Day, March 4, 2025, must send in letters of interest not later than Monday, May 12 at noon.

For more information visit: KillingtonTown.com.



Killington Road reconstruction continues, blasting begins

Staff report

The closure of the Killington Road from its intersection at Route 4 to Anthony Way continues with a detour via West Hill Road. Work last week included more movement of dirt. Although the plan was to begin the installation of the waterline, more ledge than expected at the bottom of the hill was discovered, halting the plan to start the pipe installation, Markowski Excavating, Inc. explained in a news release May 3.

Starting Monday, May 6, a drill rigis scheduled to arrive with an anticipated first blast happening Tuesday afternoon, May 7, Markowski continued.

Final dirt excavation will occur up to the existing power poles. As blasting

occurs (either daily or every other day) there will be fewer construction vehicles on the shoulder of Route 4 later in the week, traffic along Route 4 and Route 100 will be temporarily be stopped no more than 10 minutes. After the blast, traffic will be

ter the blast, traffic will be released and there should be no more delays during the day.

Markowski anticipates receiving materials for the installation of a temporary sewer line later next week. "This will begin to be installed to help maintain active sewer service for all buildings along the Access Road," the release explained. Looking ahead to the week beginning May 13, expect a continuation of drilling and blasting rock. Temporary sewer line installation will also

Although the plan was to begin the installation of the waterline, more ledge than expected at the bottom of the hill was discovered.

> continue. Once installed, the existing sewer line will be terminated so that any remaining ledge that is in the way for the new sewer line can be located and exposed for the drill rig to remove.

FY25 Education Spending per Weighted Pupil Comparison to Surrounding School Districts and State Average



Addison Central (Middlebury) passed March	\$16,099
Addison Northwest (Vergennes) revised	\$15,306
Rutland Town revised	\$13,666
Barstow revised	\$13,491
State average as of 4/18/24	\$13,294
Mill River passed March	\$12,909
Otter Valley revised	\$12,465
Rutland City passed March	\$12,408
Wells Spring passed March	\$11,973
Slate Valley UUSD revised	\$11,295
Quarry Valley UUSD passed March	\$10,686

Courtesy S;late Valley Unified Union School District

Chart shows a comparison of area school Districts cost per weighted pupil and how they compare to the state average (green). The Slate Valley district is among the lowest per weighted pupil spending, and hopes to pass its revised budget May 9.

Budget revotes: from page 1

the lifetime sports program, furniture costs and a decrease in legal fees — a result of the \$4 million infrastructure bond failure on Town Meeting Day.

The RTS Board held a meeting May 6 where it began to discuss the next version of the budget.

Otter Valley revote failed by 381

Otter Valley Unified Union (OVUU) School District's roughly \$27 million budget failed 638-1,019 on Tuesday a margin of 381. The original budget failed 891-1,325 — a margin of 434. The board had trimmed about \$269,000 from its original budget — a 1-cent reduction to the district's equalized tax rate from the original budget. But it still was 11.6% increase in spending over fiscal year 2024.

Reductions included of one late-run bus, a Neshobe School dean of students position and the district's Nordic ski team.

The school board held a meeting May 7 to discuss the next version of the budget.

Barstow revote failed by 60

Barstow's \$6.25 million budget failed 274-214 on Tuesday — a margin of 60, which is a larger margin than the first budget vote on Town Meeting Day, which failed by just 4 votes 375-379.

Approximately \$29,000 in cuts made at the RNESU assessment level from the original \$6.27 million budget. It still reflected an 11.6% increase over FY 2024. Several voters turned up at the district's informational meeting on April 22 to share their concerns about the school budget, noting that they felt overtaxed and that the school board could have done more to contain costs.

Board members stated that further cuts to the budget would likely be in the areas of athletics, busing, after-school activities, and field trips.

The next board meeting is scheduled for May 20 but a special meeting will likely be held prior to that date.

Slate Valley to revote May 9

Slate Valley's roughly \$31 million original budget failed 1,004-1,538 — a margin of 534. The original budget was up 10.57% over FY 2024 and reflected an education spending of \$11,384.63 per long-term weighted average daily membership (LTWADM).

The new budget proposed for a revote Thursday, May 9, is \$30,810,135, 9.81% over FY 2024 with a LTWADM of 11,294.83. \$211,500 was cut from the budget since the March vote. Cuts included three full-time instructional assistants, the removal of elementary school late buses and grant money.

The budget covers the five buildings that make up Slate Valley school district: Orwell Village School, Benson Village School, Castleton Elementary School, Fair Haven Graded School and Fair Haven Union Middle High School.

Vermont State University entrepreneurship students get knockout lesson in business

Tammy Landon gym owner and teacher shares entrepreneurial insights

In a unique fusion of academia and athleticism, Tammy Landon, a seasoned gym owner and entrepreneur, extended her knowledge to the classroom Tuesday evening April 30 as she welcomed Vermont State University instructor Chris Coughlin and his entrepreneurship students into her realm of fitness and business expertise at The Gymnasium on 11 Cottage Street in downtown Rutland.

The visit included a comprehensive tour of the gym, offering students insights into facility management and customer engagement strategies. Additionally, the students had the exhilarating opportunity to partake in a boxing lesson, adding a physical dimension to their entrepreneurial education.

During the visit to The Gymnasium, Landon, a teacher herself at Vermont State University, provided firsthand accounts of the trials and tribulations inherent in running a gym, navigating the entrepreneurial landscape and answered probing questions about her most challenging obstacles and greatest rewards as an entrepreneur. Landon discussed how the gym endured through the Covid pandemic, adding online fitness classes to maintain and gain memberships and most recently created "Knockout" boxing sessions that focuses on the fundamentals of boxing.

"We covered all of the trials and tribulations associated with being an entrepreneur," Landon remarked, reflecting on the immersive learning experience she facilitated for the students. Landon continued, "Boxing and entrepreneurship both require determination, strategy, and resilience. In both, you face challenges, setbacks, and opponents. Success often comes from adaptability, quick thinking, and the ability to seize opportunities. Just as a boxer must train hard to excel in







Courtesy Chris Coughlin

Top: Trainer John McCutcheon and first time boxer Cameron "C.C." Allembert a VTSU student, practice in The Gymnasium. Below left: Allembert, demonstrates a jab while shadow boxing. Below right: First time boxer Habs Coulter demonstrates a jab on the double end bag.

the ring, an entrepreneur must continuously learn and improve to succeed in business."

Once the class finished their tour, the students put the boxing gloves on and had a chance to experience a boxing session with seasoned trainers John McCutcheon, former heavy weight amateur boxer, as well as John Bottomms, hall of fame Jui Jitsu Master (10 Dan). The students got a crash course on hitting the heavy bag, speed bag, shadow boxing, jump roping, basic footwork and punch combinations. "Fun was had by all," Landon affirmed, emphasizing the enjoyable and enlightening nature of the experience for both herself and the visiting students. Knockout \rightarrow 10

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LOCAL NEWS · 3

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Polly Lynn Mikula	Editor & Publisher
Jason Mikula	Marketing Manager & Co-Publisher
Lindsey Rogers	. Marketing/Advertising Consultant
Pat Wise	Graphic Designer
Connor McGrath	Distribution Manager

Call 802-422-2399

Write to us: For news: editor@mountaintimes.info

For advertising: lindsey@mountaintimes.info

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Anglers help sought to evaluate a new Rainbow Trout strain in Vt

The Vermont Fish & Wildlife Dept. is again stocking a new strain of rainbow trout and is looking for help from anglers to evaluate its performance.

'Vermont stocks about 115,000 rainbow trout annually into inland rivers and lakes to provide recreational fishing opportunities for the public," said state fisheries biologist Lee Simard, April 30. "We are evaluating the new Eagle Lake strain of rainbow trout against our traditionally stocked Erwin-Arlee strain to ensure we are providing the highest quality fishery possible with these stocked trout. The Eagle Lake strain is currently stocked in many states including Maine and Michigan and could be a great fit for Vermont as well."

The two strains are the same species, but genetic differences can impact their behavior and performance. Both strains will be stocked side-by-side into 12 waterbodies across Vermont and will be compared based on their catchability, survivability and growth to see if the Eagle Lake Strain performs better after stocking.

The two strains look very similar but can be identified by a clipped ventral fin, the paired fins found on the underside of the fish about halfway along its body. A missing left fin indicates the new Eagle Lake strain while a missing right fin indicates the Erwin-Arlee strain.

"To help us evaluate the new Eagle Lake strain, we are asking anglers to report to us the rainbow trout they catch from the waterbodies included in this evaluation," said Simard. "Take a picture of the trout that clearly shows the missing fin. Then submit that picture and catch report on the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department website or by using the Vermont Outdoors app on your smartphone. Over half of our results in 2023 came from reports submitted directly by anglers. These reports



The map shows the 12 waters that the Eagle Lake strain will

be stocked in alongside the current Erwin-Arlee strain. By stocking both strains in the same waters, biologists will be able to directly compare the performance of each strain and determine whether a change in a rainbow trout strain will improve angler experience.

are critical and will directly influence our management of stocked rainbow trout in Vermont."

This is the final year the two strains will be stocked as part of this evaluation. A final decision about which strain will continue to be stocked in Vermont will be made in 2025.

For more information, including how to fill out a report and a complete list of the waterbodies included in the evaluation, visit: vtfishandwildlife.com/fish/fishing-events-andprograms/rainbow-trout-strain-evaluation.



Courtesy VTF&W

A missing left ventral fin indicates the new Eagle Lake strain of rainbow trout being stocked shown here while a missing right fin indicates the Erwin-Arlee strain.



As part of the Killington Forward Initiative, the Town of Killington is reconstructing Killington Road, a town highway, between U.S. Route 4 and Anthony Way. The reconstruction work requires the Town to acquire temporary construction easements and permanent easements in the manner depicted below, which is excerpted from a two-sheet survey plan entitled "Temporary and Permanent Easements, Killington Road Phase 1B Project, U.S. Route 4 to Anthony Way Segment", prepared by Vermont Survey Consultants, LLC as Project Number 2023-016, dated March 26, 2023, last revised May 27, 2023 (the "Survey"), over the real property identified by the Town as Parcel 22-155, SPAN 588-185-10936 (the "Premises"), which is owned by Eva Nagymihaly and Theresa Rust by deeds dated December 26, 1995 and recorded in Volume 150 at Page 22 and dated November 19, 2012 and recorded in Volume 332 at Page 516, both of the Town of Killington Land Records. The Premises

are located at the intersection of U.S. Route 4 and Killington Road.

This Notice is being provided in accordance with 19 V.S.A. § 709. On May 20, 2024 at 9:00 a.m., the Selectboard will examine the Premises, and on May 20, 2024 at 9:30 a.m. the Selectboard will convene and conduct a public hearing at the Public Safety Building at which the Selectboard will receive testimony from the owners of the Premises and will determine whether the public good, necessity, and convenience of the inhabitants of the Town of Killington require the reconstruction work to proceed as described and, if so determined, to fix reasonable compensation therefor.

Please contact the Town Manager, Michael Ramsey at townmanager@ killingtontown.com, or call 802-558-5252, for more information or to obtain a copy of the Survey. The Survey is also available for inspection in the office of the Town Clerk.





Courtesy Killington Resort

Resort events line-up:

The action kicks off on Memorial Day weekend with the Total Archery Challenge at Pico Mountain and the Killington Stage Race culminating in Killington.

Signature events include the Fox U.S. Open of Mountain Biking and the Killington Wine Festival, and the action continues all the way through October with the annual Harvest Faire during Indigenous People's Weekend.

All summer long, bikers will enjoy regular Bike Bum races every Wednesday afternoon beginning June 29 and the Divas of Dirt group rides every other Friday. Golfers can join the League Nights on Thursdays beginning June 13 and play in tournaments including the Killington Classic on Sept. 20. Everyone is invited to hear great live music with the return of Cooler in the Mountains, the popular free summer concert series located on the lawn at Snowshed every Saturday starting June 29.

Killington is also proud to sponsor community events

this summer including the Girls on the Run 5K in Manchester, VT on June 8, the AJGA Golf Tournament at the Green Mountain National Golf Course on June 17-20 and the Rutland Pride Festival on June 22.

Killington Resort announced its packed summer events lineup Tuesday, May 7. Mountain biking, road races, golf, archery, obstacle course racing, live music, wine... options abound!

Summer 2024 events lineup

- Friday-Sunday, May 24-26: Total Archery Challenge
- Saturday-Monday, May 25-27: Killington Stage Race
- Saturday, June 1: Play Forever Mountain Clean-Up
- Thursdays, June 13-Aug. 29: Golf League Nights
- Wednesdays, June 19- Aug. 21: Bike Bum Race Series
- Every other Friday, June 28-Sept. 13: Divas of Dirt
- Group Rides
 Saturday-Sunday, June 29-30: Maxxis Eastern States Cup: Thule Showdown
- Saturdays, June 29-July 20: Killington Music Festival: Music in the Mountains

- Saturdays, June 29-Aug. 31: Cooler in the Mountains Concert Series
- Friday, July 12: Play for Your Freedom
- Friday-Saturday, July 19-20: Killington Wine Festival
- Friday, August 2: Not So Chilly Golf Tournament
- Friday-Sunday, Aug. 23-25: Foundation Women's Freeride Progression Weekend
- Sunday, Aug. 25: Vermont Mountain Bike Association (VMBA) Day at Killington
- Saturday-Sunday, Sept. 14-15: Spartan Race
- Friday, Sept. 20: Killington Classic Golf Tournament
- Saturday, Sept. 21: Killington Brewfest
- Thursday-Sunday, Sept. 26-29: Fox US Open of Mountain Biking
- Saturday, Oct. 12: Harvest Faire
- For more information, visit: Killington.com/events.



Vermont Senate passes Act 250 reform bill after whirlwind debate

It's not the end of the road for the bill, which seeks to make major changes to the state's half-century-old land use law

By Carly Berlin

Editor's note: This story, by Report for America corps member Carly Berlin, was produced through a partnership between VTDigger and Vermont Public.

After a flurry of last-minute deliberations, the Vermont Senate passed a mammoth bill on Friday afternoon, May 3, that makes sweeping reforms to the state's land use and housing policies.

The bill, H.687, relaxes the reach of Act 250 — Vermont's half-century-old land use review law— in existing developed centers, a move proponents hope will clear red tape and encourage more housing growth amid an acute housing shortage. It also lays the groundwork for extending Act 250's protections over to-be-determined ecologically sensitive areas.

The bill's passage marks a major juncture for legislators, who for years have attempted — and failed — to thread the needle on modernizing Act 250. Proponents of H.687 argue it strikes the right balance between protecting Vermont's natural resources in an era of climate change while also lowering barriers to more housing development.

"I hope that we can all look ahead and celebrate both the places that we've allowed to further thrive, the people that we've allowed to live here," said Sen. Kesha Ram Hinsdale, D/P-Chitten-

H.687... creates a new property transfer tax on second homes, expected to bring in about \$10 million. den Southeast, before voting in favor of the bill late Friday. "And also the places that we love and care about, that we get to still gaze upon and celebrate. And that's truly what makes us Vermont."

Yet the bill has more hurdles to clear. The Senate made fundamental changes to the version passed by the House in March; as lawmakers race toward a planned adjournment date of May 10, time is running out for the two chambers to reconcile their differences.

And as lawmakers consider their next moves, they also face the possibility of a veto from Gov. Phil Scott. The Republican governor has criticized earlier versions of H.687, arguing that it does not go far enough to promote housing development, particularly in rural areas. The Senate passed H.687 with 18 votes in favor and 10 against, making the likelihood of a veto override — which requires a two-thirds majority — questionable.

Who should hear Act 250 appeals?

One of the Senate's major changes to the bill involves who will hear appeals of Act 250 permits. The Senate's version keeps appeals in the judicial system, while teeing up a study to consider moving appeals out of the courts and to a new quasi-judicial board.

"There's no reason to make a decision now," Sen. Christopher Bray, D-Addison, told colleagues during an all-Senate caucus yesterday. He noted that moving appeals to the new board had arisen as a contentious issue, and proposed the study instead.

The House's version of H.687 would have shifted appeals to such a board, modeled after the Public Utility Commission. Proponents argue that shifting appeals out of the courts would speed up the process, and allow the new board to make precedent-setting decisions on policies.

The Senate's approval of a study appears as something of a concession to the Scott administration, which has voiced its strong opposition to shifting appeals to the new board. Officials have argued that the move would in fact increase the time it takes a developer to get a permit and potentially increase development costs.

Housing policies in the mix

H.687 sets in motion a yearslong process to chop Vermont into a series of "tiers" that will dictate how development is treated under Act 250, loosening the law's reach in some municipalities and strengthening its protections over "critical natural resources areas."

Yet the actual boundaries of those tiers are largely left up to future mapping and rulemaking efforts. In the meantime, the bill sets up a number of interim exemptions from Act 250, including one for all housing projects within the state's 24 designated downtown areas through July 2028, and up to 50 units in dozens of village centers around the state.

The sprawling bill — which multiple senators lamented they had not had enough time to fully read and comprehend — includes a laundry list of other housing policies and money for programs outside of the Act 250 realm.

It creates a new property transfer tax on second homes, expected to bring in about \$10 million this coming year. It places a property tax valuation freeze on some newly constructed and rehabbed homes in areas impacted by last year's catastrophic flooding. The bill also includes flood disclosure requirements for home purchases, rental agreements, and mobile home lot leases.

A last-minute amendment Friday would have placed a temporary moratorium on nocause evictions in municipalities that have already voted to approve the protections for tenants, but have faced roadblocks at the State House. The amendment failed, though, as senators considered it not to be pertinent to the bill.

H.687 will now be sent back to the House, and leadership can decide to either concur with the Senate's changes or request a conference committee to allow members of the two chambers to hash out their differences.

Vt Senate passes modernized Renewable Energy Standard

Tuesday, May 7, the Vermont Senate passed H.289, to modernize the Renewable Energy Standard and set Vermont on a path to delivering 100% renewable electricity across all the state's utilities by 2035.

This would make Vermont only the second state to meet that critical benchmark, and would significantly increase the requirements for Vermont utilities to support the deployment of new renewable energy. The bill will now head to the governor.

If enacted into law, H.289 will be the first major update to the Renewable Energy Standard in almost a decade. It represents the largest single move towards renewable electricity and away from fossil fueled power that Vermont has ever taken, by a wide margin. In terms of cutting carbon pollution, this bill will be the equivalent of taking approximately 160,000-250,000 cars off the road, for good.

"Vermonters have made clear over and over again that addressing the climate crisis must be a priority, and that the status quo is simply unacceptable," said Ben Edgerly Walsh, Climate and Energy Program director for VPIRG. "The incredibly strong vote for this bill is yet another sign that Vermont legislators have heard that message loud and clear. We deeply appreciate all the hard work Vermont representatives have done to make this bill a reality."

Peter Sterling, executive director of Renewable Energy Vermont, stated: "Today's vote shows that most Senators agree that increasing our reliance on renewable energy makes sense both environmentally and economically. Many thanks to Senator Chris Bray and Senator Anne Watson for their leadership and hard work on this bill in the Senate."

H.289 would:

- Double the amount of new renewables Vermont utilities are required to build in the state – particularly small and medium-sized renewables – from 10% to 20% of the electricity they deliver. This is expected to be met mostly with new solar energy.
- Create a new requirement for Vermont utilities to provide their customers with additional, new renewable energy of any size from anywhere in the region. This requirement is over and above the in-state requirement described above an additional 20% by 2035 for Green Mountain Power, and an additional 10% by 2035 for Vermont's other utilities.
- Require all Vermont utilities to provide 100% renewable electricity to their customers by 2030 for Green Mountain Power and Vermont Electric Coop, and by 2035 for others.

"VNRC deeply appreciates the leadership of Senate members who voted today to ensure that Vermont curates the cleanest grid possible, as more Vermonters lean into electricity for heating, transportation and power needs," said Johanna Miller, energy and climate program director at Vermont Natural Resources Council. "On the heels of yet another record-breaking warm year, this foundation is essential to ensure Vermont does its part to cut planet-warming pollution while also saving Vermonters significantly over time with far more efficient energy resources."

The bill also phases out offsite or "virtual" net metering — a program that had potential to be a scalable opportunity for all Vermonters to participate in community solar but unfortunately never fully lived up to that potential. The bill requires an analysis and recommendations on a "successor program" to offsite group net metering that surpasses current or future options available to Vermonters who are currently unable to install solar on their properties.

Other important changes in the bill are: • Adding efficiency and lifecycle green-

- house gas accounting metrics that significantly limit — and in most cases prohibit — eligibility of new biomass plants to meet the Renewable Energy Standard's requirements.
- Preventing power from any newly-flooded lands by Hydro Quebec from being labeled a new renewable.
- Changing from a "one size fits all" requirement for utilities to renewable requirements tailored to the individual needs of Vermont's smaller rural co-ops and municipal utilities in order to help control costs for ratepayers.

Vanessa Rule, co-director and Lead Organizer of 350VT, shared: "Community conversations across the state and the ensuing grassroots support for this bill show that many Vermonters want truly clean and just electricity. Now we need to get to work meeting the new goals with a strong community solar program, well-sited projects that protect farmland and ecosystems, and ensure this electricity is affordable and available for everyone. We look forward to building on this important first step and thank the legislature for its hard work."

"Reforming Vermont's RES is the lynchpin to the state's ability to reduce carbon pollution. As more people transition to electric vehicles and heat pumps, we will need to build more clean, renewable electricity sources," said CLF Vice President Elena Mihaly.

Lauren Hierl, executive director of Vermont Conservation Voters, added, "After the recent flooding and other climate disasters facing Vermont communities, it's encouraging that Vermont is on the cusp of adopting one of the most ambitious renewable energy standards in the country. This bill is an important step in Vermont's efforts to cut climate pollution and leave a better Vermont for future generations."

A gamble?

Despite my reputation at the State House as a promoter of our annual March Mad-

ness pool and making a couple of announcements about the adjournment pool, I am not a gambler. If you ever saw me in a casino during my former career attending a conference, at best, you may have found me at the nickel slot machine (which they probably don't even have now).

I share this as to why I voted against the so called "Make Big Oil Pay" legislation, S.259. While it passed by wide margins in

both the House and Senate, I worry about the financial risk the state is taking with the bill. It sets up a climate cost recovery fund and allows Vermont to sue oil producers for damages stemming from climate change over the past 20 years. While we have seen the impacts of climate change firsthand with significant storms and flooding, the issue will likely end up in court for years to come and the potential liability to Vermont could be enormous.

Not only will Vermont need to front its own legal costs and hire various experts to back up its claims, but the state could also be on the hook for the defendants' legal bills if it loses the case on constitutional grounds. While Vermont might ultimately win and receive millions, we could also lose, as some legal experts believe, which will cost the state millions. As no other state has passed similar legislation, it's just too big a gamble for our taxpayers, in my view.

By the end of last week, it was looking more like the Legislature would finish its work this week as scheduled. Much can happen that could cause the session to spill over to next week, including reaching agreement on the education tax bill. However, budget negotiators reportedly will have an outline of an agreement to present early this week. Once that happens, a signal is sent to the rest of the Legislature, we are days away from completion.

This risk-taking gambler has a few bets on finishing May 10! (The \$2 wagers in the adjournment pool benefit ongoing flood relief efforts.)

Other issues of interest:

- The Senate will be taking up its version of the Education Finance bill, H.887, this week. As passed by the House, the bill adds the sales tax to online software and increases the rooms tax on short term rentals. There are no cost containment provisions in the bill, although a task force of various education groups is established to report back to the Legislature with recommendations over the next 18 months.
- The House approved the bi-annual Pay Act legislation, H.889. The bill is introduced every two years to approve and appropriate the funds



Harrison

necessary for the negotiated contract with state employees and give corresponding raises

to exempt employees (statewide officers, commissioners, judges, etc.). The union negotiated contract includes a 4.5% salary increase July 1 plus an average 1.9% STEP increase for a total 6.4% increase on average.

• On Friday, the Senate approved its version of

H.687, Act 250 changes and housing. The controversial change in an earlier reversion of Act 250 appeals was replaced with a study on the issue. The Senate also added a new property transfer tax rate of 2.5% on second homes.

- Governor Scott signed into law a change allowing developers an option to use purchaser escrow deposits for construction if they protect the buyer with a surety bond. The Legislation was introduced by me and co-sponsored by most of the Rutland area delegation.
- The House approved S.102, that allows employees to opt out of employer meetings that they may deem religious or political.

As no other state has passed similar legislation, it's just too big a gamble for our taxpayers, in my view.

- The Senate approved H.72, which allows the establishment of a safe injection site in Burlington. The bill is opposed by Gov. Scott, although legislative leaders may have the votes to override an expected veto. The Senate will be taking up H.289, which is the renewable energy bill, this week. The Public Service Dept.
- has expressed concern over the expected increase in costs to electric ratepayers, which are estimated to be between \$150 and \$450 million over the next 10 years.
- Vermont Fuel Dealers have petitioned the Public Utility Commission to set a date the new clean heat standard would begin if given the green light by the Legislature next January. Dealers indicate not without knowing an effective date could limit their ability to offer pre-buy heating fuel options for next winter.

Jim Harrison is the state representative for Chittenden, Killington, Mendon, and Pittsfield. He can be reached at JHarrison@ leg.state.vt.us or harrisonforvermont.com.

Legislators debating bill to stem repeat shoplifters and clear up court backlogs

By Norah White, Community News Service

Editor's note: The Community News Service is a program in which University of Vermont students work with professional editors to provide content for local news outlets at no cost. Lawmakers are weighing a bill to punish repeat shoplifters who otherwise would only

face a string of misdemeanors — a move to discourage rising retail theft and clear court backlogs the state has been facing since the Covid-19 pandemic. The bill, H.534, passed the House last month and is now being discussed in the Senate

 — one step closer to becoming law, though senators are looking at an alternative way to curb the same problem.

Currently, if someone steals less than \$900 worth of merchandise from a store, a misdemeanor, they face up to \$500 in fines and six months in prison. Someone who shoplifts more than \$900 worth of goods, a felony, faces up to \$1,000 in fines and 10 years in prison. To avoid risking the felony while still stealing more than \$900 worth of merchandise in a short "It's also very disheartening for the general public who sees or hears about the same individuals disrupting their community," Notte said.

span, a clever thief could shoplift \$899 in goods from one store, then do the same at another. The bill would create a new penalty targeting shoplifters who steal multiple things in one county within a two-week period. If the combined value of the stolen goods exceeds \$900, an offender would face the same level of fines and imprisonment as the current felony.

The change would have a couple of predicted effects, backers say: clearing court system backlogs and discouraging repeat shoplifters.

Since the outbreak of Covid-19 in early 2020, judges and attorneys have been working through a large backlog of cases, said Rep. William Notte, D-Rutland, one of the sponsors of the bill.

Because of the backlogs, there have been instances where a person could rack up multiple retail theft charges in the timeframe before their court date, Notte said.

Notte, who manages Phoenix Books in Rutland, says it is disheartening to see or hear about shoplifting. "It's also very disheartening for the general public who sees or hears about the same individuals disrupting their community," Notte said.

He said the bill could discourage repeat offenders who right now may only face "several slaps on the wrist with the misdemeanor charge."

Shoplifting bill $\rightarrow 10$

Grants offered to support music in Vermont schools

Governor Phil Scott and Ernie Boch Jr. today announced, Monday, April 15, the launch of a new grant program aimed at supporting music programs in Vermont schools. The program will be run in coordination with Mr. Boch's foundation, Music Drives Us (MDU), a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that strives to inspire New England's musicians of tomorrow by supporting their music opportunities today.

"Supporting music and the creative spirit of Vermont's students is critical," said Governor Scott. "I'm so grateful to Ernie for stepping up and providing this exciting opportunity for students across Vermont, and I look forward to seeing what they come up with."

"I hope this grant from my foundation, Music Drives Us, provides a sense of excitement and inspiration to the students of Vermont," said Ernie Boch Jr. "At MDU, we are committed to keeping music in our schools. After last year's challenges from the flooding, the need is greater than ever to refresh the music programs in your schools. This donation will allow young Vermonters to continue their artistic passions and spread a little happiness in the classroom, in their homes and across the great Green Mountain State."

Boch will contribute \$100,000 to support music in Vermont schools.

Students or music classes are encouraged to get creative with their applications, talk about their needs and how grant funding would impact their program or initiative. Creating videos is encouraged.

"Music is a powerful way to foster students' creativity," said Secretary of Education Zoie Saunders. "Music builds skills and ways of thinking that students bring to their learning in academics, the arts and beyond. These grants will help strengthen and grow valuable music programs for our students."

The program will offer grants up to \$10,000. The application went live April 15 and close Monday, May 13. Award recipients will be announced by the end of the school year.

For more information visit: musicdrivesus.org/music-drives-us-vermont-grant.

GUEST EDITORIAL

H.289: Good intentions on renewables but one big flaw

Opinion

By David Blittersdorf

Editor's note: Dave Blittersdorf is the president of All Earth Renewables in Bristol.

The Vermont General Assembly — in attempt to move the state to 100% renewable energy — is making changes to how the state's utilities buy energy. Within the next couple of weeks, the Senate Natural Resources Committee will consider H. 289, a bill to require the state's utilities to buy 100% renewable energy.

This is known as the Renewable Energy Standard law. States around Vermont have been updating their own laws in this area and Vermont is following suit as we all take part in the transformation from a fossil fuel economy to a one powered by renewables.

The bill has already passed the House and has strong support from utilities and the environmental community.

As someone who has spent his life promoting and building the renewable energy system in Vermont, I am in complete agreement that 100% renewable energy is a must.

However, there is a major flaw in H.289 that threatens Vermont renewable energy jobs and the ability of Vermonters to participate in the benefits of community solar power projects. The bill eliminates a tried and true mechanism called "group net metering." It sounds wonky, but group net metering is the only meaningful way in which Vermont customers who do not have their own solar sites can have direct access to solar energy.

Elimination of this mechanism will drive Vermont solar companies out of state to New York and other nearby states. It will stall in-state development of solar and take away the benefits of solar to affordable housing developers, schools and others.

Imagine a housing developer building a project. They want to power the project with solar energy. But the roof isn't big enough to hold enough solar panels to do the job. Group net meGroup net metering is the only meaningful way in which Vermont customers who do not have their own solar sites can have direct access to solar energy.

tering allows the developer to partner with a Vermont solar company to build a solar project elsewhere in the state and buy the energy from that project at a discount. H.289 would eliminate that program.

With so much going on in the world and the H.289 bill over 40 pages long, we are concerned that many Vermonters, and perhaps even some of our conscientious legislators, have missed this very negative part of the bill. More than anything else, the transformation to renewable energy requires that projects of all types and sizes be built. We need all kinds of projects, not just the speculative utility-based projects outside Vermont.

H.289 takes away one of Vermont's most successful programs and replaces it with nothing. While utilities have expressed cost-related concerns about your direct access to Vermont-generated solar, net metering rates have in fact come down for newer projects and are fully regulated by the Vermont Public Utility Commission.

Net metering $\rightarrow 10$



LETTERS

Act 127 made progress; but excess spending threshold could undermine it

Dear Editor,

As the Chair of the Burlington School District (BSDVT) School Board, I am fortunate to witness firsthand the profound impact of educational policies on our diverse community. Among these policies, Act 127 stands out as a beacon of progress in our continuous effort to achieve equity and finally address the inequity across Vermont's schools.

However, while we navigate the benefits of such transformative legislation, we also face potential challenges that could undermine our efforts, such as the discussions around the excess spending threshold.

Act 127 was a significant milestone passed with the intent to rectify the longstanding disparities in educational funding. By recalibrating the funding formula to more accurately reflect the needs of today's students—particularly those in economically disadvantaged or culturally diverse districts like ours—it promises to level the playing field. This act is crucial for Burlington, where our student population is incredibly diverse, with 63% of our students facing basic needs challenges as well as New Americans who bring a wealth of culture but also face unique educational challenges.

The success of Act 127 in promoting equity is something to be celebrated and protected. As such, while there is talk of reinstating the excess spending threshold—a policy that could restrict the ability of districts to spend beyond a certain limit—I urge caution. It is essential that any modifications to financial policies are considered through the lens of their long-term impact on educational equity. The excess spending threshold, if not handled carefully, could potentially penalize those it was designed to protect by capping necessary funding in districts that are just beginning to find their footing with the passage of Act 127.

Indeed, financial prudence is vital, and we must ensure that taxpayer dollars are spent wisely. However, Act $127 \rightarrow 10$

Bird Flu threatens nation's dairy supply

Dear Editor, The deadly flu virus is not

The deadly flu virus is not just "for the birds" anymore! The USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service has just decreed

that dairy cows must be tested for the deadly bird flu, which has already killed millions of chickens in the

The unprecedented transmission of the H5N1 virus to cows has drawn public health concerns because cows are mammals, just like humans.

Although the precise cause of the outbreak remains uncertain, the horrendous conditions in today's factory farms make egg and dairy production extremely vulnerable to disease outbreaks. Sick, crowded, highly stressed animals in contact with contaminated feces and urine provide ideal incubation media for viruses.

Indeed, 61% of the 1,415 pathogens known to infect humans originate with animals. These include Asian flu, dengue fever, Ebola, bird flu, HIV, West Nile fever, yellow fever, and the more recent Covid-19 pandemic. Bird Flu \rightarrow 10

Support the Slate Valley Unified School District

Dear Editor,

With another vote coming up for the Slate Valley Unified School District I am writing to appeal to "Yes" voters and those on the fence to please turn out and vote. Our district will need over 1,000 "Yes" votes, or around 200 per town to effectively pass our school budget, on this third try. We need to focus and fund our schools.

Voting "Yes" on a school budget has always been one of the least complicated civic decisions I regularly make. I trust the imperfect process. I trust that the administrators, the teachers, the unions, the volunteers and the legislators who take the time to put an annual budget together, are operating from a place of love and mutual respect. Respect to circumstance and need. And why not?

I am a property owner, a have sent three of my children to these schools. (Easily \$120k per pupil or more). I want educational opportunities, financial gains and agency for all

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CAPITOL QUOTES

News from the Middle East has been coming in fast and furious... and headlines seem to change within hours. Recently, Israel ordered 100,000 civilians out of Rafah in the prelude to invasion, then Hamas "accepts" cease-fire deal, potentially precluding invasion, then Israel conducts strikes against Rafah, possibly opening invasion... The war and its on-off-onagain developments on Monday left White House officials scrambling to track what was happening and what it all meant.

"Biden is continuing all efforts to thread multiple needles at once,"

said **Mara Rudman**, a former deputy Middle East special envoy under President Barack Obama who is now at the University of Virginia's Miller Center.

"They have gone crazy, tanks are firing shells and smoke bombs cover the skies and with smoke over Al-Salam and Jneinah neighborhoods,"

said Emad Joudat, 55, a Gaza city resident displaced in Rafah according to Reuters.

"The occupation forces attacking Rafah crossing is a crime and a serious and dangerous escalation against a civilian facility that is under the protection of international law," Hamdan said at a news briefing in Beirut...Invading and attacking the Rafah crossing by [Israeli forces] with predetermination by Netanyahu is an attempt to hinder the implementation of the agreement to stop the attack on our people. It's a desperate attempt to create a pseudo-victory that can save some face for Netanyahu. This will never be achieved."

Said Hamas spokesperson **Osama Hamdan** according to AlJazeera.

"Yesterday, they celebrated and said there's a cease-fire, but Israel doesn't agree. It doesn't want one,"

said **Amal al-Dirby**, as she named off at least nine relatives killed by the airstrike according to NPR.

LETTERS

Bernie Sanders announces run for re-election to U.S. Senate

Dear Editor,

Editor's note: Senator Bernie Sanders, 82, (I-Vermont) announced May 6 that he will seek a fourth term to the U.S. Senate. His time in the Senate, along with his previous 16 years in the House of Representatives, makes him the longest-serving independent Member of Congress in American history. What follows is an excerpt from a video Monday, May 6, announcing his run.

Let me thank the people of Vermont, from the bottom of my heart, for giving me the opportunity to serve in the United States Senate. It has been the honor of my life.



Bernie Sanders

As the Chairman of the Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee; as part of the U.S. Senate Democratic Leadership team; as a senior member of the Veterans Committee, the Budget Committee, and the Environment and Public Works Committee, I have been, and will be if re-elected, in a strong position to provide the kind of help that Vermonters need in these difficult times.

In recent years, working together, we have made important progress in addressing some very serious challenges. But much, much more needs to be done if we are to become the state, and the nation, that our people deserve.

Together, we have made Vermont the leading state in the country in terms of per Sanders $\rightarrow 10$

Gregory Thayer announces candidacy for lieutenant governor

Dear Editor,

My name is Gregory Thayer and in Fall of 2024, I am a candidate for the position of Lieutenant Governor of this great state of Vermont.

Every Vermonter needs to know that with the current leadership in Montpelier, the future of Vermont looks bleak, and we are traveling down a stormy road. My goal is to create a different, a better future for the Green Mountain State.

Why am I running for lieutenant governor? Because (and I'll bet most Vermonters don't know this)



Gregory Thayer

the lieutenant governor can work with the Administration to best manage the state as well as presiding over the legislation in the state Senate. It's really the only role of government that works on both ends of the street... and that's critical to righting our ship of state which right now is headed right into a bad storm.

Vermont is increasing taxes (up to 20% on property next year alone). Renters, I know you don't pay property tax. They charge your landlords an extra 25%, and believe me, your landlord will increase your rent up to take care of the payment. State government is regulating Vermonters into the poorhouse, with inflation up 18% in three years.

Lieutenant Governor David Zuckerman announces bid for re-election

Dear Editor,

With 24 years of public service experience, I'm not done fighting for Vermonters, which is why I'm seeking re-election in 2024. I will use this campaign as an opportunity to discuss key issues with folks impacted by the state's most difficult challenges.

This is a critical moment for our state. Vermont is becoming less affordable for working families. We face a housing crisis, a climate emergency, and rising regressive property taxes that are crushing working class



David Zuckerman

people. As Vermonters suffer, our healthcare system costs continue to rise at unsustainable rates. In the face of continued threats to our democracy, we must come together.

We need leadership that works with our communities to find solutions and that is what I have been doing in Montpelier as a state representative, state senator, and as your lieutenant governor.

I've been in this struggle for a long time, and I'm dedicated to building a Vermont where everyone can thrive. I ask for your support so we can do that together.

David Zuckerman, Hinesburg

10 · OPINION

Net metering:

from page 8

This is a critical issue for our Vermont energy future. I sent a letter to the chair of the Senate Natural Resources Committee (to read it, head online to tinyurl. com/blittersdorf-bray-letter). It has been a decades-long effort to secure your direct right to purchase solar energy

to meet your needs. I hope you will join me and contact your Vermont Senators today. Their contact information can be found online at Vermont Legislative Senate Contacts.

Vermont needs a community-based solar energy program for everyone. I sincerely hope H.289 takes away one of Vermont's most successful programs and replaces it with nothing.

the Senate Natural Resources committee will amend the bill to preserve group net metering before passing the overall legislation.

H. 289 has the right goals. But getting rid of community based solar programs is not the way to go.

Slate Valley: from page 8

of the children and young adults in this community. I want to go to work and know my children are well taken care of. Why not?

I am not naïve. I know when and how to "manage" and micro-manage. A personal budget is full of intended and unintended expenses and we operate in a financial vortex, seemingly beyond our control. It is worth remembering, we can make personal agency with our money, there are unexpected expenses and "screw ups" (life taxes) and there

Act 127: from page 8

we must also recognize that the path to equity is multifaceted. It involves understanding the unique needs of each district and ensuring that they have the resources to meet these needs. As we discuss the excess spending threshold, let's ensure that our decisions do not inadvertently halt the progress we are making towards a more equitable educational landscape.

I believe in a Vermont where every child has access to quality education that meets their specific needs, regardless of their background or where they live. Act 127 has started us on this path with modernized pupil weights and an equitable funding formula.

are deliberate empowered "choices." Personally and imperfectly when I pay my annual school tax I deliberately choose to contribute to the care and enthusiasm of our young learners. I am also choosing (imperfectly) to thank the educators in our community who offer the day to day care and love. And I am choosing to thank and respect the students who attend school and try to bring their best 40 hours a week.

Thank you. Scott Greene, Orwell

As we move forward, let's continue to champion policies that uphold this vision and approach changes like the excess spending threshold with a careful, equity-focused perspective.

Let's work together legislators, educators, and community members—to maintain the momentum towards true educational equity. It's a goal worth pursuing with both passion and caution, ensuring that all Vermont students have the opportunity to succeed in a supportive and fair learning environment. Respectfully,

Clare K. Wool, Burlington Editor's note: Clare Wool is the chairperson of the Burlington School Board.

from page 9

Vermonters know it, and the so-called leaders don't seem to care what "We the People" say about it.

The so-called lawmakers running amok at the State House do not get it. One socialist Senator suggested that those who don't accept the liberal agenda shouldn't even get a voice in the debate...we all know that's wrong.

State government now accounts for 10% of the state GDP alone, by itself. The biggest business in Vermont is the government. Is that what you really want?

The No. 1 economic sector in Vermont is real estate prices, including the rents. We all know those are going up at incredible rates. Still think Vermont's government is doing a good job? Maybe if you're a real estate billionaire, I'm not. House and Senate leader's need to lower taxes and cut spending together with lifting some regulations to start our state economy.

Regulatory burdens and mandates in Vermont are out of control. The economic demands placed on the private sector here are seemingly limitless if you ask the state Legislature. Gas taxes are up 33% in the

> The biggest business in Vermont is the government. Is that what you really want?

past 10 years. Housing prices have skyrocketed from \$200,000 just 10 years ago to \$400,000 today, no wonder our kids are relocating out of state. How is the future looking under Vermont Democrats now?

The New Home Heating Act and Global Warming Act are supposed to lower your heating costs, by forcing you to pay for a whole new heating system for your home. So, you should be saving money by 2050... if you don't freeze to death in the meantime or starve paying for the new equipment or surcharges on every gallon of fuel. Wait until you hear what the wizards in Montpelier have planned for your car. They adopted the "California Standards," which ban the sale of gasoline cars by 2030. The current Legislature is letting California run Vermont 2030, remember, that's six years away, folks. Time is running short, and we're going right over a cliff.

How are you going to pay for all these increases?

There's a real solution to all this, though, and its easy. I call it Article I. It's in the Vermont Constitution. It says:

"All persons are born equally free and independent, and have certain natural, inherent, and unalienable rights, amongst which are the enjoying and defending life and liberty, acquiring, possessing and protecting property, and pursuing and obtaining happiness and safety."

Does it sound like the priorities in Montpelier square with what's in the Vermont Constitution? Does it sound like the economy in Vermont is headed that way? Does it sound like the schools, infected as they are with critical race theory and "wokism" are?

> Does it seem as if safety in Vermont is in good hands now? That the futures of our children are in good hands, both those born and unborn still?

I can't say that it does right now. We can fix that. I'm going to walk with you. I will need your help. I need you to talk to your neighbors, families and friends. I need you to help me get to the lieutenant governor's office this year. In exchange, I will pledge to support your rights, your opportunities, your happiness and your liberty.

With this, I am announcing my candidacy for the Republican nomination for Vermont lieutenant governor 2024.

Gregory M. Thayer, Rutland

Bird Flu: from page 8

Each of us can help end animal farming and build up our own health by replacing animal products with delicious, healthy, cruelty-free, eco-friendly plant-based meats, cheeses, and ice creams offered by

Knockout:

our favorite supermarket. These foods don't carry flu viruses, or government warning labels. They may have been the preferred fare in the Garden of Eden. *Mario Vincelette, Rutland*

from page 3 Reflecting on the experience, Coughlin commended Landon for her invaluable contributions to the students' learning journey. "Tammy's insights into entrepreneurship and her practical approach to business management provided our students with a unique perspective that will undoubt-

edly benefit them in their future endeavors," Coughlin stated.

One of the students. Brayden Jourden, echoed Coughlin's sentiments, expressing gratitude for the opportunity to learn from Landon. "It was inspiring to see someone like Tammy who not only excels in her field but also takes the time to share her knowledge with aspiring entrepreneurs like us," Brayden remarked. As the boundaries between academia

"Tammy's insights into entrepreneurship and her practical approach to business management provided our students with a unique perspective that will undoubtedly benefit them in their future endeavors," Coughlin stated.

and real-world experiences blur, innovative initiatives like the collaboration between Landon and Coughlin exemplify the power of hands-on learning in shaping the entrepreneurs of tomorrow. With Coughlin's mentorship and guidance, these students are well-equipped to navigate the challenges and triumphs of the entrepreneurial journey ahead.

Shoplifting bill:

Retail theft in Vermont is up from pre-pandemic levels, according to FBI data presented in a report to legislators. In 2019 there were 2,022 incidents of retail theft, compared to 2,416 in 2022, the memo says.

Another report given to lawmakers shows about 58% of repeat retail theft offenders were charged with a new retail theft offense within 30 days of their first charge, based on data from the Vermont Judiciary spanning 2018 to 2023. Most of the new offenses came within 10 days of the first, according to the report.

On average, people convicted of misdemeanor retail theft served about 11 days at minimum, according to the report on Vermont Judiciary data. Those convicted of the felony served an average minimum of just over 7 ½ months, the report says.

The bill is now in the Senate Committee on Judiciary, where lawmakers are considering a slightly different approach. An amendment by Sen. Phil Baruth, D/P-Chittenden-Central, would split the penalty for stealing less than \$900 worth of merchandise and scrap the two-week timespan.

First-time offenders would face up to \$500 in fines and 30 days in prison. Second-time offenders would face up to \$1,000 and six months. By someone's third offense, the fine would increase to \$1,500 max, and they'd face up to three years in prison. Upon a fourth offense, a person would face up to \$2,500 and 10 years in prison.



Rutland Regional Medical Center



The Mountain Times • May 8-14, 2024

	WORDPLAY TASTY SALAD WORD SEARCH Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally and back																		
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CROSSWORD PUZZLE

CLUES ACROSS 48. Senior officer 1. It wakes you to music up 6. A place to 51. The bill in a sleep restaurant 9. Czech village 13. Appetizer of Artois region 14. African 54. Cyprinid country fishes 15. Dark brown or 56. Poisonous perennial plant black 16. Parent-teacher groups 61. Heads 17. Saturates 62. Extra 18. ESPN personseed-covering ality Kimes 63. Wings 19. Songs to a 65. Forearm lover 21. Cavalry-sword bones 22. Begat 66. Small imma-23. Patriotic ture herring women 24. Famed Prin-68. Hymn cess 25. One who does CLUES DOWN not conform 1. Vipers 28. Neither 2. Not on time 29. Nigerian monetary unit wing or wings 31. Body parts 4. Tears down 33. Hit Dave Mat-5. Professional thews Band song designation 36. Depicts with pencil made 38. Make into leather without tannin of 39. Plants grow from them again 41. Alias 10. Apron 44. Fingers do it 45. More dried-up sivelv 12. City in Finland 30. Asteroids 46. Clod

10 9 11 49. A way to listen 15 13 14 16 18 17 52. Historic center 19 20 21 22 24 23 25 26 28 30 60. Scottish Loch 31 32 33 34 35 36 38 39 37 64. Britpop band 42 41 43 44 45 46 48 67. Female sibling 49 50 51 52 53 54 58 57 55 56 60 61 62 3. Resembling a 63 64 65 66 67 68 32. Made more sugary 14. One who monitors 50. Indiana town 6. Noise a sheep 17. 18-year astronomical 34. Change in skin pigment 52. Golden peas 7. Type of lodge period 35. Mild yellow Dutch 53. Closes tightly 20. Trent Reznor's band cheese 55. It's mined in mountains 8. Speak poorly 21. Takes to the sea 37. Koran chapters 56. Cliff (Hawaii) 23. Split pulses 9. Ties the knot 40. A place to relax 57. Ribosomal ribonucleic 42. Young woman ready for 25. Valentine's Day color acid 26. Wyatt society life 58. Monetary unit 11. Studied inten-27. Type of rail 43. Female horses 59. Primordial matter 29. One from the Big Apple 47. Half of Milli Vanilli 61. TV station

49. Icelandic poems

65. Rise

RADISHES

ROMAINE

SALAD

SPINACH

REFRESHING

TOMATOES

Solutions \rightarrow 21

12

40

59

TOPPING

TOSSED



Each block is divided by its own matrix of nine cells. The rule for solving Sudoku puzzles are very simple. Each row, column and block, must contain one of the numbers from "1" to "9". No number may appear more than once in any row, column, or block. When you've filled the entire grid the puzzle is solved.

		5			7			4
						2		
3						1		6
			5					
		9						3
			2	4	3		6	
8						9		
	7		9	2	1			5
		3			8		1	

Level: Intermediate



Container gardening

By Mary Ellen Shaw

A flower garden is not for everyone. Perhaps there is not enough space or it's just more work than you care to undertake.

You can still enjoy beautiful flowers from spring until fall by placing them in containers such as planter boxes or pots.

A nice feature of gardening this way is the ease with which you can change out the contents of the container. I'll share with you my own choices for this type of gardening. Whether you have one container or multiple containers the

touch of color provided will brighten the space where they are placed and your day along with it.

We have a 6-foot window box that is mounted under the double windows of our living room. Having a box in that location is a tradition that goes back almost 80 years to when my father built the first box. My handy husband, Peter, has replaced the original box several times over the years because even wood preservative doesn't keep rot away forever.

A box of that size is a statement for sure. The first flowers to go into the box are pansies in late April. I buy an assortment of colors that include: purple, blue, yellow and deep mauve. Because

our cream color window trim serves as the background for the flowers the dark colors look best in the back of the box. Pale blue and yellow stand out when placed in front of the deeper colors.

Because the window box is almost totally in the shade throughout the day the pansies look fresh until late May. Then it's time for a change. New Guinea impatiens are the replacements. Hot pink and light pink blend together nicely.

Plants have a way of telling you when they have reached their full potential. They tend to look "tired" and that is when it's time for another change. That usually happens by mid-September and the window box is transformed once again. This time it's filled with mum plants. Deep burgundy is a perfect fall color against the cream color backdrop. My trick for getting them to last until late October is to buy plants that are just barely budded. Garden center plant markers can get switched out so I make sure that I can tell the true color of the plants from the buds. In the fall you have to be prepared to cover the mums on cold nights. The nice thing about having plants in containers is how easy it is to cover them compared to doing that task when plants are in large beds in the ground.

You can even keep your containers filled with boughs in the winter months, providing the container is made to endure the freeze and thaw conditions of winter.

Placing containers along the border of a patio or deck gives a stunning look to the space. You can buy attractive containers without spending a lot of money. I have seen

> 24-inch long containers made of resin for under \$10. The fact that they come in multiple colors is a plus! Just clean and sterilize them in the fall and they can be used for many years.

In sunny locations you have more options when it comes to choosing container plants. Flowers with different shapes and leaves that have different textures create an eye-catching effect. The old adage of "thrillers, fillers and spillers" speaks for itself when it comes to choosing the type of flowers that will enhance your containers. One of my favorites for sunny locations is calibrachoa. It looks like a mini petunia and comes in several

colors. It will trail over the

edge of your container. The silver hue of a licorice plant is attractive among bright colored plants. Flowers with small blossoms like alyssum are great for filling in gaps. Putting all of your choices alongside one another while you are still at the nursery is a good test to see how well they will look together.

By Bonnie Kirn Donahue

Choosing the correct potting soil is important. The words "Potting Mix" are what you should look for on the bag. I use Miracle-Gro with moisture control. Container plants dry out more quickly than those grown in the ground so check the soil daily to see if the plants need watering.

If you really want to keep things simple, placing a plant in a pretty pot on each of your front steps is an easy way to provide pops of color. Geraniums are one of my favorites in that role. They are pretty from Memorial Day up until the first frost.

Containers filled with flowers make great seasonal decorations. As you move forward from May until October have fun selecting flowers along the way.

Select Board pauses ordinance to enable Hartland plant sale

By Curt Peterson

With anti-Gaza war protests on multiple college campuses dominating the news, one might not notice the "High Noon" situation promised between the Hartland Select Board and the Hartland Garden Club (HGC) at the May 6 Select Board meeting.

Town manager John Broker-Campbell had resurrected a 1995 ordinance prohibiting any organization using the Damon Hall front yard for an event — that ordinance had not been enforced for the entire 25 years of the HGC plant sale history.

Carol Stedman, who is the organizer of the annual plant sale, explained that club members have been growing and preparing plants for this, their only fundraiser, for several weeks.

The sale is scheduled for May 18. At an unofficial meeting between garden club members and Broker-Campbell, he apologized for the inconvenience, but insisted he was bound by his job to prohibit the sale at the site, which, ironically, is festooned with a beautiful pollinator garden created and installed for the town by HGC volunteers. With no hint they would be successful, Broker-Campbell

invited HGC members to attend the May 6 meeting to plead

their case to the board. The official agenda listed the Vendors Ordinance as a subject that would be discussed at a future meeting, but board chair Phil Hobbie asked to make it an official topic for immediate discussion. HGC president Dan Talbot made his case, asking for a "waiver of the ordinance for just this one year, in view of their 25-year unfettered track record and the late notice given by the town manager regarding the prohibition."

Hobbie's original position favored enforcing the ordinance and suggesting the HGC move the plant sale, which raises \$1,000 used for town beautification projects, to Foster Meadows, the area surrounding the town library. But, without fanfare, Hobbie inquired with the Vermont League of Cities and Towns how a mutually amenable solution might be legally created.

"I just got the response this afternoon," Hobbie said. "The Select Board can legally vote to pause the ordinance for this event on a one-time basis, and subsequently discuss whether the rules need to be changed."

Selectmen Trace Trancredi and Jim Rielly seemed to be leaning toward another alternative site for the sale rather than the ordinance pause, but in the end the board approved a motion by Tom Kennedy "in recognition of the services provided by the Hartland Garden Club to the town of Hartland, enforcement of the Vendors Ordinance will be paused until May 20 and possible amendments to the ordinance will be discussed in the meantime."

So after a brief scare, the HGC plant sale will take place on May 18 as planned.



Gardening container- For spaces that are too small to have a

full garden, consider adding a pot or container with colorful

flowers or vegetables to your outdoor space.

'Until the End of the World' Film Screening

Thursday, May 9 at 6 p.m.—WOODSTOCK—What was the last fish you ate? Where did it originate? How was it produced? More importantly, who was impacted?

Fish farming is the fastest growing sector of food production, described as the 'sustainable answer for food security'. Aquaculture attracts billions in public and private investment, but as the world population nears the 9.7Bn predicted by 2050, is it the solution? A new film, shown at Billings Farm and Museum, 69 Old River Road, Woodstock, by investigative journalist and award-winning film-maker Francesco De Augustinis, 'Until The End Of The World', takes the viewer on a journey from central Italy through Europe, West Africa and South America to meet communities dealing with what many refer to as 'a neo-colonialist threat' rather than a solution.

Free event. Donations are welcome and go to support our local arts community. Make donations at https://pentanglearts.org/get-involved/donations

Register at: https://sustainablewoodstock.eventive.org/ schedule/65e894cf94758400884a1b3d





Mother's Day Sip 'n Paint with Katie Roberts

Friday, May 10, 6-8 p.m. — BRIDGEWATER—Come to Katie Roberts Studio, 102 Mill Road, Bridgewater, with friends, family, or even come solo and celebrate Mother's Day with a little spring cheer. You don't have to bring or be a mom to participate. These events are a fun time getting creative, while enjoying time with your favorite folks - or meet new ones! Painting experience not required. Instructions will be provided. Take home a painting that you make. All of the art supplies are provided. Participants bring their own beverage.Minimum 12 people, Maximum 25 people. \$35 per person. *For more info and to register, contact: katiejrobertsstudio@gmail.com.*







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18. Calendar

The Mountain Times • May 8-14, 2024



Registration open

Registration open Godnick Senior Center, 1 Deer St., Rutland. Registration for the Summer Celebration BBQ Picnic on Thursday, June 13 is open, in partnership with Trio Community Meals and the Southwestern Vermont Council on Aging. Secure your spot and register early and get ready for a delicious menu, fun lawn games, raffle prizes, and a 50/50 raffle! We will have a representative from the SVCOA (Southern Vermont Coalition on Aging), as well as the VNA & Hospice of the Southwest Region, who will be on site with information and resources. rutlandrec.com/godnick

RSVP Bone Builders

9-10 a.m. Wednesdays. Godnick Adult Center, 1 Deer St., Rutland. Free. Full, waitlisted. Contact Retired Senior Volunteers (RSVP) at 802-774-8680 for a callback.

S.E.A.T. Exercises

9-10 a.m. Wednesdays. Godnick Adult Center, 1 Deer St., Rutland. \$6 per individual class or \$5 per class when paying for the whole month upfront. A brand-new, chair-based full body workout led by Melissa Cox, ACSM-GEI. rutlandrec.com/godnick or 802-773-1853

Senior Bone Builders

10 a.m. Wednesdays. Sherburne Memorial Library, 2998 River Road, Killington. Free. Weights are provided. sherburnelibrary.org or 802-422-9765

Killington Active Seniors Lunch

11:30 a.m. Wednesdays. Lookout Tavern, 2910 Killington Road, Killington. \$5 donation towards the meal, tip is covered by local donors. For more info, call 908-783-1050.

Castleton Community Center, 2108 Main St., Castleton

Noon. Wednesdays. Community Center dinner. Day-before reservations: call 802-468-3093. 1:30 p.m. Great Courses curriculum. castletoncsi.org

Book Club

1:30 p.m. Sherburne Memorial Library, 2998 River Road, Killington. Free. sherburnelibrary.org or 802-422-9765

Cribbage for Adults 3-5 p.m. Wednesdays. Hartland Public Library, 153 Route 5, Hartland. Free. hartlandlibraryvt.org/calendar/ or 802-436-2473

Vermont Area Health Education Center Expo

3-7 p.m. Rutland Rec & Community Center, 134 Community Drive, Center Rutland. The Medquest Health Careers Expo is the first of its kind in the Rutland Region. svtahec.org/2024/01/medquest-expo

Bone Builders 3:30-4:30 p.m. Wednesdays. Chaffee Art Center, 16 So. Main St., Rutland. Free. Improve balance and enhance energy and wellbeing. chaffeeartcenter.org or 802-775-035

'The Power of Color in Art and Design' 5:30 -7:30 p.m. Chaffee Art Center, 16 So. Main St., Rutland. Free; donations welcome. Jason Bernis, local, Vermont-born head lecturer at the American Institute for Color and The Environment academy, illustrates his one-hour slide presentation, followed up a participatory exercise. chaffeeartcenter.org

'Peter Pan and the Pirates of Zackland'

5:30-7:30 p.m. Woodstock Town Hall Theater, 31 The Green, Woodstock. Free, donations welcome. Performed by Zack's Place Theatre Guild, the musical is based on the J.M. Barrie children's novel as edited by Dail Frates.

Ballroom Dance with Patti Panebianco

Wednesdays. Stone Valley Arts, 145 E. Main St., Poultney 6-6:50 p.m. Tango for adults

7-7:50 p.m. Rumba for adults For more information and cost, contact Patti Panebianco at 516-909-1686 or email pattipdance@gmail.com

Vermont Fish & Wildlife Public Hearing on 2024 Deer Season

6:30-8:30 p.m. In-person. Thetford Academy, 304 Academy Road, Thetford. Public input on the 2024 Anterless Harvest and Youth/Novice Recommendation, available at vtfishandwildlife.com.

THURS

Bone Builders 9 a.m. Thursdays. Gilbert Hart Library, 14 S. Main St., Wallingford. 802-446-2685

Essentrics Stretch and Strength

9-10 a.m. Thursdays. Stone Valley Arts, 145 E. Main St., Poultney. \$10. No-weights, low impact workout combines principles from ballet, tai chi and physiotherapy to restore flexibility and balance. Bring a mat and water.

Advanced Line Dance

9:30-10:30 a.m. Thursdays. Godnick Adult Center, 1 Deer St. Rutland. rutlandrec.com/godnick or 802-773-1853

Senior Bone Builders

10 a.m. Thursdays. Sherburne Memorial Library, 2998 River Road, Killington. Free. Weights are provided. sherburnelibrary.org or 802-422-4323

Survivors' Support Group 10 a.m.-Noon. Thursdays. Godnick Adult Center, 1 Deer St., Rutland. Free. Flyers available at the Godnick Center or call 802-775-3232. rutlandrec.com/godnick or 802-773-1853

Art at the Chaffee: Artery 10:30 a.m.-Noon. Thursdays. Chaffee Art Center, 16 So. Main St., Rutland. Fee: \$10 if you bring your own supplies, up to \$20 if supplies provided. Painting in all mediums welcome. No set topic or instructor. Preregister, at chaffeeartcenter.square.site/

Ukulele Group

Noon-1 p.m. Thursdays. Chaffee Art Center, 16 So. Main St., Rutland. Free. Ages 12+. Pre-register by the Wednesday before at 802-775-0356 or at chaffeeartcenter.square.site

Play Bridge!

2-4 p.m. Thursdays. Norman Williams Public Library, 10 The Green, Woodstock. Free. Beginners are welcome to observe. normanwilliams. org, 802-457-2295

S.T.E.A.M. 3-4 p.m. Thursdays. Hartland Library, 153 Route 5, Hartland. Free. Join us for S.T.E.A.M. (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math) craft activities. Something different every week! kids@ hartlandlibraryvt.org/calendar/ or 802-436-2473

Yoga with Kellie

3:45-4:45 p.m. Thursdays. Rutland Free Library, 10 Court St., Rutland. Free. 802-773-1860

Spirituality in Recovery 4:30-5:30 p.m. Live or virtual. Rutland Jewish Center, 96 Grove St., Rutland. Rabbi Shemtov reveals 12-Step themes in the Bible that can aid in recovery. 802-773-3455

Board Game Night

5 p.m. Thursdays. Hartland Library, 153 Route 5, Hartland. Free. hartlandlibraryvt.org/calendar/ or 802-436-2473

Rutland Young Professionals May Mixer 6-8 p.m. 106 West St., Suite 1, Rutland. Free. RYP joins Rutland County Pride. To RSVP, rcpride.org/events-1/ryp-mixer/form

'Until the End of the World' Documentary (2021) 6 p.m. Billings Farm & Museum, 69 Old River Road, Woodstock. Free. Some consider fish farming to be the "sustainable answer for food security," but is it true? This Italian production journeys across three continents to find the answer. Donations are welcome and may be made to postpandacta period involved (depetition) made to pentanglearts.org/get-involved/donations/

Grace Church Rummage Sale 6-9 p.m. Grace Congregational UCC, 8 Court St., Rutland. Free. An old-fashioned rummage with some great finds. BYOB (bring your own bag). gracechurchvt.org

Queer Readings Open Mic 7 p.m. Main Street Museum, 58 Bridge St., White River Junction. By donation. Original poetry and readings. 21+. Mainstreetmuseum.org

ArtisTree Open Mic

7-9 p.m. Every other Thursday. ArtisTree Community Arts Center, 2095 Pomfret Road, Pomfret. Free. 802-457-3500

(H

SAT @ 7:30 AM



Vermont Historians' Annual Conference, 'Now and Then'

8:45 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Hotel Coolidge, 39 S. Main St., White River Junction. \$25 Vermont Historical Society members; \$40 non-members. The Vermont League of Local Historical Societies & Museums convenes to discuss historical research, conservation, best practices converies to discuss instorical research, conservation, best practices and outreach to youth, in light of the upcoming 250th anniversary in 2026 of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. Many concurrent sessions, led by experts in the field. Registration includes a light breakfast, lunch, snacks, & all sessions. Space may be limited. For full program details, see pg. ____ of this paper or contact Director of Service & Outreach Eileen Corcoran at eileen.corcoran@vermont biston.corc history.org

Grace Church Rummage Sale 9 a.m.-Noon. Grace Congregational UCC, 8 Court St., Rutland. Free. An old-fashioned rummage with some great finds. BYOB (bring your own bag). gracechurchvt.org

Rutland Library Book Sale 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Rutland Free Library, 10 Court St., Rutland. By donation. Comprehensive, curated selection of used books, CDs, books on tape and rare volumes.

Yoga & Meditation 10:30-11:30 a.m. Fridays. Godnick Adult Center, 1 Deer St., Rutland. rutlandrec.com/godnick or 802-773-1853

Bone Builders

11 a.m.-Noon, Fridays. Chaffee Art Center, 16 So. Main St., Rutland. Free. 802-775-0356

JAM Equipment Orientation Noon-12:45 p.m. Junction Arts & Media, 5 S. Main St., White River Junction. This is a prerequisite to borrowing any form of production equipment. RSVP with one week advance request to uvjam.org/event/ jam-equipment-orientation/2024-03-20/. Next session: May 15.

Mother's Day Jewelry for Kids 8-12 3:30-5 p.m. ArtisTree, 2095 Pomfret Road, So. Pomfret. \$25. Teacher Holly Gaspar will guide the creation of simple, unique jewelry pieces from charms, beads, fabrics and more. artistreevt.org/workshops

'Fertile Ground': Artist's Reception 4-5:30 p.m. Norman Williams Public Library, 10 The Green, Woodstock. Free. Annual spring group show. 802-457-2295

Mother's Day Sip 'n' Paint Make 'n' Take

6-8 p.m. Katie's Gallery & Studio, 2nd Floor of the Bridgewater Mill, 2nd floor, 102 Mill Road, Bridgewater. \$35, BYOB. Surprise Mom with an original painting completed that day, or bring her with you. Open to all ability levels. Katie Roberts provide detailed instructions, supplies and help throughout. You will go home with a painting that you make! Minimum 12 people, maximum 25 people. \$35 per person. 802-672-1997

'Moana Jr.'

7 p.m. Paramount Theatre, 30 Center St., Rutland. Adults \$15, seniors & under 10, \$10 + fees. Performed onstage by the Rutland Youth Theatre, 'Moana' is a coming-of-age story. Songs include originals from the Disney movie. ci.ovationtix.com/36265/production/1196549



Birding Adventure in the Treetops

7:30-10 a.m. Vermont Institute of Natural Science, Nature's Way, Quechee. General public \$28, VINS members \$23; includes afternoon admission to World Migratory Bird Day program. A birding adventure into the canopy with VINS staff for the beginner and intermediate birder. A field guide and binoculars are recommended. This workshop will be held outdoors, rain or shine. Participants should dress appropriately. 802-359-5000 or info@vinsweb.org

Sports Car Club of Vermont, Autocross meet 8 a.m. Diamond Run Mall, 46 Diamond Run Mall PL, Rutland Town, \$40 for members; \$50 for non-members, including a 1-day membership. The SCCV 2024 Summer Series Event and DRM Autocross #2, is open to all licensed drivers over 18 and licensed drivers under 18 with parent's liability waiver and presence at the event. Helmets, technical inspection of the vehicles are required. For more information and registration, visit: motorsportreg.com/events/sccv-drm-autocross-2-on-5-11-24-diamond-mall-rutland-vt-sports-car-club-519208

Bird Walk in Pittsford 8-9 a.m. Pittsford Town Trails, Pittsford. Free. Join experienced birder Sue Wetmore to explore a Vermont birding hotspot along Otter Creek! Meet at the Pittsford Village Farm, 42 Elm St., Pittsford. Bring camera and dress for the weather. pittsfordvillagefarm.org

2nd Annual Bike Demo Day 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Pine Hill Park, Oak St. Ext., Rutland. Free. Try out adult and kids' mountain bikes and full-suspension ebikes on the Pine Hill Park bike trails. Group guided rides will leave our tent on 30 - 45 minute Bike, 802-228-2776.

Creating a Logo 9 a.m.-2 p.m. ArtisTree, 2095 Pomfret Road, So. Pomfret. \$150. Christine Hauck will lead the workshop for practical and historical understanding of typography, then students will create an original logo design. artistreevt.org/workshops

Rutland Summer Farmers' Market Is Back 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Depot Park, Downtown Rutland. Daily harvest bounty, local arts & crafts, eggs, meat, artisan cheeses and breads, maple products, hemp products, craft spirits. Food carts. vtfarmersmarket. org/markets/summer/

Annual Bike Safety Day 9:30-12:30. Wallingford Elementary School, 126 School St., Wallingford. Free. Free helmets, bike inspections and safety course, plus hotdogs and ice cream. Shrewsbury, Tinmouth and Clarendon families are welcome. wallingfordvt@gmail.com

Rutland Library Book Sale

10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Rutland Free Library, 10 Court St., Rutland. By donation. Comprehensive, curated selection of used books, CDs, books on tape and rare volumes.

Lego Club 10-11 a.m. Gilbert Hart Library, 14 S. Main St., Wallingford. 802-446-2685

Wonderfeet Grand Opening

10 a.m.-2 p.m. Wonderfeet Kids' Museum, 66 Merchants Row, Rutland. Free. Wonderfeet Kids' Museum has grown and added new exhibits. Fun activities and shows all day, including a birthday cake! If interested in a tour and brief information session at 10:30, RSVP to wonderfeetevents@gmail.com.

VINS: World Migratory Bird Day 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Vermont Institute of Natural Science, Nature's Way, Quechee. General admission: \$19.50 adults, 4-17 \$16.50 with an adult, membrs and 3 & under free. Get your passport and collect stickers at each station and activity.

11-11:30 a.m. Raptor Migration 12:30 - 12:50 p.m. Songbird Aviary Tour 1-2 p.m. — "Seasons at a New England Bog," book talk and booksigning with author and photographer Bob Fleck

2-2:30 p.m. — Insect Migration 2:30-3 p.m. — Raptor Feeding Time 3-4 p.m. — "An Uncommon Look at the Common Loon," exhibit, artist talk and reception with Vermont nature photographer Ian Clark. 802-359-5000 or info@vinsweb.org

Introduction to Vermont Viticulture

10 -11:30 a.m. Billings Farm & Museum, 69 Old River Road, Woodstock. \$15 person, \$10 Member. Age 16+. Everything to know about grape varieties, growing conditions in Vermont, winemaking and uses for grapes. Viticulturist Sharen Conner of Lincoln Bridge Farms, Woodstock, will lead. A 30-minute Q&A follows. Billings Backyard Workshop Series for Adults. billingsfarm.org

The 35th Annual Tinmouth Plant

May 11-May 19 daily from 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Squier Family Farmstand located at 12 McNamara Road, Tinmouth. Tinmouth grown perennials, herbs and shrubs will be available for sale at terrific prices. Proceeds benefit the Tinmouth Community Fund. Info at 802-881-6775.

Rutland Railway Museum & Model Club

11 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturdays. 79 Depot Lane, Center Rutland. Free. Maintained by the Rutland Railway Association, Inc., the historic depot is now a museum that houses an operating HO scale model railroad setup and displays hundreds of rare or antique model trains, hetographe signer and memorphile sound form on antique model trains. photographs, signs and memorabilia saved from an earlier time. including the former Rutland Railroad Caboose #45. rutlandrailway.org

Art at the Chaffee: Drop 'N' Paint Noon-2 p.m. Saturdays. Chaffee Art Center, 16 So. Main St., Rutland. \$25 per person, instructor help optional for a fee. All ages. Supplies and images to paint are provided. Must pre-register by Friday noon at: chaffeeartcenter.square.site/ or 802-775-0356

A Day in a Historic Garden

1 p.m. Senator Justin S. Morrill State Historic Site, 214 Justin Morrill Memorial Hwy, Strafford. Free. U.S. Sen. Justin Morrill fostered the Morrill Land Grant College Act of 1862, to benefit agriculture and the trades. Get involved in preserving Vermont's history and help prepare the Victorian gardens for the 2024 season. Counts toward Master Gardener outreach hours, but no experience needed. Basic garden tools available, snacks and beverages provided. To preregister: Friends of the Morrill Homestead, 802-649-2940.

Annual Student Art Show 1-4 p.m. Stone Valley Arts, 145 E. Main St., Poultney. Art work from students in Poultney, Fair Haven, Wells and Middletown Springs.

Sun Printing with Prue 2-4 p.m. Hartland Public Library, 150 US-5, Hartland. Free. Make botanical prints using water, acrylic paint, paper, plant material and sunlight. 802-436-2473

'Moana Jr.' The Musical

2 p.m. & 7 p.m. Paramount Theatre, 30 Center St., Rutland. Adults \$15, seniors & under 10, \$10 + fees. Performed onstage by the Rutland Youth Theatre, 'Moana' is a coming-of-age story. Songs include originals from the Disney movie. ci.ovationtix.com/36265/ production/1196549

Michelob ULTRA Decked Out Days 3-5 p.m. Base of Superstar, Killington Resort. Free. Live music, games and swag giveaways.

Live Music of South America

5:30-8 p.m. Barnard Town Hall, North Road, Barnard Center. Tix from \$5 to \$20. New Inca Son, musicians from Bolivia and Peru, cap a week-long residency with an outdoor performance at Barnard Town Hall. Food will be available for purchase. barnarts.ludus. com/200453423



Introduction to Beaded Jewelry 10 a.m.-1 p.m. The MINT, 112 Quality Lane, Rutland. Members \$40, nonmembers \$55. Make earings and a necklace to take home. Tools and supplies provided, welcome to bring your own beads. Register at rutlandmint. org/event-5669489/Registration.

The 35th Annual Tinmouth Plant

May 11-May 19 daily from 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Squier Family Farmstand located at 12 McNamara Road, Tinmouth. Tinmouth grown perennials, herbs and shrubs will be available for sale at terrific prices. Proceeds benefit the Tinmouth Community Fund. Info at 802-881-6775.

Mother's Day Brunch Mountain Top Inn, Chittenden. Adults \$46, children \$20. Buffet menu in the Event Barn, overlooking sweeping views of the Green Mountain National Forest. Alcoholic beverage, tips and taxes not included in price. RSVP to 802-483-8311.

Raptors in Focus: Photography Workshop 1 p.m. Vermont Institute of Natural Science, Nature's Way, Quechee. General admission: \$19.50 adults, 4-17 \$16.50 with an adult, membrs and 3 & under free. Join local photojournalist Rob Strong as he "shoots" our resident raptors. Tips and tricks for intermediate photographers. A camera and ample storage are required. Register today to secure your spot at 802-359-5000 or info@vinsweb.org

Annual Student Art Show 1-4 p.m. Stone Valley Arts, 145 E. Main St., Poultney. Art work from students in Poultney, Fair Haven, Wells and Middletown Springs.

6th Annual Zack's Place Magical Garden Event

3 p.m. Kelly Way Gardens, 106 Kelly Way, Woodstock. \$200. Farm to table dinner prepared by Matthew McClure and guest speakers Terry Dorman & Addie Gardner, producers and writers of the award-winning documentary, "Whitman Brook: An Apple Orchard and the Nature of Time." Register at zacksplacevt.org/events/magical-garden-event/

The Wailin' Jennys 7 p.m. Paramount Theatre, 30 Center St., Rutland. \$48, \$58, \$68 + tax/fees. Originally from Winnipeg, this trio of women is renowned for their rich harmony and folk-roots sound. ci.ovationtix.com/36265/ performance/11423933



Winning Bird Photography on Display Noon-6 p.m. Thursday through Saturday. Castleton Bank Gallery, 104 Merchants Row, Rutland. Free. Outstanding large-format photographs of bird life, winners of the National Audubon Photography Show of 2022. Through May 11, 2024.

Senior Bone Builders

10 a.m. Mondays. Sherburne Memorial Library, 2998 River Road, Killington. Free. Weights are provided. sherburnelibrary.org or 802-422-9765

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SAT @ 3 PM

Calendar: Email events@mountaintimes.info.

from page 14

The 35th Annual Tinmouth Plant May 11-May 19 daily from 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Squier Family Farmstand located at 12 McNamara Road, Tinmouth. Tinmouth grown perennials, herbs and shrubs will be available for sale at terrific prices. Proceeds benefit the Tinmouth Community Fund. Info at 802-881-6775.

Community Lunch 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Mondays. Godnick Adult Center, 1 Deer St., Rutland. Over 60, \$3.50; under 59, \$6. Donations welcome. In partnership with Southwestern Vermont Council on Aging and Meals on Wheels, the Godnick Center hosts congregate meals. Make new friends, connect with pals. Call 773-1853. and honce a message with your pame and honce number the and leave a message with your name and phone number, the Thursday before. See rutlandrec.com/godnick for the menu.

Monday Movie 1 p.m. The Sherburne Memorial Library, 2998 River Road, Killington. Free. Contact the library for the title. sherburnelibrary.org/movie-monday/ 802 422-9765



Early Bird Walks

7:30-10:30 a.m. Tuesdays. Free. Join Slate Valley Trails and the Rutland Audubon Society for outing at the Poultney River Loop to spot the spring arrivals around Poultney. Meet at the D&H Rail Trail crossing on Main Street, Poultney. 3.3 miles, expect to be out for about 3 1/2 hours. Dress for the weather and bring binocs or camera, water, snack and insect repellent. Locations change each week. Email Joe Tilley at jptilley50@gmail.com for more information.

Bone Builders 9 a.m. Tuesdays. Gilbert Hart Library, 14 S. Main St., Wallingford. 802-446-2685

Line Dance for Beginners

9:30-10:30 a.m. Tuesdays. Godnick Adult Center, 1 Deer St., Rutland. Line dance basics taught by Sharon McKee. No partner or experience needed. Call 802-773-1853 for cost and to sign up. rutlandrec.com/ godnick

The 35th

Annual

Tinmouth Plant

May 11-May 19 daily from 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Squier Family Farmstand located at 12 McNamara Road, Tinmouth. Tinmouth grown perennials, herbs and shrubs will be available for sale at terrific prices. Proceeds benefit the Tinmouth Community Fund. Info at 802-881-6775 Info at 802-881-6775.

Bridge Club Noon-4:30 p.m. Tuesdays. Godnick Adult Center, 1 Deer St., Rutland. Free. rutlandrec.com/godnick

Met Opera: 'Madama Butterfly' by Giacomo Puccini 1 p.m. Paramount Theatre, 30 Center St., Rutland. \$20 + tax/fees. East meets West in a searing tale of trust and betraval. Approx. 4 hours run time. ci.ovationtix.com/36265/production/1187892

Bridge Club

2-4 p.m. Tuesdays. Hartland Public Library, 150 US-5, Hartland. Free. All levels are welcome. Want to learn? Contact Toni at 802-436-2943 or email tonidave@vertmontel.net.

Chess Club

4-6 p.m. Tuesdays. Godnick Adult Center, 1 Deer St., Rutland. Free. Whether you have been playing for years or are new. If possible, bring your own chess set; some sets will be available. Contact club organizer Gregory Weller at gawchess802@gmail.com.

Urban Legends Downtown Stroll

5 sharp-6:30 p.m. Meet at Depot Park, 49 Evelyn St., Rutland. Free. Let your guide introduce you to the Rutland you don't see from your car. No RSPV needed. Leisurely pace, leave anytime.

Play Chess, Backgammon!

5-7 p.m. Tuesdays. Norman Williams Public Library, 10 The Green, Woodstock. Free. All skill levels are welcome, and coaching is available. Bring your own set or use one of ours. normanwilliams.org or 802-457-2295





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The Mountain Times • May 8-14, 2024

MUSIC CALENDAR • 21



WED

5/8

6 p.m. Off the Rails – Learn to Line Dance

7 p.m. Poultney Pub - Open Mic

6 p.m. Public House Pub – Chris Pallutto

LUDLOW

POULTNEY

with Danny Lang

QUECHEE

By DJ Dave Hoffenberg Have a music scene coming up? Email djdavehoff@gmail.com

KILLINGTON

2 p.m. Roaring Brook Umbrella Bar – Sammy B

9 p.m. Jax Food & Games – Jenny Porter

7:30 p.m. Wild Fern - Rick

Redington's Looping Mayhem

STOCKBRIDGE

KILLINGTON 2 p.m. Roaring Brook Umbrella Bar – Nick Bredice

POULTNEY

QUECHEE 5:30 p.m. Public House Pub

RANDOLPH

RUTLAND 5 p.m. Moose Lodge – Nick Bredice and Liz Reedy

8 p.m. Center Street Alley – Full PA/Backline Open Mic hosted by Josh LaFave



BRANDON 5:30 p.m. Red Clover Ale Company – Open Mic hosted by Emily Nelson

LONDONDERRY 7 p.m. New American Grill – Open Mic Night hosted by DJ Jazzy Joel & Catnip John

LUDLOW 6:30 p.m. The Killarney – Irish Sessions with Gypsy Reel

POULTNEY 6 p.m. Poultney Pub – Vinyl Night with Ken

QUECHEE 6:30 p.m. Public House Pub – Trivia with Questionable Company

RUTLAND 8 p.m. Angler Pub – A Sound Space Open Mic with Host Josh Cote

8 p.m. Center Street Alley Karaoke 101 hosted by Tenacious т

SOUTH POMFRET 7 p.m. Artistree - Open Mic Night



CASTLETON 6 p.m. Blue Cat Bistro – Rebecca Padula

CHESTER 6:30 p.m. The Pizza Stone VT – Zach Yakaitis 9 p.m. Jax Food and Games – Jenny Porter

6 p.m. Poultney Pub – Mr Moose & Friends

– Frogz

7 p.m. Underground Listening Room – Breanna Elaine Band with Bird Boombox

SAT 5/11

BRANDON 7:30 p.m. Town Hall – Silen Movie: The Goldrush (1925)

BRIDGEWATER 8 p.m. Woolen Mill Comedy Club - Comedy Night with headliner Andy Pitz and featured act, returning favorite Will Purpura

CHESTER 7 p.m. The Pizza Stone VT – Old Fashion

KILLINGTON 2 p.m. Roaring Brook Umbrella Bar – Nick Bredice

9 p.m. Jax Food and Games -

Sammy B QUECHEE 5:30 p.m. Public House Pub – Brooks Hubbard

RUTLAND 10 a.m. Wonderfeet Kid's Museum - Nick Bredice and Liz Reedy

10 p.m. The Alley – Chris P Trio with Probable Cause

STOCKBRIDGE 7:30 p.m. Wild Fern – Rick Redington & Tuff Luv

WOODSTOCK 6 p.m. Ottauquechee Yacht Club – James Joel



BRIDGEWATER CORNERS

3 p.m. Long Trail Brewery – Nick Bredice



KILLINGTON 5:30 p.m. Mary Lou's - BAK'n

8:30 p.m. The Killarney – Open Mic Night with Indigenous Entertainment



KILLINGTON 8 p.m. Jax Food & Games – Taco Tuesday with Rick Webb

LONDONDERRY 6:30 p.m. New American Grill -Trivia hosted by Zach Yakaitis

LUDLOW 6 p.m. The Killarney – Trivia with Rick Davis

PITTSFIELD 6:30 p.m. Town Hall – Acoustic Jam

POULTNEY 7 p.m. Poultney Pub - Bluegrass Jam

QUECHEE 5 p.m. The Public House – Jim Yeager

RUTLAND 6:30 p.m. Vermont Tap House -Trivia Night









The Justin Morrill Homestead gardens and grounds.

Wake Up the Garden: Cultivating Morrill's Historic Landscape

Saturday, May 11 at 1 p.m.—STRAFFORD—Join the Homestead's master gardeners for a free event at the Justin Morrill Homestead, 214 Justin Morrill Memorial Hwy, Strafford to help prepare the Victorian gardens for the 2024 season. This collaborative effort aims to nurture the colorful annual beds in the pleasure ground and expand the kitchen garden, featuring roses, perennials, berry bushes, and herbs. Get involved in preserving Vermont's history and earn your master gardener outreach hours.

Basic garden tools will be on hand. Snacks and beverages will be provided. All welcome! No experience needed. The event is free.

For more information and to preregister contact the Friends of the Morrill Homestead at 802-649-2940.



Courtesymorrillhomestead.org



Spring Celebration with New Inca Son: A Culminating Outdoor Performance

Saturday, May 11 at 5:30 p.m.—BARNARD—Join BarnArts in welcoming New Inca Son, musicians from Bolivia and Peru, for a week-long Spring Global Music Residency in Barnard, engaging with the community and local youth in schools.

Celebrate their Andean heritage with a culminating outdoor performance at Barnard Town Hall, 274 Barnard Road, Woodstock. Doors open at 5:30 p.m., music from 6-8 p.m..

Tickets available on a sliding scale from \$5 to \$20. Food will be available for purchase from local vendors. *For more information and tickets, visit: barnarts.ludus. com/200453423.*



New Inca Son

Courtesy BarnArts

Enlightening Workshop "Exploring the Power of Color in Art and Design"

Wednesday, May 8 at 5:30 p.m.—RUTLAND— Join the Chaffee Art Center, 16 So. Main St., Rutland for an enlightening workshop on the power of color in art and design. Featured speaker is Jason Bemis, local and native Vermont artist, head lecturer for the AICCE Academy (The American Institute for Color and The Environment). Discover the profound influence that color exerts over our eyes, minds, and bodies, and its profound psychological and physiological impacts. Learn how this influence seamlessly integrates into the realms of design and art, shaping our experiences and perceptions.

Workshop Highlights:

- Engaging one-hour talk accompanied by illuminating slides
- Open discussion to delve deeper into the topic
- Participatory exercise to experience firsthand the transformative power of color

For more information, visit: chaffeeartcenter.org.

Billings holds Backyard Workshop Series: Sustainable Living Skills for Adults

Saturday, May 11 at 10 a.m.—WOODSTOCK—For those curious about starting a vineyard or looking for creative ways to use grapes, this workshop at Billings Farm & Museum, 69 Old River Road, Woodstock, will explore the evolving landscape of grape growing in Vermont. Guided by viticulturist Sharen Conner, this class will delve into key considerations for cultivating a thriving vineyard site, covering aspects such as sun exposure, soil depth and composition, and irrigation methods. Participants will be introduced to optimal grape varieties suited to Vermont's unique climate and topography. The class will include an introduction to making *versus*, an unfermented juice derived from unripe grapes, with a chance to taste a glass prepared in class.

Whether you are interested in making homegrown wine or simply curious about the steps to fulfilling that Vermont Vineyard dream, this introductory workshop will get you started.

The session will be followed by a 30-minute Q&A. **About the Presenter**

Sharen Conner is the viticulturist and verjus entrepreneur for Lincoln Bridge Farms. She formerly worked 40 years in education as a learning specialist for special needs students. Her family planted a 1-acre vineyard (600 vines) in 2009. In 2016 and 2017, she learned to make wine in a commercially conventional manner and in 2018 and 2019, she experimented with "wild fermentation" using an ancient technique called *pied de cuve* or foot of the barrel. In 2020, Conner turned her focus to verjus and produced some for the farm stand and again the next year. In 2022, she obtained a food producer's license and began to sell to restaurants and retail outlets. Conner is committed to caring for the environment through employing organic methods and providing experiential education to her farmstay guests and "wwoofers" (wwoof.org) who come to help and learn these aspects of agriculture firsthand.

For more information, visit: Billingsfarm.org.



Submitted

Vermont Historical Society announces 70th annual League of Local Historical Societies and Museums Conference: "Now & Then"

Friday, May 10 at 8:45 a.m.—WHITE RIVER JUNC-TION—The Vermont Historical Society (VHS) announced this year's League of Local Historical Societies & Museums (LLHSM) annual conference will take place at Hotel Coolidge, Hotel Coolidge, 39 S Main St., White River Junction. Now in its 70th year, the event is the state's largest gathering of local history and museum professionals.

This year's theme is titled "Now & Then". What has changed in the last 70 years for local historical societies and museums and what has stayed the same? A report from the first conference notes that organizations should have "a real story to tell" and emphasized the importance of "attracting the interest of children and young people," which might sound familiar to many of us today.

Presenters and attendees will explore some of the bedrocks of doing local history and ways to accomplish them today, learn more about how we can utilize the impending 250th anniversary of the U.S. as a rallying point in our own communities, and learn from the experts in our ever popular practical and hands-on sessions.

Schedule

• 8:45 to 9:30 a.m. Registration and coffee

• **9:45 to 10:30 a.m.** Welcome and LLHSM Awards The conference will kick off with the annual LLHSM

Achievement Awards, which recognize the exceptional work being done by individuals and community history organizations throughout the state to collect, preserve, and share Vermont's rich history.

• **10:45 to 11:45 a.m.** Concurrent Sessions 1

"Understanding Archival Description," Elizabeth H. Dow, President, Hardwick Historical Society

Describing a book is like filing a report about a stolen car: orderly and efficient, done one car/book at a time. Describing a collection of archival materials is like reading an Agatha Christie novel: messy and confusing with overlooked details, false clues, and no final resolution until the very end. This discussion will cover why the two processes are so different, and how we can make archival description more orderly?

"Local History in Vermont's Schools: Understanding Opportunities & Challenges," Meg Mallory, outreach educator, VHS

Vermont's education system is highly localized and complex. In this session we'll explore some ways in which local historical societies can create resources and opportunities that fit with the needs of today's educators, including opportunities to participate in larger projects and programs managed by VHS.

"When the Water Comes In: Flooding Impacts and Mitigation Strategies," Victoria Sample, Historic Sites section chief, VT Division for Historic Preservation and James Duggan, Director of Preservation, VT State Historic Sites

The Vermont Division for Historic Preservation's director of preservation James Duggan and State Historic Sites Section Chief Victoria Sample will discuss best practices and how to apply them to your individual organization's needs in an emergency event. Learning lessons from the July 2023 flood, be prepared to think about the specifics of your organization and how to approach emergency management as you learn tools to help guide you through challenging events.

• **11:45 a.m.-1p.m.** Keynote discussion & lunch: "Vermont and the 250th"

Laura Trieschmann, state historic preservation officer & Vermont 250th Commission chair, Christopher Kaufman Ilstrup, executive director, Vermont Humanities, and Susan Evans McClure, executive director, Vermont Arts Council

What is a "semiquincentennial" and why should arts and cultural organizations care? Vermont's cultural leaders will share their thoughts and strategies during this roundtable discussion to help organizations think about ways to explore, commemorate, and thoughtfully discuss the 250th anniversary of the U.S. in 2026 and Vermont's role in it.

• 1:15 to 2:15 p.m. Concurrent Sessions 2

"You and the 250th," Eileen Corcoran, director of service & outreach, VHS

This follow-up to our keynote will provide an opportunity to learn about existing and upcoming programs associated with Vermont's 250th—including grants, educational initiatives, and event promotion. We also welcome those who already have plans for commemorating the 250th in their community to come and share their work.

"Looking For Help in All the Right Places? Budget Friendly Tips for Collections Care," Michele Pagan, textile conservator in private practice, Elsbeth Geldhof, conservator in private practice, Kathleen Messier, Archivist, Roman Catholic Diocese of Burlington, Darlene Bialowski, contract museum registrar, and Deborah Howe, collections conservator, Dartmouth Libraries. Join us for demonstrations and tips covering a variety of collection care tasks, many of a "Do It Yourself" nature. We will cover textile cleaning, books care & repair, basic dust removal tips of collection objects and spaces and more! Learn how you too can perform collections care procedures for your institution while working with a limited budget and staff. This workshop will appeal to those with collections care responsibilities in a wide range of organizations, including museums, archives, historical societies and conservation studios. Both paid staff and those working in a volunteer capacity are encouraged to attend. This is a two-part session.

"Promoting History," Andrew Liptak, pr & guest services coordinator, VHS

We live in a time where social media dominates our attention, and it can be a challenge to be heard through the digital noise. But the internet also provides a wealth of tools for historical societies, museums, and historians to spread the word about their programming, discoveries, publications, and that one cool item you've taken in for preservation. In this session, we'll explore ways to promote, showcase, and teach history to your members, followers, and community.

• 2:15 to 2:30 p.m. Break

Snacks & conversation. Don't forget to check out the VHS bookstore table!

• **2:30 to 3:30 p.m.** Concurrent Sessions 3 Hartford Historical Society Tour

The Hartford VT Historical Society preserves the history and material culture of Hartford Village, West Hartford, White River Junction, Wilder, and Quechee. Visit the society's headquarters at the Garipay House, located at 1461 Maple St. in Hartford Village.

The house contains the society's archives and museum. The home was bequeathed to the Society by Loretta Michota Garipay. Loretta and Stanley Garipay were physicians and the mid-twentieth century medical office of Dr. Stanley Garipay has been preserved.

Part 2: Looking For Help in All The Right Places? Budget Friendly Tips for Collections Care

The demonstrations and practical collections care tips continue.

Registration fees: \$25 VHS members/\$40 monmembers. Registration fees include light breakfast, lunch, snacks, & all sessions. Space may be limited, register early to reserve your spot.

For more information, contact Director of Service & Outreach Eileen Corcoran at eileen.corcoran@vermonthistory.org





Courtesy Hotel Coolidge.com

24 · ARTS, DINING, ENTERTAINMENT







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Sports Car Club of Vermont comes the Diamond Run Mall

Saturday, May 11 at 8 8a.m.—RUTLAND—The SCCV 2024 Summer Series Event, DRM Autocross #2, will take place at the Diamond Run Mall, 46 Diamond Run Mall Pl., Rutland. The event starts at 8 a.m. with setup/organizing at 7 a.m. Registration is \$40 for members and \$50 for non-members, including a one-day membership. This event is open to all licensed drivers over the age

of 18.

Licensed drivers under 18 are allowed. If the licensed participant is under 18 years of age, the participant will require both parent's signature of a minor liability waiver at the first event, and at least one parent present at all events (whether driving or riding as a passenger).

Helmets are required for this event. (Snell M2010 or SA2010 minimum, no DOT only).

All vehicles will be required to pass a technical inspection prior to running the event.

Any vehicle deemed to have a high rollover risk is subject to being excluded from running the event. Please reach out to an admin if your vehicle could be in question.

Convertibles are strongly suggested to have rollover protection but not required for this venue.

For more information and registration, visit: motorsportreg.com/events/sccv-drm-autocross-2-on-5-11-24diamond-mall-rutland-vt-sports-car-club-519208





ARTS, DINING, ENTERTAINMENT · 25

Beginner Bird Walk – Introduction to Birding

Saturday, May 11 at 7:30 a.m.—QUECHEE—VINS will hold a birding adventure through the varied habitats of the VINS Nature Center, 149 Natures Way, Quechee, culminating in the treetops on the Forest Canopy Walk. During this workshop, VINS staff will discuss the avian life that surrounds us while also teaching the skills to start birding.

This workshop is designed for the beginner to intermediate birder. Afterward, attendees are invited to spend time at the VINS Nature Center to celebrate World Migratory Bird Day, a day that celebrates and brings attention to one of the most important and spectacular seasonal events – bird migration. Program fee covers admission to the VINS Nature Center on World Migratory Bird Day on May 11.

Field guide and binoculars are recommended for this event.

This workshop will be held outdoors, rain or shine. Participants should dress appropriately.

\$28 general public, \$23 VINS members

For more information, contact us at 802-359-5000 or info@vinsweb.org.

v that celebrates and pectacular seasonal ion to the VINS Nature or this event. he. Participants should *O or info@vinsweb.org.*

VINS is the palce to be for World Migratory Bird Day

Saturday, May 11 at 10 a.m.—QUECHEE—World Migratory Bird Day at VINS, 149 Natures Way, Quechee is the perfect opportunity to learn all about the spectacular seasonal movement of wild birds. Included with the price of admission, attendees will be afforded the exclusive opportunity to delve into insights about their favorite avian species. Why do some birds migrate? How can they make such incredible long-distance journeys? Learn how raptors like the ones that call VINS home migrate, and join two guest speakers as they dive into the importance of wetland habitats like bogs for migratory birds and the life of one of Vermont's iconic migratory birds – the common loon. And this year's theme is the important role of insects in the survival and migration of so many birds. **Program Schedule**

11-11:30 a.m. — Raptor Migration

Learn about the amazing journey of migration. Meet migratory raptors as well as residents, and learn about the benefits and challenges of making a thousand-mile journey every single year of your life. (Hawkfly)

12:30 PM - 12:50 p.m. - Songbird Aviary Tour

Spend some time in our newest exhibit – the Songbird Aviary! An educator will familiarize you with this special group of birds and point out the ways you can make a great habitat for these important creatures in your own backyard.

1-2 p.m. — Seasons at a New England Bog with Bob Fleck

Seasons at a New England Bog—Book Talk and Signing with Bob Fleck (Neal Pavillion)

New England is home to many fresh and saltwater wetlands, among them bogs and fens. Each of these vital and sensitive habitats is a living, breathing entity that changes every time you stop by.

During this program, photographer and author Bob Fleck will take us on a photographic journey to witness the dramatic seasonal changes that occur throughout the year—the transitions in the plant and animal communities that call these special environ-

Courtesy VINS

Bob Fleck



By Bob Fleck Yellow Warbler

ments home. In particular, Bob will focus on one of the most important and spectacular

seasonal events – bird migration, highlighting the diverse array of birds that depend on bogs for safety and refuge during their annual migrations.

Afterward, author Bob Fleck will be available to sign books. Copies of Seasons at a New England Bog will be available for sale.

About the author

An avid hiker and lover of nature, Bob Fleck has had a fascination with cameras and the outdoors from an early age. The serious pursuit of photography emerged with the development of modern digital cameras. The approach of retirement provided the time needed to pursue and refine this interest.

Today, Bob continues his photography adventures with the publishing of a fine art, hard-cover photography book depicting the seasonal changes observable near a New England bog, "Seasons at a New England Bog – A Photographic Essay." Bob also does exhibitions of his printed photography and offers book talks and nature photography presentations

at libraries, public meetings, and other venues that care about nature. A portion of sales of Bob's works are contributed to organizations dedicated to conserving our natural world. **2-2:30 p.m. — Insect Migration** (Neal Pavillion)

Discuss the vast array of insects that also migrate huge distances every year, and why they are so important for the birds that depend on them.

2:30-3 p.m. — Raptor Feeding Time (Raptor Enclosures - Bald Eagle)

Follow along as our resident raptors are given their dinners. Ask about their wild counterparts, their conservation, or their individual stories. There is always lots to learn from our resident avian ambassadors.

3-4 p.m. 'An Uncommon Look at the Common Loon'

Artist Talk with Ian Clark & Reception . Free and open to the public.

With their haunting cries and beautiful plumage, common loons are an iconic symbol of the northern wilderness. With stunning photographs of these captivating birds, "An Uncommon Look at the Common Loon" will explore the natural history of loons in the North Country. West Newbury, Vermont-based photographer Ian Clark spent approximately 2,200 hours kayaking with loons over the last 11 years and has taken over 300,000 photos of them and their behaviors.

Join VINS for this artist talk and reception to follow. Light refreshments will be provided. Ian Clark's photographs will be on exhibit at the VINS Nature Center's Neale Pavilion, May 1 – July 31, 2024.

About the Artist

Ian spent many years operating commercial photo labs and tackling technical photographic problems, including a stint as the manager of the photographic section at NASA's Langley Research Center. He has a B.S. from the Rochester Institute of Technology and did his master's work at the S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications at Syracuse University. He has been a news stringer off and on since 1975.



Ian is a juried member of the League of New Hampshire Craftsmen, the New Hampshire Art Association and the 802 Arts House. More information about Ian is available on his website at www.IanClark.com.

A \$10 donation is suggested. A portion of proceeds from the purchase of artwork from this exhibition will benefit VINS.

For more information, contact us at 802.359.5000 or info@vinsweb.org.

Raptors in Focus: Photography Workshop

Sunday, May 12 at 1 p.m.m—QUECHEE—Join local photojournalist Rob Strong for an exclusive photo shoot with our resident raptors, capturing stunning pictures and unforgettable memories. Designed for intermediate level photographers, this workshop will cover essential techniques to maximize your camera's potential and enhance your wildlife photography skills. Activities include a slideshow on camera settings and photography techniques, followed by a flight and portrait session with various raptors (weather dependent). Participants are required to bring a camera and ample storage. Register today to secure your spot. *For more information, contact us at 802-359-5000 or info@vinsweb.org.*

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Sherburne UCC "Little White Church," Killington, VT



ARTS, DINING, ENTERTAINMENT • 27



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Mary Lou's

and enjoy wood fired pizza, drinks and live music. Sit by the fireplace by the lower bar! Please check our updates by hitting the Up-

marylouskillington.com

"Mary Lou's is your perfect place to warm up date tab. See you here!" (802) 422-9885.



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Sushi Yoshi Sushi Yoshi is Killington's true culinary adventure. With Hibachi, Sushi, Chinese and Japanese, we have something for every age and palate. Private Tatame rooms and large party seating available. We boast a full bar with 20 craft beers on draft. We are chef-owned and operated. Serving lunch

and dinner. Delivery or take away option available. Now open year round. www.vermontsushi.com 802-422-4241



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From page 12



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Moquls

Voted the best ribs and burger in Killington, Moguls is a great place for the whole family. Soups, onion rings, mozzarella sticks, chicken fingers, buckets of chicken wings, salads, subs and pasta are just some of the food that's on the menu.

Free shuttle and take away and delivery options are available. mogulssportspub.com 802-422-4777.

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28 · PETS

Roxy and Peaches are 2 beautiful girls looking for loving homes!! Peaches might be a collie or sheltie mix and is 6 months old. Roxy is an 8 month old shepherd mix. These sweet puppies love people and other dogs. To come fall in love with one we are open Wed-Sat from Noon to 4 or call 802-885-3997 for more information. Join us May 11th from 9AM-3PM in front of Shaws for our annual Mother's Day Bake Sale and Basket Raffle. You can bid on baskets online now, check out the event on our Facebook page for more information.

> This pet is available for adoption at **Springfield Humane Society** 401 Skitchewaug Trail, Springfield, VT• (802) 885-3997 ***Open by appointment only.** spfldhumane.org



SKIPPER

Hi, I'm Skipper. I'm an 8-year-old neutered male German shepherd. I came to Lucy Mackenzie when somebody found me on the side of the road all on my own. I'm an older and sometimes anxious fellow that would love a caring and calm home. I'm a little on the hefty side. I can be intimidating at first. I bark with people I don't recognize, but warm right up. I should live in a home without cats or other dogs, and we'd need to test me around younger people first.

Lucy Mackenzie Humane Society 4832 VT-44, Windsor, VT • (802) 484-5829 •(By appointment only at this time.) Tues. - Sat. 12-4 p.m. & Thurs. 12-7 p.m. • lucymac.org

Rutland County Humane Society



Rain—2-year-old. Spayed female. Retriever mix.



Rue—5-year-old. Neutered male. Domestic shorthair. Buff.



Chalupa—1-year-old. Neutered male. Pit mix.



Shadow—6-year-old. Neutered male. Domestic shorthair.



Mystic—4-year-old. Spayed female. Domestic shorthair.



Benji—2-year-old. Neutered male. Catahoula mix.



Mauro—3-month-old. Neutered male. Heeler mix.



Hattie—1-year-old. Spayed female. Hound mix.



Reese—2-year-old. Spayed female. Hound mix.



Lucy-1-year-old. Spayed female. Labrador mix.

All of these pets are available for adoption at **Rutland County Humane Society** 765 Stevens Road, Pittsford, VT • (802) 483-6700 Tues. - Sat. 11 a.m. -4 p.m. Closed Sun. & Mon. • www.rchsvt.org



Dotty—1-year-old. Spayed female. Husky/ Shepherd mix.



Oxbow—2-month-old. Neutered male. Pit mix.



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Aries rch 21 - April 20

you were to take a look at your bank statements, would the way you spend money reflect your goals? A lot of people say that want this or that, but the things they do on the regular don't demonstrate this. Don't beat yourself up if you're one of those people. This week brings a fresh start. Set some new goals regarding abundance and persevere with them. Just remember you can't sow and reap in the same season.

Taurus April 21 - May 20

hances are, you're not the same person you were twelve months ago. So much has changed for you since around 2018 / 2019 but things really amped up recently. You're not fond of change, so some of this has been far from comfortable. That said, things are starting to calm down, at least for a while. This week, remember who you are, without the madness, the demands or what other people want you to be. Put yourself first.



verything is happening in the Ebackground for you this week. While you may have your worries that keep you up at night, things truly are changing for you and for the better. It's always the calm before the storm that makes you most anxious. Just let your current situation run its course, because the weather patterns are changing. Embrace the calm because it won't last long. Recharge your batteries while you still have time. You'll be glad you did.



There's a lot to be said for having **I** good friends. These days, the idea of friends has been cheapened a little bit. While are connected digitally through so many people, whom do you really know? Who really knows you? This week, it's all about deepening and connecting with those who truly have your back. Also, a good week for remembering that not everyone who smiles at you is a friend. Loyalty and discretion count now.



Vew beginnings are possible in a professional setting or in terms of your reputation and life direction. After periods of uncertainty, you may have opted to take matters into your own hands - well at least I hope so. You see, if you don't choose the change, the change chooses you and you have no choice. A lack of control doesn't work well for you. See the light and make the choice you've been putting off for long enough.

Virao <u>aust 21 - S</u>

n order to be somewhere you aren't. you have to dream up the possibility of it being so. As kids, we're encouraged to stay in the realms of what's possible. As adults, that's impractical. While practicality does serve you well, to what extent does it hold you back from your dreams and aspirations. Most of the time, you have to have faith in something eventuating rather than certainty. Start straddling the boundary between probability and possibility.

tember 21 - October 20 ry not to put your head in the clouds Try not to put your near in the community when it comes to dealing with the issues you're avoiding. Avoidance may feel better in the moment, but the reality is, the issue doesn't go away. It's quite empowering to face fears, worries or concerns head on. When you do, the proverbial monster is rarely as big and as scary as you thought it was. Whether the monster is financial or emotional in nature, do battle with it.

Libra

 π i π

Scorpio ber 21 - November 20

hoose the simple over the complicated this week if you want a relationship to improve. Not every situation needs to be probed into or examined from every miniscule angle. Bask in the simplicity of things and appreciate the serenity of it all. There's a time and a place for diving into the abyss, but this week, just smell the roses. A fresh start is possible if your love life has been less than smooth sailing.



 \mathbf{S} o much of our lives are driven by the big things. The promotion, the house purchase, the next overseas holiday. These are admirable aspirations, to be sure. However, not at the cost of the little things. All you need right now is right under your nose. Your local environment, neighbors or siblings are the source of your joy now. You don't have to have grand adventures to indeed, have a grand adventure.



hances are, you've been walking around with a heavy sigh for some time now. I'm pleased to announce the light at the end of a long and arduous cycle is about to close. Before it does, do be sure to take a look around you. See how much vou've achieved and how much beauty you've created. The secret to a divine life is to witness your capacity to bring heaven down to earth within the life you've created.



his week is well-starred to expe-I rience all the best that life has to offer. Joy, happiness, romance, fun and children are all yours to behold. Your challenge, just take your eye off the prize long enough to realize that everything you need is right with you, right now. If it's not, then chances are it's closer than you think. What you appreciate, appreciates. Swap out your pessimism for optimism and watch your life improve.



On the one hand, you don't enjoy change at home. While on the other, you do recognize that a fresh start of sorts is required. This could be in terms of your location or the familial dynamics you share. All scenarios can be improved by a little bit of good cheer. First, you do have to allow others to voice their needs and desires too. It's not only your opinion that equals joy and happiness at home.



Go online to see our full schedule: trueyogavermont.com



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Empowering you to lead a divinely inspired life. Cassandra has studied astrology for about 20 years. She is an international teacher of astrology who has been published all over the globe.



A magic in the stillness

After the month that was, chances are that by now, you need a little resolve. This week brings one of the most calm and quiet weeks we'll see in some time.

Though collectively, we've grown grossly unused to it, there is a magic in the stillness, in the calm and quiet where nothing seemingly happens. Alas! It is where everything happens.

It's the magic of fully being in your surroundings. Not anticipating the pinging of the next notification or the hundred and one tasks you have to accom-

plish. It's the magic of the sun upon your face, the mid-season breeze at your back. The hot cup of coffee warming your hands.



Cosmic Catalogue By Cassandra Tyndall

> that bring calm, joy, abundance and permanence.

Maybe it's your favorite meal with a

smooth full-bodied shiraz that touches

Message of the ocean

Back and forth, The waves crash against the sand, With a beautiful sound of calmness. The waves breathe in. And they let out a big sigh, In and out, In and out. The beautiful blue ocean goes, Maybe it's sending a little message, A message telling you,



That it is important to always be calm,

The trillionaires: singing, mating, killing and tripping

By Bruce Bouchard and John Turchiano

Ok! Get ready people, it's emergence time; your friends and family who reside in the northern and central Midwest, the Deep South and the Southeast have an approaching messy miracle, a maximum decibel symphony; a mating, urinating and psycotropicating bacchanal. This spring, in a matter of days, will host a rare combination of two cicada



Bruce Bouchard and John Turchiano

torch song - luring mates to propagation! They sing, they mate, they shelter their young, they die, and their remains fertilize the earth.

One trillion cicadas are descending upon our neighbors over the next six weeks!

Cicada→ 33

A young red squirrel grows up

Years ago, a hitchhiker found a baby red squirrel beneath a tree and brought it to the nature center where I worked as a naturalist and wildlife rehabilitator. The squirrel kit had not yet opened its eyes, so we estimated it was only 3 weeks old.

Most squirrels are born in the spring, but this one arrived at the center in November and was likely born in mid-October. Red squirrels sometimes mate twice a year, in mid-winter and again in summer. Kits are born after a gestation period of about 38 days and stay with their mother and siblings until they are around 10 weeks

old.

Our squirrel, which I later named Jumpy, was likely born in a tree cavity, perhaps an old woodpecker hole. If a female red squirrel cannot find a suitable tree cavity for a nest, she may renovate an abandoned crow or hawk nest or build a large, bulky nest high in a conifer. Squirrels construct these nests where a branch meets the tree trunk, using leaves, twigs, and cones. They line the interior with shredded bark, moss, and grass. Mother squirrels will sometimes move their kits from one nest to another perhaps to evade detection by would-be predators. This may be how Jumpy fell to the ground.

Jumpy likely had three or four siblings, all born furless, with eyes and ears closed. Squirrel kits grow fur during their first few weeks and open their eyes around four weeks of age.

When Jumpy first came to the nature center, he lived in a cardboard shoe box lined with crumpled facial tissue and placed on a heating pad. Since he needed to be fed every four to five hours, I took the young squirrel home each evening to administer nighttime feedings. Whenever I opened the box lid, he twitched warily, which is how he received his name. While awake, he moved quickly, guzzling the milk formula I fed him through an eyedropper, sometimes making soft, purring noises. His temperament was much different than that of the young gray squirrels I had raised, which were slower and rather mellow. (These differences between the two species are noticeable in adult squirrels as well.)

Jumpy opened his eyes a week after he arrived at the center. During the next few weeks around the age that young red squirrels in the wild begin exploring outside their nest for short periods -he became more active and began to run and climb. We moved him to a larger

box, then to a small cage. By two months of age, Jumpy was weaned and eating peanuts, popcorn, and apples. He was also chewing on spruce cones we provided; conifer seeds are a mainstay of a red squirrel's diet. He

The Outside Story By Susan Shea

made churring sounds similar to those of adult squirrels. Our plan was to release Jumpy to the wild, but it was now winter. He would have struggled to survive without adequate time to acquire a territory and a winter food cache.

But Jumpy was going crazy in

his indoor cage, and driving us nuts, even though we let him out for exercise in the building twice a day.

We moved him to a larger, roofed, outdoor cage, with a birdhouse stuffed with

bedding, and branches for climbing. He was eating nuts, spruce and hemlock cones, and beginning to chatter like an adult red squirrel. Soon, he started escaping from the cage when we opened the door to feed him, and eventually he refused to go back into the enclosure. Jumpy lived in a brush pile near our bird feeders for the rest of the winter, and we supplemented the birdseed with nuts and cones. By early spring, he was still visiting our feeders, caching food, and interacting with other squirrels, including chasing gray squirrels.

Jumpy was now 6 months old. He had survived the winter with our help and had a much better chance of survival. There would soon be abundant spring foods for a red squirrel in the surrounding woods: tree buds, new leaves, insects, birds' eggs. Watching Jumpy grow had given me a fascinating look into the development of a young red squirrel, and I was glad that he seemed to acclimate to life in the wild. Even now, years later, when I hear a red squirrel chatter overhead or see one at my bird feeder, I often think of Jumpy.

Susan Shea is a naturalist, writer, and conservationist based in Vermont. Illustration by Adelaide Murphy Tyrol. The Outside Story is assigned and edited by Northern Woodlands magazine and sponsored by the Wellborn Ecology Fund of the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation: nhcf.org.



It's all these little things we

take for granted, choosing things

that likely wouldn't choose you.

This week, choose the things

By Bree Sarandrea

To take time to yourself, It is important to be relaxed, Because that makes you happy, Take care of yourself and others, As very best you can, I believe you can do it,

The two different broods of cicadas -

221 years hence! To borrow from Rodgers

and Hammerstein, "The Hills [will be] Alive with the Sound of [Cicada] Music," their

As sweet as can be

I don't know when it first happened, but one day many years ago, after indulging in a

donut, I experienced some odd discomfort in my chest; it was a burning sensation that felt like I had burped up acid. I didn't initially attribute the feeling to the donut, but after having it occur multiple times, I started to see the correlation.

Knowing me, I probably asked around or did some research and determined that I had a burgeoning case of heartburn (also known as acid reflux). Soon after, I discovered

that Tums antacid tablets were my new best friend. Anytime I felt the heartburn building, I chewed up a Tums for instant relief.

I guess some people would continue to eat the same way, but the idea that my body was producing something so painful made me adjust my food intake. As such, over the last 25 years I have opted for fruit and cereal over fried, doughy pastries for breakfast. I definitely miss those tasty donuts and croissants, but not enough to endure the pain associated with acid reflux.

Last week, I was standing in the kitchen at my office prepping my breakfast. I generally eat a cup and a half of oats mixed with bananas, strawberries, blueberries, raspberries, and raisins. I cook it for 2 minutes, stir, and then cook it another 2 minutes. It's healthy, filling, and delicious.

On this occasion, however, I noticed a box of Dunkin' Donuts on the counter. Out of curiosity, I opened the lid to survey the contents. There before me sat an assortment of donuts glowing like a treasure chest full of jewels. Every color of the visible spectrum was displayed as either icing or sprinkles, making the whole box look like a canvas of multi-colored modern art.

I stared at the opened box of delicacies and then glanced over at my bland looking porridge in dismay. There was no competition when it came to presentation; the donuts were much more alluring. I then leaned over and took a deep breath. The smell of baked goods and sugar enveloped my senses.

I started to imagine what the glazed donut with maple frosting and multi-colored sprinkles would taste like. It had been decades since I bit into a pastry of this caliber.

The odd thing was that I had been in the presence of donuts hundreds of times prior to this and never once had an urge to indulge. In fact, it was quite the opposite. The pain from the acid reflux had made me loathe donuts, especially Dunkin' Donuts!



The Movie Diary By Dom Cioffi

I used to scoff at donuts and secretly shade anyone who was weak enough to eat

one. And yet, there I was, suddenly aching for a bite of that textured dough and sugar.

I looked around the corner. No one was there. If I was going to do this, it had to be secret. I'm known to be an extremely healthy eater, so I didn't want my credibility compromised with my work colleagues.

I reached down and grabbed the colorful donut. That's odd, I thought. It's lighter than I re-

member. I then smelled it, again being overwhelmed by the essence of sugar wafting through my nose.

I took a deep breath, opened my mouth, and bit into the round confection. I chewed for a moment and then stopped. I couldn't believe how intense the sugar rush was. My mouth lit up like a flavor amusement park. A few more chews and a swallow and I was done.

> I held the donut out in front of me for another moment considering whether to indulge again, before popping open the trash can and throwing it in. One bite was enough to remind me that the human body wasn't built to eat something so devoid of nutritional value.

> I grabbed my fruit-infused oatmeal and went back to my office. After it cooled a bit, I took a bite. I was immediately overwhelmed by how bland it tasted. A bite from that donut had actually recalibrated my mouth's sense of sweetness.

I haven't been tempted to eat another donut since, but after watching this week's feature, "Unfrosted," I am considering having my first Pop Tart in decades.

"Unfrosted" is the brainchild of Jerry Seinfeld, who co-wrote, directed and starred in the film. Along for the ride is one of the most star-studded casts assembled for a film in years. Together the group tells the fictional story of how the Kellogg's and Post cereal companies went to war over the introduction of a new breakfast treat: the Pop Tart.

This one is taking a hit commercially, but I found it alluring. There's more silliness and sophistication packed into this 90-minute long film than I've seen in a while. In fact, the jokes came so fast, I was confident I missed a third of them.

Check this one out to make your own decision, but I found "Unfrosted" to be a lighthearted and fun romp well worth the investment of time.

A syrupy "B" for "Unfrosted," now available to stream on Netflix.

Got a question or comment for Dom? You can email him at moviediary@att.net.

Choosing Killington

My mom moved here, to Killington, seven years ago, after the passing of my father. She was the first widow of her friend group and no one knew what to do with her in a world where everyone was coupled up. She was lonely and alone, so when the needlepoint shop that she worked at started shutting down, she began looking for options. But not too many places in the tri-state area are looking to hire women at what they've decided is retirement age.

Sooooo, the heck with that! She is a super smart woman with over 40 years of



Living the Dream By *M*erisa Sherman

What she didn't understand at the time, was that once someone chooses Killington, almost 100% of the time Killington will choose you back.

bookkeeping experience. So, we got her a job selling tickets at the resort and she became an official Killington resident. Even though she hadn't skied in over 15 years.

She wasn't sure it was the right thing to do, but she was closer to me and that was good enough at the moment. We sold her house in New York and dad's retirement home here, got her one of her own and gave it a blue roof. For the first time in her life, she had her own home, her own car and her own everything. At 67, she was starting over.

Mom excelled in tickets for a few years, constantly moving up in the department but then switched to retail as tickets became disappointedly automated. She joined the Little White Church, the Killington Active Seniors and the crochet group, helped start the Killington Paddle Ladies with local legend

> Barb Wood and would eventually become chair of the board for the Sherburne Memorial Library.

All that and she still wasn't sure she had made the right choice. She had left her entire past life behind to jump with blind faith into a life here. It's one thing to come up on the weekends and have your "real life" at home. It is quite another to leave all that behind and choose Killington completely, to take the risk of making a brand new life hours away from everything.

What she didn't understand at the time, almost 100% of the time Killington will

was that once someone chooses Killington, almost 100% of the time Killington will choose you back. This is a town of people who have chosen to live here, to start a new life because we love the mountains. If you choose to share of yourself with us, to make a commitment to join and support the community, we will love you back tenfold.

A few weeks ago, my mom turned 75 and her friends chose to throw her a surprise birthday party, complete with a blue boa and a sparkly tiara.

It was amazing. To be a daughter and watch so many independent and strong women shower my mom with love, it was one of the proudest, most spectacular moments of my life. To see how much my mom was loved and cherished by women whom I have grown to respect as role models and members of the community.

I am still glowing from the evening.

And was she surprised! It took her more than a senior moment to realize that everyone was there for her, and not just randomly out to dinner. I don't know what surprised her more the party or that she has made so many friends from all around the area. Even though she has been here for seven years full time, she still hadn't quite realized how full her life had become. I did, but only because it has gotten increasingly difficult to schedule some mother-daughter time... I am apparently infamous for calling her

Living the Dream \rightarrow 37



Courtesy Merisa Sherman

My most amazing Mommy, complete with boa and tiara, surrounded by the matriarchs of the Killington community for a surprise 75th birthday celebration.

My first driving adventure with a Vermont learner's permit

Building a Killington Dream Lodge: Part 12

While building our ski lodge in Killington, we worked very hard but there were perks, too. One thing I loved most about Vermont was what I discovered when I was

13. Since we owned property, I'd qualify to apply for a learner's permit when I turned 14. (In New Jersey I'd have to wait until I was 16).

We began driving lessons in Killington Ski Area's spacious parking lot. It was a perfect training ground—mostly empty when not in ski season (decades before mountain biking arrived). Mom taught me in our long Country Squire

to turn around, back up, and parallel park (much easier in a deserted parking lot than under pressure with other cars near). Power steering helped me but the car was 17.5 feet long!

One day, Mom told me, "When I was a girl, I started to drive when I was twelve. South Dakota had many farms far from the nearest towns. Kids needed to drive to help out on the farm and in case of a family emergency."

Once I learned the driving basics, Dad

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Mountain Meditation By Marguerite Jill Dye

taught me to handle his 1955 Willy's Jeep. He bought and restored it in New Jersey, then drove it to Vermont's Green Mountains to climb steep rocky roads (like our

> driveway). The grey vintage vehicle stood so high up, it didn't scrape any rocks underneath like our station wagon did daily. But the Jeep was challenging to drive with its temperamental stick shift and stiff steering wheel. Once I managed to climb aboard and get the hang of using the gear shift, I could move forward in spurts. Exploring the parking lot in the Jeep felt as if Dad and I

were on an expedition to explore an exotic destination like a Himalayan outpost or Alpine wilderness.

Once my April birthday arrived, we drove to Vermont from New Jersey a day early. I was eager to take the driving test in Rutland and receive my learner's permit. I was nervous. It was a big deal, but I'd studied and practiced (harder than in school). My hands were sweaty in the car as I followed the instructor's commands. I managed to back up the Country Squire without flatten-

Meditation \rightarrow 33

Choose a happy road

May is Older American Month. This designation was established in 1963 by the Administration for Community Living. The theme for 2024 is "Powered by Connection," which recognizes the profound impact that meaningful relationships and social connections have on our health and well-being.

In our area we have the Killington Active Seniors, the Thompson Center in Woodstock and the Godnick Adult Center in Rutland. Find out what's out there and make the decision to join in. We need to connect and find the inspiration, friendship, support and fun to age well.

What do you say when you look in a mirror? "Wow, look at me" or "Who's that old guy?"



Research shows our chronological age and subjective age rarely line up. There are ways to stay mentally youthful. Choosing a happy road is one way. Taking advantage of activities and social interaction is another way. A recent article in Inc.com refers to research done by neuroscientists that shares that average, middle age adults in Western societies feel about 20% younger than their actual years. This translates into a 70-year-old expecting to see a 56-year-old in the mirror.

Senior Scene Gerrie Russell

So, how can we change our subjective age? Most adults feel younger than they really are. One contributing factor is years rich in new experiences seem to make more of an impression on our

brains. Adolescence and young adulthood are times dense with firsts — first kiss, first job. More intensity means more memories which makes these years seem longer and weightless.

Middle age routine adds less life to our internal tally, slowing our inner clock. There is no such thing as a "correct" subjective age, but if we are feeling aged beyond our years by the stress of being an adult, what can we do? Are there ways to feel internally younger? As it turns out the suggestions are pretty simple.

First, get enough sleep. In one study getting enough sleep for a month made subjects feel, on average, six years younger. If you can't sleep just think younger! Traits like curiosity and openness, new ideas and opinions associated with youth are also associated with slower physical aging! When you think like a kid, your body seems to stay more youthful longer. Fresh experiences today lead to more happiness tomorrow and slow the signs of physical brain aging. So, who's that old guy in the mirror? How old you feel on the inside is far different from your chronological age and seems to be influenced by personality, culture, experience and daily habits. It really all comes down to one of those beautifully weird quirks of being human.

Rotary: Local and international deeds

I recently had the privilege of learning more about Rotary International. There are more than 33,000 clubs with 1.4 million members operating in over 200 countries.

Rotary's prime mission is eradicating polio from the world. They have a strong funding relationship with the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and work together to vaccinate children against polio and other diseases. For every \$1 the Rotary raises, the Gates Foundation matches it with \$2. Since around 1980, the polio virus has been eradicated from the world except for two countries......Afghanistan and Pakistan.

Rotary's motto is "Service Above Self" and our local club, located right here in Killington, strives to complete at least one community service project every year, usually working in the summer as the weather is more cooperative then. Last year one of the projects was to assemble and stain a shed to be used as a weather station and storage at the Killington Elementary School. They also stained the Gaga Pit and a bridge at the school along with planting some perennials in the new playground. The local club also applied for and received a \$1,000 Rotary District Grant that they matched with a donation of \$1000 for the new playground. In prior years they have stained the benches at the Killington Rec Center as well as benches at the Green Mountain Golf Course. The dugouts at the softball field were painted by this group as well. These are just a few of the physical projects.

Hosting Rotary foreign exchange students for a weekend of skiing at Pico is something they have looked forward to for the last 20 years. For some of the students it is their first introduction to snow sports. The annual Christmas tree sale has enabled the club to distribute money to various local charities in Killington, Rutland and all of Rutland County. Donating hard cover copies of the Scholastic Dictionary to the third graders at KES is a yearly project. There is certainly opportunity here and the senior group is invited to join and hopefully contribute. They meet every Wednesday at the KPAA and enjoy dinner catered by the Back Room of Pittsfield. They not only enjoy the fellowship of being together but there is usually a program or a speaker. Please let Janina Curtis (802-342-8661) know by Monday at noon if you can join them on any Wednesday. The cost is \$20 but the opportunity to be part of such an organization that serves in such a wide capacity is priceless.

Library events

You probably get tired of reading my words of praise for our very own Sherburne Library every month. But Monday at the movies there is a big hit each and every week. It's free, there's popcorn and the staff tries to show as many new releases as possible.

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Cicada..

from page 30

We need to look, listen, and learn about this compelling entomological miracle! You heard us say one trillion cicadas, yes? To put a fine point on this invasion, Floyd N. Shockley, entomologist at the Smithsonian Institute forwards this: "To put it into perspective just how many bugs will arrive, one trillion cicadas, each just over an inch in length, placed side by side, head to toe, would cover 15,782,828 miles end to end or, a different way to look at it: this cicada train would reach the moon and back 33 times!" The total spread of this brood of cicadas movement (brood as in flock of seagulls, murder of crows) will reach 16 states through the middle of June.

A few facts of orientation related to genus, Magicicada Septendecim:

They live underground for either 13 or 17 years.

They sustain themselves over these years by ingesting ground and tree liquids.

They emerge only after the ground reaches $64\,degrees,$ hence the spring movement.

When they emerge, they molt, revealing their new selves, and begin their mating chorus, which when fully engaged by a giant choir of males can reach decibels higher than the landing of a jet plane.

Their primary value in the ecological chain is of advanced tree pruning.

They drink 300 times their body weight each day. A huge (to body weight) pump in their heads sucks in the water and, as you will see next, eliminates it with a mighty strength of purpose.

Their urination stream is stronger than the flow of an elephant or a horse.

They aren't good fliers or landers. They often end up on city streets to be squished by people or cars, "makin' things real slick." Envision unsuspecting people, struggling on the sidewalks of Cincinnati, slipping, sliding and falling into the dark, slick mess like a novice bowler slipping and falling onto a newly polished lane.

As with many boisterous parties, there is a dark and deadly side to this emergence, a side stranger than science fiction; wilder than the grim predictions of the Helstrom Chronicles: This emergence, of two broods, for the first time in ten generations, and once in our life-times, in addition to being loud and crowded, will have a number of serial killers within its population. Not to worry, they don't harm us; they neither sting nor bite. Their gruesome murders are strictly family matters.

USA Today re-released reporting from 2020, supported by a Plos Pathogens study, stating that "A virulent STD will emerge in 10% of the brood of male cicadas. They will, after mating, contract a fungal parasite, which in short order is deadly. This pathogen, is a form of biological puppetry in which the pathogen manipulates the behavior of the powerless hosts, by disemboweling and severing the lower half of the male body, leaving in its place wet, open spores which will infect and kill many others in the brood."

The Plos Pathogens study also found the Massospora (the open spores) in the infected cicadas contain psychoactive compounds, including psilocybin. This finding was also

confirmed by Dr. John Cowley, an entomologist at the University of Connecticut. These combined studies by Plos Pathogens and Dr. Cowley further concluded that the infected pathogen victims experience something akin to "The Walking Dead" or "The Last of Us." The decrepit creatures wreak fatal havoc with the quiet savagery of ricin; "Breaking Bad" indeed!

While taking all of this esoterica to heart, add one other option — you can eat the cicada! Should you wish to top off this entire inquiry you can visit Chef Bun Lai at his family Sushi restaurant, Meyas Sushi in New Haven, Connecticut. Chef Bun extolls their sweet, bitter virtues enhanced by adzuki beans and shavings of walnuts and chestnuts on their gently crunchy exteriors giving way to a creaminess, much like a soft shell crab.

It's a very good thing indeed that his shop is in New Haven, Connecticut far from the zone of cicada totality found in Illinois or Georgia. This, lest we confuse the wet spores of bifurcation with the soft shell crab creaminess of a freshly roasted cicada. Or perhaps you would prefer to try his popcorn garland of bugs cooked over fire and then put into a kale salad with beet greens and scallions or in a Cicada Miso soup with a savory broth of kelp and oyster mushrooms poured over a bowl of raw cicadas. Yum! I am seeing geometric patterns already!

Put aside the challenges of our crazed world, the stress, the contention, upset, and worry, and wrap your head around this meditation: Imagine one trillion of anything: stars, memories, acts of kindness, original ideas, wishes, one dollar bills, anything... and now, bring in the cicadas, en masse: singing, and flirting, and dancing and mating, and yes, killing. They see you, they feel you — it's inevitable, you live in their world.



Submitted

One trillion cicadas, a rare combination of two, emerge globally, mating and mating. 10% of males carry a deadly fungal parasite.

from page 32

ing the parking cones. The written test was a cinch. I'd practically memorized the driver's handbook. I passed both exams and shouted "yippee!" I had my learner's permit in hand. I could drive—only in Vermont—with any adult with a driver's license. I was elated and ready to go on my very first driving adventure with a friend.

Ann arrived for our very first painting outing en plein air, on location in the open air. I would drive for the very first time without Mom or Dad in the car. We loaded our lunch and art supplies and took off in the station wagon. We bumped down our driveway scraping the bottom, crossed Roaring Brook Bridge to the Access Road, then down the mountain on Route 4 and followed the Ottaquechee Gorge and River Valley.

Dark clouds had gathered and suddenly let loose with a loud and thunderous pouring rain storm. I was on high alert and turned on my windshield wipers and lights. We crept along the winding Woodstock route then veered off. I don't know where. The remote dirt road led to a spot where we had a great view of a deserted farmhouse with outbuildings and barn. I parked along the side of the road, turned off the car and took a deep breath. Driving in a storm was exhausting. It was still raining, so we stayed in the car.

After a snack to regain my fortitude, my art mentor, Ann, taught me to draw using perspective with a vanishing point. She showed me how to draw from near to far, and how to depict distance. She trained in art at New York's Pratt Institute and often shared her art knowledge with me. Ann is the reason I became an artist. She inspired me to take creative chances and follow my heart to do what I love. My perspective lesson that day has served me for decades throughout my career as an artist, teaching and painting en plein air, on location everywhere.

After our class in the pouring rain we'd each completed a watercolor of the farm. I was happy. We'd accomplished a lot, and fortunately the rain had stopped. We devoured our sandwiches, then headed home, chatting (although it was harder to concentrate while talking). I was engrossed in driving and conversation so was quite startled when the car

began to sputter.

We were headed up steep Route 4 past Ann's house near River Road, the Little White Church, and (former) Killington Post Office. The car sputtered some more so I pulled

over. It gave out a gasp and completely turned off. I switched on the flashing light and pushed down on the emergency brake. I was afraid it might give out due to the steep incline. "What happened? What's wrong with car?" I asked Ann without a clue.

Ann studied the dashboard and asked with experience, "What does the fuel gauge read, my dear?"

I peered at the needles then stuttered, defeated. "Oh no, it's empty! We ran out of gas!"

The skies were rained out so I walked up the road to the sheriff's house which Dad had pointed out. I knocked on the door with trepidation, but Mrs. Towne opened it with a smile and said, "Hello. How may I help you?"

"Thank you," I said. "My gas tank is empty. I ran out of gas a little down Route 4." I felt guilty and stupid but she simply nodded and called to her husband who appeared at the door. I was star struck. I'd never seen a sheriff (other than t.v.'s Andy Griffith and Matt Dillon). Sheriff Towne fetched his gas can. We crossed Route 4 and walked

towards the car. I was wondering if we had sheriffs in New Jersey. "I can't believe this happened to me on my very first drive with my learner's permit." I was so embarrassed my face must have turned red.

"Well, one thing's for certain," Sheriff Towne said with a twinkle in his eye, a chuckle and a smile. "I bet you'll check the gas gauge from now on."

He was right, except for once. In my 59 years driving since then, I only ran out of gas in the middle of nowhere near Devil's Tower, Wyoming.

Marguerite Jill Dye is an artist and writer who divides her time between Vermont and Florida. She can be reached at Jilldyestudio@aol.com.

Ann studied the dashboard and asked with experience, "What does the fuel gauge read, my dear?" I peered at the needles then stuttered, defeated. "Oh no, it's empty! We ran out of gas!"



The Mountain Times • May 8-14, 2024



Senior Scene: from page32

The show starts at 1 p.m.

Thoughts on Aging will gather on the third Thursday, May 15 with an open discussion on Where We Are Now. All are welcome to this group. The only requirement is an open mind and a desire to discuss topics that are relevant as we age. The discussion starts at 1 p.m.

The library will be turned into a travel agency and we will travel around the world all summer. To prepare for this momentous trip, the library will be closed on Thursday and Friday, May 30-31. The Historians group will meet Saturday, May 18. Please note this is a change from their regular second Saturday meeting day.

Book Club meets on the last Wednesday of the month with the discussion starting at 1 p.m. The selection for May is "The Color of Water "by James McBride. Mr. McBride, a journalist, musician and son, explores his mother's past, as well as his own upbringing and heritage. It is a powerful debut for McBride, a Black man's tribute to his white mother.

The senior group and the library staff, led by our creative librarian, have been working hard on this summer's theme, which is Adventures Begin at Your Library.

The library will turn into a travel agency and we will travel around the world all summer. To prepare for this momentous trip, the library will be closed on Thursday and Friday, May 30-31. An open house on Saturday, June 1 from 10 a.m.-12 p.m. will introduce the summer theme and will give everyone a chance to see the transformed library. Don't forget your passport!

On that same day, June 1, the very popular Touch a Truck will be on site. Firetrucks, garbage trucks, construction trucks and every other kind of truck will be there for kids to sit in, climb over and blow very loud horns. So, save the date Saturday, June 1!!

Community breakfast

Sherburne United Church of Christ, better known as The Little White Church, is a veritable powerhouse. They support families in town that need a little help by not only maintaing a food pantry that is open to anyone, but also a Deacons Fund for extra help every once in a while — maybe someone needs a tank of gas or to have your electric bill paid when a bad month comes along.

The members of the Little White Church are now graciously planning a community breakfast to say thank you to the road crew for taking such good care of our roads during the winter. And the whole community is invited! So save the date of Friday, May 31 and join your friends and neighbors for pancakes, sausage, bacon, fruit salad and coffee between the hours of 7-10 a.m.

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Environmental Division 32 Cherry Street 2nd Floor, Suite 303 Burlington, VT 05401 JUD.Environmental@vermont.gov 802-951-1740

Case No.Case No. ___24-ENV-00035__

Lake Bomoseen Association and LBPT Denial

NOTICE OF APPEAL TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL DIVISION DECISION OR PERMIT NUMBER <u>_3642 ANC-C</u>

NAME OF PROJECT BEING APPEALED <u>Lake Bomoseen (LB) Assoc. and LB Pres. Trust Permit</u> <u>App. Denial</u> ADDRESS AND DESCRIPTION OF THE PRJOECT <u>Lake Bomoseen, Castleton and</u> <u>Hubbardton; Vermont ANC</u>

Permit Application for mitigation of Eurasian Watermilfoil using pesticides; Herbicide; SePRO ProcellaCOR EC_

Notice is given that _Lindsey C. Waterhouse_, Appellant in this appeal process, appeals to the Environmental Division from <u>decision 3642-ANC-C</u>, entered on the <u>3rd_</u> day of <u>April, 2024</u>.

The statutory provisions under which you claim party status <u>10 VSA Section 8504 (d) (2)</u>

Signature: Lindsey C. Waterhouse

Name: Lindsey C. Waterhouse; Mailing address: <u>177 Bigelow Rd, Fair Haven, VT 05743</u>

Phone: <u>XXX-XXX-XXXX</u> Email address: <u>waterhouselindsey@gmail.com</u>; Attorney for: <u>NA</u> All interested persons must enter an appearance in writing with the Court within 21 days of receiving this notice. **NOTE**: This form must be filed with the Environmental Division court clerk and served on counsel of record for each represented party, and any self-represented party. V.R.A.P. 3(b)



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PET FRIENDLY HOME FOR RENT. 800 square feet. Full house. Central location. 2 miles from lifts just off Killington Access Road. 2 bedrooms. Completely renovated. Fireplace and deck. Available starting Mav 15 through November 15. \$2,750/month plus security deposit. Utilities included. Call Jason at 802-342-3456.

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> SELECTBOARD FOR A TERM UP TO THE MARCH 4, 2025 ELECTION

A letter of interest can be sent directly to Michael Ramsey, Killington Town Manager at townmanager@killingtontown.com by May 13th, 2024, at 12-noon.

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Living the Dream: from page 31

during Senior Lunch.

My mom hasn't just survived in Killington, she has thrived, thanks to amazing friends and a constant willingness to give. To her surprise, she was welcomed with open arms by a community that loves to do just that. If you choose to become part of the Killington community, sit back and watch the magic happen.

A good friend calls us all the Stray Flakes. We all come from completely different backgrounds and walks of life. We all got here from different directions, but something magical about this mountain has created a community where none of that matters except that your history makes you who you are. Together, we create the Killington community, just a bunch of stray flakes stuck together to create something amazing.

My mom is amazing. From packing ski club lunches to après ski hot chocolates, from scraped knees to ACL replacements, my mom has been the absolute best mom I could ever have asked for. I am so grateful that she chose to share those gifts with the whole community. Thanks, Mom, for introducing our family to skiing and life. You truly are the best.

Happy Mother's Day!!

Merisa Sherman is a long time Killington resident, member of the Development Review Board, town lister, local Realtor and Coach PomPom. She can be reached at Merisa.Sherman@SothebysRealty.com.





Sanders: from page 9

capita utilization of community health centers. That means that up to 190,000 Vermonters every year are receiving their primary health care, their dental care, their mental health counseling, and lower-cost prescription drugs at these centers. But that's not enough. In my view, the United States must join every other major country on earth in guaranteeing health care to all of our people as a human right, not a privilege. That's a fight we must continue to wage.

Together, we have begun the process of lowering the cost of prescription drugs. We're making insulin more affordable to seniors and all those struggling with diabetes. We're lowering the cost of inhalers for those with asthma and COPD. We're finally beginning to negotiate prices with the big drug companies. But that's not enough. We need to take on the greed of the pharmaceutical industry and end the absurdity of Americans paying, by far, the highest prices in the world for prescription drugs.

Earlier this year, we saw devastating flooding across our state, further illustrating the deadly effect of climate change. And I will tell you that visiting the communities impacted in

Barre, in Montpelier, in Weston, Ludlow and other towns, and talking with Vermonters who had lost their homes and businesses — that was a painful experience. Together, we must continue to combat climate change by transforming our energy system away from fossil fuel, and into energy efficiency and sustainable energy. I'm proud that I was able to bring \$62 million into Vermont to help our people afford solar panels for their rooftops, and additional money for heat pumps. But that's not enough. This is a global crisis. We must work with every country on earth to cut carbon emissions and save the planet for our kids and future generations.

As the former Chair of the Veterans Committee, I'm proud of the role my office has played in making sure that veterans in our state get the quality health care they deserve, whether it's at the White River Junction Medical Center or community-based outpatient clinics around the state. And I'm excited about major new VA health clinics that will be built both in Chittenden County and for Vermont veterans in the southern part of our state. But that's not enough. We must vigorously oppose those who want to privatize the VA and make sure that every veteran gets the quality care and benefits they have earned.

I'm proud of my 100% lifetime voting record in defense of women's rights and the absolute need for women to control their own bodies. And I am proud of Vermont for becoming the first state to enshrine abortion rights in our constitution. But that's not enough. We must codify Roe v. Wade into national law and do everything possible to oppose the wellfunded right-wing effort to roll back the gains that women have achieved after decades of struggle. No more secondclass citizenship for the women of Vermont or America. I'm proud of the role my office has played in canceling student debt for millions of Americans, including nearly 6,500 here in Vermont. But that's not enough. In a highly competitive global economy, we need to make sure that all public colleges and universities are tuition free, and that every Vermonter, regardless of income, can get the higher education they need to pursue their dreams. Further, we need to break our dependence on the regressive property tax in the funding of local schools.

Sanders cont. \rightarrow 39



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Spacious, **three-bedroom** contemporary property. The home features a large, modern kitchen with upgraded appliances, cabinetry and countertops. The primary bedroom includes an en suite bath and a walk in closet with custom cabinets. Additional rooms in the attic and basement provide plenty of space for storage, home office or a playroom. Outside, you'll find a brick patio in the front, and a large covered deck in the back, perfect for summertime entertaining, as well as a two-car garage and garden shed. Just across the street from the Rutland Country club and only a few miles from Pico Mountain and Killington. The Rutland Town address gives students (9-12) access to school choice.



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Sanders, cont.: from page 38

I am proud of my leadership role in defending Social Security and Medicare from those who would cut benefits for our seniors. No. We don't need to cut

benefits. We need to expand them. And we can do that by demanding that the very wealthy start paying their fair share of taxes into the Social Security Trust Fund. I'm proud of some of the innovative

housing programs we've introduced over the years and the millions of housing dollars we've brought into the state. This includes the National Housing Trust Fund — a national program modeled after the Burlington Community Land Trust,

now the Champlain Housing Trust - which puts federal funds to work to create safe, perpetually affordable housing. But that's not enough. We have a major housing crisis today that must be addressed. No Vermonter should be paying 40% or 50% of his or her income to put a

roof over their head.

And there is one other issue that I know is very much on the minds of Vermonters. On October 7th, 2023, Hamas

No Vermonter should be paying 40% or 50% of his or her income to put a roof over their head.

elebrating

the war in Gaza with a horrific attack on Israel that killed 1,200 men, women, and children and took more than 230 hostages, some of whom remain in captivity today. Israel had the absolute right to defend itself against this terrorist attack, but it did not and does not have the right to go to war against the entire Palestinian people, which is exactly what it is doing.

- a terrorist organization - began

34,000 Palestinians have already been killed and 77.000 have been wounded - 70% of whom are women and children. According to humanitarian organizations, famine and starvation are now imminent. In my view, U.S. tax dollars should not be going to the extremist Netanyahu government

802.775.5111 335 Killington Rd. to continue its devastating war against the Palestinian people.

Let me conclude by telling you what you already know: These are very difficult times for our country and the world. And, in many ways, this 2024 election is the most consequential election in our lifetimes. Will the United States continue to even function as a democracy, or will we move to an authoritarian form of government? Will we reverse the unprecedented level of income and wealth inequality that now exists, or will we continue to see billionaires get richer while working families struggle to put food on the table? Can we create a government that works for all of us, or will our political system continue to be dominated by wealthy campaign contributors? These are just some of the questions that, together, we need to answer, and that I look forward to discussing with you on the campaign trail.

Once again: Thank you very much for the support that many of you have given me in the past. As I enter this campaign, I look forward to your continued support. U.S. Sen. Bernie Sanders, Burlington

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