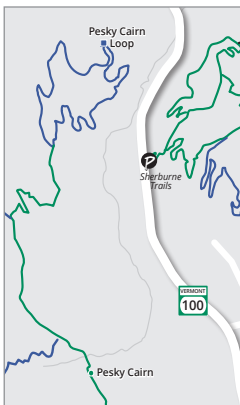


KILLINGTON SEES SHAKEUP IN HIGHWAY DEPT

The team of five highway dept. employees have signed a petition to unionize, while the foreman of 36 years has resigned.

Page 4



VOREC GRANTS \$6.3 MILLION TO BOOST RECREATION

Nearly \$1 million is dedicated to six local projects. Killington receives funds to build a critical connection across Route 100 from the Sherburne Trails to the Pesky Cairn trails.

Page 6



CATFISH DERBY IS JUNE 1

The annual Huck Finn Catfish Derby is Saturday 12-2 p.m. on the Foundry Pond. Proceeds benefit Killington Elementary.

Page 22



Cyclist flocked to the Killington Stage Race

By Jerry LeBlond

Over the three days of Memorial Day weekend, cyclists raced across the Killington region competing on iconic local roadways. See more photos on page 23.

Center Street redesign takes shape

One-way road downtown deemed best solution for downtown pedestrian and business access

By Adam Davis

The redesign of Center Street in downtown Rutland is taking its first steps towards becoming a reality. Rutland City Mayor Micheal Doenges presented the Center Street Redesign project at a recent Community and Economic Development Committee meeting at city hall.

According to Mayor Doenges, a scoping study and underground utility study have already been completed. After analyzing downtown traffic patterns, the potential impacts upon parking and utilities, as well as input from Center Street business/landowners and the larger Rutland community, the committee believes a curbside, one-way westbound design is the most practical solution for revitalizing a vital part of downtown Rutland.

"The Public feedback could be simply summed up as this: No one wanted 'small changes,'" the scoping study report summarized.

Choosing the one-way option

Considering that Center Street sees some of the highest pedestrian foot traffic in Vermont, this design concept is seen by the committee as the best way to satisfy both the community and business owners preference for a pedestrian-focused street while also maintaining access and parking for Center Street businesses. The curbside design will improve accessibility along the street for pedestrians and will notify drivers that it's not a "typical" roadway. Additionally, the curbside design will allow for a quick transformation to a pedestrian-only street during outdoor concerts and other noteworthy events.

Center Street → 5

From tree to table: The Naked Table Project's small forestry footprint has a big impact

By Kathleen Wanner

It's a small world! When you hear that today, it usually has a global connotation. Not so for The Naked Table Project, the brainchild of Charles Shackleton, a furniture maker from Bridgewater. Naked Table highlights just how small the footprint of forestry and wood products can be.

Naked Table grew from the seed of an idea in response to a challenge by Sustainable Woodstock about 15 years

ago. Since its founding in 2009, Shackleton has hosted more than 20 Naked Table events.

Now, the State House lawn will be the backdrop for the next Naked Table on June 1. Charlie Shackleton has set a goal of 20 Vermont maple dining tables made by participants at a cost of \$2,500 each. Profits from this event will benefit Habitat for Humanity, which expands the "tree to table" concept to highlight

Vermont's housing challenges.

Naked Table is a supply chain story that requires a lot of local players and partners working together to ensure success; it's a sometimes circuitous journey and always begins on the land, in a managed forest.

This particular Naked Table starts on a Tree Farm in Washington County owned by Senator Patrick Leahy and

Naked Table → 39



Diners enjoy a past Naked Table fundraising event held inside Middle Bridge in Woodstock.

Courtesy Shackleton Thomas



By Caleb Kenna.

Mary Kay Lanthier in 2016. President Joe Biden announced Thursday, May 23, 2024, that he would nominate her to a federal judgeship in Vermont.

Biden nominates Mary Kay Lanthier, Rutland County public defender, to Vt federal judgeship

By Alan J. Keays/VTDigger

President Joe Biden plans to nominate Mary Kay Lanthier, the supervising attorney in the Rutland County Defender's Office, to be the next federal judge for Vermont, the White House announced Thursday morning, May 23.

Lanthier, who has served in her current role since 2007, would succeed Judge Geoffrey Crawford on the federal bench if confirmed by the U.S. Senate.

Crawford formally announced last summer his intention to step down this August and move to senior status. In that capacity, Crawford would still preside over cases, but on a more limited basis.

Prior to her position in Rutland, Lanthier served as a public defender in the Addison County Public Defender's Office from 2000 to 2003. She also worked in private practice as an associate and then partner at the firm Marsh & Wagner from 2003 to 2007, and as an associate at Keiner & Dumont from 1998 to 2000.

From 1996 to 1998, Lanthier served as a law clerk for trial court judges in Chittenden and Addison county courts. She received her law degree from Northeastern University School of Law in 1996 and her bachelor's from Amherst College in 1993.

U.S. Sens. Bernie Sanders, I-Vt., and Peter Welch, D-Vt., announced in a joint statement last November that together they were organizing a joint Judicial Nomination Advisory Panel to screen candidates for the post and make recommendations to Biden for filling Crawford's post.

It carries a lifetime appointment.

In her current job, Lanthier represents indigent clients facing criminal charges ranging from murder to retail theft. She described that work in a 2016 story in Seven Days.

"There's no better job," she said at the time. "You just get to meet so many people at so many different stages of their lives and really stand between them and the power of the government." Lanthier said, "The bad guys aren't always bad... You shouldn't be defined by the worst mistake or worst thing you did."

If confirmed by the U.S. Senate, Lanthier would join U.S. District Court Judge Christina Reiss on the federal bench from Vermont. Reiss presides in U.S. District Court in Burlington while Lanthier would primarily preside in U.S. District Court in Rutland.

Judge William K. Sessions III continues to serve on senior status, a role he has held since he stepped down from the bench full-time in 2014.

Otter Valley, Barstow prepare for third budget votes June 11 and 12

Staff report

The Rutland Northeast Supervisory Union (RNE-SU) district school boards of Otter Valley Unified Union and Barstow Unified Union once again have retooled their budgets for a third revote June 11 and 12, respectively.

At the district level, RNE-SU approved an additional \$150,250 reduction for Otter Valley and \$26,337 for Barstow.

The Barstow School Board voted to reduce its fiscal year 2025 budget by an

Barstow's original \$6.27 million budget was defeated by only four votes on Town Meeting Day ... its first revote... however, failed by a wider margin of 60 votes.

additional \$187,000.

The original \$6.27 million budget (a 12.1% increase over FY2024) was defeated by only four votes on Town Meeting Day in March (375-379). A subsequent recount confirmed the outcome.

Barstow's first revote for a reduced budget of \$6.25 million budget on April

30, however, failed by a wider margin of 60 votes (274-214).

The new budget being presented for the third revote is \$6.06 million.

An informational meeting will be held at 6 p.m. Thursday, June 6, and voting will be the following Wednesday, June 12.

The Otter Valley School Board approved additional cuts totaling \$170,250 for its third revote.

Otter Valley Unified Union (OVUU) 3rd revote → 15

Vermont State Universities' entrepreneurship class is a springboard for innovation

Vermont State Universities' entrepreneurship class, instructed by adjunct professor Christopher Coughlin of Rutland, is redefining hands-on learning with a dynamic approach to business education. This class, a staple for aspiring entrepreneurs, focuses on bringing unique products to the marketplace while building comprehensive business plans around them. Students in this class embark on a journey that covers the entire spectrum of business product creation. Each participant develops a unique product, builds a prototype and constructs a detailed business plan, encompassing key learning elements such as:

- **Product Description:** Articulation of the unique features and benefits of the product.
- **Mission Statement:** A concise declaration of their company's purpose and values.
- **Financial Plan:** Detailed projections of revenues, expenses, and profitability that ensures a return on investment.
- **Industry Analysis:** Comprehensive assessment of the market in which their business would operate.
- **Marketing Plan:** Strategies for market entry, promotion, and customer acquisition.
- **Competitive Set Analysis (Comp Set):** Examination of competitors and market positioning.
- **Purchase and Loss Statement:** Detailed financial statement with a five-year projection with graphs, charts, and tables.
- **Investment Offer:** Students offer either an equity position, return on investment or a combination for seed money.

The venture capital pitch

The culmination of the course involves students presenting their products in a Shark Tank style format to a panel of four fictitious venture capitalists: Daniel Mora, Matt Poli, Tammy Landon, and Amelia Jones. Jones, a distinguished former winner of the competition in 2023 and current entrepreneur, brings a seasoned perspective to the panel. The 2024 class showcased a diverse array of innovative products, each aimed at solving real-world problems with creative solutions:

1. **Snow Buddy:** A device that measures snow depth of your driveway, mounted on the roof of your garage, relaying this information to snowplow drivers to optimize their routes for convenience and cost-effectiveness. Aiden Houseman, Nolan Avery, and Derek Monahan were the creators of this product.

2. **Tree Net:** A protective device for homes in hurricane-prone areas, designed to shield properties from debris and falling trees during extreme weather conditions. Ben Jalbert, Habs Coulter, Kaya Greenfield were the creators of this service.

3. **Ski Sense Pro:** An analytics device that attaches to skis, providing performance data and improvement suggestions for skiers via an app. Braydon Jourden, CC Allembert, Tom Griffin developed this ground breaking technology.

4. **Lift Logics RCS:** A product enabling ski resort lift operators to shut off lifts using a button on a two-way radio, enhancing operational efficiency, eliminating lift stop time delays potentially saving lives and preventing lawsuits. PJ Gauthier, Sam Altavilla, Nico Calvelli formed this innovative product.

5. **911 Incognito:** A wearable device, disguised as jewelry or a pager like device, that alerts police, EMTs, and fire departments when the wearer is unable to speak, with a touch of a button, offering discreet emergency assistance that has GPS capabilities. Simon Bullwinkel and Julia Baker created

Entrepreneurs → 9



Courtesy Christopher Coughlin
The winning product 911 Incognito was designed by Simon Bullwinkel (left) and Julia Baker (right).

Sculpture honoring Ernie and Willa Royal unveiled

Ernie Royal was 'Jackie Robinson of the Food Service Industry'

Thirty years after Ernie Royal died and Royal's Hearthside Restaurant closed, Ernie and Willa Royal are being honored with a life-sized sculpture downtown, unveiled Wednesday, May 22 at 89 Merchants Row.

Ernie Royal, a national leader in the food service industry and the first black restaurant owner in Vermont, and Willa Royal, who was his partner and greeted every guest, were brought to life in stone by designer Amanda Sisk and sculptor Don Ramey. The sculpture is the 12th piece on the Rutland Sculpture Trail, a collaboration highlighting local history and people who made it.

"Mr. Royal was the Jackie Robinson of the food service industry," said Gerry Fernandez, who worked for him in the early 1980s and later founded the national Multicultural Foodservice and Hospitality Alliance. "He broke barriers and inspired hundreds of people of color, including me, to build careers and own restaurants."

Royal started working in a kitchen in Boston at 13, and in 1955 started a small restaurant in Dorchester, Mass. When he tried to buy the building, he faced racism as Boston bankers refused to give him a loan, so he moved to Vermont and started over. He opened Royal's Hearthside in 1963 and operated it until 1994, with only a one-year "retirement" in the 1980s.

Royal's was a success from the start, with Willa creating a welcoming dining room and Ernie commanding the kitchen - and visiting nearly everyone who entered. They drew diners — and restaurant critics — from across New York and New England, who enjoyed his innovative methods and their warm personalities.



By Pat Wise

The newest installation on the Rutland Sculpture trail honors Ernie and Willa Royal.

Through it all, Ernie mentored Black men and women, established a scholarship for Black students at the Culinary Institute of America, and left his entire estate to support it when he died in 1994.

He was the first African American to join the board of directors of the National Restaurant Association. He was named to the African-American Chefs Hall of Fame posthumously in 2017, 100 years after his birth.

"Ernie and Willa literally helped hundreds of people of color get their first jobs, fulfill professional dreams, and change their lives," said President Mia Schultz of the Rutland Branch of the NAACP. "It is an honor to honor them today."

One of the people who benefited from Ernie Royal's tutelage was Rutland native Raymond Rogers. Rogers eventually enlisted in the Navy, and was repeatedly promoted, ultimately

joining the White House food service in 2007, and becoming the personal valet and chef to President Barack Obama in 2009, where he served for eight years.

Don Ramey found carving the piece a special experience.

"I only had the opportunity to enjoy dining at Royal's Hearthside once in the early 1990s, so I was touched by the number of people who stopped by to tell me their memories of Ernie and Willa's kindness, and generous hospitality," Ramey said. "It inspired me to try to bring that character into their portraits."

Amanda Sisk, the designer, was key to Willa's inclusion in the piece.

"Few monuments in our country honor women in leadership," Sisk said. "When I read that Ernie believed that he could not have operated a successful business without his equal partner in it, Willa, I requested that we include her in the monument's design."

The sculpture, featuring Willa arranging flowers in the foreground while Ernie works with several young employees behind her in the kitchen, was designed to allow viewers to actually sit at the table next to Willa.

The sculpture was funded by Casella Construction, Norm Cohen, Jane and Steve Costello, Gerry Fernandez, Green Mountain Power's charitable fund, Melinda Humphrey, Foley Services, Roots and The Bakery, Rutland Blooms, the Rutland Branch of the NAACP, and Ted Balestreri.

The Rutland Sculpture trail is a collaboration of the Carving Studio and Sculpture Center, GMP, MKF Properties, and Vermont Quarries, which donates all the stone for the sculptures. Sculptures are scattered around downtown, with a goal of adding one to two per year.

For more information, visit: carvingstudio.org.



By Pat Wise

Visit the life-size sculpture at 89 Merchants Row in downtown Rutland.

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Table of contents

Local news	2
State news	8
Opinion	10
Puzzles	15
Calendar.....	16
Arts, Dining, Entertainment.....	20
Pets	28
Horoscopes.....	29
Columns.....	30
Service directory.....	32
Classifieds.....	35
Real estate	36

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AOT announces road construction this week

The Agency of Transportation submits a weekly report of planned construction activities that will impact traffic on state highways and interstates throughout Vermont. The following are what to expect on state roadways locally.

I-91 Springfield-Hartland

Beginning Tuesday, May 28, multiple single lane closures will be in place along I-91 Southbound from north of Exit 9 to just south of Exit 7 while a paving project ramps up. A speed limit reduction to 55 mph will be in place through the work zone. Motorists should watch for shifting traffic patterns.

Hartford

Hartford Bridge 7 on Route 14 and Milk Road: From Tuesday, May 28, through Friday, May 31, between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m., motorists can expect minimal traffic impacts with multiple concrete mixers moving in and out of the project area at either end of the bridge.

Hartford: From Tuesday, May 28, through Friday, May 31, during daytime hours, between 7 a.m. and 6 p.m., motorists should expect alternating one-way lane closures on U.S. Route 5 beginning near the Hartford-Hartland town line to the I-89 overpass and the VA Cutoff Road. From Tuesday, May 28, through Friday, May 31, during nighttime hours, between 6 p.m. and 7 a.m., motorists should expect alternating one-way lane closures on Route 5 from Veteran's Drive to Bugbee Street. Flaggers and uniformed traffic officers will be present to assist motorists through the work zone.

Ludlow

The removal of Bridge 57 and the installation of a pedestrian bridge over the Black River is underway on Mill Street. Pleasant Street at its junction with Mill Street is closed to all vehicle traffic. A detour routes vehicles from Pleasant Street along Elm Street, and Main Street to Pleasant Street Extension.

Pittsford

Traffic control will be present on U.S. Route 7 throughout most work hours this week, beginning on May 28. Watch for roadside warning signage.

Poultney

Tuesday, May 28, through Friday, May 31, there will be daily alternating one-way traffic controlled by flaggers on Bridge 7 at the intersection of Thrall Road and River Street.

State road construction → 9

After 36 years Killington road foreman steps down; highway department signs petition to unionize

By Polly Mikula

Ricky Bowen, foreman for the town of Killington highways and facilities, stepped away from that post on May 15 after 36 years of service.

"The town will not publicly comment further because of respect for the process and because this is a personnel matter," wrote Town Manager Michael Ramsey. "However, during the pendency of this matter, the town and its staff will remain committed to continuing to provide the high level of service that the residents and visitors of Killington deserve and expect."

Signs have popped up across town this week recognizing Bowen's 36 years of services.

Also on May 15, five employees on the highway



By Andrew Gieda

Lawn signs pictured above have been placed throughout town thanking Bowen for his service.

department signed a petition to unionize. The town received notice on May 21.

"Ricky submitted his resignation at 9 p.m. the

same day the highway guys signed the petition to unionize," Selectman Jim Haff explained.

Ramsey confirmed that

"the town received notice from AFSCME Council 93 that it had filed a Petition for Election of Collective Highway dept. → 15

Killington Road reconstruction: what to expect this week

"Expect drilling and blasting this entire week," Markowski Excavating, Inc. wrote in a news release. "There will be one blast daily. We aim to blast between 11 a.m. and 12 noon, but if there are any unforeseen delays it could be as late as 1 p.m." the firm noted, adding, "We are shaping up the slopes and subgrade along the southern end of the project. Now that the sewer line is removed, the dirt in that area will be fully removed next

week. In addition, we are hauling blasted rock off site."

Markowski Excavating started hauling and placing some sand on the prepared subgrade near Anthony Way last week and will continue to do so this week. Water trucks will also be mobilized from either end of the project for dust control and compaction of the imported materials.

Looking ahead to the following week beginning June 3 motorists can

expect a continuation of drilling and blasting rock. Additionally, piping materials may begin to arrive along with precast structures.

"We are hoping to get some of the waterline piping installed at the bottom of the hill which will be closely followed by the sewer line install and structures that run parallel with Route 4," Markowski wrote.

The detour via West Hill Road remains in effect.

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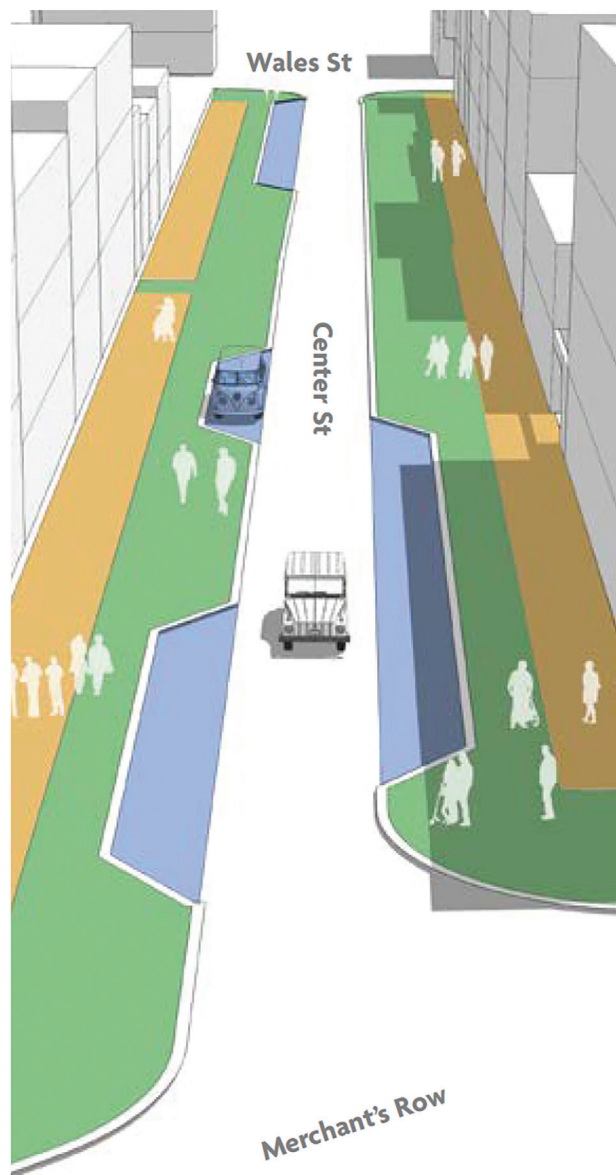


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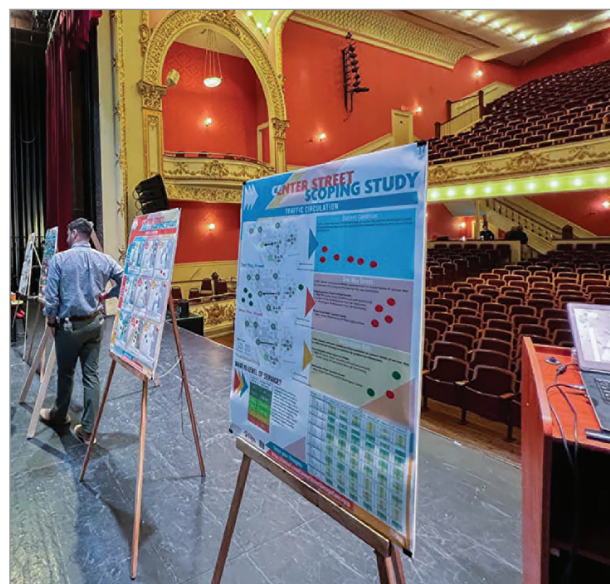
Pedestrian Space

Commercial Space

Parking Spaces

Courtesy DuBois & King

The mockup above shows space on Center Street allocated for pedestrians, businesses and parking in the preferred one-way reconfiguration design concept.



Courtesy DuBois & King

Presentations of the various proposed design concept were held at the Paramount Theater on April 25, 2022.



Courtesy DuBois & King

Marble art/bench installations are some of the many new features planned for Center Street offering seating for events.

Center Street: from page 1

“The Public feedback could be simply summed up as this: No one wanted ‘small changes,’ the scoping study report presented by the design/consulting team of DuBois & King, summarized. “No one wanted Center Street to remain the same. Some people thought that a pedestrian only street would bring life and vibrancy to Center Street. Some people thought that a pedestrian only street would shutter businesses and make Center Street a magnet for crime. Everyone wanted a great pedestrian and festival experience on Center Street. Most people felt now was the time,” the report summarized.

Based on this feedback, the steering committee recognized that a two way street design didn’t go far enough towards the “Pedestrian Centric” and “Create a Destination” design principles. And a pedestrian-only option was both polarizing, likely the most expensive option, and risky — as pedestrian streets have a mixed history of success across the U.S., according to the scoping study.

“This leaves the one way curbsless street concept as the final, preferred design. Its curbsless design will support Center Street’s continued hosting of festivals, concerts, and gatherings, easily converting to a pedestrian plaza with just two intersection closures. Snow maintenance is well accommodated by this design, as is business access and emergency vehicle access. In addition, this design can easily be changed to a pedestrian only street with simple street closures,” the study explained.

In addition to the new street design, a number of new details will accompany the changes to Center Street. Among

“Its curbsless design will support Center Street’s continued hosting of festivals, concerts, and gatherings, easily converting to a pedestrian plaza,” according to the study.

those planned are marble quarry play sculptures that are climbable and serve as physical reminders of Rutland’s heritage. The placement of these sculptures will take into account visual identity, pedestrian mobility, overall aesthetics, emergency services, and public safety. Short posts called bollards will be placed into areas where vehicles are not permitted. Since the design is curbsless, bollards will also be used to define the edge of designated parking areas. Moreover, the bollards will separate the pedestrian areas from the traffic lanes. Removable bollards will also be placed in a drop-off area adjacent to the Paramount Theatre to allow for further pedestrian safety during busy events.

New bench planters will be placed along Center Street to infuse seasonal color, absorb rain water, improve the air quality, and separate the pedestrian area from the traffic lane. The integrated edge of the planters will form elegant benches for additional seating. Modern light fixtures may replace or supplement the globe lamps currently along the street. Art frames will be installed as rotating public displays, while the frames themselves will serve as sculptures. Raised seat walls are planned to offer flexible seating while also providing a

“step-up” along the curbsless streetscape; this will increase accessibility to businesses by reducing or eliminating the need for steps or ramps at doorway entrances. Furthermore, planters and other street fixtures such as bicycle racks, benches, sculptures, waste baskets, information kiosks, and historical markers will also adorn the street.

Street dimensions

This design will increase the overall space for pedestrian foot traffic by approximately 34% from the present layout. Currently, there is a 6-foot wide pedestrian corridor that runs the length of Center Street. The new design would allow for a corridor expansion of up to 15 feet where parking isn’t present.

Commercial space will also increase for merchants along the street by an impressive 660% as this design option provides a consistent 10-foot outdoor space for all Center Street businesses. The new design creates over six times the amount of flexible commercial space available under the current design.

One drawback from the new design is there will be approximately 30% fewer parking spaces along Center Street.

Timeline

Before the new Center Street design can come to fruition, it will require support from the City of Rutland in designing, permitting, and funding its reconstruction.

Cost for the preferred one-way reconfiguration is estimated to be about \$3.88 million, according to the study.

The plan will require approval from the Rutland City Board of Aldermen, as well as internal coordination among the city departments of planning, economic development and public works. Fundraising and grant writing are also major contributors to a project of this size, although some federal grant money has already been secured. After funding is secured, the city can then move forward with contracting a design and engineering firm to begin the permitting process, conduct a pre-construction survey and finally develop the full construction plan. Once the contractors are on the street and the first piece of earth is turned over, the final process of construction and maintenance will begin.

The estimated timeline from the initial scoping study until finished construction is two to four years. This timeline takes into consideration potential delays such as the need for multiple grants to secure funding goals, winter delays, and unanticipated below-ground complications from unmapped utilities.

The scoping study’s design concepts came from a series of public engagement events and surveys. Three pre-design events were held in 2021 to engage the larger Rutland community and specific stakeholder groups. Input from these events directly impacted the development of the design concept. Two presentations of the proposed design concept were then held at the Paramount Theater on April 25, 2022. The first presentation was an invitation-only event for Center Street business and landowners, plus members of the local fire and police departments (stakeholders), while the second presentation was open to the general public.

\$6.3 million in state grants to boost outdoor recreation

Nearly \$1 million dedicated to local projects

The Agency of Natural Resources Secretary Julie Moore and the Vermont Outdoor Recreation Economic Collaborative (VOREC) announced May 29 the 51 new recipients of the VOREC Community Grant Program. These projects mark an investment of over \$6 million into Vermont's outdoor recreation economy.

"These grants are an investment in Vermont's future," said Secretary Moore. "They will help communities revitalize their outdoor recreation assets, create jobs, improve access to nature for everyone, and build stronger, more resilient communities for generations to come."

Projects awarded in this year's announcement fall into one of four tracks: Implementation, Project Development, Outdoor Equity, and Flood Recovery.

Awarded projects will enhance recreation economies in rural, mid-size and urban communities, lay the groundwork for future community-based projects, expand access to outdoor recreation for all people, and help communities and trail organizations recover from the flooding of summer 2023.

"We are pleased to support so many amazing projects across Vermont," said Becca Washburn, chair of the VOREC steering committee and director of lands administration and recreation for the Dept. of Forests, Parks, and Recreation. "The interest in the program, as well as the strength of the applications demonstrates the opportunity communities from Grand Isle to Brattleboro see in investing in the connection between outdoor recreation and economic benefits."

For the first time, the grant program also encouraged projects focused on outdoor equity to apply to a dedicated funding track. Grant recipient, Arwen Turner, executive director of Come Alive Outside, said: "Come Alive Outside is thrilled to receive funding through the VOREC Community Grant Program's Outdoor Equity track. This funding supports the continued work of Come Alive Outside's Outdoors For All Initiative, a collective of organizations, businesses, and advisors with lived experience representing underserved and underrepresented populations in outdoor recreation. This funding will boost the collective's ability to develop both simple and highly innovative solutions that make accessing the health, wellness, and joy benefits of outdoor activities in Rutland more equitable."

Governor Scott established the VOREC steering committee by executive order in June 2017 to bring together a broad set of outdoor recreation stakeholders to promote stewardship of state recreation assets and market Vermont's outdoor recreation values and attributes to effectively foster responsible and sustainable economic growth. The VOREC Community Grant Program became one of the first and highest priorities of the committee. This grant round is the program's fourth and most significant investment in communities across the state.

Recipients in Rutland and Winsor County include:

1. \$365,680 to Merck Forest and Farmland Center to install a universal access trail a boardwalk to connect Mettawee Community School to Merck Forest and Farmland Center's trail network and property.
2. \$298,950 to Come Alive Outside to provide capacity and programming support to its outdoor equity efforts in Rutland County.
3. \$100,000 to Green Mountain Horse Association to develop a flood mitigation and management plan for the Green Mountain Horse Association's main campus in South Woodstock.
4. \$92,298 to Smokey House Center to develop a community-informed plan to revitalize Smokey House's degraded trail system and design a trail-based community science program.
5. \$84,000 to the Town of Killington to build a critical connection between the Sherburne Trails Parking Lot and Pesky Cairn trails.
6. \$44,166 to Hartland Winter Trails to repair and make more resilient the Hartland Winter Trail system that was damaged in the floods of Summer.

For more information visit: fpr.vermont.gov/recreation/recreation-grants/vorec-community-grant-program.

"These grants are an investment in Vermont's future," said Secretary Moore. "They will help communities revitalize their outdoor recreation assets, create jobs, improve access to nature for everyone, and build stronger, more resilient communities for generations to come."



By Zach Godwin/Killington Resort
Killington Resort debuted a new exhibit at Wonderfeet Kid's Museum in downtown Rutland earlier this month. The play structure features four-season recreational opportunities.

Killington Resort exhibit in the Wonderfeet Kid's Museum showcases mountain recreation

By Brooke Geery/Killington Resort

As part of Killington Resort's commitment to Play Forever, it sponsored a new exhibit at the Wonderfeet Kid's Museum located in downtown Rutland on Merchants Row.

Killington Resort exhibit offers the little ones a chance to be fully immersed in what The Beast has to offer during all four seasons, including pedal bikes and Burton Riglet snowboards. Other interactive activities include a slide, a mini rock-climbing wall, a magnetic wall to design your own trail system, photo stand-ins, and even a kids' sized Waffle Cabin.

"The concept for the museum is really a Vermont town, specifically in Rutland County," said Wonderfeet's Executive Director Danielle Monroe. "We wanted to celebrate landmarks that kids would recognize, traditions that they love about their local community, but in a whimsical, colorful way that's kid sized."

Including a Killington Resort exhibit was a natural partnership for the museum. "Adding a nod to the outdoor recreation that's a big part of Vermont life was really important to us, celebrating all four seasons of outdoor recreation," Monroe said. "There's so many things happening at Killington that the challenge was picking the things we're going to include."

The Killington and Wonderfeet teams worked with designer Yoshi Akiyama to make the exhibit come to life, while builder Sparky Potter and his team did the heavy lifting to make it a reality. The result is a space where kids can play, learn and grow.

"We want every family that plays here to not just have a great time when they're here, but to walk out feeling proud of themselves, of what they've learned, feeling proud of their family and the connections that they made, and feeling proud of their community that they came together to build something that's so amazing," Monroe said.

Report shows trooper driving 88 mph before crash into fire truck, and up to 86 mph at impact

By Alan J. Keays/VTDigger

The cruiser Vermont State Police Cpl. Eric Vitali was driving when he crashed into a parked fire truck on Interstate 89 in March was traveling at 88 mph just before the crash and between 79 mph and 86 mph at impact.

That's according to a standard crash report submitted by the Vermont State Police (VSP) to the Dept. of Motor Vehicles and obtained Wednesday, May 22.

Vitali, a 19-year state police veteran who was 41 at the time of the crash, was seriously injured in the collision and is now undergoing treatment at a rehabilitation facility for a "severe traumatic brain injury," according to the Vermont Troopers' Association.

Vitali was driving his police cruiser, a 2023 Ford

Explorer SUV in the passing lane of Interstate 89 on the morning of March 8 when his cruiser struck the rear of an unoccupied Bethel Volunteer Fire Dept. tanker truck near the Bethel/Royalton exit.

The truck was parked on the interstate to provide scene protection for a crash that took place there about an hour earlier.

The 36-page crash report, dated April 5, does not answer the question of why Vitali did not see the fire truck stopped on the interstate, saying that element "remains under investigation."

Vitali's name is redacted in parts of the report, and in others he is referred to as "Operator 1."

The unoccupied fire truck's emergency lights were activated and there



Courtesy of VSP State Police Cpl. Eric Vitali.

were three road flares behind the vehicle, the report stated.

"Due to the fact there was both braking and steering data, it is unlikely that Operator 1 fell asleep, or lost consciousness, prior to the collision," the report stated.

The VSP Technology VSP → 9

Eligible Vermont students to receive funds for summer meals

Vermont is among the first states to launch the new permanent federally-funded program

Governor Phil Scott and the Vermont agencies of Human Services and Education announced May 21 that the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture (USDA) has approved Vermont's Summer Electronic Benefit Transfer (SEBT) plan to help feed eligible school aged children during the summer vacation months. Vermont is among the first states to launch the new permanent SEBT program.

"I appreciate the work of our agencies of Education, Human Services and Digital Services to find a path forward with this program, and the USDA and our Congressional Delegation for helping us make this benefit available for kids this summer," said Governor Scott. "I know Secretary Saunders and her team at AOE, and Commissioner Winters and his team at DCF, will make sure families and students benefit from this new program."

This new benefit provides \$120 per child, which families can use to purchase groceries. Some Vermont families will automatically qualify based on existing benefits, which will start being distributed on July 15. Other families who do not automatically

qualify may still be eligible and will be able to apply in August. The Department for Children and Families (DCF) and the Agency of Education (AOE) will be providing additional details on eligibility, application details and payment distribution timelines directly to schools and families in the coming weeks.

"Good nutrition is an essential element of learning," said Interim Secretary of Education Zoie Saunders. "This program complements the existing summer meals programs, providing another option for children who rely on school meals to access consistent nutrition over the summer months. I am glad that this program will provide extra support for families over the summer, which we know is a critical time for student learning retention and growth."

DCF will work with the AOE to streamline the eligibility process. If a child is found eligible, a notice will be mailed to the household. Families who do not have an active EBT card will be mailed one with instructions on how to use it. Please keep the EBT SEBT → 9

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Gov. Scott signs budget, vetoes renewable energy standard bill

On Thursday, May 23, Governor Phil Scott, as expected, signed the budget bill into law H.833, while vetoing H.289, An Act Relating to the Renewable Energy Standard.

Scott has long voiced his opposition to the renewable energy bill because of the cost and complexity in how the law could be carried out and the ultimate cost to consumers. Meanwhile, the governor and lawmakers found enough middle ground on the budget for him to sign it into law.

For the bills he has vetoed, the Legislature will hold a “veto session” on June 17. For the renewable bill, H.289, the vote will be close as to whether his veto will be overridden in both chambers.

H.833, the budget bill

When signing H.833, the budget bill, Governor Scott said the following letter to the General Assembly:

“The work on this budget in particular, shows that when we work together — and both sides are willing to give a little — we can craft a budget that meets the needs of Vermonters without adding to their tax burden.

“This budget makes critical investments in the priority areas I outlined in my budget proposal... This includes long-term housing, economic development, public safety and help for our vulnerable populations. Importantly, it does not rely on new or higher taxes, achieving balance without adding to the significant tax load Vermonters already carry.

“Compromise, however, means accepting some things that I don’t support. In this budget, that includes some fee increases, which I continue to believe are unnecessary and ... I also remain concerned about the substantial increase in base spending, which may not be sustainable under a more modest — and typical — revenue environment. For example, H.833 creates 43 permanent positions and another 35 limited-service positions. These are on top of the 70 permanent positions and 32 limited-service positions created in last year’s budget.

“This budget is also overly reliant on one-time and contingent funding. It uses anticipated contingent surplus, ARPA reversions, and special fund transfers to support important programs that will create unsustainable expectations if further one-time funds are unavailable.

By not making difficult choices this year and focusing scarce resources on programs we can’t sustain, we are setting up a very challenging budget development in FY26.

Despite these concerns, I’m returning H.833 with my signature because, on balance, this budget does more good than harm. Vermonters have elected and reelected me, in part, to provide fiscal responsibility in Montpelier. I urge the Legislature to work with me next year to accomplish our shared goals while living within our means.”

H.289, the revised renewable energy standard

On May 23, Governor Scott vetoed H.289, an act relating to the Renewable Energy Standard.

He wrote the following in a letter to the General Assembly:

“I don’t believe there is any debate that H.289 will raise Vermonters’ utility rates, likely by hundreds of millions of dollars. And while that in itself is reason enough to earn a veto, it is even more frustrating when you consider our Department of Public Service proposed to the Legislature a much stronger plan at a fraction of the cost.

“Their proposal was crafted after 18 months of engagement with Vermonters about what they want their energy policy to look like. It would get us to where we all want to go faster, more affordably and more equitably than H.289.

“For the reasons stated above, and factoring in all the other taxes, fees and higher costs the Legislature has passed over the last two years, I simply cannot allow this bill to go into law.

With a better alternative to this bill available, I sincerely hope that the Legislature will think about Vermonters and the cost of living, and sustain this veto.”

Leaders react to veto

President pro tem Phil Baruth issued the following statement: “Unfortunately, Governor Scott and his party are an automatic ‘no’ on any policy that will move the needle on fossil fuel dependence. Each session, we present carefully crafted legislation to reduce Vermont’s carbon output and protect lower-income Vermonters in the process; Governor Scott and his allies then do their best to scuttle the bill. It’s a shameful dynamic, especially in a world where our state capital still lacks a functioning U.S. post office due to persistent, climate-related flooding.

“H.289 would put Vermont on track to achieve 100% renewable electricity by 2035, dramatically reducing planet-warming carbon pollution and saving Vermonters real money over time. Governor Scott has decided to kill this bill, offering nothing in its place. But as last year’s childcare bill proved, even when the Governor says no, the people can still say yes.”

Baruth was referencing the Legislature’s override of the childcare bill in 2023.

House Speaker Jill Krowinski and Rep. Amy Sheldon addressed the action taken by Governor Scott to veto bill H.289, the updated Renewable Energy Standard Act. The legislation accelerates Vermont’s transition to 100% renewable energy while supporting expanded in-state and regional renewables, ensuring price stability and affordability for utilities and ratepayers, and implementing safeguards against double-counting of renewable energy credits. The bill is a result of collaborative efforts with Vermonters, utilities, energy developers, environmentalists, housing advocates and legislators.

“Having a vision through the Global Warming Solutions Act and a Plan through the Climate Action Plan and taking action to implement the plan is the leadership that Vermonters expect from us to address climate change,” said Rep. Amy Sheldon, chair of the House Environment and Energy Committee. “Accelerating the pace of cleaning up the electric grid is key to cutting carbon emissions and slowing climate change. Moving to 100% renewable energy for most Vermonters by 2030 while meeting the needs of our diverse utilities is a hallmark of H.289 and represents the hard work of many stakeholders.”

“Today’s veto undermines Vermont’s commitment to a sustainable future,” said Vermont Speaker of the House Jill Krowinski. “Our collective efforts in crafting H.289 epitomize the collaboration needed to combat climate change. We must remain steadfast in our resolve to accelerate renewable energy adoption, ensuring a resilient and cleaner future for generations to come. As Speaker of the House, I am committed to ensuring that the will of the people and the urgency of addressing climate change are not derailed, and we will be addressing this bill in our veto override session in June.”

Former Democratic lawmaker John Rodgers to run for lieutenant governor as a Republican

By Ethan Weinstein/VTDigger

John Rodgers, a former Vermont House and Senate Democrat from Glover, is running for lieutenant governor as a Republican.

“I don’t feel like I left the party. I feel like the party left me,” Rodgers said in an interview Friday, describing himself as a moderate. “I feel closer to Phil Scott than I do the leadership in the Legislature, and that’s what really made me

“I feel closer to Phil Scott than I do the leadership in the Legislature, and that’s what really made me say, ‘Maybe it’s time to just try something different,’” Rodgers said.

say, ‘Maybe it’s time to just try something different.’”

Rodgers runs a stonework and excavation business, and a hemp and cannabis farm. He served in the Vermont House from 2003 to 2011 and in the Senate from 2013 to 2021. A staunch supporter of gun rights with a reputation for speaking his mind, Rodgers never feared crossing party lines while in the State House.

He’s seeking statewide office six years after a low-key write-in campaign for governor in 2018, this time hoping to unseat incumbent Lt. Gov. David Zuckerman, a Progressive and Democrat who announced his reelection campaign earlier this month. But first, Rodgers will face former lieutenant gubernatorial candidate Gregory Thayer, a Rutland accountant active in Vermont’s conservative political scene. Zuckerman also faces a primary challenger, Winooski Deputy Mayor Thomas Renner.

Rodgers said he hasn’t yet filed paperwork for his candidacy but plans to do so this week. The deadline is May 30.

Despite not currently holding state-level office, the Glover

Rodgers → ?



By Mike Dougherty/VTDigger
John Rodgers on the Senate floor at the Statehouse.

← **State road construction:**
from page 4

Quechee Gorge Bridge

The eastbound travel lane of the Quechee Gorge Bridge is closed through November of 2024. New travel patterns include alternating travel controlled by a traffic signal and a concrete barrier to separate motorists from workers.

Rutland

Construction of a new traffic signal system continues at the intersection of Cold River Road and Route 7. Sidewalk work is ongoing as well at this location weekdays 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Some night work as needed is also taking place and drivers are advised to use caution and watch for flaggers on the roadway. Cold River Road and access to adjacent business remains open.

← **VSP:**
from page 7

Investigation Unit also analyzed Vitali's department-issued cellphone and computer and "found no user activity leading up to, or at the time, of the crash on either device," the report stated.

State police obtained a search warrant for Vitali's personal cellphone, which was being sent to the National Computer Forensics Institute's lab, according to the report. The facility specializes in examining

damaged cellphones.

Investigators also obtained a search warrant, which was sent to Verizon, for the cellphone's records, the report stated. "The result of that search warrant will be documented by a supplemental report once received," according to the report.

Investigators calculated the cruiser's speeds based on their analysis of its "pre-crash data," according to the report.

← **Rodgers:**
from page 8

resident made himself heard in Montpelier this year, helping to lead Statehouse rallies alongside a grassroots group of Vermonters concerned about the Democratic supermajority and what they described as overtaxation and attacks on Vermont's traditions of fishing, hunting and trapping.

"The decision to actually run has been one of the toughest decisions I've had to make in my life," he said. "I love being on my farm, so I did not take lightly leaving the farm ... but somebody needs to step up and speak up, and I didn't see anybody else doing it."

Fueling his decision to run, Rodgers said, was what he described as Vermont's affordability crisis.

"It's the massive cost-of-living increase: fuel and electricity, taxes, fees, all growing far in excess of people's incomes. And it's also the fish and wildlife bill," he said, referring to S.258, a failed bill that would have, among other things, changed the composition and duties of the Vermont Fish & Wildlife Board. "I have grandkids now, and I want those grandkids to be able to make a living here."

Asked why he chose to run for lieutenant governor — a position often viewed as more ceremonial than powerful — rather than seek the Senate seat opened up by the retirement of Sen. Bobby Starr, D-Orleans, Rodgers said he could be an "advocate and a voice" for Vermonters who feel they've been "left out" of the political process.

"I plan on using the position differently," he said, by "lobbying the Senate for sensible legislation that helps working-class Vermonters."

Rodgers said he also wants to take aim at the "broken primary system" that he said bolsters the candidacies of hard-right and hard-left politicians.

He pointed to the 2022 Democratic primary between now-Lt. Gov. David Zuckerman and former state representative Kitty Toll.

Zuckerman, a Progressive/Democrat, galvanized the political left in a contested primary election, Rodgers said,

On Woodstock Avenue (Route 4) between Route 7 and Gleason Road a Class I highway resurfacing project is in progress Tuesday, May 28, through Thursday, May 30, 7 p.m. to 7 a.m., motorists can expect lane closures, uneven surfaces, and delays. Flaggers and uniformed traffic officers will be on-site to assist with traffic control, including intermittent alternating one-way traffic.

Rutland-Fair Haven

Weather permitting, crack sealing operations are expected to continue for the first half of the week limited-access on Route 4 westbound, closer to Fair Haven.

For more information visit: vtrans.vermont.gov/projects/updates.

← **SEBT:**
from page 7

cards as they will be used each summer for children who are eligible. The EBT card can be used at grocery stores, farmers' markets and online where EBT is accepted. Notification and cards will be mailed to the address on file for the program that qualified the child automatically.

"Ensuring that children have access to nutritious food year-round is fundamental to their well-being," said Secretary of Agency of Human Services Jenney Samuelson. "The launch of Vermont's Summer Electronic Benefit Transfer program demonstrates the agency's commitment to supporting families and helping children thrive, especially during the summer months when children do not have access to school-provided meals. This is a vital step in addressing food insecurity."

For more information, visit: summerebt.vermont.gov.

ultimately defeating the more moderate Toll.

"I guarantee if the two of them ran head-to-head in November, Kitty would win," he said.

That same phenomenon could impact Rodgers' chance of winning a primary. He doesn't support former President Donald Trump — though he said he understands people frustrated with establishment politics. And he acknowledged that his opponent, Thayer, is further to the right than he is, calling it "somewhat of a concern."

But his own moderate politics, Rodgers asserted, give him a better chance in the general election.

"I can win in November," he said, adding that, in his opinion, Thayer's more extreme views gave him "no chance" of beating a Democrat.

Vermont's most notable self-described moderate, Republican Gov. Phil Scott, has this year repeatedly called for more people in the political middle to run for office. But Rodgers said his decision did not come at the behest of the governor.

Serving a two-year term, a lieutenant governor's most vital task — taking over for an incapacitated or deceased governor — is a rare occurrence. The day-to-day role of the position is largely ceremonial and has been used by some in the past as a stepping stone to higher office.

During the legislative session, the lieutenant governor presides over the Vermont Senate, casting votes to break ties. The position also sits on the Committee on Committees, which decides which senators serve on and run which committees.

Though he once dipped his toe into a run for governor, Rodgers considers himself new to statewide politics. He's also new to the Republican ticket, and he has a message for those voters.

"I would like to convince them that my policies are a lot closer to their policies than David Zuckerman's are," he said, "and I am the candidate that can win."



Courtesy Christopher Coughlin
"Venture Capitalists" Matt Poli, Daniel Mora, Tammy Landon, and Amelia Jones deliberate on the products presented.

← **Entrepreneurs:**
from page 2

this useful potentially lifesaving device.

6. The Slab: A ski boot that adjusts its BOA lacing fit automatically through a hands-free app, enhancing comfort, convenience and performance for snowboarders. Finn McSharry and Sean McCafferty developed this revolutionary ski boot technology.

And the winner was...

The competition was fierce, but 911 Incognito, created by Simon Bullwinkel and Julia Baker, emerged as the 2024 entrepreneurship winner. This innovative emergency alert device captured the judges' attention with its practicality, potential for widespread use and life-saving capabilities. Bullwinkel and Baker's comprehensive business plan, robust financial projections, and compelling marketing strategy earned them the coveted prize for the best product.

Christopher Coughlin's entrepreneurship class at Vermont State University is more than just a course; it's a launchpad for the next generation of entrepreneurs.

Coughlin said, "I employ a hands-on creative learning environment where my students can not only absorb theoretical knowledge but also apply it practically as they innovate unique products from inception to market readiness."

By fostering creativity, strategic thinking, and practical business skills, the program equips students with the tools they need to succeed in the competitive world of business. The success of products like 911 Incognito highlights the innovative spirit and potential of Vermont State Universities' students, promising a bright future for these budding entrepreneurs, Coughlin stated.

"Classes with Chris Coughlin are a favorite for myself and most of the other students. I'm definitely someone who likes a hands-on approach to learning, and this class did just that. It was cool to work through the process of brainstorming an idea with our peers and make it marketable to 'investors.' It was a fun competition with classmates and close friends," said student Simon Bullwinkel, designer of the winning product.

"I take great pride in mentoring my students as they navigate challenges, refine their ideas, and develop comprehensive business strategies, ultimately transforming their academic efforts into real world entrepreneurial successes," added Coughlin. "It's such a fun, creative, positive learning environment. Students often comment 'this is so fun it doesn't feel like school.'"

GUEST EDITORIAL

Weighing the good against the bad

By Governor Phil Scott

Editor's note: Governor Phil Scott gave the following speech at his weekly press conference, Wednesday, May 22, discussing his decision-making process with bills on his desk.

Last week, I talked about all the bills that passed at the very end of the session, which are starting to head to my desk and will continue to do so over the next several weeks.

So, I wanted to take a few minutes today to talk about how I tackle these decisions, and what I weigh, as I contemplate whether to sign a bill, let it go into law without my signature, or veto it.

Now, as you all know very well, a lot gets made over the number of vetoes I've issued. But the reality is, I could have vetoed many more — in the past, and what I am likely to this year.

Having said that, I want to be clear: I would rather come to agreement before a bill comes to my desk and avoid a veto altogether.

But I have a responsibility to take the time to weigh the good against the bad. If I can see the benefit to Vermonters across the state, I try to find a way to get to yes. And sometimes it takes a veto so I can finally get legislators to the table to find a compromise.

Despite what some will say, I really do try hard to meet legislators in the middle, because we actually share many of the same priorities. From addressing climate change to making childcare and healthcare more accessible and affordable, to raising wages, to making sure our kids are getting the best education possible.

Where we tend to differ is how we get there.

Sometimes the Legislature focuses so much on their goals they don't consider the unintended consequences.

And the reality is, there are almost always some negative consequences as the result of new policies.

I also believe there is often a path to reach our goals while limiting those consequences.

But to find that right balance we have to take our time to get it right; to walk before we run; and, importantly, make sure Vermonters can afford it.

Unfortunately, due to a lack of balance in the Legislature, they don't want to hear about the consequences, limitations or barriers when it comes to their initiatives.

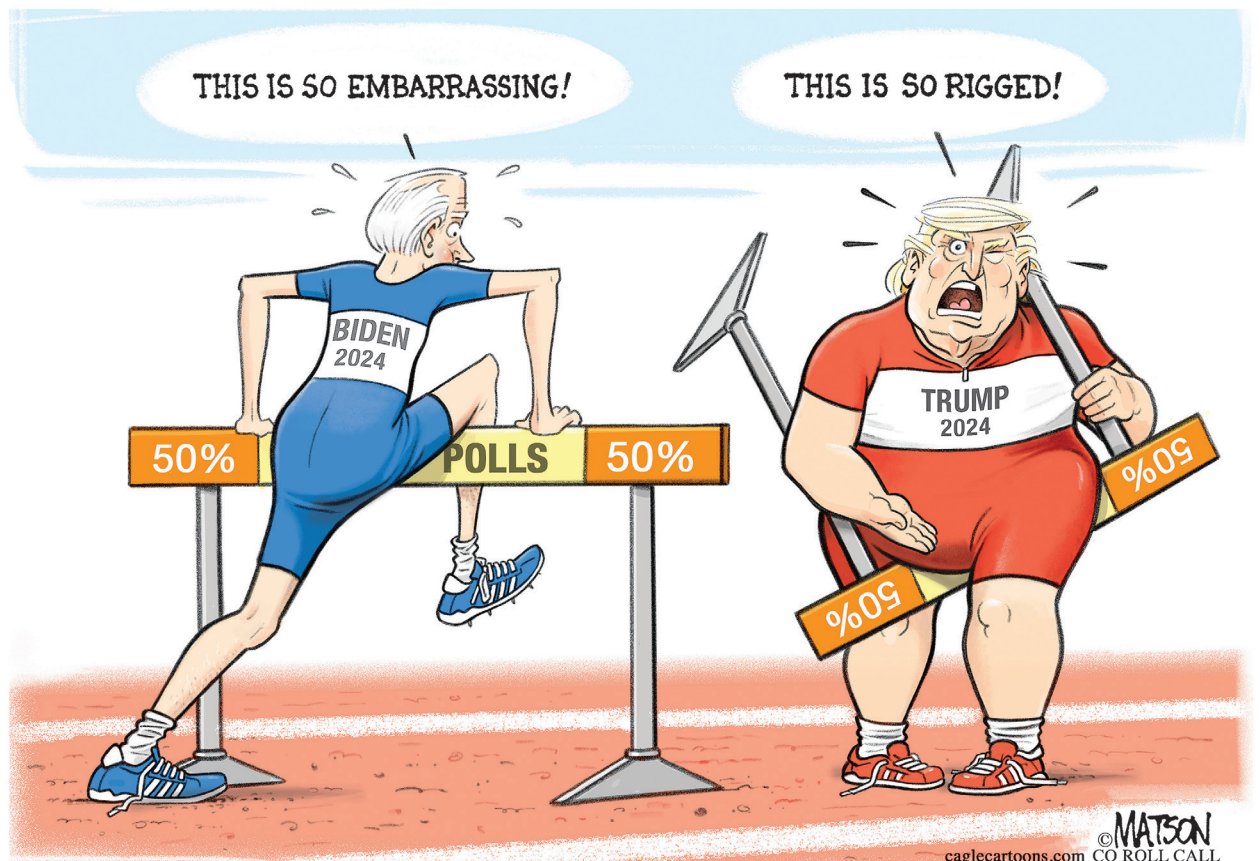
This means some bills end up doing more harm than good. Another challenge we face is the Legislature doesn't always consider the practical realities that go along with implementation. We see a number of bills pass where there was not careful consideration of what resources it will take and what a realistic timeline looks like.

This sets agencies and partners up for failure. And pits policies against each other when we don't have the budget capacity to fund the many initiatives this Legislature passes.

Most of the time, these sweeping policies require years to implement. And yet before the legislative ink is dry on one policy, they move onto what's next with little regard for how it impacts the last thing they imposed.

At the same time, they all come with a cost, whether
Gov decisions → 13

Before the legislative ink is dry on one policy, they move onto what's next with little regard for how it impacts the last thing they imposed.



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caglecartoons.com CQ ROLL CALL

Biden Trump Poll Hurdles by R.J. Matson, CQ Roll Call

LETTERS

Support the Slate Valley budget

Dear editor,

On May 9, the SVUUSD FY25 budget once again failed.

While this budget was defeated, it was by a much narrower margin than in the previous two votes. During a school board meeting on May 13, the board decided to schedule a revote on this budget for May 30, with an informational meeting set for May 29 at 6:30 p.m. in the band room at Fair Haven Union Middle and High School.

The proposed budget for this vote is the same as the one voted on May 9.

The majority of the school board believes that Slate Valley's current budget is already quite low, and they are striving to ensure adequate resources for some of the state's most needy students. The majority board feels further cuts simply aren't feasible. Moreover, the vast majority of attendees at the informational meetings voiced non-support for additional cuts, as our district already spends relatively little com-

Slate Valley → 13

Gov. Scott's veto of the landmark renewable energy bill is short-sighted

Dear Editor,

In a dismaying attempt to obstruct Vermont's environmental and economic progress, Governor Scott vetoed compromise legislation aimed at modernizing the Renewable Energy Standard and setting the state on a path to delivering 100% renewable electricity by 2035.

By vetoing H.289, which was supported by nearly all of the state's electric utilities, along with a host of environmental organizations, business groups and others, Governor Scott is again jeopardizing our state's progress in clean energy and needed climate action as well as threatening to curtail a needed clean energy jobs sector. To override the governor's veto, the Legislature must vote with a 2/3rds majority at the veto session in mid-June.

This landmark legislation would be the first major update to the Renewable Energy Standard in nearly a decade and would represent the most significant action Vermont has ever taken to cut carbon pollution in the electric sector. This bill,

if enacted, would have Vermont be the second state in the nation to achieve 100% renewable electricity, setting a precedent for clean energy progress and economic innovation. By increasing the requirements for utilities to support new renewable energy projects in the region and the state, H.289 would significantly cut carbon pollution — equivalent to removing up to 250,000 cars from our roads permanently by 2035.

"This bill was the result of a months-long stakeholder process that brought together for the first time environmental groups, business interests and utilities to craft a common sense compromise to get Vermont away from fossil fuels and onto 100% renewable energy. By vetoing this bi-partisan bill, Governor Scott has once again said to Vermonters he is not interested in tackling the climate crisis we are facing," said Peter Sterling, executive director of Renewable Energy Vermont.

"Governor Scott has chosen to side with fossil fuel
Veto → 13

Save SNAP

Dear Editor,

We have an urgent call to action: to protect 3Squares-VT/SNAP benefits nationwide for millions of families, including nearly 70,000 people in our state.

In early May, the U.S. Congress began to progress on Farm Bill negotiations again. Just a day apart, the chairs of the House and Senate Agriculture committees released their respective Farm Bill frameworks. The result? Competing visions for addressing hunger.

Senate Agriculture Committee Chair Stabenow's framework would protect and strengthen SNAP and other Title IV programs, while House Agriculture Committee Chair Thompson's would severely compromise the integrity and effectiveness of SNAP, which would also impact farmers' market programs, and food bank programs. He's proposed to put an end to science-based updates to the Thrifty Food Plan—on which SNAP benefits are based. This would cut SNAP by \$30 billion over several years, and impact every single person who taps into SNAP. This is unacceptable.
Snaps → 13

CAPITOL QUOTES

The Boston Celtics are returning to the NBA Finals for the second time in three seasons, having swept the Indiana Pacers and clinched Game 4 with a 105-102 victory on Monday, May 27. They will now aim for their 18th NBA title as they face the Western Conference champions, the Dallas Mavericks. The Celtics' starting five collectively scored 95 of the team's 105 points.

“Boston has a great team. They led the league from wire to wire... They didn't want this thing to go on any longer. They blocked shots, they got offensive rebounds, they made key shots.”

said Indiana Pacers coach **Rick Carlisle** according to the Associated Press.

“It was a lot for our group... It was very overwhelming, and I thought we were playing catch [up] the whole time...”

said Celtic forward **Al Horford** according to NBA.com.

“[I] just stay faithful to what I've been doing my whole career... I know it's a blessing to be here, so I appreciate every moment that I'm on the court, but just staying consistent.”

said Boston Celtic Gaurd **Jrue Holiday** according to NBC Sports Boston.com.

“The Celtics have proven they know what they want to get into when the game is on the line and that they can elevate their defensive execution in those moments. Now they are four wins away from their 18th NBA championship.”

wrote **Jared Weiss**, Celtics beat writer according to The Athletic.

LETTERS

Act 127 balance ed resources; aims for equity

Dear Editor,

The debate over educational equity in Vermont, particularly around the implementation of Act 127 and the Pupil Weighting Factors Report, touches deeply on the state's social and economic disparities. This conflict is starkly illustrated by the historical and current attitudes of certain towns towards neighboring communities, especially in the context of educational funding reforms.

Historically, some towns have shown a preference for maintaining their educational and socio-economic exclusivity. This was evident when Vermont officials, in an effort to balance educational resources statewide, proposed merging smaller districts to create more equitable educational opportunities. The opposition from wealthier towns to merging with less affluent towns was perceived by many as a move to protect

local interests and maintain a homogenous, affluent educational environment, rather than integrate with and support more economically diverse communities.

This resistance set the stage for the current opposition to the new pupil

weighting system.

Critics of the pupil weighting system, often from more affluent areas, minimize the systemic disparities these reforms aim to address. Such perspectives are indicative of a privileged viewpoint that overlooks the

This elitist stance is particularly jarring when considered against the backdrop of historical actions, which have consistently demonstrated a preference for segregation over community solidarity.

weighting system introduced by Act 127, based on findings from a comprehensive study conducted by experts from Rutgers and the University of Vermont. The report and subsequent legislation aimed to adjust funding formulas to better reflect the true costs of educating students across different socio-economic circumstances, including factors like poverty and En-

glish language proficiency. challenges faced by schools in less affluent areas like Rutland, Winooski and rural areas like the Northeast Kingdom where the costs of education are undeniably higher due to factors such as lack of economies of scale, higher poverty rates and larger numbers of non-native English speakers.

The narrative that these reforms are unnecessary or

Equity → 13

Why Act 127 is vital for Vermont's rural education

Dear Editor,

In Vermont's quest for equitable education funding, Act 127 represents a beacon of hope, especially for our rural communities. This legislation, informed by thorough research from Rutgers and the University of Vermont, revises the state's school funding formulas to reflect the actual costs of educating students in diverse socio-economic settings, with a significant focus on rural districts.

Rural schools in Vermont face unique challenges that often go unnoticed outside of these communities. Higher poverty rates, limited access to services, and the absence of economies of scale make education more costly and logistically challenging. Unlike larger urban districts with more substantial tax bases and resources, rural districts cannot easily spread costs. This results in fewer educational opportunities and less support for students who already face significant

barriers.

Act 127 addresses these disparities by implementing a pupil weighting system that recognizes and compensates for these inherent challenges. It ensures that schools in areas with higher poverty, greater distances, and smaller student populations receive adequate funding to provide a quality education. This is not just about redistribution of funds; it's about recognizing and rectifying the historical and systemic neglect of rural educational needs.

By supporting Act 127, we are advocating for a more just and balanced educational system where every student, regardless of their rural or urban setting, has access to the necessary resources to succeed. This act acknowledges that our state thrives when every community has the tools to educate its youth effectively.

Furthermore, supporting rural education through Act

127 aligns with Vermont's values of community and mutual support. Ensuring that rural schools are well-funded is not only an investment in the students' futures but also in the economic stability and growth of our state. Well-educated communities lead to robust local economies and a more engaged citizenry.

As we move forward, it is essential for all stakeholders to understand the critical role of Act 127 in safeguarding the future of Vermont's rural students. We must continue to champion this legislation, ensuring that it is not only preserved but strengthened, to uphold our commitment to every Vermont child's right to a fair, adequate, and equitable education. Sincerely,

**Matthew LeFluer,
Alburgh**

Editor's note: LeFluer is a member of VLCT, VCCT, VTRC, UVM Network CDCI, OneCare Vermont, and Autism collaborative.

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← **Gov decisions:**
from page 10

that's through new taxes and fees or unfunded mandates that put a strain on the state budget.

So, in the same way our agencies are scrambling to keep up with the Legislature's ambitions, taxpayers are getting crushed by the ever-growing costs getting put on their shoulders. Vermonters barely get a chance to catch their breath and adjust their budgets to a new expense before another is tacked on.

And that is one of my biggest concerns. What can Vermonters really afford? The answer to this is different in every corner of the state. And that's why the governor, who represents all communities — not just a district or county — has veto power. It's the final "check point" on behalf of the state as a whole.

Now, there are many bills coming to my desk this year that contain a lot of good. And most of the time, there is a path to get us to the goal. But too often — especially in recent years — the compromises and warnings we offer are ignored.

So, as I've always done, I will carefully weigh the good against the bad to make a decision based on whether the benefits outweigh the negative impacts for our entire state. These decisions aren't easy and they're not always popular here in Montpelier. But I'll take that heat when I believe I'm making the right choice for the everyday Vermonter.

← **Equity:**
from page 11

merely a redistribution of funds to less deserving areas is not only misleading but also harmful. It perpetuates a status quo that favors wealthier, more homogeneous districts at the expense of educational equity. This elitist stance is particularly jarring when considered against the backdrop of historical actions, which have consistently demonstrated a preference for segregation over community solidarity.

As Vermont continues to grapple with these issues, it is crucial to recognize and challenge viewpoints that seek to undermine efforts towards greater educational equity. The resistance from certain communities reflects a broader reluctance to embrace the diversity and complexity of the state's educational landscape. It is imperative that all stakeholders,

especially those from more privileged backgrounds, engage in this conversation with an understanding of the broader implications of their actions and attitudes.

The path forward for Vermont should involve not only equitable funding but also a commitment to fostering a more inclusive and integrated educational system. This means acknowledging and addressing the historical and ongoing resistances that have shaped current policies and attitudes. By doing so, Vermont can ensure that all students, regardless of their economic or cultural background, have access to the resources they need to succeed.

Cathy Solsaa, chairperson; and Marybeth Lennox-Levins, clerk, Rutland City Public Schools Board of School Commissioners

← **Veto:**
from page 10

interests over the health and wellbeing of Vermonters," said Lauren Hierl, executive director of Vermont Conservation Voters. "Vermont has the chance to lead the nation in renewable energy innovation and climate action, and we hope the legislature overturns this misguided veto."

"The benefits of H.289 are

clear," said Johanna Miller, climate and energy program director at Vermont Natural Resources Council. "Instead, the governor's action leaves Vermont vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, dependent on outdated, polluting energy sources and curbs much-needed clean energy job growth."

"Vermonters have made

← **Slate Valley:**
from page 10

pared to others in the state.

It is also worth noting that any cuts would have minimal impact on further reducing local taxes due to the complex statewide funding system. The rhetoric that there is a 20% increase in education taxes is simply not true for our district. All of our towns are under 20% and in fact Fair Haven is at 5.5% with the current proposed yield.

All of our towns, except for Benson, will have a tax rate increase that is less than the average tax rate increase of 13.8% that was cited by the governor, the press and others in Montpelier.

Our main focus will always be to provide the best education possible for our

← **Snaps:**
from page 10

Chair Thompson's proposal to regress the Thrifty Food Plan won't just impact SNAP, it will also have harmful impacts on the effectiveness of food bank programs like The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP), and impact every low-income individual and family who relies on SNAP and food pantries to put food on the table.

Chair Thompson's proposal would return us to the days when USDA is not allowed to ensure responsive SNAP benefits, as modest as they are (at just \$2 per meal per day). Benefits would fall further and further behind in value every year. That means the SNAP program wouldn't provide low-income people, working families, older adults, and others with the adequate benefits needed to ensure access to a

students while also maintaining financial responsibility. But please keep in mind the challenge before us in planning for the upcoming year without a budget. Summer services, except those for special education as mandated, are uncertain and may need to be canceled.

We thank our community for staying engaged and plead for them to please get out and vote May 30. Absentee ballots are available in all towns and can be requested from your town clerk.

For more information visit: slatevalleyunified.org/o/svusd/page/budget
Brooke Olsen-Farrell
Superintendent of the Slate Valley Unified Union School District

healthy and realistic diet.

What can you do?

We need Congresswoman Balint to strongly oppose these proposed cuts coming from the U.S. House Ag Committee — and we need your help to make sure she does!

Please share any stories you have about the impact 3SquaresVT/SNAP has on your community, friends, family, and those you serve. If you are writing on behalf of an organization, please email to say that.

Please join us in taking action to protect SNAP benefits. We need to ensure that every Vermonter has meaningful and adequate support to achieve food security.

Ivy Enoch, South Burlington

Editor's note: Enoch works for Hunger Free VT.

Harrison announces candidacy for re-election

Jim Harrison of Chittenden announced his candidacy for a new term as state representative for the Rutland-11 district (Chittenden, Killington, Mendon, and Pittsfield). He was first appointed to the legislature in 2017 by Governor Phil Scott and has been re-elected to new terms since then.



Submitted
Rep. Jim Harrison

Harrison is a member of the House Appropriations Committee, the panel that crafts the House version of the state budget and reviews other legislative bills that spend money.

"I believe strongly in fiscal responsibility and understand the importance of living within our means," said Harrison in a press release May 22. "Vermont taxes are high enough and we should avoid attempts to make them even higher."

As a state representative, he has developed a reputation for being pragmatic by asking questions and working to improve bills. It will be this ability to probe and understand

"Vermont taxes are high enough and we should avoid attempts to make them even higher," said Harrison.

ramifications that will serve the state well going forward.

He also believes we

need more balance in the Legislature. "Overriding gubernatorial vetoes on major bills does not serve Vermont well," added Harrison.

The cost and financial transparency of Vermont's education system are expected to be key issues in the coming year. He said, "This is not the time to walk away, but rather step up to the task, which is why I am announcing my bid for a new term."

Harrison is known for his frequent updates and written communications. He also prides himself on being easily accessible to district residents.

Harrison and his wife Pat have lived in Chittenden since 2006 and in Vermont for over 35 years. They have two adult children and five grandsons. His experience working with small businesses as the former president of the Vermont Retail & Grocers Association and administrator of the Vermont Specialty Food Association, will continue to help him find solutions going forward, he stated.

For more information visit: harrisonforvermont.com.

99-39 and passed the Senate 18-8. With two-thirds votes needed in each chamber to override the veto, the bill has a path to enactment.

It is imperative that the Legislature override this veto. For the sake of our environment, our economy, and future generations, we call on lawmakers to act to override the governor's veto of H.289

and uphold needed clean energy progress for Vermont.

Peter Sterling, Renewable Energy Vermont.

Lauren Hierl, Vermont Conservation Voters

Johanna Miller, Vermont Natural Resources Council

Ben Edgerly Walsh, Vermont Public Interest Research Group (VPIRG)

Vanessa Rule, 350VT



Solid Waste Transfer Station

2981 River Road (Behind Town Garage) | 802-422-3241, Ext. 7



Summer Hours Are In Effect Saturday & Monday 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

HAZARDOUS WASTE-
June 22, 2024 - 11:30am-1:30pm.

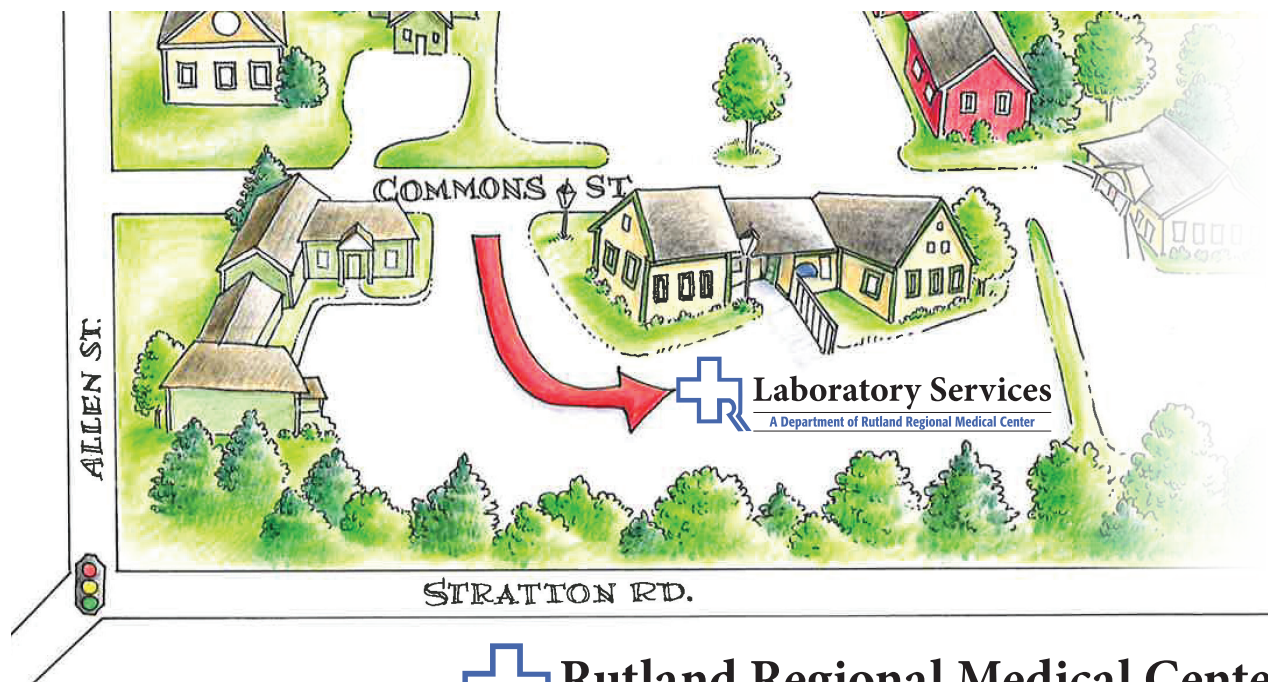
Killington Hazardous Waste Day is done in conjunction with the Rutland County Solid Waste District. Proof of residency is required!

*Please note: Construction/Demo debris or other non-acceptable waste must be take to the Rutland County Solid Waste District Transfer Station & Drop-off Center.



Laboratory Services and Blood Draw Station Moves to 4 Commons Street

Our 65 Allen Street Laboratory Services and Blood Draw Station is moving to a new convenient location up the street.



- » 4 Commons Street opens **Monday, June 3**
- » Hours: Monday-Friday, 5:30-10:30am and 11am-2pm*
- *Last patient registered is at 1:45pm

 **Rutland Regional Medical Center**
www.RRMC.org | 160 Allen Street, Rutland, VT

WORDPLAY

ALL IN BLOOM WORDSEARCH

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally and back

V W N O Y C C D G P A F M W I E L L Z M
 Y A S I N E B D W S R M S O G L O F T G
 D B S N A P D R A G O N H D O S P C C B
 I P O P P Y T T A A U Y Y F G L U S F E
 D O S C T I R T A S Z H V Z P C B U O P
 L I R I B V V B I T I G Z Y E G W N F N
 O R D C H D R V N E B O L D U Y M F S O
 G E E A H S A U N R E T R L W L P L T I
 I H N Z H I I N I M G D L O F N I O C T
 R O Y O B L D R Z M O P A I S L S W O A
 A R V D M E I C I E N Y P N D E A E L N
 M Z Z Y R E Z A I E I L I A D O N R F R
 I H A F N A N U H I A I L Z U E F H E A
 H Y L L N O N A W I F L U D M L L F L C
 L H W W E M E G Y H D S T O H C A I A P
 O Y M W O A U P E S N C Y E R F L M O D
 M E S R C H R Y S A N T H E M U M H T N
 F S A I R R I G M V R L W S U H T O I S
 V C U H A B L A V E N D E R R L U G I A
 Y C P N W D B S W H L I S N H Z M B V A

ANEMONE
 ASTER
 AZALEA
 BEGONIA
 BLOOM

CARNATION
 CHRYSANTHEMUM
 DAFFODIL
 DAHLIA
 DAISY

DANDELION
 HYDRANGEA
 IRIS
 LAVENDER
 LILY

MARIGOLD
 ORCHID
 PEONY
 POPPY
 ROSE

SNAPDRAGON
 SUNFLOWER
 TULIP
 ZINNIA

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Solutions → 25

CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Fashion accessory
- 4. Engine additive
- 7. Small, faint constellation
- 8. Gives a job
- 10. Self-righteous person
- 12. Caucasian language
- 13. Surinam toad
- 14. Sino-Soviet block (abbr.)
- 16. Former French coin
- 17. Levels the score
- 19. What stage performers do
- 20. Egyptian Sun god
- 21. Localities
- 25. Spherical body
- 26. Licensed for Wall Street
- 27. Perfect
- 29. It's on many people's heads
- 30. Boxing's GOAT
- 31. Photo
- 32. Popular HBO show

- 39. Popular music awards show
- 41. Pouch
- 42. Lake in Botswana
- 43. Unruly group
- 44. One-fourth
- 45. Very eager
- 46. Edward ___, author and writer
- 48. Flying insect
- 49. Dragged forcibly
- 50. Thus far
- 51. Not just "play"
- 52. Commercials

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Occur
- 2. Show up
- 3. Capital of Taiwan
- 4. Brother or sister
- 5. Secret get-togethers
- 6. Type of tea
- 8. Where the action is
- 9. Cast out
- 11. Crime group
- 14. Type of vessel (abbr.)
- 15. Accept and handle
- 18. Sacrifice hit

1	2	3				4	5	6					
7						8				9			
10			11			12							
13						14	15			16			
17			18			19			20				
21					22	23			24				
					25			26					
			27	28			29						
			30				31						
					32				34	35	36	37	38
39	40					41			42				
43				44					45				
46			47						48				
49										50			
	51										52		

- 19. One who buys and sells securities simultaneously
- 20. Month
- 22. Most thin
- 23. Naturally occurring material
- 24. Luke's mentor ___-Wan
- 27. Postmodernist Austrian "House"
- 28. Aquatic salamander
- 29. Baseball stat
- 31. Beginning military rank
- 32. Talk rapidly and unintelligibly
- 33. Paddle
- 34. Caregiver (abbr.)
- 35. Old Irish alphabet
- 36. Japanese city
- 37. In a way, acted
- 38. Things to see
- 39. Nursemaid
- 40. Type of tooth
- 44. To be demonstrated
- 47. Defunct European group

3rd revote:
 from page 2

School District's roughly \$27 million budget failed 638-1,019 on April 30 — 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 for the first revote. Now the total cuts made are about \$438,000 from the budget that was first presented on Town Meeting Day.

The board will host an in-person and virtual informational meeting about the budget at 6 p.m. Thursdays, June 6, and voting will be the following Tuesday, June 11.

Highway dept:
 from page 4

Bargaining Representative for the five non-management workers in the town's Highway & Facilities department."

While it is not uncommon for departments of municipalities to unionize in Vermont, it changes the dynamics and logistics of compensation.

The next step is for the Select Board to officially accept the petition to unionize. The next scheduled meeting is

Wednesday, May 29. While the topic is not on the agenda, it may be brought up in executive session as a personnel matter.

The board must decide whether to accept the petition as is, or put it to an anonymous vote. The latter would ensure that the majority of the highway dept. employees want to move in that direction. If they do, lawyers will negotiate terms between the town and the union.

Guess Who?

I am an actress born in London on May 26, 1966. I used money I earned in a writing contest to pay for a spot in the actors' directory Spotlight. Since then, I've become a versatile actress that can do humorous, quirky and dramatic roles. I was once married to a popular and eccentric film director.

Answer: *Helena Bonham Carter*

SUDOKU

Solutions → 25

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

Level: Intermediate

WEDNESDAY

5/29

RSVP Bone Builders

9-10 a.m. Wednesdays. Godnick Adult Center, 1 Deer St., Rutland. Free. 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. chair-based full body workout led by Melissa Cox, ACSM-GEL. rutlandrec.com/godnick or 802-773-1853

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. 908-783-1050.

Market on the Green

3-6 p.m. Wednesdays. The Green, Woodstock. Woodstock's weekly market is back! Join us for the first market of the year. Produce, crafts, live music, and more. A fun, family-friendly event on the Village Green. info@woodstockvt.com or 802-457-3555

Cribbage for Adults

3-5 p.m. Wednesdays. Hartland Public Library, 135 Route 5, Hartland. Free. hartlandlibraryvt.org/calendar or 802-436-2473

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

Reuse Runway Fashion Show

4:45-5:30 p.m. JAM, 5 So. Main St., White River Junction. Free, open to the public. Creative tweens from rePlay Arts and JAM - Junction Arts & Media's after-school programs are joining forces to present "Reuse Runway," a fashion show! rePlay's students will strut the red carpet in their own original reuse fashions while JAM Club members will run lights, sound, and camera. "Reuse Runway" is an 8-week afterschool program for students ages 11+ in which they transform materials destined for the landfill into wearable works of art. Throughout the program, students have visited local reuse organizations, discovered the creative potential of objects, and learned to design and sew their own unique fashions out of reused materials. Info: jamie@replayarts.org or uvjam.org/event/reuse-runway-fashion-show/

Youth Pet Painting

5-6:30 p.m. Chaffee Art Center, 16 So. Main St., Rutland. chaffeeartcenter.org

Pet Portrait Painting

6:45-8 p.m. Chaffee Art Center, 16 So. Main St., Rutland. chaffeeartcenter.org

Ballroom Dance with Patti

PanebiancoWednesdays. Stone Valley Arts, 145 E. Main St., Poultney. 6-6:50 p.m. Waltz for adults. 7-7:50 p.m. Cha-cha for adults. For details and cost, contact Patti Panebianco at 516-909-1686 or email at pattidance@gmail.com stonevalleyarts.org

Intro to 3D Printing - 2nd Session

6-8 p.m. The MINT, 112 Quality Lane, Rutland. Members \$15, non-members \$25. This is a beginner-friendly class; instruction will be provided on safety, finding files to print, use of slicing software, printing setup, and washing/curing prints. We will learn how to prepare an object to be printed during the first session. We will print, clean, and cure the object in the second session. Participants need to bring a USB. Instructor: Claudius Stute. claudius@rutlandmint.org. To register: rutlandmint.org/event-5706250/Registration

Strike Fund Concert

7 p.m. Main Street Museum, 58 Bridge St., White River Junction. Donation at the door. Concert to benefit the strike relief fund for Graduate Organized Laborers at Dartmouth University (GOLD-UE) Featuring Chodus, Old Moon, and others. mainstreetmuseum.org/events

'STOMP'

7:30-9:30p.m. Paramount Theatre, 30 Center St., Rutland. \$35-\$55 + taxes/fees. 'STOMP' is explosive, inventive, provocative, witty, and utterly unique—an unforgettable experience for audiences of all ages. The international percussion sensation has garnered armfuls of awards and rave reviews and has appeared on numerous national television shows. paramountvt.org

THURSDAY

5/30

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. Pre Register at chaffeeartcenter.org

Essentrics Strength 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. stonevalleyarts.org

Bone Builders

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

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. Fliers available at the Godnick Center or call 802-775-3232. rutlandrec.com/godnick or 802-775-1853.

Ukulele Group

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

Play Bridge!

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

S.T.E.A.M. Thursdays

3-4 p.m. Thursdays. Hartland Public 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@hartlandlibrary.org/calendar or 802-436-2473

Yoga with Kelly

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

Board Game Night

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

Pride of Woodstock LGBTQ+ Movie at Billings Farm

5-7 p.m. Billings Farm, 69 Old River Road, Woodstock. The Woodstock High School's Queer/Straight Alliance selected favorite LGBTQ+ movies to show for Pride of Woodstock! The theater at Billings Farm is the perfect spot to settle in and enjoy a screening. Featured Film: "Codependent Lesbian Space Alien Seeks Same" Set in New York City, the film delivers a blend of 1950s B-movie charm and contemporary romantic comedy.

Vermont Tech Meetup

5-7 p.m. Thursday The Hub CoWorks, 67 Merchants Row, Rutland. Free. A fireside chat on "How to Start a Startup: Fundraising, Accelerators & Startup Insights," featuring an introduction to gener8tor, will be the highlight of Rutland's first-ever Vermont Tech Meetup. Attendees will have the opportunity to network with like-minded professionals and industry leaders, gaining insights into navigating the tech and startup ecosystem while enjoying delicious food and drinks. For more information, visit meetu.ps/e/N3hY8/15jd2Z/1.

Feast & Field Music Series: Villalobos Brothers

5:30-8:30 p.m. 1525 Royalton Turnpike, South Royalton. \$5-25, children under 12 free. Rain or shine. The Villalobos Brothers are Grammy-Award-winners with a unique fusion of Mexican folk, jazz, & classical music. They craft original compositions and arrangements that pay homage to the richness of Mexican folklore and push the boundaries of musical exploration. Food and drink available. Some picnic tables & seating available; your own chairs or blankets welcome! No outside food or alcohol permitted. barnarts.org/mainstage/feastfieldmusicseries/

STC Digital Arts Student Exhibit Opening

6-8 p.m. Chaffee Art Center, 16 So. Main St., Rutland. chaffeeartcenter.org

PLAY FOREVER MOUNTAIN CLEAN-UP

SATURDAY @ 8:30 AM

**'The Birdcage'**

7:30-9:30 p.m. Woodstock Town Hall Theatre, 31 The Green, Woodstock. Adults, \$10. Seniors, \$9. Kids and members, \$8. Last in our Throwback Thursday series and just in time for Pride is "The Birdcage!" A gay cabaret owner and his drag queen companion agree to put up a false straight front so that their son can introduce them to his fiancée's conservative parents. <https://pentangle-arts.square.site/movie-tickets>

FRIDAY

5/31

Free Community Breakfast

7-10 a.m. Sherburne United Church of Christ (Little White Church), Route 4, Killington. Free. All are welcome! Pancakes, bacon, sausage, fruit, coffee, tea, and juice.

Storytime at the Library

10:30-11:30 a.m. Fridays. Sherburne Memorial Library, 2998 River Road, Killington. Free. sherburnelibrary.org

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. chaffeeartcenter.org or 802-775-0356

Fridays at the MINT Downtown: Watercolor Gardens

5-8 p.m. 72 Merchants Row, Rutland. \$50. In this class we will learn to paint with watercolors. We will use watercolors and ink pens to create whimsical flower paintings. All materials will be provided. This is a BYOB event. Some light complimentary snacks will be available. Instructor: Caitlin Gates. To Register: tinyurl.com/2rcah6c7

Pride of Woodstock Welcome at the Woodstock Inn

5-7 p.m. Woodstock Inn, 14 The Green, Woodstock. Join us to kick off the first annual Pride of Woodstock, Vermont weekend on the Woodstock Inn Front Lawn! Sip cocktails while you meet others and get the celebration started. Small appetizers will be provided. woodstockinn.com/do/events/pride-of-woodstock-welcome-reception

Food & Art Friday

5:30-8:30 p.m. Every other Friday. The Sable Project, 240 Taggart Hill Road, Stockbridge. thesableproject.org

Porcupine x SVT Group MTB Rides

5:30-8:30 p.m. Hosted by Slate Valley Trails. Country Club Trailhead, 2725 Route 30, Poultney. Please join Slate Valley Trails and Porcupine Bikes (Main St., Poultney) for our Friday Night Trail Ride series. Rides start at 6pm from the designated meeting spot. Please come early and be ready for kickstands up at 6 p.m. All ability levels are welcome, and we'll look to break into faster/mellow pace groups as needed. Expect to ride for a couple hours. Bonus pizza night! Roughly once a month, the TrailHouse will be hosting the Friday Night Trail Ride from their trailside event space, and they'll be serving up wood fired pizza post ride (by donation). slatevalleytrails.org/calendar

Lucy MacKenzie Humane Society Annual Benefit Gala & Auction

5:30-7:30 p.m. Billings Farm & Museum, 69 Old River Road, Woodstock. \$150. Proceeds benefit the care of the animals at Lucy Mackenzie Humane Society, and help fund programs that support keeping animals in loving, caring homes. Cocktail and silent auction at 5:30 p.m. Dinner at 6:45 p.m. Live auction at 7:30 p.m. Acoustic music by Josh Hall during cocktail hour. Dancing to follow live auction. Tickets are limited. To purchase in advance: info@lucymac.org or 802-484-5829.

Rutland South Rotary Club In-person Fundraising Raffle

7 p.m. Spartan Arena, Diamond Run Mall, 100 Diamond Run Mall Pl., Rutland. \$125. All funds raised by the Rotary Club goes right back into the greater Rutland Community. For close to 50 years, they have provided monetary support to fund youth related initiatives like Project Dictionary, computer outdoor recreation equipment, iPads, books, laptops, and STEM learning materials. Grand prize is \$10,000. 2nd prize is \$2,000. 3rd prize is \$1,000. 4th prize is \$500. 26 prizes of \$125. Also door prize giveaways. Tickets: rutlandsouthrotary.org or 802-558-2180.

Pride After Party at the Village Inn

7 p.m.-Midnight Village Inn, 41 Pleasant St., Woodstock. \$55 per person, includes a welcome drink. DJ B's tunes on our tented patio and delicious, creative food passed around until 9:00 PM. Cash bar until midnight. In the outdoor courtyard. Limited admissions. To book: villageinnofwoodstock.com/events/ola/services/pride-after-party

SATURDAY
6/1

Play Forever Mountain Clean-Up

8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. K-1 Lodge, Killington Mountain Resort, 4763 Killington Road, Killington. Free. Join us for the first ever Play Forever Mountain Clean-up! This day will focus on clearing up upper mountain locations at Killington & properly discarding any trash found after the snow melts this season. Thanks to our partners at Casella, we will be providing a sorting station for all the recovered waste to ensure that it reaches the appropriate facilities. Registered participants will gain entry to live music at the end of the day, as well as complimentary lunch, pizza, & raffle items as a token of our appreciation. tinyurl.com/3rc3zmba

Vermont Outdoor Farmer's Market

9 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturdays. Depot Park, downtown Rutland. Free. One of the largest farmers markets in the state and the first to operate year-round. vermontfarmersmarket.org

Drawing from Nature Class: Watercolor Wildflowers

9 a.m.-Noon. VINS, 149 Natures Way, Quechee. \$52. VINS members, \$47. We will begin this second class of our Drawing from Nature Series by exploring the first summer wildflowers to bloom in the fields and forest. While outside we'll examine their shapes, hues, textures, and pollinators, as well as discuss identification techniques. Then, we'll bring our references (both photos and floral specimens) indoors to experiment with brushstrokes and color. We will spend the rest of the workshop creating watercolor wildflowers in our nature journals. Learn tips and tricks for drawing as well as for creating vivid pages that depict personal natural history experiences. Drawing, sketching, and watercolor experience are not necessary, all skill levels welcome. info@vinsweb.org or 802-359-5000.



VERMONT OUTDOOR FARMER'S MARKET

SATURDAY @ 9 AM

Pride of Woodstock High Heel Race

9:30-11 a.m. 26 Elm St., Woodstock. Free. The Pride of Woodstock High Heel race is an all-inclusive event representing our community's diverse, accepting culture. Everyone participating in the race: male, female, non-binary, LGBTQ+, and straight, will wear high heels (e.g. pumps, platforms, wedges, stilettos, slingbacks) as they run, walk, saunter or sashay from the intersection of Elm and Pleasant Streets to the intersection of Elm and Central Streets (about 1/8 mile). Costumes, wigs, make-up, and sparkles are highly recommended! Winners will be selected in 6 categories: 1st, 2nd and 3rd place finishers, Best Hair, Best Shoes, and Best Outfit. Festivities begin at 9:30 a.m. Please arrive by 10:00 a.m. Race at 10:30 a.m. prideofwoodstockvermont@gmail.com

"Made with Pride" Arts & Crafts Fair on the Green

10 a.m.-3 p.m. The Green, Woodstock. Immerse yourself in a kaleidoscope of handmade treasures, from paintings and sculptures to handcrafted jewelry and textiles. Expect a lively atmosphere filled with music, laughter, and a sense of community.

Make a Beat with Sir BabyGirl

10 a.m.-Noon. JAM, 5 So. Main St., White River Junction. Renowned recording artist and nationally touring act Sir Babygirl takes you through the process of creating your first beat. No prior musical experience required. This two hour workshop will go over the fundamentals of Garageband, Apple's built in digital audio workstation (DAW.) Walk in with a hope and a dream. Walk out with a beat. Look at you go! Sign up: uvjam.org/event/make-a-beat-with-sir-babygirl/

Lego Club

10-11 a.m. Saturdays. Gilbert Hart Library, 14 So. Main St., Wallingford. 802-446-2685

Touch-a-Truck

10 a.m. Sherburne Memorial Library, 2998 River Road, Killington. Free. We'll have short story time with the smallest patrons and then we'll turn them loose in the parking lot to play with and take pictures with all the big equipment. 802-422-9765.

Kids' Watercolor Painting

10:30 a.m.-Noon. Chaffee Art Center, 16 So. Main St., Rutland. Ages 6-10. \$25, includes all supplies. Attendees follow along with the instructor and leave with a finished watercolor painting. Instructor: Kristen Partesi. Must pre-register. chaffeeartcenter.org/kids-classes-coming-soon/ or 802-775-0356.

Relay for Life

11 a.m. Vermont State Fairgrounds, 175 So. Main St., Rutland. By donation. Runs all day/night long. Ends 8 a.m. Sunday. Relay For Life is the world's largest volunteer-based fundraising event. We kick off our Relay by celebrating our local cancer survivors. We encourage you to invite friends and family currently living with cancer or survivors to attend and join in the celebration. As the sun sets, Relay teams help light pre-made luminaria bags that are dedicated in honor or in memory of a loved one. Food available. Registration at 11 a.m. Opening Ceremonies at 1 p.m. Info: kay.corio@cancer.org or 800-227-2345.

Rutland Railway Museum & Model Club

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

Pride of Woodstock Drag Brunch at the Woodstock Inn

11:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Woodstock Inn, 14 The Green, Woodstock. \$75, includes a welcome beverage. Join us for a colorful, sparkly party with 3 talented performers at the Drag Brunch at the Woodstock Inn! Resort Executive Chef Matthew McClure will create large shared platters of delicious brunch options for every table to go along with the fabulous and dazzling show! The show lasts about 1 hour. There will be 2 seatings (11:30am & 1pm) in the Rockefeller Room. 802-457-6665. Reservations: woodstockvt.com/events/pride-of-woodstock-drag-brunch-at-the-woodstock-inn

Pride of Woodstock Open Mic

Noon-1 p.m. The Green, Woodstock. Free. During the "Made with Pride" Arts & Crafts Fair you'll have a chance to jump up on the mic and show us your talent! Sing, recite poetry, act out a skit, make us laugh!

Miss Jackie's Studio of Dance:

Dance the Night Away

Noon & 6 p.m. Paramount Theatre, 30 Center St., Rutland. Two Performances. Adults \$33, Children 17 and under \$25+ taxes/fees. Miss Jackie's Studio of Dance students and teachers produce an exciting show of ballet, pointe, tap, jazz, lyrical, modern, hip hop, baton and acrobatic performances. The recital is a culmination of the dedication, hard work and love that is poured into their classes, emulating Miss Jackie's style and passion. paramountvt.org or 802-775-0903.

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 with a fee. All ages. Supplies and images to paint are provided. Must pre register by Friday noon at: chaffeeartcenter.org or 802-775-0356.

Huck Finn Catfish Derby

Noon-2 p.m. Summit Pond at The Foundry, 63 Summit Road, Killington. \$5 to register. Benefits Killington Elementary School. Trophies for winners! Burgers and hot dogs!

Teen Watercolor Painting

12:30-2 p.m. Chaffee Art Center, 16 So. Main St., Rutland. chaffeeartcenter.org or 802-775-0356.

Castleton Free Library Ribbon Cutting

1-3 p.m. Castleton Free Library, 638 Main St., Castleton. Free. The library will celebrate its new addition and elevator. The elevator will provide unprecedented access and ease for all. Light refreshments and music by The Plumb Bobs. 802-468-5574.

Pride of Woodstock Tea Dance

3-6 p.m. East End Park, 217-03 Maxham Meadow Way, Woodstock. Free. Join us to dance the afternoon away in East End Park! The outdoor amphitheater provides a fantastic space to celebrate Pride with a great mix of dance music by DJ Bugie. Food & Drink vendors will be on site.

Covered Bridges Half Marathon Community Pasta Supper

5-8 p.m. Saskadena Six, 247 Stage Road, Pomfret. Adults \$22. Children \$12. Join us for live music, good food and community fun. Live music with Spare Parts. All you can eat Pasta dinner with locally made sauce. Homemade desserts. Cash bar. Kid friendly. Open to everyone, not just runners! Please sign up for a time slot: 5 p.m, 6 p.m. or 7 p.m. Sign up: woodstockvt.com/payment/2024-covered-bridges-half-marathon-pasta-supper

Pride of Woodstock Trivia Night

5-10 p.m. Richardson's Tavern at the Woodstock Inn, 14 The Green, Woodstock. Local, legendary, and LGBTQ+ owned Babe's Bar takes over Richardson's Tavern Trivia Night during the first annual Pride of Woodstock! Up to 6 people per team. There will be two rounds of lively Trivia (5:30pm & 8:00pm) with seating available beginning at 5:00pm. A specialty menu with favorites from Richardson's Tavern and an homage to Babe's iconic "Chicago Dog" will be served alongside drinks from the bar. Reservations Strongly Recommended: 802-457-6665.

River City Rebels

7 p.m. Main Street Museum, 58 Bridge St., White River Junction. \$10. Calling all rockers! Also featuring The Worst, Phrogs, and Dead Street Dreamers. mainstreetmuseum.org/events

"If"

7:30-9:30 p.m. Woodstock Town Hall Theatre, 31 The Green, Woodstock. Adults \$10, Seniors \$9, Children & members, \$8. A young girl who goes through a difficult experience begins to see everyone's imaginary friends who have been left behind as their real-life friends have grown up. Directed by John Krasinski, Starring Ryan Reynolds, and Steve Carell. pentanglearts.org/

Funny with Pride at The Grange Theater

8-10 p.m. The Grange Theater, 65 Stage Road, Pomfret. \$25. FUNNY with Pride is a night of standup comedy featuring some of the country's funniest LGBTQIA comics: Vicki Ferentinos, Shawn Hollenbach, Kevin McTaggart and Will Berman. Tickets: <https://artistreevt.org/performances>

SUNDAY
6/2

Covered Bridges Half Marathon

8:15-11:15 a.m. Saskadena Six, 247 Stage Road, Pomfret. The Half Marathon meanders through the Woodstock Village, along dirt roads parallel to the Ottauquechee River and ends in Quechee. If you missed out on early registration you can still run by joining one of the non-profit partner teams. Not a runner? The CBM is always looking for volunteers and cheerleaders. Find a place along the route to cheer on your friends and family! Contact Mike Silverman at: mike.j.silverman@gmail.com or cbhm.com.

Community 5K Run and Walk

9 a.m.-Noon. Johnson Recreation Center Pavillion, 2782 River Road Fork, Killington. Adults (18+) \$25, children ages 7-17 \$10, children under 7 are free. All proceeds benefit Killington Elementary School P.E. classes. recredirector@killingtontown.com

← **Calendar:** Email events@mountaintimes info.....
from page 13

Pride of Woodstock Sunday Brunch at the Village Inn

11 a.m.-3 p.m. Village Inn, 41 Pleasant St., Woodstock. DJ "B" will provide classic tunes from the 90's & 00's to set the tone for another day of celebration! villageinnofwoodstock.com

Mission Farm Picnic: Gala of Gratitude

11 a.m.-1 p.m. Mission Farm VT, 316 Mission Farm Road, Killington. \$20, suggested. Celebrate community with us at Mission Farm for a picnic on the Odeon. Live Music with Liz Reedy. Freshly prepared picnic lunches including a local fare, and picnic essentials. Please RSVP and order your picnic option ahead of time. BYOB. RSVP: missionfarmvt.org/events/picnic2024

Bread and Puppet Theater

2 p.m. Bread & Puppet Farm, 753 Heights Road, Glover. \$10. An afternoon of music and puppet shows to celebrate the opening of the B&P Museum for the summer as well as The Whole Kit and Caboodle Show and a new reimagining of B&P's famous historic show The Gray Lady Cantata. Tickets: breadandpuppet.org

Pride of Woodstock Tea Dance

3-6 p.m. East End Park, 217-03 Maxham Meadow Way, Woodstock. Free. Join us to dance the afternoon away in East End Park! The outdoor amphitheater provides a fantastic space to celebrate Pride with a great mix of dance music by DJ Bugie. Food & Drink vendors will be on site.

"If"

3-5 p.m. Woodstock Town Hall Theatre, 31 The Green, Woodstock. Adults \$10, Seniors \$9, Children & members, \$8. A young girl who goes through a difficult experience begins to see everyone's imaginary friends who have been left behind as their real-life friends have grown up. Directed by John Krasinski, Starring Ryan Reynolds, and Steve Carell. pentanglearts.org/

MONDAY 6/3

Senior Bone Builders

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

Community Lunch

11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Mondays. Godnick Adult Center, 1 Deer St., Rutland. Over 60, \$3.50. Under 60, \$6. Donations welcome. In partnership with the Southwestern Vermont Council on Aging and Meals on Wheels, the Godnick Center hosts congregational meals. Make new friends, connect with pals. Call 802-773-1853 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. Sherburne Memorial Library, 2998 River Road, Killington. Free. Contact the library for the title. sherburnelibrary.org/movie-monday or 802-422-9765

JAM Scriptwriters' Group

5:30-7 p.m. Every other Monday. JAM, 5 So. Main St., White River Junction. Free. 17+. Gather bi-weekly with a dedicated group to meet talented local writers, learn new script writing techniques, and receive peer feedback. Meetings are free of charge and not mandatory, but we encourage consistent participation to get the most out of this group! To register: uvjam.org/scriptwritersgroup/

"If"

7:30-9:30 p.m. Woodstock Town Hall Theatre, 31 The Green, Woodstock. Adults \$10, Seniors \$9, Children & members, \$8. A young girl who goes through a difficult experience begins to see everyone's imaginary friends who have been left behind as their real-life friends have grown up. Directed by John Krasinski, Starring Ryan Reynolds, and Steve Carell. pentanglearts.org/

TUESDAY 6/4

Spring Bird Walks

7:30-10:30 a.m. Tuesdays. Free. Join Slate Valley Trails and the Rutland County Audubon Society for weekly slow-paced (3 to 4 miles, 3 to 4 hours) bird & wildflower hike in the Poultney area, Tuesdays at 7:30 a.m. All are welcome. No worries if you can't identify many birds. There will be friendly birders in the group who will happily share their knowledge with you. Bring water and a snack (and insect repellent if you use it), binoculars, cameras, field guides, if you have them. There is usually an opportunity to cut the walk short if you need to leave early. The walks are at a slow pace with lots of opportunities for observing and photographing. Contact Joel Tilley: jptilley50@gmail.com. Locations will change each week.

Bone Builders

9 a.m. Tuesdays. Gilbert Hart Library, 14 So. 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

Bridge Club

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

Senior Volunteers

1-3 p.m. Tuesdays. Sherburne Memorial Library, 2998 River Road, Killington. sherburnelibrary.org or 802-422-4323

Bridge Club

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

Play Chess, Backgammon!

5-7 p.m. Tuesdays. Norman 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

Jazz Dance for Adults

6-7:15 p.m. Stone Valley Arts, 145 E. Main St., Poultney. \$15 to drop in, \$78 for 6-week session. This class offers classic American jazz dance technique and choreography. Each class begins with a warm up of moderate aerobic conditioning, followed by progressive steps across the floor, culminating in short dance phrases that can be combined into jazz dance choreography. A variety of music styles are used to make this class a fun workout! Instructor: Erika Schmidt. stonevalleyarts.org

Jazz Café

7-8:30 p.m. Stone Valley Arts, 145 E. Main St., Poultney. Free. Kicking off the 2024 season, the inaugural concert will feature the dynamic duo of Harry Drum on tenor saxophone and Cameron Wescott on trumpet and vocals, both esteemed members of the renowned "Energazz" big band and seasoned performers on Vermont's music scene. Joining them will be Gary Schmidt on piano, Ron White on bass, and Nick Aloï on drums, promising an evening of jazz standards and original compositions. stonevalleyarts.org

JAZZ CAFE

TUESDAY @ 7 PM



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[MUSIC Scene]

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

WED

5/29

LUDLOW

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

POULTNEY

7 p.m. Poultney Pub – Open Mic with Danny Lang

QUECHEE

6 p.m. Public House Pub – Kim Wilcox

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

THURS

5/30

BARNARD

5:30 p.m. Fable Farm – Feast & Field with Villalobos Brothers

BRANDON

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

BRIDGEWATER

CORNERS

5 p.m. Long Trail Brewery – Nick Bredice

KILLINGTON

6 p.m. Liquid Art – Open Mic hosted by Grateful Gary
6 p.m. Rivershed – Chris Pallutto

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 Caber Wilson
8 p.m. Center Street Alley – Karaoke 101 hosted by Tenacious T

FRI

5/31

BRIDGEWATER

CORNERS

6:30 p.m. Long Trail Brewery – Trivia Night

CASTLETON

6 p.m. Blue Cat Bistro – Pepper & Sassafras

KILLINGTON

5 p.m. Charity's 1887 Saloon – Aaron Audet.

6 p.m. Rivershed – Krishna Guthrie

6 p.m. Still on the Mountain – Nick Bredice

7 p.m. Jax Food and Games – Rhys Chalmers

7:30 p.m. Mcgrath's Irish Pub – Extra Stout

LUDLOW

8:30 p.m. Off the Rails – The What Knots

PITTSFIELD

5:30 p.m. Clear River Tavern – Grand Reopening Party with music by Duane Carleton

9 p.m. Clear River Tavern – Grand Reopening Party with music by The Idiots

POULTNEY

6 p.m. Poultney Pub – Breanna Elaine

QUECHEE

5:30 p.m. Public House Pub – Blue Fox Duo

SAT

6/1

BOMOSEEN

6 p.m. Bomoseen Lodge and Taproom – James Joel

BRIDGEWATER

8 p.m. Woolen Mill Comedy Club – Comedy Night with headliner Brian Glowacki

KILLINGTON

2:30 p.m. The Umbrella Bar at Snowshed – Duane Carleton

6 p.m. Rivershed – Liz Reedy

6 p.m. Still on the Mountain – Rick Webb

7 p.m. Jax Food and Games – Zach Yakaitis

7:30 p.m. Mcgrath's Irish Pub – Extra Stout

POULTNEY

6 p.m. Poultney Pub – Mike Schwaner

QUECHEE

5:30 p.m. Public House Pub – Sammy B

RUTLAND

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

SHARON

4 p.m. Sharon Academy – Phoenix Fest with music by the Bow Thayer & Krishna Guthrie Duo

SOUTH POMFRET

8 p.m. Grange Theater – Funny with Pride Comedy Night with Vicki Ferentinos, Shawn Hollenbach, Kevin McTaggart and Will Berman

STOCKBRIDGE

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

SUN

6/2

BRIDGEWATER

CORNERS

3 p.m. Long Trail Brewery – Evan Foisy Band

KILLINGTON

12 p.m. Rivershed – Brunch with Nick Bredice

6 p.m. Liquid Art – Tee Boneicus Jones

6 p.m. Rivershed – Trivia Night

7 p.m. Jax Food & Games – Nick Bredice

RUTLAND

4 p.m. Grace Church – Tintinnabula: Concert by the Grace Church Handbell Choir

STOCKBRIDGE

7:30 p.m. Wild Fern – Rick Redington's Looping Mayhem

MON

6/3

KILLINGTON

5:30 p.m. Mary Lou's – BAK'n

6 p.m. Rivershed – Mandatory Mondays with Name That Tune Bingo by DJ Dave

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

WOODSTOCK

6:30 p.m. Ottauquechee Yacht Club – Jam Session with Ben Kogan

TUES

6/5

KILLINGTON

7 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

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





First Sundays
at Mission Farm

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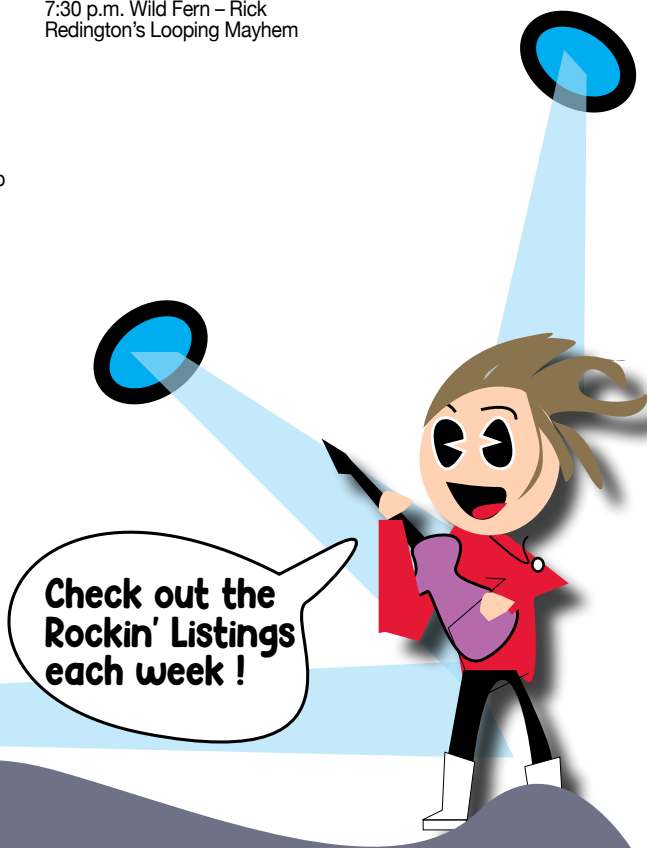
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Getting ready to run with 'Finding Our Stride' Community 5K Run and Walk is

Runners racing with focus on feet

Sunday, June 2 at 9 a.m.—KILLINGTON—Killington Parks and Recreation and Killington Elementary school are joining forces to host a "Finding Our Strides" Community 5K Run or Walk. This event begins and ends at Johnson Recreation Center Pavilion with the 5K route following the dirt road portion of River Road. This event serves as the culmination of the Finding Our Strides youth program, dedicated to promoting wellness, fitness, and camaraderie among participants in grades 3-6.

Check-in starts at 9 a.m., followed by the run/walk at 10 a.m. Festivities conclude at 12 p.m.

Adults (ages 18+): \$25; Children ages 7-17: \$10; Children under the age of 7 are welcome to participate in the event free of charge. Registration fees include participation in the run/walk event and access to a post-event celebration featuring light refreshments.

The Finding Our Strides Community 5K Run or Walk is not just about breaking a sweat; it's about coming together to make a positive impact. This year, all proceeds from the event will benefit Killington Elementary School physical education classes, specifically raising funds to bring Wunderle's Big Top Adventures residency to KES physical education classes.

Participants can expect a morning featuring:

- **Scenic Course:** Enjoy a loop that begins at the Johnson Recreation Center and continues down River Road past wetlands and Thundering Brook Falls before turning around at Wolf Hill Road to return to the Rec Center.
- **Kid-friendly route:** Participants are welcome to bring strollers to the event. Note that the route includes a dirt road.
- **Community Support:** By participating in the Finding Our Strides 5K, you're not just investing in your own wellbeing; you're also giving back to the community.
- **Post-Race Celebration:** After crossing the finish line, stick around for a post-race celebration featuring light refreshments, graciously sponsored by Debiase Painting, and the opportunity to connect with fellow participants and supporters.
- **Registration open to individuals all ages and fitness levels.**

All proceeds generated from registration fees will be directed towards supporting Wunderle's Big Top Adventures residency in physical education classes at Killington Elementary School. Your participation helps make a meaningful impact on the education and enrichment of our local students.

For more information, visit: killingtonvt.myrec.com



Courtesy Finding Our Stride

Runners run for Killington Parks and Recreation and Killington Elementary School's "Finding Our Strides" Community 5K Run or Walk on June 2nd.

Relay for Life runs all day and night at Rutland's Vermont State Fairgrounds

Saturday, June 1, 1 p.m.-Sunday June 2, 8 a.m.—RUTLAND—Relay for Life will be held at the Vermont State Fairgrounds, 175 So. Main St., Rutland. The event will run all day/night long ending at 8 a.m. on Sunday. Relay For Life is the world's largest volunteer-based fundraising event. It will kick off by celebrating local cancer survivors, caregivers and family currently living with cancer or survivors are invited to attend and join in the celebration. As the sun sets, Relay teams help light pre-made luminaria bags that are dedicated in honor or in memory of a loved one. There will be food available.

Survivor/Caregiver schedule:

- 11 a.m. Survivor/caregiver reception check in
- 1 p.m. Opening ceremonies-
- 1:30pm Survivors to lead opening lap
- 2:30-4:30 p.m. Luncheon at The Vermont Building
- 4:30 p.m. Survivor Medal/Ceremony
- 5 p.m. Survivor/Caregiver final lap

For more information, visit: acsevents.org



Courtesy Relay for Life



Courtesy Vermont Farmers Market

Vermont Outdoor Farmers' Market is back outside for the summer

Saturdays 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. — RUTLAND — The Vermont Farmers' Market summer season is in full swing on Saturdays at Depot Park, downtown Rutland. Running from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., this downtown outdoor farmers' market is one of the largest in the state and the first to operate year-round.

Shoppers can find a variety of plants for their gardens, meats for the grill, and liquid libations to wet their palates, along with a wonderland of goodies for everyone in the family. This is an excellent opportunity to shop fresh and support local vendors.

In addition to the famous Saturday market, the Vermont Farmers' Market hosts two mid-week markets during the summer. On Wednesdays from 1-5 p.m., the market can be found at Depot Park in downtown Rutland. On Thursdays from 3-6 p.m., it takes place on the Village Green in Fair Haven. These mid-week markets offer the perfect time to restock before the weekend and continue supporting local vendors.

For more information, visit vermontfarmersmarket.org.

Rutland Railway Association welcomes visitors every Saturday

By Paul Andriscin

Steam whistles shriek and diesel horns blare every Saturday at the Center Rutland Railroad Station, home of the Rutland Railway Association. From 11 a.m. until 3 p.m. the station is open as members congregate to run model trains and greet visitors to the depot's museum. Home to a vast collection of railroad items, the association maintains the collection of the late Henry Carris as well as other donated items.

The club has existed since 1986 but it wasn't until the early 1990s that the Center Rutland Station became its home. Two model train layouts, one each in HO and N scale, are up and running every Saturday.

Highly detailed houses, bridges, factories and other buildings grace the HO setup enticing newcomers to examine every nook and cranny while freight or passenger trains roll by. A scratch-built wooden trestle bridge, hand made by one of the members, dominates a section reflecting just a fraction of the modeling talent of the group. In another area, a fishing boat returns to the quay as buoy light guides it in.

Although the N scale layout is being remodeled, it is running and has now been converted to Digital Command Control (DCC) which enables more trains to run as each engine has a computer chip. This relatively new technology has revolutionized the hobby allowing many individuals to operate their units at the same time. Guests watch as two N scale Vermont Railway GP-40s haul a string of OMYA cars up the spiral helix to the top level or watch steam engines rolling up and down the yard around the turntable. Listen as the engines growl, bells ring and horns blast. With DCC each locomotive has its own "voice" including horns, bells, brakes and motion sounds. The HO operation is scheduled to conversion to DCC in the very near future.

(Editor's note: HO and N scale models are the two most popular types. HO models are 1:87 proportioned, meaning one foot on the model represents 87 actual feet. An HO scale 40-foot boxcar is about 6 actual inches long. The N scale ratio is 1:160, it's a little more than half the size of HO scale. An N scale 40-foot boxcar measures just over 3 inches long.)

However, it is the station itself and the museum artifacts that are the star of the show. Built in 1912, this building served both the Rutland Railroad and the Delaware and Hudson (D&H) as it sits between the rails where the Rutland headed north to Burlington

and D&H went west to Whitehall and points beyond. As you enter, you are stepping back into a time when passenger trains stopped to pick up travelers. Wooden benches, train schedules, lanterns, hoops for handing mail to passing trains and even candy and gum machines recreate what a traveler would have seen here. Many other items used by train crews, conductors and track crews are housed here.

When the club acquired use of the building it was with the understanding we would curate Henry Carris' collection of railroadiana. Display cases have been added over the years as the items have increased with donations and loaned pieces. These have been labeled with descriptions of each and what its function was. Along with these objects are dozens of photographs and paintings of scenes from past days of railroading not only in Rutland but throughout Vermont and New England.

Many of these pictures show Rutland in the days when the railroads were an integral part of the city and reflect the impact this mode of transportation had on travel and society as it transitioned from the coal age to the era of diesels and petroleum. Photos of places in Rutland that used to exist often draw some interesting comments from visitors that have no idea how much the city has changed or what the effect of the railroad was.

Besides the items and layout inside, the outside also has items of interest. The station itself is an excellent example of classic railroad architecture with its bay windows and corbeled overhang. An old baggage wagon and a vintage 1925 Rutland Railroad caboose are there to see, although the caboose, sad to say, is in dire need of restoration. Additionally, visitors are often treated to trains rolling past the station as Amtrak comes down from Burlington and then leaves Rutland for points south every Saturday morning. Vermont Railway freight trains are usual sightings as well.

All in all, whether you are a local, a visitor, a railroad enthusiast, a model railroader, transportation historian or just would enjoy seeing something unique and different come visit the Rutland Railway Association's home at the Center Rutland Railroad Station located near Carris Reels in Center Rutland. It's open from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturdays and always welcome visitors and, of course, hoping for new members.

Rutland Railway Association is located at 79 Depot Lane on Business-4 Center Rutland.



By Paul Andriscin






Welcome Reception on the Front Lawn

Friday, May 31
5 - 7pm

Drag Brunch in the Rockefeller Room

\$75++ includes welcome drink

Saturday, June 1
2 Brunch Seatings
11:30am & 1pm

Trivia Night in Richardson's Tavern

Trivia Takeover by Babe's Bar!

Saturday, June 1
2 Rounds of Trivia
5:30pm & 8pm



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Bread and Puppet presents the 'Whole Kit and Caboodle Show'

Sunday, June 2nd, at 2 p.m.—GLOVER—Bread & Puppet Theater Presents: Museum Opening and The Whole Kit and Caboodle Show In the Bread and Puppet Museum and the Papier Maché Cathedral at the Bread & Puppet Farm, 753 Heights Road in Glover.

An afternoon of music and puppet shows to celebrate the opening of the B&P Museum for the summer as well as The Whole Kit and Caboodle Show and a new reimagining of Bread and Puppet's famous historic show "The Gray Lady Cantata," directed by Maria Schumann.

Tickets for Summer 2024 performances are \$10 and should be purchased ahead of time. Admission is by donation for kids 6 and under. Tickets are non-refundable.

For tickets and more info, visit: [tickets on our website here breadandpuppet.org](https://tickets.on.our.website.here.breadandpuppet.org)



Courtesy Lucy Macjenzie Humane Society

Lucy Mackenzie Humane Society hosts annual benefit gala & auction, "The Care We Give," with proceeds going towards animal care and funding programs.

Lucy Mackenzie Humane Society announces annual benefit gala and auction

Friday, May 31—WOODSTOCK—Lucy Mackenzie Humane Society will hold its annual benefit gala & auction at Billings Farm & Museum, located at 69 Old River Road, Woodstock. The theme for this year's event, "The Care We Give," underscores the essential services and resources provided by the society, benefiting animals both during their stay and after adoption into loving homes.

Tickets are \$150 per person, which includes one complimentary drink. The evening will feature live and silent auction items, with the live auction presented by auctioneer Eric Nathan. The event will be catered by New England native Chef Christopher Sailer of Christophe Catering and will include acoustic music by artist Josh Hall during the cocktail hour, followed by dancing after the live auction.

Proceeds from the event will support the care of animals at Lucy Mackenzie Humane Society and help fund programs aimed at keeping animals in loving homes.

Live Auction Items:

"Take Me Out To The Ballgame" – Includes four Dugout Club Seats at Fenway Park for the Red Sox vs. Astros game on Aug. 10, 2024, and a night in a two-bedroom private condo in Boston.

"Quebec's Luxurious Past & Present" – A two-night stay at Fairmont The Queen Elizabeth in Montreal, followed by a 2-night stay at Fairmont Le Château Frontenac in Quebec City, with round trip Business Class train service and a \$200 Fairmont gift card.

"Taste of the Upper Valley" – Gift certificates to various restaurants, including a

1-night stay for two at The Quechee Inn at Marshland Farm.

"I Love New York" – Includes two fifth-row orchestra seat tickets for Cabaret on Sept. 21, 2024, a 2-night stay at the Refinery Hotel, and a \$100 gift card to Carmine's Restaurant.

"Champion of the Animals" – Sponsorship of one cat and one dog at Lucy Mackenzie, along with branded merchandise, a personalized paver, and a tour of the shelter.

"Under The Tuscan Sun" – 7-night accommodations for four in Manciano, Tuscany.

"Elegance on Ice" – A marble polar bear sculpture, known as "Walter," ready for a new home.

"The Pearl of the Caribbean" – Six days and five nights at Oyster Bay Beach Resort in Saint Martin/Sint Maarten.

"A Catered Affair" – A catered event for 25 guests, featuring handcrafted hors d'oeuvres, a raw bar, and a mixed case of wine.

Catered menu:

Americana: Bruschetta, Grilled Artichoke Bruschetta, Grilled Vegetable Strudel, Tomato Galette, Crudite Cups

Asian: Vegetable Potstickers, Bao Buns, Assorted Vegetable Sushi, Tofu Pockets, Satay of Grilled Baby Eggplant

Mediterranean: Fajita Vegetables, Black Bean Slider, Strawberry/Blueberry Arugula Salad, Baby Potatoes, Mac n Cheese

For more information and to purchase tickets, visit: lucymac.org. For details on live auction items and the menu, visit: one.bidpal.net/lmhs2024gala/welcome.lucymac.org/events/

Celebrating the addition at Castleton Library

Saturday, June 1 at 1 p.m.—CASTLETON—The Castleton Free Library, 638 Main St., will celebrate its new addition and the elevator on Saturday, from 1-3 p.m. The elevator will provide unprecedented convenience and ease of access for all. A ribbon-cutting will take place at 1 p.m. Light refreshments will be served with music by The Plumb Bobs. For more information, call: 802-468-5574.



Submitted

Anglin' for education at the The Huck Finn Catfish Derby benefit for Killington Elementary School

Saturday, June at noon—KILLINGTON—The Huck Finn Catfish Derby, a community event to benefit Killington Elementary School (KES), will be held at The Foundry at Summit Pond in Killington.

For only \$5, participants can register for the derby, with trophies awarded to the winners. The event promises a delightful afternoon with delicious burgers and hot dogs available for all attendees.

This event is an opportunity to enjoy outdoor activities, support local education, and indulge in some great food. All proceeds from the derby will directly benefit the students and programs at Killington Elementary School.

For more information or to register, visit: killingtonpico.org



Submitted

The thrilling essence of biking through the countryside at the Killington Stage Race



By Jerry leblond



BarnArts Announces 2024 Feast & Field Music Series Line-up

Friday, May 30 at 6 p.m.—BARNARD—BarnArts Feast and Field Music Series launches May 30 with a return of beloved Mexican fiddle virtuosos the Villalobos Brothers as celebrated season openers. The outdoor music series continues each Thursday through September with an eclectic selection of artists ranging from Vermont talent, such as Myra Flynn, Bow Thayer, and Patti Casey, to internationally touring artists such as the Colombian group Espiral7 and Mames Babegenush from Denmark. The gates open each week at 5:30 p.m. and music runs from 6 to 8:30 p.m.

Feast and Field Music Series is a partnership between BarnArts and the Feast & Field Collective (Fable Farm Fermentory, Kiss the Cow Farm, and Eastman Farm) who host these popular weekly gatherings at Fable Farm's orchard in Barnard. Locally fermented (and non-fermented) drinks are sold by Fable Farm; Eastman Farm's beef and pork and Fable Farm's vegetables are staple ingredients to the dinner options; delicious organic ice cream is made on site and offered by Kiss the Cow Creamery.

Entry for each performance is sliding scale, \$5-25 per person. New this year are season passes with price points for students, individuals, couples, and bigger groups, allowing for quick entry and easy support of the weekly series. Tickets and passes can be purchased online at feastandfield.com, but walk-ins are welcome, space permitting. Also new this year, a "Bring-a-Neighbor" program that encourages carpooling. Any car with 4 or more guests from at least two households (above the age of 12) will be entered in a weekly drawing for some Feast & Field merchandise, announced at intermission.

Music Series Line-up:

- May 30: Villalobos Brothers, Mexican folk/jazz
- June 6: Myra Flynn, indie/soul
- June 13: Le Winston Band, Québécois zydeco
- June 20: Annie & the Fur Trappers, traditional jazz/delta blues
- June 27: Ida Mae Specker, children's/folk/singer-songwriter
- July 4: Route 5 Jive, roots bop
- July 11: Bow Thayer's Choirs of Aether, improvisational rock
- July 18: Patti Casey & Tom Mackenzie, folk
- July 25: Espiral7, Afro-Latin/jazz
- Aug 1: Bomba de Aqui, Puerto Rican bomba
- Aug 8: Timbermash, old-timey folk
- Aug 15: Afro-Semitic Experience, funk/jazz/world beat
- Aug 22: Zikina Music, Afro-folk
- Aug 29: Pointe Noire Cajun Band, Cajun
- Sept 5: Mames Babegenush, Balkan jazz/Nordic folk
- Sept 12: Pluto Rising, new wave/retro soul
- Sept 19: Funky Flats, funk/soul
- Sept 26: DJ Dance Party

Reservations and passes can be purchased at feastandfield.com, and more information about the series can be found at barnarts.org. Individual tickets: \$5-\$25 per person; passes: \$120-\$1250.

For more information, visit: barnarts.org.



Courtesy Barn Arts

The Villalobos Brothers perform at a recent BarnArts Feast and Field Music Series, an outdoor music series featuring Vermont international artists.



Courtesy Barn Arts

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Killington offers a diverse culinary scene with local pubs serving wings, burgers, sushi, seafood, and steakhouses, catering to all palates and preferences.



Rutland CO-OP

Rutland CO-OP
 The Rutland Area Food Co-op is a community-owned grocery and wellness market situated in downtown Rutland. As a food cooperative, we are owned by a membership base of around 2,000 members. We aim to provide affordable access to high-quality, local, organic and sustainable foods and goods. At the same time, as a mission-driven, community-oriented business, we proudly strengthen our region by carrying products of more than 180 local businesses. 77 Wale St. Rutland. rutlandcoop.com 802-773-0737



Liquid Art

Relax in the warm atmosphere at Liquid Art. Look for artfully served lattes from their La Marzocco espresso machine, or if you want something stronger, try their signature cocktails. Serving breakfast, lunch and dinner, they focus on healthy fare and provide you with a delicious meal different than anything else on the mountain. liquidartvt.com, (802) 422-2787.



Sugar and Spice

Stop on by to Sugar and Spice for a home style breakfast or lunch served up right. Try six different kinds of pancakes and/or waffles or order up some eggs and home fries. For lunch they offer a Filmore salad, grilled roast beef, burgers and sandwiches. Take away available.
 www.vtsugarandspice.com 802-773-7832.



Back Country Café

The Back Country Café is a hot spot for delicious breakfast foods. Choose from farm fresh eggs, multiple kinds of pancakes and waffles, omelets or daily specials to make your breakfast one of a kind. Just the right heat Bloody Marys, Mimosas, Bellini, VT Craft Brews, Coffee and hot chocolate drinks. Maple Syrup and VT products for sale. Check Facebook for daily specials. 802-422-4411.

Mountain Top Inn



Whether staying overnight or visiting for the day, Mountain Top's Dining Room & Tavern serve delicious cuisine amidst one of Vermont's best views. A mix of locally inspired and International cuisine – including salads, seafood, poultry and a new steakhouse menu - your taste buds are sure to be satisfied. Choose from 12 Vermont craft brews on tap. Warm up by the terrace fire pit after dinner! A short drive from Killington. mountaintopinn.com, 802-483-2311.

Killington Market



Take breakfast, lunch or dinner on the go at Killington Market, Killington's on-mountain grocery store for the last 30 years. Choose from breakfast sandwiches, hand carved dinners, pizza, daily fresh hot panini, roast chicken, salad and specialty sandwiches. Vermont products, maple syrup, fresh meat and produce along with wine and beer are also for sale. killingtonmarket.com 802-422-7736 or 802-422-7594.


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"Mary Lou's is your perfect place to warm up and enjoy wood fired pizza, drinks and live music. Sit by the fireplace by the lower bar! Please check our updates by hitting the Update tab. See you here!" (802) 422-9885.

marylouskillington.com

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featuring thoughtfully crafted food made with the highest quality steaks & chops, fresh seafood, and seasonal produce. We offer dinner and drink service in our dining room, bar & lounge, and on our seasonal patio, weather permitting. (802) 772-7556 southsidesteakhouse.com



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.



Choices Restaurant & Rotisserie

Choices Restaurant and Rotisserie was named 2012 "Ski" magazines' favorite restaurant. Choices may be the name of the restaurant but it is also what you get. Soup of the day, shrimp cocktail, steak, hamburgers, a variety of salads and pastas, scallops, monkfish, lamb and more await you. An extensive wine list and in house made desserts are also available. choicesrestaurantkillington.com (802) 422-4030.



Lookout Tavern

A place for fun, friends and good times here in Killington! Everything from soup to nuts for lunch and dinner; juicy burgers, fresh salads, delicious sandwiches and K-Town's best wings. Your first stop after a full day on the Mountain for a cold beer or specialty drink and a great meal! lookoutvt.com, 802-422-5665.



Moguls

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

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Solutions From page 15

Crossword

H	A	T					S	T	P							
A	R	A					H	I	R	E	S					
P	R	I	G				U	B	Y	K	H					
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Sudoku

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

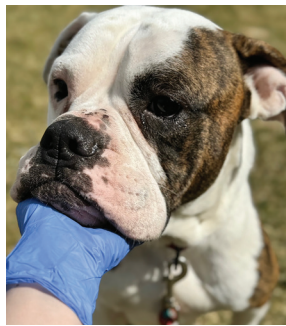
Rutland County Humane Society



MONTY

Monty is the perfect mix of playful and lazy!! If you want a big dog that loves lounging around even more than a walk this is the guy for you! Monty is a year old, and loves other dogs. He is great with children, but no cats please. For more information come in Wed-Sat from Noon to 4 or call 802-885-3997. If you have a cat that needs to be spayed or neutered call us to sign up for one of our low cost clinics.

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



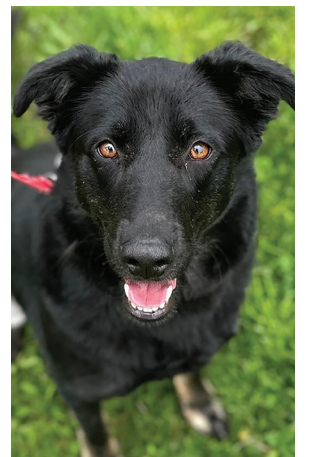
Payton—2-3-year-old.
Spayed female. American
Bulldog.



Moo—3-month-old.
Neutered male. Pitbull mix.



Tater—2-year-old. Neu-
tered male. Pit Bull mix.



Lilly—4-year-old.
Spayed female. Lab mix.



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



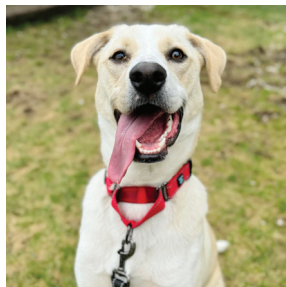
BENJI

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



Cow Girl—1-year-old.
Spayed female. Pit Bull mix.



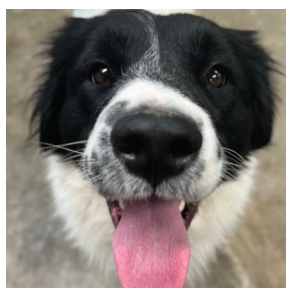
Dotty—1-year-old.
Spayed female. Husky/
Shepherd mix.



OSCAR

"Hi! My name's Oscar and I'm a 2-year-old neutered male. I came to Lucy Mackenzie with my buddy, Sailor. We've been together for a while, and would be happy to be adopted together, but we agree it's alright if we're adopted into different homes, too. I'm quite the gentle-cat and am looking for a home that will allow me to blossom at my own pace. I'm not necessarily shy, but I tend to keep to myself while I figure the environment out. Once I fell confident, I'm an adoring and playful fella. If you would like to meet me, or learn more, stop by today! Lucy Mackenzie Humane Society is located at 4832 Route 44, West Windsor, VT. We're open Tuesday through Saturday, 12 - 4 PM and by-appointment-only 4 - 7PM Thursday evenings. You can reach us at 802-484-LUCY or email info@lucymac.org to learn more or to make an appointment. Visit us at www.lucymac.org, like us on Facebook, and follow us on Twitter, Instagram and TikTok. I hope to see you soon!"

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



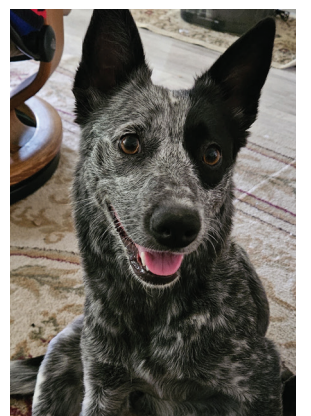
Piggy—1-year-old. Neu-
tered male. Aussie mix.



Oscar—2-3-year-old.
Neutered male. Domestic
shorthair.



Schultz—3-month-old.
Neutered male. Beagle mix.



Lola—1-year-old.
Spayed female. Heeler mix.

GOT NEWS?
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Cosmic Catalogue



Aries March 21 - April 20

A bold or radical move is always available. That is, provided you're willing to change your mind. Live by the sword if you must, but you also must be willing to die by it. This week, you may have to decide which hill you're going to do battle on, and maybe even proverbially die on. Try not to knock back an unconventional idea just because it may mean taking a course correction. Money issues can be solved by a change of thinking too.

Leo July 21 - August 20

The more you can extend yourself within your community and social groups now, the more success you'll experience. It may not happen overnight, but it will be a result of sustained efforts over time. Stretching and extending yourself in social or networking situations can open the right doors for you. So, start accepting invitations you may otherwise decline and build your little black book of people worth knowing. Other people will be the key to your personal and professional success.

Sagittarius November 21 - December 20

Your stars are especially lucky for love now, thanks to your personal planet, Jupiter, being in your relationship zone. As the manic pace of your life begins to slow down, you will now get to enjoy the best of what relationships have to offer – both romantically and otherwise. You may also realize just how much other people are willing to step up and support you too. Be open, flexible and curious and you'll be amazed by the magic that can happen.

Taurus April 21 - May 20

You can sparkle and attract all the right things as long as you're truly be yourself. This could mean taking a different pathway, saying something different or out of character for you, or simply speaking your mind. Other people, but most importantly, yourself, feel so much better when you know where you stand and make it known. By being uniquely, you, you'll be amazed by magic you'll call into your life and quite possibly, your bank account.

Virgo August 21 - September 20

Sometimes the best thing you can do to solve a problem is just to make a decision! Sure, you can split hairs, deliberate and weigh up all your options. However, this week does have a strike while the iron is hot energy to it. Sometimes the best choices are made when you don't think too much about them. If you have an important decision to make, the best choice is to just say, yes! You can figure out the rest later.

Capricorn December 21 - January 20

On the one hand, life is about to get super busy. While on the other, it's not too late to still have some fun. So, before you truly commit yourself to doing what it takes or going the extra mile with your goals and aspirations, do leave some room for spontaneity. You see, sprinkling a little salt or sugar on your life will remind you of the reason you're working so hard. Let your hair down and do something out of the blue.

Gemini May 21 - June 20

Sometimes we know logically what to do, but it takes time for our soul to connect to it. Sometimes our soul knows what's up, but our mind needs time to grapple with it. You may find yourself in one of those places this week. Regardless, just know that one way or another, opportunities multiply when they are seized. Take too long in exploring the possibilities may see you miss one. Be at the ready for an exciting possibility even if you don't have everything figured out.

Libra September 21 - October 20

You can't ever really find out how far you can go until you stretch beyond what you know. A chance, an opportunity or a sudden choice could propel you towards everything you've ever wanted. So, what is it that you want? Once that is defined - if it isn't already, then you're more likely to obtain or achieve it. The question might be, how much are you willing to invest – financially, emotionally or otherwise. Figure out that limit and then push up right against it.

Aquarius January 21 - February 20

If you're willing, the universe does have some amazing opportunities written in the stars for you now. The catch? You have to be willing to try your luck. In the game called love, nothing ventured, nothing gained. You really do have to be in it to win it. So if you want more love, joy and fun in your life, then you have to go out there and find it. It is actually easier for you now than you may think.

Cancer June 21 - July 20

So much of the sky's action is now placed within the most private corner of your horoscope. You may feel the need to hibernate within your shell as you grapple with recent events. Feelings aren't facts and facts aren't feelings. That said, they both still matter. Do you err on the side of your feelings or do you stick with the facts? You may not have the answers right now but you will soon. Allow things to evolve in due time.

Scorpio October 21 - November 20

An honest or unconventional conversation can help you get clarity regarding a particular relationship in either your personal or professional life. Once you're back on the same page, you'll be amazed by how quickly you will begin to feel better about things. The closeness and intimacy you crave with someone special lies within the words you've been avoiding saying. Work wise, you may find your recent efforts are finally reflected in your finances.

Pisces February 21 - March 20

The joy and connection you want at home is now available. With all of the sky's best planets hovering in your home zone, you too may opt to be with your kin and clan. The extra effort made to make a home a home will not only nourish and support those you love, but also yourself as well. If you have a domestic dream in your heart that you've yet to attain, then the time is right for you to go for it.

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Cassandra has studied astrology for about 20 years. She is an international teacher of astrology who has been published all over the globe.

The cost of conformity

The threshold has been crossed that will define the next 12 months.

To face towards the light, you must first face the depths of doubt, your shadows from the past and decimate all uncertainty. Bow only to those who can place judgement upon you. And that will not be who you think. Strike the match. Light the flame. Dispel the darkness. A single word of truth can eradicate an eternity of lies. But would you believe? Even if the messiah you're waiting for came, would you recognize him? What if he is already here? What if he's been and gone? What if he is you?



Cosmic Catalogue
By Cassandra Tyndall

Liberate your mind so that traps that have been laid don't enslave you. Separate from what you know and even from who you know, if required. If in doubt, ask questions. If you don't get clear and direct answers, you know they are lies. Utilize calculated thinking and apply logic. Word salads sound fancy, but they are evasive and manipulative. It's always easier to follow than to be the odd one out. But in an age built on growing a following, be an original, be a heretic. The cost of conformity is that everyone else likes you except for yourself.

Jump

My tires whiz as I zip down the mountain, darting through rock and sticks. I lean into a turn and whip my bike around. I see a jump in front of me. I steady the bike and pump. I launch off the jump. Time seems to slow as I fly through the air, everything is silent, as if the world is waiting. When my tire hits the ground, I hear multiple "Yews" and "You go girls!"

I let myself smile, I did it.



Green Mountain Tales
By Izzy Gieder

Our magical mountain retreat in an upside down world

Building our Killington Dream Lodge, Part 15

Dad, a mechanical engineer, understood the principles of levers, pulleys and gears. He used them to lift heavy beams to the second floor and on top of the frame.

It had to be done methodically, piece by piece with planning and forethought. He bought the materials as his budget allowed. Working only weekends in good weather made progress very slow. He had helpers off and on — among them my brothers (when available), Bill Thomas, Rodger, and Jack Beesman. I couldn't help with that part. It was too tricky and heavy for me so I fetched tools and did other things.

That was 1968. I received an American Institute for Foreign Study scholarship for summer classes in intensive French and a home stay in Vichy, France. I flew to Paris, but the buses weren't running so I took a cab from the airport to train station. "C'est la grève," the taxi driver said.

Someone must have died, I thought. I assumed "grève" meant "grave." I was wrong. Workers were striking all over France to support student protests against the "Old Guard." President de Gaulle fled to Germany as students, trade unions, and leftists united to create the greatest social upheaval since

the French Revolution. I was there but was unaware. During classes and the family home stay, we were isolated from France's turmoil.



Mountain Meditation
By Marguerite Jill Dye

When I returned home we went to Vermont before my senior year began. The upstairs was growing, just like I was. It was a blessing to be back in nature, filled with feelings of serenity and peace.

My constant companion and best friend was Black Star of Highland, our faithful black Lab who Billie had brought home as a puppy, in spite of Mom's protests. Mother Nature welcomed

us to secret places for new discoveries. When Dad didn't need me to locate tools or Mom for cooking, washing dishes and household stuff, Star and I wandered the forests and woods.

Pebbles and rocks in Roaring Brook smoothed by water over the years dazzled me with their earth tone tints. Star fetched sticks I threw upstream and leapt eagerly into deep pools. On the way home on Roaring Brook Road, I scrambled up the sandstone cliff. It crumbled and I slipped.

Our own little frog pond (our failed well) was still thick with tadpoles. Star didn't

Meditation → 37

The wonders of aerial insectivore flight

When I worked at a barn one summer during college, I marveled at the swallows that nested in the structure's eaves and corners. I watched the iridescent birds swoop, flutter, and dart with amazing dexterity between the small spaces above the stalls. These acrobatic birds are aerial insectivores, a group that also includes other swallows, swifts, nightjars, and the aptly named flycatchers. Many of New England's avian summer residents eat insects, while most supplement their diets with other food sources. For aerial insectivores, insects are the primary item on the menu year-round — and they earn their dinner "on the wing"

"There are a lot of insects up in the air space. We know that because birds are all the way up there feeding on them," said Thomas Sherry, an avian ecologist and former professor at Tulane University who now lives in Vermont, where he's writing a book on insectivores in the tropics. "Insects are moving around a lot for their own purposes, like mating and dispersal."

Scientists refer to that patchy spread of insects throughout the ground-to-sky gradient as "aerial plankton." Aerial insectivores must fly long distances to locate these groups of airborne insects, and then remain aloft to feed on them. Aerial insectivores are distinctly adapted — with pointed wingtips and a large wing size relative to their body — to help them reduce the amount of energy required to fly for such lengthy episodes.

"One of the most obvious adaptations for flight efficiency is pointed wingtips," Sherry said, noting that, unlike the rounded wingtips of many forest birds, a pointed wingtip "creates less drag on the wing by allowing easier air movement around the tips."

Aerial insectivores must also be able to maneuver deftly in air to catch their mobile quarry. This is where proportionally large wings come into play.

"The wheeling and turning is facilitated by a relatively large wing area for the size of the bird. It catches the air and allows them to turn quickly," Sherry said. This phenomenon is called "low-wing loading" and is perhaps best demonstrated by the foraging flights of the common nighthawk, a type of nightjar. Nightjars are crepuscular, hunting at dawn and dusk, and must change direction constantly as they chase moths and other winged nocturnal insects. Sherry recalls watching groups of nighthawks migrating south along the Connecticut River before nightfall, following patches of flying ants and other invertebrates.

Beyond their unique wings, aerial insectivores benefit from additional adaptations that aid them in foraging. Richard Holmes, an emeritus professor and avian ecologist at Dartmouth College, explained that some aerial insectivores possess a ring of specialized feathers surrounding their beaks, called "rictal bristles," which may serve to funnel prey into their mouths and protect their eyes in flight. Other studies propose that these feathers help birds orient themselves in air. Flycatchers, meanwhile, have enhanced vision that allows them to track their minuscule targets. A 2016 study by researchers at Uppsala University in Sweden found that some flycatcher species' ability to detect and follow movement is up to 25% better than that of other birds. Compared to many of their avian brethren, flycatchers effectively view the world (and their tiny, zipping meals) in slow motion.

Despite these adaptations, populations of many aerial insectivore species have decreased over the past half-century. These declines are largely due to habitat loss, pesticide use, and a growing disparity in timing between when aerial insectivores' prey hatches and when these birds migrate and arrive at their breeding grounds — a result of the changing climate.

Ornithologists point to the downward trend in insect populations as perhaps the key culprit in the decline of these birds. According to the North American Breeding Bird Survey, common nighthawk and eastern whippoorwill declines are particularly steep, which the Cornell Lab of Ornithology attributes to "the loss of open-understory forests" and pesticide-induced reductions in numbers of mosquitos and other nocturnal insects, among other factors. The populations of some swallows and flycatchers, meanwhile, appear to be stable or declining less precipitously.

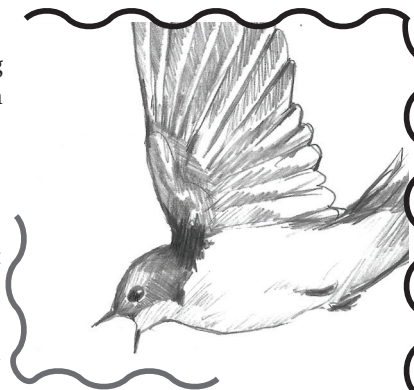
We can support aerial insectivores by avoiding pesticide use, converting lawns to meadows, and gardening with native plants to bolster insect abundance. I hope to continue to see chimney swifts and swallows winding sinuous paths through the late-afternoon sky — on the wing and on the hunt for their next meal.

Colby Galliher is a writer who calls the woods, meadows, and rivers of New England home. To learn more about his work, visit colbygalliher.com. 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.



The Outside Story

By Colby Galliher



A rock in a hard place

My wife and I were out shopping recently when we stumbled upon a small concert taking place in a nearby park. It was one of those early evening performances that most cities sponsor throughout the summer months. There were people sitting on blankets in the grass while others had brought beach chairs. A few daring folks were dancing while the majority of kids were running around in wild abandon.

The song that was playing as we walked by was Pablo Cruise's "Whatcha Gonna Do," a groovy late-'70s hit that climbed to No. 6 on the Billboard charts. You don't often hear that song played live so I stopped to take in the musicianship.

As is my custom, I turned to my wife and stated, "Name the band." She listened carefully, her mind transfixed on trying to match the melody to an artist. She's pretty good at naming classic rock artists, but if you dig deeper into the more obscure bands and songs, she runs amiss.

Whenever she's stumped, she always responds, "Bruce Springsteen," knowing there's a good chance it could be him given how much I listen to his music. She did that here and immediately admonished herself because it was obvious the disco-ish sound could never be the Boss.

By the time I was filling her in on Pablo Cruise, the band had begun playing their next song, which turned out to be "Steal Away" by Robbie Dupree. After a few bars, I casually mentioned that this must be a yacht rock group, to which my wife replied, "What's yacht rock?"

I was shocked to hear her say that she had never heard the phrase prior to that moment. I, of course, gave her an extensive definition, explaining that yacht rock was a term used to describe a style of smooth, soft rock music that was popular in the late 1970s and early 1980s. The genre, I explained, was characterized by a mellow sound with sophisticated production, often featuring elements like lush harmonies, smooth vocals, and jazzy instrumentation (think, Michael McDonald, Steely Dan, Toto, and Kenny Loggins).

I was curious about the origin story, so I went online and discovered that the term "yacht rock" was coined in the mid-2000s by JD Ryznar, Hunter Stair, and Lane Farnham, creators of a satirical online video series called "Yacht Rock." The series humorously chronicled the fictionalized lives of musi-

cians from that time, with the name "yacht rock" playfully referencing the affluent, leisurely lifestyle that the music often evoked.

The show was set in a fictionalized version of Los Angeles and followed the lives and interactions of prominent yacht rock musicians. Characters in the series included exaggerated portrayals of real-life musicians such as Michael McDonald, Kenny Loggins, Daryl Hall, John Oates, Steely Dan members Donald Fagen and Walter Becker, and others. The series humorously

depicted the creation of famous yacht rock songs and the relationships between the musicians, often involving comical rivalries and collaborations.

Each episode of "Yacht Rock" is around 5 minutes long and uses a mockumentary format, blending fictional narratives with actual music history. The series not only parodies the music and culture of the era but also affectionately celebrates the unique sound and style of yacht rock.

The underground success of the "Yacht Rock" series helped popularize the term and led to a renewed interest in the music of that era. The series remains a beloved part of internet subculture and has had a lasting impact on how this genre of music is perceived and enjoyed.

I watched a few episodes of the series, and while it did have its moments and was overall a great concept, it was far from a competitor to "Saturday Night Live." And given that the episodes were made over 15 years ago, the production quality left much to be desired.

This week's feature, "Furiosa: A Mad Max Saga," did not lack on production quality and, in fact, took the concept to new levels as we once again visit director George Miller's post-apocalyptic world of chaos and mayhem.

There is a particular energy inherent in a Mad Max film and "Furiosa" had this working in overdrive. Miller's machines, stunt driving actors, and feverish pace took his unique filmmaking style to an entirely new level.

Check this one out if you're a fan of the Mad Max franchise. I'm partial to the first two films, but this installment does a good job keeping the energy alive while also intriguing the viewer with a new storyline.

A rock-solid "B" for "Furiosa: A Mad Max Saga," now playing in theaters everywhere.

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



The Movie Diary
By Dom Cioffi



'Shiffrin Gold'

The K Cloud had its way with us this Memorial Day, with a fog so thick that you didn't realize you had gotten to the bottom of Superstar until you saw the two bright orange slow signs ahead in the mist. It was like being in a whole other world, our world, where only the craziest of ski bums came out this past Monday.

The rain held off until the final hour, letting us twirl on the playground under the cold but dramatic sky. You could see maybe 5-10 turns ahead of you, just enough to know when the glowing white was turning into more snirt (dirt-snow combo famous in spring skiing) or when it would just be rocks breaking through.

You had to hedge your bets, hoping that there would be just enough slush to lift your skis up and over the rocks. Sometimes you would win. But others, you would undoubtedly lose. I had a pretty devastating tail skid today that wasn't quite on fast grass or slush. But that's what P-text is for... I mean, you already drilled holes in your skis for the bindings so what's a little extra base groove?

In the fog, you knew exactly where to go. The contrast between the glowing white snow and the yellow of the World Cup Snow was heightened in the limited light of the fog. The

white snow gleams in the limited light of the fog, the brightness from reflecting more light than anything else around it. It was so easy to see the mounds of light like a beacon, a safe haven from spinning your skis or board around in the beautifulness.

Then there is the World Cup Snow. The snow that they made back in November for the Women's World Cup. That they then injected water into and let freeze, in reality creating one Superstar length ice cube that then condensed under the weight of 30 more feet of manmade and natural snow throughout the winter. Remember how you put rocks in the tumbler thing and hard, polished gemstones came out? It's

kind of like that. Hard pressured ice cubes that will leave a 2-inch deep gash in your forearm if you aren't careful.

The World Cup Snow is yellow, a harsh contrast from the glowing white of the fluffy snow. But it cannot be yellow, because "yellow snow" is a whole other experience... Although I wouldn't eat the World Cup Snow either.

So what color is this magical snow that enables us to ski through Memorial Day and sometime after? Someone in the parking lot suggested amber, but amber is more

Living the Dream → 36



Living the Dream
By Merisa Sherman

Remembering the Woolworth store

Rutland City back in the '50s had three stores that could be considered "variety stores." They were well known "chain stores" namely F. W. Woolworth, M.H. Fishman and SS Kresge. They were located just doors away from one another on Merchants Row.

Of the three variety stores F.W. Woolworth

was my mother's favorite. We often shopped there on a Saturday morning. I think my mother favored that store over the other variety stores because of its back entrance. She was not a fan of parallel parking and there was a parking lot near the rear



Looking Back
By Mary Ellen Shaw

entrance. Thus, our shopping always began at the back end of the store.

The locals called the store "Woolworth's" so I will refer to it that way. I think it's safe to say that if Woolworth's didn't have a particular item you probably didn't need it anyway. You could buy such things as towels, sheets, pots and pans, flowers, records, some clothing items and even goldfish, turtles and parakeets. I purchased a few goldfish over the years. They came home in a plastic bag and happily swam around in a glass bowl in our kitchen.

Since Woolworth's was "one stop shop-

ping" you were often in there for quite a long time. When you needed a break you headed to the soda fountain where you could sit on a stool and enjoy a sundae or ice cream soda. Those were the days!

Woolworth's was a special place at Easter time. My friend, Barbara, and I would head downtown on Good Friday at 3 p.m. when the stores re-opened after being closed from 12-3 p.m. Barbara was the oldest of five siblings and with my only-child status I was fascinated by the list of items for Easter that her mother asked us to get. Most of them were available at Woolworth's. The list included such items as: socks, a tie, a white shirt, an Easter hat and corsages for all the girls. There was a section in the front of the store where corsages were made to order and dyed in a color to match an Easter outfit. It was quite the experience!

To get back to the topic of Woolworth's pets...my friend, Betty, bought a blue parakeet there with her allowance. Now that I look back her allowance must have been a lot more than mine as she also needed a cage and food. But we got it all and carried everything home which was a distance of about a mile.

Another friend, Debby, bought a turtle which I think was actually a pet she jointly owned with me. The turtle lived at her house until she went to summer camp and then it resided at my house. It had a cute little bowl with a ramp so it could get out of the water. When

Looking Back → 33



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← **Looking Back:**

from page 31

the turtle was in my care I remember pouring milk from a carton over its shell because someone told me that a "milk bath" was good for turtles. I just looked online and found out that was not a good idea! There was no internet in the '50s thus no way to confirm that advice. I may have contributed to its early demise!

When you shopped in Woolworth's a gentleman who looked very strict walked throughout the store. You could tell that he was an authority figure and was probably looking for shoplifters. His name was Vern Richards and about

30 years later he and I had offices next to one another at City Hall. I told him that my friends and I were a little frightened of him and were on our best behavior when we were in the store. He told me that meant he was doing his job well because young people sometimes needed to be "kept in line." The "adult me" found him to be a kind man with a great sense of humor.

Woolworth's is associated with a special feature at Christmas time that could be enjoyed from the outside. You couldn't miss Santa in his sleigh being pulled by reindeer. The display was

strung across Merchants Row from the Rutland County National Bank to Woolworth's. It was quite the sight from the eyes of a child. The store was our go-to place for Christmas decorations, especially tinsel icicles for our tree. All Christmas items were in the back of the store so they were our last purchase. There was a cash register by the back door where my mother paid for all our items before we headed back to the parking lot.

Woolworth's had something for all ages and all needs. There are happy memories as I think about how fun it was to go there.



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The Nicholas Green story: An American family tragedy abroad transforms seven lives

It was a family vacation. The year was 1994 and Americans Reg and Maggie Green and their two children, Nicholas, age 7, and Eleanor, age 4, were traveling through Italy, enjoying the friendly people, the beautiful scenery and the delicious food. They were from Bodega Bay, a small, sleepy, seaside city 65 miles north of San Francisco. They were driving from Salerno to Calabria when robbers mistook them for someone else and began pursuing them. The bandits pulled alongside their car and shouted something in Italian that the Greens did not understand. But Reg Green recognized the situation as menacing and sped away with the robbers in pursuit. Some shots were fired but the Greens were able to outrace the would-be thieves. But when they reached safety they discovered that Nicholas, asleep in the back seat, had been shot in the head. They immediately drove to the nearest town, but the hospital there was not equipped to deal with Nicholas's severe injury. The police quickly took the family to the city of Messina, which had a hospital with a specialist unit for head injuries. There, Nicholas was pronounced brain dead the next day. Italians were aghast. Shame was felt throughout the entire country because an American child had been senselessly killed by thieves while his family was touring Italy. It is doubtful that there is a word in the English language descriptive enough to portray the abject grief that befalls parents who lose a child. It's indescribably sad, and the Greens were absolutely heartbroken at the loss of 7-year-old Nicholas. And yet they somehow resisted the bitterness that surely knocked on the doors of their emotions. They didn't criticize Italy for the crime and they didn't censure Italian medical personnel for failing to save their son's life. Instead, they praised the Italian police and the doctors who raced frantically to help Nicholas. The Greens didn't even condemn the two robbers who killed their son, men who were later arrested, tried, and jailed. No, instead of surrendering to the understandable anger at the death of their beloved son the Greens chose generosity.

Nicholas's organs were donated to five critically ill Italians, four of them teenagers, including a boy of 15, who had a heart defect, and two children hooked up to dialysis machines several hours a week. All five transplant recipients' lives were saved. In addition to this, two other Italians who were blind had their sight restored after each received one of Nicholas's corneas. And all of Italy marveled at the extraordinary kindness of these two Americans, Reg and Maggie Green.

Italy is largely Catholic and although the church did not disallow organ transplants, old

traditions kept many Italians from considering these simple gifts that can literally save lives. Thirty years ago Italy was last in Europe in organ donations. But it was not long after Nicholas Green's heartbreaking death that Italian organ donations tripled. Today, Italy is second only to Spain in the E.U. in organ transplants. This dramatic evolution is known as *L'effetto Nicola*: The Nicholas Effect. It's a term that not only refers to organ donation but to all the good things that emerged from this terrible tragedy.

[Editor's note: 56% of Vermonters are registered organ donors putting Vermont in the top five in the U.S. That's over 330,000 people. Roughly 97% of those registered donors signed up at the DMV, even through the organ donor box is no longer printed on state licenses.]

The Greens' decision to donate Nicholas's organs was a top news story in Italy. Reg and Maggie Green were even received by Italy's president and awarded the country's highest civilian honor, *La Medaglia d'Oro Civile*.

News stories, especially uplifting ones, usually have short attention spans. But not this one. In the Greens' hometown of Bodega Bay, California, sits the Children's Bell Tower, dedicated to the memory of Nicholas, using more than 100 bells, most of them sent to the Greens from families, villages, schools, and

churches all over Italy. The names of the seven recipients of Nicholas's organs are inscribed on the central bell, which was donated by the Marinelli foundry that has made bells for the papacy for more than 1,000 years. That bell was blessed by Pope John Paul II in a ceremony held at the foundry. The Greens reciprocated by donating to Calabria "The Birds," a towering steel sculpture of inspiration. It depicts seven birds flying free, symbolizing the obvious, the recipients of Nicholas's organs. It is made of steel smelted from guns confiscated by the San Francisco Police Dept. Today, there are more than 150 Italian streets, schools, gardens and piazzas named after an American, Nicholas Green. And truthfully, all these good things don't comprise even half of *L'effetto Nicola*, the Nicholas Effect.

The Greens visited Italy in 2019, the 25th anniversary of Nicholas's death. In a ceremony in Messina they met some especially grateful Italians. One was Maria Pia Pedala, who was on her deathbed at 19 years of age the night she received the gift of life from Nicholas and his parents. Mrs. Pedala received Nicholas's liver. She fully recovered, married and gave birth to a son that she and her husband named Nicholas. The Greens also met Domenica Galletta, who never saw her daughter until she received one of Nicholas Green's corneas, and they were greeted by Francesco Mondello, who was a young dad when he received Nicholas's other cornea.

Reg and Maggie Green can certainly take pride in the fact there are many people

in Italy and elsewhere who would not be alive today had they not received organ donations inspired by the Nicholas Effect. The Greens said they found solace in believing that there were kings who weren't remembered for as long a time as people around the world have kept alive the memory of their beautiful 7-year-old son.

Reg Green, who is now 95-years-old, has said that after what his family went through he was often asked, "Don't you hate Italy?"

He explained, "I hope the answer is clear. Maggie and I have never thought that Italy pulled the trigger. Two criminals killed Nicholas. It could have happened anywhere. But what couldn't have happened anywhere was the response. I don't think any other country in the world would have shown involvement of this order. It was that flood of human warmth that helped turn a reckless act of brutality into a universal lesson in which life has triumphed over death and hope over despair."

On the last night of their 25th anniversary visit to Italy Reg Green was taken to Rome's famous Cesarina restaurant, once the favorite haunt of Federico Fellini and Marcello Mastroianni. There, a surgeon who was his host introduced Reg to the maitre d', telling the man that Reg was the father of an American boy who was shot in an attempted robbery and whose organs were donated to seven Italians. Tears welled in the maitre d's eyes. And as he shook Reg's hand he became so overcome with emotion he could only manage to say two words: "Nicholas Green."



Insights and Inspirations
By Bruce Bouchard
and John Turchiano



Submitted
Taken two years after the tragedy, members of the Green family gathered with the recipients of Nicholas's organs. Back row (l-r): Reg Green, Maggie Green, Andrea Mongiardo (heart), Francesco Mondello (cornea), Tino Motta (kidney), Anna Maria Di Ceglie (kidney), Eleanor Green. Front row (l-r): Laura Green, Maria Pia Pedala (liver), Domenica Galletta (cornea), Silvia Ciampi pancreas, Martin Green.

Employment

EXECUTIVE ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT AND FINANCE SPECIALIST WANTED: The Rutland Housing Authority is seeking an Executive Administrative Assistant and Finance Specialist to provide key support for the Chief Executive Officer and the Director of Finance and Human Resources. Duties include providing administrative and clerical support, preparing reports, coordinating marketing and social media, overseeing purchasing, collecting and processing rent and invoices, providing clerical assistance to the Board of Commissioners, maintaining all contracts, and additional duties as assigned. The RHA offers a competitive salary commensurate with experience, a generous benefit package and a dynamic supportive work environment. For a full job description and list of benefits, please visit www.rhavt.org/employment. Please submit a letter of interest, resume and current references, in confidence, to: Kirsten Hathaway, Director of Finance & Human Resources, Rutland Housing Authority, 5 Tremont Street Rutland, VT, 05701, khathaway@rhavt.org.

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TOWN OF KILLINGTON VERMONT

Job Posting:

Town of Killington Highway Foreman

The Town of Killington Public Works Department is searching for a full-time Highway Foreman to lead the day-to-day operations of the Highway Department, which consists of a team of five with additional seasonal employees, and the solid waste facility, which consists of one part-time employee.

The Foreman must have a working knowledge of highway systems that include building, repair, and ongoing maintenance of complex machinery and infrastructure. Applicants must have good verbal, computer, and written skills. Additionally, the position requires the ability to develop relationships with other town departments, residents, contractors, and vendors.

Minimum qualifications include having a high school diploma (or equivalent) plus 5 to 7 years of relevant technical and supervisory experience; a Class B Commercial Driver's License and experience with equipment involved in PW applications; considerable knowledge of road construction and maintenance to Vermont Agency of Transportation standards. Applicants must live within 15 miles of the Town of Killington.

This is an exempt position with a starting annual salary of between \$70,000 to \$80,000 and includes an excellent benefits package. For a full job description, please visit www.killingtontown.com or request it by calling 802-422-3241.

To apply, please send a cover letter and resume to Town Manager Michael Ramsey at townmanager@killingtontown.com or drop them off at 2706 River Road, Killington. The position will remain open until filled.

The Town of Killington is an Equal Employment Opportunity Employer.

Request posted: May 22, 2024



TOWN OF KILLINGTON VERMONT

Request for Qualifications for Construction Services

Town of Killington –Town Hall Renovation

Killington, Vermont

PROJECT OVERVIEW

The Town of Killington ("Owner") is seeking qualified Commercial General Contractor ("CGC") firms for remodeling the New Town Hall ("Project") in Killington, Vermont.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Project scope involved building an indoor stairway to connect 2 floors, installing a vault for the Clerk's Office, and removing a section of wall on the first floor. Nehring & Associates Architectural and DeWolf Engineering Associates were hired in 2023 to examine the needs and have produced architectural and structural plans.

PROPOSAL SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Interested contractors shall provide the following items and in the following order:

- Cover letter
- Similar project experience
- Completed bid form
- Other information, qualifications and/or exceptions as each contractor may consider appropriate to the selection process
- No more than 3 pages front and back

Submit proposals in PDF format to:

townmanager@killingtontown.com (Michael Ramsey, Town Manager)

Cover letters addressed to:

Michael Ramsey
Town Manager
Town of Killington
2706 River Road
Killington, VT 05751

Proposals must be received via email no later than 4:00 PM on July 5, 2024. The full RFQ can be found at www.killingtontown.com under bid opportunity.

Request posted: May 29, 2024

← Living the Dream:
from page 31

transparent resin than the harshness of a rock. Another suggest ochre, a natural rusted clay, but everyone thought they were saying okra and that the snow wasn't green. Yet another said it looked like beige or taupe, but much too dirty and aggressive to be either.

But all these colors must have a color wheel, so I geeked out for a few hours to determine what color our snow must be. I held up swatch after swatch to images of Superstar, but none seem to have both the tone or the harshness of this rock hard snow. And then I was going around the beige color wheel. There is pink beige, brown beige, orange beige, gold beige — wait! GOLD beige?

While the swatch didn't quite match, I knew we had a fit so I brought the gold idea back to the team. Apparently, our tailgate group doesn't just analyze skiing and riding while we replenish ourselves with grilled cheese and jam. We also have intense debates about colors.

But there we were, with gold being the color we wanted it to be — but still not being quite right. And then, as if in a dream, it all came together as we just yelled out yellow colors. "Saffron!" "Chiffon" (apparently, some

of us are a little mixed up between color and fabrics, but we're going with it. "Chiffon" was next, a bizarre combination of the two aforementioned colors/fabrics. "Shiffin" came the next answer and we all looked at each other as if we had been the stupidest people for the past few weeks.

Shaking our heads, we all said the color at the exact same time: Shiffin Gold. And it was decided that's what color the World Cup snow is. Of course, Shiffin Gold!!

Since Mikaela Shiffin is one of the reasons we get to ski in June, then of course we should be naming the snow after her. I don't know if Pantone or Benjamin Moore have picked up on it yet for color of the year, but here in Killington we will continue to ski the Shiffin Gold until it finally decides to melt. Hope to see everyone Saturday on the Glacier for one final turn of the lift — and who knows, maybe we will be skiing patches of Shiffin Gold into July?

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



Courtesy Merisa Sherman

See the Shiffin Gold peeking out from between the moguls.



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- *Furnished & equipped

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Carolyn Bianchi
617 504 4439

← **Meditation:**.....
from page 30

mind. She often cooled off there. I preferred to wear my boots.

But away from our homestead, unrest was spreading throughout the world and across the U. S. It was the spring of 1969. An assembly in Montclair High's amphitheater turned into a full blown race riot. Suddenly, my world turned upside down and was filled with rage and violence.

I was sent to the nurse's station then sent home during the riot. I was diagnosed with mononucleosis (mono) and spent the next few weeks in bed. My illness reflected the ills of society. I was absorbing the tumultuous energy.

School ended. We headed for Killington, thank heavens. We passed the crowded New York State Thruway exit

that led to the Woodstock Music Festival. I had no idea of its significance. Change was occurring everywhere. What I needed most was healing in Killington.

The independence and self-assurance I gained as a child and teen in Vermont helped me cope with the world's woes.

One morning Star was digging out front and discovered a toad sleeping in the dirt. She pawed it out of curiosity. I called to Dad. He came at once to rescue the mortally wounded creature. He held it gently in both hands with tears in his eyes for its suffering. I sensed his deep spiritual connection with that toad and all of nature. Then

he put it out of its misery. It was a moment I'll never forget. I cherish Dad's sensitivity to nature and all living creatures. It impressed me so deeply, it became a part of me.

Having the freedom and time to ponder and wander in nature with our dog Star was a gift from Pacha Mamma (Mother Nature) and my parents. The independence and self-assurance I gained as a child and teen in Vermont helped me cope with the world's woes. Vermont was my soul home and renewed my spirit. I wondered how I'd manage in college far away...

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

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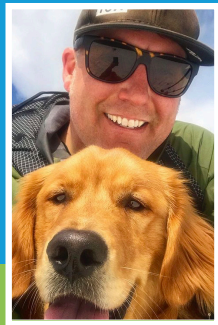
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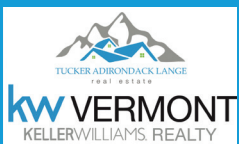

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Americans to 'road trip' in near-record levels as gas prices ease into summer

As gas prices fell ahead of Memorial Day, 60% of Americans planned to hit the road, according to GasBuddy in its 2024 Summer Travel Survey results and forecast. The report predicts near-record number planning to road trip this summer as gas prices continue to decline. GasBuddy estimates the national average will hold in the mid-\$3 per gallon range for much of the summer, with potentially tens of thousands of stations falling below \$3 per gallon throughout the next several months. Gas prices will average \$3.58 per gallon nationally between Memorial Day and Labor Day, it forecasts.

Right now in Vermont, average gas prices are \$3.59 per gallon, down 1 cent from last week. The national average is \$3.61, up 1 cent from last week.

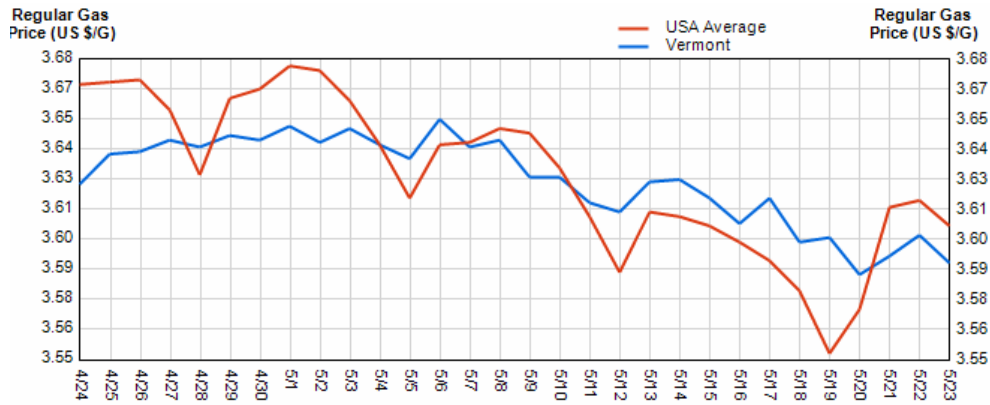
Major travel holidays

According to GasBuddy's survey, 76% of Americans plan to take a road trip between Memorial Day and Labor Day weekends, up 18% from 2023. The average traveler has two road trips planned, with many venturing far — 49% expect to drive 5 or more hours to reach their destination.

Among major travel holidays, Memorial Day is the most popular with 60% planning a road trip, followed by Independence Day at 45% and Labor Day at 34%. Over half (58%) of road trippers have already confirmed their plans by booking accommodation. GasBuddy expects July 4 to be the lowest priced holiday at the pump, with Labor Day a bit uncertain due to hurricane season.

Prices are a major factor for pit stops

While road trips may reign supreme, expenses are a



One month (April 24-May 23 of average regular gas price charted for comparison.



Submitted

GasBuddy predicts a record number of Americans plan road trips this summer due to declining gas prices.

major factor shaping summer travel this year. 63% of survey respondents cited cost as their top consideration when planning trips. 46% said high gas costs this year have impacted their itineraries. And though price reigns in importance, Americans are also looking at an electric vehicle to alleviate fuel costs with 15% of respondents seriously thinking about purchasing an EV.

"It looks like it'll be a busy start to the summer driving season, and while Americans gripe about the cost of gasoline, it doesn't seem that too many are going to be deterred from hitting the road. Great news for those who are planning to travel: Motorists are likely to see more stations lowering prices to \$2.99 per gallon or less as the summer wears on, and refiners ramp up output after finishing maintenance," said Patrick De Haan, head of petroleum analysis at GasBuddy. "Hurricane season is a major wildcard for those hitting the road this summer"

	Vermont	U.S.
Today	3.591	3.610
Yesterday	3.604	3.619
One Week Ago	3.609	3.601
One Month Ago	3.608	3.670
One Year Ago	3.500	3.544

(Prices above reflect average regular gas as of May 23, 2024.)

Average gasoline prices in Vermont are \$3.59/g, down 1 cent per gallon from last week, down 6 cents/g from last month and up 9 cents/g from last year. The lowest price in the state leading up to Memorial Day weekend was \$3.22/g in Rutland, while the highest was \$3.79/g, at several locations across the state.

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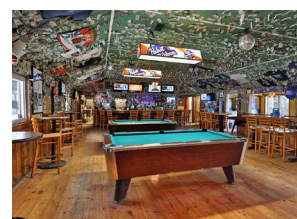


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By Allan Thompson

Left: Participants at a past Naked Table event build their own maple tables during the workshop. Right: Ivan Ainsworth fells a sugar maple tree during the winter harvest.

← **Naked Table:**
from page 1

his wife, Marcelle. In addition to being staunch supporters of Vermont’s forest sector, the Leahys have managed their 139 acre woodlot as a Certified Tree Farm since 1995. The management pillars of Tree Farm are fourfold: wood, water, wildlife, and recreation. The Leahys Tree Farm ticks all boxes, thanks to a long history of stewardship and guidance

load of soft maple from the skidder harvest was delivered by Jed Lipsky, a master logger, trucker, and legislator from Stowe to Gagnon Lumber in Pittsford for milling and drying.

From landowner to forester to logger to trucker to mill to kiln to woodworker, good communication was the key to successful transitions. Charlie Shackleton knew the di-

mension lumber he needed to craft 20 tables. Prior to the harvest, Thompson assessed the mature maple timber to ensure that trees cut for forest health would fulfill the needs of Naked Table. Once felled, Ainsworth needed to seg-

regate those logs for trucking to the mill and Lipsky had to deliver.

Ken Gagnon had the list of lumber to be sawn from that truckload. It too was segregated at the mill so that Gagnon could run that job on its own, about a morning’s work. A few years ago, Gagnon would have trucked this lumber to Massachusetts for kiln drying. However, a Working Lands Grant allowed Gagnon Lumber to install three-phase power to the mill and it now operates its own kiln.

It takes a certain size mill to do this kind of custom work — not too big and not too small. Gagnon Lumber generally saws about 2 million board feet a year, a medium size mill for Vermont. Typically, the mill will saw the same species for a week or more, optimize for best output, sort, and send to kiln. This job was just about 3,000 board feet and although it takes a little more work and some preplanning, Gagnon was able to ensure that the soft maple logs from the Leahy property made the journey from tree to lumber. Naked Table participants will

close the loop to finished table.

Charlie Shackleton was born in Dublin, Ireland, and raised in a Quaker family that ran a multigenerational flour mill since 1776. He loved the outdoors; he loved creating. From a young age he was making castles from Legos that soon morphed into tree-houses from wood. Rather than attending university, he found his niche at art school in England, in the woodshop where he could let his hands do the work. There he met Miranda Thomas, the potter, who would become his wife.

In 1981, Charlie Shackleton came to America at the urging of his friend and mentor, Simon Pearce. During his first five years in Vermont, he was a glassblower in Simon Pearce’s Mill. While it was handwork it wasn’t wood! With Pearce’s encouragement, he set up a furniture workshop in his basement. Fastforward 40 years and he’s still at his woodshop, ShackletonThomas, at the Bridgewater Mill where he and a small group of master craftspeople continue to handcraft furniture and other wood products.

Shackleton finds that he can express his love of nature through wood. And he can satisfy another passion too: that is, connecting people to the forest and to each other. Naked Table has become a centerpiece that allows him to combine his love of woodworking, his artistic vision, and his desire to build community around the concepts of family, food, sustainability, and philanthropy. The partnership with Habitat for Humanity has reinforced his desire to create products and processes that strengthen broader communities.

On June 1, the State House lawn will be transformed into a woodworking shop under a big tent. Participants in Naked Table

will be working with Charlie and his master craftspeople to build their own maple dining tables, tables that will last lifetimes and carry stories through generations. The Naked Table event will culminate in a locavore meal provided by Cloud Nine Caterers and served around the 20 newly crafted tables.

The event, hosted by the Naked Table Project, is held in conjunction with Vermont Woodlands Association supporting Central Vermont Habitat for Humanity. The event is made possible thanks to the support of many organizations and individuals that work to support various aspects of the forest and wood products sector, including Vermont Wood Works Council, Guild of VT Furniture-makers, and a bipartisan group of legislators, who will be building a table that will live in the Vermont State House.

For more information visit: nakedtable.com.



By Allan Thompson

Jed Lipsky and Ivan Ainsworth take a break on the landing after loading a log truck with soft maple sawlogs.

from consulting foresters. Allan Thompson is the current consulting forester, having taken over forest management about three years ago. As a licensed consulting forester, he helps to ensure that forest stewardship on the property meets the high standards of both the Leahys and the Vermont Tree Farm, a program of the Vermont Woodlands Association. The harvest planned for the property was perfect timing for this year’s Naked Table and the Leahys were excited to be involved in a project that contributes to healthy forests and the forest economy.

Thompson credits the Leahys for years of exemplary care that allowed for good forest growth and increased timber value.

This particular harvest had two components. A “whole-tree harvest” was done by Tom Lincoln and a smaller area was logged by Ivan Ainsworth using a cable skidder. Pine, softwoods, and hardwoods were sent to area mills; firewood fed the residential market; and Lincoln’s woodchips were sent to Burlington Electric’s McNeil Generating Station. A truck-



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