



## MEMORIAL DAY

Memorial Day is a federal holiday honoring and mourning U.S. military personnel who died while serving in the Armed Forces. It is observed on the last Monday of May.



## OPEN STUDIO WEEKEND SHOWCASES LOCAL ARTISTS

A variety of artistic talents, tools, and inspirations will be on display in addition to the work spaces where the masterpieces are created and exhibited.

Page 22



## STAGE RACE RETURNS

After no the race last year the popular race is back May 25-27 based in Killington.

Page 20

## 20 degrees above average: May temps soar

By Erin Petenko/VTDigger

Vermont is forecast to hit temperatures in the upper 80s Tuesday and Wednesday, far above normal for this time of year, the Vermont branch of the National Weather Service reported on Monday, May 20.

Parts of the state, particularly the Champlain Valley down to Rutland in the west and the Connecticut River Valley regions to the east, could see a high of 90 F degrees on Wednesday, according to weather service meteorologist Brooke Taber. But even mountain towns like Killington are expected to reach 80 F.

That's 15 to 20 degrees above the average temperature for this point in May.

The good news is that it's not expected to be uncomfortably humid, Taber said, and the temperature is expected to drop during the night, giving Vermonters some relief from the heat.

Heat wave → 5

## Gov. Scott vetoes bill that would've restricted bee-killing pesticide

Staff report

On Monday, May 20, World Bee Day, Gov. Phil Scott vetoed legislation meant to protect bees and other pollinators from a widely-used neurotoxic pesticide. The bill (H.706) would eliminate most uses of neonicotinoid pesticides (neonics) in Vermont, which have been associated with alarming losses of managed and wild bee populations.

Bee bill → 12



## Piper takes on 10 marathons in 10 days, for charity

By John Flowers

Salisbury's Chip Piper will have run more during the next 10 days than most of us will run in a year. And he'll be doing it for an important cause.

Piper on Thursday, May 16, began running the first of 10 consecutive marathons in 10 days — a staggering 262 miles — as part of his annual effort to support nonprofit causes targeting substance use disorder.

His primary motivation: His late son, Michael, who died following a fentanyl overdose in July of 2020.

Piper, 55, over the past three years has collected pledges and donations for his participation in staggeringly long endurance races. It began with the Moosalamoo Ultra, a 36-mile trail race at the Silver Towers Camp in Ripton and Goshen — he raised around \$1,100 for the Turning Point Center.

He's upped the ante each year, both in miles and dollars raised for organizations helping folks battle addiction.

How does he train?  
"Alternative training 40-plus miles per week on roads, mountains, lots of vertical training."

Last year, he ran five consecutive marathons in five days, in the process raising \$30,000 for Turning Point and Jenna's House in Johnson, Vermont.

This year, it's a de-ca-marathon, again at Silver Towers, which began

on Thursday, May 16, and will end on May 25. He'd like to equal or exceed last year's fundraising yield.

While Chip churns his legs to complete this mega-race, he's hoping folks will become inspired enough to contribute to the cause. Check out his GoFundMe website at [tinyurl.com/4puvclhw](https://tinyurl.com/4puvclhw).

"Every donation counts, so if it's \$5, \$25 or \$100, it all helps build on our goal of \$25,000,"

10 in 10 → 13



Courtesy HPC

## Big bike float brings joy

This quadricycle float at Spring Sprockets and Walk-Its won the prize for the coolest rig. Pictured above (left) Angus Chaney, HPC director; and (right) Dan Brett of Hearthunder Art Collective, who constructed the float. See story, page 5.

## Slate Valley school district to hold fourth vote on district budget

In response to the results of the last vote on May 9, and valuable community feedback during the school board meeting on May 13, the Slate Valley Unified Union School District will hold its fourth vote in an attempt to pass the budget on May 30. It will be a revote on the third FY25 school budget presented to taxpayers May 9.

An informational meeting will be held the night prior on May 29 at 6:30

p.m. in the band room at Fair Haven Union Middle and High School.

"The proposed budget for the revote is the same one that was voted on May 9," explained Superintendent Brooke Olsen-Farrell. "While that budget was defeated, it was by a much narrower margin than in previous votes."

After careful consideration of input received from various stake-

holders, the majority of the Slate Valley school board decided to present the same proposed budget for the upcoming revote. This decision reflects the voice of the vast majority of attendees at the informational meetings and the recent school board meeting who did not support additional cuts, expressing that our district already spends relatively little compared to others in the state,

according to Olsen-Farrell. Many board members also explained that additional cuts would have minimal impact on further reducing local taxes due to the complex statewide funding system.

"Slate Valley recognizes the importance of fiscal responsibility while also striving to provide students with the resources and support

Slate Valley budget → 13



# Where is the road construction this week?

The Agency of Transportation produces this weekly report of planned construction activities that will impact traffic on state highways and interstates throughout Vermont.

**Hartford:** Monday, May 20, through Friday, May 24, between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m., multiple concrete mixers will be moving in and out of the project area at either end of the bridge on Route 14 and Mill Road in Hartford. Motorists can expect minimal traffic impacts.

From Sunday, May 19, to Friday, May 24, night work will occur on the northern end of the project on Route 5 between Hewitt Street and Bugbee Street and to the intersection of Route 5, Route 4, and Route 14. Motorists should expect alternating one-way lane closures between 6 p.m. and 7 a.m.

From Monday, May 20, to Friday, May 24, during daytime hours, between 7 a.m. and 6 p.m., motorists should expect alternating one-way lane closures on Route 5 beginning near the Hartford and Hartland town line to the intersection of the on-ramps for I-91 South and I-89 on-ramps. Flaggers and uniformed traffic officers will be present to assist motorists through the work zone during nighttime and daytime work.

**Irasburg:** Bridge 129 over Black River on Route 14 in Irasburg reopened on Monday, May 13 at 6:30 p.m. At least one day during the week of Monday, May 20, and Friday, May 24, motorists can expect alternative one-way traffic controlled by flaggers on Bridge 129 over the Black River on Route 14 in Irasburg.

**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:** A bridge replacement project on Route 7 at the intersection of Route 3 is underway. Motorists can expect traffic control present on Route 7, allowing for intermittent one-way of alternating travel between 7 a.m. and 3:30 p.m., Monday through Thursday, and Friday until noon.

**Poultney:** A full closure to all traffic of Bridge 7 at the intersection of Thrall Road and River Street will begin at 8 a.m., Monday, May 20, and end at 7 p.m., Saturday, May 25. A local, signed detour utilizing Route 30 and Route 140 will be implemented.

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

**Rutland:** Sunday, May 19, through Thursday, May 23, from 7 p.m. to 7 a.m., motorists can expect lane closures, uneven surfaces, and delays on U.S. Route 4 between Gleason Road and Route 7, and on Route 7. Flaggers and uniformed traffic officers will be on-site to assist with traffic control, including intermittent alternating one-way traffic.

Work is continuing on the signal replacement taking place at Route 7 and Cold River Road. Motorists can expect daily lane closures as needed with uniformed traffic officers and flaggers assisting traffic. New concrete curb has been installed on the west side of the intersection with continuing work on new curb for the east side the rest of this week and early next followed by new sidewalk.

**Rutland-Fair Haven:** Crack sealing operations are underway on Route 4 westbound from Rutland to the New York state line. Single lane closures are to be expected during the hours of 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.



By Victoria Gaither

*Julie McGuire (center with crown and cape) celebrated with friends at the umbrella bar after becoming the first woman to hike and backcountry ski all the highest peaks in the Catskills, a mountain range in the southeastern part of New York state.*

## Superstar's iconic spring skiing: a party, a community, a family, a pilgrimage

By Victoria Gaither

For spring skiers, Killington's Superstar is like honey to bees. Skiers come from all over to bump that one strip of trail that starts in November and ends in late May or June 1, when possible. A gathering of personalities hanging out at the Roaring Brook Umbrella Bar, many occasionally popping up to take another lap or two with friends.

On a recent morning, sitting on the deck at the Umbrella bar, Local skiers Rob Kovalesky and James Osler from Connecticut have already made a few turns.

Kovalesky loves winter skiing but says spring skiing has benefits: "The weather is fantastic, and you can extend your season because who else can provide this? I was in line this morning, and people were saying we are the only game in town."

Osler arrived at 7:15 a.m. and tried for the first chair, but "got the fifth chair," he said, smiling about that fact.

Superstar → 13

## Killington Road reconstruction: what to expect this week

Drilling and blasting will continue this week at the intersection of Route 4 and Killington Road in Killington. A detour remains in place via West Hill Road.

Monday, May 20, there was a brief break in the blasting, but Tuesday onward will see one blast per day between the hours of 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. Motorists can expect a brief traffic stoppage within that time frame daily.

"Trucks will start to enter and exit from the bottom as we begin to haul out the blasted rock. Please be cautious of trucks entering Route 4," Markowski Excavating, Inc. explained May 17.

Sewer work will continue this week as the transfer to the temporary system was completed last week, and work to remove the old sewer structures will begin this week. "We will also begin moving more dirt out from the East end of the project that remains over the sewer line and along the existing power line. This will be loaded into



By Polly Mikula

*Reconstruction of Killington Road continues at its intersection with Route 4. Blasting occurs once a day between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. in order to level the entrance.*

haul trucks and taken to the dump site. Trucks will stay in the closed shoulder," Markowski reported.

Work for the following week, beginning May 27, will be a continuation of drilling and blasting rock. Dump trucks will be entering and exiting the site to load out this rock.

Markowski also noted that "Piping materials may begin to arrive along

with precast structures. Some sand and gravels may also be delivered depending on the progress of the blasting operations. Again, please stay cautious of any trucks entering and exiting onto Route 4 as deliveries are made."

A water truck is also actively working to keep dust under control.

For more information visit: [mountaintimes.info/Killington/TIF/](https://mountaintimes.info/Killington/TIF/).



# Realtors met with legislators on capital hill to advocate for more, affordable housing in Vermont

Realtors from across Vermont, including Kyle Kershner, broker/owner at Killington Pico Real estate, met with members of the U.S. Congress on May 7 to advocate for private property rights, fair and affordable housing and the American dream of home ownership.

Kyle Kershner is the National Association of Realtors federal political coordinator to Sen. Peter Welch and led the meeting with Senator Welch. The primary focus of the meeting was to present solutions to the affordable housing crisis in both Vermont and throughout the country. Addressing housing affordability begins with adding to the nation's severely limited inventory. According to Kershner, there is currently a 5.5 million unit shortage of housing in America due to more than a decade of under building.

Kershner and his advocacy team asked Congress to support a number of bipartisan housing bills that would provide tax credits to builders who build and renovate affordable homes for low and moderate income homeowners, as well as for those who build affordable rental housing.

"To free up existing inventory, we are also asking



Killington broker Kyle Kershner joined others from the National Association of Realtors in Washington, D.C., to advocate for more housing, including affordable housing. Pictured, back row (l-r): Mark Montross, Steven Foster, Kyle Kershner, U.S. Senator Peter Welch and TG Glazier. Front row (l-r): Michael Hickey, Peter Tucker, Leslee MacKenzie and Jennifer Hoffmann.

Congress to double the exclusion on the capital gains tax for the sale of a primary residence," Kershner stated. "When you sell your home, there is no capital gains tax on the first \$250,000 for a single person or on the first \$500,000 for those filing jointly. This cap has been in place since the inception of the policy in 1997. Real estate prices have appreciated considerably since then, but the cap on the exemption has never been adjusted. The problem is that many older Americans, who might be ready to downsize to a smaller home or move into a retirement community, are holding onto their homes to avoid paying enormous taxes on what for many, is their most valuable retirement nest egg. Increasing the cap on the exclusion and tying it to inflation going forward, could free up thousands of homes to help bridge the gap in inventory."

The Realtors also shared several other ideas with their members of Congress to increase access to homeownership and met with Congresswoman Becca Balint, who has already championed important affordable housing issues in her first year on the job and with staff members of Sen. Bernie Sanders.

## Killington Street Hockey action heats up

In Week 3 of the Killington Street Hockey League season, May 6, the Superstars schussed the Comets with a big third period comeback led by Ziva and Kelvin Fisko. They netted some late game goals to put the Superstars over the Comets. Ben Reed and Preston Bigelow played tough for the Comets, both notching some points, while Maddie Juris played strong defense to keep the game close. Ava DeBiase had a few late game scoring opportunities for her team the Comets and so did Ben Reed as well. The Comets showed a lot of intensity as they rotated through their lines, but in the end the Superstars took the game.

In Week 4 of the Killington Street Hockey League season, the blackflies outnumbered the kids by a billion... Through three periods the score was tied 5 to 5, but in the end the Black Wolves led by Kelvin Fisko toppled the strong Banana defense. Kelvin was stonewalled with a glove save early in the third by rookie goaltender Maeve O'Leary.

Street hockey → 13



Molly Du Bois defends the net as goalie, against Lily and Emily Derderian on offense. Also shown are Kelvin Fisko, Easton Bigelow, Robert Gieda, Travis Juris, and Nora Rudy.



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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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By Lindsey Rogers

### Treats on trucks

Liam Prior (left) and Colton Beede (right), second graders at Barstow Memorial School, enjoy treats at Chittenden Fire Department's open house held Saturday, May 11. In addition to meeting local firefighters, participants enjoyed coffee and donuts, while learning about fire safety. The kids enjoyed the tours of the fire trucks and playing with fire hoses.



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### OBITUARIES

## Peter Michael Gish, 98

Peter Michael Gish ("Mike"), age 98, died on March 3, 2024. Mike was born on March 2, 1926, in New York City to Carl K. Gish and Helen Baldwin Gish. He grew up in Westport, Connecticut and attended Staples High School.

Mike joined the ROTC in 1943 and matriculated to Dartmouth College. Upon learning that his older brother, USMC PFC Carl K. Gish II ("Jim") had been killed in action on Saipan in 1944, Mike left Dartmouth to complete his aviation training with the Navy (USMC). Too young to see combat in WWII, Mike retired from the Marines with his "wings" in 1946 to complete his education and received an AB in Fine Art from Dartmouth College in 1949. Indelibly affected by the death of his brother, Mike decided to pursue art and the military as a career. He continued his art education at the Ecole Nationale Supérieure des Beaux-Arts in Paris, France in 1951 as a visiting student. Mike eventually received a master's in fine art from Yale University in 1964.

After graduating from Dartmouth, Mike was commissioned to paint the locally famous murals at the Hotel Coolidge in White River Junction. Known as the "Vermont Room," the murals portray the history of Vermont, beginning with an acknowledgement of Indigenous Peoples and ending with the Civil War. The final haunting figure in the murals is generally understood to represent Mike's deceased brother. Along with the Vermont Room, Mike also painted a lively mural behind what was at the time the Hotel's bar. Mike also designed the Dartmouth Winter Carnival poster of 1948, an enduring and popular image of a couple enjoying an apres-ski before a log fire.

During the 1950s and 1960s, Mike had the opportunity to work with the New England artist Paul Sample, who was artist in residence at Dartmouth during Mike's years there, as well as the well-known Austrian painter, Oskar Kokoschka. Both artists became important mentors to Mike in the development of his own painting style.

After his studies at Yale, Mike returned to active duty with the U.S. Marine Corps, initially as a helicopter pilot, advancing to the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel. In 1967, Mike was sent to Vietnam by the USMC as a "combat artist," joining a long tradition of documenting war through art. While in Vietnam, Mike also received the Air Medal for flying 24 combat missions. One of Mike's paintings, "Studies of Helmets in the Sand," was chosen to be the poster for the National Vietnam Memorial. In 1991, at the age of 65, Mike became a full colonel in the Marines when he deployed to Iraq, as a combat artist, for Operation Provide Comfort where he documented the Kurdish refugees from the First Gulf War. Then again, in 1993, Mike journeyed to Somalia where he continued his documentation of refugees and displaced people during Operation Restore Hope. Many of Mike's paintings have been displayed at the National Museum of the Marine Corps in Washington, D.C., as well as the Smithsonian Museum.

An accomplished portrait artist, Mike painted the official presidential portraits of two of Dartmouth College's presidents: John Sloan Dickey and James E. Wright. A large part of Mike's work reflects his love of still life and landscapes, Obit: Gish → 15

After graduating from Dartmouth, Mike was commissioned to paint the locally famous murals at the Hotel Coolidge in White River Junction. Known as the "Vermont Room," the murals portray the history of Vermont.



By Karen T. Bartlett

Jimmy LeSage

## Jimmy LeSage, age 74

Jimmy LeSage, 74, founder and director of New Life Hiking Spa in Killington passed away on the morning of May 12, 2024, at VITAS Hospice in Naples, Florida, of natural causes with his devoted wife, Kathleen, by his side. While many knew him as the founder and director of New Life Hiking Spa in Killington, Jimmy cherished most his role as a father to his beloved children, James and LeAnne. He leaves behind his wife of 21 years and their two children as his enduring legacy.

James "Jimmy" LeSage, Sr., was born in Stoneham, Massachusetts, on Jan. 21, 1950. He moved to Panama City, Florida, at age 6 and lived there until he attended Florida State University. After graduating from FSU in 1972, he moved to Vermont to be a teacher but instead worked as a chef at a ski hotel. During this time, he conceived the idea of utilizing the ski hotel's downtime in the summer as a hiking retreat for vacationers.

In 1978, Jimmy established New Life Hiking Spa in Stratton, later relocating it to the Inn of the Six Mountains (now Killington Mountain Lodge) in Killington in 1990. For over 40 years, Jimmy LeSage, M.S., served as the director of New Life Hiking Spa, where thousands of guests sought solace from the hustle and bustle of daily life. Guests joined Jimmy in the Green Mountains of Vermont to hike, indulge in healthy food, receive massages, practice yoga, and simply "chill out."

Through a holistic blend of hiking, fitness activities, and the rejuvenating Vermont landscape, Jimmy's "hiking spa" garnered multiple accolades as the No. 1 spa by Spas of America. His dedication to empowering guests on their wellness journey solidified his status as a pioneer in the industry. He was recognized as one of the original "Pioneers in Destination Spas" by Spafinder in 2011 and was honored to have New Life named the No. 1 destination spa in America by Travel+Leisure Magazine in 2016, a feature showcased on the Today Show. He authored "New Life Hiking Spa's 40 Years of Authentic Wellness" in 2018 and "New Life Guide to Healthy Eating" in 1995.

Though New Life Hiking Spa closed as a casualty of the pandemic, Jimmy's impact from 1978 to 2019 will continue to resonate.

Jimmy earned a master's degree in counseling from the University of Bridgeport, studied nutrition at Harvard University, and explored a wide range of bodywork treatments, including rolfing, polarity, and acupuncture. His education in bodywork and nutrition took Jimmy around the world, from India to the Esalen Institute in Big Sur, California.

While engrossed in his career, Jimmy divided his time between Vermont (May-October) when New Life was operational and Naples, Florida (November-April). He met Kathleen in Naples, and they married in 2003. He often expressed that fatherhood brought him the most joy in life. Obit: LeSage → 13



# RRMC nurse Cassie Harnett receives the DAISY Award

“This award recognizes a specific nurse for delivering the compassionate, expert and extraordinary care all our Rutland Regional nurses are known for,” RRMC stated on its website. “Nurses may be nominated for the DAISY Award by patients, families, colleagues, physicians and staff.”

The DAISY Award was established in memory of J. Patrick Barnes who died at 33 of idiopathic thrombocytopenic purpura (ITP), an auto-immune disease. DAISY is an acronym for Diseases Attacking the Immune System and over 285 nationwide hospitals currently honor their nurses through the DAISY program, according to RRMC.

Each DAISY Award winner receives a framed certificate of recognition, a DAISY lapel pin and a sculpture called “A Healer’s Touch,” which is hand-carved by artists of the Shona Tribe in Zimbabwe.

At Rutland Regional, all registered nurses who demonstrate excellence through clinical expertise, extraordinary service or compassionate care are eligible to receive The DAISY Award.



Courtesy Lori Harnett  
Cassie Harnett was honored for her extraordinary care.



Courtesy HPC  
Riders and walkers for third annual Spring Sprockets & Walk-its event gathered for a photo by the entrance to Pine Hill Park.

## Spring Sprockets & Walk-Its raised \$12,791 for homeless families in Rutland County

The Homeless Prevention Center held its third annual Spring Sprockets and Walk-Its event Saturday, May 4, at Pine Hill Park. The event raised \$12,791 for homeless families in Rutland County. In addition to the rides and walks participants could take part in a bike repair clinic and enjoy a fresh smoothies blended with a smoothie bike, among other offerings.

DJ Bill Moore entertained with music and his inimitable banter.

The prize for the coolest rig went to a massive quadricycle float, the “U.S.S. Wake-Up Call,” built and



Courtesy HPC  
New 25th Anniversary logo was unveiled at the Spring Sprockets and Walk-its event May 4.

skipped by Hearthunder Art Collective. “It was pretty cool to see people as young as about 3, and north of 70, and everywhere in-between just grinning and enjoying the trails. There’s a little something for everyone, and we got lucky with the weather,” said Angus Chaney, executive director of HPC.

At the event, the Homeless Prevention Center also unveiled its new 25th anniversary logo designed by students in Stafford Technical Center’s Digital Arts class.

For more information visit: [hpcvt.org](http://hpcvt.org).

### Heat wave: from page 1

And won’t last long. Temperatures drop into the mid 70s during the day and 50s at night Thursday through Sunday, setting up for a nice Memorial Day weekend. (Some rain showers are possible Thursday and likely Monday.)

While the heat wave isn’t quite long enough for the Weather Service to issue a heat advisory, Taber said vulnerable Vermonters, such as people with health conditions or people who

work outside, should be cautious in the coming days.

“It’s our first heat of the season, so we’re not adjusted to the heat yet,” Taber said. He advised anyone spending time outside to stay hydrated and take breaks.

Early predictions for this summer are looking warm, Taber said. The federal Climate Prediction Center has

said the Northeast has a high probability of above-average temperatures,

“It’s our first heat of the season, so we’re not adjusted to the heat yet,” Taber said.

based on the outlook of regional weather patterns.

For more info visit [weather.gov/btu](http://weather.gov/btu).

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# USPS consolidation paused, Vermont sorting hubs will not move to Connecticut

Postmaster General Louis DeJoy announced May 15 that the U.S. Postal Service (USPS) has paused plans to consolidate USPS facilities through a process called mail processing facility reviews (MPFR), which threatened to move mail sorting operations from Essex Junction and White River Junction sorting hubs to Connecticut. This move likely would have further slowed mail operations across Vermont and was widely and strongly opposed by USPS customers and workers alike.

U.S. Senator Peter Welch released the following statement after the announcement: “Under Postmaster General DeJoy’s watch, the USPS has consistently put the needs of customers and USPS workers last—threatening their ability to deliver this essential service to seniors, businesses and families across the country. Vermonters need and deserve a functioning USPS. I am encouraged USPS listened to the concerns we

raised from our constituents, and finally paused these misguided facility reviews,” said Sen. Welch. “I will keep fighting to improve mail delivery in Vermont, which has been terribly deteriorated. Cutting costs should not come at the expense of timely delivery, customer service and a safe working environment for Vermont’s USPS workers.”

In April, Sen. Welch partnered with a bipartisan, bicameral group of colleagues in urging Postmaster General Louis DeJoy to reconsider the USPS’s plan to consolidate the national postal network, which threatened to severely diminish mail service across the country.

Senator Welch has pushed for postal reform to better serve rural communities and has called for improve-

ments to USPS’ national management. He also led his colleagues in urging President Biden to nominate individuals to the USPS board of governors who will hold Postmaster General DeJoy accountable for his failure to provide adequate mail services in rural communities.

In March, Welch took to the Senate Floor to call out DeJoy’s failure to deliver for rural America, pointing to the postal delays plaguing Vermont and other rural areas because of DeJoy’s policies, and the nearly nine month-long fight to re-open a fully-functioning post office in Vermont’s capital city after flooding. Following Senator Welch’s advocacy, the Postal Service announced it would finally be re-opening a retail post office in Montpelier.

“I will keep fighting to improve mail delivery in Vermont, which has been terribly deteriorated,” said Sen. Welch.

SLATE VALLEY UNIFIED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT SERVING THE TOWNS OF BENSON, CASTLETON, FAIR HAVEN, HUBBARDTON, ORWELL & WEST HAVEN

**4th Budget Vote**  
Information Meeting  
**May 29, 2024**  
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PLEASE VOTE MAY 30TH!

## CEDRR receives grant to support Stafford Technical Center student stipends

Chamber & Economic Development of the Rutland Region (CEDRR) has received a grant in the amount of \$66,524 in collaboration with Stafford Technical Center (STC). The work-based learning and training program grant is provided by the Vermont Dept. of Labor. The funding will support student stipends to work in career fields for which they have received training at STC and align with the needs of local businesses and industry. This grant provides funding to focus on the retention of our local young talent, continuing the successful partnership between CEDRR and STC. The opportunity begins May 1 and extends to Dec. 31, 2024.

The program is delivered by a work-based learning coordinator, a licensed educator at STC, in collaboration with CEDRR business partners. The work-based learning coordinator will identify students, develop employer and employee training plans, oversee student placements, and evaluate performance. Interns will receive payment for hourly work performed, options for transportation, and necessary tools and workplace supplies.

“STC serves students throughout Rutland County, primarily in their junior and senior year of high school,



Submitted  
Stafford Technical Center and CEDRR will provide work-based training through a recently awarded \$66,524 grant.

offering technical programs with practical experiences that come with college credit and/or industry-recognized credentials,” said Melissa Connor, Stafford Technical Center director.

This internship opportunity is for Rutland County students between the ages of 16 and 19.

This internship opportunity is for Rutland County students between the ages of 16 and 19 who have been at a disadvantage to participate in workplace readiness due to transportation and employer financial burdens associated with hiring part-time new employees. The grant will be the conduit for connecting the next generation of a local skilled workforce to employers who are experiencing a significant workforce

shortage. Specific interest areas will be targeted, including health-care, manufacturing, hospitality, childcare, public safety, law enforcement, plumbing, electrical, and construction.

Students from technical centers trend towards working locally, especially if early career connections are made with employers that are of high interest and skill, leading to high paying jobs.

Cooper Babbitt, CEDRR operations director, said, “CEDRR uses collaboration, creativity, and ingenuity to create a regional economic climate conducive to business growth by recruiting talent and businesses of all kinds, growing and retaining employers, while creating a bridge to community and cultural organizations, which promote healthy and vibrant neighborhoods and enhance the quality of life in Rutland County.”

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# KILLINGTON Wine Festival JULY 19-20, 2024

ESTATE TASTING GALA  
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at the Killington Peak

WINE TRAIL  
FRIDAY JULY 19  
at Participating Local Businesses

GRAND TASTING  
SATURDAY JULY 20 • Noon - 4p  
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# TOWN OF KILLINGTON VERMONT

## Do I need a zoning permit?

**“Yes,”** the zoning administrator says:  
“If you’re asking this question, you most likely do.”

### Here’s more details:

#### A Zoning Permit is only not required for:

- Fences and walls under 6 feet high and which do not interfere with corner visibility and are outside the town road right-of-way
- A free standing residential accessory structure such as a shed, tree house, doghouse, child’s playhouse or similar structure that does not exceed 144 square feet in size and is 12 feet or less in height and does not have plumbing.  
But It **MUST** meet setback requirements.
- Interior renovations that do not increase the overall floor area **or result in additional bedrooms**  
Increasing bedrooms **ALWAYS** requires a permit.
- Patios at grade level
- General maintenance such as painting, roofing and siding

#### Now that that’s cleared up, here’s more detail on filing for permits:

The Town of Killington requires various permits and approvals for development. A Zoning Permit is required for any project that involves:

- New buildings or building additions
- Porches, decks and similar structures
- Swimming pools
- Accessory apartments (in house or over garage)
- Projects that increase the footprint or floor area of a building
- Change of use (**yes, this includes adding additional bedrooms!**)
- Subdivision, parcel merger, and boundary line adjustments

An application for a zoning permit is here: [bit.ly/KillingtonPermitApp](https://bit.ly/KillingtonPermitApp)

**Note:** If your project was approved by Act 250 you must also contact [Rick.Overkirch@vermont.gov](mailto:Rick.Overkirch@vermont.gov)

#### Let’s not forget about short-term rentals:

Yes, the town requires short-term rentals registration to safely bring as many guests as legally possible. The advertised capacity of a short-term rental is limited to its approved septic or sewer capacity. All short-term rentals are subject to inspection by the state Division of Fire Safety, although self-certification is an option for rental properties with an occupancy of 8 or less.

To register your short term rental, visit: [bit.ly/KillingtonSTR](https://bit.ly/KillingtonSTR)  
Contact asst. state fire marshal Joshua Maxham at 802-786-0071 or [Joshua.Maxham@vermont.gov](mailto:Joshua.Maxham@vermont.gov) for an inspection.  
For a short-term rental checklist go to [firesafety.vermont.gov](https://firesafety.vermont.gov).

#### Little info for you condo owners, too:

Condominiums are regulated by the state Division of Fire Safety and the state Act 250 Program. Changes beyond painting or decorating may require Division of Fire Safety approval. Increases to the floor area or creation of an additional bedroom would require Act 250 approval. Contact your condominium association before making any changes beyond painting or decorating.

#### PLANNING & ZONING

Tel: 802-422-3241 x 3

Email: [planner@killingtontown.com](mailto:planner@killingtontown.com)

2706 River Road, P.O. Box 429, Killington, VT 05751  
[killingtontown.com](https://killingtontown.com)

#### When do I need a driveway permit?

The Zoning Administrator says “yes, this should be the first thing you do!” A Driveway Access Permit is required from the town Selectboard for a new or modified driveway off a town road. Contact the Town Manager to start this process. A State Highway Access and Work Permit is required from the state Agency of Transportation (VTrans) for a new or modified driveway off U.S. Route 4 or VT Route 100. For a Frequently Asked Questions sheet on state highway access and work permits visit: [vtrans.vermont.gov/planning/permitting/faqs](https://vtrans.vermont.gov/planning/permitting/faqs).

#### How about commercial business?

You always need a permit for business signs.

Visit: [bit.ly/KillingtonSign](https://bit.ly/KillingtonSign). Most commercial development will need to be reviewed by the Development Review Board and Division of Fire Safety. Killington is a 1-acre town. Anything over could be subject to Act 250 review and approval. Questions? Request a Project Review Sheet from state permit specialist Rick Overkirch at 802-282-6488 or [Rick.Overkirch@vermont.gov](mailto:Rick.Overkirch@vermont.gov).



For more information about zoning permits scan or click: [bit.ly/KillingtonPermits](https://bit.ly/KillingtonPermits)

**Please don’t live by: “build it and they will come...”  
It’s **NOT** better to beg for forgiveness than ask for permission.”**



# Health premium increases of 16%-19% projected for 2025

Vermonters are again facing steep upward premium growth for 2025 due to the cumulative impact of hospital costs, drug prices and state health care policy choices. Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Vermont projects that these trends will continue and will require rate increases of 16.3% for individual health plans and 19.1% for the small group health plans to pay for the cost of the care for Vermonters covered by Vermont Health Connect.

Hospital costs comprise nearly two-thirds of the rate increase. Growing utilization is contributing to higher hospital spending paired with recent price increases. More Vermonters are accessing hospital care, and the increasing utilization is both indicative of efforts to lessen wait times and the more intensive needs of an older population. Almost half of all premiums are spent on hospital-based health care services — inpatient and outpatient procedures, including surgeries and diagnostic services, in-facility drug

treatment, laboratory tests, advanced imaging, specialist consults, medical equipment, and office visits — both in person and through telemedicine.

Double-digit retail pharmaceutical trends also contribute to the higher premiums for 2025. In particular, the exponential growth in drug treatments for diabetes and weight loss are adding substantial pressure to premiums. GLP-1 drugs are life-altering medications for managing these difficult chronic conditions, but the drugs are incredibly expensive, and the number of prescriptions has expanded dramatically in recent years. The cost and utilization of brand and specialty drugs continue to grow precipitously, against the cost of generics.

The cumulative impact of state health policy choices

that consistently weigh access and expanded benefits over affordability are the third lever that is contributing to the high premium increases in 2025.

The decision to amplify the effects of Silver Loading

Double-digit retail pharmaceutical trends also contribute to the higher premiums for 2025. In particular, the exponential growth in drug treatments for diabetes and weight loss are adding substantial pressure to premiums.

will result in shifting to much higher premiums for On-Exchange Silver plans in order to draw down additional federal Advanced Premium Tax Credits to qualifying Vermont individuals and families.

For more information, visit [bluecrossvt.org](https://bluecrossvt.org).

## Sanders: weight loss drugs could bankrupt U.S. health care

As part of his investigation into the outrageously high price of Ozempic and Wegovy in the U.S., U.S. Sen. Bernie Sanders, chairman of the Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions (HELP) Committee, released a stunning new report May 15 exposing the potential of weight loss drugs to bankrupt American health care.

In the report, HELP Committee majority staff modeled how new weight loss drugs could impact prescription drug spending, even while taking into account estimated manufacturer discounts.

Key findings from the report include:

If half of adults with obesity took Wegovy and the other new weight loss drugs, it could cost \$411 billion per year — more than what Americans spent on all retail prescription drugs in 2022 (\$406 billion).

If half of all Medicare and Medicaid patients who are obese took Wegovy and other weight loss drugs, Medicare and Medicaid could spend \$166 billion per year — rivaling what Medicare and Medicaid spent on all retail prescription drugs in 2022 (\$175 billion).

Unless prices are substantially reduced, Wegovy and other weight loss drugs could push Americans to spend \$1 trillion per year on all prescription drugs.

If Novo Nordisk, a Danish company, charged Americans the same price it charges people in Denmark for Wegovy, the U.S. health care system could save up to \$317 billion dollars per year if half of adults with obesity took the drug. Taxpayers through Medicare and Medicaid alone could save \$128 billion per year.

If Novo Nordisk dropped the price of Wegovy in the U.S. down to the price in

Denmark, the U.S. health care system could pay for new weight loss drugs for 100% of adults with obesity for less than the cost of covering 25% of the population with obesity at current U.S. net prices annually.

“Today’s report makes it crystal clear:

The outrageously high price of Wegovy and other weight loss drugs have the potential to bankrupt Medicare and our entire health care system,” Sanders said. “The unjustifiably high

prices of these weight loss drugs could also cause a massive spike in prescription drug spending that could lead to an historic increase in premiums for Medicare and everyone who has health insurance. The United States Congress and the federal government cannot allow that to happen. There is no rational reason, other than greed,

“There is no rational reason, other than greed, for Novo Nordisk to charge Americans struggling with obesity \$1,349 for Wegovy when ... it costs less than \$5 to profitably manufacture,” said Sanders.

for Novo Nordisk to charge Americans struggling with obesity \$1,349 for Wegovy when this same exact product can be purchased for just \$186 in Denmark, \$137 in Germany, and \$92 in the United Kingdom, while it costs less than \$5 to profitably manufacture.”

On April 24, 2024, the HELP Committee launched an investigation into the outrageously high prices Novo Nordisk is charging for Ozempic and Wegovy in the U.S. On April 30, Chairman Sanders commended the Federal Trade Commission for taking bold action against the bogus patents Novo Nordisk has filed to prevent Americans from receiving a generic version of Ozempic at a much lower price. On May 13, Chairman Sanders wrote an op-ed on the front page of the Danish paper Politiken to appeal to Denmark’s longstanding commitment to social justice and to win their help in urging Novo Nordisk to reduce the outrageous price in the U.S.



Courtesy Rich Earth Institute

A farmer uses a tractor to pull a tank of urine fertilizer over a field; a new method for growth.

## The future of fertilizer? Pee, says this Brattleboro institute

By Kate Kampner, Community News Service

*Editor’s note: The Community News Service is a program in which University of Vermont students work with professional editors to provide content for local news outlets at no cost.*

When Peter Stickney walks along his cow paddocks in the morning, he notes the scattered patches of greener grass across the pasture. He knows what this means: It’s where his cows have peed.

So when the Rich Earth Institute, a Brattleboro organization focused on turning human urine into fertilizer, approached him to be a farm partner, Stickney said it was a no-brainer.

Stickney manages the Elm Lea Farm at The Putney School, a boarding high school in the Windham County town of Putney. For the past few years, alongside six other farms in Vermont and the Northeast, Stickney has been receiving treated urine from Rich Earth Institute to spray across the farmland at Elm Lea.

The institute, its partners and others in the sustainability industry see the practice — dubbed “peecycling” in national headlines — as a cheap, easy and less-destructive method for fertilizing plants than synthetic fertilizer and as a way for people to rethink their views on whether human waste should really go to waste.

“We’re doing something that is somewhat disruptive and asking for people to look at things differently, change behaviors a little bit, sometimes around where they pee and why,” said Jed Blume, the institute’s development director.

For Stickney, it looks like this: Rich Earth workers haul a tank of treated urine to the farm on a big truck before filling a smaller tank that Stickney can tow across the farm with a tractor.

“I could very quickly see how much darker green the grass was,” he said. “Dark green grass is happy grass — it means it has lots of nutrients. It’s very simple from my end, and it’s very soon that the results are visible, tangible.”

Federal funders are on board. The U.S. Dept. of Agriculture’s Sustainable Agriculture

Pee fertilizer → 39



## GUEST EDITORIAL

# A public education Vermonters support and value

By Margaret MacLean

*Editor's note: Margaret MacLean, from Peacham, has been an educator for 50 years, working as a teacher, school principal and consultant both in Vermont, the U.S. and internationally.*

Over the past 14 years Vermont has enacted three sweeping school district consolidation laws. The overarching goals of Act 153, Act 156, and Act 46 were to be achieved "at a cost that parents, voters and taxpayers value."

Are consolidated districts delivering on this promise?

A big picture look says 'No.' Consolidation has not saved taxpayer dollars and has eroded Vermonters' support for public education.

An examination of state per pupil spending data from 2018 compared to 2024 shows that Act 46 consolidated districts have not delivered in terms of cost savings. In this time the percentage of consolidated districts doubled, and costs continued to increase. Today, consolidated districts cost more per pupil pre-K-12 than single-town school districts.

Further, consolidation has eroded public confidence and engagement. At town meeting in March 2024 school budgets in town school districts passed at more than twice the rate of those in consolidated districts—83% vs. 38%.

No evaluation of consolidation has taken place. The Agency of Education was required to develop reports on Act 46, but the 2020 and 2021 reports have yet to materialize. We cannot afford to compound mistakes or overlook successes by moving forward without a comprehensive analysis. A moratorium on additional consolidation should be in place until a full independent evaluation is completed.

Education spending in Vermont needs to be addressed. But solutions in Montpelier are scarce, apart from calls to double down and "right size" the education system with additional consolidation. Higher per pupil spending and failed budgets in consolidated districts raise legitimate questions about this strategy.

We need to take stock.

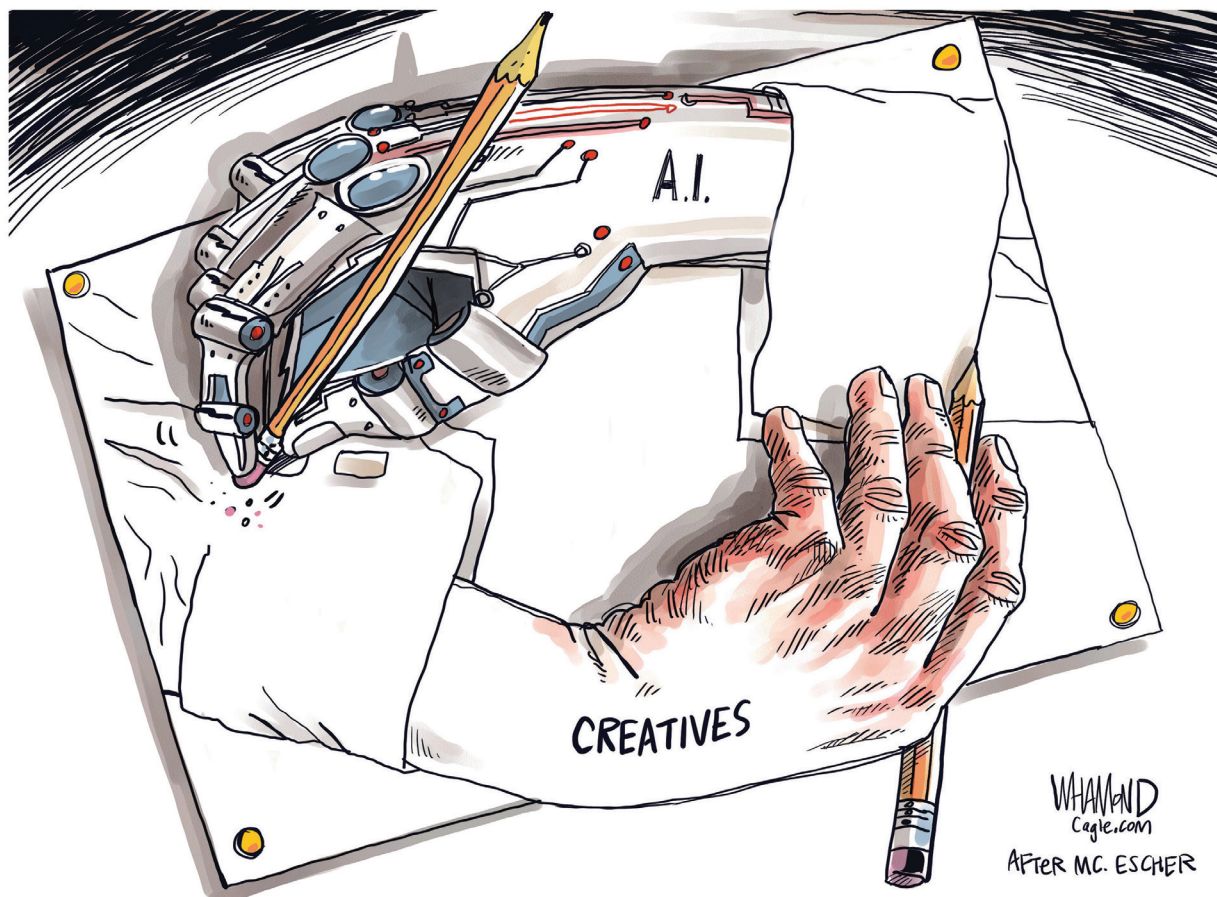
The Legislature has developed a commission to focus on The Future of Public Education in Vermont. The last time Vermont did this well was in 1968 with the Vermont Design for Education. This document was developed from the bottom up, engaging schools and communities throughout the state.

A new vision for The Future of Public Education should also put the public front and center. The commission needs to emphasize engagement, and incorporate elements that are crucial to the success of public education, including:

**A focus on equity:** Equity benefits our society as a whole. Rather than pitting rural schools against their larger neighbors in a zero-sum battle, we will benefit from a vision that includes Vermonters from all backgrounds. An outcome that honors the *Brigham* decision with an equity focus will be better for all.

**Democracy matters:** When he testified to the Vermont Senate during the creation of what became Act 46, Marty Strange, the policy director of the Rural School and Community Funding education → 11

Consolidation has not saved taxpayer dollars and has eroded Vermonters' support for public education.



AI vs Creativity by Dave Whamond, Canada, PoliticalCartoons

## LETTERS

## Vermont's lost submarine memorial

Dear Editor,

At the Veteran Administration (VA) in White River Jct, VT, there is a distinct memorial dedicated to the Submarine USS Flier (SS 250) lost during World War II. Ever mindful of our lost shipmates, friends and family that have served in the submarine service of our country, the U.S. Submarine Veterans, Inc. (USSVI) had assigned each state one of the 52 lost submarines from World War II, with California and New York receiving two each of the lost submarines.

Vermont was assigned the USS Flier (SS 250). The Green Mountain Base Chapter of USSVI is ever mindful of the memorial and the significance of our fellow submariners that were lost. If you are ever at the VA, the memorial is in the park where the flag is flown along with several other significant memorials at the park dedicated to our veterans. The submariners in Vermont remember the USS Flier (SS-250) and the men lost and on Eternal Patrol this Memorial Day 2024.

C. William Mattoon  
Commander at Submarine Veterans of USSVI

## H.121 poses significant risk to Vermont's business community

Dear Editor,

As the CEO of the Vermont Country Store (VCS), I strongly support consumer privacy as does the Vermont Chamber of Commerce and many peer companies in the state. I wholeheartedly endorse the Connecticut law that was the foundation of H.121. However, as passed it is my hope that Governor Scott will veto H.121.

I am extremely concerned about certain provisions of H.121 and the threat they pose to small businesses, including businesses based in Vermont.

Removing the private right of action provision. While well intended, this provision is an opportunity for unscrupulous attorneys to prey on businesses that benefit their clients very little and are extremely costly to small and mid-sized businesses.

Striking the data minimization requirement. The language can be interpreted in many ways and will most certainly result in law-H.121 → 12

## Vermont's outsize appetite for taxes

Dear Editor,

Most Vermont taxpayers have just experienced a period of tax focus, specifically property taxes to support our public schools. Some communities are still going through the valuable public debate about property taxes and, more generally, the overall tax burden and trying to evaluate that relative to what we receive for our tax dollars.

Vermont is a small state both geographically and by population. According to USA Today (2022), Vermont ranks 43rd in size by geographical area. According to Britannica.com, it ranks 49th in population (2023). Therefore, we are the second smallest state by population.

Conversely, when it comes to taxes, Vermont ranks among the top 10 states in terms of tax burden. Here are some data points:

- Intuit TurboTax ranks Vermont 8th in the top 10 highest income tax rates for 2023 with an 8.75% rate on individual incomes over \$204,000 and joint incomes over \$243,750.

Tax appetite → 12

## Please vote 'yes' for the Slate Valley budget

Dear Editor,

On May 30, voters will be asked to go to the polls for the fourth time to approve the 2024-2025 Slate Valley Unified Union School District (SVUUSD) budget of \$30,810,135. This budget is unchanged since the last budget vote. We are maintaining the same spending figure because we believe that this is the absolute minimum amount of money needed to run our educational programs, keep our facilities from falling into further disrepair, and maintain safe learning.

This budget will result in a per pupil education spending of \$11,294.83. The state average as of March 22 is \$13,396. We are asking to spend \$2101.17 less per equalized pupil to provide each student with the same education, an equal education. How can we do this by continuing to reduce our budget?

The 2024-2025 homestead tax rates range from Fair Haven at \$1.3299 (a 5.55% increase), to Benson at \$1.5709 (an 18.48% increase).

Slate Valley → 33



## CAPITOL QUOTES

Iran's President Ebrahim Raisi, a conservative leader, has died in a helicopter crash along with Foreign Minister Hossein Amir-Abdollahian and other senior officials. The tragedy comes at a sensitive time for Iran, as the nation faces internal and external challenges such as U.S. sanctions, discontent among its youth, and growing hostility from Middle Eastern and global adversaries.

**"Raisi was a weak president, but he was a loyalist and the most loyal option the Supreme Leader could find... The political infighting that ensues ... will more than likely be too chaotic for us to predict,"**

said **Hamidreza Azizi** a visiting fellow at the German Institute for International and Security Affairs (SWP) in Berlin according to Al Jazeera.

**"The hard-working president had been martyred... with the help of God and the people, there will be no problem with management of the country,"**

Said **the Iranian cabinet** according to CBS News.

**"Early presidential elections could provide Khamenei and the upper echelons of the state with an opportunity ... to give voters a way back into the political process... But, unfortunately, so far, we have seen no indications of the state being ready and willing to take such a step,"**

explained **Mohammad Ali Shabani**, editor of London-based news website Amwaj.media.

**"It is really the Supreme Leader and the Revolutionary Guards who make the final decisions, and even in the region mostly implement Iran's regional policy,... overall we will see more continuity than change...(This) definitely throws all the plans that offices of the Supreme Leader probably had out the window."**

**Ali Vaez**, Iran Project Director at the International Crisis Group think tank, said on X according to Yahoo! News

## How to speak to veterans about addiction and mental health

By Michael Leach

*Editor's note: Michael Leach has spent most of his career as a healthcare professional specializing in substance use and addiction recovery. He is a certified clinical medical assistant and the public relations officer at Drug Rehab Services.*

Substance use disorders and mental health problems impact countless veterans. Unfortunately, too many slip through the cracks and never get help. While there are many reasons for this, it is often a lack of early intervention, stigma with addiction, and, in some cases, inadequate drug education.

However, early intervention is vital, with the best approaches being conversations and drug education. While it is challenging to know how many veterans have substance use disorders and mental health problems, it's safe to say there are many struggling in silence.

According to Census data, in 2022, 6.5% of the adult population in Vermont were considered veterans. Many of these veterans are affected by factors related to substance use, such as pain, suicide risk, homelessness, and trauma. Per the National Survey for Drug Use and Health, 3.6 million veterans had a past year substance use disorder in the U.S.

Alcohol use disorders are a common problem and often the catalyst for most addictions. According to drug abuse statistics, 18.5% of Vermont adults binge drink at least once a month. There is an average of 332 annual deaths in the state attributed to excessive alcohol use.

Veterans ages 18-49 are the most likely to struggle with addiction across the country. Yet, few veterans seek treatment. An estimated 2.7 million veterans did not perceive a need for substance use treatment, and only 0.3% sought drug rehab per national data.

If you know someone suffering, start the conversation. That could be the turning point that convinces them to get help. It is challenging for anyone to open up about their struggles, but this simple act of having a conversation could be a critical moment for a loved one.

When you begin the conversation, focus on sharing your feelings. Tell them you have noticed they have been drinking more than usual and wondering if everything is okay. You could also tell them you have noticed they have been acting differently and have not seemed like themselves. Make a point of checking in with them often.

Ask questions such as when they first started feeling this, did something happen that made them feel like this, whether they have been using drugs or alcohol to cope with negative feelings, and whether they have thought about getting help or searching for support.

It is critical to listen without judgment, be supportive, and not come across as disappointed. If you feel there is a concern, contact the Veterans Crisis Line by dialing 988 and pressing 1. This practical approach can help support our veterans who are struggling.

### ← Funding education: from page 10

munity Trust, proved prescient. Strange warned about a loss of public support for education as an outcome of consolidation. Based on experiences across the U.S., Strange testified,

"Shrinking the public role in school decision making means more failed budgets, more internecine arguing over where the money goes and whose school gets closed by which voters and reduced public support for public education."

Voters' ability to take part in community-scale school budget deliberations at town meetings may be a key element to local budgets receiving stronger voter support than vast multi-school consolidated budgets.

**Rural voices:** Any vision for a thriving Vermont education system must work in rural communities as well as in more densely populated areas. It should be shaped and supported by communities, not imposed upon them. Schools are the beating heart of rural communities and an essential foundation for our youngest children. The commission must fully understand the links between schools and community development and examine what happens in a town when its school closes.

**Best educational practices at a cost Vermonters can afford:** A vision for the future of Vermont education needs to keep

children front and center while striving for affordability. Dollars spent with a direct impact on learning should be prioritized over increasingly centralized bureaucracy. Community schools for our earliest learners are a key part of the vision; few Vermonters would say that our younger children should be traveling two hours a day on a school bus. However, sensible changes can take place at the middle and high school level, and the time might be right to revamp secondary and technical education. Additionally, the commission can identify the worthy but non-education-related services provided within our education system and find funding for them outside of the property tax.

Vermont can do better. The Commission will have an opportunity to study education systems internationally. Faced with many of our same issues, Scandinavia, New Zealand, and other places have been decentralizing educational governance to the school/community level since the 1990s. How can these school systems inform our vision?

The commission needs to develop a vision that is grounded in what works for our children, that builds on our communities' strengths, and brings Vermonters together: A vision we collectively develop, at a cost that hardworking Vermonters can afford.



## H.121: from page 10

suits, particularly coupled with private right of action. No small business can reasonably be expected to comply, especially when the language is unclear.

There should be no enhanced “consent” requirement that mandates browse-wrap agreements or the more invasive kinds

of pop-ups.

This is punitive to small business and where they never pop up, a windfall for big businesses like Amazon.

The Vermont Country Store is not “Big Tech.” We are a mid-sized retailer that’s been part of the Vermont fabric since 1946.

Vermonters deserve a new privacy law that strikes the balance of strong protections for consumers, while not unintentionally exposing our state’s business community to significant risk.

**Jim Hall**  
President & CEO of the Vermont Country Store

## Bee bill: from page 1

Neonic insecticides are used on almost all corn grown and much of the soybean grown in Vermont. They’re also sprayed on apple trees, other fruits and vegetables, and ornamental plants.

Many environmentalists and beekeepers have supported the legislation because of research that shows the deadly impact of neonicotinoids on native pollinators and honeybee colonies.

A comprehensive 2020 study from Cornell University found that neonic-treated seeds were more costly and yielded no substantial benefit to farmers in terms of crop yields for corn and soybeans. In Quebec, where neonics have been banned on field crops since 2019, farmers have adjusted well to using other alternative seed treatments, and many are using no pesticide treatment on seeds at all and finding no loss in yield.

In his letter to lawmakers explaining his veto, Scott agreed that pollinators are “essential to growing food and maintaining a healthy, thriving ecosystem.”

But he contended that the “same is true of farmers, who are also critical contributors to our economy,” arguing the legislation is “more anti-farmer than it is pro-pollinator.”

“This bill unfairly targets dairy farmers

The legislation “is more anti-farmer than it is pro-pollinator,” Scott wrote in a letter to lawmakers explaining his veto.

reliant on corn crops,” he wrote, “and will harm farmers without achieving its goals for pollinators.”

Environmentalists, beekeepers and supporters of the bill in the House and Senate (it passed both chambers by wide margins: 25-2 vote in the Senate and by voice vote in the House, but earlier by a margin of 112-29), however, strongly disagree with the governor.

“It is disappointing that Governor Scott has chosen to veto this bill and the wealth of scientific research that supports it,” said Emily May, Pollinator Conservation Biologist, Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation.

Scientific evidence, supporters of the bill content, shows that neonics provide little benefit to most farmers, but can cause substantial harm. Since their introduction in the mid-1990s, neonics have made U.S.

agriculture 48 times more harmful to insects and been linked with massive losses of bees. Over the most recent five-year period for which data are available, Vermont beekeepers lost an average 53% of their hives every year. These losses of managed bees provide insight into the losses occurring each year in Vermont’s 300+ species of wild bees, which undergird ecosystems and are also important crop pollinators.

“It’s hard to believe that the governor chose World Bee Day to veto this sensible legislation to protect bees and other pollinators from toxic pesticides while supporting farmers through a just transition to safer alternatives,” said Paul Burns, executive director of the Vermont Public Interest Research Group. “Fortunately, that’s not the end of the story. Legislators will have a chance next month to override the veto and stand up for both pollinators and public health.”

Statewide polling released in March found nearly universal agreement among Vermonters about the importance of pollinators such as bees, butterflies, and moths, and deep concern over their declining numbers, according to the Vermont Public Interest Research Group.

The survey also found 83% of Vermonters in support of “a phaseout of nearly all neonic pesticides in Vermont, with exemptions available in case of emergency.” This

language tracks the key elements of H.706.

H.706 also proposes a ban on other uses of the pesticides, such as spraying them on certain types of crops or any ornamental plants, and on any crop while it’s in bloom.

Additionally, the bill includes a provision that would repeal Vermont’s ban on neonicotinoid treated seeds if New York’s ban is repealed.

### Effects on human health

More than 90% of all corn and 50% of soybeans are grown from seeds coated with neonics, and they are used extensively on other cereal and oil crops and fruit and vegetables, according to the National Library of Medicine.

“The U.S. Department of Agriculture’s (USDA) 2014 pesticide monitoring report found neonics in 12 of 19 different fruits and vegetables sampled, with 11 of these containing multiple neonics,” the Library reported.

## Tax appetite: from page 10

- According to Wal-letHub.com and CPA PracticeAdvisor, Vermont comes in with the 3rd highest overall tax rate of all states with a total tax burden of 11.2% made up of a property tax burden of 4.85% (No. 2), an individual income tax

burden of 3.09% (No. 11) and a sales and excise tax burden of 3.18% (No. 27).

- For the year 2022, the Tax Foundation ranked Vermont as the 4th highest in the nation for total state and local tax burden at 13.6%.

We can quibble about the precise numbers and rankings. However, the trend is clear: this tiny state has an outsize appetite for taxes.

Please remember this information the next time your Legislature or local community comes knocking for more taxes.

**Max Tyler, Underhill**



Courtesy K.P. McFarland/Vermont Center for Ecotudies

The yellow-banded bumble bee (*Bombus terricola*) nectars joe pye weed.

So it’s not just pollinators that are threatened by neonics. Last month, a group of doctors and medical experts weighed in with a letter to senators considering the bill. They noted that:

“Exposures to neurotoxic chemicals like neonics during pregnancy and early in life raise special concerns— similar to those raised by lead and mercury—because of the exquisite sensitivity of the developing brain and nervous system. Tragically, experience demonstrates that even minuscule exposures to lead and mercury can lead to lifelong neurological harm, including reduced intelligence (i.e., lower IQ scores), shorter attention spans, and behavioral disruptions.”

One national study testing 171 pregnant women across the country found that neonics were detected in over 95% of the participants.

“The world is moving beyond these destructive pesticides, and with New York recently following in the footsteps of Quebec’s successful model for eliminating needless uses, it should be a no-brainer for Vermont, too,” said Dan Raichel, director of NRDC’s pollinators and pesticides initiative. “We hope the legislature continues their leadership and takes up this important bipartisan bill in the veto session to make sure Vermont doesn’t fall behind its neighbors in protecting its people and pollinators.”

### Override?

In his veto message, the governor repeated the debunked claim that the honeybee

population is growing in Vermont. In fact, Vermont bee colonies are in decline. Many bees are imported into the state for temporary use, but scientists made clear in testimony before the Legislature that importing bees is not an indication of bee health in Vermont.

“It appears that the governor was misled by his advisors on this one,” said Burns. “It’s a shame he didn’t take the time to listen to farmers in places that have moved past using toxic neonics. It’s possible to help save the bees and support farmers, too. That’s what this legislation does.”

Despite the governor’s veto, the bill can still become law if legislators override the veto when they return to Montpelier for a special session beginning June 17. And both the House and Senate may have enough votes to override Scott’s veto, based on the wide margins of support for the bill as written.

If legislators override his veto, the seed ban would go into effect on Jan. 1, 2029.

The bill would also allow the Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets to issue an exemption order if a farmer experienced environmental or agricultural emergencies involving a pest presenting “an imminent risk of significant harm, injury, or loss to agricultural crops.” The farmer would only be eligible for such an exemption if they could not effectively substitute another legal pesticide to address the pest.

*Emma Cotton/VTDigger contributed to this reporting.*



← **Street hockey:**  
from page 4

The Wolves kept howling though and tallied some late game goals to put them over the top. In the end the Black Wolves scored 8 to the Bananas' 5.

Orlaith O'Dwyer did a strong job of feeding the Bananas offense consisting of Liam Bradley and the Derderian sisters, Emily and Lily.

Emmet O'Dwyer (fan and dad of Orlaith) said: "It warms me heart to see an O'Leary and O'Dwyer playing together tonight."

Week 5, and the teams are starting to come together for the showdown which is the quest for the Killington Cup. This week was a tough one for the Shooting Stars as the

"Twins" Kelvin and Ziva Fisko teamed up to shut-out the Moguls. With scoring coming from Kelvin and impressive goaltending from Ziva, the Moguls had a difficult time getting points on the board. The Shooting Stars had a ferocious line of Orlaith O'Dwyer, Nora Rudy, and Lily Derderian who just could not bury the biscuit. Sage Karr and Ben Reed handled the Stars goaltending, but took a constant barrage of shots from the Moguls. "Peter DuBois and Todd DeBiase coached a perfect game.

"Peter DuBois and Todd DeBiase coached a perfect game. We will get them next week," commented Stars coach Arra Derderian.

We will get them next week," commented Stars coach Arra Derderian.

Teams will be finalizing their skills and roasters for the road to the cup this week and are excited to see some playoff action coming into June.

Killington Street Hockey games are every Sunday morning at 10-11 a.m. at the Johnson Recreation Center. For more information and to register to play, visit: [killingtonvt.myrec.com](http://killingtonvt.myrec.com) and join in on the fun.

← **Superstar:**  
from page 2

What mattered to him was what Killington is all about, "I love meeting other people who love to do my hobby and passion. I love skiing, and I love the vibe. It's nice," explained Osler.

It's that positive vibe that keeps bringing skiers and riders back.

Ski spring buddies Rob Peterson and Jeff Filipov met last year at the Umbrella Bar and continued their friendship through social media by creating a group of like-minded people who love to ski Killington in the spring.

Peterson from New Hampshire, known as "The Connector" because he has a knack for connecting and building friendships, said Superstar is the perfect place to grow, "By meeting and cultivating friendships on and off the slopes, it's given me a local community to plug into and I never need to ski alone."

The guys also had their first tailgate party with Filipov having experience from his college days as a bartender; it was nothing for him to serve up the best drinks, "I worked at a place that had a multi-batch recipe for many of the popular frozen drinks like Pina



By Victoria Gaither  
*Eric Leone and his brother enjoy skiing.*

Coladas, margaritas and rum runners," explained Filipov.

Julie McGuire cut her celebration cake at the Umbrella Bar. McGuire will soon achieve a life-changing achievement by being the first woman to hike and backcountry ski all the highest peaks in the Catskills.

It's only during spring skiing at Killington that McGuire gets to see her friends as they all flock to Superstar to make turns together.

In the K-1 parking lot, local kids

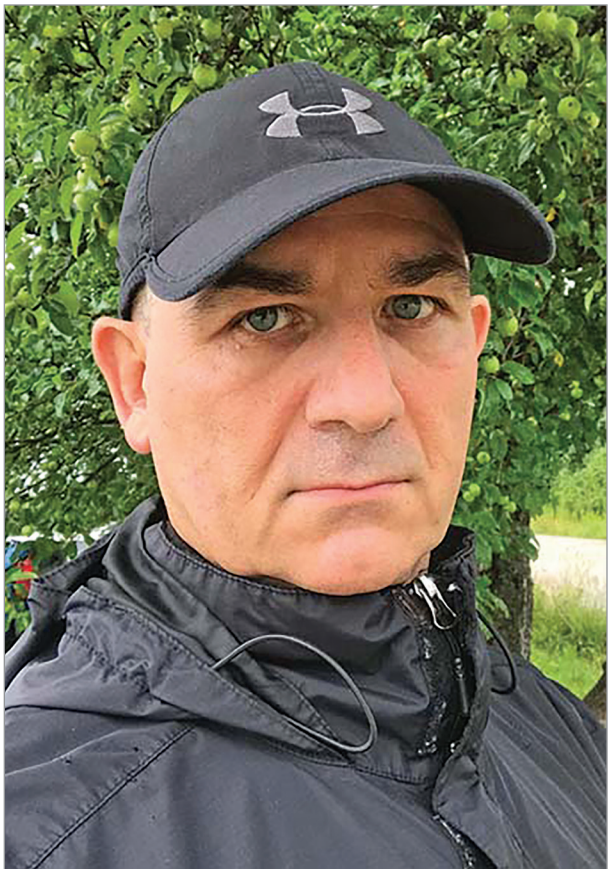
Greta and Otis Melish celebrated their birthdays with cake and a barbeque, but Greta was thinking about Superstar as she was planning her first run.

Eric Leone was just finishing a run with his brother, donning a bright Hawaiian shirt, when he shared, "Springtime is what Killington is all about. There is nowhere else where you can be yourself, express yourself, and ski how you want"

The Leone brothers have been coming to Killington since they were kids. It's been 33 years since Lee Abramovitz skied Killington with his boys, but a planned trip to New York and seeing a post on social media about a meet-up at the Umbrella Bar brought him over to Superstar to meet new people and experience the magic of Killington at Springtime.

"When I am here, it just feels like my extended family," Abramovitz said.

That's the thing about Superstar: It brings out the best in everyone, whether you take turns, hit the bumps, or hang out on the deck. Like bees make honey, Superstar makes magic.



Submitted  
*Chip Piper, 55, is running 10 marathons in 10 days this week, finishing Saturday, May 25.*

← **Obit: LeSage:**  
from page 4

He took pride in raising his children, James (born 2004), and LeAnne (born 2007), alongside Kathleen.

Jimmy is survived by his wife, Kathleen, and their two children, James and LeAnne, of Naples, Florida; thousands of friends he made at New Life Hiking Spa from around the globe; many lifelong friends and family from his hometown of Panama City, Florida, including his sister, Susan Watkins; niece, Brandi Watkins; brother, Michael Suggs; sister-in-law, Angie Suggs; nephew, Gabriel Suggs; and dear lifelong friends, Brian and Beverly Dusseault.

His wife, Kathleen LeSage, son, James LeSage Jr., and daughter, LeAnne LeSage, will be hosting a celebration of life on Monday, July 8, 2024, from 1-4 p.m. at the Mountain Top Inn and Resort in Chittenden, Vermont. Please join in to celebrate Jimmy's life and the impact of this unique, kind man. Donations can be made to cherish Jimmy's memory with the Green Mountain Club at 4711 Waterbury-Stowe Road, Waterbury Center, VT 05677.

Remembering Jimmy, let's fondly recall his cherished words: "It's all good!" Picture him now, hiking the hills of heaven with that same boundless energy. So, let's lace up our boots, step into nature, trek onward, and keep his vibrant spirit alive with every step we take.

← **Slate Valley budget:**  
from page 1

they need to excel academically and personally," the district stated, noting the challenge in planning for the upcoming year without a budget.

"As we approach July 1 without an approved budget, certain summer programs may be affected, especially if the budget isn't passed on May 30," said Olsen-Farrell. "Summer services, except those for special education as mandated, teacher training, middle school round-up, and other programs are uncertain and may be canceled if the budget isn't approved."

"We encourage all eligible voters to participate in this crucial process by casting their ballots and making their voices heard. Together, we can work towards a budget that reflects the values and aspirations of our community and ensures the continued success of our students and schools," the district board stated.

For more information, visit: [SlateValleyUnified.org](http://SlateValleyUnified.org).

"The proposed budget for the revote is the same one that was voted on May 9," explained Olsen-Farrell.

← **10 in 10:**  
from page 1

reads a statement on his GoFundMe page. "The idea is to use this as a grassroots campaign to help fund organizations, especially with recovery coaching."


You can find out more about the endurance race, his story and his fundraising efforts at [trailrun4recovery.com](http://trailrun4recovery.com). He said his long-term goal is to create a nonprofit called TR4R Health & Wellness, and work with the greater community to promote healthy activities.

When asked Piper how one trains for running 10 marathons in 10 days, he responded: "Alternative training 40-plus miles per week on roads, mountains, lots of vertical training. I also work with Hammer Nutrition Fuels & Supplements for Endurance Athletes, which helps me with supplements and products to use to fuel every hour of the run. All stuff I used in my training to make sure no GI distress or stomach issues.

"There is no carb loading; that is misinformation," he added. "You eat healthy every day and consume protein for anything over three hours. They have supplements I used during training that worked well."

Want to check in on Piper during the event? If you can't be at Silver Towers, log on to [trailrun4recovery.com/race-day-2024](http://trailrun4recovery.com/race-day-2024).






TOWN OF  
**KILLINGTON**  
VERMONT

# Solid Waste Transfer Station

2904 River Road (Behind Town Garage) | 802-422-3241, Ext. 7





**Effect**  
**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.





## Community Makes a Difference

Special thanks to our loyal sponsors, guests, and dedicated volunteers for their support of this year's Green Mountain Gala taking place on June 1 at Southside Steakhouse. Proceeds from the event will support the cost of a new PET imaging scanner at Rutland Regional Medical Center.

To learn more about the Green Mountain Gala or to purchase tickets, visit <https://bit.ly/GMGala2024>.

Thank you for your support!





WORDPLAY

HONOR AND PRIDE WORD SEARCHFind the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally and back

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

- BRANCH  
CEMETERY  
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DUTY  
ENLIST
- FALLEN  
FEARLESS  
FLAG  
HEROES  
HONOR
- MEMORIAL  
MEMORY  
MILITARY  
OBSERVED  
PLATOON
- REMEMBER  
RESPECT  
SACRIFICE  
SERVICE  
SOLDIER
- SOMBER  
THANKS  
TOUR  
VETERAN

CROSSWORD PUZZLESolutions →25

CLUES

ACROSS

1. Lunatic

7. Doctor of Education

10. Able to make amends

12. Tight-knit group

13. Gland

14. Intestinal pouches

15. Fungal spores

16. Erstwhile

17. Engine additive

18. Nasal mucus

19. Fit a horse with footwear

21. Consumed

22. Settle

27. Larry and Curly's pal

28. Basketball's GOAT

33. Exclamation of surprise

34. Made tight

36. Before

37. Actor Nicolas

38. Not hot

39. Talk

40. Pledge

41. Abandon a mission

44. Trims by

cutting

45. Aspects of one's character

48. Boxing

GOAT's former surname

49. Holy places

50. Body art (slang)

51. Attributes

CLUES DOWN

1. How one feels

2. American Nat'l Standards Institute

3. Information

4. Licensed for Wall Street

5. Keyboard key

6. Born of

7. Choose to represent

8. Small European freshwater fish

9. Everyone has their own

10. Line from the center of a polygon

11. Lebanese city

12. Type of watercraft

14. A way to twist

17. Soviet Socialist Republic

18. Greek island

20. Medical practitioner

23. \_\_ DeGaulle, French President

24. Partner to "oohed"

25. Atomic #52

26. Santa's helper

29. Rapper \_\_ Rule

30. Month

31. Word formed by rearranging letters

32. Nullifies

35. Young woman ready to enter society

36. Unemployment

38. Weight unit

40. Formal party

41. Computer language

42. Residue formula in math

43. Duty or responsibility

44. Part of (abbr.)

45. Time zone

46. Body part

47. Nucleic acid

← Obit: Gish: from page 4

particularly New England and his beloved Block Island, Rhode Island. Mike's artwork has been displayed in many galleries and exhibitions, as well as several private collections. A prolific painter who continued to work well into his 90s, Mike was also a full professor of art at Fairfield University in Fairfield, Connecticut, retiring from his academic duties in 1990.

Mike is predeceased by his wife, Marguerite (Drouin) and is survived by his three children, Charlotte Wall (Steve Wall), Southport, North Carolina; Peter A. Gish (Robin Kaiser), Hanover, New

Hampshire; and Carl K. Gish III (Elizabeth Gish), Palo Alto, California. He is also survived by 7 grandchildren: Carla and Stephanie Wall, Sophia, Miranda and Olivia Gish, and Peter Gish and Henry Gish, as well as his partner of many years, Marilyn Bogdanfy.

A memorial service was held at the Coolidge Hotel, White River Junction at 4 p.m. on Saturday, May 18. The event was open to the public with a reception following. In lieu of flowers, please make a donation to the U.S. Marine Corps Heritage Foundation: [marineheritage.org/makedonation.html](https://marineheritage.org/makedonation.html).

Mike was commissioned to paint the locally famous murals at the Hotel Coolidge in White River Junction.

Guess Who?

I am a singer and actress born in California on May 20, 1946. I spent time at an orphanage as a child, but that didn't stop me from becoming the "Goddess of Pop," selling over 100 million records. I'm known for my unique singing voice and youthful looks.

Answer: Cher

SUDOKUSolutions →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.

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

Level: Intermediate



## WEDNESDAY

5/22

## RSVP Bone Builders

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

## S.E.A.T. Exercises

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

## Killington Active Seniors Lunch

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

## Honoring Ernie and Willa Royal —Sculpture

## Unveiling

Noon. 89 Merchants Row, Rutland. The 12th monument on the Rutland Sculpture Trail will honor late Rutland restaurateur Ernie Royal and his wife Willa, created by Amanda Sisk and Don Ramey, funded by various organizations. [rutlandsculpturetrail.com](http://rutlandsculpturetrail.com).

## Cribbage for Adults

3-5p.m. Wednesdays. Hartland Public Library, 135 Route 5, Hartland. Free. [hartlandlibraryvt.org/calendar](http://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](http://chaffeeartcenter.org)

## Ballroom Dance with Patti Panebianco

Wednesdays. Stone Valley Arts, 145 E. Main St., Poultney. 6-6:50p.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 [pattipdance@gmail.com](mailto:pattipdance@gmail.com) [stonevalleyarts.org](http://stonevalleyarts.org)

## OVRCC May Mixer

5-7 p.m. Chester Hardware & Mercantile, 21 Main St., Chester. Free. Join the May Mixer to support the regional business community and connect with one another. Check out Chester Hardware & Mercantile and witness the unveiling of their recent renovations. Refreshments and delicious snacks will be provided. It's a great time to chat with friends, colleagues, and meet members in the region. Join in the fun. RSVP at [okemoareachamber.com](http://okemoareachamber.com).

## Acoustic Jam Session

6:30 p.m. Artistree Community Arts Center, 2095 Pomfret Rd., South Pomfret. Here's a chance to play with other musicians. Bring your instrument and a few songs to play. We go in a circle and everyone gets a chance to call the tune (and a key!) and all of us join in the playing and singing. This is not an open mic – all acoustic and all group participation. Come down and give it a try. [artistreevt.org/special-events](http://artistreevt.org/special-events)

## Lisa Mase: The Culinary Pharmacy

6:30 p.m. Phoenix Books, 2 Center St., Downtown Rutland. Free. Showing how to simplify your eating to cultivate wellness, this engaging and comprehensive guide to the culinary pharmacy provides all the knowledge and tools necessary to help you make your food your medicine. [phoenixbooks.biz](http://phoenixbooks.biz) or 802-855-8078

## Pet Portrait Painting

6:45-8 p.m. Chaffee Art Center, 16 So. Main St., Rutland. [chaffeeartcenter.org](http://chaffeeartcenter.org)

## THURSDAY

5/23

## 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](http://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](http://stonevalleyarts.org)

## Bone Builders

9 a.m. Thursdays. Gilbert Hart Library, 14 S. 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](http://rutlandrec.com/godnick) or 802-773-1853

## Senior Bone Builders

10 a.m. Thursdays. Sherburne Memorial Library, 2998 River Rd., Killington. Free. Weights are provided. [sherburnelibrary.org](http://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](http://rutlandrec.com/godnick) or 802-775-1853.

## Ukulele Group

Noon-1p.m. Thursdays. Chaffee Art Center, 16 So. Main St., Rutland. Free. Ages 12+. Pre-register the Wednesday before. 802-775-0356 or [chaffeeartcenter.org](http://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](http://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](http://hartlandlibrary.org/calendar) or 802-436-2473

## Yoga with Kelly

3:45-4:45p.m. Thursdays. Rutland Free Library, 10 Court St., Rutland. Free. [rutlandfree.org](http://rutlandfree.org) or 802-773-1860

## Board Game Night

5 p.m. Thursdays. Hartland Public Library, 153 Route 5, Hartland. Free. [hartlandlibrary.org/calendar](http://hartlandlibrary.org/calendar) or 802-436-2473

## Pour Painting for Adult

6-8 p.m. Chaffee Art Center, 16 So. Main St., Rutland. \$40, includes all supplies. Instructor: Lorrie Amerio Manieri. [chaffeeartcenter.org](http://chaffeeartcenter.org) or 802-775-0356

## Open Mic Night at Artistree

7 p.m. Alternating Thursdays. Artistree Community Arts Center, 2095 Pomfret Rd., South Pomfret. Free. Join our relaxed, supportive, and fun atmosphere and show off your musical stuff! All levels and abilities are welcome to participate in the open mic experience. [artistreevt.org/special-events](http://artistreevt.org/special-events)

## 'The Goonies'

7:30pm-9:30pm. Woodstock Town Hall Theatre, 31 The Green, Woodstock. Adults, \$10. Seniors, \$9. Kids and members, \$8. When their homes are set to be destroyed to make way for a country club, a group of kids hatch a harebrained scheme to follow a treasure map to find buried riches and have the adventure of a lifetime. [pentangle-arts.square.site/movie-tickets](http://pentangle-arts.square.site/movie-tickets)

## FRIDAY

5/24

## Total Archery Challenge

6:15 a.m.-4 p.m. Pico Mtn. Resort, 73 Alpine Dr., Mendon. Total Archery Challenge is coming to Killington/Pico for three days and is bringing you the greatest outdoor 3D archery experience in the nation. We work hard to provide a fun, family-friendly environment where everyone can enjoy the great sport of archery. For pre-registration and further information visit: [totalarcherychallenge.com/events/killington-pico-vt/](http://totalarcherychallenge.com/events/killington-pico-vt/)

## Woodstock Sidewalk Sale Days

9:30 a.m.-6 p.m. Downtown Woodstock. Great sales, good food, and fun for all! [woodstockvt.com](http://woodstockvt.com)

## State Historic Sites Opening Day

10a.m. Sites and admissions vary. Join us at the State Historic Sites as we reopen for the 2024 season! Sites reopening include: Bennington Battle Monument, President Calvin Coolidge, President Chester Arthur, Chimney Point, Hubbardton Battlefield, Senator Justin S. Morrill, and Mount Independence. For details on hours and admissions at each site visit: [historicsites.vermont.gov](http://historicsites.vermont.gov)

## Storytime at the Library

10:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m. Fridays. Sherburne Memorial Library, 2998 River Rd., Killington. Free. [sherburnelibrary.org](http://sherburnelibrary.org)

KILLINGTON  
STAGE RACE

SATURDAY - MONDAY

## Yoga &amp; Meditation

10:30-11:30 a.m. Fridays. Godnick Adult Center, 1 Deer St., Rutland. [rutlandrec.com/godnick](http://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](http://chaffeeartcenter.org) or 802-775-0356

## Fridays at The MINT Downtown: Mosaic Stemware

5-8p.m. MINT Downtown, 72 Merchants Row, Rutland. \$50. In this class we will create a mosaic design on the base of a glass or mug. You will learn how to lay out, adhere and complete a micro mosaic. All materials will be provided. This is a BYOB event. Some light complimentary snacks will be available. Instructor: Jennifer Judkins. [rutlandmint.org](http://rutlandmint.org)

## Acoustic Harmony Concert

7 p.m. Woodstock Town Hall, 31 The Green, Woodstock. Adults \$20, children \$10. Come see the North Country Chordsmen and VoxStars ACapella Groups for an evening of song. Doors open at 7:00p.m.; concert will begin at 7:30p.m. [pentanglearts.org/acoustic-harmony/](http://pentanglearts.org/acoustic-harmony/)

## Literary Open Mic

7-9 p.m. Stone Valley Arts, 145 E. Main St., Poultney. Free, open to the public. Poets, Storytellers, Spoken Word Artists, Writers in all genres are invited to perform their own original work, poems, slam pieces, classics, "minutes" or favorite literary works. Serials and/or excerpts of longer works of fiction and other genres are also appreciated. Moth-style (first-person true stories) are always a hit, as are folk tales and other stories. Musicians and singer-songwriters are also welcome. Performers can RSVP via email to reserve a spot ([stonevalleyartscenter@gmail.com](mailto:stonevalleyartscenter@gmail.com)), or a sign-up sheet will be available on arrival for performers. Hosted by David Mook and other guests. Contact David to save your spot and to double-check the next date and location. [davidmook@aol.com](mailto:davidmook@aol.com) or 802-884-8052

## WRJollywood Shorts

8:15-9:30 p.m. Ratcliffe Park, 75 Latham Works Lane, White River Junction. Rain location: JAM, 5 S. Main St., White River Junction. Free. We'll unveil our outdoor screen and play seven eclectic shorts by local filmmakers. Bring blankets, lawn chairs, and bug spray! Parking is limited at Ratcliffe Park so please walk or carpool if possible. [uvjam.org/event/wrjollywood-shorts/](http://uvjam.org/event/wrjollywood-shorts/)



# SATURDAY

## 5/25

### Total Archery Challenge

6:15 a.m.-4 p.m. Pico Mtn. Resort, 73 Alpine Dr., Mendon. Total Archery Challenge is coming to Killington/Pico for three days and is bringing you the greatest outdoor 3D archery experience in the nation. We work hard to provide a fun, family-friendly environment where everyone can enjoy the great sport of archery. For pre-registration and further information visit: [totalarcherychallenge.com/events/killington-pico-vt/](http://totalarcherychallenge.com/events/killington-pico-vt/)

### Woodstock Garden Club Plant Sale

8 a.m.-1 p.m. Norman Williams Public Library, 10 The Green, Woodstock. Stock up on your plants for the summer and get your gardens in gear with hanging baskets, herbs, annuals and more. Also, hotdogs, drinks, savories and sweets to enjoy from The Country Kitchen. [woodstockvt.com](http://woodstockvt.com)

### Killington Stage Race - Stage 1

8:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m. Skyeship Lodge, 7428 US-4, Killington. Free for spectators. After a one year hiatus, the Killington region is pleased to bring you the 25th edition of this legendary New England stage race which started back in 1987. Stage 1 is a thrilling circuit race that will take racers by President Calvin Coolidge's birthplace and "Vermont summer White House." For full race information, head to [killingtonstagerace.com](http://killingtonstagerace.com). Online registration closes on Tuesday, May 22 at 8a.m.

### 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](http://vermontfarmersmarket.org)

### Woodstock Sidewalk Sale Days

9:30 a.m.-6 p.m. Downtown Woodstock. Great sales, good food, and fun for all! [woodstockvt.com](http://woodstockvt.com)

### Forest Fairy Hunts

10 a.m.-2 p.m. VINS, 149 Natures Way, Quechee. Included with admission. Adults \$19.50, children (4-17) \$16.50. Join the Fairy Court to help search the forest for our hidden fairy friends in a scavenger hunt adventure! Forest Fairy hunts offer children and their families a unique opportunity to learn about and connect with the natural world and to nurture respect for the environment. After the hunt get hands on in nature by using natural materials to build your very own fairy house. Wearing wings is encouraged! Recommended for ages 4+. info@vinsweb.org or 802-359-5000

### Spring Open Studio Weekend

10 a.m.-5 p.m. Brandon Artists Guild, 7 Center St., Brandon. Artists all over the state open their work spaces to share their talents, tools, and inspirations. Whether in small towns or at the ends of back roads, studios are interesting places to visit because they reflect the dynamic yet organized process used to design and produce a finished work of art. Small galleries, and art centers that take part in this event, show a unique collection of hand made and local artwork, including special events and exhibits. There are lots of resources for planning your tour. To see all artist sites and read more about OSW, you will find maps with suggested driving loops and directions here: [vermontcrafts.com/open-studio-weekend/](http://vermontcrafts.com/open-studio-weekend/). You can also find maps at the Brandon Artists Guild, and at any artist studio.

### Lego Club

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

### Family Sheep and Wool Weekend

10 a.m.-5 p.m. Billings Farm and Museum, 69 Old River Road, Woodstock. Adults \$19, children (3-15) \$12, seniors (62+) \$16. See live demonstrations and experience the processes that transform raw wool to beautiful fiber products. [billingsfarm.org/events](http://billingsfarm.org/events) or 802-457-2355

### Woodstock Memorial Day Parade

10:30-11 a.m. The Green, Woodstock. Woodstock's Memorial Day Parade is a beautiful tribute to honor and mourn those who have served for our country. Woodstock's annual parade highlights the locals who have fought for our freedom. [woodstockvt.com](http://woodstockvt.com)

### Green Mountain Music

11a.m.-2:15 p.m. Fox Room, Rutland Free Library, 10 Court St., Rutland. Potluck. [rutlandfree.org](http://rutlandfree.org) or 802-773-1860

### Rutland Railway Museum & Model Club

11 a.m.-3 p.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](http://rutlandrailway.org)

### Sherlock Bones at the Library

11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Hartland Public Library, 153 Route 5, Hartland. Free. Come read to Sherlock Bones! He's a certified therapy dog who loves reading with kids of all ages. He has some favorite books or you can pick one of your favorites to share with him. [hartlandlibraryvt.org](http://hartlandlibraryvt.org) or 802-436-2473

### 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](http://chaffeeartcenter.org) or 802-775-0356.

### Crawfish Boil at the Village Inn

1-5 p.m. Village Inn of Woodstock, 41 Pleasant St., Woodstock. Prepared by Crawfish Boil veterans. All you can eat crawfish, corn on the cob, sausage, artichokes, mushrooms, as well as beans 'n rice. We're flying in 100 lbs. of Louisiana crawfish! Only Crawfish boil in Woodstock (that we know of). Tavern open until 8 pm. [villageinnofwoodstock.com](http://villageinnofwoodstock.com) or 802-457-1255.

### DNA Motorsports May Mania

3 p.m. Vermont State Fairgrounds, 175 S. Main St., Rutland. General Admission \$12, General Admission Chairs "Trackside" \$18+taxes/fees. Children under 5 are free. DNA Motorsports May Mania State Championship Demolition Derby Diamonds and More. [paramountvt.org/event/dna-motorsports-may-mania-2/](http://paramountvt.org/event/dna-motorsports-may-mania-2/)

### Red Carpet Rhythms

4 p.m. Paramount Theatre, 30 Center St., Rutland. Orchestra/Loge \$30, Balcony \$25+ taxes/fees. Miss Lorraine's School of Dance presents our 2024 recital, Red Carpet Rhythms. For tickets: [paramountvt.org/event/mlsd-presents-red-carpet-rhythms/](http://paramountvt.org/event/mlsd-presents-red-carpet-rhythms/)

# SUNDAY

## 5/26

### Total Archery Challenge

6:15a.m.-4p.m. Pico Mtn. Resort, 73 Alpine Dr., Mendon. Total Archery Challenge is coming to Killington/Pico for three days and is bringing you the greatest outdoor 3D archery experience in the nation. We work hard to provide a fun, family-friendly environment where everyone can enjoy the great sport of archery. For pre-registration and further information visit: [totalarcherychallenge.com/events/killington-pico-vt/](http://totalarcherychallenge.com/events/killington-pico-vt/)

### 2024 Annual Cavendish Bird Walk

7:30 a.m. 731 Stevens Road, Cavendish. The Cavendish Community and Conservation Association will host its 2024 annual Cavendish Bird Walk with Marianne and Michael Walsh of the Ascutney Audubon Society. Bring binoculars and wear good shoes and long pants for tick prevention. RSVP to Robin Timko at 802-259-2327. For more precise directions contact Julia at 802-522-2675. Email: [CavendishCommunityConservation@gmail.com](mailto:CavendishCommunityConservation@gmail.com)

### Killington Stage Race - Stage 2

8:30-9:30 a.m. Skyeship Lodge, 7428 US-4, Killington. Free for spectators. After a one year hiatus, the Killington region is pleased to bring you the 25th edition of this legendary New England stage race which started back in 1987. Stage 2 is a classic and challenging hilly road race with a 5.5-mile, 1550 foot climb to the finish. For full race information, head to [killingtonstagerace.com](http://killingtonstagerace.com). Online registration closes on Tuesday, May 22nd at 8a.m.

### Pittsford Historical Society Plant Sale

9 a.m.-2 p.m. Maclure Library, 840 Arch St., Pittsford. [contact@maclurelibrary.org](mailto:contact@maclurelibrary.org)

### Spring Open Studio Weekend

10 a.m.-5 p.m. Brandon Artists Guild, 7 Center St., Brandon. Artists all over the state open their work spaces to share their talents, tools, and inspirations. Whether in small towns or at the ends of back roads, studios are interesting places to visit because they reflect the dynamic yet organized process used to design and produce a finished work of art. Small galleries, and art centers that take part in this event, show a unique collection of hand made and local artwork, including special events and exhibits. There are lots of resources for planning your tour. To see all artist sites and read more about OSW, you will find maps with suggested driving loops and directions here: [vermontcrafts.com/open-studio-weekend/](http://vermontcrafts.com/open-studio-weekend/). You can also find maps at the Brandon Artists Guild, and at any artist studio.

### Family Sheep and Wool Weekend

10 a.m.-5 p.m. Billings Farm and Museum, 69 Old River Road, Woodstock. Adults \$19, children (3-15) \$12, seniors (62+) \$16. See live demonstrations and experience the processes that transform raw wool to beautiful fiber products. [billingsfarm.org/events](http://billingsfarm.org/events) or 802-457-2355

# MONDAY

## 5/27

### Killington Stage Race - Stage 3

8:15 a.m. Skyeship Lodge, 7428 US-4, Killington. Free for spectators. After a one year hiatus, the Killington region is pleased to bring you the 25th edition of this legendary New England stage race which started back in 1987. Stage 3 provides a rare long ITT (individual time trial) over 11 miles which has made for some thrillingly close final battles. For full race information, head to [killingtonstagerace.com](http://killingtonstagerace.com). Online registration closes on Tuesday, May 22nd at 8a.m.

### Senior Bone Builders

10 a.m. Mondays. Sherburne Memorial Library, 2998 River Road, Killington. Free. Weights are provided. [sherburnelibrary.org](http://sherburnelibrary.org) or 802-422-9765

### Live Broadcast — West Rutland Memorial Day Parade on PEGTV

10 a.m. Watch on PEGTV.com. Comcast Channel 1075. Weather permitting. [pegvtv.com/802-747-0151](http://pegvtv.com/802-747-0151)

### Book Sale

10 a.m.-3 p.m. Mount Holly Town Library, 26 Maple Hill Road., Belmont. [mounthollylibrary@gmail.com](mailto:mounthollylibrary@gmail.com) or 802-259-3707

### 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](http://rutlandrec.com/godnick) for the menu.

### Memorial Day at the Hubbardton Battlefield

Noon. Hubbardton Battlefield, 5696 Monument Hill Road., Hubbardton. Free; admission required to enter museum. At noon the battlefield flags will be raised to full-mast and tribute paid at the battle monument to the soldiers of Hubbardton. [historicsites.vermont.gov](http://historicsites.vermont.gov)

### Monday Movie

1 p.m. Sherburne Memorial Library, 2998 River Road., Killington. Free. Contact the library for the title. [sherburnelibrary.org/movie-monday](http://sherburnelibrary.org/movie-monday) or 802-422-9765

# SPRING OPEN

# STUDIO WEEKEND

SAT-SUN @ 10 AM







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



## TOTAL ARCHERY CHALLENGE

FRI-SUN 6:15 AM

**TUESDAY**  
5/28

### 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 (3-4 miles, 3-4 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 S. Main St., Wallingford. 802-446-2685

### Line Dance for Beginners

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

### 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

### Intro to 3D Printing - 1st 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

### STOMP

7:30-9:30 p.m. Paramount Theatre, 30 Center St., Rutland. \$35-\$55 + taxes/fees. STOMP is explosive, inventive, provocative, witty, and utterly unique percussion group—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

## Memorial Day Parades

### Castleton Memorial Day Parade

Saturday, May 25  
10 a.m. Lineup starts at 9 a.m. All area fire departments, classic cars, tractors, youth groups, businesses, parade floats, and anyone else that would like to participate are invited to participate. All parade participants are invited to a free lunch at Castleton American Legion after the parade. For more info call 802-989-3760 or email jtester2663@gmail.com

### Fair Haven Memorial Day Parade

Saturday, May 25  
12:50 p.m. ceremony at the flag. The parade steps off... Cash prizes for the best floats Looking for antique or cool cars. We have a helicopter landing near the park for the kids to go through and we have a fife and drum band this year. For time and details, visit: facebook.com/FairHavenPost49

### Woodstock Memorial Day Weekend Parade

Saturday, May 25  
10:30 a.m. Woodstock Village, Route 4. Contact: Woodstock Area Chamber of Commerce, Phone: 802-457-3555, woodstockvt.com

### Middletown Springs 55th Annual Memorial Day Parade

Sunday, May 26  
3 p.m. VT-133, Middletown Springs. Honoring those who have given the ultimate sacrifice. This year's theme is "Say Their Name!!!" Parade line-up is at 2 p.m., parade rolls at 3 p.m. and the ceremony follows immediately after the conclusion of the parade.

### Orwell Memorial Day Parade

Sunday, May 26  
1:30 p.m. Orwell Village, Route 73. Don't miss our classic Memorial Day parade (always held the day BEFORE Memorial Day) on Sunday, May 26. The parade features classic cars & tractors, bands, local veterans and more. Info: local.aarp.org/event/orwell-memorial-day-parade-2024-05-26-orwell-vt.html

### West Rutland Memorial Day Parade

Monday, May 27  
10 a.m. Honoring our veterans and celebrating our community. Marching bands, antique cars, bike parade, community organizations. Followed with a program and free chicken barbeque at West Rutland American Legion Post. Parade route: Begin at Noonan's parking lot, north on Clarendon Ave., West on Main St. to Marble St., Marble St. to Barnes St., Barnes to Cemeteries, east on Main St. to Clarendon Ave., ending at Noonan's. westrutlandvt.org

### Brandon Memorial Day Parade

Monday, May 27  
10 a.m. Central Park, Brandon Village. Last Monday in May. A small parade, a few speeches and a 100+ year old tradition of 1st-grade girls placing flowers at the base of the Civil War Monument. brandon.org

### Pittsford Memorial Day Parade

Monday, May 27  
10 a.m. For detailed information, parade route, itinerary and more, visit: townofpittsford.org

### Proctor Memorial Day Parade

Monday, May 27  
10 a.m. Line up for the Memorial Day Parade is 9:30 a.m. on Route 3 south of the village by the Riverside Cemetery. Bike riders at LaFond's. The Program will take place at the gazebo upon completion of the parade.

### Wallingford Memorial Day Service and Parade

Monday, May 27  
10 a.m. Maple Street Family Dollar. Parade continues down South Main St. to the Green Hill Cemetery south of the village. Following the parade, the Legion and Mill River Band will conduct a ceremony at the cemetery. Call town administrator 802-446-2872 for other details.

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# [MUSIC Scene]

By DJ Dave Hoffenberg  
Have a music scene coming up? Email [djdavehoff@gmail.com](mailto:djdavehoff@gmail.com)

WED  
5/22

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 – Chris Pallutto

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

SOUTH POMFRET  
6:30 p.m. Artistree – Acoustic Jam Session with Kerry Rosenthal

THURS  
5/23

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

BRIDGEWATER CORNERS  
5 p.m. Long Trail Brewery – Bird Boombox

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

7 p.m. Off the Rails – Sammy B

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

QUECHEE  
6:30 p.m. Public House Pub – Name That Tune Bingo with DJ Dave

RUTLAND  
8 p.m. Angler Pub – A Sound Space Open Mic with Host Krishna Guthrie

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

FRI  
5/24

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

WOODSTOCK  
6:30 p.m. Ottauquechee Yacht Club – Nick Bredice

BOMOSEEN  
6 p.m. Bomoseen Lodge and Taproom – Aaron Audet

CASTLETON  
6 p.m. Blue Cat Bistro – David Roberts

KILLINGTON  
6 p.m. Rivershed – Tee Boneicus Jones

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

7 p.m. The Foundry – Jenny Porter

7:30 p.m. Mcgrath's Irish Pub – Doug Hazzard

8 p.m. Jax Food and Games – The Idiots

LUDLOW  
8:30 p.m. Off the Rails – Rustie Bus

POULTNEY  
6 p.m. Poultney Pub – Patrick Sargent

QUECHEE  
5:30 p.m. Public House Pub – Jacob Green

RANDOLPH  
7 p.m. Underground Listening Room – Blues & Beyond with Bull & Prairie and Derek Sensale

WOODSTOCK  
7:30 Town Hall Theatre - Acoustic Harmony: An A Cappella Evening with the North Country Chordsmen and VoxStars

SAT  
5/25

BRIDGEWATER  
8 p.m. Woolen Mill Comedy Club – Comedy Night with headliner Rodney Norman

CASTLETON  
6 p.m. Third Place Pizzeria – Carl Anton

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

6 p.m. Rivershed – Tee Boneicus Jones

6 p.m. Still on the Mountain – Rhys Chalmers

7 p.m. The Foundry – Liz Reedy

7:30 p.m. Mcgrath's Irish Pub – Doug Hazzard

8 p.m. Jax Food and Games – Rick Webb

POULTNEY  
6 p.m. Poultney Pub – JD Tolstoi

PROCTORSVILLE  
10 a.m. Grafton Village Cheese Co – Sammy B

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

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

WOODSTOCK  
6:30 p.m. Ottauquechee Yacht Club – The Gully Boys

SUN  
5/26

BRIDGEWATER CORNERS  
3 p.m. Long Trail Brewery – Nick Bredice

CUTTINGSVILLE  
5 p.m. Rustic Rooster – Sammy B

KILLINGTON  
6 p.m. Liquid Art – Tee Boneicus Jones

6 p.m. Rivershed – Nick Bredice

6 p.m. Still on the Mountain – Zach Yak

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

LUDLOW  
10 a.m. Farmers Market – Sammy B

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

MON  
5/27

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 p.m. Jax Food & Games – Sammy B

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

TUES  
5/28

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

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

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

PITTSFIELD  
7 p.m. Town Hall – Acoustic Jam

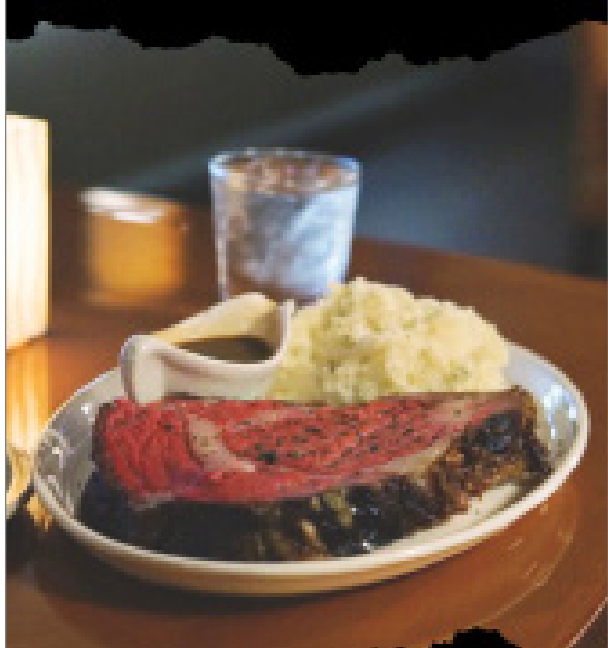
POULTNEY  
7 p.m. Poultney Pub – Bluegrass Jam

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

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


6:30 p.m. Vermont Tap House – Trivia Night


## Southside STEAKHOUSE




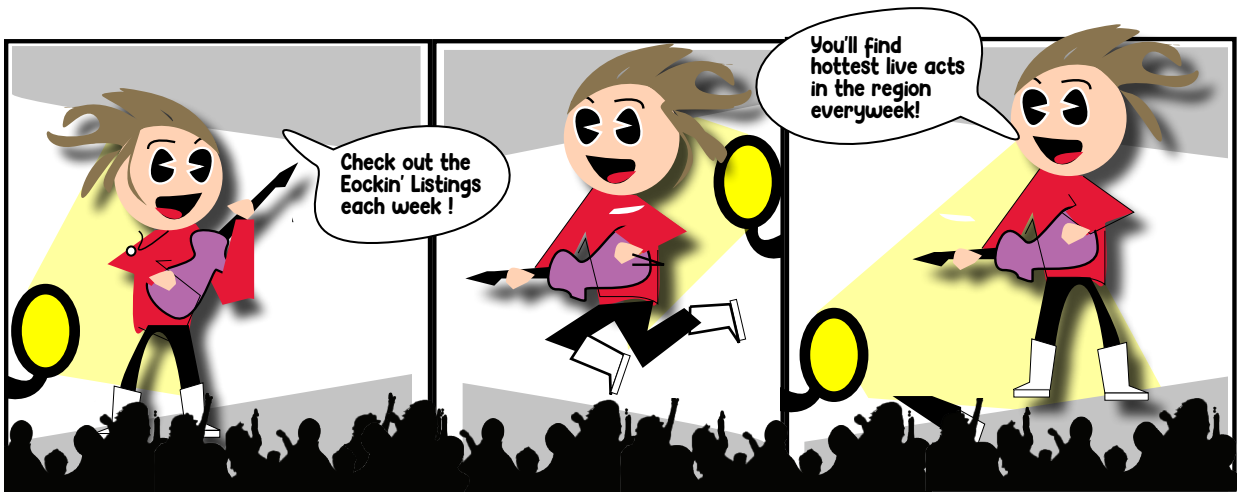
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Courtesy Woodstock Vermont

# Woodstock's Memorial Day Weekend is full of activities, food and fun

Friday, May 24-Sunday, May 26—WOODSTOCK—Woodstock's Memorial Day Weekend features the Memorial Day Parade plus much more. The parade begins at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, is a tribute to honor and mourn those who have served for our country while highlighting the local service personnel who have fought for our freedom.

Also featured will be the Woodstock Sidewalk Sale Days, May 24 & 25, 9:30 a.m.-6 p.m. with great sales, good food, including the crawfish boil at the Village Inn, 41 Pleasant St. from 1-5 p.m. Prepared by Crawfish Boil veterans. All you can eat crawfish, corn on the cob, sausage, artichokes, mushrooms, as well as beans 'n rice. We're flying in 100 lbs. of Louisiana crawfish. And of course, the Woodstock Garden Club plant Sale from 8 a.m.-1p.m. This is an annual sale anticipated by all to stock up on your plants for the summer and get your gardens in gear with hanging baskets, herbs, annuals and more.

# Honoring Ernie and Willa Royal with a sculpture unveiling



Submitted

Wednesday, May 22, at Noon—RUTLAND—The 12th monument on the Rutland Sculpture Trail will be unveiled and dedicated on Wednesday, May 22 honoring late Rutland restaurateur Ernie Royal and his wife Willa. The event will begin at noon at 89 Merchants Row. Royal, a national leader in the food service industry and the first Black restaurant owner in Vermont, and Willa, who was his partner and greeted every guest, have been brought to life in stone by designer Amanda Sisk and sculptor Don Ramey.

Royal started working in a kitchen in Boston at 13, and in 1955 started a small restaurant in Dorchester, Massachusetts. 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, other than one year when he retired and unretired.

For more information, visit: [rutland-sculpturetrail.com](http://rutland-sculpturetrail.com).

# Thrilling victories and grueling climbs define Killington Stage Race

Saturday, May 25-Monday, May 27—KILLINGTON—After a one year hiatus, the Killington region is pleased to bring you the 25th edition of this legendary New England stage race which started back in 1987.

There will be three days of racing this year, including two road races and a time trial. Six fields are being offered: P/1/2/3 and 3/4/Novice for women, and P/1/2, 3, 4/Novice, and 50+/60+ for men. Updates to the KSR webpage will be available in the coming week with more information about the 2024 event. The 2022 race tech guide is currently posted on the website, providing a detailed overview of how the race will be conducted this year.

First Stop Sports Circuit Race: 18-mile circuit with a big ring climb & a fast finish. Includes K/QOM & Sprint Competitions.

Lookout Restaurant Road Race: 61/76-mile point-to-point race with rolling hills and 2 or 3 significant climbs, including Bethel's West Hill Road and Killington's East Mountain Road. Includes K/QOM & Sprint Competition.

Killington Resort Individual Time Trial: 11 miles and nearly flat for Vermont

For registration and further information, visit: [killingtonstagerace.com](http://killingtonstagerace.com).



# Killington Resort goes big with multi-sport Memorial Day Weekend

Veterans ski, bike or golf free on Monday

KILLINGTON—Killington Resort, the largest mountain resort in Eastern North America and a POWDR company, will be the only ski resort in the Northeast open Memorial Day Weekend for skiing and riding, mountain biking, and golfing. Not only will skiers and riders enjoy the last lift-accessed snow in Vermont, but they'll be able to ski and ride Superstar, the same trail which will host the Stifel Killington Cup over Thanksgiving Weekend 2024.

Veterans are invited to participate in the sport of their choice for free on Monday, May 27, and Beast 365 passholders can earn a free t-shirt by participating in all three sports over the course of the four days. We anticipate the mountain bike trails on Snowshed to be 100% open. In addition to a multi-sport weekend, the Killington Stage Race will culminate at Killington May 25-27, and the Total Archery Challenge will take place May 24-26 at Pico Mountain, kicking off a jam-packed summer events schedule.

## Skiing and riding

Superstar Express Quad will be open with access to Superstar trail, conditions permitting:

- Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
- Saturday & Sunday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.
- Monday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

## Golf

The Golf Course is open 7 days a week through October 14, conditions permitting. The Clubhouse Grill will be open Friday-Monday of Memorial Day weekend for lunch from 11 a.m.-4 p.m. and then Wednesday-Sundays throughout the

summer. Bar hours are from 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Rental clubs are also available.

**Mountain biking**

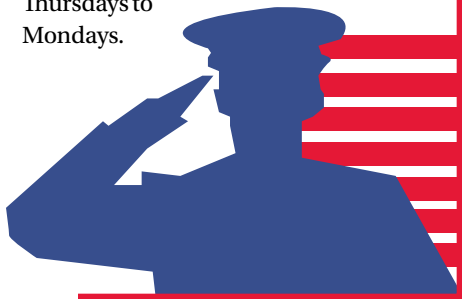
The Bike Park will open Friday, May 24, with service from the Snowshed Express Quad, as well as Fridays through Sundays through June 13, in addition to Memorial Day Monday. The Bike Park will be open daily, including service from the Ramshead Express Quad, beginning June 14.

Rental bikes and lessons are available beginning on opening day.

The Experience Downhill package is on sale for only \$99 through June 30th and provides everything you need to get started mountain biking.

## Adventure Center

The Adventure Center will be open on Saturdays, Sundays and holidays from May 25 to Sunday, June 19 from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. The following attractions will run on opening day: Beast Coaster, Soaring Eagle, Zip Line, Skye Ropes Course and Amazin' Maze, plus the free wellness path (1 trail) and hiking trails on Snowshed, with additional attractions opening later in the season. Starting June 20, all open attractions will run from Thursdays to Mondays.





## From fleece to fiber, it's Family Sheep and Wool Weekend at Billings Farm

Saturday, May 25 and Sunday, May 26 at 10 a.m.—WOODSTOCK—It's time to gather the flock and "herd" on down to the pastures of Billings Farm & Museum, 69 Old River Road, Woodstock. There will be live demonstrations of the processes that transform raw wool to beautiful fiber products.

From fleece to fiber wonders, visitors of all ages will follow the steps of wool processing and collect stamps on their Sheep-to-Yarn Passport along the way. Guests will be guided through interactive stations, from cleaning fleeces at the skirting and washing stations to aligning fibers at the carding station. A colorful display of dyed skeins of yarn will showcase the final transformation of raw wool.

Inside the Historic Events Barn, visitors can explore the creative possibilities of fiber arts. Aker Fiber Farm's Patty Williams will offer drop spindle and wheel spinning demonstrations, with an opportunity for guests to try their hand at the craft. An array of fiber arts demonstrations will include felting, knitting, crocheting, and weaving on a loom, and guests will have the chance to make a woolen bracelet to take home.

Additionally, the thought-provoking "Portraits of Resilience: Farming in a Changing Climate" exhibition will showcase what farmers in the local area are doing to address climate change.

The timeless art of sheep herding will be highlighted by Morse Brook Farm's shepherdess Liz Shaw and her team of border collies, alongside their flock of sheep. Guests will learn about the role that dogs play on the farm and watch them expertly work the sheep in live herding demonstration.

As guests explore the site, they can take in the boldly painted patterns of our Barn Quilt Exhibition that adorn our historic barns and buildings. Local sheep's milk cheeses from Fat Sheep VT will be available to sample on Saturday and guests can visit the Green Mountain Girls Farm Stand for delicious farm-fresh food available for purchase throughout the weekend. Culinary enthusiasts will enjoy learning how to make sheep's milk ricotta in the Learning Kitchen.

Plus, there will be story time with a sheep and sheep education programs.

The Woodstock Pizza Chef will be serving up slices for purchase throughout the weekend and guests can enjoy a sweet treat of Vermont-made ice cream or savory snacks from the Farmhouse Scoop shop,

### Schedule

- 10:30 a.m. Story Time with a Sheep
- 11 a.m., 1 p.m. & 3 p.m. Border Collie Herding Demonstrations
- 12 p.m. & 2 p.m. Ricotta Cheese Making Class
- 2:30 p.m. & 4 p.m. Sheep Education Programs

Volunteer opportunities available! Have fun, get benefits and be part of the action! Shifts available from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. or 1 p.m. – 5 p.m. on both days.

For more information, visit: [billingsfarm.org](http://billingsfarm.org) or call 802-457-2355.

## Sights Set for the Total Archery Challenge

Friday May 24-Sunday May 26—KILLINGTON—Jack Links Total Archery Challenge Powered by PSE is coming to Killington/Pico, Vermont for three days and is bringing you the greatest outdoor 3D archery

experience in the nation. We work hard to provide a fun, family-friendly environment where everyone can enjoy the great sport of archery.

For more info, visit [killington.com](http://killington.com).

### Schedule

#### Day 1

- 6:15 a.m. Check-in opens/receive TAC Activity Pass
- 7 a.m. Nock Time courses open
- 7 a.m. & 5 p.m. Breakfast, Lunch, and Snacks can be Purchased at main lodge
- 4 p.m. Course Shuttle/Chair Lift closes

#### Day 2

- 6:15 a.m. Check-in opens/receive TAC Activity Pass
- 7 a.m. Nock Time courses open
- 7 a.m. & 5 p.m. Breakfast, Lunch, and Snacks can be Purchased at main lodge
- 4 p.m. Course Shuttle/Chair Lift closes

- 4 p.m. Course Shuttle/Chair Lift closes

#### Day 3

- 6:15 a.m. Check-in opens/receive TAC Activity Pass
- 7 a.m. Nock Time courses open
- 7 a.m. 3 p.m. Breakfast, Lunch, and Snacks can be Purchased at main lodge
- 1:30 p.m. Sitka Course Closes
- 2 p.m. Leupold Course Closes
- 3 p.m. Mtn Festival Closes
- 4 p.m. Course Shuttle/Chair Lift closes



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## Family Sheep & Wool Weekend

SAT, MAY 25 & SUN, MAY 26

10:00AM - 5:00PM

Follow the Sheep-to-Yarn Process  
Watch Live Sheep Herding Demos & More

**BILLINGSFARM.ORG • 802-457-2355**  
**69 OLD RIVER ROAD • WOODSTOCK, VT**



# Savoring the flavor at the annual crawfish boil extravaganza at Village Inn of Woodstock

Saturday, May 25 at 1 p.m.—WOODSTOCK—Woodstock's annual Crawfish Boil is on Saturday, May 25 from 1-5 p.m. at the Village Inn of Woodstock, 41 Pleasant St., Woodstock. Prepared by crawfish boil veterans, indulge in all-you-can-eat crawfish, corn on the cob, sausage, artichokes, mushrooms, as well as beans 'n rice. Village Inn of Woodstock will fly in 100 lbs. of Louisiana crawfish. This is the only crawfish boil in Woodstock.

For More Information, Visit: [villageinnofwoodstock.com](http://villageinnofwoodstock.com).



Courtesy Woodstock Vermont







Courtesy Vermont Crafts Council  
Ken Leslie studio, Hardwick



Submitted

## Discover local artistry at Open Studio Weekend






Saturday, May 25-Sunday, 26 from 10 a.m.-5 p.m.—STATEWIDE—Artists all over the state open their work spaces to share their talents, tools, and inspirations. Whether in small towns or at the ends of back roads, studios are interesting places to visit because they reflect the dynamic yet organized process used to design and produce a finished work of art. Small galleries, and art centers that take part in this event, show a unique collection of hand made and local artwork, including special events and exhibits. There are lots of resources for planning your tour. To see all artist sites and read more about OSW, you will find maps with suggested driving loops and directions, visit: [vermontcrafts.com/open-studio-weekend/](http://vermontcrafts.com/open-studio-weekend/). You can also find maps at any artist studio.



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Rotary Club of Rutland • Rutland Regional Medical Center • Victoria & Robert Young



Details online or call 802.773.4003.



## Smash it up

The 2024 Vermont State Championship Demolition Derby

Saturday, May 25, 3 p.m.—RUTLAND—The 2024 Vermont State Championship Demolition Derby will take place at 3 p.m. at the Vermont State Fairgrounds, 175 So. Main St., Rutland. This event will feature the 2023 feature winners from around the state competing for the 2024 State Championship. Tickets are available at the gate.

Just Slingin' TV will be on-site to provide a free replay video and photos of the show. Visit their YouTube channel for more content: JustSlinginTV.

For more information and rules, visit the DNA Motorsports Facebook page.



Courtesy DNA Motorsports

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MATTERS

Killington offers a diverse culinary 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

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*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.

MAPLE

Sugar

VERMONT

& Spice

*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.

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*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.



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killington market

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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[marylousskillington.com](http://marylousskillington.com)



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Solutions 

From page 15

**Crossword**

			M	A	D	M	A	N			E	D	D						
A	T	O	N	A	B	L	E				C	L	A	N					
P	R	O	S	T	A	T	E				C	A	E	C	A				
O	I	D	I	A							O	N	C	E					
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S	H	O	D								A	T	E						
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**Sudoku**

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





Courtesy of [historicsites.vermont.gov](http://historicsites.vermont.gov)

*The Hubbardton Battlefield Monument reminds visitors of the battle of Hubbardton, fought July 7, 1777. Vermont State Historic Sites will re-open on Friday for the 2024 season.*

# Vermont State Historic Sites Opening May 24 for 2024 Season

Friday, May 24—The Vermont Division for Historic Preservation announces the opening of the State Historic Sites for the 2024 season beginning on Friday, May 24, at Bennington Battle Monument, Chimney Point, Hubbardton Battlefield, Mount Independence, President Calvin Coolidge State Historic Site, President Chester A. Arthur State Historic Site, and the Senator Justin Morrill State Historic Site.

“The Vermont State Historic Sites present history where it happened and provide exciting experiences for everyone,” said Laura V. Trieschmann, state historic preservation officer. “For the art and history enthusiasts we have a restored 19th-century Italian gilded frame owned by Senator Morrill, refreshed trail signs at our Revolutionary War fort, and several new history panels at the Coolidge presidential site. We invite you to discover Vermont’s rich heritage and how it impacted our national story.”

The President Calvin Coolidge State Historic Site has installed a new exhibit on the second floor of the Cilley General Store highlighting its use by President Calvin Coolidge as the summer White House 100 years ago in 1924, and history panels for the 1890 school house and President Chester Arthur exhibits. Chimney Point will be debuting the Daughters of the American Revolution's traveling exhibit, "American Revolution Experience," for the month of August. You will see continued progress on preservation projects at the Bennington Battle Monument and Senator Justin Morrill State Historic Site. Hubbardton Battlefield and Mount Independence are offering numerous events for kids and families, patriots and loyalists, hiking enthusiasts, and more.

*For more information on the Vermont State Historic Sites including hours of operation and the 2024 events schedule visit our website.*



# Creative Tweens Showcase Sustainable Fashion at 'Reuse Runway' Show

Wednesday, May 29 at 4:45 p.m.—WHITE RIVER JUNCTION—Creative tweens from rePlay Arts and JAM – Junction Arts & Media’s after-school programs are joining forces to present “Reuse Runway,” a fashion show in the JAM space at 5 S. Main St., 1st floor, White River Junction. rePlay’s students will strut the red carpet in their own reuse fashions while JAM Club members will run lights, sound, and camera.

“Reuse Runway” is an 8-week afterschool program for students ages 11 and up 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. JAM Club is a twice yearly after-school program for Upper Valley middle schoolers in which members learn media production skills, from animation to podcasting to videography, and gain opportunities to grow socially.

For more Information, visit: [uvjam.org](http://uvjam.org).

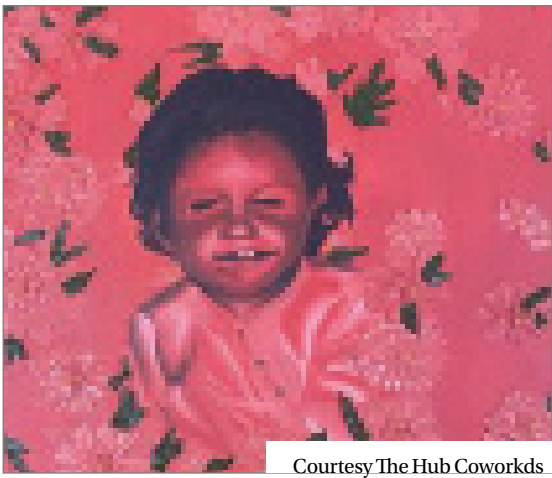


Courtesy uvjam.org  
Harper, age 11, showcases her original reuse fashion at the "Reuse Runway" event, part of the after-school programs at 5 S. Main St., White River Junction on Wednesday, May 29.

# RHS art exhibition: A showcase of talent

May 27-June 7—RUTLAND—The creative works of Rutland High School artists will be in display at the RHS Art Exhibition at The Hub Coworks, 67 Merchants Row, Rutland. The exhibition, titled; "Connected Evolution, Rutland High School AP Drawing," will be open daily from May 27-June 7 from 9 a.m. - 5 p.m., this exhibition offers an opportunity to explore a variety of artworks and celebrate the talents of local students.

A free will donations to support RHS Arts gratefully accepted.



Courtesy The Hub Coworks

## TOWN OF KILLINGTON

PARKS AND RECREATION

# Summer fun awaits!

### Fourth of July Celebration:

Parade, BBQ, Family Games, Fireworks

### Additional Programs & Events

- June 1st: Planting our Strides 5k Run/Walk benefits Killington Elementary School
- Johnson Recreation Pool opens June 15th with daily adult swim from 11 a.m. - 12 p.m.
- Junior Golf League for ages 9-14 runs June 24-Aug. 26 in collaboration with GOLFCC
- Pickleball Club registration is now open. Membership includes court time reserved specifically for club members

### 2024 River Road Concert Series

Thursdays 6-7:00 p.m. June 27 through Aug. 29  
At the Shakespeare Memorial Library,  
2996 River Road, Killington.  
**Join us for FREE live music!**  
Bring a picnic, lawn chairs, friends and family!

- June 27th: Elizabeth Cope
- July 4th: Spruce Pond Quartet  
"Performance at Johnson Rec Center as part of the July 4th Fireworks Display 6-9 p.m."
- July 11th: Young/Young Percussion
- July 18th: Ray Boston/ Bass Player
- July 25th: Last Chair Band
- Aug. 1st: Rick Hurlington and Yell Love
- Aug. 8th: John Lockard, Ryan Reed  
"Chili Cook Off Performance at K1 Base Lodge"
- Aug. 15th: Shellboree
- Aug. 22nd: Music and Friends (formerly Music-Creating)
- Aug. 29th: Stone and Sparrow

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At K-1 Base Lodge,  
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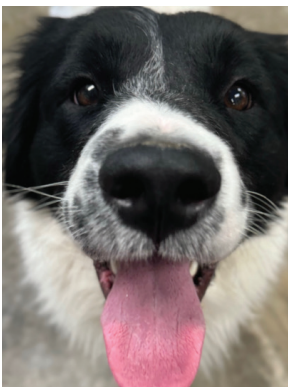
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# Cosmic Catalogue



## Aries

March 21 - April 20

Just when you think you found the path or know the way, you don't. One the one hand, you're ready for something new within your locale, your daily rituals or spiritual practice, while on the other, you want to continue on the path you know. In either case, the questions you're asking yourself now will lead to greater knowing of thyself. You just need to stop flip flopping around and decide. Whichever way you go, there'll be doubt, so back yourself.



## Leo

July 21 - August 20

A double-luck phase arrives and Jupiter moves into Gemini. Rewards, recognition as well as a higher social influence can really shift things for you, both in your personal and professional life. Success may arrive from going out of your way to mingle with the right people and the giving of your generous self. Also, it's possible you might question the nature of some friendships as new people arrive on the scene. Don't doubt the power of charity, neither.



## Sagittarius

November 21 - December 20

Ready or not, it looks like a relationship could be heading your way. At the least, you may start asking questions about what you want in your love life – whether single or partnered. Questions don't come easy, especially if that rocks the boat. However, to not ask questions will rock the boat anyway. A phase of relationship repair and of greater knowing is now available. If in doubt ask, don't rely on blind faith.



## Taurus

April 21 - May 20

As you look back on the past 12 months, you'll be surprised by just how much you've changed and how much you've accomplished. While that party is over, there's an afterparty to go to. Your challenge now is to take all you've learned about yourself and confidently move forward in achieving abundance of all kinds. Self-belief is the key component to your success over the next 12 months. Your ship is about to come in, but be sure to save for a rainy day too.



## Virgo

August 21 - September 20

Jupiter's arrival at the very top of your solar chart may see your career possibilities open right up. You could land the job or the promotion you want or you could receive the glory from your recent efforts. Also, a questioning of your life path and the direction your life is heading is also possible. That said, don't question so much that you miss the chance to make good on wonderful opportunities. They don't come every day!



## Capricorn

December 21 - January 20

The path to success is never linear. They never tell us that at the beginning! For the next 12 months, you may have to consider taking a horizontal direction in terms of your career or whatever it is that you're working towards. In the short term, it may seem like a downgrade. However, you can be certain that whatever happens, it's just a stepping stone to future growth. This will pay off, just keep your eye on the longer term.



## Gemini

May 21 - June 20

By the end of this week, two of the sky's most favored planets will be in your sign. A new era begins where benefits and blessings seemingly fall in your lap! Also, a full moon arrives in your love zone too. For better or worse or somewhere in between, the throne you're destined to sit on will reveal itself. Start wrapping your head around the extreme ways your life is about to change.



## Libra

September 21 - October 20

The more you're willing to change your mind or at least question things, the more perspectives you'll have to consider. You see, life changes when you do. While you've been in the process of shedding personal habits and attitudes, you've made room for more. Now the tricky part is choosing what more actually looks like for you. The world is your oyster now, which is exciting. Now you just need to decide which one is worth cracking open. Your pearl awaits!



## Aquarius

January 21 - February 20

Life takes on a new phase where you can enjoy more happiness than you've had in some time. There is a catch though, you may need to become more curious and adaptable than you're known for. More time with children or indulging your inner child will help you rediscover what true joy means. For some, your romantic life may become golden as a new partner arrives or you enjoy the best of what your current relationship has to offer.



## Cancer

June 21 - July 20

If you feel the desire to crawl into your shell more than usual, then honor that. In this day and age of digital overstimulation, it will do you the world of good to get off grid as much as you possibly can. Time spent alone, questioning your own thoughts, ideas and perspectives can really alter your perceptions for the better. Do more of whatever it is that is not only food for the soul, but also your mind and inner sense of peace.



## Scorpio

October 21 - November 20

One door closes, another opens. For the next 12 months, you're going to be exploring what true commitment and intimacy looks like for you. It's a bit of a Pandora's Box, to be sure, but to not lift the lid on it, is to live a half lived life. To not lift the lid on it would also deny you the opportunity to reveal the wonders within you that you may not even be aware of.



## Pisces

February 21 - March 20

Your home and family life will become a source of joy and benevolence now, as your ruling star, Jupiter, moves into Gemini. You can also expect your domestic scene to expand in some way too. Luxury home upgrades, a move or renovation or family may come to stay. You may discover what family really means to you. Over the next twelve months, the events under your roof will be your greatest source of joy and abundance.

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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.

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## Truth is revealed through paradoxes

Scroll through any social media platform and you'll notice titles such as "The truth About" Why are these titles so effective when the "truth" shared is merely an opinion?

I guess somewhere along the timeline, humans became accustomed to the idea of believing in one thing, one supposed truth, a savior. Let's be honest, it's easier to follow than think, isn't it?

The beautiful thing about the sky's most benevolent planet, Jupiter, moving into Gemini, one of his least favorite signs, is the idea of fragmented truth. That any and all things can either be, or not be, true at the same time.

There is a challenge in this, though. For

the next 12 months the deconstruction and reconstruction of the universal order will question your faith. Some may see questioning as weak. Others see it as strength. After all, doubt is a sign of intelligence. He who dares to question is Hermes himself, who goes where other planets do not. He who doesn't question follows with blind arrogance. Insufferable.

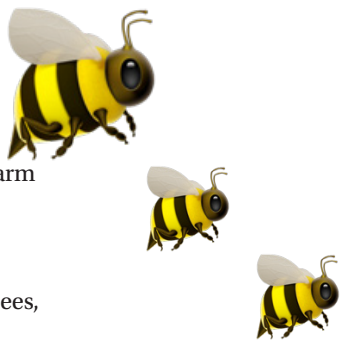
When your perspective on truth, faith, religion and philosophy oscillates between certainty and doubt, you know you're on the right path. A wise man knows not only what he is taught and told, but also what is necessary to sacrifice to reveal the truth.



Cosmic Catalogue  
By Cassandra Tyndall

## With the Bees

Save the bees,  
It's what we must do,  
Try not to harm them,  
Even if it seems like they may harm you.  
Try to be their friend,  
Observe their beauty,  
I can live in harmony with the bees,  
You can too.



Poetry Is Power  
By Bree Sarandrea

## Boys, brothers, dad, Vermont

### Building a Killington Dream Lodge: part 14

Dad made progress and forged ahead on our Killington ski lodge while Mom, Billie, and I toured Europe.

Our extensive European whirlwind trip was the very beginning of my awakening to understand the world and how I fit in. I had no idea what I believed, but I had an inner sense of justice since childhood. My parents were traditional Republicans who protected and sheltered me since I'm so sensitive. I was ignorant about politics and war and wasn't exposed to anti-war protests. We didn't debate at the dinner table, unlike what my husband's parents did.

A few years later, Vermont would contribute to my enlightenment.

But when I was a teenager, I had my head in the clouds, distracted by raging hormones and fascinated by boys.

When we returned from Europe we began to frame in the rooms on the second floor—a 60-foot-long front great room and kitchen with two small hallways in the back, each leading to bedroom-bathroom-bedroom.

A young man my age helped Dad with the framing. His family had arrived from Connecticut to build the Turn of the River Lodge across Route 4 from the Ottaqueechee. His

name was Jack Beesmans. His dad was a builder. We met the Beesmans at a local event. They sent their son Jack to lend Dad a hand in building our lodge's upstairs. He

was strong, had broad shoulders like both of our fathers, and carpentry experience from working with his dad.

While Mom and I prepared snacks and lunch, which I carried up the plank, they hammered away at the framework partitioning rooms and building the roof support. When I was upstairs and stood in the frame, Jack exclaimed, "You fit perfectly in the 16-inch space in

between two two-by-fours."

Jack asked me to join him Friday nights for music and dancing at the Pickle Barrel. So, every Friday en route to our ski lodge, my parents dropped me off for my evening with Jack. We danced like crazy to the rock bands. Later he walked me home in pitch dark unless Vermont moonlight lit our way.

Once his sweet mother invited me to go to Lake Dunmore. Jack and I swam all day and only paused for lunch with his family. On the way home in the back of their truck, the engine and noise made me drowsy. I semi-pretended to nod off and tried to rest

Meditation→ 34



Mountain Meditation  
By Marguerite Jill Dye

## Jesup's milk-vetch: A rare beauty

A few ledges along the Connecticut River are home to a rare plant commonly known as Jesup's milk-vetch (*Astragalus robbinsii* var. *jesupii*). In fact, this species, which has been listed as federally endangered since 1987, only grows at six sites along a 16-mile stretch of the river in New Hampshire and Vermont. But conservationists are working to boost the plant's presence.

A member of the pea family, Jesup's milk-vetch has pinnately-compound leaves comprising many small oval leaflets. Its blue-violet flowers bloom in clusters. Even in the few areas where it grows, the average paddler, angler, or hiker is unlikely to encounter this plant; the rock outcrops it favors can be literal cliff-hangers and are sometimes encircled with poison ivy.

Jesup's milk-vetch depends on habitat shaped by ice scour. This occurs as ice moves along the river in winter, pushing over the rocks and ledges that line the waterway. The abrasion scrapes away vegetation, exposing open soil that allows the plant to root into small crevices in the rock. A perennial, Jesup's milk-vetch must survive for three years before it can flower and reproduce.

Three of the sites where Jesup's milk-vetch grows are naturally occurring. Three others were established through conservation work by the nonprofit Native Plant Trust, New Hampshire Natural Heritage Bureau, Vermont Fish & Wildlife Dept., U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and other groups. Since 1989, the conservation team has managed the plant's habitat and transplanted seedlings grown from seeds collected from the natural sites and stored in Native Plant Trust's seed bank.

Not all seedlings planted at the restoration sites survive, said Michael Piantedosi, conservation director at Native Plant Trust. The growing conditions are harsh, especially as climate change leads to rising temperatures and more frequent droughts. Challenges also include both nonnative and native plants — such as poison ivy, European alder, and Japanese knotweed — encroaching on Jesup's milk-vetch habitat.

Of the natural sites, one stands out for its vigor: it contained some 1,900 flowers at last count, surpassing its conservation goal and boasting the largest population observed in years, according to Grace Glynn, botanist for Vermont Fish & Wildlife. "It was just a sea of purple pea flowers," she said. "It was really beautiful."

Because Jesup's milk-vetch prefers ledges near the waterline, unseasonal flooding, such as the torrent the region experienced in July 2023, poses another threat to the plant. Some populations suffered huge losses during that flooding, and as the climate warms, flood events are likely to become more common year-round.

"It was pretty disheartening. We went out right after the flood to a couple of the sites, and they were decimated," Glynn said. "What's so unprecedented about these flooding events is that they're occurring in the summer, and that's not the time of year that these plants are adapted to experience flooding."

During normal springtime floods, the plant is small and leafy, making it less likely to be ripped from the soil as the water surges. But when the Connecticut flooded this past July, Jesup's milk-vetch was blooming, and the bigger, flowering plants are much more vulnerable to swift water.

When Piantedosi collected seeds from a Jesup's milk-vetch site in New Hampshire days after the flood, he noticed another strange occurrence: in each plant, roughly 60% of the seeds had begun germinating while still enclosed in the fruit, likely due to excessively wet and humid conditions caused by the flooding.

"The seed was producing what's called vivipary, essentially living while in fruit," Piantedosi said. He noted that this phenomenon greatly diminished the population's ability to expand on its own, since the seedlings-within-fruit were unlikely to survive. Seeds need to be dormant to survive in a seed bank's low-temperature environment, and the high rate of vivipary meant Piantedosi was able to harvest far fewer

TOS→36



The Outside Story  
By Emily Haynes





# What are the chances?

Vesna Vulovic is a name etched in the annals of miraculous survival — perhaps the most unlikely survival story of all time. She was thrust into the spotlight on Jan. 26, 1972, when she unwittingly became a symbol of human resilience.

A native of Belgrade, Yugoslavia, Vesna's journey to that fateful day began like that of many young dreamers — full of hope, ambition, and a thirst for adventure.

Born on Jan. 3, 1950, into a modest family, Vesna possessed an indomitable spirit from an early age, nurtured by her parents' encouragement to pursue her dreams. After a year at university, Vesna traveled to the United Kingdom, partly because of her fascination with the Beatles and partly to learn better English. However, her parents became concerned about the burgeoning sex and drug scene that was rampant at the time and ushered Vesna home.

Back in Belgrade, in her early 20s, and with little direction, Vesna's aspirations found wings when she embarked on a career as a flight attendant for JAT Yugoslav Airlines after seeing a friend decked out in her own flight attendant outfit. The opportunity to travel the world ignited a passion within Vesna (plus she would be able to travel back to Great Britain to visit friends). She reveled in the camaraderie of her colleagues, the thrill of new destinations, and the sense of purpose that came with ensuring the safety and comfort of passengers.

But on that fateful January day, Vesna's world was irrevocably altered when Flight 367, a Douglas DC-9, encountered catastrophic mechanical failure over Czechoslovakia. Reports would later point to a briefcase bomb being placed in the baggage compartment, likely by Croatian nationalists who were in the habit of targeting Yugoslavia with terrorist attacks.

The aircraft disintegrated at an altitude of over 10,000 meters — nearly 6.3 miles in the sky. While the 27 other passengers and crew were sucked into the firmament to meet their death, Vesna found herself trapped between a food cart and a fragment of the fuselage. It is surmised that the fuselage hit the ground at just the right angle to spare Vesna's life, although her injuries were catastrophic — a fractured skull, multiple broken bones, and a lengthy coma doctors feared she would never wake from.

Vesna was discovered by villager Bruno Honke, who heard her screaming amid the

wreckage. Honke had been a medic during the Second World War and was able to keep her alive until rescuers arrived.

After emerging from her coma, Vesna faced a grueling road to recovery. Her survival, dubbed by many as a miracle, captured the world's attention and earned her a place in the pantheon of legendary feats (she was eventually recognized by the Guinness Book of World Records for surviving the highest fall without a parachute).

In the aftermath of her miraculous survival, Vesna's life took on a new trajectory — one defined by both the burdens and blessings of fame. Yet, amidst the accolades and adulation, Vesna remained grounded, humbled by the enormity of her experience and the knowledge that her survival was not just a testament to her own strength, but to the indomitable spirit of the human soul.

In the years that followed, Vesna reluctantly told her story. Though the physical scars of her ordeal would never fully fade (she had a bad limp throughout her adult life and was wracked with survivor's guilt.), Vesna refused to be defined by them. Sadly, Vesna died alone with little money, living in a government apartment with little contact with the outside world. The few friends she had said that the event that defined her ultimately killed her.

This week's feature, "Mother of the Bride," starring Brooke Shields and Benjamin Bratt, should not have been allowed to have contact with the outside world. It was genuinely that bad.

This unlikely rom-com imagines a world where two people can plan a wedding without every knowing that their respective parents dated seriously in college. You can write the script from there.

There are a lot of poor quality movies made in a given year, but 2024 may have already seen its poorest quality movie with the release of this picture. Calling this film Hallmark-like would be a disservice to Hallmark films. The acting was horrible; the writing was atrocious. The only redeeming quality was that the film was shot on location in Thailand, which provided a magnificent backdrop to an otherwise dismal film.

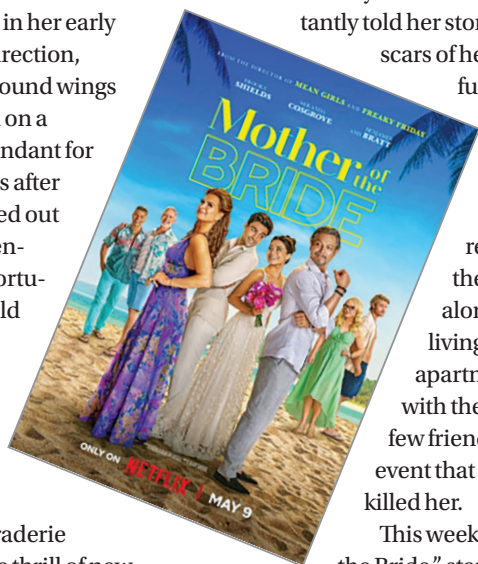
Check this one out if you're looking for a complete waste of 90 minutes of your life. Otherwise turn your movie attention elsewhere.

An implosive "D+" for "Mother of the Bride," now streaming on Netflix.

Got a question or comment for Dom? You can email him at [moviediary@att.net](mailto:moviediary@att.net).



The Movie  
Diary  
By Dom Cioffi



# Moving sticks and rocks

Then the tough choice of how to play today:  
ski, bike, paddle, fish, hike, run?

The bug went down my throat. Literally, flew down my throat and landed in the back at such speed that I had no choice but to just swallow. Mmmmm, gotta love that extra protein that Vermont provides during the early spring days. Unfortunately, it is better down your throat than nipping at your skin and leaving little blood marks.

Especially when those combine with the sap marks that I now have all over my arms that I couldn't get to scrub off from yesterday. I could feel the sap on my forearms with no options but watching more and more dirt stick to me. Like I had tarred and feathered myself.

A good friend said yesterday, as we were shin deep in a disintegrating pile of sticks and branches and log pieces, that here in Vermont we are either moving sticks or rocks. And this week, is sticks as we are building a bonfire for a community gathering that's happening in a few weeks. We started with pine, of course, the harsh edges scratching our skin and leaving long red marks as we throw them into the pile. Next, the sap sneaks out of the sticks, creating a

beautiful pattern.

But it's too painfully hot for long sleeves, because we are in the sweaty days of spring. Sure, the sky is a stunning deep blue but the humidity is debilitating and the water is too cold for anything but a quick — potentially dangerous — cold plunge. Instead, we ended up standing in front of the air conditioner for a few minutes before heading back onto the porch to set and enjoy the view of our hard work.

There's too much to do right now. We have the commitment to our properties, getting our perennial garden beds cleaned up and mulch laid down, sticks gathered from all around the property and planting all the annuals. And then there are all the fun things we want to do: skiing, biking, paddling, fishing, hiking, running — Vermont is almost too much this time of year.

I actually end up not knowing what to do sometimes, to the point where I end up not doing anything at all. Like last night, I couldn't decide whether to walk up Killington or head over to Kent Pond for a paddle.

Living the Dream → 37



Living the Dream  
By Merisa  
Sherman

# Nathan Lane and Matthew Broderick, dig deep and delivered with heart

*Editor's note: Bruce Bouchard is former executive director of The Paramount Theatre. John Turchiano, his friend for 52 years, was formerly the editor of "Hotel Voice," a weekly newspaper on the New York Hotel Trades Council. They are co-authoring this column collaborating to tell short stories on a wide range of topics.*

At age 39 Beth Sand-Gunning got the bad news sooner in life than most. The diagnosis was ovarian cancer, too often a death sentence. Her deterioration was rapid, yet her spirit remained firm. But bravery is not always enough in the battle against cancer.

Beth Sand-Gunning was one of countless people who came to New York to be a performer. It's a wonderful calling but a very competitive profession. For every person who succeeds, there are hundreds, probably thousands who do not get their names in lights.

Many aspiring artists in New York work in restaurants while waiting for their big Broadway break. Sand-Gunning worked as a cocktail server at the New York Hilton Hotel,

where she met her husband, Ken, who tended bar there. It was also where she met her best friend, Pam Scott, who was also a server and an aspiring artist.

The truth is that the only place any of them were on stage was the Hilton's cocktail lounge. Still, they never gave up their goals, although

Sand-Gunning's illness brought to an end her dreams to appear in a play. But out of her courageous battle arose an occurrence that serves as a true tribute to her and to the theatrical community that she loved so much.

During her illness Sand-Gunning was visited daily by Pam Scott, who

today is a successful writer, director and acting coach. During one of those visits she told Scott that she regretted that her condition would prevent her from ever seeing "The Producers," which was, at the time, the hottest show to ever hit Broadway. This alone says much about Sand-Gunning. In the throes of the tensest drama, an unwavering battle for her life, she hoped to see comedy. In the final stages of a terminal illness, she wanted more than any-

The Producers → 35



Insights and Inspirations  
By Bruce Bouchard  
and John Turchiano



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# United Way of Rutland County names new exc. director

The United Way of Rutland County (UWRC) announced the appointment of Tina Van Guilder as its new executive director, May 17.

Van Guilder officially assumed her role as executive director May 6.

With over seven years of direct non-profit leadership experience in the Rutland County area, coupled with recent roles focusing on grant coordination, budget management, and program development for the Greater Rutland County Supervisory Union, she brings valuable expertise to the position, the UWRC stated.

She's had over eight years of active involvement with the UWRC. This experience provides her with an understanding of the organization's mission, values, and area communities.

"We are excited to welcome Tina as our new executive director," said Melissa Norman, president of the UWRC board of directors. "Her deep roots in our community, combined with



Submitted  
**Tina Van Guilder**

her proven track record of leadership and dedication to the UWRC's mission, make her the ideal candidate to lead our organization into its next chapter."

As executive director, Van Guilder will guide the UWRC through the current campaign year and lead initiatives for the upcoming year. Her strategic vision and community engagement experience will be instrumental in advancing the UWRC's mission of improving lives and strengthening communities in Rutland County.

"I am honored to lead the United Way of Rutland County," said Van Guilder. "I am passionate about its mission and committed to building upon its legacy of community impact. I look forward to working with our dedicated staff, board members, volunteers, and partners to make a meaningful difference in our community."

For more information, visit: [uwrutlandcounty.org](http://uwrutlandcounty.org).

## ← Slate Valley: from page 10

Tax rates for our other member towns are Castleton at \$1.6305 (11.5% increase), Hubbardton at \$1.6782 (12.35% increase), Orwell at \$1.4868 (13.05% increase), and West Haven at \$1.6277 (8.83% increase). With the exception of Benson, all these towns have an increase less than the average tax rate increase of 13.8% statewide, as cited by Gov.Scott this week.

For every \$100,000 we decrease our budget, the tax rate above is reduced by less than one cent. A property valued at \$100,000, therefore, would save the taxpayer \$1.61. Do you really want us to eliminate our fifth and sixth grade sports programs at \$73,250 and/or our bus monitors at \$91,550 to save less than \$2 per \$100,000 of

property value?

You elected us, fellow property taxpayers, to develop and successfully pass a budget. This is the role

reach out to your legislatures to express your concerns with the high cost of Vermont education. These are the people who can make change! And

additional money we will be allotted by the state educational fund.

If you remain dissatisfied with our decisions, please, come to the table. Civic engagement is everyone's responsibility, but this type of engagement cannot happen behind the scenes or screens. We need to have the hard conversations in person, at our school board meetings.

SVUUSD will hold our fourth Informational Meeting on Wednesday, May 29, at 6:30 p.m. in the Fair Haven Union Middle High School Band Room. Voting will be conducted the following day, May 30. You can pick up an absentee ballot at your Town Clerk's office. Please vote!

**Pati Beaumont,**  
SVUUSD Chairperson

For every \$100,000 we decrease our budget, the tax rate above is reduced by less than one cent. A property valued at \$100,000, therefore, would save the taxpayer \$1.61.

of the school board, not the administration. Their job is to provide us with recommendations. We accepted some of their suggestions, but not others, because we believe the amount we requested is the least amount possible to provide the appropriate education for our students.

We have asked you to

I remind you that they did make changes in the form of Act 127, which increased our "weighted pupils" to produce an equalized tax rate that is close to past year figures. Hence, although our budget increased from \$28,056,400 to \$30,810,135, our equalized tax rate has decreased. We need to take advantage of the

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## ← The Producers:

from page 35

thing to laugh and to enjoy the best that life had left to offer her. She was that kind of special person.

But her request was a most difficult one, as “The Producers” was the most sought after ticket in Broadway’s history. Nevertheless, Scott decided to try the impossible and score some seats for the show.

Of course, the box office at the St. James Theater, the home of “The Producers,” had nothing available. Industry contacts came up empty. Other connections in the theater world didn’t work, either. It was reported that only the wealthy could see the show. Scalpers were getting a small fortune for seats in the back of the balcony, and even those were scarce. Meanwhile, as her battle with cancer waged on, time was running out for Sand-Gunning and her desire to see Broadway’s biggest comedy hit ever.

“She really wants to see ‘The Producers,’” Ken told Scott. “I would carry her into the theater myself if necessary.”

Sand-Gunning’s father, Jack, expressed a similar sentiment.

Hearing this, Pam Scott continued her quest for tickets. As a last resort she decided to try the preposterous. She wrote a note to the show’s stars, Nathan Lane and Matthew Broderick, and personally delivered it to the St. James Theater.

Pam Scott doesn’t remember exactly what she wrote in that note. She just remembers that she told the two actors about Beth Sand-Gunning, her love for the theater, her gallant fight against ovarian cancer, and her dual membership in New York City’s hotel workers union and Actors Equity, the union to which all the performers in “The Producers” belonged. Of course the note said that Sand-Gunning really wanted to see “The Producers,” but was running out of time, and all attempts to secure tickets, even at grossly inflated prices, had failed.

At the theater’s box office, Scott spoke with the man at the ticket booth, an employee whose only job was to tell people that the show was completely sold out for the next two years. She told him the story and hoped that he had a sympathetic ear. She asked if he could hand off the note to theater personnel or



By John Turchiano

*In the pre-cell phone camera days, this photo was taken in a darkened St. James Theater with a disposable cardboard camera on June 17, 2001. Pictured (l-r): Nathan Lane, Beth Sand-Gunning, Matthew Broderick and Pam Scott.*

anyone who might be able to see that Nathan Lane or Matthew Broderick received it. She could only wonder what happened to the letter after that.

It was delivered.

Later that same day, when Pam Scott arrived home, there was a message on her answering machine: “Mr. Lane would like Beth and her guests to have his four house seats at this Sunday’s matinee performance.”

Beth Sand-Gunning saw “The Producers” from Nathan Lane’s house seats, two rows from the stage on June 17, 2001. It was Father’s Day. And her father, Jack, was with her at the performance, as were her husband, Ken, and Pam Scott.

Pam Scott said that from the moment the curtain rose, Sand-Gunning laughed and laughed. “It was the most vibrant I had seen her in months,” Scott said.

But there’s more to this story. At intermission, an usher approached Sand-Gunning and the others and asked if they could remain in their seats after the show, explaining, “Mr.

At intermission, an usher approached Sand-Gunning and the others and asked if they could remain in their seats after the show, explaining, “Mr. Lane and Mr. Broderick would like to meet you.”

Lane and Mr. Broderick would like to meet you.”

And, yes, a few minutes after the show, when the audience had cleared out, Nathan Lane and Matthew Broderick came out and met with Sand-Gunning and her group.

At that moment, Sand-Gunning’s lifelong love for the theater and all those who work in the arts, both famous and non-famous, was completely fulfilled. And through their generous gesture Nathan Lane and Matthew Broderick, the two most in-demand celebrities on Broadway at the time (playing the parts Max Bialystock and Leo Bloom in the show) illustrated the kind of warm and caring people that they are. They visited with Sand-Gunning for more than a few minutes and, yes, they were able to make her laugh yet again. Oh, did she laugh.

Sand-Gunning’s gallant fight against ovarian cancer ended nine days later, on June 26, 2001, leaving behind a grieving husband, father and many family and friends. She showed us all that even a destructive and fatal illness can sometimes fail to dampen the human spirit. She left us after having made a tremendous contribution to the theatrical community that she loved so much. Because through the story being told here, a few others now know about the overwhelming kindness of two of the most popular stars in Broadway’s history. For a few sparkling moments on June 17, 2001, during the final stages of a damnable illness, Beth Sand-Gunning, Nathan Lane and Matthew Broderick proved once again that Irving Berlin had it right. There really is no business like show business.

### Personal/Vermont connection

*Editor’s note: The Paramount Theatre brought “The Producers” to Rutland in 2009, while Bouchard was the executive director. In the 1970s between acting engagements, Bouchard worked as a waiter/bartender or apartment painter.*

On one occasion with a great friend, I was painting an apartment on Washington Square, which was owned by James Broderick, beloved character actor and father of Matthew.

With painting equipment, open cans of paint, and drop cloths everywhere, Broderick and his exuberant (and precocious) 5-year-old son came by to check on the work. As Matthew was highly energized we had to distract him and keep him from creating even more chaos than was already happening. Little did we know that this bright young child would grow up to be a star performer and a kind and thoughtful human.

## ← Meditation:

from page 24

my head on Jack’s shoulder. But the ride was so bumpy my head bounced like a ball. I was timid, inexperienced, and naive, but I must have had a little crush on him.

My brother Billie came home from France and helped in Vermont whenever he could. He worked at Killington Ski Area for the summer and jumped off the chairlift onto hay bales to prepare the slopes for winter. In the fall he returned to Bates College (luckily, in one piece) as a senior history major.

When our brother Jack returned from Vietnam, he stayed with us in New Jersey and helped Dad in Vermont for several weekends. He was readjusting to American life, although ours was rather unusual. Since our family rarely ate out, it was a very special occasion when Jack invited me for an Italian dinner. He wanted to show me how ladies are treated by opening doors, adjusting my chair, and treating me to a lovely evening—like a practice date with my big brother. The last time I’d had an outing with brother Jack was when he took me out of kindergarten to spend a stupendous day at a circus.

After he met Debbie and they married,

they became the proud parents of triplets—two boys and a girl. Jack also helped thousands of injured people through his passion, the Virginia Beach Rescue Squad. It provided a positive way to process trauma and anxiety from Vietnam.

Both of my brothers helped me to appreciate and accept the sensitive girl I was. They always treated me with love and respect and demonstrated how caring relationships should be.

Once back in our work and school routines, Dad and I were ready for adventure again. We headed for Vermont despite the ordeals of hiking up our driveway in 6 feet of snow, firing up the potbelly stove until it roared and melted icicles that dripped onto the floor and soaked our pillows overnight. But it was worth the aggravation to ski Killington’s expanding slopes. I wasn’t a wiz at skiing but I was getting the hang of it. Dad challenged me with every slope, even the Cat Walk where I had to side slip.

Growing up with weekends in Vermont was like entering another dimension of life. As we constructed our dream ski lodge,



By Ann Wallen

*Writer Marguerite Jill Dye family’s “Killington Dream House” when being constructed.*

exciting experiences always unfolded, never more than a week apart. My parents gave me a precious gift—the state of Vermont—which I’ll always treasure.

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



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## STATE OF VERMONT

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ENVIRONMENTAL UNIT

DOCKET NO. 24-ENV-00038

In re: Town of Killington Infrastructure Project  
I/O 1-456A

### NOTICE OF APPEAL

NOW COMES The Town of Killington, by and through its counsel, MSK Attorneys, and pursuant to 10 V.S.A. §8504 and Rule 5 of the Vermont Rules for Environmental Procedure and hereby files this Notice of Appeal of Jurisdictional Opinion 1-456A dated April 30, 2024 attached hereto. Jurisdictional Opinion 1-456A concerns the construction of municipal improvements in Killington, Vermont. The Town is the owner of the project and property at issue and thus the Town is a party by right to file this appeal.

**TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:** In order to participate in this appeal, you must enter an appearance in the Vermont Environmental Court within twenty-one (21) days of receiving this Notice of Appeal. Notices of Appearance should be mailed to Jennifer Teske, Court Office Manager, Vermont Superior Court—Environmental Division, 32 Cherry Street, Suite 303, Burlington, VT 05401.

Respectfully submitted this 7<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2024

MSK ATTORNEYS

By: /s/ A.J. LaRosa, Esq.  
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275 College Street, PO Box 4485  
Burlington, VT 05406-4485  
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**TOS:**.....  
from page 24

seeds than he had anticipated.

The flood set back conservation efforts, but the silver lining has been the increased silt it deposited on Connecticut River ledges. Glynn said this could provide better conditions for transplanting seedlings this spring. She, Piantedosi, and others remain committed to protecting this plant, even against long odds.

"It's just so exciting for me to see such diversity and such wonder and so much of the beauty in nature in just a tiny, diminutive pea," Piantedosi said.

*Emily Haynes is a writer currently living in Washington, D.C. An avid birder and hiker, she loves exploring the forests of the Northeast. 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.



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## ← Living the dream: from page 31

But by the time I finished dinner and was ready to get going, I was exhausted from all the other things that I had already done that day and just sat on my front porch and enjoyed just being here.

But isn't that the beauty of Vermont? The choices that we get to make because we have so many things to do. The freedom that we have to enjoy the outdoors in any way, shape or form that we want to in the moment. I think that is one of the things that attracted me most to Vermont. My old life was so structured, so linear, and so defined. I could always feel the weight of that life lifting off my shoulders whenever I crossed over the border.

In Vermont, there is freedom.

Freedom to be who we truly are, to be who we want to be and not merely defined by our form of employment. It's why in Vermont, when we ask what you do, we want to know if you're a gardener or a skier, a biker or a paddler. Your job doesn't define you, instead it is only one aspect of your life.

But isn't that the beauty of Vermont? The choices that we get to make because we have so many things to do.

This week, I have been a skier, a property owner, a paddler, a tailgater, a lister and a realtor<sup>(TM)</sup>.

All of those pieces make up all the little pieces of me but they also mean I am part of so many different communities — not just the one. Which keeps us all intermingled. If I only skied and only met skiers, I would be missing an entire world out there. It's a beautiful thing to meet up with my paddle friends on Sunday nights and then hang with my gardening friends as we compare plants. And I love these final days of hanging in the parking lot with my ski buddies before heading over to the umbrella bar to meet a buyer client.

It is beautiful to see how all the different communities in Vermont all blend together, like the biggest Venn diagram. But we do blend together, all connected in our freedom to be who we are.

Next week will be rocks as I rework the borders of all my garden beds.



By Polly Mikula

*A bench welcomed hikers and bikers atop Mt. Peg, May 19.*

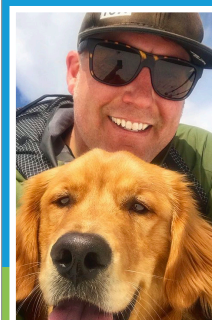
*Merisa Sherman is a long time Killington resident and town lister, local realtor, member of the Development Review Board, Coach PomPom and local Realtor. She can be reached at Merisa.Sherman@SothebysRealty.com.*

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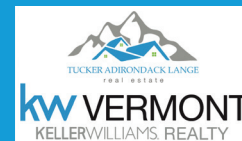
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## ← Pee fertilizer: from page 9

Research and Education program has given the group close to \$325,000 since 2013 to explore urine's role in fertilizer practices. "This is innovative research, and it could lead to something that could really help farmers in a sustainable way," said Candice Huber, who oversees the program's grants for projects in the Northeast pairing researchers and farmers.

The Rich Earth Institute is going on its 12th year now, and the process of collecting urine and getting it to farms has evolved over time, Blume said.

The institute says it collects urine from 230 donors, who use one of two methods provided by Rich Earth. Some donors pee into a funnel screwed to a jug, cap the container and bring it to a drop-off spot. Others own a specialized toilet with a trap installed in the bowl that connects to a separate plumbing line. Urine in the trap gets diverted to a tank that institute workers pump out once or twice a year.

Next, the raw urine is transported from the collection site to a treatment center either on or off a farm. Through storage or pasteurization, at certain temperatures, the urine is treated to use as fertilizer. "The Rich Earth Institute has developed a computer-controlled pasteurizer with a high-efficiency heat exchanger to sanitize urine quickly and energy-efficiently," the site reads.

Finally, the urine is put on a tractor and put on crop fields.

"There's been an interest both economically and environmentally in finding more sustainable, equitable, environmentally friendly ways of producing fertilizer, and since our bodies are all little fertilizer factories, folks are starting to connect the dots," Blume said. "There's multiple incentives for practicing nutrient recycling both economically and environmentally ... The plants like it."

Synthetic fertilizer is typically made of nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium and often produced through two processes, the Haber Bosch method and traditional mining. Treated urine, which contains all three of those nutrients, is a low-cost and sustainable fertilizer source, according to Rich Earth.

One of the biggest concerns people have about urine fertilizer is pharmaceuticals, said Blume, but after doing a six-year research study with the University of Michigan and the University at Buffalo, the institute found "the pharmaceuticals don't really accumulate in crop tissue at significant levels ... Having that research energized us," said Blume.

Blume said the practice is becoming more socially acceptable, too. "The global fertilizer industry has seen a lot of volatility with regards to pricing and sourcing," he said. "Once you explain what the nutrients are, they seem to be really interested in a sustainable form (and) being able to access those nutrients affordably."

Along with its farm partner program, the institute wants to offer people help through programs like "Urine My Garden," which teaches gardeners to safely turn their pee into nutrients for their plants at home. And the institute is putting together a manual for farmers to do the same at scale. "We've developed a culture of practice around urine recycling," said education director Julia Cavicchi.

Part of their pitch, to organizations such as the Lake Champlain Basin Program, involves almost philosophical benefits.

"We can actually start to think about, how can we as humans come to heal the Earth with what our bodies produce in a way that is generous to the land," Cavicchi said. "It's

The institute, its partners and others in the sustainability industry see the practice — dubbed "peecycling" — as a cheap, easy and less-destructive method than synthetic fertilizer.



Courtesy Rich Earth Institute

*Rich Earth Institute sends a pump truck out to donors' homes to collect urine to treat and turn into fertilizer.*

a hopeful space to be working with in terms of using our bodies to heal."

Kimmerly Nace had a similar mindset when she and Abraham Noe-Hays created Rich Earth in 2012. Nace remembers how her neighbors would show up to her home in those early days, containers of urine in hand.

"It's a very hopeful project," said Nace, who no longer works at the institute. "People begin to feel that something that comes out of their body that's normally been used as a waste can actually have value in agriculture."

"Farmers have been really receptive partially because farmers don't have any ick factor around urine — it's not different than any other animal manure for farmers," said Nace.

Nace is now the executive director of Brightwater Tools, a spinoff company that makes the technology Rich Earth uses to separate the urine from wastewater. Currently, she is working at a national level to shift the wastewater industry more

toward nutrient recovery.

"We really did intend from the very beginning to be disruptive. To really shake it up and say wait, what are we doing here?" Nace said, comparing urine reuse to windmills and electric cars.

Most of the grants Rich Earth has received from the USDA program are called partnership grants. The awards are capped at \$30,000 and go to projects where researchers team up with a farmer to test hypotheses. Researchers set up their projects "so that they understand the needs of the farmer and how their work can really work on a farm."

Rich Earth has had seven partnership grants since 2013, several at close to the max funding amount.

"They had a lot of projects from us, and they've all been involving human fertilizer and testing it on crops and assessing the feasibility and bio-acidification," Huber said. "Every year there's discussion about the safety factors, the

ability of using urine, as far as people who would be interested in eating products that are grown with that."

Huber said the federal program has full confidence in the institute's work: "They are very good with their research in the way that they put it all together, and it's really very thorough. All the regulations are being followed through the state. Safety-wise we trust that process."

Thor Retzlaff is the co-founder and chief marketing officer of Wasted, a Burlington company that rents and sells water-saving porta-potties and toilets with eco-friendly features like bamboo toilet paper.

Retzlaff believes in the mission behind the Rich Earth, which his firm works with.

More than a third of the company's toilets divert urine from other waste. The company collects the urine, processes it and sends it to a local farm as fertilizer. "We've been working with the Rich Earth Institute and Brightwater tools since the conception of our company," Retzlaff said. "They very much inspired us to go and start this thing."

Retzlaff, Brophy Tyree, and Taylor Zehren began the company after attending a virtual summit hosted by Rich Earth Urine in August 2020. Over the course of three days, Retzlaff said, "they essentially brought together the world's minds to talk about how valuable piss is."

He and the other co-founders wanted to take what they learned about urine diversion and combine it with a catchy business model. "From there what we did was identify Vermont as the state that allowed us to turn pee into fertilizer, so it was an obvious choice to move our business to Vermont," he said.

Wasted toilets are easy to identify by their bright orange color.

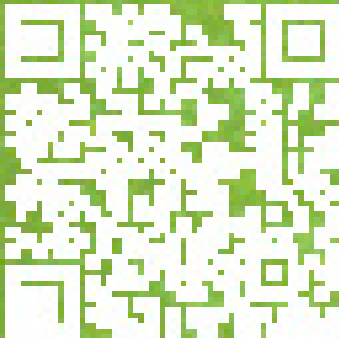
Retzlaff said urine-based fertilizer will catch on as evidence of its benefits grows. "There's been a lot of data aggregating in the past 15 years that essentially says, 'Hey, this is not only more sustainable than synthetic fertilizer but it's more productive, it's producing greater results. It's a localized way of retaining the nutrients in any given ecosystem.'"

Or as Stickney, the farmer in Putney, put it: "It's just the simplest thing in the world to do."





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