

SKIER'S THANKSGIVING
 "World Cup is our chance to come together ... To see our great sport, in all its glory, taking center stage for the world..." writes columnist Merisa Sherman.
Page 55

REAL ESTATE: A WINTER GUIDE
 Area sales hit new record prices; inventory remains low — learn what experts expect this upcoming season.
Page 59



TREES LIGHT UP
 'Tis the season for tree lighting. This Friday, head to Depot Park for Santa's arrival by firetruck to light the Downtown Rutland Holiday Tree. Also Friday, the Forest of Lights begins at VINS.
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ONE FAST PUP!
 Did you know: Rutland County is home to one of the nation's fastest canine swimmers? Meet Hozzy!
Page 4



Courtesy Killington Resort & US Ski & Snowboard
 Mikaela Shiffrin, 28, has the most World Cup wins of any alpine skier in history (men or women) at 89. She has won the Killington Cup Slalom five of the six past races.

World Cup returns to Killington for 7th year

Favorite Mikaela Shiffrin is off to strong start, will she win her 90th Cup?

Staff report

As the women's World Cup athletes prepare to race Superstar in Killington this weekend, Mikaela Shiffrin is off to a strong start after her record-breaking season last year.

Shiffrin won the women's World Cup slalom in Levi, Finland Sunday, Nov. 12, taking her 89th career win.

Shiffrin beat Slovakian Petra Vlhová after Vlhová did not finish her final run.

Her win came a week after she fell in a training run and suffered a bone bruise on her left knee.

It was Shiffrin's record breaking seventh win in Levi. The victory earned Shiffrin her seventh reindeer — the prize at that race.

Either Shiffrin or Vlhova have won

the Slalom at Levi every year since 2016.

In Giant Slalom, Shiffrin finished sixth in the season opener in Soelden, Austria on Oct. 28.

"The first (giant slalom) race of the season last year was Killington, and I was 13th," Shiffrin told The Associated Press. "This year, I am sixth. It's an improvement from the start last year."

Shiffrin will come to Killington as the leader in World Cup points, thus far in the 2023-24 season. Killington Resort received a positive snow control announcement from FIS (International Ski and Snowboard Federation), the governing body of the Audi FIS Ski World Cup, on Thursday, Nov. 16, assuring

both the Giant Slalom and Slalom races will take place as scheduled on Nov. 25 and 26.

"We had a little more cooperation from Mother Nature this year, but as always, this is a testament to Killington's powerful snowmaking system and expert team. We were able to take advantage of several windows over the past few weeks to run more than 130 guns at a time and lay down enough snow for the world's best to compete," said Killington President and General Manager Mike Solimano. "Athletes from around the globe are on their way to Vermont in the coming days, and the resort and entire Killington community are delighted to welcome them all. With the

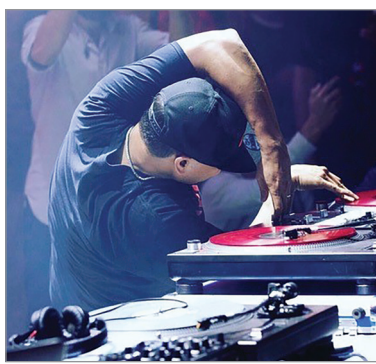
K-1 Lodge now fully complete and an awesome line-up of live entertainment, the seventh Stifel Killington Cup will be an incredible weekend of competition and camaraderie."

General admission tickets are available for \$10 at killington.com/worldcup. A portion of all tickets will benefit the Killington World Cup Foundation, providing grants that support winter sports in the Northeast. Limited weekend and Sunday VIP Packages are available through the Killington World Cup Foundation at kwcgivesback.org, gaining fans entry into the Great Gulf LiveKillington.com VIP Tent, in addition to premium seating.

For more info see pages 16-39.



Courtesy 220 KID
 220 KID will perform Friday at 5 p.m. and 9 p.m. Saturday at the after party.



Courtesy Mix Master Mike
 Mix Master Mike will perform after the first Giant Slalom run Saturday.



Courtesy Young the Giant
 Young the Giant will perform after the second Giant Slalom run Saturday.



Courtesy Matisyahu
 Matisyahu will perform between Slalom runs Sunday.

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email us: editor@mountaintimes.info

12TH ANNUAL KILLINGTON 5K TURKEY TROT

**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 2023
TO SUPPORT LOCAL CHARITIES**

START TIME: 9:30 AM
LOCATION: PICKLE BARREL • 1741 KILLINGTON RD
REGISTRATION & INFO: ONLINE AT killingtonturkeytrot.com
ENTRANCE FEE: \$30 • \$35 ON RACE DAY
QUESTIONS: kaskemunson@hotmail.com • 1-617-594-8473

KILLINGTON CONNECTING TRAILS SCOPING STUDY



MEETING DETAILS

DATE: December 5, 2023

TIME: 7:00 PM

IN-PERSON LOCATION:
Killington Public Safety Building
 800 Killington Road,
 Killington, VT 05751

VIRTUAL OPTION:
Join Zoom Meeting
Meeting ID: 848 5508 6525
Passcode: 540423
By Phone: (888) 788-0099
By Link:
<https://bit.ly/killington-trails-study>

DRAFT ALTERNATIVES MEETING

Please join us for the second public meeting of the Killington Connecting Trails Scoping Study. The Town of Killington is working with VHB to develop improvements to bicycle and pedestrian connectivity and safety in the area around several multi-use, off-road trail networks: Gifford Woods trails, Sherburne trails, and trails around Kent Pond.

The Draft Alternatives Meeting is an opportunity to share your comments and concerns about the recommended trail connections along and across VT Route 4 and Route 100 in Killington.



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OBITUARY

Remembering Killington builder Richard Moore, 78

Richard Moore, of Glastonbury, Connecticut and Rutland, passed away unexpectedly on Nov. 8. He was the beloved husband of Helen Krzyzyski. Rick was born Jan. 26, 1945 in Prospect Park, Pennsylvania, to Noah and Hilda (Stahle) Moore. In 1981 he founded Richard Moore Construction in Killington and served as its president until his retirement in 2022. Moore Construction was known for building one-of-a-kind exceptional custom homes in the area but primarily Killington, a number of significant condominium communities and a number of commercial buildings and lodges associated with the Killington Ski Resort during its various stages of growth.

Rick graduated from Temple University in 1967 with a BS in Mechanical Engineering. Following graduation, he was employed for a number of years at Boeing Vertol, Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD, as a test engineer related to synchroniza-



Rick Moore

Submitted

tion of rotors and armament on CH47 Chinooks during the Vietnam Tet Offensive.

Rick had great passion for skiing throughout North America and for sailing. As a member of Spray Beach

Yacht Club, he was 1971 Eastern Regional champion in his Pacific Catamaran. Sailing continued on his beloved Celebrate on Lake Champlain and crewing on a number of Caribbean deliveries. His new acquisition, Slip Away, proved to be an added enjoyment for Rick and Helen during retirement. They enjoyed traveling together between the Antarctic and Arctic Circles and countries in between. He was also the 2023 trap champion of Woodstock VT Gun Club.

Along with Helen, he leaves his sister, Linda Zoladkiewicz of Wilmington, DE, and her family.

His funeral service will be held at 2 p.m. on Sunday, Nov. 26, 2023, at Rutland Country Club, Rutland. Remembrances may be made in his honor to Tunnels to Towers, t2t.org.

Duksa Family Funeral Homes at Newington Memorial, 20 Bonair Ave. Newington, Connecticut, is serving the family. To share your sympathy, please visit us at duksa.net.

Ken Squier, a champion of radio, racing, 88

By David Goodman/VTDigger

Ken Squier, an American broadcasting legend and a beloved champion of Vermont, died on Nov. 15, following a brief illness. Squier, who spent most of his life in Waterbury and Stowe, was 88 years old.

In January 2018, Squier became the first journalist inducted into the NASCAR Hall of Fame, a recognition of his lifetime achievement as a broadcaster with CBS and TBS and as the founder of

in Barre in 1960. For some six decades, Squier hosted a twice-daily sports show and a weekly program, Music to Go to the Dump By, with WDEV broadcaster Jack Donovan.

"I'm the host, and he continues to treat me like the custodian," Squier facetiously complained about Donovan, in a 2020 interview with me on The Vermont Conversation, the podcast and radio show produced by VTDigger

from NASCAR to Olympic speed skating ("It's just like car racing. They all crash coming around the turns," he said).

But when I asked Squier in 2020 what he hoped his legacy would be, he replied quickly, "WDEV. I love everything about this radio."

Gov. Phil Scott, a lifelong friend and a racer at Thunder Road, said in a statement Thursday that many would remember Squier for his contributions to broadcasting and racing.

"But for me, what I will remember most was his friendship and deep devotion to his community, which was the entire state," Scott said. "Ken was always looking for opportunities to give back and help those in need. He instilled those values as the backbone of Radio Vermont, which has been an essential part of the fabric of Vermont since its creation — always finding new ways to support more and more Vermonters."

The governor continued, "From the booth, he often described those racing as 'common men doing uncommon things.' But in reality he was describing himself — because Ken was indeed a very common man who did extraordinary things."

From Vermont to the world and back

Kenley Dean Squier was born on April 10, 1935, in Waterbury. His father, Lloyd, owned and operated WDEV, founded in 1931. At age 14, Ken Squier announced his first stock car race from Squier → 14

"For me, what I will remember most was his friendship and deep devotion to his community, which was the entire state," Gov. Scott said. "Ken was always looking for opportunities to give back and help those in need. He instilled those values as the backbone of Radio Vermont."

Motor Racing Network. NASCAR's annual honor for media excellence, the Squier-Hall Award, is named for Squier and radio broadcaster Barney Hall.

"It was his golden voice that took NASCAR to a national audience thirsting for live coverage, giving his insider's view of what he famously described as 'common men doing uncommon things,'" the NASCAR Hall of Fame said of Squier.

He was best known to Vermonters as the owner of WDEV Radio, the 92-year-old independent network, and the founder of Thunder Road Speedbowl, the race track that he built on a hilltop

and aired on WDEV. "He's a terrible human being," Squier said of Donovan, employing his highest compliment. His dry wit was his trademark.

Squier was a renaissance man. He was an avid reader of history and a lover of classical music. He served as chair of the Vermont Symphony Orchestra and launched WCVT, originally a classical music station that now broadcasts classic rock. He loved dogs, especially Buster, a border collie who Squier referred to as co-host of Music to Go to the Dump By.

Squier traveled the world as a TV sports broadcaster, covering everything

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By Abimax Photography, courtesy Cristina Kumka

Hozzy, a 5-year-old Belgian Malinois is one fast pup in the water. He swam 35 feet in 5.47 seconds beating 227 other dogs.

Local dog comes in third place in national swimming competition

By Cristina Kumka

Rutland County is home to one of the nation's fastest dogs. Hozzy became the third-fastest swimming dog in the nation recently, after competing against hundreds of other dogs in the Ultimate Air Games Dog Dock Diving Competition in Lebanon, Tennessee held Sept. 28 through Oct. 1. A total of 230 dogs from across the United States attended the annual competition.

Hozzy is owned by Cristina Kumka and trained by various obedience, scent and agility coaches at Warner Brook Kennel in Pittsford. His dock diving coach is Jeff Leonard of Rutland and he primarily swims laps on Lake Hortonia in Sudbury where he lives. Hozzy was first evaluated by malinois trainer Nate

Whitehorne who determined Hozzy had a mild temperament and would be a good companion animal.

Hozzy, a 5-year-old Belgian Malinois adopted out of New Jersey as a puppy, came in third place with a time of 5.47 seconds in the game of "Chase-It" — where dogs from around the country were timed as they swam 35-feet across a pool.

Hozzy missed a top 2 position by only a tenth of a second or less — bested by a lab mix from Georgia with a 5.31 second swim and another malinois from New York with a 5.43 second swim.

How did he do it? Hozzy excels at endurance snowshoeing and hiking

and is a member of the Endurance Society, a Mendon-based racing company owned by Andy Weinberg. When he isn't jumping or swimming, Hozzy enjoys cold weather sports.

"This type of dog was first bred in Belgium to excel at herding animals but when brought to America in the early 1900s, the Malinois soon started outpacing the German Shepherd in military ownership and operations," said owner Cristina Kumka, a teacher at Stafford Technical Center.

"What people don't realize is how sensitive and affectionate they are. They can make great family pets if trained and worked properly and consistently," she said.

Startup aims to connect retirees with Killington employment, volunteerism

By Katy Savage

As businesses grapple with worker shortage, two Killington weekenders are launching a startup to connect retirees with jobs and volunteer organizations to ease the burden.

The startup, called GoForIt, is coming next month and aims to connect Killington businesses, including ski shops and restaurants and charities with people looking for per diem work.

"I've always wanted to build this thing because I just know so many people who wake up and say, 'I wish I could do this. I wish I could do that. I just don't know how to,'" said cofounder Bernie Horovitz.

The platform is open for people of all ages, though Horovitz anticipates the older population will use it most.

"There's so many people that are retiring early and they still have energy, they still desire to do things," Horovitz, 58, said.

He envisions retirees looking at the GoForIt website in the morning and picking a job or organization to volunteer for that day. Job seekers, whom he calls "flexors," will need to complete a background check and they'll be paid by the business as a freelancer.

Horovitz said it's a way to help retirees stay engaged.

"If you're engaged, that's just better for you and your health, your physicality, your mental and emotional wellbeing," Horovitz said.

The U.S. Census says about 10,000 baby boomers turn 65 each day and Americans are retiring at earlier ages, leading to shortages in the workforce.

"There's just not enough people working, so there is a huge demand," Horovitz said.

Horovitz cofounded GoForIt with Anne DiSorbo.

Horovitz worked in insurance for 10 years for companies like Uber and Airbnb before retiring in July.

"I was the guy behind the scenes helping with that work," Horovitz said. "I realized I can take that knowledge and build my own business."

Horovitz, who lives in Connecticut, frequently comes to Killington and volunteers as a summer host for Killington Resort, where he walks mountain bike trails to ensure

Retirement work → 5

Recycle Better™ for a Sustainable Thanksgiving



We all know the holidays are a busy shopping season, but did you know the holidays are also the bestest season for waste and recycling?

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Former Rutland city clerk looks for rule change

Staff report

The ousted Rutland City clerk is looking for a charter change that would allow future clerks to be elected, instead of appointed.

Henry Heck, who was not reappointed to the city clerk position in March under new Mayor Mike Doenges, asked the Board of Aldermen for the change on Nov. 20.

"Upon not being reappointed, I was contacted by a lot of people who were very unhappy about the decision," Heck told the Aldermen at the meeting.

Heck had been in the position about 14.5 years. He declined to comment on the mayor's decision in an interview outside the meeting.

Doenges said the clerk is appointed in most of the state's largest cities.

"From a mayoral standpoint, I would actually pass the request to the board to say,

is this something that the board wants to discuss? If so, maybe refer to committee."

Heck gave the Aldermen his own statistics, explaining most of Vermont's 256 towns have an elected clerk.

"Over 90% to 93% of those 256 communities out there have an elected clerk," he said.

Alderman John McCann said Heck may be looking to adjust the rules for his own benefit. "I haven't heard any concerns about the mechanism that we use to identify a clerk for the city," he said.

The Aldermen voted to refer Heck's request to the charter and ordinance committee.

Heck said he would be starting a petition to hasten the process and ensure his request is made a priority in the city. "Time is of the essence as far as that goes," he said.

State kicks off Vermont Strong holiday campaign to raise \$1M for flood recovery

Gov. Phil Scott announced a six-week holiday campaign on Nov. 20 to raise funds for Vermonters and businesses impacted by this summer's flooding through ongoing sales of Vermont Strong license plates and limited-edition socks.

Since the "Vermont Strong" license plates were reintroduced in August, \$715,000 in proceeds have been donated, with half going to individual needs via the Vermont Community Foundation and half to help businesses through the State's Business Emergency Gap Assistance Program (BEGAP).

The holiday campaign



announced this week will hyperfocus funds raised for individual needs in four main areas: Housing (repairs and heat); food security; critical needs (groceries, gas, clothing, medications); and mental health support.

The other half of the funds will continue to help businesses through BEGAP, sup-

porting needs that will exceed existing program funds.

The state is hoping to raise another \$1 million through this six-week campaign given the ongoing needs for Vermont families and employers.

For more info, visit: dmv.vermont.gov/vermont-strong23.

← Retirement work: from page 4

safety. In the winter, he's a volunteer ambassador at the resort, helping people on the slopes. Horovitz has also volunteered for various kitchens, barbecues and charity events.

DiSorbo, 58, is an accountant. She had an accounting practice when her children were small, then she worked for her husband's financial advisory firm.

"I call myself the 'queen of the gig,'" DiSorbo said.

After years of dreaming about the business, they started researching the market on July 1 this year. They started onboarding businesses on Nov. 1.

"We're hoping word of mouth spreads quickly," Horovitz said.

Horovitz hopes to have 40-50 businesses on the platform and a couple hundred flexors in Vermont. He wants to be in New Hampshire and Maine by summer and then expand to other resort towns, including Colorado and South Carolina.

"We're going to stay out of the big cities," Horovitz said. "We want to stay more rural. We're really focusing on that flexibility and making their life more fulfilled."

DiSorbo said the startup will be mutually beneficial for businesses and flexors.

"GoForIt isn't going to solve all the problems, but we feel that we'll be able to help a lot of the businesses fill their daily needs for various shifts as well as volunteer organizations," DiSorbo said.

For more information, visit: goforitgigs.com.



TOWN OF KILLINGTON VERMONT

TOWN OF KILLINGTON, VERMONT NOTICE OF AMENDMENT TO THE TRAFFIC ORDINANCE

On November 13, 2023, the Selectboard of the Town of Killington, Vermont, adopted amendments to the existing Traffic Ordinance pursuant to 24 V.S.A. Chapter 59. This notice is published pursuant to 24 V.S.A. §1973 to inform the public of these amendments and of the citizens' right to petition for a vote to disapprove these amendments.

SUMMARY OF AMENDMENTS/ADDENDUM TO ORDINANCE

Purpose: To regulate the speed of vehicular traffic and permit the installation of driveways.

Principal Provisions:

- Addendum to Section II. MIXIMUM SPEED ON DESIGNATED STREETS AND ROADS is as follows:
NAME OF STREET: The entire length of East Mountain Road (TH #15)

PRIMA FACIE SPEED LIMIT: 30 miles per hour

- Amendment to the Application for Access (Driveway) to a Town Highway/911 Address

Changes to the former driveway application includes a post construction inspection, an inspection from the Fire Chief in addition to the Public Works Foreman/Director, the assignment of an E-911 address, and an application fee increase to \$125.00.

FULL TEXT

The full text of the ordinance is available at the Town Clerk's Office, 2706 River Road, Killington, Vermont and may be examined during regular office hours.

CITIZENS' RIGHT TO PETITION FOR VOTE

Title 24 V.S.A. §1973 grants the citizens the right to petition for a vote at a special or annual Town Meeting to disapprove ordinance amendments adopted by the Selectboard. To exercise this right, citizens must present to the Selectboard or the Town Clerk a petition for a vote on the question of disapproving the amendments signed by not less than five percent (5%) of the Town's qualified voters. The petition must be presented within forty-four (44) days following the date of the adoption of the amendments. Unless a petition requesting a vote is filed pursuant to 24 V.S.A. §1973, the amended Traffic Ordinance shall become effective sixty (60) days from the date of said adoption.

PERSON TO CONTACT

Additional information pertaining to this Ordinance may be obtained by contacting the Town Clerk or the Town Manager at:
The Town Office

2706 River Road, Killington, Vermont, 05751
or by calling 802-422-3241 during regular office hours.

DATE POSTED: November 22, 2023.

Rutland Regional Medical Center selected as one of four prevention lead organizations in Vermont

Rutland Regional Medical Center and its partners recently announced that Rutland Regional has been selected by the state of Vermont Dept. of Health, Division of Substance Use (DSU) as one of four Prevention Lead Organizations across the state. As the Prevention Lead, Rutland Regional will guide substance misuse prevention activities and sub-grant funds to community partners located in Addison and Rutland counties.

With longstanding experience leading prevention efforts in Rutland County, funded by the Regional Prevention Partnerships grant, Tobacco Community Program grant, and strategic projects funded through the Bowse Health Trust, the hospital was well positioned to receive the Prevention Lead

designation.

“To enhance the partnerships within Addison and Rutland Counties through this funding and to continue providing prevention, education, and support is very exciting,” said Sara Stearns, prevention coordinator at Rutland Regional. “I am looking forward to seeing the significant impact this grant will have within Rutland and Addison County communities.”

The Prevention Lead grant from the Vermont Dept. of Health, Division of Substance Use Programs, is in the amount of \$960,000 and covers a period of two-years. With this funding, Rutland Regional will lead strategic efforts to increase the capacity for prevention-focused strategies. With the expansion

of service areas for this grant, Rutland Regional has partnered with United Way of Addison County to best understand and address the need in that county.

Both the Rutland and Addison Districts are represented by a new Region 2 Advisory Committee, which will be instrumental in guiding the utilization of funding for competitive subrecipient grant awards based on a needs assessment that is currently being conducted.

“We are thrilled to help bring flexible substance use prevention dollars to Addison County to address the needs identified by our community,” said Sylvie Morrison, director of Advocacy at United Way of Addison County.

The high-level goal for this work includes

but is not limited to increasing activities and services; promoting healthy lifestyles; increasing wellbeing of individuals, families, and communities across their lifespan; and to create a sustainable and equitable prevention system in Vermont.

The Region 2 Prevention Lead Organization invites eligible community partners to apply for funds from \$15,000 to \$50,000 to expand their prevention efforts for all substances and all ages/populations. Funding will start Jan. 1, 2024, and must be used by June 30, 2024, there will be no carryover of funds.

All written applications were due by 12 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 22.

For more information visit Vermont Prevention Lead Organization at: rrmc.org.



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Y0148_VBAPsAdvtInTimes_M CMS Accepted 10/3/2023

Ottauquechee River Trail joins Woodstock Community Trust

The Ottauquechee River Trail Project is now part of the Woodstock Community Trust's portfolio of local efforts to invest in and benefit the Woodstock community. As with all of the Woodstock Community Trust projects, the Ottauquechee River Trail Project improves the quality of life in our area. This new Project especially complements the East End Park Project, which has been in the Woodstock Community Trust portfolio since 2021.

In 2018, a group of 15 community members decided to create a flat walking trail along the Ottauquechee River near the center of Woodstock. Over several years, a team of community volunteers gained permission from property owners, secured local/state permits, raised funds, cut the trails, and created tranquil way stops for locals and visitors to enjoy.

The Ottauquechee River Trail officially opened on Labor Day 2020. Since then, the trail has attracted as many as 500 people per week. Earlier this year, the Ottauquechee River Trail volunteers altered the trail to make it universally accessible. Now everyone, regardless of mobility, can enjoy a nature experience along our beautiful river. Along with the popular East End Park, the trail provides additional incentive for retail and services to revitalize the east end of the village.

Joining the Woodstock Community Trust—with its diverse portfolio of community initiatives—aligns with the Ottauquechee River Trail Project's intent to transition to a more formal organizational structure that can ensure the trail's ongoing viability. Joining Woodstock Community Trust turned out to be especially fortuitous when the floods of July 2023 severely damaged the trail. The Ottauquechee River Trail Project can now utilize Woodstock Community Trust's strong community-based resources to aid recovery.

“Rebuilding the trail after the recent flooding will be a much harder task than the original build,” said Tom Weschler, lead volunteer. “We are grateful to have the support of Woodstock Community Trust as we build out our team and seek funds for the repairs and ongoing trail maintenance.”

Woodstock Community Trust is a non-profit umbrella organization. For more information, visit: woodstockcommunitytrust.org.



By Sarah Mearhoff/VTDigger

A coalition of interest groups is calling on Vermont lawmakers to increase income taxes on Vermont households which earn more than \$500,000 annually.

New coalition calls on Legislature to make Vermont's wealthiest pay their 'fair share' in taxes

By Sarah Mearhoff/VTDigger

It is high time, a coalition of state political interest groups said Thursday, that Vermont's wealthiest residents pay their "fair share" in income taxes.

Members of the newly formed coalition, which is dubbing itself Fund Vermont's Future, gathered in front of the Vermont House chamber Thursday morning to call on legislators to raise state income taxes on Vermont households that earn more than \$500,000 annually.

One gift does double duty this holiday season. Make a donation to support VTDigger's local nonprofit news and you'll also send five meals to the Vermont Foodbank for our neighbors facing hunger. Donate now

Such Vermonters make up roughly 2% of the state's population, Fund Vermont's Future campaign manager Anika Heilweil said Thursday. A 3% surcharge on income over \$500,000 could bring in nearly \$100 million in additional revenues to the state, according to an analysis by the Public Assets Institute, a Montpelier-based think tank.

"We all see the effects of increased income inequality, as wages for the vast majority of Vermonters are not keeping up with rising costs of living," Heilweil said Thursday. "We see the effects of insufficient revenue being raised to provide basic services, and we see the inevitable costs of these goods and services — public goods that the government should be providing — being passed on to low- and middle-income taxpayers who can least afford them, while our current tax structure protects the wealth of a small number of residents."

The newly formed coalition includes seven interest groups: the Public Assets Institute, American Civil Liberties Union

of Vermont, Vermont Conservation Voters, Vermont Early Childhood Advocacy Alliance, Vermont Natural Resources Council, Vermont-National Education Association and Voices for Vermont's Children.

The coalition is urging lawmakers to charge a 3% tax surcharge on annual household income exceeding \$500,000, affecting the state's top 2% of earners.

Nationally, politicians and the public in recent years have paid increasing attention to the widening economic gap between America's wealthiest residents and its working and middle classes. U.S. Sen. Bernie Sanders, I-Vt., has taken to many a campaign podium to decry income inequality and call on the federal government to force the country's "one percent" to pay their "fair share."

Now, the conversation over fair taxation has moved from the national stage to statehouses. Proponents of the Fair Share for Vermont proposal on Thursday pointed to Massachusetts' new Millionaires Tax, a 4% tax surcharge on income exceeding \$1 million, as an example.

In Vermont's left-leaning legislature, at least one chamber seems eager to take on the topic this coming legislative session. Rep. Emilie Kornheiser, D-Brattleboro, who chairs the House's tax-writing Ways & Means Committee, told VTDigger that on her committee's to-do list is to "get our heads fully around taxing wealth, and what that means, and what the definition of income is."

She harkened back to former-U.S.

Wealth tax → 12

State: Get prepared for respiratory virus season

Fall and winter are the seasons when respiratory viruses spread more easily, and that means now is the best time to protect yourself and loved ones from serious illness and hospitalization, according to the the state Health Department, which is urging everyone 6 months and older to get this year's Covid-19 and flu vaccines.

"Having vaccines available for three potentially dangerous illnesses can make a real impact on all our health," said Health Commissioner Mark Levine, MD. "It's a busy time of year, people are arranging travel and holiday get-togethers, and no one wants to be sick. So, let's protect ourselves and prevent the spread of germs now and through the winter."

Vaccines protect against severe illness and hospitalization. If you do get sick, being vaccinated can make your symptoms milder and not as long-lasting. Dr. Levine said getting vaccinated is especially important for people at higher risk of getting very sick due to certain medical conditions or weakened immune systems.

With the end of the pandemic emergency, people will get their Covid-19 vaccinations in the same locations where they receive their other routine vaccinations, such as for the flu. It's also OK for people to get flu and Covid-19 vaccinations at the same time. These vaccines take up to two weeks to be fully effective.

People can also talk to their doctor about new RSV (respiratory syncytial virus) immunization options for babies, people who are pregnant, and adults ages 60 and older.

Vaccinations are available by appointment at doctors' offices, pharmacies, community health centers and clinics across the state. Adults ages 65 and older should contact their local pharmacies to schedule their Covid-19 vaccine appointments or check with their health care provider. Community and partner organizations are also offering clinics to help reach people who are homebound and others.

Health insurance will cover the cost for most people to get vaccinated. Adults without health

Vaccines → 8

As of Nov. 14, 12% of people in Vermont have received their Covid-19 vaccine, and 24% have gotten their flu shot.

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Ski Vermont renews popular fifth grade passport program

Fifth graders can access more than 90 days of skiing and riding at participating alpine and cross-country ski areas for a \$30 administration fee, Ski Vermont announced Nov. 15. The popular Fifth Grade Passport Program will return for the 2023-2024 ski season. The Passport program provides access to 20 Alpine ski areas — including all local areas: Killington, Pico, Okemo, Sascadenasix and Quechee — and 24 cross country areas with more than 90 days of skiing and riding for all Vermont fifth-grade students.

“Snowsports participation has many benefits for kids: healthy outdoor activity, time spent with family and friends and creating an appreciation for the natural mountain environment,” said Ski Vermont President Molly Mahar. “The Passport Program helps get kids out skiing and snowboarding at an age when they are exploring what may become lifelong activities. Data shows that the earlier a child starts skiing, the more apt they are to continue skiing throughout their lifetime.”

The Ski Vermont Passport Program provides participating fifth graders with more than 90 days of skiing—with three vouchers to each participating alpine ski area and up to three vouchers to participating cross-country ski areas—for a \$30 administration fee. The program is open to any current fifth grade student, regardless of state or country of residence. Some holiday restrictions apply, and students must be accompanied by an adult with a valid lift ticket, trail pass or season pass.

“Skiing is a great family sport, and we encourage families with a fifth grader to take advantage of this program,” added Mahar. “The Passport lets kids spend more time outside with family and friends and gives them the opportunity to explore ski areas they may not have visited yet.”

Vermont is not only the top ski state in the east its among the top destinations in the U.S., and also boasts world-class snowmaking quality, coverage, and operational efficiency, variety of terrain, and historical impact on the sports of skiing and snowboarding — making it one of the most significant ski and ride destinations in the world.

For more information on the Ski Vermont Fifth Grade Passport, participating ski areas and how to purchase, visit: skivermont.com/fifth-grade-passport.

← **Vaccines:**
from page 7

insurance, or whose insurance does not include immunizations, can get Covid-19 vaccine at no cost through the Bridge Access Program. For more info, visit Vaccines.gov.

Dr. Levine said more doses of Covid-19 vaccine continue coming into the state, and that everyone will be able to get vaccinated. “The good news is that people want to get vaccinated, and I appreciate everyone’s patience as doses become available.”

The Health Department has also launched a new dashboard that shows how many people have been vaccinated against Covid-19 and flu. As of Nov. 14, 12% of people in Vermont have received their Covid-19 vaccine, and 24% have gotten their flu shot.

In addition to getting vaccinated, the Health Dept reminds residents to practice basic good hygiene everyday.

Thus far, the Vermont Health Dept. says flu activity in the state is currently minimal but is expected to increase in the coming weeks. The number of Covid-19 hospitalizations is also low but has risen slightly in recent weeks. Nationally, respiratory virus activity has been increasing.

For more info, visit: HealthVermont.gov/MyVaccine.

All in the family

Lynn and Karl Acker reflect on generations working in the ski industry

By Karen D. Lorentz

Sometimes you just have to wonder if some people are born with a ski gene. It certainly might seem that way for the family of Hank and Marge Huntoon whose three children all pursued different facets of the ski lifestyle.

Daughter Lynn Huntoon Acker recalls that her parents both became instructors at the High Pond Ski Area, which opened in 1951. They taught daughters Karen and Lynn to ski there when they were just 2. Son Robbie learned to ski at Killington at age 2.

“My father was one of the first two ski instructors hired at Killington along with John Southworth and instructed there part time for 61 years into his mid-80s. Mom was on the Otter Ski Patrol at Pico before teaching at High Pond,” Acker said.

Robbie Huntoon did freestyle at Killington and became a successful freestyle competitor and extreme skier. “He became a photographer for Warren Miller and as a freelance photographer won two Emmys for his work. He also skied in movies, including a James Bond film, *Hot Dog the Movie*, and was a stunt man in *Back to the Future*,” Acker said.

Growing up Karen Huntoon (Miller) took to the moguls at Killington and became a five-time world mogul champion. She helped elevate freestyle mogul skiing from its freewheeling 1970s “Hot Dog” status to serious World Cup and Olympic events.

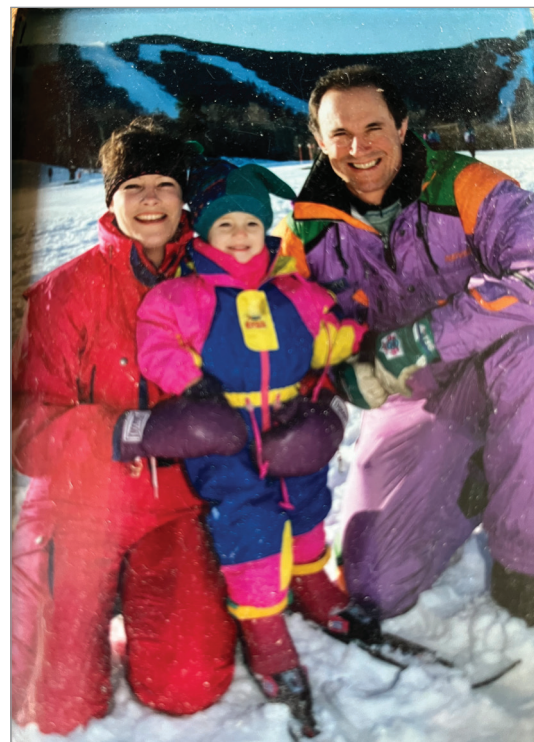
Like her siblings, Lynn grew up in Rutland and Killington as her parents had a chalet there. She raced during high school, but after graduating in 1968, she studied retail and worked as a sales rep for a German cookware company and an art publisher in Connecticut.

“Loving the mountains, skiing, and Vermont and the opportunities for outdoor activities here brought me back to Vermont and are the reasons I stayed,” Acker said.

With a goal to become a snow hostess, she took a research trip to several western resorts when the idea occurred to start a host program at Killington, which led to being hired and implementing guest services for the 1981-82 season.

The original concept was to give information, aid, and guidance to skiers and make them feel welcome, Acker noted. However, guest services soon expanded to help other Killington departments in their contact with the public. Besides staffing the Ski School/Welcome Desk, Guest Services personnel conducted mountain tours, welcomed bus groups, and assisted other departments needing additional help — from parking cars to helping skiing services.

One memorable moment came from giving a mountain tour when she couldn’t help noticing a young man having some difficulty keeping up with the group. Asking where he had learned to ski, she was amazed to find out that he had “learned” from watching *The Alpine Ski School*, a movie filmed at Killington, and that it was his



Submitted

Lynn and Karl Acker with third generation skier Karly Acker on the slopes of Killington circa 1996.

first time on skis!

“Those were the days when there would be 45 buses, and guest services employees started at \$4 hour [\$13.54 in today’s dollars]. We worked for a great team of leaders who were an inspiration to us, and our program grew to include the children’s center, vacation center, ski school sales, and the sign shop.

Ski lifestyle opportunities

Four years later, Acker followed her dream to have her own retail shop and opened Accents and Images on Killington Road. “I always had wanted to have a store and saw a need for a souvenir shop in Killington. I wanted to be in the souvenir business because people want to take something home from a trip, especially t-shirts and sweat-shirts. I also carried toys and gifts. Retail is a hard field, but

I had a good location next to the Killington Market and the shop was successful. It was rewarding to be my own boss and a joy continue to work with guests who came to Killington,” she said.

After 30 years, Acker sold the lease to owners of the Killington Shirt Company. Enjoying retail, keeping busy, and helping skiers, she returned to Killington (2015) and continues working weekends at Killington Sports at Snowshed.

Lynn had met Karl T. Acker, son of Pico owners June and Karl Acker, when they were growing up as their families knew each other. They re-met in 1987 and married in 1988. Karl was a racer turned coach, and Lynn readily notes that they share a passion for skiing and watching ski racing, adding, “It’s so exciting for people to be able to see a World Cup here.”

Carrying on the family ski tradition, they taught their daughter Karly to ski and she raced during high school. After college (UVM), Karly coached ski racers at Mt Mansfield Academy before moving to Germany, where she taught skiing at Garmisch. Returning to the states due to Covid she moved to Utah where she is a level three instructor at Deer Valley.

It was while riding a chairlift there that the granddaughter of Janet and Brad Mead — Pico’s founders — saw Karly’s name tag and met the granddaughter of Pico’s second owners Karl and June Acker. Coincidentally, it was Karly’s grandfather Karl who had coached Andrea Mead (Lawrence) who took two Golds in the 1952 Olympics.

Alluding to the serendipity and connections in skiing, Lynn noted, “We love winter. There’s a social ski community. I’ve skied with some local friends for more than 20 years as well as with a group of second-home owners. They all love to ski. Karl and I enjoy skiing together, and we often are on first chair on Superstar.”

Interestingly, Killington and Pico not only provided a way of life for three generations of Huntoon and Acker skiers, it also brought them together.

Tour Operator Pete Campana, 80, still enjoys Killington trips, sharing the experience of skiing with others

By Karen D. Lorentz

In 1981 for Washington's Birthday week there had been a total washout of eastern ski areas followed by Killington's receiving two feet of snow. Some 60-plus tour buses, which had gone elsewhere for the week, showed up at Killington on a record-breaking Saturday.

Buses normally discharged skiers in the Upper Snowshed Lot mornings and then collected them there at the end of the day — often after gassing up in Rutland or going for lunch. But by 3 p.m. that afternoon, the Upper Lot was full and the returning buses had nowhere to park so they inundated the (lower) Snowshed Lot aisles causing a massive traffic jam!

Killington Marketing Director John Clifford was called to the scene and enlisted a tour operator to help him sort out the mess. With instructions to turn cars back and away from the congested area, which Clifford was emptying from another route, this enlisted volunteer let no one through.

That included Preston Leete Smith. Banging on the hood of Smith's car with his fists and telling him to turn around caused Smith to get out and inquire, "What's going on here and who are you?!"

To which the tour operator, replied, "I am Killington Tours Operator Pete Campana, and John Clifford told me to route all cars that way so we can straighten this mess out. Now get that car out of here."

Having stumbled upon and witnessed this scene, a horrified Clifford stayed out of sight.

Afterward, he asked Pete Campana if he knew what he had done. Much to his dismay, the tour operator learned he had just turned around the ski area's president!

Fortunately for Clifford, Smith was a stickler for everyone following rules without special exceptions.

How the tours began

Pete Campana was born in Camden, New Jersey, and after he graduated from Cherry Hill West High School in 1962, he went to work in construction and then joined his father's restaurant Singles Saints & Skiers (now Caesar's Tavern) in Westville, New Jersey.

A girl he knew had talked him into trying skiing and liking it, he "wanted to take more trips." That led to offering his first bus trip to Big Boulder in nearby Pennsylvania in 1968.

"Then a group of us drove to Killington," Campana recalls.

As interest grew in the early 1970s, he started bus trips to Killington. "I showed the North Country Lady film [produced by Bob Perry for Killington] to schools in New Jersey and Pennsylvania, promoting Killington and ski trips. We grew to over 100 buses to Killington a season," Campana recalled.

He arranged the bus transportation, lodging accommodations, meals, and lift tickets which with group rates made skiing more affordable. Bus tours were popular as "skiers could sit back and relax and not worry about the weather," Campana noted.

As his bus tour business took off, he incorporated as Killington Ski Tours, Inc. and ran tours every weekend from mid-December through March to Killington from destinations throughout the Northeast. The groups included high schools, ski shops, company outings, and private groups.

If you can remember when the Upper Snowshed Park-



Submitted
Pete Campana (center) at his 80th birthday party in October 2023 with his sons Fran (left) and Peter (right), who help him manager his company.

ing Lot would be packed with buses on any given Saturday afternoon, chances are that most of those buses were operating through Campana's company. In 2009 he changed the name to Vermont Ski Tours to reflect the growing number of groups that his company was sending to other resorts in New England in addition to Killington.

Challenges and memories

During the Arab Oil Embargo of 1973-74, the fuel crisis shortage led to the rationing of gas, impacting many an out-of-state skier who had to worry about finding enough gas to get home. It also impacted bus tours as drivers needed to fuel up for return trips.

Campana, who had worked with Clifford on building up Killington's group business, was offered fuel from Killington's supply so they could get home. Smith was appreciative of having the business and Killington didn't charge for the fuel, Campana recalled.

Campana also recalled that the 1980s and 1990s were peak times for bus trips and that one weekend in the 1980s he had 20 bus groups in the Upper Snowshed Parking Lot, representing 998 skiers!

The only winter Campana did not run any bus trips to Vermont was the 2020-21 season due to the Covid pandemic causing Vermont to restrict visits.

"It was the most challenging year with other states and restaurants also having strict rules that affected the business. It was one of those winters you try to forget," Campana said.

He often likes to recall the story of how he unwittingly stopped Smith's car and, not having met Smith in person before, had told the owner to turn around!

Another fond memory is of Clifford asking if he had any ideas for the Atlantic City Night, a popular Rotary fundraiser. Knowing people connected to the Playboy Club, Campana suggested having some bunnies attend. And that's how real "bunnies" skied before donning their bunny getups for the evening, which needless to say was quite a hit.

Campana also arranged Amtrak train trips to Rutland and from there had buses bring skiers to Killington. During the 1980s and 90s, he also chartered end-of-season plane



Submitted
Tours that spanned decades, saw Killington through changes.



Submitted
Pete Campana's bus tours to Killington were known for fun.

trips from Philadelphia to Denver and a bus ride to Vail, Colorado for groups.

Campana is now in his 57th year as president of Vermont Ski Tours. His sons Peter and Fran assist him in running the company by managing the website and social media accounts as well as by escorting bus trips. Four additional escorts assist bus groups.

Although he's 80 and "semi-retired," Campana still enjoys his business.

"If Mick Jagger can still tour, I can run trips," Campana commented, explaining, "We're the same age."

He's reduced his workload to "seven weekends a year now with up to seven or eight buses on any given weekend. I still like to go on some of the trips with groups I've taken up for years. I've had a lot of good moments and have fond memories," he noted, appreciatively adding, "I've lived a great life and found my niche in life that not too many people find."

GUEST EDITORIAL

For many, it's harder to afford food

By John Sayles and Anore Horton

Editor's note: Authors John Sayles, from Montpelier, represents the Vermont Foodbank, and Anore Horton, Williston, represents Hunger Free Vermont.

A recent U.S. Dept. of Agriculture report on food insecurity and hunger reinforces what so many people in Vermont already know and are experiencing firsthand — affording food for ourselves and our families is becoming much harder.

But for others that reality goes unseen. This Thanksgiving week, all Vermonters — regardless of wealth status — should consider the reality of fellow Vermonters who struggle and what we might do to produce meaningful change to that reality.

The national report outlines a 40% increase in food insecurity across the U.S. from 2021 to 2022, further reinforcing Census data showing the largest-ever one-year increase in poverty.

This drastic and inhumane increase in hunger and poverty makes the following clear: When the federal government chooses inaction by rolling back essential programs, it has devastating impacts on too many of our neighbors.

Advocates and service providers across the state have been talking with community members and are continuously hearing about the struggle to keep food on the table each and every day, week, or month.

Increasing food prices and the rolling back of essential anti-poverty programs, like the Child Tax Credit and increased 3SquaresVT benefit amounts, disproportionately impact those who are not adequately supported by systems built to improve access to basic needs like stable housing, enough nourishing food, and economic security.

The USDA report highlights that in 2022, food insecurity for households that were American Indian or Alaska Native, Black, Hispanic, or multiracial was more than double the rate for white households.

In a statement released by the USDA, Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack stated, “These findings are unacceptable, yet the report is the latest piece of evidence that as the pandemic began to wane in 2022, another public health concern — food insecurity — increased. The experience of the pandemic showed us that when the government invests in meaningful support for families, we can make a positive impact on food security, even during challenging economic times.”

We could not agree more. We are heartened to know that national leaders like Vilsack are sounding the alarm and pushing for change.

In Vermont, when the state or federal government invests in meaningful support, there is a positive impact on food security. And when neighbors are struggling, we must act.

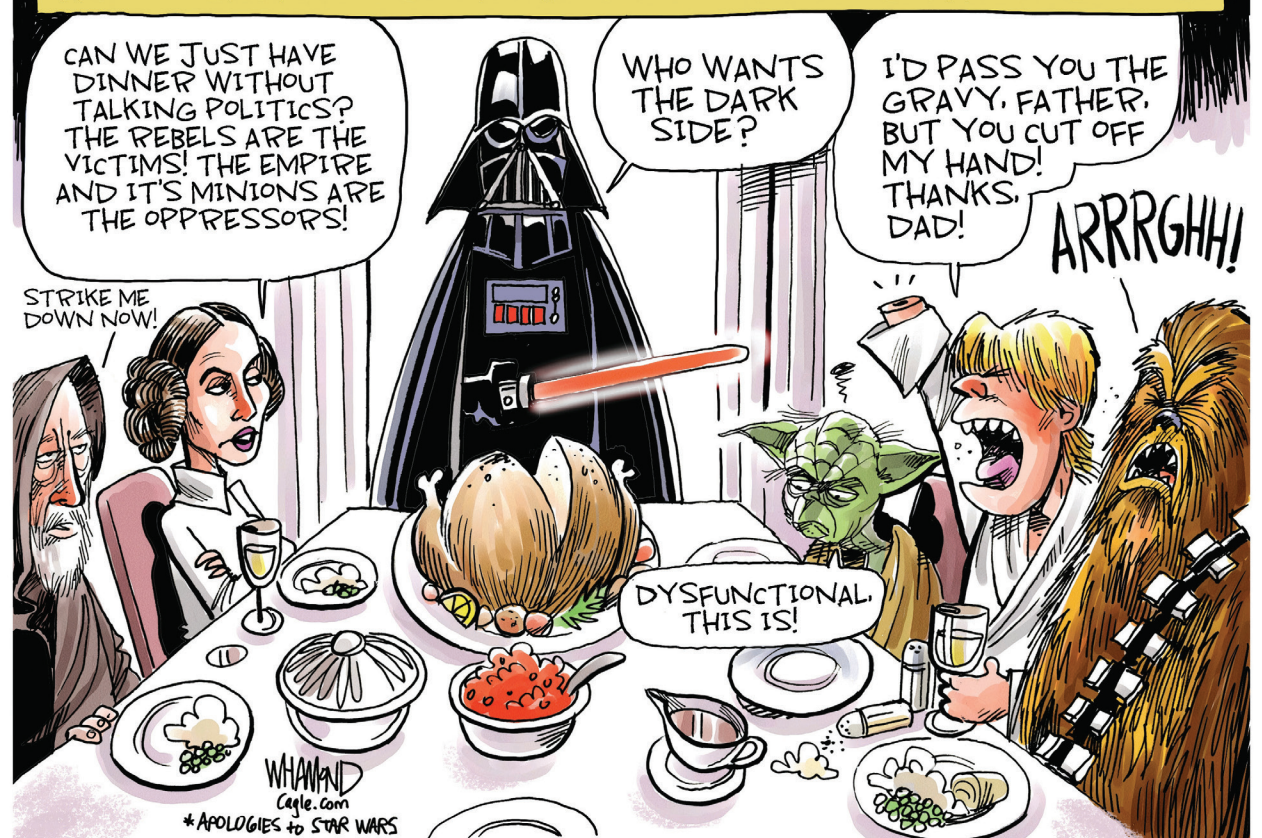
Recent investments by our state — including a new child care law, Act 76, the Vermont Child Tax credit, and Universal School Meals — will have a positive impact. We all must continue this longer-term policy and systems work in order to solve hunger.

We must also make sure everyone in Vermont has access to nourishing food they need and want today. The Vermont Foodbank, Hunger Free Vermont and our partners across the state are working to meet those needs each day, and we look forward to working with the administration and the Legislature to address longer-term systemic challenges.

Join the Vermont Foodbank, Hunger Free Vermont and our partners, community members and legislators for an End Hunger virtual briefing on Nov. 29 from 10-11 a.m. for an update on the status of hunger in Vermont.

For more information or to join in the conversation, visit: Hungerfreevt.org/end-hunger-briefing.

FAMILY GATHERINGS CAN BE TRICKY DURING THANKSGIVING:



Surviving Thanksgiving with the Family by Dave Whamond, Canada, PoliticalCartoons

LETTERS

There's no Caroline Woodruff to save Castleton now

Dear Editor,

When the Old Seminary building of Castleton Normal School burned down over winter break in January 1924, the fate of the school seemed set on a course for closure. This was until the educational and financial prowess of Principal Caroline Woodruff

We are plagued by poor leadership...

saved the institution.

Just as it was in 1924, it seems as though the fate of Castleton's college, now the infamous Vermont State University-Castleton, seems to be on a similar course for disaster — not because of a tragic fire, but rather from the unethical and illogical decisions made at the top of the administrative chain.

The utter lack of confidence in the merger's success is multifaceted. In just the first three years of the transformation, the Castleton

VTSU → 12

Schools need a community of trust, creativity and productivity

Dear Editor,

I am glad to read that the State Board of Education is reconsidering its array of anti-discrimination rules. The purpose of these, in my view, is not well served by a lot of recent thinking and policymaking.

To me, the overall purpose that schools should keep to is the nurturing of a community of trust, creativity and productivity, one that builds upon and supports mutual respect and responsibility. A long list of language rules and granularly perfectionistic policies derived from negative expectations and exacting ideals, however, will not inspire and encourage the trust and relationship needed in school communities.

It is possible to develop an approach for a respectful, inclusive and trustworthy environment in schools, but not by negatively conceived expectations and means. Instead of aiming for anti-discrimination via “perfect” language, behavior and policies that are excessive if not practically impossible, why not look to positive, attainable

goals of more interaction, collaboration and exploration, both for connection and learning, among all members of the school community?

Work on the substrate of good relationship rather than the details of its outer forms — that is my suggestion for success. Honesty, freedom, appreciation and trustworthiness serve the ends of a fair and respectful school community better than granular control, conformity and punishment can.

Instead of formulating ideals and attempting to design the exact path to them, which ends up being impossible as well as harmful, encourage people to connect in honest, trustworthy and respectful ways. Perfection is a fool's aim, I think, and leads to alienation, distrust, dishonesty, excessive costs and lawsuits.

I wish that the goals of schools were expressed as general positive aims and that their means were more open and flexible for teachers and everyone to apply.

School trust → 12

Leave turkeys off the table

Dear Editor,

In the U.S. alone, 46,000,000 turkeys are killed for Thanksgiving. These innocent animal lives were taken for no reason.


Of the 245,000,000 turkeys killed in the U.S. in 2022, nearly all were raised in crowded toxic fume-filled sheds, and their talons and beaks were violently clipped to prevent stress-induced aggression. At only 16 weeks, their throats are cut by industry workers before lowering them into boiling water to remove their feathers.

Human health also pays a hefty price at Thanksgiving. Turkey meat is full of saturated fats and cholesterol, and that elevates risk of heart disease and cancer. Intense prolonged cooking is required to stop the rotting process while also destroying deadly pathogens.

This Thanksgiving, let's give thanks for our good fortune, health, and happiness with a cruelty-free dinner of plant-based holiday roasts, vegetables, fruits, and more. This year, let's all leave Turkey off the table.

Rudy Hitchcock, Rutland

CAPITAL QUOTES



The Transportation Security Administration expects to screen 30 million passengers over the Thanksgiving holiday, from Nov. 17 through Nov. 28, the most ever.

“We are ready for the anticipated volumes and are working closely with our airline and airport partners to make sure we are prepared for this busy holiday travel season,”

TSA Administrator **David Pekoske** said in a travel forecast.

“We start winter readiness in the summer. We have some of our first meetings when thermometers are at their highest,”

said United Airlines Chief Customer Officer **Linda Jojo**.

“Nearly 4.7 million Americans will be flying to their holiday destinations. That’s an increase of more than 6 1/2 compared to last year,”

said **Ragina Ali**, from AAA.

“I hope all of the airports are prepared for the onslaught of travelers that are coming. Hopefully nothing crazy, that everybody just has a nice speedy quick arrival,”

said **Nigeria House**, from Baltimore.

COMMENTARY

Charting a path to sustainability at the Vermont State Colleges

By Lynn Dickinson

Editor’s note: Lynn Dickinson is the chair of the VSCS board.

The optimization plans at Vermont State University (VTSU) chart a path toward financial sustainability by 2027, something that has eluded its legacy institutions for far too long.

When we set about this work nearly four years ago, we knew that it would be a multi-year process, informed by input from stakeholders at all levels of the organization, including faculty, staff, and students. We knew fundamental change was required from the familiar ways that we were used to and we would need to update our academic programs to be more relevant to our students and to increase efficiencies in our operations.

We knew some things would go away and other things would be built. What the legislature and Governor recognized, when they created the Select Committee on the Future of Public Higher Education in Vermont and later endorsed its recommendations, is that the Vermont State Colleges system had to transform to keep its institutions open and to thrive. And it will continue transforming in the years to come to better meet the needs of our students and the state.

The commitment to our host communities and the value of the system to Vermont have helped us stay focused on the ultimate goal of preserving the member institutions, even when single decisions have seemed hard.

We knew from the get-go that the stakes were high, and that the accessibility and affordability of rural public higher education in Vermont depended on us achieving this vision. Thanks to the steady and strategic leadership from system Chancellor Sophie Zdatny and VTSU leaders, we have sound plans in place to achieve financial sustainability. This is a profound accomplishment in higher education. We are incredibly proud of the team for having the fortitude to follow through on the transformation process—even in the tremendously difficult moments, of which there have been many—and we have confidence in the Chancellor’s Office and VTSU leadership to continue implementing these plans.

Every one of us seems to agree that we need to make structural changes and reductions as part of transformation, but everyone seems to think that the change should come from some other program or some other campus or some other department. The fact is that every single area of the system has been analyzed and evaluated in a process focused on sound metrics.

The Community College of Vermont has been part of the administrative consolidation, which has resulted in the creation of shared services between the two institutions for Information Technology, Finance, Human Resources, and Legal Services. Efficiencies

have been realized across the system, including in the Chancellor’s Office, which now has only four positions.

We need to rise above the anger and finger-pointing that keep us mired in opposition and do not serve us today. We cannot and will not go back to a time where campus in-fighting was brushed off as “healthy competition” because that is truly what leads to toxic work and education environments. We cannot protect our own program, department, or campus over the well-being of the whole.

Proposing to cut the Chancellor’s Office is neither serious nor reasonable. With two statewide institutions, a shared services organization, and an even greater demand for nimble and strategic leadership, the Chancellor’s role is essential to the success of the State Colleges system and securing continued progress of the ongoing transformation. Any savings from the elimination of the position of Chancellor would be dwarfed by the size of the structural deficit that the optimization plans seek to reduce. Those proposals are a short-sighted attempt to dismantle transformation.

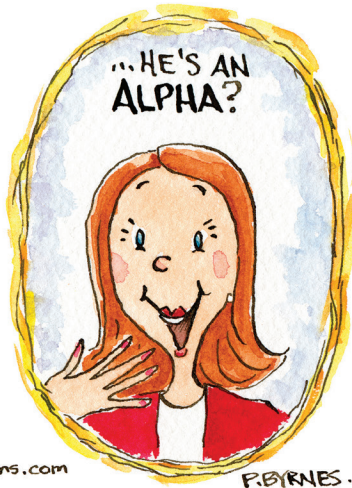
On a related note, the rhetoric of blaming state government needs to stop. Over the past four years, the state has stepped up significantly and has invested over \$300 million with the expectation that Vermont State Colleges system be restructured and the institutions set on the path to financial viability. It’s our job to deliver on that promise.

To move forward productively and successfully, it is time for everyone to accept the gravity and magnitude of the financial challenges facing the system and to recognize that the path forward is with a single multi-campus university and a state-wide community college. Vermont State University has successfully launched and secured accreditation. It is the state’s affordable, accessible, rural four-year institution with multiple campuses and multiple education platforms to serve our diverse student population. The transformation work to date has been incredibly hard but we are headed for calmer waters. Now that VTSU is on the path to financial stability, it is time to embrace this new university and all of its possibilities. That future is within reach if we work together to realize it.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees of the Vermont State College System, I want to express my gratitude for the contributions of the many people who have worked so hard and whose support and encouragement has led us to this incredible moment. It’s time to support our leaders, faculty, staff, and students as the vision and promise of Vermont State University becomes reality. After all, we’re better together and by working together we can strengthen and build on that promise for the future.

CARTOONS

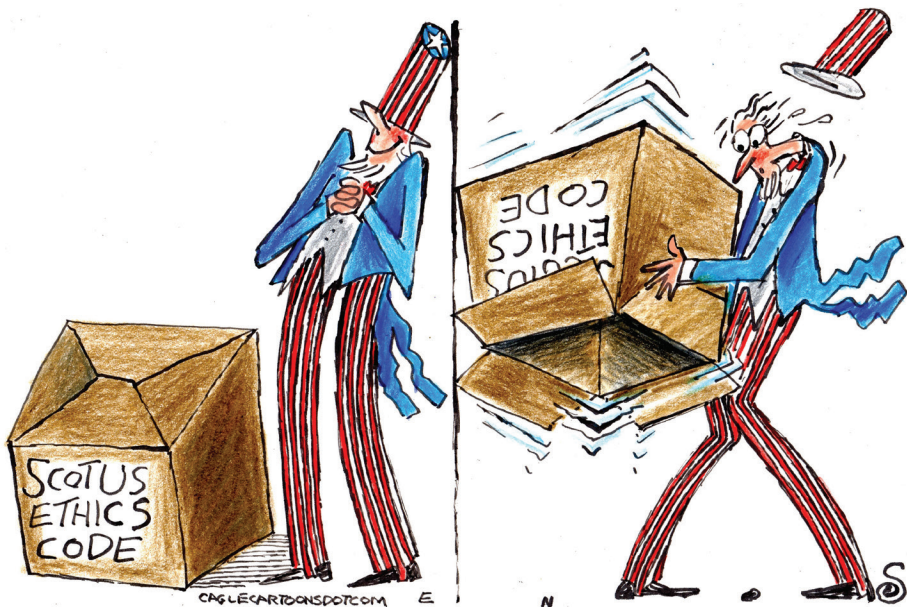
JADEN REFUSES TO SHARE, TAKE TURNS, OR PLAY BY THE RULES. AND HE INSULTS OR BLAMES ANYONE WHO CALLS HIM ON IT.



Alpha Male by Pat Byrnes, PoliticalCartoons



Drug addiction path by Paresh Nath, U.T. Independent, India



Now you see it, now you don't by Randall Enos, Easton, CT

BEEZWAX By John Martin



Beezwax by John Martin

School trust:
from page 10

We need to wisely accommodate and weave in the positive diversity and contributions of human beings in the school enterprise, not just see people in terms of “identity” categories which the school intends to reorder. “Identity” categories aren’t real, whole identities, of course, they are just limited social categories, the same ones, mostly, which have been used all along for ranking, discrimination and stereotyping. These can’t be turned

around to good use either by reranking and hedging them with many additional rules and punishments.

True identity is also made up of individual uniqueness and common humanity.

I hope my thoughts will strike a chord and add to your reconsideration. Ends, however seemingly moral, do not justify any means to try to achieve them. Instead, the means throughout should reflect the good ends one hopes for. I hope that

school laws and policies will be adjusted to improve the trustworthiness and true strength of its school communities.

Idealism operationalized in too exacting, negative and punitive ways quickly gets off the track and heads off to other unideal destinations. We gave up beating children years ago; let’s give up beating the schools’ adult community and leaders too.

**Cecelia Blair,
Windsor**

VTSU:
from page 10

community has experienced the presidential office change between numerous hands; witnessed the board of trustees and senior leadership go back on their word time and time again; suffered heartbreak as beloved staff members — many of whom were invaluable members of the college community — were laid off; rebuffed the attacks made upon Castleton’s library and arts programs; and most recently the apparent withdrawal of a 2021 promise that “legacy institution” students enrolled before fall 2023 would have the option of choosing which institution name their diploma would bear.

As the faculty unions and student government associations have resolved before, there is truly “no confidence” in the VTSU leadership.

Unlike 1924, Castleton does not have a leader like Caroline Woodruff to save us in 2023. Rather, we are plagued by poor leadership and management at the senior level, which has seemingly no situational awareness as to how their decisions are destroying community morale and trust in the administration.

While Woodruff Hall itself may not be burning, the centuries-old reputation of academic vigor, resilience and integrity it represents is nonetheless going up in smoke.

**Joseph E. Kinney
Castleton University
Class of December 2023**

Wealth tax:
from page 7

Supreme Court Justice Louis Brandeis’s sentiment that states are “laboratories of democracy” and said it’s up to state governments to test new policy ideas when the federal government won’t act.

“What we’ve seen in so many policy areas — from abortion rights, to medical care, to family medical leave ... to environmental protection — is that, given the state of our national politics, it really is up to states to be moving these things along,” Kornheiser said.

Whether a bill instituting a new wealth tax becomes law next year is another story. Kornheiser noted on Thursday that there is not yet a bill to discuss, with 2024’s legislative session still months away. And even with the House’s blessing, any such bill would have to contend with the Vermont Senate and Republican Gov. Phil Scott.

Sen. Ann Cummings, D-Washington, who chairs the Senate Finance Committee, told VT Digger on Thursday that she is open to debating

the concept in committee should a bill reach her desk. But as for what constitutes wealthy earners’ “fair share,” Cummings warned, “fair is in the eye of the beholder.”

“I’m sure that the people being taxed might have a different definition of that,” Cummings said. “But we’re all also aware that income inequality has gotten much larger, that blue-collar workers are losing ground,” Cummings said.

“If this is a way to transfer some of that wealth, I don’t know,” Cummings added. “It would be a way to pay for services.”

Asked about the concept at his weekly press conference in Berlin on Wednesday, Scott answered, “We have a pretty progressive tax policy here in the state already.” He questioned how much more Vermont could squeeze from affluent residents before they simply decide to leave the state.

Kornheiser was skeptical of the governor’s theory that a tax bump could provoke an exodus of Vermont’s wealthiest. Wealthy people are actually moving to Vermont, she argued, and the reason that anyone stays in the state is not because of tax rates.

“I think people move to Vermont and stay in Vermont because of natural resources that we care for, because of infrastructure that works and, most of all, because of the quality of life and all of us caring for each other and caring for our neighbor,” Kornheiser said. “That requires resources and it requires resources that all of us are pitching in, especially those who are most able to.”

Governor Scott appoints five Superior Court judges

Governor Phil Scott announced Nov. 17 his appointment of five Vermont Superior Court Judges: Benjamin Battles of Waterbury, Susan McManus of Manchester Center, Rachel Malone of South Burlington, Alexander Burke of Arlington, and Navah Spero of Richmond.

“As I have often said, selecting judges is one of the most important responsibilities for any governor,” said Governor Scott. “When appointing a judge, you’re literally putting justice, and people’s lives and livelihoods, into someone’s hands. It’s critical to identify appointees who are fair, impartial, and committed to the calling of public service and safety. I’m confident that these new judges will meet the responsibilities and high level of trust Vermonters put in them.”

The five Superior Court Judge appointees will be sworn in the coming weeks.



Benjamin Battles

Battles has worked at the Vermont Attorney General’s Office for nine years. He has served as Chief of the General Counsel and Administrative Law Division, overseeing more than 30 attorneys and staff providing legal services to the state of Vermont, and as Solicitor General, where he supervised and conducted the state’s appellate litigation in the Vermont Supreme Court, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit, and the U.S. Supreme Court.

“Thank you to Governor Scott for his trust in me,” said Battles. “I have been honored to serve the people of Vermont as an Assistant Attorney General and I am grateful for the chance to continue my public service as a Superior Judge.”

In addition to his government service, Battles has practiced at several law firms in Vermont and New York, and taught state constitutional law at Vermont Law & Graduate School. He graduated from the University of Vermont and Brooklyn Law School and served as a law clerk to the Honorable Dora Irizarry, U.S. District Judge for the Eastern District of New York, and to the Honorable Morton Greenberg, U.S. Circuit Judge for the Third Circuit Court of Appeals.



Navah Spero

Spero currently works as a partner at Gravel & Shea PC. Prior to joining the firm as an associate, she worked as a law clerk for the Superior Court of Washington, D.C. Her litigation practice includes a wide variety of civil litigation, with a focus on commercial disputes, trust and estate conflicts, and representing plaintiffs in negligence cases.

“I am grateful for Governor Scott’s faith in me and humbled by this opportunity to serve the people of Vermont. I commit to do so with integrity, diligence, and respect for those who come before the court.”

Spero has served as specially appointed disciplinary counsel before the Professional Responsibility Board and has appeared in the courts of almost every county in the State and in the Vermont Supreme Court. She currently serves on the Vermont Advisory Committee on the Rules of Civil Procedure and is a past-president of the Chittenden County Bar Association. She received a B.A. in History from the University of Pennsylvania and a J.D. from the George Washington University Law School.

“Selecting judges is one of the most important responsibilities for any governor,” said Governor Scott. “When appointing a judge, you’re literally putting justice, and people’s lives and livelihoods, into someone’s hands. It’s critical to identify appointees who are fair, impartial, and committed to the calling of public service and safety.”



Susan McManus

McManus has been a public defender in Vermont for the last 13 years, practicing in both Windham and Bennington Counties. Prior to that, she was an associate attorney with the firm Barr Sternberg Moss Lawrence Silver Saltonstall & Fenster in Bennington, Vermont, where she practiced family, civil and criminal law. McManus is a member and past-president of the Vermont Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers.

“I am truly grateful to Governor Scott for this opportunity and am honored by his faith in me, said McManus.” I look forward to continuing to serve the people of Vermont as a member of the judiciary.”

McManus graduated from Vermont Law School in 2007. She received her B.A. in English from Fairfield University in Fairfield, Connecticut in 2004.



Alexander Burke

A lifelong resident of Vermont, Burke has been a prosecutor in Bennington County since 2010, practicing in the Criminal and Family Divisions. Burke earned a B.A. in Political Science and Philosophy from Boston College and a J.D. from American University, Washington College of Law. He is a member of the Supreme Court Advisory Committee on Remote Hearings and has been an active board member for several local non-profit organizations.

“I am honored by the opportunity to continue to serve the people of Vermont in this new capacity as a Superior Court Judge. I am humbled by Governor Scott’s appointment, and I look forward to presiding in a fair, impartial, and just manner.”

Rachel Malone

Malone has been a Judicial Master in Chittenden and Franklin Counties since 2020. In this role, she has helped develop and now presides in the Chittenden County Family Treatment Docket, which offers support and oversight to parents with substance use disorder. Rachel started her career as a public defender in Chittenden County, where she represented indigent defendants in Criminal Court and children and parents in Juvenile Court. She served for two years as the public defender representative to the Adult Treatment Court in Chittenden County.

“In my time as a public defender and judicial master, I have been fortunate to work with and learn from a wide range

“I am deeply honored by Governor Scott’s decision to entrust me with this position, and I will continue to strive to treat all people served by the Court fairly and equitably, and with dignity,” said Malone.

of attorneys, social workers, probation officers, and other service providers, who shared a common goal of improving the lives of Vermonters,” said Malone. “I am also forever grateful to my former clients and treatment court participants for placing their faith in me, as an advocate and as a judicial officer, and for their willingness to share their struggles. I am deeply honored by Governor Scott’s decision to entrust me with this position, and I will continue to strive to treat all people served by the Court fairly and equitably, and with dignity.”

Malone graduated summa cum laude from Case Western Reserve University with a B.A. in Philosophy and Theater. She served as a Peace Corps volunteer in Bulgaria, where she taught English in local primary and secondary schools. She received a J.D. from Georgetown University Law Center.



← Squier:

from page 3

the back of a flatbed truck at a dirt race track in Morrisville. It was the seed for a lifetime of adventure and service.

After graduating from Boston University, Squier returned to Vermont and, at age 25, opened Thunder Road, a quarter-mile oval racetrack that he co-owned with Tom Curley. Squier sold the track in 2017.

In 1970, Squier co-founded Motor Racing Network and was its lead radio announcer throughout the 1970s. In 1973, Squier joined CBS Sports. In a move that transformed motor sports, Squier persuaded CBS to broadcast the 1979 Daytona 500, the first live flag-to-flag national coverage of a car race. The race ended in a crash and a fistfight between race leaders Cale Yarborough and Donnie Allison, as third place driver Richard Petty raced to victory. Squier called the finish blow-by-blow.

"The tempers, overflowing. They are angry. They know they have lost. And what a bitter defeat," Squier narrated excitedly for a rapt national audience.

"Absent Ken Squier, it would have taken this sport probably another decade to find its way onto national television and radio," said Mike Joy, FOX Sports' NASCAR announcer.

Winston Kelley, executive director of the NASCAR Hall of Fame, said, "Ken is arguably the best storyteller in our sport's history. He would talk with people. When he was broadcasting, it was like he was sitting beside you on the couch."

Richard Petty, a NASCAR Hall of Fame driver and friend, added, "He knew everyone in racing personally, that's why it was easy for him to commentate. He was a people person."

Squier was generous as a mentor.

"Ken's greatest legacy is the number of people he mentored, guided and opened doors for over the years," said Dave Moody, a former Thunder Road announcer who is now a lead announcer on Motor Racing Network.

Darrell Waltrip, a NASCAR racer turned national television broadcaster, told me, "He taught us all how to do TV. He taught me how to communicate with people. I never met anyone who didn't love Ken Squier."

He saw the potential in everyone he encountered, even a young Red Sox fanatic and aspiring reporter, my son Jasper Goodman. Starting when he was 9 years old and continuing for a decade, Jasper and Ken jostled, joked and commented about sports every week on WDEV.

"Ken represented all the best things about Vermont. He was passionate, loving, gritty, and had a deep appreciation for his community," said Jasper, who now reports for POLITICO in Washington, D.C. "I'm forever grateful for his mentorship, friendship, and support and will miss him dearly."



By Gordon Miller

Ken Squier, the longtime owner of WDEV, with another longtime Vermont broadcaster Brian Harwood.

A passion for Vermont

With all that he accomplished on a national stage, Squier's passion always remained Vermont. His daughter, Ashley Squier, recalled the story of her father's first time on the radio during World War II. A child in the community had celiac disease and needed bananas, which were in short supply because of the war. A young Ken went on the radio to ask the community for help. Listeners responded with bushels of bananas.

"From that moment, service to the community and the business of radio were one and the same," Ashley said. "He's proudest of being somebody who worked all his life to make that true, that WDEV was a radio station that served its community."

One of Squier's proudest moments came during Tropical Storm Irene in 2011. As the storm raged through the night, WDEV opened its phone lines and hearts to worried Vermonters who told each other in real time what was happening around them. At the station the morning after flood waters had ravaged the state, Squier looked a bit haggard from the long night. Boxes of muffins delivered by grateful listeners were lying about. But WDEV remained the essential source of information that kept people together as a storm threatened to tear us apart.

"We get our news from the people," Squier said mat-

ter-of-factly. That had been his lifelong mission.

Thanks to an old friend in the dark hours of an epic storm, we never lost touch with each other.

Squier remained fiercely independent as the media world consolidated around him. "If there was ever a person who understood both the power and romance of independent local media, it was Ken," said author and activist Bill McKibben, who wrote a novel, "Radio Free Vermont," that featured a central character based on Squier. "WDEV — because of his insistence — became the best example in America of a broadcast outlet that took its community seriously, providing it with information, inspiration, and culture both high and low. He was the literal voice of our mountains."

On a personal note, when I began hosting The Vermont Conversation on WDEV in 2013, Squier offered me some much-needed advice. "It has to be good radio. And it has to be relevant," he implored me. Squier believed every program should be a conversation with the community. Our job as reporters was to create a kitchen table where everyone could be heard and where the powerful were accountable.

Throughout his life, Ken Squier ensured that everyone, from the common to the uncommon, had a seat at his table.



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Killington Cup over Thanksgiving weekend will delight 10s of thousands

It's bigger than a race, the Stifel Killington Cup is a celebration of the history and passion for Alpine ski racing. In addition to watching the fastest female ski racers in Slalom and Giant Slalom battle for the top prize on the signature Superstar trail, the weekend is packed full of entertainment including live music, fireworks, movie screenings, panel discussions, a vendor village and after parties.

Killington Resort is excited to welcome World Cup athletes back to Killington for the seventh time over Thanksgiving Weekend. Tens of thousands of spectators will enjoy the live action, while millions more will watch the races broadcast in over 60 countries.

The Stifel Killington Cup had its largest single-day attendance record on Saturday, Nov. 30, 2019 with 19,500 spectators for the Giant Slalom event. Spectating at the Killington Cup every year is estimated to be over 30,000 both race

days combined —and there are more that attend activities around the races — and, of course, those that came to ski and ride.

The volume and passion of the fans sends a clear message: Alpine ski racing is alive and well in the East.

This year, the action will kick off with a parade of young aspiring athletes from clubs around the state and region — it marks the return of this popular event after a hiatus due to the pandemic. The young racers will be representing their ski clubs, full of anticipation to watch the best female Alpine skiers in the world show their skills on Superstar. Five-time Killington Cup victor Mikaela Shiffrin is always the crowd favorite and has risen to even greater heights of stardom since she first graced the slopes of Superstar in the debut Killington Cup of 2016. She has now won more World Cups than any other Alpine racer (male or female). Having

been schooled at Burke Mountain Academy, Vermont gets particularly excited to cheer for Shiffrin.

The 2016 second event in Killington was the first FIS Ski World Cup held in the eastern USA since 1991 at Waterville Valley, New Hampshire and the second in Vermont since 1978 at Stratton Mountain.

Killington's Superstar Trail (the race trail) was selected because very little work needed to be done on it to make it FIS compliant and race-ready. It is 4,800 feet long, and drops 1,200 vertical feet with a pitch of 30 to 50 degrees.

Crews work hard to make it incredibly slick! More than 15 million gallons of water are used to cover Superstar Trail with 3-5 feet of snow, which takes about 100 hours of snowmaking. Then course crews inject it with water to make it extra firm — icy!

Seventh Killington Cup → 18



Stifel U.S. Ski Team increases prize money at Alpine World Cups in the U.S.

U.S. Ski & Snowboard announced Monday, Nov. 20, that prize money for all domestic Audi FIS Alpine World Cups will be increased in collaboration with Stifel, U.S. Alpine Ski Team title partner Stifel. This will begin with the Stifel Killington Cup this weekend, Nov. 25-26.

With the additional support from Stifel, the World Cup races in the U.S. will feature a prize purse increased 30% from the season prior, the highest amount of prize money given in U.S. Ski & Snowboard history. Prize money for both men and women has been equal within the International Ski Federation and U.S. Ski & Snowboard landscape for decades. On the podium, the first place winner will receive \$64,300, second place will receive \$30,000 and third place will receive \$16,600.

"I am thrilled that we are able to increase prize money for the talented alpine athletes," said Ron Kruszewski, chairman and CEO of Stifel Financial Corporation. "These athletes are extremely dedicated and we hope this shows our appreciation to their tremendous efforts and athletic achievements."

The domestic alpine World Cups include the Stifel Killington Cup at Killington, Xfinity Birds of Prey at Beaver Creek, Stifel Palisades Tahoe Cup and Stifel Aspen International. Each race will feature an increased prize purse for the top 30 finishers.

"We are delighted to be collaborating with Stifel to increase prize money, this further demonstrates their commitment as an athlete-first partner," said Sophie Gold-

schmidt, president and CEO of U.S. Ski & Snowboard. "We are hosting more World Cups than ever before, and are excited to have the world compete for additional prize money here in the U.S."

"This increased support for the sport on home soil from Ron Kruszewski and the Stifel team really shows Stifel's belief in and commitment to ski racing as a sport," said Mikaela Shiffrin, Stifel U.S. Alpine Ski Team athlete, two-time Olympic champion and winningest skier in history.

"This increased support for the sport on home soil from Ron Kruszewski and the Stifel team really shows Stifel's belief in and commitment to ski racing as a sport," said Mikaela Shiffrin.

"Stifel has been a vital partner to both myself and the team more broadly, and with this increase in prize money, Ron has shown his strong focus on athletes and the growth of our sport domestically. I've been grateful to participate in a sport where the prize money is equal among genders, and even more grateful to have a partner who recognizes the value of our sport and has the drive to draw in even more fans and viewers to the sport."

"It is awesome that Stifel is such a strong supporter of this sport we call ski racing," said Stifel U.S. Alpine Ski Team athlete and 2023 world champion Tommy Ford. "Knowing that we have the potential to earn more on home soil just adds fuel to the fire. Let's go!"

For more information visit: fis-ski.com.

← Seventh Killington Cup: from page 17

The firmer the course the better it will hold up through the lineup of racers and through various weather events that otherwise could lead to postponement of races.

When a course is injected, high-pressure hoses force water 1 or 2 feet deep into the snow through small nozzles along long metal bars.

Injection can be used on portions of a race course or on the whole thing. It is more common for a full course injection to be used for the technical races (Slalom and Giant Slalom) where the courses are shorter and the gates closer together.

In two-run races — like the Giant Slalom and Slalom races at the Killington Cup — the top 30 skiers from the first run go in reverse order in the second, so if the course doesn't hold up well, the lower-ranked skiers could have an advantage.

Because FIS courses get so slick, more than 5 kilometers of safety fence are utilized on the race hill for racers safety. Additionally, U.S. Ski and Snowboard provides Killington with around two dozen airbags,

Blue dye at the edge of the course is another safety feature, helping racers when visibility is difficult. Crews carry backpacks of dye to spray reapplying as needed throughout the event, in order to adjust to varying conditions and help all racers equally.

Next coaches from different counties set the course.

In 2023, the Giant Slalom on Saturday, will be set by Swiss coach Alois Prehn for the first run and German coach Markus Lenz for the second.

For Sunday's Slalom race, the first run will be set by Swedish coach Walter Girardi and the second run by Italian coach Roberto Lorenzi.

The course setter decides where to put each gate, with an eye for interesting and challenging terrain. Safety is a big factor.

The distance between the gates ranges between 7 and 13 meters. The course setter takes into account the distance and vertical drop of the hill to decide how many gates are needed to meet International Ski Federation standards.

Superstar typically has about 60 gates in the Slalom and 40 gates in Giant Slalom.



Submitted

The season more FIS World Cup races will be held in the U.S. exciting athletes and race fans.

U.S. to host 11 World Cups this season, the most ever

FIS has scheduled 11 FIS World Cup races in the U.S. for the 2023-24 season—the most World Cups hosted in U.S. history.

The U.S. World Cup circuit begins in November and goes through early March, spanning coast to coast with four Alpine events, one Cross-Country, three Freeski and Snowboard events, two Freestyle, and one Ski Jumping.

The U.S. circuit kicks off at the Killington Cup, Nov. 25-26 and will return to the Northeast two more times with races in New York and freestyle in New Hampshire. The FIS Ski Jumping World Cup circuit will head to Lake Placid, New York, for the second time since 1990, Feb. 9-12. The event will feature two men's individual competitions and a team

Schedule:

1. Nov. 25-26, 2023: Stifel Killington Cup; Alpine women's Giant Slalom and Slalom
2. Dec. 1-3, 2023: Xfinity Birds of Prey, Beaver Creek, Colorado; Alpine men's Super-G and Downhill
3. Dec. 13-16, 2023: Toyota U.S. Grand Prix, Copper Mountain, Colorado; freeski and snowboard halfpipe
4. Dec. 13-16, 2023: Visa Big Air by Toyota, Copper Mountain, Colorado; freeski and snowboard big air
5. Jan. 26-27, 2024: Freestyle World Cup, Waterville Valley, New Hampshire; freesyle moguls and dual moguls
6. Jan. 31- Feb. 3, 2024: Toyota U.S. Grand Prix, Mammoth Mountain, California; freeski and snowboard slopestyle and halfpipe
7. Feb. 1-3: Intermountain Health Freestyle, Deer Valley, Utah; freestyle aerials, moguls and dual moguls
8. Feb. 9-12: FIS Ski Jumping World Cup, Lake Placid, New York; ski jumping large hill and super team large hill
9. Feb. 17-19, 2024: Loppet Cup by Stifel, Minneapolis, Minnesota; cross country sprint and distance
10. Feb. 24-25, 2024: Stifel Palisades Tahoe Cup, Olympic Valley, California; Alpine men's Slalom and Giant Slalom
11. March 2-3, 2024: Stifel International by United, Aspen, Colorado; Alpine men's Slalom and Giant Slalom

For more information visit: USskiandsnowboard.org.

"We broke records when we announced nine World Cups last season, and having 11 this season shows our commitment to bringing elite skiing and snowboarding competition to the states,"

said Goldschmidt.

event. Waterville Valley, New Hampshire, known as the birthplace of freestyle skiing, will host World Cup moguls and dual moguls Jan. 26-27—the mountain's first freestyle World Cup in its history.

Also, a new location for a World Cup race, Minneapolis, Minnesota, will host the first cross-country World Cup in the states in more than 20 years.

"We are so excited to have such a robust lineup of World Cups in the United States this season. We broke records when we announced nine World Cups last season, and having 11 this season shows our commitment to bringing elite skiing and snowboarding competition to the states to inspire audiences from coast to coast," said President and CEO of U.S. Ski & Snowboard Sophie Goldschmidt.

Watch the races, part-take in festivities

Friday, Nov. 24

3 p.m.
Festival Village opens, K-1 Base Area
5 p.m.
220 KID on the Kona Big Wave Stage, Festival Village, K-1 Base Area
5:45 p.m.
Athlete Bib Presentation K-1 Base Area
Dusk
Fireworks, K-1 Base Area

Saturday, Nov. 25

7 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Festival Village opens, K-1 Base Area
8 a.m.
VIP Tent opens, Festival Village
9 a.m.
Opening parade, Festival Village
10 a.m.
Giant Slalom run 1 on Superstar trail
Immediately following run 1
Live performance by Mix Master Mike on the Kona Big Wave Stage, Festival Village
1 p.m.
Giant Slalom run 2 on Superstar trail
Immediately following run 2
Giant Slalom awards at finish area
2 p.m.
Live performance by Young the Giant on the Kona Big Wave Stage, Festival Village
6-7 p.m.
"Doing it All" Female panel, Snowshed Ballroom
7-8 p.m.
Movie: "Advice for Girls," Snowshed Ballroom
9 p.m. - 1:15 a.m.
After party, The Wobbly Barn, featuring live music by 220 KID

Sunday, Nov. 26

7 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Festival Village opens, K-1 Base Area
8 a.m.
VIP Tent opens, Festival Village
10 a.m.
Slalom run 1 on Superstar trail
Immediately following run 1
Live performance by Matisyahu on the Kona Big Wave Stage, Festival Village
1 p.m.
Slalom run 2 on Superstar trail
Immediately following run 2
Slalom awards at finish area



By Jerry LeBlond
Young racers crowd the gate to get signatures from the World Cup athletes.



By Jason Mikula
Esme Mikula, 5, enjoyed the fireworks.



Courtesy Killington Resort
Right: Mikaela Shiffrin draws her bib Friday night with the help of a young VARA racer.
Left: Shiffrin smiles at a press conference between races last year.

Broadcast schedule

NETWORKDAY	EVENT	TIME (ET)
Outside+	Saturday Women's Giant Slalom Run 1	10 a.m.
NBC	Saturday Women's Giant Slalom Run 2	1 p.m.
Outside+	Sunday Women's Slalom Run 1	10 a.m.
NBC	Sunday Women's Slalom Run 2	1 p.m.

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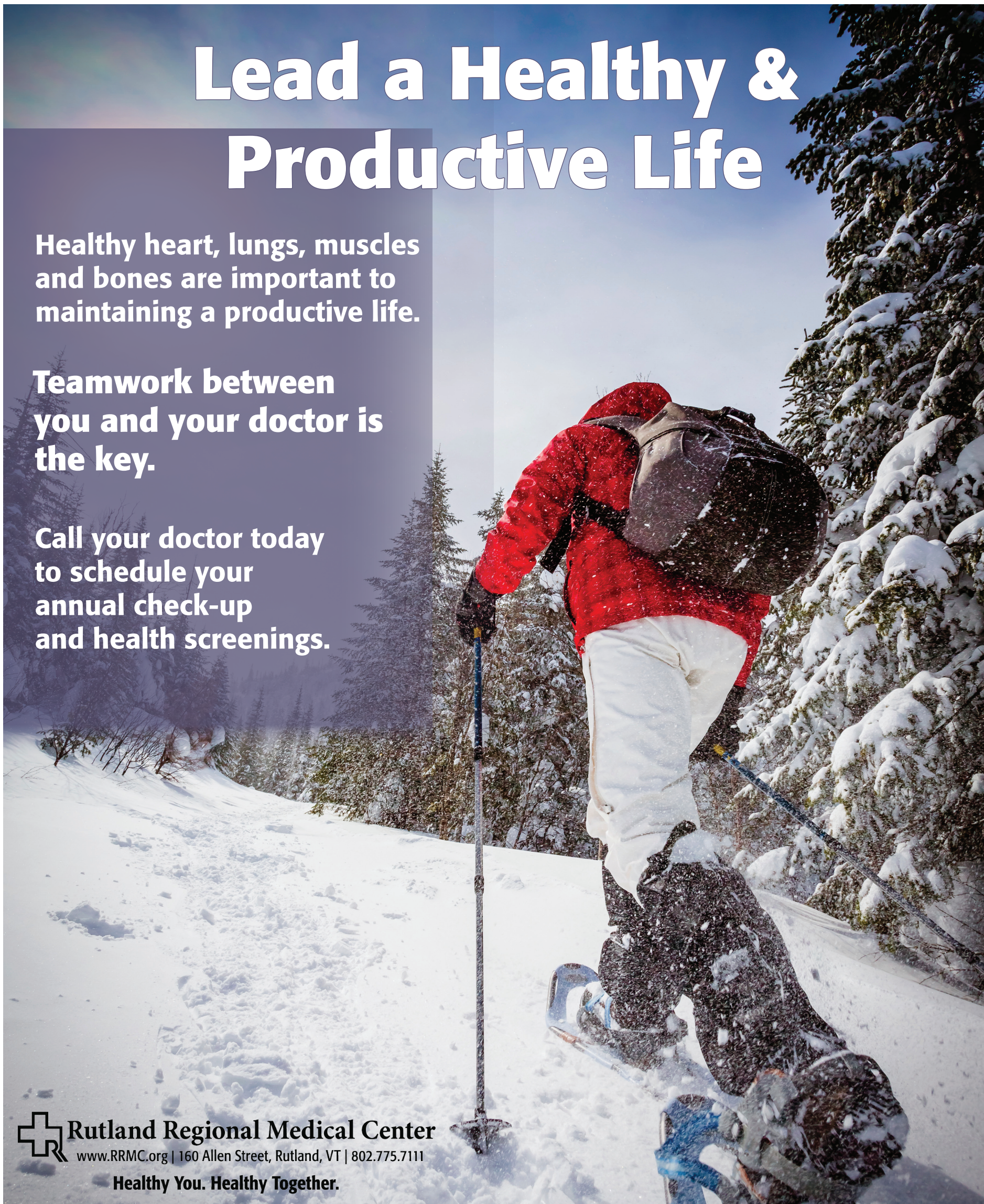
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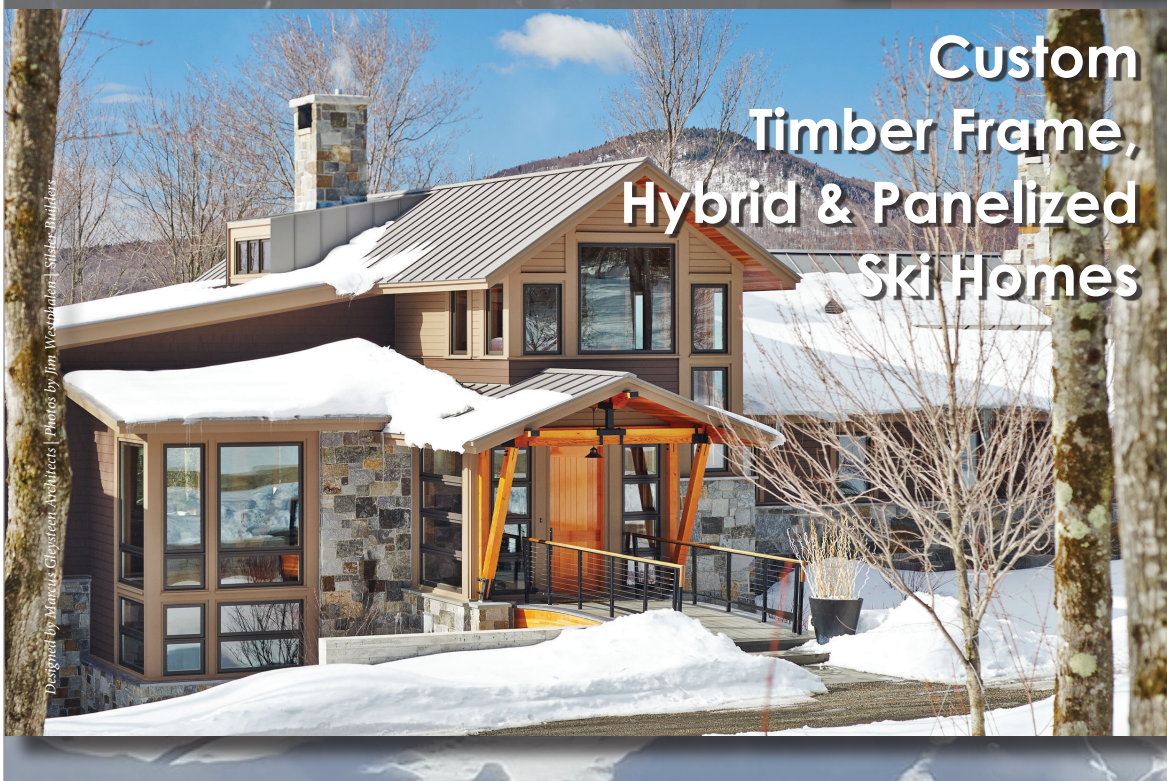


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U.S. Ski & Snowboard President and CEO Sophie Goldschmidt advocates for sports and women working in the ski industry

By Karen D. Lorentz

In 2021 U.S. Ski & Snowboard, the Olympic and Paralympic National Governing Body of ski and snowboard sports in the USA, appointed Sophie Goldschmidt as the organization's President and CEO, and on Oct. 18, 2021 she officially began her tenure as the second woman to hold that position.

As CEO she is responsible for both the business and sporting sides of the organization. She focuses on U.S. Ski & Snowboard athletes, partners, members, and fans, while also developing the key strategic priorities and plans for the next stage of the organization's growth. Goldschmidt has helped arrange a host of partnerships and sponsorships, one of which was a four-year sponsorship by Stifel, an investment banking company.

Stifel became the title sponsor of the U.S. Alpine Ski Team, which was renamed the Stifel U.S. Alpine Ski Team. The deal supports Alpine skiers from the development level to the World Cup, supporting athletes through every level of elite competition in North America—World Cup, NorAms, and national championships.

In March 2023, the Stifel sponsorship was expanded to include the freestyle, freeski and cross-country teams, naming all ski sports under the U.S. Ski & Snowboard flag the Stifel U.S. Ski Team.

"Partnerships of this level are crucial to the overall success of our programs and initiatives," Goldschmidt said.

Viewing athletes as inspirational role models, Goldschmidt also has seized the opportunity to promote women in sports at events like the Women's World Cup races at Killington.

"Hosting the Stifel Killington Cup for another year is a huge opportunity for our organization to grow the sport of Alpine skiing in front of a historically large and exuberant crowd of fans," Goldschmidt said. "Not only do we get the chance to shine a spotlight on our talented athletes and inspire the next generation, but we are also fortunate to highlight our HEROic initiatives where we can amplify the progress and success of women in the ski industry on this large platform."

Goldschmidt launched the HEROic Initiative, a female empowerment campaign, at Killington's World Cup weekend in 2022. A panel of ski industry women leaders and coaches discussed the career opportunities for women in the ski industry along with the challenges they face. The HEROic campaign is about celebrating the power of women while also investing in their future success, Goldschmidt noted, adding there is so much upside and things that can be done [to encourage women].

The route to Goldschmidt's own career in the historically male dominated ski industry began with an early interest in sports, with Goldschmidt noting she has been a "huge fan of and participant in sports."

Born and raised in the United Kingdom, she learned to ski at age 11 or 12 in France on a school trip and has enjoyed it ever since.

She also learned to play tennis at age 7 or 8 and fell in love with the game, noting it

was an "obsession growing up." She played in school and competitively in Europe and internationally which earned her a tennis scholarship to attend Baylor University in Texas. She played on their team for four years while earning a degree in business.

After college Goldschmidt got "a real job" working in sports organizations where she was able to utilize her marketing education and skills. She held leadership, commercial, and/or marketing roles at the National Basketball Association (NBA), the Women's Tennis Association (WTA), the Rugby Football Union (RFU), the PGA European Tour, Adidas, and the global sports marketing & entertainment agency CSM before becoming CEO of the World Surf League (WSL).

Believing in equality across the board, Goldschmidt was concerned about the gender gap in media attention and pay levels given to women's sports. "I'm fortunate to have worked for some progressive leaders and organizations, where elevating women's sports has been a priority and therefore a consistent focus during my career. I'm proud of the progress made in my prior role as CEO of the World Surf League where we implemented equal prize money for the first time, and other initiatives to elevate female surfing globally," she wrote on the commemoration of Title IX's 50th anniversary.

She also cited skiing/snowboarding as examples of where the playing field is more equitable, noting, "On the slopes, the women shine just as brightly as the men. And in the cases of elite athletes like Mikaela Shiffrin, Chloe Kim, and Jessie Diggins, they have dominated their sports. Along with the International Ski & Snowboard Federation, we at U.S. Ski & Snowboard have established equal pay; we sell all of our media rights as one package, and our prize money is equal. But media companies in some countries pay us less for women's rights than for men's. We need to continue to pressure the rest of the commercial world to invest in women like we have."

Q&A with Sophie Goldschmidt

Mountain Times: What led to your interest in becoming the President and CEO of U.S. Ski & Snowboard?

Sophie Goldschmidt: My passion for snow sports. I've been a huge admirer of the athletes and felt there was an opportunity to raise the profile of the athletes and grow the business of U.S. Ski & Snowboard.

MT: What led to your interest in promoting women in sports?

SG: I'm passionate about equality and it's important to promote that.

MT: Have you seen changes in how media treat women's sports?

SG: I think it is slowly improving and making progress, but we need to push for equality across the board.

MT: What is your vision for the organization?

SG: My vision is to help athletes to achieve their dreams and be the best in the world and also to drive more participating in one of our sports as well as to drive more fan engagement with our sports.

MT: How did the HEROic initiative come about?

SG: It is something to creatively grow the awareness and grow the impact. We came up with a campaign to promote success on the women's side. We do events nationwide and season-wise.

This year's HEROic panel at Killington is building on what we did last year, which was the first event done. We're delighted to come back and involve key stakeholders and talk about women in sports and about further opportunities [in the ski industry].

MT: What is significant about Killington hosting a World Cup?

SG: It has become the most attended World Cup race weekend in the world for women. It is really special, and fans in the Northeast are amazing and the athletes to love to compete there. We're grateful to Killington for participating.

MT: Vermont has several colleges that offer degrees related to recreation management and working in the ski industry. Would you recommend such a tract of study for young women thinking of following a passion for snow sports and wanting to work in this field?

SG: Yes, it's a great career and furthering your education can open more doors. Experience is important as well internships, coaching, repping. Further education and work experience will only help women to

find more work in the industry.

MT: What advice would you give to women who want to work in any field where men have traditionally dominated the workforce?

SG: Follow your passion. I would encourage women to work hard and build relationships. Times are changing, and we have more equality, but you have to push and do a good job and the opportunities will arise.

MT: What would you tell a young person who wants to compete at an elite level?

SG: Find a great program to be part of with coaches you respect. Be focused and show up every day; be disciplined and try your best.

MT: What's your take on the competitive lifestyle for men and women on our US winter sports teams?

SG: It's a very tough lifestyle, involving endless travel, working day in and day out, but it's also an incredibly exciting career with travel to different countries, amazing experiences competing, and seeing the world.

Panel of industry women discuss "Doing it All"

On Saturday from 6-7 p.m. Killington will host a HEROic Women in the Industry Panel, on the topic "Doing it All," in the Snowshed Ballroom.

"The Heroic Initiative was created because U.S. Ski & Snowboard is committed to providing more leadership, opportunities, and mentorship for women to achieve further greatness in our sports," stated Sophie Goldschmidt, President and CEO of U.S. Ski & Snowboard.

Last year, at the Killington Cup, the inaugural HEROic Panel consisted of ski industry women leaders who discussed the challenges women face, changes that have occurred, and opportunities for those wanting to work in the ski and snowboard industry after they retire from racing or graduate from college.

This year's Heroic panel discussion will focus on the topic: "Doing It All" and lead right into Women's Ski Movie "Advice for Girls" that will be screen right after from 7-8 p.m. also in the Snowshed Ballroom.

The panelists will include: M'Lis Ward, the first black woman pilot for United Airlines; Amy Laramie, director of events and marketing for Killington Resort; an athlete from the ski movie; and a ski coach.

Goldschmidt, who will serve as moderator, notes that the Heroic Initiative aims to empower, inspire and lead women in their fields on and off the snow and that the excitement and awareness of women generated by the Killington Cup provides a fitting avenue for the panels as the women's Slalom and Giant Slalom events at Killington are the best attended of all the Women's World Cup races.



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Courtesy Killington Resort



By Polly Mikula

Shoulder seating is the best in the house if you're under 5.

Worldclass entertainment to take the Kona Big Wave Stage

By Polly Mikula

The action begins Friday on the Kona Big Wave Stage in the Festival Village at K-1 Base Area, which opens at 3 p.m. Live music with 220 KID begins at 5 p.m. with the Athlete Bib Presentation party at 5:45 p.m. followed by fireworks. It's quite the kickoff to the race weekend!

There will be an emcee pumping up the crowd and the athletes, prizes, a t-shirt gun, mascots, vendors, food and beverages and more. The evening concludes with a bang as the fireworks display is enhanced by the reflections off the snow cover slopes.

Action continues with free concerts around the races Saturday and Sunday. Mix Master Mike is performing between runs Saturday and Young the Giant is playing Saturday after the second run of the Giant Slalom event. Matisyahu is performing Sunday between Slalom runs. See page 29 for more information on each artist.

"The Killington Cup is much more than a race, it is also one of the biggest parties of the year," said Killington President and General Manager Mike Solimano. "With great

music all weekend long, spanning genres, this year's line up is sure to keep fans' toes tapping between heart-pounding runs on the course."

"The Killington Cup has become a fan and athlete favorite," said Webster. "Since bringing World Cup ski racing back to New England, Killington Resort and Vermont has set a new precedent for ski racing internationally, boasting the largest World Cup crowd for women on the entire circuit."

"The Northeast's passion for ski racing runs deep," Solimano continued. "The athletes, fans and volunteers bring a level of energy that is unmatched by anything else we experience at the resort."

"The Killington Cup has become a fan and athlete favorite," said Eric Webster, senior director of

events at U.S. Ski & Snowboard. "It's a true celebration of ski racing excellence, the international race community, and inspires the next generation. Since bringing World Cup ski racing back to New England, Killington Resort and Vermont has set a new precedent for ski racing internationally, boasting the largest World Cup crowd for women on the entire circuit."

Fans are encouraged to dress warmly and wear waterproof footwear as the festival village area is snowy and can be wet and/or muddy.

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Kona Big Wave Stage in the festival village boasts worldclass line all Stifel Killington Cup Weekend

220 KID

Friday, Nov. 24

5 p.m. on the Kona Big Wave Stage in the Festival Village



Kicking off the entertainment on Friday, which includes the athlete bib presentation at 5:45 p.m. and a fireworks display, will be 220 KID.

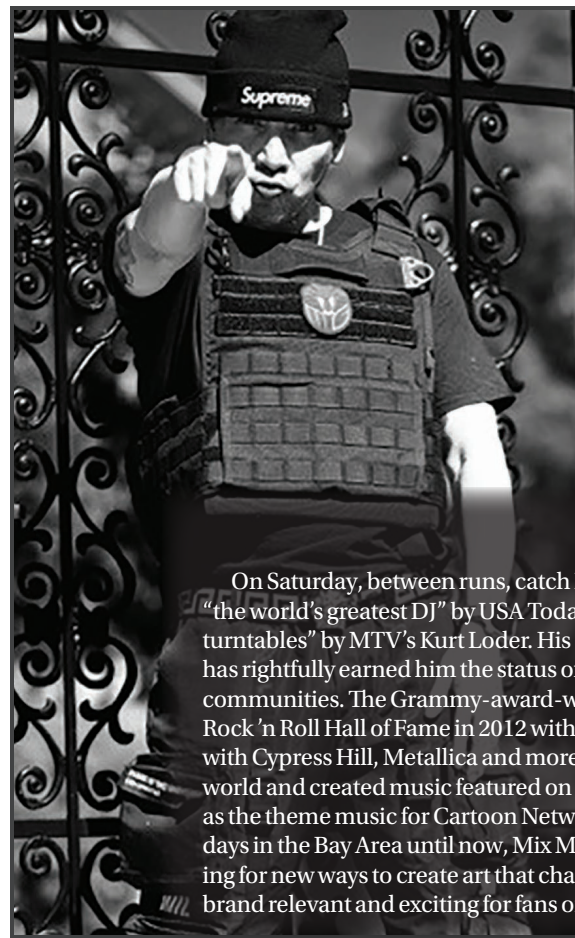
Peaking at over 15 million monthly listeners and with over 900 million streams under his belt, 220 KID's musical ascent has been stratospheric. The double Brit-nominated, multi-platinum selling songwriter and producer is a unique artist not only mixing and producing but also writing hit after hit helping launch the careers of upcoming artist.

His series of hits have made it No. 1 in the UK and Germany as well as Top 10 for his debut single "Don't Need Love."

Tastemakers and legion of fans, the state is set.

Saturday, Nov. 25

Wobbly Barn Party post-race party



Mix Master Mike

Saturday, Nov. 25

Between Giant Slalom Runs on the Kona Big Wave Stage in the Festival Village

On Saturday, between runs, catch Mix Master Mike. He's been called "the world's greatest DJ" by USA Today and the "Jimi Hendrix of the turntables" by MTV's Kurt Loder. His skillful, hard-hitting scratch work has rightfully earned him the status of a pioneer in the hip-hop and DJ communities. The Grammy-award-winning DJ was inducted into the Rock 'n Roll Hall of Fame in 2012 with the Beastie Boys and has toured with Cypress Hill, Metallica and more. He's also made waves in the VR world and created music featured on major television networks such as the theme music for Cartoon Network's Team Titans. From his early days in the Bay Area until now, Mix Master Mike has always been looking for new ways to create art that challenges the status quo, keeping his brand relevant and exciting for fans of all ages.

Young the Giant

Saturday, Nov. 25

After the Giant Slalom race on the Kona Big Wave Stage in the Festival Village

After the races conclude on Saturday, critically-acclaimed, multi-platinum selling artist Young The Giant will headline.

The band's latest album, "American Bollywood" tells the multi-generational saga of the American immigrant, and the origins, exiles, battles, and denouement of

reclaiming their collective identity while spanning genres from traditional Indian sounds to more western rock and pop.

Young the Giant's 2023 headline tour was the biggest to date with over 60 shows that saw the band performing to 238K+ fans across 10 countries.



Matisyahu

Sunday, Nov. 26

Between Slalom runs on the Kona Big Wave Stage, Festival Village

Matisyahu is a singer, songwriter, rapper, and alternative rock musician.

He's known for his skill in blending reggae and hip hop as he provides a

raw expression of his spirituality.

His long and winding career consists of

seven al-

bums including chart-topping Light, Youth, Spark Seeker, Akeda, and Undercurrent with hits like "One Day," "Sunshine," and "King Without A Crown."

Through his lyrics, Matisyahu develops a personal, artistic, and sophisticated way to express the yearning for deep spiritual meaning, and as his own beliefs opened up

to find more variety and depth, the desire for his performances to match the unpredictable flow of life developed as well.



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Top of West Street **	7:16 AM	8:16 AM	9:16 AM	10:16 AM	11:16 AM	12:16 PM	1:16 PM	2:16 PM
Rt 4 @ Lafayette Street **	7:17 AM	8:17 AM	9:17 AM	10:17 AM	11:17 AM	12:17 PM	1:17 PM	2:17 PM
Town Line Road **	7:23 AM	8:23 AM	9:23 AM	10:23 AM	11:23 AM	12:23 PM	1:23 PM	2:23 PM
Mendon Mtn Orchards & Motel **	7:24 AM	8:24 AM	9:24 AM	10:24 AM	11:24 AM	12:24 PM	1:24 PM	2:24 PM
Mendon Mountain View Lodge **	7:32 AM	8:32 AM	9:32 AM	10:32 AM	11:32 AM	12:32 PM	1:32 PM	2:32 PM
Pico Resort Hotel	7:36 AM	8:36 AM	9:36 AM	10:36 AM	11:36 AM	12:36 PM	1:36 PM	2:36 PM
The Inn at Long Trail **	7:38 AM	8:38 AM	9:38 AM	10:38 AM	11:38 AM	12:38 PM	1:38 PM	2:38 PM
Killington Motel **	7:40 AM	8:40 AM	9:40 AM	10:40 AM	11:40 AM	12:40 PM	1:40 PM	2:40 PM
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Killington Park and Ride	7:42 AM	8:42 AM	9:42 AM	10:42 AM	11:42 AM	12:42 PM	1:42 PM	2:42 PM
Hillside Inn	7:45 AM	8:45 AM	9:45 AM	10:45 AM	11:45 AM	12:45 PM	1:45 PM	2:45 PM
Killington Center Inn **	7:49 AM	8:49 AM	9:49 AM	10:49 AM	11:49 AM	12:49 PM	1:49 PM	2:49 PM
Killington Road Stops ***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***
K1 Base Lodge	7:58 AM	8:58 AM	9:58 AM	10:58 AM	11:58 AM	12:58 PM	1:58 PM	2:58 PM
Human Resources	7:59 AM	8:59 AM	9:59 AM	10:59 AM	11:59 AM	12:59 PM	1:59 PM	2:59 PM
Snowshed Base Lodge	8:00 AM	9:00 AM	10:00 AM	11:00 AM	12:00 PM	1:00 PM	2:00 PM	3:00 PM

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Killington Grand Hotel	8:03 AM	9:03 AM	10:03 AM	11:03 AM	12:03 PM	1:03 PM	2:03 PM	3:03 PM
Mountain Green Resort	8:06 AM	9:06 AM	10:06 AM	11:06 AM	12:06 PM	1:06 PM	2:06 PM	3:06 PM
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Hillside Inn	8:13 AM	9:13 AM	10:13 AM	11:13 AM	12:13 PM	1:13 PM	2:13 PM	3:13 PM
Killington Park and Ride	8:14 AM	9:14 AM	10:14 AM	11:14 AM	12:14 PM	1:14 PM	2:14 PM	3:14 PM
Gazebo Plaza (Stops at Post Office) **	8:15 AM	9:15 AM	10:15 AM	11:15 AM	12:15 PM	1:15 PM	2:15 PM	3:15 PM
The Inn at Long Trail**	8:21 AM	9:21 AM	10:21 AM	11:21 AM	12:21 PM	1:21 PM	2:21 PM	3:21 PM
Pico Resort Hotel	8:23 AM	9:23 AM	10:23 AM	11:23 AM	12:23 PM	1:23 PM	2:23 PM	3:23 PM
Mendon Mountain View Lodge	8:25 AM	9:25 AM	10:25 AM	11:25 AM	12:25 PM	1:25 PM	2:25 PM	3:25 PM
Pico Mountain Commons **	8:27 AM	9:27 AM	10:27 AM	11:27 AM	12:27 PM	1:27 PM	2:27 PM	3:27 PM
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RMTC *	8:45 AM	9:45 AM	10:45 AM	11:45 AM	12:45 PM	1:45 PM	2:45 PM	3:45 PM
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RMTC *	9:05 AM	10:05 AM	11:05 AM	12:05 PM	1:05 PM	2:05 PM	3:05 PM	4:05 PM

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Human Resources	3:59 PM	4:59 PM	5:59 PM	6:59 PM	7:59 PM	8:59 PM	9:59 PM	10:59 PM	11:59 PM
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Killington Grand Hotel	4:03 PM	5:03 PM	6:03 PM	7:03 PM	8:03 PM	9:03 PM	10:03 PM	11:03 PM	12:03 AM
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Staples Plaza	4:55 PM	-	6:55 PM	7:55 PM	8:55 PM	9:55 PM	10:55 PM	-	-
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Discover the Killington Community

“It’s an exciting time to be in Killington; the public-private partnership has allowed for a win-win-win for the residents, resort and developer.”

- Town Manager Michael Ramsey

The symbiotic relationship between private investment and public infrastructure can be a difficult balancing act. The Town of Killington has helped to build partnerships that will catapult the community beyond what either entity could have accomplished alone.



Killington Town Manager Michael Ramsey (center left), Michael Sneyd from Great Gulf Residential (front center) and Selectman Jim Haff (right) cut the ribbon Oct. 4, 2023, officially kicking off the Killington Forward initiative.

Killington Forward

The Town of Killington has received approval as a master TIF District and has signed a development agreement with Great Gulf who will be developing the Killington Village at the Snowshed/Ramshead base.

This partnerships will allow for:

Clean water

via a new municipal water system that will serve residents and businesses on Killington Road.

New Killington Road

the reconstruction of this central roadway will make it safer and more bike and pedestrian friendly with bus pull-offs, sidewalks and bike paths.

Workforce housing:

The Town is actively pursuing plans in order to bring both affordable and workforce housing to the community.

Resiliency:

Killington Town has taken a proactive approach toward roadway infrastructure by adapting a 50-year storm design calculation.



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By Jerry LeBlond

Mikaela Shiffrin: the winningest Alpine skier in history returns to Killington, fans await with bells

By Polly Mikula

Mikaela Shiffrin, a New Hampshire native and Burke Mountain Academy graduate, made her World Cup debut on March 11, 2011. That April, just a few weeks after her 16th birthday, she won the Slalom title at the U.S. National Championships at Winter Park, becoming the youngest U.S. ski racer to claim a national Alpine crown.

In the 13 years since then, Shiffrin has become the World Cup's greatest Alpine racer. She ended last season with 88 total World Cup wins (53 of which were in Slalom) and has made it onto the podium 138 times.

She's won 15 World Cup Season titles (5 overall, 7 Slalom, 1 Super-G, 2 Giant Slalom); seven World Championship titles (4 Slalom, 1 Super G, 1 in Giant Slalom, and 1 Alpine Combined); and 3 Olympic medals (Gold in Slalom 2014, Gold in Giant Slalom 2018 and Silver in Alpine Combined 2018).

After last season she gained the top spot for World Cup wins —more than any alpine skier in history (men or women). Simply: Shiffrin is considered one of the greatest alpine skiers of all time.

She currently holds the records for:

- The youngest Slalom champion in Olympic Alpine skiing history, at 18 years old.
- Tied for the most Olympic gold medals ever won by an American in Alpine skiing.
- The most decorated American Alpine skier in the history of the World Championships. She now has 14; seven of them are gold — a new record.
- The only Alpine skier with wins in all six FIS Alpine Ski World Cup disciplines — Slalom, Parallel Slalom, Giant Slalom, Super-G, Downhill, and Alpine Combined.

- The youngest skier to win 50 World Cup races, at age 23.
- The most all-time World Cup victories. (Last season she beat Lindsey Vonn's record of 82 and Ingemar Stenmark's record of 86).
- The only athlete to have won 17 races in the same calendar year, 2019 season.

In the past seven years, Shiffrin has won the Overall World Cup five times. Last season, Shiffrin won the overall World Cup, as well as the Slalom and Giant Slalom discipline titles. Shiffrin was also the recipient of the 2023 Best Female Athlete ESPY Award for her Excellence in Sports Performance.

At the Killington Cup, Shiffrin has won five of the past six Slalom races. Last year, she finished 5th despite having the fastest first run. The top spot went to Anna Swenn Larsson and Wendy Holdener who tied for first! Shiffrin finished 0.59 seconds behind the winning time.

Shiffrin has yet to top the podium in Giant Slalom at the Killington Cup, but placed second in 2017 and third in 2019.

The first two races of the 2023-24 season

So far this season, there have been two races: The first (a Giant Slalom) in Soelden, Austria, Oct. 28, Shiffrin finished 6th —1.40 seconds behind Swiss winner Lara Gut-Behrami. The second (a Slalom) in Levi, Finland, Nov. 12, Shiffrin won —her 89 World Cup and seventh raindeer (the unique prize in Levi).

Next up is this weekend in Killington, where the athletes will race Giant Slalom on Saturday and Slalom on Sunday. Can Shiffrin regain her Slalom title and notch her 90th win?



By Jerry LeBlond

Left: The 2022 Killington Giant Slalom podium (l-r): Marta Bassino, Lara Gut-Behrami, Sara Hector. Right: the Slalom podium (l-r): Anna Swenn Larsson, Wendy Holdener, Katharina Truppe.

Past podiums at the Killington Cup

* 2020 Killington Cup races were canceled due to Covid

2022 Giant Slalom

1. Lara Gut-Behrami, SUI
1:44.08
2. Marta Bassino, ITA
1:44.15
3. Sara Hector, SWE
1:44.28

2022 Slalom

1. Anna Swenn Larsson, SWE
1:42.97
1. Wendy Holdener, SUI
1:42.97
3. Katharina Truppe, AUT
1:43.19

2021 Giant Slalom

Canceled due to weather after nine racers skied in difficult conditions, with 30 mph wind, whipping snow and poor visibility.

2021 Slalom

1. Mikaela Shiffrin, USA
1:38.33
2. Petra Vlhova, SVK
1:39.08
3. Wendy Holdener, SUI
1:39.16

2019 Giant Slalom

1. Marta Bassino, ITA
1:38.19
2. Federica Brignone, ITA
1:38.45
3. Mikaela Shiffrin, USA
1:38.48

2019 Slalom

1. Mikaela Shiffrin, USA
1:50.45
2. Petra Vlhova, SVK
1:52.74
3. Anna Swenn Larsson, SWE
1:53.18

2018 Giant Slalom

1. Federica Brignone, ITA
1:51.33
2. Ragnhild Mowinckel, NOR
1:51.82
3. Stephanie Brunner, AUT
1:52.11

2018 Slalom

1. Mikaela Shiffrin, USA
1:43.25
2. Petra Vlhova, SVK
1:43.82
3. Frida Hansdotter, SWE
1:44.33

2017 Giant Slalom

1. Viktoria Rebensburg, GER
1:57.63
2. Mikaela Shiffrin, USA
1:58.30
3. Manuela Moelgg, ITA
1:59.12

2017 Slalom

1. Mikaela Shiffrin, USA
1:40.91
2. Petra Vlhova, SVK
1:42.55
3. Bernadette Schild, AUT
1:43.58

2016 Giant Slalom

1. Tessa Worley, FRA
1:59.26
2. Nina Loeseth, NOR
2:00.06
3. Sofia Goggia, ITA
2:00.37

2016 Slalom

1. Mikaela Shiffrin, USA
1:27.95
2. Veronika Velez Zuzulova, SVK
1:28.68
3. Wendy Holdener, SUI
1:28.81



Photos courtesy Killington Resort and U.S. Ski & Snowboard

By Paul Holmes



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Audi FIS Ski World Cup

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AJ HURTY | MEMBER OF STIFEL U.S. ALPINE SKI TEAM
PHOTOGRAPHED BY DUSTIN SATLOFF

Photos courtesy Killington Resort and U.S. Ski & Snowboard



World Cup programs offer event keepsakes

Athlete autographs make them extra valuable, bring a sharpie!

Each of the seven years since 2016 that Killington has hosted the World Cup races on Superstar, the Mountain Times has published a program in partnership with Killington Resort and sponsors, creating a free keepsake for all attendees — a surprising number have collected them all!



By Polly Mikula

'Advice for Girls': An exciting new woman-led ski film

By Sarah Calvin

Saturday, Nov. 25 at 7 p.m.— KILLINGTON— "Advice for Girls," a new ski film highlighting the stories of girls and women in the ski industry, comes to Killington Resort's Snowshed Ballroom at 7 p.m. The screening follows a panel discussion called "Doing it All" led by women ski industry professionals at 6 p.m. also in the Snowshed Ballroom.

Filmmaker and big mountain skier Sara Beam Robbins wants to see more equality within the ski industry. Robbins knows that, all too often, women are underrepresented in ski films or left out entirely. Her new film, "Advice for Girls," aims to change that narrative. Boasting an all-female cast and production crew, "Advice for Girls" highlights women skiers of all ages and abilities, weaving in powder shots with the athletes' unique stories.

An avid skier, Robbins got her start in filmmaking by following her friends around the terrain park with a GoPro, compiling video clips into a snapshot of their season. In 2016, she co-founded a production company, The Road West Traveled, and produced a documentary, Abandoned, about abandoned ski areas in Colorado. Abandoned was well-received, and Robbins cites the incorporation of a storyline alongside the skiing as the reason for the documentary's success.

"I wanted to see more stories integrated within ski media," Robbins said. "I think oftentimes you see a lot of like stoke, like powder shots which are great, and ["Advice for Girls"] definitely has those too, but I think what's unique about our film is it also

has story, and I think that's ultimately what people want to come watch. The skiing is just the vehicle for the stories to be told."

"Advice for Girls" is the brainchild of professional skier (and a producer of the film) Addy Jacobsend. Jacobsend first approached Robbins with a concept for a short film in which an older version of Jacobsend would give advice to a younger version. Robbins liked the idea, and the two women turned the concept into a feature-length film about woman empowerment and community within the ski industry.

All 26 athletes featured in the film either are current professional skiers or are pursuing a ski career. The movie segments the athletes into three groups: The Pioneers, women like AJ Cargill who won competitions alongside men; present-day athletes like Jacobsend who are making a name for themselves; and the "groms," up-and-coming athletes from 8-16 who are already making waves in the ski community. Robbins says the diverse group automatically became a little community.

"I think that the coolest part [of filming] was just seeing how naturally everybody meshed together," said Robbins. "We're all starting from the same foundation and...everybody coming together with that common denominator just made for fast friendships and just all around a good time. We kinda had an ethos within the production team of safety first and open communication. If someone didn't feel safe or someone didn't feel comfortable with what we were doing, it was



By Katie Cooney, production photographer

Athletes surround the "Advice for Girls" van, getting ready for the day's next adventure.

kind of a unanimous agreement to switch directions. I think that made it the most special...with as many athletes as we do have, there was really like zero drama because we just had awesome open communication throughout the entire thing and we were all striving towards the same goal."

Shot in the inner mountain west at locations like Grand Targhee in Wyoming, Snowbasin in Utah, and the backcountry of Crested Butte in Colorado, "Advice for Girls" features enough flying powder and trick shots to satisfy the most hardcore ski movie fan, and enough heart to inspire every

audience member to be a little bit kinder to themselves.

"Don't be afraid to take up space [and] know your worth," Robbins said. "The industry needs more women. A big underlying goal for our film is we are aiming to pay all of our creatives and all of our athletes involved, which oftentimes doesn't happen in the ski media world. If somebody isn't willing to pay you what you're worth then it's not the right opportunity. One no just means a bigger yes later on. Hold true to that and don't settle."

For more information and to watch the trailer, visit: adviceforgirlsfilm.com.



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The people who make the Killington Cup happen

Hundreds of resort employees, volunteers from across the region and contractors have worked tirelessly over the past few weeks in order to pull off all that's necessary to make the Killington Cup a success.

Killington Resort says it has more than 300 volunteers supporting the Killington Cup. Collectively, they've recorded over 32,00 volunteer hours of work over the past six Killington Cup events.

Meg Laferriere Horrocks manages the volunteer Beast Crew for the Killington Cup and is proud its

members' dedication and what it is able to accomplish each year at Killington.

"Without [the crew] we could not pull off a solid race venue," she stated.

From snowmaking and grooming (it takes about 100 hours of snowmaking to prepare the World Cup venue) to accreditation and set up.

The Killington Resort crew operates with a "no regrets plan" when it comes to snowmaking for the World Cup. And sometimes it comes down to the wire.

"We're ready Oct. 1 to start

making snow anytime we have the temperatures," said Steve Reynolds, the snowmaking control room supervisor at Killington Resort. Last year it came down to the last week, and the resort came the closest it ever has to not pulling off the event.

This year, the temperatures have been much more cooperative.

Crews check the forecast, every day, twice a day starting Oct. 1, hoping the temperature drops to about 31 degrees. When the forecast looks favorable, crews are lined up 24/7 to get the snowguns blasting!



Photos by Paul Holmes

Hundreds of people behind the scenes work hard to make the World Cup happen each year.



WEDNESDAY

11/22

Early Literacy Playgroup

10 a.m.-Noon. Weekly. Fox Room, Rutland Free Library, 10 Court St., Rutland. Free. For 2-to-5-year-olds. Rutland County Parent-Child Center's Miss Allie, a certified teacher, leads a literacy-based playgroup. Light snacks will be provided, along with crafts, songs, games, and more. To register, email allie.griffiths@rcpcc.org. Rutlandfree.org or 802-773-1860.

Dinosaur Planter

3-4 p.m. Fox Room, Rutland Free Library, 10 Court St., Rutland. Free. Join us to make your very own dinosaur planter. Use tools to prepare the dinosaur, paint it if you want, and then plant something in it. Recommended for kids ages 8+. Registration is required as supplies are limited. rutlandfree.org

THURSDAY

11/23

**Toonerville Trail Turkey Trot**

9-11 a.m. Toonerville Trail, 280 Clinton St., Springfield. \$20-\$25. A flat 5K out-and-back along the Black River, benefiting local organizations. Prizes and post-run refreshments provided. yourplaceinvermont.com

Ludlow Turkey Trot

9-11 a.m. Dorsey Park, 41 Andover St., Ludlow. Free entry with a toy or donation. Annual 5K event benefiting Black River Good Neighbor Services. ludlowtparksandrec.com/turkeytrot

12th Annual Killington Turkey Trot

9:30 a.m. Pickle Barrel, 1741 Killington Road, Killington. \$30, \$35 on race day. Run to support local charities. killingtonturkeytrot.com.

Zack's Place Turkey Trot

10 a.m. 21-22 Pleasant St., Woodstock. Registration is open for a 5k walk and run on Thanksgiving morning. All proceeds support Zack's Place, a non-profit providing free programs to adults with special needs. runsignup.com/Race/VT/Woodstock/ZacksPlaceTurkeyTrot

KILLINGTON MOUNTAIN SCHOOL WORLD CUP PARTY 2023

FRIDAY 3-5 P.M.

Ukulele Group

Noon-1 p.m. Weekly. Chaffee Art Center, 16 So. Main St., Rutland. Free. Musician Steven Wilson leads the group through specific sheet music. All levels welcome. Must pre-register. chaffeeartcenter.square.site or call 802-775-0356.

FRIDAY

11/24

Get Outside All Together**Hike**

9 a.m.-Noon. Farm & Wilderness Foundation, 401 Farm and Wilderness Road, Plymouth. \$15. Enjoy a rejuvenating hike with friends and family. yourplaceinvermont.com/event/get-outside-all-together-hike

The Annual Weston**Christmas Bazaar**

10 a.m.-4 p.m. Walker Farm, 705 Main St., Weston. The event features local artisan vendors, a raffle, and aims to raise funds for repairing the historic Weston Playhouse. facebook.com/p/The-Weston-Christmas-Bazaar-100064838104853/

Thanksgiving Weekend at Billings Farm

10 a.m.-4 p.m. Billings Farm, 69 Old River Road, Woodstock. Experience 19th century Thanksgiving traditions, crafts, and food at Billings Farm's Thanksgiving event. Enjoy activities such as making mini apple pies, guessing 1890s Thanksgiving dinner items, and sharing family traditions. Warm up by the outdoor firepits with hot cocoa and s'mores, and shop for holiday gifts at the onsite gift shop. Visit website for ticket purchase information. billingsfarm.org

Artery at Chaffee Art Center

10 a.m.-Noon. Fridays. Chaffee Art Center, 16 So. Main St., Rutland. \$10-\$20. Adult group for connection and inspiration. Painting in all mediums welcome. Participants will work on their own pieces. When possible, a 30-minute focus on technique will be held. Must pre-register. chaffeeartcenter.org

Killington Mountain School World Cup Party 2023

3-5 p.m. Killington Distillery, 47 Old Mill Road, Killington. \$20 pre-purchase, \$25 suggested donation at the door, Join KMS for a World Cup celebration with live music, food, drinks, with the Superstar World Cup venue backdrop. RSVP for limited edition KMS swag item. killingtonmountainschool.org

VINS Forest of Lights opening

5 p.m. VINS Nature Center, 149 Natures Way Quechee. Admission price. tour the VINS forest canopy which will be covered in lights. VINS.org

Downtown Rutland Tree Lighting

5:30 p.m. Depot Park, Rutland. Free. Festive tree lighting event with Santa's arrival, caroling, hot cocoa, and holiday window displays. downtownrutland.com/treelighting

Blue Cat Music Series: George Nostrand

6-9 p.m. Fridays. Blue Cat Bistro, 575 Main St., Castleton. No cover. This week Blue Cat Bistro features George Nostrand of Rutland's A Sound Space, who also partners with Blue Cat Bistro to bring 10 shows to the Blue Cat, every Friday through the end of the year.

Paramount Theatre:**Dionne Warwick Live in Concert**

7-10 p.m. Paramount Theatre, 30 Center St., Rutland. \$79-\$99 + tax/fees. Special performance by the legendary Black female vocalist Dionne Warwick, with the Vermont Symphony Orchestra String Ensemble. paramountvt.org/event/dionne-warwick

'ADVICE FOR GIRLS'

SATURDAY, 6 P.M.

**SATURDAY**

11/25

Audi FIS Women's World Cup: Day 1

7 a.m. 4763 Killington Road, Killington Resort. \$10+. The Audi FIS World Cup returns to Killington on Thanksgiving Weekend, featuring the best female Alpine skiers in the world. Free athlete bib presentation and fireworks display on Friday night. VIP packages are available. Shuttle buses to race venue from parking lots. See inside pages Mountain Times for details.

Senior Basket Raffle

9-11 a.m. at Maclure Library, 840 Arch St., Pittsford. Join us for the Senior Basket Raffle at Maclure Library, with chances to win prizes. maclurelibrary.org.

Holiday Craft Fair

9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Poultney High School Gym, 154 East Main St., Poultney. Homemade crafts, specialty food items, Christmas gifts. lakesregionfarmersmarket@gmail.com

Ceramic Ornament Workshop (Kids & Family)

9:30-11 a.m. The MINT, 112 Quality Ln., Rutland. \$50 members; \$75.00 for not-yet members. Join us for a beginner-friendly workshop where you can make three styles of ornaments: cookie cutter, face/character, and candy canes. Instruction will be provided, and we will underglaze our creations for added color. Instructors: Tiffany and Caitlin. themint.com.

Wonderfeet: Winterland

10 a.m.-4 p.m. Wonderfeet Kids' Museum, 66 Merchants Row, Rutland. \$15 add-on to regular admission. Kids will create three seasonal crafts, including a custom photo craft, for gifts or family keepsakes. Preregistration for your hour slot is recommended. Winterland will repeat on Sunday, Dec. 3. wonderfeetkidsmuseum.org/events

Thanksgiving Weekend at Billings Farm

10 a.m.-4 p.m. Billings Farm, 69 Old River Road, Woodstock. Experience 19th century Thanksgiving traditions, crafts, and food at Billings Farm's Thanksgiving event. Enjoy activities such as making mini apple pies, guessing 1890s Thanksgiving dinner items, and sharing family traditions. Warm up by the outdoor firepits with hot cocoa and s'mores, and shop for holiday gifts at the onsite gift shop. Visit website for ticket purchase information. billingsfarm.org

The Vermont Farmers' Market

10 a.m.-2 p.m. Howe Center, Suite 92, 1 Scale Ave. (off Strongs Avenue), Rutland. Free. The Vermont Farmers' Market has moved indoors for the winter. One of the largest and most diverse farmers' markets in Vermont, it was the first to operate 52 weeks out of the year. Find seasonal harvest, winter veggies, crafts and more. vtfarmersmarket.org

← **Calendar:** Email events@mountaintimes.info from page 40

The Annual Weston Christmas Bazaar

10 a.m.-4 p.m. Walker Farm, 705 Main St. Weston. The event features local artisan vendors, a raffle, and aims to raise funds for repairing the historic Weston Playhouse. facebook.com/p/The-Weston-Christmas-Bazaar-100064838104853/

Storytime!

10-10:45 a.m. Saturdays. Hartland Public Library, 123 Main St. Free. Themed reading, crafts, experiments, and games for preschool and early elementary aged kids. hartlandlibraryvt.org

Make & Take Saturday Kids' Class

10:30-11:30 a.m. Saturdays. Chaffee Art Center, 16 So. Main St., Rutland. Ages: 6-12. Weekly fun activity featuring arts and crafts. \$15. Min. 5 students. Must pre-register. chaffeeartcenter.org

Drop 'N' Paint

Noon-2 p.m. Chaffee Art Center, 16 So. Main St., Rutland. \$25. All ages. All materials will be set up and ready for you with a choice of 3 images you can paint. Includes use of canvas, paint, brushes, easel, and smock. Youth must be accompanied by an adult. Must pre-register. Info and registration: chaffeeartcenter.org.

Storytime!

10-10:45 a.m. Saturdays. Hartland Public Library, 153 Route 5, Hartland. Intended for preschool and early elementary aged kids, but all are welcome. Explore a different theme through reading and activities. We'll read, make crafts, create experiments, and play games. hartlandlibraryvt.org/calendar or 802-436-2473

Make & Take Saturday Kids' Class

10:30-11:30 a.m. Saturdays. Chaffee Art Center, 16 So. Main St., Rutland. Ages: 6-12. Weekly fun activity featuring arts and crafts. \$15. A minimum of 5 students is required to run the class. Must pre-register. chaffeeartcenter.org

Rutland Railway Museum & Model Club

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

Artist Member Show

Noon-2 p.m. Stone Valley Arts, 145 E. Main St., Poultney. Twenty-one talented artists showcasing a variety of media including painting, photography, woodturnings, pottery, collage, and mixed media. Through Sunday, Dec. 10. stonevalleyarts.org

Memory Tree Lighting

3:30-4:30 p.m. Brandon Town Hall, 1 Conant Square, Brandon. Free. Remember loved ones with the lighting of Christmas trees and enjoy carol singing. brandon.org/events/memory-tree-lighting

Killington Cup After-party

5 p.m. Wobbly Barn, 2229 Killington Road, Killington. The party will feature performances by Krishna Guthrie Band, 220 KID, and Steal the Sky. The nightclub will be strictly 21+ at 9 p.m. wobblybarn.com.

'Advice for Girls'

6-7 p.m. Snowshed Ballroom, Snowshed Lodge, 3861 Killington Road, Killington. \$10. A screening and panel discussion of "Advice for Girls," a film highlighting the experiences of women in the ski industry. Featuring advice from three generations of women in skiing, the film aims to empower and inspire women of all ages and backgrounds. adviceforgirlsfilm.com

SUNDAY
11/26

Audi FIS Women's World Cup: Day 2

7 a.m. 4763 Killington Road, Killington Resort. \$10+. The Audi FIS World Cup returns to Killington on Thanksgiving Weekend, featuring the best female Alpine skiers in the world. Free athlete bib presentation and fireworks display on Friday night. VIP packages are available. Shuttle buses to race venue from parking lots. See inside pages Mountain Times for details.

Gathering at Mission Farm

9:30-10:30 a.m. Mission Farm, 316 Mission Farm Road, Killington. Free-will donation. missionfarmvt.com

Thanksgiving Weekend at Billings Farm

10 a.m.-4 p.m. Billings Farm, 69 Old River Road, Woodstock. Visit website for ticket purchase information. Experience 19th century Thanksgiving traditions, crafts, and food at Billings Farm's Thanksgiving event. Enjoy activities such as making mini apple pies, guessing 1890s Thanksgiving dinner items, and sharing family traditions. Warm up by the outdoor firepits with hot cocoa and s'mores, and shop for holiday gifts at the onsite gift shop. billingsfarm.org

Wonderfeet: Santa's Workshop

10 a.m. - 4 p.m. 66 Merchants Row, Rutland. \$30. Wonderfeet Kids' Museum hosts this festive event where kids and families can decorate cookies, sip hot cocoa, make crafts, and meet Santa. Santa's Workshop repeats on Saturday, Dec. 2. wonderfeetkidsmuseum.org/events

Artist Member Show

Noon-2 p.m. Stone Valley Arts, 145 E. Main St., Poultney. Twenty-one talented artists showcasing a variety of media including painting, photography, woodturnings, pottery, collage, and mixed media. Through Sunday, Dec. 10. stonevalleyarts.org

Thanksgiving Weekend Movie Marathon

2-6:30 p.m. Stone Valley Arts, 145 E Main St., Poultney, \$5 suggested donation. Marathon of indie movies featuring "Marcel the Shell with Shoes On," "Wait Before Mickey," and "How to Please a Woman." stonevalleyarts.org

Tree Lighting

4:30 p.m. Village Farm, 840 Arch St., Pittsford. Free. Visitors can enjoy the magical atmosphere as the holiday season kicks off. maclurelibrary.org.

Science Book Club

7 p.m. Shrewsbury Library, 98 School St. Free. Join the Science Book Club at Shrewsbury Library for an engaging discussion on the fascinating subject of scientific literature. Contact Margery Salmon at salmonm@vermontel.net for more information.

MONDAY
11/27

Baby and Toddlers Rock

10-10:30 a.m. Weekly. Fox Room, Rutland Free Library, 10 Court St. Rutland. Free. A music and pre-literacy program for children 0-24 months. Children and caregivers love this program, join us and see why. rutlandfree.org or 802-773-1860.

Killington Bone Builders

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

Monday Movie

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

Art Bar - Open Craft Time!

3:30-4:30 p.m. Rutland Free Library, 10 Court St., Rutland. Free. Craft supplies galore - work on any project you want! Browse our craft books for ideas. We'll occasionally provide a specific craft or have special supplies available. rutlandfree.org or 802-773-1860.

Introduction to MIG Welding

5:30-7:30 p.m. The MINT, 112 Quality Lane, Rutland. Members - \$25; Non-Members - \$45 Learn the skill of using a MIG welder in a fun and comfortable environment. No experience necessary. Safety equipment provided. Instructor: Bobby Walker. Info: mint.org

JAM Scriptwriters Group

6:30-8p.m. 123 Main St. Free. Gather with local writers to learn script writing techniques, receive feedback, and workshop various scripts meant for performance. uvjam.org/scriptwritersgroup/

TUESDAY
11/28

Storytime at Hartland Public Library

10:30-11:30 a.m. Weekly. Hartland Public Library, 153 Route 5, Hartland. Free. Recommended for ages 0-5 but all are welcome. We'll read books, color, play with Legos, and have fun. Each week we'll explore different themes in books. All books read during story time count toward "1000 Books Before Kindergarten." hartlandlibraryvt.org/calendar or 802-436-2473.

Baby Story Time

10:30-11 a.m. Norman Williams Public Library, 10 The Green, Woodstock. Free. This story time features short stories, interspersed with songs, finger puppet plays, free play, and more. It is geared for children ages birth to 20 months and will run for about 20 minutes. normanwilliams.org or 802-457-2295.

Stories on a String

10-10:30 a.m. Weekly. Fox Room, Rutland Free Library, 10 Court St., Rutland. Free. Join Ms. Helen of Green Mountain Music for interactive storytelling and songs for all ages! No registration is required, free to all. Geared for ages 2 and up. rutlandfree.org or 802-773-1860.

Play Chess & Backgammon!

5-7 p.m. Weekly. Norman Williams Public Library, 10 The Green, Woodstock. Free. Play in the company of fellow enthusiasts where everyone is welcome. normanwilliams.org or 802-457-2295.

Intro. to 100-watt Laser Cutter Workshop with Gabe

6-7:30 p.m. The MINT, 112 Quality Lane, Rutland. \$35. MINT members only! Participants must have a solid understanding of computer navigation, also experience with vector-based programs (Adobe Illustrator, etc.) is required. Call to check for an opening, 802-772-7087. rutlandmint.org/event-5481882/Registration

Read Between the Lines | Fiction Discussion Group

6-7:30 p.m. 4th Tuesday of each month. Norman Williams Public Library - Hybrid (In person & via Zoom), 10 The Green, Woodstock. Free. Join Donna Steed for a monthly fiction discussion group on selected books. The book this week is "Schmutz," a novel by Felicia Berliner. Titles are listed in advance at normanwilliams.org/book-groups/#lines. Email programs@normanwilliams.org to register or call 802-457-2295.

THANKSGIVING WEEKEND
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It's the trypto-fan

By Pat Wise


It's the same thing every year, that feeling known as lethargy, Is it bird or is it beer, that causes lack of energy? In the homes across the land, a family gathered day there's clinks of forks and bird to eat then football to be played. Touchdowns, tackles, passes, kicks, stuffing face, a turkey fix, bellies bulge from festive spread, as whales lay on the couch half-dead. Some of them seem toasted, some have even boasted, trypto- fans have ghosted the one who cleaned and hosted. Eyeballs on the screen, half-asleep while watching, in and out of dream, Screaming at their team, drooling while they're talking, bellies full, while gawking. One more meal that's left to eat Apple, pecan, chocolate sweets, cherry, key-lime can't be beat pumpkin pie and other treats. Indigestion bubbles, but one thing saves their troubles, hopes their favorite team will win, As long as no one fumbles.



Submitted
Between tryptophan dreams and NFL replay screens, Thanksgiving is a unique slumber showdown.

MOUNTAIN TOP RESORT

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WED 11/22

CHESTER

6 p.m. The Pizza Stone VT – Parlor Ruckus

KILLINGTON

8 p.m. Jax Food & Games – Chris Powers

LUDLOW

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

POULTNEY

6 p.m. The Poultney Pub – Bird Mountain String Band

QUECHEE

6 p.m. Public House Pub – Kim Wilcox

RUTLAND

7:30 p.m. Moose Lodge – Ryan Fuller

8 p.m. North Star Lodge Star Lounge – Jake Palatine and Tom Palmieri
8 p.m. Pickle Barrel Nightclub – Night Anthem

8 p.m. Wobbly Barn – Steal the Sky

9 p.m. Jax Food & Games – Jamie's Junk Show

LUDLOW

7 p.m. The Killarney – Sammy B

8:30 p.m. Off the Rails – Dance Party with DJ Dave

POULTNEY

6 p.m. The Poultney Pub – Patrick Sargent

QUECHEE

5:30 p.m. Public House Pub – Arthur James

STOCKBRIDGE

7:30 p.m. Wild Fern – Heather Lynne

LUDLOW

8:30 p.m. Off the Rails – Red Hat Band

POULTNEY

12 p.m. The Poultney Pub – Record Sale DJ'd by Classic Ken

QUECHEE

5:30 p.m. Public House Pub – Frogz

RUTLAND

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

STOCKBRIDGE

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

MON 11/27

KILLINGTON

5:30 p.m. Mary Lou's – BAK'n

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

LUDLOW

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

TUES 11/28

KILLINGTON

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

6 p.m. Rivershed – James Joel

LONDONDERRY

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

LUDLOW

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

POULTNEY

7 p.m. The Poultney Pub – Bluegrass Jam

QUECHEE

5 p.m. The Public House – Jim Yeager

RUTLAND

8:30 p.m. Center Street Alley – Acoustic Open Mic hosted by Josh LaFave

SUN 11/26

BRANDON

3:30 p.m. Town Hall – Memory Tree Lighting and Carol Sing

KILLINGTON

12 p.m. Rivershed – Brunch with Liz Reedy

5 p.m. The Foundry – Jazz Night with the Summit Pond Quartet

6 p.m. Liquid Art – Tee Boneicus Jones

6 p.m. Rivershed – Trivia

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

8 p.m. Still on the Mountain – Comedy Night with Joe Pontillo

STOCKBRIDGE

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

SAT 11/25

BRIDGEWATER

8 p.m. Woolen Mill Comedy Club – Comedy Night with Joe Pontillo

KILLINGTON

3 p.m. Pickle Barrel Nightclub – World Cup Rock the Dream Apres Party with Mixmaster Mike and Jamie's Junk Show

5 p.m. Wobbly Barn – Official Killington Cup After Party with the Krishna Guthrie Band

6 p.m. Moguls Sports Pub – Duane Carleton

6 p.m. Rivershed – Liz Reedy

6 p.m. Summit Lodge O'Dwyers Pub – County Down

6 p.m. Still on the Mountain – Jim Yeager

6 p.m. The Foundry – Aaron Audet

7:30 p.m. McGrath's Irish Pub – Mance

8 p.m. North Star Lodge Star Lounge – Jake Palatine and Tom Palmieri

9 p.m. Jax Food & Games – Jamie's Junk Show

9 p.m. Pickle Barrel Nightclub – Night Anthem

9 p.m. Wobbly Barn – Official Killington Cup After Party with 220 KID and Steal the Sky

THURS 11/23

KILLINGTON

9 a.m. Pickle Barrel Nightclub – 12th Annual Turkey Trot with music by Aaron Audet

5 p.m. Moguls Sports Pub – Duane Carleton

FRI 11/24

BOMOSEEN

5:30 p.m. Bomoseen Lodge & Taproom – Music by Cooper

CASTLETON

6 p.m. Blue Cat Bistro – George Nostrand

KILLINGTON

3 p.m. Still on the Mountain – KMS World Cup Party with music by Nick Bredice

4 p.m. The Foundry – Jamie's Junk Show

6 p.m. Rivershed – Red River North

6 p.m. Still on the Mountain – James Joel

7:30 p.m. McGrath's Irish Pub – Mance

8 p.m. Moguls Sports Pub – Super Stash Bros

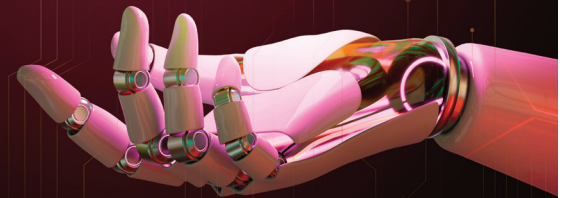


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Wobble before gobble: running wild on turkey day

On Thanksgiving day each year, local region supports communities with a number of turkey trot fundraiser runs. As Thanksgiving approaches, communities around the region are gearing up for the annual tradition of turkey trots. These festive running events not only promote a healthy and active lifestyle but also serve as opportunities for charity fundraising and community engagement. In this article, we will explore some of the prominent turkey trots happening on Thanksgiving and delve into the significance of these events in bringing people together for a good cause.

One of the most anticipated turkey trots in the region is the Toonerville Trail Turkey Trot 5K. Taking place from 9 to 11 a.m. at the Toonerville Trail, 280 Clinton St., Springfield, this event offers participants a scenic experience along the Black River. With a registration fee ranging from \$20 to \$25, the 5K out-and-back run not only promotes physical fitness but also contributes to the betterment of local organizations. Runners come together to support the community while enjoying the natural beauty of the trail.

Another noteworthy turkey trot that embodies the spirit of Thanksgiving giving is the Ludlow Turkey Trot, which unfolds from 9 to 11 a.m. at Dorsey Park, 41 Andover St., Ludlow. What sets this event apart is its unique entry requirement - participants can gain free



Runners will gather at various locations the region to run or walk a 5K race and fundraiser on Thanksgiving day.

Submitted

entry by donating a toy or making a charitable contribution. The annual 5K event serves as a means of raising funds for Black River Good Neighbor Services.

The 12th annual Killington Turkey Trot, a 5k run, scheduled for 9:30 a.m. at Pickle Barrel, 1741 Killington Road., is a community-driven initiative uplifting those in need. With a registration fee of \$30-\$35, this event serves as a platform for runners to contribute to various local charities.

Zack's Place on 21-22 Pleasant St. in Woodstock will hold its annual Turkey Trot at 10 a.m. on Thanksgiving morning. Proceeds will support Zack's Place, a non-profit organization dedicated to providing free programs to adults

with special needs. The 5K walk and run gives participants the opportunity to contribute to a noble cause.

The tradition of turkey trots during Thanksgiving serves as a poignant reminder of the values that define this joyous holiday - giving, community, and gratitude. As runners lace up their shoes and take to the streets and trails, they not only embark on a journey of physical fitness but also embark on a shared mission to support local charities and uplift those in need.

Jake Palatine and Tom Palmieri at North Star Lodge's Star Lounge is a good show

A hidden gem in Killington is the North Star Lodge's Star Lounge. It's a great place to stay but you don't have to, to enjoy the entertainment in the Star Lounge. This season, The Star Lounge is open Thursday – Sunday, 4-10 p.m. with an expanded pub menu and various live entertainment on the weekend. This Friday and Saturday from 8-10 p.m. you can catch Jake Palatine and Tom Palmieri from Attleboro, Mass. Jake is the nephew of bartender Big John who brings his big personality to the Lounge, to make your visit that much more enjoyable. I enjoyed myself last season and was blown away by the great food and great drinks but more importantly, they have the best drink prices in town. Make sure you call ahead for their entertainment schedule.

Jake plays electric guitar and sings. Tom is on the cajón, acoustic guitar and sings too. The two of them are part of Jake's six-piece band, the Chunky Seltzers who are a funk, soul, R&B band that plays covers and originals and is booked 2-3 times a month in the Boston area. Jake and Tom have some residencies at some breweries around their area.

As the duo, you can expect to hear casual, familiar, tunes with a mix of pop, old stuff, and originals. They do Guster, Dispatch, John Denver and even have a Justin Bieber tune on the list. Jake said, "A lot of the covers we do, I always fall back into Bill Withers. Not only because I love Bill Withers, but I love twisting covers a little bit. People can still hear the soul in them but like in the Chunky Seltzers we can make them really soulful and funk them up a bit." Tom added, "We try and make it our own but obviously you have to leave the essence of the song in there so people can recognize it, but it makes it more fun to play."

Their show consists of 80% covers but they both enjoy putting originals in. Jake said, "I never want to stop throwing originals in there because that's kind of why I do it." Tom added, "There's nothing better than in the middle of a show, throwing some originals in and see if people tap their feet."

Jake and Tom have been playing as a duo for a little over a year. Jake said, "Tom filled in for my drummer in the Chunky Seltzers and kind of blew us away, so we were like, ya let's do a duo. The band has been playing for four years but Jake and some of the guys have been playing together for twenty years."

Jake grew up in the North Shore, in North Andover, and wanted to play drums but the drum lesson place wasn't doing them anymore, just offering guitar lessons so that's the direction he went. Jake said, "It just hooked me. Ever

since I was twelve, I started playing in bands. I had a band all through middle school, all through high school. We had a ton of fun; we did great before college. I've always loved the camaraderie of playing music. I could never get away from it."

Some of Jake's musical influences are some bands I enjoy and have seen live like Lettuce, Soul Live. He likes a lot of soul and funk bands. Jake didn't have a lot of music in his family but said, "My grandfather was a big musician, it must have skipped a generation."

Tom grew up in the South Shore in Bridgewater and started playing piano when he was five. He said, "My parents threw me into piano lessons, which were great, I loved it. I had the itch to play drums and begrudgingly enough my parents got me my first drum set when I was ten. I taught myself drums and then I got into guitar and would play Open Mic Nights and host Open Mic Nights. I traveled around the local pubs in town and then I went back to drumming. I went all over with musical instruments. I always had a love for music and that's never went away."

Tom's biggest musical influence is drummer Gene Krupa. He said, "He's one of the best drummers ever but I take a lot for my musical influence from Tower of Power. I was a big James Brown fan when I was younger, that entire genre of music is great."

They both really enjoy this. Jake said, "It's a feeling you can't share with anybody else but other people who do it. My favorite thing about playing music is never having met somebody, playing live with them, jamming with them, and knowing you've connected on a level that you can't connect with other people on. It's like a gift all of us musicians have worked for. You can't even describe it at times." Tom added, "I echo that sentiment and for me one of the biggest things is like at our last show we had a little girl come up and start dancing and then her mom came up. To me that's like the end all, be all, to see people enjoying themselves to the music that you're playing because when you're playing it and you're doing it well, you're enjoying it too. It's a beautiful thing. It's why I've played for as long as I have."

Please check out their website, chunkyseltzers.com. You can also find them on all the social media platforms under the same name. They have a YouTube channel and besides listening to their music on their site and socials, you can find their music on all the streaming channels like Spotify, iTunes, etc.



Rockin' the Region
By Dave Hoffenberg



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Christmas season begins with events, shopping, fundraisers

This is Thanksgiving week and it's hard to ignore the excitement in the air that signifies the start of the festive season. As families gather to take part in the eating of the bird and the watching of the ball, the start of the Christmas season draws near with a number of Old Saint Nick approved events.

One anticipated event this week is the Annual Weston Christmas Bazaar, taking place on Friday, Nov. 24 - Saturday, Nov. 25, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Walker Farm, 705 Main St., Weston. The event features local artisan vendors showcasing their unique, handcrafted items, a raffle, and aims to raise funds for repairing the historical Weston Playhouse. A perfect event to kick off the holiday season by supporting local artisans and contributing to the preservation of a piece of the community's history.

The central event to the start of the Christmas season is the tree lighting ceremony. The Downtown Rutland Tree Lighting ushers in the spirit of Christmas on Friday, Nov. 24, at 5:30 p.m. at Depot Park. This festive event includes Santa's arrival, caroling, hot cocoa, and the unveiling of holiday window displays. The tree lighting ceremony is a time-honored tradition that brings the community together in celebration as the holiday spirit takes hold.

Attendees can enjoy a cup of hot cocoa from Mission City Church, cookies and milk from The Pines at Rutland Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation, and the first 200 attendees will receive free holiday light specs and candy canes. The MINT's downtown pop-up shop will offer hot drinks, snacks, and a fun wooden ornament craft activity for families.

The WSYB Christmas fund will be on-site collecting donations to support local families this holiday season. After the tree lighting ceremony, visitors can walk around Downtown Rutland to admire the festively decorated shop windows.

In Brandon The Memory Tree Lighting takes place on Saturday, November 25, from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. at Brandon Town Hall.

The Pittsford Tree Lighting is on Sunday, Nov. 26, at 4:30 p.m. at Village Farm, 840 Arch St. The lighting of the trees, accompanied by carol singing sets the tone for the holiday season.



Submitted

The Rutland Tree Lighting is Friday, Santa will be there.

On Saturday, Nov. 25, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., the Holiday Craft Fair at Poultney High School Gym, 154 East Main Street, Poultney, promises to be a haven for those seeking unique, handcrafted gifts and specialty food items. The fair presents an opportunity for the community to support local artisans and businesses while knocking off some early Christmas shopping.

For families seeking engaging and interactive experiences, Wonderfeet Kids' Museum in Rutland offers two events. Wonderfeet's "Winterland," taking place on Saturday, Nov. 25 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., invites children to create three keepsake seasonal crafts, including a custom photo craft. Additionally, "Santa's Workshop," on Sunday, November 26, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., provides a festive environment for kids and families to decorate cookies, sip hot cocoa, make crafts, and meet Santa.

With Christmas in the air, there is a number of activities that capture the essence of the season. From tree lighting ceremonies to craft fairs and workshops, there's something for everyone.



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Dionne Warwick

Dionne Warwick will headline a special event at the Paramount

Friday, Nov. 24 at 7 p.m.—RUTLAND—Dionne Warwick will headline a special performance featuring The Vermont Symphony Orchestra String Ensemble at the Paramount Theatre on Friday.

Dionne Warwick is a five-time Grammy Award-winning music legend who has earned more than 75 charted hit songs and sold over 100 million records. She recorded 18 consecutive Top 100 singles (“Don’t Make Me Over,” “Walk on By,” “Say a Little Prayer,” “A House is Not a Home,” “Alfie,” “Heartbreaker,” “Déjà Vu,” among countless others). She received her first Grammy in 1968 for “Do You Know the Way to San Jose?” Ms. Warwick became the first African-American solo female artist of her generation to win the prestigious award for Best Contemporary Female Vocalist Performance.

In 1985, she participated in the recording of “That’s What Friends Are For,” which became a No. 1 hit worldwide and raised awareness and major funds for AIDS research, which she continues to support, among other causes such as The Starlight Foundation, children’s hospitals, world hunger, disaster relief, and music education for which she has been honored and has raised millions of dollars. Warwick also participated in the all-star charity single, “We Are the World” and performed at “Live Aid.”

Ms. Warwick was also inducted into The Grammy Museum where a special 50th Anniversary career exhibit was unveiled and is a 2019 Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award recipient. Ms. Warwick released a star-studded duets album entitled, *Feels So Good*, featuring collaborations with some of today’s greatest artists. Recently, Warwick was the recipient of the coveted and prestigious 2017 Marian Anderson Award for her career accomplishments and philanthropy.

Complimentary vouchers are not valid for this performance.

Tickets will go for \$79, \$89, \$99 + tax/fees.

For more information, visit: paramountvt.org.

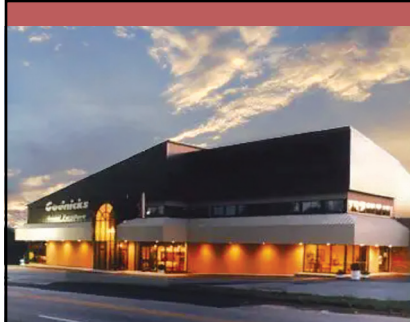
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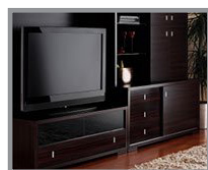
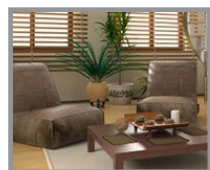
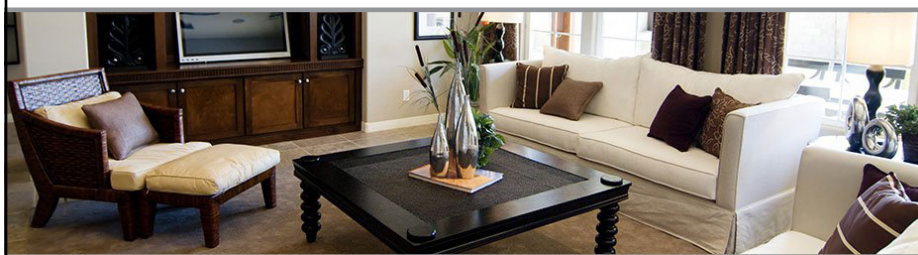
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Long Trail creates Ski the East beer

Long Trail Brewing is in the lift line with someone new this year — Ski The East! The two iconic East Coast brands paired up to create the Ski The East Hazy Mountain IPA.

The brew is a knee-deep dose of citrus, pine and tropical fruit hops that delivers a beverage for those who want to keep the shred alive. Hazy Mountain IPA is a limited-edition beer coming in at 6.7% ABV. It will be available starting now, while supplies last, coming in 4-packs of 16oz cans, as well as in the Long Trail IPA Pack: Ski The East Edition in 12oz cans.

Ski The East was born in 2005, from ice, with a mission to create apparel, media and events that inspire the East Coast's tightknit winter sports community.

For more info, visit: longtrail.com/beers/ski-the-east-ipa.



Enchanted illumination: exploring the Forest of Lights

QUECHEE — With shorter days, the Vermont Institute of Natural Science will be open for winter hours daily from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., and will be closed on Nov. 23, Thanksgiving day and Dec. 25, Christmas day.

A Forest of Lights will open on Friday, Nov. 24, 2023 at 5-7 p.m. for its second year. It will be open on specific evenings from Nov. 24 through Jan. 3. It is an outdoor event and includes risks associated with potential snowy or icy weather.

New additions this year include a twinkling snowflake tunnel, the blue and white icicle tower, and the fairy lighting hideaway.

VINS is headquartered in Quechee, the VINS Nature Center, 149 Nature's Way Quechee.

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



Courtesy VINS

A Forest of Lights, entering its second year, will open on Friday, Nov. 24 at VINS.

Festival of Trees & Vendor Village at the Killington Grand Hotel



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Courtesy Mission Farm

Mission Farm

Gathering at Mission Farm

Sunday, Nov. 26 at 9:30 a.m. —KILLINGTON—Mission Farm on 316 Mission Farm Road in Killington is holding a gathering at 9:30 a.m. Since 1817 Mission Farm has continued to be a sacred space in the community as a mission of the Episcopal Church in Vermont. For more info, visit: mission-farmvt.com



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Billings Farm hosts a classic Thanksgiving Weekend

Saturday and Sunday Nov. 25-26, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. —WOODSTOCK—Billings Farm in Woodstock is hosting a Thanksgiving event where visitors can experience 19th-century traditions, crafts, and food. The event will take place from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sat.-Sun., Nov. 25-26 at Billings Farm. The event offers activities such as making mini apple pies and guessing 1890s Thanksgiving dinner items. Families can also share their own traditions while warming up by the outdoor firepits with hot cocoa and s'mores. Additionally, there will be an onsite gift shop where attendees can shop for holiday gifts.

For more information and to purchase tickets, visit the Billings Farm website at billingsfarm.org. Woodstock.



Courtesy Billings Farm

A weekend of heritage and harvest will be on display at Billings Farm in Woodstock this Thanksgiving.

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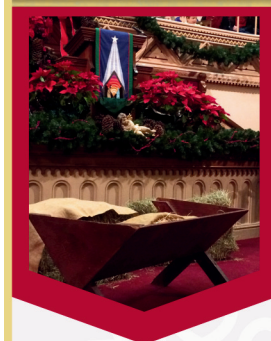


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- Dec. 17** 10 am Service of Lessons & Carols
- Dec. 19** 7 pm Longest Night Service
- Dec. 24** 10 am Family Christmas Service with Festival Brass, Choir and Nativity & 8:30 pm Candlelight Christmas Eve Service with Musical Prelude at 8pm

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gracechurchvt.org



Solutions

From page 51

Crossword

		S	A	G		B	P	I				
		A	P	P	A	R	I	T	I	O	N	S
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Sudoku

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

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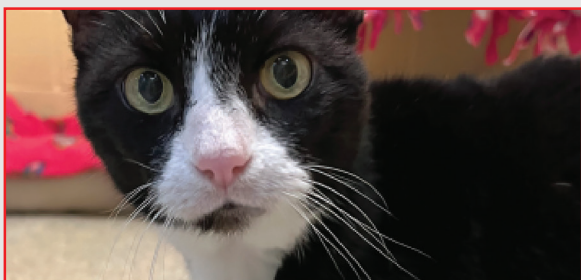
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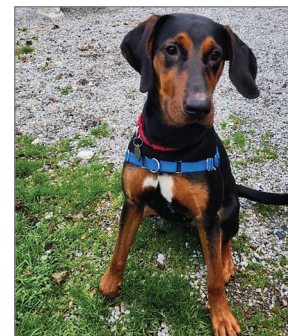
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Panyo—4-year-old. Spayed female. Domestic shorthair. Brown Tiger & white.



Genesis—7-year-old. Neutered male. Pitbull mix.



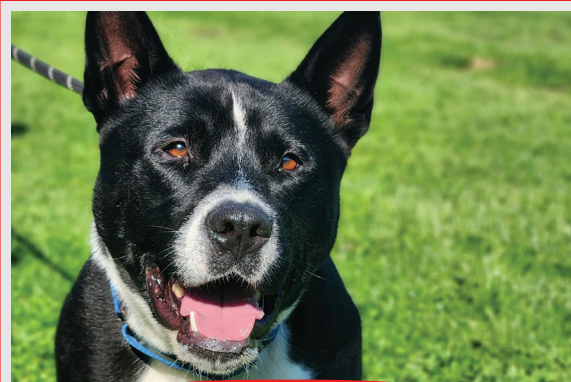
Daisy—8-month-old. Female. Coonhound. Black & tan.



Maple—1-year-old. Spayed female. Domestic Shorthair. Torti.



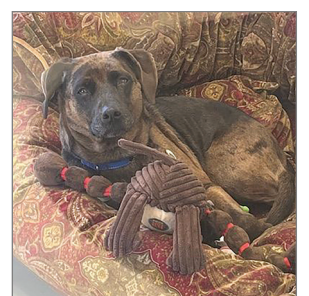
Cookie—5-year-old. Spayed female. Hound mix.



HOOCH

Hooch—3-year-old. Neutered male. Akita mix. Black & white.

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Mudpie—5-year-old. Spayed female. Beagle mix.



Persimmon—13-year-old. Spayed female. Domestic Shorthair.



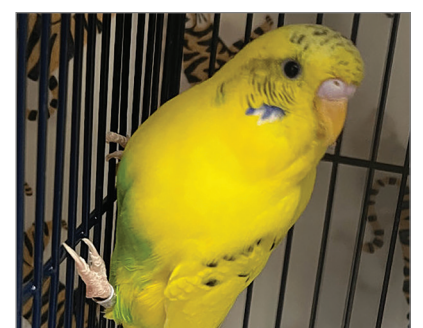
Minnie—Avian. Parakeet. Adult.



Maggie—3-year-old. Female. English Mastiff mix.



Nunu—7-year-old. Spayed female. Domestic Shorthair.



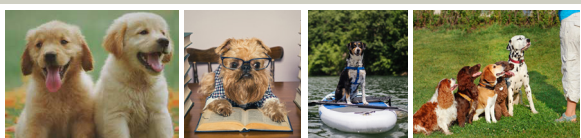
Mickey—Avian. Parakeet. Adult.



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Cosmic Catalogue



Aries March 21 - April 20

You've done your fair share of soul searching in recent weeks. Exploring all your fears and phobias, whether they be emotional, financial or both. This week, it's time to remember that the world is big and if you choose it to be, is also your oyster. New adventures, new truths and new philosophies will widen your perspective on a lot of things. While they may be a challenge at first, you'll be better for it.

Leo July 21 - August 20

This may be one of the most exciting, playful and potentially romantic periods you've had in such a long time. If you forgot how to play, how to shine and how to be warm and generous with your light, then change that! Go on a date with a loved one. Meet someone new. Spend time with your kids if you have them. Doing more of what you enjoy will get you closer to what is truth.

Sagittarius November 21 - December 20

Is there something you're ready to go into battle for? A truth to be told or a fight to be won? For the most part, you prefer to keep the tide high so all boats can rise, but even the most moderate of Sagittarians have their limits. With Mars onside for the rest of the year, this is YOUR time to get back to your own goals, mission and pursuits. A bit of healthy selfishness is now required. Whatever it takes.

Taurus April 21 - May 20

It may be slowly beginning to dawn on you that things aren't as they seem. If you're realizing this, then you're exactly where you need to be. The next several weeks, you may begin questioning the ideas and thoughts you always held true. Even more so if they involve your friends, a group or community. It may be high time you stick your neck out a bit, especially if you care for what's true.

Virgo August 21 - September 20

A partnership, including those you have with your family can be a battlefield at times. You could be feeling when it comes to love, that's hits harder than it should be lately. It could also be just a rocky patch you're going through. To be honest, that's just stuff. Can hearts combine and find the truth, the core of what it's all about? If you each take the high road, there is no limit to where you can go.

Capricorn December 21 - January 20

A lot of people enjoy the party season at this time of year and celebrate all the holiday and years end festivities. For you, probably more so than usual, you'll prefer to keep a measured pace. Until years end, reflect on the year that's been and what you'd like to see in 2024. You'll be glad to have used this time to recharge your batteries and sharpen your proverbial sword because there'll be no stopping you next year!

Gemini May 21 - June 20

After an arduous cycle of labor and toil, planets begin piling up in your Relationship Zone. Whether you're single or you're partnered, you're ready to take on a more assertive attitude towards partnerships. You may have to set the tone for how you want things to be, what you're willing to put up with and what you are not. Also, could be a bit of a spicy / passionate period for you too!

Libra September 21 - October 20

There's a feeling that something or someone has been snapping at your heels. You can no longer deny that. For now, the opportunity arrives to actually have the required conversations that will lead to the necessary courses of action. None of this will be easy for you because it will involve making a choice and seeing its inevitable consequences. However, if you have to think about this too much, that kinda gives you your answer!

Aquarius January 21 - February 20

If you sense that foreboding feeling you experienced earlier this year, then you'd be right. A lot is going to change for you next year. But, it's still 2023 and with planets piling up in your Friends Zone, carve out time to spend with those who matter most to you. If you're looking to dramatically change your life, then make the effort to expand your networking opportunities both personally and professionally. Take the action now for transformative effects later!

Cancer June 21 - July 20

It's no longer the time to sacrifice what you want now for what you want most. In fact, it's time to double down on work in order to materialize your aspirations. Whether it's a travel goal, an academic pursuit or, you're simply looking to broaden your perspectives a little bit, you can achieve a lot right now by looking at things differently to how you are right now.

Scorpio October 21 - November 20

It's likely that things are feeling different in both obvious and subtle ways. A new two-year chapter has opened up for you. New challenges, new goals and new ways of implementing them has arrived. Money is a feature too, if new financial outcomes are required. So too is having confidence in yourself, your abilities and what you have to offer. If you've been waiting for your time to strike, then the rest of 2023 is your time.

Pisces February 21 - March 20

Lines in the sand have to be drawn this week. Sure, you may be ready to tackle new professional challenges or take your life in a new direction – but, at what cost? Before you get excited and say yes to a bunch of things, heed the lessons of this year. There's no point in establishing healthy new boundaries if you blow them at the first shiny thing that comes your way. If you want respect, then it has to come from you first.

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

The truth will come out

No matter the era in time, no matter the race, the religion or the place you occupy on the globe, the most persecuted are always those who tell the truth. People say they want the truth, but you know how that goes... "You can't handle the truth." They believe in justice, in democracy, in freedom, in humanity. However, when the truth is presented right before their very eyes, they'll still deny it. Cognitive dissonance kicks in and the ego doubles down and an issue gets no closer to being resolved.

It's a flaw in the human con-

dition. It's easier to fool someone than it is to convince them they've been fooled. This week and most likely for the rest of 2023, a

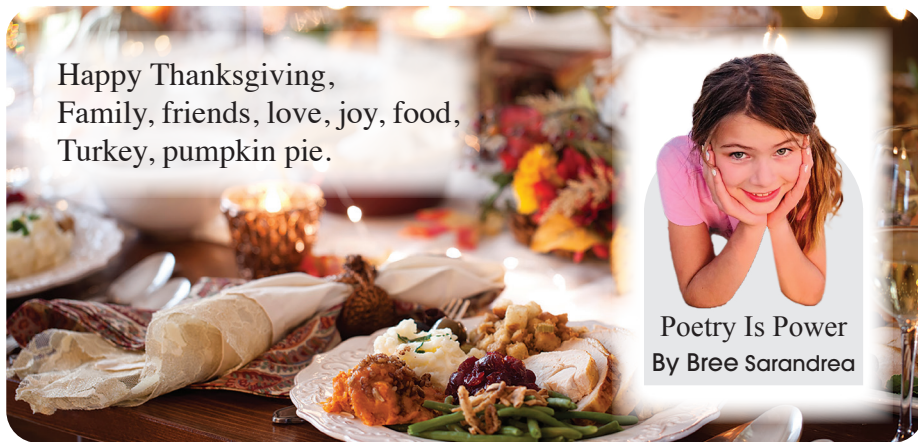
lot of truth is going to come out and a lot of people are not going to like it.

You see, truth doesn't come gift wrapped with a pretty bow on top. Whether the truth arrives via the word or the sword, once it comes, it's your responsibility to listen and to not look away. If you still choose to double down on the lies you've been told and the ideologies you've been sold, for the love of God, at least remember your heart.



Cosmic Catalogue
By Cassandra Tyndall

Happy Thanksgiving, a Haiku



Happy Thanksgiving,
Family, friends, love, joy, food,
Turkey, pumpkin pie.

Poetry Is Power
By Bree Sarandrea

Bear Cave wisdom: With positive thoughts and each day is Thanksgiving

"Good morning Bear. I am happy to be with you. What would you care to share today?" I ask.

"Good day, sweet Jill. What a glorious day to meet in our cave. I want to convey an important point that good health is a state of mind. Whenever we permit a negative influence, thought or happening into our life, we may

be in danger of repercussions. That's why a positive state of mind matters. Affirmations for good health and blessings go a long way towards a healthy life.

But thoughts can be tricky and sneak in unexpectedly in the mind's constant chatter."

I nodded.

"This is where meditation enters," Bear continued. "It clears the mind of negative thoughts and helps to reset and focus the brain on what we choose to contemplate.

Meditation cleanses the spirit and provides a higher perspective—even in brief moments. A visual image can help train the brain to enter the alpha state of relaxation. Breathing consciously in and out helps to give notice to downshift the pace. If this can take place throughout the day—several times for a few minutes—great changes can come about, both inside the body and brain."

"Yes, I see. It's hard to remember to stop and allow busy thoughts to evaporate. But I love that state of relaxation when I float along without worry or strife. I used to call it the 'outhouse perspective,' I said with a laugh. "While building our ski lodge in Killington, I'd sit and ponder with the outhouse door open, inspired by our lovely view of the mountains. It allowed me time to calm my teenage temper, soothe my raging hormones, and remember what matters. Thank you for reminding me of this formative experience!"

"Sometimes I, too, need time away from the pandemonium of my bear cave!"

"I was wondering what Thanksgiving means to you," I asked.

Meditation → 57

Pine siskins erupting

If you are prone to looking up as you walk (or pedal or drive) among trees, you may have noticed a bumper crop of cones clinging to the highest branches of white pine trees this summer and fall. Around my yard, the red squirrels have been busy gathering cones, chattering away as they scamper through the branches. But I've also heard another sound this autumn—beyond the scolding squirrels and familiar chickadee calls—a gregarious twittering from high in the trees.

That is the sound of pine siskins, and I've heard them prattling—like a group of excited children calling to each other on the playground—from the tall white pines along my walking route near home, the birches at the edge of our field, and the hardwood trees near my office parking spot. These diminutive finches are exceptionally nomadic, and they're showing up in droves around northern New England this autumn.

Streaky brown, with yellow tinting the edges of tail and wing, pine siskins breed across the northern width of our continent, including in the boreal forests of eastern Canada and in mixed forests in northern New England. Like other nomadic finches, pine siskins follow food sources, often traveling in large flocks. While migratory birds tend to move in north-south patterns, these seed-seekers travel more west-east, although they'll move as far south as Mexico during winter in search of food.

A poor crop of white spruce cones across the boreal forest this year has meant a large irruption of pine siskins—and other nomadic finches—to our region this fall, according to Tyler Hoar, author of the Finch Research Network's annual Winter Finch Forecast. They've come to nosh on that bumper crop of white pine cones, along with the red crossbills and white-winged crossbills that have traveled here from western North America.

"I'd love to know how these birds can tell from 5,000 miles away that there's an abundant seed crop," Hoar said.

However they find that abundance, word is out among the nomads. In the case of pine siskins, it's not just white pine cones drawing them here. "They're the Swiss army knife of finches; they'll eat just about anything," Hoar said. "Birch seeds are their favorite, and they'll take any conifer seed they can get."

Unlike crossbills, whose beaks are uniquely suited to opening cones to access seeds, pine siskins have sharp, pointy bills and prefer cones that have already opened, allowing them to pick the seeds from within. They'll even hang upside down to access seeds if necessary. Although they prefer to forage in trees and shrubs, pine siskins will also eat seeds of grasses and weeds. And

while the spruce seed crop in Canada has been poor this year, pine siskins have feasted on an outbreak of spruce budworm; they'll eat the eggs, larvae, and adults of that forest pest.

Pine siskin will also visit feeders during the winter—especially those stocked with thistle or nyjer seed—although they'll stick to wild foods for as long as they can find them. Wherever they're foraging, they're likely to be doing so in large, noisy flocks—often in the company of goldfinches, which share similar food preferences.

To survive winter weather, pine siskins pack on the fat, adding considerably more winter fat than similarly sized goldfinches and redpolls. Pine siskins are also able to notch up their metabolism to keep their small bodies warm during the coldest nights. That requires extra energy of course, and these birds use their crop—an expandable pouch near the esophagus—for short term storage of seeds, which they can consume as needed.

How long pine siskins and other nomadic finches stay in an area can depend on the availability of bird feeders. (And a note here to please wait to put out your feeders until the local bears have dened up for the winter!) Many of these birds will establish a regular circuit of bird feeders to visit.

"They're very entertaining at feeders. They squabble among each other trying to get food," said Hoar. "Some pine siskins have a greenish tinge to the plumage, so if you get individuals like that at your feeder, you can start to tell them apart. They have personality. They can make a cold, dark, dreary winter day a bit brighter."

Other irruptive birds that may show up at northern New England feeders this winter include common redpolls and evening grosbeaks. To read the full Winter Finch Forecast, go to finchnetwork.org.

Meghan McCarthy McPhaul is the associate editor of Northern Woodlands. Illustration by Adelaide Murphy Tyrol. The Outside Story is assigned and edited by Northern Woodlands magazine and sponsored by the Wellborn Ecology Fund of the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation: nhcf.org.



The Outside Story
By Meghan McCarthy
McPhaul

When the rubber hits the road

If you look close enough and deep enough, sometimes you'll find that great things can emerge from horrible events.

Take Allison Parliament's situation, for example.

During the recent pandemic, Allison was traveling alone from the United States to Canada to visit family. At the time, the number of Covid cases in the States far surpassed those in Canada, so many people in that country held disdain for anyone traveling across the border.

When Allison pulled into a rest stop, a Canadian citizen spotted her U.S. license plate, then grabbed her and violently pushed her into the Jeep she was driving. He then verbally accosted her, telling her she wasn't welcome in Canada (which was ironic since she had dual citizenship).

The attack emotionally shook Allison, leaving her unable to exit her home.

A few weeks later, a friend finally got her to venture out. On their excursion, they stopped by a quaint general store where bags of yellow rubber ducks were being sold. She wasn't sure why she needed them; she only knew she had to buy them.

When she exited the store, she started admiring a big Jeep in the parking lot. In a moment of inspiration, she took a pen and wrote, "Nice Jeep - Have a great day!" on one of the rubber ducks and placed it on the hood. According to Allison, when the driver came out and found the duck, he cracked open laughing and left with the biggest smile on his face.

The hashtags "#DuckDuckJeep" and "#DuckingJeeps" were born a few hours later.

Allison put the picture of that first Jeep "ducking" on Instagram and by the same time the next day, she had 2000 followers. Motivated by the interest, she then created a Facebook group called "Official Ducking Jeeps." Within a month, the group had 10,000 followers. Today the site boasts nearly 77,000 members across more than 20 countries.

Jeep enthusiasts have fully embraced the "ducking" concept, and so have Jeep's corporate offices. The car company now fully endorses Jeep ducking and has used it on multiple occasions to promote its brand.

I knew nothing about Jeep ducking until this past weekend when my neighbors (who

happen to own a Jeep) explained the odd practice while we were having cocktails. They said that earlier in the day, a Jeep driver pulled up next to them at a stoplight, rolled down their window, and handed them a rubber duck dressed as a fireman.



The Movie Diary
By Dom Cioffi

I inquired why anyone would hand a stranger a rubber duck in traffic. That was when they enlightened me to this previously unknown world. They even googled "Jeep Ducking" just to prove how prevalent the practice is.

I've worked in marketing throughout my entire career so this kind of organic phenomenon both intrigued and inspired me. I went home that night and jumped on Amazon and within a few minutes realized that I could buy dozens of bulk rubber ducks in an endless array of manifestations. There are zebra ducks, Minecraft ducks, Star Wars ducks, and even Donald Trump ducks.

For the first time in my life, I wished I owned a Jeep (that's where the genius organic nature of this activity comes into play).

So, while I cannot partake in this unique activity, I decided that I would enhance my neighbor's experience by purchasing a variety pack of 25 holiday-themed rubber ducks. I then shipped them 'next-day' to their house.

I texted them once I received confirmation that the package was delivered, and in a cryptic message, told them that their front door had been "ducked for the holidays."

Needless to say, they were elated with the surprise and promised to spread the ducks liberally throughout the Christmas break.

This week's feature, "The Holdovers," is also set during Christmas break, except in this case, it's 1971 at an elite all-boys' boarding school in New England.

Reuniting "Sideways" director, Alexander Payne, and Oscar-nominated actor, Paul Giamatti, "The Holdovers" is a character study in what's lurking beneath the surface of someone's angst. We all have demons that manifest in our lives as quirky behaviors, and it's easy to alienate someone because of this. This film gets under the surface and tries to find the humanity that's being hidden.

Check this one out if you love great acting combined with a solid screenplay. There's a meditative flow to this film that some may find draggy, but the payoff is certainly rewarding.

A veiled "B" for "The Holdovers," now playing in theaters everywhere.

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



A skier's Thanksgiving

It's that lovely time of year where we gather around a table with our family and closest friends. We fly across the country and drive for hours to interact with our loved ones or just sit staring at the parades and football games on television. Some of us go for a trot or a hike before putting on our favorite least-waist pants and digging into the gloriousness that is the Thanksgiving meal. Most of us spend the rest of the weekend digesting, but that's not what my family did. Right after dinner was over, we would head north to Vermont for our first official ski weekend of the year.

I say official, because my dad and I would often steal up for a day trip to try out the whales on Downdraft back in the old K Chair days. Before the famous walkway, we skied Upper Cascade and Downdraft down to the mid-station and took laps on the upper mountain as early as Oct. 1.

The whales on Downdraft would be higher than the treetops, so you could see the people floating up and down on these mounds while you rode the lift back up to the top. To me, it was like watching a Dr. Seuss book come to life, with people in their ski costumes riding the waves. I loved the magic of the whole early season.

Because I feel like this time of year is the skier's and rider's Thanksgiving. Instead of being spread all throughout the mountain, here we are, all together on just one lift. Together, at the same table. The park rats, the tree huggers, the groomies, and the bumpers. We all have to share the same trails for a few weeks, like estranged family members seated at the same table.

Before I became a ski bum, those early season days would be few and far between. A stolen daddy-daughter moment for a cancelled field hockey game, a day playing hooky from the office. Whatever it took, we would always be grateful to make that one day in October or early November.

And so, Thanksgiving weekend marked the true beginning to the season, where we saw our ski friends and teammates for the first time that season. We were grateful to see each other and to be playing on the snow once again. Training wouldn't start until the next week, so we got to ski with our family and friends and just enjoy the snow.

So when Killington and FIS announced that the races would be over Thanksgiving weekend, it couldn't have been more

perfect. Because as skiers, we don't just gather around the table or at the bar, we gather on the snow. On the chairlift. In the lifeline. And now, we gather every year at the bottom of Superstar.

I love seeing the different clubs and academies gathering, from current students to alumni. I've bumped into so many ski sisters and former teammates at the races; I'm jumping from hug to hug shouting Happy World Cup. It feels like every ski racer in New

England makes the drive to celebrate what many of us are most grateful for in the world: skiing. The opportunity to dance on snow while sliding down a mountain.

Because this is our family. Those ski sisters and brothers that breathe in the cold air with a sense of reverence, that think sharing stories on a frozen chair dangling in the sky is a wonderful way to pass the time and who will always take



Livin' the Dream
By Merisa Sherman

World Cup is our one chance to come together without skis on, to take the time to be grateful for this amazing lifestyle we have chosen. To celebrate skiing by observing, by taking a moment to cherish each other and our great sport. To see our great sport, in all its glory, taking center stage from the world.

one more run. Those who will raise a pint in the parking lot after a great day on snow or fight you for the toppings on a plate of nachos.

World Cup is our one chance to come together without skis on, to take the time to be grateful for this amazing lifestyle we have chosen. To celebrate skiing by observing, by taking a moment to cherish each other and our great sport. To see our great sport, in all its glory, taking center stage from the world.

I am grateful to my parents for making me a skier and that I get to pass on this love of skiing in so many wonderful ways. I am grateful to be part of this great community, where we celebrate women in sports and cheer for every racer from every country. I am grateful for late nights in the parking lot swapping ski stories after a long day. I am grateful for girlfriends who become ski sisters and a world where one chairlift ride can lead to a lifetime of friendship. But above all, I am grateful for skiing!

I wish all of you a very Happy World Cup and more days on snow this year than last!!

Merisa Sherman is a long time Killington resident, KMS coach and Local Realtor. Share your ski memories at femaleskibum@gmail.com.



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A special place: For Vermont artist Carrie Pill it's in the mountains

By Sarah Calvin

Picture yourself at the top of a small hill, your snowshoes strapped tightly to your winter boots. The frosty air kisses your cheeks as you breathe in the crispness of the winter day. You take a step, beginning to go down the trail, but the snow is loose and your feet slide, one after the other, as if you're skating on snow. Your lips curl into a carefree smile as you feel an exhilarating rush of joy.

That snowshoe adventure, sliding down a snowy trail, is the story of how Rutland artist Carrie Pill discovered her love of skiing. An avid adventurer, Pill has always loved spending her days outside exploring Vermont, gathering artistic inspiration from its natural beauty.

"I'm very lucky I grew up in a family of artists," Pill said. "When I was a little kid, my mom did craft shows...so we would come to Vermont a lot for that. I always remember Vermont as being a special place."



By Abby Allaire Photography
Carrie Pill

Vermont was special enough to draw her back, this time to the now-defunct Green Mountain College in Poultney, where she studied studio art. In her free time, she and her friends would drive up to Killington and Pico Mountains, where Pill tried snowboarding for the first time.

"I had no idea what I was doing," Pill said with a laugh. "I just tried to pick up as much as I could really fast. [I] got hurt a bunch, and got lost on the trails, but I had the best time. I just think the winters here are magic."

That magical quality is imbued within Pill's paintings, the majority of which feature the beautiful landscapes of New England.

Pill often paints her scenes from photographs she's taken, but she prefers to paint plein air, or outdoors, with the subject directly in front of her. The challenge of capturing a scene before the

Painting plein air → 58

← Meditation:.....

from page 54

"What a funny question to ask a bear. Thanksgiving is purely a human concept – we bears appreciate living every day — breathing in the crisp mountain air, listening to bird songs and crow alerts, seeing the brilliant blue sky of Vermont, or feeling the coziness and warmth of our den. We appreciate every berry we find, and every other source of nourishment. Keeping a bear fed is no easy feat but our Great Creator is very adept. It's just up to our own ingenuity to enjoy the cornucopia provided (along with people's garbage cans sometimes). For the animal kingdom and natural world we live in, we celebrate Thanksgiving every day of our life."

"Amen to that! Thank you for your brilliant response. It makes our one day seem quite trifling"

"Except it often brings people

together," Bear reminded. "Families and friends often gather then, and that has great value in peoples' lives because the human race has become so isolated — individuals from one another, and the whole from reality. Much of what transpires in your world is so unnecessary. If people were more united with a common vision, so much could be accomplished and bad things avoided."

"Yes. That's for certain," I agreed.

"If all people were on a peace vision quest, there would be less pain and suffering in the world. If people learned to share and care for one another, just imagine how different life would be for the multitudes. Peace,

love and kindness are valuable practices that should be lived every day. By teaching and demonstrating these concepts and behaviors, they can become perpetual, 'the norm.' Thinking of others instead of one's self is something little ones can learn at home. These lessons are invaluable for the future of Earth, humankind

and the natural world. To live every day in gratitude, and reach out with a kind heart can begin to transform the present and future of our home—this place that we treasure. So, enjoy your Thanksgiving and every day after"

Marguerite Jill Dye is a writer and artists who lives in Vermont and Florida.

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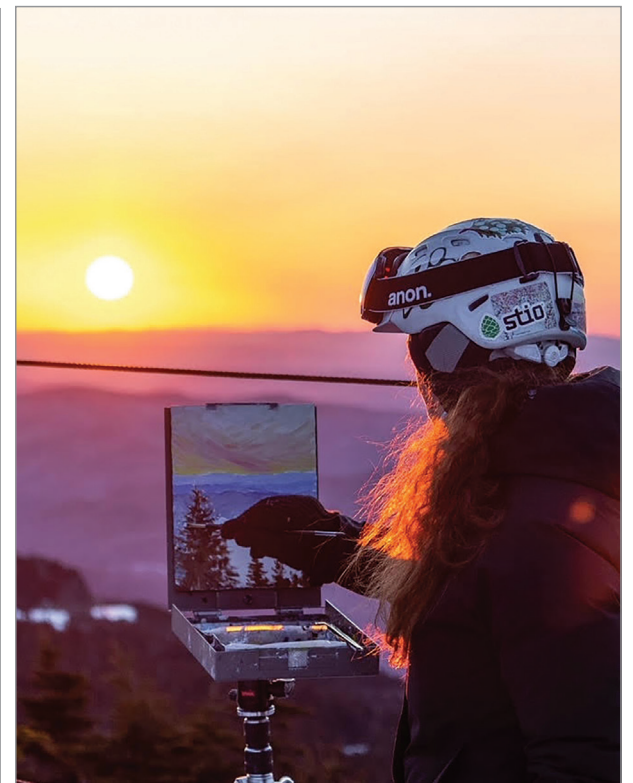
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By Abby Allaire Photography

Carrie Pill paints a sunset on the slopes. Mixing her lover for skiing, painting and adventure has proven a powerful combination — and one that sets Pill apart.

← Painting plein air: from page 57

light shifts means she has to work faster, creating a more abstract work. She especially enjoys the way plein air painting allows her to interact with the public, who often stop to converse and admire her work as she paints.

Plein air painting also gives Pill the flexibility to combine her profession with her passion. She's currently on a journey to paint (and ski) every ski area in Vermont, capturing the beauty of skiing and winter throughout the state. Her favorite place to paint, however, will always be Pico Mountain.

"I'm very partial to the views from Pico Mountain," Pill said. "They're just stunning. I spent a lot of my first days skiing at Pico so I have a strong connection there. There's just this natural character, there's this nostalgia."

When Pill isn't skiing at a resort, she loves to go backcountry skiing and blaze her own trail. She often brings her border collies, Luna and Bear, along with her. Pill readily admits she's addicted to skiing, citing the rush of joy she gets every time she flies down a mountain. The joy she feels permeates her paintings, inspiring those who see them to create their own adventure.

For more information about the artist and/or her works, visit: CarriePill.com.

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EDITOR'S NOTE

Real estate records continue to be broken in Killington as low inventory has kept real estate prices sky high.

Trailside Drive in Killington has turned out to be a popular place for homebuyers, given the proximity to the ski trails and the opportunity to ski in/ski out — a type of real estate that's rare in Killington.

Multiple homes on Trailside Drive in Killington have sold for over \$2 million and one, listed and sold by real estate agent Bret Williamson, broke a record, selling for \$3.75 million in October.

In fact, Trailside has been so popular that Nathan Mastroeni of Sotheby's International Realty has nicknamed it "Millionaire's Row."

Mastroeni listed another house on Trailside Drive for \$2.49 million on Nov. 20, and expects this home will be popular among buyers as well — most of whom pay in cash and are looking for ski-in, ski-out properties.

The Trailside Drive homes reflect the overall market in Killington. The median price of homes was \$735,000 over the past six months — that's almost double the home prices in the same period in 2018, when the median home sold for \$371,000, according to Mastroeni.

Contrastingly, the National Association of Realtors (NAR) has predicted that this year home sales may have their worst year since 1993. Sales dropped in October and prices continued to climb, as inventory remained low, having a major impact on potential buyers.

"Prospective home buyers experienced another difficult month due to the persistent lack of housing inventory and the highest mortgage rates in a generation," said Lawrence Yun, NAR's chief economist. "Multiple offers, however, are still occurring, especially on starter and mid-priced homes, even as price concessions are happening in the upper end of the market."

Nationally, of all the homes sold in October, 28% went above the listing price, suggesting there was a bidding war among potential buyers.

"There are lingering effects of multiple offers, with more people waiving home inspection and appraisal contingencies," said Yun. "Given the lack of inventory home sellers are in the driver seat, they like the offers that waive those contingencies."

As of Nov. 20, the average rate for a 30-year fixed-rate mortgage was 7.74%, while the average for a 15-year fixed-rate mortgage was 7.01%. Experts are predicting mortgage rates will drop slightly, to under 7%, in the second half of 2024, which could entice some sellers — locally and nationally — who have been holding out, to put their homes on the market. It could also give Killington homebuyers more inventory to choose from.

Up and coming development in Killington, including talks of a new pedestrian-friendly village has also interested home buyers, according to local real estate agents.

In this special section of the Mountain Times, we answer questions such as: Why is inventory so low? Who are the few who are selling now? Who's able to buy at high prices, and high interest rates? Where do they come from? What are they looking for? What's coming next?

Check out a story about the state's new fluorescent lightbulb restrictions, a new business mentoring program for energy professionals and what's being done about affordable housing in this area. Rutland was selected to participate in an exciting state pilot program!

Central Vermont has always been a great place to live. We aren't surprised others, especially those who are looking to escape the hustle and bustle of city-life, traffic, etc., agree!

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Courtesy Nathan Mostroeni, Sotheby's International Realty

A home on Trailside Drive in Killington was listed for \$2.49 million on Nov. 20, just after a home on Trailsdie Drive broke a record in Killington, when it sold for \$3.75 million.

Property values soar, but overpricing proves costly

By Katy Savage

Housing prices continue to break records in Killington.

In October, a five-bedroom home on the Trailside Drive in Killington sold for \$3.75 million — the highest priced home ever sold in Killington.

The high price reflects the lack of homes caused by the buying frenzy of the pandemic. In all the years preceding 2021, there were just 20 sales in Killington over \$1 million, but in 2021 and 2022 alone, there were 20 luxury sales above \$1 million, including three sales in the mid-to-upper \$2 million range.

Bret Williamson, the owner/broker of Killington Valley Real Estate, who listed and sold the home, said with the lack of housing inventory, more people are interested in buying land.

"The residential, single family home market is strong and inventory has been thin for a long time," Williamson said. "As prices start to elevate, people are looking at land, which not too long ago was a slower market. Now, land prices are starting to increase and people are looking to build."

Property values in the Killington area are experiencing a steady rise, defying the norm in the current real es-

In the past six months, the median priced home in Killington was \$735,000 — about double the \$371,000 median-priced home in the same period in 2018.

tate landscape. However, sales volume has taken a hit, dropping by 50% compared to the same period last year, according to a report from Prestige Real Estate's quarter three market report.

The repercussions of overpricing are becoming increasingly evident in the Killington real estate market. Homes that are priced ambitiously and fail to secure a buyer within a 10-day window are witnessing sale prices as much as 10% lower than those that were priced closer to the most recent comparable sale.

Despite the market's fluctuating dynamics, inventory levels in Killington remain at or near record lows. As of

Sept. 30, a mere 23 properties were available for prospective buyers, according to Prestige.

"We're still seeing a lot of buyers," said Nathan Mastroeni, the broker of Sotheby's International Realty.

Mastroeni listed another high priced home in Killington — a \$2.49 million property on Trailside Drive on Nov. 20 — anticipating the property would be popular among buyers.

The high price reflects a trend. In the past six months, the median priced home in Killington was \$735,000 — about double the \$371,000 median-priced home in the same period in 2018.

Mastroeni said mortgage rates, which are anticipated to drop, could impact the availability of housing, enticing homeowners to put their properties on the market.

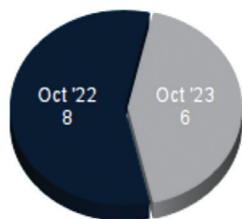
"That could drive people back to the market that had been holding out," he said.

However, Mastroeni said the mortgage rates don't impact Killington buyers, who mostly pay in cash.

"I think the biggest driver right now is the talk of the village," said Mastorni, alluding to talks of a pedestri-

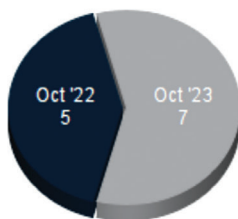
NUMBER OF SALES

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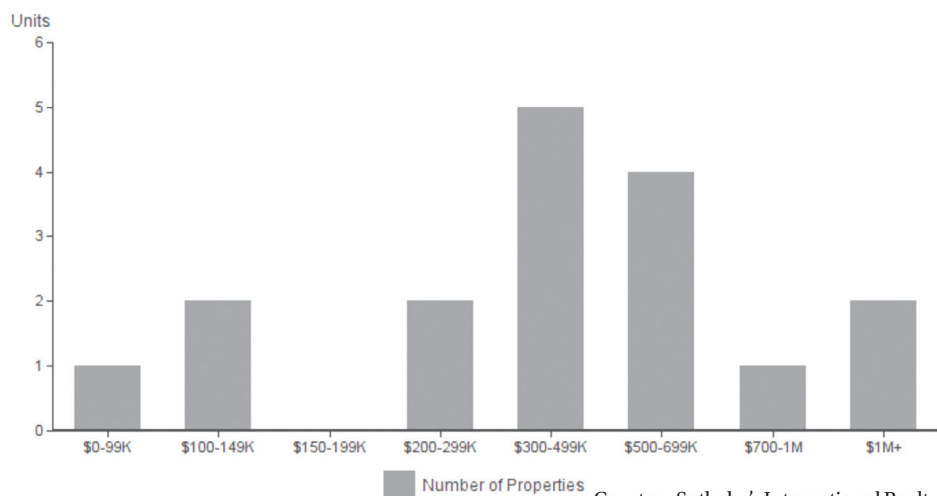


40.23% ↑

MEDIAN SALES PRICE
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ALL PROPERTY TYPES



Courtesy Sotheby's International Realty

A glimpse of the price fluctuations and market shifts of all property types from Oct. 2022 to Oct. 2023. Bottom chart shows the number of properties currently listed for sale by price.



Courtesy Nathan Mastroeni, Sotheby's International Real Estate

The inside of a newly listed three-bedroom home on Trailside Drive in Killington. Real estate agent Nathan Mastroeni has nicknamed Trailside "Millionaire's Row."

← **State of Real Estate:**
from page 62

an-friendly village, which has interested many home buyers.

"I probably get asked 3-5 times a week what do you think the village is going to do for home values," Mastroeni said. "My favorite line right now is, 'we're living a case study.'"

Mastroeni pointed to Stowe, which started building its village around 2006,

eventually leading to a doubling of housing prices.

From May 2018 to November 2018, the median home price in Stowe was \$532,000. In the same period this year, the median home sold for \$1.1 million, Mastroeni said.

"Killington most likely will go through the same uptick," Mastroeni said. "It's going to be new eyes on new construction."



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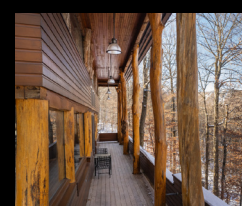
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Courtesy of Efficiency Vermont

A new 18-month program pairing energy service business owners with coaches has launched in the state.

New business mentoring program matches energy professionals with business coaches

Vermont Sustainable Jobs Fund (VSJF) launches 18-month program pairing energy services business owners with business coaches to address workforce challenges, strategic planning and project management.

VSJF, in collaboration with Efficiency Vermont and its Energy Excellence Network, is launching an advanced business assistance program for Vermont energy professionals. Starting in January 2024, a cohort of competitively selected energy services business owners and entrepreneurs will work directly with experienced business coaches to receive advanced business assistance in a new program called, “Tools of the Trade – Business Fundamentals for Energy Pros.”

The “Tools of the Trade” program is an 18-month hybrid training course specifically designed to support the needs of home performance and weatherization contractors, builders who specialize in renewable energy and energy efficiency, electrician firms, and energy audit businesses. Energy business owners will be paired with experienced business coaches to address critical needs like workforce recruitment and retention, strategic planning, goal setting, staff management, financial management, and operations/project management.

Applications opened Nov. 13 and remain open until Dec. 22. The pro-

gram will start at the end of January 2024 and run through June 2025.

Twelve energy services business leaders will be selected to improve their executive business skills and core operational practices in order to prepare their company for expanding and retaining their workforce. This program is designed to assist one dozen business owners/entrepreneurs expand Vermont’s ability to install renewable energy and energy efficient technologies to more homes and businesses across the state.

“We will have an increasingly hard time meeting our climate and energy plan targets as a state without more skilled workers weatherizing homes, installing heat pumps and solar panels, and servicing those systems,” said Ellen Kahler, VSJF’s executive director. “In order to attract and retain more workers, especially in today’s tight labor market, businesses will need to improve their workplace culture, human resource practices, and overall business operations so that they are better prepared to manage an expanded workforce.”

“We’re eager to grow the energy efficiency workforce and attract more talent to these trade groups. As businesses seek additional resources and opportunities we welcome them to join our member network. The EEN is comprised of skilled and talented

trade professionals committed to energy efficiency design and operation of our built spaces. They are the backbone of meeting, and exceeding, state climate goals and reducing utility costs of Vermont businesses and residents,” shared Bryn Oakleaf, EEN manager.

“Tools of the Trade – Business Fundamentals for Energy Pros” will include three distinct training elements: a six-month core business functions ‘boot camp,’ followed by small group trainings on a range of business fundamentals that address industry-specific challenges. Concurrent to the cohort trainings will be one-on-one coaching to meet the unique needs of each participating business. The program will be delivered through a mix of online and in-person sessions, depending on what will best suit businesses enrolled in the program.

“Tools of the Trade” is made possible through funding from the state of Vermont, Efficiency Vermont and Vermont Gas Systems and is valued at \$9,500 per business. The cost for each business participating in the program is \$1,000. The possibility of continuing education credits being offered for those who complete the program is being explored.

For more information, visit: vsjf.org/services/business-coaching/energy-pro-coaching.

New Vermont fluorescent lightbulb restrictions begin in 2024

Starting Jan. 1, 2024, a new state law will prohibit the sale of specific mercury-containing fluorescent lightbulbs in Vermont. Restrictions include the sale of general purpose, indoor/outdoor, residential, and business mercury-containing four-foot linear, compact fluorescent, and twist-based fluorescent lightbulbs. Twist-based (GU-24) Compact Fluorescent Lightbulbs (CFLs) are also restricted from sale, according to a Nov. 14 news release from Vermont Agency of Natural Resources.

If your home or business currently uses these fluorescent bulbs, you will not be able to buy more after Jan. 1, 2024. If

“Switching to LEDs is better for both human health and the environment. LEDs do not contain mercury and are more energy efficient than fluorescent bulbs,” said Batchelder.

your business sells these bulbs online or in a store, you will not be able to do so next year.

“Efficiency Vermont is offering rebates to help residents and businesses replace fluorescent bulbs with LEDs,” said DEC Commissioner Jason Batchelder. “Switching to LEDs is better for both human health and the environment. LEDs do not contain mercury and are more energy efficient than fluorescent bulbs.”

The SMARTLIGHT program will expire at the end of 2023. However, Efficiency Vermont will still offer custom rebates for retrofits from fluorescent to LEDs through 2024. To learn more, visit Efficiency Vermont online, call 888-921-5990, email info@efficiencyvermont.com, or submit an online contact form.

The sale of any other mercury-containing four-foot bulbs, such as specialty lighting (ultraviolet, germicidal, purifier/sanitizer, etc.) is not included in the new restrictions.

Any manufacturer who sold or sells these mercury-containing lightbulbs must pay for the collection and recycling of used bulbs. Anyone can bring up to ten general-purpose mercury-containing lightbulbs to free collection locations across the state. To find a location near you, go to VTrecycles.com, click the orange “Special Recycling” icon, and select your county from the dropdown menu. For larger amounts of fluorescent bulbs, contact your solid waste district or town at 802recycles.com.

Learn more about fluorescent lightbulb restrictions and recycling at VTrecycles.com.



Submitted

Top: General purpose 4-foot linear fluorescent tubes will be banned from sale starting Jan. 1, 2024.

Below: GU-24 twist-lock based - compact fluorescent lightbulbs (CFLs) will be banned from sale starting Jan. 1, 2024.



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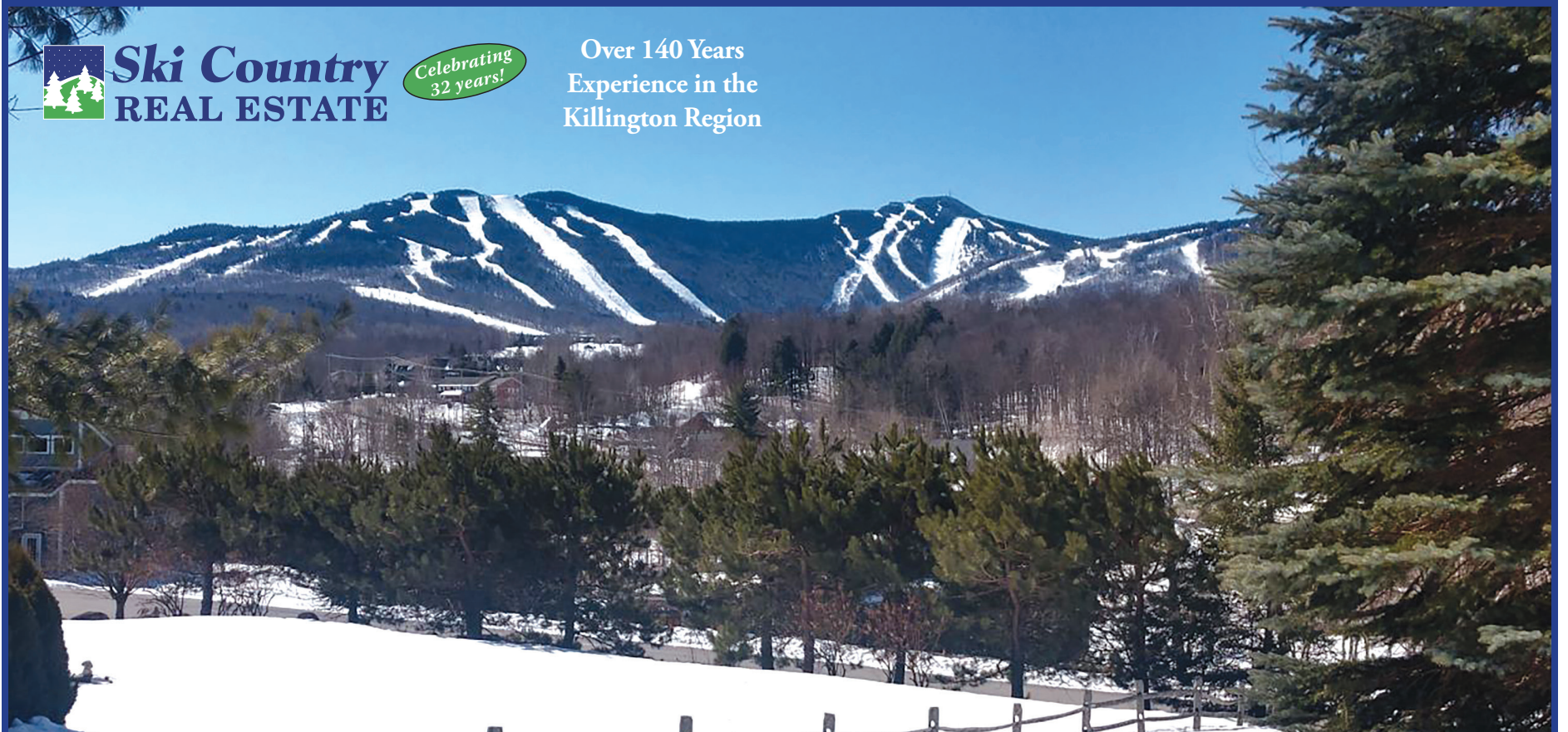
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Rutland is one of five pilot communities in 'Homes For All' project

By Andy Kirkaldy, Addison Independent

With affordable and workplace housing a critical need across Vermont, some advocates are working on a plan to expand housing in town centers in a way they say is "gentle."

With the "Homes For All" project, the Agency of Commerce and Community Development hopes to blend "missing middle housing" into existing neighborhoods.

That means adding to those neighborhoods a variety of one-to-four-unit buildings — including small second homes onto existing lots, apartments, duplexes and townhouses — mostly by way of a process called "gentle infill."

Homes For All is a three-year project in its initial phase of making five visits to what the agency is calling "pilot communities" that successfully applied to participate: Rutland, Fairlee, Bellows Falls, Middlesex, and Vergennes.

Eventually, Homes For All will offer designs, technical support, and at least some grants of up to \$50,000 per unit to communities, property owners and developers who wish to add infill housing. Funding will come at least in part from the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development.

The four pilot communities, were picked because of their commitment to housing and the progress they have already made in creating housing-friendly planning and zoning.

Three phases

Over its three years under Commerce and Community Development Agency oversight, the Homes For All project is planned to consist of three phases. The first will be to create a "toolkit" for prospective builders and developers of projects that fulfill the Homes For All goals of blending in with existing neighborhoods and building patterns.

The types of "missing middle housing" the project has in mind include: structures containing one to four units including duplexes; second smaller homes and/or apartments added to single family homes; condos; apartment buildings, including what they called "courtyard apartments;" and second-story apartments above businesses in mixed-use neighborhoods.

These styles of housing are not new — they were more typical in the mid-20th century and remain common in many communities.

"These are already nested into many Vermont neighborhoods in various con-

texts, everything from a duplex to more concentrated development types, townhouses or buildings like that," architect and urban planner Zoë Taft Mueller said.

The state hopes structure will primarily be one-to-four units because financing, siting and code requirements become more complex for larger projects.

During the second phase, according to Homes For All documents, a cohort of those potential builders and developers will be trained in the "ins and outs" of the developing projects and creating final designs. It will also include a design contest for construction-ready products.

The third phase will help guide developers and builders to the finish line and also show some the money: Grants will be awarded.

Zoning

Some zoning ordinances may have to be changed to conform with Vermont's

"In areas served by municipal sewer and water, municipalities must allow multiunit dwellings with three or four units to be a permitted (not conditional) use," according to the new HOME Act.

HOME Act, which passed this year and rewrote the statewide laws that underpin local planning and zoning.

For example, according to an Agency of Commerce and Community Development summary of the HOME Act, provisions include:

- "In residential districts served by municipal sewer and water, municipalities cannot require more than 1 parking space per dwelling unit."
- "ADU (Accessory Dwelling Unit) review, dimensional, or other regulations must not be more restrictive than those for single-unit dwellings."
- "In areas served by municipal sewer and water, municipalities must allow multiunit dwellings with three or four units to be a permitted (not conditional) use."
- "In municipal water sewer service areas that allow residential development bylaws must permit a dwelling unit density bonus of 40% and a bonus of one habitable floor above the height maximum."

For more information on the HOME Act, visit: accd.vermont.gov/community-development/resources-rules/planning/HOME.

Mountainside at Killington

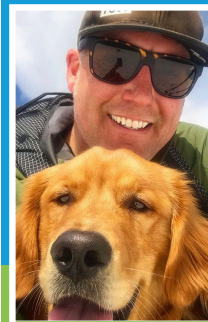


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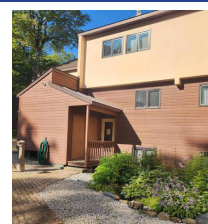
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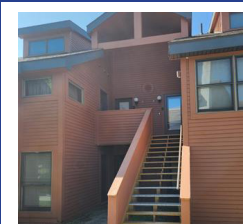
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