



## ENJOY THE LONGEST DAYLIGHT

The summer solstice is Thursday, June 20. The precise moment when the sun is at its highest point in the sky each year – is at 4:50 p.m., which is the earliest its been in 228 years! The solstice marks the official beginning of summer — although hot temps came earlier!



## CELEBRATE, IT'S JUNETEENTH

Juneteenth is a federal holiday in the U.S. celebrated June 19 to commemorate the ending of slavery.



## CASTLETON'S CARL COUGAR CROWNED MASCOT CHAMP

The Castleton Elementary School mascot beat out Orwell's Wally Wildcat, Benson's Blue Bear, and both of Fair Haven's mascots, the FHGS Falcon and the Slater for the honor.

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## STRAWBERRY FEST IS SUNDAY

Head to Middletown Springs from 2-4 p.m.

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Courtesy KMS

## High school graduates celebrate across the region

By Polly Mikula

Killington Mountain School kicked off local graduation ceremonies on June 2; other area schools followed shortly after with Rutland High School celebrating at Spartan Arena on June 13 and Woodstock Union High School at Union Arena, June 14.

Inherent in most all graduation speech-

es is the send-off of a new generation of students into a world offering promise and hopes for success, but also certain obstacles and failure, grief and setbacks. The challenge in the journey is to persevere with grace, humility and goodwill toward others.

Graduations → 2

## Vermont ski areas hosted over 4 million skier visits despite weird weather

Despite facing many weather challenges Vermont's Alpine ski areas reported 4.1 million skier visits for 2023-24, reported the Vermont Ski Areas Association June 12. That's down less than half a percentage point from the 2022-23 season. Visitation this season remains 4% above Vermont's 10-year average and outpaces a 6.2% decrease in Northeast region visits (12.4 million) and a 6.6% decrease in national visits (60.4 million).

The historic peak for skier visits in Vermont was in the 1986-87 season with 5.2 million. (See year-by-year list below.)

Vermont remains the top ski state in the east and fourth largest in the nation, measured by skier visits, a key performance indicator for the snowsports industry.

For the 2023-24 season, the state's ski areas averaged 124 operating days—one more than the 10-year average, and an average seasonal snowfall of 199 inches—a 32-inch increase over last year, and 15 inches above the 10-year average.

"This is a positive result considering the often-challenging weather, particularly during the first half of the season. Such a slight change in skier visits compared to last year highlights the efficiency and sustainability advances that Vermont's Alpine ski areas have made, particularly in snowmaking operations," said Ski Vermont president Molly Mahar. "Aggressive investment in new technology, agile and flexible operations and hard work delivered the conditions to keep skiers

Skier visits → 11

## Legislature overrides six vetoes, a new record

By Shaun Robinson and Sarah Mearhoff/VTDigger

Of Gov. Phil Scott's seven vetoes only a sweeping data privacy bill was sustained by the Senate. The six vetoes set a new record for the Vermont Legislature, beating the record they set last year with five vetoes in a single day. But Scott made his own record, since he took office in 2017 he's vetoed 52 bills, the

most of any governor in state history by far.

On Monday, June 17, by 5:34 p.m., both chambers had adjourned from the one-day veto session.

To override a gubernatorial veto requires a two-thirds vote of members present. In theory, Democrats have veto-proof majorities in both the

House and Senate. But in practice, party affiliation, on its own, is not always indicative of how a member will vote on the question of whether to override the governor's will.

That proved to be the case on Monday. The road

Veto session → 12

## With veto override, Act 250 reform bill becomes law

Bill is hailed as a compromise between advocates for housing and environmentalists

By Carly Berlin

Lawmakers have voted to override Gov. Phil Scott's veto of a marquee housing and land-use bill that makes broad reforms to Act 250, Vermont's signature development review law. That means H.687, a bill that seeks to balance promoting housing growth and environmental conservation, will now become law.

"We kept our eye on the twin goals of environmental integrity and the immediate short and long term needs of the people we serve," Rep. Seth Bon-gartz, D-Manchester, one of the bill's authors, told colleagues on the House floor ahead of the vote on Monday morning.

In the House, 107 lawmakers voted to override the veto, while 38 voted against it. In the Senate, the override received 21 "yes" votes and 8 "no" votes. Overrides require a two-thirds majority in each chamber.

For years, state leaders tried and failed to find a path forward to update Act 250 override → 12

## Lawmakers override veto of annual property tax legislation

The legislation funds Vermont's schools, increasing the average property tax bill by 13.8%

By Ethan Weinstein/VTDigger

The Vermont Legislature overrode Gov. Phil Scott's veto of the annual property tax legislation that funds the state's public school districts, solidifying an average projected property tax increase of 13.8%.

The vote passed 103-42 in the House, and 22-7 in the Senate.

Earlier this month, Scott vetoed the so-called "yield bill," telling lawmakers that the state needs "property tax relief now."

This year's historic increase in property taxes is driven by about a \$180 million rise in school spending. Health care costs, student mental health needs, ailing infrastructure and rising inflation have all contributed to the surge.

Lawmakers derided Scott's proposal, characterizing it as fiscally irresponsible.

Yield bill override → 12

## State: Where to expect road work this week

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

**I-91 Springfield-Hartland** - Daily single-lane closures will be in place along I-91 Southbound from north of Exit 9 to just south of Exit 7 while a paving project continues. A speed limit reduction to 55 mph will be in place through the work zone. Motorists should watch for shifting traffic patterns throughout the week. Motorcyclists should use caution on grooved and uneven surfaces.

**Hartford:** From Sunday June 16 through Thursday June 20 between the nighttime hours of 7 p.m. and 6 a.m., motorists should expect minor delays and alternating one-way lane closures on U.S. Route 5 from the I-91 overpass at the Exit 11 interchange to Bugbee Street. From Monday June 17 through Friday June 21 between 7 a.m. and 6 p.m., motorists should expect significant delays and alternating one-way lane closures on U.S. Route 5 from Lesle Drive to the Hartland town line, and from the VA Cutoff Road to Kline Drive.

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

**Pittsford:** Motorists are now shifted onto the temporary bridge at the U.S. Route 7 and VT Route 3 intersection. Traffic control will be present throughout this week's work hours allowing for intermittent one-way alternating travel on Route 7.

**Quechee:** The eastbound travel lane of the Quechee Gorge Bridge is closed through November 2024. New travel patterns include alternating travel controlled by a traffic signal.

**Rutland:** A Class I highway resurfacing project is in progress in Rutland. Sunday June 16 at 7 p.m. through Friday June 21 at 7 a.m., motorists can expect lane closures with alternating one-way traffic controlled by flaggers and uniformed traffic officers along U.S. Route 4 between Gleason Road and U.S. Route 7, and along Route 7 between Cold River Road and Lincoln Avenue. Roadway surfaces will be grooved and uneven with raised manhole structures.

**Woodstock:** A culvert replacement project is ongoing on U.S. Route 4 near Valley View Road. Motorists should expect one-way alternating traffic between Valley View Road and Blake Hill Way between the hours of 7 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

## Two blasts a day likely this week on Killington Road

"With the second drill on site, expect two blasts a day," wrote Markowski Excavating, Inc. in a news release before the week began. "First one will be around 10:30-12 noon and the second will be around 1:30-3 p.m."

As these two lines are installed, we will continue to install the sand and gravel layers which will be just below final pavement layer,"

Traffic will be stopped on Route 4 during the blasts.

Markowski will continue to haul blasted rock off site during the week and on

Saturday mornings.

"Water line installation will also continue this week then switch over to installing more sewer line along

the east side of the Access Road," the news release continued. "In addition, as the utilities are installed, we will begin hauling sand and gravels from Route 4 up the Access Road."

The following week, beginning June 17, should be Road work → 3

### ← Graduations: from page 1

Those words of encouragement are said each spring to millions of graduates in thousands of ways, this year with two particular bookends — the beginning of the pandemic when today's graduates in high school and college were entering their freshmen year that culminated with a full lunar eclipse four years later. Appropriately, expansion was a common theme in speeches across the region.

"Your world is as big as you make it," advised Woodstock Principal Gavin Small to the crowd of about 400 people.

Rutland Senior Class Honor Speaker Annabelle Mahar told her classmates: "Rutland High School is in your roots, so push limits, climb barriers and raise the bar."

Rutland's graduation speaker was meteorologist Kerrin Jeromin, a communication strategist with the National Renewable Energy Laboratory in Colorado (also an alum of RHS, Class of 2004). She shared, "There are beautiful and bright times ahead if you make the choice to see the bright spot — or, better yet, be the bright spot. From here on out, you can create whatever weather and atmosphere you want for your life."

A longstanding Woodstock tradition, begun by former theater teacher Harriet Worrell, is to perform



By Robin Alberti

Woodstock High School seniors Clara Shortle, William Obbard, and Kamron Yuengling performed this year's speakchorus honoring each graduate.

a "speakchorus" which celebrates each member of the senior class by acknowledging the unique traits. For example someone's athletic prowess, outdoor enthusiasm, kindness, humor, or ability to huck a 360 on skis.

Seniors Clara Shortle, William Obbard, and Kamron Yuengling performed this year's speakchorus highlighting their 2024 class community.

"I have realized that there is nothing small about the sort of community that we have in this place," Valedictorian Leah Kuhnert, who will attend Cornell

University in the fall, told her classmates. "Remember to lead with a desire to understand rather than to judge."

Senior class president Maggie Mello, who will attend Providence College in the fall, advised her classmates to: "Follow your passion, find your people, and visit your happy places," adding, "Happiness is not something that some people can have and other people can't. It builds through a series of decisions we make every day."

For a list of senior plans in the fall, visit: MountainTimes.info.

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Students gather together in the Arts Institute at Vermont State University Castleton.

By Aja Selbach-Broad

## Hundreds of Vermont teens to attend a Governor's Institutes this summer

In the coming weeks, six hundred high school students will attend a Governor's Institutes of Vermont (GIV) intensive summer program, according to a news release June 13. They will spend 1-2 weeks on a college campus diving deeply into career-oriented top-

88% of alumni said it was one of the most important experiences of their teen years.

ics with peers from around the state, studying the arts, engineering, entrepreneurship, environmental science and technology, global issues and youth action, health and medicine, mathematical sciences, and technology and design.

Started in the early 1980s with the Arts Institute to fill an unmet need, GIV has since added Institutes that focus on the intersection of student

interests and Vermont workforce needs. This year alone, 140 students will attend the Health & Medicine Institute, produced in partnership with Vermont's Area Health Education Centers. They will earn stackable credentials like the Vermont Emergency First Responder (VEFR) and jump on a pathway to important and needed jobs in the state.

Since its inception, over 13,000 students have embraced the opportunity. In a survey of long-term outcomes, 88% of alumni said it was one of the most important experiences of their teen years.

GIV alum Meara Seery grew up in Brattleboro and now works as the digital producer for Senator Bernie Sanders, and also serves as the current Miss Vermont. GIV was the first place she worked with video production. She said: "I fully credit The

Governor's Institute on the Arts for spearheading my career and changing the trajectory of my profession as an artist. It gave me the motivation and inspiration to follow my talents and the knowledge that YOU CAN have a successful career in the arts."

GIV aim to launch hundreds of young scientists, artists and entrepreneurs to become the changemakers of our future.

Thanks to generous individual, business, and foundation donors, GIV is able to provide a sliding scale financial aid model where no student is ever refused on the basis of cost. In fact, more than 75% of students receive tuition assistance. The Governor's Institutes of Vermont is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that welcomes business sponsorships and individual donations to help fund GIV's efforts.

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

### ← Road work: from page 2

the end of major drilling and blasting. "If any remaining blasts are needed, it will be up by Anthony Way and will not require stopping traffic on Route 4," wrote Markowski.

Sewer line installation will continue.

"In addition, we will be also working to install the future water line along the west side of the Access Road. Again, as these two lines are installed, we will continue to install the sand and gravel layers which will be just below final pavement layer," the release continued.

A continuation of dust control will occur as needed with warmer and drier weather.



### East Mountain Road work

The repairs on East Mountain Road from last summer flooding continues, according to Abbie Sherman, public works director for the town of Killington. This week Mosher Excavating will change the signs from "Road Closed" to "Road Work Ahead." Delays are expected when passing through the work zone between Bear Mountain Road and Route 4.

During the week of June 24, that section of road will be closed for about a day while two culverts are installed, Sherman noted.

### OBITUARY

## Angela Rose Boisvert, 77

Angela Rose Boisvert (formerly Angela Kardos) age 77, of Killington, passed peacefully on June 9 after a long battle with cancer. She was born Angelika Rose Tolmachov in 1947 in Bad Tölz, Germany. She immigrated to the United States with her mother as a young girl. Her early years were spent in New Jersey.



She was predeceased by her husband Richard Boisvert. She leaves behind her son Michael Boisvert and his wife Kalinda. She is survived by her half siblings Stanley and Nina and her special chosen family Phil Taran and his children Kaleb and Juliette. There are many people that she cherished as close friends who will forever miss her generosity and zest for life.

Angela worked for many years for Air Mexico and for over 25 years for Killington Ski Resort.

Angela was known and loved for her excellent cooking, love for polka dancing, her gardening skills and her excellent parties! Angela inspired the group Freeze Dried to write a polka tune "Angelina."

A celebration of her life will be held in Killington in the Fall.

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## MOUNTAIN TIMES

is a community newspaper covering Central Vermont that aims to engage and inform as well as empower community members to have a voice.

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# A Vermont GOP rule bars it from backing felons

State party chair says that's not a problem for Trump — yet  
By Sarah Mearhoff/VTDigger

The bylaws of the Vermont Republican Party prohibit it from backing candidates who have been convicted of a felony. That could pose a problem for the party, given that its likely standard bearer, former President Donald Trump, was convicted last month of 34 felony counts of falsifying business records to conceal a \$130,000 hush money payment in hopes of influencing the outcome of the 2016 presidential election.

But according to Vermont Republican Party chair Paul Dame, it's not a problem — yet.

Only after next month's Republican National Convention — when, presumably, Trump will again secure the party's presidential nomination — would the Vermont GOP's rule apply, Dame told VTDigger on Tuesday. And he's still not sure how it would then play out.

As reported last week by the Vermont Political Observer and NBC News, the state party's rules say that it “will not support or promote any candidate for elective office who ... is a convicted felon.”

The party can make exceptions. A subsection of the rules allows its executive committee, by a majority vote, to exempt a particular candidate from the prohibition “under extenuating circumstances.” Such circumstances are not defined.

“In the past, exemptions like this have been made when a candidate may have completed their sentence, when they have evidence of kind of turning their life around and have shown a capacity to be of service to their local community,” Dame said in a video statement on Tuesday. “In the past, this has been done because we believe in second chances.”

So far, the party's executive committee has not met “to even discuss what, if any, action we would take and whether or not such an action would be necessary in the case of President Trump,” Dame said in the recording.

Trump has not yet been sentenced and could still appeal the verdict.

Dame told VTDigger that he hadn't “talked about it with enough people to say” whether the 14-member executive committee would hold a vote to exempt Trump from the rule. Such a vote would only happen after Trump is nominated in July, Dame said, and would be held in a closed-door, executive session.

Asked if he thought the committee should take up the question, Dame said, “It doesn't matter what I think. It matters what the rest of the executive committee thinks.”

“Whether you vote yes, whether you

vote no, or whether you don't hold the vote, all three of those send some kind of message,” Dame said. “We just haven't had a chance to get everybody together to talk about what message we want to send.”

Dame said that, if such a vote were held today, he wasn't sure where he would land. “I haven't had time to think about it, and I'd want to hear the arguments for both sides,” he said.

“Overall, Vermont Republicans didn't support Trump. We're the only state that Trump didn't win,” Dame said. “So I certainly think there's a case to be made for the fact that that's what our electorate — that's the message they sent in March.”

“But that was March,” Dame continued.

“That's a long time ago in politics, and I'm sure that at least some of those people wanted to register their preference against Trump, but many

of them still don't want Joe Biden to win.”

Vermont Democratic Party executive director Jim Dandeneau said Tuesday that he had a different read from Dame's recorded statement earlier that day.

“Based on the video, I think that their minds are made up and that the Vermont Republican Party is going to go to the wall for Donald Trump, and that is shameful.”

Dandeneau added, “They should be humiliated and embarrassed by the fact that they're going to waive their own rules to support a man who was convicted of 34 felonies for covering up an affair with massive campaign finance violations to win the presidential election in 2016.”

According to Dame, the party bylaw is unlikely to affect Vermont's delegates to next month's convention. Nearly half of them are slated to cast their ballots for Trump.

Dame noted that two additional party rules — one from the state bylaws and another from Republican National Committee bylaws — require that delegates abide by the results of their state primary elections when casting their ballots at the convention.

“So to me, I've got two rules that tell me those Trump delegates have to vote for Trump, because we are there representing the vote that took place in March,” Dame said.

“That's the instructions I've given to delegates who have asked me,” he said.

Former South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley won Vermont's Republican presidential primary with just over half of the vote on March 5 — the only state primary she

GOP rules → 6

“Overall, Vermont Republicans didn't support Trump. We're the only state that Trump didn't win,” Dame said.



Courtesy RRMCC

## RRMC cuts ribbon for new scanner

The Diagnostic Imaging team at Rutland Regional Medical Center (RRMC) recently celebrated the installation of a second computed tomography (CT) scanner with a ribbon cutting ceremony for the new machine, according to a news release, June 13.

The state-of-the-art CT scanner is a Revolution Ascend model manufactured by GE Healthcare. This new CT Scanner doubles the diagnostic imaging department's ability to accommodate patients whether they be inpatient, outpatient, or coming through the emergency department.

“The second scanner enhances patient access,” said Tashina Scognamiglio, lead CT technologist at

RRMC. “Now that we are able to share CT scanning between two machines, we are able to see more patients in a timelier manner which is beneficial for patients as well as for the staff.”

A CT scanner is used to view detailed images of any parts of the body using a rotating x-ray source. The digital images are then transmitted to a computer that then constructs very detailed two-dimensional image slices of the body. These images are then reconstructed to create a 3D image of the patient showing the skeleton, organs, and tissues of the body, which can then be reviewed by the radiologist to identify any abnormalities.

The addition of the sec-

ond scanner was necessary due to the increase in the volume of patients needing CT scans.

“Everyone on the team has been very much looking forward to going live with this machine and we are already seeing the benefits both for our patients and for the department,” said Shari Patch, director diagnostic imaging at RRMCC.

The installation, which had been planned for over two years, was completed with the help of the hospital's facilities team and professionals from GE Healthcare, H.P. Cummings Construction, and Lavallee Brensinger Architects.

For more information, visit: [rrmc.org/services/diagnostic-imaging](http://rrmc.org/services/diagnostic-imaging).



By Donald Dill, courtesy Okemo Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce

## New England Cider Donuts opens in Ludlow

The grand opening of New England Cider Donuts at 29 Main St. in Ludlow was recently celebrated with a ribbon cutting. The new shop will offer local coffee, breakfast sandwiches, assorted baked goods, in addition to delicious cider and specialty donuts. In the summer it'll also offer ice cream sundaes. Pictured: David Bennett, owner, cuts the ribbon accompanied by team members Abby and Basil. Chamber Executive Director Carol Lighthall held the ribbon (left) with assistant chamber director Leah Kriebel (right).



Courtesy of the Greater Killington Women's Club  
Seniors Sophia Nisimblat (left) and Chloe Masillo (right) smile with their certificates of honor.

## Chloe Masillo and Sophia Nisimblat recognized for excellence

The winners of two local scholarship awards, sponsored by the Greater Killington Women's Club, were recently presented at the Woodstock Union High School Senior Awards Night ceremony. The Club disburses two \$1,000 awards to graduating seniors each year.

The Sherburne Academic Award is presented to a Killington or Pittsfield resident with the highest weighted GPA attending Woodstock High School. The 2024 winner was Chloe Masillo. In addition to her academic excellence, Masillo's extracurricular activities included membership in the National Honor Society, as well as a member and captain of the Woodstock Union High School Varsity soccer, ski and tennis teams. She will be attending Northeastern University in the fall.

The Pat Zack Community Service Award is given to a graduating senior who lives in Killington or Pittsfield and has demonstrated outstanding service to his or her community. The 2024 winner is Sophia Nisimblat. Nisimblat has also been the student president of U.S. Youth Top Soccer at Woodstock High School and was co-founder of the Winter Unified Sports Club. Additionally, she has been vice president of the senior class for three years, president of the Spanish club and is active in many more student organizations and clubs, including the National Honor Society. Nisimblat was also a member and captain of the Woodstock High School Varsity soccer and tennis teams. In addition, she has been a loyal volunteer at her local church and did a service trip to South America. She plans to attend Boston College in the fall.

"The members of the Greater Killington Women's Club are proud to support these two exceptional young ladies, who represent the best of our community, in their academic achievements and commitment to our community," the club stated in a news release. "We wish them all the best in their future endeavors."

The Greater Killington Women's Club, formerly the Sherburne Women's Club, is a civic organization that was established 60 years ago by Killington resort co-founder Sue Smith and other community members. The Club continues its generous support of the Killington community, local non-profit organizations and schools.

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

## Castleton Elementary School's Carl Cougar crowned Slate Valley's mascot champion

Castleton Elementary School's Carl Cougar has been crowned champion of the first Slate Valley Mascot Madness competition for the 2023-24 school year. Superintendent Brooke Olsen-Farrell presented the honors to Carl on Friday morning, June 14.

The awarded trophy was designed and created by Middle School student, Deshawn Ingram, who used both the 3D printer and Glowforge during his design class to make the finished piece.

Throughout the school year the five Slate Valley school mascots competed in various competitions at large school events, such as a free throw competition during halftime at a Slater Basketball home game. Mascots also earned points for attending their individual school activities such as open houses, award ceremonies

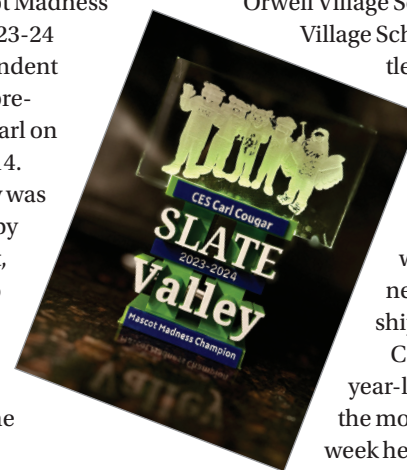
and other public events.

All of the mascots — Wally Wildcat of Orwell Village School, Blue Bear of Benson Village School, Carl Cougar of Cas-

tleton Elementary School, FHGS Falcon of Fair Haven Grade School and Slater of Fair Haven Union Middle and High School — provided a year's worth of fun competitiveness and good sportsmanship!

Carl pulled ahead in the year-long competition during the month of April, when in one week he attended five family lunch events, which launched him to the front, passing Wally Wildcat of Orwell Village School.

Mascot Madness will kick off again at the start of the new school year at the end of August. For now the mascots are taking the summer off to rest, and possibly train for the upcoming season.



Courtesy Slate Valley Schol District  
After a year-long battle it was Castleton's Carl Cougar that racked up the most points and was therefore crowned the Slate Valley school district mascot champion of 2023-2024.

## Five local organizations receive grants from Vermont Women's Fund

The Vermont Women's Fund at the Vermont Community Foundation announced the recipients of its 2024 annual grant round, June 17. A total of \$365,180 was awarded to 36 organizations across Vermont; five of which went to organizations in Rutland or Windsor County.

"The work these organizations do improves the lives of women and girls across the state," said Emily Bush, director of the Vermont Women's Fund. "These grants will help women advance their careers, find safe and affordable housing, and access high-quality childcare, while also building opportunities for girls to thrive now and in the future."

The Vermont Women's Fund Council, a diverse group from across the state, invested many hours into the grant making process, Bush added. "We are so grateful for their support and expertise and also grateful to everyone whose donations make this work possible."

The grant applications revealed the breadth and depth of the state's organizations working to help women succeed, said Sujata Moorti, co-chair of the Vermont Women's Fund Council. "Whether it is addressing women's transportation needs or offering training to learn new technologies or creating networks of food security, each one of these orga-

nizations is undertaking vital work to empower those who identify as women."

Local grant recipients include:

1. NewStory Center, Rutland, \$10,000
2. Orange County Parent Child Center, Tunbridge, \$10,000
3. COVER Home Repair, White River Junction, \$7,500
4. Downtown Rutland Partnership, Rutland, \$5,000
5. The MINT, Rutland, \$5,000

For more information and a complete list of 2024 recipients, visit [vermontwomensfund.org](http://vermontwomensfund.org).



By Mitch Moraski/VTF&W

Loons nesting along lake shorelines are susceptible to human disturbance, nests can be flooded and destroyed by boat wakes.

## Protect nesting loons and loon chicks by keeping your distance

Few birding experiences rival hearing the haunting call of the loon or seeing them glide by in protected coves on a lake. However, for the birds' protection, Vermont Fish & Wildlife (VTF&W) is asking boaters and anglers to enjoy loons from a safe distance this summer.

"Loons were removed from Vermont's endangered species list in 2005, but they face continued threats from human disturbance during the breeding season and ingestion of fishing gear," said Rosalind Renfrew, wildlife biologist with VTF&W. "Many areas where loons nest on Vermont's lakes are surrounded by signs reminding people to give loons the space they need, but not all nesting areas are marked. We're asking people to enjoy loons from a distance rather than approaching them, whether you are in a boat or on shore."

Renfrew also reminds people to avoid using lead fishing tackle. Every year Vermont loons die from lead poisoning after swallowing fishing tackle. Lead sinkers weighing one-half ounce or less are prohibited in Vermont, but larger tackle still has the capacity to slough off lead into the environment over time. Renfrew also recommends anglers to be careful to not attract loons to their bait and lures, and especially to not leave any fishing line behind as it can entangle and kill loons.

Eric Hanson, biologist with the Vermont Loon Conservation Project and Vermont Center for Ecostudies (VCE), asks anglers to reel in for a few minutes

if loons are diving nearby. To give anglers a place to discard their lead tackle, VCE will be placing collection tubes for lead tackle and discarded fishing line at over 20 boat access areas beginning this summer. VCE coordinates the loon project in partnership with VTF&W.

Hanson and his colleagues monitor Vermont's loon population and have put out game cameras around loon nests to monitor the behavior of people around them. Hanson says most people are respectful of nesting loons and give them space, but people sometimes inadvertently harm loons without meaning to.

"Loon chicks can be difficult to see, so we ask motorboaters to note where loon families are and to avoid those areas," said Hanson. "We

also ask that motorboaters obey 'no wake' laws within 200 feet of shorelines because boat wakes can flood and destroy shoreline loon nests."

As Vermont's loon population continues to increase and canoeing and kayaking continues to become more popular, there is greater potential for people to come into conflict with loons. Hanson reminds boaters to avoid pursuing loons in a canoe or kayak, especially loons with young.

"Occasionally a loon will be curious

and approach people, and if that happens, just enjoy it," said Hanson. "However, loons that are constantly swimming away from you are stressed and may abandon their young if they feel they are in danger."

Hanson also urges shoreline property owners to maintain appropriate habitat for loons, including shrubby and forested areas along shorelines, where loons can nest. Having shrubs and trees instead of lawns along shorelines also improves water quality which is essential for healthy lakes, aquatic insects, fish eggs, fish, and loons.

Volunteers interested in monitoring

"Occasionally a loon will be curious and approach people, and if that happens, just enjoy it," said Hanson. "However, loons that are constantly swimming away from you are stressed and may abandon their young if they feel they are in danger."

loons for the Loon Conservation Project should contact Hanson at loon@vtecostudies.org. Volunteers can monitor lakes all summer long with a focus on lakes with loon pairs and nesting.

Volunteers can also survey one or two lakes on Loonwatch Day, being held on July 20 this year, between 8-9 a.m. The goal is to survey all lakes greater than 20 acres at the same time, which provides a population count and checks on small lakes that are surveyed less often during the rest of year.

## Money available to protect against future flooding, no cost to towns

On Monday, June 3, Governor Scott and Vermont Emergency Management announced \$90 million of federal funding is now available to Vermont municipalities to implement hazard mitigation measures that reduce future flood risk. These funds are available to all Vermont towns with no local match requirement.

The federal Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) provides funds to municipalities to harden infrastructure against future flood losses and for voluntary buyouts of homes in floodplains. The program traditionally requires towns to pay 25% of total project costs; the state of Vermont will now pay the local match.

"After the July flooding that many areas of the state experienced, it was clear local communities needed more resources to help them strengthen their infrastruc-

ture to mitigate future disasters," said Gov. Scott. "That's why my budget included \$12.5 million to fund the local match portion of the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program."

HMGP funds pay for projects that help prevent future damage in areas of repetitive flooding, such as installing spillways and large culverts, flood-proofed public buildings, restored river corridors to keep water within their banks, and purchased homes in floodplains to allow water to flow through without damaging structures.

Cities and towns are strongly encouraged to identify problem areas and submit a pre-application by Aug. 16. Pre-applications need only provide basic information on a proposed project; more technical information will be reviewed as the application progresses. Vermont Emergency Management and Regional Planning Commission staff will assist communities throughout the process.

"Taking the local match off the shoulders of cities and towns lifts a significant barrier that may have deterred towns from applying in the past," Vermont Emergency Management Director Eric Forand said. "The process may seem daunting to communities that have limited staff, but we are here to help. We encourage towns to apply."

For more info visit: [vem.vermont.gov/funding/mitigation](http://vem.vermont.gov/funding/mitigation).

**← GOP rules:** .....  
from page 4

won before dropping out of the race the following day. But Vermont has a proportional delegate system, which means that nine of the state's 17 delegates are set to cast their ballots for Haley at the convention, while eight are expected to vote for Trump, who won nearly 46% of the vote in March.

If the Vermont GOP's executive committee were to keep the rule in place for Trump, Dame said that the most tangible outcome for Trump in the state would be that "we're not going to send money to that campaign, I think."

"Outside of that, it's nothing we've really discussed, because we haven't run into this before," he said. "We are primarily focused (on) electing Republicans to the legislature, and so the money that we're raising ... that money has always been designed to be primarily spent here in Vermont, on Vermont races. And so whether Trump was convicted or not, that was going to be the case."

## Gov. Scott announces \$1.7m in transportation fund grants

Three projects in Windsor County are among the 11 to receive awards

Governor Phil Scott and the Vermont Downtown Development Board announced Monday, June 17, the allocation of \$1,787,989 in Downtown Transportation Fund grants to support projects to improve safety, access, and transportation in 11 Vermont downtowns and villages across seven counties.

“Revitalizing our downtowns is important to strengthening communities across Vermont,” said Governor Phil Scott. “These grants will support projects to improve pedestrian and bicycle access to public spaces, improve ADA access, and spruce up downtown areas for Vermonters and our visitors to enjoy.”

In Chester, Downtown Transportation Funds will improve pedestrian and bicycle access to and around the village and provide safety enhancements. This grant will support crosswalks, curb repairs, and help to delineate pedestrian boundaries in front of shops. The project will also add electricity to the Green allowing for a safer, more vibrant downtown.

“The Downtown Transportation Funds are a great asset for Chester in achieving its goals of revitalization of Chester’s village center,” said Chester Town Manager Julie Hance. “These funds will not only improve infrastructure on the Green to enhance outdoor events year round, they will also enhance mobility around the Green and make it accessible for all, residents and visitors alike.”

Since its inception in 1999, the program has invested more than \$16 million in Vermont’s downtowns and villages.

Alex Farrell, commissioner of the Dept. of Housing and Community Development and Chair of the Downtown Board, said that these investments are vital to drawing people downtown, supporting businesses, and enhancing Vermont communities. “Vermont communities are working tirelessly to ensure our roads serve all modes of transportation. By prioritizing pedestrians, cyclists, and public transit, we are creating safer, more inclusive, and sus-

tainable environments for everyone. This joint investment by the Vermont Agency of Transportation and the Agency of Commerce and Community Development reflects our shared and ongoing commitment to improving quality of life and fostering vibrant, connected communities.”

“Improving and expanding transportation infrastructure in Vermont’s downtowns is a priority for our Agency and the State,” said Transportation Secretary Joe Flynn. “With the need to reduce the transportation carbon footprint and provide more transportation options and connections within towns and villages, these projects contribute to a better quality of life and better transportation systems for Vermonters.”

### 2024 Grantees:

1. Town of Chester, Chester village pedestrian improvements: \$200,000
2. Town of Windsor, railyard recreation: \$200,000
3. Town of Springfield, town hall ADA accessibility and safety improvements: \$200,000
4. Town of Bennington, Walloomsac riverwalk redevelopment Phase 2 (Bennington skatepark): \$200,000
5. Town of St Johnsbury, Eastern Avenue streetscape: \$200,000
6. Town of Williston, historic village town hall parking lot improvement: \$200,000
7. City of Vergennes, wayfinding signage Phase 2, city green lighting and Main Street lighting: \$199,200
8. Town of Brattleboro, downtown beautification and meter removal: \$114,289
9. Town of Danville, historic Danville train station: \$100,000
10. Town of Rockingham (Bellows Falls), Bellows Falls streetscape and ADA improvements: \$96,000
11. Town of Brighton, Island Pond Lakeside Park Improvements: \$78,500.

## Program to store carbon in forests grows in the Green Mountain State

By Cecilia Larson/Community News Service

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

Forged by the American Forest Foundation and the Nature Conservancy, a program that pays people to set aside forest to store carbon has been growing in Vermont over the last two years.

The Family Forest Carbon Program launched in 2020 in Pennsylvania, and after learning from the foresters, stakeholders and landowners down there, its organizers

In Vermont, some 80% of forestland is owned by small landowners, who in the past have had limited options for carbon storage programs... About 97,000 acres of Vermont land are in the process of coming under the program.

migrated north in the summer of 2022 seeking to benefit Vermont communities.

Since then, close to 500 landowners have expressed interest in enrolling in the program and being paid close to \$300 an acre, dispersed over a 20-year period, for preserving the sequestered land. To join, a landowner must have at least 30 acres of naturally growing trees.

Programs like this have existed nationally for a while, but their focus often has been limited to large plots of land, thousands of acres at a time, and were expensive to operate, said University of Vermont professor and forest scientist Bill Keeton. The Family Forest Carbon Program sought to bring a solution to the small forest owner, someone who wants to play a part in reducing atmospheric carbon and also improve biodiversity by encouraging birds and critters to stick around.

In Vermont, some 80% of forestland is owned by small landowners, who in the past have had limited options for carbon storage programs, according to Jim Shallow, director of strategic conservation initiatives for the state branch of the Nature Conservancy, one of the country’s largest environmental nonprofits.

The program is linked to voluntary carbon markets, in which companies and other organizations can pay to offset their emissions by buying carbon credits. Each credit represents a certain amount of carbon emissions kept from the atmosphere. Those credits come from places like the forests in the Family Forest Carbon Program. The markets face relatively little regulation — though one federal agency has been looking to change that — and the credits have been criticized as scams vulnerable to fraud.

Supporters see the potential positive impact of these programs for combating climate change and preserving forests, natural guards against excess carbon.

About 97,000 acres of Vermont land are in the process of coming under the program, with 38 contracts fully signed so far covering close to 7,500 acres, Shallow said.

The program has faced challenges of high interest and low capacity, which its leaders are facing head on.

Carbon program → 11

## Two prescription drug bills aim to lower pharmaceutical prices

Governor Scott signed both into law

By Peter D’Auria/VTDigger

New legislation signed by Gov. Phil Scott May 30 will help patients afford prescription drugs, as rising pharmaceutical prices push up health care costs across the state.

As legislators scrambled to wrap up the legislative session earlier this month, they passed two bills that aim to reform how prescription drugs are priced and distributed.

“We’ve known about the impact that skyrocketing prescription drug costs have had for years,” Rep. Mari Cordes, D-Lincoln, the clerk of the House Health Care committee, said in an interview. But “because there’s so much market consolidation and so much vertical and horizontal integration (of health care companies), it’s just been it’s been so hard to get at that and get

inside the black box and have any real power to do anything about it.”

Now, lawmakers are seeking ways to open that black box — and slow the growth of drug prices.

Increasing pharmaceutical prices are driving up costs across Vermont, even for people with no prescriptions. Last week, Blue Cross Blue Shield and MVP asked state officials for permission to hike insurance premiums next year by between roughly 9% to 19%, citing among other factors the cost of prescription drugs. The rise of insurance prices is also driving up education spending, and, in turn, property taxes.

H.233, targets pharmacy benefit managers — aka PBMs — companies that administer prescription drug benefits for a health insurance company.

In the convoluted health care industry, PBMs are essentially middlemen. They negotiate prices between drug companies and health insurers and determine which drugs are covered by insurance plans, and to what degree.

In recent years, PBMs have drawn scrutiny and criticism nationally from lawmakers and officials, who accuse them of driving up drug costs with opaque practices. (PBMs have disputed those claims.)

In Vermont, H.233 comes amid a multi-year push to regulate how the entities can operate in the state. The bill would require PBMs to obtain a license from the Dept. of Financial Regulation in order to operate in Vermont, and strengthen the department’s oversight.

Lower drug costs → 11

## GUEST EDITORIAL

## Biden's 'weakness' isn't his age, it's his timidity

By Angelo Lynn

*Editor's note: Angelo Lynn is publisher of the Addison Independent, a sister paper to the Mountain Times.*

On a few notable foreign policy issues, President Joe Biden, along with fellow Democrats and Progressives, need to reset their politics to match today's reality. Specifically, how America manages immigration on its southern border needs revision, America's support of Israel requires rethinking while rejecting the hard-right policies of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, and America needs a more forceful retort to Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

President Biden is moving in that direction — though far too slowly.

Earlier this month, Biden finally used his presidential power to put a temporary halt to the flood of immigrants pouring illegally across our southern border from Mexico. For the past three years, he has ignored abundant signs of trouble and has held on to outdated ideals.

When President Barack Obama was elected in Nov. 2008, the total number of illegal apprehensions and expulsions was 723,825 (during George W. Bush's final year). During Obama's first year in office that number dropped to 556,041, according to the U.S. Border Patrol, and hovered between a low of 337,117 in 2015 to a high of 486,651 in 2014. By the third year of Donald Trump's first term, in 2019, the number of illegal aliens apprehended had spiked from 310,531 in 2017 to 859,501 in 2019 — a 250% increase in two years.

When Biden took over Jan. 2021, worldwide pandemic restrictions had cut that number in half to 405,036, but as those restrictions were lifted the numbers of immigrants apprehended and expelled soared to 1,662,167 in 2021, 2,214,652 in 2022, and 2,063,692 by the end of 2023.

It should be obvious the explosion of illegal immigrants has demanded a stronger response. President Biden and liberal Democrats/Progressives initially tried to stay true to a notion of accepting all legitimate immigrants seeking asylum and were overly reluctant to clamp down. The sheer number of immigrants, however, overwhelmed the system. Belatedly, Democrats tried to pass legislation this winter that would have strengthened the nation's control of its southern border, but House Republicans blocked passage of the bipartisan bill, at Trump's insistence, because they didn't want to hand Biden a legislative victory and tools to solve the problem.

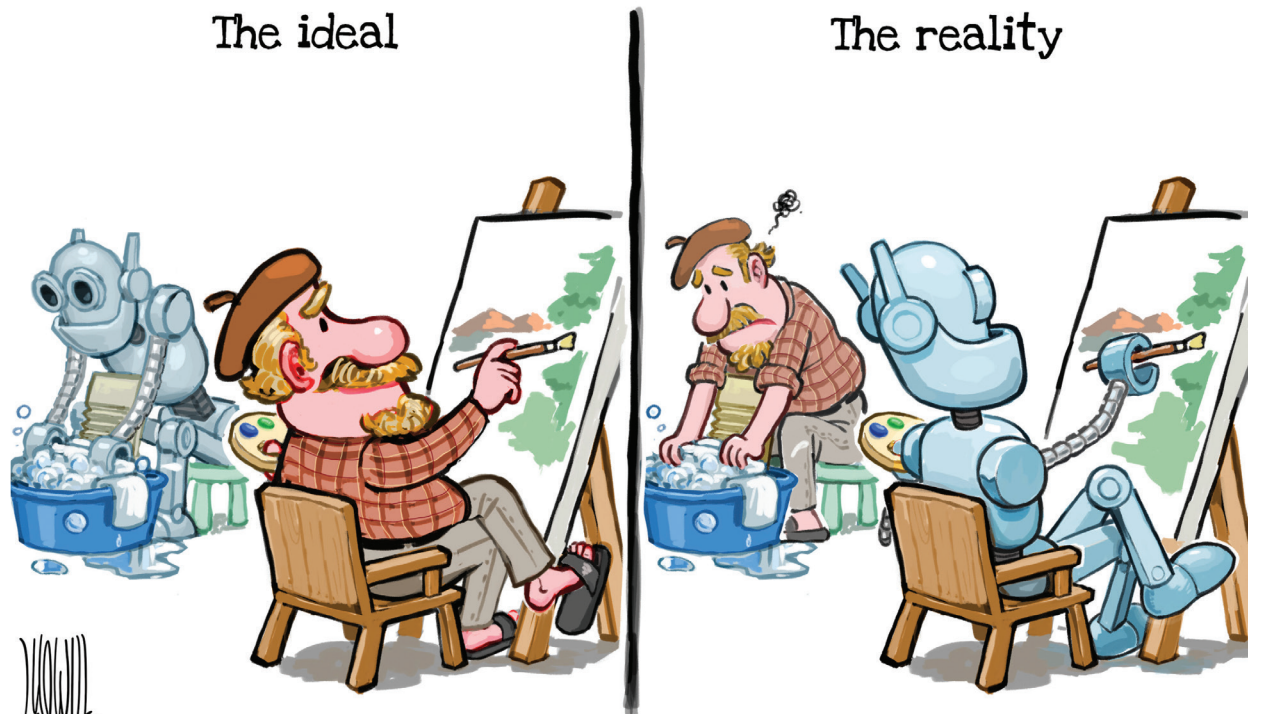
Biden's response is an executive action offering a temporary solution, though it doesn't fund additional border patrol agents, nor move the thousands of backlogged asylum cases through the courts any faster.

Progressives and some liberal Democrats have criticized Biden's change of tactics, stubbornly refusing to admit today's harsher reality. Biden, on the other hand, has made clear distinctions between his clampdown on immigration and Trump's approach.

True to form, Trump railed against immigration in derogative terms, saying immigrants "poison the blood of America," and assailed them as "criminals." Biden is trying to keep America's tradition of being open to legal immigration with this caveat: "To protect America as a land that welcomes

Timidity → 10

It should be obvious the explosion of illegal immigrants has demanded a stronger response.



CHINADAILY

Ideal vs reality by Luojie, China Daily, China

## LETTERS

## Scott was right to veto H.887

Dear Editor,

Our state Legislature is meeting this week to vote on overriding Governor Scott's vetoes of legislation introduced during the latest session. One of the bills for consideration is H. 887, the annual "yield bill," which funds our public education system through property taxes.

Governor Scott has rightly vetoed this bill because, according to the Burlington

Has your income increased by 13.8% this year?

Free Press, it results in a property tax increase of 13.8%. The Democrat-controlled Legislature views this as a significant accomplishment because it holds the increase to ONLY 13.8%

Has your income increased by 13.8% this year?

This is an increase to a property tax rate that, according to Rocket Mortgage, is already the fourth highest in the nation. The Legislature should uphold the governor's veto and work on reducing our property tax burden.

Max Tyler, Underhill

## VTSU should renew its commitment to diversity office

Dear Editor,

In the summer of 2020, the nation watched 8 minutes and 46 seconds of video of a Minneapolis police officer kneeling on the neck of a detained man named George Floyd until Floyd was asphyxiated to death. It was horrific, and Floyd was only one of several people of color who died at the hands of law enforcement that year. Yet the fact that we all witnessed it roused public awareness of America's problems with race. For many Americans, Floyd's death was an awakening, but social scientists have a bounty of data—such as the fact that white households have a net worth greater than 10 times that of Black households—that shows that America has not reckoned with its long history of racial injustice.

To address some of the structural injustices we face, colleges and universities looked inward and in many cases established or re-invigorated offices that were meant to address social justice on our campuses. Vermont State University (VTSU) created a new position of chief diversity officer (CDO) who would report directly to the president

and have an independent budget to address the needs of social justice. Sadly, amid the process of merging the formerly independent colleges, the first CDO resigned after the position was changed to report to a vice president, and promises made were not kept.

The major societal problems that provoked the establishment of such offices are as salient today as they were in 2020, and yet we have seen a decline in support for those offices as the spotlight has faded and political backlash has risen. We have seen the university's commitment to diversity, equity, inclusion, and social justice (DEISJ) diminish as if the problems were solved. And this month we see another resignation from the DEISJ office in response to the university's unwillingness to support it adequately.

On March 12, VTSU President Bergh met with the student chapter of the NAACP at the Castleton campus, where the students urged the president to re-institute the reporting line of the CDO to go directly to him as a sign that DEISJ is important.

Diversity → 11

## Vermonters run for president

Dear Editor,

People of Vermont, I am running to become the Republican candidate for the presidency in 2028. I am from Springfield, Vermont and grew up in Concord, New Hampshire. I attended Assumption College in Worcester, Massachusetts in 1983/1984. I graduated from The University of New Hampshire (Durham) in 1988 with a B.A. in political science, concentrating in earth science, psychology and economics.

I'm pro-choice. I stand with Planned Parenthood. The country needs to pass an amendment to the Constitution to clarify and settle this pressing issue.

I am taking matching funds to finance the campaign; this separates me from other candidates and limits spending.

The national debt is at \$31.4 trillion (about \$97,000 per person in the U.S.) and growing. As a country we need to pay down the debt. President Trump and President Biden have wasted taxpayer dollars despite campaign promises.

I will take a new approach to drug war and crime.

Presidency → 10



## CAPITOL QUOTES

Boeing CEO David Calhoun admitted to retaliating against whistleblowers over alleged production malpractices during a Senate hearing, June 18. He apologized to crash victims' families and pledged future safety improvements. The company faces multiple lawsuits and is facing multiple lawsuits related to retaliation.

**“You’re the problem...I don’t think the problem’s with the employees... I think the problem’s with you. You. It’s the c-suite. It’s the management. It’s what you’ve done to this company. That’s where the problem is...You’re the problem. And I just hope to God you don’t destroy this company before it can be saved,”**

said Missouri Senator **Josh Hawley** to Boeing CEO David Calhoun, according to Yahoo News.

**“I flew from England to Washington, DC, to hear in person what the Boeing CEO has to say to the Senate and to the world about any safety improvements made at that corporation...I also continue to press the U.S. government to hold Boeing and its corporate executives criminally responsible for the deaths of 346 people. We will not rest until we see justice,”**

said **Zipporah Kuria**, whose father was killed in the 2019 crash of a Boeing 737 MAX8 jet according to BBC News.

**“We continuously encourage employees to report all concerns as our priority is to ensure the safety of our airplanes and the flying public,”**

said a **Boeing spokesperson**, according to ABC News.

**“Nothing has produced change [at Boeing] except frustration from a bunch of airline customers...I’m not sure what will change as a consequence of this. He [Boeing CEO Dave Calhoun] needs to go. He has shown a strong desire to double down on what’s bad,”**

said **Richard Aboulafia**, managing partner for AeroDynamic Consultancy, an aerospace advisory firm according to CNN.

## COMMENTARY

### Universal School Meals: Delivering for Vermont children, families and schools

By Teddy Waszazak

*Editor’s note: Teddy Waszazak is a resident of Barre and the Legislative Policy Lead at Hunger Free Vermont, a statewide advocacy and education nonprofit working to end hunger in Vermont.*

As another school year comes to a close, all of us in Vermont have two exciting milestones to celebrate: the start of summer and one year of permanent Universal School Meals! As students, family, school staff, and our greater communities turn their attention to swimming holes, family BBQs, and summer camps, I wanted to focus some attention on a major success of the public school system in Vermont.

The State of Vermont participated in a temporary Universal School Meals program from 2020-2023, and with the passage of Act 64 in 2023, the Legislature voted to make the program permanent. This month we celebrate one year of Act 64 and Universal School Meals, and one year of no child having to experience hunger in Vermont’s public schools.

The success of Universal School Meals in its first permanent year took many forms and opened additional doors for schools and children across the state. Participation in school lunch and breakfast has risen dramatically – with 9,700 more students eating breakfast and 7,800 more students eating school lunch each school day compared to when meals were charged to students. That’s roughly a 40% increase in school

breakfast participation!

In addition, Universal School Meals (combined with program improvements made available by USDA and wisely adopted by Vermont’s Agency of Education) has more than doubled the number of schools eligible to host summer and afterschool meal programs. 9,000 more students have been accurately counted as low-income, bringing increased federal funding to school districts. On top of that, due to more accurately counting these students this year, over 200 Vermont schools are eligible to participate in summer meal programs, and the overwhelming majority of Vermont towns are able to host free and universal summer meal sites.

By the numbers, Vermont ranks second in the country in school lunch participation increases, ranks fourth in the country in school breakfast participation increases, and Vermont is the *only* state with a permanent Universal School Meals program that has come in under budget. No matter how you look at it, Universal School Meals is a huge success for our state — a shining example of what happens when we invest in our children, our families, and our schools.

I was a kid who grew up falling through the cracks of the old system. I didn’t have a reliable parent around to sign the forms, I was housing insecure, and on many occasions at school, I simply wouldn’t eat. I

School meals → 10

## LETTER

### Vermont values under ‘atax:’ Vermonters rally to challenge threat to food, water, shelter

Dear Editor,

A broad cross section of Vermonters gathered in the State House cafeteria to express their displeasure with the direction the state’s political leadership is taking them. (And that was April 25; things have not improved since.)

Feeling ignored or otherwise discounted and marginalized, and in some cases, even mocked, the diverse group chose the cafeteria to voice their concerns recognizing that the politicians could not get away with eating Vermonters’ lunch without at least having to look them in the eye.

Rising property and municipal taxes; disregard for our forests, rivers and lakes and agricultural soil;

underperforming schools; inaccessible healthcare; the politicization of fish and wildlife and the accom-

accountable who are challenging their very ability to live and exist harmoniously in the state they love, in free-

[We] “risk transforming what is left of Vermont, already a playground for the wealthy, into just another line item in the elites’ investment portfolios,” said Ehlers.

panying discrimination against rural back-to-land lifestyles; the exploitation of our mountains and farms by industrial energy interests and their subsidy through spiraling electricity and fuel costs were among the topics uniting the tripartisan/independent voters and their children. They called on their fellow Vermonters to join them in holding the politicians

dom and unity. “We have to ensure that our legislators are not choosing special interest agendas at the expense of Vermonters. We need a Vermont plan that serves people and the environment that does not attack, punish and penalize. Vermonters are coming together to stand up for our right to afford to live in Vermont. We

Under ‘atax’ → 10

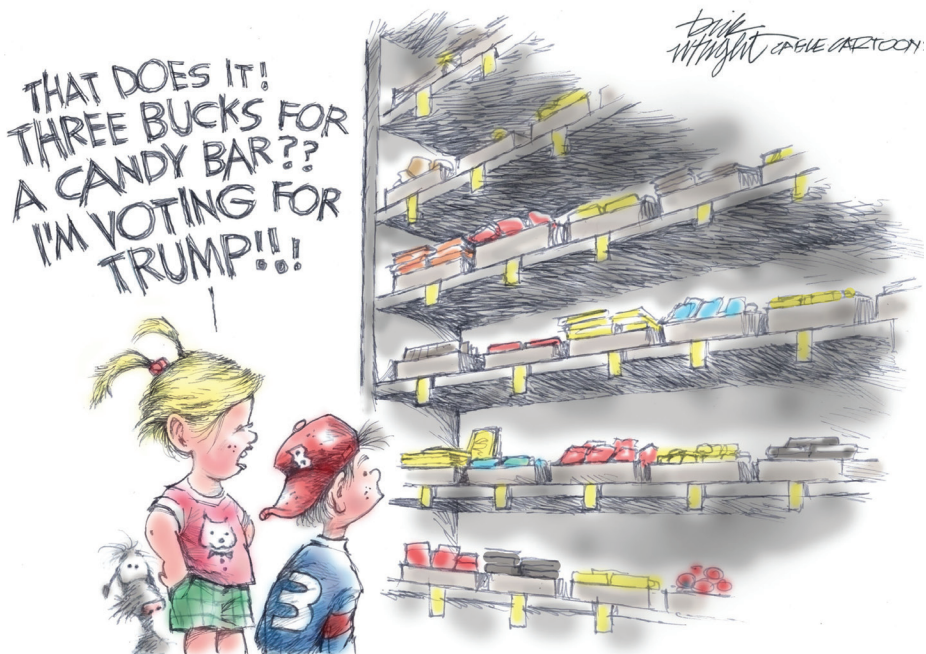
CARTOONS



Double Haters by John Darkow, Columbia Missouriia



Rigged: Not Rigged by Pat Byrnes, PoliticalCartoons



Cost of Food by Dick Wright, PoliticalCartoons

← **Timidity:** from page 8

immigrants, we must first secure the border and secure it now," he said. Biden added he would never separate children from their parents at the border as Trump did in his first term, and on his first day in office, Biden proposed an immigration overhaul that would have provided a pathway to citizenship for millions of immigrants (a measure Republicans have refused to consider.)

While Biden has convinced most moderate Democrats to back his new approach, liberal critics are laggards — to Biden's detriment. If we're to avoid a repeat of the assault on immigrants seen during Trump's first term, liberal Dems and Progressives need to reassess as well — sooner than later. A united front on this issue is crucial to Biden's campaign.

Biden's timid approach to immigration (as well as foreign policy debacles in Israel and Ukraine), more than his age, speak to his projection of weakness and frailty. Ironically, it may be his career-long desire to be a statesman seeking consensus that hampers his willingness to act. What the public sees, however, is a president who is overly cautious — even when the facts are screaming for bolder measures.

Biden has six months to change that perception.

← **Under 'atax':** from page 9

demand legislative accountability from a supermajority steamrolling Vermonters. We are asking for sound legislation that serves Vermont and the people who live here and love our state," said Alison Despathy of Danville.

"Our hunting, fishing, and trapping community is a critical contributor to the health of our wildlife and the ecosystems we share with them, and it is not negotiable as a political game piece. While it's fine for people to express their opinions, it is irresponsible for legislators to move bills that will obstruct a demonstrably functional system, make decisions about, and politicize how we manage wildlife," said Michael Covey of Williamstown.

"Vermonters see that the legislative agenda is driven by the interests of industry and developers, not constituents. From the buildout of industrial-scale corporate 'renewables,' to the lifting

of Act 250 water and soil protections in municipalities, to the attempt to eliminate citizen participation at the Public Utilities Commission, this agenda will destroy our forests and fields and rural culture if we don't stop it," said Suzanna Jones of Walden.

"Politicians in prioritizing corporate profit forsake the ecology of our home for the economic benefits of the few, leaving only poverty and pollution to trickle down on the rest of us, and, if we allow it, risk transforming what is left of Vermont, already a playground for the wealthy, into just another line item in the elites' investment portfolios. ... Our lives are one with the water cycle, one with Vermont's forests, her soil and wild ones, and we have an obligation to defend those downstream, literally and figuratively, against the political interests seeking to exploit us. And that, my brothers and sisters, we will do," said James

Ehlers of Winooski. "It appears that the majority of the legislature now operates from a position of privilege. No working class Vermonter could possibly support adding hundreds of millions of dollars to the cost-of-living for Vermonters through legislation. Vermonters have seen the cost of living skyrocket far exceeding the increases in our income. "We are taking action by being here today, but it cannot end here. We must encourage everyone we know to engage their legislators and tell them that we do not support a Vermont where working class Vermonters cannot afford to live and where the Vermont culture is under attack," said John Rodgers of Glover, a former State of Vermont senator.

*John Rodgers, Glover  
Alison Despathy, Danville  
Mike Covey, Williamstown  
Suzanna Jones, Walden  
Meghan Wayland, Barton  
James Ehlers, Winooski*

← **School meals:** from page 9

certainly didn't have the money to pay for the meals myself at age 16. I'd often experience light-headedness, anxiety, or extreme fatigue, all because some paperwork didn't get filled out.

Before Universal School Meals, 9,000 students like me were not accurately counted as low-income and were not getting the free school meals they needed. Tens of thousands of families were burdened with intrusive applications. Now, because of permanent Universal School Meals, this reality has been replaced by full bellies, well-performing students, and increased federal dollars in Vermont. It's a win across the board: our students, teachers, parents, school nutrition professionals, farms, and communities are all better for it.

It's...a shining example of what happens when we invest in our children, our families, and our schools.

← **Presidency:** from page 8

Globally, we need to stop giving away technology to countries that use it against us. I'm a pacifist; however, I realize we have many enemies in the world. I am against secret wars and feel we waste far too much money on them.

I've skied in Vermont many times. I can ski and will be good for the industry. Including breaking up powerful conglomerates with antitrust laws.

Very Truly Yours,  
*David Thomas Swett,  
Springfield*

← **Diversity:**  
from page 8

The response was—and we paraphrase—“let me look into it.”

More than three months have passed.

Now we urge the members of the VSCS Board of Trustees and the chancellor to support this move. We, the student leaders of the student NAACP chapter, along with our parent organization, the Rutland Area Branch, strongly advocate for the re-ignition of the DEISJ Office and making the CDO a direct report to the president, as a good faith commitment to the values of social justice the University claims to hold.

We have seen recently how universities fail to address systemic racism and inequality, shifting focus away from marginalized communities and allowing structures of oppression to

persist. Despite initial steps towards progress, like the establishment of offices meant to address social justice, we witness the erosion of commitment and support as time passes. The promises made to marginalized students and communities are broken, leaving them without the resources and support they were assured.

By joining together as we have done before to demand the reinstatement of the original reporting structure for the CDO, we can ensure that marginalized voices are heard and that meaningful action is taken to dismantle the systems of oppression that continue to plague our campuses.

Both the Rutland area NAACP branch and the student NAACP chapter stand united in solidarity,

echoing the sentiments expressed in this statement. We recognize the importance of collective action and community collaboration in effecting meaningful change. As advocates for social justice and equality, we urge the governing board to heed our call and reestablish the original commitments made to address systemic injustices on our campuses. Together, with a shared vision and unwavering determination, we can work towards building a more inclusive and equitable future for all members of our beloved community.

Respectfully,  
**Cale Santee (he/him) president, VTSU Castleton student NAACP chapter**  
**Mia Schultz (she/her) president, Rutland Area NAACP**

← **Carbon program:**  
from page 7

“It’s a good problem to have, in my opinion,” Shallow said.

Fred Pond, a UVM librarian and avid woodsman, enrolled his land early in the program. His property, 140 acres in Tunbridge purchased in 1999, had been harvested heavily and unsustainably, he said. After a period of healing, and with help from a state tax break to incentivize undeveloped forests, Pond said his land grew back into a flourishing ecosystem.

Since enrolling his property in the program, Pond said he’s cultivated healthy greenery on his land. With the money he makes from the program, he hopes to buy an electric tractor.

The success of the program is measured through monitoring plots on enrolled properties. Each year, program workers go out and measure the tree growth happening on a given property and compare it with trends on a similar but unenrolled property.

Many of the landowners enrolled in this program are passionate outdoorspeople, said Tim Stout, who has managed his family’s multigenerational farm for the last 47 years and has land in the program. He said his 175 acres of mostly woods is open to the public for anyone interested in exploring nature.

“I love to get kids and older adults, anyone regardless of age, out to enjoy the forest,” Stout said. “They’ve made, in my mind, great progress in improving the scientific integrity of the program,” he said.

Eli Enman of Huntington owns and operates the Sleepy Hollow Inn. He has 700 acres of forest in the program, with bike and ski paths throughout. The first payments have allowed him to help finance an electric snow groomer to tend to ski slopes during the season. “It really allowed us to kind of make an environmentally good decision,” Enman said.

Keeton, the UVM forest ecosystem scientist, said that while that programs like this one have courted controversy and been labeled inauthentic by skeptics claiming carbon credits from sequestration programs were not valid; and the programs put a bad look on all market-based solutions, the Family Forest Carbon Program is different in that it can back up its claims.

“In some ways, that program has kind of led the way and has kind of shown that this can work and has sort of moved the needle in showing that there can be real climate benefits,” said Keeton.

← **Skier visits:**  
from page 1

visiting this season – important not only to ski areas but also for all the businesses that rely on strong skier turnout for their own success.”

After a slow start and inconsistent weather for two of the three peak visitation periods, late-season snowstorms and the total solar eclipse helped boost ski area visits in March and April for a strong end to the season. Ski areas operating in the path of totality reported 100% occupancy and strong visitation, and all across the state many guests took advantage of the late-season snow. Several areas also extended their seasons, with Jay Peak and Sugarbush skiing into May and Killington again offering skiing June 1 for the longest season in the East.

Ski Vermont’s 26 cross country ski area members reported a statewide total of 202,485 skier visits, a decrease of 49.6% from the previous season. Cross-country ski areas are more heavily dependent on natural snowfall and some areas were not able to open until the second week in January. Some areas reported that the decrease in revenue was not commensurate with skier visits thanks to season pass sales and other revenue streams.

Skiing is an important economic driver and employer in the state, particularly in rural areas where many ski areas are located. Ski Vermont’s Fifth Grade Passport helps to get approximately 3,000 children on the slopes annually and partial proceeds from the program support Vermont Adaptive Ski and Sports.

**Annual skier visits:**

2023-2024: 4.1 million	2003-2004: 4.2 million	1982-1983: 3.0 million
2022-2023: 4.1 million	2002-2003: 4.4 million	1981-1982: 4.0 million
2021-2022: 3.8 million	2001-2002: 4.1 million	1980-1981: 3.1 million
2020-2021: 3.5 million	2000-2001: 4.5 million	1979-1980: 2.1 million
2019-2020: 3.7 million	1999-2000: 3.9 million	1978-1979: 3.2 million
(ended in March, Covid-19)	1998-1999: 4.0 million	1977-1978: 3.6 million
2018-2019: 4.2 million	1997-1998: 4.3 million	1976-1977: 3.0 million
2017-2018: 4.0 million	1996-1997: 3.9 million	1975-1976: 2.6 million
2016-2017: 3.9 million	1995-1996: 4.1 million	1974-1975: 2.8 million
2015-2016: 3.2 million	1994-1995: 3.6 million	1973-1974: 1.6 million
2014-2015: 4.7 million	1993-1994: 4.3 million	1972-1973: 2.3 million
2013-2014: 4.5 million	1992-1993: 4.2 million	1971-1972: 2.6 million
2012-2013: 4.5 million	1991-1992: 3.8 million	1970-1971: 2.6 million
2011-2012: 3.9 million	1990-1991: 4.1 million	1969-1970: 2.4 million
2010-2011: 4.4 million	1989-1990: 4.6 million	1968-1969: 2.3 million
2009-2010: 4.1 million	1988-1989: 4.5 million	1967-1968: 1.8 million
2008-2009: 4.0 million	1987-1988: 4.8 million	1966-1967: 1.6 million
2007-2008: 4.4 million	1986-1987: 5.2 million	1965-1966: 1.6 million
2006-2007: 3.8 million	1985-1986: 4.5 million	1964-1965: 1.1 million
2005-2006: 4.1 million	1984-1985: 3.8 million	1963-1964: 1.1 million
2004-2005: 4.4 million	1983-1984: 4.1 million	1962-1963: 1.0 million

← **Lower drug costs:**  
from page 7

The bill would also ban some PBM practices, such as spread pricing, a tactic in which a PBM charges a health insurer more for a drug than the PBM pays a pharmacy to dispense that drug. Critics say that practice allows PBMs to profit while driving up health care costs and underpaying small independent pharmacies.

H.233 “will increase transparency, oversight, regulation and enforcement in a system that is hurting our local pharmacies and hurting individual access to professional pharmacy services, as well as driving up drug costs,” Sen. Martine Gulick, D-Chittenden Central, said May 9 on the Senate floor while urging lawmakers to sign the bill.

Another bill, S.98, also signed by the gover-

nor May 30, requires the Green Mountain Care Board to draft a plan for regulating drug costs.

The bill follows efforts in other U.S. states to bring down drug prices by forming panels — called prescription drug affordability boards — that would oversee drug prices. The Green Mountain Care Board is now tasked with submitting a final plan for a drug price regulation program by January 2026.

Cordes said that neither piece of legislation would lead to immediate, dramatic relief from high drug prices. But they “establish the framework for longer term work,” she said. “We’ve known about this problem for a long time and have tried various methods to get at it,” she said. “And this is the next step.”

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## ← Veto session:

from page 1

to overriding one veto was particularly bumpy: The Senate ultimately made three attempts to override H.72 — a bill allowing for the establishment of an overdose prevention site in Burlington — before the chamber finally succeeded at about 4:15 p.m.

With H.72 having been a major priority of Democrats this session, the Senate's initial failure to override Scott's veto led to shock and tears in the chamber Monday morning. Moments after the first vote, the bill's proponents gathered in a tight circle outside the Senate chamber, strategizing to find a way to revive the bill before lawmakers adjourned for the summer.

When all was said and done, the bill was salvaged thanks to Sen. Richard Westman, R-Lamoille, who initially voted to sustain Scott's veto but by that afternoon, he made a special request to change his vote, and the veto was ultimately overridden by a 20-9 vote.

Also on Monday, lawmakers in both chambers overrode Scott's veto of H.887, the state's yield bill, which sets an average property tax rate for the year in order to fund Vermont's public education system. With their votes, lawmakers ignored Scott's recent pleas to further buy down this year's projected average property tax increase of 13.8%. (See story, page 1).

Governor Scott responded after the Legislature's override saying, "With their votes, they have not only decided to impose a historic double digit property tax increase this year but also added pressure on property taxes next year before even factoring in next year's school budgets. Despite knowing about this since December 1, they have done nothing to prevent property taxes from increasing in the future."

Legislators on Monday also overrode a slate of vetoes on environmental bills from this legislative session: Votes in favor of H.687, a bill reforming Vermont's decades-old land use law, Act 250, prevailed. (See story, page 1).

Scott's veto of H.706, a bill that bans seeds treated with a group of pesticides called neonicotinoids, which harm pollinators, was overridden in both chambers.

And H.289, a bill establishing a renewable energy standard, will take effect after the House and Senate voted to override Scott's veto.

Lawmakers also voted to override Scott's veto of H.645, a bill proponents say would ensure people have equitable access to restorative justice programs across the state. The legislation sets out baseline standards for county prosecutors to follow when deciding whether someone who commits a relatively minor crime should be referred to a restorative justice program in their community, instead of being charged in court.

The bill also moves oversight of these "pre-charge diversion" programs from the state Dept. of Corrections to the office of Attorney General Charity Clark. Scott's veto hinged on a lack of funding in the bill for an additional position in Clark's office to carry out that work.

But Clark pushed back on the governor's reasoning earlier this month, saying that her office already had the resources to start fulfill-

ing the bill's requirements this year.

The House voted to override Scott's veto of the restorative justice bill 110 to 35, while the Senate later overrode it by a narrow 21-8 vote.

### Data privacy

Garnering the longest floor debate on Monday by far was lawmakers' consideration of whether to override Scott's veto of H.121, the data privacy bill. It also included provisions that would have compelled social media platforms to alter their algorithms for users under 18 years old, with the goal of addressing social media's mental health impacts on children.

The House quickly and decisively voted to override the veto, by a 128-17 vote. But in the Senate, members debated the merits of the bill — and whether it could wait until next year — for nearly an hour before 15 senators ultimately voted to sustain the veto, and 14 voted in favor of the bill.

That hour-long debate was despite the fact that the votes had already been counted ahead of Monday's session. In an email Sen. Keshia Ram Hinsdale, D/P-Chittenden Southeast, sent to legislative colleagues Sunday night, she wrote that the chamber didn't have the votes to override the veto.

"(W)e would still not have 20 votes in the Senate regardless of everyone maintaining their vote from May because of the loss of Senator Sears," Ram Hinsdale wrote in the email, referring to the death earlier this month of Sen. Dick Sears, D-Bennington. "Beyond that, we have lost seven additional votes as senators have had more time post-session to consider the impact of the (private right of action) on Vermont-based businesses, non-profits, medical facilities, educational institutions, utilities, and employers."

The bill didn't go down without a fight. Ram Hinsdale and other senators noted that many of the bill's effective dates were years in the distance, even if it had prevailed. But several senators said Vermont couldn't wait until next session to pass the bill.

"I have never felt so much urgency to pass a bill," Sen. Alison Clarkson, D-Windsor, said during Monday's floor debate.

### Beyond overrides

Lawmakers' work was not limited to overrides Monday. They also granted approval to three other bills that hadn't made it across the finish line before the end of the regular legislative session last month.

The Senate gave its final signoff to H.55, a bill that makes a number of changes to Vermont's employment laws and includes a provision pushed by state Treasurer Mike Pieciak to pilot a state-managed trust fund for Vermont children born on Medicaid.

H.890, a bill that delays for a year the implementation of one of several newly created health insurance claim processing requirements, was also greenlit.

H.81, a bill about property rights for farmers and independent mechanics to independently repair their equipment, was once again amended by the House on Monday afternoon, and was thus stalled for the year. The other two bills will now head to the governor's desk.

## ← Yield bill override:

from page 1

Last week, officials from Scott's administration met with legislative leaders to discuss the executive branch's proposal for an alternative yield bill. That menu of ideas involved injecting \$124 million of tax relief, ranging from using revenue surplus, nixing universal school meals, and drawing on the entirety of the state's \$47 million education fund reserve.

Lawmakers derided Scott's proposal, characterizing it as fiscally irresponsible.

The legislation already includes about \$70 million of one-time funds to offset this year's tax increase and levies ongoing new taxes on remotely-accessed software and short term rentals, projected to raise about \$27 million next year.

The bill also uses about \$20 million to offset the rise in taxes for property owners who pay based on income, a group Democratic leaders have suggested will struggle the most to pay the increase.

"Not a single member of the Legislature would choose to raise property taxes if it could be avoided," Senate President Pro Tempore Phil Baruth, D-Chittenden Central, said in a statement. "But our local districts have sent us the bill that reflects all of the rising costs they face — and pretending that bill doesn't exist, or putting it on the credit card, won't help any of us."

"Pretending that bill doesn't exist, or putting it on the credit card, won't help any of us," said Baruth.

## ← Act 250 override:

from page 1

250, a law that has governed development in Vermont for over half a century. Proponents for housing growth have long argued that the regulation adds time, cost and risk to the development process, throwing cold water on Vermont's efforts to encourage more housing construction. Meanwhile, some environmentalists have reasoned that Act 250 could do more to protect sensitive habitats as the climate changes.

H.687 represents a compromise between those interests. It will relax Act 250's reach in existing development centers, a move proponents hope will clear red tape and encourage compact housing development amid an acute housing shortage. It also lays the groundwork for extending Act 250's protections in areas deemed ecologically sensitive.

Scott has long beaten the drum on deregulation, arguing that loosening Act 250 will help boost more housing growth. But throughout the 2024 legislative season, the Republican governor repeatedly criticized lawmakers' latest attempt to overhaul the land-use law, claiming that H.687 places more emphasis on conservation than on promoting more housing, particularly in rural parts of Vermont.

That disapproval reached a fever pitch late last week, when Scott vetoed the bill. "Despite almost universal consensus, I don't believe we've done nearly enough to address Vermont's housing affordability crisis," Scott wrote in a letter to lawmakers explaining his decision. He claimed that H.687 would in fact expand Act 250 regulation "at a pace that will slow down current housing efforts."

Republican lawmakers repeated many of Scott's concerns on Monday, arguing that certain aspects of H.687 — like a new "road rule," which will trigger Act 250 review for larger-scale private road construction, a measure meant to deter forest fragmentation — constitute an expansion of Act 250's reach and

will hinder building.

But Democratic backers of the bill argue that H.687 in fact makes significant Act 250 rollbacks for the first time in the law's history.

"For the first time since its passage, we now recommend relinquishing jurisdiction for the purposes of building housing in areas that meet certain conditions," Bongartz said. He noted that local planning and zoning rules have evolved considerably since the state-level review law was passed in 1970, as a response to rapid development in Vermont.

H.687 sets in motion a process to chop

H.687 sets in motion a process to chop Vermont into a series of "tiers" that will dictate how development is treated under Act 250, easing the law's reach in some already-developed areas and strengthening its protections over sensitive ecosystems.

Vermont into a series of "tiers" that will dictate how development is treated under Act 250, easing the law's reach in some already-developed areas and strengthening its protections over sensitive ecosystems.

The actual boundaries of the new Act 250 tiers will be hashed out in a years-long mapping and rulemaking process. In the meantime, the bill sets up a number of interim exemptions from Act 250, including one for all housing projects within the state's 24 designated downtown areas through January 2027, and for projects of up to 50 units around dozens of village centers around the state.

The sprawling bill carries far more than just Act 250 changes. It also includes broad reforms to the state's designation incentives program, a new tax on second-home buyers, funding for eviction prevention programs, flood disclosure requirements for home sellers and landlords, and more.

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

**WORDPLAY**

GRILL & BBQ WORD SEARCH

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally and back

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

ACIDIC  
ASADO  
BARBECUE  
BARK  
BASTE

BRINE  
BRISKET  
BURGERS  
CARRYOVER  
CHAR

CHARCOAL  
CHIMNEY  
DRY-AGED  
FLAME  
FLAT

FORK-TENDER  
GRILL  
HEAT  
LEAN  
MARINADE

RIBS  
RUB  
SMOKE  
TEMPERATURE

**CROSSWORD PUZZLE**

Solutions → 29

**CLUES ACROSS**

- 1. Breezed through
- 5. Supervises interstate commerce
- 8. Unruly group
- 11. Backs away from
- 13. Expression of understanding
- 14. Have concern for
- 15. Monetary units
- 16. Congressman (abbr.)
- 17. Iranian city
- 18. Eating houses
- 20. 2,000 lbs.
- 21. Grandmother
- 22. They include North, South and Central
- 25. In an early way
- 30. Foes
- 31. Shuttered British entertainment magazine
- 32. One who unloads cages
- 33. Another term for sesame
- 38. Formally forbid
- 41. Make clear
- 43. Inaccessible
- 45. Get through
- 47. Ancient kingdom near Dead Sea

- 49. Decimeter
- 50. Type of sword
- 55. Actor Idris
- 56. Affirmative (slang)
- 57. Afflicted
- 59. One point north of northeast
- 60. Born of
- 61. Arabic name
- 62. Traditional Hong Kong street food: \_\_\_ pai dong
- 63. Termination point
- 64. Email function

- CLUES DOWN**
- 1. Sign language
  - 2. In style
  - 3. Helsinki neighborhood
  - 4. Unable to hear
  - 5. More rapid
  - 6. An idea accepted as a demonstrable truth
  - 7. In a cagy way
  - 8. Kate and Rooney are two Algerian port
  - 9. Algerian port
  - 10. Community in Ladakh
  - 12. Midway between south and southeast
  - 14. Town in Galilee
  - 19. Satisfy
  - 23. Italian impressionist painter
  - 24. Brass instrument
  - 25. Chest muscle (slang)
  - 26. Transmits genetic information from DNA to the cytoplasm
  - 27. Records electric currents generated by the brain
  - 28. Woman (French)
  - 29. Aircraft designed to carry lots of passengers
  - 34. Baseball stat
  - 35. Pointed end of a pen
  - 36. Popular sports league
  - 37. Body part
  - 39. Unlikely to provoke dissent
  - 40. Yellowish cotton cloth
  - 41. Domesticated house pet
  - 42. Untruths
  - 44. Set out to attract
  - 45. Spiritual leader
  - 46. Abba \_\_\_, Israeli politician
  - 47. Repair
  - 48. Genus of flowering plants
  - 51. Swiss river
  - 52. Prejudice
  - 53. River in central Europe
  - 54. Harness
  - 58. Father

1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10	
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59					60				61			
62					63				64			

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*Guess Who?*

I am a singer/songwriter born in Alabama on June 20, 1949. I founded several R&B groups and also played tennis on scholarship. I co-wrote a song to help raise funds for famine in Africa. Today, I'm a judge on "American Idol."

Answer: Lionel Richie

**SUDOKU**

Solutions → 29

To solve: make sure each row, column and block, contain one of the numbers from 1-9. No number may appear more than once.

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

Level: Intermediate

**WEDNESDAY**

6/19

**RSVP Bone Builders**

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

**S.E.A.T. Exercises**

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

**Killington Active Seniors Lunch**

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

**Wednesday Farmers Market (Rutland)**

1-5 p.m. Wednesdays. Depot Park, downtown Rutland. One of the largest farmers markets in the state and the first to operate year-round. [vtfarmersmarket.org](http://vtfarmersmarket.org).

**KMBC Bike Bum Race Series**

2-5 p.m. Wednesdays through 8/21. Lower Rabbit Hole via Snowshed Express lift, Killington Resort, Killington. \$50 per individual, \$200 per team. Get ready for a local race series that's all about fun and friendly competition. Sign up to ride solo, or form a team of up to five people. Teams may be made up of any combination of age categories. Teams require a minimum of three people in order to score points. Racers will be placed in divisions by age and will have one timed run each week. All races will be held on beginner/intermediate trails ensuring fun for all bikers. Day-of registration will take place at the start gate. All pricing includes a \$5 chip fee. All racers must check in at the top of the race course by 4:30 p.m. each week in order to participate. After-party at the Lookout Tavern from 5-7 p.m. [killingtonmountainbikeclub.org/collections/bike-bum](http://killingtonmountainbikeclub.org/collections/bike-bum).

**Market on the Green**

3-6 p.m. Wednesdays. The Green, Woodstock. Produce, crafts, live music, and more. A fun, family-friendly event on the Village Green. [info@woodstockvt.com](mailto:info@woodstockvt.com) or 802-457-3555.

**Cribbage for Adults**

3-5 p.m. Wednesdays. Hartland Public Library, 135 Route 5, Hartland. Free. [hartlandlibraryvt.org/calendar](http://hartlandlibraryvt.org/calendar) or 802-436-2473.

**Bone Builders**

3:30-4:30 p.m. Wednesdays. Chaffee Art Center, 16 So. Main St., Rutland. Free. Improve balance and enhance energy and wellbeing. [chaffeeartcenter.org](http://chaffeeartcenter.org).

**Figure Drawing with Live Model**

5-7 p.m. 3rd Wednesday of each month. Chaffee Art Center, 16 So. Main St., Rutland. \$20 per class. \$60 for 4 weeks. Bring your own supplies. Must pre-register. [chaffeeartcenter.org](http://chaffeeartcenter.org).

**Book Group**

5:30-6:30 p.m. 3rd Wednesday of each month. Chaffee Art Center, 16 So. Main St., Rutland. Free. Book Group will discuss "Man's Search for Meaning" by Viktor E. Frankl. RSVP required. [info@chaffeeartcenter.org](mailto:info@chaffeeartcenter.org) or 802-775-0356.

**Adult Watercolor**

5:30-8:30 p.m. Chaffee Art Center, 16 So. Main St., Rutland. \$60, includes all supplies. Attendees follow along with an instructor and leave with a finished watercolor painting. Image: Road and field landscape. Instructor: Kristen Partisi. MUST PRE-REGISTER: [chaffeeartcenter.square.site](http://chaffeeartcenter.square.site).

**Ballroom Dance with Patti Panebianco**

Wednesdays. Stone Valley Arts, 145 E. Main St., Poultney. 6-6:50 p.m. Waltz for adults. 7-7:50 p.m. Cha-cha for adults. For details and cost, contact Patti Panebianco at 516-909-1686 or email at [pattipdance@gmail.com](mailto:pattipdance@gmail.com) [stonevalleyarts.org](http://stonevalleyarts.org).

**Artistree Music on the Hill: Jim Yeager Trio**

6:30-8 p.m. Wednesdays. Artistree Community Arts Center, 2095 Pomfret Road, So. Pomfret. Free. Pack a picnic, bring a blanket, enjoy live music & scenic views from the hillsides at Artistree! All dates are weather dependent. No pets allowed. Service dogs welcome. Reservations are not required. [info@artistreevt.org](mailto:info@artistreevt.org).

**Tina Lam Artist Talk at the Carving Studio**

7-8 p.m. Carving Studio & Sculpture Center, 636 Marble St., West Rutland. Free. Artist Tina Lam arrived at the Carving Studio and Sculpture Center on June 4 for a one-month residence. A native of Montreal, Ms. Lam uses land-art interventions to exchange and subvert the pragmatic for the fantastic. In her studio, she is guided by her scientific background, her personal history and intuition to summon chemical oxidation, mechanical deformation and aesthetic sensibility to arrest energetic and poetic gestures into materials. 802-438-2097 or [info@carvingstudio.org](mailto:info@carvingstudio.org).

**'Jersey Boys**

7:30 p.m. Daily through 7/13. Walker Farm, 705 Main St., Weston. \$25-\$69. Oh What A Night! Rock out with four young men of the '60s as they rise from the streets of New Jersey to conquer the music industry and forge friendships that stand the test of time. One of the greatest sensations in the history of popular music, Frankie Valli and The Four Seasons will sweep you off your feet with doo-wopping melodies that resonate today. The hits just keep coming, including "Sherry," "Big Girls Don't Cry," "December 1963 (Oh, What a Night)," and "Can't Take My Eyes Off You." Join us 30 minutes before the show at 7 p.m. for a pre-show talk with the director. For tickets and a full schedule of performances: [westontheater.org/jersey-boys](http://westontheater.org/jersey-boys).

**THURSDAY**

6/20

**Art at the Chaffee: Artery**

10:30 a.m.-Noon. Thursdays. Chaffee Art Center, 16 So. Main St., Rutland. Fee: \$10 if you bring your own supplies, up to \$20 if supplies provided. Painting in all mediums welcome. No set topic or instructor. Pre Register at [chaffeeartcenter.org](http://chaffeeartcenter.org).

**Essentrics Stretch and Strengthen**

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

**Bone Builders**

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

**Advanced Line Dance**

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

**Senior Bone Builders**

10 a.m. Thursdays. Sherburne Memorial Library, 2998 River Road, Killington. Free. Weights are provided. [sherburnelibrary.org](http://sherburnelibrary.org) or 802-422-4323.

**Survivors Support Group**

10 a.m.-Noon. Thursdays. Godnick Adult Center, 1 Deer St., Rutland. Free. Fliers available at the Godnick Center or call 802-775-3232. [rutlandrec.com/godnick](http://rutlandrec.com/godnick) or 802-775-1853.

**Community Acupuncture**

11 a.m.-3 p.m. Spa at The Woods, 53 Woods Lane, Killington. \$40. Unlike traditional acupuncture, which often takes place in private rooms, community acupuncture sessions typically occur in a shared space where multiple people receive treatments simultaneously. In a community acupuncture setting, individuals relax in comfortable chairs or recliners, fully clothed, while licensed acupuncturists administer treatments. The treatments focus on addressing a variety of physical, emotional, and mental health concerns, such as pain management, stress relief, insomnia, anxiety, and more. 802-422-3105 or [spaatthewoods.com](http://spaatthewoods.com).

**Ukulele Group**

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

**Play Bridge!**

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

**Thursday Farmers Market (Fair Haven)**

3-6 p.m. Thursdays. Village Green, Fair Haven. [vtfarmersmarket.org](http://vtfarmersmarket.org).

**S.T.E.A.M. Thursdays**

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

**Yoga with Kelly**

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

**'Junie B. Jones: The Musical'**

4 p.m. Daily through 7/7. Walker Farm, 705 Main St., Weston. Free, but reservations are required. Time and location change daily. Opening performance. See the world through the eyes of the spirited and spunky Junie B. Jones. Based on the children's book series. This production will leave young and old with smiles on their faces and an appreciation for growing up. For complete schedule/reservations: [westontheater.org/junie-b-jones](http://westontheater.org/junie-b-jones).

**Board Game Night**

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

**Feast and Field Music Series: Annie & the Fur****Trappers**

5:30-9 p.m. Thursdays to Sept. 26. Fable Farm, 1525 Royalton Turnpike, Barnard. \$5-\$25. Traditional jazz & Delta blues. A celebration of music, food, and community. Join us to enjoy music curated by BarnArts, and freshly prepared food that is grown, raised, and harvested on this same land by the Feast & Field Farmers. [feastandfield.com/tickets](http://feastandfield.com/tickets).

**Adult Pour Painting**

6-8 p.m. Chaffee Art Center, 16 So. Main St., Rutland. \$40, includes all supplies. Learn the pour painting reverse dip technique. Follow along with an instructor and leave with a finished painting. Instructor: Lorrie Amerio Manieri. Must Pre-register. [chaffeeartcenter.org](http://chaffeeartcenter.org).

**Fair Haven Concert in the Park**

7-9 p.m. Thursdays. Village Green, Fair Haven. Free. The Concerts in the Park kicks off the summer season with the Whiskey River Band playing classic country. Weekly concert series features family friendly entertainment, offering a variety of musical genres in Vermont's loveliest venue, the Fair Haven Park. [fhgstechie@yahoo.com](mailto:fhgstechie@yahoo.com) or 802-265-7913.

**Open Mic Night**

7-9 p.m. Every other Thursday. Artistree Community Arts Center, 2095 Pomfret Road, So. Pomfret. Free. Have fun and debut your musical talents on our warm and friendly "stage!" All levels and abilities are welcome to participate in the open mic experience. Come alone or with a group! Come to play or just to watch! [artistreevt.org](http://artistreevt.org).

**National Lampoon's Animal House'**

7:30-9:30 p.m. Woodstock Town Hall Theater, 31 The Green, Woodstock. Adults \$10, seniors \$9, children & members \$8. At Faber College in 1962, Dean Vernon Wormer is determined to expel the entire Delta Tau Chi Fraternity, but those troublemakers have other plans for him. Tickets: [pentanglearts.org](http://pentanglearts.org).

**FRIDAY**

6/21

**Senior Fitness**

9:30-10:30 a.m. Fridays. Spa at The Woods, 53 Woods Lane, Killington. \$5. This class is for anyone 65+ who wants to maintain strength, flexibility, and balance as they age. We will include a variety of body weight exercises as well as use props like chairs, resistance bands, hand weights, and yoga belts to add levels of challenge and support to the exercises. This class is appropriate for all fitness levels and modifications will be provided as needed. [spaatthewoods.com](http://spaatthewoods.com) or 802-422-3150.

**Storytime at the Library**

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

**Yoga & Meditation**

10:30-11:30 a.m. Fridays. Godnick Adult Center, 1 Deer St., Rutland. [rutlandrec.com/godnick](http://rutlandrec.com/godnick) or 802-773-1853.

**Make Music Day**

10 a.m.-10 p.m. Various locations around Randolph. Free. Headlining acts: Dobet Gnahore and Krishna Guthrie Band. Join us for Randolph's 5th annual Make Music Day! Since 2020, Randolph has been part of this globally celebrated music holiday, hosting free music events across town. For complete schedule, bands and locations: [makemusicday.org](http://makemusicday.org).

**Free Introductory Qigong Class**

11 a.m.-Noon. Spa at The Woods, 53 Woods Lane, Killington. Free. Qigong consists of a variety of techniques, some employing the breath, some acting on the outer muscles of the body and others improving the operation of the various bodily systems. It is instrumental in the prevention and treatment of disease, the maintenance and improvement of health, and in holding back the process of aging and extending life. [spaatthewoods.com](http://spaatthewoods.com) or 802-422-3150.

**Bone Builders**

11 a.m.-Noon. Fridays. Chaffee Art Center, 16 So. Main St., Rutland. Free. [chaffeeartcenter.org](http://chaffeeartcenter.org) or 802-775-0356.

**Art in the National Park**

11 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Mondays and Fridays through 8/9. Horse Shed at Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Park, 69 Old River Road, Woodstock. Free. Make art while feeling inspired by the park! Meet the 2024 Student Artists-in Residence and take part in a park-inspired art activity. Artists of all ages and skill levels are welcome. Visitors are invited to drop in any time during the program. Pets allowed. [mabi\\_visitorservices@nps.gov](mailto:mabi_visitorservices@nps.gov) Woodstock.

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### Poetry Festival

1-7:30 p.m. North Chapel, 7 Church St., Woodstock. Free. The Festival will be Vermont's largest poetry gathering in 2024. Meet over a dozen of the country's highly recognized poets, greet other poetry lovers, and enjoy the beauty of Woodstock. All events of the festival are free and open to all. We especially invite those who are new to or returning to poetry. [sundogpoetry.org/woodstock-poetry-festival/about](http://sundogpoetry.org/woodstock-poetry-festival/about).

### Hartland Farmers Market

4-6:30 p.m. Fridays. 153 Route 5, Hartland. Free. Enjoy food, music, and shopping at the market. The Hartland market is accepting new vendors this season. We are always looking for more produce vendors! If you are interested in being a vendor email us at: [hartlandfarmersmarket@gmail.com](mailto:hartlandfarmersmarket@gmail.com).

### West Coast Swing Dance Classes "The Modern Swing"

5-6 p.m. Fridays through 6/28. The Gymnasium, 11 Cottage St., Rutland. \$60 for 4 classes. No partner required. In this class, students will learn the basic six count patterns to start, sometimes integrating an eight count pattern. West Coast Swing is a fun, social, versatile partner dance form, danced to a wide range of popular music, from blues to pop, slow swing and R&B. A cousin of traditional swing dances like the Lindy Hop and East Coast Swing, West Coast Swing is constantly evolving. Today, it combines swing connection and rhythms with independent movement inspired by influences from nearly every other dance style, as well as contemporary music. June 7, 14, 21 and 28. Pre-registration required. Email Karen: [vtwestiebest@gmail.com](mailto:vtwestiebest@gmail.com).

### Fridays at The MINT: Paint Party with Gail

5-8 p.m. The MINT Downtown, 72 Merchants Row, Rutland. \$50, all materials provided. Join us at the MINT Downtown for a paint party! Gail will lead you through each step of painting some beautiful roses. This is a BYOB event. Some light complimentary snacks will be available. Instructor: Gail. To register: [rutlandmint.org](http://rutlandmint.org).

### Jackson Gore Summer Music Series: Sammy B.

6-9 p.m. Fridays through 8/30. Jackson Gore Courtyard, 111 Jackson Gore Road, Ludlow. Free. No ticket or RSVP required! Enjoy food, live music, free swag and raffles! [okemo.com](http://okemo.com) or 802-228-1600.

### BarnArts presents: 'Macbeth'

6:30-9 p.m. Fable Farm, 1525 Royalton Turnpike, Barnard. \$15-20. Join BarnArts outdoors amidst the trees of Fable Farm to experience the magic and tragedy of Shakespeare's "Macbeth." Directed by Killian White, over 20 local actors delve into tyranny, paranoia, betrayal, and the bonds of marriage as the prophecy of witches launches a tragic series of events fueled by grand ambition amidst already violent times in the Scottish highlands. [info@barnarts.org](mailto:info@barnarts.org) or 802-234-1645.

### Summer Film Series: 'Showing Up' (2023)

7-8:30 p.m. Stone Valley Arts, 145 E. Main St., Poultney. Free. A sculptor preparing to open a new show tried to work among the daily dramas of family and friends. Starring Michelle Williams and directed by Kelly Reichardt. A captivatingly funny portrait of art and craft. All films will be followed by a discussion. [stonevalleyarts.org](http://stonevalleyarts.org).

### Pride Prom 3.0

8 p.m.-Midnight. JAM, 5 So. Main St., White River Junction. By donation. All ages. Pride Prom is back at JAM and we are beyond excited to celebrate with our community. Come dressed in your circus best for food, music, a photobooth, and a secret ballot to crown prom royalty. Live performances by: The Rocking Puppies, Ratmilk, and Sir Babygirl. An after-party will be held for mature audiences. [uvjam.org/event/pride-prom-3-0](http://uvjam.org/event/pride-prom-3-0).

### Double Feature at the Bethel Drive-In

9 p.m. Fridays. Bethel Drive-In, 36 Bethel Drive, Bethel. Adults \$12, children (5-12) \$8. Cash Only. "Inside Out 2" (PG) at 9 p.m. "Kingdom of the Planet of the Apes" (PG-13) at 10:45 p.m. Gates open at 7:30 p.m. [betheldrivein.com](http://betheldrivein.com).

## SATURDAY

# 6/22

### Vermont Outdoor Farmer's Market

9 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturdays. Depot Park, downtown Rutland. Free. One of the largest farmers markets in the state and the first to operate year-round. [vtfarmersmarket.org](http://vtfarmersmarket.org)

### Lego Club

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

### Birds & Blooms

10 a.m.-2 p.m. Proctorsville Green, Cavendish. Free. Join us for a market gathering of bird houses, garden themed aprons, bags and other treasures. BBQ by the Proctorsville Vol. Fire Dept. [cavndishconnects@gmail.com](mailto:cavndishconnects@gmail.com).

### Woodstock Poetry Festival

10 a.m.-4 p.m. North Chapel, 7 Church St., Woodstock. Free. The Festival will be Vermont's largest poetry gathering in 2024. Meet over a dozen of the country's highly recognized poets, greet other poetry lovers, and enjoy the beauty of Woodstock. All events of the festival are free and open to all. We especially invite those who are new to or returning to poetry. [sundogpoetry.org/woodstock-poetry-festival/about](http://sundogpoetry.org/woodstock-poetry-festival/about).

### Remarkable Reptile Day

10a.m.-5 p.m. VINS, 149 Natures Way, Quechee. Adult \$19.50, children (4-17) \$16.50. Join us for a day celebrating all things reptiles! From turtle shells to snake smells, you will discover world of reptile adaptations. Enjoy close encounters, hands-on activities, crafts and more! Meet live reptile ambassadors with the Southern Vermont Natural History Museum and Uncharted Wild to learn all about these Remarkable Reptiles! 802-359-5000 or [events@vinsweb.org](mailto:events@vinsweb.org).

### Kids Pour Painting Class

11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Chaffee Art Center, 16 So. Main St., Rutland. \$30, includes all supplies. Have fun learning pour painting! Follow along with an instructor and leave with a finished painting. Must Pre-register. Instructor: Lorrie Amerio Manieri. [info@chaffeeartcenter.org](mailto:info@chaffeeartcenter.org) or 802-775-0356.

### 'The Little Mermaid' at the Paramount Theater

11 a.m.-1:15 p.m. Paramount Theater, 30 Center St., Rutland. Free. The youngest of King Triton's daughters, Ariel is a beautiful and spirited young mermaid with a thirst for adventure. Longing to find out more about the world beyond the sea, Ariel visits the surface and falls for the dashing Prince Eric. Following her heart, she makes a deal with the evil sea witch, Ursula, to experience life on land. [paramountvt.org/event/free-movie-the-little-mermaid](http://paramountvt.org/event/free-movie-the-little-mermaid).

### Mac & Cheese Cook-off and Basket Raffle

11 a.m.-2 p.m. Trinity Episcopal Church, 85 West St., Rutland. \$5 for 3 samples, \$20 to taste them all. Local cooks, both amateurs and professionals will bring their champion recipes to this competition. Tasting will occur from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Contestants come from a wide range of talent including folks from Heritage Family Credit Union Mortgage Team, Center Street Alley, Baird Farm, The Sanctuary on Center, River Shed, Will Gormly, Steve Peters, Paisano's, The Mad Rose, Jennifer Guevin and Hangry Hogg and more to come. Cooking contestant sign-up is open until limited space is filled. Sign up: [kwfranzoni@gmail.com](mailto:kwfranzoni@gmail.com) or 802-558-4644.

### Forest Discovery Center

11 a.m.-2 p.m. Wednesdays and Saturdays. Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historical Park, 54 Elm St., Woodstock. Free. The Forest Discovery Center is an interactive program for families to learn more about nature. Activities include hands-on learning stations, demonstrations, and arts and crafts. Stop by anytime and spend as little or as much time as you want. This free program will explore a new theme each week, making each visit unique. Parking is at the Billings Farm & Museum Parking lot, 69 Old River Road, across the street from the National Park. 802-457-3368 or [mabi\\_visitorservices@nps.gov](mailto:mabi_visitorservices@nps.gov).

### Rutland Railway Museum & Model Club

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

### Rutland County Pride Festival

11 a.m.-5 p.m. Center St., Rutland. Join Rutland County Pride as we kick off the 2024 Pride Festival on Center Street and Merchants Row! In partnership with the Rutland Area Branch of the NAACP, join us as we kick off the 2024 Pride Festival with a Juneteenth Strut starting at the Rutland Free Library at 11:00 a.m. as we make our way into the festival! The festival will include: vendors, entertainment, speakers, music, drag performances, food, games, prizes and more! [rcpride.org/pridefestival](http://rcpride.org/pridefestival).

### Art at the Chaffee: Drop N' Paint

Noon-2 p.m. Saturdays. Chaffee Art Center, 16 So. Main St., Rutland. \$25 per person, instructor help optional with a fee. All ages. Supplies and images to paint are provided. Must pre register by Friday noon at: [chaffeeartcenter.org](http://chaffeeartcenter.org) or 802-775-0356.

### BBQ & Brew

Noon-8 p.m. Vermont State Fairgrounds, 175 So. Main St., Rutland. \$30 for both days. All the BBQ choices you could possibly want from restaurants from all over the region. Plus, brews from national and local brands will be on hand to provide many options! There will be live music by Back in Black - an AC/DC experience you don't want to miss, free kids activities, cornhole tournament and much more! [bbqandbrewvt.com](http://bbqandbrewvt.com)

### Military Road Guided Hike

1-4 p.m. Hubbardton Battlefield State Historic Site, 5696 Monument Hill Road, Hubbardton. Adults \$8, children (6-14) \$1. Included with admission. Jim Rowe, historian for the Crown Point Road Association, leads a vigorous guided hike on the Hubbardton section of the 1776-77 military road to Mount Independence in Orwell. Hikers will get a taste of what it might have been like for soldiers traveling over this varied terrain. Meet at the Hubbardton Battlefield visitor center. Wear sturdy shoes and bring water. [historicsites.vermont.gov/event/military-road-guided-hike](http://historicsites.vermont.gov/event/military-road-guided-hike) or 802-273-2282.

### Robyn Gigl: Nothing but the Truth with Mary Beth Carbine

2 p.m. Phoenix Books, 2 Center St., Rutland. Free. Please join us for an afternoon with author and attorney Robyn Gigl. Robyn, whose novel "Survivor's Guilt" was selected by TIME Magazine as one of the 100 best mystery/thriller books of all time, will discuss her personal journey to becoming a published author, the stories behind her critically acclaimed novels, including her new novel, Nothing but the Truth, and answer your questions. Robyn will be in conversation with Mary Beth Carbine. [phoenixbooks.biz/event/robyn-gigl-nothing-but-truth](http://phoenixbooks.biz/event/robyn-gigl-nothing-but-truth).

### BarnArts presents: 'Macbeth'

6:30-9 p.m. Fable Farm, 1525 Royalton Turnpike, Barnard. \$15-20. Join BarnArts outdoors amidst the trees of Fable Farm to experience the magic and tragedy of Shakespeare's "Macbeth." Directed by Killian White, over 20 local actors delve into tyranny, paranoia, betrayal, and the bonds of marriage as the prophecy of witches launches a tragic series of events fueled by grand ambition amidst already violent times in the Scottish highlands. [info@barnarts.org](mailto:info@barnarts.org) or 802-234-1645.

### Novelist Jon Clinch at the Shrewsbury Library

7 p.m. Shrewsbury Library, 98 Town Hill Road, Cuttingsville. Free. He reads from his latest book, "The General and Julia: A Novel." [shrewsburylibrary.org](http://shrewsburylibrary.org).

### 'Indiana Jones and the Dial of Destiny' at the Paramount

7-10 p.m. Paramount Theater, 30 Center St., Rutland. Free. Daredevil archaeologist Indiana Jones races against time to retrieve a legendary dial that can change the course of history. Accompanied by his goddaughter, he soon finds himself squaring off against Jürgen Voller, a former Nazi who works for NASA. [paramountvt.org/event/free-movie-indiana-jones-and-the-dial-of-destiny](http://paramountvt.org/event/free-movie-indiana-jones-and-the-dial-of-destiny).

### 'The Dead Don't Hurt'

7:30-9:40 p.m. Woodstock Town Hall Theater, 31 The Green, Woodstock. Adults \$10, seniors \$9, children & members \$8. A pair of star-crossed lovers out in the frontier try to make lives for themselves in this dramatic western. Tickets: [pentaglearts.org](http://pentaglearts.org).

### Cavendish Ghost Walk

8 p.m. Cavendish Historical Society, 1958 Main St., Cavendish. Free. In keeping with Midsummer Night's Eve, the Cavendish Historical Society (CHS) will once again host the Cavendish Village Ghost tour on Saturday, June 22. Wear comfortable shoes and bring a flashlight. Among the sites to be visited include the Cavendish High Street Cemetery; Cavendish Stone Church, private homes as well as the site of the "Dutton House." The latter was believed by locals to be haunted long before it was moved to Shelburne Museum, where the ghosts seemed to continue to haunt the building, staff and visitors alike. 802-226-7807 or [margocaulfield@icloud.com](mailto:margocaulfield@icloud.com).

### Double Feature at the Bethel Drive-In

9 p.m. Saturdays. Bethel Drive-In, 36 Bethel Drive, Bethel. Adults \$12, children (5-12) \$8. Cash Only. "Inside Out 2" (PG) at 9 p.m. "Kingdom of the Planet of the Apes" (PG-13) at 10:45 p.m. Gates open at 7:30 p.m. [betheldrivein.com](http://betheldrivein.com).

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## SUNDAY 6/23

### BBQ & Brew

Noon-6 p.m. Vermont State Fairgrounds, 175 So. Main St., Rutland. \$30 for both days. All the BBQ choices you could possibly want from restaurants from all over the region. Plus, brews from national and local brands will be on hand to provide many options! There will be live music by Back in Black - an AC/DC experience you don't want to miss, free kids activities, cornhole tournament and much more! bbqandbrewvt.com.

### 'The Dead Don't Hurt'

3-5:10 p.m. Woodstock Town Hall Theater, 31 The Green, Woodstock. Adults \$10, seniors \$9, children & members \$8. A pair of star-crossed lovers out in the frontier try to make lives for themselves in this dramatic western. Tickets: pentaglearts.org.

### BarnArts presents: 'Macbeth'

4-6:30 p.m. Fable Farm, 1525 Royalton Turnpike, Barnard. \$15-20. Join BarnArts outdoors amidst the trees of Fable Farm to experience the magic and tragedy of Shakespeare's "Macbeth." Directed by Killian White, over 20 local actors delve into tyranny, paranoia, betrayal, and the bonds of marriage as the prophecy of witches launches a tragic series of events fueled by grand ambition amidst already violent times in the Scottish highlands. info@barnarts.org or 802-234-1645.

### Sunday Supper in the Red Barns

6-9 p.m. Woodstock Inn & Resort (Kelly Way Gardens), 14 The Green, Woodstock. \$140. Payment required at booking. Wine pairings included. Cash bar available. Head to the Woodstock Inn & Resort's Kelly Way Gardens for Sunday Suppers in the Red Barns! These 3-course family-style dinners offer the finest cuisine of the region in a joyful, community-focused environment. Break bread alongside neighbors, spark a friendly conversation with new friends, and find a depth of intricate flavors in the local ingredients we prepare for you. 6 p.m. cocktail hour; 7 p.m. seating. Reservations required. Questions: 802-457-6665. Reservations: woodstockvt.com/events/sunday-supper-in-the-red-barns.

### Double Feature at the Bethel Drive-In

9 p.m. Sundays. Bethel Drive-In, 36 Bethel Drive, Bethel. Adults \$12, children (5-12) \$8. Cash Only. "Inside Out 2" (PG) at 9 p.m. "Kingdom of the Planet of the Apes" (PG-13) at 10:45 p.m. Gates open at 7:30 p.m. betheldrivein.com .

## MONDAY 6/24

### Fantasy Creatures Summer Camp

9 a.m.-Noon. All week. Chaffee Art Center, 16 So. Main St., Rutland. \$140 for the week. Ages 6-12. Create fantasy creatures as we travel to different cultures and experience their stories. Instructor: Deb Dauphinais. Must pre-register. chaffeeartcenter.org or 802-775-0356.

### Bookworms Camp at Billings Farm & Museum

9a.m.-12:30 p.m. All week. Billings Farm & Museum, 69 Old River Road, Woodstock. Ages 6-8. \$290 for the week. \$255 for Billings Farm members. Drop off between 8:45-9 a.m. Campers will have the opportunity to meet our calves, sheep, goats and learn the basics of caring for each animal through hands-on activities. With the help of engaging and thoughtful exercises, campers will get to know our farm and all the parts that make it run smoothly. Some of the fun activities Bookworms Campers will be doing include a visit to Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historical Park, exploring the tractors on the farm, making sugar on snow in the middle of the summer, and much more! Contact Gabi: gbourassa@billingsfarm.org. Reservations required: billingsfarm.org/billings-bookworms.

### Senior Bone Builders

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

### Art in the National Park

11 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Mondays and Fridays through 8/9. Horse Shed at Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Park, 69 Old River Road, Woodstock. Free. Make art while feeling inspired by the park! Meet the 2024 Student Artists-in Residence and take part in a park-inspired art activity. Artists of all ages and skill levels are welcome. Visitors are invited to drop in any time during the program. Pets allowed. mabi\_visitorservices@nps.gov/Woodstock.

### Community Lunch

11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Mondays. Godnick Adult Center, 1 Deer St., Rutland. Over 60, \$3.50. Under 60, \$6. Donations welcome. In partnership with the Southwestern Vermont Council on Aging and Meals on Wheels, the Godnick Center hosts congregational meals. Make new friends, connect with pals. Call 802-773-1853 and leave a message with your name and phone number the Thursday before. See rutlandrec.com/godnick for the menu.

### Monday Movie

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

### The Art of Nature Camp

1-4 p.m. All week. Chaffee Art Center, 16 So. Main St., Rutland. \$140 for the week. Ages 6-12. Explore the Art of Nature using natural elements such as rocks to create sculptures, collages and to use for mandala painting, plus, some fun surprises! Instructor: Karen Wurster; MUST PRE-REGISTER. chaffeeartcenter.org or 802-775-0356.

### Free Yoga at Billings Farm

5:15-6:30 p.m. Mondays. Billings Farm & Museum, 69 Old River Road, Woodstock. Free. Stretch in the scenic pastures of Billings Farm! Practice will begin promptly at 5:30 p.m. Please arrive at the farm early to get settled in and join us for a tea service featuring herbs fresh from the Billings Farm garden at 5:15 p.m. Ranger Jen Jackson will lead the weekly Farm & Forest Yoga Flow. Bring a mat and check in at the Billings Farm Visitor Center. 802-457-3688.

### Group Run/Walk

6-7:30 p.m. Mondays. Location changes weekly-check Facebook event for details. The group will leave the trailhead by 6:05 at the latest. The route will vary weekly and may have two route options depending on the number of people. Expect at least a 5 mile run at a social pace with some elevation gain for a standard run. With two groups we will have options for up to 12 miles for one of the routes. There are many options to cater to all abilities and shorten the route for anyone wanting to run a shorter distance. Bring: plenty of water, snacks, bug spray, and an after run beverage of choice. Youth 14 - 18 must have a parent/guardian present, or have submitted our Youth Participation Waiver in advance of outing. Questions: info@slatevalleytrails.org.

### United Church of Ludlow Bell Restoration

#### Fundraiser

7-9 p.m. United Church of Ludlow, 48 Pleasant St., Ludlow. \$10. Ludlow musician Sammy Blanchette, a.k.a. Sammy B, will perform songs live, adding a unique twist to a fun event that usually offers recorded music. SINGO will be played; it is a musical variation of Bingo that uses songs instead of numbers to fill playing cards. It's fun for all ages, everybody sings along, and winners get prizes for each of three SINGO rounds. SINGO Cards at the fundraiser will cost \$10 apiece, with every dollar raised going to the church's "Ring Out Love" campaign. Snacks will be provided, and participants are encouraged to BYOB. lisahg@gmail.com or 802-971-9460 .

### 'The Dead Don't Hurt'

7:30-9:40 p.m. Woodstock Town Hall Theater, 31 The Green, Woodstock. Adults \$10, seniors \$9, children & members \$8. A Pair of Star-Crossed Lovers out in the frontier try to make lives for themselves in this Dramatic Western. Tickets: pentaglearts.org.

## TUESDAY 6/25

### Bone Builders

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

### Fantasy Creatures Summer Camp

9 a.m.-Noon. All week. Chaffee Art Center, 16 So. Main St., Rutland. \$140 for the week. Ages 6-12. Create fantasy creatures as we travel to different cultures and experience their stories. Instructor: Deb Dauphinais. Must pre-register. chaffeeartcenter.org or 802-775-0356.

### Bookworms Camp at Billings Farm & Museum

9a.m.-12:30 p.m. All week. Billings Farm & Museum, 69 Old River Road, Woodstock. Ages 6-8. \$290 for the week. \$255 for Billings Farm members. Drop off between 8:45-9 a.m. Billings Bookworms Camp is a half-day program for campers who enjoy listening to fun stories about farming, nature, and animals. Campers will have the opportunity to meet our calves, sheep, goats and learn the basics of caring for each animal through hands-on activities. With the help of engaging and thoughtful exercises, campers will get to know our farm and all the parts that make it run smoothly. Some of the fun activities Bookworms Campers will be doing include a visit to Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historical Park, exploring the tractors on the farm, making sugar on snow in the middle of the summer, and much more! Contact Gabi: gbourassa@billingsfarm.org. Reservations required: billingsfarm.org/billings-bookworms.

### Line Dance for Beginners

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

### Bridge Club

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

### Senior Volunteers

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

### The Art of Nature Camp

1-4 p.m. All week. Chaffee Art Center, 16 So. Main St., Rutland. \$140 for the week. Ages 6-12. Explore the Art of Nature using natural elements such as rocks to create sculptures, collages and to use for mandala painting, plus, some fun surprises! Instructor: Karen Wurster; MUST PRE-REGISTER. chaffeeartcenter.org or 802-775-0356.

### Yoga at Mission Farm

2-3 p.m. Tuesdays through 7/23. Mission Farm, 316 Mission Farm Road, Killington. Pay what you can; suggested donation \$10. No registration required, just show up and join. Dress comfortably. Bring your own mat; blankets available. Classes are held outside at the Odeon; in case of rain, we will move to the church lobby. missionfarmvt.org.

### Bridge Club

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

### Chess Club

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

### Play Chess, Backgammon!

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

### Tuesday Night Twilight League

5 p.m. Tuesdays through 9/24. Green Mountain National Golf Course, 476 Barrows Towne Road, Killington. Non-pass holders \$40, pass holders \$22; includes 9 holes with cart. Shotgun start at 5 p.m. 4 person scramble. Teams welcome or individuals/pairs will be linked into groups of 4 and play the front 9. Results in Gracie's Clubhouse Grill after play. Must sign-up before Tuesday at noon. gmngc.com or 802-422-4653.

### Jazz Dance for Adults

6-7:15 p.m. Stone Valley Arts, 145 E. Main St., Poultney. \$15 drop in; \$68 for 6 week session. This class offers classic American jazz dance technique and choreography. Each class begins with a warm up of moderate aerobic conditioning, followed by progressive steps across the floor, culminating in short dance phrases that can be combined into jazz dance choreography. A variety of music styles are used to make this class a fun workout! June 4, 11, 18 and 25. Instructor: Erika Schmidt. stonevalleyarts.org.

### Village Farm Concert Series: Silas Hamilton & Friends

6-8 p.m. Tuesdays through 8/13. Pittsford Village Farm, 42 Elm St., Pittsford. Free. Silas & Friends is an acoustic quartet playing music from bluegrass to funky four-part harmonies and lyrical instrumentals. Drawing originals from Silas Hamilton's solo album "All The Ways" as well as John Hartford, Bill Withers and others, Silas is lucky enough to be joined by some of the best Vermont has to offer - Marc Edwards, Mowgli Giannitti, and Mark Burds. pittsfordvillagefarm.org.

### Castleton Summer Concerts

7-9 p.m. Castleton Pavillion, 360 South St., Castleton. Free. Featuring Blue Jay Way. Dance music from the 60's until now. Lori.Phillips@vermontstate.edu or 802-468-6039 .

### Revenge of the Movie Night

7:30-9 p.m. Tuesdays. Main Street Museum, 58 Bridge St., White River Junction. Free. We never know ahead of time what the movie will be. Think of it as a grab bag. mainstreetmuseum.org.



# [MUSIC Scene]

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

## WED

### 6/19

#### LUDLOW

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

#### POULTNEY

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

#### QUECHEE

6 p.m. Public House Pub – Kim Wilcox

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

#### SOUTH POMFRET

6:30 p.m. Artistree – Jim Yeager Trio

## THURS

### 6/20

#### BARNARD

5:30 p.m. Fable Farm – Feast & Field with Annie and the Fur Trappers

#### BRANDON

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

#### BOMOSEEN

6 p.m. Lake House Pub & Grille – Aaron Audet

#### KILLINGTON

6 p.m. Liquid Art – Open Mic hosted by Liz Reddy

6 p.m. Rivershed – Chris Pallutto

#### LONDONDERRY

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

#### LUDLOW

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

#### POULTNEY

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

#### QUECHEE

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

#### RUTLAND

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

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

#### SOUTH POMFRET

7 p.m. Artistree – Open Mic Night

#### WOODSTOCK

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

## FRI

### 6/21

#### BOMOSEEN

6 p.m. Bomoseen Dog – Music by Cooper

6 p.m. Lake House Pub & Grille – Ryan Fuller

#### CASTLETON

6 p.m. Blue Cat Bistro – Bird Mountain String Band

#### KILLINGTON

2 p.m. Umbrella Bar at Snowshed – Chris Pallutto

6 p.m. Rivershed – Rhys Chalmers

6 p.m. Still on the Mountain – Ray Boston

6 p.m. The Foundry – Jake Palatine

7:30 p.m. Jax Food & Games – Chris Pallutto

7:30 p.m. McGrath's Irish Pub – Mance

#### LONDONDERRY

6 p.m. New American Grill – Liz Reedy

#### LUDLOW

6 p.m. Jackson Gore Courtyard – Summer Music Series with Sammy B

#### POULTNEY

6 p.m. Poultney Pub – George Nostrand

#### QUECHEE

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

## SAT

### 6/22

#### BRIDGEWATER

8 p.m. Woolen Mill Comedy Club – Comedy Night with headliner Alex Giampapa

#### KILLINGTON

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

6 p.m. Rivershed – Tee Boneicus Jones

6 p.m. Still on the Mountain – Aedie

6 p.m. The Foundry – Jake Palatine

7:30 p.m. Jax Food and Games – Chris Pallutto

7:30 p.m. McGrath's Irish Pub – Mance

#### LUDLOW

7 p.m. The Killarney – Sammy B

#### PITTSFIELD

9:30 p.m. The Clear River Tavern – Duane Carleton

#### PITTSFORD

7 p.m. Hilltop Tavern – Aaron Audet Band

#### POULTNEY

6 p.m. Poultney Pub – Liz Reedy

#### QUECHEE

5:30 p.m. Public House Pub – Jake Geppert

#### RUTLAND

11 a.m. Center Street – Pride Festival with Entertainment all day

12 p.m. Center Street Alley (Outside) – Pride Festival Karaoke with Tenacious T

2 p.m. Vermont State Fairgrounds – BBQ and Brewfest with music by Rustie Bus

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

#### STOCKBRIDGE

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

#### WOODSTOCK

6:30 p.m. Ottauquechee Yacht Club – Tad Davis

## SUN

### 6/23

#### BRIDGEWATER

#### CORNERS

3 p.m. Long Trail Brewery – Nick Bredice

#### KILLINGTON

12 p.m. Rivershed – Brunch with Sammy B

6 p.m. Liquid Art – Tee Boneicus Jones

6 p.m. Rivershed – Trivia Night

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

7:30 p.m. Jax Food & Games – Nick Bredice

#### RUTLAND

4 p.m. Grace Church – Ireland '24' Pre-tour Concert

#### STOCKBRIDGE

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

## MON

### 6/24

#### BOMOSEEN

6 p.m. Bomoseen Lodge and Taproom – Ryan Fuller

#### KILLINGTON

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

#### LUDLOW

7 p.m. United Church – SINGO with Jane and feat. Sammy B

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

#### WOODSTOCK

6:30 p.m. Ottauquechee Yacht Club – Richard Enderlin

## TUES

### 6/25

#### BOMOSEEN

6 p.m. Bomoseen Lodge and Taproom – Music by Cooper

#### KILLINGTON

7:30 p.m. Jax Food & Games – Taco Tuesday with Rick Webb

#### LONDONDERRY

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

#### LUDLOW

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

#### PITTSFIELD

7 p.m. Town Hall – Acoustic Jam

#### POULTNEY

7 p.m. Poultney Pub – Bluegrass Jam

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FRI - 8AM - 9PM


SAT - 8AM - 9PM

SUN - 8AM - 9PM LIVE MUSIC (6PM)

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## VINS Celebrates Remarkable Reptile Day

Saturday, June 22 at 10 a.m.—QUECHEE—Join us at the VINS Nature Center for a day celebrating all things reptile! From turtle shells to snake smells, you will discover the amazing world of reptile adaptations through close encounters, hands-on activities, crafts and more! Recount the history and current status of the iconic Timber Rattlesnake here in New England with naturalist Thomas Tynning. Meet live reptile ambassadors with the Southern Vermont Natural History Museum and Uncharted Wild to learn all about these remarkable reptiles!

### SCHEDULE OF THE DAY

**All Day / 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.**

#### Cold-blooded Crafts

Get inspired by the beauty of reptiles and create something fun to take home!

#### Reptile Games

Get stompin' and slitherin' as you explore the world of reptiles. Includes water games.

#### Reptiles on the Forest Canopy Walk

Think you can identify Vermont's reptiles? Come visit the Forest Canopy Walk to test your knowledge and learn more about the reptiles that might call your backyard home.

**10:30 – 10:50 a.m.**

#### Turtle Breakfast

How did the turtle fly south for the winter? In this story time program, meet Turt and Jersey, VINS Ambassador turtles, as they have their morning stroll and breakfast.

**11 a.m. – Noon / 1 – 2 p.m.**

#### Reptiles of the World

Uncharted Wild will entertain folks of all ages as they present reptiles from around the world.

**Noon – 1 p.m.**

#### Timber Rattlesnakes of New England

Of all the animals with backbones found in New England, none are more endangered than the timber rattlesnake. Famous for its uniqueness to the New World, impressively rattled tail, remarkable ability to survive New England winters, and complex behaviors that are just beginning to be understood, the timber rattlesnake is more than just fascinating. Take a journey through history to understand how rattlesnakes once fascinated early settlers before nearly being hunted to extinction, to today where many people are coming to recognize that all wildlife has a place in our environment. Thanks to the work of dedicated researchers and advances in technology, we can now better appreciate the captivating lives of New England timber rattlesnakes.

**2:30 – 3:30 p.m.**

#### Reptiles of New England

Meet reptiles that call New England home with the Southern Vermont Natural History Museum.

**3:30 – 4 p.m.**

#### Reptile Mythbusting

Are snakes really deaf? Can a turtle change shells? Let's bust some common myths surrounding our cold-blooded friends!

**4 – 4:30 p.m.**

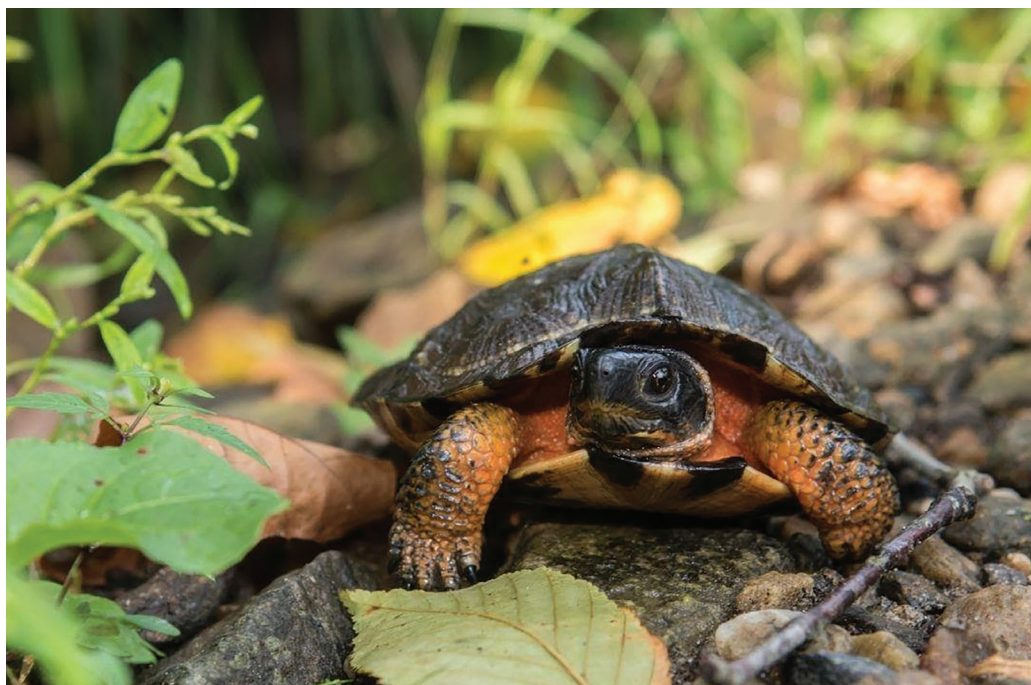
#### Raptor Encounter

Meet one of our avian education ambassadors up close.

For more information, contact Mary Davidson Graham at the Vermont Institute of Natural Science (VINS) at 802-359-5000 or [mgraham@vinsweb.org](mailto:mgraham@vinsweb.org).



Submitted



Courtesy of VINS

Wood turtle, *Glyptemys insculpta*

## Fletcher Memorial Library Launches "Adventure Begins At Your Library" Summer Reading Program

Wednesday, June 19 at 10:30 a.m.—LUDLOW—Fletcher Memorial Library, 88 Main St.

Ludlow, is thrilled to announce the launch of its 2024 summer reading program, "Adventure Begins at Your Library." This free program is open to all community members from infants to teens and promises a summer filled with reading, learning, and fun.

The program kicks off on Monday, June 17 and will run through Friday, August 2nd. Participants are invited to embark

on a summer reading challenge, where reading and completing activities will not only enhance their literary journey but also earn them raffle tickets. These tickets offer a chance to win prizes such as Squishmallows, LEGO sets, a camping hammock, books and more!

In addition to the reading challenge, the library has curated a diverse lineup of weekly programs suitable for all ages. Highlights include:

- Outdoor story time: Every Wednesday morning,

starting June 26-August 7, families can gather at 10:30 a.m. by the library picnic table for a half-hour of enchanting stories, lively music, and engaging fun.

Special guest appearances: The library will host a variety of special guests, including live animals from the Southern Vermont Natural History Museum, Alyx the Magician, and The Imagination Playground, offering unique experiences that are sure to captivate and inspire.

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

## Whiskey River Band Kicks Off the 2024 Summer Concert Series in Fair Haven

Thursday, June 20 at 7 p.m.—FAIR HAVEN—The Fair Haven Concerts in the Park Committee is excited to kick off our 2024 concert season with the Whiskey River Band. This band will bring the best of classic country music. You will hear all of your favorite songs from Merle Haggard, Willie Nelson, Alan Jackson, Johnny Cash, Zac Brown and more. The band has been entertaining country music lovers since 2016 at concerts, theaters, and clubs throughout the region. This band made their first appearance here in the Fair Haven last year to rave reviews, so we asked them back again.

The members of the band are Joe Gero- vocals and rhythm guitar, Bob Tressler- drums, Jim Thompson- vocals and lead guitar, Lance MacIntosh- vocals and bass guitar. Whether you're a die-hard fan of classic country or a newcomer

to the genre, their music is sure to transport you to a time when honky-tonks and cowboy hats were the norm!

The concerts will take place for nine Thursdays this summer, starting June 20 and ending on August 15. Concerts start promptly at 7 p.m., but you will want to arrive a little early. The Park and Ride at the south end of the park has a new design, so parking will look a little different. We will have parking attendants available as in previous years.

Hot dogs, sodas, popcorn and water are available for purchase. We do have a few free ice cream nights planned as well. In case of inclement weather, our rain location is the Congregational Church at the north end of the park.

*For more information, contact: call (802) 265-3010 and press the \* (star key) for the concert hotline.*



Whiskey River Band

Courtesy Concerts in the Park

## Three-day horse clinic held in Tunbridge

More than 30 equestrians from three states had an opportunity to hone their equine-related skills at the 2024 Orange County 4-H and Open Mounted Horse Clinic, May 31-June 2.

The annual event, held at the Tunbridge Fairgrounds in Tunbridge, put the 4-H principle of "learn by doing" into practice through riding lessons, workshops, interactive games and other fun activities. It was sponsored by University of Vermont (UVM) Extension 4-H and the Orange County 4-H Foundation and open to 4-H'ers, non-4-H youths and adults. 4-H'ers from clubs in Vermont, Connecticut and New Hampshire took part in the clinic.

Participants had five riding lessons over three days with instructors Amber Adams, Williamstown; Laura Pratt from Daybreak Farm, Randolph; and UVM Extension 4-H Educator Amber Thibodeau. They also took part in three instructional workshops with time sched-

Clinic → 29



By Tracey Stubbins/UVM Extension 4-H  
4-H Spirit Awards were presented to (left to right) Stella Ballou, South Royalton; Samantha Bedell, White River Junction; Amara Waters, South Pomfret; and Taylor West and Addie McCarthy, both from Tunbridge, at the 2024 Orange County 4-H and Open Mounted Horse Clinic, May 31-June 2, in Tunbridge.



By Tracey Stubbins/UVM Extension 4-H  
At the 2024 Orange County 4-H and Open Mounted Horse Clinic, May 31-June 2, in Tunbridge, several intermediate-level riders earned blue ribbons for earning high scores in stable management. Front row (l-r): Stella Ballou, South Royalton. Back row: Lilly Stott, Norwich, Connecticut; Talia Kentel, Enfield, New Hampshire; Lilly Suponski, West Hartford; Ellie LaMotte, White River Junction; Addie McCarthy, Tunbridge; Amara Waters, South Pomfret; Izzy Nickerson, Bethel; and Kaya Freeman, Thetford.

## Something Wicked This Way Comes as BarnArts stages “Macbeth” outdoors at Fable Farm

Friday, June 21 at 6:30 p.m. —BARNARD—BarnArts brings Shakespeare outdoors once again with “Macbeth,” directed by Killian White. This classic tragedy will be performed in the orchard of Fable Farm June 21-22, 26, 28-29 at 6:30 p.m. and June 23 & 30 at 4 p.m. Picnicking is encouraged, though outside alcohol is prohibited. Fable Farm’s bar will be available pre-show through intermission with cider, wine, beer, and NA drinks. BarnArts will have snacks available for purchase. Tickets are \$15-\$20 and available online at [barnarts.org](http://barnarts.org).

“Macbeth” is set in the midst of turbulent times of war in Scotland. A seemingly random interaction with a trio of witches spouting prophecies inspires drastic measures from a power-hungry and devoted couple. Choices are made, the slippery-slope of betrayal begins, and consequences promptly follow. Adhering tightly to Shakespeare’s script, the BarnArts production fully depicts the violence and psychological drama of the medieval tale.

Love of Shakespeare’s intricate and compelling

language, paired with the unique opportunities provided by the Macbeth script, created a strong local cast. Leading the way is Fergus Ryan as the ambitious and doomed Macbeth and Kyle Huck as the zealous and tormented Lady Macbeth. Ryan lives in East Montpelier and has a deep history performing Shakespeare. Huck grew up in Woodstock as a leading YOH Theater player and has been a strong local community theater participant in the last few years, including playing Gwendolyn in BarnArts Winter production of “The Importance of Being Earnest.”

Ryan remarked that he’s continually surprised at the layers within each of Macbeth’s lines. “Killian’s direction has been especially helpful in finding key moments of vulnerability,” he says. Huck highlighted Killian and Fergus’ help in building the rapport of this infamous couple. “It’s been an exciting journey to dive deep into the relationship of the Macbeths and how the fierce loyalty they have for each other drives them to do things others wouldn’t ever consider,” noted Huck.

Director Killian White feels the play is “deeply per-

sonal and psychological at times, and those parts were very important to me to get right and show all of the nuance, but it is also thrilling, action-packed, and even occasionally funny.”

White initially joked about staging “Macbeth” outdoors to accommodate the Birnam Woods plot point, but the of BarnArts outdoor stage at Fable Farm adds magic and opportunities that only enhance the medieval setting of Macbeth.

Rehearsing on site since early May, the cast of 21 has watched the apple trees go from empty to full of life, building an intimate and elemental relationship with the land. Performing outdoors, particularly in Vermont in June, requires a keen eye-to-the-sky paired with care and camaraderie. Each rehearsal involves cast members sharing snacks, picnic blankets, bug spray, and sunscreen as they work together to create a “Macbeth” performance audiences won’t soon forget.

For more information on this production and BarnArts, contact [info@barnarts.org](mailto:info@barnarts.org), leave a message at 802-234-1645, or go to [barnarts.org](http://barnarts.org).



Courtesy of BarnArts

Actors seen preparing for a recent presentation by BarnArts of Shakespeare’s “Macbeth” at Fable Farm, featuring an outdoor performance in Scotland during war, a play that has been rehearsed since early May.

## Downhill mountain biking is in full gear at Killington Resort

By Victoria Gaither

Mountain biking is more than just a sport, it’s a catalyst that brings people together, transforming strangers into a tight-knit community.

On Saturday, June 1, a group of downhill bikers were taking a break from the trails in the Snowshoe parking lot.

The group — hailing from Canada, Pennsylvania, and Saratoga Springs, New York — only met on this day because they parked beside each other.

On the outside, looking in, you would think they are best friends and have known each other for years because of the laughing and story-telling.

“I think the fun part about mountain biking is that you don’t necessarily meet the same people each time. Since you all know the same things, it’s easy to strike up a conversation out of nowhere. You can make friends within a day, never get their phone numbers, but have a great time,” said Chris Miller from Saratoga Springs, New York.

Neal Capell, a first-time downhill mountain bike rider to Killington, was impressed with the trails and on-the-spot friendships. “I think the mountain biking community is great. There are so many friendly people in the community and wel-

coming personalities. Everyone is usually on the trails for the same reason: to enjoy themselves.”

Capell came from Canada to ride Killington and added, “Most people are happy to see you on the trails on the bike and are usually welcoming and interested in chat.”

Some of the conversations were about kids, family, and the love of biking.

Conner Kelly, also from Canada, discovered in his downhill experience, “Mountain biking is super chill, and I don’t think anyone has ever run into a mountain biker who has been standoffish. Everyone wants to be your friend and hang out.”

All the guys say, if you are new to the biking community, get lessons and make friends. It will make for a better experience.

Chris Trishee, riding Killington from Pennsylvania, explained, “Go at your own pace and stay at your comfort level. It’s okay to ask for advice.”

Trishee took a berm too fast and wiped out, but he didn’t let it ruin his day. He laughed in the parking lot with his new friends. “That’s downhill mountain biking,” he said. Things happen, but having new and old friends at the end of the day makes the pain better.



Courtesy chandler-arts.org

The Krishna Guthrie Band (left) and Dobet Gnahore (right) are among the performers, Friday.

## Randolph Village celebrates International Make Music Day

Friday, June 21 at 10 a.m. - RANDOLPH - Randolph Village will celebrate International Make Music Day, a global annual event featuring free, live musical performances and events on the longest day of the year. This marks Randolph's fifth Make Music Vermont celebration with a full day of free music programming for all. This year's festivities are organized in collaboration with The Underground - Recording Studio and Listening Room, Chandler Center for the Arts, and the White River Craft Center.

Celebrating Randolph's vibrant musical culture, the festival will showcase 13 diverse performances throughout the day. Chloe Powell, Chandler's executive director, shares, "With the event falling on a Friday, we decided to go really big this year! We're so excited to welcome Dobet Gnahore! She knocked everyone's socks off when she performed at Feast and Field in 2022, and we are so grateful for a matching grant from NEFA (New England Foundation for the Arts) to help bring her."

New this year: A mainstage event in the Trillium Parking Lot, starting at 6 p.m. with performances by Krishna Guthrie Band, acclaimed Dobet Gnahore joined by her band, and a DJ set to close the night.

### Schedule of Performances:

- 10 - 12 p.m.: Ali T at Wee Bird Bagel Cafe
- 11 - 12 p.m.: Fiona and Emmett Stowell at Kimball Public Library
- 12 - 2 p.m.: Em & Nat at The Gear House
- 12 - 2 p.m.: Oum Kamar at Saap
- 12 - 12:30 p.m.: Path of Totality at Chef's Market
- 1 - 3 p.m.: The Village Idiots at Chef's Market
- 2 - 4 p.m.: Dave Wrong with Brian Tonks at 14 North Main (Third Branch Pottery Supply, Windy Lane Bakehouse and Sweet Scoops)
- 3 - 4 p.m.: Second Wind at Chef's Market
- 4 - 5 p.m.: EZ Tyger at Brainstorm Art Supply
- 5 - 6 p.m.: Singing workshop with Dobet Gnahoré at Chandler Center for the Arts
- 6 - 7:15 p.m.: Krishna Guthrie Band at Trillium Plaza (24 Pleasant Street)
- 7:30 - 9 p.m.: Dobet Gnahoré at Trillium Plaza
- 9 - 10 p.m.: DJ Denisova at Trillium Plaza

## the Cavendish Historical Society (CHS) will once again host the Cavendish Village Ghost tour

Saturday, June 22 at 8 p.m. - CAVENDISH - In keeping with Midsummer Night's Eve, the Cavendish Historical Society (CHS) will once again host the Cavendish Village Ghost tour on Saturday, June 22. Meet at the former Cavendish Historical Society Museum, at 8 p.m., wear comfortable shoes and bring a flashlight.

Among the sites to be visited include the Cavendish High Street Cemetery; Cavendish Stone Church, private homes as well as the site of the "Dutton House." The latter was believed by locals to be haunted long before it was moved to Shelburne Museum, where the ghosts seemed to continue to haunt the building, staff and visitors alike.

The former Duttonsville School is thought to be haunted

by children in what was once a classroom. The owner would hear laughing and sounds that a party was going on. However, whenever he opened the door, no one was there. Other strange occurrences have happened in the building, including a spirit teenager who sat at the end of a visitor's bed.

No tour would be complete without a stop at the old Hickernell house, where for many decades it was believed that Mr. Hickernell had been murdered and buried in the basement.

Free and open to the public, donations are always welcomed. For more information, call 802-226-7807 or e-mail margocaulfield@icloud.com.

PITTSFORD VILLAGE FARM PRESENTS

## Tuesdays Summer Concert Series

JUNE 18 - AUG. 13, 2024

TUESDAYS @ 6PM

42 Elm St., Pittsford, VT  
across from Kamuda's



Concerts outside on the Village Farm grounds. For severe weather, concert is canceled. Updates at [pittsfordvillagefarm.org](http://pittsfordvillagefarm.org). Free. Donations appreciated.

## June 25 - Silas Hamilton and Friends

### SILAS & FRIENDS



FOOD BY ANA'S EMPANADAS

A versatile multi-instrumentalist, singer & performer, Silas has toured extensively. He now plays with a group of talented musicians drawing from a variety of genres.

### July 2 Luminous Crush

Rocks the farm!



FOOD BY HOT TODDY'S

### July 9 Ryan Fuller

A variety of tunes.



FOOD BY ROLLIN' ROOSTER

### July 16 Yankee Chank

Vermont Cajun!



FOOD BY KEITH'S STORE

### July 23 Michele Fay Band

Lively folk!



FOOD BY SUSTAINABLE EATS

### And upcoming:

- July 30 Snake Mt. Bluegrass • August 6 Side Effects
- August 13 Mr. Moose & Friends

Thanks to these Sponsors!



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# Hartford/Lebanon Juneteenth Celebration Set for June 22 at Lyman Point Park

Saturday, June 22 at 2 p.m. —HARTFORD and LEBANON—The towns of Hartford, Vermont, and Lebanon, New Hampshire, are proud to announce the Hartford/Lebanon Juneteenth Celebration, taking place on Saturday, June 22, from 2-4 p.m. at Lyman Point Park. This family-friendly event, commemorating the emancipation of enslaved African Americans in the United States, promises an afternoon of music, culture, and community spirit.

The celebration will feature a variety of activities and entertainment for all ages. Attendees can look forward to:

- **Live Music:** Enjoy performances from local singers and a DJ that will keep the crowd energized and entertained.
- **Guest Speakers:** Hear from prominent voices in the community who will share their insights and stories related to Juneteenth and its significance.
- **Kids' Games:** Plenty of fun activities and games to keep the younger attendees engaged and happy.
- **Free Food:** Enjoy a delicious selection of complimentary food and refreshments.

In case of inclement weather, the event will be on Sunday, June 23, from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., ensuring that the celebration goes on.

Juneteenth, also known as Freedom Day, marks a pivotal moment in American history, celebrating the end of slavery in the United States. This event provides an opportunity for the community to come together, reflect on the past, and look forward to a more inclusive and equitable future.

Join us at Lyman Point Park for an afternoon of celebration, education, and unity as we honor Juneteenth together!

Additional Events:

June 18 at 5:30-8 p.m.: Screening of "Shadows Fall North" at Lebanon Library Damren Room. This documentary focuses on the efforts of two dedicated historic preservationists and activists, Valerie Cunningham and Jerri Anne Boggis, to recover the stories of people who have been rendered nearly invisible in the historical record. Refreshments provided.

June 19 at 5:30-8:00 p.m.: Family Movie Night featuring "Elemental" at SAU 88 auditorium

Pixar's first rom-com "Elemental" talks frankly about racism. Katie's Cookies will be provided as a treat.

For more information about the Hartford/Lebanon Juneteenth Celebration, please contact Joe Major at [jmajor@hartford-vt.org](mailto:jmajor@hartford-vt.org) or call 716-602-2288.

## Strawberry Festival continues with the fun at classic summer tradition at Middletown Springs Historical Society

Sunday, June 23 at 2 p.m. —MIDDLETOWN SPRINGS—The 49th "Annual Strawberry Festival" continues a long summer tradition at the Middletown Springs Historical Society on Sunday, June 23, from 2 p.m. - 4 p.m.

The festival includes a craft fair, live music, a new exhibit about Dana S. Carpenter (1863-1940) business entrepreneur and beloved citizen of Middletown Springs, and a related children's program.

Strawberry lovers are invited to the Historical Society building on the Green in Middletown Springs for delicious strawberry shortcake made with fresh Vermont berries, homemade biscuits, vanilla ice cream

and whipped cream, with a choice of iced tea, lemonade, or hot coffee. Berries will also be available for sale by the quart.

Local artists and craftspeople will display and sell their work, including maple products, jewelry, photography, knitted items, honey and beeswax products.

There will be live music during the event, and a variety of gift items will be raffled off.

The festival marks the opening of a new exhibit in the Historical Society's museum, "Dana Carpenter, A Man for All Seasons," featuring photographs, artifacts, and written accounts of Carpenter's career as a botanist, pharmacist, photographer, and active citizen.

A special activity for children attending the festival will be creating botanical prints by pressing flowers and plant materials. Admission to the museum and the children's program are free.

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

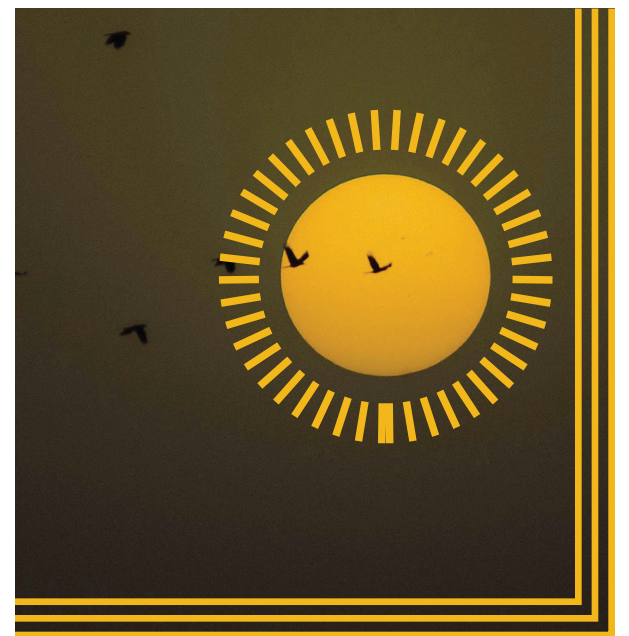


Courtesy of Middletown Springs Historical Society

The 49th "Annual Strawberry Festival" at Middletown Springs Historical Society is set for June 23 with a craft fair, live music, a new exhibit about Dana S. Carpenter, and a free children's program.

# Consider these 7 tips to beat the heat

- **Stay Hydrated:** Drink plenty of water throughout the day, even if you don't feel thirsty. Avoid beverages that can dehydrate you, such as alcohol and caffeinated drinks. Keeping a bottle of water handy can help remind you to sip regularly.
- **Wear Light Clothing:** Opt for lightweight, loose-fitting, and light-colored clothing. These choices help your body regulate temperature more effectively by allowing sweat to evaporate and reflecting rather than absorbing heat.
- **Use Fans and Air Conditioning:** Spend time in air-conditioned spaces whenever possible. If you don't have air conditioning at home, consider visiting public places like malls, libraries, or community centers. Fans can help circulate air, but make sure to create cross-ventilation by opening windows.
- **Limit Outdoor Activities:** Plan outdoor activities for the cooler parts of the day, such as early morning or late evening. Take frequent breaks in the shade and avoid strenuous activities during peak heat hours.
- **Cool Your Body:** Take cool showers or baths to lower your body temperature. You can also use damp washcloths or ice packs on your neck, wrists, and forehead. Wearing a damp bandana around your neck can also help keep you cool.
- **Eat Light Meals:** Eat smaller, lighter meals to avoid generating additional body heat through digestion. Fresh fruits and vegetables with high water content, such as watermelon, cucumber, and lettuce, can help keep you hydrated and cool.
- **Create a Cool Environment:** Keep blinds or curtains closed during the hottest parts of the day to block out the sun. Use light-blocking or reflective curtains to reduce heat gain. At night, when temperatures drop, open windows to let in cooler air. Placing a bowl of ice in front of a fan can also help cool a room.



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# Musician Sammy Blanchette headlines Singo Fundraiser

Monday, June 24 at 7 p.m. —LUDLOW—Jane McGarry is hosting a special SINGO Night on Monday, June 24, at 7 p.m., to raise funds for the United Church of Ludlow's "Ring Out Love" Capital Campaign. Ludlow musician Sammy Blanchette, a.k.a. Sammy B, will perform the songs live, adding a unique twist to a fun event that usually offers recorded music.

SINGO is a musical variation of Bingo that uses songs instead of numbers to fill playing cards. It's fun for all ages, everybody sings along, and winners get prizes for each of three SINGO rounds. SINGO cards at the fundraiser will cost \$10 apiece, with every dollar raised going to the church's "Ring Out Love" campaign. Snacks will be provided, and participants are encouraged to BYOB.

The United Church of Ludlow, 48 Pleasant St., Ludlow is trying to raise \$50,000 to restore its historic bell. With the campaign theme, "Ring Out Love," the United Church hopes to not only repair the disintegrating supports on its venerable bell, but also to make upgrades to improve accessibility and to help neighbors in need.

Built in 1891 as the Congregational Church of Ludlow, the United Church is listed on the National Register of Historic Places as one of the only churches in Vermont constructed in a full mature expression of shingle-style architecture. Its Congregationalist congregation was organized in 1806, and in 1930 it merged with a Methodist congregation to form a union congregation and become the United Church of Ludlow.

The church's 1,000-pound-plus bell was cast by the Holbrook Bell Foundry of East Medway, MA, in 1839, when Martin Van Buren was president, only 50 years after the Constitution of the United States became effective. Community members had the opportunity to tour the belfry in 2012 when the church threw a party celebrating the 120th birthday of its building and the 220th birthday of its founding. More information about the bell is available on the United Church website.

Over the years, the United Church has become a community gathering place in Ludlow, hosting concerts, events, dinners, game nights, and meetings of local non-profit organizations, including Black River Good Neighbor Services' Memory Café to support people with dementia.

Anyone wishing to donate is invited to mail a check made out to "United Church of Ludlow" and mail it to Anne Oakes, Receiver of Offerings, 145 Merrill Rd., Ludlow, VT 05149, with the memo "Ring Out Love Campaign."



*Sammy Blanchette*



# Rutland Rugby to host Keith Page Invitational to honor memory of beloved clubmate

The Rutland Rugby Club will host the Keith Page Invitational (KPI) rugby tournament on June 22 to honor the memory of longtime club member Keith "Moose" Page and raise funds for the Silver Towers Camp.

The KPI tournament was renamed in 2014 to honor the late Keith "Moose" Page, a beloved club member who passed away in March of that year. All funds raised from the annual tournament are donated to the Silver Towers Camp, which provides opportunities for children and adults with disabilities to enjoy outdoor recreational activities and social enrichment.

Page worked with students with special needs in both classroom and athletic settings, as well as at Silver Towers for many summers.

"He had a passion for athletics, children, and helping others," said KPI co-chair Kate Troy, "So as a club we are proud to carry on his legacy by supporting organizations he was involved with and groups he was dedicated to."

"Keith Page was an integral part of Silver Towers Camp," said Carolyn Ravenna, director of Silver Towers Camp. "Having worked with Keith at Rutland City Public Schools through the Unified Sports Program, I knew Keith would fit in at Silver Towers. Keith started working with us as a personal assistant for a young man who needed one to one help in order to attend. From there, Keith became part of the family."



Submitted

Rutland Rugby presents donation from 2023 KPI to Silver Towers.

Page's impact on campers and their families lives on as well.

"Keith Page was a very special person," said Lori and Bob Baxter, parents of a Silver Towers camper. "We worked with Keith in the school setting plus as an umpire in the city league. Our daughter Marisa who is special needs had the opportunity to have Keith support her in school and Unified Special Olympics and he was the most caring individual. Everyone that knew Keith also knew his passion for rugby and Silver Towers was his world. His commitment to both were very obvious to his friends...we miss him dearly as he would always run by the house and he made sure to stop and say 'Hi'"

Rutland Rugby welcomes donations — goods, services, gift certificates — from area businesses and individuals for a raffle that serves as the primary fundraising portion of the event. Every year visiting clubs and spectators alike enjoy purchasing raffle tickets for a great cause and the chance to win donated items. In turn the club publicizes those who contributed to the event when they make the donation to the camp. The club invites anyone interested in donating to contact them at [rutlandrugbyboard@gmail.com](mailto:rutlandrugbyboard@gmail.com).

"We invite everyone to join us for a day of rugby, community and charity," said Troy. "Even if you've never watched a rugby match before, you'll find the KPI tournament exciting and for a great cause. Moose's memory lives on through events like this that bring people together to support meaningful organizations in our community."

For more information about the Keith Page Invitational, visit: [rutlandrugby.com](http://rutlandrugby.com).



Submitted

Keith "Moose" Page



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Keith Page in action from 2023 KPI.

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Courtesy CEDRR

The Chamber & Economic Development of the Rutland Region (CEDRR) held a ribbon cutting earlier this spring at Masala Corner in Rutland for 'BOO' AL, its newest CEDRR member and entertainer in the area. He is 69 years old and moved to Rutland from Knoxville, Tennessee.

## 'Boo' Al brings Texas roadhouse music to Vermont

By Adam Davis

On a recent late spring mid-afternoon, I took in a performance by the latest troubadour to join the Rutland-area music scene. "Boo" Al Gilberti commands the center stage of downtown's Depot Park, attracting patrons with the lure of a carnival barker to the weekly farmer's market taking place nearby. Clad in a Hawaiian-shirt, dark blue fedora and shorts, he was a difficult figure to miss. Not knowing what to expect, I took a seat on a park bench, sat back and watched the show.

He was already halfway through a country song that I didn't recognize by the time I arrived. I waited for him to finish up before taking a moment to introduce myself.

"So, what do you wanna hear?" he asked me. I told him to play whatever he liked.

It turned out that Boo likes all kinds of music, but prefers country, blues, classic rock, and other "oldies," as he put it. He then launched into Johnny Cash's version of "Hurt," originally by Nine Inch Nails, perhaps to showcase his balldry chops. As the song concluded, he took a moment to greet the passersby in the park, a sign of his affable character and strong stage presence. A moment later, the opening guitar lick to Donovan's foreboding "Season of the Witch" played and Boo began serenading the downtown corner once again.

During a song break, I asked him where he got his nickname.

"Texas," he said with a wry smile. "I wanted something different. I wanted to be with the audience. Cheer for the band, but 'boo' me. People like me for some reason, but I'd rather be booed."

Despite his self-deprecating stage name, he is comfortable in the limelight, ad-libbing jokes during breaks.

"I play everything. '60s, '70s, new stuff," he said, before deftly maneuvering through a variety of songs, bridging "Creep" by Radiohead, The Rolling Stones' "As Tears Go By," "Turn the Page" by Bob Segar, and "The Letter" by The Box Tops with ease.

"This next one is 'Hurricane' by The New Heathens," Boo told me. "This is Texas dirt music. Big down there. But no one seems to know it up here."

Exposing unknown Southern artists to music fans in the North has been an unexpected pleasure since he arrived he said.

Boo is originally from New Jersey, but has lived in various corners of the country like Knoxville, Tennessee; Youngstown, Ohio and Hugo, Oklahoma. When I ask him what brought him to this part of Vermont, he said: "A PBS documentary. I wanted to check out the area."

He concluded his hour-plus long set with a smooth rendition of Nat King Cole's gorgeous "Autumn Leaves," before closing the performance with a favorite of his, R.E.M.'s anthemic "Losing My Religion."

You can catch Boo's act at different venues in the Rutland area like the American Legion on Wales Street, the Center Street Alley, Angler's Pub, or the Indian restaurant Masala Corner. He will be at the United Methodist Church on Strongs Avenue on June 24 from 9-10 a.m. and the Boys and Girls Club on Merchants Row on July 1 from 9-10 a.m. Italian Ice will be on hand at the latter show, Boo said. To check him out online, search "Albert Gilberti" on YouTube.



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**← Clinic:**  
from page 19

uled to learn about stable management and general equine topics.

The 4-H Spirit Awards, chosen by peer voting, were presented to those youths who demonstrated enthusiasm for all clinic activities, took exceptional care of their horse and were quick to help others at the event. Recipients were Stella Ballou, South Royalton; Samantha Bedell, White River Junction; Addie McCarthy and Taylor West, both from Tunbridge; and Amara Waters, South Pomfret.

UVM Extension 4-H Educator Molly McFaun organized the event and was assisted by 4-H Educators Tracey Stubbins and Amber Thibodeau. In addition to the riding and workshop instructors, volunteers included Yvonne Campbell, Randolph; Lorrie Churchill, Brookfield; and Madeline Hatt, East Lyme, Connecticut.

The weekend culminated with all participants having the opportunity to demonstrate their improved skills through an exhibition of games on horseback.



By Tracey Stubbins/UVM Extension 4-H

Ava Silloway, Randolph, pulls horseshoe nails from a mock up held by Tanya Wheeler (right) at a farriering workshop at the 2024 Orange County 4-H and Open Mounted Horse Clinic as Adeline Malone, Brookfield (left) and Rachel Richardson, owner of Maple Hill Horseshoeing and Blacksmithing in Marlboro, look on.

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**Solutions** From page 13

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E	L	B	A			Y	E	P			A	I	L	E	D	
N	E	B	N			N	E	E			R	A	B	I	A	
D	A	I				E	N	D			S	E	N	D		

**Sudoku**

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

# Rutland County Humane Society



**GUSTON**

Tic Tac is a handsome 5 year old kitty with gorgeous long white hair! He loves his food, he is currently eating Science Diet CD. He is good with cats, but might do best in a dog free home. He is FIV positive, but his only restriction is he has to be an indoor only cat. He is a sweet, but sometimes sassy boy that has a zest for life! To adopt Tic Tac come see him Wed-Sat from noon to 4 or call 802-885-3997 for more information.

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**OSCAR**

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 \*(By appointment only at this time.)  
 Tues. - Sat. 12-4 p.m. & Thurs. 12-7 p.m. • lucymac.org



Ronan—4-5 years old. Neutered male. Shar-pei mix.



Ginger—7-month-old. Spayed female. Hound mix.



Benji—2 years old. Neutered male. Catahoula mix.



Reese—2 years old. Spayed female. Hound mix.

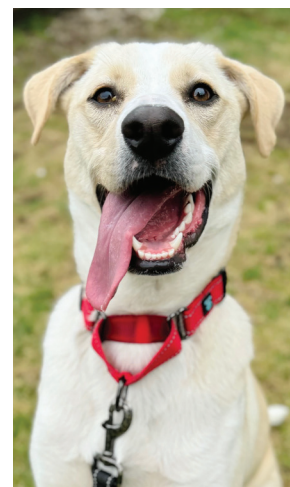


Oscar—2-3 years old. Neutered male. Domestic shorthair.



**LASSIE**

Lassie—9-month-old. Spayed female. Sheltie mix.

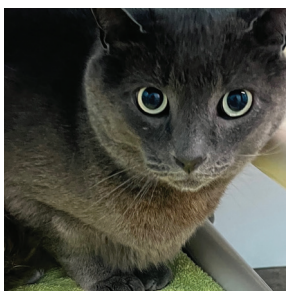


Dotty—1-year-old. Spayed female. Husky/ Shepherd mix.

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Roscoe—11-month-old. Neutered male. Domestic shorthair.



Twister—8 years old. Neutered male. Domestic shorthair.



Kyle—2 years old. Neutered male. Domestic shorthair.



Darren—5 years old. Neutered male. Domestic shorthair.



Cora and Callie—7-month-old. Spayed female. Domestic shorthair.

# GOT NEWS?

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# Cosmic Catalogue



## **Aries** March 21 - April 20

It's time for your annual check in regarding the balance between your professional and personal life. While attending to the demands that your career or job puts on you isn't going to go anywhere soon, don't make this at the expense of your home and family. Let those closest to you nourish you and be the well from which the other aspects of your life draw from. This isn't the time for being all or nothing.

## **Leo** July 21 - August 20

It's natural to go through periods where you just want to withdraw, be unseen and just hibernate. That being said, you do have responsibilities and obligations you cannot avoid. This week, try and balance both, which may mean toning down your social life a bit. While it may seem like a buzzkill, the sooner you recharge your batteries and get what needs to be done, done, the sooner you'll be back to being at the front and center.

## **Sagittarius** November 21 - December 20

The spotlight is on finances, especially those you share with someone else. If it's not about money, then maybe it's the time, attention and energy you're spending. Are you spending it wisely or are you being distracted? Are you counting your pennies or are you making the pennies count? Discuss the things you've been avoiding and everything will feel so much easier. Seek wisdom from the wise if you've got problems that need solving.

## **Taurus** April 21 - May 20

You're a creature of habit, so it's easy for you to do what you've always done without really questioning why. Not knowing the reasons for the things you do will take you only so far. This week, even as you go about your regular routines, do what you can to make them more meaningful or extra special. Light the candles. Spritz the perfume. It will help you enjoy life so much more.

## **Virgo** August 21 - September 20

You're at your best within a social circle who really care and help you soften your analytical side. Social climbing or winning votes in popularity contests generally doesn't sit so well with you. So if you've found the current company you're keeping not really adhering to the values you hold dear, then recognize that. Call up an old friend and take a trip down memory lane together. It will be just what the cosmic doctor ordered.

## **Capricorn** December 21 - January 20

Relationships are a constant state of flow between differing desires and needs. Sometimes, you do have to recognize some dynamics just won't change. You can agree to disagree, but it might be better to actually see your other person's point of view. You don't have to agree with them, but at least they'll feel seen and heard, therefore supported. To agree to disagree feels more like a stone wall. Nobody likes that.

## **Gemini** May 21 - June 20

As your money zones become active, it may be time to balance your books, so to speak. This isn't just about money neither. It's also about the energy you give and receive from others. Are you giving more than you're getting or could you be giving so much more? Spend time reflecting on that and do be sure to adjust accordingly. Making a choice then taking confident action can really improve your accounts-literal or proverbial.

## **Libra** September 21 - October 20

Despite your best attempts to balance scenarios in your life, it's normal that things get imbalanced from time to time. This week, you may feel stretched between your professional and your family obligations. It's a constant juggling act and what balance means to you can shift and change. Don't ignore the cosmic call to recalibrate your scales yet again this week. Most importantly though, do be sure to communicate your decisions clearly.

## **Aquarius** January 21 - February 20

Prioritizing your priorities can help you figure everything out. The point being, you can't do it all, at least not all of the time. So in order to not feel overwhelmed or that things have got out of control you'll need to get organized. Draw up a list and systematically and strategically tick items off. The alternative is you'll only do what you feel like doing and that won't get you too far.

## **Cancer** June 21 - July 20

The season of YOU has arrived. Thus, it's time to celebrate all that it means to be you! That being said, a Full Moon can help you reflect on relationships in all areas of your life too. Whether you're single or you're spoken for, consider where your needs are being met and where that could be improved upon. While you do nurture others, it's OK to say you need a little bit of care and attention in return.

## **Scorpio** October 21 - November 20

Life feels so much more meaningful depending on the meaning you give it. Even the most rich and famous still have to brush their teeth every day, but to make it meaningful makes all the difference. So, if you can find a little magic in the mundane, you'll feel so much happier. You don't have to change your life, but you can change the way you approach it. Attitude matters. See beauty and beauty will see you.

## **Pisces** February 21 - March 20

While you are indeed, experiencing some pressure, you do have to have some fun too. This is the choice that is available to you now. This may mean putting some important tasks on hold and telling yourself that you'll do it later. The chance to enjoy more of the good life and more time with friends, groups and your connections will make you feel so much more at peace and ready to tackle your challenges again.

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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.

## Turning point, find your balance

Three planets changing signs, plus a Solstice (June 20) and a Full Moon (June 21), you can expect things to turn around this week. So much has changed and it will take time to figure out your feelings about it all.

It will be easier to connect thoughts and feelings, but possibly, not so easy to verbalize them. Not every thought or feeling needs to be hashed out but it can help a lot just to sit with them. We've become so used to disassociating from our emotions that we may not even know what they are anymore.

In the influx of so much information, the intention is to keep us in a state of confusion and uncertainty. If you're feeling discontent,

anxious or you don't know what is true or real anymore, then this week can help you unplug.

As the Sun reaches its highest point in the North and lowest in the South, it slows right down as if to Sol/Sun stice/still. This turning point is a time of reflection and preparation. With a Full Moon staring down the Sun, ask yourself, what are your priorities? Do you have the right balance between where you are and where you want to go?

If you don't then slow down, figure out your feelings, your wants and desires and make a strategic plan to bring them into your reality.



Cosmic Catalogue  
By Cassandra Tyndall

## A bear encounter

"Girls, come over here!" I heard my neighbor say. "There's a bear!"

When we bolted to his house I felt super excited. I hadn't seen a bear near our house in a long time. We arrived just as the bear went into the woods, but then there was another, much bigger bear.

"That must be mama," he suggested. "Good thing she's across the pond!"

One of the bears looked back in our direction, and that's when I remembered we were going to camp outside tonight.

"We better not have any food in our tent tonight!" one of my friends said, humorously.



Green Mountain Tales  
By Izzy Gieder



## The patchwork life of the brown wasp mantidfly

Last July, I crossed paths with an insect that looked like the living embodiment of my favorite drawing game. Using folded paper, players add to a communal image without seeing previous contributions, such that the finished work is a surprise to everyone: the head of an eagle, on the body of a pig, with crab legs!

My mystery insect was about an inch long and had the body of a wasp, the face and forelegs of a praying mantis, and the wings of a fly. This was a brown wasp mantidfly (*Climaciella brunnea*), which is closely related to the lacewings. Eric Eaton, entomologist and one of the authors of the "Kaufman Field Guide to Insects of North America," describes insects in the mantidfly family as looking like as "a science experiment gone horribly wrong"

The brown wasp mantidfly's lifestyle is as patchwork as its appearance. In its larval form, it hitchhikes on an unassuming spider and ultimately eats the spider's eggs. As an adult, the mantidfly is a dangerous predator and incognito wasp mimic.

Brown wasp mantidflies have a range that extends from southern Canada to Central America and includes most of the U.S. Their bizarre appearance makes

finding one a noteworthy experience for insect fans.

"Maybe I am simply excitable in general," Eaton wrote on his blog after spotting a brown wasp mantidfly on a sunflower. "But I was ecstatic to find a truly astonishing insect species earlier this week"

While this mantidfly species is widespread and probably common, it frequently escapes human notice, possibly because it wears wasp disguises. The one

I spotted was dark brown and decorated with thin yellow stripes, mimicking the northern paper wasp (*Polistes fuscatus*). Mantidfly species living in other regions have other color morphs, to better match the locally abundant paper wasp species.

Brown wasp mantidflies are skilled Batesian mimics — harmless themselves, but masquerading as something more dangerous for their own protection. To complete the disguise, these mantidflies may adopt the posture of a wasp threatening to sting by curling their abdomens and splaying their wings, although they don't actually have stingers. They may also raise their abdomens vertically, showing off their wasp coloration.

TOS → 35



The Outside Story  
By Rachel Sargent Mirus

## Charles Wallace the Magnificent, a tribute: part 2

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



By Bruce Bouchard and John Turchiano

*Author's note: A short recap – part one ended with a commitment made with the kind owner of a dog rescue entity, to take a beautiful yellow English Lab named Charley who would arrive two weeks later on a transport from Kentucky.*

On a sunny crisp early morning in May temp in the mid-50s, I jumped into my GMC Jimmy and headed out to Manchester, New Hampshire (just under two hours away). By the time I arrived in Manchester the temperature had ballooned north — now in the mid-80s and humid. I pulled into the prescribed little park and, "Boom," there was Brigitte, having driven all the way down from Burlington to surprise me, and to babysit me into the transition of dog-ownership. She is so kind and thoughtful, she even brought two dog beds with "Charley" monogrammed on the sides. She warned me that this particular day would be rough, that the transport had traveled 24 hours non-stop, other than to feed and water the dogs, and that most all of the animals would be stressed out and beside themselves. I noticed that there were a good number of new owners awaiting their pups,

looking as vulnerable and nervously expectant as me. And then... here comes the truck! As the big transport pulled up, a good deal of ruckus was coming from inside the truck, barking and whining and carrying on. There was one voice above all the others — a giant basso profundo bleating out, a cry for help? For escape? I wondered if it was Charley? The driver came around and opened the sliding door in the middle of the truck...and the very first dog I focused my eyes upon straight ahead, I kid you not, was Charley, the profound bass opera dog, blaring from the bottom of his soul.

As we waited patiently to claim our dogs, Brigitte told me that I had to walk him around and around in circles, for as long as it takes to tire him out to get him ready for the 2-hour trip home. He was one tick shy of frantic, but he managed to let me hug him and give him some love. He reeked of bile and bad breath born of 24 hours of fear.

As Brigitte was leaving she turned and shouted, "Remember, around and around for as much time as it takes to tire him out." I waved good-bye and blew her a kiss, the dog godmother of my boy Charley.

She was right, it was a substantial sweaty workout, going in circles on a hot, humid day, with a frantic dog and no background whatsoever in the matter of being the dad to this beautiful creature. And beautiful he was, with a giant

head, a golden coat, with gorgeous brown eyes (and blond eyelashes) great big jowls, and, what's this... a LIP?? I never

knew this: a chocolate brown perfectly formed lip, surrounding the front lower teeth! How about that, a set of blond eyelashes, a barrel chest, and a lip. This dog is more human than I could have known.

When I finally got him into the back of my SUV, his eyes seem to swirl around in his head, he tottered a bit, let out a huge breath, flapping his jowls, and then "Bam," he was down for the count, his tongue lolling out of his mouth and

resting on the bed.

Two hours later we arrived at my wonderful little aerie, a former granary (700 square feet) on the Mill River. Part of a former mill on the river known as the Kingsley Mill. This home, which I lived in for a year, was up on a rise above the water, just up from the main house towering over the water. From my front porch down and to the left was a fine view of three consecutive waterfalls, loaded to the brim on this May spring day, rampaging loudly and beautifully on their downward journey.

It took some time to wake Charley and get him going, but he slowly complied, slithered out of the car and shakily made his way with me toward the granary, trembling

Charley → 38



Kingsley Grist Mill

Submitted



## Testing the Limits

The PGA's U.S. Open was held this past week. The tournament is traditionally considered the hardest test of golf in the calendar year. It is also one of four "majors," meaning, of all the tournaments on the golf schedule, this is considered the most important, most profitable, and most coveted by the players. If you win a major, you have firmly established yourself in the lore of the game.

They only hold the U.S. Open at select courses that have been recognized as premiere sites for competition. This means the course must be unique, long and challenging. Generally, during the buildup to the 4-day tournament, the course is prepped in order to maximize any mistakes a golfer might make. The fairways are thinner, the rough is deeper, and the greens are faster.

Golf is hard, but U.S. Open golf is absolutely harrowing.

Moreover, the infrastructure needed to host an event of this magnitude is immense, which puts it out of reach to most facilities (your typical golf course could never handle the influx of a quarter million spectators).

This year, the U.S. Open was held at Pinehurst No. 2 in North Carolina, which has served as the site of more single golf championships than any other course in the country. Donald Ross (considered one of history's greatest golf course architects), designed the course in 1907 and to this day it is considered his masterpiece.

What makes Pinehurst No. 2 so unique (and therefore, so difficult) is the inverted bowl shaped greens. When trying to hit an approach shot, the player must be ridiculously accurate in his placement or the ball will simply roll off the green. The other trademark attribute is the immense amount of fairway waste areas that are full of sand and wire grass (e.g. imagine playing golf on a grassy sand dune).

So, as you might guess, this tournament in particular is fun for the average golfer to watch because they get to see pros do things that are completely out of character. It's not uncommon to see balls fly off greens, desperate chip outs from the fairway, and agonizing three-putts.

But as a test of accuracy, strategy, and sheer will, there is nothing better.

And that was certainly the case as things wrapped up last Sunday. Two of the best players in the world, Rory McIlroy and

Bryson DeChambeau, battled it out to the very last shot with DeChambeau coming out on top with an absolutely epic finish.

In this case, I was torn on who I wanted to win. McIlroy has not won a major in 10 years, having been so close on so many occasions that it just felt like he deserved this one. On the other hand, DeChambeau has had such a unique approach to the game that a second major would have legitimized his methodology.

But the moment that everyone has been talking about is when McIlroy missed a very makeable 3-foot putt to secure the lead. Instead, he lipped out, all but washing away his dream of a 5th major.

It's easy to say that one shot was the reason someone won or lost a tournament, but the fact remains that there were 280-ish other strokes of the club that had the same effect on the score.

Watching McIlroy miss that putt prompted a reaction from me that made my wife jump off the couch. I outwardly yelled "No!" in disbelief when the ball rolled around the edge of cup.

It wasn't that I wanted McIlroy to win, it was more an utter shock that one of the best players in the world would miss that putt at that moment.

I watched as McIlroy sat in pain at the scorer's table in the clubhouse and then leave the tournament in visible dejection. No one wants to have an experience like that in life, and few of us could handle the aftermath if it did happen. But given the class act that McIlroy is, if anyone can bounce back it will be him.

Writer and director M. Night Shyamalan is also a class act, so when he's involved in a project, I'll go see it. And that's what happened this past week when I went to see his daughter's first film, "The Watchers," starring Dakota Fanning.

The film follows a young woman who gets lost in the forests of western Ireland. While searching for shelter, she is befriended by a small group of people who warn her about mysterious creatures that wander the area.

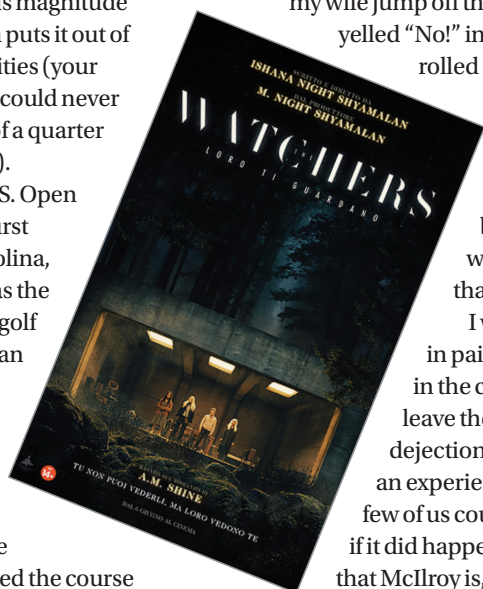
I wanted to like this film given my history with Shyamalan and his habit of producing interesting content, but the obtuse storyline left me feeling flat. It has its moments and is certainly full of eeriness, but in the end the younger Shyamalan never met the father's level of intrigue.

A near-miss "C-" for "The Watchers," now playing in theaters everywhere.

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



The Movie Diary  
By Dom Cioffi



## Baseball memories

I have been to the new Yankee Stadium once. Obviously, since I still call it the "new" Yankee Stadium even though it's over a decade old. Maybe it smells older now, that combination of piss, hot dogs and popcorn that lingered throughout the stadium. It was too new then, the smells were wrong, the field was the wrong shape and size and everything just seemed so cold. More like a mausoleum to baseball that a living, breathing part of the sport.

It was my last game with my dad, who would get cancer the following year and then pass away the next. We had gotten there early, to see the new monument park but I had brought my iPad instead of having it stolen. Which meant we had to go back to the car to put it away. We missed our opportunity to see Monument Park. So my dad never got to go.

It's one of my deepest regrets in life. Bringing that iPad and screwing up something that could have been so marvelous. My dad loved baseball. He loved playing more than watching, but one couldn't play baseball all the time. You need to rest, and that's when you watch. I didn't

understand this excuse; we watched baseball every night. And if we didn't have television, we listened to the game on the radio. Baseball was the soundtrack of my childhood, mixed in with Peter, Paul & Mary. My dad played league ball until about two months before he died, legging out a triple in his final at bat.

Because that's who he was. And who our family was. Skiing and baseball. But losing dad changed all that. No more tickets. No more games. Baseball is on in our home all the time, but we no longer go to over 10 games a year. We listen to the radio, to Suzyn Waldman and the new guy who sounds a lot like John Sterling but obviously isn't.

We don't always watch the Yankees. I love to listen to Bob Uecker announcing for the Brewers, I can hear him calling the games in "Major League" and it just triggers happy thoughts. I have developed a fondness for the Cubbies, and love singing along at the end of a winning game: "Hey Chicago, What do you say?" We watch whatever game is tied in the seventh inning, because you know those

Living the Dream → 35



Living the Dream  
By Merisa Sherman

## Graduation: Milestones and outlooks

### Building our Killington Dream lodge, Part 18

Mom and Dad were digging in deep to tie us to the state of Vermont and all it stood for like self-reliance, hard work, and the courage to create an authentic life. These qualities to me represented Vermonters and what Dad was striving to accomplish. Mom supported him through the decades as he built the homestead for our family.

I followed their example and worked hard in college which allowed me to graduate one year early. I took extra courses I was interested in plus summer studies in Graz, Austria.

When I returned to Vermont, I saw Dad's hard work had certainly paid off—the tree on our roof announced its completion in the European tradition, represented the major milestone in building our ski lodge.

My short Vermont sojourn with my parents in Killington gave me the energy to return to Europe for my junior year in Paris. I had much more to learn at Schiller College and from living in Europe.

I studied a lot, enjoyed what Paris offered in culture and the arts, and ventured away some weekends with my girlfriends, Gigi and Sharon. We walked then hitchhiked outside of Paris, stayed in youth hostels or camped in fields. Couples or families offered us a ride if they had room in their small cars.

In February, we hitch hiked to Normandy to famous Mont Saint Michel, a steep rocky island surrounded by sand, connected by a causeway and crowned with a monastery. Salt marsh lamb, "agneau de pré salé," are a French delicacy that thrive in salt grasses nearby. I remembered Vermont's "sheep craze" in 1870 when 1.7 million sheep were raised for their wool. When prices fell, farmers replaced them with beef and dairy cows.

We climbed to the monastery, then down to shops and a restaurant where I devoured mussels in wine-garlic broth. My friends chose the "omelette of Mme. Poulard," which she fed to famished seamen in the 1800s.

We walked out on the sand at low tide. A small airplane circled overhead. We didn't know why, but returned to the shore. We had been walking near deadly quicksand.

The next day we caught a ride to Saint Malo in neighboring Brittany. Before the fort opened, we picnicked on the rocks, warming up in the sun and our winter coats).

Meditation → 39



Mountain Meditation  
By Marguerite Jill Dye



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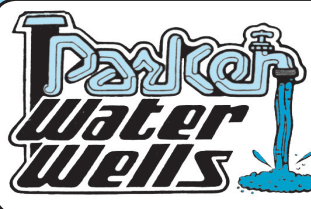
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← **TOS:**  
from page 32

Adult brown wasp mantidflies may look like wasps, but they hunt like praying mantises. Both insects have large, spiky grabbing forelegs that they keep folded until the moment they strike. A mantidfly will hang out on flowers or other vegetation, ready to snatch hapless prey.

Adult females are active for a month during the summer after emerging any time between May and October, but males live for only one week. To assist their mating efforts during this limited timeframe, they use a pheromone to attract females. Mantidflies sometimes gather on



plants, as Eaton has observed. "I encountered *Climaciella brunnea* only on sunflower plants, usually blooming ones, and there were several individual mantidflies in a small area," he wrote.

Males perform a courtship dance, raising and lowering their wings while simultaneously opening and closing their large forelegs.

Brown wasp mantidflies lay eggs suspended on a filament, like miniscule lollipops, usually on the underside of a leaf. A single female can lay thousands of eggs. The larvae that hatch are tiny, flat, and have long legs. They drop to the ground, raise the front of their bodies, and

wave their legs in hopes of grabbing a ride on a roaming spider — a hitchhiking behavior known as phoresy. Wolf spiders and occasionally crab spiders are common targets. The mantidfly larva piggybacks on its unwilling host, feeding on its haemolymph (the spider equivalent of blood).

If a larval brown wasp mantidfly first attaches to a male spider, it will move to the female as the spiders mate. Once on a female, the larva bides its time until she lays her eggs and wraps them up in the tough silk that should protect them until they hatch. Except, in

this case, the mantidfly larva sneaks inside before she finishes her wrapping, and snacks its way through her brood. Eventually, instead of a batch of spiderlings, a single adult mantidfly emerges from the egg sac.

While brown wasp mantidflies travel incognito most of the time, if you keep an eye out this summer, you may get lucky and meet this oddball insect yourself.

*Rachel Sargent Mirus is a teaching artist and writer. 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.*

← **Living the Dream:**  
from page 33

last few innings are going to get pretty tense.

We try to go to games whenever we travel. I went to an O's game while Megan was in the hospital. We've been to two Colorado Rockies games when we've been through Denver and we tried to go to Wrigley but there was a tornado warning so we went to a bar and watched the Blackhawks win the Stanley Cup and then got caught in a Wrigleyville riot instead. Not the experience I was looking for, but ...

My favorite place to watch a game is Fenway. I love Fenway. I said it. As a fourth generation Yankee fan, I would rather see a game on Yawkey Way than down in the Bronx. It feels more like baseball there, with everyone tight and snuggled in on each other. It's a ballpark, not a stadium and it lives and breathes baseball. It smells like baseball. It is baseball. The Red Sox threw a better party for Jeter's last game than the Yankees did. Because Fenway.

This past Father's Day Weekend, we met up with another couple (both Boston fans). We had all lost our baseball loving fathers who had raised us on the sounds of the game. It is so hard going to



By Merisa Sherman  
*There's nothing like popcorn at Fenway!*

a game without your dad, the one who always took you. Who taught you how to keep score, who taught you the lyrics to take me out to the ballgame and with whom we worked on collecting all the retired numbers cups. Can you name all the Yankees by number? 1. Billie Martin ...

Throughout the game, there were moments where each of us was not with the group but rather with our dads. Filtering through memories while making new ones. We started

with popcorn, because my dad wouldn't have it any other way. He had a specific popcorn lady at the old Yankee Stadium and I remember running around the ballpark trying to find her in the new one. She was so stoked to see my dad that she took a clear trash bag, filled it with popcorn and then threw the bucket in with a laugh.

But I can't go back to the Bronx without my dad. It's not that I don't like the Yankees — I wear my NY cap with pride — but I don't have memories of my dad at the new stadium. I can't see him there. I can imagine him in Fenway, enjoying the history and celebrating the greatest rivalry in all of sports. But he's not in the new stadium for me. He's just not there.

My baseball memories were torn down, brick by brick.

And so this Yankees fan will keep making baseball memories, but at Fenway. At Wrigley. At Mile High. At Camden Yards. Anywhere but the Bronx.

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

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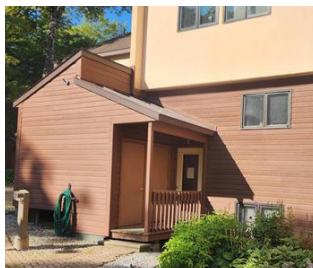
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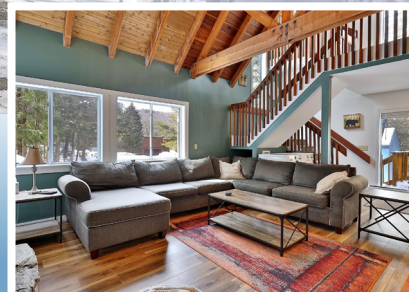
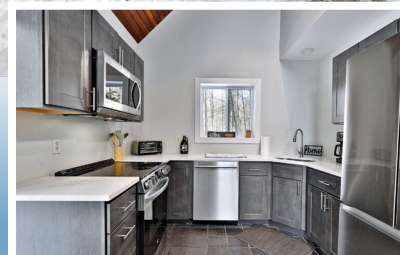
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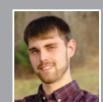
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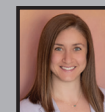
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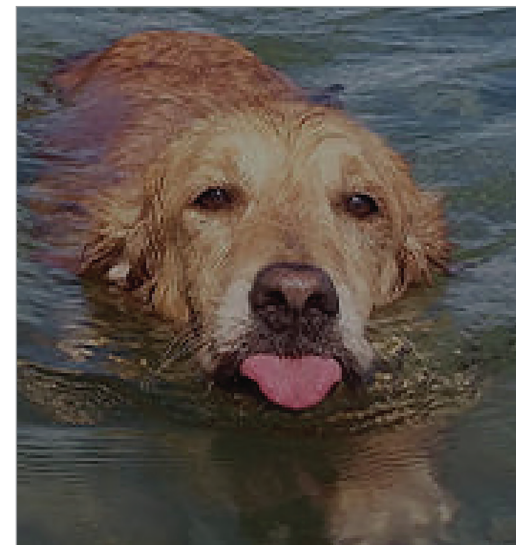
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**Charley:** .....  
from page 32

the whole way. As soon as he came in view of the waterfalls, his demeanor immediately changed. Mother Nature rushed in to give him a hug and a kiss. He stopped trembling, sat on his haunches and looked at the waterfalls for a full minute, without flinching a muscle. He then turned his head slowly to me and all but spoke the following request: "Take me there NOW!!"

We made our way down the short path, across the rocks and to the very edge of the rapidly moving water. He tested a few spots with his paw. "Oops, water moving too fast for comfort," he seemed to say... He turned slowly once more, now in newfound control, looked me dead in the eye and sent me a telepathic message, "Take me somewhere to get in that water NOW!!"

We made our way across the Kingsley Bridge, one of Vermont's most stately covered



Courtesy Bruce Bouchard  
**Charley swimming**

bridges, to the other side of the river and went down the dirt road parallel to the water. About a 1/2-mile down, past the main house and the granary on the other side, we came to the one long watering hole in a still place on the side of the river. I let Charley off the leash, and he bounded forward, took a huge leap, and splashed into the pool. In an impulsive rush, with no consideration for onlookers (unlikely) or the harsh temperature of the May Mill River water (very likely indeed) I too, flung myself into the pool - I gritted my teeth and gutted it out. Charley swam back (with his webbed feet) from the opposite side of the pool directly to me, put his paws on my shoulders, and licked my face from chin to forehead, forehead to chin. Reset, repeat, reset, repeat.

He was so clearly refreshed to have been in the water. I took this deep look in his eyes, as we stood face-to-face, in a cold pond on the side of the Mill River in North Clarendon.

After we were both out and resting on the grass, I turned to him and said, "OK buster, now we're going to do something that I have never done, ever before. You, brother-man, are gonna get washed from head to toe, and back again."

Twenty minutes later, we were in the granary and I was drawing a hot bath. He seemed to be saying, "Oh, THIS looks great!"

He got in easily and did not complain about having a number of passes with the shampoo bottle and the soft scrub brush. The dirty water rushed down the drain, As we cleared away the horrors of the long trip and the insecurities that come with abandonment, I imagined that the cascading water, cleaner by the minute was an erasure of frightful memories and an invitation into love and belonging.



Courtesy Bruce Bouchard

Bruce and Charley take some time to soak in the sun and catch up on some reading down at the local swimming hole in Clarendon.



By Marguerite Jill Dye

Mont Saint Michel, a steep rocky island surrounded by sand in Normandy is connected by a causeway and crowned with a monastery. It was such a splendid sight that the author stopped to paint it, preserving its memory and her time there.

## ← Meditation:

from page 33

Suddenly, we realized our rock was an island. The powerful tide was racing in. We had to swim several meters with backpacks to rocks that jutted out. People ran to pull us out. Others shouted from the fort above, but the sea's roar drowned them out. A kind young woman took us home and loaned us clothes while she helped us dry our clothes.

In the spring, we hitchhiked to Verdun to explore the famous battlefield where Sharon's ancestor fought in the 1916 battle, the longest of World War I. We searched fields and woods for battle markers then slept by hedges in our sleeping bags. It should have felt eerie, but it was peaceful and reminded me of Vermont.

One chilly weekend we headed for Rotterdam for steaming, thick, Dutch split pea soup, or "Erwtensoeep" with ham warmed us up like in winter in Vermont. French customs agents searched our back packs for drugs at the border due to Holland's big drug problem. (We preferred chocolate and honey.)

Gigi and I left for Germany to visit Hans at the University of Tübingen where he was studying sports medicine. A kind truck driver picked us up and drove us through the mountains overnight. At breakfast, he transferred us to a friend who delivered

I returned to Killington to take hikes, swim in lakes, and help at our lodge. We were still sleeping and eating in the basement although we had a new roof on our house ...The house and I had graduated to new levels and milestones. The time had come to figure out what was the next step in our evolution?

us to our destination. People were so very kind. Our optimism and innocence were our protection. People didn't want to let us down. (Hitch hiking isn't be advised now. Even then we were truly blessed.)

I assumed I'd return for my senior year, but I had enough credits to graduate in May. So Mom flew in and Hans drove from Tübingen to attend our all-campus Schiller College graduation. Schloß Heidelberg, Germany's castle, was in ruins but our graduation was held in a candlelit reception room. It was elegant and unforgettable.

Mom became a travel agent in 1969 when I left for Europe. She planned our summer travels in Scandinavia—Norway's deep fjords and midnight sun, reindeer in Lapland, Swedish smorgasbords, and boating through Finland's lakes and canals... Mom and I enjoyed the northern

grand tour.

We finished in Graz, Austria for a Sister City reunion, then I worked at an international summer children's camp, similar to Vermont camps with outdoor activities.

I returned to Killington to take hikes, swim in lakes, and help at our lodge. We were still sleeping and eating in the basement although we had a new roof on our house. I couldn't imagine the steps remaining before we could ever move upstairs. I had to learn patience and recognize that building a ski lodge was no easy enterprise. The house and I had graduated to new levels and milestones. The time had come to figure out what was the next step in our evolution?

Marguerite Jill Dye is an artist and writer who divides her time between Vermont and Florida. She loves to hear from her readers at [jillydystudio@aol.com](mailto:jillydystudio@aol.com).

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