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NEW SCULPTURE TO HONOR RUTLAND DOC

The 13th addition to the Rutland Sculpture Trail will honor Rutland doctor, Dr. Charles Caverly, and the hundreds of local medical professionals who responded to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Page 3



VERMONT STATE FAIR IS AUG. 13-17

The Rutland Fairgrounds will host the annual State Fair Tuesday-Saturday.

Page 20



Competition spiced up at the 11th annual Chili Cook-Off

The 11th annual Killington Chili Cook-Off was held at the K-1 Base Lodge Thursday, Aug. 8. Despite the rainy evening an estimated 150 people attended the event which helped raise money for the Recreation Scholarship Fund, according to Emily Hudson, director of the Dept. of Parks and Recreation.

By Victoria Gaither

Chili Cook-Off → 38



Primary election featured fewer competitive races

Staff report

Vermonters went to the polls on Tuesday, Aug. 13, to vote in a primary that features far fewer competitive statewide races than last cycle but many high-interest races lower down on the ballot. And for some offices, there isn't going to be much of a choice until the general election in November.

Only two statewide races featured competitive primaries, and neither the state Democratic or Republican party has fielded more than one candidate for U.S. Senate or U.S. House, both Dems are incumbents — Rep. Becca Balint and U.S. Senator Bernie Sanders.

But there were some hotly contested races on the local level, including a challenge to Rep. Emilie Kornheiser, D-Brattleboro, the chair of one of the House's two budget writing committees.

Incumbents are also facing primary
Primaries → 12

KMS plans to expand campus, hires development director

Killington Mountain School's (KMS) acquisition of Moguls Sports Pub July 31 will allow it to expand its campus footprint and enhancing the living and learning experience for its student-athletes, program participants, families, and the greater community, according to a news release Aug. 12.

"We have exceptional programs. Our expert faculty, coaches, and staff across all departments are delivering an extraordinary KMS experience every day," stated Claire Butler, KMS' Head of School. "We are on a mission to ensure that the quality of our facilities matches the high quality of those programs."

The additional 1.9 acres and accompanying

5,780 square foot building present a unique opportunity for the school to expand and modernize its physical space, as well as provide a site for further campus development.

Butler said, "We are excited to think bigger about the bounds of our campus. This extra acreage and building space have unlocked the ability to bolster the KMS experience with improved facilities, while leaving room for future campus expansion."

The school plans to begin using the new property soon and has engaged Vermont Integrated Architects (VIA) to assess various uses that align with the vision for KMS' campus.

Butler and KMS' Assistant Head of School, Chris Bianchi, expressed gratitude for Robert "Sal" Salmeri, former owner of Moguls Sports Pub.

"Helping the community has always been important to Sal. He wanted to see Moguls go to KMS because, as he said to me, 'the children are the future,'" recalled Bianchi.

Butler echoed Bianchi's sentiments stating, "We intend to honor the Moguls legacy by investing further in the property to ensure that Sal's wishes to support our student-athletes, their dreams, and this local center of excellence that we call Killington Mountain School, are maximized."

KMS → 5

30 dogs saved after house collapse

By Curt Peterson

Last Tuesday, Aug. 6, local fire departments and emergency personnel responded to the collapsed roof of a residence on Brooklyn Road in Mount Tabor. What they found was almost 30 dogs trapped in the house. One died in the incident.

The Rutland County Humane Society (RCHS) came to the rescue with a collection of kennels. Making two trips, they were able to get all the survivors to their shelter in Pittsford. According to RCHS Director Beth Saradonian, the dogs are medium-sized, un-neutered hound-mixes, and they may have been inbreeding within the group.

"We really do have our hands full with this lot," Saradonian
Dogs rescued → 2

Killington Road preps for paving, will be closed Aug. 19-25

Killington Road from Route 4 to Anthony Way will close again next week for paving. It will close starting at 7 a.m., Monday, Aug. 19 and reopen Monday, Aug. 26, paved with some construction work continuing on the sides, according to Killington Public Works Director Abbie Sherman.

"A lot of the project is starting to close up as we complete the sewer line and drainage line along the edges of the roadway," wrote Markowski Excavating, Inc. in a news release. "We plan to wrap up the sewer line on Monday [Aug. 12] and decommission the temporary sewer line we installed earlier on. Once

connected, expect more sand and gravel to be hauled on site to finalize the installation of the road materials."

This week crews will also embark on final swale clean up along the western side of the road with gravel hauled in as they prep for the paved walkway and begin installing the retaining wall below Killington Sports. Blocks have been delivered to the site throughout the last two weeks but "we are still limited on installing if fully as the last power pole at the bottom still needs to be moved (currently scheduled for the week of August 26)," Markowski noted.

Paving → 4

The Killington World Cup Foundation awards over \$330,000 in grants to 33 nonprofits

The Killington World Cup Foundation (KWCF) awarded 33 grants totaling \$330,000 to Northeast area nonprofits in eight states, with five of this year's grantees being new to KWCF. KWCF also donated \$170,000 to support athlete housing at the Killington Cup. These grants were made possible as a result of the 2023 Stifel Killington Cup. \

In the last four years KWCF has donated more than \$2 million in incremental resources to the winter sports infrastructure and youth snow sport programs in the region.

The Killington World Cup Foundation grants ranged from \$1,500 to \$25,000. All of the grant recipients are registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations or have a fiscal sponsor. Awarded projects included: supporting and expanding youth community snowsport programs in rural North Carolina, funding for the Nordic Rocks program enabling more youth to experience Nordic skiing, helping to grow the program for the Share Winter/Association of Africans living in Vermont, and providing trail expansion and equipment for Nordic, Adaptive, Alpine and Snowboarding youth organizations. Grants were awarded June 15, 2024 and funding begins Sept. 15, 2024.

"The KWCF is critical to not only the success of the Killington World Cup events each year, but it has changed the lives of so many young ski racers across the Northeast with

its goal of benefitting local and regional youth development programs. KWCF continues to provide opportunity and critical help to clubs to help them support the dreams of their athletes," stated Doug Lewis, a former World Cup alpine ski racer with the U.S. Ski Team and two-time Olympian in 1984 and 1988 from Vermont. He has been an announcer at the Killington Cup since its inception.

"We appreciate so much the Committee's support and recognition of YES's work in making snowsports an accessible and comfortable destination for Boston youth!" said Bryan Van Thorpe, executive director, Youth Enrichment Services (YES).

Grant applications were reviewed by a committee that included: Tiger Shaw, CEO Wasatch Peaks Ranch Club; Grace Macomber Bird, volunteer, Kelly Brush Foundation; Harry Ryan, Facey, Goss & McPhee, P.C.; John Casella, chairman and CEO of Casella Waste Management; Kenneth Graham, founder and chairman of Inverness Graham and U.S. Ski & Snowboard Board of Directors; and Phill Gross, managing director, Adage Capital Management and U.S. Ski & Snowboard Board of Directors.

A list of all of 2023's grant recipients as well as details for organizations interested in applying for future KWCF grants can be found at kwcfivesback.org.



Courtesy KWCF

The Mentor Connector announces Bobbi Jo Stellato as its new executive director

Following a national search, The Mentor Connector (TMC) announce Aug. 7 that Bobbi Jo Stellato has been selected to guide the Rutland organization into its third decade as its next executive director. Among the many attributes that distinguish Stellato as an exciting new leader for the organization is her commitment to youth advocacy and stellar track record of strengthening youth mentorship programs in Vermont and nationally, TMC stated in a news release.

Stellato has dedicated her entire career to the social sector and demonstrated unwavering commitment to TMC as program director over the last 11 years. She also has served as respected board member of the Vermont Coalition of Runaway and Homeless Youth, the Medical Reserve Corp Advisory Board, and she currently serves on Mentor Vermont's Program Leadership Council and DEI Committee.

"The Board of Directors is delighted that Bobbi Jo has accepted the executive director position," said Laurie Martin, board president. "Her steadfast commitment to the work, the youth we serve, and our community is unmatched. She passionately pursues opportunities to ensure that every young person in Rutland County has the resources and support needed to thrive."

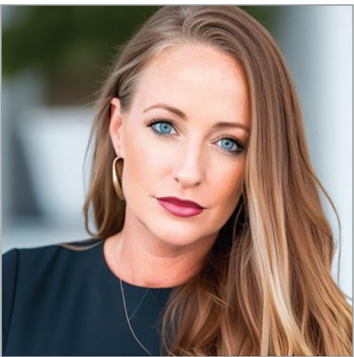
Established in 2004, The Mentor Connector guides more than 150 vulnerable children, youth, and young adults in western Vermont through life-changing friendships to build goals, character, and skills to be successful in life. Since its inception, TMC has mentored more than 1,000 young people, collaborated with hundreds of local businesses and organizations to support mentoring, and assisted 25 community organizations and schools in establishing mentoring programs.

During Stellato tenure at TMC, she initiated a period of remarkable programmatic growth and innovation. Under her leadership, TMC's mentor-match increased to an average of 4.1 years, which is five times the national average. She also spearheaded initiatives to provide career readiness programming and access clinical services for the youth and families we serve. Stellato also developed and launched the organization's Transitional Living Program for runaway and homeless youth providing housing and case management services to youth ages 16-21. It is the only program of its kind in the County serving youth ages 16-17.

"Bobbi Jo is an exemplary leader in community-building and youth advocacy in Vermont," shared Elizabeth Ewan, associate director of Mentor Vermont. "With a profound understanding of the challenges facing Vermont's youth, she approaches problem-solving with a methodical and thorough mindset, exploring innovative solutions that address root causes."

One of Stellato's standout achievements is the development of a region-wide Opioid Family Mentoring Program she implemented in partnership with Vermont Dept. of Health, the U.S. Dept. of Justice's Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, and local providers. This

The Mentor Connector → 4



Submitted

Bobbi Jo Stellato

← Dogs rescued: from page 1

told the Mountain Times. "Fortunately other area humane societies and local veterinarians are helping us deal with the situation."

While not in as bad condition as other large group rescues, some of the Mt. Tabor dogs do have fleas, are thin and dehydrated, she reported.

"We're working to get them hydrated, vaccinated, tested for Lyme disease and other tick-related ailments, neutered and in good condition before we even think about adopting them out," Saradanian said. "They were surren-

dered for adoption by their owners."

She said there would be no description or identification of the previous owners for privacy reasons.

The house appeared to have been collapsing bit by bit for some time, she added.

Handling this many rescued dogs would be a challenge for any non-profit organization. Saradanian said they have many volunteers, the vets and other humane societies are donating their services, and donors are being generous with funds and supplies.

"Once we get the dogs settled, we will probably be seeking a grant to help with funding this rescue," she said. "We want to thank our RCHS community for coming so quickly and generously to our aid."

Interested people can visit the RCHS website where they can find ways to donate supplies or money to help with this important project.

"There's a wish-list of our needs," Saradanian said, "and we have Venmo to make donating money very easy," she added.



Submitted

Rutland doctor to be honored with sculpture downtown

Dr. Charles Caverly was world’s first to identify polio epidemic

The 13th addition to the Rutland Sculpture Trail will honor a groundbreaking Rutland doctor, and the hundreds of local medical professionals who responded to the Covid-19 pandemic.

The sculpture, designed by and to be carved from Danby White marble by Italian sculptor Alessandro Lombardo, will feature Dr. Charles Caverly, a Rutland doctor who identified the first polio epidemic in the world, in Rutland County in 1894. Sporadic cases of paralysis and related symptoms began to appear around the world in the mid-1800s, but they were not typically connected, and a diagnosis remained elusive, until Caverly began to investigate and treat a series of sick patients.

Caverly, a young doctor in Rutland, was the first to make the connection among a slew of cases. Caverly couldn’t determine what caused the disease, but according to the American Association of Immunologists, his diligence laid the groundwork for substantial understanding of polio. He reached three important conclusions that affected the world’s medical community’s understanding of the illness, namely that polio had the potential to become an epidemic; most of the victims were children, not infants, thus the common name for the disease: “infantile paralysis” was wrong; and some victims experienced an extremely mild form of the illness and quickly recovered. These findings would help inform other researchers’ work to combat the disease, which could cause life-altering paralysis or kill infected patients.

Caverly had been in practice barely 10 years when he identified an outbreak of polio in the region in summer 1894. Polio and its permanent paralysis of young people had been described sporadically around the world for decades, and an occasional cluster of five or 10 cases had been noted by physicians elsewhere. But in that fateful summer, Caverly diagnosed polio in 132 patients in the Rutland area, exceeding by 10-fold the largest outbreak ever described anywhere else in the world.

He reported that 18 of the victims died, ranging in age from 4 months to 38 years. When his findings were published, it caused a sensation throughout the medical world. Rutland had perversely made the medical history books.

Caverly attended Brandon High School, Kimball Union Academy, and Dartmouth College before earning his medical degree from the University of Vermont. He settled in Rutland, established a thriving practice, was appointed the city’s first health officer, and in 1891 was appointed president of the Vermont State Board of Health.

When he was confronted in 1894 by those 132 polio cases, he was well-poised to recognize the scope of the epidemic and well-equipped to sound the alarm throughout the state and nation, and around the world. The bacterial source of communicable diseases had been established and was widely accepted by the medical community by that time, but no bacteria could be identified in any of the stricken patients and even in large families usually only a single person, almost always a child, was afflicted. The polio virus would not be identified until 1909.

Caverly continued his Rutland practice and followed closely the emerging science of infectious disease. Importantly, he recognized that people could contract a mild form of polio, what he called “abortive cases” and never develop paralysis, and further noted that patients who developed paralysis initially presented with headaches, fatigue, fever and nausea. He also became convinced that patients who had recovered from the paralysis stage of polio were immune when exposed to subsequent outbreaks.

Sculpture → 6

In that fateful summer [of 1894], Caverly diagnosed polio in 132 patients in the Rutland area, exceeding by 10-fold the largest outbreak ever described anywhere else in the world.

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Guest Speaker:

Jack Healey

Voice of Vermont State University- Castleton sports at Castletonsports.com as well as sports announcer on the Northeast Sports Network including the Vermont-New Hampshire Shrine Football Game on NSN.sports.com

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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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Where is the state road construction this week?

The Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTrans) published its weekly report of planned construction activities that will impact traffic on state highways and interstates throughout Vermont, Aug. 12-16 and ongoing.

I-91 Springfield-Hartland: Lane closures will be in place on I-91 southbound from north of Exit 9 to just south of Exit 7. A speed limit reduction to 55 mph is in effect through the work zone.

Hartford: Sunday through Thursday during nighttime hours, motorists should expect minimal delays with lane shifts and alternating one-way traffic on Route 5 between Bugbee Street and Route 14. Monday through Friday during daytime hours, motorists should expect significant delays on Route 5 from the Hartford/Hartland town line to the intersection of the on-ramps for I-91 south and I-89, Route 5 from the intersection of North Main Street and Hartford Avenue continuing just north of Devin Street, and Route 5 from the intersection of the on-ramps for I-91 south and I-89 to the intersection of North Main Street and Hartford Avenue. Flaggers and uniformed traffic officers will be present to assist motorists through the work zone.

Hubbardton: Slope stabilization work continues on Route 30 between Hortonia Road and Columbia Drive. The southbound lane remains closed to traffic, with all traffic routed through the northbound lane in a one-way alternating manner by either flaggers or a traffic signal. Motorists should be prepared to stop as they approach the work zone.

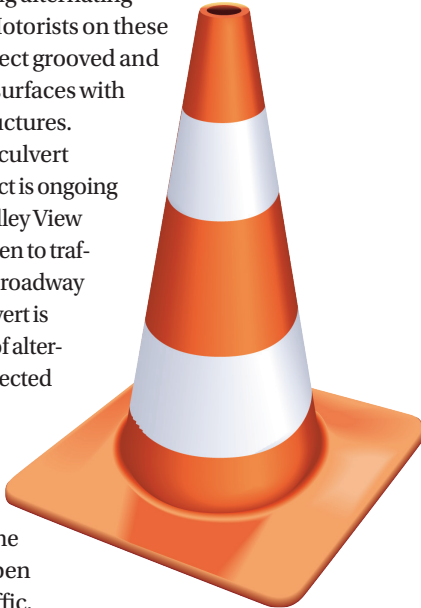
Ludlow: Pleasant Street at the junction of Pleasant Street and Mill Street is closed to all vehicle traffic to facilitate project construction. A detour is in place that routes vehicle traffic from Pleasant Street to Elm Street, Main Street, and Pleasant Street Extension.

Pittsford: Motorists are traveling over the temporary bridge. Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., traffic control will be present to allow for intermittent one-way alternating travel on Route 7.

Quechee: The eastbound travel lane of the Gorge Bridge will be closed through fall 2024. Signal permits alternating travel over the bridge. The trail at the bridge underpass is closed through fall 2025. The adjacent trail is open via a signed detour through the visitor center.

Rutland: A Class I highway resurfacing project will require nighttime lane closures Sunday night through Friday morning between 7 p.m. and 7 a.m. on Route 4 between Gleason Road and Route 7, Route 7 between Cold River Road and Lincoln Avenue, and Business Route 4 between Ripley Road and Route 7, with intermittent width reductions to intersecting side streets. Traffic control will be present allowing alternating one-way traffic. Motorists on these routes should expect grooved and uneven roadway surfaces with raised surface structures.

Woodstock: A culvert replacement project is ongoing on Route 4 near Valley View Road. Route 4 is open to traffic with a dip in the roadway where the new culvert is located. One lane of alternating traffic is expected Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. with flaggers. After work hours, the roadway will be open to two lanes of traffic.



Don Abrahamsen (left) smiles while pouring tea last week at his Loose Loona tea shop in downtown Rutland. By Victoria Gaither

Sit and sip, Loose Loona reflects on first year

September marks the one-year milestone of Loose Loona Gifts and Tea House, a unique establishment at 11 Center St. in downtown Rutland that offers a blend of gifts, teas, and food.

“We were busy from the time we opened right through the holidays,” said owner Don Abrahamsen. Abrahamsen is serious about his teas, often having customers try a new tea or a unique blend he has worked on in the tea house. It’s clear talking about tea, tasting tea, and teaching about different teas bring Abrahamsen joy. What also brings him joy is seeing his customers sit down and relax.

He was inspired by a European trip with his wife, Michelle Cordeiro, a co-owner. “There was always a cafe to sit and have a little something to eat, coffee or tea,” he said. “We wanted to recreate that here because every place you go is grab-and-go. You have to go, sit down, take a breath, and relax.”

The small plates menu offers cookies, flatbreads, paninis, salads, and 70 different types of teas. Abrahamsen sources his teas worldwide, and the blending occurs in Canada.

In the back of the tea house is a gift shop with unique and handcrafted gifts. Raven Crispino, who owns Kaleidoscope Art Supply just a few doors down from Loose Loona Gift, said, “They are a staple in the community. I am so happy they are there. The owners are incredible and so nice. They want to make every person happy that walks into the door.”

That sentiment of making everyone happy has its roots in Abrahamsen’s family DNA: “I grew up in a Scandinavian family, so whenever someone stopped by, there was always food and something to drink, depending upon the season.”

Crispino suggests that newbies and regulars try the strawberry dragon fruit tea, and if that doesn’t work, Abrahamsen is always looking for taste testers.



By Polly Mikula

Paving: from page 1

On Tuesday, Aug. 13, crews began milling at the intersection with Route 4 and the south end of the project near Anthony Way in prep for paving the following week. Starting Wednesday, Aug. 14, work will extend into Route 4. “We need to install a 3-foot culvert that crosses Route 4 and ties into an existing catch basin on just short of the Route 100 intersection. Multiple flaggers will be on site, so expect delays as we single lane the road. This will continue through Friday,” Markowski said.

The walway and Route 4 culvert crossing will be paved next week, which will cause intermitted traffic delays. Pike Industries has been contracted to do the paving.

The Mentor Connector: from page 2

holistic initiative equipped families with tools and knowledge to cultivate healthier living habits and interrupt the intergenerational pattern of substance misuse among young people. The program was recognized at the National Mentoring Summit in Washington D.C. and was estimated to have delivered more than \$2.4 million in public cost savings.

Stellato’s leadership extends beyond her organizational roles; she is a consultant for other nonprofits, including the National Mentoring Resource Center, a program of Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, providing valuable programmatic insights and guidance.

Beyond her professional pursuits, Stellato is deeply invested in community service, with volunteer commitments as impressive as her professional accomplishments. She has lent her time and talent to Rutland County Community Justice Center, Everybody Wins, Habitat for Humanity, BROCC, and Rutland Blooms.

“The Mentor Connector is honored to name Bobbi Jo Stellato as our new executive director,” stated Nikitta Caveney, a current board member who has served on the TMC Board for the last six years. “She has cemented her reputation as a trusted and effective leader, and her vision, passion, and unwavering dedication to empowering youth will undoubtedly propel our community to new heights.”

Pawlet Select Board member cited for assaulting farm worker, juvenile

By Theo Wells-Spackman/VTDigger

Richard Hulett, owner of Deer Flats Farm and a Select Board member in Pawlet, is facing two charges of simple assault. A Vermont State Police investigation concluded that Hulett assaulted a farm worker and the farm worker’s 15-year-old nephew in an altercation last month.

In a press release issued late Monday, Aug. 5, State Trooper Bruce Cleaver wrote that the incident occurred on July 3, after Hulett received information earlier that day alleging that a person on the property had been attempting to sell illegal narcotics.

“A confrontation ensued between Hulett and Ulver Perez-Roblero, 30, during which Hulett assaulted Perez-Roblero and a juvenile who had attempted to intervene,” Cleaver wrote. “Perez-Roblero and the juvenile sought treatment for minor injuries the following day at Rutland Regional Medical Center,” the release stated.

Hulett declined to discuss the incident, but his wife, Mandy Hulett, said that the charges were false. Perez-Roblero, she said, had attempted to sell her son cocaine the afternoon of July 3. Perez-Roblero has denied that allegation, saying in a written statement translated by Will Lambek, a leader of the farm worker advocacy group Migrant Justice, “I never tried to sell drugs to anyone.”

At a July 18 press conference organized by Migrant Justice and staged near the West Pawlet farm, Perez-Roblero recounted his experiences before a group that had gathered to support him.

He said Hulett knocked on his door after a misunderstood conversation outside the home.

“As soon as I answered, he started hitting me,” Perez-Roblero said in a translation provided by Lambek.

According to Perez-Roblero, his employer began choking him at one point. Perez-Roblero said his nephew tried to intervene but was also struck and injured by Hulett.

Another family member expressed concern for the pair, saying that she had witnessed the incident. The family plans to stay put for now, its members said, explaining that they have nowhere else to go.

Perez-Roblero, who is from Mexico, said he came to the U.S. seven years ago and has moved from farm to farm in Vermont.

After this recent altercation, and having alerted both Migrant Justice and local authorities, Perez-Roblero said he expects to be fired.

Mandy Hulett denied all allegations against her hus-



band in a written statement Aug. 6, calling them “completely false and unfounded.” This case, she said, was an example of Migrant Justice “taking advantage of migrant workers to push their agenda” and encouraging them to “fabricate a story.”

Migrant Justice staff characterized the incident as part of a broader problem, revealing a widespread pattern of toxic power dynamics on Vermont dairy farms. “This is not an isolated incident,” said Marita Canedo, who works for Migrant Justice.

The organization also highlighted its Milk with Dignity program, which holds participating farms to a code of conduct in the treatment of their workers. Milk vendors too, said Canedo, “are responsible for the problems in their supply chain.”

Hulett is scheduled to be arraigned in Rutland Superior Court criminal division on the two counts of simple assault, a misdemeanor, on Sept. 23.

By Theo Wells-Spackman/VTDigger

Above: Farm workers and Migrant Justice staff and supporters gathered on Deer Flats Farm, July 18. Below: Ulver Perez-Roblero stands outside his home on Deer Flats Farm.

← **KMS:**
from page 1

Fundraising

KMS also continues its partnership with CCS Fundraising as they design together the path to achieving the school’s vision. The school’s new Director of Development Robin Debiase, will also be integral in driving this exciting work alongside Butler and the KMS Board.

Debiase is no stranger to KMS or Killington, having taught a very successful business, marketing and management course at the school this past year and skiing at the resort for decades. She and her husband are active members of the Killington Ski Club and live in town with their daughter who is a U10 Alpine athlete in our Development Program.

Beyond her connection to the Killington community, her professional experiences are extensive and centered around global human resources; communication; sales and marketing; organizational development and strategy; and corporate foundation work. She has served in senior leader and executive roles within a number of large companies including Weight Watchers, Delta Galil Industries, Maidenform Brands, Inc. (HanesBrands, Inc.), and Duane Reade by Walgreens. Most notably, she served as president of the Maidenform Charitable Foundation and was integral in the fundraising behind the Duane Reade Charitable Foundation, each raising a large amount of money for mission aligned causes such as women’s breast cancer research and the American Diabetes Association. Robin holds a masters in business administration from Johns Hopkins University.



Courtesy KMS

The Killington Mountain School campus is expanding; Robin Debiase hired to raise funds.



Submitted
Okemo Valley TV awarded recognition to key helpers. Pictured (l-r): Claire McKey Berkman, Amy McMullen, Rev. Joseph Arnold, Noah Schmidt, George Thomson, and Will Simmoneau.

Okemo Valley TV board members, volunteers recognized for service

Okemo Valley TV has recognized volunteers, including Board members and community producers, who have made important contributions to the non profit community media organization. At its annual meeting on June

27, two outgoing board members were recognized for their longevity of service. First, George Thomson (19 years), was presented with the Community Impact Award, for his longtime dedication to the organi-

zation as well as contributions to the wider community. Second, outgoing board member Noah Schmidt (8 years) was recognized for his contributions, including serving as board president for the past four.

The board also thanked another outgoing member, Zachary McNaughton for his volunteer service. Newt Rose was re-elected to another term on the Board, while Sammy Blanchette and Stefan

Beaumont were newly-elected. Okemo Valley TV has also recognized the community members and volunteers who have made noteworthy contributions in the production of programming over
Awardees → 12

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← Sculpture: from page 3

Polio epidemics continued to plague Vermont in the ensuing decades. Rutland had a smaller outbreak in 1910 (24 cases over three years) and Montpelier had an even bigger outbreak in 1917. Still president of the Vermont State Board of Health and now armed with new knowledge about the disease's origins and transmissibility, Caverly instituted home quarantines and banned large public gatherings to control it.

His interest in public health ultimately led him to study the other scourge of that era, tuberculosis. He advocated for a sanatorium for TB patients, and under his direction, the Vermont Sanatorium was established in 1907 in Pittsford, based on a determination that the town had the highest daily incidence of sunlight in the state. The sanatorium operated into the 1960s, when medical treatment for tuberculosis allowed its closure.

The great irony of Caverly's life is that he was the first in the world to recognize a polio epidemic, but he succumbed to another epidemic that hit Rutland, the influenza pandemic in 1918. He was just 62.

Under his direction, the Vermont Sanatorium was established in 1907 in Pittsford, based on a determination that the town had the highest daily incidence of sunlight in the state.

The parallels between Caverly's struggle to diagnose, treat and prevent polio epidemics more than 100 years ago and the world's struggle with the Covid-19 pandemic today are many: the initial uncertainty and fear, the constant evolution of science, the spread of disease by a mobile society, the public's widespread but not universal embrace of quarantines, the banning of public gatherings and social distancing, the search for a vaccine (realized finally for polio with the Salk vaccine of the 1950s) and the recognition that immunity may be conferred on those who survive. As a result, the sculpture will be dedicated to Rutland Regional Medical Center employees and other regional medical personnel who lead Rutland County through the early days and months of the Covid pandemic.

The Caverly sculpture, planned for completion and installation this fall, is being funded through generous donations from the Rutland Health Foundation, Dave and Lyn Wolk, Jane and Steve Costello, Claudio and Brenda Fort, Dr. Mel and Lynn Boynton, Rutland Regional Medical Center senior medical staff, Mountain Cider Company, and Rutland City Rotary.

"Dr. Caverly made an incredible contribution to the world in first identifying a polio epidemic, which had worldwide impacts," said Dr. Mel Boynton. "This statue will honor not only Dr. Caverly, but also all of Vermont's health professionals who worked day and night to treat patients during the Covid-19 epidemic."

"Dr. Caverly was an inspiration to my Dad and his own public health volunteerism throughout his career," Dave Wolk said. "One of the highlights of my childhood was being lucky enough to accompany him once a month on a Sunday where he took care of 46 children all at once, and all as a volunteer. Sometimes those were long days, but heartwarming ones. It's what Dr. Caverly would have done."

The Rutland Sculpture Trail is a collaboration of the Carving Studio and Sculpture Center, Vermont Quarries, Green Mountain Power, and MKF Properties. The Rutland Sculpture Trail was started in 2017 to raise awareness of and pride in local and regional history, beautify downtown, and draw local residents and tourists to Rutland's historic downtown. It is funded by private donations, with each piece of art donated as a gift to the City of Rutland.

Killington Select Board, manager disagree on debt refinancing

By Curt Peterson

During Killington Town Manager Michael Ramsey's last regular Select Board meeting Monday night, Aug. 12, two contentious topics arose: financing debt and personnel policies.

Selectman Jim Haff accused Ramsey of irresponsible financial planning, particularly around payment obligations — including an \$8.4 million Bond Anticipation Note (BAN) due Aug. 21, plus approx. \$11.6 million in current work, for a total of \$20 million for water system construction by Casella Construction.

Haff repeatedly asked Ramsey what his plans had been for satisfying these obligations before his departure. Ramsey defended his actions and said he'd been working out a plan, up to the point when Haff took over.

A time lag between the town's repayment obligations and reimbursement by the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (SRF) is what

necessitates bridge lending.

Ramsey had sought funds to satisfy the Aug. 21 note by exercising the town's credit line at their new bank, Community Bank N.A., in Rutland. (He had recently moved the town's accounts to Community Bank, when Mascoma Bank advised them they had reached their limit for municipal lending.) Ramsey, however, believing Community Bank had refused to cover the \$8.4 million rollover, had re-engaged Mascoma Bank, who he said agreed to lend the town enough to resolve the BAN situation.

Selectman Rob Hecker pointed out that Mascoma would probably want the town to return their accounts if they did provide a loan.

However, Haff, Town Clerk/Treasurer Lucrecia Wonsor, Finance Director Mary Ellen Keenan-Haff and Public Works director Abbie Sherman had already met with Community

Bank separately and Keenan-Haff reported that Community Bank is willing to provide the bridge financing and that necessary paper-work was already in progress.

"We are fine, at least for the short-term," Keenan-Haff said.

More generally, Wonsor expressed concern to the board about use of the town's "general fund" to pay bills related to the development of Killington's new municipal water and road projects, much of which will be financed through Tax Increment Financing (TIF).

Ramsey defended the action, noting that TIF financing funds are deposited in the general fund, so should be available.

Wonsor disagreed. "Any money paid out of the general fund [for the TIF project] should be returned, and funds should be borrowed for these expenses instead."

After much back and forth, Selectman Bob Hecker said, "Let's just say all concerns are duly noted, identify the problem and find a solution, so we can go on to the next topic on the agenda."

The personnel policy discussion was equally circuitous, but a bit less contentious. About a dozen town employees showed up at the Public Safety Building to express concern to the board about possibly losing vacation time.

After some discussion about renewed vacation time changing from anniversary dates to fiscal year and amounts of allowable carry-over, Selectman Hecker (who had previously worked at ADP payroll services for 25 years) cut through the noise and proposed a prorated structure that seemed to strike a fair balance. The plan would put everyone on the same schedule by July 2025.

Wainwright Mill Dam removal to begin this week in Salisbury

Removal of the derelict Wainwright Mill Dam (also known as Halnon Pond Dam) on Tributary #10 in Salisbury (south side of Lake Dunmore Road) will begin this week, according to a news release from the Vermont Natural Resources Council Aug. 12.

The dam is in poor condition and no longer functional for its original purposes of powering a sawmill (constructed in 1805) and later as an ice pond.

The concrete structure is approximately 56 feet long, 7 feet tall, and 2 feet wide.



Courtesy Vermont Natural Resources Council

The Wainwright Mill Dam in Salisbury will be removed.

The project work includes construction of site access and staging, implementation of flow bypass and erosion control measures, removal of the concrete dam, removal of impounded sediment behind the dam, restoration of the stream channel and floodplain, and habitat features (wood additions) throughout approximately 770 linear feet of stream channel and over 1.6 acres of floodplain.

Following restoration work within, application of native seed and re-vegetation for erosion control and stability of soils over the long term is planned.

The project is designed to reconnect the headwaters of Tributary #10 with the Otter Creek and ultimately Lake Champlain.

The goals of the dam removal are threefold:

- 1) To restore aquatic organism passage at the dam location and through adjacent stream reaches for native brook trout and other cold-water stream species
- 2) To restore natural stream process and function including sediment transport for overall improved water quality
- 3) Reduce water surface elevations in the project vicinity during storm events by reconnecting the river to its floodplain and restoring the wetland features allowing these areas to attenuate water during flood events

"This tributary has failed water quality standards for many years, and the dam is contributing to this problem. We are very excited to reconnect this stream and restore natural function" said Karina Dailey, project manager with VNRC.

"We are proud to be part of this restoration project and look forward to the tributary naturalizing once the barrier and unnatural sediment deposits have been replaced with a free-flowing river, wood, and vegetation" said Jessica Louisos, PE, project engineer with SLR Consulting.

The Vermont Natural Resource Council (VNRC) is managing the project in collaboration with the landowner. The engineering firm responsible for the design is SLR Consulting of Waterbury, and the construction firm completing the removal is Markowski Excavating of Florence.



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Amid a tumultuous period in health care, Vermont hospitals request annual revenue and rate increases

By Peter D'Auria/VTDigger

Vermont hospitals are seeking the Green Mountain Care Board's permission to increase commercial insurance charges and their revenue from patients, an annual process that comes amid widespread concern over hospitals' financial health.

Each year, hospitals request increases for the next fiscal year in their net patient revenue — revenue brought in by caring for patients — and in how much they can bill commercial insurance companies for that care. The Green Mountain Care Board, a key health care regulator, can sign off on those requests, or allow smaller increases.

The board sets non-binding benchmarks to signal their goals for hospital budgets. For patient revenue, the benchmark — 3.5% growth — is based on state health care reform goals. The commercial insurance price benchmark — 3.4% growth — is based on medical inflation indices, according to Green Mountain

Some Vermont hospitals — [including]...Rutland Regional Medical Center — actually brought in more revenue in fiscal year 2023 than the care board had allowed.

Care Board chair Owen Foster.

"As we are all deeply familiar, our hospitals have been under great pressure over the last few years, and intensely understand the pressures facing Vermonters and the health care delivery systems," Vermont Association of Hospitals and Health Systems president and CEO Mike Del Trecco said at a Green Mountain Care Board hearing Wednesday, Aug. 7.

Most hospitals in the state are operating in the red, and many Vermonters are struggling to access the care they need. Wait times for procedures are long, medical staff are in short supply, and, because of a lack of long-term care facilities, hospitals are often left caring for patients that no longer need to be there but have nowhere else to go — among a litany of other problems.

Mike Fisher, Vermont's chief health care advocate, told board members last Wednesday that Vermont is facing "a perfect storm" in the realm of health care.

"We think it's important to remain focused on what you can do to really address, as I said, the storm in front of us," he said. "And that is hospital prices and hospital costs."

This year, requests varied widely among the 14 hospitals, but most exceed the benchmarks set by the board.

On the low end of the range, Springfield

Hospital and Windsor's Mt. Ascutney Hospital and Health Center are seeking to increase their commercial insurance charges by only 2.2%, according to data compiled by the Green Mountain Care Board.

Morrisville's Copley Hospital, meanwhile, is seeking to increase its commercial insurance charges by 10.5%.

"Copley's biggest challenge in its rate request, is our inability to charge a fair and reasonable price for basic services provided to Vermonters," the hospital said in a filing with the Green Mountain Care Board. "Our prices have not kept up with the hospital marketplace in Vermont, and we are spending down our reserves and chipping away at our financial viability at a concerning rate."

Copley also requested an unusual mid-year rate increase from the Green Mountain Care Board earlier this year, which the board granted after reducing its size.

Requests to increase patient revenue — which rises when hospitals treat more patients, offer new or different services, or insurers pay more — were similarly varied.

Newport's North Country Hospital, for example, is requesting just a 1.6% increase in patient revenue. Springfield and Grace

Cottage Hospital, in Townshend, meanwhile, are requesting increases of 12% in patient revenue.

In fiscal year 2025, Springfield Hospital "will focus on continuing to improve our financial stabilization and rebuild volume," the hospital, which emerged from bankruptcy proceedings several years ago, said in a filing with the care board. "We will focus on identified core services and work to recapture utilization that is currently leaving our service area and, in many cases, leaving Vermont with less convenience for patients and higher cost."

Some Vermont hospitals — the University of Vermont Medical Center, Porter Medical

"What will this do to rates, and can people afford it, and how does this align with the state's goals of affordable health care?" asked Foster.

Center, Northeastern Vermont Regional Hospital and Rutland Regional Medical Center — actually brought in more revenue in fiscal year 2023 than the care board had allowed.

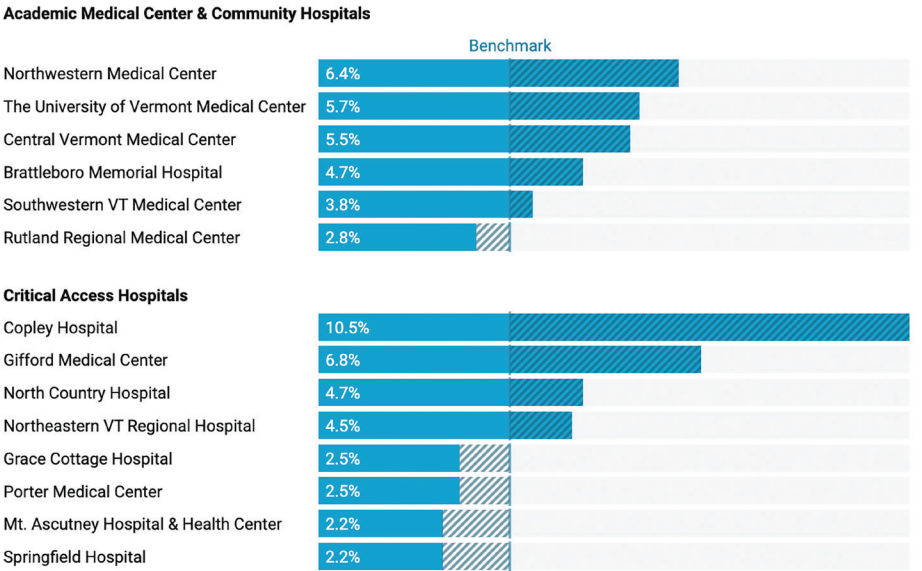
Those overages will be factored into the board's deliberations as it decides how to handle hospitals' requests for more revenue and higher costs, Foster, the board chair, said in an interview.

The care board's decisions must take into account the interconnectedness of

Most hospital requests for 2025 exceed Green Mountain Care Board benchmarks

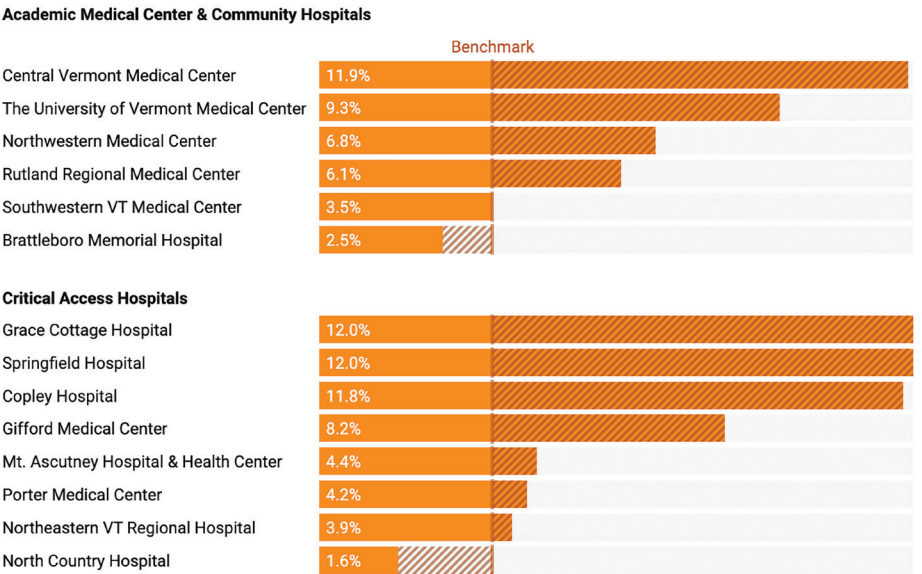
Each year, Vermont hospitals submit to the Green Mountain Care Board proposed increases in commercial insurance prices and revenue from treating patients for the next fiscal year. The board may approve the requests in whole or part.

Proposed commercial insurance rate increases for FY2025:



By Erin Petenko, VTDigger
Chart shows the proposed commercial insurance rate increases for fiscal year 2025.

Proposed net patient revenue increases for FY2025:



By Erin Petenko, VTDigger
Chart shows the proposed net patient revenue increases for fiscal year 2025.

Vermont's health care system, Foster said. Increases in hospital revenue and rates fall on the shoulders of commercial insurance companies, primarily Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Vermont, which covers roughly a third of the state.

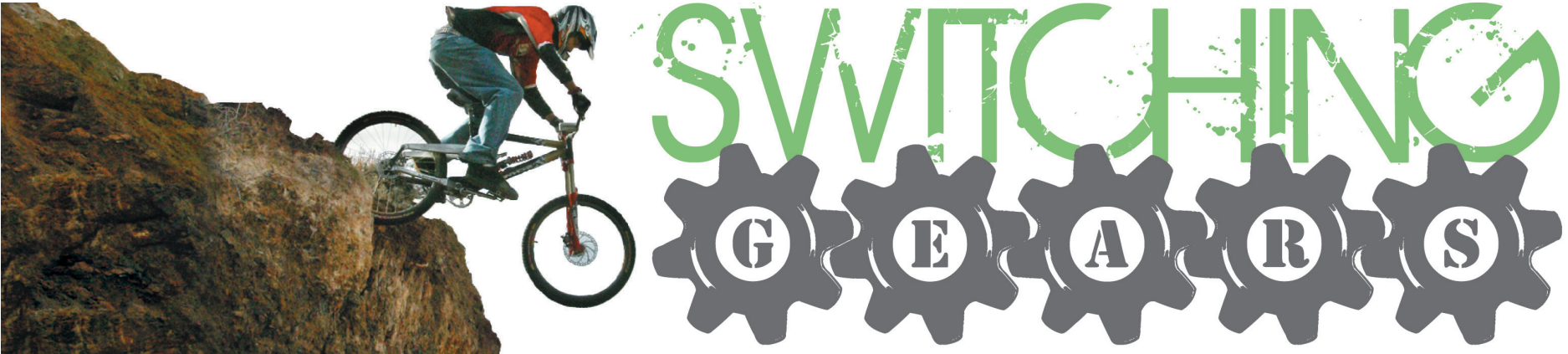
And when insurers pay hospitals more, they then need to increase premium prices to cover their own costs. Blue Cross Blue Shield, where administrators say reserves are reaching dangerously low levels, is currently seeking to do exactly that.

Those increases then fall on Vermont businesses and individuals, who pay those

premiums.

All in all, this year's requests were broadly in line with requests in previous years, Foster said. Care board members will consider the requests and issue decisions for each hospital before October 1.

"Now we've got to make decisions, and we look to a number of factors," Foster said. "One is, what's the hospital's position financially? Like, how are they doing? Another is the affordability side — like, what will this do to rates, and can people afford it, and how does this align with the state's goals of affordable health care?"



Killington's new skills park at Snowshed delights beginner riders

Killington Resort recently made three new tracks with banked turns and small bridge features on an easy grade just up from Snowshed Lodge. The easiest trails on the mountain all finish there rewarding new riders with a boost of confidence to end their ride.

The new park is so fun, that many choose to lap it rather than commit to a whole new run up the lift. And that's exactly what it seems designed for. With varied radius turns and bridge obstacles, riders are challenged by the three courses' variety.



By Polly Mikula
Esme Mikula, 6, practices on one of three different tracks just above Snowshed Lodge.



By Victoria Gaither

The secret ingredient to trail maintenance: volunteers!

Pine Hill Park's Carriage Trail got its annual haircut last week thanks to dedicated volunteers! Additionally, the park got two more bench installed: one at Rocky Pond, the other one at Lunch Rocks on Broken Handlebar. In addition to volunteers, Rutland Rec aided with backhoe work to create a level site. Volunteers are the secret ingredient in maintaining trails to allow them to remain open and well-preserved throughout the season. Volunteers also have done additional work at Pine Hill Park to make trails more resilient to weather by improving rolling grade dips and grade reversals drainage.



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GUEST EDITORIAL

Vt. Republicans face a choice

By David Moats

Editor's note: David Moats, an author and journalist who lives in Salisbury, is a regular columnist for VTDigger. He is editorial page editor emeritus of the Rutland Herald, where he won the 2001 Pulitzer Prize for a series of editorials on Vermont's civil union law.

Vermont Republicans are in a bind.

One wing of the Republican Party has remained loyal to former President Donald Trump. Vermont delegates to the Republican National Convention dutifully joined national Republicans in giving him another chance at the presidency.

Gov. Phil Scott — never a Trump fan — has refused to follow what may be the party's march toward an electoral cliff. Nobody knows what will happen in November, but during this unusual election year, one senses a historic pivot, and if Republicans experience electoral disaster, it may be the non-Trumpian remnant that survives to rebuild their party.

I arrived in Vermont in the 1970s, too late to get to know two of the most prominent Republicans of the era. Deane Davis was governor from 1969 to 1973, and he had died by the time I got into journalism here. But he was a beloved figure, a lawyer, judge and insurance executive. As governor, he helped pass a sales tax to balance the state's budget, and he was a champion of Act 250, the state's landmark land-use law.

The other beloved Republican whom I never met was George Aiken, governor and longtime U.S. senator. Aiken was from the liberal wing of the Vermont Republican Party, which meant he was willing to take on the power companies when he was governor. And as an elder statesman in the Senate, he was among those who advised President Richard Nixon that the United States ought to declare victory in Vietnam and get out. He was also among those counseling Nixon to resign after Watergate had wrecked his presidency.

It is impossible to imagine either of these revered figures supporting the Republican Party of Donald Trump. They were not nasty. They did not lie. They knew what honor meant.

That goes for other Republicans whom I have had the privilege to get to know, including Robert Stafford, Richard Snelling, James Jeffords and Jim Douglas. Today's governor, Phil Scott, is of this lineage. They would not call their opponents nasty, crazy and stupid. They would not heave falsehoods onto the political stage.

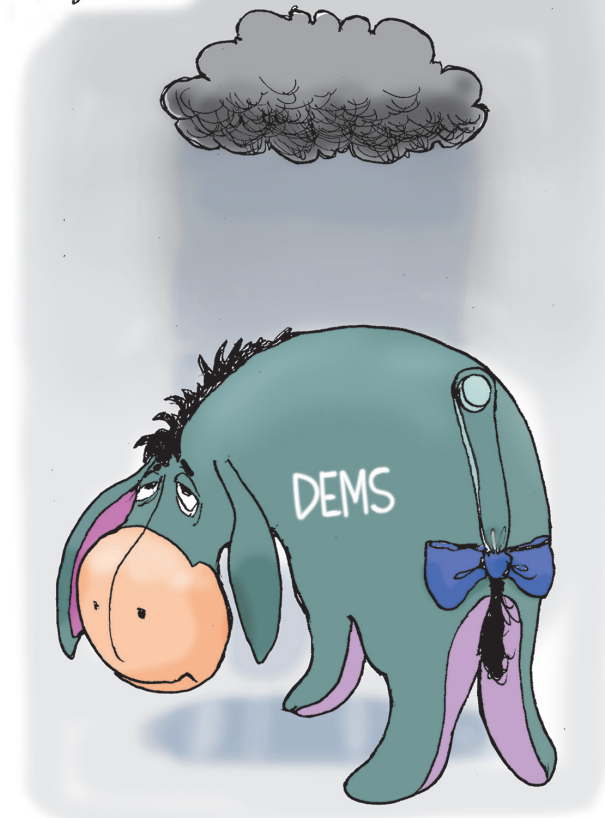
Call it the moderate wing of the Republican Party. It has always had to battle elements that, going back to the World War II era, cozied up to Nazis and then fomented paranoia about Communists. That was a different lineage, which included Sen. Joe McCarthy, the red-baiting progenitor of McCarthyism; the virulent anti-civil-rights conservatives among Democrats who migrated to the Republican Party; and Barry Goldwater, right-wing candidate for president in 1964, who laid the groundwork for the presidency of Ronald Reagan.

In more recent decades, Pat Buchanan and Newt Gingrich pioneered a no-holds-barred conservative politics that led to the Tea Party rebellion of 2010, and the present anti-government Republicans who have immobilized the U.S. House.

Republican choice → 12

Moderate
Republicans have
tried to hold back
the encroaching
tide of nihilistic,
anti-government
conservatism.

Bill Day
caglecartoons.com
Apologies to Disney



LETTERS

Why Kennedy in '24? Physics

Dear Editor,

A third party always challenges the dual-mode of the scales, up and down. The dual-mode ("two party system") has dominated America since John Adams was president. Picture a fist fight. Dramatic, sure. Useful? To vested interests, very. You get the drama. Vested interests pocket the dharma: the money and influence. The power.

The same John Adams was a principal American political system architect, and the "two party" thing wasn't part of it. In fact, he bent Franklin's arm so that we'd have a senate, which effectively serves as a third body (senate, congress, and executive) to help defeat the very statics that the "two party system" causes (after the drama — read Thomas Carlyle). It is either one of the two scales weighing the other down (Democrats or Republicans). A third party turns scales into merry-go-rounds, such that one scale end doesn't cause the other to dangle in the air, deadlocked (where the one on the ground laughs,

"Ha! Ha! Ha!"). You'll get three scales as they bounce around. They never touch the ground.

Translated to politics, that means all three dancers must communicate, since none can dominate. Talk, compromise, or die — politically. To stifle compromise even more, politicians invented filibusters to introduce partisan statics to hold the other side hostage, short term.

Let's see how long the Democrats or Republicans can hold their breaths for four years if Kennedy is elected.

Despite Adams' political hardware, politicians have found ways to turn two legislative houses and a president's office into a scale. It is strictly the software on the hardware creating this monstrous scalar mess. There is nothing structural, constitutionally, to it, at all. It causes deadlock. This is terrific for vested interests; bad for you.

A third party president — not being a slave to those
Kennedy '24 → 13



Happy Eeyore by Bill Day, FloridaPolitics

Protect Vermont coyotes

Dear Editor,

On May 11, 2022, Governor Scott signed into law Bill H.411, which prohibits killing wildlife without intention to use or dispose of it properly—known as wanton waste. A 2017 survey by the University of Vermont's Center for Rural Studies showed that 70.5% of Vermonters oppose wanton waste. The passing of H.411 ignited a glimmer of hope in many Vermonters, hope that the needless and wasteful killing and dumping of wildlife would diminish. For many species, this was true. Except for one.

H.411 protects a large portion of Vermont's mammals, but the coyote—Vermont's most unfairly detested predator—was denied the same protections. While coyotes trapped during the legal trapping season are covered, those killed during the 365-day open season are exempt. The only requirement is that their bodies must be retrieved by the hunter, with no use required.

Year-round hunting of coyotes with no limit on

numbers invites wanton waste. On Feb. 22, 2024, a good Samaritan discovered a hunter's carcass dumping ground at Tinmouth Channel Wildlife Management Area. The pile of dead wildlife included multiple species, and most notably over 20 coyotes. Killed for no reason other than the crime of existing, and left to rot like trash in a mass grave in the woods—on the grounds of a state wildlife management area, no less.

The senseless killing and illegal dumping of coyotes since the passage of H.411 is not an isolated incident. In November 2023, a shot coyote was discarded at a carcass dumpsite in Shaftsbury. In April 2024, a game warden reported five shot coyote carcasses dumped on the side of the road in Elmore. In May 2024, a coyote hunting for mice was shot and left in a field at Dead Creek Wildlife Area in Addison. Vermonters rarely ever hear about these crimes against wildlife. This information was uncovered

Coyotes → 13

CAPITOL QUOTES

Iran warned that Iran could attack Israel if talks with Hamas for a ceasefire in Gaza fail. Iran and its allies, including Hezbollah, could also launch a direct attack on the Jewish State if they believe Netanyahu's government is dragging out negotiations with the Palestinian terrorist group.

"We do share the assessment made by our Israeli counterparts that something could happen, as soon as this week by Iran and its proxies,"

said Adviser **John Kirby** according to Fox News.

"We hope our response will be timed and executed in a way that does not harm a potential ceasefire,"

Iran's mission to the U.N. said on Friday in a statement according to Reuters.

"Such demands lack political logic, are entirely contrary to the principles and rules of international law, and represent an excessive request,"

Iran's foreign ministry spokesperson, **Nasser Kanani**, said according to The Guardian.

"Something could happen as soon as this week by Iran and its proxies... That is a US assessment as well as an Israel assessment... If something does happen this week, the timing of it could certainly well have an impact on these talks we want to do on Thursday,"

White House spokesperson **John Kirby** told reporters on Monday according to The Times of Israel.

COMMENTARY

Here we go again

By Allen Gilbert

Editor's note: Allen Gilbert of Worcester, a former journalist, teacher and ACLU-VT executive director. He chaired his school board in Worcester when it joined the education funding lawsuit that resulted in the Brigham v. State decision by the Vermont Supreme Court.

Don Keelan's commentary printed in this publication July 31 — "The 'welcome to Vermont' tax" — had a number of interesting insights and ideas concerning the state's tax situation. He focused mainly on the recent increase in the state's property transfer tax, especially as it affects nonresidents. He thinks it's "unacceptable" for "the Legislature to place a target on their [nonresidents'] backs and go after them for more and more taxation."

Looking for alternatives, Keelan says that the education tax system in effect "some 50 years ago," the "foundation formula," was "able to fund certain districts needing financial help and take care of the state's infrastructure." Why not return to that system?

The problem with returning to the antiquated "foundation formula" (which was in effect until 1997) is that it would be illegal. The flawed "foundation" system is what led to the Brigham school funding lawsuit,

filed in 1995, on the issue of equity. Two years later, in a unanimous decision, the Vermont Supreme Court said the provision of public education to children is a state responsibility and that the state's "common benefits" clause (Article 7 of the Vermont Constitution) requires that it be provided on an equal basis.

In the opinion, the justices gave an

The problem with returning to the antiquated "foundation formula" (which was in effect until 1997) is that it would be illegal.

example of the tax inequity that resulted because of the "foundation formula." It noted two towns that had nearly identical spending per pupil, Stannard and Sherburne (the latter renamed "Killington" in 1999). A Stannard family in a house valued at \$85,000 (remember, this was 1995) paid \$2,040 in property taxes. A Sherburne family in a house of equal value paid \$247.

"The state has not provided a persuasive rationale for the undisputed inequities in the current education funding system," the

Edu funding → 13

Predicting the unpredictable: budgeting for flooding and climate change

By Katrina Menard

Editor's note: Katrina Menard is state policy fellow at Public Assets Institute, a non-partisan, non-profit, people-centered, data-first organization based in Montpelier. She lives in Strafford.

As Vermont recovers from yet another round of flooding and braces for what's left of Tropical Storm Debby, it may come as no surprise that Vermont is ranked seventh in the nation for the most federal disaster declarations due to extreme weather since 2011.

And some parts are harder hit than others: Washington County is tied for second as the most disaster-prone county in the country, while Lamoille, Chittenden, Orange, Orleans and Essex are all tied for fourth.

In addition to the very real emotional toll, these disasters cost the state money. Damage estimates from last summer's flooding exceed \$600 million—and over \$90 million of that fell on state and local government. In other words: disasters are expensive, and the state needs to start accounting for unanticipated costs from flooding and other disasters.

While the hope is that the federal government continues to pick up most of the tab, the current funding structure of federal programs and increasingly localized flooding can leave communities

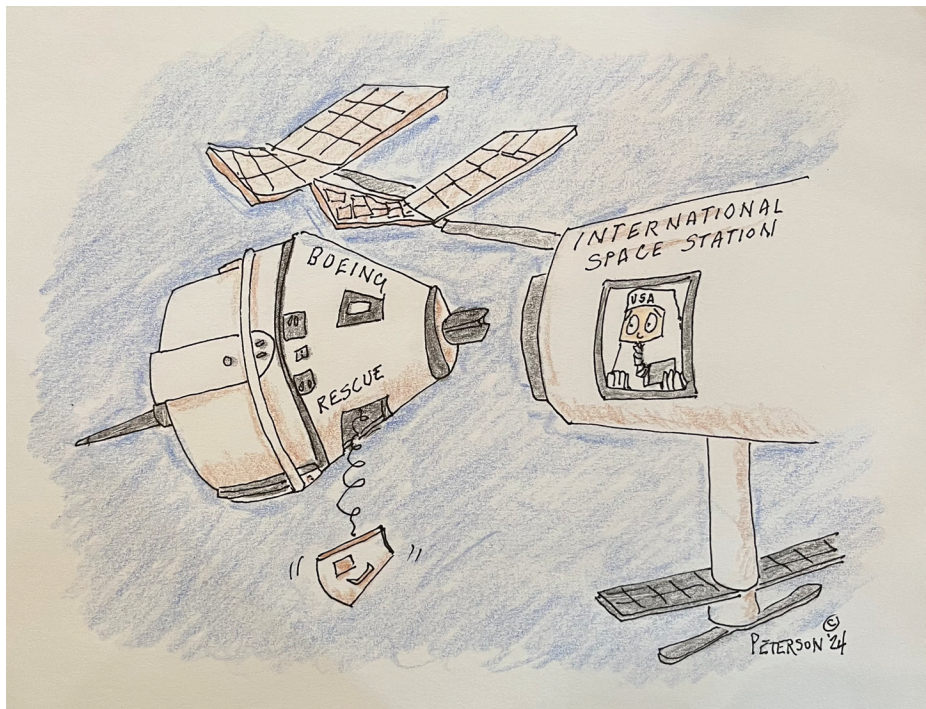
stranded. The Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Public Assistance program—which helps to rebuild public infrastructure—is one of the largest emergency relief programs, but these dollars are not guaranteed. To access this money, the state and each recovering county must hit a per-capita damage threshold set by FEMA. If the county does not hit the threshold, it cannot—except in limited circumstances—access FEMA dollars for disaster recovery. Likewise, if a county hits the threshold but the state does not, FEMA can choose not to provide federal recovery dollars.

Even with access to public assistance dollars, there are still costs that must be carried by state or local governments. Larger projects are funded on a reimbursement basis, so the state or town must have funding on hand to receive federal dollars later. FEMA typically covers 75% of the funding for a project, leaving state and local funding to pick up a quarter of the tab, which can add up quickly.

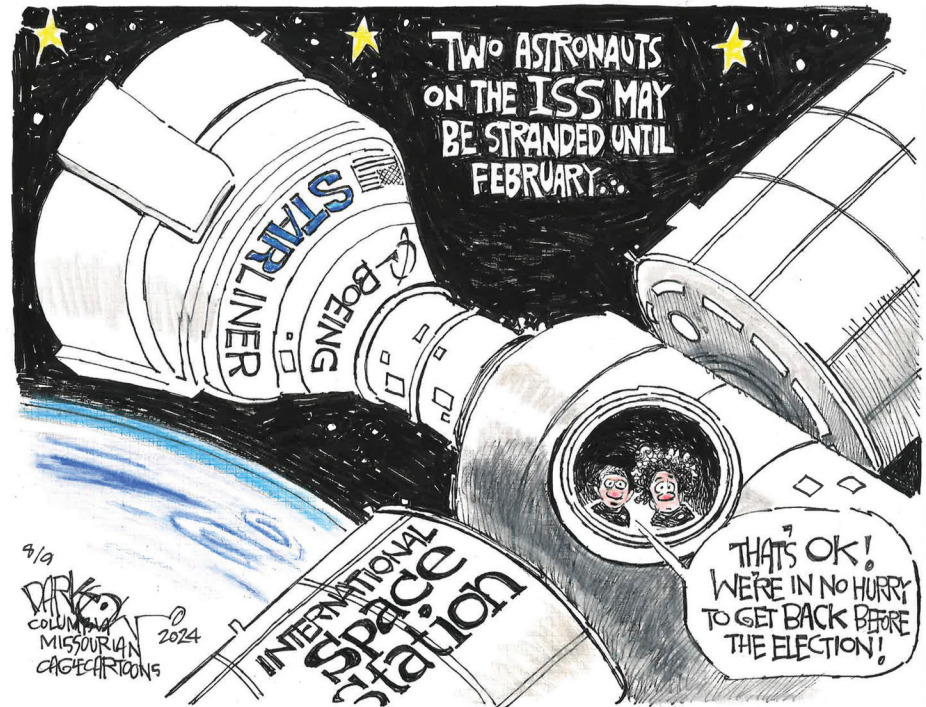
Other resources can be brought to bear in the recovery—insurance payouts, private donations, and property owners' pockets. But these are not dependable sources of relief available to all flood victims. For enrolled renters and homeowners, flood

Flooding → 13

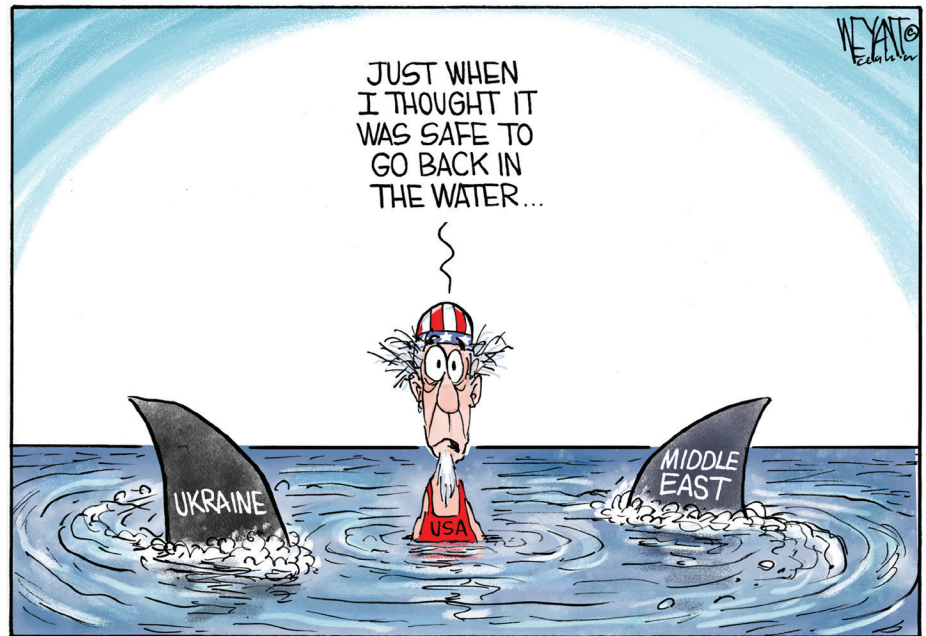
CARTOONS



By Curt Peterson, Hartford



Happy to be stranded by John Darkow, Columbia Missourian



Shark Week Continued by Christopher Weyant, CagleCartoons

← Republican choice:
from page 10

Moderate Republicans have tried to hold back the encroaching tide of nihilistic, anti-government conservatism. George H.W. Bush, Bob Dole, John McCain, Mitt Romney — these were the candidates of the establishment. And yet during the 2010s, right-wing forces gained influence, driving successive House speakers from office until the House became virtually ungovernable. The culmination of this movement was Donald Trump, who is linked to Joe McCarthy by Roy Cohn, the sleazy lawyer who was adviser to both, and whose guru Steve Bannon has said he is emulating Vladimir Lenin in his quest to destroy the state.

The turn of events that has made Vice President Kamala Harris the Democratic candidate for president, shockingly, seems as if it might be able to hold back the tide of Trumpism. President Joe Biden turned it back in 2020 and has achieved much of what he set out to accomplish. But the harsh reality of the aging process has cut him short.

It will require energy and the projection of conviction and power to stand up to the renewed Trump movement and its promises of revenge, and it was obvious during that infamous debate in June that Biden didn't have them. Now Harris and her running mate, Tim Walz, have injected conviction and power into the race, giving the Democratic Party renewed hope.

Harris has declared that America must not go back to the dysfunction and hatred of the Trump years, and it's hard to believe that any but the hard core of the MAGA

movement would want to. Moderate Republicans and independents in Vermont and elsewhere may see the Harris candidacy as a form of deliverance from the grip of Trumpism. Some Republicans say they will never vote for Trump. Officeholders such as Scott may believe that reticence on the question is advisable.

Republicans in the 1950s were afraid to stand up against McCarthy because he was able to marshal his brand of suspicion and lies to ruin lives. Even President Dwight Eisenhower, a beloved figure, was slow to denounce him. That is, they were afraid — until they weren't. And then McCarthy was revealed as a sham, who was able to deploy his demagogic methods only until he was forced to stop.

Now the momentum appears to be with Harris and Walz. A lot can happen between now and November. A lot has happened just since June. The rapid pace of history as it happens leaves us today with that feeling of vulnerability deriving from the knowledge that the decisions of a few people on the national stage will have world-changing consequences.

For Vermonters, the memory of Republicans such as Davis, Aiken, Stafford, Jeffords and the rest ought to sustain those who hope for a rebirth of their party. If one wing of the party was riding high at this year's Republican convention, Phil Scott's wing will still be there if Trump tumbles to defeat in November. If the Democrats maintain or strengthen their hold on power, it is important that the loyal opposition reconstitute itself as a worthy opponent.

← Primaries:
from page 1

challenges in five Senate district races in Addison County; Chittenden-Central; Chittenden-Southeast, Windsor County and Grand Isle County.

Statewide, the most active race was for spot No. 2. Lieutenant Gov. David Zuckerman, a Progressive/Democrat, is facing a challenge from Thomas Renner, deputy mayor of Winooski, in the Democratic primary. The Republican candidate for the position could be John Rodgers, formerly a Democratic state senator, or frequent statewide candidate Gregory Thayer, a staunch backer of former President Donald Trump.

Finally, Tuesday's voting will decide the Democratic nominee for governor, who will have the unenviable task of competing against popular incumbent Republican Gov. Phil Scott in November. Will it be "Democrat through and through" Esther Charlestin or "fusion candidate" Peter Duval? For results visit: MountainTimes.info.

Editor's at VTDigger contributed to this report.

← Awardees:
from page 6

the past year. The four annual Producer Awards were presented to the following:

Producer of the Year: Claire McKey Berkman, for the production of the Yoh Theatre Players vlog, which was a series of behind the scenes segments of productions from the student theater program at Woodstock Union High School throughout the past school year.

Youth Programming: Cavendish Fletcher Community Librarian Amy McMullen, for the recording of her series of "Story Time" readings, as well for her involvement in the Cavendish After School media club, resulting in the production of "Little Miss Muffet."

Outstanding Achievement: Reverend Jo-

seph & Jessica Arnold from Calvary Church is Proctorsville. They have been providing recordings of their church services to Okeemo Valley TV for many years. The audio and video quality are high value, demonstrating mastery of the technical aspects of the production process.

Community Service Award: Will Simmoneau of TecGym Sports, for the ongoing coverage of youth sports. He provided recordings of numerous youth basketball, soccer, baseball, and soccer games. These include basketball tournaments at Ludlow Community Center as well as American Legion Post 36 baseball games from Pullin Field.

← **Coyotes:**
from page 10

via a public records request submitted to Vermont Fish & Wildlife.

Governor Scott may have passed H.411, but its positive effects on wildlife only go so far. For wildlife plagued by open killing seasons, such as coyotes, the law is little more than words on paper. Hunters are allowed to kill coyotes with no legal limit or regulated season, making the law a drop in the ocean of the endless slaughter and dumping of a keystone

species. The extirpation of wolves from Vermont in the mid-1800s left the state barren of large pursuit predators except for coyotes. With the continued unregulated killing of coyotes, proper management of prey populations will be threatened. This will increase the risk of deadly vehicle collisions, the spread of Chronic Wasting Disease into Vermont, and the overconsumption of vegetation crucial to the habitats of countless native

species. According to a 2023 University of Michigan study, healthy predator populations contribute to healthy prey populations—predators remove diseased and injured animals, allowing robust, ecologically fit animals to thrive (Healthy Herds Hypothesis), thus permitting Vermont’s rich history of responsible and respectful outdoor sportsmanship to live on.

The conservation of coyotes is ultimately the conservation of our land.

We must call for Vermont Fish and Wildlife to remove their blindfolds and see the growing consequences of enabling severe interference with the food web. We must enact a regulated and limited hunting season for coyotes to ensure the health of our wild places.

Coyotes need us now more than ever, and they will forever play an irreplaceable role in Vermont’s ecosystems.

*Cas Simmons,
Winooski*



← **Kennedy ‘24:**
from page 10

parties, so thus, letting *principle* be their master — would effectively force the majority members of the two party “system” (the duopoly) to the table.

Being at heart a man of principle — howsoever flawed — Kennedy will tell

them what he wants at the table.

And they’ll have to deliver. They won’t have any national or state committees to hide behind or audiences to entertain at the fist fight. There won’t be any. They’ll be clearly seen shaking hands

across aisles too.

Who knows? Kennedy being the first independent president since Washington might peacefully move America to a third, even better, republic, without civil war.

*Steven Yaskell,
Mount Holly*

← **Flooding:**
from page 11

insurance typically covers more costs than the government. However, less than 1 percent of Vermont households have flood insurance despite the fact that many communities sit along rivers. Private donations and volunteering are another important source of assistance following flooding around the state, but they are typically just a fraction of what the government can provide. And these sources may dwindle as disasters increase in frequency and donors experience “flood fatigue.”

Climate change and its immediate effects are clear and present in the state, to the tune

of hundreds of millions of dollars last year alone. These are new problems that the state didn’t face 10, 20, or 30 years ago, and they require new resources. Vermont needs to budget for the damage caused by more frequent extreme weather events and for mitigation projects to protect Vermonters, their homes, and other critical infrastructure. Even when a disaster is bad enough to warrant federal assistance, the state will face new, unanticipated costs. If the last two summers have taught us anything, it’s that we need to be prepared for the unpredictable.

← **Edu funding:**
from page 11

justices said. The system was simply “constitutionally deficient.” They wrote, “Labels aside, we are simply unable to fathom a legitimate governmental purpose to justify the gross inequities in educational opportunities evident from the record.”

I bring up this issue because the idea that we can solve our education funding problems by returning to a system deemed deficient and unconstitutional keeps popping up. It happened this spring during deliberations of the education fund “yield bill” in the House Ways and Means Committee, and then again during deliberations in the Senate Finance Committee.

It was brought up in a May 3 commentary in VT Digger that suggested ways for school districts to “become thrifty.” It wormed its way into Act 183 (H.887), the final version of the “yield bill,” in the section setting up a commission to study the future of Vermont public education.

The Brigham decision’s embrace of the state constitution’s “common benefits” clause as the foundation of equity isn’t a right that stops at the schoolhouse gate. Were that right challenged, and overturned, other equity rights could be challenged. This includes

the Baker decision, the Vermont Supreme Court decision in 1999 that ensured marriage rights for gay couples.

The state constitution’s “common benefits” clause is the foundation of equity.

All this begins to sound too much like what’s been happening on the national level, with the U.S. Supreme Court overturning rights (such as abortion rights) we thought inviolable. We don’t want to go there. We must realize the dangers of supporting a return to education “foundation formula” inequity — and who knows what else.

Yes, school budgets have risen sharply. But I think the Commission on the Future of Public Education in Vermont is going to find that’s not because a benefit, such as education, has to be provided on an equitable basis.

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Vermont Historical Society announces September release of new biography of Vermont founder Ira Allen

The Vermont Historical Society is publishing a new book in September, titled “Ira Allen: A Biography.” Ethan Allen is a household name here in Vermont, but this book really showcases his younger brother’s important role in the entire saga that was the founding of Vermont. With the United States Semiquincentennial kicking off in 2025, there will be a lot of attention on the birth of the U.S. and the people who made it happen: this book will be an ideal read for Vermonters looking to get a better insight into the formation of the state and its role in the country’s founding.

Born on April 21, 1751, Ira Allen was a land speculator, revolutionary, pamphleteer, politician, and empire builder, and was a key figure on the Green Mountain frontier. In a remarkable Vermont pioneer generation that included such noteworthy leaders as Ethan Allen, Thomas Chittenden, Moses Robinson, Isaac Tichenor, and Stephen Row Bradley, Ira Allen stood out for his extraordinary energy, vision, and accomplishments. He helped create and sustain the independent state of Vermont; held such important state offices as treasurer, surveyor general, and member of the Governor’s Council; published hundreds of pages defending Vermont against a host of internal and external enemies; and represented Vermont in negotiations with the British Empire, other American states, and Congress.

J. Kevin Graffagnino’s biography ably details Ira Allen’s extraordinary life. As the first published examination of Allen’s career in nearly a century, this book shines new light on Allen and his prominent role in Vermont’s formative decades.

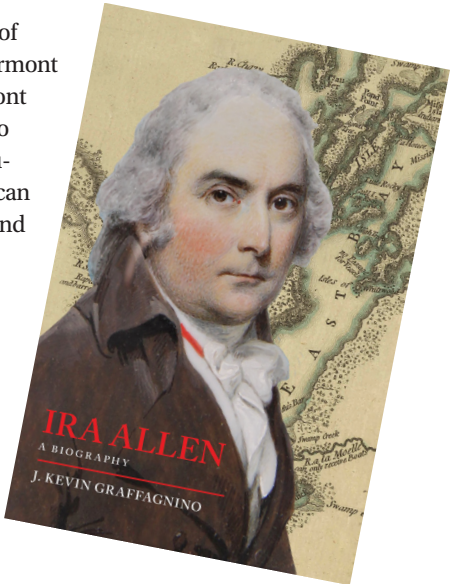
Graffagnino began his career at the University of Vermont library, where he served as curator of Vermont history from 1978 to 1995 and served as the Vermont Historical Society’s executive director from 2003 to 2008. He is the editor or author of 22 books and numerous articles on various aspects of early American history, book collecting, history administration, and related topics.

Vermont Historical Society Executive Director Steve Perkins said, “Along with his brother Ethan, Ira Allen holds a distinct place in the mythology of Vermont. Ira’s political thought contributed to early Vermont government, his mixture of private business and public service shaped much of our geographical landscape, and his pen defined an origin story for our state that persists to today. At times celebrated and villainized, this complex figure is now getting the even-handed biographical attention he deserves.”

VHS Managing Editor Alan Berolzheimer says “Graffagnino has been researching and writing about Ira Allen for more than 30 years, and now he has pulled all that scholarship together to publish the first full-length, comprehensive, critical biography of arguably Vermont’s most important Founding Father. It will enable scholars and readers interested in Vermont history to acquire a fuller and more nuanced picture of the state’s formative years.”

Former Governor Jim Douglas praised the book, saying “Surveyor, speculator, author, revolutionary: Ira Allen led a colorful and complicated life that’s captured in all its glory by one of Vermont’s foremost historians. Kevin Graffagnino brings a lifetime of scholarship to this biography of a Founding Father of the Green Mountain State. Was Ira likeable? Maybe not, but he was a key player in Vermont’s early history. You’ll know a lot more about the state’s formative years after reading this book.”

“Ira Allen: A Biography” will be released on Sept. 13. It is now available for preorder from the Vermont Historical Society store and will be available on Amazon and in Vermont bookstores.



“Was Ira likeable? Maybe not, but he was a key player in Vermont’s early history. You’ll know a lot more about the state’s formative years after reading this book,” said Douglas.



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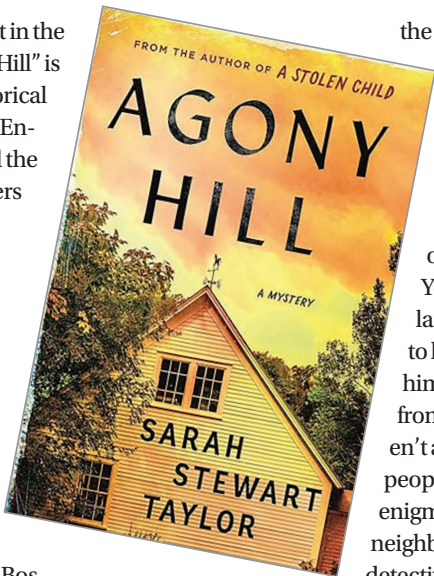


Vermont author publishes new series

Set in rural Vermont in the volatile 1960s, “Agony Hill” is the first novel in a historical series full of vivid New England atmosphere and the deeply drawn characters that are Sarah Stewart Taylor’s trademark.

A former journalist and teacher, Taylor writes and lives with her family on a farm in Vermont where they raise sheep and grow blueberries.

“Agony Hill” is set in the hot summer of 1965 when Bostonian Franklin Warren arrives in Bethany, Vermont, to take a position as a detective with the state police. Warren’s new home is on the verge of monumental change; the interstates under construction will bring new people, new opportunities, and new problems to Vermont, and the Cold War and protests against



the war in Vietnam have finally reached the dirt roads and rolling pastures of Bethany. Warren has barely unpacked when he’s called up to a remote farm on Agony Hill. Former New Yorker and back-to-the-lander Hugh Weber seems to have set fire to his barn and himself, with the door barred from the inside, but things aren’t adding up for Warren. The people of Bethany, from Weber’s enigmatic wife to Warren’s neighbor, widow and amateur detective Alice Bellows, clearly have secrets they’d like to keep, but Warren can’t tell if the truth about Weber’s death is one of them. As he gets to know his new home and grapples with the tragedy that brought him there, Warren is drawn to the people and traditions of small town Vermont, even as he finds darkness amidst the beauty.

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally and back

LOAN
MANAGEMENT
MARGIN
NET
OUTPUT
PAYROLL

Solutions → 30

43. Able to be marketed
44. Tinier
47. Parts per billion
(abbr.)
48. Paddle
4.9 Oneness
51. Bitter chemical
52. Not around
53. Very fast airplane
58. Swiss river

The Meadows
AT EAST MOUNTAIN
240 Gables Place • Rutland, VT
www.themeadowsvt.com

Answer: Robert De Niro

Solutions →30

Level: Intermediate

WEDNESDAY

8/14

Vermont State Fair

8 a.m.-11 p.m. Vermont State Fairgrounds, 175 South Main St., Rutland. \$99.95 + tax/fees. Live music, rodeo, demo derby, RPM motorcycle racing, rides, food, games and more. vermontstatefair.org.

For more Stuffed Animal Sleepover

Sherburne Memorial Library, 2998 River Road, Killington, Free. Drop off your favorite stuffed animal for a night of adventure at the library. Contact the library at 422-9765 for complete details. sherburnelibrary.org/summer-programs.

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 or 802-773-1853.

Killington Active Seniors Lunch

11:30 a.m. Wednesdays. The 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.

Diabetes Support Group

1-2 p.m. RRMC Diabetes & Endocrinology Center, 160 Allen St., Rutland. Free. Join the Diabetes Support Group to discuss diabetes management, ask questions, and offer support. No registration required. chcrr.org/diabetes-support-group.

American Red Cross Blood Drive

1:30-6:30 p.m. Killington Grand Hotel 228 E. Mountain Rd., Killington. Free Blood donation drive with an emphasis on maximizing your donation impact. killington.com or redcrossblood.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. Sign up to ride solo, or form a team of up to five people. Teams require a minimum of three people in order to score points. All races will be held on beginner/intermediate trails. 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.

Market on the Green

3-6 p.m. Wednesdays. The Green, Woodstock. Produce, crafts, live music, and more. woodstockvt.com or 802-457-3555.

Cribbage for Adults

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

Art Share + Critique

4:30-6 p.m. The MINT Downtown, 72 Merchants Row, Rutland. \$5 suggested donation for non-members. Meet other local artists and makers and share one of your original art projects—either in-process or completed. All mediums are welcome. rutlandmint.org/calendar or contact@rutlandmint.org.

Diabetes Support Group

5-6 p.m. Community Health Castleton, 2869 Main St., Castleton. Free. Join the Diabetes Support Group to discuss diabetes management, ask questions, and offer support. No registration required. chcrr.org/diabetes-support-group.

Music at the Riverbend: Tom Caswell Blues Band

6 p.m. Wednesdays through 8/28. Brandon Inn, 20 Park St., Brandon. Free. brandon.org/events-and-happenings/music-at-the-riverbend-summer-concerts.

Artistree Music on the Hill: Panhandlers

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 hillside at Artistree. All dates are weather dependent. No pets allowed. Service dogs welcome. Reservations are not required. info@artistreevt.org.

THURSDAY

8/15

Vermont State Fair

8 a.m.-11 p.m. Vermont State Fairgrounds, 175 South Main St., Rutland. \$99.95 + tax/fees. Live music, rodeo, demo derby, RPM motorcycle racing, rides, food, games and more. vermontstatefair.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.

Advanced Line Dance

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

Senior Bone Builders

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

Survivors Support Group

10 a.m.-noon. Thursdays. Godnick Adult Center, 1 Deer St., Rutland. Free. Fliers available at the Godnick Center or call 802-775-3232. rutlandrec.com/godnick or 802-775-1853.

Artery

10:30am-noon. Thursdays. Adults. Connect and create with others. \$10-\$20. Painting in all mediums welcome. No set topic or instructor, attendees will work on their individual artwork. MUST PRE-REGISTER. chaffeeartcenter.square.site/ or call 802-775-0356

Rutland Urban Legends and Walking Tour

11 a.m.-1 p.m. Depot Park, 49 Evelyn St., Rutland. Free. Hear tales of Rutland's history, legends, and mysteries on this 1-mile tour, accessible by wheelchair, walker, and stroller. Enjoy pizza tasting at the end. RSVP to reserve your spot. rutlandvermont.com.

Ukelele Group

12-1 p.m. Thursdays. Free. Attendees will play a collection of sheet music. All levels welcome, ages 12+. Must pre-register by Wednesday at noon. chaffeeartcenter.square.site/ or call 802-775-0356.

Play Bridge!

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

Thursday Farmers' Market (Fair Haven)

3-6 p.m. Thursdays. Village Green, Fair Haven. 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/calendar or 802-436-2473.

The River Road Concert Series: Shellhouse

6 p.m. Sherburne Memorial Library, 2998 River Road, Killington. Free. Enjoy weekly outdoor concerts hosted by the Killington Parks and Recreation Department and Sherburne Memorial Library. sherburnelibrary.org/adults-and-seniors/river-road-concert-series.

Feast and Field Music Series: Afro-Semitic Experience

5:30-9 p.m. Thursdays through 9/26. Fable Farm, 1525 Royalton Turnpike, Barnard. \$5-\$25. A celebration of music, food, and community. Tickets: feastandfield.com/tickets.

VT State Fair Demolition Derby

6-9 p.m. Vermont State Fairgrounds, 175 South Main St., Rutland. Tickets available at the gate. Watch thrilling demolition derby action presented by DNA Motorsports. Free Replay Video and Photos available on YouTube. Rules and event info: facebook.com/share/isXmnz3PdsBMLrKt/?mibextid=K35XfP.

Cookbook Club: Puerto Rican Cuisine

6-7 p.m. Hartland Public Library, 153 U.S. Route 5, Hartland. Free. Join the library's Cookbook Club Potluck with a focus on Puerto Rican cuisine. A variety of cookbooks will be available, but feel free to create your own Puerto Rican or Caribbean-inspired dish. Please bring utensils and enough food to share. Registration and cookbooks are available at the circulation desk. hartlandlibraryvt.org/calendar/.

Music on the Green

6:30 p.m. Belmont village green, Mt. Holly, 1 mile from the flashing light off Rt. 103. Jamie Ward, a.k.a. Mr Pianoman, plays classic blues, rock, and Motown hits, along with a patriotic-themed song contest. In case of rain, the concert will be held across the street at the community center/Library. Attendees are encouraged to bring blankets or chairs for the outdoor event. For more information, visit: mounthollycommunityassociation.org.

Fair Haven Concerts in the Park – Aaron Audet Band

7-9 p.m., Village Green, Fair Haven, Free. The final concert of the season featuring the Aaron Audet Band, with free ice cream cones for attendees. Contact: fhgstechie@yahoo.com or 802-265-7913.

FRIDAY

8/16

Vermont State Fair

Wed-Fri 8 a.m.-11 p.m.



Vermont State Fair

8 a.m.-11 p.m. Vermont State Fairgrounds, 175 South Main St., Rutland. \$99.95 + tax/fees. Live music, rodeo, demo derby, RPM motorcycle racing, rides, food, games and more. vermontstatefair.org.

August Hunter Jumper Show

8 a.m.-5 p.m. 5491 South Road, South Woodstock. Free to onlookers, entries closed. Three days, Aug. 16-18. of events starting Friday. Highlight: Saturday's Hunter and Equitation Derbies. Suitable for all ages and abilities. gmhainc.org.

"Art of the Pig" Silent Auction

10 a.m. – 5 p.m. Brandon Town Hall, 1 Conant Square, Brandon. Bid on artist-decorated pig boards during the Brandon Artists Guild's silent auction. brandonartistsguild.com.

Hartland. Farmers' Market

4-6:30 p.m. Fridays. 153 Route 5, Hartland. Free. Enjoy food, music, and shopping at the market.

Connections & Interconnections of Life Weekly Group

Noon-1 p.m. Fridays. Chaffee Art Center, 16 So. Main St., Rutland. Free. A place to share thoughts, philosophies, spirituality, cultures, and more in a respectful way. All are welcome. Must RSVP: chaffeeartcenter.square.site.

← **Calendar:** Email events@mountaintimes.info.....
from page 16



Motorcycle Racing at Vermont State Fair

Friday at 6:30 p.m.

Friday Night Live: Zach Nugent's Dead Set

5 p.m. Center Street and Merchants Row, Downtown Rutland. Free. Rutland's outdoor concert series takes place on Center St. and Merchants Row features music, outdoor dining, shopping, and children's activities starting at 5 p.m. Zach Nugent's Dead Set is the headline at 8 p.m. downtownrutland.com/fridaynightlive.

Pentangle Arts Music by the River

6-7:30 p.m. Fridays through 8/16. East End Park, Woodstock. Free. In case of inclement weather performances will be canceled, check our website for updates on cancellation. pentanglearts.org/mbtr2024.

Porcupine x SVT Group MTB Rides

6-8 p.m., Country Club, 2725 VT-30, Poultney. Free. Join Slate Valley Trails and Porcupine Bikes for a Friday night trail ride series. All ability levels are welcome; groups will be formed based on pace. Expect to ride for a couple of hours. Bonus pizza night hosted by the TrailHouse with wood-fired pizza post-ride (by donation). slatevalleytrails.org.

Jackson Gore Summer Music Series: Jester Jigs

6-9 p.m. Jackson Gore Courtyard, Okemo. Free. Bring lawn chairs and blankets; food, drinks, and specialty cocktails available. Lawn games and a pickleball court will be set up. No cash accepted for purchases. Pets allowed on leashes. More info at okemo.com.

Motorcycle Racing at Vermont State Fair

6:30-8:30 p.m. Vermont State Fairgrounds, 175 So. Main St., Rutland. \$12-\$140. Motorcycle racing action. Tickets available at the gate. paramountvt.org/event/rpm-promotions-flat-track-motorcycle-racing/.

Silent Film Night

7 p.m. Calvin Coolidge State Historic Site, 3780 VT Rt 100A, Plymouth. Free. Harold Lloyd's 1925 silent comedy film, *The Freshman*, will be screened in the historic Wilder Barn with a musical soundtrack. Folding chairs will be available, but visitors are encouraged to bring a comfortable lawn chair. This event will be held rain or shine. tinyurl.com/CalvinCoolidgeSilentFilm.

August Artist of the Month: Lynn Austin

7-8:30 p.m. Brandon Artists Guild, 7 Center St., Brandon. Join Lynn Austin for a reception and artist talk, exploring her nature-inspired paintings and creative process. Contact Brandon Artist Guild for pricing and more details at: thebag@brandonartistsguild.org, or (802) 247-4956. brandonartistsguild.com.

SATURDAY 8/17

Vermont State Fair

8 a.m.-11 p.m. Vermont State Fairgrounds, 175 South Main St, Rutland. \$99.95 + tax/fees. Live music, rodeo, demo derby, RPM motorcycle racing, rides, food, games and more. vermontstatefair.org.

August Hunter Jumper Show

8 a.m.-5 p.m. 5491 South Road, South Woodstock. Free to onlookers, entries closed. Final day. gmhainc.org.

Run with a Ranger

8 a.m. Saturdays. Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historical Park, 69 Old River Rd, Woodstock. Free. Join a Park Ranger for a 4.5-mile trail run with a 600' elevation gain through historic carriage roads and trails. This intermediate+ run includes insights into the history of the Mt. Tom Forest. Water and restrooms available at the Forest Center. Bring sneakers, a water bottle, and bug spray and sun protection. Meet at the Forest Center; parking is at Billings Farm & Museum. Registration required. nps.gov/mabi/planyourvisit/index.htm.

Printmaking Workshop

9 a.m.-noon. Morrill Homestead, 214 Morrill Memorial Highway, Strafford, \$45. Create block prints inspired by the gardens and architecture of the Morrill Homestead. After a brief tour of the grounds, we'll work on making art from what we discover. Learn basic design, carving, and printing techniques. All materials included. Register at morrillhomestead.org/news-events/2024-programs-events-exhibits/. Contact: 802-765-4288.

Summit Yoga with Jasper Forest

9-10 a.m., Summit Deck (weather permitting), park at Sunburst Six, Ludlow. \$15 for chairlift ride or free with 24/25 Season Epic pass, \$12 for yoga class. Enjoy an early morning yoga class at the summit, featuring Jennifer from Jasper Forest, with views and a peaceful setting. Purchase tickets at the Okemo ticket window. Bring a yoga mat, water bottle, sunscreen, and bug spray. okemo.com.

Vermont Outdoor Farmers' 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.

Figure Vases (Kids and Family Workshop)

9:30-11:30 a.m. The MINT, 112 Quality Lane, Rutland Members: \$50, Non-Members: \$75, Children: \$15 Create vases in this relaxed, beginner pottery workshop. Choose to underglaze a pre-made vase or build and decorate your own. All pieces will be fired and glazed by instructors. Open to everyone; children under 6 must be accompanied by an adult. Bring clothes that can get messy. themint.org.

Mount Independence-Hubbardton

Military Road Car Tour

10 a.m.-1 p.m. Mount Independence State Historic Site, 722 Mount Independence Rd, Orwell. Included with museum admission. Join historian Jim Rowe for a driving tour of the 1776 Mount Independence-Hubbardton Military Road. Meet at Mount Independence for orientation and finish at the Hubbardton Battlefield State Historic Site. Co-sponsored by Crown Point Road Association. crownpointroad.org.

"Art of the Pig" Silent

Auction (8.16-17)

10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Brandon Town Hall, 1 Conant Square, Brandon. Bid on artist-decorated pig boards during the Brandon Artists Guild's silent auction. brandonartistsguild.com.

Pop Up: Foxglove Farm

Jewelry

10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Putnam's vineyard, 188 South Main St, Hartford. Cost: Checkwebsite for late details. Shop handcrafted jewelry by Foxglove Farm, enjoy pastries and desserts from Lo's Bakehouse, and sip on a signature mimosa flight. Catherine, the artist behind Foxglove, offers unique and elegant designs. putnamsvineyard.com Rockefeller

Commemoration and Woodstock Garden Day

10 a.m.-5 p.m. Billings Farm & Museum, 69 Old River Road, Woodstock, \$15. Explore three stunning gardens across Woodstock, celebrating the 20th anniversary of Laurance S. Rockefeller's passing. Enjoy garden tours, live music, crafts, and activities for all ages. Experience a diverse array of gardens, each with its own unique purpose. Contact: (802) 457-3368 ext. 0. billingsfarm.org.

84th Annual Colonial Day House Tour

10 a.m.-3 p.m. Castleton's Main Street. \$20 (\$18 seniors). Step back in time as hostesses in Colonial attire greet guests in homes along Castleton's historic Main Street during the 84th Annual Colonial Day House Tour featuring over a dozen sites throughout the village, including period homes, public buildings, and historic sites. Highlights include the Federated Church, known for its intricate pulpit and Thomas Royal Dake's spiral staircases, and a quilt display. At the Higley House, home of the Castleton Historical Society, explore exhibits, antique tools, a carriage collection, and period fashion. The Blue Cat Quilt, depicting historic landmarks and highlights from The Blue Cat of Castleton, will also be on display. The tour will be held rain or shine. Tickets can be purchased on Colonial Day at ticket booths on Main Street. rileyjvt@comcast.net.

Mt. Tom Farmers' Market

10 a.m.-1 p.m. Saskadena Six parking lot, 247 Stage Road, South Pomfret. Free. Enjoy a variety of local produce and goods at the Saturday Morning Farmers Market, held weekly from mid-May to mid-October. Explore fresh vegetables, fruits, homemade items, and more. No rating yet.

Art in the Park Rutland

10 a.m.-5 p.m. Main Street Park, Rutland. Voluntary donation. Enjoy juried fine artists, craftspeople, specialty foods, live music, free kids' activities, and demonstrations. Food trucks and bakery items available. chaffeeartcenter.org.

Rutland Railway Museum & Model Club

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

Ice Cream Social - Summer Reading Party

11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Hartland Public Library, 153 U.S. Route 5, Hartland. Free. Celebrate the end of the Summer Reading Program with an ice cream social. Announcing the winners of the Summer Reading prizes. Submit raffle tickets by noon for a chance to win. hartlandlibraryvt.org/calendar/.

Friday Night Live with Zach Nugent Dead Set

Friday at 5 p.m.



← **Calendar:** Email events@mountaintimes.info from page 17

2024 Best of Vermont Summer Festival
Noon-7 p.m. Okemo Field, Route 103, Ludlow. Price varies by activity. The 4th annual Best of Vermont Summer Festival features a 5-act music lineup, over 100 vendors will be present. Dan Moore's Antique Tractors & Vintage Machines and Wunderle's Big Top Adventures with clowning and kids' programming. Maple, local cheeses, artisan products, fine art, live music, agricultural demos, and more. yourplaceinvermont.com/info.

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

Cooler in the Mountains: Soulshine Revival
3-5:30 p.m. Saturdays through 8/31. K-1 base area, Killington Resort, Killington. Free. Join us at the bottom of Superstar (near the Roaring Brook Umbrella Bar). Grab a lawn chair, a beach blanket, and the whole family for this all-ages event. killington.com.

Pizza/Karaoke Party
5-7 p.m., Hartland Pizza Oven, Library Lawn, 153 U.S. Route 5, Hartland. Donation. Enjoy wood-fired pizza and live band music at this family-friendly event, perfect for pizza lovers and singers of all ages. Proceeds benefit the Hartland UU Society. Contact: 802-738-0102.

Pond Hill Rodeo
7:30 p.m. Saturdays through 8/31. Pond Hill Ranch, 1683 Pond Hill Road, Castleton. \$15, adults. \$10, ages 6-11. 5 and under are free. Cash only. Info: pondhillranch.com.

Bat Bonanza
7:30-8:30 p.m. VINS Nature Center, 149 Natures Way, Quechee. Cost: \$5 per person, 20 person limit. Join a VINS educator for a night hike to learn about bats and use an echo-meter to hear and identify different bat calls. 802.359.5000. vinsweb.org.



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Tyler Hubbard @ The Vermont State Fair
8:15-11 p.m. The Vermont State Fairgrounds, 175 South Main Street, Rutland. Tickets: General Admission Grandstand \$46.50 + tax/fees, Off Track Chairs \$51.50 + tax/fees, Standing Room \$61.50 + tax/fees. Gates open at 7 p.m., Showtime at 8:15 p.m. Enjoy a night with Tyler Hubbard, known for his success with Florida Georgia Line and his debut solo album. Purchase tickets before August 1 to include gate admission. paramountvt.org/event/tyler-hubbard-the-vermont-state-fair/.

SUNDAY
8/18

Ludlow Farmers' Market
9 a.m.-1 p.m. Sundays through 10/13. So. Depot St., Ludlow. S. Depot Street in Ludlow. Find a variety of local produce, fresh baked goods, handmade crafts, cold beverages, live music and more. Join us for fresh food, community, and fun. Info: ludlowmarket.org.

August Hunter Jumper Show
8 a.m.-5 p.m. 5491 South Road, South Woodstock. Free to onlookers, entries closed. Three days of events Aug. 16-17-18. Highlight: Saturday's Hunter and Equitation Derbies. gmhainc.org.

"Art of the Pig" Final Bidding
10 a.m. – 5 p.m. Brandon Town Hall, 1 Conant Square, Brandon. Bid on artist-decorated pig boards during the Brandon Artists Guild's silent auction. Enjoy a special "Bites & Bidding" event with hors d'oeuvres and a cash wine bar from 2-4 p.m. A portion of proceeds benefits local schools. brandonartistsguild.com.

Ensemble Aubade Worship Service
10 a.m. Grace Church, 8 Court St., Rutland. Free. Ensemble Aubade, will perform pieces by Jean Philippe Rameau, Louise Farrenc, and Carl Philipp Emmanuel Bach. For more information about Grace Church, visit gracechurchvt.org.

2024 Best of Vermont Summer Festival
Noon-7 p.m. Okemo Field, Route 103, Ludlow. Price varies by activity. The 4th annual Best of Vermont Summer Festival features a 5-act music lineup, over 100 vendors will be present. Dan Moore's Antique Tractors & Vintage Machines and Wunderle's Big Top Adventures with clowning and kids' programming. Maple, local cheeses, artisan products, fine art, live music, agricultural demos, and more. yourplaceinvermont.com/info.

Mushroom Exploration Walk at Mount Independence
1-3 p.m., Mount Independence State Historic Site, Mount Independence Road, Orwell, \$8 adults, \$1 children 6-14, free under 6. Join mushroom expert Meg Madden for an insightful walk exploring the mushrooms at Mount Independence. The event includes an orientation followed by a guided walk. Wear sturdy shoes and dress for the weather. Reserve your spot by calling 802-948-2000. Sponsored by the Mount Independence Coalition. historicsites.vermont.gov.

Cemetery Walk, Fair Haven
2-4 p.m. Join the Historical Society at the cemetery on West Street for a focused tour highlighting veterans buried there who served in the Revolutionary War, War of 1812, and Civil War. Free. Paul Laramie will also demonstrate gravestone cleaning and restoration techniques. This event is free to attend. fairhavenvt.gov.

'Mozart and More' – Ensemble Aubade
4 p.m., Old Parish Church, Route 100, Weston, \$5 adults, free for children 12 and under. Enjoy a chamber music performance by Ensemble Aubade, featuring works by Mozart, Robert Russell Bennett, and Louise Farrenc. The concert is part of the Sundays On The Hill series. Doors open at 3:30 p.m., and seating is first-come, first-served. No advance tickets. sundaysonthehill.org.

MONDAY
8/19

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 congregate meals. Make new friends, connect with pals. 802-773-1853.

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.

Group Run/Walk
6-7:30 p.m. Mondays. Location and route changes weekly, check Facebook for details. The group will leave the trailhead by 6:05 at the latest. There are many options to cater to all abilities or shorten the route. 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. Info: slatevalleytrails.org

TUESDAY
8/20

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.

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.

CEDRR August Mixer
5-7 p.m. K-1 Lodge, 4563 Killington Road, Killington. Free. Join the CEDRR August mixer hosted by Killington Resort. Wear casual clothing to learn how to mountain bike and test bikes. Each attendee will receive a round-trip scenic gondola ride to use for a future visit. For more information, visit: killington.com.

Strike Anywhere Workshop
5:30-8:30 p.m., Chandler Center for the Arts, 71 No. St., Randolph. Free. Strike Anywhere and Chandler Center for the Arts are teaming up to create "Tune on a Distant Hill," a bespoke, interview-based play celebrating Central Vermont. "Tune on a Distant Hill" will feature live music, dance, sounpainting, and theater performed by local artists and the Strike Anywhere Performance Ensemble. Strike Anywhere will lead free workshops, engaging community members with theater games and story circles. chandlercenter.org.

Recite! Poetry Sharing Evening
5:30-7 p.m. (Second Tuesday of each month.) Norman Williams Public Library, 10 The Green, Woodstock. Free. Join professional poets, amateurs, and first-timers in celebrating the spoken word. In person and via Zoom. RSVP or get the link at programs@normanwilliams.org.



EAT & DRINK LOCAL

[MUSIC Scene]

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

WED 8/14

BOMOSEEN
6 p.m. Lakehouse Pub & Grille – Shakey Pines

BRANDON
6 p.m. Brandon Inn (Behind) – Music on the Riverbend with Tom Caswell Blues Band

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

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

QUECHEE
6 p.m. Public House Pub – Chris Pallutto

RUTLAND
7 p.m. Main Street Park – Seven to Sunset Concert with Satin & Steel

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

SOUTH POMFRET
6:30 p.m. Artistree – Music on the Hill Summer Concert Series with the Panhandlers

THURS 8/15

BARNARD
5:30 p.m. Fable Farm – Feast & Field with Afro-Semetic Experience

BELMONT
5 p.m. Town Green – Liz Reedy

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

FAIR HAVEN
7 p.m. Town Park – Aaron Audet Band

KILLINGTON
6 p.m. Liquid Art – Open Mic hosted by Grateful Gary

6 p.m. Rivershed – Chris Pallutto

6 p.m. Sherburne Memorial Library – River Road Concert Series with Shellhouse Band

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 hosted by Caber Wilson

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

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

FRI 8/16

BOMOSEEN

6 p.m. Lakehouse Pub & Grille – Ryan Fuller

CASTLETON
6 p.m. Blue Cat Bistro – Jesse Agan

KILLINGTON
6 p.m. Rivershed – Rob Pagnano

6 p.m. Still on the Mountain – Mean Waltons

6 p.m. The Foundry – Scott Forrest

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

7:30 p.m. McGrath's Irish Pub – Faoilean

LUDLOW
6 p.m. Jackson Gore Courtyard – Summer Music Series with Jester Jigs

7 p.m. The Killarney – Sammy B

POULTNEY
6 p.m. Poultney Pub – George Nostrand

QUECHEE
5:30 p.m. Public House Pub – Colin Nevins

RANDOLPH
7:30 p.m. Underground Listening Room – Wild Couch, Connor Lin Frost and Cady Ternity

RUTLAND

6:30 p.m. Stonehedge Indoor Golf – Duane Carleton

8 p.m. Downtown Center Street – Friday Night Live with Zach Nugent's Dead Set

WOODSTOCK
6 p.m. East End Park – Music by the River with The Tricksters

SAT 8/17

BRIDGEWATER
8 p.m. Woolen Mill Comedy Club – Comedy Night with Damon Millard

CHESTER
6 p.m. Country Girl Diner – Rustie Bus

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

3 p.m. K1 Base Area – Cooler in the Mountains Concert Series feat. Soulshine Revival

6 p.m. Rivershed – Rob Pagnano

6 p.m. Still on the Mountain – Sammy B

6 p.m. The Foundry – Zach Yakaitis

7:30 p.m. Jax Food and Games – Rhys Chalmers

7:30 p.m. McGrath's Irish Pub – Faoilean

LUDLOW
8 p.m. The Killarney – Acoustik Ruckus

POULTNEY
6 p.m. Poultney Pub – Kowalski Brothers

QUECHEE
5:30 p.m. Public House Pub – John Lackard

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

WOODSTOCK
6:30 p.m. Ottauquechee Yacht Club – Ben Kogan Duo

SUN 8/18

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

KILLINGTON
12 p.m. Rivershed – Brunch with Rob Pagnano

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

LUDLOW
5 p.m. Main + Mountain – Sunday Funday with King Arthur Junior

RUTLAND
7 p.m. Main Street Park – Rutland City Band

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

MON 8/19

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

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

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

LUDLOW
5 p.m. Little Mexico – Sammy B

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

WOODSTOCK
6:30 p.m. Ottauquechee Yacht Club – Ali T

TUES 8/20

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

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

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



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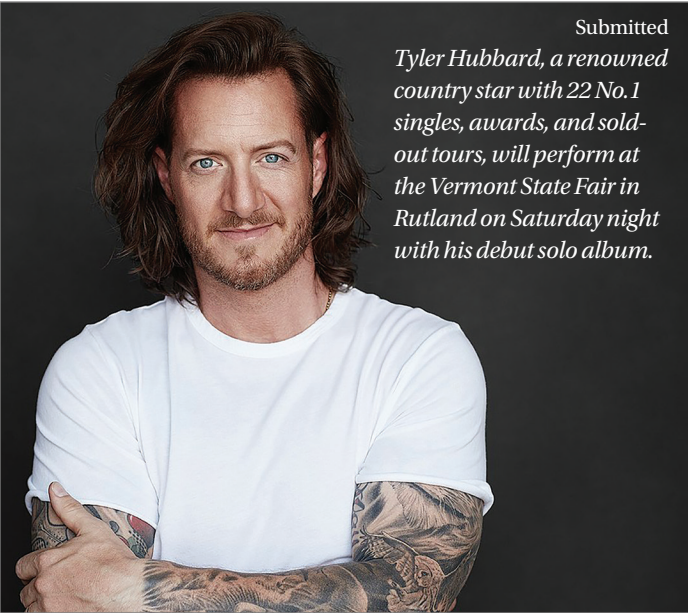
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Vermont State Fair to showcase big events including Florida Georgia Line sensation Tyler Hubbard, motorcycle racing, more

Saturday, Aug. 17 at 8:15 p.m.—RUTLAND—The Vermont State Fair, Vermont State Fairgrounds, 175 South Main St., Rutland is set to deliver an exciting lineup of events during its Rutland stop from Aug. 13-17 offering something for everyone. Some of the big name highlights will be featured at the Diamonds and More Grandstand including motorcycle racing, the demolition derby and a performance by country star Tyler Hubbard.



Submitted
Tyler Hubbard, a renowned country star with 22 No. 1 singles, awards, and sold-out tours, will perform at the Vermont State Fair in Rutland on Saturday night with his debut solo album.



Submitted



Submitted

Demolition Derby is Thursday

The anticipated Demolition Derby will be held on Thursday, Aug. 15 from 6-9 p.m. Attendees can witness the thrilling action as drivers crash and bash their way through the competition. Tickets are available at the gate, with free replay videos and photos accessible on YouTube. For rules and event info, visit the Facebook event page.

Motorcycle racing is Friday

On Friday, Aug 16, the excitement continues with motorcycle racing from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. Fans of high-speed action will not want to miss this adrenaline-pumping event. Tickets range from \$12 to \$140 and can be purchased at the gate. Additional details are available at paramountvt.org.

Tyler Hubbard performs Saturday

On Saturday night, country star Tyler Hubbard will perform. With 22 No. 1 singles on country radio, countless awards, and sold-out tours, Tyler Hubbard has already had a remarkable career as a songwriter and as one half of multi-platinum duo Florida Georgia Line. Hubbard's debut solo album, aptly titled Tyler Hubbard, was released in January 2023 and has amassed more than 1.3 billion streams to date. It features Hubbard's hit debut solo single "5 Foot 9," which hit No. 1 at Country Radio and was certified 2x Platinum by the RIAA. It also features Hubbard's second No. 1 single, "Dancin' In The Country," which has been certified platinum by the RIAA and marked his second No. 1 at Country Radio. Hubbard has made several television appearances as a solo artist, most recently at Good Morning America and The Kelly Clarkson Show, and also on the CMT Music Awards, NBC's Today Show and The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon. Hubbard's current radio single "Back Then Right Now," the first of his new album 'Strong' (April 12 via EMI Nashville), reached the top spot at country radio, making Hubbard the only artist to start two separate careers with at least three consecutive No. 1 songs. The Georgia native will headline fairs and festivals throughout 2024 before embarking on his headline 'Strong World Tour' later this year.

Other highlights include rides and games, vendor food at every corner. Pond Hill Pro Rodeo, a performance by Rick Redington, The Arestovs Acrobatics, Rosaire's Royal Racing Pigs are sure to entertain. Don't miss the 4-H Open Horse Show, the unique Pirate Man Dan. For those seeking excitement, the horse pulls, cowboy mounted shooting, and the VT Farriers Association exhibition offer riveting action. Enjoy the creative crossover cloggers, the captivating dock diving dogs, and the fun and engaging performances by the Adam Springer Band. For more events, see the full schedule on page 21.

For more information on all events, visit vermontstatefair.org.



Submitted



Courtesy Vermont State Fair

Vermont State Fair schedule of events provides something for everyone

Ongoing Entertainment:

Robin's Heavenly Birds, VT State Fair Butterfly Enclosure, Totally Twisted Balloons, Trackless Train Shuttle, Pirate Man Dan Roving Act, Blacksmith Shop, Danne Moore Antique Motors Display, Touch A Truck, Farm Museum, Antique Tractors, Toy Display, Chainsaw Carver, Weaving & Spinning Demonstrations, Plus Fair Foods, Pony Rides, Shopping, and More, Carnival provided by Amusements of America.

Tuesday 8/13 - \$5 Day

- 5 p.m. Gates & Midway open
- 5-9 p.m. 4-H Building, 4-H Horse Barn, 4-H Dairy Barn
- 5-10 p.m. Fair Buildings open
- 5:30 p.m. Arestov's Acrobatics
- 6 p.m. Rosaire's Royal Racing Pigs
- 6 p.m. Adam Rosenberg- Sugarhouse Stage
- 7 p.m. Horses Horses Horses
- 7:30 p.m. Pond Hill Pro Rodeo- Grandstand
- 7:30 p.m. Lew Es Comedy Circus
- 7:30 p.m. Reptile Adventures
- 7:30 p.m. Adam Rosenberg- Sugarhouse Stage
- 8 p.m. Arestov's Acrobatics
- 8:30 p.m. Rosaire's Royal Racing Pigs

Wednesday 8/14 thru Saturday 8/17 DAILY

- 8 a.m. Gates Open
- 8 a.m.-10 p.m. Agricultural Areas open
- 10 a.m.-9 p.m. 4-H Building, 4-H Horse Barn, 4-H Dairy Barn
- 11 a.m.-10 p.m. Fair Buildings open
- 1:30 p.m. Lew Es Comedy Circus
- 4 p.m. Lew Es Comedy Circus
- 7:30 p.m. Lew Es Comedy Circus

Wednesday 8/14 - Children's Day & Bike Giveaway

- 9 a.m. 4-H Open Horse Show- Horse Arena
- 10 a.m.-2 p.m. 4-H Dog Show- 4-H Bldg
- 11 a.m.-2 p.m. 4-H Workshop: Make & Take Activity- 4-H Bldg
- 12:30-2 p.m. Rutland City Band- Sugarhouse Stage
- 12-6 p.m. 4-H Shooting Sports Trailer- 4-H Bldg
- 1 p.m. Rosaire's Royal Racing Pigs
- 1 p.m. Midway opens
- 1 p.m. Horse Pulls- 3330# & under- Pulling Arena
- 1:30 p.m. Reptile Adventures
- 2 p.m. Horses Horses Horses
- 2-4 p.m. 4-H Dog Project: Kids Open Agility Course- 4-H Bldg
- 2-6 p.m. 4-H Grows Here: Seed Planting Activity- 4-H Bldg
- 2:30 p.m. Dock Diving Dogs
- 3 p.m. Arestov's Acrobatics
- 3:30 p.m. Reptile Adventures
- 4 p.m. Pirate Man Dan
- 4:30 p.m. Dock Diving Dogs
- 5 p.m. Horse Pulls-Free For All- Pulling Arena
- 5 p.m. Rosaire's Royal Racing Pigs
- 5-6 p.m. Bike Giveaway Tickets Available- Sugarhouse Stage
- 6 p.m. Bike Giveaway Drawings- Sugarhouse Stage
- 6 p.m. Horses Horses Horses
- 6:30 p.m. 4-H Dairy Costume Class- Cattle Show Arena
- 7 p.m. Arestov's Acrobatics
- 7 p.m. Dock Diving Dogs
- 7 p.m. Gospel Night - Grandstand
- 7:30 p.m. Reptile Adventures
- 8:30 p.m. Rosaire's Royal Racing Pigs

Thursday 8/15 - Veteran's Appreciation and Senior Day

- 11 a.m. Ox Pulls- under 2500#- Pulling Arena
- 1 p.m. Rosaire's Royal Racing Pigs
- 1 p.m. Crossover Cloggers- Sugarhouse Stage
- 1 p.m. Midway opens
- 1 p.m. Ox Pulls- under 2900#- Pulling Arena
- 1:30 p.m. Reptile Adventures
- 2 p.m. Horses Horses Horses
- 2-6 p.m. 4-H Performing Arts & Public Presentations- 4-H Bldg
- 2:30 p.m. Dock Diving Dogs
- 2:30 p.m. Crossover Cloggers- Sugarhouse Stage

- 3 p.m. Arestov's Acrobatics
- 3 p.m. Ox Pulls- under 3300#- Pulling Arena
- 3:30 p.m. Reptile Adventures
- 4 p.m. Pirate Man Dan
- 4:30 p.m. Dock Diving Dogs
- 5 p.m. Rosaire's Racing Pigs
- 5:30 p.m. Rick Redington- Sugarhouse Stage
- 6 p.m. 4-H Open Costume Class- 4-H Bldg
- 6 p.m. Horses Horses Horses
- 6 p.m. Ox Pulls- Free For All- Pulling Arena
- 7 p.m. Arestov's Acrobatics
- 7 p.m. Dock Diving Dogs
- 7:30 p.m. Reptile Adventures
- 7:30 p.m. Rick Redington- Sugarhouse Stage
- 7:30 p.m. DNA Demolition Derby- Grandstand
- 8:30 p.m. Rosaire's Royal Racing Pigs

Friday 8/16

- VT Farriers Asso. Exhibition & Competition- Pulling Arena
- 9:30 a.m. Dairy Show-Pee Wee classes- Cattle Show Arena
- 10 a.m. Dairy Show- Heifers- Cattle Show Arena
- 10 a.m. 4-H Open Gymkhana- Horse Arena
- 12 p.m. Dock Diving Dogs
- 12 p.m. Dairy Show- Cows- Cattle Show Arena
- 12 p.m. Reptile Adventures
- 12-6 p.m. 4-H Shooting Sports Trailer- 4-H Bldg
- 12:30 p.m. Arestov's Acrobatics
- 1 p.m. Rosaire's Royal Racing Pigs
- 1 p.m. Adam Springer Band- Sugarhouse Stage
- 1 p.m. Midway opens
- 2 p.m. Horses Horses Horses
- 2:30 p.m. Dock Diving Dogs
- 2:30 p.m. Reptile Adventures
- 3 p.m. Arestov's Acrobatics
- 3:30 p.m. Adam Springer Band- Sugarhouse Stage
- 4 p.m. Pirate Man Dan
- 4 p.m. 4-H Awards Ceremony- 4-H Bldg
- 4:30 p.m. Dock Diving Dogs
- 5 p.m. Rosaire's Royal Racing Pigs
- 5 p.m. Pirate Man Dan
- 5:30 p.m. Adam Springer Band-Sugarhouse Stage
- 6 p.m. Horses Horses Horses
- 6:30 p.m. Rosaire's Royal Racing Pigs
- 6:30 p.m. RPM Flat Track Motorcycle Racing- Grandstand
- 7 p.m. Arestov's Acrobatics
- 7 p.m. Dock Diving Dogs
- 7:30 p.m. Adam Springer Band- Sugarhouse Stage
- 8 p.m. Reptile Adventures
- 8:30 p.m. Rosaire's Royal Racing Pigs

Saturday 8/17

- VT Farriers Asso. Exhibition & Competition- Pulling Arena
- 10 a.m. Bill Weeks Memorial Showmanship Show - Cattle Show Arena
- 11 a.m. Midway opens
- 11 a.m. Cowboy Mounted Shooting- Horse Arena
- 12 p.m. Horses Horses Horses
- 12 p.m. Dock Diving Dogs
- 12 p.m. Reptile Adventures
- 12:30 p.m. Arestov's Acrobatics
- 1 p.m. Rosaire's Royal Racing Pigs
- 1 p.m. Adam Springer Band-Sugarhouse Stage
- 2 p.m. Horses Horses Horses
- 2:30 p.m. Dock Diving Dogs
- 2:30 p.m. Reptile Adventures
- 3 p.m. Arestov's Acrobatics
- 3:30 p.m. Adam Springer Band- Sugarhouse Stage
- 4:30 p.m. Dock Diving Dogs
- 5 p.m. Rosaire's Royal Racing Pigs
- 5 p.m. Pirate Man Dan
- 5:30 p.m. Adam Springer Band- Sugarhouse Stage
- 6 p.m. Horses Horses Horses



Courtesy Vermont State Fair



Submitted

Best of Vermont Summer Festival returns for a fun-filled weekend of entertainment and, food, beverages and activities

Saturday, Aug. 24-25—LUDLOW—The Okemo Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce is hosting the fourth annual Best of Vermont Summer Festival at Okemo Field, Route 103 and Bixby Road. The event runs rain or shine, Saturday, noon-7 p.m. and Sunday 10 a.m.-4 p.m. This popular festival features live music, craft beverages from local beer, wine, and distillery producers, artisan products, specialty foods, fine art, antique tractors, vintage equipment, and a kids' zone. The festival is an excellent opportunity for locals, new residents, second homeowners, and visitors to enjoy the best of Vermont.

The festival information page will continue to be updated, as more information becomes available. Follow updates on the Best of VT Summer Festival Facebook page.

Throughout the weekend attendees will have the opportunity to participate in the following special family-friendly activities:

- Antique tractors & vintage machines: Returning this year, Dan Moore of Barker Farm will be showcasing his antique tractors & vintage machines. Barker Farm is known for hosting their annual Autumn Roundup show in Ludlow in September. This is a showcase of Vermont made engines & machinery including working exhibits from the 1900s.
- Kids zone: Children will have the chance to enjoy fun festival activities all weekend long – Troy Wunderle of Big Top Adventures offering clowning and circus fun and face painters.
- Food tent: Enjoy Vermont favorites with Coleman Brook Tavern at Okemo, the Waffle Cabin & more.
- Brewfest Beer Garden: Rutland Beer Works, Zero Gravity, Outer Limits Brewing, Von Trapp Brewing, and Mt. Holly's Hard Cider sponsored by Brewfest Beverage
- Wine tasting: sponsored by Meiomi Wines & Constellation Brands.
- Live raffle: vendors and local businesses generously donated items.
- Live music: both days.

Saturday 8/24 from 12-7 p.m.

12-2 p.m.: Bear Mountain Boys

2-4 p.m.: the Rustie Bus Band

4-7 p.m.: Gypsy Reel

Sunday 8/25 from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

10 a.m.-1 p.m.: Ida Mae Specker

1:30-4 p.m.: Brooks Hubbard and Jay Nash

For a full list of vendors and further information, visit: yourplaceinvermont.com/info.



Submitted



Courtesy Brooks Hubbard
Brooks Hubbard



Courtesy Ida Mae Specker
Ida Mae Specker

Zach Nugent's Dead Set headlines Friday Night Live

Friday Aug. 16 at 5 p.m.—RUTLAND—Celebrate summer and bring your friends and family to Downtown Rutland's Center St. and Merchants Row for another night of fun at Friday Night Live.

Next up in the outdoor concert series is Zach Nugent's Dead Set. Dead Set is more than just a cover band; they are an extraordinary ensemble that brings the Grateful Dead's timeless music to life with remarkable precision and passion.

Led by Zach Nugent, Dead Set's channels the spirit of Jerry Garcia and the Grateful Dead with Nugent's improvisational guitar work. The band's tight-knit chemistry and dedication ensures that every note resonates with the same magic that made the Grateful Dead legendary. From the cosmic explorations of "Dark Star" to the uplifting anthems of "Sugar Magnolia," every song is delivered with authenticity and a contagious enthusiasm.

In addition to live music, attendees can enjoy outdoor dining in Center St. parklets or choose from a variety of food trucks. Families can enjoy bouncy houses, activity stations, dunk tanks, giveaways, and more. Be sure to save room for frosty treats and sweets from dessert vendors. Play giant games, shop local businesses, and explore the vendors.

Each free event will kick off at 5 p.m. with the main musical acts starting around 8 p.m.. Attendees are encouraged to bring lawn chairs for viewing the musical performances. In the event of rain, the musical performance will be moved inside to the Paramount Theatre.

For more information, visit: downtownrutland.com/fridaynightlive.



Courtesy Zach Nugent

Lace up your roller skates for one night only at Friday Night Live



Though it's yet to be determined whether a skate park will be coming back to Rutland anytime soon, folks will have a chance to lace up their roller skates for one night only at Friday Night Live on Aug. 16. Partners for Prevention will host an "In My Roller Skating Era" event during which community members can strap in and skate along to some Taylor Swift tunes.

The one-off event was inspired by youth input and dreamed up in collaboration with Partners for Prevention's summer youth interns.

The free event will take place on Merchants Row between Center St. and Washington St. from 5 -8 p.m. Aug. 16, and will offer 100 pairs of free skate rentals, bracelet-making and other activities.

Participants must bring their own helmets. For more information and the required participation waiver visit: bit.ly/InMyRollerSkatingEra.

Rockin the Region with Soulshine Revival

Soulshine Revival is making their triumphant return to the Cooler in the Mountains concert series this Saturday outside the K-1 Base Lodge in Killington at 3 p.m. This will be their second year in a row playing it. If you don't know, the band is an Allman Brothers Tribute.

I can only attend one Cooler in the Mountains concert this season and this is the one, so I'm psyched. I had the pleasure of interviewing Ken Shofield for this article. Ken is one of the two drummers. The band is Phil Graziano (guitar, slide guitar, vocals), Schofield (drums & vocals), Tim Comings (bass & vocals), John Wallace (drums), Gregg Krech (piano, organ, vocals) and Scott Adams (guitar). Ken said, "We're delighted to be back in Killington, we don't play in Southern Vermont a lot. To be invited back for a second year is cool. A woman from the resort came out to the Zen Barn this winter and asked if we'd be playing there again."

All the guys are Vermonters, living all over the state. The band just celebrated their four year anniversary, but some of the guys have been performing together for 20-30 years. This is their first Allman Bros. project, that started due to a friend of Tim's who passed. Ken said, "His wife reached out to Tim to see if he could put together a memorial with Allman Bros. music since that was his favorite. They didn't want a traditional funeral, more like a pig roast with a band. Tim put the call out on social media and 20 people responded and said they're in. What you're looking at, with the current line-up, is the six people who actually showed up. We just kept it going, it's grown organically ever since. Every time we played, people would ask us to play elsewhere. Next thing you know we're doing crazy things like

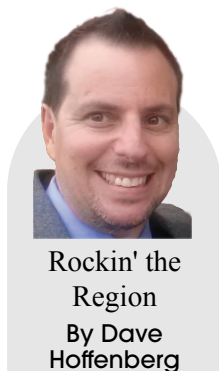
opening for Great White. It's been fun, a real blast. We're all older but we've been playing together for years so we had that in common. It made putting it together relatively easy."

The band mainly plays in the summer, but has some winter things like a Cancer Awareness Event at Jay Peak. They don't do clubs because they feel they're too big in size for clubs. Ironically the only club they do is the Zen Barn in Waterbury, which is tiny. I was just there so I can't imagine how they fit. The two drummers alone would take up the whole stage.

I'm a fan of the Allman Bros. and Warren Haynes so basically any tribute band show will be a greatest hits of sorts, because every song is good. Ken said they started by honoring the tradition of the early Allman Brothers. "Our stuff is along the lines of the Fillmore concert, that's primarily our set list. We do a couple of the newer, the Warren Haynes era songs as well. They played for 35-40 years. Their catalog is huge. We honor them by trying to stay true to form. In terms of the tonal quality, the instrumentation. All of our instruments are vintage. John and I play 1960s drum kits. All the guys are running old, authentic instruments from the era, tube amps, etc. It makes it more authentic sounding."

Their fan base appreciates that. There are many Allman Bros. tribute acts but Ken said the positive feedback they get is about their authenticity. "We don't play anything note for note, we don't try and learn the songs note for note. There's certain passages in the tunes that kind of have to be there, according to the ways the Allman Brothers did them but when it comes time for solos, we stretch them." I said to Ken that they probably do jams in their own

Rockin' → 29



Rockin' the Region
By Dave Hoffenberg

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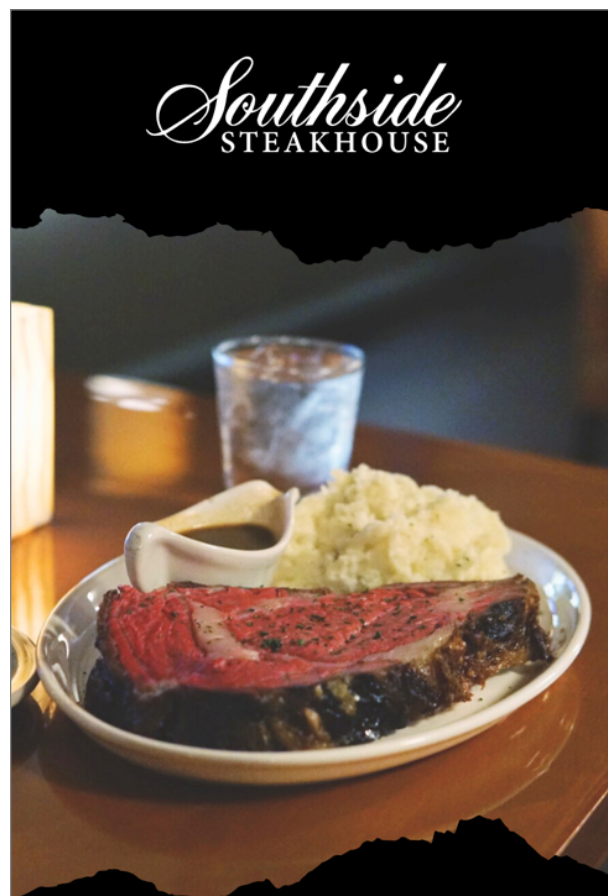
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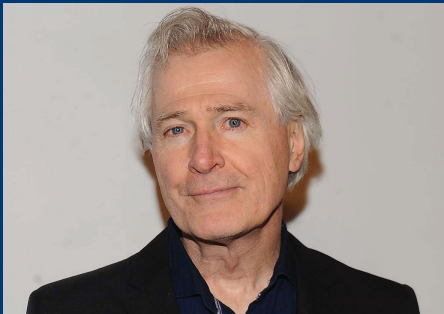
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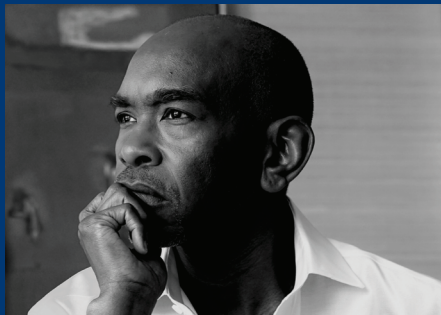
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Gardens showcased in sites across Woodstock

Saturday, Aug. 17 at 10 a.m.—WOODSTOCK—Woodstock will showcase three stunning gardens in sites across the town. Discover the shared story between Billings Farm & Museum, the Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historical Park, and the Woodstock Inn & Resort's Kelly Way Gardens. The three sites will also commemorate the 20th anniversary of the passing of Laurance S. Rockefeller, a visionary whose passion for conservation, sustainability, and heritage has left a profound and lasting impact on Woodstock and the entire region.

Kelly Way Gardens showcases a production garden supplying fresh products to the Woodstock Inn & Resort's restaurants. Come by for a tour, a leisurely stroll, or to chat with the master gardeners. Special for Garden Day, guests can try a smoothie bike, take a Family Sensory Tour, delve into the What's in Bloom programs, and taste fresh berry ice cream. Join in the 9th Annual Great Tomato Tasting from 1–2 p.m., featuring over 50 varieties, followed by a Q&A session and tour of the tomatoes grown in the garden's high tunnel. The Tomato Tasting, all programs, and entrance to Kelly Way Gardens are free of charge and open to all.

At the Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historical Park, the gardens reflect generations of stewardship and park rangers will guide tours of the Four Square Garden, Waterfall Garden, and Mary Rockefeller's Cutting Garden. All-day activities include bouquet making (while supplies last), historic herbarium crafts, Artist-in-Residence demonstrations, lawn games, and much more. The Vermont Fiddle Orchestra will perform on site between 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. Bring a picnic blanket, snacks, and drinks, and enjoy a beautiful day on the garden lawn. National Park admission and garden programs are all free of charge.

At Billings Farm & Museum, marvel at the Sunflower House where more than 50 varieties of sunflowers in all colors and sizes will fill you with wonder. Stroll through the Farmstead Garden, which features Heirloom, Victory, Pollinator, Permaculture, Chef's, Pizza, and Herb gardens, all demonstrating practices you can use in your own home garden. Enjoy educational programs such as Victorian Flower Language, Herbal Tea Happy Hour, and garden tours. Activities throughout the day include lawn games, herbal tea bag making, and Garden Story Time in the Sunflower House for children. In tribute to Laurance Rockefeller's legacy and positive impact, Billings Farm will offer free admission on Garden Day for Vermont and New Hampshire residents.

For more information, visit: woodstockinn.com.

Schedule:

- 9:30-10:30 a.m. Smoothie Bike · Kelly Way Gardens
- 10-11 a.m. Yoga on Rose Garden Lawn · Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller NHP
- 10:30-11 a.m. What's in Bloom Program · Kelly Way Gardens
- 10:30-11 a.m. Children's Story at the Sunflower House · Billings Farm & Museum
- 10:30-10:50 a.m. Intro to the Gardens · Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller NHP
- 11-11:30 a.m. Sunflower House Tour · Billings Farm & Museum
- 11 a.m.-12 p.m. Morning Meditation Hike · Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller NHP
- 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Vermont Fiddle Orchestra Concert · Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller NHP
- 11:30 a.m.-12 p.m. Farmstead Garden Tour · Billings Farm & Museum
- 11:30 a.m.-12 p.m. Native Pollinator Talk · Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller NHP
- 12-1 p.m. Make Your Own Herbal Tea Bag · Billings Farm & Museum
- 12-12:45 p.m. Mint Ice Cream Making · Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller NHP
- 12:30-2 p.m. Mansion Open House · Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller NHP
- 1 p.m. Native Pollinator Talk · Billings Farm & Museum
- 1-2 p.m. Tomato Tasting · Kelly Way Gardens
- 1:30-1:50 p.m. Intro to the Gardens · Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller NHP
- 2-2:30 p.m. Fernery Talk · Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller NHP
- 2-2:30 p.m. Sunflower House Tour · Billings Farm & Museum
- 2 p.m. Native Pollinator Talk · Kelly Way Gardens
- 2:30-3 p.m. Family Sensory Tour · Kelly Way Gardens
- 2:30 p.m. Farmstead Garden Tour · Billings Farm & Museum
- 3-3:45 p.m. Berry Ice Cream Making · Kelly Way Gardens
- 3-5 p.m. Herbal Tea Happy Hour · Billings Farm & Museum
- 4-4:30 p.m. Farmstead Garden Tour · Billings Farm & Museum
- 4:30-5 p.m. Children's Story at the Sunflower House · Billings Farm & Museum

Courtesy Woodstock Vermont
Kelly Way Gardens

Courtesy Woodstock Vermont
**Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller
National Historical Park (NHP)**

Courtesy Woodstock Vermont
Billings Farm & Museum

'Mozart and More' plays in Weston

Sunday, Aug. 18 at 4 p.—WESTON—The Sundays On The Hill Concert Series presents an Ensemble Aubade perform in the Old Parish Church (Route 100) in Weston. Ensemble Aubade (Peter H. Bloom, flute; Francis Grimes, viola; and Steven Sussman, piano) captivates audiences with vibrant chamber music by European and American masters. Highlights include the Kegelstatt Trio, K. 498 (1786) by Mozart; the Seven Postcards to Old Friends (1966) by Broadway arranger Robert Russell Bennett; and the Trio Opus 45 (1856) by the 19th-century composer Louise Farrenc (famous in her time but rarely heard today).

"Each musician played with virtuosity and flair, and the ensemble's performance was dynamic, expressive, richly colored and affecting," stated the Loretto Motherhouse in Kentucky after a performance. The esteemed ensemble, based in Boston, concertizes across the United States, winning praise for stellar musicianship, vibrant performances, and engaging residencies.

Admission is still only \$5 for adults. Children 12 and under may attend at no charge. The doors open around 3:30pm and there are no reserved seats, no advance tickets, and admission is paid at the door.

For more information, visit: SundaysOnTheHill.org.



Courtesy Sundays On The Hill

Ensemble Aubade will perform chamber music in Weston's Old Parish Church on Sunday.

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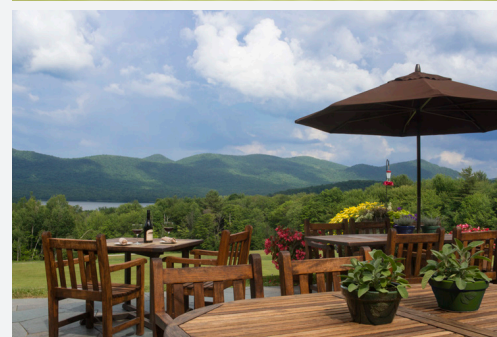

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← **Rockin':** from page 23

way, which is true but their fans tell them their jams sound more authentic than some of the other bands because we try and stay true to the way and style that the Allman Brothers played them. I think we've been kind of successful doing that."

Ken grew up on the Allman Bros. and Southern Rock. He said, "I cut my teeth on the whole Southern rock thing that was going on in Mass. in the late '70s, early '80s I was singing and playing drums in a band down there. We did a variety of songs like folk, rock and we did some Allman Brothers." He's from the Worcester area.

Ken and Tim's favorite Allman Brothers tune is, "In Memory of Elizabeth Reed." Ken said, "I love playing all the stuff. I've been an Allman Brothers fan all my life. To be performing in a band, of this caliber, at this level, in this stage of my career, I pinch myself sometimes. I didn't realize until I started performing the Allman Brothers that the music transcends generations. It's amazing to me when we perform, we get people who are retired veterans in their 70s and 80s, all the way down to kids with new families, and little toddlers running around. People come up and say they're listening to the Allmans because their Dad did. You guys perform the stuff and it brings me right back. It's just amazing. To me they were American rock 'n' roll, pure and simple. It's a testament to what they did as a band, to be out here performing

it, and to connect with so many people."

Ken is really enjoying playing in this band. He gets to play with his friends so the camaraderie is great. He said, "We're a band of brothers as we say. I love the energy. I didn't anticipate this happening, it's unique to this band that the fans who come out are true Allman Brothers fans. Sometimes we laugh on stage after seeing the fans excitement, because we know we nailed it. When we see their reactions, our adrenaline shoots up. Every band gets good reactions but this is different, they know when you're playing it correctly. It's so cool."

The band is headlining the Orleans County Fair in Barton, Vermont on Sept. 7 at 8 p.m. You can find them on Facebook under Soulshine Revival. There's a link to their store, and their YouTube page.



Submitted

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Sept. 6



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free parking at the LAZ Parking Garage

Crossword

Solutions from page 15

	F	M	C		P	S	I		T	E	G	
	L	A	O		A	B	N		A	N	A	
S	T	I	L	L		R	A	D		C	A	L
T	A	C	T	I	L	E			I	N	K	B
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Sudoku

Solutions from page 15

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

Rutland County Humane Society



Luna—2 years. Spay date set. Female. American Staffordshire Terrier.



Buttons—8-year-old. Spayed female. Domestic Medium Hair.



Stefani Bananas—7 months. Spayed female. Pitbull Terrier.



Gizmo—6-7-year-old. Neutered male. Domestic Shorthair.



Cookie—4-year-old. Spayed female. Domestic Shorthair.



OLIVER

Oliver—4-year-old. Neutered male. Basset Hound mix.

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Jenna—2 years. Spay date set. Female. Boxer mix.



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Penelope—9 months. Spay date set. Female. American Staffordshire Terrier mix.



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SANDY

Cosmic Catalogue



Aries March 21 - April 20

Even the most intelligent and open minded of all of us can be subject to cognitive dissonance at times. A real marker of intelligence is ones' ability to take on board new information and then change their mind, opinion or perspective in response to the new data. Right now, you've been doing your best to adopt a new mindset and learning new things. This week, you may hit a stumbling block of sorts. Do your best to push through it.

Leo July 21 - August 20

Something has shifted in the collective where having a differing perspective on things is causing rifts between friends. Have you experienced this recently? If you haven't, that's great. However, do be cautious this week if expressing your point of view gets a bit contentious. Other's may try and get a rise out of you too. We all have our thoughts, ideas and opinions. The more you can try and find the commonality, the happier you will be and the less hard feelings you'll experience.

Sagittarius November 21 - December 20

Relationships are set to get a little spicy this week. For some, it will be a heightening of passion between you. For others, differing opinions may be a source of contention. You might reach the conclusion that you're both on a completely different page. If you are, get curious rather than righteous. Whatever the path that lays ahead for you, being open minded will lead you to a choice that is right for you. Being overly opinionated doesn't always end well.

Taurus April 21 - May 20

Talk to anyone who is successful in their field. That success could equate to their achievements, their outcomes or their material acquisitions. One of the most common factors is their self-belief and / or their unwavering perseverance. More often than not, it's a combination of the two. This week, you need to show up with a level of confidence and self-belief that's out of character for you. Push through any setbacks or disappointments. Every winner fails many times before they win.

Virgo August 21 - September 20

Life has a real strike while the iron is hot energy right now, especially when it comes to your career and life direction. To the victor go the spoils, as they say. But, to be the victor, you have to be ready to seize what is rightfully yours. If you're wanting a promotion, a job change or simply a shift in direction, you're going to have to go out there and grab it. Life and all its opportunities won't come knocking upon your door.

Capricorn December 21 - January 20

When you can approach mundane tasks with an uplifted and inspired attitude, everything just feels so much easier. This realization may also help you to recognize that what you're currently doing isn't going to be something you want to do much longer. That said, there are just some things in life that you just have to grin and bare through. Whatever problem you are facing, it can be shifted significantly with the right attitude. The phase you're in won't last forever.

Gemini May 21 - June 20

Your enthusiasm and energy could be off the charts this week. Inspired action. Seeking truth. Spiritual warrior. These are all archetypical ideas you may embody this week. Think about yourself, your goals and what you see the big picture of your life being about. Once you've visualized that, you then need to take real action to make it happen. Do your best to eliminate distractions and push through with your desires even when it feels hard or hopeless.

Libra September 21 - October 20

Whatever your passion is in life, you have to chase it. Whatever it is that brings you a sense of meaning and purpose, you have to embody it. Whether it is a spiritual pursuit or you're looking for a far-flung destination to inspire you, you may need to take active steps toward it this week. If you're not sure what actually inspires you right now, then make it your priority to seek it. To open the doors of the world, first you have to knock upon them.

Aquarius January 21 - February 20

Despite some personal changes you're moving through, that's no reason to not want to live the best life you can. You can stay in your personal conundrum or you can get out and live your best life. That seems like an easy choice to make! In fact, a little bit of healthy distraction is probably what you need right now. A night out. A date. A hobby or pastime. Just do more of what makes you smile this week. Show up with enthusiasm and life will feel a hundred times better.

Cancer June 21 - July 20

Do pay attention to your dreams this week. If you can, keep a notepad so you can jot down what you remember. You could even leave yourself a voice note too. There's something about the liminal dream space that will give you the answers to the things that you're seeking now. The more you can turn your attention within, the more peace of mind you'll experience. Meditation and less time on social media will do wonders for your soul too.

Scorpio October 21 - November 20

If you've been in denial about your financial situation, then you do really need to get your head out of the sand. Whether you face reality or you don't, your situation is still the same. The difference is, when you know where you're at, you can take inspired action toward changing your situation for the better. Rather than being stuck in a loop, get curious, ask questions and be proactive about security the financial stability you deserve.

Pisces February 21 - March 20

Life is going to be about prioritizing your family and domestic life this week. You've been working so hard for quite some time. Now, it's time for you to start enjoying the reason you've been working as hard as you have been. This could involve time at home with family, entertaining friends at home or indulging in some luxury upgrades. The more you enjoy your home zone, the happier you'll feel now. Live like a King for a bit.

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

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Stay connected to the truth

The events of this week are set to be spectacular as well as explosive. In fact, what occurs over the next 10 or so days will

really set the scene for the rest of the year.

In a world full of lies, deception and manipulated reality, staying connected to the truth can take real dedication and courage. It would be unwise to take the official version

of reality and think that is all that there is to the story.

It's more important than ever to remain

open minded, but not so open that your brain falls out.

Instead, opened mindedness means not taking things at face value, asking questions, indulging in curiosity and exploring alternative outcomes. Don't be fooled in thinking that everyone thinks like you do.

Now and for some time to come, we face many wars on many fronts — literal and metaphorical. It's the war on your mind that has become the most insidious. Just because someone lies the loudest doesn't mean they are correct. Just because the majority thinks this is "the thing," doesn't have to mean it's the thing. We've been bamboozled for some time but avoiding the evidence of such.



Cosmic Catalogue
By Cassandra Tyndall

Hear the wind (a haiku)

We can hear the wind,
It howls making the trees sway,
Wind is beautiful.



Poetry Is Power
By Bree Sarandrea



Mountain Meditation
By Marguerite Jill Dye

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A domino effect

This is an effort to shed a little light on a darker side of the mountains. To offer a sliver of peace, hope and closure to those affected by the loss of someone in our lives who fought a silent battle with themself.

Behind us lies another warrior, fallen victim to the war within oneself. The struggle to

The only thing we leave behind is the good we are able to do for others.

separate what matters and what does not.

The constant fight to find meaning and value in who they are. To find their own individual spirit and unique voice.



Dream in Color
By Will O'Donnell

To discover what they bring to the table that no one else could.

Maybe they were feeling like they weren't worthy of a chance. Like they hadn't earned their place amongst the crowd. Wondering what it meant to be happy. To feel inner peace. To feel accepted. To feel loved. To feel connected, valued and seen.

To those we have lost:

Trust that we carry your soul with us as we continue. Trust that you will be remembered for the beauty you've brought to this world. Trust that the joy you've brought us all will never be lost. Trust that you are loved and we will never forget you.

For those of us left behind:

There are a few things we can do as we move forward to honor those lost

loved ones. We need to look inside of ourselves for a moment. To dig deep and check in. Have I shown others my best self? Have I been the most welcoming or inclusive? Have I been the most inviting? Have I been the most supportive? Do I show up for others?

Take the opportunity to show love to those you care for. The smallest gesture can leave a lasting impression and impact someone for a lifetime. This domino effect can be much more powerful and impactful than we could ever comprehend. If we simply try to be our best and most loving selves, we can shape the future for a better tomorrow.

After all, the only thing we leave behind is the good we are able to do for others. Tomorrow is never promised.

We can leave a legacy of love.

The world according to ferns

Ferns have grown on Earth for longer than trees and flowers, and existed well before *Homo sapiens*. In our region, the oldest lineage, emerging 200 million years ago, is the royal fern family (*Osmundaceae*), including royal, cinnamon, and interrupted ferns. Named for the fertile, spore-producing pinnae that "interrupt" the rest of the leafy frond.

Osmunda claytonia illustrates the many qualities ferns have evolved after so much time on this planet: tough spores that drift on the wind and can remain viable for decades; a separate, tiny reproductive form, called a gametophyte, tolerant of drought and flood; a special light receptor that enables photosynthesis in the shadiest environments.

When an asteroid slammed into Earth 65 million years ago, sending clouds of iridium-laced dust into the sky, it was these adaptations that helped ferns survive, while 75% of living things, including the non-flying dinosaurs, went extinct. Ferns were the first plants to leaf out on the devastated ground. For at least 1,000 years following the impact, ferns flourished.

Geologists, paleontologists, and botanists have considered this fern spore "spike" evidence of ferns' capacity to adapt to severe disturbance and thrive in the wake of disasters. Recently, however, a group of researchers has advocated for a wider perspective that includes the many positive interactions ferns have with other species.

Through the many climatic and other changes since the asteroid impact, ferns evolved and diversified, and now include more than 10,000 species. Bracken fern emerged 6 million years ago and is now one of the most common plants across the globe, in part because it can grow on disturbed, dry, and low-nutrient soils, spread quickly, and persist over large areas. Its foliage contains a chemical that repels would-be foragers.

These traits have given bracken fern a contemporary reputation as coarse, poisonous, and invasive, especially among those who would prefer to see trees growing in their place, or more palatable forage for livestock. Other fern species are similarly repudiated for their tendency to form a dense canopy and thick litter that inhibits other plants from taking root.

Ecologist Lauren Azevedo-Schmidt sees ferns as more than just successful pioneers. A member of a team of NASA-funded researchers studying the post-asteroid impact fern spore spike, Azevedo-Schmidt is part of a growing movement among ecologists to think beyond the individualistic, competition-based models of nature that have dominated scientific discourse since Darwin.

"Something can be seen through the human gaze as being 'detrimental' to an

ecosystem, and still be important for other environmental processes," she said. "We don't give ferns enough credit for how dynamic they really are."

For example, interrupted fern can produce a chemical that inhibits growth of red oak, but a fern makes less of this chemical in the presence of fungi such as slippery jack mushrooms. One conventional perspective is that the fungi help the trees outcompete the ferns. The alternative proposed by Azevedo-Schmidt is

that ferns facilitate the development of the forest, adding nutrients, holding moisture, building soil, taking cues from the fungi that the ground is ready for more red oak.

As the ecosystem diversifies, the ferns adjust. Ferns can sink rhizomes into raw earth inhospitable to seed plants, and quickly ramp up photosynthesis, beginning a process of re-greening. As they grow, ferns provide food and shelter for insects (more than 100 species in the case of bracken fern, including sawflies, aphids, ants, and bracken borer moth caterpillars) and provide nesting material for palm warblers, white-throated sparrows, and golden-crowned kinglets. Fern litter absorbs moisture, insulates the ground, and contains nitrogen, according to botanist Robbin Moran in his book "A Natural History of Ferns." As generations of ferns produce an accumulation of organic matter and nutrients, holding in moisture where their connected roots stabilize the ground, they create conditions for other plants and more complex ecosystems to establish.

Ferns have a lot to show for their tenure on this planet. We sense something of this when we appreciate their ancient beauty, from the marvelous spiral of their unfurling fiddleheads to the delicate divisions of their leafy fronds. There, in the shade beneath the trees, or on some parched and sunlit ground, what seems like a persistent weed in human timescales may very well be doing the patient work of ecosystem recovery and resilience.

Catherine Schmitt is a science writer and author of "The President's Salmon: Restoring the King of Fish and its Home Waters." Illustration by Adelaide Murphy Tyrol. The Outside Story is assigned and edited by Northern Woodlands magazine and sponsored by the Wellborn Ecology Fund of New Hampshire Charitable Foundation: nhcf.org.



The Outside Story
By Catherine Schmitt



Twisting the night away

For the past two weeks, my wife and I sat glued to the television in anticipation of the nightly Olympic recap. In that time, we saw some amazing athletes do some amazing things. We also got to see sports that are rarely covered in the media, like badminton, table tennis, and sport climbing (I was particularly impressed with sport climbing given that I've scaled a few climbing walls in my day).

I truly believe that sports are the best theater and that some of the storylines that develop while the athletes compete are what make the Olympics so compelling. The thrill of victory and the agony of defeat (as "NBC's Wide World of Sports" used to claim in their weekly telecast) are boldly on display at the Games.

NBC did a great job digging underneath the surface of the competitors to showcase not only their abilities but the struggles that got them to their special moment. These stories are the perfect accompaniment to the events, and the primary reason viewers come back night after night.

And while the victories always seem to be the most memorable moments, sometimes it's the failures that stick with you the longest. That was certainly the case for sprinter Derek Redmond.

Derek Redmond's Olympic story is one of the most inspiring and heart-wrenching tales in sports history, unfolding during the 1992 Barcelona Olympics, where Redmond was competing in the 400-meter sprint.

Redmond, a British athlete, had already faced significant challenges in his career. He had been forced to withdraw from the 1988 Seoul Olympics due to an Achilles tendon injury just minutes before his race. Determined to prove himself in Barcelona, Redmond started strong, winning his heat and quarter-final with impressive times.

As the semi-final began, Redmond burst out of the blocks with confidence. However, about 250 meters into the race, disaster struck. His hamstring suddenly tore, causing him to stumble and fall to the track in agony. The other runners quickly sped past him, leaving Redmond alone on the track, his Olympic dreams shattered once again.

I was watching this race when it occurred and I grimaced as the reality of his injury became evident. I've pulled my hamstring while running and it is excruciating. When it happened to me many years ago, I could barely get myself off the ground.

Despite the excruciating pain, Redmond

rose to his feet and began to hobble towards the finish line. The crowd of 65,000 spectators watched in awe as he struggled forward, determined to complete the race he had started.

After a few moments, a figure emerged from the stands. It was Jim Redmond, Derek's father, who had pushed past security to reach his son. Jim put his arm around Derek, supporting him as they made their way towards the finish line together. Derek was overcome by emotion and began to cry, the tears split between the emotional and physical pain.

Once the crowd realized what was happening, they rose to a standing ovation, moved by the powerful display of determination and paternal love. When you watch this video (it's available on YouTube), I guarantee you will get emotional.

Although Redmond was officially disqualified for receiving outside assistance, his courageous effort to finish the race became one of the most iconic moments in Olympic history. It has since been featured in numerous Olympic retrospectives and advertisements, while also giving

Redmond a second act as a highly sought-after motivational speaker.

Derek Redmond's story reminds us that sometimes, the most inspiring victories in sports are not about winning medals, but about the indomitable human spirit in the face of adversity.

In this week's feature, "Twisters," we meet a ragtag group of storm chasers who stare into the face of adversity, but in their case, the adversity takes the form of devastating tornados.

Clearly inspired by the 1996 hit, "Twister," starring Bill Paxton and Helen Hunt, "Twisters" is a reimagining of the same story, albeit with a younger cast and a little more tech. And that may be my biggest criticism with the follow-up: the cast was just a little too young to make this story believable.

Every summer needs a blockbuster and while "Twisters" may not be considered the hit of this summer, it is the kind of film that makes going to the theater worth your while. "Twisters" has some great special effects, plenty of anxious moments, and a little bit of sexual tension just to keep it cheeky.

Check this one out if you want a solid 2-hour distraction. You may not remember much the next day, but it's fun while it's happening.

A turbulent "B-" for "Twisters," now playing in theaters everywhere.

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



The Movie
Diary
By Dom Cioffi



When you realize winter is coming

Heat breaks... winter is coming!



Living the Dream
By Merisa
Sherman

I've been taking a different route every time, walking through shoulder high grass and slipping on smooth rock. I've been exploring long abandoned bike trails and sneaking a peek at some exciting snowmaking improvements. I've been left with a soaked sports bra and sweating right through my wool hiking shirts. I've pulled my old hiking skirt out of the fitness bin and fully committed to my favorite pair of no-see socks.

It has been a blistering hot summer. We've been hiking only at the very ends of the day, making it to our desks by 9 a.m. fully showered and ready for Zoom calls. Or saving up all the anxiety from the day until the temps finally begin to drop below 80 degrees around 6 p.m. at night. That's one of the beautiful parts about living in Vermont, right? That our lives have to align closely with the weather — we

adjust around her and not the other way around.

But today something magical happened. Something that I surprisingly wasn't quite ready for, but still embraced with the heart of a 9th grader. I mean, I had checked all the reports and knew everything that was happening, so I am not really sure why I was surprised, but there it was — hitting me in the face — literally.

I had begun starting hikes with a thin second layer for two reasons. Firstly, I love sweating. That's how I know I'm pushing myself on an adventure, also knowing that the temperature is above freezing. It's deadly to sweat when the temps are below freezing, as it greatly increases your risk of developing hypothermia. But summertime — let that sweat ooze out of you!

Secondly, I have this weird thing about my arms being covered sometimes. I love wearing tank tops and spaghetti strap shirts

— sometimes. But other times, I just cannot stand having exposed appendages. So for this particular hike, I was wearing a stupid off-the-shoulder sweatshirt that I never wear in public because it has pink tiger stripes, and bold patterns frankly frighten me. I like pops of color, not being immersed in it.

But for some reason, I wanted to wear this silly sweatshirt that leaves my shoulders exposed and that leave my skin exposed to my backpack straps. And yes, I always hike with a backpack filled with emergency blanket, first aid kit and extra clothes. It takes time for emergency services to get to you, even if you are just out for a little walk up to the top of Snowshed and I would just rather be prepared.

So this silly sweatshirt and I hiked up the southside of Killington, meandering about the mountain exploring all the sneaky little ways we could go. I mean, sticking to all the designated routes as we ascended the south side. It was a beautiful little 2 mile sprint up the mountain because I had to get back for Enchanted Strands at MaryLou's before 8 p.m. I was on a mission.

While ascending the south side, I had decided that the optimal descent for the evening would be good ol' Trail C. My least favorite route on the whole mountain. I usually try to stick to one side of the mountain or the other, but for some reason, today the mountain told me to descend via the north side.

As I stepped across Escapade, something magical happened. The wind began to pick up and I could see whips of clouds starting to develop all around me. I walked quickly into the K Cloud ... and into fall! It was COLD! The exposed skin on my legs started to turn red, and I could feel the wind whipping around me as I passed under the K1 Gondola. It was here! For just that moment as I crossed over, I could feel fall.

And I could smell it! The air was so light and crisp and I could feel the coldness as it practically threw itself down my nostrils and into my lungs. It was marvelous. I almost wished I had brought a flannel for the descent, but then I remembered that I was still wearing this silly pink and white sweatshirt. So as I took my selfies crossing under the K1, I seriously couldn't help but laugh. I could no longer remember why I had been anxious all day or worry about my appointments tomorrow. It was as if the cold autumnal wind just swirled around me and took all my worries with it. The cold a brief reminder to let it all go, to rejoice in the beauty that is mother nature and celebrate the changing of the seasons. Because, after all this heat, *winter is coming!!!*

Merisa Sherman is a long time Killington resident, town lister and development review board member. She is local broker and coaches skiing for KMS as Coach PomPom and moonlights as a ski designer and female ski bum. She can be reached at Merisa.Sherman@SothebysRealty.com.



By Merisa Sherman

An almost-autumn sun sets over Snowdon at Killington Resort.

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Three common problems that can impact Lilac health

By Ann Hazelrigg, Extension Plant Pathologist, University of Vermont

Lilacs (*Syringa vulgaris*) can be stunning in early summer when in full bloom, but this time of year they tend to look a bit worn out. There are three common problems that can impact the health of these shrubs: lilac leaf miner (*Gracillaria syringella*), powdery mildew (*Erysiphe syringae*) and a fungal leaf disease called lilac leaf blight (*Pseudocercospora* sp.).

The lilac leafminer adult moths are yellow and about a 1/2-inch long and live throughout the Northeast. In the summer, eggs are laid along the veins on the undersides of lilac or privet leaves.

After hatching, the larvae enter the leaf and create a linear mine easily seen from the leaf underside. As the larvae grow and feed protected within the leaf, the mines become larger and more blotch-shaped.

The larvae emerge from the mine, then fold and skeletonize the leaf. They then form a narrow white cocoon within the fold where they overwinter on the dropped leaves. With heavy infestations, the browned leaves may drop prematurely. At least two generations of this species can occur each year.

You can remove and destroy infested leaves to kill the mining larvae throughout the season. Raking and destroying the fallen leaves at the end of the season may help reduce the overwintering populations. Insecticide control is rarely warranted.

Powdery mildew is a common fungal disease that attacks a lot of plants including common lilacs. Although you may see powdery mildew on many different plants at the same time, this pathogen is very specific to its host, so the powdery mildew on your squash is not the same pathogen as that attacking the lilac.

All powdery mildews are favored by the same conditions: high humidity, cool nights and warm days, so it tends to show up on several different hosts at the same time. The powdery white spots typically occur on the lower or inner leaves and quickly move through the plant until most of the leaves are covered in white fungal growth by late summer. Fortunately, powdery mildew on lilacs is usually only an aesthetic issue.

If planting new lilacs, consider resistant cultivars to avoid the disease. Be sure to plant lilacs in a sunny location, and prune and thin the plant regularly to help improve air circulation and minimize disease. Rake and destroy leaves in the fall to help reduce infection next year.

Lilac fungal leaf blight symptoms start as brown spots on the leaves that begin at the edges. As the infection progresses, the spots can coalesce and cause leaves to curl and eventually drop. The fungus is favored by rainy or humid weather.

Although it may look like your lilacs are dying, if you scratch just under the bark near the end of a twig and still see green, and if the terminal buds for next year are obvious, the plant will be fine in the spring. Over several years of defoliation, however, the plant may be weakened. Thin the plant during winter to improve air circulation, and rake and destroy infected leaves in the fall to reduce the infection next year.

Dr. Ann Hazelrigg is the University of Vermont Extension plant pathologist and director of the UVM Plant Diagnostic Clinic.



By Ann Hazelrigg/UVM Extension

Although lilacs may appear to be dying from lilac fungal leaf blight, as indicated by brown spots and curled and dropped leaves, the presence of healthy terminal buds is an indication that the lilac will be healthy next spring.



Ric Bessen/University of Kentucky

The adult striped cucumber beetle, which can be present in vegetable gardens all summer, feeds on squash, cucumbers and other cucurbits.

The striped cucumber beetle can be a destructive pest

By Ann Hazelrigg, Extension Plant Pathologist, University of Vermont

Cucumber and squash production is in full swing in the garden, but there is a key pest that can affect the yield and quality of the fruit.

The striped cucumber beetle (*Acalymma vittatum*) can be a destructive pest on all cucurbits (cucumbers, summer and winter squash, melons and pumpkins) from the moment you set your plants out in June through harvest. While feeding, the beetle also can introduce a disease called bacterial wilt that can cause rapid collapse, wilt and death in young rapidly growing cucurbits, especially before the five-leaf stage. This disease can be more damaging than direct-feeding injury.

Cucumbers and muskmelons are highly susceptible to wilt whereas watermelons, squash and pumpkins are very tolerant or resistant to bacterial wilt. These infected plants should be removed from the garden as there is no rescue treatment once infected.

The adult striped cucumber beetle is about a quarter-inch long with a black head and yellow body with three black longitudinal stripes. The adult beetles overwinter in plant debris and move to new plants to feed, mate and lay eggs, usually in mid-June.

The small orange-yellow eggs are typically laid in groups near the base of cucurbit plants. These can be squished if you find them!

When the eggs hatch, the small, whitish larvae with black heads develop for a few weeks while feeding on the roots, causing minimal damage, then pupate in the soil. The next generation of adults emerge in early- to mid-August, and populations are abundant through late September.

Early beetle feeding can defoliate plants, girdle stems and scar young fruit. The beetles often congregate in flowers where they can interrupt pollination and fruit set. Later in the season, the adults also can attack mature fruit.

Controlling the pest starts early in the season. Setting out larger transplants later will give the seedlings a better chance to withstand beetle attack. Using floating row covers as soon as transplants are in the ground or after direct seeding will help exclude the striped cucumber beetles, but these must be removed when the plants begin to flower.

Dr. Ann Hazelrigg is the University of Vermont Extension plant pathologist and director of the UVM Plant Diagnostic Clinic.



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East Mountain View—Rutland Town Gem

This meticulously maintained, ranch style home is situated on 1.24 acres of impeccably manicured lawn with mature gardens. Centrally located to Rutland and Killington, the property boasts breathtaking views of East Mountain all year round. Enjoy sunset views of the Adirondack Mountains in the fall and winter from the back deck. With several sheds and a 2 garage there is plenty of storage space. Inside you will find an expansive mud room, a naturally lit kitchen with an open concept to both the dining room and an oversized four season sun room, which could easily be converted into a 3rd bedroom. Enjoy the sweeping views of East Mountain from the large living room while relaxing next to your gas fireplace. The spacious bedrooms offer plenty of space to spread out. This house has everything you need to call home! **\$406,000**



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Tomato Trivia: how much do you really know about tomatoes?

By Deborah J. Benoit, Extension Master Gardener, University of Vermont

We purchase them at the market. We dine on them in salads and sauces. Some of us indulge in the joy of growing our own at home, but how much do you really know about tomatoes?

To begin, the botanical name for the tomato is *Solanum lycopersicum*. Throughout the centuries, tomatoes have been called by many names: “xitomatl” (by the Aztecs), “tomatl” (by the Mayans), “pomme d’amour,” meaning “love apple” (by the French) and “poison apple” by many Europeans.

Tomatoes originated in Central and South America. They were domesticated by Indigenous peoples and “discovered” in Mexico by Spanish explorers in the early 1500s.

When introduced to Europeans, the fruit was thought to be poisonous. The tomato was considered simply an ornamental plant. It took another 200 years for it to be accepted as a delicious addition to people’s diets.

Tomatoes are related to potatoes (*S. tuberosum*), eggplants (*S. melongena*), and peppers (*capsicum*). All belong to the Solanaceae family of plants, which are commonly referred to as nightshades. Non-food nightshades include tobacco (*Nicotiana tabacum*), petunias (*Petunia*) and the beautiful but deadly angel’s trumpet (*Brugmansia*).

Have you ever wondered why we eat the fruit but not the foliage of a tomato plant?

Nightshade plants contain an alkaloid called solanine. It acts as a natural defense to discourage nibbling animals through its bitter taste and intestinal side effects when consumed in large quantities, making all parts of the tomato plant—except the fruit—toxic.

The highest amounts of solanine are found in the leaves and stem. The green, not-yet-ripe fruit contains a small amount, which decreases as the tomato ripens.

Nutritionally speaking, tomatoes contain vitamin C, potas-

sium, folate, beta-carotene and vitamin K. While they’re mostly comprised of water, they’re a good source of fiber. Did you know tomatoes also contain lycopene?

Lycopene, an antioxidant, gives tomatoes their red color. In fact, food products made from tomatoes and the fruit itself are the principal source of lycopene in our diets, providing numerous health benefits.

Today, there are over 10,000 varieties of tomatoes. There are heirlooms dating back over 100 years and new hybrids being introduced. They range in size from beefsteak tomatoes to dime-sized cherry tomatoes and can be round, oblong or pear-shaped. Colors include pink, yellow, orange, purple, white, striped and even green in addition to the traditional red varieties.

Did you know some tomatoes are annuals (determinate) and some are perennials (indeterminate)?

Determinate varieties set fruit for harvest all at the same time. They tend to be more compact in size. On the other hand, indeterminate tomatoes produce fruit throughout the growing season. They’re larger, vining plants, requiring solid stakes or cages and continue to grow until killed by frost.

Even though we think of them as a vegetable due to their use in savory rather than sweet dishes, you’ve likely heard that tomatoes are a fruit, botanically speaking. What may surprise you is that the tomato is actually a berry.

On the other hand, legally speaking, a tomato is a vegetable for taxation purposes, according to the U.S. Supreme Court’s ruling back in 1893 in the case of *Nix v. Hedden*, declaring tomatoes to be vegetables under the Tariff Act of March 3, 1883.

And finally, here are a few more fun facts for your consideration: April 6 is World Tomato Day. The tomato is the official state vegetable of New Jersey, and tomato juice is the official

state beverage in Ohio.

As you head out to your garden or the local farmers market, don’t underestimate those very familiar tomatoes.

Deborah J. Benoit is a UVM Extension Master Gardener from North Adams, Massachusetts, who is part of the Bennington County Chapter.



By Alex Mellin/Pixabay

Tomatoes, which get their red color from lycopene, an antioxidant, are a good source of vitamin C, potassium, folate, beta-carotene and vitamin K.



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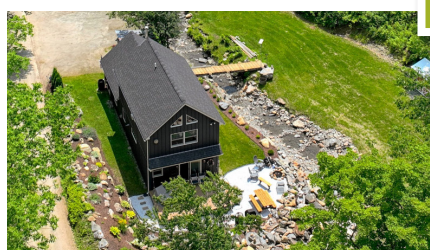
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Chili Cook-Off:

from page 1

Winners: 11th annual Killington Chili Cook-off

- People's Choice: Take Back You Sunday Chili (Arra Derderian, Gregory Jarbeau, and Matthew Podolski)
- Most Creative: Mongolian Chili (K1 Base Lodge)
- Judge's Choice- Restuarant: Papa's Texas Red (Megan Wagner- Dream Maker Bakery)
- Judge's Choice- Individual: Smokey Chicken Avocado Chili (Noah Machain-Harris- Liquid Art)
- Best Presentation: Snake Bite Chili (Preston's Restuarant)
- Best Garnish: Sweet Heat (The Foundry)
- Best Bribe: Brisket Chili (Rivershed Restuarant)
- Best Dressed: Dan Storm Chili (Lookout Tavern)



By Victoria Gaither

Smiles abound as enthusiastic attendees dig into bowls of hearty chili at the Killington's 11th annual chili cook-off, held at K-1 Lodge last Thursday, Aug. 8, amidst lively festivities.

NEW LISTING

360 DEAN HILL, KILLINGTON, VT

View Listing



360 Dean Hill, Killington, VT \$2,225,000

6 bedrooms | 7 bath | 3 car garage | 6,804 sq ft

Standing majestically on a 1.9 acre lot in the heart of Killington, custom timber-framed home is an architectural delight. Floor to ceiling windows offer trail views of Killington Resort and surrounding mountains. Radiant heat warms the red oak flooring for a luxuriously cozy feel, and a grand stone fireplace anchors the main-floor living area. A recently updated kitchen offers everything a cooking enthusiast could desire, including a Wolf range and hood, quartz countertops and a butler's pantry. The walkout lower level boasts a self sufficient two-bed, two-bath apartment with a separate entrance. The property includes two ERUs, which would allow for future configuration of a sixth bedroom, and the location is ideal, 3-bay garage. Property is being offered fully furnished and equipped, ready to move in. **Listed by Bret Williamson.**



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Primed for the Perseid meteor shower

The Perseid meteor shower has been lighting up the sky since the end of July with its climax on Aug. 12-13 with continued visibility this week. Nights with clear conditions made for a spectacular show. Stargazers who ventured to dark spots away from city lights were treated to a dazzling display of shooting stars after letting their eyes adjust.



Submitted



**KILLINGTON
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

Help Wanted — After School Program Team

Overview: Killington Elementary School is seeking a dedicated and enthusiastic individual to join our After School Program team. This program provides a safe, nurturing, and engaging environment for children ages 3-12 (Pre-K through 6th grade).

The ideal candidate will be passionate about working with children and committed to meeting the Bright Futures Licensure requirements.

Hours: Monday - Friday, 2:30 PM - 5:30 PM while school is in session.

Compensation: \$20/ hour plus discounted season pass to Killington Resort

Responsibilities: Supervise and ensure the safety and well-being of children in the program.

Assist the Director in planning, organizing, and implementing age-appropriate activities, including arts and crafts, games, homework assistance, and outdoor play.

Qualifications: Must have a high school diploma and be able to pass Vermont Background Check and Fingerprint in alignment with Bright Futures Licensure Requirements

Previous experience working with children in a school, daycare, or recreational setting preferred.

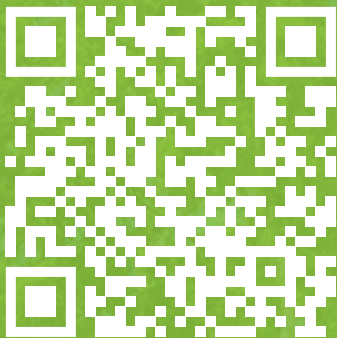
CPR and First Aid certification (or willingness to obtain).

How to Apply: Interested candidates should submit a resume and cover letter detailing their experience and qualifications to Killington Elementary School principal, Mary Guggenberger (mary.guggenberger@mtnviews.org).

Applications will be accepted until the position is filled.



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