



SUMMER TO FALL

Autumnal Equinox is Sunday, Sept. 22, marking the end of summer and beginning of fall. On this day, the hours of day and night are equal in length — 12 hours of each, with sunrise and sunset both at about 6:40.



PICO HOSTS ANNUAL BREWFEST SATURDAY

Enjoy dozens of the best in craft beers at the base of Pico Mountain this Saturday.

Page 19

LIBRARIES LEAD FAIRYTALE FEST

Leave it to librarians to host a magical day of crafts and costumes!

★ Page 21

EAST MOUNTAIN RD IN KILLINGTON IS CLOSED FOR REPAIR, PAVING

East Mountain Road will be closed between Bear Mountain Road and Trailside Drive for two weeks beginning Monday, Sept. 23. Mosher Excavating is replacing a culvert, then it's scheduled be repaved Oct. 15, according to Abbie Sherman, director of public works for the town of Killington. The road was damaged by a flood July 7, 2023.



Courtesy Dream Maker Bakers

A new world record is set

On Saturday, Sept. 14, Killington's Dream Maker Bakers made history setting a new world record at the Whoopie Pie Festival with a 1,187-pounder. It was 120 pounds over the previous record of 1,067 pounds set in 2011 by Wicked Whoopies of South Portland, Maine. The festival in downtown Rutland drew over 7,500 people throughout the day.

Killington Cup tickets available

FIS Ski World Cup returns for 8th year Thanksgiving weekend

Killington announced Sept. 12 that tickets for the 2024 Stifel Killington Cup will be available for purchase starting Tuesday, Sept. 17 at 10 a.m. at killington.com.

Taking place over Thanksgiving weekend, Nov. 29-Dec. 1, the Audi FIS Ski World Cup will once again bring women's Giant Slalom and Slalom races to Vermont. The event is expected to attract Stifel U.S. Ski Team superstars, including seven-time Stifel Killington Cup Slalom victor and winning-gest Alpine skier in history, Mikaela Shiffrin, who may be going for her historic 100th

Killington Cup → 2

Should schools be phone free?

Woodstock MS/HS principal says 'yes,' three community forums scheduled

By Polly Mikula

Smartphones — and the social media apps they host — can be harmful to users' mental health, said the U.S. surgeon general calling for social media platforms to include health warnings for younger users earlier this summer.

"Why is it that we have failed to respond to the harms of social media when they are no less urgent or widespread than those posed by unsafe cars, planes or food?" wrote Vivek H. Murthy, surgeon general, in an op-ed published

in The New York Times, June 17. "These harms are not a failure of willpower and parenting; they are the consequence of unleashing powerful technology without adequate safety measures, transparency or accountability."

Dr. Murthy said it's important for all of society to "play a role," specifically adding that "Schools should ensure that classroom learning and social time are phone-free experiences."

A phone-free movement in school across the country is, in fact, currently underway and gaining momentum.

Locally, Woodstock's Middle/High School principal and a vocal group of parents are calling for a cell phone ban "bell-to-bell."

Three upcoming community forums will be held to discuss those plans.

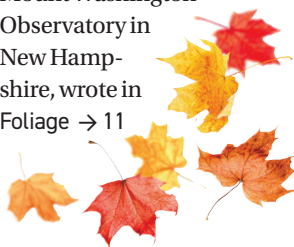
The first community forum is this Thursday at 6:30 p.m. at the Woodstock school library. All community members of the Mountain Views School District, which serves Barnard, Bridgewater,

Phone free schools → 6



Submitted

Cellphone use in schools isn't just a problem academically but socially, too.



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Thursday, September 26 - 5:00pm
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Woodstock, Vermont | woodstockinn.com

Democratic fundraiser hosted U.S. Sen. Welch and state treasurer Pieciak

By Adam Davis

The Rutland County Democratic Committee recently held a fundraiser at a private residence in Chittenden in the effort to raise money for local candidates and help turn Rutland County into a solid blue Democratic stronghold. Prominent politicians like Senator Peter Welch and State Treasurer Mike Pieciak spoke alongside known and unknown local politicians with the unifying message of converting Rutland County voters into reliable and consistent Democratic Party supporters.

For context, while Rutland County leans Democratic, it traditionally has a strong representation of Republican voters, as well. For instance, in the 2016 and 2020 presidential elections, Republican voters accounted for 42% and 43% of the county's overall vote, respectively.

Local Democratic candidates are hoping Rutland Democrats → 10

Courtesy Killington Resort

The annual FIS women's ski world cup will return to Killington over Thanksgiving weekend.

Killington Cup:

from page 1

victory. She'll be joined by teammates, former University of Vermont skier Paula Moltzan, Olympian AJ Hurt and Nina O'Brien, who is making her return from injury this season.

Returning once again this year is the athlete bib draw, fireworks display and festival village opening to kick things off on Friday night. Friday night activities are free to the public. No ticket is required.

Saturday and Sunday will feature world-class ski racing, as well as live music performances, starting at just \$10 for a ticket. The event will highlight Heroic, an initiative empowering women in the ski industry, with panel discussions and a movie on Saturday evening.

"I am thrilled to welcome the World Cup back to Killington once again. It is the best way to kick off the season, a testament to our snowmaking team and the strength of the ski community as a whole," said Mike Solimano, president and general manager of Killington Resort and Pico Mountain. "The Stifel Killington Cup is about the community as much as the competition. Last year, we were able to donate \$330,000 to support regional winter sports organizations through the Killington World Cup Foundation, and we are proud to continue this tradition and donate a portion of ticket sales, including 100% of VIP packages, again this year."

A percentage from all ticket options benefits the Killington World Cup Foundation (KWCF), which supports athlete team services and provides grants to bolster winter sports infrastructure and access to winter sports throughout the region. Proceeds from 2023 ticket sales supported over 33 winter sports programs in eight states.

For more information visit: Killington.com/worldcup.

New connections planned for Killington’s multi-use trails

By Brett Yates

The town of Killington will consider a new plan for improving connectivity among its public mountain biking trails. Pedestrians, hikers, and transit riders would also benefit from the proposed infrastructural additions, which aim to link recreational amenities on Route 100 to commercial and community hubs on Route 4.

On Wednesday, Sept. 11, representatives from Vanasse Hangen Brustlin, Inc., hosted the last public meeting of the Killington Connecting Trails Scoping Study.

A team of consultants and public officials have been investigating opportunities to ease passage across the busy highway that bisects the Sherburne Trails singletrack network, whose main starting point — though just 1 1/2 miles north of the Killington post office — currently requires a car for safe access.

Gifford Woods State Park and Kent Pond are even closer to town, but Route 4 and Route 100 are known for fast-moving traffic creating hazardous crossing for anyone on foot or on a bike.

In the future, new paths, trails, and marked crossings could remedy the problem. According to Project Manager Jenn Conley, feedback from residents at two prior meetings helped shape their prospective design.

“In between, we’ve done a lot of the more technical steps of looking at constraints — [there are] a lot of natural resource constraints in this area that we had to keep in mind. We look at different property ownership,” Conley said. “A number of factors go into how we start from a wide range of alternatives to how we distill down to what becomes the preferred alternative.”

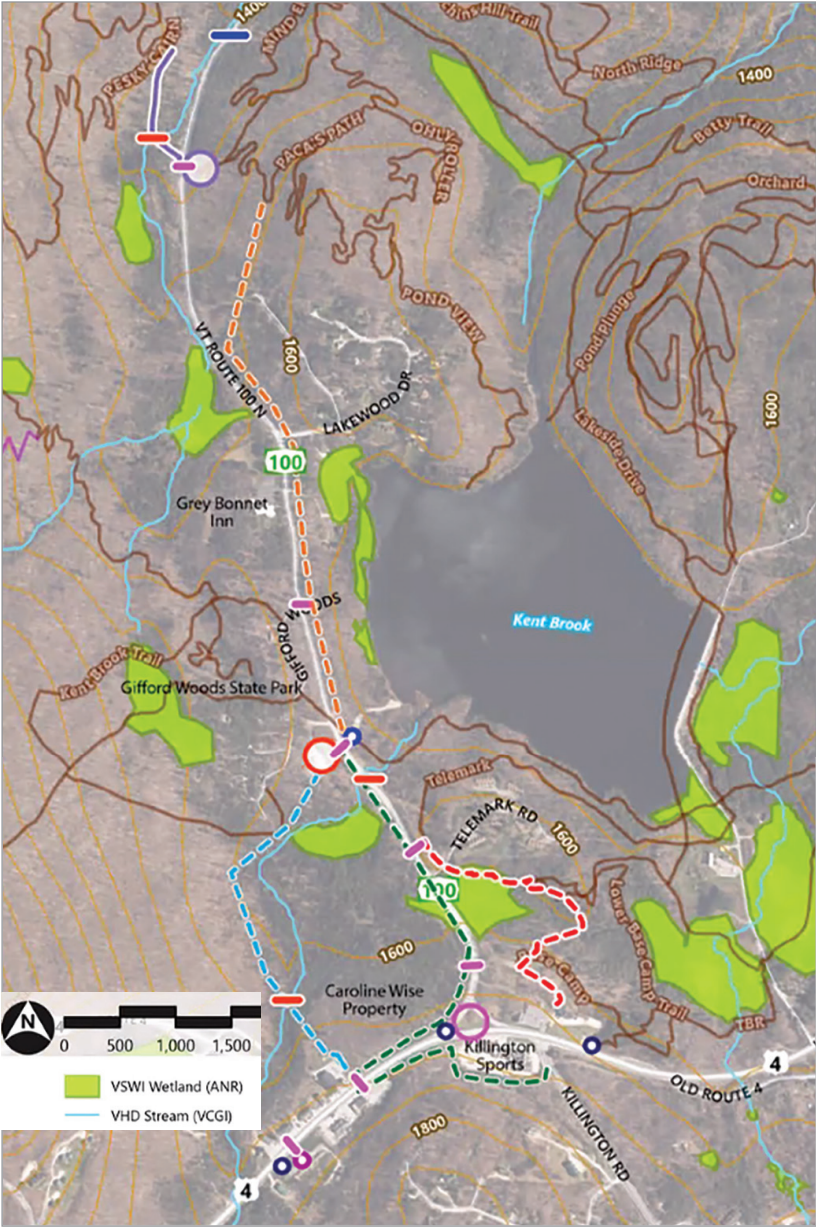
Municipal officials will receive a final report later this month and ask the Killington Select Board for its endorsement. Engineering and construction would take place in a piecemeal process over the course of several years, during which the town would seek various grants to pay for different parts of the plan. Ultimately, the town could end up adopting some components and not others.

“There’s definitely going to be priorities,” Town Planner Lisa Davis Lewis said.

The recommendations include a multi-use path that would connect Killington Road to the Killington Deli & Marketplace via the back side of Killington Sports. It would subsequently cross to the north side of Route 4 and then run parallel to Route 100 to the

state park. Mountain bikers would also have the option of using a revamped logging road to get to Gifford Woods, starting behind the Greenbrier Inn. In the Base Camp Trails section, above the Kent Pond Access Road, there’d be a new trail on the east side of Route 100 that would continue northward and eventually join an existing trail to reach the Sherburne Trails trailhead. Killington has already secured grant funding for that project. “We need to have a structural engineer design a bridge to cross the Tweed River,” Lisa Davis Lewis told the Mountain Times. “We are currently in discussions with several engineers

Town trails → 38



- Preferred Alternative**

 - New Trail Connection - (Alt 2)
 - New Trail Connection - (Alt 5)
 - New Trail Connection - (Alt 7)
 - New Multi-Use Path - (Alt 8/9/10)
 - Improve Existing Trail - (Alt 8)
 - Remove Existing Signed Crossing - (Alt 2)
 - River Crossing
- Proposed Pedestrian/ Bicyclist Crossing
 - Expand parking at Sherburne - (Alt 2)
 - Formalize bike trail access at Gifford - (Alt 7)
 - Modifications to VT-100 "Y" to US 4 - (Alt C)
 - Sign for no bike access - (Alt 5/7)
 - New Bus Shelter - (Alt 8)
 - Radar Feedback Signs - (Alt A)

Courtesy town of Killington
Map shows the most recent planned trail connections along routes 100 and 4.

Are You Running for Office?

Rutland County residents as well as Vermont residents running for state and/or federal positions who would like an unfiltered platform to announce and articulate their position can do so through PEGTV’s candidate profiles.

Candidate profiles offer candidates the opportunity to speak briefly about their platforms in a modern television studio setting with a professional production crew.

If you would like to schedule studio time to record a profile, send in your own recorded profile, or get more information, please contact Rich Elnicki at (802) 747-0151 or relnicki@pegtv.com



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MOUNTAIN TIMES

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OBITUARY

Patricia Taylor, 78

Patricia “Pat” Taylor Melton, 78, passed away Saturday, Aug. 31, at the hospital in Rutland with family at her bedside.

Pat was born on Oct. 15, 1945, in New Albany, Mississippi to the late George Ocie Taylor and Annie Elzine Gadd Taylor.

She was predeceased by her sister Georgia Taylor Fisher, and brother Robert Louie Taylor.

She leaves behind her brother Don Ocie Taylor (Jane), her daughters Gina Lynn McCullar Griffin (Dwayne), Geri Lane McCullar Whittaker (Robert Ranberg), her son Robert Earl “Bubba” Bills II (Tennile), and 12 grandchildren: Dane Jesty Griffin, Drew Anthony Griffin (Emily), Dari Lynn Griffin Dufrene (Regan), Debra Lane Whittaker Dismuke (Ryan), Erica Ann Whittaker Fleming (Jeremy), Eric Walter Whittaker Jr, Brittany Lynn Whittaker Rios (David), Tracy Elizabeth Whittaker, Justin Michael Whittaker (Maricielo), Daniel James Whittaker, Joseph Paul Ranberg, Emily-Taylor Bills, and 7 great-grandchildren: Dante Uriel Rios, Graeme Donald Fleming, Daisy Aemilia Rios, Tysen Walter Fleming, Ava Elzine Rios, Avery Peter Fleming, Atticus James Dismuke, and several cousins, nieces and nephews.

Pat grew up on a farm, and went to Northwestern Mississippi Junior College after graduating from Hickory Flat Attendance Center in 1963. She had a variety of jobs in life and was retired at the time of her passing. She lived in Mississippi, Tennessee, Louisiana, and Vermont.

Pat was strong-willed yet open-minded. She was hard-working and determined, but not envious. Her mother taught her kids to do what is right, and to leave everything in God’s hands. She was not fearful, and her character was sound. She loved her life and cherished her family, friends, and animals, especially her grand-dogs Jolie and Raven, who both passed before her.

She truly is a beautiful soul, and will be missed by many. Pat was celebrated at a small gathering held for her in Bridgewater, as many of her close friends and family were far away. Arrangements are under the direction of Clifford Funeral Home.



Patricia “Pat” Taylor

Submitted

Celebration of Life held for Angela Boisvert, Sept. 21

A celebration of life will be held for Angela Boisvert at The Wobbly Barn in Killington on Saturday, Sept. 21 from 4-7 p.m.

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

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

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

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

Please join with friends and family to share memories and celebrate Angela’s generous spirit.



Mary Noel Gluck

Submitted

Celebration of life held for Noelle Gluck, Sept. 22

The Killington and Pittsfield community and family will celebrate the life of Mary Noel (Finnegan) Gluck on Sunday, Sept. 22, at the Summit Lodge at 3 p.m.

Mary Noel (better known as “Noelle”) married Dick Gluck in 1971 and they became second homeowners in Pittsfield soon after that. They resided in Rowatan, Connecticut, and spent almost all of their free time in Vermont skiing, fishing and socializing. In 1993, they retired to Pittsfield.

Noelle, with the help of her husband Dick, spent many years organizing the Killington team to participate in the Komen Race for the Cure. Over the years, they made a significant contribution to aid in research for a cure for breast cancer. One year, Noelle was honored as the Komen Foundation Survivor of the Years for all the work that she and Dick did. After the race, everyone was invited to their home for a barbecue and a wonderful community celebration.

We look forward to seeing everyone at the Summit to celebrate the life of Noelle as well as her husband Dick.

Community Health receives Gold Award for quality care

Community Health is a recipient of the Health Center Quality Leader Gold Award, ranking among the top 10% of the Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHC) nationally, according to a news release Sept. 13.

The federal Community Health Center Program, under the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), recognizes quality care each year, ranking Community Health at the highest level as a Gold Health Center Quality Leader and awarding additional badges for Health Information Technology (HIT) and Addressing Social Risk Factors.

“These awards summarize our commitment to excellence in preventive care and chronic disease management, as well as to assisting people in addressing the many health-related social needs that exist in our communities,” said Mike Gardner, Community Health CEO. “Receiving the gold award during our 20th anniversary is especially meaningful marking 20 years of a commitment to excellence and quality care to our community.”

Community Health Quality Recognition (CHQR) badges each year recognize notable improvement achievements in access, quality, health equity, and health information technology.

2024 Gold Health Center Quality Leader

Community Health is the largest FQHC in Vermont, serving 47,000 patients in Rutland and southern Addison counties.

Community Health is Vermont’s largest FQHC. It provides a network of primary care, pediatric, behavioral health, dental, and pharmacy services with offices in Brandon, Castleton, Rutland, Shoreham, and West Pawlet. Community Health dental offices are located in Rutland and Shoreham; Community Health pediatrics is in Rutland; and behavioral health services are available at all of the locations. Community Health Express Care centers, open 7 days a week, are located at the Rutland and Castleton Community Health Centers.

“This award represents a dedicated and wonderful collaboration between many stakeholders and partners,” said Bradley Berryhill, MD, Community Health chief medical officer. “All credit goes to our staff and our clinicians, which I am personally grateful to work with. Truly, it is joyful to be recognized by HRSA, a milestone for Community Health; one that we plan to expand upon to continually improve services to best meet the healthcare needs of our communities.”

The badges are awarded to health centers that meet or exceed national benchmarks for one or more of the clinical quality measures (CQM) groups that promote behavioral health, cancer screening, diabetes health, heart health, HIV prevention and care, and maternal and child health and other clinical and social factors.

“The Gold Award says not only that we deliver our best possible preventive care and management of chronic disease, but that we deliver the best care, being in the top 10% of the FQHCs in the country,” said Moses Hudson-Knapp, RN, Community Health director of population health and quality. “It’s truly extraordinary and it speaks to the durable culture of commitment we have made to the health of our communities at every level where we can engage them.”

The federal Bureau of Primary Health Care funds nearly 1,400 health centers like Community Health providing affordable, accessible, high-quality healthcare to underserved communities at over 15,500 locations nationally.

Advancing health information technology (HIT)

With the HIT award, HRSA recognizes that Community Health has implemented information technology practices
Community health → 10

got news?

Email us at: Editor@mountaintimes.info

Police continue to investigate three suspicious deaths in Pawlet

Sunday, Sept. 15, the Vermont State Police began investigating suspicious deaths in Pawlet.

It was early Sunday morning, when police first received a call reporting a suspicious person. Subsequent investigation led the state police to a residence on Route 133, where troopers located the deceased victims. A subsequent news release confirmed that there were three victims.

This investigation has involved members of the Vermont State Police Major Crime Unit, Bureau of Criminal Investigations, Crime Scene Search Team (CSST), Field Force Division and Victim Services Unit. Following processing of the scene by CSST, the victims' bodies were brought to the Chief Medical Examiner's Office in Burlington for autopsies to determine the cause and manner of death. Their names will be released following confirmation of identities and notification of relatives.

Initial work by detectives indicates this was an isolated event with no identified threat to the community.

Anyone with information that could assist investigators in this case should call the Vermont State Police in Rutland at 802-773-9101 or provide an anonymous tip online at: vsp.vermont.gov/tipssubmit.

No further information was available prior to publication.

Daniel Banyai arrested for violating conditions of release on pending aggravated assault charge

Banyai was arrested by the same Pawlet constable he's charged with assaulting

By Ethan Weinstein/VTDigger

Daniel Banyai, 51, was arrested Monday, Sept. 9, for violating conditions of release on his pending felony charge of aggravated assault against a police officer, according to a press release by Pawlet Constable Thomas Covino.

Covino is the same officer whom Banyai is charged with assaulting in March 2024.

According to the release, police received information around 5:15 a.m. on Aug. 28 that Banyai was in New York, even though his conditions of release at the time required him to stay in Vermont except for legal obligations in New York.

"Following up on this information police observed Banyai at a Chinese restaurant in New York," the release stated. "Further investigation revealed Banyai had been in New York at Dunkin Donuts on more than one occasion which is also a violation of his [conditions of] release."

Banyai, who owned the controversial paramilitary style gun range Slate Ridge in Pawlet, was engaged in a tumultuous multi-year legal battle with the town over unpermitted structures on his property prior to his arrest. In March, Covino took him into custody on an active warrant. Banyai is alleged to have assaulted the constable during the traffic stop that led to his arrest.

Police issued Banyai a citation through his attorney "to appear in Rutland district court at a later date," according to the release.

Court documents indicate that prior to Banyai's latest arrest for violating conditions, his attorney requested the court change his conditions of release.

According to a motion dated Aug. 15 but filed with the court on Aug. 30, Banyai's lawyer, Christopher Davis, asked the court to allow his client to reside at an address in Port Washington, New York, more than 200 miles away from his Pawlet address. There, he'd maintain a curfew from 10 p.m. to 6 a.m. daily.

Banyai → 11

Attempting to avoid dogs, Ram hits man

On Wednesday, Sept. 11 at 5:45 a.m., police responded to a vehicle vs. pedestrian crash on Lake Dunmore Road near Fernville Road in the town of Leicester.

Investigation revealed Timothy Lester, 54 of Leicester, was walking on the side of the northbound lane while Benjamin Kandzior, 43 of Leicester, was traveling south in a Dodge Ram 1500 at a reasonable speed.

At the same time, multiple loose dogs from a nearby residence ran into the roadway in front of Kandzior. To avoid hitting the dogs, Kandzior swerved into the northbound lane and struck Lester.

Lester was transported by helicopter to UVM Medical Center was listed as in stable condition.

Due to a lack of reflective gear worn by Lester, combined with the darkness and loose dogs in the roadway, Kandzior was not found to be in violation of any criminal or civil statutes, according to the police report.

The town of Leicester was notified of the uncontrolled dogs.

Troopers were assisted on scene by the Leicester Fire Department and Middlebury Regional EMS.

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Phone free schools: from page 1

Killington, Plymouth, Pomfret, Reading, and Woodstock, are encouraged to attend.

The forums were announced at a Mountain Views School District meeting, last Monday, Sept. 9, after a presentation by interim principal Aaron Cinquemani and consultants Mitch Prinstein, a professor of psychology and neuroscience at the University of North Carolina, and Raymond Chin, a clinical child psychologist from Hanover,

“Research consistently shows that smartphone free schools significantly enhances academic performance, reduces bullying, and improves students’ mental health. By supporting this practice, we can create a more focused, supportive, and engaging learning environment for all our students,” said Cinquemani.

New Hampshire.

“The purpose of this presentation is to provide a comprehensive overview of the positive impacts of a phone-free school environment,” Cinquemani told the board. “We will delve into research findings, share case studies, and highlight actionable strategies for implementing this practice to foster a more focused, engaging, and supportive learning atmosphere for our students.”

The phone-free movement has become a global trend, Cinquemani said, primarily because its “observed benefits of improved academic engagement and student well-being.”

In California, he noted, “schools that implemented smartphone bans saw a 10% increase in student engagement and a 15% decrease in disciplinary actions related to phone use.”

Schools worldwide and locally have been affected by the decline of student mental health and are encouraged by studies outlining measurable improvements when schools adopt phone-free policies.

Cinquemani defined the phone-free school movement as: “A movement aimed at eliminating smartphone access and usage during school hours to improve educational and mental health outcomes for students.”

He then addressed some common concerns that frequently come up when folks begin to consider a phone-free policy at schools, including the need for phones in emergency situations and the need for phones to learn (i.e. as a

calculator, dictionary, encyclopedia, atlas/map, etc.).

Cinquemani countered these concerns citing many studies that show phone-free learning environments lead to better focus, higher grades, improved mental health and less bullying.

“Schools have communication methods for emergencies and non emergencies,” he said, adding, “In case of an emergency, we will follow our school emergency prepared-

ness protocols. Smartphones and cell phones can hinder emergency response, so it’s crucial that students follow our state, district and school safety procedures.”

“Schools provide all of the technology necessary and needed to maximize teaching and learning time,” he added.

At the board meeting Sept. 9, Cinquemani unequivocally expressed his support for Woodstock Middle/High School to become phone-free and asked the district board to support that effort.

“I strongly encourage you to support the implementation of phone-free practices in our school,” he told the board, Sept. 9. “Research consistently shows that smartphone-free schools significantly enhances academic performance, reduces bullying, and improves students’ mental health. By supporting this practice, we can create a more focused, supportive, and engaging learning environment for all our students.”

Most members of the board were supportive of Cinquemani’s proposal, but one expressed concerns about enacting it as an official board policy, another cited safety and accessibility issues as problematic, and one said they thought schools should teach proper use of phones or leave that up to parents.

Student board representative Owen Courcay, 17, said, “I think all this is a compelling reason for a more rigid restriction on phone use, but I do think that there’s a threshold that we might cross if we ban phones entirely. I really think, from talking with students, this is really pretty unpopular. And I think in at least the short-term there’s going to be a resentment problem if

we just ban phones all-together... while this information is very compelling, I do think there are some considerations to be made before we ban them entirely, I’m a little hesitant there,” he said.

Upcoming community forums

Three community forums will be held at Woodstock Union High School & Middle School library, 100 Amsden Way in Woodstock, to engage the community in this discussion before any actions are taken.

- Sept. 19 at 6:30 p.m.
- Oct. 3 at 6:30 p.m.
- Oct. 4 at 8 a.m.

While there is no timeline set for phone-free schools to be adopted, a parents’ group supporting the change hopes implementation could be rolled out shortly after the community forums conclude.

Draft policy

According to a draft letter to parents included in Cinquemani’s Sept. 9 presentation, the policy could be as follows:

From 8 a.m. to 2:55 p.m. students will not be permitted to use their cell phones, smartwatches, or Bluetooth headphones. Each student will be provided with a Yondr pouch, a secure and lockable pouch where devices must be stored during school hours. Students will keep their devices in these pouches for the duration of the school day and will have the opportunity to unlock their pouch at the end of the school day. Students are also free to leave their smartphones, cell phones, smartwatches, and Bluetooth headphones at home. Smartphones, cell phones, smartwatches, and Bluetooth headphones could also be stored in a parked student vehicle.

Daily procedure: Upon entering school, students must turn off their devices and place them in their Yondr pouches. Staff will supervise this process. Students in grades 9-12 will keep their pouches in their backpacks, while students in grades 7-8 will store them in their lockers. Students will unlock their pouches at the end of the school day to retrieve their devices.

“We understand that this transition will require adjustments for students, parents, and staff,” Cinquemani said. “But this measure ensures that students remain focused and present in their learning environment.”



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Left: Sherry Altman and her friend Ellie, 7, cut and then weigh dough to make 110-120 gram dough balls.
Right: Hamelman forms the measured dough balls into tube shapes, then into bagel forms for boiling, then baking.

Worldly baker teaches bagel making

By Curt Peterson

A dozen Hartlanders joined “master baker” Jeffrey Hamelman at the public pizza oven on Saturday morning, Sept. 7, bent on learning how to make bagels. Ten women, one rising 8-year-old girl, and an aging male journalist brought a short list of kitchen equipment.

One of the women, Sara Fuschetto, is a breadmaker at King Arthur Bakery in Norwich. Our professor quickly took advantage of her expertise and put her to work as his assistant.

“We have three goals today,” Hamelman began, “first, to learn something; second, to have fun; and third, to eat a bagel.”

His plan was to teach the class in reverse — we would first make three bagels, then learn how the process works, taking some makings with us to bake bagels at home.

Students were spread out at a horseshoe-shaped table covered with classic red/white checked table cloths. Each participant laid out a cutting board, mixing bowl, plastic wrap, a beverage and a bag for carrying finished products home.

Hamelman floured his own cutting board and plopped a rectangular lump of dough on it. He began cutting pieces, placing them on a digital cooking scale.

“The ideal amount of bagel dough will be between 110 and 120 grams,” he said, adding and subtracting small lumps to achieve a perfect weight.

We each received our own lump of dough from which we cut three pieces, weighing them as we were shown. Then we manipulated the sized dough



By Curt Peterson
Six demo bagels made by Jeff Hamelman gave participants examples to strive toward.

into three fat “fingers,” which we pressed in the center to form a “bar-bell” shape. After kneading into a tube shape, we connected the two ends, making a circular bagel shape.

Hamelman dropped his six bagels into a deep mixture of boiling water and 3% honey. After about a minute, he removed his six bagels and drained them.

“The honey provides a crusty texture and shiny appearance,” he explained. “And the less we boil the bagels, the chewier they will be.” Two aluminum pie plates contained poppyseeds, and sesame seeds. The still damp and slightly sticky bagels were dropped into the pie plate of choice, then turned over so the

“We have three goals today,” Hamelman began, “first, to learn something; second, to have fun; and third, to eat a bagel.”

flavorful tidbits stuck to both sides. “Proofing,” he explained, is making sure whatever you’re baking retains its shape until it goes into the oven. Hamelman carefully placed his six bagels into the flaming brick and mortar oven, arranging the burning wood and checking frequently to make sure they didn’t overcook or burn. When we finished and “seeded” ours, they were placed six-to-a-tray, and he placed them in the oven two trays at a time. While our attempts were baking, Hamelman shared historic tales of bagels and stories about his global baking and teaching experiences. We sat at a picnic table and shared the baker’s six bagels with cream cheese or butter, while he recounted some of his experiences baking around the globe.

He grew up on Long Island. He had his own bakery in Brattleboro for a time, and has made multiple trips to Uganda to teach basic breadmaking, and created the baking and education center at King Arthur. He taught us how to make bagels with such joy, we asked if making them was his favorite baking pastime. “I’ve baked many kinds of breads,” he said, “and pastries, cakes, tortes, chocolates and wedding cakes. I love them all.” We each took our three bagels and an instruction sheet with us, along with dough to make more at home.

Most tasks in Vermont hazard mitigation plan left incomplete, auditor says

By Peter D’Auria/VTDigger

In 2018, the state of Vermont released a plan outlining how it should prepare for natural disasters. The State Hazard Mitigation Plan lays out 24 strategies, separated into 96 discrete actions, to address risk factors for natural disasters. Those actions included improving flood resilience, strengthening building design standards and educating local communities about potential hazards, among others. But five years after the creation of that plan, Vermont achieved only a third of those 96 actions, a new report dated Sept. 3 from the state auditor found. Doug Hoffer, Vermont’s state auditor, said in an interview that if the entire plan had been put into action, it could have helped the state weather flooding in the summers of 2023 and 2024.

“I think there’s no question that those recommendations, had they been adopted, would have made a difference in the last two years,” Hoffer said. In order to qualify for some federal disaster mitigation funding and grants from FEMA, states are required to draft a hazard mitigation plan every five years. Vermont issued a new plan in 2023.

“The state mitigation plan guides risk-informed decision making at the state level,” according to a FEMA guide to the plans. “It also guides local governments engaged in mitigation planning, including vulnerable and underserved communities.” Although the creation of the plan is a requirement to draw federal dollars, FEMA does not verify whether states complete the recommendations set forth in their plans. In the review, Vermont’s auditor looked at the 96 actions included in the 163-page 2018 plan. Those actions spanned a range of topics, and included steps to improve flooding and drought resilience, create a state buyout program for properties in hazard-prone areas, help municipalities better plan for disasters and improve maps and sharing, among many others.

An array of Vermont entities — including state offices, institutions of higher education and nonprofits — were in charge of completing those tasks. But according to the auditor’s report, the responsible entities failed to complete two-thirds of those actions by 2023. Even high-priority actions were “frequently” unfinished, the report reads.

“It is unclear how effectively Vermont’s 2018 Plan reduced the risks associated with natural disasters,” the report said. Those uncompleted actions include steps to better share hazard maps and data between state programs, analyze disaster relief funding sources and create a statewide map of headwaters in Vermont, according to the report.

Hoffer pointed to another piece of the plan that was not complete: a provision calling for the creation and sharing of model construction standards for disaster-resilient buildings and infrastructure. “Had they done that in ’18 or ’19, and had they reached out to the towns and maybe had provided some incentives to get it done, then construction from that time forward in the at-risk areas would have been built to code explicitly,” Hoffer said. “And if you do that, then you prepare for the next flood event. And there will be another flood event, as you can imagine.”

Separately, Vermont’s 2023 plan included no actions specifically related to infectious disease, the report noted, despite being written after the emergence of Covid-19.

GUEST EDITORIAL

What Vermonters need to know about the Clean Heat Standard

By Gov. Phil Scott

Editor's note: At a press conference Thursday, Sept. 12, Governor Phil Scott discussed the costs and barriers to implementing the Legislature's Clean Heat Standard, and the impacts it will have on affordability. This is the transcript of that speech.

Last year, I vetoed S.5, the so called 'Affordable Heat Act' which established a Clean Heat Standard. Unfortunately, the Legislature overrode that veto, so the bill became law.

Now I want to be clear, we don't necessarily disagree with the goals within the Clean Heat Standard like reducing emissions from the thermal sector. And, we've actually already invested over \$200 million in the climate sector in the last couple years.

Our disagreement is in how we get there. I've always believed affordability considerations should be taken seriously, because they're significant.

We need to be thoughtful and realistic, and make sure we're not hurting the Vermonters who can least afford it.

After the Legislature overrode my veto, I told Vermonters we'd update them along the way so they have a good understanding of how this will impact them.

Just last week, the consultant charged with studying the potential impacts and cost of this law presented their findings. And not only are the costs extremely high, at almost \$10 billion,

the report also points to other challenges like workforce shortages and, just months before the Legislature will be asked to move forward with this policy, there are still many unanswered questions, like, who actually pays for what.

However, I did see that Senator Bray, one of the architects of the Affordable Heat Act, said it could add \$1.70 to a gallon of heating fuel.

And we can't forget about the Renewable Energy Standard, another bill the Legislature also passed over my veto, which will raise electrical rates, costing Vermonters millions of dollars.

And with the already-high cost of living...historic property tax increases, higher DMV fees, a new payroll tax, and so much more this Legislature has passed, the cost estimates for the Legislature's Clean Heat Standard are alarming.

All along the way, we asked the Legislature to fully consider the impacts of the Clean Heat Standard and be honest about the costs and complications.

Now that there's an election around the corner, we're seeing some legislators having second thoughts. But, I'm concerned about what they'll do in January when the election is over.

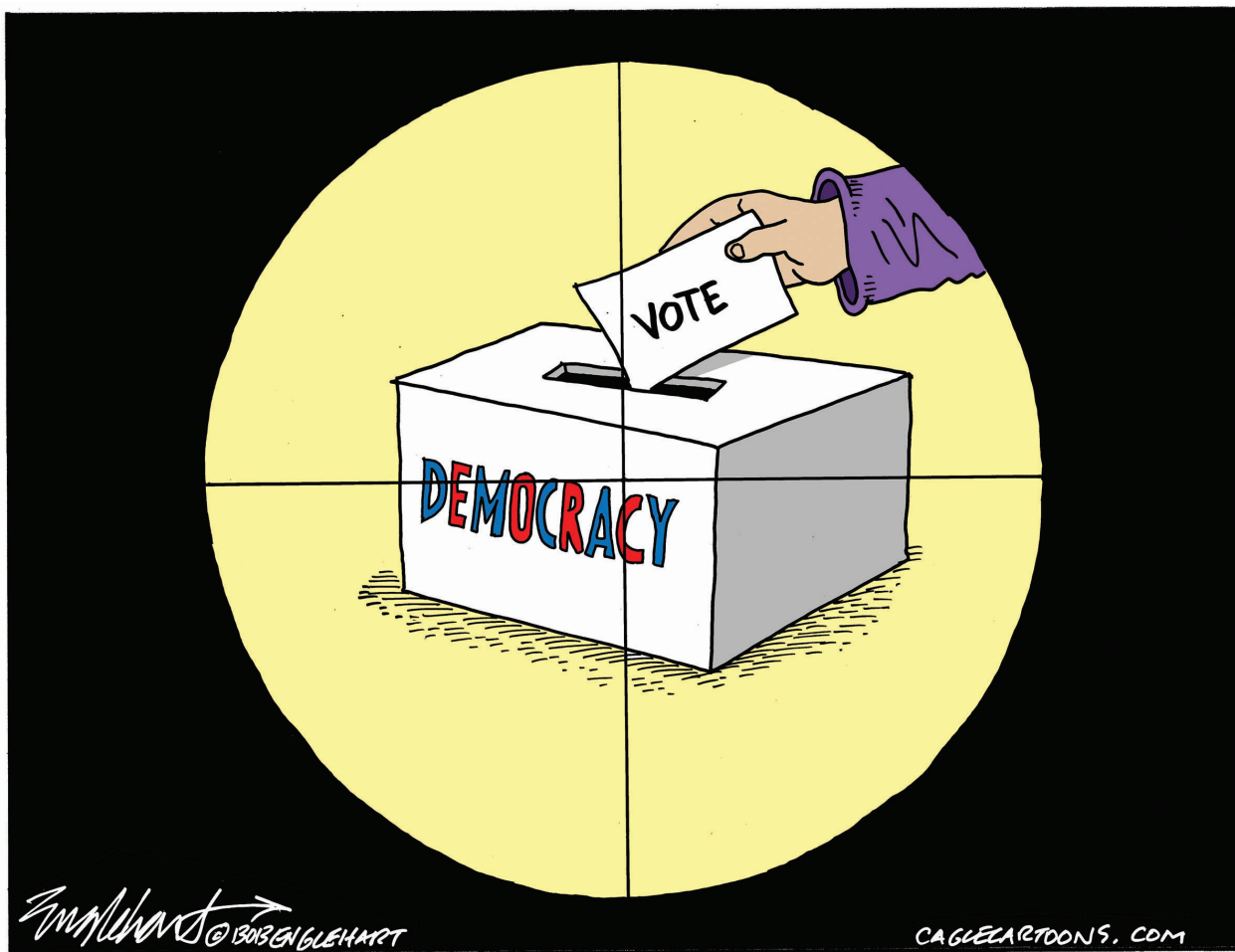
Now, I'd like to end by reading from my 2023 budget address, when talking about this clean heat policy. Again, this was almost two years ago:

The fact is 70% of Vermonters rely on fossil fuels to heat their homes. To change this, we need to help people through this transition, not punish them.

We must also answer some tough questions, which I get

Doing this strategically, with the understanding we can't hurt the very people we're trying to help will ultimately get us where we all want to go faster and with much less conflict.

Clean Heat Standard → 9



Attempted Assassinations Rob Citizens Of Democracy by Bob Englehart, PoliticalCartoons

LETTERS

A note of thanks

Dear Editor,

Thank you to so many who celebrated the life of Erica Hurd last month on the Pittsfield Green. Like her, it was beautiful in so many ways. She brought us together again to share our love, stories, food, music, tears and laughter. And lots of purple.

The support of so many — family, friends, neighbors — and the town of Pittsfield, the little town with the big heart, was overwhelming. The day would not have been possible without you and the delicious food and amazing spirit you brought. We especially want to thank Cheryl and Roy Hopgood, Sharon and Gary Mayer, Christa Mohr, Susan and Vito Rasenas, Liz Vago, Patty and Vern Haskins, Dorian Morin-van Dam, Tyler Gugliotta, Fergus Keenan, Ginny Sargent for all the set up and take down help. So many more helped, too — thank you!

Thanks to the mu-
Erica Hurd → 13

Lies masquerading as opinion

Dear Editor,

In his Aug. 28, 2024, Mountain Times letter "Response to Republican choice," Mr. George de Luna states rather oddly that "Most of his [Trump's] 'lies' are exaggerations but are in the same direction of the truth." Actual journalists disagree.

In their Jan. 24, 2021, Washington Post article "Trump's false or misleading claims total 30,573 over 4 years," journalists Glenn Kessler, Salvador Rizo and Meg Kelly do not use bizarre characterizations of Trump's statements such as "same direction of the truth." As the title says, these are "false and misleading."

Three Trump lies that come to mind are that Obama was born in Kenya, climate change is a Chinese hoax, and that he won the 2020 presidential election. (How these can be characterized as "in the direction of the truth?" Only Mr. de Luna can explain.) And Trump continues to repeat the lie that he won. The journalist who wrote this article called the claim "ridiculously

wrong." Interestingly, Mr. de Luna does not mention the 2020 election or Trump's lies about it.

Here is more on the 2020 election: A group of eight well-respected conservative Republicans headed by retired Missouri Senator John Danforth, wrote the report "Lost, Not Stolen: The Conservative Case that Trump Lost and Biden Won the 2020 Presidential Election."

This report examines all of Trump's charges of election fraud and demolishes any notion that Trump won. I challenge Mr. de Luna, or other Trump supporter, to read it and still claim that Biden did not win.

However, his loss didn't stop him from supporting the Jan. 6 insurrectionists, trying to get the Georgia Attorney General to "find" him [11,780] votes, or trying to install bogus slates of electors. That is, he tried to overturn a free and fair election, the basis of our democracy.

There is a word for someone "who betrays another's trust or is false to a duty or

Lies → 9

Vote Radonis for state rep

Dear Editor,

I'm writing to support of Steve Radonis's bid for Windsor's 5th district state rep. And as a 74-year-old Connecticut resident and life-long (so far!) registered Democrat, that's pretty much all I can do because out-of-state homeowners in Vermont cannot vote in local elections, one of a few issues on which Radonis and I disagree.

So here's why I support and encourage others to support Steve Radonis:

- He looks out for and extends himself to others whether they be neighbors, friends, or strangers. For example, during last summer's flood here in Plymouth, some new out-of-state neighbors drove up Steve's road trying to find a way to their Route 100 home. Steve was on his way out to help some other residents and told

Radonis → 35

CAPITOL QUOTES

Former President Donald Trump wasn't harmed in an apparent assassination attempt Sunday, Sept. 15, as he golfed near his Florida club, but it was the second threat to his life in barely two months. The suspected, Ryan Wesley Routh, camped outside the golf course for nearly 12 hours with AK-47 style rifle pointing through the chain-link fence out toward the green, according to court documents filed Monday. He is accused of lying in wait for the former president before a Secret Service agent opened fire.

"He believed the rhetoric of Biden and Harris, and he acted on it. Their rhetoric is causing me to be shot at, when I am the one who is going to save the country, and they are the ones that are destroying the country — both from the inside and out,"

said **Donald Trump** in an interview with Fox News Digital, Monday, Sept. 16.

"I've always condemned political violence, and I always will. In America, we resolve our differences peacefully at the ballot box, not at the end of a gun. America suffered too many times the tragedy of an assassin's bullet. It solves nothing. It just tears the country apart. We must do everything we can to prevent it and never give it any oxygen."

said President **Joe Biden**, Monday while speaking at the 2024 National HBCU Week Conference in Philadelphia.

"Put simply, President Trump does not have the Secret Service protective detail commensurate with the existing threat environment... We request that you take the following actions... Designate President Trump as a protectee with the same level of protective resources afforded to a sitting president," wrote group of eight Senate Republicans led by Sen. **Roger Marshall**, R-Kan., in a Sept. 17 letter to the acting director of the Secret Service.

"President Trump needs the most coverage of anyone. He's the most attacked, he's the most threatened, even even probably more than when he was in the Oval Office. So we are demanding, in the House, that he have every asset available, and we will make more available if necessary. I don't think it's a funding issue. I think it's a manpower allocation."

said House Speaker **Mike Johnson**, during an appearance on "Fox & Friends," Monday.

LETTER

VTF&W board a self-serving loop

Dear Editor,

Editor's note: The following was submitted to the Mountain Times as an open letter to Governor Scott.

To quote Yogi Berra, "It's deja vu all over again." Once again, there are members of the Vermont Fish & Wildlife Board whose terms have expired, this time as of last February, yet they are still active members. According to the regulations, "A member serving a full six-year term shall not be eligible for reappointment." One of these

board members caused quite a stir earlier this year after engaging in name-calling, derisively referring to

not just privileged special interests, the political agenda to maintain the status quo, which is both undemocratic

Conflict-of-interest concerns raised by groups like Protect Our Wildlife have been ignored by the Governor and VTF&W, where board members have voted on matters that may financially impact them.

wildlife advocates as "bunny huggers." Despite the fact that Vermonters want a board that's more reflective of the people of Vermont and

and unjust, persists. The Vermont Fish & Wildlife Dept. (VTF&W) and governor's office should be pub-
Loop → 10

Clean Heat Standard: from page 8

asked all the time, like:

"Can our electrical grid handle the load needed for a cleaner and more affordable energy future?"

"How will we make sure people stay warm or charge their vehicles, when, not if, the power goes out?"

And most importantly, "How do we make sure lower and moderate-income families can afford the switch?"

There are solutions to these questions and I share the sense of urgency here. But we've got to get this right. Doing this strategically, with the understanding we can't hurt the very people we're trying to help, will ultimately get us where we all want to go faster and with much less conflict.

So my budget dedicates funding to our Climate Office to develop a real plan, outlining exactly what work needs to be done

on what timeline and at what cost. And we'll bring this plan back to you, so everyone can see the details.

Because as is the case for any project like roads, bridges and buildings, the Legislature has an obligation to debate and vote on these specifics, in bill form, and then send it to the Governor for action."

Now you know, this was not the approach the Legislature took when passing S.5.

We've now spent more than a year working on a legislatively-mandated policy before we knew what it would cost, if it would work, or if we could even do it.

And it turns out, we probably can't.

From my perspective, this is starting to look a lot like single payer. And, we should learn from the mistakes of the past because Vermonters deserve better.

Lies: from page 8

obligation, or someone who commits treason." The word is "traitor" and by any definition, Trump is one.

Mr. de Luna states many things that must be charitably called his opinions, and which he backs up with ... well, really, nothing. For example, "The left wing media is totally corrupt." He doesn't say who he means by this, but we can be fairly certain that it means anyone who disagrees with Mr. de Luna's bizarre ideas about Trump. Mr. de Luna gives no references for his claims, but in fairness, it would be hard or impossible to find any evidence or credible opinion for statements like: "If Trump loses and the left gets control of government, you

can expect a weak economy, never ending wars, rampant inflation and gas prices, restrictions on what you can eat, drive, say and do."

Mr. de Luna stays away from Trump's draft-dodging, his cheating his contractors and on his wives, and the \$400 million he got from Daddy Fred, but it's pretty hard to defend any of that.

Mr. de Luna ends by saying, despite his draft-dodging and attempted election sabotage, what a patriot Trump is. De Luna asks "What does he have to gain by being president? He's already rich and can live his live out in luxury." But we have it on good authority why Trump wanted to be president. In an interview

with Maggie Haberman Trump himself said: "The question I get asked more than any other question: 'If you had it to do again, would you have done it?' The answer is, 'Yeah, I think so. Because here's the way I look at it. I have so many rich friends and nobody knows who they are.'"

As the reporter then clarified: "OK. So, just to be crystal clear here — Trump is saying that if he had it to do all over, he would run for president again because it made him more famous."

Some like to call Trump a "conservative," but the only association between Trump and conservatism is in the first three letters: "CON."

Kem Phillips, Cavendish

← Rutland Democrats: from page 2

to shrink those numbers in upcoming local and national elections. Keynote speaker Senator Welch took the microphone first and touched upon multiple subjects like the upcoming election, his call for President Biden to step away from the presidential race, the events of Jan. 6, and how Democratic candidates can win the hearts and minds of Republican and undecided voters in the second most populous county in the state.

“I’m proud to be a Vermont Democrat. There’s a Vermont way that America needs more of. It’s not complicated. We respect our neighbors. We accept differences in opinion. When the house is on fire, you show up if you’re in the volunteer fire department. If your neighbor is in a ditch, you pull them out,” Senator Welch told the gathering of supporters. “We don’t ask for a credential. ‘Who did you vote for?’ We do that because we know that trust in each other is even more important than the Constitution in keeping this Democracy together. You get trust when you give trust. Our impulse is to extend a hand, offer to help, and to try and put yourself in the shoes of another person whether you disagree with them or not.”

“My view about Rutland [County] is if you want to get ahead in Vermont politics, you need to pass the Rutland test,” Welch continued. “If you can win in Rutland, you’re probably going to do well in the rest of the state.”

Local candidates like Representative William Notte (Rutland-7) then took



By Adam Davis
U.S. Sen. Peter Welch spoke at a Democratic fundraiser in Chittenden on Friday, Sept. 6.

the microphone and spoke of their records and their opponents, as well as the challenges that Democrats face in the certain districts of the county. “It pains me how many districts we have where there’s a Republican running unopposed,” Notte said. “So I ask those of you that are in such a district to consider supporting House candidates so that we can help turn Rutland County more blue.” After all the local candidates had their chance to address the crowd, State Treasurer Mike Pieciak spoke at the end of the evening. “I think the future of Vermont runs through Rutland County and Rutland City. We have a really optimistic vision of the future of our state. We have a growing economy, people are moving here, and we’re expanding our housing stock. We need to do more of all of it. But if we can make that happen here in Rutland, we will be a very successful state over the next decade,” Pieciak said. “The same is true of our politics. If we can win here, we can win across the state. It’s really important to invest in Rutland, and we’re really happy to do so.” “Our office identified housing as the No. 1 issue in our state. It’s the No. 1 economic and social issue,” Pieciak continued. “So we have to put as many resources from our office as we have to invest in housing. We put \$100 million of support in low interest loans for affordable housing throughout the state, that’s 1,100 units of housing total and we want to do even more in my second term.”

← Hazard plan: from page 7

The auditor’s report faults leadership — specifically, the State Hazard Mitigation Planning and Policy Committee, a board of top state officials that includes the secretaries of the Agencies of Natural Resources, Administration, and Human Services, among others — for failing to ensure that the plan was implemented. Staff turnover at the responsible entities and the Covid-19 pandemic also contributed, according to the report. The auditor’s office recommended that state officials strengthen oversight,

monitoring and training for the entities responsible for carrying out the plan. In a letter to the auditor, Jennifer Morrison, the commissioner of Vermont’s Dept. of Public Safety, and Sarah Clark, the interim secretary of the Agency of Administration, expressed appreciation for the report and accepted its findings. State officials would consider its recommendations, they said. Eric Forand, the director of Vermont Emergency Management, which is responsible for drafting Vermont’s hazard mitigation plan, called it an

“aspirational” document. “You want to do as much as you can,” Forand said in an interview, “so you codify it in the plan, and you try to do what you can to complete what you can.” He said that it was impossible to tell whether completing the steps in the plan would have made a difference during the flooding in the past two years. “There’s no hard and fast answer that if we did something, it would equal something else,” Forand said. “There’s never that certainty in the emergency management world.”

← Community health: from page 4

to enhance the quality of the services including:

- Offering telehealth services
- Collecting data on patient social risk factors
- Engaging patients through health information technology
- Exchanging clinical information online with key providers’ healthcare settings

Community Health fulfilled all these criteria in 2023, earning recognition for these advanced approaches to quality healthcare, including the use of electronic records, an online patient portal, and population health data collection. “We have to use technology to improve access, engage patients, and leverage data to improve outcomes,” said Hudson-Knapp. “Whether it’s around the management of diabetes or hypertension, preventative screenings, or coordinating care we’re regularly putting the data in front of our leaders and providers so we can see how our efforts translate to outcomes, constantly seeking ways to get better at what we do.”

2024 Addressing Social Risk Factors

Community Health was also recognized for collecting data on patient social risk factors and for increasing the percentage of patients who received enabling services and resources during the last two years. “Community Health and organizations across the country are moving in the direction of improved data analytics and data-informed decision-making,” said Hudson-Knapp. “Our responsibility is to understand the needs of our patients so we can help address them. That goes beyond developing a medical treatment plan and into the realm of

helping people navigate some of the other social needs that so often impact their lives and wellness.” Community Health currently collects, tracks, and analyzes data on over 20 quality measures including ongoing quality improvement efforts around preventive screenings, care coordination, transitions of care, and management of chronic diseases like diabetes and hypertension.

Community health assessment

Community Health participated in the recently released Community Health Needs Assessment for the Rutland Region, completed every three years. The report identifies health equity as the top priority falling in these three areas: access to care, community connections, and community safety, taking into account continued focus on addressing social risk factors such as access to primary care, mental health care, food, transportation, housing, child-care, and suicide prevention, all programs and issues that fall into Community Health’s quality initiatives. “We have spent 20 years dedicating ourselves to this work, in these communities,” said Hudson-Knapp. “I’m grateful to be part of an organization that demonstrates such a strong commitment to quality, and to our patients. Every single day of the year, our clinicians and staff provide such excellent care, whether it’s your visit to the office today, that call to your care team with questions or with other needs, or the weekend visit to Express Care. Wherever and whenever it is, both as a team member and as a patient, I feel lucky to be engaged with an organization that is so rich with excellence.”

For more information, visit: chcrr.org.

← Loop: from page 9

licly promoting open board positions in an effort to attract diverse applicants, but the reality is that the entire process of selecting and appointing board members is ridiculously opaque. The reason for that is because the primary unwritten criterion for board membership is that each member must be actively engaged in the activities (hunting, trapping, fishing) that the board is supposed to regulate. Conflict-of-interest concerns raised by groups like Protect Our Wildlife have been ignored by the governor and VTF&W, where board members have voted on matters that may financially impact them. On any other board those members would recuse themselves, but we know that this board operates with impunity. Upon reviewing emails I obtained from a public records request to the VTF&W, there was a board applicant in April who had non-game interests, with a particular interest in birding, who came highly recommended. On the surface, it would seem that she would have been an excellent candidate who could have offered some balance to the board. But it is no surprise to those of us who have observed the process for years that her application, like those of many similar applicants before her, simply vaporized into the ether. I emailed the commissioner about this, and his July 15 response to me said, “There have been no decisions ... a reminder these appointments are made by the governor.” The commissioner punts the issue to the governor, but we know the governor relies heavily on recommendations from the commissioner. And so the powers that be have maintained radio silence, and the seats remain unfilled as of the date of this letter. All of this begs the question of why this board even exists. Why does the VTF&W, after collecting public comment from all Vermonters through public hearings, grant the final say on regulations to the board, composed entirely of hunters and trappers who have a vested interest in maintaining the status quo? Why is the process such that a select group of Vermonters (i.e., trappers, anglers, and hunters) has power over everyone else? Wildlife is considered a public trust resource, and Fish & Wildlife is mandated to protect and conserve wildlife for all, which means considering all voices. The current paradigm is in direct conflict with this statutory requirement (title 10 §4081). Official statements from the governor’s office and the VT-F&W Dept. are full of inclusive media bytes about preserving the health of Vermont’s wild places and creatures for all to enjoy, whatever their priorities. But wildlife advocates know for whom they are really working. And it isn’t us.

Lisa Jablow, Brattleboro

← **Foliage:**
from page 1

his annual fall foliage forecast for New England magazine. “The forest looks healthy, vibrant, and full of energy, and therefore primed for a big show.”

In Vermont, experts agree. “Things are looking very good right now. We had a good growing season,” said Josh Halman, forest health program manager at the Vermont Dept. of Forests, Parks and Recreation. Halman is part of a team that flies over the state each year to assess forest damage, and so far, he hasn’t seen any negative impact on hardwood trees.

Foliage in Vermont peaks between mid-September and late-October, and as the season approaches, observers will first see red maple trees start to turn, mainly in the Northeast Kingdom and wetland areas.

“Those are just starting to come to life a little bit with their red colors,” Halman said.

At this point last year, fungal diseases posed the biggest concern for the foliage season. According to Salge, trees put more resources towards producing seeds, which left them more vulnerable to fungi.

“Last summer, the rains wouldn’t

stop, leading to a lot of fungus in the fall that muted much of our display,” Salge wrote in his forecast. But with a mild winter and cool, long-lasting spring weather, “the trees had a long season in which to store energy for this year.”

Halman has seen the result of that growing season here in Vermont. “We’ve seen a little bit of that this year,” he said, referring to leaf fungi. “Didn’t seem to have the same level of fungal activity on maple species as we did last year, so that’s good.”

Although forecasts predict a great foliage season, Halman warned that weather changes can cause last-minute changes to what is on display.

“It’s worth saying,” he said, that storms or heavy winds headed into peak season can strip foliage from trees and reduce the amount of color on the landscape. That kind of strong weather can change the timing and duration of peak season, though right now, things are looking good.

“It’s really hard to forecast what’s going to happen in the next few weeks in terms of weather,” Halman said. Ideal weather conditions

for foliage include warm days and cool nights. For the forecast to stay bright, fall conditions need to cooperate, Salge said in his report.

“I’m hoping, beyond all hope, it makes for happy trees,” said Jeff “Foliage” Folger, a New England foliage blogger and photographer who describes himself as “mildly obsessive about leaves.” (The nickname came from his editor at Yankee magazine, where Folger was the first foliage blogger.)

Folger, who lives in Salem, Mass., has flown his drone above his home and seen leaves already starting to turn, which he normally doesn’t see until October. It’s hit or miss, he said, whether those leaves will also turn brown earlier than usual.

“Every year we see some trees cause a panic,” when their leaves turn and drop early, Folger said. “But it’s not widespread.” He said it’s normal for there to be some early fall color, where a leaf or branch here and there turn before the rest.

With hope for a colorful season, Folger has a few recommendations for leaf peepers in Vermont.

“You always have the classics,” he said. “From Woodstock south, down to the Mass border are going to be the brighter colors this year because there’s been less rain,” Folger said.



By Glenn Russell/VTDigger
Daniel Banyai, owner of the Slate Ridge paramilitary training facility in West Pawlet, appears for his contempt hearing in Environmental Court in Rutland on Nov. 4, 2022.

← **Banyai:**
from page 5

The change would “accurately reflect [Banyai’s] post-release living situation and need for access to ongoing medical care,” Davis wrote, adding that Rutland County State’s Attorney Ian Sullivan, who is representing the state in the case against Banyai, did not object to the change.

Vermont Superior Court Judge Cortland Corsones agreed to modify Banyai’s conditions of release in an order dated Sept. 3.

Sullivan could not be immediately reached for comment regarding whether his office would pursue charging Banyai with violating conditions. Davis, Banyai’s lawyer, could not be immediately reached by phone or email.

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E	D	E	C	I	P	S	O	H	V	L	K	K	T	K	A	K	M	O	A
M	V	N	O	I	S	S	A	P	M	O	C	T	H	P	T	E	I	X	R
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V	C	C	F	X	S	A	L	Y	T	L	A	Q	E	A	Y	H	C	U	H
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- ACUTE
AGE IN PLACE
AGING
CAREGIVER
COMPASSION
CONTINUING
- COORDINATOR
DAYCARE
EQUIPMENT
FAMILY
GERIATRIC
HOME HEALTH
- AIDE
HOSPICE
ILLNESS
MEMORY
NURSE
NURSING HOME
- PALLIATIVE
PROXY
RESPIRE
SKILLED
THERAPY
VOLUNTEER

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Solutions →22

- CLUES ACROSS
1. Wrest
5. Russian river
10. Grupo Montparnasse founder
12. One who quits prematurely
14. Related to the nature of being
16. Early multimedia
18. Indigenous Tibetan religion
19. Tease
20. J.M. __, Irish dramatist
22. Pounds per square inch
23. Surrendered
25. Notable Dallas Cowboy Leon
26. Dash
27. Man who behaves dishonorably
28. British Air Aces
30. Data executive
31. Spiritual leader
33. Flower cluster
35. Of the cheek
37. Tears down
38. Uncoordinated
40. Touches lightly
41. Soak
42. Founder of Babism
44. Not good
45. Inches per minute (abbr.)
48. Type of casino game
50. Skills assessments for adults
52. Check
53. Gives a job
55. Fifth note of a major scale
56. Small, faint constellation
57. Thou
58. Reduce
63. Another recording
65. Removes for good
66. Jill and Catherine are two
67. Cruise
- CLUES DOWN
1. Greenwich Time
2. Metropolis
3. Complete
4. Scheduled
5. One who obeys
6. Resinlike substance secreted by certain lac insects
7. Days (Spanish)
8. Unsaturated hydrocarbon radical
9. Region of the U.S. (abbr.)
10. Tributary of the Alabama River
11. One who eliminates
13. Ballroom music
15. Officer in the Book of Mormon
17. Denies
18. Barrels per day (abbr.)
21. Make vital
23. Former NFLer Newton
24. Kashmiri tribe
27. Indigenous S. American person
29. Capacitance unit
32. MLB great Scherzer
34. Taxi
35. Boggy
36. Artist's workroom
39. Feline
40. Prosecutors
43. Freshwater perches
44. Young ladies
46. Whittles
47. Licensed for Wall Street
49. Type of gene
51. Express displeasure
54. Fly high
59. Norwegian krone
60. Investment account
61. Chinese surname
62. Language
64. By the way (abbr.)

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Erica Hurd:
from page 8

sicians, Tom Hooper and Aaron Hersey from The Detonators, Wayne Canney and DJ Dave Hoffenberg. Johan Morin-van Dam for his original song and performance of “Purple” written to honor Erica. Rick and Heather for ukuleles on “White Sandy Beach” and “The Luv” always. Thanks to the Pittsfield Volunteer Fire Department for manning the grills and Roger and Joyce Stevens from the Swiss Farm Market. Katie Stiles created a purple cocktail and her team from the Original General Store/Vermont Catering quenched our thirst. The big cake from Dream Maker Bakers was both so beautiful and so delicious. Erica loved deserts — sometimes before dinner!

When Erica organized past Pittsfield Picnics it

was also in support of the town’s recreation area efforts. There were many

We will always cherish the day you gave us to celebrate Erica. A life well lived.

generous gifts made at the picnic and those are now part of the Erica J. Hurd Memorial Fund, which the town has established in her honor. If you are able, tax-deductible donations may be sent or dropped off to 40 Village Green, PO Box 556, Pittsfield, VT 05762. All contributions specifically will be used for developing the recreation area and programs in Pittsfield.

We will always cherish the day you gave us to celebrate Erica. A life well lived.

Christopher and Amelia Hurd, Pittsfield

GUESS WHO?

I am an actor born in Washington, DC on September 20, 1976. I studied at The School of Moscow Art Theater, and I also played professional baseball in Russia. I was a character on “The Walking Dead,” and later took justice into my own hands on a popular Marvel series.

Answer: Jon Bernthal

SUDOKU

Solutions →30

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

Level: Intermediate

THURSDAY

9/19

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

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

Ukelele Group

Noon-1 p.m. (Thursdays) Chaffee Art Center, 16 S. Main St., Rutland. 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

Pizza by the Pond with Brett Hughes and Matt Flinner

5-8 p.m. Blueberry Hill Inn, 1245 Goshen Ripton Rd., Goshen. \$43 for adults, \$23 for children aged 8-12, free for children under 7. Enjoy an evening of wood-fired pizza and live music by Brett Hughes and Grammy-nominated mandolinist Matt Flinner in a scenic pondside setting. BYOB and well-behaved dogs are welcome. blueberryhillinn.com/pizza

Feast and Field Music Series

5:30-9 p.m. (Thursdays through 9/26) Fable Farm, 1525 Royalton Turnpike, Barnard. \$5-\$25, under 12 free. Point Noire Cajun Band. Tickets: feastandfield.com/tickets

Fly Casting Lesson at The Woodstock Inn & Resort

5:30-7 p.m. The Fly Shop at The Woodstock Inn & Resort, Cross St., Woodstock. Free. The Orvis Endorsed Guide Team holds a beginner fly casting lesson and advanced topic demonstration. Socialize with other anglers, and enjoy beer and wine for purchase. RSVP recommended, walk-ins welcome as space allows. woodstockinn.com

Community Forum: Phone-Free School Proposal

6:30 p.m. 100 Woodstock Middle/High School library, Amsden Way, Woodstock. A community forum at the Woodstock Middle/High School library to discuss a proposal to make those schools phone-free from "bell-to-bell" (approx. 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.) It'll be the first of three planned forums seeking public feedback. Woodstock Middle/High School serves as the regional school for Barnard, Bridgewater, Killington, Plymouth, Pomfret, Reading, and Woodstock.

The Grange Theatre: 'The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee'

7 p.m. Artistree Community Arts Center & Gallery, 2095 Pomfret Road, South Pomfret, \$data not provided, A witty musical about six quirky students and three eccentric adults navigating a chaotic middle-school spelling bee. Get tickets at bit.ly/4dT2Y35. artistreevt.org/performances

FRIDAY

9/20

Killington Classic Golf Tournament

8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Killington Golf Course, 227 E. Mountain Road., Killington. A festival-style golf tournament featuring 27 holes in a scramble format with your team. Golf challenges like longest drive, putting competitions, and closest to the pin. The day ends with live music, food, and an awards ceremony. Price and details: foreplaygolfcompany.com/killington-classic. Info: killington.com/things-to-do/events/events-calendar/the-killington-classic

Bone Builders at the Chaffee

11 a.m.-noon. (Fridays) Chaffee Art Center, 16 S. Main St., Rutland. Free. Heather Wilson leads a bone-building class that focuses on weight training and balance exercises to improve strength, balance, and bone density. chaffeeartcenter.org

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

Hartland Farmers Market

4-6:30 p.m. (Fridays) Hartland Pulic Library Fields, 153 US Route 5, Hartland. Free. The Hartland Farmers Market offers a variety of local produce and goods. Contact Market Manager Trischa Wass at hartlandfarmersmarket@gmail.com or 1-360-223-0438 for more information.

Pizza by the Pond with Bloodroot Gap

5-7:30 p.m. Blueberry Hill Inn, 1245 Goshen Ripton Rd., Goshen. \$43 for adults, \$23 for children aged 8-12, free for children under 7. Enjoy an evening of wood-fired pizza and live music by Bloodroot Gap in a relaxing outdoor setting by the pond. Bring a chair or picnic blanket. Pizza starts at 5, with music from 6 to 7:30 p.m. BYOB and well-behaved dogs are welcome. blueberryhillinn.com/pizza

Fiddle Disco at the Sable Project

5:30 p.m., 588 N Taggart Hill Road, Stockbridge. Multi-instrumentalist Elias Alexander blends Scottish and American melodies with EDM beats for a night of dancing. Wood-fired pizza from Fat Dragon Farm. BYOB. thesableproject.org

Visit to Israel Talk with Becki Bates

7-8 p.m. Shrewsbury Community Church, 88 Lottery Road., Shrewsbury. Free. Becki Bates shares her experiences from a recent visit to Israel, including meetings with Israeli and Palestinian peace advocates. shrewsburylibrary.org

Rusty DeWees: 'The Logger'

7 p.m. Pittsford Village Farm, 42 Elm St., Pittsford. \$5, \$10, \$15 (includes taxes and fees); 12 and under are free. This rain or shine event features Rusty DeWees, known for his work as an entertainer, comedic artist, actor, producer, writer, and musician. Gates open at 6 p.m. This performance is rated SC: Some Cussin'. pittsfordvillagefarm.org/events

The Grange Theatre: 'The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee'

7 p.m. Artistree Community Arts Center & Gallery, 2095 Pomfret Road, South Pomfret, \$35-40. A witty musical about six quirky students and three eccentric adults navigating a chaotic middle-school spelling bee. artistreevt.org/performances

SATURDAY

9/21

Woodstock Mt. Peg Enduro Race

8 a.m.-3 p.m. Woodstock Mt. Peg, 1749 South Road., Woodstock. \$50. A challenging enduro race featuring three timed segments (four for Cat A riders) focused on downhill technical skills. Free for VTYC members. Stick around after the race for a movie night and pizza party co-hosted with VMBA at Pentangle Arts. bikereg.com

Barn Quilt Painting Workshop

8 a.m.-4 p.m. Billings Farm and Museum, 69 Old River Road., Woodstock. \$135, \$125 for Billings Farm members. Join instructor Kimberly Hess in this hands-on workshop where participants will create a 2-foot by 2-foot barn quilt to take home. Choose from four designs, with all materials provided. Snacks included, but lunch is not. billingsfarm.org

Run with a Ranger

8 a.m. (Saturdays) Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historical Park, 54 Elm St. (Route 12) 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, bug spray and sun protection. Meet at the Forest Center; parking is at Billings Farm & Museum. Registration required. nps.gov/mabi/planyourvisit/index.htm

Chester Festival: 50 Years on the Green

9 a.m.-5 p.m. Chester on the Common, Common Street, Route 11, Chester. Free. Celebrate the 50th year of this two-day festival with 80+ vendors offering 100% handmade products. Enjoy live music, street performances, art demonstrations, historical tours, and more. chesterfestival.org

Downtown Farmers' Market

9 a.m.-2 p.m. Depot Park, 1 Depot Park, Rutland. Free. Featuring farm-fresh vegetables, fruits, artisan cheeses, maple syrup, handcrafted breads, and Vermont crafts. Open every Saturday from May 11 to Oct. 26. vtfarmersmarket.org/markets/summer



Chester Festival: 50 Years on the Green

Sat. & Sun. @ 9 AM

WEDNESDAY

9/18

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. 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

2024 K Cup

Noon. Green Mountain National Golf Course, 476 Barrows Towne Road, Killington. Shotgun start at noon for 18 holes of "Captain & Crew" style golf, including cart, lunch on the course, and dinner at The Foundry. All proceeds will be donated to the Jimmy Fiore Scholarship Fund. Contact info@kargroupvt.com. kargroupvt.com/the-k-cup

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. (Second Wednesday of every month) RRM Diabetes & Endocrinology Center, 160 Allen St., Rutland. Free. For patients managing diabetes, to discuss challenges, ask questions, and provide support. Hosted by Community Health and Rutland Regional Medical Center's Diabetes & Endocrinology Center. Contact Michele Redmond at 802-277-5327. chcr.org/diabetes-support-group

Market on the Green

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

Bone Builders at the Chaffee

3:30-4:30 p.m. (Wednesdays) Chaffee Art Center, 16 S. Main St., Rutland. Free. Heather Wilson leads a bone-building class focused on weight training and balance exercises to increase strength, balance, and bone density. chaffeeartcenter.org

Cribbage for Adults

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

Rutland Urban Legends & Pizza Wars

5-7 p.m. Depot Park, Rutland. Free. A 1-mile guided walking tour through historic downtown Rutland, where you'll learn about local history, legends, and stories. The tour is accessible to all and concludes with a pizza tasting contest to determine Rutland's best pizza. comealiveoutside.com/events

Diabetes Support Group

5-6 p.m. (Second Wednesday of every month) Community Health Castleton, 261 Route 30, Castleton. Free. For patients managing diabetes, to discuss challenges, ask questions, and provide support. Hosted by Community Health and Rutland Regional Medical Center's Diabetes & Endocrinology Center. Contact Michele Redmond at 802-277-5327. chcr.org/diabetes-support-group

Calendar: Email events@mountaintimes.info.....
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Library Book Sale

9 a.m.-2 p.m. Shrewsbury Library, 9823 Cold River Road. Shrewsbury. Free. The library is holding a book sale featuring books, DVDs, and CDs in good condition. shrewsburylibrary.org

Lucy Mac 5K9 at Ascutney Outdoors

9-10:30 a.m., Ascutney Outdoors Center, 449 Ski Tow Road, Brownsville. \$30 for 5K, \$20 for 1-mile, A family-friendly event on scenic trails in support of Lucy Mackenzie Humane Society. Participants can run or walk the 5K or 1-mile courses. Dogs are welcome. lucymac.org

Annual Basket Raffle, Mum & Pie Sale

9 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Sheldon Store, 2824 Route 153, Rupert. Rupert Village Trust's Basket Raffle begins at 10 a.m., with drawings at 12:30 p.m. The R.K. Kittay Library hosts its mum & pie Sale from 9 a.m. - noon. Enjoy fall mums, homemade pies, and more. rupertvillagetrust.org

Vermont Fairy Tale Festival

10 a.m.-4 p.m. 2998 River Road., Killington. The 6th Annual Vermont Fairy Tale Festival will showcase Vermont Public Libraries, each sponsoring a booth with a specific fairy tale. Activities include storytelling, puppet shows, crafts, and Viking encampments with live steel sword fighting. A donation of a non-perishable item is requested for entry. Contact Sherburne Memorial Library at 422-9765 or sherburnememorial@gmail.com. sherburnelibrary.org

Mt. Tom Farmers' Market

10 a.m.-1 p.m. (Saturdays through 10/16) Saskadena Six parking lot, 247 Stage Road, South Pomfret. Free. Local produce, goods, fresh vegetables, fruits, homemade items, and more.

Invitation to join the Skellies

10 a.m. Building #5, Howe Center, Rutland. Refer to website for details Drum Journeys of Earth invites new members to join the Skellies as dancers, puppeteers, musicians, and more. Contact Gary at 802-282-2581 for more information.

Sport of Kings Day

10 a.m.-5 p.m. VINS Nature Center, 6565 Woodstock Road, Quechee. Included with admission. Celebrate falconry with trained raptors, modern-day falconers, music, archery, and historical weaponry with the Society for Creative Anachronism. vinsonline.org

Forest Festival at Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historical Park

10 a.m.-4 p.m. Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historical Park, 54 Elm St. (Route 12), Woodstock. Free. Enjoy a horse-drawn wagon ride, woodworking demonstrations, and guided nature walks. Experience the forest product cycle, from horse-logging to woodcraft demonstrations, with live music from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Parking is available at Billings Farm & Museum. Register: woodstockvt.myflodesk.com/subscribe. Info: nps.gov/mabi/planyourvisit/forest-fest.htm

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. See 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

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

Artistree's Community Open House

Noon. Artistree Community Arts Center & Gallery, 2095 Pomfret Road, South Pomfret, Free. An afternoon of creativity, art projects, musical performances, interactive exhibits, and community fun for all ages. Food available for purchase from local vendors. artistreevt.org

Oreo Cookie Tasting

1-2 p.m. Hartland Public Library, 153 US Route 5, Hartland. Taste-test various Oreo flavors to determine the best one. Open to all ages and cookie lovers. hartlandlibraryvt.org

The Grange Theatre: 'The 25th Annual Putnam

County Spelling Bee'

3 p.m. Artistree Community Arts Center & Gallery, 2095 Pomfret Road, South Pomfret, 35-\$40. A special "kid-friendly" matinee of a witty musical about six quirky students and three eccentric adults navigating a chaotic middle-school spelling bee. Get tickets at bit.ly/4dT2Y35. artistreevt.org/performance

SculptFest24 at the Carving Studio & Sculpture

Center: Opening Reception

5 p.m., (Runs through Oct. 20) Carving Studio and Sculpture Center, 636 Marble St., West Rutland. Free. SculptFest24 features site-specific sculptural installations from artists including Dari Blythe, Haley Kean, Michelle Leftheris, Whitney Ramage, Joe Schine, Ilya Sobol, and Josh Urso, selected by guest curator Colin C Boyd. The opening reception includes light refreshments and live music by The Plumb Bobs. Pricing and info: carvingstudio.org

Championship Night at Devil's Bowl Speedway

5-7 p.m. Devil's Bowl Speedway, 2743 VT Route 22A, West Haven. \$15. Enjoy a night of racing including 100 Lap Enduro, bike races for kids and drivers during intermission, and multiple racing classes. Free admission for kids 12 and under. Infield parking available for \$20. devilsbowl Speedwayvt.com

Family Movie Night: "Brave" – Outside on the Big Screen

6:30-8:30 p.m. Norman Williams Public Library, Side Garden, 10 The Green, Woodstock. Free admission kids 12 and under. An outdoor screening of Brave, an award-winning animated film about Merida, a young lady who must discover the true meaning of bravery. Bring chairs or blankets to stay cozy. Weather permitting, otherwise the event will move indoors to the Mezzanine. normanwilliams.org

'The Logger' Comedy Music Show

7 p.m. Chandler Music Hall, 71 N. Main St., Randolph. \$22 Adv / \$25 Day of Show. Special guest guitarist and singer Mark Burds joins Rusty DeWees for a show rated SC: Some Cussin'. Tickets at 802-728-9878 or chandler-arts.org

The Grange Theatre: 'The 25th Annual Putnam

County Spelling Bee'

7 p.m. Artistree Community Arts Center & Gallery, 2095 Pomfret Road, South Pomfret, \$35-\$40. A special "kid-friendly" matinee of a witty musical about six quirky students and three eccentric adults navigating a chaotic middle-school spelling bee. Get tickets at bit.ly/4dT2Y35. artistreevt.org/performance

SUNDAY 9/22

Ludlow Farmers' Market

9 a.m.-1 p.m. (Sundays through 10/13) So. Depot St., 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

Chester Festival: 50 Years on the Green

9 a.m.-4 p.m. Chester on the Common, Common Street, Chester. Free. Celebrate the 50th year of this two-day festival with 80+ vendors offering 100% handmade products. Enjoy live music, street performances, art demonstrations, historical tours, and more. chesterfestival.org

19th Century Apple and Cheese Harvest Festival

1-4 p.m., Justin Morrill Homestead, 214 Morrill Memorial Highway, Strafford. \$5 adults, under 12 free. Music, cider-making, heirloom apples, artisan cheeses, Vermont ice cream, apple pie, games, wagon rides, exhibits, and more. Basket raffle at 4 p.m. morrillhomestead.org

Tech Open House

2-3 p.m. Shrewsbury Library, 9823 Cold River Road., Shrewsbury. Free. Members of the Library communications committee will demonstrate the library's new technologies. shrewsburylibrary.org

Champlain Trio at Artistree Community Arts Center

3-5 p.m. Artistree Community Arts Center, 2095 Pomfret Road., South Pomfret. Free. A performance by the Champlain Trio, featuring violinist Letitia Quante, cellist Emily Taubl, and pianist Hiromi Fukuda, as they bring chamber music to the community. artistreecommunityartscenter.thundertext.com/events/233932

Opera Vermont: 'Puccini-nario'

3:30-5:30 p.m. Chandler Center for the Arts, 71 N Main St., Randolph. \$25-50. The works of Giacomo Puccini on the centennial of his death with performances of arias and scenes from popular operas like "Tosca," "La Bohème," and "Madama Butterfly," as well as lesser-known works. chandler-arts.org

The Grange Theatre: 'The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee'

3 p.m. Artistree Community Arts Center & Gallery, 2095 Pomfret Road, South Pomfret, \$35-\$40. A special "kid-friendly" matinee of a witty musical about six quirky students and three eccentric adults navigating a chaotic middle-school spelling bee. Get tickets at bit.ly/4dT2Y35. artistreevt.org/performance

MONDAY 9/23

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

TUESDAY 9/24

Fall Bird Hikes

7:30-10:30 a.m. Delaney Woods, E. Delaney Cross Road off North St., Wells. A slow-paced bird and wildflower walks on the SVT system. Bring water, snacks, and any birding gear you have. All experience levels welcome. No registration needed. Contact: jptilley50@gmail.com. rutlandcountyaudubon.org/events or slatevalleytrails.org/calendar

Handcraft Gathering

2-4 p.m. (Every 3rd Tuesday) Abbott Memorial Library, South Pomfret. Bring your knitting, crocheting, embroidery, or mending projects. abbotmemoriallibrary.org

Alzheimer's Support Group

4-5 p.m., Community Health, 71 Allen St., Suite 403, Rutland. Free. A monthly meeting for Alzheimer's caregivers and family members to share experiences and support one another. The group is run by participants with hands-on experience in caregiving. chcr.org/

New Business Mentor Roundtable

5-7:30 p.m. The Hub CoWorks Streetside Conference Room, 67 Merchants Row, Rutland. Free. A roundtable discussion offering expert guidance and actionable strategies for small business owners, featuring panelists from commercial lending, legal services, and business development. Sign up with Heritage Family Credit Union,

Rutland Area Toastmasters

6-7:30 p.m. (First and Third Tuesdays) Courcelle Bldg, 16 N. St. Ext., Rutland. Develop public speaking, listening and leadership skills. Guests welcome. 802-775-6929. toastmasters.org

Vermont Fairy Tale Festival

Saturday @ 10 AM



19th Century apple and cheese harvest festival held Sunday

Sunday, Sept. 22, at 1 p.m.—STRAFFORD— Enjoy music, cider-making, heirloom apples, artisan cheeses, Vermont ice cream, apple pie, games, wagon rides, exhibits, a basket raffle and more at the apple and cheese harvest festival this Sunday from 1-4 p.m.

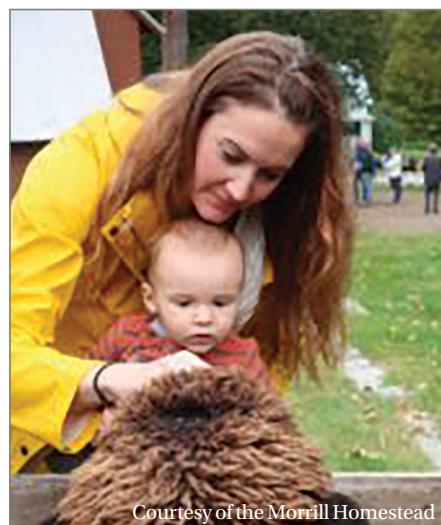
This event has been awarded as a “Top Ten Fall Event” by the Vermont Chamber of Commerce.

Bring the whole family to a harvest festival at the Homestead and listen to live toe-tapping fiddle and accordion music while meeting farm animals—the kind that Justin Morrill would have had on his small 19th-century farm. Play period games, and hike the lookout trail. Also includes wagon rides, gardens, basket-making demo, exhibits, an icehouse, and a historic Gothic Revival home.

A raffle of a traditional handmade basket created by local artisan Jeffrey Gale. The raffle will take place at 4 p.m. and Gale will be there from 1-4 p.m. to demonstrate this craft.

Admission is \$5 for adults; kids under 12 are free. No preregistration necessary, pay upon arrival. The Justin Morrill Homestead is located at 214 Morrill Memorial Highway in Strafford.

For more information, visit: morrillhomestead.org.



Courtesy of the Morrill Homestead



Courtesy BarnArts



By Polly Mikula



By Polly Mikula

The Funky Flats headline Feast & Field, Thursday

Thursday, Sept. 19 at 5:30 p.m.—BARNARD— Barnarts presents The Funky Flats, a high energy funk band of “flatlanders” residing in the Upper Valley, this Thursday at Fable Farm. Their sound is inspired by the scratchy guitars, bright brassy horns, and tight rhythm sections of the funk masters of the 1970s, making it impossible for audiences to stay in their seats.

At 5:30 p.m. the doors open and food is available. At 6 p.m. the music begins with another set at 7:30 p.m.

Locally sourced food and drink is provided by the Feast and Field farmers: Fable Farm, Eastman Farm, and Kiss-the-Cow. Online ordering through reservations allows for quick pick-up of food and helps

the farmers plan. Get your tickets and pre-order food starting Wednesday at: feastandfield.com.

There is a sliding-scale entry fee for each week: \$5-25/per person; free for those under 12.

No outside food or drink are permitted, nor are pets.

Bring chairs and blankets.

Music will be under the 60x40 performance tent if weather demands.

Fable Farm is located at 1525 Royalton Turnpike, in Barnard.

For more information and the full season schedule of BarnArts Feast & Field Music Series, visit: Barnarts.org/mainstage/feast-fieldmusicseries.

[MUSIC Scene]

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

WED
9/18

LUDLOW

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

POULTNEY

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

QUECHEE

6 p.m. Public House Pub – Kim Wilcox

RUTLAND

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

SOUTH POMFRET

6:30 p.m. Artistree – Acoustic Jam Session hosted by Kerry Rosenthal

THURS
9/19

BARNARD

5:30 p.m. Fable Farm – Feast & Field with Funky Flats

BRANDON

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

BRIDGEWATER**CORNERS**

5 p.m. Long Trail Brewery – Nick Bredice

KILLINGTON

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

6 p.m. Rivershed – Chris Pallutto

6 p.m. The Foundry – Liz Reedy

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: Jefferson Birthday Edition

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. Grange Theater – The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee

FRI
9/20

BRIDGEWATER**CORNERS**

6:30 p.m. Long Trail Brewery – Trivia

CASTLETON

6 p.m. Blue Cat Bistro – Cammy Errington

KILLINGTON

6 p.m. Rivershed – Ryan Fuller

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

6 p.m. The Foundry – Scott Forrest

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

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

LUDLOW

7 p.m. The Killarney – Sammy B

PITTSFIELD

7 p.m. Clear River Tavern – Nick Bredice and Liz Reedy

POULTNEY

6 p.m. Poultney Pub – Nancy Johnson

QUECHEE

5:30 p.m. Public House Pub – Kind Bud

SOUTH POMFRET

7 p.m. Grange Theater – The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee

STOCKBRIDGE

5:30 p.m. Fat Dragon Farm – RAMBLXR: Fiddle Disco

SAT
9/21

BRIDGEWATER

8 p.m. Woolen Mill Comedy Club – Comedy Night with Mike Bramante

CHESTER

5 p.m. Country Girl Diner – Blue Collar Band

KILLINGTON

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

6 p.m. Rivershed – Nick Bredice

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

6 p.m. The Foundry – Liz Reedy
7:30 p.m. McGrath's Irish Pub – Faolean

8 p.m. Pickle Barrel Nightclub – Angelus Hall

QUECHEE

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

SOUTH POMFRET

3 p.m./7 p.m. Grange Theater – The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee

STOCKBRIDGE

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

WOODSTOCK

6:30 p.m. Ottauquechee Yacht Club – Fjord Pinto

SUN
9/22

BOMOSEEN

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

BRANDON

12:30 p.m. Town Hall – No Strings Marionette: Nick of Time

BRIDGEWATER**CORNERS**

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

CHESTER

10 a.m. Town Green – Tow Fair with music by Sammy B

KILLINGTON

12 p.m. Rivershed – Brunch with Nick Bredice

6 p.m. Liquid Art – Tboneicus Jones

6 p.m. Rivershed – Trivia

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

7 p.m. Mary Lou's – Bow Thayer & Krishna Guthrie

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

SOUTH POMFRET

3 p.m. Grange Theater – The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee

STOCKBRIDGE

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

MON
9/23

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

LONDONDERRY

6 p.m. New American Grill – Liz Reedy & Nick Bredice

LUDLOW

5 p.m. Little Mexico – Sammy B

8:30 p.m. The Killarney – Open Mic Night with King Arthur Junior

WOODSTOCK

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

TUES
9/24

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

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



WHOOO'S GOT NEWS?

We want to know!
Email us!

editor@mountaintimes.info



Rockin' the Region with Nick Bredice

If you're in the Killington region, Nick Bredice is a name you're hopefully familiar with. If you're in other parts of the state, he might be playing near you since he now plays about 275 days a year. Sometimes those days have two or three gigs. Nick struggled with quitting his full time job with the State of Vermont, but he was in high demand which made the decision easier. He became a full-time musician at the end of 2023, but was doing 20 shows a month at the end of 2022, while having the full-time job. I learned about Nick when he played the Killington Farmers' Market in 2022, but didn't meet him until 2023. He played it during COVID, in 2021 as well. Max Elles from the First Stop Board Barn said, "He is an awesome dude. If you have an opportunity to see him, definitely do so." Now, I wholeheartedly agree with those statements.



Rockin' the Region
By Dave Hoffenberg

Nick said most of his show revolves around live looping. "It allows me to give off a more full sound than a traditional solo acoustic act. My catalog includes my influences; the Grateful Dead, Phish. I've been listening to bluegrass like Billy Strings, and play some more traditional, older bluegrass numbers."

Nick's first public gig was in Simsbury, CT in 2009, when he was 12. It was a duo with Ryan Riley on

keys. Riley was a drummer in the band Nick played with while he was growing up. The band was called "Harmonic Rewalk" and they played in the Hartford, CT area and summers on the Cape. That band broke up in 2014 when they all went off to college. He didn't have a solid project for about 6 years, up till the pandemic. Nick went to UVM, and was living in Burlington. He played in that scene occasionally at Nectar's, Skinny Pancake and Radio Bean. Nick said, "Ironically I didn't start really doing the solo thing until after COVID but during I was doing the Farmers' Market. I was kind of doing it out of necessity, Government, The world, was saying not to hang out with your friends so that meant playing music alone too. It was good for me because that's when I moved back to Bridgewater, hung out at the farmhouse and really developed the solo catalog. I didn't expect it to become the bulk of my workload."

Nick said it was never his intention to play as many shows as he does now (275+ a year). He added, "I love it. I work really hard at it. For one reason, or another, people keep asking me to come back."

Nick grew up in Simsbury. He started taking lessons on guitar when he was six in 2002. His dad bartered guitar lessons for Nick, and piano lesson for his sister, in exchange for building a studio. His dad owned a construction company. He took lessons for three years, and also played the trumpet in his middle school band. Nick said, "I dabble in other instruments, piano, bass, just don't play them live...yet."

Nick's musical influences obviously include The Dead and Phish but his biggest influence is Mihali Savoulidis, formerly of Twiddle, and now out on his own. Nick said, "He was a huge influence around the time I started school in Burlington. When I started doing the solo thing, a lot of it was inspired by his work as a solo act. It's funny because his focus then was Twiddle." Nick has a few musical influences from CT like Will Evans of Barefoot Truth and two good friends of mine, Jamie Livesey (Jamie's Junk Show) and Kenny Mehler. Nick added, "My parents have known Jamie since 1989. They've been weekend warriors in Killington since the late '80s. They would drag me, reluctantly or not, to Rockin'→35

Killington Classic Golf Tournament kicks off Brewfest weekend

Friday, Sept. 20—KILLINGTON— Picture this: You and your buddies get to the golf course on a beautiful, blue-bird Vermont September morning.

You're greeted with a seamless check-in and handed a sweet Branded Bills performance hat, a brand-new No Dirt Golf towel, a sleeve of OnCore Vero X2 balls, an OnCore ball marker, an OnCore divot repair tool, and a few other things to get your round going.

Now you're off to your golf cart and heading out to

your starting hole with music and the excitement of the day percolating! But this jam-packed day of golf doesn't end at the final hole. You're treated to golf challenges like longest drive, a putting competition, and closest to the pin to show off your complete game. Now comes the post-round party with live music, food, the top golf vendors, and an awards ceremony.

How does this day get any better? It doesn't.

Killington Resort is bringing the festival experience to golf... think Stagecoach meets Scramble.

Oh... did we mention it's Brewfest Weekend? That's right—not only will you be kicking off your weekend with

the best golf event, but you're also in the Napa of craft beer with the Super Bowl of beer festivals happening. Have yourself a weekend.

Schedule:

Scramble: 27 holes with your buddies. Get you out early in the morning with a Shotgun start at 8:30 a.m. All teams will finish at the same time.

Festival challenges: Golf festival challenges will be available all day with chances to win prizes.

Music, food and awards will follow.

For more information and to register, visit: foreplaygolf-company.com/killington-classic.



Killington's annual Brewfest returns to Pico

Saturday, Sept. 21—KILLINGTON—Wet your whistle with a backdrop of Vermont's finest autumn foliage and enjoy live music, fabulous food offerings, and dozens of the finest craft beers, ciders, and seltzers in the region.

Brewfest is one of Killington's most distinctive annual celebrations. This event will once again return to the Pico Mountain base area to enjoy the best in craft beers and Vermont mountain views.

Entry into Killington Brewfest are for people ages 21+ only. Children of attendees and anyone under 21 will not be allowed into the venue. Nor is outside food, drinks, backpacks, or pets allowed.

General admission tasting sessions will be held from 1-5 p.m. with VIP tasting opening one hour prior.

Since 1995, craft beer lovers have been flocking to the Green Mountains of Vermont to sample the finest brews in New England during the pinnacle of fall foliage. The event features around 40 breweries pouring dozens of craft beer styles, a vendor village, and live music.

2024 Participating Breweries:

Breweries present at the event will include: 14th Star, Anheuser-Busch, Ayinger, Belhaven, Bent Hill, Black Flannel, Burlington Beer Co., Charles Wells, Citizen Cider, Fiddlehead, Foam Brewers, Foley Brothers, Four Quarters, Frost Beer Works, Green Empire, Harpoon, John Crabbie & Company, Lawson's, Long Trail, Mount Holly, Rutland Beer Works, Samuel Smith, Shacksbury Cider, Sierra Nevada, Smuttynose, Soulmate Brewing Co., Stone Brewing, Stowe Cider, Switchback, The Alchemist, Upper Pass, Vermont Beer Makers, von Trapp, Weiherstephan, & Woodchuck Cider.

2024 Participating Vendors:

Vendors present at the event will include AllieCaps, Benito's Hot Sauce, BirdieBlue, and The Rollin' Rooster.

Live music:

The tasting session will be rocking with live music from start to finish. The Chris P Trio will kick the event off followed by a performance by Dan Brown Throwdown.

The Chris P Trio is a dynamic ensemble that embodies the essence of classic rock while seamlessly weaving in elements of Top 40, blues, funk, and jam music. Founded by seasoned musician Chris P, the trio has quickly garnered a reputation for their electrifying performances and eclectic sound, making them a standout act in the contemporary music scene. Drawing from a rich tapestry of genres, Chris P Trio specializes in classic rock anthems and contemporary top 40 hits while infusing their sound with the soulful grooves of blues and funk. Their improvisational flair adds a unique jam element to every performance, allowing them to engage with audiences in an unforgettable way.

Dan Brown Throwdown is made up of Aaron Normand (on drums) one of The Idiots and part of the Summit Pond Quartet; Evan Antal Esq., (on bass) who runs amazing lights for amazing bands, practices law and is one of the best bassists in the Green Mountains; Daniel Brown (on guitar and vocals) who's back from his summer playing beach bars in Long Beach Island, New Jersey, is amped to play another Brewfest; and Chazz Canney (on sax, trumpet, flute, tin whistle, vocals) who'll provide a health dose of positivity.

Tickets:

- VIP Admission: \$88
- General Admission: \$77
- Designated Drivers: \$15

Tickets include a commemorative drinking glass, 10-punch beer sampling card, dozens of brews to sample, and live music. An extra 5-punch sampling card will be available for purchase exclusively on-site. In accordance with Vermont law, participants will only be allowed to purchase a total of 15 beer samples.

Beer samples will only be poured in 5 ounce, souvenir tasting glasses

Beers under 9% ABV: 4-ounce sample = 1 punch

Beers over 9% ABV: 4-ounce sample = 2 punches

Bring everything you'll need for the afternoon (sunscreen, hats, jackets, etc.) with you into the venue when you first arrive as re-entry into Brewfest is prohibited.

For more information and tickets, visit: Killington.com/things-to-do/events/events-calendar/brewfest.



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Learn more and purchase yours at picomountain.com/seasonpass.





By Polly Mikula
The 6th annual Vermont Fairy Tale Festival, scheduled for Sept. 21, features various activities, puppet shows, music, crafts, food vendors, and Viking encampments, with admission free with non-perishable donations.

Annual Vermont Fairy Tale Festival is Saturday

Saturday, Sept. 21 at 10 a.m.—KILLINGTON— The 6th annual Vermont Fairy Tale Festival is scheduled for Saturday from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at the Sherburne Library in Killington. Held annually on the third Saturday in September, the Vermont Fairy Tale Festival was put together to showcase Vermont public libraries and all they do for communities. Each library that participates will sponsor a booth about a specific fairy tale. In that booth, they can tell the story, do puppet shows, music, and/or have a craft for families to make and take home.

There will also be vendors selling fairy tale type wares. New this year are food vendors!

The Vikings are also back again this year with another encampment, training and activities. (While this is also a family friendly event, please note that the live steel sword fighting is real and may not be suitable for smaller children.)

Libraries and Tales for This Year's Festival:

- Poultney Public Library: "Elf"
- Dorset Village Library: "The Neverending Story"

- Cavendish Fletcher Community Library: Woodland Creatures
 - Brandon Public Library: Norse Tales
 - Springfield Town Library: "Alice in Wonderland"
 - Maclure Library: Baba Yaga
 - Fairfax Library: "Thumbelina"
 - North Adams Public Library: Harry Potter
 - Sherburne Memorial Library: Trinkets & Treasures General Store
 - Destination Imagination: Create Your Own Fairy Tale
- So, dress up as your favorite fairy tale character and bring the whole family to the Vermont Fairy Tale Festival!
- The festival is free and open to the public with the donation of a non-perishable item for either the food bank or the humane society.
- For more information about either of these activities, you can call the library at 422-9765 or follow us on Facebook at Vermont Fairy Tale Festival and Vermont Viking Invasion for the latest news.

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Enjoy Pizza by the Pond Thursday and Friday

Thursday and Friday, Sept. 19-20 at 5 p.m.—GOSHEN—Wood-fired pizza from an outside hearth accompanied by live music in the quintessential summer setting: at the edge of a pond, 100 blueberry bushes, and lush mountains. Pizza by the Pond is offered on random Thursdays and Fridays through the summer months at Blueberry Hill Inn, 1245 Goshen-Ripton Road.

This week, there are offerings both Thursday, Sept. 19, with Brett Hughes and Matt Flinner and Friday, Sept. 20, with the Bloodroot Gap.

Reservations open the Sunday before each event and remain open until sold out. Reservations are not required but are appreciated to ensure there's enough food! "We will do our best to update the website if we sell out so you don't make a special trip," organizers state.

The pizza starts flowing at 5 p.m., music from 6-8.

Brett Hughes and Matt Flinner, Thursday

Brett Hughes has been a stalwart champion of and long-time collaborator in the dynamic Burlington music scene, as member of seminal local and regional bands (Decentz, viperHouse, Chrome Cowboys, Monoprix), as engineer/producer (Surprise Me Mr. Davis, NOLA's Duke Aeroplane and the Wrong Numbers, Gogol Bordello's Eugene Hutz, Esther Rose...) an Emmy Award-winning composer (Windy Acres), and singer/songwriter/bandleader in myriad Vermont-based outfits. He hosted the Honky Tonk Tuesday at Burlington's Radio Bean for over 10 years, played the Bonnaroo, Mountain Jam, moe.down festivals with Mike Gordon (Phish) in Ramble Dove, and toured much of the U.S. and Europe with Nashville-based Shannon McNally. He's currently scoring a film soundtrack and healing up from surgery after tearing off his bicep tendon while telemark skiing in the woods at Mad River Glen.

Grammy-nominated mandolinist Matt Flinner has made a career out of playing bluegrass and American roots music in new ways. His projects and collaborations range from bluegrass to jazz to classical to new acoustic music, all with the common thread of American roots music with a creative edge. Grammy-nominated mandolinist Matt Flinner has made a career out of playing acoustic music in new ways. Whether it's with his own Matt Flinner Trio or with Phillips, Grier and Flinner, the Frank Vignola Quartet, Darrell Scott, Steve Martin, Robbie Fulks, the Ying Quartet, Leftover Salmon or the Modern Mandolin Quartet, Flinner's style and compositional ability have established him as one of the most accomplished and musically diverse mandolinists in the world.



Courtesy Blueberry Hill Inn

Pizza by the Pond is an outdoor event in Goshen, featuring live music and wood-fired pizza, open to all ages and BYOB, with performances by Brett Hughes, Matt Flinner, and Bloodroot Gap.

Bloodroot Gap, Friday

Formed after a serendipitous jam session at a Vermont bluegrass festival, Bloodroot Gap is a musical collaboration between brothers Rob and Jim McCuen (Swing Noire), Freeman Corey (Catamount Crossing, Big Spike Bluegrass) and Jake Munson.

Corey, a fiddle player who grew up on a dairy farm in Benson, is the son of an old-time fiddler. He started playing at age 10, learning hundreds of Irish, Scottish and French-Canadian fiddle tunes from his father. Corey has become one of Vermont's most sought-after traditional fiddlers, gracing the stage with Bob Amos and Catamount Crossing, Big Spike Bluegrass, The Haymakers and Spare Parts among countless other notable groups and musicians.

The McCuen Brothers have been performing side-by-side for nearly 30 years, founding the bands Wiley Dobbs, Acoustic Undermind, and Swing Noire, and sharing the stage with the likes of Frank Vignola, Jamie Masefield, Charlie Hunter and Doug Perkins. The brothers provide tight vocal harmonies and rhythmic accompaniment, as only twins can. Rob dazzles audiences with his fluid solos on mandolin and guitar, while Jim holds down the low end on upright bass.

Munson sings and plays guitar with the skill and confidence of someone who was raised in a musical family, and he's performed onstage with nationally recognized, award-winning instrumentalists like Matt Flinner and Jake Scheppes. Munson has become an integral band member, adding even more depth and complexity to their sound.

Admission is \$43 per person (age 13 and older) and includes an all-you-can-eat pizza buffet, hot and cold lemonade, live music fees and all taxes and credit card and permit fees. Add-on options of salad and ice cream available, too. Kids 8-12 are \$23; kids 7 and under free! This is a BYOB event. Well-behaved and leashed dogs are also welcome.

We use Vermont flour and a slow dough process that results in an irresistible crust—topped with local meat, garden fresh produce, and sincere attention to detail.

This is an outdoor event. If we need to cancel due to weather, you will receive a full refund. Blueberry Hill Inn is located at 1245 Goshen Ripton Road in Goshen.

For more information visit: BlueberryHillInn.com/pizza.



The Michele Faye Band

Courtesy Blueberry Hill Inn



Bloodroot Gap

Courtesy Blueberry Hill Inn



Jazz Essentials to perform the music of Duke Ellington

Wednesday, Sept. 18 at 7 p.m. — POULTNEY— Stone Valley Arts Jazz Cafe presents a concert featuring the swinging jazz ensemble Jazz Essentials lead by Glendon Ingalls on trumpet and Bear Irwin on trombone Wednesday evening. Joining them will be Ron White on bass, Bill Vitek on piano and Nick Aloï on drums.

Jazz Essentials will perform the music of Duke Ellington, featuring tunes such as “Caravan,” “Satin Doll” and “Take the A Train.” Rounding out the program will be a few selections of traditional New Orleans style jazz.

Jazz Essentials is a seasoned group of professional Vermont jazz musicians who have been playing together for decades and really know their “stuff.” Don’t miss out on this opportunity to hear them play!

The Jazz Cafe at Stone Valley Art offers a unique, intimate setting to hear and enjoy live jazz music performed by professional Vermont musicians.

The Jazz Cafe is free, but a \$10 donation is suggested. The event is open to the public, BYOB is allowed and light snacks will be provided.

Stone Valley Arts at Fox Hill is a community art center located at 145 E. Main St. in Poultney.

For more information, visit: stonevalleyarts.org.

Artistree hosts Community Open House

Saturday, Sept. 21 at noon— SOUTH POMFRET— Enjoy an afternoon filled with creativity, community, and fun for all ages. Explore a variety of engaging activities, including art projects, musical performances, and interactive exhibits. Capture special moments with photo opportunities, savor delicious foods, and participate in collaborative art experiences. This festive event is the perfect way to celebrate the vibrant arts scene in our community.

Participation is completely free! All are welcome!

Artistree Community Arts Center & Gallery is located at 2095 Pomfret Road in South Pomfret.

For more information and reserve your space, visit: bit.ly/4dLBdc6



6th Annual Vermont Fairy Tale Festival

Saturday, September 21
10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Sherburne Library, 2998
River Road,
Killington, VT

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Fairy Tales

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Friday September 20

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Mary Lou's Killington has been serving wood-fired pizzas since '21. We offer wood-fired hot pizza, warm vibes, and live music in a fun and relaxing atmosphere. Our full service bar will welcome you to stay and enjoy our pizzas and meatballs all prepared with fresh ingredients. Our meatballs always receive rave reviews and we offer a gluten free pizza crust. Stop by after your day on the mountain or when visiting the Killington, Vermont area. All of our food menu items are available to go.



Southside STEAKHOUSE
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SouthSide SteakHouse
Southside provides a modern approach to a classic American steakhouse. Join us for an inviting, upbeat atmosphere featuring thoughtfully crafted food made with the highest quality steaks & chops, fresh seafood, and seasonal produce. We offer dinner and drink service in our dining room, bar & lounge, and on our seasonal patio, weather permitting. (802) 772-7556 southsidesteakhouse.com



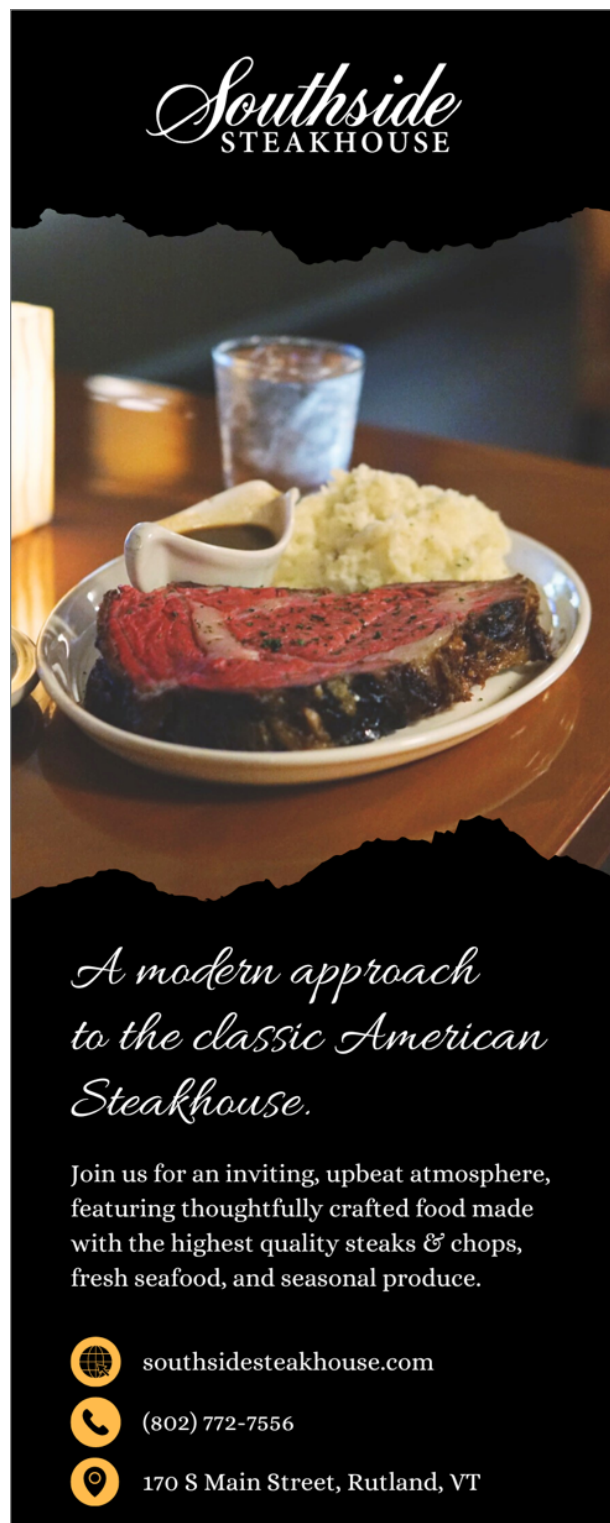
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Liquid Art
Relax in the warm atmosphere at Liquid Art. Look for artfully served lattes from their La Marzocco espresso machine, or if you want something stronger, try their signature cocktails. Serving breakfast, lunch and dinner, they focus on healthy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




Southside STEAKHOUSE

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



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Inn at Long Trail
Looking for something a little different? Hit up McGrath's Irish Pub for a perfectly poured pint of Guinness, live music on the weekends and delicious food. Casual dining at Rosemary's Restaurant. Visit innatlongtrail.com, 802-775-7181.



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



killington market

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



SUSHI YOSHI
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Calling all Skellies

Drum Journeys of Earth will be holding an invitation for new members to join the Skellies on Saturday, Sept. 21, at 10 a.m.

Become a part of the Skellies as a dancer, puppeteer, musician & more.

Classes held at Building #5, Howe Center, Rutland. For more information, contact Gary at 802-282-2581.



“Ethan Allen in Castleton” committee to host history presentation

Thursday, Sept. 19 at 7 p.m.—CASTLETON—The “Ethan Allen in Castleton” Committee will host Dick Smith, author of Ethan Allen and the Capture of Ticonderoga, to present a free PowerPoint program about the May 1775 local history on Thursday at 7 p.m. in the Castleton Community Center. The wheelchair-accessible venue is one block east of the Castleton Corners stoplight intersection along Route 30. The street address is: 2108 Main St., Castleton.

Dick Smith of Manchester has written three books on Vermont and local history: “The Revolutionary War in Bennington County,” “Ethan Allen and the Capture of Fort Ticonderoga: America’s First Victory,” and “Vermont Firsts and Other Claims to Fame.”

Recently Smith completed his third three-year term as a trustee of the Vermont Historical Society and previously was president of the Manchester Historical Society. Smith’s acclaimed public television history series, “History Where it Happened” was filmed throughout Vermont.

Starting one hour before Dick Smith’s presentation will be the monthly meeting of the Ethan Allen in Castleton planning com-

mittee. They usually meet in Buel block, next to the Castleton post office, but on Sept. 19 will meet at the Castleton Community Center.

Castleton citizens have proposed a free public celebration of Castleton’s greatest historical event, the multi-faceted launch of the patriot capture of artillery from the nearby British-held forts on Lake Champlain: Ticonderoga and Crown Point. Friday, May 9, 2025 will be the 250th anniversary of Castleton’s crucial role in American history, at the start of the War for American Independence. It was in Castleton on May 9, 1775 that Ethan Allen’s Green Mountain Boys militia finalized their plans to seize cannon from the enemy.

On Aug. 12, 2024, the Castleton Select Board passed a resolution to join with the Vermont 250th Anniversary Commission to recognize the 2025-2027 time period of the Vermont and national 250th anniversaries. The Castleton Select Board also appointed historian Tom Hughes to serve as the liaison between the Ethan Allen in Castleton event planning committee and the Select Board.

The local committee seeks more members and partners.

Lucy Mac 5K9 held at Ascutney Outdoors

Saturday, Sept. 21—BROWNSVILLE—The Lucy Mac 5K9 will be held on the trails at Ascutney Outdoors this Saturday. It is one of Lucy Mackenzie Humane Society’s largest fundraising events of the year. The 5K9 offers both a 5K route as well as a 1-mile option. Runners and walkers of all ages can participate solo, or as a team, and enjoy the thrilling and beautiful trails of Ascutney Mountain — all in support of the animals at Lucy Mackenzie Humane Society. This is most certainly a family-friendly event and, of course, dogs are welcome to join in on the fun!

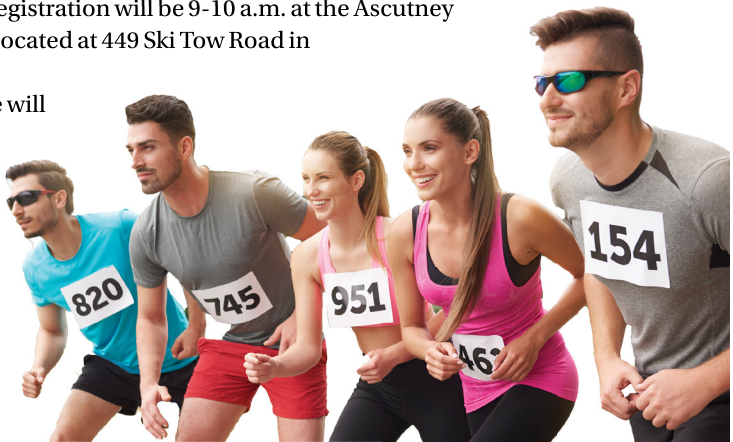
Participants will be treated to a scenic Vermont adventure as they race along hand-built trails located on the western base of Ascutney Mountain. The 5K trail, which has been deemed one of the most picturesque 5K routes in New England, will lead participants across fields, over streams and through the woods before they finish winding down the ski slopes of the mountain. Views from the course are sure to be spectacular! For those not quite up to the full 5K trail, we’re also offering a fantastic 1-mile course, which is equally gorgeous and just as much fun!

The registration fee is \$30 for the 5K trail and \$20 for the 1-mile trail. All participants completing the 5K9 will receive a custom Lucy Mac 5K9 medal.

Check-in and registration will be 9-10 a.m. at the Ascutney Outdoors Center located at 449 Ski Tow Road in Brownsville.

The 1-mile race will kick-off at 10 a.m., and the 5K race will start at 10:30 a.m.

To register visit: rungsig-nup.com/Race/VT/Browns-ville/Lucy-Mac5K9.1f



Erica J. Hurd Memorial Fund, which the town has established in her honor.

If you are able, tax-deductible donations may be sent or dropped off to:
40 Village Green, PO Box 556,
Pittsfield, VT 05762.

All contributions specifically will be used for developing the recreation area and programs in Pittsfield.



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'The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee' kicks off

Sept. 19-29—SOUTH POMFRET—Kicking off the Grange Theatre's 2024/2025 season is "The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee," running from Sept. 19-29. This hilariously heartwarming musical follows an eclectic group of six mid-pubescent as they compete in the spelling championship of a lifetime. Amidst the laughter and competition, the contestants reveal touching and humorous stories of courage from their lives, making this fast-paced show a true delight for audiences of all ages.

This production promises a lively, engaging experience filled with witty wordplay, memorable characters, and vibrant audience participation.

"The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee" is rated PG-13 due to adult language and content, with special "kid-friendly" Saturday matinees on Sept. 21 and Sept. 28. Whether you're attending a regular performance or a matinee, prepare for a riotous ride filled with humor and heart, where only one speller leaves a champion, but everyone enjoys the fun—complete with juice boxes for the "losers!"

Performance dates:


Sept. 19, 20, 21, 26, 27, & 28 performances at 7 p.m.

Sept. 21, 22, 28, & 29 matinees at 3 p.m.

"Kid-friendly" Saturday matinees: Sept. 21 & 28 at 3 p.m. (These shows are adapted to ensure kid friendly lyrics and dialogue).

Tickets cost \$40 for adults and \$35 for seniors and students. The Grange Theatre is located at 65 Stage Rd. in South Pomfret.

For more information, visit: Art-istreevt.org/performances.



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NEW DAILY SPECIALS!

TUESDAY:
\$2 DRAFT BEERS
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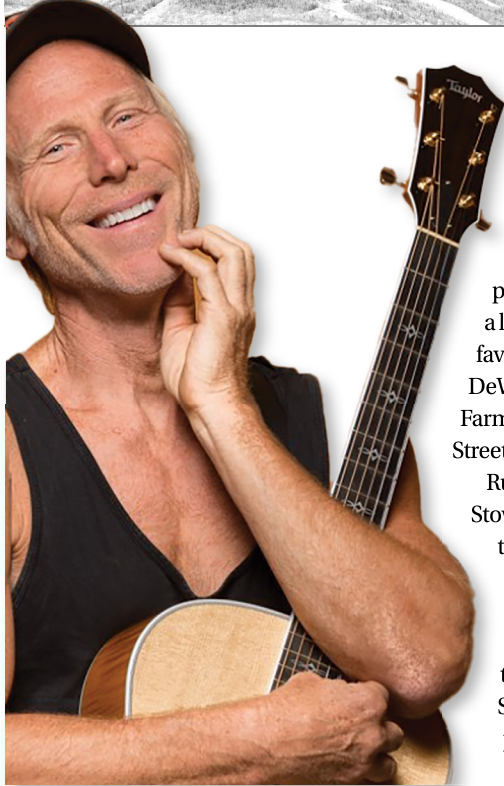
WEDNESDAY:
\$10 DRAFTS &
DUMPLINGS NIGHT
(EXCLUSIONS APPLY)

THURSDAY:
25% OFF WITH VT ID
EXCLUSIONS APPLY

SUNDAY:
GOOD GUYS 3PM-CLOSE



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VERMONTSUSHI.COM



'The Logger' is back on stage at in Pittsford and Randolph this week

Friday and Saturday, Sept. 20-21 at 7 p.m.—PITTSFORD/RANDOLPH—Grab a lawn chair, your friends and family, your favorite flannel and get ready to laugh as Rusty DeWees brings his show to the Pittsford Village Farm Friday then Chandler Music Hall on Main Street in Randolph, Saturday.

Rusty DeWees, "The Logger," grew up in Stowe where he was actively involved in theatre throughout high school and college. As a young adult, he performed with the award winning Vermont Repertory Theatre, before moving to New York City where he trained at the George Lorin Actors Theatre School and the Lee Strasberg Institute. This professional training was followed by scores of notable roles off-Broadway, and in tele-

vision, film, and national commercials. Missing his home state, DeWees moved back to Vermont where he continued his acting career and developed the Logger character.

An eclectic and innovative act, "The Logger" one-man comedy show is best described as "Blue Collar Comedy" meets "Prairie Home Companion," and has been steadily selling out theatres, large and small, throughout New England ever since it hit the stage in 1998.

The success of the live act has spawned three Logger DVDs, two CDs, five calendars, Logger apparel (duct tape wallets and Logger thongs included), and Scrawlins, a compilation of his columns for syndicated and regional newspapers.

DeWees also writes, voices, directs, and produces radio and television spots for various companies throughout New England, and has always, throughout his career, donated his time to promote positive lifestyle choices among high school-age kids.

Tickets at The Pittsford Village Farm Friday are "Pay what'cha can" \$5, \$10, \$15 includes taxes and fees. Free for kids 12 and under, no ticket needed!

Tickets at Chandler Music Hall Saturday are \$22 in advance; \$25 day of the show.

This performance is rated SC: Some Cussin'.

For more information and tickets, visit: Paramountvt.org/event/rusty-deweese-the-logger-pittsford-village-farm-2 or Chandler-arts.org.

Eight-part video series about local businesses features Pawlet farmer, Sept. 24 and Bethel bar owners Oct. 1

Vermont Public has launched "Small Vermont Businesses in Small Vermont Towns," an eight-part series of short films by filmmaker Rocket, as part of the station's Made Here Fund.

Rocket is a storyteller and the driving force behind Eat Vermont and Stellar, a mobile application that empowers people to create custom recipes and navigate the kitchen. He's an alumnus of The Putney School '10 and Middlebury College '14, and recent graduate of the Vermont Law School.

"I've been to all 50 states, but I call Vermont home. I love this state for many reasons, most of all for its strong local food system, natural charm, and community-minded people," Rocket said. "Small businesses are the bedrock of Vermont. The people who build and operate these businesses are heroes. I made this series to honor their resilient efforts and immortalize their stories as touchstones of Vermont life in the 2020s."

New episodes were released on Tuesdays at vermontpublic.org and YouTube from Aug. 13 to Oct. 1.

In this week's, on Sept. 24, Rocket visits with Seth Leach, the seventh-generation farmer at Woodlawn Farmstead in Pawlet, to explore how vertical integration has been essential for this small dairy farm's survival. Seth discusses how he and his wife Kate have worked to manage every step in milk production, from growing crops to making cheese to overcome the modern challenge of "buying retail and selling wholesale." By

partnering with renowned cheesemakers like Plymouth Artisan Cheese and Crowley Cheese, and even starting their own cheese brand, Woodlawn Creamery, the Leaches continue to find inventive ways to keep their 250-cow operation afloat.

Next week, on Oct. 1, Rocket visits with Jesse Plotsky & Owen Daniel-McCarter, co-owners of Babes Bar, a vibrant community center in the heart of Bethel. Babes is at once a queer friendly space, a watering hole for locals, and a must-visit on the itinerary of Vermonters state-wide and visitors from further afield. Known for its warm atmosphere and eclectic events, Babes Bar serves as a cultural hub where people of all backgrounds can come together over drinks, dance, and delicious Chicago-style hotdogs.

The Made Here Fund was launched in 2022 to broaden and diversify Vermont storytelling. Makers from across the state were invited to apply for special funding to produce pieces such as short documentary and animated films, digital shorts and audio series.

Rocket's project was one of 10 projects selected by a jury and funded in 2023. Previously released projects include films "The Balloonist," "Love of the Land," and "I Have Something To Get Off Of My Chest." The remaining projects will be released over the next year.

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Forest Festival held at National Historical Park, Saturday

Saturday, Sept. 21 at 10 a.m.—WOODSTOCK— Take a horse-drawn wagon ride, try your hand at woodworking, or explore the forest on a guided nature walk. Witness the whole forest product cycle in action, from horse-logging, to board cutting with a portable sawmill to woodcraft demonstrations. Visit activity hubs to meet members of the Abenaki community, local artisans, and outreach partners. All free this Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historical Park, located at Billings Farm & Museum, 69 Old River Road in Woodstock.

Bring a blanket or chairs and enjoy live music from 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

Billings-Rockefeller Mansion will be open from 12:30-2:30 p.m. where visitors can

view the first floor, preserved exactly as the Rockefellers left it. No reservations required. Sign up in advance for guided hikes at [Recreation.gov](https://www.recreation.gov). Spots are limited.

Getting there

From the Billings Farm & Museum parking lot, take the concrete path to the right of the Visitor Center. Cross Elm Street at the cross walk, and take the left fork in the road to walk up a short, steep hill towards the Carriage Barn Visitor Center.

There will also be an electric golf cart to drive disabled visitors from the Billings Farm & Museum to the festival throughout the day and wagon rides to activity hubs.

For more information visit: nps.gov/mabi/index.htm.



Submitted

Woodstock hosts a free event on Saturday, Sept. 21, featuring horse-drawn wagon rides, woodworking demonstrations, and guided nature walks. Visitors can learn about the forest product cycle, local artisans, and outreach partners. Live music and guided hikes are available.

Annual Basket Raffle, Mum & Pie Sale supports the Rupert community

Saturday, Sept. 21—RUPERT—Rupert Village Trust and the R.K. Kittay Library will be hosting their annual fall events on Saturday, Sept. 21 as part of a joint community effort.

Rupert Village Trust will hold its annual fall basket raffle starting at 10 a.m. at the Sheldon Store, 2824 Route 153 in Rupert. The drawing for the baskets will be at 12:30 p.m. Put your tickets on for such items as a two-night stay in a treehouse compound, La Pêche Lingerie in Manchester, “Happy Hour” at the Depot in Rupert, wine baskets, farm-to-table baskets and much, much more.

The Rupert Village Trust is a nonprofit organization whose mission is historic preservation and community development in the Designated Village Center. Its first major project is a community center and café in the historic Sheldon General Store. With no other casual gathering place in town, they believe that this project is pioneering a trend towards social vitality and a greater sense of community in Rupert.

Black Rabbit Kitchen will be providing lunch for purchase including smash burgers, grilled cheese sandwiches and salads.

For more information, visit: RupertVillageTrust.org.

The R.K. Kittay Library will host its annual mum & pie sale from 9 a.m.-noon. Choose from a beautiful selection of fall mums, ornamental cabbage and kale and fresh, homemade pies! For more information, visit: RupertKittayLibrary.org.



Submitted

Pictured: Lynn Vail (left) and Lois Dublin (right) admire some of the baskets available at last year's basket raffle.

Inaugural Soap Box Derby rolls to success at Whoopie Pie Fest

By Adam Davis

The inaugural MINT Soapbox Derby fundraiser took place during the annual Whoopie Pie Festival in downtown Rutland on Saturday, Sept. 14. Starting at the intersection of Center and Court streets, costumed drivers and their elaborately decorated cars raced down Center hoping to avoid hay bales and traffic cones before finishing just past the intersection of Wales Street. Drivers were competing to win in four categories: fastest time, most creative car, epic fail, and judges' choice. Spectators had the opportunity to participate and win prizes through early voting and winner predictions.

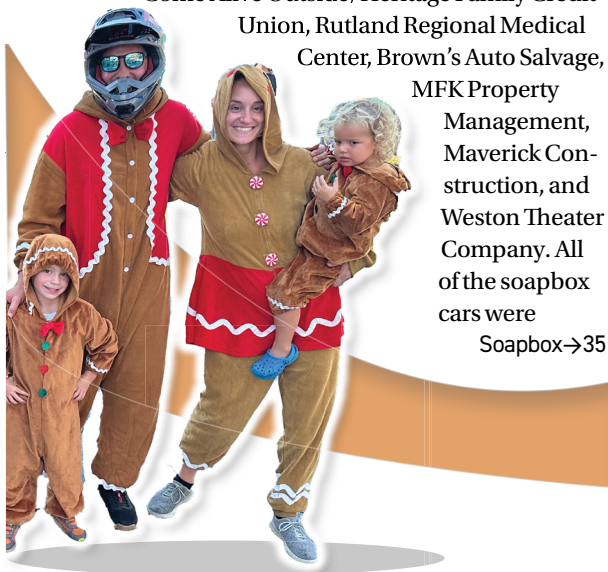
All of the proceeds from the fundraiser went towards The MINT.

Some of the soapbox cars included a gingerbread house, an outhouse, a shark, a log, a Foley Services wheelbarrow, a traditional box car, and a spooky set piece from the Weston Theater Company. Each of the cars was sponsored by local businesses or organizations, including: Wonderfeet Kids Museum/Killington Mountain Resort,

Come Alive Outside/Heritage Family Credit Union, Rutland Regional Medical Center, Brown's Auto Salvage,

MFK Property Management, Maverick Construction, and Weston Theater Company. All of the soapbox cars were

Soapbox→35



By Polly Mikula

Spartan Race goes big at Killington Resort

Spartan athletes flocked to Killington the past weekend, Sept. 14-15, to participate in a the obstacles course race that was born in these mountains. "Joe's Backyard" refers to the founder of Spartan, Joe DeSena, who hailed from Pittsfield at the time.

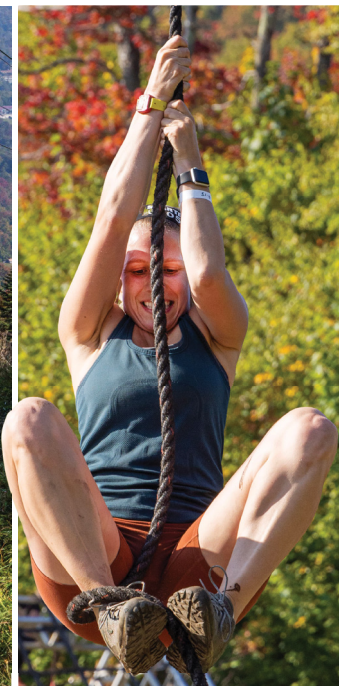
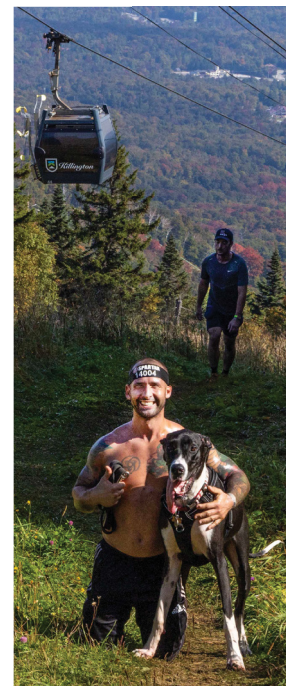
There were a number of different challenges participants could choose from, with varied lengths and number of obstacles. The most challenging was the Ultra which boasted 60 obstacle over 50 Killometers (times ranged from 8 hours, 48 minutes to 14 hours 30 minutes

for the 73 participants that completed the course).

The races namesake, the Beast, was half that (one lap instead of two) with 30 obstacles over 21 Killometers. The Sprint featured 20 obstacles over 5 Killometers and the kids races were 1-3 Killometers plus obstacles, too.



By Paul Holmes



Pie in the Face for Chase raises \$33,000

The 11th annual International Pie in the Face for Chase was held this past Sunday, Sept. 15, at the Summit Lodge in Killington and it was a huge success. At the event, 22 local celebrities took hundreds of pies in the face and raised \$33,000 (matching last year's record total) for Chase William Kuehl and the Phelan-McDermid Syndrome Foundation (PMSF). All proceeds support the cause, with half going directly to Chase and half to PMSF. There were also three young girls who came from the pool, to buy pies, for themselves.

Phelan-McDermid Syndrome is caused by the lack of chromosome 22, so having 22 participants is significant. The 22 is prevalent in other areas too. Whipped cream pies were sold for \$22, green pudding pies were \$50 (green is the color of the PMSF and Chase loves pudding) and for the messiest of all, the PMSF Chaser — a pumpkin pie topped with pudding and whipped cream — could be purchased for \$100.

Chase Kuehl was diagnosed with PMS in January 2012 when he was a little over 1 year old. He is one of only 2,700 children diagnosed worldwide. The prevalence of those with PMS is estimated to be between 1 in 25,000 babies born. There is no cure, but it is PMSF's goal to find effective therapies to help those with PMS, and, eventually, a cure.

"I'm blown away by the love and support the community continues to show Chase and PMSF," said charity co-founder DJ Dave Hoffenberg.

Businesses from Killington, Rutland, Woodstock, Ludlow, and even out to Manchester and Stowe, stepped up to donate. Visit the "Pie in the Face" Facebook page to see videos and photos from the event, but more importantly to see all these wonderful businesses.

The pie class this year were freshman: Alex Kuehl (Chase's Cousin), Emma Jean and Lucas

Magoon; Sophomores: Captain Jack Wallace (Emma Barclay took his pies) and Leo Pond; Junior: Jen Wheatley; Seniors: Andrew Schain and Brian Hughes; Post Grads: Bill Conn and Matt Kopicki (Kat Oropallo took his pies); Masters: Annie Johnson Kuehl (Chase's mom and co-founder), Dave Parnell, Don Sady, Jared Hall, Karena Kuehl (Chase's sister) and Kyler Kuehl (Chase's brother); O.P's (Original Pie-ees): DJ Dave Hoffenberg (Co-founder), Kelly Spear, Rick Kuehl (Chase's dad and co-founder), Sal Salmeri, and Team Canada's Peter Whittier.

Hoffenberg added, "This charity is near and dear to me, and I'm honored that so many people volunteer to get pied over and over, and help us raise much needed money. I love Chase dearly and will go out of my way to raise money for him, and to help the other children affected by it."

This year Hoffenberg himself raised a little over \$8,200 and took 164 pies to the face, shattering his 2023 record of \$6,900. For that feat, he gets a two-night stay at the Trapp Family Lodge in Stowe. This was his third "Golden Trapp Trophy," the award given to the highest money raiser (he previously won in 2019 and 2023).

Hoffenberg said, "Last year I campaigned dressed as a Merman, I knew I needed to raise the bar, so this year I campaigned as a Pink Flamingo. I had a lot of fun with it, flamingling at Rutland's Main Street Park, Mendon Mountain Orchards, Killington and Wellfleet on the Cape. I received a lot of compliments on this costume, it did the trick since I soared over my goal of \$7500."

Rutland's Jared Hall came in second raising close to \$5,000, his personal best by a couple

Pie→37

Crossword

Solutions from page 13

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

Sudoku

Solutions from page 13

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

Rutland County Humane Society



Pixel — 8-year-old.
Spayed female. Domestic shorthair.



Crab Rangoon — Young.
Chinese hamster.



Stella — 16-month-old.
Female. American.



Octavia — 2-year-old.
Spay date set. American Staffordshire Terrier.



Luna — 2-year-old.
Spayed female. American Staffordshire Terrier.



OREO
Oreo — 1-year-old. Spayed female. Domestic shorthair.



Memphis — 5-month-old.
Neutered male. Domestic shorthair.



Snickerdoodle — 3-year-old.
Spayed female. Hound mix.



Orphan Annie — 6-month-old.
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Alara — 3-year-old.
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Cosmic Catalogue



Aries March 21 - April 20

Sometimes we write off dreams as “just a dream.” What if a dream was the window into everything you ever wanted, everything you ever dreamed of? Would you close that window and lock it shut? Would you tell yourself “it’s just a dream” and move on with your dull and boring life? Everything that’s worth having at one point seemed unachievable or unattainable. Look at what you have already. Why are you holding yourself back from more?

Taurus April 21 - May 20

You may have had a run of bad luck or a lack of opportunity in recent times. This can be a hard blow to anything you’re really trying to manifest in your life. The challenge for you now is: will you still dare to dream? If you want something bad enough, obstacles are just par for the course. Every victory in life is the result of many failures. You never lose, you either win or you learn.

Gemini May 21 - June 20

If anyone can manifest a Career of Life Direction dream right now, it’s you. If you can imagine it, then you can create it. Will it take some hard work? Will it take you having to ignore those who say it can’t be done or it’s not practical? Most certainly! This week, just keep in mind that nothing worth happening came from being practical. In order to manifest a dream, you have to orbit on your own axis a little bit.

Cancer June 21 - July 20

In a world that appears to be devoid of spirituality or Godliness, you might be in a place where you’re seeking to double down on it. One way or another, the path ahead is about you walking towards a life of greater meaning and purpose. To define exactly what that looks like is a bit too early to tell. That said, if you feel your soul is being pulled in a direction that’s hard to define, then you know that somehow, you’re on the path you’re meant to be on.

Leo July 21 - August 20

If you’re stuck in a financial bind, you may need to think creatively about how you can get out of it. Maybe it’s not about money, but more about an emotional entanglement you share with someone else, especially of the romantic variety. It’s not been an easy road for you in these areas, to be sure, but if you can lean into the impossible, then you’ve got a better chance of improving things than staying within the tried, tested and true.

Virgo August 21 - September 20

Whether you’re single and wish not to be, whether you’re partnered and beginning to wonder what the future holds for the two of you, one thing is for certain: A massive block, barrier or obstacle is less of an issue than it once was. Your challenge now is to not let recent difficulties taint your future because the future is amazingly romantic if you let it be. Let your guard down in love and see what happens. I mean, it’s got to get better than it’s been, right!?

Libra September 21 - October 20

Everyday feels exactly the same. It’s a grind to be sure. However, if you’ve got a dream or goal that is driving you, then you need to double down on that. Yes, the road ahead is both bumpy with potholes, though it won’t be like this forever. Every challenging day, every setback or boring task you have to undergo is leading you to the place you really long to be. Don’t give up. Double down and keep going.

Scorpio October 21 - November 20

In some ways, the way in which Hollywood has led us all to believe how romance and falling in love should be, has been a bit of a misnomer. In reality, it’s probably caused more heartache than it has true love. If you’ve fallen on hard days in a current romance, do remember that Hollywood is not real life. True and lasting love is forged in the struggle and times when you’d rather be anywhere else. Yet, you choose to be no place else.

Sagittarius November 21 - December 20

Life at home has been a real mixed bag. On the one hand, you’ve had to double down on your obligations and responsibilities, while on the other, somehow you’ve sleepwalked through it all. Contradictory, I know. However, when you take a look around, you may be wondering how you even ended up where you are – good, bad or indifferent. While times may be tough in some ways, it’s important that you don’t lose sight of your domestic dreams and desires either.

Capricorn December 21 - January 20

You’re one who can tend to get so wound up in their work, obligations and expectations, that it can be really easy for you to get stuck in a rut. Sure, there will be some aspects of your life that you cannot or will not compromise on. However, could you add a little magic to the mundane? See more beauty that’s all around you? Allow your imagination to be stoked? When you step outside the practical, you’ll begin to see the magical.

Aquarius January 21 - February 20

An opportunity that seems far-fetched or plain impossible could fall in your lap. If that opportunity involves making money or boosting your confidence, then you need to fully embrace it. A new financial cycle is opening and you have a chance to get your foot inside the door. What you choose to do or not do is what will determine whether you get to stay in the room or not. Anything is possible, if you believe it to be so.

Pisces February 21 - March 20

You’ve had your fair share of challenges, obstacles and hard work that seemed to never end. By now, you’re probably so used to it! Don’t be though. All that you’ve done, all that you’ve been through has led you to this moment. This week, you’re going to get a glimpse into the wonderful opportunities that the past 18 months have earned you. If you’ve been slackening, then it’s not too late to turn things around. Chase your dreams because no one else can.

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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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Peeking into the future?

You probably like astrology because it can give you a glimpse into the future. That said, if you could really open the curtain and take a peek into 2025, would you?

If you actually could see which areas of life were going to be lit up and which ones may diminish, would it change your course of action?

You see, many of us think we would. The reality is, however, we don't have as much free will as we give ourselves credit for.

Think of this week a bit like a movie trailer to the feature film that will be released next year. There's an

action scene here. A bit of intrigue there.

And just when all appears lost, the hero of the day takes his woman in a passionate embrace and all becomes well in the circle of life, once again. You see, that is what the trailer leads you to believe. It's just the outline, it's not the full story.

This week, an opportunity opens where you can lean into a dream of how you'd like one area of life to manifest for you. That said, are you willing to let go of everything you currently believe to be true and just trust in the sublime, the ridiculous and the unknown?



Cosmic Catalogue
By Cassandra Tyndall

The student and the teacher

Growing up, my parents had some kind of large toy that wasn't functioning. I remember it so vividly. It was white with red and blue stripes. Big white stars. The sides and headboard showed a man burning rubber with an impertinent amount of orange and yellow flames, doing an amazing wheelie on a Triumph motorcycle. It was a 1977 Evel Knievel coin operated pinball machine. With enough beat-up charm to fill even the hippest of arcades, my youthful imagination ran wild as I considered what it would be like to plug it in. What would happen when it finally booted up and the synchronized lights start flashing? What digital tune would play when I got a high score? How carefree life must feel to drop that first quarter in.

It never quite got going and it was sold away with an unknown fate. I like to think that it was restored and lives with someone who will use it as intended. To transport yourself for a moment. To feel the wind through your hair, to revel in adventure without ever leaving the room. To feel free.

In my adult years, I encountered someone who reminded me of what that beautiful machine made me feel so long ago. And there wasn't a stodgy bone in his body.

When having a productive and passionate verbal sparring with a close friend it is important to really listen. This is particularly true with boy friend, who I consider a brother. You never know what treasures you can uncover when digging deep with a close friend. It is equally as important to/for each of you to share the insights you've experienced on your travels. A brainstorming session of the purest intention can unfold if all involved can see each other as equals. Like a think tank without the parameters of a tank. Every word is a lesson while being both student and teacher. When you find yourself growing each time you interact with someone, it is safe to say you are on the right track.



Dream in Color
By Will O'Donnell

During a brief, but deep dive into life, we discussed the usuals: accepting the absurdity of the world, the stunning beauty of our Mother Earth, and the "whys" in life. Why are we doing what we are doing? What is our reasoning? I considered: What is his motivation for creating delicious meals for people on the access road? Why does he choose to minimize his carbon footprint so much, even though he makes a lot of modern sacrifices to do so? Why does he feel so willing to spill his heart and mind to his closest advisors? How can he put so much out there so honestly, genuinely and bluntly?

A man that operates unapologetically by his own code, he focuses on living without regrets. Each risk is another opportunity to feel alive. But what would possess someone to take every risk? Every opportunity? Every single chance? Where is the fear that so many of us have faced and decided it was just not right? Not safe enough to feel comfortable?

He once said, "I'm gonna do it, Will. No one can stop me. I need to be happy. I have to do this," when discussing the final Twiddle concert and having to cut out of work slightly early.

We were working together that shift, and I wondered why I hadn't gone and enjoyed the soulful reggae grooves at the Flynn with him. I stayed on the access road and helped run the kitchen at work. I didn't want to let down my coworkers or the owner. I tried to convince myself that I was doing the right thing. While I am proud that I didn't leave my roommate high and dry at work, or go instead of my friend, I did let myself down. I kept my promise to others, but I did not keep my promise to myself. I did not honor myself. I had built a regret from scratch without even consulting life's recipe. A hard lesson was learned about the importance in taking care of oneself that night.

Given the constant roller coaster of
Dream in Color → 39



Late blooming flowers feed native bees

As the height-of-summer floral abundance fades, goldenrods and asters fill the landscape with hits of yellow, purple, pink, and white. Beyond the beauty they provide, these late bloomers are a critical food source for several native species of wild bees.

During late summer and fall, many specialist wild bees are active, said Spencer Hardy, a biologist at the Vermont Center for Ecostudies and project coordinator for its Vermont Wild Bee Atlas. There are more than 350 species of wild bees identified so far in Vermont, according to the atlas. Their emergence is staggered throughout the year so that roughly a third of those species are active at a time, from spring through autumn. Unlike the domestic western honey bee, wild bees can't rely on devoted beekeepers to stay healthy. Instead, they depend on a thriving habitat.

Wild bees are highly efficient pollinators, and they're essential to agricultural production and ecosystem health, Hardy said. Bees gather pollen to feed their young, carrying it on their bodies and dusting it across other flowers as they forage. While some pollinators — such as flies, wasps, and butterflies — visit flowers to feed themselves on nectar and, in some cases, pollen, bees' habit of collecting pollen often drives them to visit more plants.

One of the best ways to promote resilient wild bee populations is to plant native flora and allow meadows to stand through early fall.

"If you have a small field...if you wait until October to brush hog it, all the goldenrods and asters will bloom — as opposed to brush hogging it in July or August, when

it's going to stay as a stand of non-native grasses," Hardy said. "Waiting [to mow] until after the blooms increases the diversity in the flowering resources in the meadow."

Because different wild bee species feature minute distinguishing characteristics, they can be difficult to identify with the naked eye. A good way to start recognizing wild bees in the landscape is to learn about their behavior, including when they're active and how they relate to certain plant species.

As you admire goldenrods and asters, you're likely to see wild bees foraging for pollen on their blooms. Some species of wild bees have evolved as specialists in those flowers, meaning they've developed unique relationships with the plants, as well as behaviors and traits that make the bees especially good at collecting pollen from these flowers.

Aster cellophane bee (*Colletes compactus*) is one such specialist. As one of the latest wild bee species to emerge in

The Outside Story
Emily Haynes

"Waiting [to mow] until after the blooms increases the diversity in the flowering resources in the meadow," Hardy said.

Vermont each year, it depends on asters for food, although it will also visit goldenrod. These honey bee-sized bees start flying in August and can keep at it into October. They get their name not only from their special relationship with asters, but also from the cellophane-like material they use to waterproof their underground nests. The bees generate this material in a special gland and use their forked tongues to apply it to the walls of their nests.

The autumnal cellophane-cuckoo
Outside Story → 39

Fake it till you make it

I was sitting in an auditorium last spring watching my son graduate from high school when a funny moment occurred.

The class valedictorian was giving his speech and at a certain point mentioned the various personalities of his classmates and how they were a microcosm of society. "Some of my classmates are going to be college athletes and some will be Ivy League scientists," he stated. "Some will become budding visionaries, while others will take to the stage."

And then, much to my surprise, he said, "We even have one classmate who's daring enough to go backpacking through Japan."

There was an audible gasp at that statement as parents and family members reacted to the notion of a lone student packing up and flying to Japan to walk around the Asian countryside.

I looked at my wife and my wife looked at me. We both had the same blank stare on our faces. Our son had told us in the weeks leading up to graduation that he was going to forgo college in the fall and instead, work all summer and then travel to Japan for an adventure. We didn't balk at the idea, but we were confident it wouldn't materialize. My son can barely plan his laundry, much less a trip to the other side of the planet.

As far as we knew, this crazy idea was something he only told us, but now the entire graduating class had heard it. Thankfully, the valedictorian didn't attach a name to his statement.

A half hour later, it was time for the graduation ceremony. After each student's name was called, they would walk up to the podium where the principal would hand them their diploma. Coinciding with this was a voice on the loudspeaker reciting the student's accomplishments and plans for the year ahead.

When my son's name was called, the announcer stated, "And he will be traveling to Japan in the fall for an extended stay."

Parents clapped politely when the future college plans were announced, but when the statement about the Japan trip was broadcast, everyone cheered loudly. They now had a face and name to go along with the adventure.

At this point, my wife and I were practically sliding under our seats. We had no idea that the flippant little statement he blurted out over dinner had been shared with his entire school.

When my son finally made his way over to us after the ceremony, my first words were, "You do realize if you don't go to Japan now, you'll look ridiculous?"

My son smiled at me broadly and countered, "Don't worry, Dad. I'm going to make this happen."

Well, here we are in the fall and all of his classmates have taken off to college. My son spent the entire summer working two jobs — one as a grocery store clerk and one as a waiter. He's earned a substantial amount of money and saved a good portion of it. He also hooked up with a group of likeminded young people who were looking to travel abroad. And over the course of a couple months, they made a plan to visit Australia, Thailand, and Japan.

This morning, my son was dropped off at the airport and as I'm writing this column, he is now waiting at the gate to board a flight to Melbourne, Australia. I am excited and scared, but also immensely proud that he followed through on his promise. Quite honestly, I never dreamed it would happen.

I had a long talk with my son the night before he left. We sat together on the couch in our living room as I spoke. He listened intently as I reviewed the countless pieces of advice that I hoped he internalized over the years. He shook his head knowingly after each

statement and promised he would look out for himself.

We had a profound father and son moment as I wrapped it up. He hugged me in the way your child hugs you when they don't know how to express their gratitude. I could feel that deeply. And then, just before he walked into his bedroom, he turned to me and said, "Am I really doing this?" (Thankfully, there was a wink in his eye as he said it.)

This week's film, "Am I Racist?" features someone who likely uttered this same phrase as they went undercover to expose a controversial agenda that has been penetrating the fabric of America over the last decade.

Matt Walsh, a popular conservative podcaster and star of last year's "What is a Woman?" documentary, decided to go undercover to expose his perceived grift of DEI (diversity, equity, inclusion) programs throughout the country. In the same way that Walsh used humor and his targets' own words to make his point with "What is a Woman?" he did the same with this film.

Not everyone is going to like what this documentary uncovers, but I couldn't help but find it funny, poignant, and particularly exposing. And if Walsh's conclusions about race hold true, our country is in much better shape than big media and the DEI proponents would have us believe.

A racy "B+" for "Am I Racist?" 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



Signs of a season changing

I don't Spartan, but I have always felt that the race itself constitutes the beginning of the fall season. Although this year, with the hot summer temperatures, I'm not really sure how that fits in to any season except "Vermont." But at the same time, it's my signal to kick in the dryland training, that we could be earning our turns on some fast grass within a month and lifts could be running within six weeks! Winter is coming!

On my hikes around the mountain, I have heard the constant sound of lawn mowers running up and around almost everywhere. Superstar looks glorious with her fresh haircut, enabling the snowmakers to have a much easier time of throwing down all that World Cup snow. It's funny, how if I was hiking single track on the AT or the Long Trail, I would be so frustrated to hear those gas powered machines destroying the peacefulness of nature. But out here, walking the mountain, it gets me all excited and filled with just a little more joy. Winter is coming!

I love seeing the colors changing— right now they are evoking this amazing rustic feeling. With each tree that starts to lose its greenness, my soul gets a littlest happier. Not because something is dying, but because the circle of life is continuing forward and bringing us one step closer to winter!

The gravel is even drying out as the trees to soak in every last bit out of the ground as they prepare to hibernate for the upcoming season. There's an urgency, a feeling of so much to be done before the snow begins to fall and the ground begins to freeze, which hopefully happens this year...

At home, all my plants are starting to die, with just the rudbeckias still having

any color at all. I am not the world's best gardener by any means, so perhaps I could have planted a better variety of pre-autumn color. But I like to let the leaves do my fall coloring for me. And I do love the colors of the plants as they die away in the autumn. Those dark rich reds and browns get me all excited to cut them back so the snow can fall smoothly and not be interrupted with the odd dying plant sticking out. Winter is coming!

It's that time of year where we can actually open the doors to our extremely tight home, turn the air conditioner off and let the cool air in. Our little log cabin is a roasting oven. Which is great in the winter, but can be absolutely miserable in the summertime without the A/C. Even I, who absolutely hates air conditioning, had to give in when the temperature in our bedroom loft rose to over 90 degrees on one particularly warm summer day. No, thank you!

I'm pretty sure this is why I love fall so much. Yes, it's beautiful and I want to spend every minute of my day outside somewhere: hiking, going for a foliage drive or just plain sitting on my front porch watching the colors turn (if only it happened like that).

Unlike summer that seems to just sit there, autumn feels like you can actually feel the world moving, to me anyway. The colors on the trees are so fleeting and the leaves fall from their spots on the trees so quickly — you have to be present in that one particular moment or you are going to miss the whole thing.

And the best part? The thinning of the air. Which is actually not what happens. According to Charles Law, in chemistry, the volume of a gas (in our case, the nitrogen,

Living the Dream → 37



Living the Dream
By Merisa Sherman

House changes since 1944

As sometimes happens when you are sitting next to a stranger for a period of time a conversation begins. Recently a woman asked me if I was from Rutland. I said that I was and then she told me that she had lived in Proctor all of her life.

I followed by commenting that not only had I lived in Rutland all of my life but after 80 years I still live in the same house I grew up in. She told me that she couldn't match that record as she had lived in four different houses in Proctor during her life time.

She said, "I bet your parents would be surprised to see how their house looks now. There have probably been a lot of changes."

There actually have not been as many changes as one would expect. I usually need

a good reason to make a change in just about all aspects of my life.

When my parents bought the house in 1944 one of the most appealing things to my father was the back porch. For a city street with houses quite close together one doesn't expect to look out on the mountains. But that is exactly what you see from our back porch. It was strictly a screened porch until the mid-'80s when my husband, Peter, and I had sliding windows installed. Now air comes in

through screens in the summer and in the winter we enjoy the glass windows. Since the porch faces south the sun provides a place to read and have lunch on a winter day. My father would have loved it!

The kitchen floor no longer has linoleum
Looking Back → 39



Looking Back
By Mary Ellen Shaw

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← Soap Box Derby:.....

from page 29

designed and built at The MINT on Quality Lane in Rutland. “We wanted to have a fundraiser that touched on all the aspects of what a makerspace is,” said Morgan Over, the director of operations at The MINT. “We welded the chassis at The MINT. We created the design, and then the teams from the community came in and added all kinds of accoutrement to their cars. A real maker challenge, essentially. All of the sponsors were local organizations that we had invited, but next year we’re going to open it up to the public.”

Winners of the derby included Foley Services’ wheelbarrow for the fastest time at 23.86 seconds, while the most creative award went to Maverick Construction for their gingerbread house. Weston Theater Company won the judges award for the eerie set piece promoting their upcoming play “The Woman in Black,” while the epic fail award went to the log car from Come Alive Outside.

“My brake pedal snapped, and then my steering wheel broke. So it was all downhill from there, literally. The hay bales saved the day,” said Rudy, the driver of the log car.

The MINT is a shared workshop that provides their members with access to tools, equipment, and technology that most people don’t have the space for, or couldn’t afford on their own. It is also a community with the opportunity to share knowledge, experience, and ideas. Members of The MINT include hobbyists, educators, students, entrepreneurs, non-profit, and for-profit companies.

For more information, visit rutlandmint.org or find them on Facebook.



The inaugural MINT Soap Box Derby fundraiser at the Whoopie Pie Festival in Rutland featured creative, locally sponsored cars, raised money for The MINT, and awarded winners in categories like fastest time, most creative car, and epic fail.

By Polly Mikula

← Rockin':.....

from page 17

at The Grist Mill to watch Jamie play, and then like in the same week we’d be back in CT and go out for pizza in Glastonbury, on a school night, and there’s Jamie playing again. It was really cool. I can remember when I was 10 or 12, and Jamie would ask if I was practicing my guitar, now here we are sharing the stage which feels pretty full circle. Kenny, in my opinion, is an incredible singer-songwriter. My dad had a CD that had “Kenny Live” sharpied on it. The show was at the Pickle Barrel on March 27, 2011. I listened to that in his truck, driving up to Killington on the weekends, I hadn’t seen Kenny live at this point, but I was just thinking wow. That CD wound up living in the center console of his truck. 15 year old me was definitely hooked. He also had a CD of Kenny’s old band Five Wise from January 19, 2002 at the Wobbly Barn (I DJ’d that show). I never saw Five Wise but I listened to that CD all the time.”

The Killington music scene has some amazing acts. Nick said, “I’ve always said the Killington Access Road acoustic apres is a genre of its own. I think Kenny’s sound is quintessentially that.” Nick and Zach Yakaitis had the pleasure of having Kenny sit in with them at a Jax show and Nick got to perform a duo show with him at the Moguls, both in 2023. Nick said, “Kenny has that rock star presence, at least in my mind, but he’s cool just playing the same stages as us.” Another huge influence of Nick’s is Annie in the Water, who he sits in with from time to time.

Nick has written music which he calls “both therapeutic, and frustrating.” He added, “I think good songwriting comes out of organic inspiration or some sort of natural



Submitted

Nick Bredice

catalysts like an event as opposed to writing out of necessity. I play a lot of covers which is the nature of the gig but I don’t want to spend my whole career playing other people’s music. Finding the time to formalize a lot of those ideas is impossible so a lot of it doesn’t see the stage.” Nick has about six songs now, and the hope is for an album in the future.

Nick likes being his own boss. He said, “I like having full creative control, not just the show but where I get to play. I treat this solo act as its own project than can evolve in any direction I please. It’s very freeing. I’m going to keep taking it one show at a time.”

← Radonis:.....

from page 8

them — people he’d never met — they could stay at his home until they could sort things out. I met these folks at Steve’s when I drove up to get some water. Steve spent the next few days pumping out flooded homes and basements in Plymouth, both private and business, not as a volunteer fireman, but as a community member.

- His volunteer fire department service. From his own stories and on good authority, Steve was among the few members who consistently showed up at all emergencies and calls.
- Whether my wife and I are attending the

strawberry festival or Calvin Coolidge summer events, Steve is always on hand at the grill or serving tables.

- Steve’s initiative in writing and promoting the short-term

Steve was among the few members who consistently showed up at all emergencies and calls.

rental ordinance here in Plymouth is commendable. As a second-home owner who rented out our house for part of two summers several years ago, I appreciate Steve’s concerns that non-residents must be vigilant in abiding by safety codes, registering with the town annually, and

listing accurately and honestly how many renters their homes can accommodate.

- Steve’s experience as Plymouth justice of the peace, board of civil authority chair, and Black River Senior Center vice-chair further attest to his interest and commitment to the community.



As a long-time Vermont resident with experience ranging from sales, directing Okemo’s ski school, and running his one-man carpentry, building, and remodeling business, Steve Radonis always puts people first and holds himself and everyone accountable for the community’s wellbeing.

John Hennelly, Plymouth

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← **Pie:**
from page 29

grand. This charity started in 2014 with a small event at Moguls Sports Pub, raising \$1,200. “We’re very proud to see how far we’ve come,” said Hoffenberg. “Due to Moguls being sold, we needed a new spot,” Hoffenberg explained. “Emmett stepped up, and we could not be happier with how it turned out. We were nervous about the venue change but everyone at the Summit on Sunday was there for the event. The grounds are beautiful, they had two bars running, both with food and drink, and the staff went above and beyond. An added bonus was the heated saltwater pool that many people used, but nobody went in with pie on!”

The 12th annual event is slated for Sept. 14, 2025. Stay tuned.

For more information visit: pieinthefaceforchase.com.



By Merisa Sherman

A work road meanders down a ski trail at Killington as the sun makes the mountainsides glow.

← **Living the Dream:**
from page 33

oxygen and other molecules) is directly proportionate to its absolute temperature. So while we feel that summer air is heavier, it’s because it is trying to take up as much space as possible. It might also have a higher humidity level, which makes the molecules move faster, making them push harder onto things. Granted, I did not do very well in AP Chemistry at Deerfield, but I can feel when I am working against the air or water rather than with it. With the cold, slower and more dense air, I find it easier to breathe, more fun to be outside and I cannot wait to feel the super cold air freezing my insides with each breathe. The super cool feeling of freezing from the inside out.

But we’re not there, yet.

We first have to enjoy the FairyTale Festival and Brewfest this weekend while we get our gear ready for the foliage ski swaps. We have to prep our Sotheby’s Realty booth for the Boston Ski Show and put the finishing touches on designing a new pair of skis. We need to finalize the purchase on that Killington property so that we can be “in the home” by World Cup. Because winter is coming!!

Merisa Sherman is a long time Killington resident, global real estate advisor, town lister and member of the development review board. She is also Coach PomPom. Reach out to her at Merisa.Sherman@SothebysRealty.com.



Courtesy Dave Hoffenberg

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Town trails:

from page 3

and hope to secure proposals. Our goal is to have the trail designed and permitted over the fall /winter so that we can begin construction in the spring of 2025.”

By aligning access points to trails on both sides of Route 100, the overall plan intends to minimize on-street bike traffic. New signage would mark five points of crossing on that highway (including one that would connect the new multi-use path to the existing trails behind Base Camp, which would see upgrades of their own).

However, according to Transportation Consultant Rose O’Brien, the Vermont Agency of Transportation doesn’t permit striped crosswalks “on a state route.”

Route 4 is a state route, too, but with the help of the Rutland Regional Planning Commission, Killington has begun looking into taking control of a portion of it in order to lower the speed limit in the vicinity of local businesses and gathering places. By Davis Lewis’s account, the RRPC’s recent conversations with VTrans have shown promise.

“A few years ago, they were like, ‘Oh my god, never! It’s a state highway – you can’t do that.’ But thinking has really changed,” Davis Lewis said. “They’ve become much more in tune with what people want.”

For now, the study suggests adding radar feedback signs to discourage speeders on Route 4 and narrowing the shoulders at Route 100’s Y-junction for the same reason. It also proposes a bus shelter at the post office, whose building will soon house the town hall as well.

By aligning access points to trails on both sides of Route 100, the overall plan intends to minimize on-street bike traffic.

Riders, meanwhile, would enjoy expanded parking at the Sherburne Trails trailhead.

At the Killington public safety building last week, townspeople appeared to receive the plan as a sign of ongoing local progress.

“What was there for bike trails eight years ago?” one man said. “Whoever’s done work on this, I applaud you.”



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← Dream in Color: from page 32

vicissitudes in this man's story, I knew we had a lot to learn from each other. When we check in we always seem to focus on making things better. We talk about trying to facilitate and embody the change in the world, by being true to what makes us who we are. He reminds me to respect others by respecting myself. To not allow myself to be afraid of failure, but instead to relish it as a chance to grow. Reminding me that I choose my reality and I have so many more opportunities than I think. As many as I want. That part of free will means that sometimes I need to look past my own layers of conditioning and simply do what is right. That there are so many ways to enjoy and contribute to our beautiful mountain community. That if I take a chance I may be able to enact some real change and make the world a little better.

That if we all act as students and teachers, we could leave this place better than we found it.



By Martin Cooper

Looks like a wasp but this is a nomad bee, a parasite of solitary bees. The nomad enters the bee's nest and lays an egg. Then the nomad baby eats the bee's babies and lives on the food the mother bee had collected for them. Later the nomad pupates and emerges as an adult to repeat the cycle.

← Outside Story: from page 32

(*Epeolus autumnalis*) is a large, late-to-emerge, parasitic wild bee that lays its eggs in the nests of aster cellophane bees. When the autumnal cellophane-cuckoo larvae emerge, they kill the host larvae and eat the pollen the parent aster cellophane bees provided for their own offspring. Known as brood parasitism in birds, this tactic is common among birds in the cuckoo family.

Similarly, the neighborly-nomad bee (*Nomada vicina*), another parasitic species in the cuckoo family, preys on the hairy-banded mining bee (*Andrena hirticincta*), which is a goldenrod specialist that also visits flowers in the mint family and is common in fall. Neighborly-nomads are common in Vermont in the fall. Their bodies are black with yellow and red markings.

"When I find a bunch of nomads, it's generally an indication of an abundant, diverse, stable host population," Hardy said. "The hosts have to be there and have established nests. The parasites come in and maybe will keep the host populations a little bit subdued, or more stable."

Even as the days get colder, bee activity continues, thanks in large part to the region's many goldenrod and aster plants. And as long as those flowers are in bloom, the bees that rely on them will be buzzing around.

Emily Haynes is a writer currently living in Washington, D.C. An avid birder and hiker, she loves exploring the forests of the Northeast. Illustration by Adelaide Murphy Tyrol. The Outside Story is assigned and edited by Northern Woodlands magazine and sponsored by the Wellborn Ecology Fund of the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation: nhcf.org.

← Looking Back: from page 33

on it. The original hardwood underneath was sanded and stained. It looks so much more natural and in keeping with a house built in the early 1930s. I bet my mother would love the microwave oven for re-heating various dishes. What used to take at least 20 minutes in the stove's oven now takes about 2 minutes. She would be impressed!

The living room fireplace that was never used because it needed a proper liner to burn wood has been converted to a gas fireplace. We love it and no wood needs to be hauled in by a couple of "seniors." The log insert looks like the real thing and winter days are cozy and warm in the living room.

The TV in the living room is no longer a piece of furniture like the first one that arrived in our house in 1954. It's a flat screen TV on a cabinet with a remote control that was only a dream back then. My parents would be amazed that you can change channels, control volume and view a guide without leaving your chair.

The windows throughout the house

no longer have to be changed out from glass to screens as the seasons change. My parents would really be amazed that the same windows stay in place all year and you just tilt them for cleaning.

In the one and only bathroom the original tub has been replaced by a walk-in shower. The sink, counter and custom made cabinet are new as well as the flooring. It's the only room in the house that doesn't have a trace of yesteryear.

My bedroom from childhood is now a "shared space" for an office area and a place to hang clothes. Old houses had very little closet space so my handy husband installed wooden rods on three walls. Now I have plenty of room for clothes that won't fit in my closet.

An armoire built by my husband holds many of his clothes. Where there's a will, there's a way and now both of us have a place to hang all of our clothes.

On the outside the clothesline was taken down in 2000 to make way for our in-ground pool. That was taken out a

couple of years ago and the area is back to being just a lawn. I created raspberry patches and added blueberry bushes which my parents would have enjoyed. However, they would be disappointed that the lilac bush which they put in when they bought the house was destroyed several years ago during a winter ice storm.

I think they would be pleased with the landscape and flower gardens that have gradually appeared as my interest in gardening grew. My father was more of a gardener than my mother so he would appreciate the hard work that goes into maintaining all those spaces. It's a labor of love.

The picket fence that my father built for our side lawn eventually rotted and he would now find a cedar "board on board" fence in its place. I think he would like the natural wood.

Time doesn't stand still so I wonder what I would find if I could see our house 80 years down the road. I can't even imagine things getting any more modern than they are now.



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