



INDIGENOUS PEOPLES DAY IS MONDAY

Celebrated on the second Monday of October, the day commemorates indigenous histories and cultures. It began as a counter-celebration held on the same day as the U.S. federal holiday of Columbus Day, and has since been widely adopted. Gov. Phil Scott signed legislation making the Vt holiday swap official in 2019.



KILLINGTON HOSTS MONSTER SKI SWAP

Killington Ski Club's Ski & Bike Sale is Oct. 11-13 at Ramshead.

Page 29



Submitted by Jeff Poremski, Rick McConahay, and Brian Hobbs with Vista (dog).

BEMUSIC WELCOMES A NEW OWNER

Rick McConahay has taken over Brian Hobbs' shop, aims to keep the same.

Page 4



COLD TEMPS COULD MEAN SNOW SOON

Snowguns will make early season trails white.



Courtesy Killington Resort

How long can you hoist a stein?

Killington Resort's Harvest Faire is Saturday, Oct. 12, featuring fall fun and games at Snowshed base area. The crowd-favorite is the stein hoisting competition, a traditional Bavarian strength contest where participants hold up a one-liter stein (glass mug) for as long as they can. See page 22.

Woodstock high school alumnus receives Nobel Prize in Medicine

By Polly Mikula

The 2024 Nobel Prize in Medicine — science's most prestigious — was awarded Monday, Oct. 7 to Dr. Victor Ambros, a Woodstock High School alumni, and fellow research collaborator Dr. Gary Ruvkun.

Their Nobel Prize-winning discovery was "a fundamental principle governing how gene activity is regulated," according to the news release announcing the 2024 award.

Mountain Views Superintendent Sherry Sousa shared the news at the school district meeting, Monday night.

"We even got a call from the Boston Globe," she said. "The honor was long overdue for their work, so it's super exciting... and he wasn't even the Valedictorian!" she added.

Victor Ambros was born in 1953 in Hanover, New Hampshire, and raised on a family farm in Hartland. He graduated from Woodstock High School in 1972, according to Sousa.

The Nobel Prize in Medicine has been awarded 114 times to a total of 227 laureates since 1901. The prize carries a cash award of 11 million Swedish *kronor*, equal to about \$1 million, from a bequest of the prize's creator, Swedish inventor Alfred Nobel.

Victor Ambros went on to earn his bachelor's degree and doctorate from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in 1979 where he also did postdoctoral research 1979-



Courtesy UMass Chan Medical School
Victor R. Ambros, PhD.

1985. He became a principal investigator at Harvard University in 1985. He was a professor at Dartmouth Medical School from 1992-2007 and he is now Silverman Professor of Natural Science at the University of Massachusetts Medical School, Worcester, Massachusetts.

Dr. Gary Ruvkun is a professor of genetics at Harvard Medical School and a member of the Mass General Research Institute in Boston.

Understanding gene activity

The information stored within our chromosomes can be likened to an instruction manual for all cells in our body, a new release Oct. 7, explained. Every cell contains the same chromosomes, so every cell contains Nobel Prize → 7

Wonsor honored with Lifetime Achievement Award

By Polly Mikula

Killington Town Clerk and Treasurer Lucrecia Wonsor was given the 2024 Lifetime Achievement Award last Wednesday, Oct. 2, at the annual Town Fair conference held at Killington Resort. Nearly 500 municipal officials from around Vermont gathered for the occasion.

"From time to time, VLCT presents its Lifetime Achievement Award to a municipal official or employee who has dedicated their career to serving local government, both within their community and through service at a statewide level on a board, commission, or the Vermont League of Cities and Towns," said William (Bill) Frazer, president of the Vermont League of Cities and Towns (VLCT) introducing the awards at the luncheon at Snowshed Lodge. "Today's honoree has served in the town office for 25 years. She started as a recording secretary for the Killington Planning Commission. Then served as assistant town clerk. And she's been the clerk and town treasurer for the town of Killington for the last 22 years. Her family came to America from Portugal when she was a baby and she moved to Vermont in 1998, just a year before coming to work for the town."

Lucrecia Wonsor has been a VLCT board member for the past six years, VMCTA executive committee member since 2009, and is a NE Association of City and Town Clerks member.

"Lucrecia has become an invaluable connector between clerks, state agencies, and statewide organizations," Frazer continued. "She's a past president of VMCTA, has been involved with VLCT municipal policy drafting, and has been the primary compiler of a state-mandated clerk fee report that has been used to advocate for appropriate fee increases. She was also the co-chair of the VLCT Equity Committee as it crafted the organization's first equity strategic plan, equity toolkit, and equity training"

"Lucrecia plans to retire at the end of the year, unless we can over ride that somehow," Frazer joked to the crowd, garnering cheers and laughter. "So it seems fitting that we give Wonsor → 9



By Polly Mikula

Lucrecia Wonsor smiles after receiving the Lifetime Achievement Award from Bill Frazer (left) and Ted Brady (right).



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Pickleball is coming to Pittsfield

By Brett Yates

The Pittsfield Select Board has hired a contractor to give the town's basketball court a new paint job and topcoat next spring. And, for the first time, the asphalt will sport overlapping lines for pickleball.

"One pickleball court, though — only one will fit," Selectman A.J. Ruben said. "It's going to be in the middle of the court."

Officials expect to spend nearly \$10,000 from

Pittsfield's paving reserve fund to bring in a St. Johnsbury-based company to do the job. Last month, the town used a small portion of a grant from the Vermont Dept. of Buildings and General Services to purchase a portable pickleball net, paddles, and balls for public use, as well as two basketballs and a tarp for winter.

For the past three years, the Sports and Fitness

Industry Association has named pickleball the fastest-growing sport in America.

The new net and striping will give townspeople one more way to make use of the increasingly multipurpose facility behind town hall. In December of 2021, volunteers turned the court into an ice rink, and winter skating has become an annual tradition in Pittsfield since then.

\$15.9m awarded to 14 Vermont public libraries

Three local libraries receive \$3.4m collectively

On Monday, Sept. 30, the Vermont Dept. of Libraries announced the recipients of \$15.9 million dollars in competitive grant monies to 14 public libraries in Vermont with funding from the U.S. Department of the Treasury through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA).

These one-time, substantial grants will address critical building improvements that ensure Vermonters in these communities have continued access to high-speed internet for the purposes of work, education, and health monitoring at their local public libraries.

The Covid-19 health emergency highlighted the critical importance of high-speed internet access to Vermonters, as so many aspects of everyday life — including going to school, working remotely, and attending medical appointments — moved online.

In this context, the crucial role public libraries play by providing internet access became even more apparent. Vermonters without home access to the internet were impacted by the pandemic more than those who had access. These state ARPA funds will help ensure continued internet access at public libraries in need of critical building repairs and improvements.

"The Department of Libraries is excited about this opportunity to support communities around the state by administering the first federal capital funding for Vermont public libraries in 20 years," said State Librarian and Commissioner of Libraries Catherine Delneo. "A needs assessment conducted by the Department in 2023 reflected a high need for maintenance,



repairs, and modernization in public library buildings, many of which are more than 100 years old. Libraries serve as community hubs and this money supports these crucial facilities and the Vermonters that will depend on them well into the future."

"Over the years, technology has become a part of our daily lives. We rely on the internet for things like school, work, medical appointments and more," said Governor Phil Scott. "These grants will help Vermonters get connected at libraries across the state."

These funds were distributed through a highly competitive grant process open to all public libraries in Vermont. Funds were distributed to 14 public libraries in 11 counties and to libraries located in small villages to larger towns.

Local libraries grant recipients included:

1. Brandon Free Public Library Inc. (Rutland County) received \$1,406,936 for the installation of a four-story elevator with renovations and improvements for ADA compliance, repair or replace windows for energy efficiency.
2. Middletown Springs Public Library (Rutland County) received \$1,293,384 to renovate and upgrade library building infrastructure at new library site.
3. Wilder Memorial Library in Weston (Windsor County) received \$650,000 for its building expansion and envelope repairs, new HVAC and plumbing systems, electrical system updates, and new ADA compliant bathroom.

For more info, visit libraries.vermont.gov.

Killington Ski Club to debut new athlete center this fall

The Killington Ski Club (KSC) is nearing completion of its new athlete center on its training and racing venue: the Swirl Trail at Killington. The club anticipates this building will be ready for use by its athletes, coaches, and staff by November.

In 2019, KSC embarked on a journey to build a building on the Swirl race trail to function as an athlete center — serving as a warming hut for its athletes, as well as housing timing/calculations for events and storage for on-hill supplies such as gates, equipment and safety devices.

The club started with the homologation of the trail, the communications infrastructure for the venue, snowmaking, and the Poma lift powered by a generator that is now used by its development program athletes.

The Swirl venue at Ramshead is much further from the

This building will make training at the Swirl venue much more productive, comfortable, and safe for both our athletes and the recreational skiers and riders on Ramshead," said Hopkins.

base clubhouse (just up from the K-1 gondola) than Bunny Buster (the former training venue).

"Keeping the athletes engaged and safe as well as reducing the amount of equipment movement was a priority," stated KSC vice president Bryan Hopkins in a news release. "KSC proposed the new building to the Killington management team, and it was approved. KSC then engaged with the state on the Act 250 permits in 2020-21 and received final



Courtesy KSC

Finishing touches are being completed for the new Killington Ski Club athlete center that will be at the base of the Swirl training trail at Ramshead.

approval of the Act 250 permit at the end of December 2022, which allowed us to finalize construction plans, begin the site work, and then start construction," he said.

KSC secured partial funding through the grant process with the Killington World Cup Foundation (KWCF) in 2019 and 2020. Those monies are grants with an obligation for KSC to match the grant amount dollar-for-dollar.

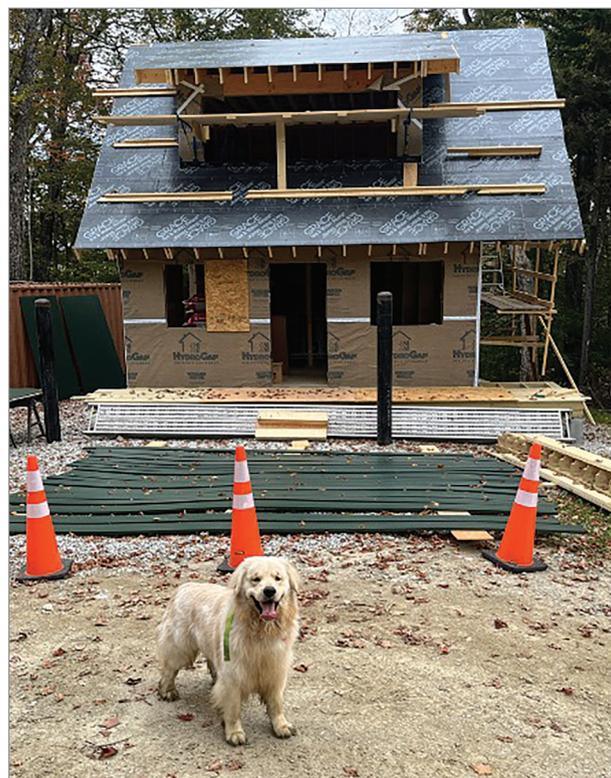
"Without the grant funding from KWCF this effort would have been more challenging for KSC," Hopkins stated. "The remaining funding was raised with donations from members of KSC. This building will make training at the Swirl venue much more productive, comfortable, and safe for both our athletes and the recreational skiers and riders on Ramshead."

Dan Hulsebosch and Greg Jenne of the KSC board of directors spearheaded the project for the club.

Dan Hulsebosch commented; "The construction has progressed flawlessly thanks to the expert work of J & E Construction developing the site and Onsite Design & Build constructing the building. Without the endless support from KPSRP, specifically Kirsten Ericksen's permitting assistance and Brad Leabourne's guidance and help this project would

never have happen. It's been a pleasure to work with this great group of people."

Greg Jenne added; "The construction has been progressing smoothly and work being carried out by Onsite design LLC has been top notch. Electrical rough-in was completed this week and the propane gas lines will be roughed in Friday, Oct. 4. Our anticipated completion of the building is the last week of October."



Courtesy KSC

Construction on the new ski center for KSC athletes progressed smoothly and is estimated to be completed this month.




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LIVE Halloween Parade
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Saturday, Oct. 26 at 6:30pm
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Mill Street: a conundrum of bridges

By Curt Peterson

At 6 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 29, Debra and Chuck Dupuis, who live just past the second covered bridge on Mill Street, called 9-1-1 and asked for an ambulance. Chuck, 73, who has diabetes, has had by-pass surgery, and suffers dementia, exhibited symptoms of transient ischemic attack (TIA), what's called a "mini-stroke." He seemed confused and unresponsive.

The Dupuises' home is served by Hartford's ambulance service. EMTs tried access via Quarry Road, an unmaintained track through Twin State Sand and Gravel property, because weight limits on the covered bridges — 8,000 pounds, or four tons — precluded the shorter route. The ambulance drivers were not aware the road gate is locked with a code to open it.

They drove around to Mill Street, but the 8,000 pound weight limit prohibited ambulance use. So EMTs ran across the bridges to the Dupuises' to fetch Chuck with a gurney.

"The EMTs arrived an hour after my call," Debra said. "They were very nice and kind to Chuck."

However, a gurney stabilizing system would not work. A second was summoned.

"By this time," Debra told the

Mountain Times, "Chuck had become very agitated by the commotion, strangers, and having no idea what was happening."

Debra got her car, picked her husband up with the EMTs' assistance, and drove him home to calm him down. In the time since her call, his TIA symptoms had subsided.

Just about then the second ambulance arrived, and both vehicles returned to Hartford.

"Chuck's doctor told us there was no purpose for bringing him to the hospital if his symptoms were gone," Debra recalled.

She reported Chuck's blood pressure, which was a little elevated, and his sugar level to his doctor and scheduled him an appointment the next week.

Sunday evening Debra posted a narrative of their adventure on the Hartland town listserv.

"This is unacceptable. A couple months ago the Select Board held a meeting addressing concerns about the covered bridges. Neighbors were assured access to Mill Street by emergency services was not an issue and the subject was abruptly shut down. Fortunately we live just beyond the

second bridge. What would have hap-

pened if the emergency was further up Mill Street North?"

Hartland Town Manager John Broker-Campbell told the Mountain Times that there were complications involved in the event. Uninformed Hartford ambulance EMTs were responsible for the troubling response time, he said.

Use of the bridges has been a topic of local frustration for some time. The town hired an engineer to check the safety of the bridges, who found the first bridge sound, but the second in deteriorated condition. A VTrans engineer agreed with the earlier assessment.

A state statute sets the 8,000 lb. weight limit for all covered bridges and Hartland's are correctly posted.

Debra says Quarry Road access is challenging, particularly in the winter. Their trash service has refused to service the residents, and the propane company waits till end-of-day so their delivery truck is light enough to cross the bridges legally.

Asked if she has considered selling her home due to the bridge problem, Debra said she will stay as long as they physically can.

Bridge → 14

Be Music continues under new owner

By Adam Davis

Be Music in Rutland, which opened in 1988, will continue to operate under new ownership as the beloved music store. It's always been at its location on Woodstock Avenue. New owner Rick McConahay closed on the store purchase in September that original owner Brian Hobbs had put up for sale in January.

After opening and running Be Music for the last 36 years and recently celebrating his 70th birthday, Hobbs felt it was time to move on, but only after he knew the store would be in good hands.

"[Rick] had been a regular customer for the past five years or so, and one day he came in and asked about it being up for sale," Hobbs said. "He's a great guy, and it couldn't have gone any better. He got into it for the same reasons I did, and I couldn't be happier about the sale."

McConahay, a Killington homeowner and Raleigh, North Carolina resident, said he's looking to spend a lot more time in Vermont and that owning a business in the area will give him an excuse to do so.

"Brian has built a great business and has really loyal customers. And I thought this would be a good excuse to spend more time in Vermont, in Killington and Rutland. And it would be a really cool venture," McConahay said. "I grew up with music in my family and thought it would be a great tribute to them."

"The feedback from the community has been so positive," McConahay continued. "So many people I've heard from are

Be Music → 5

"Our goal is essentially that nothing changes," said McConahay.

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OBITUARIES



Submitted

Clemente Joseph Bianchi

Clemente Joseph Bianchi, 82

Clemente Joseph Bianchi, 82, passed away peacefully on Sept. 25, 2024, with his wife of 61 years, Lenore, and his family by his side. Clem was born in Jersey City, New Jersey on July 3, 1942.

Clem loved baseball and his NY Yankees. He grew up playing baseball and pitched at Seton Hall University, where he earned his degree in Business.

As Vice President of Sier Bath Gear Company in New Jersey, he enjoyed working in the family business before moving his family to Killington, to follow his love of skiing. There, he started a wine distribution company, Killington Distributors. He was a wine connoisseur and loved educating himself and those around him about wine. Clem loved working with people and built an Employee Benefits Consulting practice while mentoring his son, Jim, to take it over before retiring.

In Killington, Clem and Lenore raised their children on the slopes, with Clem as a coach, racer, and instructor, continuing to enjoy skiing well into his 70s. He also shared his love for tennis as the Mount Saint Joseph Academy coach and tennis pro at The Summit Lodge. His zest for golf provided endless enjoyment with family and friends.

Clem’s musical talents flourished in the 1960s when he played guitar and sang in a band in New York City. For nearly 40 years, he and Lenore were fixtures at The Little White Church, Our Lady of the Mountains, ministering with their music and almost every Christmas organizing the ecumenical choir.

Family traditions revolved around Clem’s love of cooking, sharing the joy of family and friends with spaghetti and meatballs or mixed grill every Sunday night. His legendary Escarole soup was said to cure any ailment, and his storytelling always left his audience in stitches. Nights would end in family sing-alongs, with everyone encouraged to share in making music. He took great pride and joy in seeing his children and grandchildren carry on his musical legacy.

He loved working on his model trains—a hobby he shared with his brothers from a young age and continued throughout his life. Clem said all I need is Lenore, my family, and my trains. His sayings were given freely and often. If you were lucky enough to have a conversation with “The Clem” you would not forget it.

He is survived by his wife, Lenore, and five kids, EJ (Jennifer) Bianchi, Chris (Betsey) Bianchi, Terry (Jeff) Armistead, Jim (Carolyn) Bianchi, and Joe (Jenn) Bianchi. 17 Grandkids: Joseph, Stephen, Xander, Elle, Thea, Shay, John, Ryan, Megan, Luca, Cece, Evie, Sabrina, Christine, Heather, Michael, and Emily and five great-grandchildren. He was predeceased by his parents, Edward Joseph Bianchi and Theresa (Renzo) Bianchi. He is survived by his siblings, Rosemary Fitzpatrick, Terry (Frank) Brennan, Helen (Harry) Rothgerber, Ed (Elinor Avery) Bianchi, John (Jo Ellen) Bianchi. He was predeceased

Bianchi → 14

Lawrence ‘Pete’ DeCota, 90

Lawrence “Pete” DeCota, 90, of Sherburne, died peacefully Thursday, Oct. 3, 2024, at Rutland Regional Medical Center, surrounded by family members. He was born in Randolph, Mass., on Jan. 17, 1934, the son of the late Louis and Eva (Savard) DeCota.

Lawrence attended Randolph High School. Lawrence married Dorothy Alice (Barkhouse) on Apr. 9, 1955, in St. Bernadette’s Church in Randolph.

For many years, he worked as a carpenter before becoming a custom home builder in the South Shore area of Boston.

He enjoyed riding his motorcycles through the hills of Vermont and Northern New England and was an avid skier.

He was a member of and past president of the Randolph Lions Club and member of the Randolph Elks Club. After building his ski home in Killington, he relocated there in the early 1970s. He was a volunteer member of the Killington Ski Patrol and later became a full-time senior patroller. He was a National Ski Patrol member and a certified instructor for first aid and CPR. He later volunteered for the Otter Ski Patrol at Pico Ski Area. He was a longtime member and past Sherburne



Submitted

Pete DeCota

Volunteer Fire Dept. president. With his construction background, he created and drew blueprints and was instrumental in the addition to the original Oren W. Bates Fire Station in Killington. He had a passion for riding motorcycles with his wife Doty and was a past officer and longtime member of the BMWMOV.

Survivors include his wife Dorothy; sons David (Dorothy) DeCota of Bernardsville, New Jersey, and Mark DeCota (Pamela Proulx) of Killington; daughters Kathy (Jim) Kinneavy of Somersworth, New Hampshire, and Michelle DeCota of Rutland; 10 grandchildren; and 15 great-grandchildren. He was predeceased by both his parents and a brother, Louis DeCota.

Calling hours will be held from 4–6 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 10, at the Killington Fire Station (Public Service Building), 800 Killington Rd, Killington.

A funeral mass will be held at 1 p.m. Friday, Oct. 11, at Our Lady of the Mountains in Killington, with burial services immediately following at the Sherburne Riverside Cemetery on River Road in Killington. Memorial contributions of Pete DeCota can be made to Killington Firefighters Association Inc. and mailed to 329 Weathervane Drive, Killington, VT, 05751.

Arrangements are being directed by Clifford Funeral Home.

Agnes ‘Nessie’ Bale, 82

Agnes “Nessie” Bale, a longtime resident of Ossining, New York, passed away on Thursday, Aug. 22 at her home surrounded by her loving family.

Nessie was born in Glasgow, Scotland on July 7, 1942, and was the daughter of the late Thomas and Mary (Lee) McLean.

She was a former secretary for NBC and 30 Rockefeller Center. She then went on to be president of McLean Rebar in Elmsford. She was a communicant of St. Augustine’s church in Ossining and Lady of the Mountain in Killington.

Nessie was well known as an avid skier in Vermont for 40 years, she enjoyed golfing, Lindy Dancing and the twist.

She is survived by her husband, Walter; her two children, Wally (Stephanie), Tom (Leighann); her two grandchildren Stella and Owen; her siblings Ann McKiell, Margaret Gallacher, and Tom McLean; sister-in-law Carol Bale, and predeceased by her sister Josephine Dougans and Brother-in-law, Gerald Bale.

A celebration of Nessie’s life is TBA.

Asha Carroll of Tinmouth named 2024-2025 Obama Foundation Leader

The Obama Foundation Leaders program selected Tinmouth resident and former Mill River Unified Union School District (MRUUSD) school board member Asha Carroll among 205 leaders selected to join its program for 2024-2025. The program trains participants around the world in leadership development and civic engagement to help build their skills and scale their work across public, private, and nonprofit sectors. Carroll is one of only 100 participating in the Leaders USA program.

Carroll is the assistant vice president of community campaigns for the National Stigma Initiative at Shatterproof, a national nonprofit providing trusted guidance and support to communities in an effort to reverse the addiction crisis in the U.S. She leads the National Stigma Initiative’s statewide public health communications interventions to measurably drive attitude change and reduce the stigma of substance use disorder (SUD), currently serving 27% of the U.S. population.

Before Shatterproof, Carroll was the communications director and spokesperson of the Vermont Democratic Party. She is also a U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) Award-winning startup founder in the social impact space and has served on

local boards including the Tinmouth Community Fund, Tinmouth Scholarship Committee, Tinmouth Community Church Administrative Council, and Girl Scouts of the Green and White Mountains.

“After nearly a decade in consumer brands and politics, I was mobilized to end the stigma of addiction after experiencing its devastating impact on my family and Vermont community,” Carroll said. “I am energized to learn from other leaders working on issues like democracy, civic engagement, climate change, and education, as well as those who share my goal of building supportive communities and improving health outcomes.”

For more info, visit: shatterproof.org or obama.org/leaders.



Submitted

Asha Carroll was recently selected for the 2024-2025 Obama Foundation Leaders program.

← Be Music: from page 4

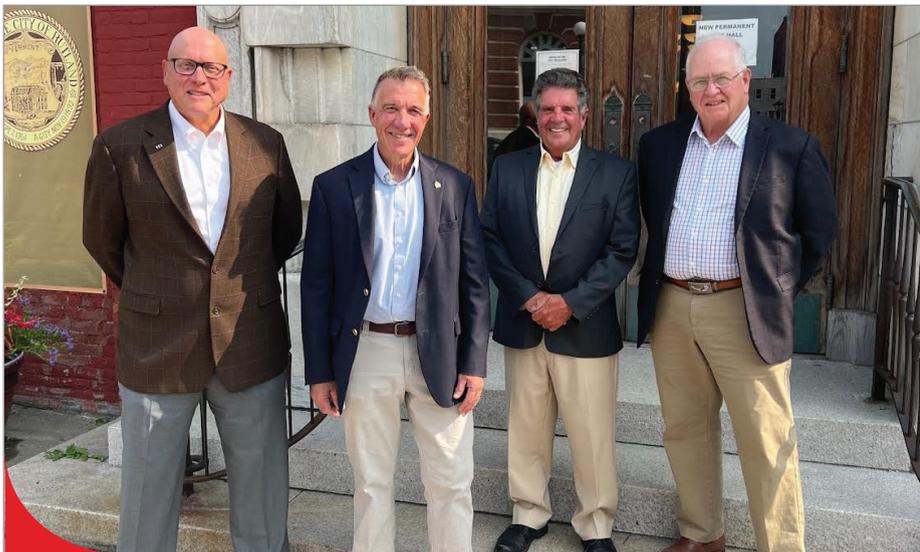
so happy Central Vermont isn’t losing Be Music. It exceeded my expectations.”

McConahay grew up in Iowa with his mother, who played piano in their local church, and his grandfather, who taught music and toured the state in a men’s choir. He played instruments as a kid, but picking up a guitar again years later rekindled his passion for music. He plans to split his time between Vermont and North Carolina while his two teenage children finish high school.

Longtime manager Jeff Poremski will continue to take care of the store in the meantime.

“[Jeff’s] been there for 27 years, and he’s going to take the lead on the day-to-day stuff, which should provide a consistent experience for all of our loyal customers,” McConahay said.

“Our goal is essentially that nothing changes,” McConahay continued. “We want to continue the tradition that Brian built. We’d like to be around for many more years to come.”



LEFT TO RIGHT: SENATOR WEEKS, GOVERNOR SCOTT, SENATOR COLLAMORE, AND SENATOR WILLIAMS.

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 SENATOR DAVE WEEKS
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PAID FOR BY THE COLLAMORE FOR SENATE COMMITTEE, FRIENDS OF DAVE WEEKS, AND TERRY WILLIAMS FOR SENATE

Orvis to cut 8% of its workforce

By Neal Goswami/VTDigger

Orvis, a 168-year-old Vermont-based company, said Friday it will lay off 112 workers, close some undisclosed retail locations, and discontinue its catalog “to enable a smaller and more agile business.”

“Orvis is in a period of business evolution that requires us to think differently. Over the course of our nearly 170-year history, the company has experienced similar cycles, but today’s challenges are new, and they require us to be bold in order to continue sharing stories, experiences, and products that inspire our customers well into the future,” company president Simon Perkins wrote in a statement Friday, Oct. 4.

The pending layoffs represent 8% of the company’s workforce. Orvis was

founded by Charles F. Orvis in Manchester in 1856 and makes and sells fishing and hunting gear.

The company announced in January that it was moving its headquarters from Sunderland to Manchester as it sought to shrink its footprint in response to a new hybrid work environment.

A spokesperson for the company, Laura Schaffer, said Friday that 50 positions “within driving distance of our headquarters have been impacted by the reduction in force.”

She said no additional details were available, including the type of jobs being cut, where the positions are based, or when the cuts will occur. “We’re not able to provide more detail at this time,” Schaffer said.

Perkins said impacted employees “will receive two months of full pay and benefits, additional severance pay, and assistance with health insurance and job transition services.”

“The people we are saying goodbye to have made indelible impacts on the brand, their colleagues and the lives of our customers. We are investing the time, care and resources needed to honor and support them throughout this process,” he wrote.

Orvis claims to be the oldest mail-order retailer in the U.S. It was purchased in 1965 by Leigh Perkins, who is credited with building it into one of the country’s largest sporting lifestyle brands. Simon Perkins is the third generation of the Perkins family to run the company.

Killington Junior Golf wrapped up its season with a fall scramble tournament

By Arra Derderian

The Killington Junior Golf League finished up its season with a scramble format golf tournament at Stonehedge Golf Course in North Clarendon this past weekend, Oct. 5-6.

“Stonehedge is a par 3 course that’s great for new golfers and kids to get out on the course and test their skills,” coach Arra Derderian said.

The tournament featured five foursomes of parents and kids all competing for the top spot. The foursome of coach Jason Evans, coach Evan Ehmann, Henry Evans, and

Antonio Ehmann took home the hardware with a low score of 73.

“Thanks to Stonehedge for hosting us this weekend, they really rolled out the red carpet for us,” said coach Derderian.

The Junior Golf program wraps up this week with final practices before Green Mountain National closes for the season.

“We have seen some great strides from our golfers this year through our summer and fall programming. We hope to start strong next year with the 16 kids who participated,” said coach Jason Evans.



By Arra Derderian

The Killington Junior Golf League will finish up their fall season this week as GMNGC closes.

← Nobel Prize:

from page 1

exactly the same set of genes and exactly the same set of instructions. Yet, different cell types, such as muscle and nerve cells, have very distinct characteristics. How do these differences arise? The answer lies in gene regulation, which allows each cell to select only the relevant instructions. This ensures that only the correct set of genes is active in each cell type, according to the Nobel news release.

Victor Ambros and Gary Ruvkun were interested in how different cell types develop. They discovered microRNA, a new class of tiny RNA molecules that play a crucial role in gene regulation. Their groundbreaking discovery revealed a completely new principle of gene regulation that turned out to be essential for multicellular organisms, including humans. It is now known that the human genome codes for over 1,000 microRNAs. Their surprising discovery revealed an entirely new dimension to gene regulation. MicroRNAs are proving to be fundamentally important for how organisms develop and function.

Essential regulation

Their Nobel Prize discovery focused on the discovery of a vital regulatory mechanism used in cells to control gene activity. Genetic information flows from DNA to messenger RNA (mRNA), via a process called transcription, and then on to the cellular machinery for protein production. There, mRNAs are translated so that proteins are made according to the genetic instructions stored in DNA. Since the mid-20th century, several of the most fundamental scientific discoveries have explained how these processes work, the news release explained.

Our organs and tissues consist of many different cell types, all with identical genetic information stored in their DNA. However, these different cells express unique sets of proteins. How is this possible? The answer lies in the precise regulation of gene activity so that only the correct set of genes is active in each specific cell type. This enables, for example, muscle cells, intestinal cells, and different types of nerve cells to perform their specialized functions. In addition, gene activity must be continually fine-tuned to adapt cellular functions to changing conditions in our bodies and environment.

If gene regulation goes awry, it can lead to serious diseases such as cancer, diabetes, or autoimmunity. Therefore, understanding the regulation of gene activity has been an important goal for many decades, the news release continued.

In the 1960s, it was shown that specialized proteins, known as transcription factors, can bind to specific regions in DNA and control the flow of genetic information by determining which mRNAs are produced. Since then, thousands of transcription factors have been identified, and for a long time it was believed that the main principles of gene regulation had been solved. However, in 1993, this year's Nobel laureates published unexpected findings describing a new level of gene regulation, which turned out to be highly significant and conserved throughout evolution.

Research on a small worm leads to a big breakthrough

In the late 1980s, Victor Ambros and Gary Ruvkun were postdoctoral fellows in the laboratory of Robert Horvitz, who was awarded the Nobel Prize in 2002, alongside Sydney Brenner and John Sulston. In Horvitz's laboratory, they studied a relatively unassuming 1 mm long roundworm, *C. elegans*, the news release explained. Despite its small size, *C. elegans* possesses many specialized cell types such as nerve and muscle cells also found in larger, more complex animals, making it a useful model for investigating how tissues develop and mature in multicellular organisms.

Ambros and Ruvkun were interested in genes that control the timing of activation of different genetic programs, ensuring that various cell types develop at the right time. They studied two mutant strains of worms, *lin-4* and *lin-14*, that displayed defects in the timing of activation of genetic programs during development. The laureates wanted to identify the mutated genes and understand their function. Ambros had previously shown that the *lin-4* gene appeared to be a negative regulator of the *lin-14* gene. However, how the *lin-14* activity was blocked was unknown. Ambros and Ruvkun were intrigued by these mutants and their potential relationship and set out to resolve these mysteries.

After his postdoctoral research, Victor Ambros analyzed the *lin-4* mutant in his newly established laboratory at Harvard University. Methodical mapping allowed the cloning of the gene and led to an unexpected finding. The *lin-4* gene produced an unusually short RNA molecule that lacked a code for protein production. These surprising results suggested that this small RNA from *lin-4* was responsible for inhibiting *lin-14*, the new release continued.

Concurrently, Gary Ruvkun investigated the regulation of the *lin-14* gene in his newly established laboratory at Massachusetts General Hospital and Harvard Medical School. Unlike how gene regulation was then known to function, Ruvkun showed that it is not the production of mRNA from *lin-14* that is inhibited by *lin-4*. The regulation appeared to occur at a later stage in the process of gene expression, through the shutdown of protein production. Experiments also revealed a segment in *lin-14* mRNA that was necessary for its inhibition by *lin-4*, the news release explained.

The two laureates compared their findings, which resulted in a breakthrough discovery. The short *lin-4* sequence matched complementary sequences in the critical segment of the *lin-14* mRNA. Ambros and Ruvkun performed further experiments showing that the

If gene regulation goes awry, it can lead to serious diseases such as cancer, diabetes, or autoimmunity.

lin-4 microRNA turns off *lin-14* by binding to the complementary sequences in its mRNA, blocking the production of *lin-14* protein. A new principle of gene regulation, mediated by a previously unknown type of RNA, microRNA, had been discovered! The results were published in 1993 in two articles in the journal *Cell*.

The published results were initially met with almost deafening silence from the scientific community, according to the news release.

Although the results were interesting, the unusual mechanism of gene regulation was considered a peculiarity of *C. elegans*, likely irrelevant to humans and other more complex animals. That perception changed in 2000 when Ruvkun's research group published their discovery of another microRNA, encoded by the *let-7* gene. Unlike *lin-4*, the *let-7* gene was highly conserved and present throughout the animal kingdom. The article sparked great interest, and over the following years, hundreds of different microRNAs were identified. Today, we know that there are more than a thousand genes for different microRNAs in humans, and that gene regulation by microRNA is universal among multicellular organisms.

In addition to the mapping of new microRNAs, experiments by several research groups elucidated the mechanisms of how microRNAs are produced and delivered to complementary target sequences in regulated mRNAs. The binding of microRNA leads to inhibition of protein synthesis or to mRNA degradation. Intriguingly, a single microRNA can regulate the expression of many different genes, and conversely, a single gene can be regulated by multiple microRNAs, thereby coordinating and fine-tuning entire networks of genes.

Cellular machinery for producing functional microRNAs is also employed to produce other small RNA molecules in both plants and animals, for example as a means of protecting plants against virus infections. Andrew Z. Fire and Craig C. Mello, awarded the Nobel Prize in 2006, described RNA interference, where specific mRNA-molecules are inactivated by adding double-stranded RNA to cells, the news release explained.

Tiny RNAs with profound physiological importance

Gene regulation by microRNA, first revealed by Ambros and Ruvkun, has been at work for hundreds of millions of years. This mechanism has enabled the evolution of increasingly complex organisms. We know from genetic research that cells and tissues do not develop normally without microRNAs. Abnormal regulation by microRNA can contribute to cancer, and mutations in genes coding for microRNAs have been found in humans, causing conditions such as congenital hearing loss, eye and skeletal disorders. Mutations in one of the proteins required for microRNA production result in the DICER1 syndrome, a rare but severe syndrome linked to cancer in various organs and tissues.

Ambros and Ruvkun's seminal discovery in the small worm *C. elegans* was unexpected, and revealed a new dimension to gene regulation, essential for all complex life forms.

Importance in fighting disease

Their findings have helped ignite more discovery of drugs aimed at using RNA molecules to deactivate genes that contribute to cancers, heart disease, and other disorders.

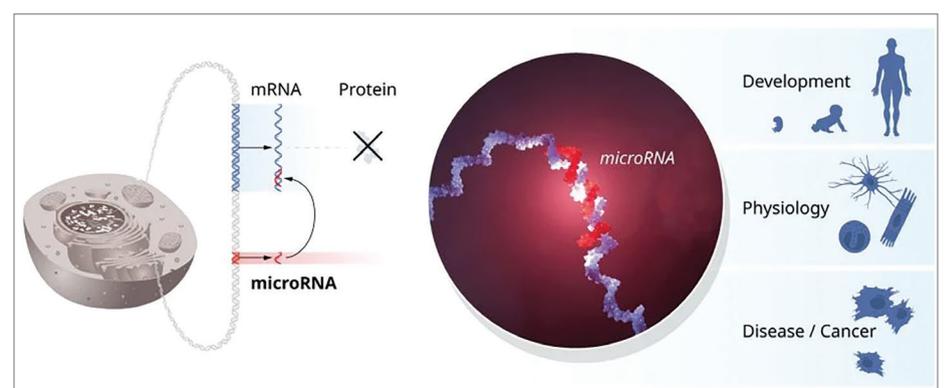
Scientists now believe that most plant and animal genomes, including the human genome, contain more than 1,000 microRNAs, which control protein-coding nucleic acids involved in cellular activity and diseases, according to the Boston Globe. Experimental treatments based on microRNAs are currently in clinical trials for heart disease, cancer, and neurodegenerative diseases.

Nobel Prizes

Last year, the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine went to Hungarian-American Katalin Karikó and American Drew Weissman at the University of Pennsylvania for their discoveries that enabled the mRNA vaccines critical in slowing the Covid pandemic.

Nobel announcements will continue this week with the physics prize on Tuesday, Oct. 8, chemistry on Wednesday, Oct. 9, and literature on Thursday, Oct. 10. The Nobel Peace Prize will be announced Friday, Oct. 11, and the economics award Oct. 14.

For more information, visit: nobelprize.org.



© The Nobel Committee for Physiology or Medicine. Ill. Mattias Karlén

Ambros' and Ruvkun's seminal discovery of microRNAs was unexpected and revealed a new dimension of gene regulation.

Suspect in triple homicide in Pawlet denies charges, is held without bail

By Alan J. Keays/VTDigger

A Granville, New York, man charged with killing three family members in Pawlet last month appeared via video from a Rutland jail Thursday afternoon, Oct. 3, to face arraignment on three charges of aggravated murder.

Brian Crossman Jr., 22, appeared from a jail conference room in red prison garb, his head bowed and hands clasped throughout much of the three-minute proceeding in Rutland County Superior criminal court. He said nothing as his lawyer entered not guilty pleas on his behalf.

According to charging documents, Crossman fatally shot his father, 46-year-old Brian Crossman Sr.; his stepmother, 41-year-old Erica (Pawlusiak) Crossman; and his stepbrother, 13-year-old Colin Taft.

Vermont State Police said the killings took place early on the morning of Sept. 15 inside a family home on Route 133 in Pawlet that Brian Crossman Sr., shared with his wife and stepson.

The younger Crossman was arrested Sept. 20 by New York State Police and has been held in custody since. He agreed to waive extradition to Vermont during a court appearance last week in Warren County, New York.

At the arraignment, Judge Cortland Corsones granted a request by Rutland County State's Attorney Ian Sullivan to hold Crossman in jail without bail at least until another hearing in the case is held.

Crossman's actions in committing the three killings showed a "sustained and vicious form of violence against his victims," Sullivan told the judge.

Attorney Christopher Davis, representing Crossman, did not contest the prosecutor's request to hold his client without bail.

Corsones called for a hearing to be set soon to consider the weight of the evidence in the case and determine if Crossman will remain jailed while the case against him is pending.

Several family members of the victims attended the hearing Thursday and declined comment following the proceeding.

Each charge of aggravated murder carries the possibility of life behind bars, without the possibility of parole.

According to charging documents, the younger Crossman's alleged inconsistent statements as well as "significant evidence" gathered from digital evidence and other interviews, led to his arrest.

Family members, according to the court filings, had also raised concerns about his mental health. Charging documents stated that Brian Crossman Jr.'s mother, who lives in Granville, told investigators she has sought inpatient mental health care for him in the past.

His mother told investigators that about two years ago, she noticed his "behavior

beginning to escalate," the court filings stated. "These behaviors included him talking to himself in a way to suggest he was having a conversation with himself in his own mind."

"Crossman Jr.'s mental stability seemed to ebb and flow with peaks and valleys," a state police investigator wrote. "He was described as being very erratic one moment and then seeming to 'come out of it' a short time later."

According to Vermont State Police, Crossman called police a little before 4 a.m. on Sept. 15 reporting that he had found the bodies of three of his family members dead from shotgun wounds inside their home in Pawlet.

He met with police in the parking lot of the Wells Village School soon after making the call, and an arriving trooper found him in bloodstained clothing, the documents stated.

The younger Crossman had been staying with his father that weekend as his mother, whom he lives with in Granville, had gone away for a few days. He told investigators he had discovered the bodies after having gone out for a walk, according to a police affidavit filed in the case.

Crossman was taken to the state police barracks in Rutland where evidence was collected, including his cellphone, the charging documents stated.

"Detectives attempted to interview Crossman Jr.," the documents added. "Crossman Jr. advised he did not want to speak to investigators without a lawyer present. No questions were asked of Crossman Jr."

Questions on custody

In the days following the murders, Vermont state police provided little public information regarding their investigation beyond confirming three people were killed. On Sept. 17, a brief update from state police provided the names of the victims and said no one was in custody. There was no mention made of a suspect, leaving residents of the small southern Rutland County town on edge.

He told investigators he had discovered the bodies after having gone out for a walk, according to a police affidavit filed in the case.

Maj. Dan Trudeau, head of the state police criminal division, said in an interview last week that Crossman left the barracks later on Sept. 15, the day of the killings, with his mother before any criminal charges were brought.

"We had him detained for a period of time and we were conducting the investigation, trying to get some more information, but ultimately at the end of the day we didn't feel like we were at a point where we could hold him any longer and not charge him," Trudeau said.

"We don't have to like that, but at the end of the day, I tell everybody, I tell my people,



By Glenn Russell/VTDigger

Brian Crossman Jr. appears remotely as he is arraigned on three aggravated murder charges in Rutland County Superior criminal court on Thursday, Oct. 3.

friends of mine, and the media, it's not what you think, it's what you can prove," Trudeau said. "Sometimes it takes a little more digging before you have proof."

According to charging documents filed on Sept. 20, the Glens Falls (New York) Police Department was called to the Glens Falls Hospital "to assist with a mental health admission" for Crossman late on the night of Sept. 15.

"Brian walked into the Hospital on his own and was checked in and later triaged by hospital staff," the filing stated.

On Sept. 20, Corsones, the Rutland judge, approved the arrest warrant for Crossman on the three murder counts in Vermont, court records show.

"I know he was in a hospital in Glens Falls," Trudeau said of Crossman, adding that on Sept. 20, police had an "understanding that he was probably going to be discharged that day."

Asked if Crossman's discharge on Sept. 20 prompted police to act that day to make the arrest, Trudeau said that wasn't necessarily the case. "The relief that he's in a facility, wherever it was, was comforting to us, but it really comes down to lucky timing," he said.

"Just because you have an inkling that a person's going to get out of the hospital at a certain time frame doesn't really mean they are going to," Trudeau added. "We're still moving and trying to get a chargeable offense in an affidavit approved by a judge from the time he left Rutland."

Victims remembered

Services from Erica and Brian Crossman Sr. as well as Colin Taft were held Friday, Sept. 27, and over that weekend.

Erica Crossman was born in Rutland

and graduated from Fair Haven Union High School in 2002, according to her obituary. She married Brian Crossman Sr. in June.

She was an employee of Green Mountain Power, holding various positions in her 20 years working there. "She spent her free time hunting, fishing, and tending to her flowers," the obituary added.

Brian Crossman Sr. was also a longtime employee at Green Mountain Power, serving as a lineworker. In Pawlet, he was a member of the town's Select Board.

"Brian Crossman was a friend and neighbor, a hardworking community member who just this year stepped up to join the Pawlet Selectboard," the Selectboard wrote in a statement following his death.

Green Mountain Power issued a statement following the deaths of Erica and Brian Crossman Sr.

"We are devastated by this unimaginable loss," the statement read.

"Erica and Brian were beloved members of our team, and their deaths have left us all in shock and grief," the statement added. "They were more than just colleagues; they were integral parts of GMP, bringing their unique talents, kindness, and positive energy to everything they did."

Taft, according to his obituary, enjoyed spending time outdoors and with his family, was described as living in and near Springfield, where services were held, as well as in Rutland County. "Fishing was one of his favorite activities along with hunting, going to the racetrack and working on a race car with his dad," the obituary stated. "He adored his older brother, Luke, and cherished any time they got to spend together."

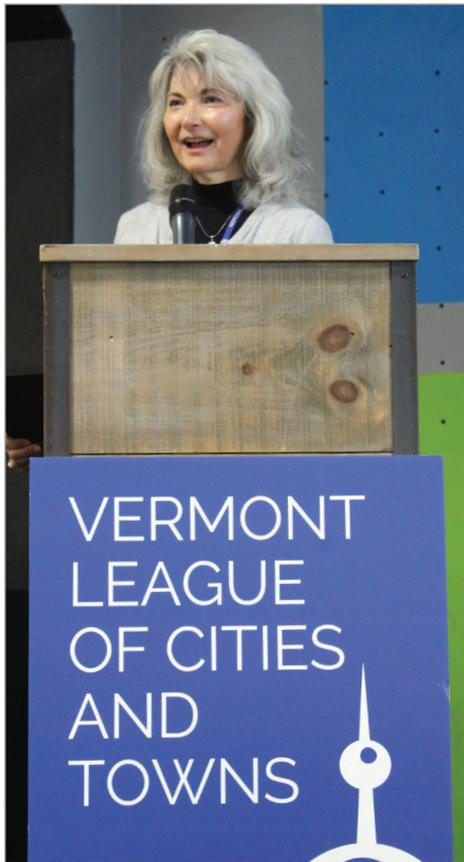
← **Wonsor:**
from page 1

her a Lifetime Achievement award here in own home town. Congratulations to Lucrecia Wonsor.”

Wonsor approached the stage with a standing ovation, signifying the respect and admiration she had earned from her peers over the years.

“I most especially want to thank my husband and family, without their support I couldn’t do what I do,” Wonsor began. “And I also want to thank the many clerks, treasurers and other town officials that have inspired me and always pushed me to do better and to do more. I attended my first town fair here in Killington 22 years ago, so it’s pretty amazing to be ending here in Killington.

“I never imagined that I would fall in love with this job as much as I did. I have loved what I do and I continue to love what I do and serving this community, as all of us that are here do ‘cause I don’t think any of us could do what we do unless we loved it; and loved the people that we serve,” she continued. “Just as my predecessor Judy [Hansen] was looking for her successor and wanted to ensure that the town was in good hands, I was looking for the same thing and I know that have one in Peggy [Neisner]... I think this award is really for Judy. I think what I’ve done, I’ve always done for her. Thank you,” Wonsor concluded.



By Polly Mikula
Lucrecia Wonsor spoke at the VLTC Town Fair after accepting the Lifetime Achievement Award.



By Polly Mikula
A Municipal Service Award was given to all Vermont municipal road crews. It was accepted by Killington highway crew member Gerald Pfeifenberger and Killington Selectman Jim Haff.

New analysis outlines factors that lead to FY25 education tax spikes

A combination of known factors and previously unexamined issues contributed Public Assets Institute Newly released analyses outlining factors that contributed to the FY25 education tax spike. The new analyses revealed that some districts and taxpayers have been facing disproportionately higher bills prior to FY25.

“Low- and moderate-income Vermonters can see big tax jumps even when spending doesn’t change because of income and property value ‘cliffs’ that are built into the system,” said Stephanie Yu, president and executive director of the Public Assets Institute.

The new analyses outlined three cliffs:

1. \$47,000 income cliff: at or below that amount, taxpayers’ school taxes cannot exceed 2 percent of their income. But above \$47,000, taxpayers pay the town tax rate on income, which averaged 2.56 percent in fiscal 2025. This threshold has not changed since before Act 60 was enacted in 1997.
2. \$90,000 income cliff: Middle-class Vermonters earning \$90,000 or more pay a property-based school tax on housesite value in excess of \$225,000 in addition to an income-based school tax.
3. \$400,000 housesite value cliff: Taxpayers with incomes below \$90,000 also hit a cliff—they pay property taxes on housesite value in excess of \$400,000.

“While the increase in overall spending in fiscal 2025 meant many more taxpayers faced spikes, these thresholds have been causing problems for an increasing share of Vermonters for years,” said Yu. “This means that spending cuts won’t address either of these challenges—disparate costs from district to district or the inequities low- and moderate-income taxpayers face. In addition, we’ve identified several other factors, many outside of districts’ control—that affected the total cost of education statewide in FY25.”

Those include:

- Rises in salaries and benefits in response to inflation
- Health insurance cost increases exceeding inflation
- The expanding need for expensive mental health services for students
- The loss of federal funds the schools received as part of the pandemic-related American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)
- And consequences related to policy changes made in the past few years

“The main goal of our education funding system is clear: the best education we can provide for every child. We can all agree that unexpected tax spikes are not good policy, and neither are inequitable tax systems,” said Yu. “Some costs for educating our children may be out of our control, but eliminating these inequities would make the system fairer and keep the focus where it belongs: on Vermont kids.”

Public Assets Institute is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization in Montpelier. For more information, visit: publicassets.org.

“Low- and moderate-income Vermonters can see big tax jumps even when spending doesn’t change because of income and property value ‘cliffs’ that are built into the system,” said Stephanie Yu.

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Two Medicare Advantage plans will no longer be available in Vt in 2025

By Peter D'Auria, VTDigger

Two Medicare Advantage plans will cease operations in Vermont in January, leaving several thousand covered residents in the state in need of new coverage by the beginning of 2025.

The two plans, operated by MVP and WellCare, a subsidiary of health care giant Centene, will no longer be offered in the state — news that comes as insurers cut Medicare Advantage offerings nationwide.

UVM Health Advantage, a plan offered in partnership with the University of Vermont Health Network, was no longer financially viable amid an increase in medical utilization and regulatory changes, MVP and the UVM Health Network said. The plan currently covers about 6,000 Vermonters — roughly 11% of residents on a Medicare

Advantage plan.

“It’s a difficult decision, one that we wish we didn’t have to make,” said Jordan Estey, MVP’s vice president of government affairs. “But as a small regional not-for-profit organization, the realities are the realities. And unlike some of our peers — you know, national for-profit plans — it’s more difficult for us to weather this type of financial impact in the short term.”

The plan will continue to operate in several counties in northern New York, Estey said, where it covers far fewer people.

A representative for WellCare could not be reached for comment Thursday afternoon. A company press release in August said that WellCare would not be offering Medicare Advantage plans in six states, including Medicare plans → 42

As many lose motel housing, 91 lawmakers demand more shelters, state of emergency

By Carly Berlin

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

Nearly 100 Vermont legislators and Lt. Gov. David Zuckerman called for Gov. Phil Scott to intervene on a mass wave of evictions currently underway from the state’s motel voucher program for people experiencing homelessness.

“These are the most vulnerable people, and there’s nowhere for them to go unless we do something,” said Sen. Tanya Vyhovsky, P/D-Chittenden Central, in an interview last week.

Vyhovsky was one of 91 lawmakers who signed onto a letter Oct. 1 demanding action from the Republican governor. Specifically, the group of Democratic, Progressive and independent legislators have called on Scott to immediately stand up emergency shelters and ensure the hundreds of people exiting motels and hotels know of their existence and have transportation to get to them. They also called on Scott to declare a state of emergency to unlock additional spending power, echoing an earlier call from advocates and service providers.

Vyhovsky stressed that emergency shelters should be “non-congregate,” giving those exiting the motels — including families with kids and people with complex disabilities — ample space and privacy. That would be a stark change from the last time the state set up temporary shelters, during a prior round of evictions from the motel program in March, with cots lined up in large open rooms. But, like that time, Vyhovsky suggested state buildings should be looked at as options, and added that municipalities should be consulted



Submitted

A mid-September cap on shelters has left many homeless.

on possible vacant or unused structures.

Vyhovsky voted against the legislation that has resulted in the current round of motel program evictions, anticipating it would cause many people to lose their shelter, she said. But many of her fellow signatories voted for it, and some were even architects of the policy at hand.

The current mass exodus is the result of new limitations passed by lawmakers in this year’s budget, which Scott signed, though earlier in the session his administration advocated for narrower rules. A new 1,100 cap on the number of rooms available through the program took effect in mid-September, as did a new 80-day limit on motel stays. The Legislature budgeted \$44 million for the program this fiscal year; the new limits were intended to rein in costs.



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GUEST EDITORIAL

For addressing affordable housing, funding matters

By Elizabeth Bridgewater and Chris Company

Editor's note: Elizabeth Bridgewater is the executive director of the Windham & Windsor Housing Trust. Chris Company is the executive director of the Windham Regional Commission.

Housing remains at the top of the media cycle for good reason: there are still not enough homes for people.

Recently, Vermont's Department of Housing and Community Development and the Natural Resources Board released the Act 250 interim exemption map. The map is a helpful visual representation of the update to Vermont's landmark development law, designed to ease regulatory restrictions and lower barriers for developers to build more housing in designated areas. It encourages smart growth development and walkable communities while still conserving rural lands and forests, which is an important strategy for flood mitigation, amongst many other benefits.

While this is an exciting step forward, regulatory reform on its own will not jumpstart development and solve our housing crisis. The Act 250 permitting process can be redundant and costly. Greater predictability of outcomes across all permitting processes would save time, and thus money. But there are many other factors that serve as real barriers, cause delays, drive up costs and ultimately result in unaffordable rents and home prices.

The biggest barrier to creating homes is funding. The disconnect between the income a person makes versus the price of rental construction or price of homeownership is huge. Cutting the cost of permitting in the equation is minimal to the bottom line. This means that the rents charged to make a building operating budget 'work' will always be higher than what local families earning an average wage can afford. Funding matters.

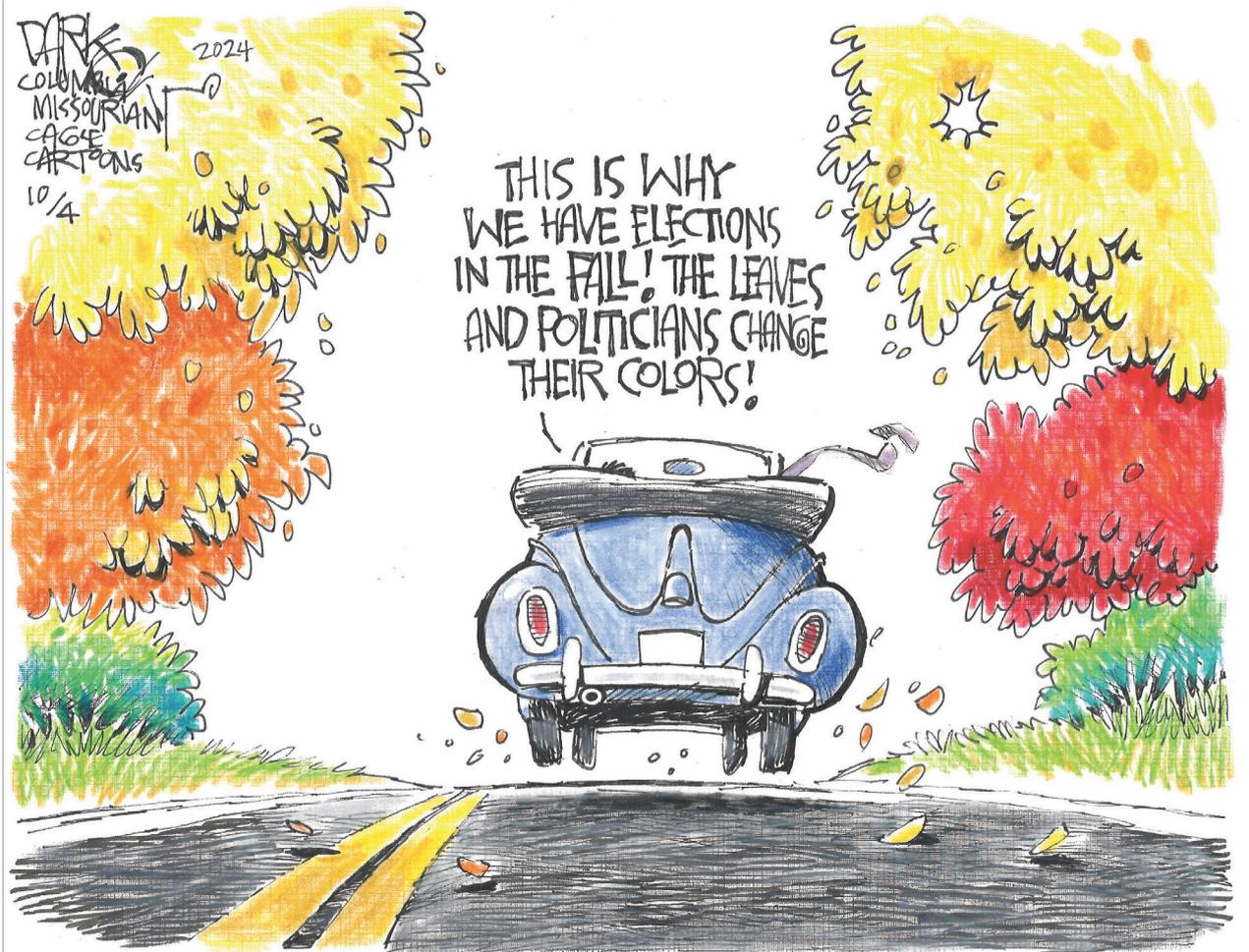
Another barrier which poses real constraints on where development can physically happen around the region is the water and wastewater systems. The newly released map shows opportunity in many of our small village centers around the region. A forthcoming map of where wastewater systems and service areas exist is in the process of being developed through the UVM Leahy Institute for Rural Partnerships. This will provide a more detailed picture at both the state and local levels about if and where housing can be built, and at the proper scale to reduce costs for developers, owners and renters.

These towns all feel the pressure of a lack of housing affordability. However, without such essential public infrastructure, which is the reality for most of our towns, any type of development — housing or economic — is severely limited. These infrastructure projects are costly; too costly to add on to a housing development budget or for towns to shoulder. Here, too, funding matters.

Low wages, rising construction costs, a lack of public infrastructure, an aging housing stock and a lack of investment have all contributed to this crisis over time. And since the pandemic, the emergency has exacerbated, driven by pandemic migration and a proliferation of short-term rentals.

We are encouraged to see so much positive intention and discussion around housing, and we are delighted that regulatory reform has been a strong focus for state officials and lawmakers. However, no matter how efficient the process is made, without sufficient funding there isn't enough housing.

Housing → 14



Politicians changing their positions by John Darkow, Columbia Missourian

LETTERS

Vote Clarkson, White, Major

Dear Editor,

Sen. Alison Clarkson, Sen. Becca White, and Joe Major deserve our vote here in Windsor County.

This is a statement of my strong support for the

It is vital that we are represented by proven problem-solvers.

Windsor County Senate district Democratic ticket: Sen. Alison Clarkson, Sen. Becca White, and Joe Major. Clarkson and White are seeking re-election, while Major hopes to bring his remarkable extensive town governance, housing, and racial justice experience to Montpelier as a new senator for our district.

With your help Joe Major will become the third strong leg of Windsor County's "Stool of Support in Montpelier" we need in facing Vermont's future.

These three share records of dedicated leadership, with Clarkson guiding Democratic

Vote → 14

Critical thinking?

Dear Editor,

The guest editorial last week by Jeffrey Reel of Harland titled "Critical thinking: without it, what to expect" (Oct. 2-8 edition) is a great example of emotional reaction and the antithesis of critical thinking, which is what the author purports to know.

The author starts by citing statistics on literacy and then jumps to conclude that being illiterate means one is unable to think critically. This is false. Now, disclaimer: I know how to read and it helps, but it's certainly not a requirement to think critically. In some instances, I would suggest it may be a deterrent, ironically enough.

Then he gets to the first non-sequitur: "This explains the Trump phenomenon." He doesn't suggest how, only implies that all the illiterates who are non-critical thinkers are voting for Trump.

This is a good example of what is not critical thinking.

Here is some critical thinking. The media accused

Thinking → 14

Did they campaign on "Vote for me, I will raise your taxes"?

Dear Editor,

Do you remember the days if a politician even mentioned raising taxes they were duly excluded from getting your vote?

Well, it's time for Vermonters to wake up and pay attention.

On top of Vermonters dealing with 30%-100% inflation and lingering hardships from Covid lockdowns, the Democrat supermajority in our Vermont Legislature has over-ridden our governor's vetoes and raised our taxes more than five times! You would think they would not want to increase tax burdens on their Vermont constituents at this time.

Nope. They will go down as creating the most legislation and the highest raisers of taxes in Vermont history. The Vermont annual budget has increased 38% since 2020. They increased DMV fees (A.62), even though the

DMV never requested it. They placed a new payroll tax (A.76). They raised property taxes anywhere from 8%-28% depending on your town (A.127, A.64, A.183). It is clear, the state is now dictating local property taxes due to Act 60 and its add-ons.

Vermont pays the second highest per pupil cost in the nation while delivering a meager 50% range proficiency in those same students. At the same time, parental rights are being eroded.

They unsuccessfully voted

The Democrat supermajority in our Vermont Legislature has over-ridden our governor's vetoes and raised our taxes more than five times!

to double their salaries and have healthcare (S.39), but they didn't over-ride the veto — perhaps some thought this was not a good look for them before an election.

Taxes → 46

CAPITOL QUOTES

Monday, Oct. 7, marked the one-year anniversary of the Hamas attack on Israel, where over 1,200 Israelis were killed and more than 250 people kidnapped. That attack launched the on-going war in Gaza, where a death toll of more than 40,000 Palestinians continues amidst an expanding war into Lebanon and a growing crisis in the Middle East that sees no endpoint.

“The resolution to this conflict is complex. But instead of letting it further divide us, I hope Vermonters come together around a shared belief that expressions of hate in America are unacceptable and do nothing to achieve lasting peace where there is war,”

said Vermont Governor **Phil Scott** on the anniversary of the Hamas attack on Israel.

“We must end the fighting in Israel, in Gaza, in the West Bank, in Lebanon and across the region. We must de-escalate to avoid further conflict and the loss of more innocent life, negotiate a safe release of the remaining hostages, and help those suffering from the appalling humanitarian crisis in Gaza, where nearly 42,000 have died, and now the growing crisis in Lebanon. The answer to Hamas’ brutality on Oct. 7th cannot be endless violence,”

said Vermont U.S. Senator **Peter Welch**, addressing the ongoing conflict.

“Today, with a heavy heart, I remember and honor the innocent victims of Hamas’ evil rampage on October 7, 2023, including all those who were savagely assaulted, taken captive, or murdered. Hamas is still holding almost 100 hostages, every single one of whom must be released immediately and unconditionally,”

said House Foreign Affairs Committee Chairman **Michael McCaul** in a statement released on Oct. 7.

“Today and every day, I think of the hostages and their families. I have met the families of the hostages and grieved with them. They have been through hell. My Administration has negotiated for the safe release of more than 100 hostages, including Americans. We will never give up until we bring all of the remaining hostages home safely,”

said President **Joe Biden** on Monday, Oct. 7, condemning the actions taken by Hamas and the vicious surge in antisemitism in America and around the world.

COMMENTARY

The cost of health care and the quality of life

By Jeffrey Reel

Editor’s note: Jeffrey Reel is a writer from Hartland. He serves as the general manager of the Rutland Food Co-Op.

The debate on how to lower healthcare costs in Vermont is of paramount importance. Of equal importance is balancing that debate with discussions on the quality of life we can achieve right now.

In 2020, 315,000 pharmacists in 88,000 retail drug stores dispensed almost 4.5 billion outpatient prescriptions to more than 260 million Americans. These prescriptions covered 50 billion pills, at a cost to the public of more than \$350 billion. This represented about 8.5% of total U.S. healthcare costs that year, which came to a whopping \$4.1 trillion.

Fifty years ago, television ads about medicine were limited to cough syrup and aspirin (the iconic Speedy Alka Seltzer character was an advertising coup). Today, the airwaves are dominated by commercials for prescription medications, most with potentially serious, even deadly, side effects. Conventional medical theory posits there are “main” effects and “side” effects of medications. In truth, “side effects” are found nowhere in nature. All effects are main effects, and all effects of a drug should be considered its main effects as well — exerting major influences on the body and impacting our health.

Flipping through a popular weekly news magazine, I randomly selected the first ad I saw for a prescription drug: Rexulti (brexipiprazole). It is prescribed as an anti-depressant. The listed “side” effects include: Increased death in elderly people who live with symptoms of dementia; increased risk of suicidal thoughts and actions, including children; stroke; uncontrolled body movements, where you lose control of your face, tongue and other body parts (according to the manufacturer, these symptoms may never go away, even after you stop taking the drug); increased fat levels and weight gain; hyperglycemia, diabetes, leading to coma or death; unusual and compulsive urges, including compulsive gambling, compulsive sexual urges, shopping, or binge eating; low white blood cell count; decreased blood pressure; the drug can make you sleepy or dizzy, slows your thinking and motor skills, and may lead to falls and fractures; seizures (convulsions); problems controlling your body temperature. Its manufacturer cautions users to stay in a cool place if possible; and difficulty swallowing, which can cause food or liquid to get into your lungs.

As a disclaimer, it adds: “These are not all

the possible side effects of Rexulti. For more information, ask your healthcare provider or pharmacist.”

These are commonly described as “side effects,” as if to say, “Oh, incidentally, you will likely experience some or all of these life-altering symptoms as a result of taking this prescription.”

The side effects are almost always treated with more drugs, which exert side effects of their own. In short order, a host of symptoms appear as drugs interact. Physical problems multiply and spiral out of control. Eventually, people lose the ability to clearly recognize the causes behind their original

The side effects are almost always treated with more drugs, which exert side effects of their own. In short order, a host of symptoms appear as drugs interact. Physical problems multiply and spiral out of control.

symptoms, relegating themselves to passive participants in their own recovery. And, sadly too often, it’s not about “recovery” at all but simply disease management.

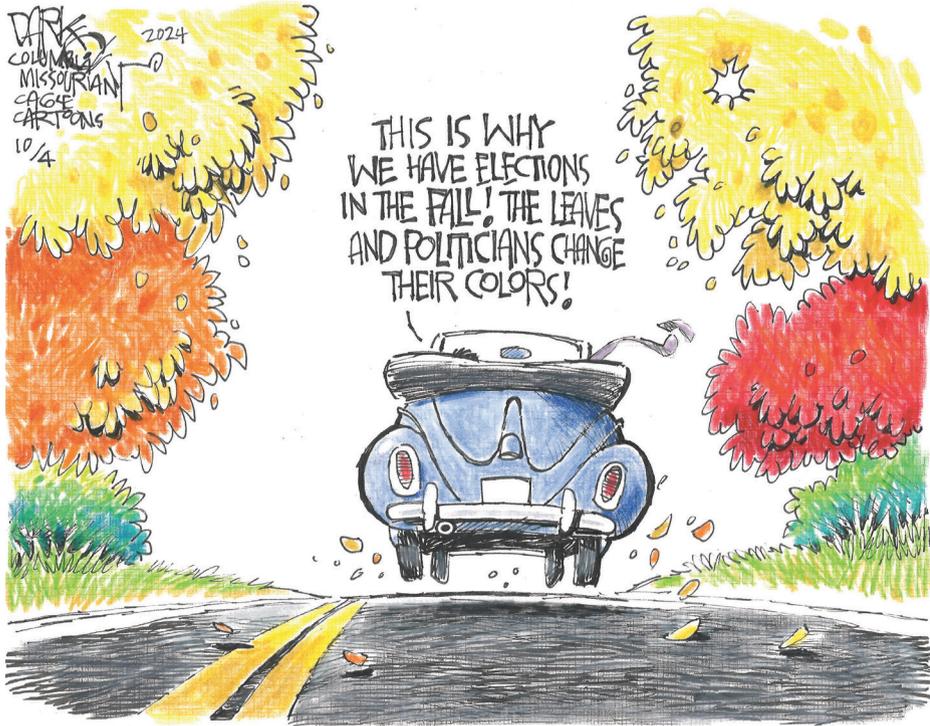
Most of us have been raised in a culture that encourages the worst eating and lifestyle habits. From the earliest years onward, our immune systems are compromised through the accumulation of antibiotics and hormones that we have taken in through the consumption of chicken, beef and dairy products; in general, our symptoms are suppressed rather than addressed — and we continue to eat poor-quality food, too much food, consume chlorinated water, air and ground pollutants, artificial colors and preservatives, herbicides, fungicides, pesticides and ingest numerous carcinogens that are spun off as “side effects” of our food and industrial manufacturing processes ... the list is familiar and uncommonly long.

From the moment of conception onward, the body does its best to walk through life under these gale-force winds of adversity. And as the body begins to falter, as it eventually must, it then becomes subject to still further chemical and medical interventions: beginning with routine X-rays and antibiotics, progressing to invasive surgeries, radiation, chemotherapy, organ removal and the artificial replacements for living tissue.

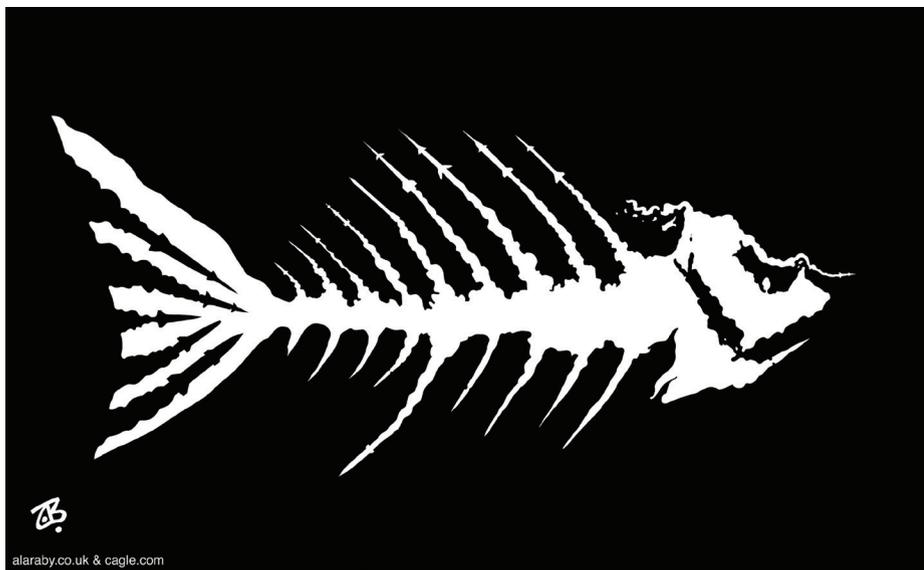
This isn’t to say we should not avail ourselves of antibiotics and other medications and surgical procedures. Most of us have been beneficiaries of their use. And there is that aspect of technology that performs miracles, reattaching limbs and reestablishing sight and sound, and the pace of technological

Costs of health → 40

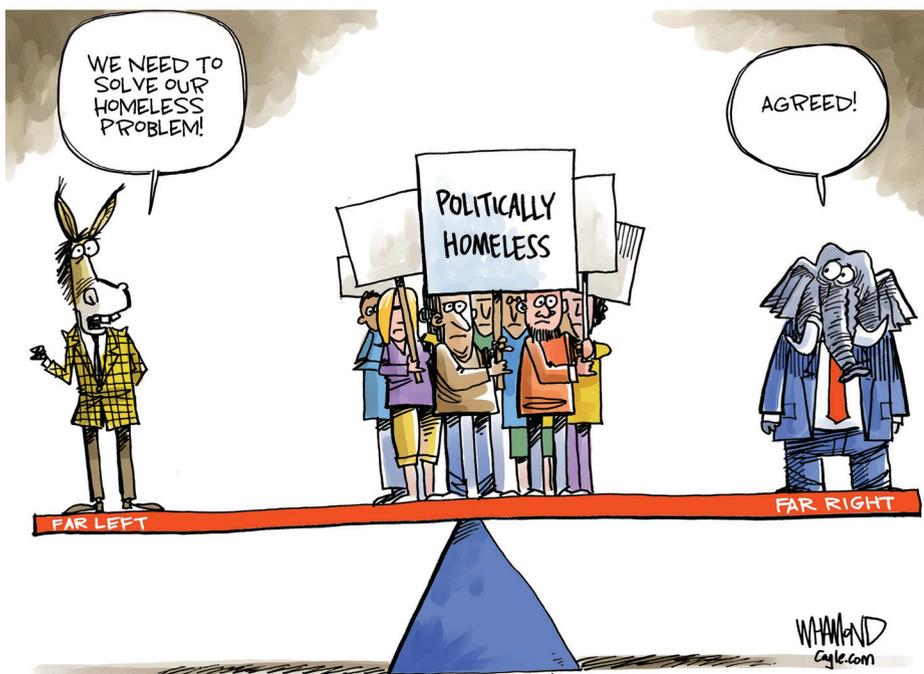
CARTOONS



Don't know Kamala do know Trump by John Darkow, Columbia Missourian



All-out WWII fish MIDEAST Israel Iran Missiles by Emad Hajjaj, Alaraby Aljadeed newspaper, London



The Politically Homeless Problem by Dave Whamond, Canada, PoliticalCartoons

Vote: from page 12

priorities through the Legislature as the Senate Majority Leader, White serving as co-chair of both the climate solutions caucus and future's caucus, and Major overseeing impactful policy changes within tight budgets as the Hartford town treasurer.

The three candidates share a deep understanding of our communities' needs and resources, and I am excited to have the opportunity to support a team with

such a strong commitment to economic and racial justice, reproductive liberty, building climate resilience, and strengthening all levels of our public education system.

The next legislative cycle will face numerous challenges, from stabilizing our education funding system to ensuring that Vermont remains a viable place for young people to live and start families and for older Vermonters to remain in their

communities and access quality healthcare. In addressing these challenges, it is vital that we are represented by proven problem-solvers.

I believe if you join with me in supporting Clarkson, White and Major we will have strongest county senatorial delegation in Vermont. Please vote on or before Nov. 5.

Paul Regan, South Woodstock, Vice chair of Woodstock Democratic Town Committee

Thinking: from page 12

Trump of colluding with Russia, so did the people who were trying to beat him politically. They had a federal investigation for two years and found nothing.

Same politicians and media accused Brett Kavanaugh of being a serial rapist. Again, no proof, false. Same media and government say the Hunter Biden laptop is (what else?) Russian disinformation. Whoops!

Turns out it was true even though 51 agencies agreed that it was "Russian disinformation." You don't have to be able to read to know by critically thinking that these people are lying and for political gain.

Whoopsie, I must be an illiterate non-critical thinker.

I am voting for Trump, too. George de Luna, Killington and Berkeley Heights, NJ

Housing: from page 12

We work on this issue every day: the Housing Trust through identifying ways to create and support permanently affordable homes, from rentals to homeownership opportunities; and the Windham Regional Commission through collaborating with towns and the state on public infrastructure.

We are not alone. In Southern Vermont we have experts working alongside us from all angles: Brattleboro Housing Partnership embarking on new construction; the Winston Prouty Center working to create new homes on their property; M&S Development creating new homes for refugee families; and many individual private property owners stepping in and creating affordable housing through the Vermont Housing Improvement Program.

All these approaches are highly impactful, and all are necessary. What's missing from the equation is adequate funding to address all of these overlapping needs.

Vermont's housing crisis has been a long time in the making. Now it's time to support concrete solutions. The Act 250 exemption map is a great visual tool and a good step in the right direction. Let's keep the momentum going.

We encourage our lawmakers to continue to invest in proven programs that work, while exploring new ideas and ways of doing things. By making financial investments in the programs that work now, and by working to expand the reach and impact of these programs, perhaps we can begin to envision a more affordable Vermont, for all Vermonters.

Bridge: from page 4

"We love this house," she said. A meeting was orchestrated by VTrans in Montpelier, meant to evaluate possible solutions to the covered bridges problem.

At the October 7 Hartland selectboard meeting a memo advising Windsor Ambulance services they are primary responders to Mill St. was approved unanimously - Windsor has smaller, lighter ambulances that can legally use the bridges. 9-1-1 calls from that area will be routed to Windsor, rather than Hartford, via the Hartford dispatch service.

The obvious choice of improving the Quarry Road access is complicated. Acting board chair Tom Kennedy first apologized to Mill Street residents for their problem, and said an agreement with Twin State Sand and Gravel is being renegotiated to allow Hartland to improve and maintain the road through their property. A resident pointed out that the approach to the gate is very steep, and stopping in time in winter is a challenge. Broker-Campbell said the town is creating signage that should help non-emergency vehicles avoid dead-ending at the gate, including foliage tourists.

"Mill Street, believe it or not, is listed on GPS as a good foliage route," Kennedy lamented. "Do you have any idea how hard it is to get a route deleted from GPS maps?!"

Bianchi: from page 5

by his brother-in-law, Alan Fitzpatrick. He leaves behind many nieces, nephews, and friends.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to his favorite charities, St. Jude's at stjude.org or Tunnels to Towers at T2T.org.

The family would like to offer a special thank you to all the nurses and doctors at Rutland Regional Medical Center for the kindness, and loving care so freely given to Clem and their whole family.

A funeral Mass will be celebrated at 11 a.m. on Nov. 2, at Our Lady of the Mountains 4173 US 4, Killington. The reception will be at the Rutland Country Club at 1 p.m.

WORDPLAY

DOG RESCUE WORD SEARCH

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally and back

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

ADOPTION
 AGREEMENT
 APPLICATION
 AVAILABLE
 BACKGROUND
 BEHAVIOR

BOARDING
 CAGE
 CHECK
 EVENT
 FACILITY
 GREET

LEASH
 LICENSE
 MEET
 ORGANIZATION
 REHOMING
 RESCUE

SHELTER
 TRAINER
 TRAINING
 VETTING

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Solutions →34

CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Unsheared sheep
- 5. Rock TV channel
- 8. Streetcar
- 12. Concerning
- 14. Exclamation
- 15. Greek goddess of youth
- 16. Popular type of device
- 18. Alcoholic beverage
- 19. Ancient Olympic Site
- 20. Sharpshoots
- 21. Tyrion Lannister was characterized as one
- 22. Pointed ends of pens
- 23. Measuring instruments
- 26. Midsection body part
- 30. Made a mistake
- 31. Adjusted
- 32. "Partridge" actress Susan
- 33. Yell
- 34. Civil rights city in Alabama
- 39. Young boy
- 42. Type of sea bass
- 44. To call (archaic)
- 46. Unfortunate
- 47. Separate oneself from

- others
- 49. Hero sandwiches
- 50. Spy group
- 51. Florida is famous for them
- 56. Irritating individuals
- 57. Luck
- 58. Hunting expedition
- 59. WWII diarist Frank
- 60. Peyton's younger brother
- 61. Type of wrap
- 62. Type of overseas tax or levy
- 63. Soviet Socialist Republic
- 64. Wake up

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Works of body art
- 2. Israeli politician Abba
- 3. Renowned desert
- 4. Eat greedily
- 5. She didn't make it through the Fr. Revolution
- 6. Beat
- 7. Bloodsucker
- 8. From a place already noted
- 9. Counted on
- 10. Alberta Assn. of Baccalaureate World

1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10	11		
12				13					14			15		
16							17		18			19		
20									21			22		
				23					24			25		
26	27	28	29						30					
31									32					
33									34	35	36	37	38	
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	47								48					
49					50				51		52	53	54	55
56					57				58					
59					60					61				
62					63						64			

- Schools
- 11. Something one can make
- 13. One who abstains
- 17. Wild ox
- 24. Type of student
- 25. Bacterial infection of the skin
- 26. Expresses surprise
- 27. What engaged couples ultimately say
- 28. Crony
- 29. Where one begins (abbr.)
- 35. Architectural designation
- 36. "Matt Houston" actor
- 37. More (Spanish)
- 38. Autonomic nervous system
- 40. Indigenous peoples
- 41. Deflections
- 42. Circulating life force
- 43. Executes with a rope
- 44. Natives of an island nation
- 45. Girls
- 47. Logician and philosopher
- 48. Nocturnal hoofed animal
- 49. Relaxing spaces
- 52. From a distance
- 53. Form of Persian language
- 54. Amounts of time
- 55. Mathematical designation

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GUESS WHO?

I am an actress born in Delaware on October 6, 1963. I acted in many ads for Burger King and DeBeers diamonds, and then went on to a long and successful career in movies. I played a time-jumping girlfriend in two of three movies in a popular movie series, as well as a babysitter on an adventure.

Answer: Elisabeth Shue

SUDOKU

Solutions →34

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

Level: Intermediate



Vintage Market Days

FRIDAY-SUNDAY

WEDNESDAY

10/9

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

Diabetes Support Group

1-2 p.m. (Second Wednesday of every month) RRMDC 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. chcrr.org/diabetes-support-group

Vermont Farm to School and Early Childhood

Network Annual Gathering
1-4:30 p.m. Franklin Conference Center, Howe Building, Rutland. Free. Celebrate the past year and help plan the future of farm-to-school initiatives. Registration required. vermontfarmschool.org

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

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

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. Contact Michele Redmond at 802-277-5327. chcrr.org/diabetes-support-group

Killington Pico Area Association Annual Meeting

5-8 p.m. K-1 Base Lodge, 4763 Killington Rd., Killington. Free admission. Join the annual meeting featuring updates from Killington Resort & Pico Mountain President Mike Solimano and Great Gulf's Michael Sneyd. A Q&A session with Killington Independence Group of investors follows, with a reception afterward. RSVP required. killington.com

Book Discussion - 'Remarkably Bright

Creatures'

6 p.m. Fletcher Memorial Library, 88 Main St., Ludlow. Book discussion of author Shelby Van Pelt's "Remarkably Bright Creatures." Open to the public. fmlnews.org

Sustainable Woodstock Community Event

6-7:30 p.m. North Universalist Chapel Society, 7 Church St., Woodstock. Join the community for wood-fired pizza and provide input on sustainability efforts. The event includes an overview of Sustainable Woodstock's achievements and community awards, followed by a presentation on flood resiliency by Erich Osterberg, Associate Professor at Dartmouth College. Childcare available for ages 2 and up. Please register. sustainablewoodstock.org

THURSDAY

10/10

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

Intermediate 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

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

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

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

Health Screening

3:30-5:30 p.m. Pawlet Community Church, 38 VT-133, Pawlet. Free health screening event for the uninsured, underinsured, or anyone needing a basic health screening. Various Vaccinations available for ages 19-64, and 65+ with no Medicare Part D. Sponsored by Rutland County Health Partners, United Way Vermont, and the Vermont Dept. of Health. pawlet.vt.gov

Hubbardton Forge 50th Anniversary Celebration

4-7 p.m. Hubbardton Forge, 154 RTE 30, South Castleton. Free admission. Celebrate 50 years of Vermont manufacturing with a factory tour to see lighting fixtures being made. Refreshments and raffle for a Table Lamp benefiting the local food shelf. Closed heel-and-toe footwear required for the tour. hubbardtonforge.com

Telling My (Pandemic) Story: 3-Day Workshop

5-8 p.m. Artistree Community Arts Center, 2095 Pomfret Rd., Pomfret. Free. Additional dates/times: Oct. 11 (5-8 p.m.), Oct. 12 (10 a.m.-6 p.m.). Explore themes of loss, growth, isolation, and resilience through personal storytellings culminating in a public performance. Registration required. artistreevt.org

Candidate Forum Hosted by FOLA

6:30 p.m. Heald Auditorium, Ludlow Town Hall, 37 S Depot St., Ludlow. Free. Candidates for Windsor County Senate and RW-1 House seats will participate in a forum addressing key state government issues. The event will include questions from the moderator and audience. Open to all residents of Windsor County and the RW-1 district. Call 802-855-8896 for more information.

Open Mic Night

7-9 p.m. Artistree, 2095 Pomfret Rd., South Pomfret. All levels and abilities are welcome to participate in music open mic nights. Alternating Thurs. through Dec. 19. artistreevt.org

Movie - "Ghost Story" (R)

7:30-9:30 p.m. Woodstock Town Hall Theater, 31 The Grn #2, Woodstock. \$8-\$10. Features scenes shot in Woodstock. pentanglearts.square.site/movie-tickets

FRIDAY

10/11

Library Book Sale

10 a.m.-2 p.m. Rutland Free Library, 10 Court St., Rutland. Donations accepted. Browse thousands of gently used books, CDs, DVDs, and puzzles for all ages, including rare and antique selections. Limit of two grocery bags per family per sale. No book dealers. Proceeds support library programs and projects. rutlandfree.org

Vintage Market Days

10 a.m.-3 p.m. Vermont State Fairgrounds, 175 S Main St., Rutland. \$10 admission, children under 12 free. Friday is an early buying event. A vintage-inspired indoor/outdoor market featuring original art, antiques, clothing, handmade treasures, home décor, and more. Admission allows re-entry all weekend. Cash and credit cards accepted at the gate. vintagemarketdays.com

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 Public 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.

KSC Monster Ski & Bike Sale

5-8 p.m. Ramshead Base Lodge, 3880 Killington Rd., Killington. Free admission. Find deals on new and used ski, snowboard, and bike gear, with proceeds supporting the Killington Ski Club Scholarship Fund. killingtonskiclub.com

Yom Kippur Kol Nidre Service

5:45 p.m. Rutland Jewish Center, 96 Grove St., Rutland. Free. The Kol Nidre Service at the Rutland Jewish Center marks the start of Yom Kippur observance, led by new Cantor Kate Judd from Brattleboro. Visitors are welcome, and donations are appreciated. Zoom details available by contacting the RJC Office. rutlandjewishcenter.org

Explore Smokey House Center: Bat Chat & Walkabout

6-8 p.m. Smokey House Center, 426 Danby Mountain Rd., Danby. Free. Join bat expert Kerry Monahan for an informative discussion on Vermont's nine species of bats, followed by a twilight walk using ultrasonic acoustic detectors to listen to bats in flight. Meet at the Conference Barn parking lot for hot cider and snacks. Bug spray and long pants recommended. smokeyhouse.org

Chad Hollister Band at Woodstock Town Hall

Theater

7 p.m. Woodstock Town Hall Theater, 31 The Green, Woodstock. Ticket prices vary. Join the nine-piece Chad Hollister Band for an evening of folk, rock, funk, and reggae with special guest Kris Gruen. The night will feature a silent auction supporting "Love Your Brain." brownpapertickets.com/event/6369129



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

Harvest Faire

SATURDAY @ 10 A.M.



Classicopia: Piano Concert

7:30 p.m. Old South Church, 146 Main St., Windsor. \$18. Pianists Elizabeth Borowsky and Daniel Weiser perform four-hand piano concert featuring works by Georges Bizet, Amy Beach, Gabriel Fauré, and an arrangement of Gershwin's "Rhapsody in Blue." The performance includes a special PianoCam for a close-up view. classicopia.org

SATURDAY

10/12

Run with a Ranger

8-9:45 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. Intermediate+ run. 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

SPOOKtacular Pancake Breakfast

8-11 a.m. Hiram Lodge #101, 63 Franklin St., West Rutland. \$10. Enjoy a festive fall breakfast buffet featuring pumpkin spice and BOOberry pancakes, French toast, scrambled eggs, hash browns, corned beef hash, bacon, sausage, and real Vermont maple syrup. Beverages include pumpkin spice coffee, hot cider, and more. Please bring non-perishable food items or monetary donations for the West Rutland Food Shelf. masonpost.com

Chittenden Community Outdoor Flea Market

9 a.m.-noon. Barstow Memorial School, 223 Chittenden Rd, Chittenden. Free. Share your treasures or find some gems at this fun event featuring a firefighter story hour, bake sale, and firetrucks for children to explore. No charge set up begins at 8 a.m. Firefighter story hour at 10 a.m. barstow.rnesu.org

Yom Kippur Morning Service

9:30 a.m. Rutland Jewish Center, 96 Grove St., Rutland. Free. Yom Kippur morning service led by Cantor Kate Judd. Visitors are welcome, and donations are appreciated. Zoom details available by contacting the RJC Office. rutlandjewishcenter.org

Downtown Farmers' Market

9 a.m.-2 p.m. (Saturdays) 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

KSC Monster Ski & Bike Sale

9 a.m.-4 p.m. Ramshead Base Lodge, 3880 Killington Rd., Killington. Browse a wide selection of discounted ski, snowboard, and bike gear from local shops, with proceeds benefiting the Killington Ski Club Scholarship Fund. killingtonskiclub.com



Harvest Faire

10 a.m.-5 p.m. Snowshed Base Area, Killington. Free. Join in for a day of family-friendly fun with pumpkin painting, horse-drawn hayrides, face painting, and a bouncy house for the kids. Live music from The Loonz from 2-5 p.m. Stein hoisting competition starts at 3 p.m., with souvenir mugs for participants and grand prizes for the men's and women's winners. Sign-ups for the stein hoisting are first come, first served. All activities and admission are free. Killington.com

Vintage Market Days

10 a.m.-3 p.m. Vermont State Fairgrounds, 175 S Main St., Rutland. \$10 admission, children under 12 free. A vintage-inspired indoor/outdoor market featuring original art, antiques, clothing, handmade treasures, home décor, and more. Admission allows re-entry all weekend. Cash and credit cards accepted at the gate. vintagemarketdays.com

Healthy Microbiome Workshop

10 a.m.-noon South Royalton Market, 222 Chelsea St., South Royalton. \$20 per adult. Workshop led by biologist and health coach Cathy Lawson. Learn about maintaining a balanced microbiome for better health. Registration required. soromarket.coop/community-workshops

Library Book Sale

10 a.m.-noon. Fair Haven Library, 107 North Main St. Fair Haven. The book sales run on a "take what you want and pay what you can" basis. fairhavenfree.org

Electronics Recycling and Paper Shredding

10 a.m.-1 p.m. Woodstock Union High School & Middle School parking lot, 100 Amsden Way, Woodstock. \$5 suggested donation for each box of documents. Shred-Ex will accept sensitive documents for shredding. Good Point Recycling will collect used electronics for recycling and reuse, such as televisions, computers and monitors, peripherals, printers, telephones, electronic game consoles, handheld electronic devices and stereo equipment. sustainablewoodstock.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.

Library Book Sale

10 a.m.-2 p.m. Rutland Free Library, 10 Court St., Rutland. Donations accepted. Browse thousands of gently used books, CDs, DVDs, and puzzles for all ages, including rare and antique selections. Limit of two grocery bags per family per sale. No book dealers. Proceeds support library programs and projects. rutlandfree.org

Chocolate Fest and Silent Auction

10 a.m.-3 p.m. Grace Congregational Church, 8 Court St., Rutland. \$5. Enjoy seven tastings of chocolate and bid on silent auction items. Bidding ends at 2 p.m. Proceeds support Companions in Wholeness, providing meals, clothing, and resources for those facing food insecurity and homelessness. rutlandumc.com

Cider Days

10 a.m.-4 p.m. (Sat. and Sunday) Village Baptist Church Green, Church St., Mount Holly. Free admission. Celebrate fall with fresh-pressed cider from a 200-year-old cider press, farm-fresh food, including Crowley Cheese, apple pie, and ice cream. Enjoy local artists, crafts, live music, and a book sale. mhcv.org

Sisters Weekend Marketplace

10 a.m.-4 p.m. Sisters Weekend Marketplace, 82 Main St., Windsor. Free admission. Celebrate fall with a selection of dried flowers, pumpkin-themed items, candles, furniture, home décor, and more. facebook.com/sistersweekendmarketplace

Woodstock Craft Festival

10 a.m.-4 p.m. Woodstock Rec Center, 21701 Maxham Meadow Way, Woodstock. \$5 admission, free for children 12 and under. Explore over 100 juried craftspeople, specialty food producers, and food trucks offering jewelry, paintings, pottery, clothing, photography, and more. Dog-friendly event, bus groups welcome. Proceeds benefit the Woodstock Rec Center. woodstockvt.myrec.com

Harvest Celebration

10 a.m.-5 p.m. Billings Farm & Museum, 69 Old River Rd., Woodstock. Free admission. Celebrate the season with barn dancing, live music, pumpkin bowling, crafts, cider pressing, and more. Fun for all ages. billingsfarm.org

63rd Annual Fall Art in the Park

10 a.m.-5 p.m. Main Street Park, Junction of Routes 4 & 7, Rutland. Free admission. Enjoy fine artists, craft vendors, Vermont vineyards, breweries, distilleries, specialty foods, kids' activities, and live musical entertainment. Event will take place rain or shine. rutlandartinthepark.org

How to Horror with Sarah Wisner and Sean Temple

10:30 a.m.-noon. JAM - Junction Arts & Media, 5 So. Main St., White River Junction. Free. Brian Carroll of Vermont Production Collective will be in conversation with acclaimed Montpelier-based horror directors, Sarah Wisner and Sean Temple, discussing how to craft compelling short horror films. uvjam.org

Learn to Crochet

11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Green Mountain Yarn & Fiber, 217 Woodstock Ave., Suite E, Rutland. \$25. Join Ruth to learn the basics of crocheting in this beginner-friendly class. Participants will start a simple project while learning basic stitches, terminology, and pattern reading. Bring a size H hook and worsted weight yarn. Preregistration is required. greenmountainfibers.com

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

Ludlow Rotary Area Chili Cook-off

11 a.m.-2 p.m. Depot St., Ludlow. \$15 per adult, \$5 per child under 12, \$35 for 2 adults and 2 children under 12. Enjoy chili, bread, ice cream, and cider at the 33rd annual cook-off benefiting the Ludlow Area Rotary Charitable Fund. Awards include cash prizes for the "People's Choice" winners, along with plaques for Judges Choice, Spiciest, and Team Spirit categories. Judges include local law enforcement officers. ludlowrotary.com

MINTacular Festival

11 a.m.-4 p.m. The MINT, 112 Quality Ln., Rutland. Free admission. Enjoy a day of festivities including pumpkin carving, corn hole tournaments, food, cake, guided tours, and demonstrations of ongoing classes. The event concludes with a mural unveiling. Bring a friend and celebrate the creative energy of The MINT. RSVP recommended. rutlandmint.org

Halloween Mask Making

Noon-3 p.m. Stone Valley Arts, 145 E. Main St., Poultney. Celebrate the Halloween season early with a spooktacular family mask making event. This creepy crafting drop-in program is free and open to local families. stonevalleyarts.org

Learn to Knit

1-2:30 p.m. Green Mountain Yarn & Fiber, 217 Woodstock Ave., Suite E, Rutland. \$25. Beginners course for those new to knitting. Learn to cast on, knit and purl, as well as garter stitch, stockinette stitch, and ribbing as time allows. Participants will need US size 8 knitting needles and worsted weight wool yarn, which are available for purchase in the shop. Preregistration is required.

Classicopia: Piano Concert

2 p.m. Dr. Andrew Bauman's home, 221 Newton Lane, White River Junction. \$40 adult, \$20 child. Enjoy an intimate four-hand piano concert by Elizabeth Borowsky and Daniel Weiser, featuring music by Bizet, Beach, Fauré, and Gershwin's "Rhapsody in Blue." The PianoCam provides a close-up view of the performance. classicopia.org

Wilson Castle Tour

4 p.m. Wilson Castle, 2970 W Proctor Rd., Proctor. \$14. Children (ages 6-12) \$7.50. Free for 6 and under. Rutland Young Professionals walking tour of historic Wilson Castle. Family friendly. rutlandyoungprofessionals.org

Yom Kippur Afternoon Services

4:30-6:30 p.m. Rutland Jewish Center, 96 Grove St., Rutland. Free. The Yom Kippur afternoon services include Mincha at 4:30 p.m., N'eila at 5:30 p.m., and Break the Fast following services. Led by Cantor Kate Judd. Visitors are welcome, and donations are appreciated. Zoom details available by contacting the RJC Office. rutlandjewishcenter.org

Calendar → 18

**KSC Monster
Ski & Bike Sale**
FRIDAY-SUNDAY

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

63rd Annual Fall Art in the Park

SATURDAY @ 10 A.M.



Hartland UU Church Famous Turkey Suppers

4:30-6 p.m. Hartland UU Church, 8 Brownsville Rd., Hartland Four Corners, Hartland. \$16. Enjoy a homemade turkey supper including roast turkey, stuffing, mashed potatoes, squash, and more. Take-out only. Pre-order required with cash or check payment at pick-up. No credit cards accepted. hartlanduu.org

Movie - "The Wild Robot" (PG)

7:30-9:15 p.m. Woodstock Town Hall Theater, 31 The Grn #2, Woodstock. \$8-\$10 pentangle-arts.square.site/movie-tickets

SUNDAY
10/13

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. ludlowmarket.org

KSC Monster Ski & Bike Sale

9 a.m.-2 p.m. Ramshead Base Lodge, 3880 Killington Rd., Killington. Free. Prices negotiable all day. Shop new and used ski, snowboard, and bike equipment, with proceeds going to the Killington Ski Club Scholarship Fund. killingtonskiclub.com

Doshisha University Anniversary Celebration

9:30 a.m. Grace Congregational UCC, 8 Court St., Rutland. Free. Celebrate 150 years of Doshisha University with a special worship service featuring dignitaries from the university in Kyoto, Japan. The event will include music, presentations, and participation from Vermont State University Castleton students. gracechurchvt.org

Vintage Market Days

10 a.m.-3 p.m. Vermont State Fairgrounds, 175 S Main St., Rutland. \$10 admission, children under 12 free. Friday is an early buying event. A vintage-inspired indoor/outdoor market featuring original art, antiques, clothing, handmade treasures, home décor, and more. Admission allows re-entry all weekend. Cash and credit cards accepted at the gate. vintagemarketdays.com

Sisters Weekend Marketplace

10 a.m.-2 p.m. Sisters Weekend Marketplace, 82 Main St., Windsor. Free admission. Celebrate fall with a selection of dried flowers, pumpkin-themed items, candles, furniture, home décor, and more. facebook.com/sistersweekendmarketplace

Connecticut Valley Model Railroad Show

10 a.m.-3 p.m. Connecticut Valley Auto Auction Building, 1567 VT-14, White River Junction. \$10 adults, \$5 ages 14-18, free for children 13 and under. Explore dealer sales, cash door prizes, a White Elephant Table, and operating layouts in Z, N, HO, O, and G-scales. Hosted by the Connecticut Valley Model Railroad Club. cvrr.railfan.net/cvrrm

Woodstock Craft Festival

10 a.m.-3 p.m. Woodstock Rec Center, 21701 Maxham Meadow Way, Woodstock. \$5 admission, free for children 12 and under. Explore over 100 juried craftspeople, specialty food producers, and food trucks offering jewelry, paintings, pottery, clothing, photography, and more. Dog-friendly event, bus groups welcome. Proceeds benefit the Woodstock Rec Center. woodstockvt.myrec.com

Harvest Celebration

10 a.m.-5 p.m. Billings Farm & Museum, 69 Old River Rd., Woodstock. Free admission. Celebrate the season with barn dancing, live music, pumpkin bowling, crafts, cider pressing, and more. Fun for all ages. billingsfarm.org

63rd Annual Fall Art in the Park

10 a.m.-5 p.m. Main Street Park, Junction of Routes 4 & 7, Rutland. Free admission. Enjoy fine artists, craft vendors, Vermont vineyards, breweries, distilleries, specialty foods, kids' activities, and live musical entertainment. Event will take place rain or shine. rutlandartinthepark.org

Pittsford Sheep Festival

11 a.m.-4 p.m. Pittsford Recreation Area, Furnace Rd., Pittsford. Free admission. Enjoy local craft vendors, sheep shearing and sheepdog handling demonstrations, and the exclusive Leaping of the Lambs competition. Food featuring local lamb will be available for purchase. rutlandareashepherds.org

Fall Into Winter Celebration

12-5 p.m. Okemo Mountain Resort, Jackson Gore Courtyard, 111 Jackson Gore Rd. Ludlow. Free admission. Enjoy fall fun with hayrides, live music, an apple cider bar, a dunk tank, BBQ, pumpkin decorating, and more. Activity tickets available for purchase in advance or at the event. okemo.com

Movie - "The Wild Robot" (PG)

3-4:45 p.m. Woodstock Town Hall Theater, 31 The Grn #2, Woodstock. \$8-\$10 pentangle-arts.square.site/movie-tickets

Champlain Philharmonic Fall Concert

4 p.m. Grace Congregational Church, 8 Court St., Rutland. \$15 general, \$10 seniors, \$5 students. Enjoy an evening of orchestral music featuring works by Eric Whitacre, Lili Boulanger, John Williams, and more. Special guest indie folk duo Cricket Blue will perform alongside the orchestra. Tickets available at the door or online. champlainphilharmonic.org

MONDAY
10/14

Community Lunch

11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. (Mondays) Godnick Adult Center, 1 Deer St., Rutland. Over 60, \$3.50. Under 60, \$6. Donations welcome. In partnership with the Southwestern Vermont Council on Aging and Meals on Wheels, the Godnick Center hosts congregational meals. Make new friends, connect with pals. 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

Bread + Puppet: The Beginning After the End of Humanity Circus

4:30-6:30 p.m. Pittsford Village Farm, 42 Elm St., Pittsford. \$20 + tax/fees. Bread & Puppet presents their Circus and Mass, featuring stilt dancers, paper maché beasts, and a brass band. After the show, enjoy sourdough rye bread with aioli, and shop Bread & Puppet's "Cheap Art" collection. Bring a lawn chair for seating. Rain or shine event. breadandpuppet.org

Movie - "The Wild Robot" (PG)

7:30-9:15 p.m. Woodstock Town Hall Theater, 31 The Grn #2, Woodstock. \$8-\$10 pentangle-arts.square.site/movie-tickets

Free Yoga on Mondays

5:30-6:30 p.m. Billings Farm Visitor Center, 69 Old River Road, Woodstock. Free. Join Farm & Forest Yoga Flow, hosted by Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historical Park. Bring a mat and arrive by 5:25 p.m. tinyurl.com/FarmForestFlowYoga

TUESDAY
10/15

Handcraft Gathering

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

Alzheimer's Support Group

4-5 p.m. (Every 2nd Tuesday) 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

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

Dance Night

6:30-9:30 p.m. Artstree Community Arts Center, 2095 Pomfret Rd., South Pomfret. Join Susanna Stein for an evening of partner dancing to various styles, including two-step, swing, waltz, cha cha, tango, and salsa. Beginner East Coast Swing lesson from 6:30-7 p.m., followed by open dancing from 7-9:30 p.m. All experience levels welcome. No partner needed. Dance shoes encouraged to protect the floor. artstreevt.org

ONGOING

Colorful Barn Quilts Created by Math Students

Through Dec. 1. Billings Farm & Museum, 69 Old River Rd. Woodstock. Exhibition of Barn Quilts from the 6th and 7th grade students of Piermont Village School. billingsfarm.org

Reimagined ... The Art of Recycling

Through Oct. 26. Chaffee Art Center, 16 So. Main St., Rutland. The exhibit will be both inside the mansion and outside with sculptures on our historic property. Artists of all mediums whose work includes recycled materials will be part of this Exhibit. chaffeeartcenter.org

The Woman in Black

Through Oct. 20. Weston Theater Company, 703 Main St. Weston. \$25-\$79. Adaptation of Susan Hill's ghost story. westontheater.org

Sisters

Through Oct. 20. Northern Stage, Barrette Center for the Arts, 74 Gates Street, White River Junction. \$27-\$77. "Sisters", a 2022 award-winning play by Matthew Libby, traces the lives of two sisters, Matilda and Grete, over 90 years. northernstage.org

The Great Pumpkin Costume Contest: Foam Pumpkins Available

Through Oct. 26. Rutland Free Library, 10 Court St., Rutland. Free. Pick up a foam pumpkin and decorate it to look like a book character. Return your pumpkin by Oct. 26 to enter the contest. Voting runs from Oct. 28-Nov. 2, with winners announced on Nov. 4. rutlandfree.org

Local Color Exhibit Reception

Through Nov. 2. Artstree Gallery, 2095 Pomfret Road, South Pomfret. 2-D and 3-D works by over 60 local artists, celebrating the colors of Autumn. artstreevt.org/local-color-2024

IBC Stick Figure Installation in Fair Haven Park

Through Nov. 2. Fair Haven Park, 47 So. Main St., Fair Haven. Free. The 5th annual stick figure installation, a popular fall event for the whole community, with Halloween characters featured in the 'Danger Zone.'



[MUSIC Scene]

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

WED
10/9

LUDLOW

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

POULTNEY

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

QUECHEE

6 p.m. Public House Pub – Chris Pallutto

RUTLAND

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

THURS
10/10

BRANDON

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

BRIDGEWATER

CORNERS
5 p.m. Long Trail Brewery – Anna May

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 – Trivia with Questionable Company

RUTLAND

8 p.m. Angler Pub – A Sound Space Open Mic hosted by Caber Wilson

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

SOUTH POMFRET

7 p.m. Artistree – Open Mic Night

WOODSTOCK
6:30 p.m. Ottauquechee Yacht Club – Rhys Chalmers

FRI
10/11

BOMOSEEN

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

CASTLETON

6 p.m. Blue Cat Bistro – Scott Forrest

6 p.m. Third Place Pizza – Music by Cooper

KILLINGTON

6 p.m. Rivershed – Rhys Chalmers

6 p.m. The Foundry – Live Music

6:30 p.m. Still on the Mountain – Nick Bredice

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

8 p.m. Jax Food and Games – On Tone Music

POULTNEY

6 p.m. Poultney Pub – Liz Reedy

QUECHEE

5:30 p.m. Public House Pub – Krishna Guthrie

RANDOLPH

7:30 p.m. Underground Listening Room – Nowhere Washington, Western Terrestrials, Jonny Hick

RUTLAND

11 a.m. Vermont State Fairgrounds – Vintage Market Days with music by George Nostrand

WOODSTOCK

7 p.m. Town Hall Theatre – Chad Hollister Band

SAT
10/12

BRIDGEWATER

8 p.m. Woolen Mill Comedy Club – Comedy Night with Vicki Ferentinos

KILLINGTON

10 a.m. Snowshed Base Area – Harvest Faire

2 p.m. Snowshed Base Area – Harvest Faire with music by The Loonz

6 p.m. Rivershed – Nick Bredice

6 p.m. Still on the Mountain – Liz Reedy

6 p.m. The Foundry – Live Music

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

8 p.m. Pickle Barrel Nightclub – Aaron Audet Band

QUECHEE

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

RUTLAND

11 a.m. Vermont State Fairgrounds – Vintage Market Days with music by George Nostrand

STOCKBRIDGE

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

WOODSTOCK

6:30 p.m. Ottauquechee Yacht Club – Anniversary Party with music by Majik Box Trio

SUN
10/13

BOMOSEEN

6 p.m. Bomoseen Lodge and Taproom – James Joel

BRIDGEWATER CORNERS

12 p.m. Long Trail Brewery – Harvest Day with music by Nick Bredice/Red River North

KILLINGTON

6 p.m. Liquid Art – Tboneicus Jones

6 p.m. Rivershed – Nick Bredice

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

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

LUDLOW

12 p.m. Okemo's Jackson Gore Courtyard – Fall into Winter Event with music by DJ Dave and The Bear Mountain Boys

PITTSFIELD

6 p.m. Clear River Tavern – Benefit for Chris Pallutto with Music all Night

RUTLAND

4 p.m. Grace Church – Champlain Philharmonic Orchestra

STOCKBRIDGE

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

MON
10/14

KILLINGTON

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

6 p.m. New American Grill – George Nostrand

LUDLOW

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

QUECHEE

5:30 p.m. Public House Pub – Sammy B

WOODSTOCK

6:30 p.m. Ottauquechee Yacht Club – Arthur James

TUES
10/15

KILLINGTON

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

LONDONDERRY

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

LUDLOW

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

PITTSFIELD

7 p.m. Town Hall – Acoustic Jam

POULTNEY

7 p.m. Poultney Pub – Bluegrass Jam

QUECHEE

5 p.m. The Public House – Jim Yeager

RUTLAND

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

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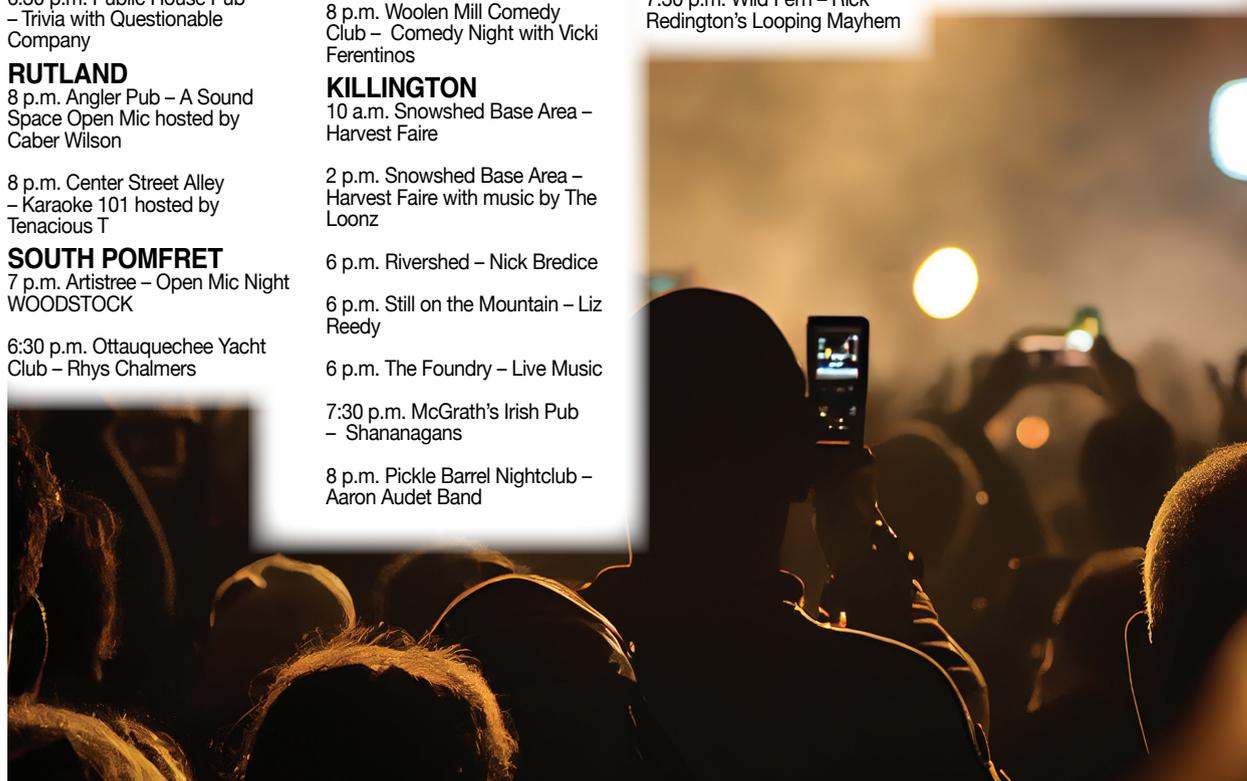
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Chaffee Art Center celebrates fall at 63rd annual Art in the Park

Saturday-Sunday, Oct. 12-13, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. —RUTLAND—The Chaffee Art Center will host the 63rd Annual Art in the Park Fall Foliage Festival in Rutland’s Main Street Park at the junction of Routes 4 and 7. This two-day event features juried fine artists, craftspeople, specialty food vendors, and free activities for children. Guests can enjoy live music throughout the weekend and watch demonstrations of works in progress. Food trucks, including the Rollin’ Rooster and La Chapina Guatemalan Food Truck, will offer a variety of options, along with sweet treats from Loffredo’s Italian Bakery and kettle corn.

Attendees will have the opportunity to explore a variety of handcrafted art and products such as pottery, stained glass, jewelry, woodwork, and aromatherapy items. Chaffee Bucks, randomly given at the gate, can be spent at any booth during the festival. Volunteers are needed for setup and teardown, and those interested can contact the Chaffee Art Center.

For more information, visit chaffeeartcenter.org.



Courtesy of Chaffee Art Center

The annual Art in the Park event in Rutland occurs this weekend at Main Street Park.



Celebrate the harvest season at Billings Farm & Museum

Saturday-Sunday, Oct. 12-13, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. —WOODSTOCK—Billings Farm & Museum invites guests to its annual Harvest Celebration, offering two days of family-friendly activities, seasonal treats, and hands-on harvest fun. Set against the backdrop of vibrant fall foliage, enjoy horse-drawn wagon rides, traditional barn dances with live music by Shady Rill, pumpkin bowling, crafts for children, and harvest demonstrations like apple cider pressing, corn husking, and sunflower seed harvesting. Sample local apple and Billings Farm Cheddar Cheese pairings and explore Vermont’s rich apple heritage. Food vendors, including the Sustainable Eats food truck and Vermont Spirits Distilling Co., will be on site.

Schedule of timed programs:

- Apple programs: 10:30 a.m., 1 p.m., 4 p.m.
- Barn dances: 11 a.m., 12 p.m., 2 p.m., 3 p.m.
- Wagon rides: 11 a.m.-3 p.m.
- Apple cider pressing: 11 a.m.-4 p.m.
- Harvest story time: 11:30 a.m., 2:30 p.m.

For more information, visit billingsfarm.org.



Courtesy Billings Farm & Museum

Guests participate in pumpkin bowling, cider pressing, barn dancing, and more during a recent annual Harvest Celebration at Billings Farm.

Celebrate 30 years of the Pittsford Sheep Festival



Sunday, Oct. 13, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. —PITTSFORD—The Pittsford Sheep Festival returns to the Pittsford Recreation Area off Furnace Road, offering a free day of entertainment. This event has brings together local craft vendors, felters, and spinners to showcase their skills and products. Festivalgoers can experience sheep shearing demonstrations at 11:15 a.m., 1:45 p.m., and 3:15 p.m., along with sheepdog handling demonstrations at 1 p.m. and 2:30 p.m.

A highlight of the festival, the “Leaping of the Lambs” competition, will occur at noon, 2:15 p.m., and 3:45 p.m. Watch sheep race through an obstacle course. Visitors will also have the opportunity to meet local shepherds and learn about raising sheep in Vermont. Food featuring local lamb will be available for purchase throughout the day.

For more information, visit rutlandareashepherds.org



Rockin' with Troy Ramey

Friday, Oct. 18, you have a chance to see a hometown guy, have a hometown show, at the Woodstock Town Hall Theatre when Troy Ramey comes back to town. You may have seen Troy on "The Voice" Season 12, back in 2017, when he turned all four chairs, picked Gwen Stefani as his coach, and advanced to the Top 12.

He played in Woodstock a few years back, at the Little Theater, but this will be his first performance at the big one. He lived in Woodstock from 5th through 9th grade and said, "I still have a lot of good friends there, and we keep in touch so I feel confident calling it a hometown show."

Troy is touring in support of his debut full length album, "All I Had". He's been releasing singles throughout this past year. He said, "I've never been more proud of anything. It's a big record but it can also be kind of intimate. All the songs work great for a small band arrangement. It's tough to take a seven piece band on the road but I wanted to tour so badly so I built a show around playing these songs with an acoustic trio."

Troy will be on acoustic guitar, Phil Coiro on drums and Colin Sapp on electric guitar, so it's a semi-acoustic show.

Troy said, "Colin is one of the studio guys on my album. He's a Berklee profes-

sor, and he's had some big gigs with some big acts like The Backstreet Boys. He's one of the best guitar players I've ever met." When we spoke about Phil, Troy jokingly said, "He doesn't deserve any praise. He's a drummer, he's used to being left behind." Being serious Troy said, "Phil is one of the best musicians I've ever met, and had the pleasure of playing with. He's played on Broadway, off Broadway. I linked up with him about ten years ago when I was just getting started, while living in New York. We've played hundreds of shows together. He was there for me when we were just playing for the bartender. He is one of the most tasteful drummers, consistent, talented, but easy to work with guys that I've had the pleasure of working with, and he's my best friend."

This show is being billed as, "Songs and Stories with Troy Ramey". Troy said, "It will have that storyteller vibe but we'll still have some fullness." They'll be playing the new record, along with some of his older songs



Rockin' the Region
By Dave Hoffenberg

and covers he likes to sing like "Tennessee Whiskey" by Chris Stapleton. His favorite original is "Woman", which he made in 2019, as a surprise wedding gift to his wife (He released it in 2020). He said, "Being in the music business is difficult. There's a lot of pressure on what kind of music to make, will it go viral? The music video is actually our wedding video. When I released it, I had high hopes for it because I was proud of it. Compared to other songs, and I'm lucky because I've

had millions of streams on other songs, this was a flop, a complete dud. It got no attention, and I still think it's one of my least streamed songs, but what happened is newlyweds were finding it on Facebook and asking me to perform it at their wedding. Even though it looks like a dud, it created an accidental wedding business. I've sang this at hundreds of weddings, I just got back from Greece, singing it at a couple's wedding. It really changed my life, and gave me some confidence to be able to have a career be defined by what I want it to be defined by, rather than try and write a 'hit' song, whatever that means."

Troy is fully independent, meaning he's self-managed, self-booked, self-promoting. He does everything himself and said, "I needed to figure out if I wanted to make a record that I can pull off with 3 guys, or take

Troy is fully independent, meaning he's self-managed, self-booked, self-promoting. He does everything himself and said, "I needed to figure out if I wanted to make a record that I can pull off with 3 guys, or take advantage of the tools I have in the studio.

advantage of the tools I have in the studio. That's what I decided to do because I can always make a simpler version of this record, alternate versions, live versions, whatever. If you're in the studio and have access to make something incredible, I felt the need to go that route."

Troy is as real as one can be. He tells it like it is, and isn't afraid to do so. The last time we spoke he was near the end of his 50 dates, post "The Voice" tour. He said,

"It was a miserable failure, and scared the s--- out of me. It took the wind out of my sails because I was just on national TV. I felt desperate, confused, and a little bit bitter. When I look back on it, I was inexperienced, I didn't know how to take advantage of the exposure I just had so I focused on writing." After he released "Woman" in 2020, to this past summer, he was playing weddings and private events. He added, "I've never played more music in my life

Rockin' → 31

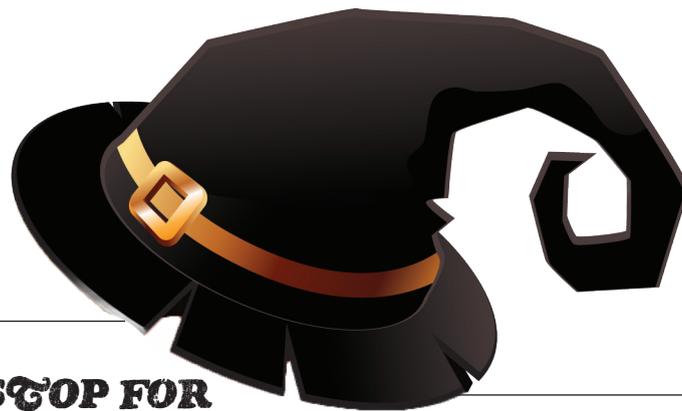


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Celebrate fall fun at Killington's Harvest Faire!

Saturday, Oct. 12—KILLINGTON—Get ready to embrace the crisp air and autumn colors at Killington's Harvest Faire on Saturday, Oct. 12. Located at the Snowshed Base Area, this all-day event from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. offers a perfect blend of seasonal fun, entertainment, and relaxation for the entire family. And the best part? Admission to all activities is entirely free! Kid-Friendly Fun The Harvest Faire features a lineup of children's activities that will keep the little ones entertained throughout the day:

Pumpkin Painting, Bounce House & More: 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Horse-Drawn Hayrides: 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

Face Painting: 11 a.m.-3 p.m.

Whether it's creating festive pumpkin masterpieces, enjoying a bouncy house, or taking a leisurely hayride through the scenic base area, there's something for every young attendee. Live Music from The Loonz From 2-5 p.m., the local band The Loonz will take the stage, providing a live performance with a mix of classic and modern covers, along with originals inspired by their life experiences. Lead singer and guitarist Rhys Chalmers, bassist Kent Algire, drummer Rob-

dawg, and keyboardist Tony Bartold bring their unique yet familiar sound that promises to keep the crowd moving. What started as a group of musicians meeting by chance at open mics has turned into a "magical" collaboration that you

won't want to miss. Stein Hoisting Competition At 3 p.m., one of the festival's most popular traditions returns: the Stein Hoisting Competition! Participants compete to win a grand prize in the men's and women's divisions. Each participant will receive a souvenir Killington mug, and with sign-ups happening throughout the day on a first-come, first-served basis, make sure to claim your spot early!

Volunteer & Earn Free Lift Tickets Want to lend a hand while enjoying the festivities? Limited volunteer shifts are available, and as a thank-you, each completed shift will earn you a free lift ticket voucher, redeemable for a year at Killington/Pico. Don't miss out on this opportunity to help out while also receiving a great perk.

Mark your calendars for Oct. 12 and bring the family to Killington's Harvest Faire for a fun-filled fall day.

For more details and volunteer sign-ups, visit killington.com.



Discover unique finds and tasty treats at Woodstock's Apples and Crafts Fair and Food Truck Festival

Saturday-Sunday, Oct. 12-13.—WOODSTOCK—Celebrate the creativity of local artisans at the Woodstock Rec Center's annual apples, crafts, and food truck festival. Over 100 juried craftspeople will showcase stunning jewelry, paintings, pottery, photography, and more. Enjoy offerings from specialty food producers and food trucks as you explore unique handmade treasures. The event runs Saturday, Oct. 12, from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. and Sunday, Oct. 13, from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at 21701 Maxham Meadow Way. Admission is \$5, with free entry for children under 12. Dogs and bus groups are welcome!

For more information, visit woodstockvt.myrec.com.



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Vintage Market Days returns to Rutland

Friday-Sunday, Oct. 11-13, at 10 a.m. — RUTLAND — The Vermont State Fairgrounds will host the anticipated Vintage Market Days of Vermont. This upscale indoor/outdoor market offers a curated collection of original art, antiques, handmade crafts, home décor, outdoor furnishings, jewelry, clothing, and more. In addition to unique items, visitors can enjoy seasonal

treats and consumable yummys. This fall's theme is "In my Vintage Era." The event begins on Friday, Oct. 11, with a buyers' preview day for those on the hunt for one-of-a-kind treasures and general admission on Saturday and Sunday. Admission is \$15, and children under 12 are free.

For more information, visit vintagemarketdays.com.



Courtesy of Vintage Market Days

Chad Hollister Band brings Vermont Roots Rock to Woodstock Town Hall Theater

Friday, Oct. 11, at 7 p.m. — WOODSTOCK — Vermont's Chad Hollister Band lights up the historic Woodstock Town Hall Theater with an electrifying performance. The nine-piece ensemble features four horns, bass, drums, percussion, and three-part harmonies, blending folk, rock, funk, and reggae into a unique sound. Chad Hollister, whose music evokes artists like Paul

Simon, Jack Johnson, and the late Tom Petty, has toured the globe, and now he brings his signature Vermont Roots Rock to Woodstock. Kris Gruen, a local musical talent, kicks off the evening with his dynamic set.

The event also includes a silent auction to raise funds for Love Your Brain, a nonprofit founded by Olympic snowboarder Kevin Pearce and

his brother Adam that helps those with traumatic brain injuries. Auction items range from skis to guitars and gift baskets. Purchase tickets online and join this special evening of music and community.

For more information, visit brownpapertickets.com/event/6369129.

Silent auction donations: give.loveyourbrain.com/chadhollisterband.



Courtesy Chad Hollister Band

The Chad Hollister Band plays this weekend at the Woodstock Town Hall Theater.

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Hubbardton Forge celebrates 50th anniversary open house

Thursday, Oct. 10, at 4 p.m.—CASTLETON—Celebrate Hubbardton Forge’s 50th-anniversary manufacturing in Vermont on Thursday, Oct. 10, from 4-7 p.m. Take a self-guided tour to see how Hubbardton Forge makes its iconic lighting fixtures, including the Forge’s iconic Corona Pendant. Witness Hubbardton Forge makers in action! There will be a table lamp raffle that will benefit the local food shelf. Refreshments are provided, including cider donuts, apple cider, and popcorn. The Forge requires closed heel-and-toe footwear for the manufacturing tour.



Courtesy Hubbardton Forge

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Spooktacular mask making at Stone Valley Arts (SVA)

Saturday, Oct. 12, at noon—POULTNEY—Halloween season arrives early in Poultney with a Spooktacular Family Mask Making event at Stone Valley Arts (SVA) on Saturday, Oct. 12 from noon to 3 p.m. This creepy crafting drop-in program is free and open to local families.

Stop in at SVA for a frightfully good time to make Halloween masks whether they be ghoulish, creepy or even your favorite superhero. Eerie edibles including ginger dead men, cauldron brownies, clementine pumpkins, boo berry bananas, graveyard dirt

pudding and witch's cider brew will be served. There will also be Halloween-themed games like witch hat toss, ghost tin can bowling and a ghoulish photobooth. Come and enjoy this freaky, fun Halloween activity on Saturday.

For information, go to stonevalleyarts.org.



Bulky Day

October 26 & 28

SOLID WASTE TRANSFER STATION

Location: 2981 River Road, Killington (Behind Town Garage)

Phone Number: (802) 422-3241 ext. 7

Website: killingtontown.com/transferstation

Summer Hours Are In Effect

Saturday & Monday — 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

Transfer station is for the collection & transfer of solid waste deposited by residents and property owners of the Town. (Windshield sticker & punch card needed). Recycling Center is for residents and property owners of the Town. (Free with windshield sticker). If you need to dispose of solid waste outside the normal operating hours of the Transfer Station or have construction & demolition debris or other non-acceptable waste, residents and property owners of Killington can go to the Rutland County Solid Waste District Transfer Station & Drop-off Center located on Gleason Road in Rutland.



WRITE TO US

The Mountain Times encourages readers to contribute to our community paper by writing letters to the editor. Opinions are not endorsed by the Mountain Times, nor are the facts checked. We ask that opinions remain focused on issues; refrain from name-calling.

Please keep them to 300 words or they will be printed only at the editor's discretion if space allows.

Email letters to editor@mountaintimes.info



Halloween

Saturday, October 26

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10:30 AM - 1:30 PM
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FRIDAY, OCTOBER 18TH 6-10PM
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19TH 6-10PM

Great Pumpkin Costume Contest, submissions are due

Ongoing now through Nov. 2—RUTLAND— Stop in at the Rutland Free Library to enter the Great Pumpkin Decorating Contest. Stop by the front desk to pick up a foam pumpkin and tips and tricks sheet with the rules. Take it home to decorate, but don't forget—it should look like a book character or represent a book in some way!

Bring your pumpkin back to the library by Saturday, Oct. 26, to be entered into the contest. All entries will be on display for voting from Oct. 28-Nov. 2.

Winners in three categories (Voters Choice, Online Voters Choice, and Staff Pick) will be announced on Monday, Nov. 4. Don't miss the opportunity to celebrate the season with this fun and creative contest.



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Rutgers Institute for Nicotine & Tobacco Studies
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Vermont's "Name a Plow" program returns for its third year, inviting schools to get creative

The Vermont Agency of Transportation (AOT) is bringing back its popular "Name a Plow" program for the third year, offering young Vermonters the chance to make their mark on the state's iconic orange snowplow trucks. The initiative invites schools across the state to create unique names for the 250 full-sized snowplows in the AOT fleet, ensuring no repeated names from previous years.



Courtesy of the Vermont Agency of Transportation
The new Magna "Wing" truck with a 21-foot wing for plowing Vermont's busy Interstate 89

This year, AOT is adding an exciting new twist: schools can also submit entries to name a special truck equipped with a 21-foot "wing" designed specifically for clearing Vermont's busy Interstate 89.

Transportation Secretary Joe Flynn expressed enthusiasm about the return of the program, stating, "Our Name a Plow program has been a great success and generated a lot of fun for Vermont students and our hardworking plow drivers. The program is also an effective way to teach young Vermonters about the important work that our maintenance crews do to keep the roads safe for travel throughout the winter."

The journey so far

Launched in 2021, the Name a Plow program initially saw public and private schools, nursery schools, and homeschooled students naming 163 of the state's snowplow trucks. In the following year, schools that had not yet participated were given the opportunity to submit names, with 73 more trucks gaining their new monikers. Now, in 2024, the program aims to have all 250 of the trucks in the AOT fleet proudly carrying names chosen by Vermont's youth.

How schools can participate

Participating in the Name a Plow program is simple. Each school is encouraged to submit one name, which the school's principal or director must approve to ensure appropriateness. Political or religious references, as well as potentially offensive names, are not permitted. Schools can check a list of already assigned names to avoid duplicates

by visiting the AOT's Name a Plow webpage.

Every participating school will have its selected name assigned to a plow truck based in one of Vermont's Maintenance District garages. A sign on the truck will display both the chosen name and the name of the school.

For schools interested in naming the special 21-foot winged plow truck, there's a contest element—Vermont's District Maintenance and Fleet Division employees will vote on the winning name.

A special event for schools

On Nov. 7, AOT Maintenance District plow operators will visit schools across the state to celebrate the third annual Vermont Plow Day. Schools that have named a truck will have the chance to take photos of students and staff with the plow truck that bears their school's chosen name, weather permitting.

This program brings creativity and fun to Vermont's schools and highlights the vital work of AOT's maintenance teams, who ensure safe travel conditions throughout the winter. The program offers students a hands-on way to engage with the world of public service and transportation while showcasing their creativity.

Schools have until Oct. 25, to submit their name suggestions. To participate, school officials can visit the AOT's Name a Plow webpage to access the submission form and learn more.

The "Name a Plow" program continues to unite communities and create lasting memories for students, while the state's hardworking snowplow drivers take pride in showcasing the imaginative names during Vermont's snowy winters. Don't miss out on the chance to be part of this annual tradition!

For more information and to submit a plow name, visit vtrans.vermont.gov/name-a-plow.

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Doshisha University students visit Grace Congregational UCC

Sunday, Oct. 13—RUTLAND—The Grace Congregational UCC in Rutland has a special connection with a university in Japan named Doshisha. This October marks the 150-year anniversary of its origin.

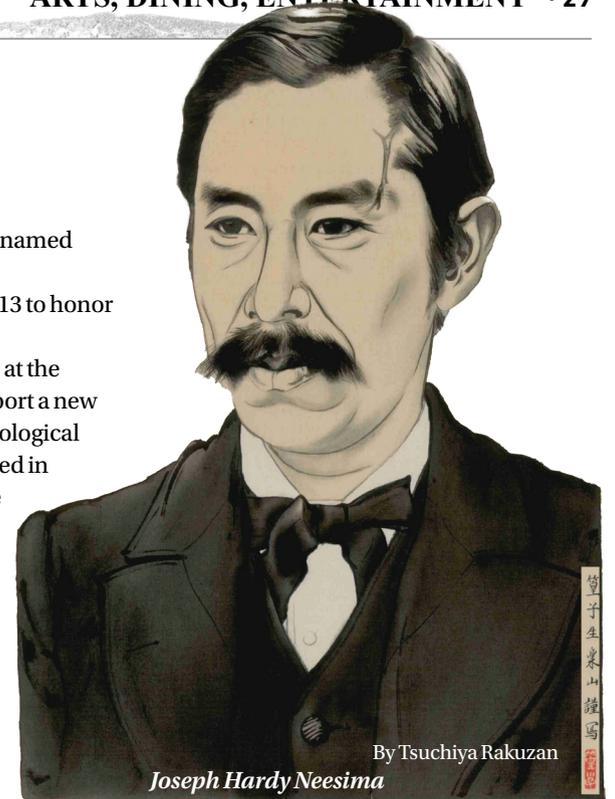
To celebrate this occasion, Dignitaries from Doshisha University in Kyoto, Japan, will visit Grace Congregational UCC on Oct. 13 to honor these 150 years.

On Oct. 9, 1874, Joseph Hardy Neesima spoke to a meeting of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missionaries at the Congregational Church of Rutland (which would later become Grace Congregational UCC), asking them to collect funds to support a new Christian School in Japan. Neesima previously traveled to America from Japan and studied at Amherst College and Andover Theological Seminary had been ordained a protestant minister and was deeply committed to bringing Christianity to Japan. With \$5,000 raised in response to his passionate plea, Nijijima Jo (his Japanese name) realized his vision, sowing the seeds of Doshisha University. One hundred fifty years later, Doshisha has 30,000 undergraduate students, 16 graduate programs, and programs for international students in Japanese Language and culture. It is one of the most prestigious private universities in Japan.

Grace Church will hold a special worship service at 9:30 am on Sunday, Oct. 13. The Service will include participation by the President and Chairman of the University, music by a graduate of Doshisha, and a presentation of an enameled porcelain plaque depicting the auspicious moments during Joseph Neesima's address in our sanctuary. Guests affiliated with Doshisha and students from Vermont State University Castleton will be in attendance. These young women are attending school this fall as part of a program between Castleton and Doshisha Women's College founded by Nijijima Jo and his wife Yae in 1876.

Grace Congregational UCC invites the public to experience this historical event.

For more information, visit gracechurchvt.org.



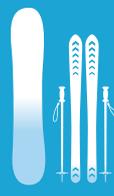
By Tsuchiya Rakuzan

Joseph Hardy Neesima



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12
DROPOFF
9AM - 12PM
SALE
9AM - 4PM

5
DROPOFF
1PM - 4PM

PICKUP

13
PICKUP
10AM - 1PM
SALE
9AM - 2PM

14
PICKUP
10AM - 1PM

15

16

17

18
PICKUP
9AM - 1PM

19
PICKUP
9AM - 1PM

Killington RAMSHEAD BASE LODGE: OCTOBER 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY

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← **Rockin':**
from page 21

but it was all under the radar so a bit of my ego was bruised. The gigs paid great but they're thankless. You're in the corner, at a Bat Mitzvah or your trio is in the corner of a cocktail party for a corporation. It was fine because I was performing and still doing what I love, in the way I want to do it. It gave me a few years to focus and figure out how I'm going to do it. For the longest time, I was waiting for someone to come along and tell me my music is great and here's how we're going to help you take the next step. After 7 years of me being on television, that call never came, so I knew I had to figure it out on my own."

This Woodstock show will be his 9th this year, which isn't a lot but he's in what he's calling a "Testing year", figuring out what venues he can play, and which ones he can fill. He's sold out five and Woodstock, which is his biggest venue this year, is nearly sold out. Next year he wants to do 6-8 shows a month. He said, "I can make a great living playing shows of this size,

Being on stage is where Troy feels most comfortable. He ended with, "Before I found music I had this weird anxiety like what am I doing with my life."

and be more successful than I ever thought I could be but it has nothing to do with fame, or how many people like my Instagram post.

It's just about figuring out a way to connect, and communicate with the people who already appreciate what I'm doing."

It's funny he said people think the CD is dead, I was one of those people. "It's not. CD's and vinyl are selling like hotcakes at these shows, and it's given me a new hope and enthusiasm I desperately needed."

Being on stage is where Troy feels most comfortable. He ended with, "Before I found music I had this weird anxiety like what am I doing with my life? First time I got on the mic and started to sing, and figured out I could write a decent song, I didn't want to be anywhere else."

You can find Troy online, in most places under his name Troy Ramey: his website, Facebook, Spotify, YouTube, Bands in Town and Apple Music. For Instagram and Soundcloud, he's under "iamtroymusic". He said the best way to follow him is to go to his website and sign up for his email list.



Troy Ramey

By Austin Huck

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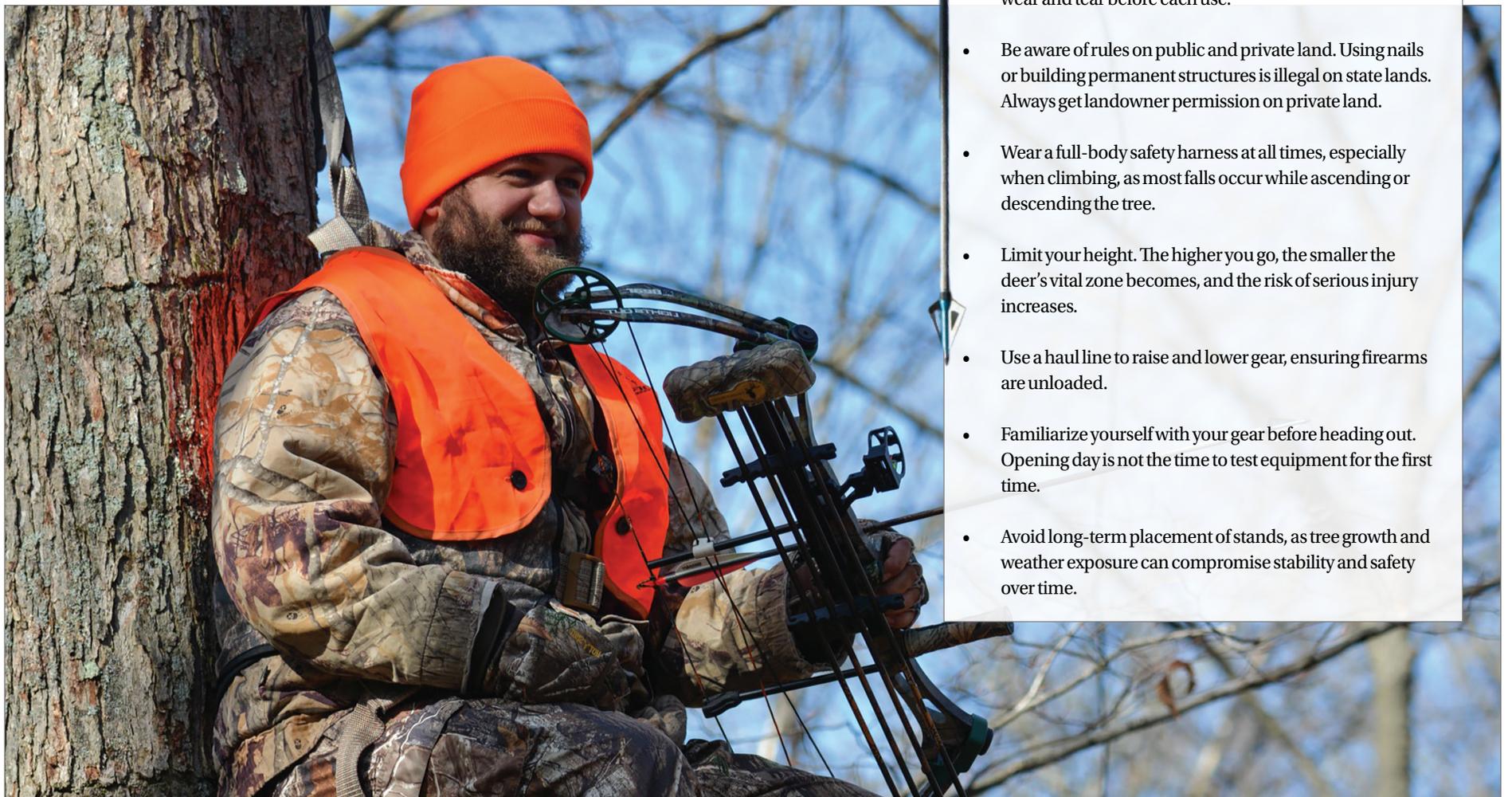
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Vermont Fish & Wildlife shares essential tree stand safety tips for hunters

As hunting season approaches, Vermont Fish & Wildlife urges hunters to prioritize safety when using tree stands. While tree stands can improve visibility and keep hunters out of sight from deer, they also present significant safety risks if not used properly. Here are some essential safety tips to ensure a safe and successful hunting experience:

According to Nicole Meier, Hunter Education Program Coordinator at Vermont Fish & Wildlife, "Falls from tree stands are a leading cause of death and serious injury among hunters, but these accidents are preventable by consistently using full-body harnesses and staying connected to the tree."

For more information on tree stand safety, visit tmastands.com/safety.



- Select a healthy, straight tree, avoiding ash trees that may be weakened by the emerald ash borer infestation.
- Use only certified tree stands approved by the Treestand Manufacturers Association (TMA) and inspect them for wear and tear before each use.
- Be aware of rules on public and private land. Using nails or building permanent structures is illegal on state lands. Always get landowner permission on private land.
- Wear a full-body safety harness at all times, especially when climbing, as most falls occur while ascending or descending the tree.
- Limit your height. The higher you go, the smaller the deer's vital zone becomes, and the risk of serious injury increases.
- Use a haul line to raise and lower gear, ensuring firearms are unloaded.
- Familiarize yourself with your gear before heading out. Opening day is not the time to test equipment for the first time.
- Avoid long-term placement of stands, as tree growth and weather exposure can compromise stability and safety over time.

By Maria Gigliello

With Vermont's archery deer season starting Oct. 1, Vermont Fish & Wildlife urges hunters to take the time to follow basic safety procedures to avoid falls from tree stands.

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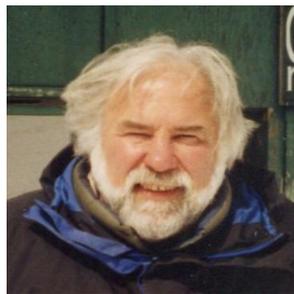
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Inductees



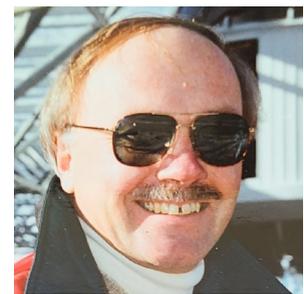
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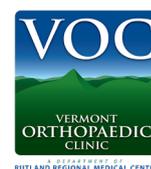
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Killington

MOUNTAIN TIMES



Crossword

Solutions from page 15

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

Sudoku

Solutions from page 15

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

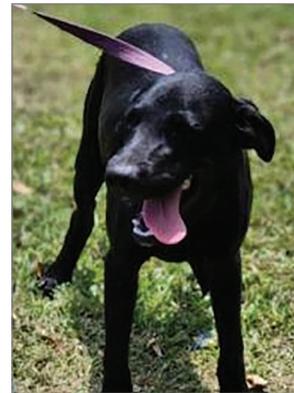
Rutland County Humane Society



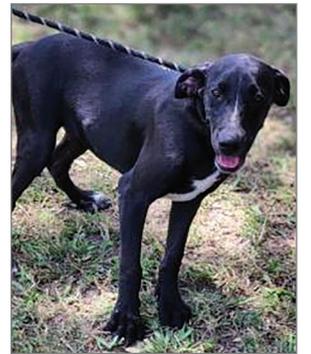
Pepper—9-month-old. Spayed female. Terrier mix.



Hermione—4-month-old. Spayed female. Domestic shorthair.



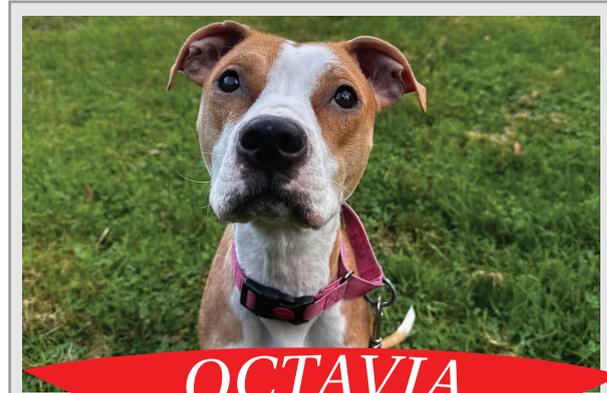
Orion—7-month-old. Neutered male. Labrador Retriever.



Orla—7-month-old. Spayed female. Labrador Retriever mix.



Lorcan—1-year-old. Neutered male. Domestic shorthair.



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EMELINE

Cosmic Catalogue



Aries March 21 - April 20

Old ways of thinking aren't going to bring new realities your way. This is especially true when it comes your career and your overall life direction. Don't confuse being busy with actually achieving your outcomes. This week is going to bring an important decision and once made, there will be no turning back. Slow down and consider things very very carefully. Hasty choices could lead to tough times and possibly regrets later down the track.

Leo July 21 - August 20

The company you keep are having more of an influence on you than you're giving yourself credit for. Speaking of credit, your stubborn streak rarely gets the recognition it deserves. If you're finding yourself not wanting to change, not wanting to open up to new ideas and perspectives, then you're only really hindering your own growth. Other people in your life are opening you up to explore new opportunities, avoid shutting them down.

Sagittarius November 21 - December 20

Love and money are hot themes for you. It can also be a case of confidence. Are you confident when it comes to relationships? Are you getting what you deserve or are you settling for less? If things aren't going the way you want, then turn that ship around. It's going to have to start with you changing what's true for you in love though. Seek answers within as that is what will change your perspective on things.

Taurus April 21 - May 20

When you hear about topics such as investments or abundance, people tend to think of money. While it's important to have those bases covered, it's also important to cover other bases too. When was the last time you invested into yourself spiritually? When did you last devote time, energy and resources into nurturing your relationship with God – in whichever form that takes for you? Time spent with your creator can help you in more ways than you currently realize.

Virgo August 21 - September 20

Opportunities tend to multiply when they are seized. Then there are times when you attempt to seize them all but none are really sticking. You need to now take your time and think about things more clearly than you have been in a while. Your eye for discernment will serve you well now. So turn the volume down on your career and life direction possibilities and ask yourself what you really want in the big scheme of things.

Capricorn December 21 - January 20

The choices you do or don't make will alter your life. That's a heavy statement, I know, but you're in one of the rarest cycles of your life. Choices carry weight now. You've not come this far to just come this far. You've done too much and seen too much of not enough. If you quit now, what's it all for? Dig a little deeper, the light at the end of the tunnel is closer than you think.

Gemini May 21 - June 20

Slow down a little, breathe in and reflect on how you've changed in recent months. I'm not just talking superficial changes neither. Deep, profound and life changing realizations have taken place. What are you going to do with this? Whether you like it or not, the path is planned for you. All you need to do is catch up with yourself so you can prepare to take the first step. The world is cracking right open for you.

Libra September 21 - October 20

You seem to want the best of opposing worlds right now. On the one hand, you want to grow roots and have a solid family life. Then on the other, the world is beckoning you to explore it. Rather than life seeming like an either / or situation, is there a way you can turn things into a both / and scenario? You can have it all, you just have to balance things out at the same time.

Aquarius January 21 - February 20

This isn't the time to remain on cruise control. You may think you've dodged a bullet, but it will circle back around before you know it. Sure, continue to have your fun, but also don't be foolish and forget that all things have consequences, positive and negative. Denial tends to cost you more than being willing to change your mind about things ever will. If you want to be happy, just change your mind.

Cancer June 21 - July 20

Relationships are your key area for Rgrowth. While this sounds dandy in theory, relationships are also challenging everything you knew to be true. Single or partnered, it matters not. If you want to change your experience with others, you really do need to change the way you think. Thoughts become things and what you want begins with what you think about others but most importantly, this is about what you think about yourself. Heal that stuff.

Scorpio October 21 - November 20

What thoughts enter your mind when you hear things such as debt, money, investments, mortgages and the like? Is that something that you're open and honest about or is that something you tend to bury your head in the sand about. Right now, you do need to change your perspective on the white elephants in your life – be that your actual financial situation or the way you think about it. Your perspectives can really shift your reality.

Pisces February 21 - March 20

Traditions within your family and friends may come into question. You may be asking why you're doing the things you do and with whom. Asking why may not be the real issue, but what. If you're not happy with the way things are, you can either go along and keep the peace or you can think about what you can do to change things. Taking action generates change. Complaining just makes you insufferable.

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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.

What are you going to do?

To say we are on the precipice of something big would be an understatement. As each and every week passes and I attempt to share some words of both wisdom and warning, the veil gets thinner and thinner to the point where it becomes increasingly difficult to be cryptic.

You might be looking around at the world today and wondering why everyone and everything has seemingly gone mad over recent years. Lies became truth. Medicine became poison. Fake became real. Immoral became moral. The bad became the good.

We may never know why it is happening.



Cosmic Catalogue
By Cassandra Tyndall

It's probably something our descendants will study a hundred years from now. Likely, it will be the memes we share that will reveal our state of consciousness. Hey, we can't lose our sense of humor while the empire crumbles.

Let the question of why be a problem for the future. If you waste the moment on why, you'll lose the opportunity to ask a different, yet vital question: what. What are you going

to do in this very moment? Actions, not words, will be what makes a vital difference now. So, what are you going to do to make the world a better place?

Joker Duex is everything but a crowd-pleaser

Arthur Fleck is all out of jokes in Todd Phillip's dark but brilliant follow-up to 2019's smash hit

I can't say I was looking forward to seeing "Joker: Folie à Deux." I thought director Todd Phillips and co-screenwriter Scott Silver said everything they wanted to say about anti-hero Arthur Fleck the first go-around. After five years, what prompted Phillips to give audiences more of Joaquin Phoenix's Oscar-winning portrayal of the familiar DC comic-book villain? Phoenix and Phillips' take on the character people thought they knew was so singular, so different, so out there, so misunderstood, that the mere fact both rejoined forces to tell another chapter was reason enough to pique my interest. The knowledge that

this sequel was also a musical? Now, they had my attention.



Screens and Streams
By James Kent

Gussied up in a marketing package by the film's distributor, Warner Brothers, in a big-budget \$200 million price tag, complete with multiple scenes shot with IMAX cameras, this film beckoned my oldest son and me out of Vermont to travel over to Massachusetts for a screening at the gigantic IMAX screen in Reading, Massachusetts. By the time we were in our seats and the lights went down, roughly 40 people were in attendance.

Why all the 'no-shows?' Was it due to critics universally panning the sequel?

Screens and Streams → 42

Vermont marble, The Puccilinni Bros and the monuments they shaped

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

Author's note: October 12 is recognized as Indigenous Peoples Day (formerly Columbus Day), marking the date



Insights & Inspirations
By Bruce Bouchard and John Turchiano

in 1492 when the explorer first went ashore in the New World. On the 400th anniversary of that event, following the murder of 11 Italian immigrants in New Orleans—the largest mass lynching in U.S. history—President Benjamin Harrison declared Columbus Day as a national observance.

Many Vermonters are aware that some of the most iconic use of marble (in places like Wash- Insights & Inspirations → 39

Autumn migration: dragons on the move

The great annual movements of fall include monarch butterflies winging toward Mexico, whales heading to the Caribbean to give birth, and multitudes of birds in the autumn skies. There's another migration this season that often goes unnoticed by casual observers: that of dragonflies. Given that dragonflies (or something closely resembling them) have been on this planet for more than 300 million years, there's even a chance they're the original migratory animals!



The Outside Story
By Pamela Hunt

We'll never know, of course, but it's likely that the ancient climate in which they evolved was warmer and seasonal movements weren't as necessary. At some point, however, migration did evolve in dragonflies, and there are now a dozen or so species known to undertake seasonal movements in North America. These are most obvious in fall when large numbers of dragonflies are sometimes concentrated along

coasts or ridgelines. Under the right conditions, thousands may pass by a location in a single day. The most familiar migratory dragonfly in our region is the common green darter (*Anax junius*), but this species is often joined by other migratory dragonflies, such as the wandering glider (*Pantala flavescens*).

The common green darter is about 3 inches long and named for its lime-green thorax. More notable is the bright blue abdomen of the males (in females, this is pinkish brown). These are usually the first dragonflies to appear in the Northeast in spring (often in April) and the last to leave in fall (typically by mid-October). Like monarch butterflies, the north- and south-bound individuals are from different generations.

One of the first attempts to study the fall movements of common green darners involved attaching tiny radio transmitters to dragonflies in New Jersey in 2005 and attempting to track their movements from a small airplane (being high in the air makes it easier to pick up the radio signals). Researchers found that most dragonflies stopped to rest for a couple of days (as migrating birds do), and the maximum single-day flight was just under 100 miles – not bad for an insect weighing a little over a gram.

The darners we see moving south in the fall are heading to the Gulf of Mexico or beyond, where they will mate, lay eggs, and die. A second generation emerges in these more southern climes in late fall, giving rise to a non-migratory cohort that spends winter there. The offspring of this sedentary group move north in the spring, arriving in our region in April or May. This third generation mates and lays eggs, which will hatch and become adults in the Northeast and begin their southward migration as summer wanes again. Migratory green darners may travel up to 2,000 miles.

The distances covered by another migratory species are even more impressive. The wandering glider (appropriately called the "globe skimmer" in other parts of the world) has been recorded on every continent except Antarctica and even on isolated islands in the Pacific Ocean. Unlike the darter, this species has relatively broad wings that allow it to move more efficiently with wind, and it uses this to its advantage when migrating. Wandering gliders are slightly smaller than common green darners, with golden bodies and red eyes. Most studies on this species' migration have been done in Africa and Asia, so we know little about its life cycle in North America. What we do know is that individual wandering gliders may travel up to 6,000 miles in their lifetimes, with some making non-stop flights of 3,000 miles from Africa to India.

Only a handful of New England's 120 dragonfly species migrate, while the others overwinter as nymphs. So, if you catch a glimpse of a dragonfly that seems like it's on a mission this fall, take a closer look. Is it a common green darter headed south to launch the next generation? A wandering glider on an epic migratory journey to South America? Or perhaps it's another migrant – a black saddlebags, Carolina saddlebags, or twelve-spotted skimmer. Whatever the species, wish them luck as they travel south into the next stage of their lives.

Pamela Hunt is the senior biologist for avian conservation for New Hampshire Audubon. The Outside Story is assigned and edited by Northern Woodlands magazine and sponsored by the Wellborn Ecology Fund of New Hampshire Charitable Foundation: nhcf.org.



By Adelaide Murphy Tyrol

Joking around

The word “fascism” gets thrown around a lot these days. In fact, it’s so overused that if you’re in the political sphere and haven’t been labeled a fascist, you’re probably doing something wrong.

The term “fascism” comes from the Italian word “fascio,” meaning “a bundle” or “group,” which in turn comes from the Latin “fasces,” a symbol of authority in ancient Rome that represented strength through unity. Mussolini famously used this concept to symbolize a united and strong Italy under authoritarian rule.

But while Mussolini was the original fascist, Adolph Hitler took the concept to a new level.

Hitler’s rise to power in Germany in the 1930s was alarming, but many politicians and public figures in the United States and Europe hesitated to criticize the Nazi regime, maintaining instead a quiet neutrality. However, one world-famous entertainer used his influence as a filmmaker to confront the growing threat.

Charlie Chaplin’s decision to mock Hitler through comedy came at a time when most public figures feared the political and social ramifications of doing so. In fact, Hollywood was largely reluctant to engage in anti-Nazi rhetoric because of Germany’s significant influence on the international film market. But Chaplin would not be deterred.

“The Great Dictator” features Chaplin playing dual roles. On one hand, he portrays a humble Jewish barber who has been mistakenly imprisoned in a concentration camp for 20 years after World War I. On the other, he plays Adenoid Hynkel, a thinly veiled parody of Adolf Hitler, the fascist dictator of the fictional country of Tomainia.

Hynkel’s absurdity is on full display throughout the film. In one of the most famous scenes, Hynkel dances with a globe-shaped balloon, a symbol of his megalomania and desire to dominate the world. The portrayal highlights Chaplin’s ability to capture both the comedic and the terrifying nature of Hitler’s deranged personality.

However, the film’s climax is anything but comedic. In the final scene, the Jewish barber, who is mistaken for Hynkel, is forced to deliver a speech to rally Tomainia’s military. Instead of continuing the farce, Chaplin drops the act and delivers a passionate plea for peace, democracy, and humanity to the viewing audience. This speech is one of the most famous in film history:

“I’m sorry, but I don’t want to be an emperor. That’s not my business. I don’t

want to rule or conquer anyone. I should like to help everyone if possible—Jew, Gentile, Black man, White... The hate of men will pass, and dictators die, and the power they took from the people will return to the people...”



The Movie Diary
By Dom Cioffi

The speech was shocking not just because it was unexpected, but because it was Chaplin directly addressing the audience, breaking the “fourth wall,” and calling for action against oppression and dictatorship. He urged the world to reject hate and authoritarianism, a move many considered insane for a comedian whose fame was built on slapstick humor.

Despite the risks, “The Great Dictator” was a commercial success and the highest-grossing film of Chaplin’s career. However, it was also met with controversy as the film was banned in several countries, including Nazi-occupied Europe.

Chaplin later said that he would not have made the film had he known the full extent of the horrors of the Holocaust, but “The Great Dictator” remains a landmark in film history for its audacity and relevance. It showed that comedy could be used as a powerful weapon against tyranny and cemented Chaplin’s reputation not just as a great comedian but also as a filmmaker willing to take a stand on important issues.

In this week’s feature, “Joker: Folie à Deux,” we find another funnyman trying to make a point, except in this case, he’s the one instituting the terror.

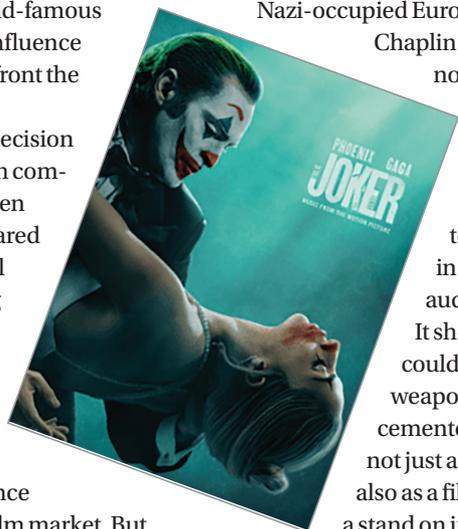
Joaquin Phoenix reprises his role as Arthur Fleck, the troubled outcast looking for acceptance in a world that seems intent on loathing him. However, as his alter-ego, the Joker, he finds adoration among the other despondent castaways of Gotham.

There’s a lot of controversy around this film, given that it was not marketed as a musical, but that is, in fact, what it is. Most viewers are caught off guard by this revelation, resulting in less-than-stellar reviews. Personally, I wasn’t totally offended by the approach, but anyone looking for a replay of the first film (which was chillingly amazing), will be sorely disappointed.

Check this one out if you simply have to see what all the fuss is about, or if you happen to be a Lady Gaga fan (who gives a great portrayal as Harley Quinn). Otherwise, this is an easy one to wait for release on video.

A melodic “C+” for “Joker: Folie à Deux,” now playing in theaters everywhere.

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



Playing favorites: Choosing the perfect trail

A few weeks ago, I gave an interview for my boarding school magazine, after which I was sent only one follow up question: What is your favorite trail?

Now the first thought out of my head was something snarky Lambonics phrase like, the one with the most snow on it. Or the one with the least amount of tracks or people. But this interview had been so thought provoking that it really did make me stop and think for a minute.

If you know me or have ever really skied with me, you would know that I don’t like to play favorites and that I love all my children equally. They are all so special in their own unique ways that I really don’t like some over others. But, for the sake of argument, I did have a favorite trail...which one would it be?

When I was 5, it was Needle’s Eye. Top to Bottom. I freaking loved that trail. I worked so hard to be able to get through all those bumpies with my dad and ski a big kid trail. It wasn’t that I loved bumps more than groomies but that this was the trail under my favorite lift at the time (the Needle’s Eye Double), and I saw how challenging and awesome it was on a regular basis. I wanted to master that.

When I was ski racing in junior high, I loved Chute. Shootin’ the Chute, to be precise. Nailing slalom turns all down the left side, from the top of the trail straight down to the lift. No stops, no pauses, nothing but clean repetitive slalom turns with my dad right behind me. It was awesome. Of course, then they cut out that one section when they put in the tunnel...

In my 20s, I discovered the woods, and my

life completely changed. For the past 25 years, it’s been almost impossible to get me out of them. I love the variability, challenge, and adventure. I spent most of my time in Low Rider. I knew every variation, every transition, and every nuance of where you had to duck down or jump over a downed branch to make it through. But then they put bike trails through the bottom half and broke my heart...

In my 30s I preferred the uphill. I meandered all around the mountain, under cover of darkness and with the utmost secrecy. I learned every little bit of this mountain by skinning around it in the predawn hours, trying to find new descents to explore at speed during the daytime. But I had to find them first and break a few branches to make my way.

But then they invented rules for uphill travel, and I am, unfortunately, a rule follower...

Now that I am in my 40s my young athletes on Team PomPom would tell you that I like to ski all the “crazy, weird things.” If you see a trail with a bamboo X and a little button stating “Thin Cover,” then that’s the trail I want to explore. I want to slide over a section of grass, jump over a rock or two, sidestep some dirt, and then have to squeeze onto the far slider’s right to avoid

a huge frozen granular section. The stuff that makes me think, pay attention, and really focus to get down safely.

In the fall, Rime is the greatest of all. It’s so wonderful to see all my ski family together again, laughing and playing in the snow. In the spring, I could ski Superstar non-stop day after day, as we all celebrate one more lap on snow

Living the Dream → 40



Living the Dream
By Merisa Sherman



The Politician



Dream in Color

By Will O'Donnell

She has invited me to this space tonight
Yet I seem to be the least important person in the building to her
Will I ever be an equal to her drinking buddies, who after years,
she has never opened up to?

When she talks to everyone else in the room I sit and wonder if
I will get a turn
A chance to share her light for just a moment
Or whatever remains of it
We all share the same air, yet I'm not actually here I'm not
actually relevant here.

Am I making my interest too obvious?
Am I not obvious enough?
Do I butt in? Only to retreat when she finds another acquaint-

tance more willing to indulge her ego?

Is my spirit too dull for a star so bright?
Is my soul too dark tonight?
Do I even deserve a chance to share space with this luminary?
Was their initial excitement just a ruse?
Was it just double speak?
Was this all intended to show interest in me? But was quickly abandoned as I did not
arrive with my costume in tow?
Why did you tell me your true feelings only once I was completely unavailable?
Why, when I was back by your side, as you wished, were your feelings immediately gone?
Don't I deserve someone who decisively wants my love more than the false admiration of
their constituents?

Is their mask simply arrogance or is it deeply rooted insecurity?
Do they even have real love remaining after they make their rounds and hand it out freely
to the entire town?
Shaking hands and hugging strangers?
Reveling in the misleading subterfuge of what is untrue
Do they recognize this game for the farce it truly is while they are actively playing it?

Why can't they look me in the eyes? Why won't they embrace me as they have done for all
of the people they claim to care about so much less? Why are these people, who have almost
nothing in common with you, so captivating to you?

Why is being impressive to everyone so important to you? Why is maintaining an image
important? Appearing flawless to these strangers?
More important than being genuine to someone who truly loves you and has dedicated
his time to understanding your inner workings?
To growing together with you
To sharing his true self
To being your committed partner, teammate and hype-man.

Why is he never enough? Why, when you know the deceit is wrong, and is just a meaning-
less popularity contest, do you cling to it so tightly?

Can anything outside of your shell ever be elevated to the importance of what's right in
front of you at the bar and in the drinks you share every night?
Can either of us really trust anyone here except Sarah, who beautifully and admirably
does not play the game?

Why must I look up, squinting, to try and catch an authentic glimpse of you?
So high above your own walls
Looking down at me with the scowl of judgement as I refuse to play the game created by
your predecessors
The ones who brought this game from their past lives
Trying to make our town more like the place they just left

Could my transparency ever have been acceptable? Admirable?
Could my purity ever become something worth replicating?
Like all of the small-town beauty you arrived with? Only to turn around and sponge these
ski-bums' worst traits just to fit in

I still long for one last dance with you

Dream in Color → 45



By Meira Droznah

Where are we now when we were there then, before we became ourselves?

By Meira Droznah

Woolly on your way
To being Isabella
Are you aware of

Your transformation or
Are you only looking, now,
For a snuggly place
Maybe Mossy

We crossed paths at the
Intersection of

October and September

The fall came and I missed

The day

The Equinox

Is a mountain and a celestial
Event but was it
Consequential?

Just a reference
And where we met
Was beyond a point in time and

Space

Am I transforming backwards
In becoming the way that
Less is more

And you

Were you always Isabella the

Tiger Moth and

Returning home

And then who was I when I will be

Me again

I can't wait to find out

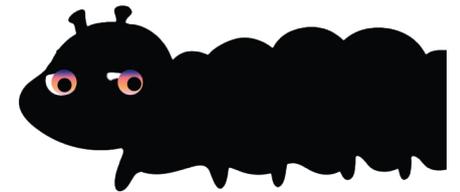
But first a cozy fire

At the crossroads of crumbly

Orange red brown

Me my crocheted throw and you

The undergrowth.



← Insights & Inspirations :
from page 36

ington, D.C., Virginia and New York City) came from right here in Vermont. The densest marble is dug from the Danby Marble site, the deepest mine in the world is the Proctor Mines and there are many other smaller mines throughout southern Vermont. What might not be known is that six Italian immigrant brothers who came to this country in the late 19th century became the most revered carvers of large public statuary and ornamental works beloved the world over. They were the Piccirilli brothers.

Stone monuments are far more difficult to create as opposed to other materials. Unlike sculptures made from plaster casts, mistakes in stone can be permanent or at least quite troublesome to correct. The slip of a hand, a slight chisel miss, or a fault in the granite, marble or limestone can all ruin weeks or even months of hard work. Nevertheless, the U.S. is dotted with some of the world's most marvelous stone monuments, pediments, cornices, bas-reliefs and sculptures. New York City is a good example.

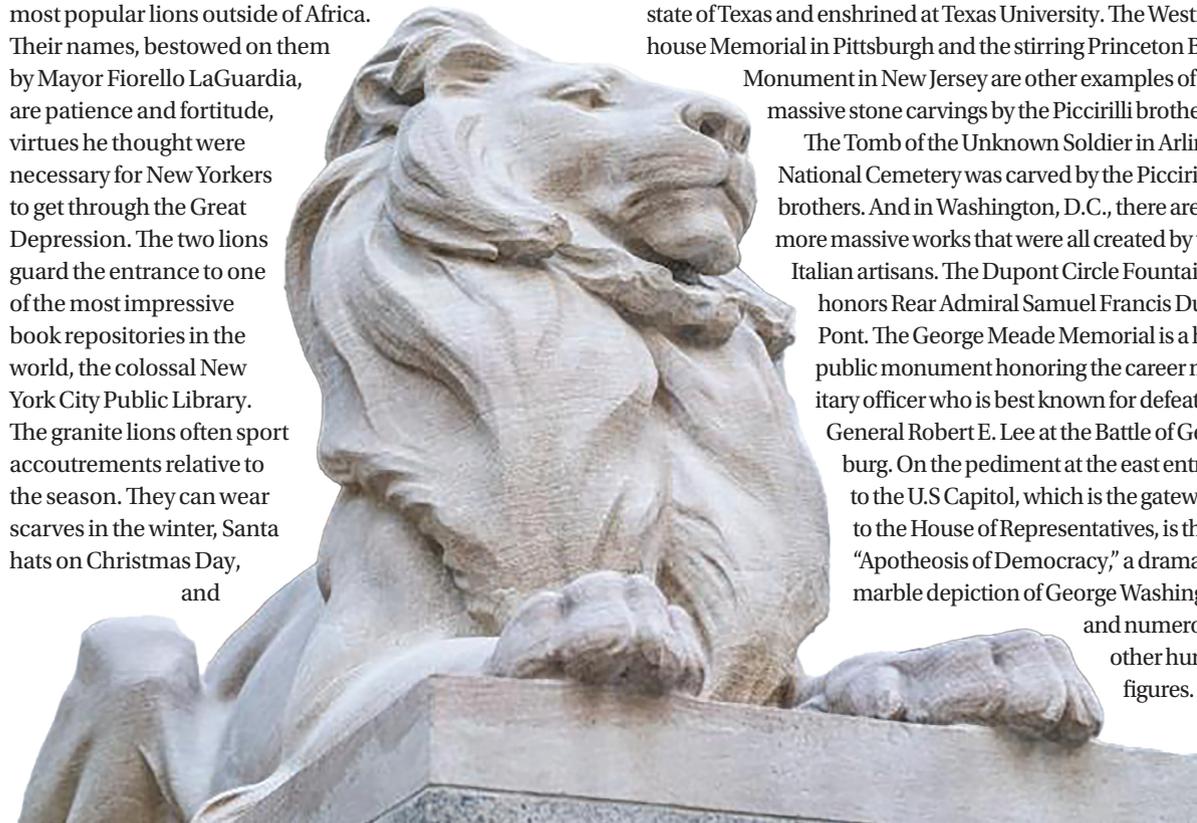
At the southwestern entrance to Central Park stands the 57-foot-high U.S.S. Maine National Monument, featuring a stone carving that honors the American sailors lost when their U.S. Navy vessel exploded and sank in Havana harbor, leading to the the Spanish-American War.

Travel south in Manhattan and you'll find on Wall Street the inspiring pediment of the New York Stock Exchange, all of it carved in stone. The striking facade consists of 11 figures, a classically robed female figure standing on a stepped base, flanked by figures representing the "works of man" that are positioned around her. So commanding is this work of artistic stone carving one would expect to see it in Rome, not New York City.

And yet not too far away from the Stock Exchange, at the southern tip of Manhattan, is the equally impressive "Four Continents," a quartet of massive marble masterpieces that stand outside the Alexander Hamilton custom House. The statues depict much larger-than-life-sized personifications of Asia, America, Europe, and Africa. The primary figures are female, but there are equally striking additional stone figures alongside them.

Then travel uptown again to 42nd St. and you will find the most popular lions outside of Africa.

Their names, bestowed on them by Mayor Fiorello LaGuardia, are patience and fortitude, virtues he thought were necessary for New Yorkers to get through the Great Depression. The two lions guard the entrance to one of the most impressive book repositories in the world, the colossal New York City Public Library. The granite lions often sport accoutrements relative to the season. They can wear scarves in the winter, Santa hats on Christmas Day, and



Perhaps due to the anti-Italian sentiment so prevalent in the U.S. at the time, the Piccirilli brothers seldom if ever signed their works.

Yankee caps if the Bombers make it to the playoffs. And Patience and Fortitude are not the only stone carvings at the library. The front cornice has six separate stone sculptures symbolizing understanding, wisdom and knowledge, among other attributes the library can bestow on those who enter it.

Hop on the subway down to West 4th St. and you'll find the magnificent Washington Square Arch at the foot of Fifth Avenue. It was built to honor the centennial of George Washington's inauguration, and it is constructed of white marble from Tuckahoe, a hamlet only 18 miles from Manhattan. It was conceived by famed architect Stanford White, although the design is suspiciously similar to the first century, Arch of Titus that still stands in Rome. The arch features sculptures of

"George Washington at War" and "George Washington at Peace," and there are many other carved figures and inscriptions throughout the monument.

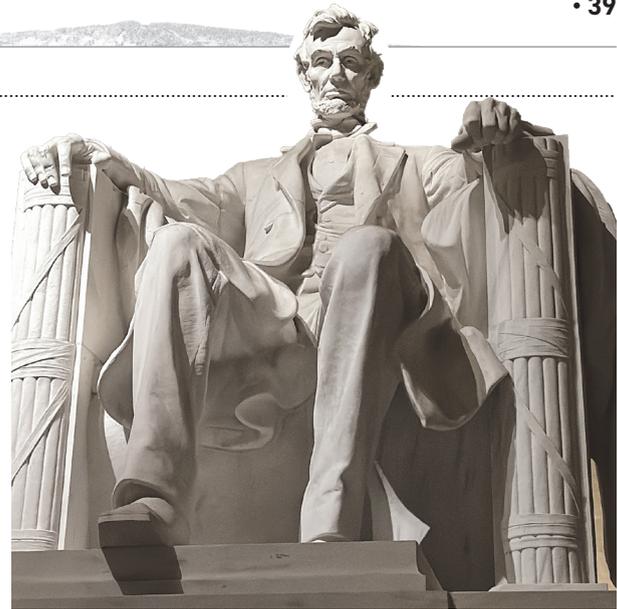
There are also stone carvings in the other boroughs of New York, including Civic Virtue, a gorgeous granite sculpture that stands outside City Hall in the borough of Queens. And the façade of the Brooklyn Public Library is replete with bas-relief carved figures that are stunning to the eye.

As varied as they are, all of these glorious New York City stone carvings have something in common. They were all created by the Piccirilli brothers, Attilio, Ferruccio, Furio, Getulio, Masaniello and Orazio, all of whom immigrated to the U.S. from Italy, along with their father, Giuseppe, in 1887.

Today, very few people know who the Piccirilli brothers were. Almost no one outside the art world has even heard of them, which is remarkable because tens of millions of people know and admire their work. That's because their creations can be found not just in New York City, which was their home, but throughout the United States.

As an example, the entrance of the Pennsylvania State Capitol showcases a pair of striking multi-figure sculptures, a testament to the artistry of the Piccirilli brothers. Also in Harrisburg is "The Prodigal Son," carved by the Piccirilli brothers in New York City in 1909. This work is so beautiful and so inspiring replicas were created and now sit in Louisville and Pittsburgh. The "Pioneer Woman," a marble carving commissioned by the state of Texas and enshrined at Texas University. The Westinghouse Memorial in Pittsburgh and the stirring Princeton Battle Monument in New Jersey are other examples of massive stone carvings by the Piccirilli brothers.

The Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Arlington National Cemetery was carved by the Piccirilli brothers. And in Washington, D.C., there are more massive works that were all created by these Italian artisans. The Dupont Circle Fountain honors Rear Admiral Samuel Francis Du Pont. The George Meade Memorial is a huge public monument honoring the career military officer who is best known for defeating General Robert E. Lee at the Battle of Gettysburg. On the pediment at the east entrance to the U.S Capitol, which is the gateway to the House of Representatives, is the "Apotheosis of Democracy," a dramatic marble depiction of George Washington and numerous other human figures. All



By Polly Mikula

Georgia Marble was used in the iconic Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C. among many other famous statues.

were carved by the Piccirilli brothers.

And, of course, the Piccirilli brothers carved the colossal, brooding figure of Abraham Lincoln that sits in Washington's Lincoln Memorial. It was created at what is now a vacant lot in the Mott Haven section of the Bronx, by the six brothers who left their mark as stone carvers all over America. The 170-ton statue is composed of white Georgia marble and rises 30 feet from the floor, including the 19-foot tall seated Lincoln. The figure of Lincoln gazes with an expression of gravity and wisdom. A large United States flag is draped over his chair, which is a semi-circular ceremonial seat similar to those from the Roman Empire. It's a beautiful work of art, history and symbolism that has evoked awe in the millions who have gazed upon it.

It's doubtful that until just now many who are reading this had ever heard of the Piccirilli brothers, even though you have either seen in person or know of some of the great contributions they made to America. Their Italian ethnicity is the reason they aren't well known. Their services were in demand at a time when anti-Italian sentiment was rife in the U.S. The largest mass lynching in U.S. history occurred only four years after the Piccirillis arrived in the U.S., when 11 Italian Americans were strung up in New Orleans. All 11 were completely innocent of the crime for which they were accused. Perhaps due to the anti-Italian sentiment so prevalent in the U.S. at the time, the Piccirilli brothers seldom if ever signed their works. And though they are a significant part of Americana their names are generally absent from our history books. Perhaps it's time that their names receive the enduring place in our nation's annals that they deserve. In fact, their contributions to our country are so inspiring perhaps their names should be written in stone.



Submitted

A lion statue guards the entrance of the NYC public library (L) and stone carvings at the Alexander Hamilton Custom House in southern end of Manhattan (R) feature Vermont marble.

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← Costs of health:..... from page 13

changes quickens and delights. But for the first time in history, lifestyle diseases like diabetes, heart disease, obesity and some cancers kill more people than communicable ones, and the cost in managing them (as opposed to curing them) is crippling — financially, physically and emotionally.

People often begin practicing a holistic diet and lifestyle after having been diagnosed with one specific, often serious, illness. But rarely are they experiencing just that one physical difficulty. They might also be suffering with such symptoms as low back pain (quite often indicating kidneys), skin rashes, fitful sleep, poor appetite, inflammation, depression. Most people then adapt themselves to living with these symptoms, believing them to be either simply part of the aging process or of minor consequence compared to their more serious diagnosis.

The beauty of holistic lifestyle practices is, as we change our diet and lifestyle, many symptoms can begin to diminish across the board, simultaneously. The whole body responds favorably to the same corrective measures: rashes diminish, sleep deepens, appetite returns, back pain subsides and energy levels increase. Such are the "side effects"

of holistic lifestyle and dietary practices.

No one size fits all when it comes to dietary needs, but we do share a common heritage. We have evolved over millions of years under conditions of natural light, pure water and whole, unadulterated foods. Environmental influences that range over such a vast span of time have fashioned the human body like the hands of a sculptor, and we can safely assume the very essence of who we are has been defined by that relationship. Any deviation at all from this natural order will invite a measure of stress and, eventually, disease.

Many of us, by necessity, have set for ourselves the goal of regaining our health. But a healthy body should not be an end in itself. After all, health is our birthright, and we are meant to use our health to pursue our goals.

How to lower the costs of health care in Vermont?

The best minds in the business seem to be simply shifting the costs related to health care rather than lessening them, and no one can bear that financial burden. The best and most effective way to lower the cost of health care in this state is to lessen the need for it. And it feels a hell of a lot better, which, after all, is the point, isn't it?

← Living the Dream:..... from page 37

before we all say farewell for the season. Or maybe it's RockStar parking lot, where we all stay until the sun sets each night, unwilling to let the day's magic leave us behind.

But looking back on all my favorites, I think my favorite trail is the one that provides the hardest challenge. Period. The trail that makes me a better skier and a better person. A trail that makes me focus on my technique and manipulate my skis rather than just standing on them. I love that when the BF and I hear someone complaining about a trail in the lift line and we look at each other, smile knowingly, and head right over to that trail. Of course, it usually meant heading straight to Double Dipper, but hey, if you don't go for the challenge, you will never improve. You will stagnate. You will be the same. You will be... boring.

So what is my actual favorite trail? Whichever one I'm on right now! Just kidding. It has and always will be Echo Woods. But that, my friends, is a story for another time.

Merisa is a long time Killington resident and global real estate advisor. She serves as a town lister and member of the development review board and is also Coach PomPom. You can reach her at Merisa.Sherman@SothebysRealty.com

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← Screens and Streams:

from page 36

Was it the rapid-fire word-of-mouth from social media from the hard-core comic book movie fans who saw the film opening night and hated it? Was it that people heard the sequel was a musical, and nothing scares filmgoers these days more than watching characters singing on screen? How could a movie whose predecessor grossed a billion dollars at the box office, earned 11 Academy Award nominations, and won two five years later would garner a measly forty people to see the sequel opening weekend?

I've read some of the critical pans and adverse online fan reactions. Based on the movie I watched on Saturday, I can't say I'm surprised, but I'm a bit puzzled. I've noticed how comic and superhero movies get judged and reviewed through a different critical lens from other films. It's as if they are critiqued not on their merits, worth, or lack thereof but on how well they adhere to the standards superhero/comic fans deem their worthiness. I find many critics give a pass to the nonsensical plot devices, lack of accountability to the loss, destruction, and mayhem caused by the action up on the screen, or the willingness to accept shoddy CGI effects because—well, they are a comic book movie, and we don't want to ride them too hard—fans could get upset. Perhaps this is why many film critics found 2019's "Joker" refreshing. It was something different. It had a gritty realism mixed in with its fantasy. Audiences and comic book fans seemed to enjoy that too, although the reasons for this may be questioned, especially in light of the hostility pointed in its sequel's direction.

While many saw in the original "Joker" a potential new type of origin story for a favorite Batman foil, I saw the film in a different light. The first go-around existed as much in Fleck's head as in any real-world Gotham setting. Fleck is an unreliable narrator, and by the end of the first film, rather than see the beginnings of the violent merry prankster who will soon turn Gotham on its head, I saw a violent man struggling with mental illness, who may have faceted together a narrative based on the influence of movies and shows he'd watched, as any valid marriage to comics or movies so many fans adore. I felt very much alone in that opinion, but this second installment provides me with some validation that contradicts what many fans might have hoped.

The sequel, which avoids the ramped-up pathos and revenge climax that, perhaps, people were looking or hoping for, instead dials in on Phoenix's Fleck's fragile split psyche. And this struggle becomes the primary impetus of the film's plot—how crazy is Arthur? Does he have two distinct personalities? Which one will dominate over the other? Will the real Arthur Fleck please stand up and be heard? It's an exciting prospect that director Phillips challenges audiences for two hours and 20 minutes. It's not a pleasant experience, as we, the audience,

are confronted with Arthur's past actions, as is he, and we must ask ourselves—were we ever okay rooting for this villain? And is Arthur an actual villain, or was it the hordes of Joker worshippers in the first movie that created him? Do we prefer our villains come equipped with all the flash and zip of a jokey one-liner and flair of over-the-top personality vs. the reality of a fractured human looking for empathy, understanding, and wrestling with the impact his actions brought to others? These are weighty concepts, and Phillips is more interested in giving us that film than having Phoenix escape from Arkham Asylum and wreak havoc on Gotham City with a lively sidekick, Harley Quinn.

Does he have two distinct personalities? Which one will dominate over the other?

I forgive anyone thinking the title of this film, "Joker: Folie à Deux," and its translation, "Madness of Two," meant that this movie would be all Phoenix and Lady Gaga, but they'd be wrong. Gaga's Lee Quinzel is a sociopath with a pretty healthy borderline personality disorder in the movie, but she isn't the reason for the tagline. As audiences soon discover, Gaga is more of a supporting character here. The two sides of Fleck and their madness are the stars.

What about the musical aspect of the film? Yes, musical sequences are sprinkled throughout the movie, although they never overtake the film. They exist in the tradition of "Theater of the Mind," serving as a gateway into the fantasy world that Phoenix's character lives in, with songs and visual cues from movie musicals we imagine Fleck watched during his loneliness. An overhead shot of Fleck walking through an outside prison yard, surrounded by guards holding umbrellas in the pouring rain, transforms into fantastical multicolors straight out of "Umbrellas of Cherbourg." It's his escape from the brutality of Arkham Asylum, the hope of love's potential in fellow inmate Gaga's Quinzel, and the struggle between himself and his alter ego, Joker. In a sly nod to the comic book world where this story exists and takes no shame in mocking from time to time, early in the film, guards drag an emaciated Phoenix along the halls of Arkham Asylum and through an entranceway labeled B Ward. Those of us guilty-pleasure fans of the '60s television show version of "Batman" may catch the Burt Ward/Robin call out here.

Through the eventual courtroom trial of Fleck for his crimes in the first film, we get the Joker character so many fans love and seem desperate to want from movie, but the reality of these crimes starts breaking down the walls and facade of this famous clown. Perhaps we don't want to think too hard about the fact Phoenix's character mercilessly blows away Robert DeNiro's talk show host on live television in the third act of the first movie. Certainly, Phoenix's Fleck does not want to confront such realities.

In one of the film's best scenes, Fleck, acting as his own at-

torney in full Joker costume and makeup, must cross-examine a witness to his crimes, Gary Puddles. Puddles, played with tremendous power by actor Leigh Gill, provides something missing from so many of these cartoon action films where a nasty comic villain, whose only justice comes at the hand of a costumed superhero, mows down scores of people, leaving the living victims to remain nameless. On the witness stand, Puddles recounts in harrowing detail how Fleck's Joker may have spared his life because Puddles was kind to him, but making Puddle a witness to a gruesome homicide ruined Puddle's life anyway and provided trauma he cannot shake. It's when Fleck and Joker begin migrating back into a singular personality, and the weight of responsibility overtakes him.

The movie is a dazzler in terms of the visual power of the medium. Cinematographer Lawrence Sher utilizes the full-screen IMAX aspect ratio to great effect, letting viewers observe the pain baked into Phoenix's skeletal face, every line and crevice providing an intense, intimate experience that comes with seeing the movie on such a large canvas. Lady Gaga continues her winning streak as an actor. This film is her third big-screen appearance, behind "House of Gucci" and "A Star is Born," and she doesn't disappoint. Her Quinzel is the surrogate for all fanboys wanting to see Phoenix's Joker unleashed—she does, too. And in one of the film's final cruelties, when Phoenix's Fleck realizes he doesn't want to be a "Joker," Quinzel rejects him. She wants the charismatic villain, not the ordinary man starving for love. As for Phoenix, he's as good as he was in the first movie, but admittedly, there isn't much new ground for him to cover.

This film is far different from the type of sequels one might expect, and I'm certain executives at Warner Brothers were scratching their heads when they got to see it. However, it does serve as a cohesive companion to the first film in terms of look, feel, and thematic devices. There's no cool Joker mobile, flashy minions, or crazy plot to blow up Gotham City with a caped crusader waiting to swoop down and stop Joker and Harley Quinn. There are no multiverses with a CGI Heath Ledger or Jack Nicholson battling it out for one-liner supremacy. No, what we get is a bookend to Todd Phillips' one-man show who, as it turns out, was never the Joker you thought he was, but who Phillips always said he was. Go back and rewatch the first film after seeing this one, and you might be surprised what you missed. Remember how critics and audiences hated "Blade Runner" when it first came out in 1982, and then how everyone called it a masterpiece 10 years later? I'm not saying "Joker: Folie à Deux" is that, but I do believe in a few years, people will look at this film with a different lens and realize it was more than just a sequel, and when they start to peel away the layers this movie offers, they may find it's quite a brilliant work.

James Kent is the publisher's assistant at the Mountain Times and the co-host of the "Stuff We've Seen" podcast at stuffweveeseen.com.

← Medicare plans:

from page 10

Vermont, in 2025.

As of September, Vermont had about 54,000 people on Medicare Advantage plans, according to data from the federal Centers for Medicaid & Medicare Services.

It's not clear how many people are covered by WellCare's Medicare Advantage plan. As of 2021, according to state data, WellCare covered only about 1,500 people—6% of Vermonters on Medicare Advantage plans at the time.

The news comes just weeks before Medicare's annual open enrollment period, which begins Oct. 15 and ends Dec. 7. The plans will continue to provide coverage until Jan.

1. Vermonters covered by the plans will need to return to traditional Medicare or choose another Medicare Advantage plan during that period to retain health insurance.

Public money and private insurers

Medicare Advantage plans are health plans operated by private companies— but paid for by the federal government— for people who are 65 and older or have a disability. Enrollment in Medicare Advantage plans has climbed swiftly over the past decade, with roughly half of Medicare members covered by a Medicare Advantage plan nationwide, according to data compiled by the Commonwealth Fund.

The percentage of eligible Vermonters choosing Medicare Advantage plans over traditional Medicare is lower than the national figure, at around 34%, but has been increasing steadily in recent years.

Unlike traditional Medicare plans, Medicare Advantage plans have a cap on annual out-of-pocket expenses. Most cover hospital and physician services as well as prescriptions and other care, such as vision or dental. Many Medicare advantage plans also offer benefits such as gym memberships, acupuncture or meal deliveries.

However, the plans have drawn criticism. Medicare Advantage plans have smaller

provider networks than traditional Medicare, and the plans generally require more prior authorization, in which insurers must sign off on medical procedures before they can take place.

It also can be difficult for covered people to abandon their Medicare Advantage plan and switch to traditional Medicare, according to national media outlets.

The departures of MVP and WellCare will leave Vermont's small Medicare Advantage marketplace even smaller.

BlueCross BlueShield is set to continue to offer its Medicare Advantage plans in Vermont, spokesperson Sara Teachout said.

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← Dream in Color:
 from page 38
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 The you that you carried on your back from the Whites, completely unashamed at your perfect imperfection
 The you that saw me as family
 The you who brought authentic light to this mountain town
 Unabashedly adventuring with a blazing fire in our hearts and gigantic dreams for our life together
 Where our wild, steely blue eyes could once again meet as equals

I fear that day will never come
 No turpentine could clean what has been soiled
 A romantic warrior right in front of you
 Could never have been enough
 Could never have been valid
 Could never have filled the void inside you

I was simply prey to be eviscerated
 Fed on inside the coliseum
 Inside of the theater
 For the clout and amusement of the nobles

I'm bowing out of this game
 I fold
 I wish you well
 I hope this was everything you hoped for your life
 Everything you'd hoped to gain from my love

When you wake up cold and alone
 Remember that you had three chances
 At respect, compassion, and trust
 But the game was always your priority
 Never me
 Never us

Stay warm, Ice Princess
 I will always miss the warmth of who you once were.



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← **Taxes:**
from page 12

But the biggest Bugaboo all stems from the “Global Warming Solutions Act.” They passed the “Renewable Energy Standard,” again over-riding the governor’s veto, raising electric rates and costing Vermonters millions. But to me the *Piece de Resistance* of this act — besides not counting the cost prior to diving in — is that they set in law mandated goals to be met by 2025, 2035 and 2050, and that Vermont can be sued by ANYONE for not meeting those standards! The Conservation Law Foundation already has its lawsuit ready in the queue when we miss our 2025

mandate. How convenient.

Instead of setting goals we hope to achieve, the Legislature made it a mandate — we must achieve or else. Could you imagine hiring a lawyer because you were at fault in an accident and the lawyer said, “Good news, I’ve made a settlement. They will accept \$\$ upfront and you can make payments for \$\$ monthly, and if you miss one of those payments ANYONE can sue you.”

What? You would fire that lawyer in a heartbeat for not representing your best interests. Yet, that is exactly what the Dems did! Maybe they

did not get the memo that they are to represent the ordinary people of Vermont, (whose pockets the settlements will come out of), not special interests, pushing agendas. Maybe they actually think money grows on trees. They have a fiduciary responsibility to “We the People of Vermont” and they have failed!

Public Service Commissioner June Tierney presented the results of the potential study done by consultants at the Sept. 12 governor’s weekly briefing. The costs for what the Legislature proposed and has passed in the Clean Heat Standard (A.18), is projected to be \$10 billion

over the next five years. I know Vermonters have real problems to deal with, we don’t need our legislators crushing us under the weight of the Global Warming Solutions Act. This needs to be repealed.

In a profile overview from the U.S. Energy Atlas analysis of Vermont, it said: “In 2021, we consumed 3.4 times more energy than we produced, but our total energy consumption is lower than any other state, which contributed to Vermont having the lowest energy related carbon dioxide emissions among the states.” And “In 2022 Vermont generated almost 100%

of its electricity from renewable resources.”

Does this sound like Vermonters need to pay as much as another \$4 per gallon for heating fuel to be part of the solution to the globe’s warming? I’m more worried about Vermonters staying warm!

Fire Democrats and Progressives with your votes! Hopefully if enough new blood goes to Montpelier, they will be able to uphold the governor’s vetoes, scrap things that are not working and actually solve some of Vermont’s real problems. Not create them.

Wendy Bucchieri, Arlington



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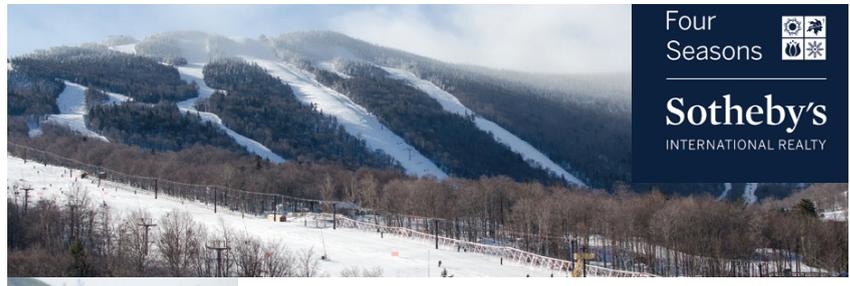
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