

By Paul Holmes

SPARTAN RACERS TACKLE THE BEAST

This weekend thousands will attempt to overcome unknown obstacles on a mountainous course.

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FAIRYTALE FEST IS SATURDAY

Sherburne Library hosts dozens of vendors, games.

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700-POUND WHOPIE PIE? HEAD TO THE FEST

It's Saturday downtown Rutland, 12-5 p.m.

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Dress factory fire set intentionally day after body found inside

City officials consider cleanup plan

By Katy Savage

A fire at the former dress factory on Cleveland Avenue in Rutland City was intentionally set the day after a body was found in the building, according to Rutland Fire Chief Bill Lovett.

Firefighters arrived around 9:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 7 after receiving an anonymous 911 call. A police officer driving through the area also saw smoke and glow in the windows.

Lovett said the fire in the long-vacant building was intentionally set in two locations with building debris and the paper backing of insulation.

It took the fire department about an hour to put the fire

out.

"We used quite a bit of water and soaked everything down," Lovett said. "It's not the cleanest environment so we had to pay particular attention to decontaminating things."

It's unclear who started the fire.

"There's such a transient population in that building, it's really kind of hard to determine," Lovett said.

The building, the former Lynda Lee dress factory, has been vacant for about 15 years and has become a popular place for the homeless, creating a headache for city officials.

The property is posted and

deemed unsafe to occupy.

"Its structural integrity is in question," Lovett said.

The fire occurred just as city officials were discussing how to secure the building after they removed a body from the space the day before.

An anonymous person called 911 and reported the dead person around 5:20 p.m. Sept. 6.

Police Chief Brian Kilkullen said they suspected a male overdosed.

"It's still being investigated," Kilkullen said. "We suspect, through things that were found at that location, there was a drug problem."

A week earlier, there was a

Dress factory → 15

Rutland winter farmers' market moves to Howe building, again

By Katy Savage

The Vermont Farmers' Market is returning to the Franklin Conference Center in Rutland's Howe Center again this winter as the Farmers' Hall building undergoes contamination cleanup.

The organization recently signed a new lease for the Howe Center, even as board members of the Vermont Farmers' Food Center estimate Farmers' Hall will be ready for tenants by November.

"It will be a building that's ready for occupancy," Food Center Executive Director Heidi Lynch said. "We'll be celebrating that with the community."

The food center was forced to close and the farmers' market was forced to relocate after elevated levels of tetrachloroethylene (TCE), a carcinogen, was found in the soil beneath the Farmers' Hall building, impacting indoor air quality. The contamination has also held up a \$3 million expansion plan for the multi-building campus.

The farmers' market spent a winter at the Cortina Inn before moving to the Howe Center last winter. Greg Cox, a vendor and former board member of the Vermont Farmers' Market, said it made sense to stay at the Howe Center one more winter.

Winter market → 6

New Woodstock middle school- high school could open as soon as September 2026

Voters will be asked to approve bond in March

By Polly Mikula

Voters in seven towns will be asked to approve an \$80+ million project to build a new district middle/high school adjacent to the current structures in Woodstock at Town Meeting Day this March.

"Slated to open in September 2026, pending voter approval, the new middle and high school campus will support collaboration, creativity, and critical thinking in our students," states the Mountain Views Supervisory Union (MVSU) on its webpage mtnviews.org/breaking-new-ground.

Woodstock middle school and high school educate students from the district towns of Barnard, Bridgewater, Killington, Plymouth, Pomfret, Reading and Woodstock.

"The facilities are woefully out of date," said Bob Hager, a 1956 graduate of Woodstock High in a video entitled "Breaking Ground" on the district's site. "There are some building systems at risk of imminent failure."

Over the past few years, the school district has been forced to make costly, patchwork repairs that don't solve the problems long term. Last year, the building's heating system degraded to the point where the district lost the use of six classrooms and emergency upgrades cost taxpayers \$1.2 million, according to

"We've really pushed this facility as far as we can," said Principal Garon Smail.

the district site.

"The list of expensive repairs needed continues to grow, I think the estimate is around \$20-\$22 million now, if we were to fix all the major repairs needed," said WUHS/MS New Build Working Group Chair Ben Ford at the district board meeting, Monday,



Courtesy Mountain Views School District

A rendering of the new middle/high school in Woodstock as it appears from the fields/river in the back.

Sept. 11. "And those are only the ones currently broken," he added.

"We've really pushed this facility as far as we can," echoed Garon Smail, principal at Woodstock middle/high school in the online video.

According to a 2022 study by the Vermont Dept. of Education, Woodstock's facilities were ranked the second worst in the state for their physical con-

New build → 4

Loaded gun found at Fair Haven deemed not a threat

Staff report

A loaded gun found inside a vehicle at Fair Haven Union High School on Thursday, Sept. 7 was found to not be a threat.

Superintendent Brooke Olsen-Farrell said a student borrowed the family car and was unaware there was a weapon in the back seat.

"We were able to determine pretty quickly there was no malicious intent as a result of that," Olsen-Farrell said.

Olsen-Farrell said a parent noticed a gun in the car and notified the school resource officer around 10 a.m. She wouldn't say if the student was being disciplined but she confirmed the school was following the firearms policy, which states a student who brings a weapon to school could be expelled for up to one year.

The policy requires the superintendent to bring the issue before the School Board for a due process hearing.

The School Board could modify the expulsion if the student was unaware they had a firearm, did not intend to use it, the student did not present an ongoing threat or if the student is disabled, according to the policy.

The incident occurred the same day the school held a pre-planned relocation drill.

"I wanted to make it really clear to parents in the community that the two had nothing to do with each other," Olsen-Farrell said.

Anyone with further information is asked to contact the Fair Haven Police Dept. (802) 265-8293.

"We were able to determine pretty quickly there was no malicious intent," Olsen-Farrell said.



By Paul Holmes

End of summer splashes

Willow and Molly, golden retrievers, took advantage of some of the final dock jumping opportunities together as summer slips away and fall approaches. The girls couldn't restrain their enthusiasm at Kent Pond in Killington and occasionally found themselves crash landing on each other as owners Paul Holmes and Amie Holmes (his daughter) watched their joy.



Courtesy VT State University

Killington receives Catalyst grant

Killington officials gathered in Montpelier on Friday, Sept. 8, for an award ceremony where they received the largest Catalyst Grant in Vermont at \$2.25 million. One million dollars will be used toward a new municipal system and \$1.25 million for upgrading Killington Road. The town of Killington was among 13 communities awarded a total of \$18.8 million. Awards were announced last month. Pictured (l-r): David Scherr, state director, office of U.S. Rep. Becca Balint; Killington Selectman Jim Haff, U.S. Sen. Peter Welch, U.S. Sen. Bernie Sanders, Killington Interim Planner Lisa Davis, Killington Town Manager Michael Ramsey, Governor Phil Scott, and Chris Saunders, federal co-chair of the Northern Border Regional Commission.

Casella completes \$219m acquisition of Consolidated Waste Services, LLC assets

Casella Waste Systems, Inc (Nasdaq: CWST), a regional solid waste, recycling, and resource management services company, announced Sept. 5 that it completed the acquisition of the collection, transfer, and recycling assets of Consolidated Waste Services, LLC and its affiliates (dba "Twin Bridges") on Sept. 1. The purchase price of the acquisition was approximately \$219 million and was funded through proceeds from the company's equity offering completed on June 16.

The acquisition includes two hauling operations, one transfer station, and one material recovery facility in the greater Albany, New York market, and is expected to generate total annualized revenues of approximately \$70 million.

"We believe that Twin Bridges fits well with our operations and provides a solid strategic platform to grow our services in this market. Twin Bridges was built on delivering quality service to its customers, and we are intently focused on continuing this commitment," said John W. Casella, chairman and CEO of Casella Waste Systems, Inc. "We would like to welcome Twin Bridges' hardworking team members to Casella, and we are excited to serve our new customers."

Casella Waste Systems, Inc., is headquartered in Rutland. The company provides resource management expertise and services to residential, commercial, municipal, institutional and industrial customers, primarily in the areas of solid waste collection and disposal, transfer, recycling and organics services in the eastern U.S.

For more information visit: casella.com.

New salon comes to Killington after location in Ludlow floods

Seventh Heaven Salon is now in former Mountain Cuts building

By Katy Savage

The July flood brought a new salon to Killington.

Owner Peggy Campney and stylist Katelyn Stewart opened Seventh Heaven Salon & Spa at the former Mountain Cuts building on Route 4 in Killington after their space in Ludlow flooded on July 10.

They moved to Killington Aug. 1 after spending just about eight years on Route 100 in Ludlow.

Campney, whose family also owns Green Mountain Fireplace Specialties at the Okemo Marketplace in Ludlow, said there was about 6 inches of water in the salon the morning of July 10. They cleaned everything and briefly reopened only to close two days later when the building started smelling like mold.

“We weren’t quick enough getting the water out of the flooring,” Campney said. “It was heartbreaking.”

Campney said she was in the midst of planning to move the salon to the marketplace in Ludlow this fall to add a large boutique and tanning bed and be near the family’s other business, but the marketplace was also badly flooded.

“Unfortunately, because of the



Courtesy Peggy Campney

Stylist Katelyn Stewart takes a seat at Seventh Heaven Salon & Spa.

flood, we have lost all of our new equipment and inventory as well as many stoves that were stored from my parents’, Peggy and Arnie’s, fireplace business in that same unit,” Campney said. “With both locations being flooded and clients that wanted to get in, we were looking for a spot.”

Campney said she knew the owner of the Killington building and contacted

him as longtime salon owner Erica Hurd was closing Mountain Cuts.

“He was looking for a new salon to come in, so it was just perfect timing,” Campney said.

Campney and Stewart both live in Rutland.

“With both locations being flooded and clients that wanted to get in, we were looking for a spot,” Campney said.

Stewart has been in the spa service since 2013. She got interested in hair at a young age and learned cosmetology at Stafford Technical Center.

Seventh Heaven sells

and uses Aveda products, which are vegan and animal cruelty free.

“They’re 95%-99% plant based products, all of their containers are recyclable,” Stewart said.

Stewart specializes in hair and eyelash extensions. The salon also offers tanning. “We’re really starting to focus on a lot of weddings as well,” Stewart said.

KILLINGTON FOOD SHELF



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Sherburne UCC “Little White Church,” Killington, VT

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MOUNTAIN TIMES

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

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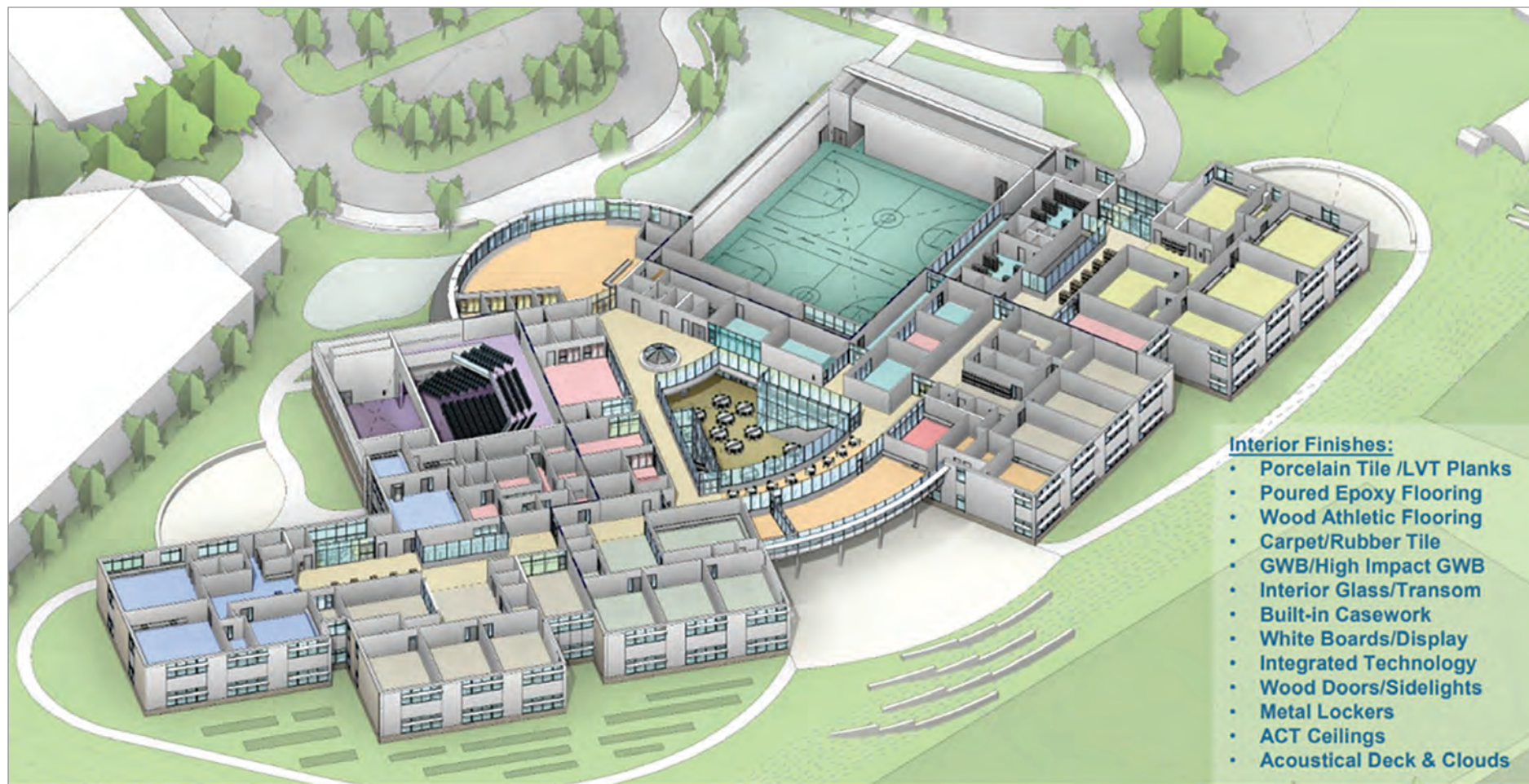
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Courtesy LaVallee Brensinger Architects and Mountain Views School District

The schematic design for the new middle school and high school in Woodstock features open spaces with natural light, quality air flow, modern classrooms and a performing arts center.

← New build:

from page 1

dition. The study cited many systems failing, including the heating, windows, roof, electrical and plumbing. “This has caused inadequate ventilation, poor acoustics, substandard accessibility, and insufficient safety standards, which have presented significant obstacles to learning and potential health concerns,” the report concluded.

“Our systems in the building here are extremely dated and obsolete,” said Joe Rigoli, district building and grounds manager in the video online. “We’re at the point where most of our systems are beyond repair and are in need of replacement.”

To address those challenges, a facilities analysis and master planning process began in 2016 with input from faculty, staff, students, school board and community members. Over a period of four years, it weighed the cost of renovating vs. building new and concluded that a new facility “would provide the best value.”

“In addition to being more expensive and infeasible, renovation would have a far greater impact on students who would be displaced and disrupted for two to three years while attending school amidst construction,” the district committee stated. “For these reasons and following a facility assessment and options analysis, our school board determined that a new school building is the right choice for our district.”

The new school will be on a different site, located adjacent to the current school building, so classes will continue in the old building until the new building is ready.

Plans for the new build

The architectural plans for the new middle school/high school call for a two-story 163,000-square-foot building with a capacity for 700 students. Last year, the district had 444 students in grades 7-12 at the middle/high school; the average from 2003-2020 was 555 students. (Current enrollment numbers for the 2023-24 school year will not be available for about 10 more days, Raphael Adamek, director of technology and innovation, told the district

board at the meeting Monday.)

Some demographic models predict continued growth in the Killington and Woodstock, but current district estimates remain modest at 10 additional students per year.

The new building will allow for enrollment growth and offer about 35,000 square feet of more space than the current school buildings — that additional space is all vertical, Ford explained, as the school is required to keep its same footprint due to state river corridor constraints.

The new design is “net-zero ready” with energy-efficient systems and air quality control to ensure a healthy environment for students and staff; and it is ADA compliant to ensure accessibility for all.

Plans also include a state-of-the-art performing arts center; a natural light-filled atrium; a greenhouse; classrooms designed for collaborative learning and innovative teaching methods, such as flexible classrooms and maker spaces; and enhanced fire suppression systems and school security.

Citing studies from the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health the district stated: “Healthy school buildings and modern design for educational facilities improve student well-being and in turn, student performance, test scores, behavior, and graduation rates.”

Timeline

On Town Meeting Day this past March 2023, voters approved \$1.65 million to fund project planning and permitting.

On Town Meeting Day this coming March 2024, voters will be asked to approve the bonds for the construction of the new building and demolition of the old building. A majority of voters across all member towns will be required to move the project forward.

If that bond vote is successful, it is estimated that a new school can be constructed in 18 months — a quick timeline especially given that the district will have to complete necessary permits including Act 250. The district says the building could be open for the start of school in the fall of 2026.

Construction management, estimating cost

At the board meeting Monday, Sept. 13, three bids for construction management of the project were opened. DEW Construction of Williston came in with the lowest bid at \$5,109,016; followed by PC Construction of South Burlington at \$8,930,131, then Whiting-Turner of Springfield, Massachusetts at \$9,044,793. While the board is required by state statute to choose the lowest qualified bid, they chose not to vote to accept DEW’s bid at the meeting Monday and instead have qualified personnel compare the details of the bids to ensure an “apples to apples” comparison. The board will vote to award the bid at its next meeting, Oct. 2.

The chosen construction management firm will then work hand-in-hand with project architects LaVallee Brensinger of Boston, Mass., and Manchester, New Hampshire, to complete the design, site planning, and cost estimating for the new high and middle school building such that up-to-date and accurate costs and plans can be brought before voters well before the March vote.

How does the cost compare to similar new school projects?

Based on the current projections of \$80 million, the cost breaks down to \$513 per square foot. By comparison, the average cost per square foot of five new public middle or high school projects planned for bid in Massachusetts in 2024 of similar size is approximately \$730/square foot, according to the district’s FAQ page. In New Hampshire and Maine it’s approximately \$520/square foot.

“This puts our project squarely in the average cost of building a new middle and high school in our region,” the district states.

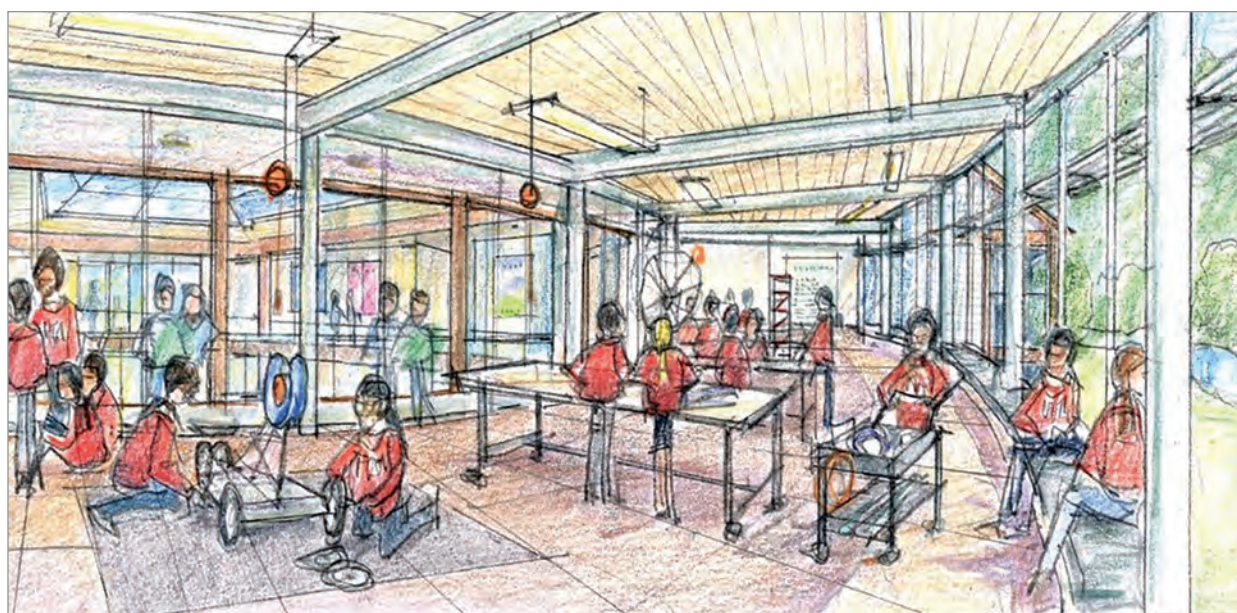
“To use a common metaphor, if the new building were a car, it would be a Subaru—practical, efficient, durable and economical,” the district site states.

What will it cost me?

The money for the new building will come from three sources: borrowing (voter approved bond), grant/incentive

New build, cont. → 5

← **New build, cont.:**
from page 4



The new building will offer better traffic flow in and out of the facilities (top) as well as large windows in creative spaces.

programs, and private fundraising.

Only the bond will affect taxpayers. But not all taxpayers will be affected the same. Property taxes on primary residences, called “homestead” property, in the school district will be impacted by the school bond payments. Taxes on second homeowners and business property, called “non-homestead” property are set by the Legislature at statewide rates and will not be directly impacted.

However, most homeowners — 70% in Vermont—receive a property tax credit reducing the property tax owed proportionally based on their income. Only those earning over \$134,800 do not, according to a January 2023 report “Education Finance in Vermont” by Julia Richter, fiscal analyst, Joint Fiscal Office, House Committee on Ways and Means.

Additionally, about 30% of those homesteads eligible for income sensitivity are also eligible for a homeowner rebate, further decreasing their true educational property tax burden.

Thus, only the minority (30%) of homeowners (those earning over \$134,800/household) are actually on the hook for the full increase to local property taxes; the impact will be less for those earning less — Vermont’s complex tax equations are aimed to make taxes more fair, but they also make them much harder to understand.

In an effort to approximate true cost for various income

levels, the district created a chart (see it below left).

Ways to reduce the bonded debt

For most, there will likely be some increase to the tax rate in the immediate future. Ford showed various scenarios to the board Monday; explaining how the tax rate would change over time under various scenarios, including: enrollment changes (more students decrease tax rates, fewer students increase them); fundraising/grants; and bond structures/terms.

Ford reported that private fundraising is “well underway with \$3.2 million raised to date.” The new build committee has set a 5-year goal of \$10 million and a 10-year goal of \$20 million — or about \$500,000 per year, he explained.

However, based on Ford’s models, increasing enrollment is the most significant factor in determining education tax rates. Increasing the number of students enrolled, will immediately drive tax rates down, Ford explained.

“In fact, increasing district enrollment to 1,200—a number of students our district has had as recently as 2006—would completely offset the cost of building the new school. Further increases in enrollment would drive tax rates below current levels,” Ford said, adding that while he is not projecting taxes will decrease in the near future, he wouldn’t be surprised if the draw of a new facility could be greater than expected.

Conversely, if the district saw student attrition (perhaps because its facilities continued to decline), it would result in a raise in the “Per Pupil Spend” and lead to higher tax rates. If in-district enrollment declined to 800 students, the resulting tax rates will be higher than building the new school with none of the benefits, Ford calculated.

Additionally, last school year, the district board passed policy to limit the tax impact of the new build to a 16% cap.

“That was the impact to Burlington taxpayers who in 2022 passed a \$165 million bond for the construction of a new high school building with 76% voter support,” Ford said.

This “cap protection” represents a roughly 50/50 split between district taxpayers and other funding sources, according to the district website.

If the district is unable to meet the 16% tax impact cap through other means, reductions to the school budget may be required to make the school project affordable to district taxpayers, Ford explained. “Taxpayers have the ability to hold the district accountable each year by approving the school district budget... if we violate our own policy, I wouldn’t blame them,” he said.

Ford summarized. “Investing in our facilities up front is the smart thing to do. Initially, it will cost more than limping our current facilities along, but over time will save taxpayers money any way you look at it... we need to ask ourselves, where do we want to be in 10 years? and make the right choice for our students and our community. The current building is already 20 years past its lifespan.”

What’s next?

“We were out on The Green last Wednesday talking to droves of people coming up to learn about the new build plans,” Ford said. “People were very supportive, had good questions and even those who didn’t know anything about the plans seem to understand the need.”

“Last March when voters approved the \$1.65 million, was a turning point,” he said. “I think most people in our communities will support this important investment once they understand the choices we face as a district.”

Ford said the new build committee will meet again later this month and will discuss plans to get out to all of the district towns to help answer any questions and concerns residents may have. Public information meetings will be held in December when true costs and designs are finalized.

For more info about the new middle school and high school plans, visit: mtnviews.org/breaking-new-ground.

Year	For Property Value = \$400,000			
	Household with Income over \$138,400		Household with Income = \$65,000	
	Impact of Bond (\$)	Impact of Bond (%)	Impact of Bond (\$)	Impact of Bond (%)
FY24 (Current)	\$0	0.0%	\$0	0.0%
FY27 (Year 1)	\$990	15.2%	\$333	15.2%
FY31 (Year 5)	\$1,149	16.0%	\$459	16.0%
FY36 (Year 10)	\$1,074	13.2%	\$504	13.2%
FY41 (Year 15)	\$957	10.4%	\$508	10.4%
FY46 (Year 20)	\$840	8.1%	\$491	8.1%
FY51 (Year 25)	\$722	6.1%	\$457	6.1%
FY56 (Year 30)	\$605	4.5%	\$409	4.5%

Assumptions

- \$77M bond amount, 30 year bond term repaid at 3.25% interest
- 2.5% Annual Inflation to School Budget, Home Value, & State of VT Yield Values
- \$5M in fundraising achieved by FY31, \$500k annual fundraising thereafter
- Flat enrollment = 918 In-district students and 87 Tuition students = 1,005 total
- No contribution from Vermont School Construction Aid Program

Courtesy Mountain Views School District

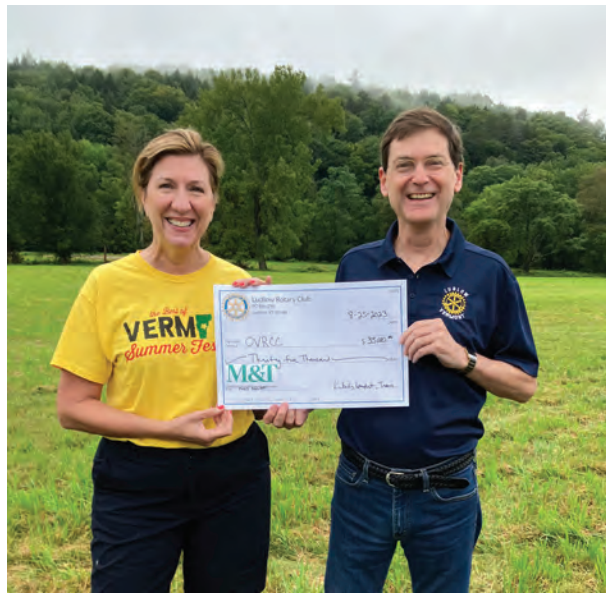
This chart approximates the impact of the bond repayments over time on education taxes of a \$77M bond for both homestead taxpayers and income-sensitive taxpayers owning a \$400,000 home. The left column shows the affect for a taxpayer with no subsidies. The right column shows an example of subsidies for a person with a \$400,000 property value that has an income of \$65,000. The chart factors in all the assumptions included in the assumption table.

Ludlow Rotary flood recovery reaches \$100,000

During a recent community meeting with representatives from the State of Vermont to exchange information on state assistance in flood recovery and to inform them about the damages, Thomas Ray, Ludlow Area Rotary Club president, reported that Ludlow Area Rotary will spend about \$100,000.

Funds available so far in response to the recent flooding are from contributions received specifically for this disaster and from Rotary's own Charitable Fund balance. Funds already disbursed have gone to:

- The purchase of dehumidifiers and fans that were distributed at the Ludlow Community Center immediately after the flooding, and to the
- Black River Action Team, which has been addressing direct damage caused by the flooding.
- Additional funds are being disbursed to



Submitted

Ludlow Area Rotary Club President Thomas Ray, presented a check for \$35,000 to Carol Lighthall, exc director of the Okemo Valley Chamber of Commerce for business recovery efforts.

affected businesses and residents in Rotary's service area through the processes established by the Okemo Valley Chamber of Commerce and the Crown Point Board of Realtors.

Ludlow Rotary has received flood response

contributions from several other Rotary Clubs and from generous local businesses, residents and second homeowners. Ray indicated the club is expecting more funds as well. Rotary club members and families also have been contributing their time to assist in the response and recovery efforts.

← Winter market: from page 1

"To go to a third site in almost as many years made no sense at all," Cox said. "Then you just confuse everybody."

Cox is the owner of Boardman Hill Farm and president of the Vermont Farmers' Food Center. He said the market is eager to return to its original location.

"We've been working our butts off," Cox said. "Everyone understands the economic impact the food center has on the area, but it's a process."

The Howe Center space is smaller than the Farmers' Hall and can only accommodate about 55-60 vendors.

"Our sales are down," Cox said. "I think the food center is a better, larger, more accommodating place, but the Howe Center — at least we have a place."

The Vermont Farmers' Food Center board is currently reviewing bids after the organization received an \$800,000 grant last month from the Vermont Department of Economic Development for contamination cleanup.

"We received bids at the end of last week

and so we're just finalizing that process so we can get the work going," Lynch said, estimating the work will take about six weeks.

The remediation will involve removing contaminated concrete and installing a thick liner with new concrete to improve air quality. Asbestos-containing materials will

"Our sales are down," Cox said. "I think the food center is a better, larger, more accommodating place, but the Howe Center — at least we have a place."

also be removed.

"It will all be dependent on ordering materials," Lynch said.

After the cleanup, the state will require additional testing and documentation before the building can be occupied.

The organization is waiting to hear about another \$700,000 grant from the Agency of Community Dev. brownfields program.

"If those funds are awarded, the organization will determine what the next highest priority is," said consultant Elisabeth Kulas.

Hartland, other towns won't get federal funding for flood damage

By Curt Peterson

Acting Hartland Town Manager Martin Dole told the select board Wednesday evening the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is not going to include Hartland's July 21 flooding with its latest emergency declaration.

"FEMA declares a state emergency when damages from an event exceed \$ million" Dole said. "Towns that incurred damage because of July 17 flooding will be included in FEMA recovery funding for that reason. But Hartland survived that event relatively unscathed. Our damage occurred four days later – July 21. We are on our own."

Rutland and Middlebury also suffered severe flooding damage on other subsequent dates, and are having to fund their own repairs.

Dole told the Mountain Times Hartland has already paid out \$133,000, but the grand total cost of the July 21 storm may possibly reach \$300,000. Outside contractors are now working on the repairs, and the town highway crew has gotten back to regular

road maintenance.

If FEMA isn't helping the town, from where will the money come?

Dole said the invoices incurred will be paid from the regular highway fund, which will result in a year-end deficit that can't be "carried over" to the next year.

"The cash is there to pay the invoices," Dole said, "so they will not go unpaid. The highway fund account will be replenished from the highway reserve fund, which has plenty to cover them."

The good news: a VTrans representative told Dole the state will "probably" provide funds to help towns with the isolated flooding events not covered by FEMA.

"They won't be paying 100% of the cost," Dole said. "State funding is usually on a percentage basis, often 80% of the total, with the town coming up with the remaining 20%."

In this case, he said, due to the unexpected draw on state funds, the towns' contributions may be more like 30 to 40%, with the state funding the balance.

Second Lake Pauline cleanup provides Labor Day enjoyment

Ludlow's Lake Pauline was transformed from a muddy collection back into an exquisite place to spend Labor Day weekend, thanks to the dedicated efforts of about 30 people who came together the previous Saturday to clean up debris from the July 10 flood. The event, under the auspices of the Lake Rescue Association (LRA), was spearheaded by Board member and Lake Pauline resident George Thomson, who has volunteered for several clean-up day efforts despite his own home's severe flooding.

LRA earlier organized a flood clean-up on adjacent 200-acre Lake Rescue, which attracted almost 50 volunteers the previous weekend, and Lake Pauline had been tackled for the first time the week before that.

"We removed tons of debris again, but the lake is so much nicer for everyone to enjoy," said Thomson. He said volunteers armed with boats, chainsaws, trucks, and tenacity, joined by people participating in Green Up Vermont's annual clean-up effort, met on Saturday, Aug. 26, to clean up the narrow mile-long lake, which runs along the east side of Route 100 in Ludlow. Debris, boats, trees, and docks were removed from the water, and many were successfully returned to their owners.

Following the effort, one solid dock was still waiting for a home, said Thomson, while 14 dock panels of assorted colors and sizes were lined up on the guardrails near the East Lake Road Bridge. By Labor Day, most had been claimed by their owners.

"We have had three days with over 100 dedicated volunteers cleaning up Lakes Pauline and Rescue, removing all kinds of debris after the July flood," said Thomson. "The lakes are for everyone to enjoy, and even if you do not go in them, the beautiful views of the dams at East Lake Rd and Red Bridge are once again ready for tourists looking for the perfect Vermont foliage picture."



Courtesy Lake Pauline Association

Damaged docks were removed from Lake Pauline in Ludlow after the recent flooding.

Family can't find home, buys Ripton's inn

By John Flowers/Addison County Independent

RIPTON — In addition to abundant rainfall, this summer has brought numerous housing inquiries from people seeking to relocate to an Addison County that has few available homes to offer.

The Guilbeau family of Austin, Texas, was among those seeking to lay down new roots in greener and steeper Green Mountain pastures. And when their search for a conventional home came up empty, they took a novel approach: They acquired Ripton's 195-year-old Chipman Inn, which they hope will become both their long-term home and a successful business venture.

And in addition to housing the Guilbeaus and what they hope will be a steady stream of guests, the Chipman Inn will also provide haven to a weary traveler from a war-torn land: Ukrainian national Svetlana Osetska, an extended family member who recently left her homeland in the face of the ongoing Russian invasion.

"Given the circumstances in her homeland, I felt it was right to offer (Osetska) a longer refuge, at least until there's peace back in Ukraine," Elizabeth Guilbeau said. "Her presence has not only enriched our lives, but also provided her with a meaningful role and purpose amidst the challenges."

The Guilbeaus' trek to cooler climes had been in the works for several years.

"I've wanted to move to Vermont for a while, to live in the New England area and get away from the Texas heat," said Guilbeau, whose family includes husband Christopher and children Ruby (12), Narrah (9), Julien (7).

Christopher is a software developer whose job remains mobile, while Elizabeth has been a stay-at-home mom to their children, two of whom began classes this week at Ripton Elementary School.

They eventually whittled their search down to the Middlebury area, but found few housing options. Elizabeth's eyes ultimately came upon the Chipman Inn for-sale listing, and she was intrigued.

"It was a bit out of our price range," she acknowledged. "But I thought, 'I could run an inn.'"

She and her husband both have experience in the hospitality industry, having worked at restaurants and hosted guided trips in northern Arizona.

"I saw the inn as an opportunity and it also gave me a career path, because I've been looking for my next (professional) step," she said. "The kids are in school now and I wanted to do something"

Elizabeth holds a degree in communications from Louisiana Tech University and believes that will be an asset in promoting the Chipman Inn.

"The innkeeper who was here (Chis Bullock) was so great, but the one thing that might have been lacking was marketing, and I can do that," she said. "I can make the inn better known and more profitable."

The Addison County Economic Development Corp. helped the Guilbeaus put together a financing package to buy the inn. That package includes a \$100,000 loan through the ACEDC's revolving loan fund, which is capitalized by USDA/Rural Development. ACEDC Executive Director Fred Kenney has introduced the family to representatives of Middlebury College, Porter Hospital, the Addison County Chamber of Commerce, Vermont Department of Tourism and other area innkeepers.

Historically, the Chipman Inn has offered nine guest rooms. It will now offer five, to ensure adequate living quarters for the Guilbeau family of six.

"We've taken over one side of the house and are renting



By John Flowers/Independent

Ripton's historic Chipman Inn has new owners. The Guilbeau family, formerly of Texas, acquired the property this past June. Pictured here are inn co-owner Elizabeth Guilbeau, left, and Svetlana Osetska, an extended family member who's helping with inn operations after having left her war-torn homeland of Ukraine.

out the other side," Elizabeth explained.

The Guilbeaus plan to continue the inn's long-running tradition as a comfortable, convenient lodging spot for tourists, hikers, skiers and leaf peepers. The inn was built in 1828 by Daniel Chipman, a former U.S. House Representative from Vermont, as well as a founder and professor of law at Middlebury College. The original farmhouse began operating as an inn and public dining room in 1974.

Both the Rikert Outdoor Center and Middlebury College Snow Bowl are not far from the inn, as is the college's Bread Loaf campus.

"I think this has the vibe for people coming for the outdoor experience," Guilbeau said.

Asked what changes she might be contemplating to inn operations, Guilbeau said she'd like to transform the building's taproom into a coffee shop that would also offer beer, wine, tea, hot chocolate, pastries and breakfast tacos. She's looking to make that change sometime next year.

Also on the agenda — convert from door keys to door codes, while streamlining the online reservation process.

"We want to bring more technology" to the operation, Guilbeau said.

Elizabeth believes she can cover most of the innkeeping bases, with a little help — some of which will be provided by Osetska, whose daughter Lena is married to Elizabeth's brother, Paul Miles. Lena and Paul met and fell in love in Ukraine around a dozen years ago. But as tensions escalated in the Eastern European nation in 2022, Miles and Lena recognized the gravity of the situation and formed an exit plan for her mother, Svetlana Osetska. She landed in Oklahoma several months ago, Guilbeau explained.

When the Guilbeaus bought the inn on June 23, they invited Osetska to join them and get a glimpse of a terrain that's perhaps the polar opposite of Oklahoma.

Osetska quickly agreed and hasn't regretted it for a second. She conversed with this reporter with the aid of translation software in her smartphone.

She recounted how several years ago, she dreamed that if she had \$1 million, she'd buy a home surrounded by mountains and forestland. She imagined a place like Switzerland.

"It seemed to me that such a paradise could only be (in Switzerland)," she said. "But when I arrived in Vermont, I realized my dream was here."

Though its terrain still bears scars of recent flooding, Ripton stands in sharp contrast to Osetska's hometown of Dnipro, an industrial city of a million residents in central Ukraine. Dnipro and its airport have sustained multiple airstrikes since the war broke out last year. Rocket blasts injured nine in a city apartment block this past July. Russian missiles have targeted city infrastructure, as well as industrial and residential areas in the city, according to Osetska. She spoke solemnly of the impact the bombing has had on her psyche.

"The first two months when I lived in Oklahoma, I shook at every sound. I was scared of everyone and from every thunderstorm. Even when the door is slammed hard, I shudder and am scared," Osetska said. "Although I live in Vermont now and no one shoots, I wonder what is happening in Ukraine and all the people I know there — my loved ones."

Russia's strategy, Osetska believes, includes terrorizing Ukrainians to diminish their appetite for defending their sovereignty.

"The Russians can't win at the front, so they try to intimidate ordinary people who don't fight," she said. "They hope people will demand an end to the war."

Chipman Inn → 12

Report finds that energy savings programs may not reach those who need them most

By Emma Cotton/VTDigger

A new report from Efficiency Vermont concludes that, while Vermonters have been paying relatively steady percentages of their income on energy over the last several years, programs designed to lower energy burdens haven't reached many people who need them most.

Authors of the 2023 Vermont Energy Burden Report picked up from where a 2019 report left off and used data through 2021. They relied on both town-level data and census block data to paint a picture of energy usage in the state, illustrating who pays more and less for electricity, transportation and home heating, compared to income.

The report found that energy burdens in the state — the percentage of income spent on energy — have “remained relatively constant over the last decade,” with households spending about 11% of their income on energy costs.

The data has shown for years that some Vermonters are paying higher percentages of their incomes on energy, and the locations where those energy burdens exist haven't changed significantly.

Still, as of 2021, programs designed to lower energy costs through weatherization or the installation of more energy-efficient appliances had not yet reached many who needed the most help, the report found.

Nationally, many energy burden calculations include electricity and home heating, but not transportation. Using those numbers, the nonprofit American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy considers a 6% energy burden “high.”

“When transportation costs are removed from our calculation, the average electric and thermal burden for Vermont is 5%, indicating that there are many households in our state with high energy burden,” the report states.

On average, Vermonters spend \$7,071 on energy each year, according to the report, with transportation being the highest cost category. While this number has increased since 2019, income has changed significantly across the state in recent years, leaving the average energy burden relatively constant.

Statewide median household income increased 26% between 2017 and 2021, from about \$57,500 to over \$72,000, the report states. Meanwhile, 37 towns saw significant declines in median incomes.

Towns with energy burdens that exceed 15% — including transportation costs — include Montgomery, Charleston, East Haven, Lowell, Concord, Brighton, Castleton, Dover and Bloomfield.

In the past, using town-level data has drawn Efficiency Vermont toward “a lot of small rural communities — which is im-

portant,” said Kelly Lucci, an author of the report and director of strategy and partnerships for Efficiency Vermont. “That’s absolutely a place where we want to be embedding some focus.” But that also means that, in some communities, the data was creating “an average assumption about burden... You are just automatically losing an awful lot of nuance and granularity within those larger communities that really puts them at a disadvantage,” she said.

Generally, towns and regions with high

energy burdens did not use energy and cost savings programs as much as towns and regions with low energy burdens.

On average, Vermonters spend \$7,071 on energy each year, according to the report, with transportation being the highest cost category.

Those programs “may not yet be reaching the customers who could most benefit from energy and cost savings,” the report said.

For example, the report shows high energy burdens on the eastern side of the state and in the Northeast Kingdom. On the western side of the state, in Addison and Rutland counties, where median incomes are higher, residents have installed cold climate heat

pumps at a much higher rate.

While more than 20% of homes in some Champlain Valley towns have installed heat pumps, installations “appear to be much lower in the Northeast Kingdom and high-burden communities,” the report states.

Because the report’s data stops at 2021, it does not reflect the impact of policies that have been adopted in recent years, Lucci said. Statewide, she also saw an increase in electric usage, which could indicate wider adoption of electric vehicles and cold climate heat pumps.

Still, she said, the disparities show “a huge opportunity for the state to double down in terms of a focus on equity and access, and really jumpstart even stronger progress on our climate goals, because we’ll be connecting those technologies with people who could stand the most to benefit from them.”

To get there, Lucci suggests a shift in the state’s approach to energy savings.

“Efficiency Vermont is a utility, right?” she said. “We have pretty aggressive savings targets that we’re asked to meet, all in service to Vermont ratepayers, and reducing the cost of operating the electric grid and working effectively with our distribution utility partners. And that’s all really important.”

But if the state focuses only on projects with the most energy savings, she said, it could miss a household that needs a bigger subsidy to complete a project.

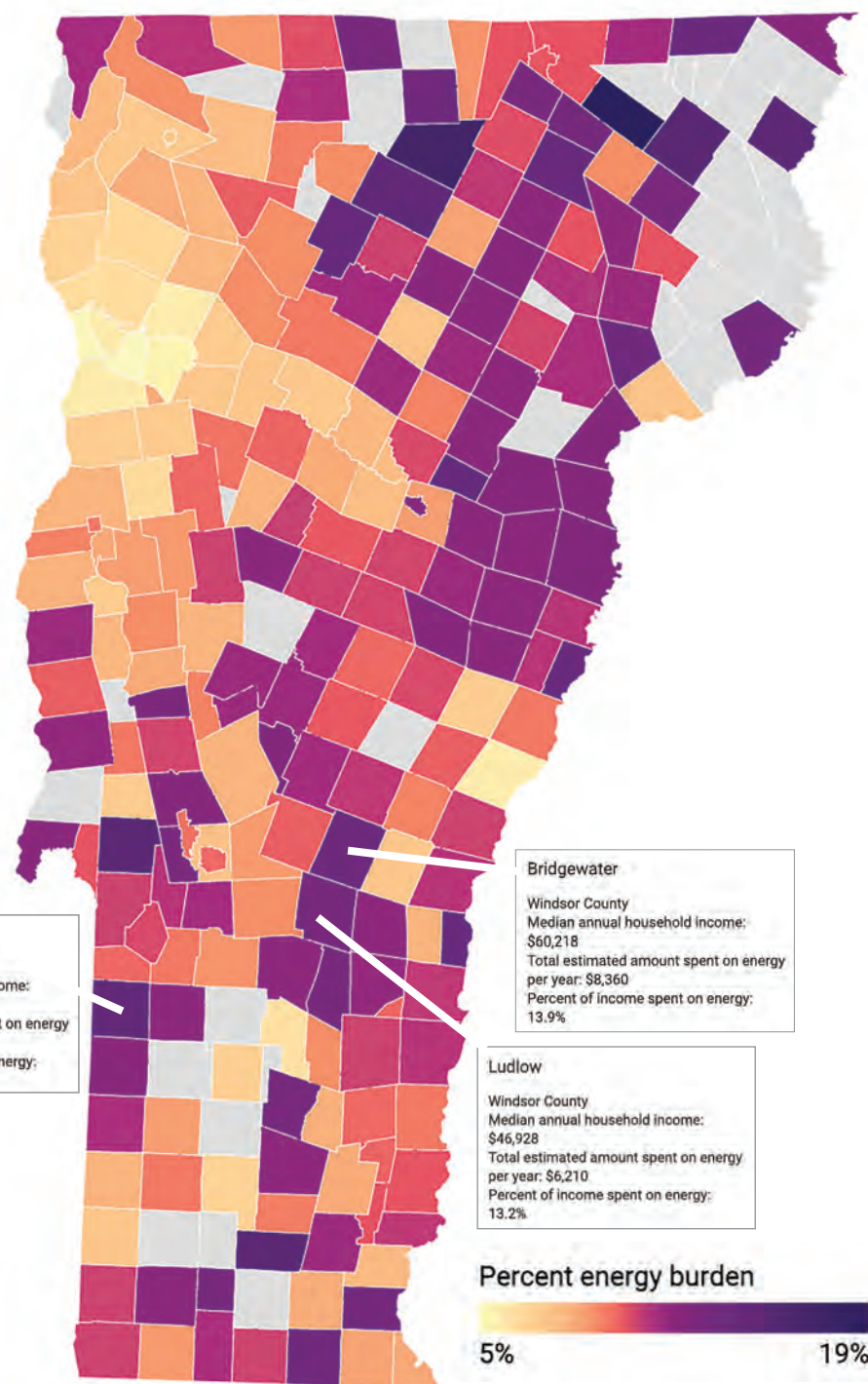
For example, the report states, a project to install pipe insulation for a large business customer might cost \$10 per unit of energy saved. Meanwhile, helping a homeowner with a moderate income complete a home weatherization project could cost more than \$300 per unit of energy saved.

“However, the relative impact of energy savings — and their attendant cost reduction — may be more significant in relieving energy burden for the customer whose home has been weatherized, or for the corner store that upgrades its refrigeration, than for a large business,” the report states.

Zoomed out, energy burden appears lowest in Chittenden County and highest in the Northeast Kingdom. But census data complicates that picture, showing that smaller sections of Burlington, for example, or Barre, have some of the highest energy burdens in the state.

Lucci said Efficiency Vermont uses the report to guide its outreach efforts and aim for wider adoption of programs it offers, such as home weatherization.

“A report like this can help you understand where you need to be on the ground and in conversation with people to understand what their needs are, to make sure they’re aware of programs that already exist,” Lucci said, “and then be prepared to listen to feedback and and try to incorporate that into improving our efforts moving forward.”



By Erin Petenko/VTDigger, data courtesy Efficiency Vermont
Energy costs impact Vermonters differently. Map shows the percent of each household's income spent on electricity, thermal energy (heat), and transportation, by municipality.

High school entrepreneurs are eligible to win full-tuition to UVM

The University of Vermont announced Sept. 5 the Vermont Pitch Challenge, a new entrepreneurial-focused competition that gives high school students from across the world in grades 10-12 a chance to pitch innovative and impactful business plans — all while competing for individual cash prizes and full tuition scholarships to UVM, valued at up to \$180,000.

The new program is free to enter and offers young students a unique opportunity to learn from UVM faculty and alumni as well as top entrepreneurial experts about how to write a business plan, create a compelling pitch, and achieve their ultimate career goals.

The Vermont Pitch Challenge will be open to high school sophomores, juniors, and seniors — as individuals or as teams of up to three. (This competition is separate and should not be confused with the Joy and Jerry Meyers Cup, a similar competition designed specifically for UVM undergraduates.)

Monthly Entrepreneurial Exchange webinars kicked off the new pitch program on Sept. 12, where members of the UVM Entrepreneurship Club and CFES introduced the Vermont Pitch Challenge. During the monthly webinars, students will get inspired and gain valuable business insights from expert entrepreneurs including Lisa Lindahl, co-inventor of the first sports bra and a National Inventors Hall of Fame Inductee. They will also learn how to build a successful business model and create a compelling pitch. All seven Entrepreneurial Exchange webinars will build toward the Pitch Challenge’s formal application opening date on Jan. 15 and conclude in March, when the five individu-

als/teams of finalists are announced.

“The Vermont Pitch Challenge is a great new platform for young minds to bring their creativity and entrepreneurial skills to life,” said Dr. Jay Jacobs, vice provost for enrollment management at UVM. “We believe in nurturing the next generation of innovators and providing them with the tools and mentorship needed to turn their ideas into reality, and this unique opportunity achieves exactly that. Hopefully this program highlights how UVM can help students achieve their innovation dreams.”

Current UVM students from the Academic Research Commercialization (ARC) program and the Entrepreneur Club will introduce the challenge to high schoolers, judge the submissions, and mentor the finalists as they prepare to pitch in-person at UVM. Judging will be based on whether the proposed business offers a solution to a problem faced in the target market, creates a positive impact, delivers something different to the market, and how effectively it achieves the participants’ stated goals.

“As a team lead of the ARC program at UVM, my own entrepreneurial endeavors wouldn’t have taken form without the guidance and support that UVM provides to students like faculty mentorship, paid internships, and exposure at pitch events,” said Mason Tuff, a current UVM student and director of the ARC program. “I’m super excited to help kick off this new program for high school students. It’s a great way to discover young entrepreneurs and support their journey from the beginning of a new business concept to an actual start up.”

Vermont Pitch Challenge → 12

Lyme disease prevention vaccine trial begins recruiting in Vermont

Enrollment is open to ages 5 and older

The University of Vermont Medical Center and the Vaccine Testing Center at UVM’s Larner College of Medicine will operate as a study site for a worldwide Phase 3 clinical study to investigate the efficacy, safety and immunogenicity of an investigational Lyme disease vaccine candidate. The study, known as the Vaccine Against Lyme for Outdoor Recreationists (VALOR) trial, is sponsored by Pfizer and is enrolling participants 5 years of age and older.

“Lyme disease is a common illness caused by a bacteria found in ticks. Bites from infected ticks can transfer the bacteria to humans and cause a characteristic rash, fevers, and fatigue,” said Kristen Pierce, M.D., infectious disease specialist at the University of Vermont Medical Center, professor of medicine at

the UVM Larner College of Medicine, and principal investigator at the UVM site.

There are currently no approved vaccines available to prevent Lyme disease in humans. The VALOR research study is evaluating if an investigational vaccine is safe and effective for preventing Lyme disease in people who have been exposed through tick bites.

Healthy adults and children 5 years of age or older who live in or often visit outdoor areas that may expose them to ticks may be eligible to participate. Trial participants cannot have been diagnosed with Lyme disease within three months of enrollment.

This study will last about 30 months and participants will be randomly assigned to receive the study vaccine or placebo. As part of the

Lyme vax → 13

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*Subject to availability and eligibility



TOWN OF KILLINGTON VERMONT

Do I need a zoning permit?

“Yes,” the zoning administrator says:
“If you’re asking this question, you most likely do.”

Here’s more details:

A Zoning Permit is only not required for:

- Fences and walls under 6 feet high and which do not interfere with corner visibility and are outside the town road right-of-way
- A free standing residential accessory structure such as a shed, tree house, doghouse, child’s playhouse or similar structure that does not exceed 144 square feet in size and is 12 feet or less in height and does not have plumbing.

But It **MUST** meet setback requirements.

- Interior renovations that do not increase the overall floor area **or result in additional bedrooms**
Increasing bedrooms **ALWAYS** requires a permit.
- Patios at grade level
- General maintenance such as painting, roofing and siding

Now that that’s cleared up, here’s more detail on filing for permits:

The Town of Killington requires various permits and approvals for development. A Zoning Permit is required for any project that involves:

- New buildings or building additions
- Porches, decks and similar structures
- Swimming pools
- Accessory apartments (in house or over garage)
- Projects that increase the footprint or floor area of a building
- Change of use (**yes, this includes adding additional bedrooms!**)
- Subdivision, parcel merger, and boundary line adjustments

An application for a zoning permit is here: bit.ly/KillingtonPermitApp

Note: If your project was approved by Act 250 you must also contact Rick.Overkirch@vermont.gov

Let’s not forget about short-term rentals:

Yes, the town requires short-term rentals registration to safely bring as many guests as legally possible. The advertised capacity of a short-term rental is limited to its approved septic or sewer capacity. All short-term rentals are subject to inspection by the state Division of Fire Safety, although self-certification is an option for rental properties with an occupancy of 8 or less.

To register your short term rental, visit: bit.ly/KillingtonSTR
Contact asst. state fire marshal Joshua Maxham at 802-786-0071 or Joshua.Maxham@vermont.gov for an inspection.
For a short-term rental checklist go to firesafety.vermont.gov.

Little info for you condo owners, too:

Condominiums are regulated by the state Division of Fire Safety and the state Act 250 Program. Changes beyond painting or decorating may require Division of Fire Safety approval. Increases to the floor area or creation of an additional bedroom would require Act 250 approval. Contact your condominium association before making any changes beyond painting or decorating.

PLANNING & ZONING

Tel: 802-422-3241 x 3

Email: planner@killingtontown.com

2706 River Road, P.O. Box 429, Killington, VT 05751
killingtontown.com

When do I need a driveway permit?

The Zoning Administrator says “yes, this should be the first thing you do!” A Driveway Access Permit is required from the town Selectboard for a new or modified driveway off a town road. Contact the Town Manager to start this process. A State Highway Access and Work Permit is required from the state Agency of Transportation (VTrans) for a new or modified driveway off U.S. Route 4 or VT Route 100. For a Frequently Asked Questions sheet on state highway access and work permits visit: vtrans.vermont.gov/planning/permitting/faqs.

How about commercial business?

You always need a permit for business signs. Visit: bit.ly/KillingtonSign. Most commercial development will need to be reviewed by the Development Review Board and Division of Fire Safety. Killington is a 1-acre town. Anything over could be subject to Act 250 review and approval. Questions? Request a Project Review Sheet from state permit specialist Rick Overkirch at 802-282-6488 or Rick.Overkirch@vermont.gov.



For more information about zoning permits scan or click: bit.ly/KillingtonPermits

**Please don’t live by: “build it and they will come...
It’s NOT better to beg for forgiveness than ask for permission.”**

It's been a wet summer, what does that mean for fall foliage?

By Emma Cotton/VTDigger

Vermont forests have experienced floodwaters, a general excess of moisture, wildfire smoke, unexpected frost and heat waves this growing season. Still, according to state officials, none of those conditions are expected to disrupt the fall foliage season.

"In general, things look really good," said Josh Halman, forest health program manager for the Vermont Dept. of Forest, Parks and Recreation.

On the heels of receding floodwaters that proved disastrous for many business owners, Vermonters are looking to the trees with their fingers crossed, hoping for a spectacle of red and gold that will bring tourists and confirm that much of Vermont is, indeed, open for business.

In some parts of the state, maple trees have already turned red — a potential symptom of all the moisture, Halman said, but not an entirely unusual phenomenon for late summer.

"It's not crazy to see a few trees this time of year that have turned red in different locations. But with all this rain, I think people are picking up on it a little more than usual," he said.

Halman surveys the forests from an airplane each year with his colleagues, and this year's survey took place last Tuesday, Sept. 5. Halman said some areas of the Northeast Kingdom are already showing vibrant colors, and generally, forests look healthy.

Still, moisture can impact the colors of the leaves in several ways, Halman said. The first is that too much water can stress trees.

When Vermonters watch trees change color, they're watching the trees reabsorb nutrients and carbohydrates that the leaves have created in the summer, which the trees transfer back to their stems and roots.

"It's a way of saving all that stuff that they worked so hard for during the growing season," Halman said. "And when that happens, they're reducing the chlorophyll contents in the leaves. And that's why the yellows and oranges are observed at that point."

If trees are waterlogged, the trees become stressed and need the nutrients sooner, which could cause leaves to change color earlier in the season.

Moisture can also make leaves more susceptible to fungal diseases, which Halman said are not currently widespread but have impacted some of the state's maples. Leaf fungi could have an impact on fall foliage colors.

In an annual fall foliage forecast for New England Magazine, Jim Salge, a former meteorologist at Mount Washington Observatory in New Hampshire, predicts that leaf fungi are the "biggest concern, and biggest question mark, about the season."

Both Halman and Salge expect some of the trees to turn early. But Salge predicts that El Niño conditions may cause warmer temperatures during late summer and fall, which could cause the colors to last longer and peak later, producing a longer foliage season. He also predicts more pastel colors and fewer reds due to the warm, wet weather and the moisture.

"They'd still be beautiful, just less bold," Salge wrote in his

forecast.

Halman said the biggest indicators of the foliage season remain to be seen. A recipe of cool, crisp nights and warm, sunny days typically produce the most vibrant colors.

If trees are waterlogged, the trees become stressed and need the nutrients sooner, which could cause leaves to change color earlier in the season.

"For those trees that don't have those fungal pathogens, the color really is going to be driven by what's happening between now and peak color," he said. "So if we have those cool nights and those sunny days, those trees are gonna look fantastic."



"The color really is going to be driven by what's happening between now and peak color," said Josh Halman. "So if we have those cool nights and those sunny days, those trees are gonna look fantastic."



Courtesy VSP

Detective Shaun Hewitt

County prosecutor clears Fair Haven officer in fatal shooting

By Alan J. Keays/VTDigger

The Rutland County state's attorney said he has determined that the fatal shooting of a Castleton man by a Fair Haven police officer earlier this year was justified and he will not file criminal charges.

The shooting by Fair Haven Police Detective Shaun Hewitt took place June 19 in Fair Haven, killing 38-year-old Kenneth Barber Jr. Authorities said Barber struck Hewitt with his vehicle after the latter had responded to reports of an altercation among neighbors.

State's attorney Ian Sullivan issued a 38-page memo late Wednesday afternoon, Sept. 6, outlining his conclusion that the shooting was justified. It included statements from witnesses, Vermont State Police investigators, Hewitt, and video and audio recordings.

"Barber's actions placed Detective Hewitt in imminent danger of death or serious bodily injury," Sullivan wrote in the memo.

Barber was on furlough from the state Department of

Fair Haven Police Detective Shaun Hewitt shot and killed Kenneth Barber following an altercation in June, according to police. Rutland County State's Attorney Ian Sullivan found Hewitt's actions were justified.

Corrections as the result of a second-degree murder conviction, Sullivan wrote.

"Detective Hewitt's background knowledge of Mr. Barber's capacity for homicidal violence and extraordinarily dangerous driving both reinforce the peril he faced," the prosecutor added. "The deadly force Detective Hewitt used was a justifiable response to the danger he faced."

Generally, in deaths caused by police's use of force, separate investigations are conducted by the local county attorney's office and the Vermont Attorney General's Office, with the both announcing their findings simultaneously.

The review of this case by the Vermont Attorney General's Office investigation remains ongoing, Lauren Jandl, a spokesperson, said Thursday, Sept. 7.

According to investigators, a fight took place between Barber and his neighbors on Washington Street in Fair Ha-

GUEST EDITORIAL

Can Trump be kept off the Vt. primary ballot this March?

By E. Thomas Sullivan & Stephen C. Terry

Editor's note: E. Thomas Sullivan is resident emeritus and professor of law and political science at University of Vermont where he writes and teaches in constitutional law and history. He is also a former Provost, Dean of the Law School, and Professor of Law at the University of Minnesota. Stephen C. Terry is a political analyst, former Managing Editor of the Rutland Herald, and author of Vermont political history.

In the country's 234 years, no American current or former president has been indicted on either the federal or state level. On Aug. 1, 2023, a federal grand jury indicted Donald Trump. Currently, he has been indicted by four grand juries, two federal and two on the state level.

The federal Aug. 1 indictment charged Trump with efforts to subvert the 2020 election process and results. The charges included a conspiracy to obstruct an official government proceeding including Congress's duty to certify the election vote on Jan. 6, a scheme to defraud the United States by impeding the collection and counting of the 2020 election results, and a scheme to deprive citizens of the right to vote and have the votes counted.

He also has been indicted along with 18 others under the Georgia's Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Act (RICO law) in a conspiracy and coordinated effort with others to stop the proper certification of the state's 2020 Presidential election.

Federal elections are governed by Article 1, Section 4, clause 1 of the United States Constitution, which gives the state legislatures the authority to set rules for federal elections. The Vermont legislature under current state law (17 VSA, Section 2702) has given the Secretary of State such authority to include any candidate on the March presidential primary ballot who files, as a precondition, 1,000 valid petitions by Dec. 15, 2023, as well as having paid a \$2,000 filing fee. If these conditions are met, the authority is vested without discretion to the Secretary of State to include the name on the ballot.

Both the Secretary of State and the Vermont Legislature are required to take an oath of office and swear to uphold the United States Constitution and its Supremacy clause (Article 6, Section 2), which declares that all federal laws are the "supreme law of the land" and override any conflicting state laws.

It is our opinion that in Vermont this means the Secretary of State, Sarah Copeland Hanzas, could invoke the 14th Amendment of the United States Constitution to keep Donald Trump off the 2024 ballot.

Here's why:

- Section 3 of the 14th Amendment says that no person can hold public office who has taken an oath to support the United States Constitution and who has engaged in insurrection or rebellion against the government or has given aid or comfort to the enemies

Presidential ballot → 16

Both the Secretary of State and the Vermont Legislature are required to take an oath of office and swear to uphold the United States Constitution.



The political gerontocracy by John Cole, PoliticalCartoons

LETTERS

The glass Earth

Dear Editor,

I recently made a brief excursion to points east in search of respite from working in Woodstock, Vermont to mitigate the devastation caused by the extreme flood events of July 2023. During my peregrinations, I happened into an antiques shop in Peterborough, New Hampshire. Among the multitude of disused and fascinating relics was a bowl containing hardball-sized globes of pure, clear crystal. Etched onto the surface of each sphere was a map of the continents. Picking up one of those miniature orbs, I held irony in my hand. Were it not for the catastrophic floods that so recently upended our lives in Vermont, I would not have taken that trip and discovered, in the glass Earth, such a perfect embodiment of our planet's fragility.

For most of the past 50-odd years, during which I have studied, observed and written about the natural world, I was struck by the remarkable resilience of ecosystems, as well as the adaptability of the plants and animals that inhabit

them. But that perception has gradually been supplanted by a new paradigm revealing how the magnitude of human-induced climate change has so heavily impacted the global environment and transformed our weather, and so, our existence. Each of us holds this glass Earth in our hands; a fragile and vulnerable sphere of breathtaking beauty and wonders of a magnitude that even now, some 300,000 along the arc of human history, we have just begun to perceive and comprehend.

It is remarkable that people have impacted planet Earth on such a grand scale and in so miniscule a span of time relative to geologic reckoning. As seen through the perception of eons, Earth is a living, breathing mineralogical diaphragm whose motion occurs beyond the limitations of our temporal perceptions. It is the seemingly immutable rock by which we measure time and self. In contrast to the clear glass of the orb I held in my hand,

Glass Earth → 12

'Vermont Strong' flags could help flood recovery

Dear Editor,

It was probably inevitable in this partisan age that even a good-faith initiative to replace a nondescript state flag with a new design that more vividly captures a state's history would — in the words of The New York Times — “prompt furious backlash that shows how politically risky such a change can be.”

In Illinois, Michigan, Minnesota and Utah, battle lines have formed along the divisive new v. old flag debate. Maine's attempt to replace its state flag (virtually indistinguishable from Vermont's) with the distinctive pine tree and blue star is mired in a “woke v. non-woke” debate — terms that even a decade ago would have been meaningless.

Our current state flag is representative of a time in the early 20th century when legislatures chose to conform with the practice of placing the state seal on a blue background. The Vermont state

flag is easily confused with Maine's or a dozen other state flags but not, for example, ever mistaken for California's or Alaska's.

I have long thought that Vermont's state flag does not do justice to our history. The flag of the Green Mountain

Boys (“Stark flag”) is more striking and serves as a better symbol of Vermont's history than our 1923 state seal flag adopted so Vermont's governor could have a flag

for ceremonial purposes. As the 14th state admitted to the Union, Vermonters rightly expected that a new star and new stripe would be added to the American flag. When we got only the star, Vermonters came up with a flag that had sufficient stars and stripes. “Vermont” was written on it — lest anyone confuse it with “Old Glory.”

Here's an idea. Vermont can make sense out of nonsense in the “flag debates.”

Flags → 14

Vermont's state flag does not do justice to our history.

CAPITAL QUOTES

The poverty rate increased 12.4% in 2022, up from 7.8% in 2021, making it the largest jump ever recorded, the Census Bureau released in a report Tuesday, Sept. 12. Most of the increases are attributed to the expiration of the child tax credit. The child poverty rate rose from an all-time low of 5.2% in 2021 to 12.4% in 2022. In comparison, the child poverty rate was about 16% in 2020.

“People are working hard. They’re just not making ends meet. The cost of living is too much,”

Margaret O’Conor, who runs a foodbank called the Common Pantry, told the New York Times.

“The government can absolutely fight childhood poverty, it just costs money to do it. Those policies that the Biden administration and the Congress were able to implement in the American Rescue Plan act were temporary, so the improvement in child poverty is temporary,”

Zach Moller, the director of the economic program at Third Way said.

“There’s a way to call 2020-2022 slow progress and a way to call 2021-2022 a total disaster after the expiration of the Child Tax Credit,”

David Dayen, the executive editor of The Prospect said on X.

“You now have half of Americans who do not have \$500 in savings. I’m very worried about the impact on turnout. I’m very worried about the impact on young people,”

said **Celinda Lake**, a Democratic strategist and pollster for Biden’s 2020 campaign.

COMMENTARY

Real danger to Memphremagog is hypocrisy and fearmongering

By John W. Casella

Editor’s note: John W. Casella is the chairman and CEO of Casella Waste Systems Inc.

From time to time, the good people of DUMP — Don’t Undermine Memphremagog’s Purity — gather in a room, wring their hands, and manufacture another round of hyperventilated boilerplate letters to the editor.

While their intent is to blame the landfill in Coventry for all sorts of misery and mayhem in an effort to close this vital infrastructure, the effect is to continue to spread inaccuracies, confusion and hypocrisy. This most recent flurry of letters is also, to put it mildly, surprisingly tone-deaf.

Dozens of communities in Vermont are struggling to manage the impact of this summer’s catastrophic floods and depend on the landfill to help rid their streets and neighborhoods of debris and other threats to public health. This is a time for all Vermonters to come together, with aid and comfort for their fellow citizens and communities.

One would think that the fundraiser that DUMP recently held would have been a tremendous opportunity to raise money for hardworking Vermonters in need of assistance after the recent natural disaster, but that was not the intent.

For DUMP, this catastrophe presented a public relations opportunity that was too good to pass up, to push its agenda while others suffer. I would have hoped that we’d see a pause in these tactics, but I was disappoint-

ed. I’m sure the thousands of volunteers, local officials and displaced residents and businesses would scratch their heads as well.

I also continue to scratch my head over what appears to be DUMP’s biggest hypocrisy — its ongoing fight and appeals to stop our efforts, as part of our permit, to put in treatment systems at the landfill to remove PFAS from leachate.

The technology we will be installing is specifically designed to remove PFAS.

As we are all becoming more aware, PFAS chemicals are persistent compounds, widely used for decades in consumer products such as cookware, waterproof fabrics, food packaging and personal care products. When discarded, these products wind up in landfills, and a portion of the chemicals end up in leachate, which then requires treatment.

One of the most important things we are doing is aggressively putting technologies in place to remove PFAS from landfill leachate before it is transported to a wastewater treatment plant.

Yet DUMP — for all its stated concerns about PFAS, water supplies and environmental health — stands stubbornly in the way of our efforts, undertaken with the support of the state of Vermont, to put this

Fearmongering → 14

The bear facts: people food is the problem

By Brenna Galdenzi

Editor’s note: Brenna Galdenzi of Stowe is the president of Protect Our Wildlife.

It’s tempting to claim that bear populations are “exploding” in Vermont, but the uptick in bear sightings is largely due to the animals having learned, over time, that food is easily accessible in people’s trash cans, bird feeders, compost, etc.

Bears are changing their home range, and mother bears have taught their young where to find easy pickings in neighborhoods. This knowledge is passed down from generation to generation.

Bears actually have very low reproductive rates and undergo a unique reproductive process called delayed implantation. They don’t become sexually mature until about 3 or 4 years old and females give birth every other year. Cubs stay with their mother for about 16-17 months.

Despite the recent research that reveals that hunting and killing bears does not reduce future human/bear conflicts, Vermont has one of the longest bear hunting seasons in the country, including the use of hounds.

The official bear hunting season starts on

Sept. 1 and runs through the day before the November regular deer season. In addition to the official hunting season, many people are surprised to learn that bears are terrorized by packs of hunting hounds for most of the year, beginning on June 1 — the start of bear hound “training” season, which runs right through the start of hunting season.

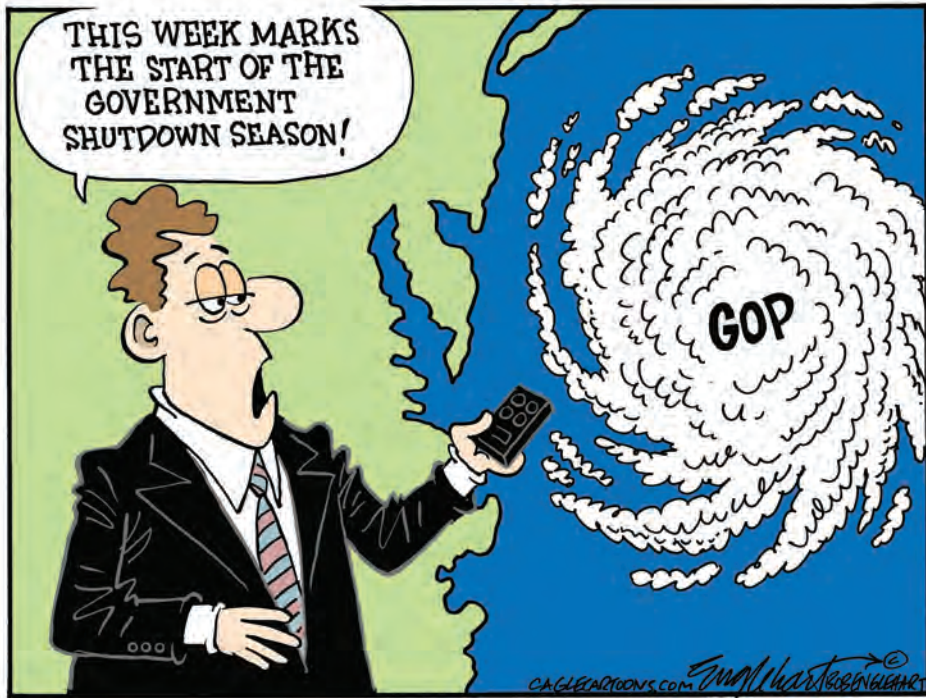
Bear cubs are very small this time of year and are especially vulnerable, especially when they’re separated from their mothers by the hounds. The only difference between the bear hunting and training season is that bears may not be shot and killed during the training season.

Approximately 20% of Vermont’s bear population has been hunted and killed over the last couple of years. That does not include bears killed outside of the legal season for causing problems with landowners or bears that were mortally injured by hunters and not recovered (which is not uncommon when hunting bears).

This is from the Vermont Fish & Wildlife website: “If you make a poor shot, a wounded

People food → 31

CARTOONS



Government Shutdown by Bob Englehart, PoliticalCartoons



Orange Moon by Rivers, CagleCartoons



Lock me up! by Dave Whamond, Canada, PoliticalCartoons

Flags: from page 12

It is not critical that a new Vermont flag be officially adopted. But what about making such a flag a symbol of "Vermont Strong"? For every purchase of the new flag, a portion of the proceeds could go to flood relief.

It could be a flag for those who have survived rainy days in the past and will gain strength in the days to come. And a sign that Vermont — as it so often has done in the past — can lead all to a higher ground.

Jeff Amestoy, Waterbury Center

Fearmongering: from page 13

advanced treatment system in place. Its opposition to this project makes no sense, as the technology we will be installing is specifically designed to remove PFAS.

It's simple. This technology is an important step forward in strengthening the environmental protection capabilities of important infrastructure that all of Vermont relies upon. The challenge to DUMP is to stop obstructing this project, which will do more to protect Lake Memphremagog and Vermont's natural environment than their constant fear-mongering.

We hold out hope that one day DUMP may cease to spread inaccuracies, confusion and hypocrisy. While we know that some people abhor the thought of landfills, we also believe that facts and science are rightly being held as a standard for discussions of public and environmental health and safety.

We are excited about the progress being made on our PFAS treatment pilot and look forward to continued progress and fact-based discussions with the people of Vermont.

Vermont Pitch Challenge: from page 9

The top five individuals/teams for the Vermont Pitch Challenge will be announced in March. These teams will then pitch their business plans in-person at UVM on Thursday, April 4, where the grand prize winner/s will be announced. Prizes will be awarded to all individual members of each of the five winning teams. First-place students will each earn a four-year tuition scholarship to the University of Vermont, valued at up to \$180,000; second and third

place winners will each receive a \$5,000 check; fourth and fifth place winners will each receive a \$1,000 check.

Receipts of the grand prize is contingent upon admission to the University of Vermont. Winning the Vermont Pitch Challenge does not constitute automatic admission to UVM. For the full Challenge timeline and additional details, visit: uvm.edu/admissions/undergraduate/vermont-pitch-challenge.

Glass Earth: from page 10

the real Earth, opaque and veiled, does not reveal its secrets so lightly. Yet they are there on the wind, in the waves that crash on our shores and in the magma that flows in the timeless dance of the continents.

The roots of the mountains that arose several hundred million years ago are the heart of this land. Their slopes are the force of life that moves the flowing cool waters across our hori-

zon. Rivers are the arteries of the rocks and hills, of forest, marsh and plain. They are the long liquid eye that captures leaf and sky, carrying our imaginations and spirits to lands of mist and memory.

We are, each, a speck of humankind, and yet agents of a vast collective that cradles Earth in space and time. Light penetrates the surface of the glass Earth to reveal its fragility,

even as the surface reflects the nature of the hand that holds it.

Michael J. Caduto, Norwich

Caduto is the author and co-author of more than 20 books, including the *Keepers of the Earth* series. He is executive director of Sustainable Woodstock, and founder of P.E.A.C.E.—Programs for Environmental Awareness & Cultural Exchange. p-e-a-c-e.net.

Chipman Inn: from page 7

She has no idea about the fate of many of her friends, some of whom have scattered across the globe in their quest for safety.

Her time in Vermont has helped numb the pain she's been carrying around for more than a year.

"Every time we go somewhere by car, I'm surprised I can look out the window and enjoy everything I see," she said. "I've been to several countries in Europe, I've been to Egypt and Israel, but I haven't experienced such pleasure anywhere, just looking out the car window. I have not seen anything like this, anywhere."

A refugee of war, spontaneity and the

ability to adapt have become second nature to Osetska. So she's perfectly willing to roll up her sleeves to help take care of the inn.

A trained physicist, Osetska's resume also includes stints as an artist and embroiderer.

Her artwork can already be seen in the stairwell leading up to the second floor of the inn.

Osetska's long-term goal is to return to Ukraine, though she's willing to rethink her future as circumstances demand.

For now, she's basking in the glow of her new surroundings. "For me, this is an amazing adventure," she said. "I believe God doesn't do anything by chance."



By Jason Mikula

The former Lynda Lee Dress factory at 10 Cleveland Ave. in Rutland was set ablaze last week.

← Dress factory: from page 1

small fire at the building.

Mayor Michael Doenges met with the police chief, fire chief, building inspector and zoning administrator the morning before the fire at City Hall to figure out what was needed to keep the homeless out.

Doenges said they spoke with owner John Ruggiero to secure the building.

“We put an urgency toward making sure that got done,” Doenges said, explaining Ruggiero was “compliant.”

Attempts to reach Ruggiero weren’t successful.

Ruggiero, a former attorney, owns dozens of properties in Rutland and has been cited multiple times over the years.

In 2022, he was ordered to pay a fine after two Rutland children had elevated lead levels in their blood after living in Ruggiero’s apartments.

Doenges said all the windows on the first floor were boarded up after the fire occurred.

“Right now, it’s probably pretty difficult to get into,” he said.

But Lovett said the owner’s previous attempts to put boards over the windows didn’t work for long.

“You board them up and 10 minutes later they’re back inside,” he said.

Lovett has counted as many as five tents in the building. He’s also seen tarps or plastic hanging from the roof rafters.

“The roof’s leaking pretty substantially,” he said.

On the day of the fire, Lovett said seven or eight people he believed to be homeless were standing by as crews extinguished the fire, with a “great interest” in what they were doing.

“When we left, within five minutes, they were walking back into the building again,” Lovett said.

Lovett said there have been numerous fires in the building over the years.

“We aren’t often called for some of these until they get out of hand,” he said. “We’ve seen evidence of other fires that we weren’t aware of at the time.”

The city has been considering purchasing the

building to solve the issue.

The city sent a letter of intent stating the desire to purchase the building months ago. Doenges said the owner was still reviewing the document.

“We think there’s an opportunity there,” Doenges said.

Doenges said the city would likely tear the building down and sell the parcel to a new buyer.

“The neighbors over there are suffering because of this blighted piece of real estate,” Doenges said.

It’s unclear what the cleanup cost would cost the city. He hopes the property would be part of Rutland’s proposed tax increment financing district.

Clay Point Associates, Inc. in Williston is studying the contamination in the building and Doenges expects the results imminently. Until then, the frequent activity puts city workers at risk.

“We’re putting our workers at risk in a space that’s supposed to be unoccupied in the first place,” Doenges said.

Scott announces \$11.4M third round of Community Recovery and Revitalization awards

Gov. Phil Scott and the Agency of Commerce and Community Development (ACCD) announced Sept. 7 the third round of Community Recovery and Revitalization (CRRP) grant winners. These grants will help transform communities by adding jobs, childcare and affordable housing, improving infrastructure, and helping spur the creative economy.

Awardees cover 31 projects in 12 counties and were reviewed by an interagency committee and approved for round three funding, resulting in a proposed award amount of \$11,400,902, which is expected to support \$164,452,219 in total project costs.

The 31 approved projects are expected to support 1,108 existing jobs, enable the creation of 160 new jobs, build or rehabilitate 315 affordable housing units, and add 71 new childcare slots for low- to moderate-income families.

“These projects are a big win for Vermont,” said Governor Scott. “This funding provides us with an opportunity to make once-in-a-lifetime economic recovery investments in our communities, and that’s what we’re doing. These projects will pay dividends for generations of Vermonters to come.”

“Economic development is about more than job creation,” said Commissioner Joan Goldstein of the Vermont Dept. of Economic Development. “It’s also about making sure those workers have access to decent housing, affordable childcare, high-quality infrastructure, and vibrant communities that feed their souls. These grants check all those boxes.”

The \$40 million CRRP program, first proposed by the Scott Administration and passed by the Legislature in 2022 through Acts 183 and 185, is funded through the federal American Rescue Plan Act. The amount awarded in the first three rounds totals \$31,770,293 and represents projects in all 14 counties. Applications will continue to be accepted until all funds are allocated.

Local award winners include:

- Rutland Housing Trust of Rutland County for its Marble Village affordable housing project, which includes the new construction of 24 mixed income multi-family residential units in the downtown designated village of West Rutland. Eight units will be occupied by those at 50% AMI, 11 units at 60% AMI and 5 units at 100% AMI. Estimated total project cost: \$11,532,508; Proposed award: \$475,000.
- Ascend Housing Allies for its Hospital Heights rehabilitation affordable housing project, which will rehabilitate 22 existing rental homes in Rutland. The homes, built in 1977, serve Rutland’s most vulnerable community members making at or below 30% AMI. Estimated total project cost: \$6,285,334; Proposed award: \$500,000.
- Village of Poultney Water and Sewer which will 1) install a pump station generator for two wells, 2) install a sewer pump station generator, 3) rehabilitate the existing cast in place concrete tank, and 4) pay for associated water reservoir rehabilitation permitting. Estimated total project cost: \$359,436; Proposed award: \$71,887.
- Community For Woodstock Co. DBA The Mill School Childcare for the purchase and renovation of space to create a childcare facility for up to 17 children, 20% will be reserved for LMI families. Estimated total project cost: \$243,442; Proposed award: \$48,688.
- The Sharon Academy Inc. for its STEAM wing addition — a 5,379 square foot addition to replace four very old classroom yurts, with five flexible-use, energy-efficient classrooms as a new school wing. The addition includes a large science lab and a large shop/maker space called the STEAM room for the science, engineering, and art building projects. Estimated total project cost: \$4,432,210; Proposed award: \$500,000.

“These projects will pay dividends for generations of Vermonters to come,” said Gov. Scott.

← Lyme vax: from page 9

study, participants will have at least seven in-clinic study visits at UVM Medical Center in Burlington, including four or five visits with blood draws. Additional blood samples may be needed if participants develop symptoms of Lyme disease. Over the course of the study, participants will need to report any changes in their health to the study team.

The study is being conducted at up to 50 sites located in areas where Lyme disease is highly endemic, including Finland, Germany, the Netherlands, Poland, Sweden and the U.S. Participants will receive three doses of the vaccine or a saline placebo as a primary vaccination series followed by one booster of the vaccine or saline placebo. Data from the

Phase 2 studies continue to demonstrate strong immunogenicity in adults as well as in children with acceptable safety and tolerability profiles in both study populations.

“This vaccine trial highlights the benefit of having a world-class, academic medical center in Vermont and Northern New York. We can help further develop important new medical interventions needed for our community, such as vaccines, right here with the help of our community and our excellent research teams,” said Stephen Leffler, M.D., president and chief operating officer of UVM Medical Center and professor of emergency medicine at Larner College of Medicine.

“We all should take pride in the partnership between the University of Vermont Medical Center and the Vaccine Testing Center at the Larner College of Medicine,” added Larner College of Medicine Dean Richard Page, M.D. “The local enrollment into this international trial will contribute to the global effort to combat Lyme Disease and its impact on our community and beyond.”

People interested in participating in the VALOR study through the UVM Medical Center can visit Med.uvm.edu/vaccinetestingcenter or call 802-656-0013 to find out more.

Those enrolled in this study (receive study vaccine or placebo), will be compensated up to \$1,145.

← Cop cleared:

from page 11

ven after he left his residence with a handgun around 7:30 p.m. on June 19.

The neighbors restrained Barber, called police and separated him from the gun, police said. After Hewitt arrived at the scene, Barber broke free, got into a vehicle and attempted to drive away, according to police.

Barber struck Hewitt with the vehicle, and Hewitt fired one shot at him, striking and killing him, police said.

Many of the events upon Hewitt's arrival at the scene were captured on a neighbor's home security camera, Sullivan wrote in his memo. Hewitt wore an audio recorder but was not equipped with a body-worn camera or cruiser camera, according to the prosecutor.

Hewitt, in an interview with investigators, said police had received a call from Laurie Ellis reporting that her son had been assaulted by a person who threw scissors at him. Hewitt, who was at the Fair Haven Police Department, drove to the scene to find that Ellis and two men were holding Barber on the ground.

One of the men said Barber had a gun and that they couldn't keep holding him, so Hewitt got closer and tried to hold Barber's upper body and discovered that Barber had a gun in his waistband, Sullivan stated in his memo.

"(Hewitt) directed one of the other people to try to take Mr. Barber's gun away from (Barber) because he could not reach it from his position," Sullivan wrote. "They were able to remove the item from Mr. Barber's waistband and throw it on the lawn."

Hewitt, who lost his balance and fell, reported that as he was getting up Barber was heading toward a vehicle. Hewitt said he chased after him, catching up to him around the rear panel of the driver's side of the car and trying to deploy pepper spray.

"It did not work," Sullivan wrote. "(Hewitt) tried several times with no effect."

Hewitt reported that Barber got into the driver's seat of the vehicle. The officer said he was concerned that there might be a weapon

in the car or that Barber might use the car as a weapon, Sullivan wrote.

Barber then started the engine, Hewitt told investigators, and put the vehicle in reverse, at first slowly backing up. Hewitt reported he was trying to keep pace with the vehicle as an open door was sweeping him along and the vehicle began to speed up, the prosecutor wrote.

Hewitt told investigators he was afraid he was going to get stuck under the vehicle or dragged by the car so he took out his firearm and fired a single shot at Barber, striking him. Hewitt said he went to get his first-aid kit and

Barber's girlfriend spoke to a Vermont State Police corporal whose body-worn camera captured her saying, "I just want you guys to let Shaun know that Kenny's plan was, instead of going back to jail, he was going to die suicide by cop."

a nurse who had been passing by stopped to provide aid to Barber, Sullivan wrote.

An autopsy by the state's Chief Medical Examiner's Office determined that the cause of Barber's death was a gunshot wound to his torso. The autopsy found that had drugs in his system, including naloxone, an overdose reversing drug, and a blood-alcohol level of 0.249, more than three times the 0.08 legal limit for driving in Vermont.

Following the shooting, Sullivan wrote in his memo, Barber's girlfriend spoke to a Vermont State Police corporal whose body-worn camera captured her saying, "I just want you guys to let Shaun know that Kenny's plan was, instead of going back to jail, he was going to die suicide by cop."

According to a report in the Rutland Herald, Barber had been sentenced in 2005 to 15 years to life in the death of Charles Schlosser of Benson, admitting to hitting Schlosser in the head during a robbery.

How to deal with bats in your house

Bats are everywhere! It may feel that way to some of Vermont's human residents. Summer is when some species of bats gather in colonies, to raise their young in human-made structures such as houses, barns, office buildings, and bat houses but fall is the safe time to get them out.

"Summer is the time of year when the greatest number of unwanted bat-human interactions are reported," according to Vermont Fish and Wildlife's Small Mammals Biologist Alyssa Bennett, who works on the conservation and recovery of Vermont's threatened and endangered bat species.

"Bats can end up in your living space for many reasons, including young bats that are weak, disoriented or lost while coming and going from the roost, bats moving within a structure to find warmer or cooler roosting space as temperatures fluctuate, and bats being displaced from their roosts due to building repairs and renovations," Bennett said.

Although this happens every year, it can come as quite a shock to those who wake up to a bat flying in their bedroom or suddenly uncover a dozen bats roosting behind a rotting trim board being removed on the outside of a home. But don't fear, because there are answers to your burning bat questions at [life.com using the search term "bats."](http://vtfishandwild-</p>
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Living with wildlife means considering the health and wellbeing of both the public and these fragile wildlife species. Although rarely detected in the general bat population, rabies is a deadly disease and should be taken very seriously.

If you are concerned that

you have been in direct contact with a bat, have found a bat in a bedroom while sleeping or in a room with an unattended child, a pet, a person with a cognitive disability, or an intoxicated person, please call the Rabies Hotline at 800-4RABIES (1-800-472-2437).

If the hotline staff and/or your health care providers

Bats in the house → 37



Courtesy VT F&W

Bat colonies are starting to disperse now that young bats can fly. Fall is a good time of year to think about safely evicting bats from structures where they are not wanted by following the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Dept's recommendations.

← Presidential ballot:

from page 12

of the government.

- Trump has been charged in federal and state courts with trying to overthrow the will of the voters in the 2020 national election. Some prominent conservative constitutional scholars recently wrote a lengthy article making a compelling case that Section 3 has not been fully appreciated or enforced. The scholars wrote that the section is "self-executing, operating as an immediate disqualification from office, without the need for additional action by Congress" or by the federal courts. The article maintains that Trump can be barred from ever holding public office again because of his conduct during the January 6 riots on Capitol Hill.
- When the federal and Georgia indictments are read together, along with the extensive report issued in December of 2022 by the House of Representatives Select Committee on the Jan. 6 attack on the U.S. Capitol, the evidence seems clear that the 14th

amendment is triggered and applicable to bar Donald Trump from holding public office again.

But what about the Vermont election law outlined above?

We would argue that the Supremacy clause of the United States Constitution would overrule the Vermont law.

Meanwhile, in New Hampshire, the first-in-the-nation presidential primary, there are two current efforts underway to keep Trump off the Granite State ballot. One is a lawsuit filed by a little-known Republican Presidential candidate, John Anthony Castro of Texas, arguing that Trump is not eligible to hold public office again. This lawsuit sets up a potential judicial review of Section 3 that would likely end up being decided by the United States Supreme Court.

Simultaneously, New Hampshire Secretary of State David Scanlon is asking the state's Attorney General John Formella to review the legal issues of the 14th amendment Section 3 provision. Such a review would provide guidance to Vermonters and help others before they vote in their states' primaries.

We propose Secretary Hanzas and Vermont Attorney General Charity Clark conduct their own review and report their results to the Vermont public well before the Dec. 15, 2023 filing deadline. They might contemplate holding a public Vermont forum with invited constitutional scholars, political leaders and Vermonters to fully explore this critical, pivotal issue. Should she decide to keep Trump off the Vermont March ballot, she certainly would be challenged in court by Trump or one of his potential voters. Such a suit would be timely for this important question to be finally resolved before the national elections in November 2024.

Her decision would give Vermonters an opportunity to raise this important question of whether Trump's behavior should be allowed to permit him to be on the ballot under a fair and cogent reading and enforcement of the Constitution. Under the same circumstances, this would apply to any other candidate, Democrats included, if the facts supported it.

The Constitution provides Vermont and the nation a path forward.

WORDPLAY

MOLD & MILDEW WORD SEARCH: Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally and backwards

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

- ACREMONIUM
- ALLERGEN
- ALTERNARIA
- ANTIMICROBIAL
- ASPERGILLUS
- ATTIC
- BASEMENT
- BATHROOM
- BIOCIDE
- BLACK
- CLEAN
- CONTAMINANT
- DAMP
- DEHUMIDIFIER
- FUNGI
- HUMIDITY
- HYPERSENSITIVITY
- MILDEW
- MOLD
- MUSHROOM
- MYCOTOXIN
- PATHOGEN
- REMEDiate
- SPORES

SUDOKU

Solutions → 33

How to Play

Each block is divided by its own matrix of nine cells. The rule for solving Sudoku puzzles are very simple. Each row, column and block, must contain one of the numbers from "1" to "9". No number may appear more than once in any row, column, or block. When you've filled the entire grid the puzzle is solved.

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

Level: Intermediate

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Solutions → 33

CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Information
- 5. Seaport (abbr.)
- 8. Agricultural disease (abbr.)
- 11. Riding horses
- 13. Boxing's GOAT
- 14. Hurt or discomfort
- 15. A small sharp knife to trim vegetables
- 16. A beaver builds one
- 17. Horizontal passage into a mine
- 18. Self-immolation by fire rituals
- 20. Chain bar with lots of games (abbr.)
- 21. Goo Goo Dolls' hit
- 22. Agreeable
- 25. In an early way
- 30. In a way, struck
- 31. It's there in the morning
- 32. County in the S. Pacific
- 33. Central Florida city
- 38. Numbers cruncher
- 41. Mexican beers
- 43. Lawyers say you can indict one
- 45. Capital of South Australia
- 47. Wings
- 49. Drug used to

CLUES DOWN

- 50. Fencing sword
- 55. Capital of Qatar
- 56. Portable bed
- 57. Afflicted
- 59. Lying down
- 60. Midway between northeast and east
- 61. Spiritual leader of a Jewish congregation
- 62. Inflamed
- 63. Soviet Socialist Republic
- 64. Impudence
- 1. A way to fish
- 2. Greek mythological figure
- 3. Scarlett's home
- 4. Assist
- 5. More doleful
- 6. Premeditated
- 7. Dish featuring minced food
- 8. San Diego ballplayer
- 9. Eight
- 10. Unwelcome picnic guests
- 12. Human gene
- 14. Bucket
- 19. Make full
- 23. Dirt
- 24. Person cited as ideal example
- 25. A part of (abbr.)
- 26. The 17th letter of the Greek alphabet

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	39	40		41	42				
					43				44					
			45	46										
47	48					49				50	51	52	53	54
55						56				57				58
59						60				61				
62						63					64			

- 27. Very long period of time
- 28. Gas usage measurement
- 29. North American native people
- 34. It says "moo"
- 35. Folk singer Di Franco
- 36. Resinlike substance of certain insects
- 37. Residue
- 39. Grand homes
- 40. Popinjays
- 41. Man who behaves dishonorably
- 42. Figures
- 44. One who watches over children
- 45. Expressed pleasure
- 46. No longer living
- 47. Hebrew calendar month
- 48. Part of the ear
- 51. Swiss river
- 52. Prejudice
- 53. Italian Island
- 54. Resist authority (slang)
- 58. Criticize

Guess Who?

I am an actor born in England on September 10, 1960. I lived in England, Nigeria and the U.S. as a child. I am known for "Pride & Prejudice" as well as "Bridget Jones' Diary." I won an Oscar for a role about a stuttering monarch.

Answer: Colin Firth

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WEDNESDAY

9/13

Rutland County Parent Child Center: Early Literacy

Playgroup

10 a.m.-Noon. Fox Room, Rutland Free Library, 10 Court St., Rutland. Free. For 2-to-5-year-olds. Join RCPCC's Miss Allie, a certified teacher, for a weekly literacy-based playgroup at the Rutland Free Library's Fox Room. Light snacks will be provided, along with crafts, songs, games, and more! To register, please email allie.griffiths@rcpcc.org. Info: rutlandfree.org.

Vermont Farmers' Market

10 a.m.-2 p.m. Depot Park, Evelyn St., downtown Rutland. Free. The Vermont Farmers' Market is one of the largest and most diverse farmers' markets in Vermont, and the first to operate year round. The market brings together as many as 60 vendors. Seasonal produce, local meats, dairy products, freshly baked breads, jellies and jams, maple products, honey, CBD products, hot snacks, wine and spirits, artisan crafts and more. For more info visit: vtfarmersmarket.org.

Market on the Green

3-6 p.m. On The Green, Woodstock. Free to browse. Local produce, crafts, and music take over the town center. Info: woodstockvt.com. (Every Wednesday until October 16.)

Reading Banned Books with Lieut. Governor David

Zuckerman & Guests

4-5:30 p.m. Norman Williams Public Library, 10 The Green, Woodstock. Free. Join Lieut. Governor David Zuckerman and guests to hear excerpts from some books that have been the subject of bans and participate in a discussion about the importance of free speech, inclusion, democracy, and open dialogue. Info: normanwilliams.org.

Tales to Tails: Kids Read, Dogs Listen

5-6 p.m. Rutland Free Library, 10 Court St, Rutland. Free. Join some of our favorite therapy dogs in the Children's Room to practice your reading. Perfect for beginning readers, there is no better audience to practice on. Info: rutlandfree.org.

Artist talk: 'Edgar Degas'

6-7:30 p.m. Chaffee Art Center, 16 So. Main St., Rutland. \$10 donation. Get to know all about the work of French Impressionist painter Edgar Degas, his friends and more. Light refreshments. Info: chaffeeartcenter.org.

Kabbalah Class Series: 'Kabbalah and the AI

Revolution'

6:30-8 p.m. Fox Room, Rutland Free Library, 10 Court St., Rutland. Free. Did the ancient wisdom called the Kabbalah foretell the AI revolution currently underway? Come along as we explore clues left for hidden for centuries. Join us for a very special event to be held just a few days prior to the Jewish New Year. Presented by Yonatan Gordon, a student of the world's foremost authority on Kabbalah, Rabbi Yitzchak Ginsburgh of Inner.org. Info: rutlandfree.org.

Name That Fish Stew! Cooking Class

6:30-9:30 p.m. Bridgewater Corners, Bridgewater. Cost is \$95. Chef Ted will teach the skills to create a delicious New England seafood stew with shellfish and vegetables. For more info visit odysseyeventsvt.com.

THURSDAY

9/14

Storytime! at Rutland Free Library

10-11 a.m. in the Fox Room, Rutland Free Library, 10 Court St., Rutland. Free. Storytime promotes early literacy and socialization skills in a fun setting. Each session might offer stories, movement, and an activity. Geared towards ages 2-5. Every week except Thanksgiving Thursday. Info: rutlandfree.org.

Killington Bone Builders

10 a.m. Sherburne Memorial Library in the meeting room. Weights are provided. For additional information call the library at 802-422-9765.

Toddler Storytime

10:30-11:30 a.m. Norman Williams Public Library, 10 The Green, Woodstock. Join us to enjoy stories, socializing, and often a project tied into the theme of the week. For young children ages 20 months to 3½ years. Info: normanwilliams.org.

Ukulele Group

Noon-1 p.m. Chaffee Art Center, 16 So. Main St., Rutland. Free. Meet on Thursdays as musician Steven Wilson leads the group through specific sheet music. All levels welcome. This is not a class, but a group enjoying playing the ukulele together. Must pre-register: chaffeeartcenter.square.site or call 802-775-0356.

Farmers' Market Fair Haven

3-6 p.m. Village Green, Fair Haven. The Fair Haven market boasts a variety of seasonal produce, flowers and herbs, dairy, maple products, tasty foods prepared by local chefs, fun crafts, and much more. Info: vtfarmersmarket.org. (Last day is Oct. 26.)

Feast & Field Summer Concerts: Balaklava Blues

5:30 p.m. Fable Farm Fermentory, 1525 Royalton Turnpike, Barnard. \$5-\$25. Balaklava Blues are Ukrainian folk-noir trench-fighters on the cultural front of Ukraine's battle for democracy and freedom. They mix 1,000-year-old polyphonic traditions with personal stories and sounds of revolution and visuals that blend folk motifs with contemporary expressions of power, vulnerability and trauma. Info: feastandfield.com. (Final program is a D-J dance party, Sept. 28.)

Watercolor Class with Dale Bills

6-8:30 p.m. Chaffee Art center, 16 So. Main St., Rutland. \$45. All materials included. A lot of fun with splashes and splatter of paint while creating a beautiful watercolor painting. Info: chaffeeartcenter.org.

'No Exit' by Jean-Paul Sartre

7 p.m. Casella Theater 45 Alumni Drive, Castleton. \$10 adults; \$5 students and seniors. A philosophical drama by Jean-Paul Sartre. Tickets can be purchased at the box office up to an hour before the performance or can be reserved by calling the Casella Theater box office at 802-468-1119. Info: castleton.edu.

FRIDAY

9/15

Obstacle Specialist Workshop

9 a.m.-2 p.m. Killington Resort, 4763 Killington Road, Killington \$159-\$549. Spartan OS is all about the obstacles. In the one-day hands-on class, you will learn the techniques needed to dominate the Spartan Race. You will uncover and learn how to overcome the often subtle. Read more on Spartan Race, Inc. Info: tickets-x1.spartan.com/event/obstacle-specialist-workshop---vermont.

Brandon Farmers' Market

9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Fridays through Oct. 27. Central Park, Brandon. Free. Locally made produce, goods, and crafts. Info: brandonfarmersmarketvt.com/about.

Story Time at the Library

10:30-11:30 a.m. Sherburne Library, 2998 River Road, Killington. Free. Info: sherburnelibrary.org.

The Storyteller

1 p.m. Castleton Community Center, 2108 Main St., Castleton. Free. Two internationally known storytellers are coming to Castleton. Martin Manasse has told stories since 1995. He shares stories about love, transformation, cooperation, and integrity, promoting the idea that we can live with less hate, distrust or conflict. Maja Bumberák is a storyteller based in Budapest, Hungary. She will share stories and songs from Hungarian folklore and many other cultures. Refreshments will be served. Call the Community Center for more information and to reserve a seat, 802-468-3093 or email: castletoncommunitysrs@gmail.com.

That's Amore! Pizza & Calzone Cooking Class

6:30-9:30 p.m. Bridgewater Corners, Bridgewater. \$85. Call or email us to discuss. 802-342-1513 or info@odysseyeventsvt.com.

Play Every Town: Barnard!

6:30 p.m.-8 p.m. Universalist Society Church, 5211 VT-12, Barnard. Free. In May 2022 composer-pianist David Feurzeig embarked on Play Every Town: 252 free concerts in each of Vermont's 252 towns to confront climate change through the power of community and music. With this project David will become the first musician to perform in every Vermont municipality. He is traveling in his solar-charged electric vehicle throughout the state, offering free concerts to bring attention to the interrelated issues of climate and community. Info: vermontartscouncil.org.

'No Exit' by Jean-Paul Sartre

7 p.m. Casella Theater 45 Alumni Drive, Castleton. \$10 adults; \$5 students and seniors. A philosophical drama by Jean-Paul Sartre. Tickets can be purchased at the box office up to an hour before the performance or can be reserved by calling the Casella Theater box office at 802-468-1119. Info: castleton.edu.

Artist of the Month: Liza Myers Artist's Talk

7-8:30 p.m. Brandon Artists Guild, 7 Center St., Brandon. Liza Myers is both a painter and a sculptor. Her art is themed with nature, painting the architecture of tangled nests and their inhabitants. Liza's imagery weaves a strong thread of global interconnectedness. This talk will provide opportunities to hear Liza speak about her inspiration and process, and ask her questions. For info on event, pricing and more visit: brandonartistsguild.org.

Pro Wrestling Supershow

7:30 p.m. Vermont State Fair, 175 South Main St., Rutland. \$20-\$75. WOH Wrestling returns to Rutland! featuring WWE wrestling midget star DINK the clown and more. Info: call 518-260-8759 or www.facebook.com/wohwrestling.

Short Plays at Stone Valley Arts: 'Backdoors and Alleys'

7:30 p.m. 145 East Main St., Poultney. \$10 adults; \$8 seniors 65+. Six original short plays will have premiere. The plays take you on a unique journey, probing into a variety of unexpected situations, filled with clashing personalities, wild decisions and quirky relationships.

SATURDAY

9/16

Killington Resort: Spartan Race

6 a.m. (Please plan to arrive 90 minutes before your start time.) Killington Ski Resort, 972 Bear Mountain Road, Killington. Prices vary. This year, Killington will be home to the 2023 North American Championship Race. Expect steep slopes, off-trail descents and massive climbs at this legendary venue. Racers battle it out on the Beast course. Info on registration, details and pricing: spartanrace.com.

Audubon Bird Walk

8-11 a.m. (This walk meets monthly.) West Rutland Marsh, Marble St., West Rutland. Free. All are welcome. Join our friendly and knowledgeable birders on our monthly marsh walk in this Audubon Important Bird Area. No experience necessary. Go the entire 4-mile loop or go halfway. Info: rutlandcountyaudubon.org.

Drawing from Nature Class: Birds and Feathers

9 a.m.-Noon. Vermont Institute of Natural History (VINS), 149 Natures Way, Quechee. \$50 general public, \$45 VINS member. This is a biological illustration workshop. In this class, the focus will be on exploring birds and their feathers. Learn tips and tricks for drawing as well as for creating vivid pages that depict your personal experiences with natural history. Info: vinsweb.org.

The Lucy Mac 5K9 race

10 a.m.-Noon. Ascutney outdoors, 449 Ski Tow Rd, Brownsville. \$20-\$30. Runners and walkers can participate solo, or as a team, and enjoy the thrilling and beautiful trails of Ascutney Mountain – all in support of the animals at Lucy Mackenzie Humane Society! Run either a 1-Mile Race and 5K Race. Info: lucymac.org/event-view/lucy-mac-5k9-4.

WHOOPIE PIE
FESTIVAL

SATURDAY, SEPT. 16

Calendar: Email events@mountaintimes.info from page 18

Vermont Fairy Tale Festival

10 a.m.-4 p.m. Sherburne Memorial Library, River Road, Killington. Free and open to the public. Each participating library sponsors a booth about a specific fairy tale. In that booth, they can tell the story, do puppet shows, music, and/or have a craft for families to make and take home. Sherburne Memorial Library once again hosts the Viking encampment and reenactment. Info: sherburnelibrary.org.

Festival on the Green

10 a.m.-4 p.m. Chester on the Common, Common St., Chester. Free. Kick off the fall season with a fun autumn weekend that will be packed with crafters & makers, delicious food, live music, agricultural exhibits and so much more. Info: chesterfestival.org.

National Park Service Forest Festival

10 a.m.-4 p.m. Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historical Park, 54 Elm St. (Route 12N), Woodstock. Free. Come to Vermont's only national park for their biggest event of the year. Take a horse-drawn wagon ride, try your hand at woodworking, or explore the forest on a guided nature walk. Witness the whole forest product cycle in action, from horse logging, to board cutting with a portable sawmill to woodcraft demonstrations. Visit activity hubs to meet members of the Abenaki community, local artisans, and outreach partners. Live music from The Slow Cookers. Park at Billings Farm; handicapped access provided. For info call: (802) 457-3368 ext. 0

Vermont Farmers' Market

10 a.m.-2 p.m. Depot Park, Evelyn St., Downtown Rutland. Free. The Vermont Farmers' Market is one of the largest and most diverse farmers' markets in Vermont, and the first to operate year round. Seasonal produce, local meats, dairy products, freshly baked breads, jellies and jams, maple products, honey, CBD products, hot snacks, wine and spirits, artisan crafts and more. For more info visit: vtfarmersmarket.org.

Stone Valley Arts: The Art of the Creative Process

11 a.m.-2 p.m. Stone Valley Arts, 145 E. Main St., Poultney. Five amazing Vermont artists and the internationally renowned creator of artistic light fixtures in metal, Hubbardton Forge, join forces in this show to demonstrate the creative process. Info: stonevalleyarts.org.

Rutland Railroad Museum & Model Club

11 a.m.-3 p.m. 79 Depot Lane, Center Rutland. Free. Children of all ages will delight in the HO scale model railroad operating display (HO is a rail transport modeling scale using a 1:87 scale). The depot is now a museum that displays hundreds of rare or antique model trains, photographs, signs and diverse memorabilia saved from an earlier time, including the former Rutland Railroad Caboose #45. Info: rutlandrailway.org.

Rutland Whoopie Pie Festival

12-5 p.m. Center Street and Merchants Row, Rutland. Free. An all-day extravaganza with whoopie pie tasting, music, facepainting and ga-ga pit, a dunk tank, Star Wars characters, food all day long. At 12 p.m. there will be a ribbon cutting for Depot Park. At 12:30 and 2:30 p.m. the Red Trousers Show (street performers) will perform daring acts. At 1:30 and 4:30 a magician will delight crowds. At 1:30 p.m. join adult yoga on the street. At 3:15 p.m. whoopie pie judging begins. At 3:30 kids yoga is offered as well as a juggling show. At 4 p.m. the 700-pound whoopie pie will be weighted and at 4:15 p.m. awards will be presented to the top whoopie pies in the categories of Best Tasting, Most Creative and People's Choice. For more information, visit rutlandwhoopiepiefest.com or downtownrutland.com.

Kids' 'Dungeons & Dragons'

12-4 p.m. Rutland Free Library, 10 Court St, Rutland. Free. Join in on the fun with other kids interested in "Dungeons and Dragons." Info: rutlandfree.org.

Open Mic Poetry

2 p.m. Phoenix Books, 2 Center St., Rutland. Free. Join us for an afternoon of poetry hosted by Phoenix Books Rutland's own Bianca Amira Zanella. Come to read, come to listen, or come for both! Those interested in reading can sign up at the door. Info: phoenixbooks.biz.

'No Exit' by Jean-Paul Sartre

2 p.m. Casella Theater 45 Alumni Drive, Castleton. \$10 adults; \$5 students and seniors. A philosophical drama by Jean-Paul Sartre. Tickets can be purchased at the box office up to an hour before the performance or can be reserved by calling the Casella Theater box office at 802-468-1119. Info: castleton.edu.

Coloring with Kestrels

5-6 p.m. VINS, 149 Nature's Way, Quechee. Join a VINS educator for "Coloring with Kestrels" to meet an ambassador bird and learn all about falcons while exploring your artistic side. Join a VINS educator to meet an ambassador bird and learn all about falcons while exploring your artistic side. Draw inspiration from one of our live avian models or color in some provided images of different falcon species, all while learning about the natural history of North America's smallest falcon! Participants can enjoy provided images and coloring supplies or bring their own supplies for some feather-tastic fun, then take home a special souvenir of the experience! Info: vinsweb.org.

Hands-on Hand-made Pasta Lesson

6:30-9:30 p.m. Bridgewater Corners, Bridgewater. \$85. Learn how to make tortellini, fettuccini, and ravioli plus three different fillings and three accompanying sauces. Call or email us to discuss. 802-342-1513 or info@odysseyeventsvt.com.

Movie screening: 'Green Book' (2018)

7 p.m. Heald Auditorium of Ludlow Town Hall, Depot St., Ludlow. Free. A working-class Italian-American bouncer becomes the driver for an African-American classical pianist on a tour of venues through the 1960s American South. A poignant and humorous exploration of cultural differences. Info: folaus.

Paula Poundstone

7:30 p.m. Paramount Theatre, 30 Center St., Rutland. Tickets: \$35-\$45. Live performance with stand-up comedian Paula Poundstone. Poundstone is known for her smart, observational humor and irreverent wit that has become the stuff of legend. Info: paramountvt.org.

Short Plays at Stone Valley Arts:

'Backdoors and Alleys'

7:30 p.m. 145 East Main St., Poultney. \$10 adults; \$8 seniors 65+. Six original short plays will premiere. The plays take you on a unique journey, probing into a variety of unexpected situations, filled with clashing personalities, wild decisions and quirky relationships.



PAULA POUNDSTONE AT THE PARAMOUNT

SATURDAY, SEPT. 16

SUNDAY 9/17

Killington Resort: Spartan Race

6 a.m. (Please plan to arrive 90 minutes before your start time.) Killington Ski Resort, 972 Bear Mountain Road, Killington. Prices vary. This year, Killington will be home to the 2023 North American Championship Race. Expect steep slopes, off-trail descents and massive climbs at this legendary venue. Racers battle it out on the Beast course. Info on registration, details and pricing: spartanrace.com.

Mount Tom Farmers' Market

10 a.m.-1 p.m. Suicide Six Parking Lot, 247 Stage Road, South Pomfret. Free. Shopping for local products and goods. Info: facebook.com.

Festival on the Green

10 a.m.-4 p.m. Chester on the Common, Common St., Chester. Free. Kick off the fall season with a fun autumn weekend that will be packed with crafters & makers, delicious food, live music, agricultural exhibits and so much more. Info: chesterfestival.org.

Want to be a Skelly

11 a.m. Meeting at Drum Journeys of Earth studio in the Howe Center building #5, second floor. Come and find your place with our tribe of Skellies. If you can't make it call Gary at 802-282-2581.

Long Trail Yoga

11 a.m.-noon. Long Trail Brewery, 5520 Route 4, Bridgewater Corners. \$30. A 60-min flow, a post-class pint, & a good time relaxing with fellow yogis. Info: kbkc.org.

Stone Valley Arts: The Art of the Creative Process

11 a.m.-2 p.m. Stone Valley Arts, 145 E. Main St., Poultney. Five amazing Vermont artists and the internationally renowned creator of artistic light fixtures in metal, Hubbardton Forge, join forces in this show to demonstrate how much variety there is in the creative process, and how important those processes are to the final outcomes. Info: stonevalleyarts.org.

Changing Vistas of West Windsor

2-3 p.m. West Windsor Historical Society, 1023 Vermont 44 Brownsville. The Grange program series will return to the Grange Hall/ Historical Society building. John and Bill Howland will discuss a range of historical photographs showing the vistas of West Windsor in the 1800s and first half of the 1900s. Stay for refreshments and further discussion after the program. Info: wwvs-vt.org/events.

Okemo resort: Music on the Mountain

2-5 p.m. At the music stage on top of Okemo View Lane, Healdville Road, Mount Holly. Fundraiser for the Mount Holly Community Association. Jenny Porter, Jamie Ward, Carlos Ocasio and the Frydaddy band will perform. Bring a blanket, bring a chair. Info: 917-532-2360 or email: jamietaik@mac.com.

Cocktails for a Cause

5-8 p.m. Café Provence, 11 Center St, Brandon. \$25 Couple, \$15 Single. Join us at Café Provence for an evening of specialty cocktails, 'celebrity' servers, and merriment...all for a wonderful cause! Your ticket gets you one complimentary drink and light hors d'oeuvres. An additional cash bar will be available. Tickets must be purchased in advance. Ages 21 and up. Info: brandonpubliclibrary.org/library-events/

Short Plays at Stone Valley Arts: 'Backdoors and Alleys'

7:30 p.m. 145 East Main St., Poultney. \$10 adults; \$8 seniors 65+. Six original short plays will premiere. The plays take you on a unique journey, probing into a variety of unexpected situations, filled with clashing personalities, wild decisions and quirky relationships.

Stone Valley Arts: Community Music Jam

6:30-9 p.m. 145 E. Main St., Poultney. Bring your instruments, your voices, and new song numbers to learn and teach. We follow bluegrass jam rules but we're not restricting ourselves to bluegrass. Please RSVP Bennett at bennett_lovett_graff@hotmail.com so we can have a head count (and enough seating). Info: stonevalleyarts.org.

MONDAY 9/18

Babies and Toddlers Rock

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

Killington Bone Builders

10 a.m. Sherburne Memorial Library in the meeting room. Free. Weights are provided. For additional information call the library at 802-422-9765.

Book Explorers

3:15-4 p.m. Fletcher Memorial Library, 88 Main St., Ludlow. Grades 1 through 4. Free. Book Explorers offers kids a chance to listen to a new book each session and then complete an art or STEM activity that connects to the book. Info: fmlnews.org. (This group meets twice per month.)

Art Bar—Open Craft Time

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

Poetry Group

4-5:30 p.m. Norman Williams Public Library, 10 The Green, Woodstock. Free. Are you looking for feedback on your poems? You are invited to join the Poetry Group at NWPL for sharing and critique. Info: normanwilliams.org.



High Holy Days 5785/2023

Services led by Rabbi Ilene Haigh
Live and on Zoom

Fri, Sept. 15 @ 6 p.m.
Erev Rosh Hashanah Worship followed by potluck

Sat, Sept. 16 @ 10:30 a.m.
Rosh Hashanah Worship followed by Tashlich

10:30 a.m.
Children's Program

Sun, Sept. 24 @ 7:30 p.m.
Kol Nidre: Erev Yom Kippur Worship

Mon, Sept. 25 @ 10:30 a.m.
Yom Kippur Morning Worship, including Yizkor

10:30 a.m.
Children's Program

2:00 p.m.
Meditative hike up Mount Tom

2:00 p.m.
Study Session

5:30 p.m.
Ne'ilah and Kiddush followed by
Community potluck break-the-fast

Shir Shalom requires no tickets, no dues, no fees, no school tuition.
Childcare is available at morning services.
The School at Shir Shalom is currently accepting enrollments.
School begins on Sunday, September 10.
To join by phone or zoom visit www.shirshalomvt.org.

For more information call
802-457-4840 or email office@shirshalomvt.org

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Calendar:
from page 19

TUESDAY
9/19

Bird Walk

7:30 a.m. Fairgrounds Trail parking area, 131 Town Farm Road, Poultney. Free. The hike will be about 3 miles on easy to moderate terrain. Info: rutlandcountyaudobon.org.

Needlepoint Get-togethers

10 a.m.-Noon. Norman Williams Public Library, 10 The Green, Woodstock. Free. Welcoming needleworkers at all levels. Bring your work-in-progress, needles, and threads or yarns, for a morning of sharing and encouragement. Info: normanwilliams.org.

Storytime at Hartland Public Library

10:30-11:30 a.m. Hartland Public Library, 153 Route 5, Hartland. We'll read books, color, play with LEGOs, and have fun. Each week we'll explore different themes of books. Recommended for age 0-5 but all are welcome. All books read during story time count toward 1000 Books Before Kindergarten. Info: hartlandlibraryvt.org.

Baby Story Time

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

Stories on a String

10-10:30 a.m. Fox Room, Rutland Free Library, 10 Court St., Rutland. Free. Join Ms. Helen of Green Mountain Music for interactive storytelling and songs for all ages! No registration is required, free to all. Geared for ages 2 and up. If the weather is nice, find us on the back lawn (behind the Children's Room, adjacent to the Grace Church parking lot). Info: rutlandfree.org.

Italian Film Series: 'Io non ho paura' ('I Am Not Scared')

4-6 p.m. Norman Williams Public Library, 10 The Green, Woodstock. Free. Local Italian language instructor Veronica DeLay is screening a series of Italian films for her students at NWPL and invites everyone to join. They will have English subtitles for those not fluent in Italian. Please email programs@normanwilliams.org with questions. Info: normanwilliams.org.

Marcelo Gleiser: 'The Dawn of a Mindful Universe: A Manifesto for Humanity's Future'

6-7:30 p.m. Norman Williams Public Library, 10 The Green, Woodstock. Free. Brazilian physicist, astronomer, and winner of the 2019 Templeton Prize Marcelo Gleiser argues that we have lost the spark of the Enlightenment that has guided human development over the past several centuries. Info: normanwilliams.org.

Learn to Create Top-notch Veggie Dishes: Cooking Class

6:30-9:30 p.m. Bridgewater Corners, Bridgewater. This is a perfect class for vegetarians or vegans who want to learn how to make special dishes and for carnivores who are looking for unique vegetable accompaniments—and for everyone a delightful lunch or light supper. For more information call or email 802-342-1513 or info@odysseyeventsvt.com.



Experiencing adventures, fun at Okemo

By Karen D. Lorentz

On a recent summer afternoon, my 8-year-old grand twins got to experience Okemo for their first time.

We started with the Sunburst Six chairlift ride, and they were admittedly both nervous and excited. But not afraid.

Their father, my son Jim, on the other hand, had developed a fear of heights so he filled out the liability waiver with some trepidation. However, ever the dad who wants his girls to have good experiences, he accompanied us and up we went. Piece of cake for the girls, but Jim didn't eat too much when we snacked at the Summit Lodge.

"Oh, it's so beautiful!" I heard one of the twins, Elana, exclaim when she discovered the view from the top. The ride down was spectacular, too, as you have the view of Ludlow below and New Hampshire mountains like sister resort Mount Sunapee in the distance. One of the things we noticed was how quiet the ride is. When we all were silent, we heard only the occasional babbling of a stream below us or a very slight rustling of the trees.

Our visit to the Adventure Zone at the Jackson Gore section of Okemo began with a ride on the Timber Ripper Mountain Coaster. With Elana sitting in front of me, I told her about the trails we ski in winter and, how when we got to the top, I would control our speed going down and that you could get up to 25 mph with the handles all the way forward. When I slowed too much, she yelled "Faster!" I wasn't so cautious on the second ride with sister Calen and screamed all the way which caused her to scream, too.

Miniature golf was fun but also challenging as the course requires some analyzing if you want to do well. The girls simply swung at the ball and — most surprisingly — Elana got a hole-



By Karen D. Lorentz
Eight-year-old Calen Lorentz loved to bounce.

in-one, which made me try harder. But a par 2 was all I could manage. They got a kick out of the balls disappearing on the last hole.

I was surprised at the giggles and laughter when the kids did the bouncy house. They didn't exist when my sons were growing up, but the twins love them and did this one over and over again.

The other surprises were how much they got into "mining for gems" at the sluice and how Calen's hair stood straight up in the air when she jumped on the trampoline and how I even managed to get that photo (left)!

We missed doing the climbing wall, disc golf, and Spring House, which has an indoor pool. But that

was okay because on our last ride on the coaster, we promised Elana we'd return next year so she could "drive" a coaster. (Jim and I were too nervous to let her do it this year.)

When asked her favorite activity, Calen said "the chairlift ride" but quickly added the golf and coaster were her favorites "on the other side of the mountain." (Jackson Gore is a separate base area a short drive away.)

She added she liked riding the coaster with me because we screamed and that was fun! Ironically my Apple watch showed me I had met my exercise goal of 30 minutes that day — must have gotten my heart rate up with those coaster screams!

Elana also liked the "lifting chair" and emphasized "I really liked the view."

Asked if anything was scary, the answer was no at first, but she added that when the chair stopped on the way down and swung a little she didn't like that.

The reference to going fast made Calen add, "I feel like little Okemo → 29

[MUSIC Scene]

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

WED
9/13

POULTNEY

7 p.m. The Poultney Pub – Open Mic hosted by Danny Lang

QUECHEE

6 p.m. Public House Pub – Chris Pallutto

RUTLAND

5 p.m. Roots Restaurant – Ryan Fuller

5:30 p.m. Strangefellows Pub – Duane Carleton

Pittsford

6:30 p.m. Lothrop School – Square dancing with the cast of 8's Square Dance Club

RUTLAND

7 p.m. The Mad Rose – Trivia with DJ EG

CHESTER

2 p.m. - Down to the Roots - Sammy B.

THURS
9/14

LUDLOW

1p.m. Fox Run – Sammy B.

BARNARD

5:30 p.m. Fable Farm – Feast & Field with Balaklava Blues

KILLINGTON

5 p.m. Moguls Sports Pub – Duane Carleton

6 p.m. Liquid Art – Open Mic hosted by Tee Boneicus Jones

6 p.m. Rivershed – Chris Pallutto

6 p.m. The Foundry – Ryan Fuller

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 Session with Gypsy Reel

POULTNEY

7 p.m. The Poultney Pub – Vinyl Night with Ken

QUECHEE

6:30 p.m. Public House Pub – Name That Tune Bingo & Pie the Boss Andrew Schain

RUTLAND

6 p.m. Strangefellows Pub – Trivia Night

6:30 p.m. Angler Pub – Open Mic hosted by John Lafave

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

FRI
9/15

KILLINGTON

6 p.m. Rivershed Killington – Red River North

6 p.m. Still on the Mountain –

Nick Bredice

6 p.m. The Foundry – Ryan Fuller

7:30 p.m. McGrath's Irish Pub – Donal O'Shaughnessy

8 p.m. Jax Food & Games – Zach Yakaitis

LUDLOW

6 p.m. Calcuttas – James Joel

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

POULTNEY

6 p.m. The Poultney Pub – Kowalski Brothers

QUECHEE

5:30 p.m. Public House Pub – Sammy B

STOCKBRIDGE

7:30 p.m. Wild Fern – Heather Lynne

RUTLAND

9 p.m. - Rutland Center Street- DJ EG

SAT
9/16

BRIDGEWATER

8 p.m. Woolen Mill Comedy Club – Comedy Night with Rodney Norman

KILLINGTON

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

6 p.m. Moguls Sports Pub – Duane Carleton

6 p.m. Rivershed Killington – Rhys Chalmers

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

6 p.m. The Foundry – Nick Bredice

7:30 p.m. McGrath's Irish Pub – Donal O'Shaughnessy

8 p.m. Jax Food & Games – Live Music

LUDLOW

6 p.m. Calcuttas – Tony Lee Thomas

8:30 p.m. Off the Rails – Chris Pallutto

QUECHEE

5:30 p.m. Public House Pub – Em & Nat

RUTLAND

7 p.m. Moose Lodge – Ryan Fuller

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

STOCKBRIDGE

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

SUN
9/17

BOMOSEEN

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

KILLINGTON

2 p.m. The Umbrella Bar at Snowshed – Nick Bredice

5 p.m. The Foundry – Summit Pond Jazz

6 p.m. Liquid Art – Tee Boneicus Jones

6 p.m. Rivershed – Trivia Night

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

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

STOCKBRIDGE

7:30 p.m. Wild Fern – Rick Redington

LUDLOW

6:30 p.m. - Fox Run Par Bar - Sammy B.

WOODSTOCK

12 p.m. Mon Vert Café – Jim Yeager and Jeff Stedman

MON
9/18

KILLINGTON

5:30 p.m. Mary Lou's – BAK'n

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

6 p.m. Off the Rails – Sammy B

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

WOODSTOCK

5 p.m. The Village Inn – Jim Yeager and Jeff Stedman

TUES
9/19

KILLINGTON

5:30 p.m. Mary Lou's – Bow Thayer, Krishna Guthrie & Special Guests

6 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

QUECHEE

5 p.m. The Public House – Jim Yeager and Chris Campbell

RUTLAND

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

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How Dream Makers Bakers plans to build and transports a 700 pound Whoopie Pie

Saturday, Sept. 16—RUTLAND—The Rutland region's now infamous second annual Whoopie Pie Festival will return to Center Street and Merchants Row downtown this Saturday.

The highly anticipated event last year was a huge success with Killington's Dream Makers Bakers wowing crowds with a whoopie pie weighing in at 553 pounds. This year, owner Megan Wagner is planning to bake a 700-pound pie!

As the Whoopie Fest returns for its second year, the Mountain Times had a chance to catch up with Wagner to discuss how her team will prepare for such a massive undertaking.

MT: What do you think makes a good whoopie pie?

Megan Wagner: What I think makes a good whoopie pie is the perfect balance of velvety cake layers sandwiching a silky-smooth marshmallow filling. The cake needs to be firm enough to hold the frosting in but also soft enough that it doesn't put pressure on the filling when bitten. Proper proportions are also important because if there is not enough filling you won't taste it and with too much it will wind up on your clothes or the floor. Our whoopie pie recipe was created by Ruth Sylvester and was passed down to Ralph Sylvester who then shared it with me. It is everything a classic whoopie pie should be, a simple uncomplicated comfort dessert passed down through the generations. It is said that the whoopie pie stems from the cake scrap and frosting sandwiches that would make their way into lunch boxes and caused those who received them to exclaim "Whoopie!" As a mother who has fed her family cake scrap sandwich treats filled with frosting, I can totally see this.

MT: How did you first get into baking?

MW: Baking is always something I have been drawn to. My favorite toy growing up was my Easy Bake oven, for birthdays and holidays I would always get some Easy Bake refill packs and I would get so excited they would all be baked within the week and I would be anxiously awaiting the arrival of the next. I got into baking as a hobby around the 4th grade. I looked at my dad and I told him then that one day I was going to open a bakery and not just a bakery but a bakery and breakfast cafe, it still surprises me how specific I was about that part. For Christmas that year my dad got me "The Baker's Bible" and "1001 Muffins" and my experimenting in the kitchen began. It would suit the story well if I could say from then on, I worked hard and long towards this goal, but the truth is somewhere in my late teens - early 20s I lost sight of this dream, as maximizing the enjoyment of my youth became my priority. Eventually, this brought me to Killington where I found myself working as a server at Choices for Chef Claude. It was total happenstance that I got hired as I had just moved to Killington in the beginning of summer and I walked in, to ask for a job during the slow season. It was the first place that I applied to and I was rejected because of the timing. Well, they had a server walk out that night and I got the job the next day. I had no idea that this restaurant was known for its from scratch dessert and pastry when I applied or that this is the place that would lead back to my path. Chef Claude took me under his wing as he had done for so many, and he helped me turn my passion hobby into a career as I got my start as his pastry chef. Seven years after that Dream Maker Bakers was born.

MT: Where did you get the idea for the name? Was it inspired by Killington's famous ski trail?

MW: Dream Maker Bakers getting its name was one of the hardest parts of getting started. I put a lot of impor-



By Erica Canada

Last year's 550-pound whoopie pie is lowered carefully into place in downtown Rutland. Whoopie pie baker extraordinaire Megan Wagner is aiming for a 750-pound whoopie pie this year. She'll use 100 lbs. of flour, 80 lbs. cane sugar, 396 oz. of vegetable oil, 9 gal. of milk, and 180 eggs. The filling will require 72 lbs. each of butter, shortening and marshmallow fluff, and 180 lbs. of powdered sugar, and vanilla flavoring.

tance on this decision and wasn't happy with any of our ideas. The final two contenders were Megan Marie's Cakery and Dream Maker Bakers. Megan Marie because that's me and it had a cute sound to it and Dream Maker because it connected us to the mountain we all love and it's an awesome trail. Ultimately time was up, and a name needed to be chosen, as not having one was holding everything up. I went with Dream Maker Bakers because I always knew this place was going to be bigger than just me and it was going to take a team to pull it off. I felt like a team would be prouder to stand behind the name Dream Maker Bakers and that it was more inclusive of all my future teammates than just a bakery named after me.

MT: Describe your passion for baking.

MW: There are few things in this world I find as soothing and therapeutic as submerging my hands into a bowl of flour. It instantly evokes a sigh of relief, I begin to feel grounded, and the stresses of life begin to fade away and are replaced by the thoughts of what the grains of wheat and butter I am pinching between my fingers will become. When you begin to understand how the way you handle the ingredients and the way they interact with one another and the effects that has on the end result, it becomes a challenge every time you repeat a recipe to make it better than the last. Baking really is a math-based science with several variables, many of which are not controlled. Because you

can only manipulate these variables so much, understanding them is imperative in creating a consistent product.

MT: What challenges and expectations do you have for this year's whoopie pie festival?

MW: The massive whoopie is the most technically challenging project we take on. It requires months of planning, coordinating and participation from many others. We do not have an oven big enough for this project, but Domenic of Domenic's Pizzeria opens up his kitchen for us and has one that is almost big enough. We make it big enough by getting a custom-made stainless steel extender box made by JW Plumbing and Heating that allows us to leave the door open and enclose the extra space. It then takes four people to get the 200 lbs. of cake and pan in and out of a hot oven. Last year, after this each cake layer was tilted at a 65 degree angle a total 10 times each to get them in and out of the building we cooked it in, into ours and back out again. This was an extreme but necessary risk that we will not have to do this year thanks to Black River Produce being willing to park a refrigerated box truck at the bakery for a few days. The next feat is getting the cakes out of the pan. In order to do this the pan will be heated with propane torches, ratchet strapped to a custom-made 5' x 5' display board and then the total weight of 300 pounds will be flipped 180 degrees to get the cake out.

Leaf peepers beware: One of Vermont's most photographed foliage spots closed to tourists

Thousands of flannel-clad visitors flock to Sleepy Hollow Farm every autumn for an Instagram photo op, creating a dangerous nuisance for the town and local residents.

By Ethan Weinstein, VT Digger

Amid social media-induced traffic jams, the towns of Pomfret and Woodstock plan to close roads this fall leading to a popular foliage photo op.

Pomfret's picturesque Sleepy Hollow Farm has featured in films and magazines for years. The property's winding driveway leads downhill past a small pond to a weathered barn and farmhouse, backed by grassland and a wooded hillside. Photographers tend to congregate on the road looking over and above the Disney World version of Vermont.

But town officials say that since the advent of social media, hundreds of cars and thousands of tourists now flock to the dirt road every fall.

"It's always been a popular foliage tourist destination, attraction, whatever you want to call it," said John Peters Jr., chair of the Pomfret Select Board. "People post and then everybody sees it. And then everybody wants to come see it."

Thousands of TikToks and Instagram posts — many garnering tens of thousands of likes — have tagged the location of this photogenic hill farm.

A scan of those videos and photos shows tourists adorned in pumpkin spice-kitsch: flannels and big hats, earth tones and maple leaves abound. Many crank the saturation, turning the fall foliage to Day-Glo.

The pilgrimage to Sleepy Hollow has become so popular, a new genre of post has emerged, with people uploading videos contrasting their expectation of the property with the snapshot-hungry horde they actually find congregating at the farm. Others have taken to explaining that Sleepy Hollow is private property and will be closed to tourists this fall.

Last year, in an attempt to address traffic woes, Pomfret experimented with making

Cloudland Road one-way only during peak foliage. But cars continued to park haphazardly along the narrow road, blocking driveways and through-traffic in the process. Despite no-trespassing signs, visitors regularly strolled onto private property, officials have said.

So this year, Pomfret and Woodstock agreed to access around Sleepy Hollow Farm from Sept. 23 to Oct. 15, with exceptions for locals, agricultural equipment and emergency vehicles.

Pomfret's Select Board has also approved temporary signage and movable barriers to aid the traffic changes and has asked the Windsor County Sheriff to help enforce the restrictions under the town's existing contract with that department.

Minutes from the August Select Board meeting during which Pomfret approved the measure show some residents expressing concern that the traffic restrictions favored some residents over others and set a worrying precedent. Ultimately, the board unanimously approved the decision, adding an amendment that allowed all town residents to use the roads, rather than just those who live in the affected area.

According to Peters, Pomfret won't spend outside its approved budget to implement the fall traffic changes. A neighborhood group led by Cathy Emmons, co-owner of Cloudland Farm, a restaurant and farm on Cloudland Road, may help fund further enforcement measures, Peters said.

While the sheriff's department will have the ability to enforce restrictions through tickets, Peters said the goal wasn't to issue fines, adding that he wasn't aware of any parking tickets given in no-parking zones on the road last year.



By Ethan Weinstein/VT Digger

A security camera and gate are two measures meant to keep trespassers out of Sleepy Hollow Farm in Pomfret.

Whoopie Pie Samples • Family Activities • Music
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Spartan Race returns to Killington

Athletes conquer boundaries and embrace resilience on an unknown course through the mountains

Sept. 16-17—KILLINGTON—This weekend, the rugged terrain of Killington Ski Resort in Vermont will bear witness to a formidable spectacle of human endurance and spirit—the Spartan Race. Known for its demanding obstacle courses that challenge both physical and mental fortitude, the Spartan Race has become a symbol of pushing boundaries and embracing resilience.

The Spartan Race offers a diverse range of races and courses, each tailored to cater to different levels of fitness and determination. For those seeking the ultimate test of endurance, “The Beast” beckons, presenting a grueling 21K course with a staggering 30 obstacles. This course pushes participants to their limits, navigating steep slopes, off-trail descents, and massive climbs.

For those seeking an adrenaline-pumping, shorter experience, “The Sprint” awaits, offering a thrilling 5K race with 20

formidable obstacles.

A Family-Friendly Affair

The Spartan Race encourages the whole family to embrace their inner warriors. There is a kid’s race features 1-3K courses tailored to different age groups, complete with age-appropriate obstacles. This ensures that even the youngest members of the family can participate and experience the thrill of conquering challenges.

This year, the Killington Ski Resort will host the pinnacle of all the Spartan Races—the 2023 North American Championship Race which will be held on the Beast course. This event is set to draw the best age group racers from across the continent, showcasing the elite athletes who have dedicated themselves to mastering the Spartan courses.

- All spectators need a Spectator Pass. Spectator passes are available online for \$20. Passes will be available

on-site for \$25.

- Wristbands can be picked up at the Spectator Tent on Race Day.
- Please print and fill out the Spartan Race Waiver the Spartan Race | Vermont Obstacle Course Races event page and bring it with you along with one valid form of photo identification.
- Food, drink and sponsor product will be available for purchase.
- Some venues have unique spectator viewing access to get your favorite Spartan racer’s picture.

Parking is at Skyship Base Station. There will be buses available running from Skyship to Bear Mtn. Base Lodge and back throughout the day starting at 5:30 a.m. with last bus down at 9 p.m. on Sat and 6 a.m.-7 p.m. on Sunday.

For more information visit spartan.com.

“You can’t escape adversity.
How you handle it
is your legacy.”
-Joe De Sena



By Robin Alberti



By Robin Alberti

Courtesy Spartan.com

Contestants will push the limits at this year's Spartan Race being held at Killington Resort on Sept 16-17.

Spartan Race schedule of events Saturday and Sunday

SEPT. 16

ULTRA 50K 60 OBSTACLES

- 6:15 a.m.
Age Group
Compete against your Age Group
- 6:30-6:45 a.m.
Open
Challenge Yourself
- 6 a.m.
Elite
Race Against the Best



BEAST 21K 30 OBSTACLES

- North American Championship Race*
- 7:15-8 a.m.
Age Group North American Championship Qualifiers
(Qualification Required)
 - 8:15-9:45 a.m.



Early Morning

- 10 a.m.-Noon
OPEN
- 7 a.m.
Elite
Race Against the Best

HURRICANE HEAT 4HR

- 2 p.m.

KIDS RACE 1-3K

- 9-9:15 a.m.
2 Mile Competitive
2 Mile Open
1 Mile Open
1/2 Mile Open

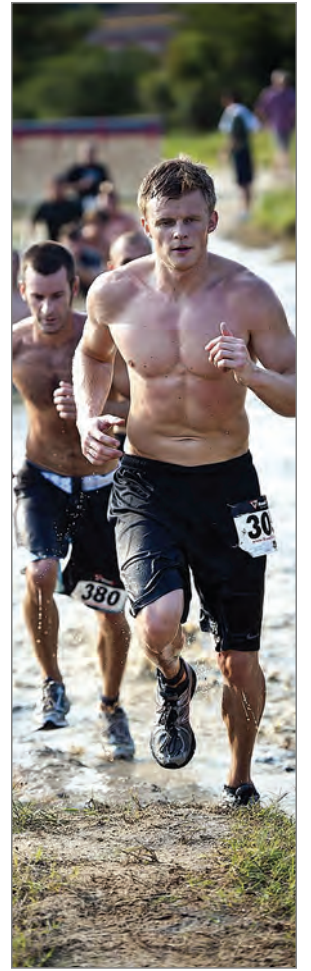
SEPT. 17

- 9-9:15 a.m.
2 Mile Competitive
- Noon
2 Mile Open
1 Mile Open
1/2 Mile Open



SPRINT 5K 20 OBSTACLES

- 7:45-8:15 a.m.
Age Group
Compete in your Age Bracket
- 8:30-9:45 a.m.
Early Morning
- 10 a.m.-1:30pm
Open
- 11:45 a.m.
Open
U.S. Army Be All You Can Be Heat
- 7:30 a.m.
Elite
Race Against the Best



Photos by Paul Holmes

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The Forest Festival returns to Woodstock this Saturday

Saturday, September 16—WOODSTOCK—The Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historical Park on 54 Elm St. (Route 12N) Woodstock, will hold its Forest Festival this Saturday, Sept. 16. Take a horse-drawn wagon ride, try your hand at wood-working, or explore the forest on a guided nature walk. Witness the whole forest product cycle in action, from horse-logging, to board cutting with a portable sawmill, to woodcraft demonstrations. Visit activity hubs to meet members of the Abenaki community, local artisans, and outreach partners. For a full activity schedule, visit the Forest Festival event



page. Bring a Blanket or Chairs and Enjoy Live Music from The Slow Cookers Noon-2 p.m.: The Slow Cookers' collection of folksy covers will warm your heart, nourish your soul, and satiate your appetite. The group of friends started playing on local Burlington porches and have since brought their wide array of acoustic instruments to farmers' markets, bicycle fundraisers, and hometown bars throughout the state. Their setlists cross multiple genres and they guarantee there's a song for everyone to dance, sing, or smile along to. **Mansion Open House** 12:30-2:30 p.m.: View the

first floor of the Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller Mansion. No reservations required. **Guided Hikes:** Sign up in advance on Recreation.gov! (Search 9/16/23.) Spots are limited.

- 10:30 a.m.-noon: Forest Past, Present, and Future: Interpreting History Through Trees
- 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.: Alosada Kpiwi: An Abenaki Perspective with Place
- 1:30-3p.m.: Alosada Kpiwi: An Abenaki Perspective with Place
- 2-3:30 p.m.: Forest Past, Present, and Future: Interpreting History Through Trees
- 2:30-3:15 p.m.: Nature Journaling

For questions or for more information call 802-457-3368 ext. 0.

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Chester Festival kicks off fall season

For over 40 years, this annual event has been held as a hallmark kick off the fall foliage season here in our Vermont town, where hundreds of people converge on our historic Green from all over New England. This is a free outdoor event where the center of town will be lined with vendors making delicious food and offering pottery, fine woodworking, fiber art, jewelry, photography, glass, and much more with something of interest for everyone. In addition to many new vendors and returning favorites, we'll have live music, artisan demonstrations, field games, farm animals, and lots of family fun activities. For more information, visit: chesterfestival.org.



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Courtesy chesterfestival.org
 For 40 years, the annual Chester Festival event has kicked off fall foliage season.

Vermont Fairy Tale Festival returns to Killington, Saturday

Saturday, Sept. 16—SHERBURNE—The Vermont Fairy Tale Festival is a unique event that showcases the work of Vermont’s public libraries. Each library that participates sponsors a booth dedicated to a specific fairy tale. These booths become immersive worlds where families can step into the pages of their favorite stories. From puppet shows to engaging crafts, each booth offers a unique and interactive experience for festival-goers. Admission is free, but don’t forget to bring a non-perishable item for donation.

Participating Libraries and their themes

Poultney Public Library: ‘Harry Potter’

Step into the magical world of Harry Potter at the Poultney Public Library booth. Experience the wonder of Hogwarts as you embark on a journey filled with spells, potions, and adventures.

Cavendish Fletcher Community Library: ‘Enchanted Forest’

Enter the mystical realm of the Enchanted Forest at the Cavendish Fletcher Community Library booth. Discover mythical creatures, hidden treasures, and the power of nature in this captivating fairy tale setting.

Martha Canfield Library, Arlington: ‘Nevermore Academy’

Explore the dark and mysterious halls of Nevermore Academy at the Martha Canfield booth. Uncover the secrets of this haunted school and embrace the thrill of the unknown.

Jeudevine Memorial: ‘Little Red Riding Hood’

Follow the trail through the woods and encounter the big bad wolf at the Jeudevine Memorial booth. Join Little Red Riding Hood on her daring journey and learn the importance of bravery and wit.

Champlain Islands Libraries: ‘Star Wars’

Travel to a galaxy far, far away at the Champlain Islands Libraries booth. Immerse yourself in the epic world of Star Wars and join the battle between the light and dark sides of the Force.

Brandon Library: ‘Gnomes (Nature Crowns)’

Enter the whimsical world of gnomes at the Brandon Library booth. Discover the magic of nature and create your own nature crown to wear as you explore the festival.

Castleton Library: ‘Make Way for Ducklings’

Dive into the heartwarming tale of a duck family’s journey at the Castleton Library booth. Join Mrs. Mallard and her ducklings as they navigate the bustling city streets in search of a new home.

Barnet Library: ‘Peter Rabbit’

Hop into the charming world of Peter Rabbit at the Barnet Library booth. Join Peter and his friends on their mischievous adventures in Mr. McGregor’s garden.

Swanton Public Library: ‘Gingerbread Man’

Embark on a sweet and thrilling adventure with the Gingerbread Man at the Swanton Public Library booth. Follow

his daring escape from various pursuers and learn the importance of quick thinking.

Dorset Village Library: ‘Pirates of the Caribbean’

Set sail on a swashbuckling adventure with Captain Jack Sparrow at the Dorset Village Library booth. Join the crew and search for hidden treasures on the high seas.

Highgate Library and Community Center: ‘Peter Pan’

Fly away to Neverland with Peter Pan and his friends at the Highgate Library and Community Center booth. Embark on a magical journey filled with pirates, fairies, and eternal youth.

Sherburne Memorial Library, Killington

In addition to the library booths, the Vermont Fairy Tale Festival offers a range of activities and attractions to delight festival-goers of all ages. This year, the festival welcomes back the Vikings with their encampment, training, and activities. While the event is family-friendly, please note that the live steel sword fighting may not be suitable for smaller children.

For more information call 802-422-9765 or visit the Facebook pages of the Vermont Fairy Tale Festival and Vermont Viking Invasion.



Submitted
From “Star Wars” to “Peter Pan” and “Jack Sparrow” and more, there will be plenty of adventures awaiting fairy tale enthusiasts at the Vermont Fairy Tale Festival on Saturday, Sept. 16. Each library that participates will dedicate a booth to a specific fairy tale.

Okemo View Lane will provide the perfect backdrop for Sunday’s ‘Music on the Mountain’ event in Mt. Holly

Sunday, Sept. 17, 2-5 p.m.—MT. HOLLY— Okemo View Lane in Mt. Holly will come alive with the melodies of “Music on the Mountain” this Saturday, Sept. 16. This free event promises to have something for everyone. To kickstart the festivities, Belmont singer-songwriter, Jenny Porter, will take the stage, with tunes from her latest album, “Into the Waves.” Following Jenny’s performance, the jazzy Mr. Pianoman, Jamie Ward, will take over to get the crowd grooving. Carlos Ocasio and the Frydayddy band, performers of classic rock n’ roll, blues, and Latin soul, will take center stage.

The music stage atop Okemo View Lane provides the perfect backdrop for an important musical fundraising event to benefit the Mount Holly Community Association (MHCA). All proceeds from this event will go directly to the MHCA, supporting the initiatives that benefit the local community.

For more information and updates, visit: mhcavt.org.



Whoopie Pie:

from page 22

When we were first asked to take on the challenge of making Vermont's largest whoopie pie I don't think we or CEDRR [Chamber and Economic Development of the Rutland Region] really knew what to expect or just how big it would be, we just knew it would be big. It ended up coming in at 553 lbs., which I think was much more than any of us expected. It was enough to double the previously held record for second largest in the nation and I think we all were astonished by the feat. Planning for the project began by finding an oven, as nothing else could be decided until we knew how big of an oven we would be using. This will be extremely challenging for the coming year as we will have to find another oven larger than 5 feet or we are going to have to get creative with the way we bake it. Once an oven was found next was the pan.

Typically, a whoopie pie is baked on a flat baking sheet, but I knew I wanted my pan to have sides in order to protect the oven we were using from spillage as it wasn't mine. Deck oven stones are very hard to clean, and I didn't want to risk them having to smell burnt whoopie.

The first pan we had made just wasn't going to work and at three weeks away from the event we set out to find someone who could make us a 4 1/2-foot diameter can pan with 3-inch sides. I thought this an ask and was in panic mode until we got in touch with Jones Metal Fabrication who just happened to have the materials on hand and a very rare opening in the schedule. Less than 48 hours later we had our pan, next was the planning of the batter and baking. This is where Katherine Kearnes, the head baker, and I put our heads together and brainstormed for hours and hours talking over every little detail and scenario we could possibly think of to make us feel ready and prepared for the day. When the day came for baking, we had no idea how much batter it would take to fill the pan so we made the biggest batch of batter that would fit in our biggest mixer, 50 pounds of batter. When we poured it however, we both had the same exact thought.... "It's not enough."

We quickly ran down to the shop, mixed up another batch and that filled the pan. As far as the filling goes, we pretty much made filling until we ran out of time and just couldn't make anymore. Many of the challenges we faced from here on out we knew about ahead and had planned for sufficiently. The one thing I didn't really think about properly was realized the night before the big event. I was standing in the back dining room admiring the whoopie layers when all the sudden, in the background I saw the door and panicked. Up until this point the layers had been tipped at a 65-degree angle in the pan to get them in and out of the doors, but now they did not have the pan to protect them as they were resting on their display boards. Some quick brainstorming though and it was decided that we would just put the pan over the cake on the board, clamp the two together and bring it out that way.

The logistic of delivery and weighing: Last year the whoopie pie was brought down to the bakery in a pickup truck. It is still in the pan at this point, so it's sturdy and we used enough plastic wrap to cover it that stretched out probably from peak to creek. Ok, so that's a bit of an exaggeration but it was wrapped tight. The pan was wider than the truck, so we had to angle it. This year we have our delivery van and according to my measurements it should fit just fine in there although still angled. To get it to Rutland once out of the pan on the display boards, however, takes a much bigger vehicle. Last year it was Foley Distributing that brought it down

At that moment we all became startled by this massive roar from a crowd we hadn't even realized was there. We were all so focused ... While the roar was startling it meant success and we all relished in the glory and excitement, a feeling I will never forget.



The upper cake layer cannot be lifted without cracking; here, Megan's team loosened it with pizza peels and gently pulled the board out from under it.

By Erica Canada

for us, but this year, the one we are borrowing will be driven down by them.

MT: How did you plan to get it's final weigh in?

MW: This was something I coordinated because I really wanted to know not to guess "how big was real big—" how would we ever make it bigger if we had nothing to compare to? I had no idea how to weigh such a thing so I began by asking my friends on social media if they had any ideas and there were a lot of good ones but the best one came from Tim Brosnan at Killington Resort who mentioned that the resort has a very portable scale called a dynamometer that would weigh large weights when suspended. He came down to the bakery and taught us how to use it and we practiced by weighing the board.

This year he helped us again by helping us make some tweaks that should help keep everything more level during the weighing. I brainstormed with my husband different ways we could possibly suspend this massive thing but really there was only one easy way we saw and that was a piece of machinery. We had some friends in Killington we knew might be willing to do it, but we also knew it would be a huge ask to request they volunteer to move the equipment all the way down to Rutland. I saw Casella was an event sponsor and when I presented the idea to Chrispin White at CEDRR I also asked if they could find out if Casella had a piece of machinery close by that day and if they would be willing to help. They showed up with a massive bucket loader and it made the weighing feel so dramatic, it was perfect. Sometimes I get nervous asking for help or favors but I was always told, "you will never know the answer if you don't ask." So far everyone we've asked has been very excited to be a part of this.

One of the most exciting moments for me personally was the moment the top layer was placed upon the filling. Every-

thing had been leading up to this point, it was our make-or-break moment. It took 8 people who all needed to act in unison with two teams coordinating opposite motion tasks. It was, I think, the most intense moment for us as a team. Even though the place was bustling, activities were going on all around and we were right near the stage, at that moment all I could hear was my team. My heightened awareness of the voices I recognized as my team felt like a superhuman power. You could feel the pressure as I shouted out the plan, reminded each team what their duties were and the team as a whole, the importance of acting in unison and being aware of each other. As I spoke, I looked at each teammate and their eyes all locked with mine, I could tell this meant as much to them all as it did to me, nothing else existed in this moment but the eight of us and the job at hand. When the moment came it began smoothly but we were moving too slowly. All of the sudden we all could see that the cake was becoming stressed, and the threat of cracking was very real. I remember yelling out "pull the board, pull the board" and everyone immediately sped up doing exactly what they needed to do in unison with one another. While they were waiting for my call everyone saw the threat of what was potentially going to happen, and they were already preparing for the move before the call was even made. It was the team's foresight and connection that saved the cake and the top layer landed right in place. At that moment we all became startled by this massive roar from a crowd we hadn't even realized was there. We were all so focused on each other and what we were doing we hadn't even realized the crowd that had grown around us. While the roar was startling it meant success and we all relished in the glory and excitement, a feeling I will never forget.

This is the most fun event of the year for us, and I know it is just as enjoyable for our customers and community as it is talked about for months leading up to and long after the event here in the bakery. I hope you join us this year to witness the moment when the whoopie pie hangs suspended from a bucket loader and we anxiously await the announcement of the weight. Never in my wildest dreams did I think we would become more known for a whoopie pie over our wedding cakes but here we are.

← Okemo:
from page 20

kids should ride with an adult and not go too fast but not go too slow for another car to hit them.”

Calen added, “If you are 6 or younger, you should sit next to an adult [on the chair] and go on the bouncy house because it’s good for kids.” She also recommends going from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. because “you can get everything in and not have to rush.”

My take, tips

This is a great time of year to do one or all of the activities Okemo offers. For anyone who has never been to the top of a ski mountain, the chairlift ride on Okemo’s main summit is a must. And for those used to riding the chair in winter, the experience, scenery, and views make you appreciate the Green Mountains and realize how much you take lifts for granted.

The Summit Lodge is open and offers food and beverages along with maple creemees.

For very adventurous souls or those seeking a bit of exercise, you can hike from the chair to the Okemo Fire Tower (3,343 feet above sea level), where you can climb up and get 360-degree views on a clear day.

Other options include hiking up the mountain on trails or the Mountain Road, which is an easy ski trail in winter, or you can drive up the Mountain Road (built by the New Deal Civilian Conservation Corps in 1935), and take a short hike to the fire tower. The drive back down is spectacular with lookouts for

amazing views.

There’s also a lift-served bike park on the main mountain.

The Adventure Zone activities can be enjoyed on an a la carte basis or you can get a wrist band day pass, which includes the chairlift ride. Residents of New Hampshire and Vermont receive a day pass discount on Fridays and Sundays. (Holders of an Epic Pass ride the chair for free.)

Capping off the season is the big autumn Fall into Winter event on Sunday, Oct. 8 with live music, food, and family activities.

The Challenge Course has a separate ticket, but it’s discounted with day-pass purchase. (I did the first of the three tree-top courses years ago and recommend it for daring souls who don’t mind wiggling at great heights.)

The Adventure Zone and Sunburst rides operate Thursdays through Mondays 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. until Sept. 9 and then on weekends only except for one last day of operations Monday Oct. 9 for the Indigenous People’s holiday.

Capping off the season is the big autumn Fall into Winter event on Sunday, Oct. 8 with live music, food, and family activities.

For more info visit: Okemo.com/explore-the-resort/activities-and-events/summer-activities.

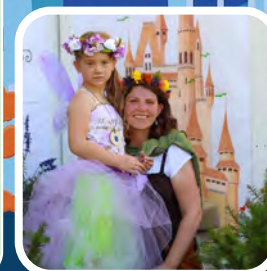


5th Annual Vermont Fairy Tale Festival

Saturday, September 16
10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Sherburne Library, 2998
River Road,
Killington, VT

- Costumed Characters
- Games
- Contests
- Free Books
- Live Music
- Craft Vendors
- Photo Opportunities
- Food Trucks
- Vikings
- Scavenger Hunts
- Fairy Tales



Admission is free with the donation of a non-perishable item for either the food bank or the humane society.



Presents

“Green Book”

Saturday, Sept. 16 at 7 PM
Heald Auditorium,
Ludlow Town Hall



Step into the 1960s American South in this award-winning movie that challenges societal norms with an unbreakable bond.

“Green Book” is more than a movie – it’s a reminder of the power of genuine connection.

It’s FREE; donations appreciated—Info (802)228-3238



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Friday September 22nd



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5501 US-4, Killington, VT 05751 | dreammakerbakers.com | (802) 422-5950

The challenge of the corn; finding your way out of Hathaway Corn Maze

Historic Hathaway Farm celebrates 20 years of corn mazes with brand new mazes this year, along with the Big Maze and the Mini Maze, and a new activity in the play area called Punchin' Pumpkins. The livestock barn gives guests a chance to meet all the farm animals and take a ride on the wagon train.

This year the maze is all about celebrating bees and flowers and the fascinating process of pollination. Navigating the 13 acres of corn and miles of paths is a fun challenge. Also featured is the Bloomin' and Buzzin' maze. (There are a couple of early exits available to "escape" if needed.)

As always there are some clues scattered along the paths of the maze. There are also the eight punches to find — A very challenging job to find them all. Upon completion participants are eligible to enter a raffle drawing.

A map of the maze with GPS location is available via smartphone. Access it by tapping the yellow band on the homepage of the Hathaway website or by scanning the QR code which is available at check-in and in a few different locations in the maze.

There are three bridges along the route of the maze, one of them being a four-way bridge. Then there's the Grassy Knoll, a little field inside the maze to sit and relax in Adirondack chairs. On the weekends and through Oct. 30, a snack shack will be open with lots of hot and cold drinks, mini donuts, Hathaway Farm beef burgers, snow cones, popcorn and more. Beginning in mid-Sept. it will be time to pick pumpkins from the patch (and from the farm shop as well).

In the play area there are John Deere pedal go-carts designed for all ages — 2-years-old to adult. There's also "redneck swings," made from recycled tires.

The corn pit, the most popular activity in the play area, has been remodeled. There are now benches all the way around and it's a little bigger. Other play area activities include the duck races, corn toss, sand box, farm twister, horseshoes, logic puzzles, steer roping, ladder ball, bouncy horse playhouse, tether balls and water mister.

Of course, a day's adventure on the farm would not be complete without a visit to see the animals. The livestock barn is a great place to introduce children of all ages to the different types of farm animals, including the livestock barn including a friendly cow named Flossie as well as donkeys, sheep, goats, bunnies, pot belly pigs, guinea pigs and a variety of chickens.

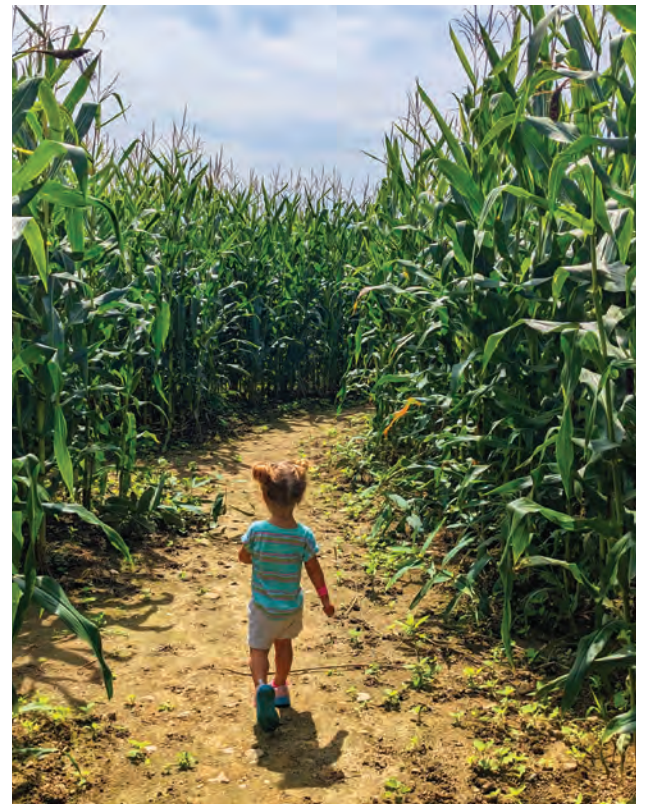
Mini Maze

Another feature is Hathaway's Mini Maze. This one is a much shorter adventure designed for toddlers and young folks to have fun exploring paths and finding their way through a smaller challenge than the Big Maze.

The Mini Maze features story pages at intervals along the way to read. The page stakes are numbered so they are easy to follow. The other activity in the Mini Maze is finding the two punches. They are hole punches located on two different signs located somewhere in the maze.

Midnight Madness

Saturday nights it's Midnight Madness, a Big Maze challenge in the dark, 5-8 p.m. All other activities are closed at this time except the snack shack. Navigating the maze under the stars provides an extra challenge during the night as explorers attempt to find the way out. Upon entry, participants will receive a glow stick necklace or bracelet that must be worn so the bears can find you. Participants that find their way out get rewarded with marshmallows for roasting around the fire. There are several maze helpers to ensure participants don't get lost all night in the cornfield. Hathaway Farm is open six days a week, closed on Tuesdays and for inclement weather. Hathaway Farm is located on Prospect Hill Road off Route 7 in Rutland Town. Look for the barn with "1880" in patterned shingles on the roof. For more information, visit: hathawayfarm.com.



Submitted
Hathaway Corn Maze has added features for the 2023 season.

People food:

from page 13

bear can run for considerable distances before dying. Heavy bones, hides, and fat layers may prevent quick-clotting blood from dripping and leaving a good trail, making an injured bear hard to track.”

A bear was spotted a few years ago in Waterbury, with his/her jaw partially blown off, trying to eat apples under a tree. About half the bears killed each year are females, which means cubs are orphaned every year. Cubs themselves are also killed each hunting season (there’s no law prohibiting that). There is also no law prohibiting a hunter from killing a mother bear with cubs.

After witnessing a sow with cubs shot and killed last season, a Fayston man presented a petition to Vermont Fish & Wildlife that would prohibit intentionally killing a mother bear with cubs. His petition was met with a lukewarm response by Fish & Wildlife, and it has yet to provide its position. We aren’t hopeful.

Hound hunters (hounders) use powerful and tenacious breeds like Plott hounds who run miles away from the hounder as they pursue bears (and other wildlife, domestic animals, and people for that matter). Bears are often chased from the woods — where we want them — and into residential areas and roads, placing not only the animals in danger but also motorists.

The hounders are often miles away from their hounds in their trucks, tracking the hounds’ location via handheld GPS devices. These uncontrolled hounds chase bears, sometimes for miles, across private property and into roads,

until the desperate animal climbs a tree to escape, at which point the hunter shoots the bear from the tree.

This violent hobby often results in hounds being injured in these dangerous pursuits as well.

The hounds also violate private property rights and cause disturbances with landowners every year in Vermont. A woman and her leashed puppy were attacked by hounds pursuing a bear on public land in Ripton a few years ago. The hounder didn’t show up to call the hounds off until about 30 minutes after the encounter.

Posting your land against hunting — per Vermont’s onerous posting requirements — offers you the best legal protection against this unwanted activity on your private property. You can post “hunting by permission only” signs if you wish to have control over who gets to hunt on your land. Some of you might’ve already seen this encounter between a well-known hounder and a landowner in Peacham.

The best thing we can do for bears (and humans) is not offer them food, which will encourage them to move along. We see bears every year on our security and trail cameras on our property and never once have the bears caused a problem. They never stay long.

We are diligent about bringing garbage to the transfer station and don’t offer the bears any tempting food sources. Unlike grizzlies out West, black bears generally pose no threat to humans. They’re just trying to survive in a human-dominated landscape with houses being erected in travel corridors that they’ve traversed for years.



Submitted

The best thing we can do for bears (and humans) is not offer them food, which will encourage them to move along.

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CROSSWORD

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SUDOKU

PUZZLES—from page 17

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Rutland County Humane Society



PUPPIES

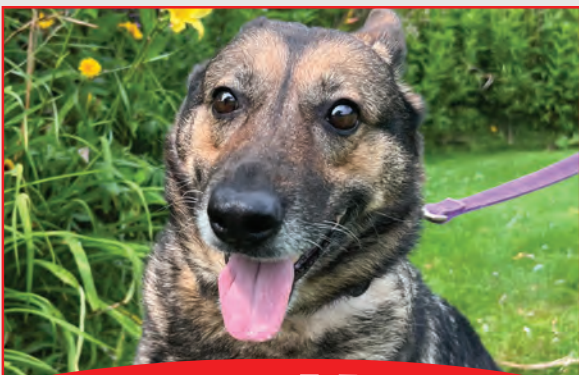
These babies are 11 weeks old and looking for loving homes! We are not sure of their mix but they are so cute. We have 5 males left, all handsome brindles of various shades. For the month of August we are taking \$100 off all large breed dogs and puppies. Adult cats are \$25 off and kittens are \$50 off. So if you are thinking about adding a pet to your home now is the time!

This pet is available for adoption at

Springfield Humane Society

401 Skitchewaug Trail, Springfield, VT • (802) 885-3997

*Open by appointment only. spfldhumane.org



SALLY

I'm a 10-year-old female. I came to Lucy Mackenzie as a stray. Since I've been here, I've been working on my physique and trimming some pounds. I'm a quirky gal, you could say...a bit of a comedian, as well. I'm always cracking my human friends up around here with my eyes and behaviors. I might get along with some dogs (we'd have to meet first, of course!) and with older, dog-savvy kids. We're not sure how I will get along with cats, so that's a bit of an unknown. I'm an older lady who's looking for a home in which to spend my golden years and to have a lot of fun and love.

This pet is available for adoption at

Lucy Mackenzie Humane Society

4832 VT-44, Windsor, VT • (802) 484-5829

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

Catamount Pet Supply Company, inc.

296 U.S. Route 4 East
Rutland Town, VT 05701 | 802-773-7642



OPEN

MON. - FRI. 10am - 6:30pm & SAT. 10am - 5pm

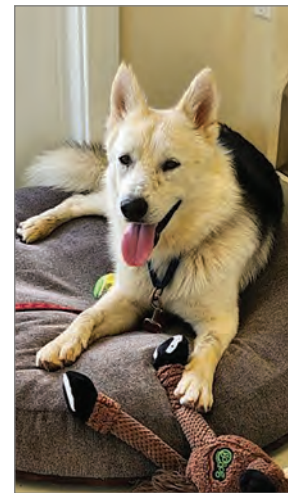
Grooming by appointment | 802-773-7636



Squirt—1-year-old. Neutered male. Domestic shorthair. If you are looking for an easy-going cat Squirt is the one for you!



Bella—13-year-old. Spayed female. Domestic shorthair. Bella is a very sweet girl who just wants love and attention!.



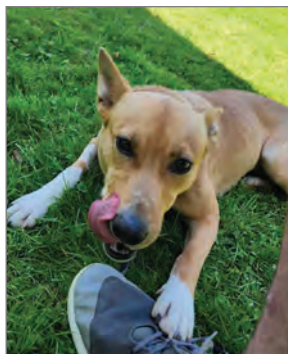
Teddy—2-year-old. Neutered male. Siberian husky mix. Teddy is adorable and a real sweetheart.



Esme—3-year-old. Spayed female. Domestic shorthair. She is a very sweet girl who has lots of love to give.



Max—1-year-old. Neutered male. Siberian husky. Max is super friendly. He loves to roll in the grass!



Zoey—2-year-old. Spayed female. Retriever mix. Zoey is a timid girl who is looking for a family who will give her lots of love and will build her confidence.



ROCKO

Rocko—8-month-old. Neutered male. Jack Russell terrier mix. Rocko is a very sweet young fella who needs lots of love and attention.

All of these pets are available for adoption at
Rutland County Humane Society

765 Stevens Road, Pittsford, VT • (802) 483-6700

Tues. - Sat. 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Closed Sun. & Mon. • www.rchsvt.org



Doug—3-year-old. Neutered male. Mixed breed. Black. Doug is a sweet, playful, cuddly young dog who gets along well with other dogs.



Sophie—1-year-old. Spayed Female. Domestic shorthair. Sophie is a quiet, shy girl who just needs someone who will be patient with her.



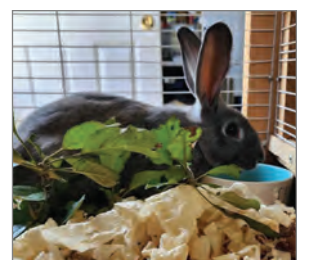
Abby—5-year-old. Spayed female. Domestic shorthair. Black and white. She is a super sweet cat and loves people.



Raven—11-month-old. Spayed female. Shepherd/wolf/Siberian husky mix. This pretty lady is looking for an active family who is also savvy with dogs.

Adult Cat Adoption Special in September!

Join us during the month of September for a cat adoption event. Any adult cat over 1 year can be adopted with a donation of the adopter's choice, but at least \$10. We have so many adorable cats ready to meet you! This bunch is so sweet, playful, well-socialized, and snuggly. They love to explore and make new friends. Our cats are spayed or neutered, microchipped, and up-to-date on age-appropriate vaccines. All you need to do is provide a loving home for them and to make sure to keep up with their annual vaccine and medical needs.



Grey—Adult. Male. Lagomorph. Grey is a handsome and sweet guy who enjoys his timothy hay and his veggies.

Cosmic Catalogue



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 **Aries**
March 21 - April 20

If you've been dealing with a health and wellness problem or trying to squeeze more than 24 hours into each day, then this week offers a solution. You see, if you've been trying to make old ways of thinking apply to new situations, you end up running a fool's errand. Instead, you're better off just starting from scratch and doing things the way you already knew, deep down, was the way to go! Make your sanity your top priority this week.

 **Leo**
July 21 - August 20

It matters not your current financial status when things go wrong – it's still stressful. It's still hours of your time chasing up delayed or incorrect invoices or payments. Lost time and lost money aren't easily recovered but you might be amazed this week just by the inroads you can make. A solution or a fresh agreement can be reached and you can finally put the past few weeks behind you. In this case, chalk it up to experience, just be sure to learn from it.

 **Sagittarius**
November 21 - December 20

The past few weeks have put your career and your life direction on a whole new trajectory. For some of you, it's been the exciting adventure you've been missing, while for others, it's been stressful and worrisome. This week, your fortunes change and things that felt hopeless are now back on track. A new job perhaps, a new perspective or a whole new direction is now possible. What once felt hopeless is now filled with so much potential. The future looks bright.

 **Taurus**
April 21 - May 20

Your social life is set to improve immensely this week. This might involve making time to do more of what it is you really love to do – and with whom, and that includes children. If life has recently been in flux and you've not been able to have quality time either for yourself or those who matter most, you can make up for that lost time this week. But first, you might need to offer an olive branch in order to get back on track.

 **Virgo**
August 21 - September 20

Your recent phase of self-discovery and getting to know yourself better may have felt like you were going backwards. While that may have actually been the case, the method in that madness will be revealed this week. As the bets you put on yourself show signs of paying off, you'll be glad you made the moves you did. Now that you know yourself better, wiser choices can be made from this day on. Things can only go up from here.

 **Capricorn**
December 21 - January 20

It's so difficult to move forward in life when you're caught in the past. This has been especially true for you in terms of finding meaning and purpose. What once drove you may now hold no enthusiasm. You've been spinning your wheels for long enough and this week supports you in making some new choices. You don't have to know the end game in order to make a move. Sometimes the most well written stories are made up as you go along.

 **Gemini**
May 21 - June 20

The Cosmos has been firing shots from all angles at you in recent weeks, and to be honest, it all looked pretty stressful. When everything is up in the air, it can be easier to lose your sense of having your feet on the ground because your mind is spinning in circles. It can be crazy how stress and anxiety can creep in! This week, things will begin to clear up, especially within your family or domestic life, which will bring you the calm you need.

 **Libra**
September 21 - October 20

Have you ever had the experience where a dream you had reveals itself to be true? Maybe it's been your intuition that's on point or there's just too many coincidences happening that you can't write them off as being "just a coincidence." In fact, the Universe is a magical place, filled with messages and meaning that many people overlook. Don't ignore the signs that reveal themselves to you this week because they are guiding you in the right direction.

 **Aquarius**
January 21 - February 20

Financial and emotional stress are so difficult and in recent week, you've had your fair share of both. While it may take some time yet for feelings to change, at least your finances look to be figured out – one way or another. A piece of information or the news you've been waiting for may arrive. The money stuff is easy, but the emotional takes some real courage to deal with. Ignore that at your peril or you'll face this again down the track.

 **Cancer**
June 21 - July 20

It's not easy for you to clearly communicate how you feel. Truth be told, feelings kind of aren't meant to easily be understood. So much emphasis is on clear and effective communication these days, it's easy to feel like you're doing it wrong when you try. But try you have been, and this week, you'll discover whether your recent attempts to get your point across worked or not. In any case, you were more vulnerable than usual and you should be proud of that.

 **Scorpio**
October 21 - November 20

If you've been trying to rub shoulders with the right crowd or have been making an attempt to be more social, it probably hasn't gone so well in recent weeks. Well, that is all about to change this week and just when you thought all hope was gone, a piece of news or information gives you just what you needed. Be open and available for your fortunes to change and seize opportunities as they arise. Recent efforts will be rewarded with good luck.

 **Pisces**
February 21 - March 20

It can be really upsetting to not be on the same page as your partner or someone else that is important to you. That said, the chance to get things wrong is also the chance to get things right. You see the best and the worst in someone in times of confusion or conflict. This week, you'll understand who is interested in fighting the problem with you, together, or, who is just interested in the fight. Learn the difference.

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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.

Move forward

The last Full Moon at the end of August, certainly brought things to an emotional climax. Since then, it's been about assessing the damage as the dust slowly settles. New boundaries and limits meant new rules about communication, logistics and planning.

As emotions shifted and new desires emerged, September so far has been about figuring out how to move forward into uncharted territory. Fortunately, this week brings the annual Virgo New Moon which is an opportunity to wipe the slate clean, detoxify and declutter. This could be in a practical sense, such as deep cleaning your home

or office. Or, it could be in an emotional setting where you finally feel ready to start anew.



Cosmic
Catalogue
By Cassandra
Tyndall

At the same time, Mercury hits the brakes and moves in a forward direction yet again. As recent confusion, crossed wires and delays become clear, you'll be ready to start over in a particular area of life. Armed with new information, you'll be ready to move forward with confidence, after a peak period of uncertainty that has clouded the space weather since late July. If there was any week to finally put the past behind you to move forward, it's this one!

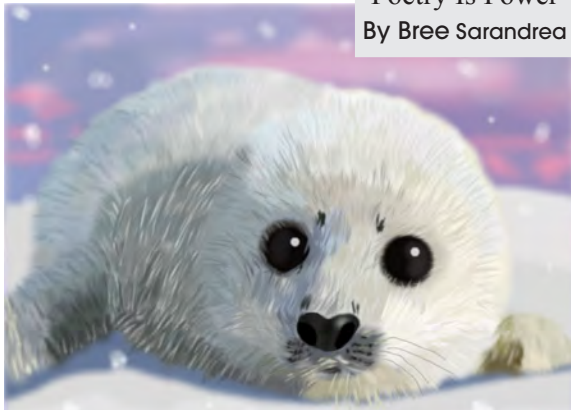
The silliness of a seal

Seals,
They're adorable,
They make you laugh,
And then they, too,
Laugh along with you.
It may not seem that way,
But they do.
They have a silly spirit,
And love to make others laugh.
It's an important feature to have,
Silliness.
It keeps you feeling happy and free.
It lets your heart stay light.
Why don't you give it a try?
Laugh and then,
Make others laugh.
Laughing is,
A kind of music.
It's the kind of music,
That when you hear it,
You join in,
You feel happy,
Cared about,
Loved.
When you laugh,
You share all those feelings

with others.
Today,
Try and make someone laugh,
And then laugh with them.
Spread the joy and love.
The seals thank you,
For passing on their message,
For laughing for them,
For laughing with them.
So just remember to laugh,
And the seals will laugh
with you.



Poetry Is Power
By Bree Sarandrea



Animal sightings and signs part 5

For decades every summer and fall I've admired the loon couple on Kent Pond from a distance through my husband's binoculars. When we bought a kayak I was excited

to discover what I see from the water. So I put in off Thundering Brook Road with my husband and neighbor who has two kayaks.

I was paddling towards the Mountain Meadows dock when a dragonfly alighted on my kayak. Its wings were

translucent with blue-green iridescence. I held my breath for that magical moment. Dragonfly symbolizes transformation and re-birth. They are born in water and mature as flying insects. Dragonflies have existed for 300 million years (while we humans are newcomers—here for 2.8 million). Dragonfly spirit calls us to abandon illusions and masks we create in childhood as a way to protect and disguise our true self.

The dragonfly departed when a loon ruckus sounded across the Pond—the loudest I've ever heard. I looked for boats but none was near the direction of the loons' SOS call. Then I spotted the culprit circling above—a bald eagle hunting for its family's

Meditations → 39

Cliffs host varied flora and fauna

On a recent hike up Eagle Mountain in Milton, Vermont, we climbed to a ledge overlooking Lake Champlain. Turkey vultures soared overhead, tilting back and forth on the breeze. A sheer cliff dropped to the forest below us, a lush variety of plants clinging to its face. Cliffs are defined as areas of exposed bedrock with a slope greater than 60 degrees. We tend to think of cliffs as solely geological features. But they also host distinct natural communities of plants and animals.

While lichens and mosses can grow on bare rock, many plants must find cliff shelves, cracks, and crevices where soil has accumulated to grow. Because soil is sparse, most cliff-dwelling plants are small. These include sedges, grasses, ferns, and wildflowers. On ledges or in cracks where there is more soil, shrubs and small trees may sprout.

Climate and type of bedrock are the most important factors that determine which species of plants inhabit specific cliffs. Sun exposure, slope, moisture availability, air currents, and the direction the cliff faces also influence the type of vegetation that can grow here.

Boreal cliffs, located in northern and cooler areas and at elevations higher than 2,000 feet, are associated with spruce-fir and northern hardwood forests. Temperate cliffs occur in warmer regions and at mid to low elevations near oak-pine or northern hardwood forests.

The chemical composition of a cliff's bedrock strongly influences the plant community. Calcareous bedrock, such as limestone, marble, and calcareous schist, releases calcium and magnesium, important plant nutrients, as it weathers. As a result, both boreal and temperate calcareous cliffs have a high diversity of plant species, some rare, and have long been a magnet for botanists.

The precipices of Vermont's Smugglers' Notch and Lake Willoughby are boreal calcareous cliffs and support some flora that normally grows on high alpine summits or farther north in Canada. Temperate calcareous cliffs provide habitat for interesting plants such as walking fern, which can sprout a new plant from a tip touching the ground; showy wild columbine, with its drooping red flowers; delicate maidenhair spleenwort fern; and stunted white cedar trees. This type of cliff can be found on Vermont's Mount Philo and Eagle Mountain and along the Connecticut River.

Acidic bedrock, such as granite and sandstone, has little or no calcium. Acidic cliffs, such as the granite cliffs of Cannon Mountain

in New Hampshire's Franconia Notch, also support plant life but do not have the number of species or the rare, specialized plants that calcareous cliffs do.

Cliffs also provide homes for birds and other wildlife. Peregrine falcons nest on ledges, scraping a small depression or laying their eggs on bare rock. Ravens build large stick nests on shelves. Turkey vultures hide their nests in crevices or rock caves. Eastern phoebes build moss-covered cup nests under cliff overhangs.

Cracks provide summer roosting sites for the endangered eastern small-footed bat. Bobcats, which can easily spring from ledge to ledge, often den in cliffy habitat inaccessible to humans and predators.

Over time, erosion, freezing, and thawing can cause pieces of rock to break off a cliff and accumulate below its base. Known as talus, these rock piles form a unique natural community. The largest areas of talus occur where unstable rock or angular boulders prevent soil from collecting. Only lichens and moss can survive in the soilless, hot, dry environment of open talus. But beneath the rocks, deep caverns can form and provide insulated chambers for snakes to overwinter, including the state-endangered timber rattlesnake. Rock voles and long-tailed shrews also den in talus.

Extensive areas of a special type of talus called felsenmeer, a German word meaning "sea of rocks," exist above timberline in the Presidential Range of the White Mountains, where they cover hundreds of acres. These huge fields of angular, lichen-encrusted boulders were created from intense freezing and thawing after the glaciers retreated. Few plants grow here other than sedges and a few alpine species.

Cliffs and open talus are unique and relatively rare habitats in the Northeast. Their plant and animal communities can be disturbed by stone-quarrying and rock-climbing. Most known peregrine falcon nesting cliffs are closed to hikers and climbers during breeding season to protect this raptor, which has only recently recovered from near extinction. It is best, and safer, to enjoy the flora and fauna of cliffs by remaining at the base using binoculars.

Susan Shea is a naturalist, writer, and conservationist based in Vermont. Illustration by Adelaide Murphy Tyrol. The Outside Story is assigned and edited by Northern Woodlands magazine and sponsored by the Wellborn Ecology Fund of the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation: nhcf.org.



The Outside
Story
By Susan Shea



Wasting away again

In the late 1970s, when I was in junior high school and first getting into music, I preferred New Wave bands like The Cars, Devo, Squeeze, and The Vapors. I found their songs to be upbeat and fun, which correlated well with my love of skateboarding and hanging out with friends. Plus, New Wave was considered the edgier side of pop music, and that was appealing.

I knew kids who were into harder stuff like Judas Priest, Black Sabbath, and Iron Maiden, but those bands and the dark intensity of their songs never appealed to me (however, it wouldn't be long before "dark-ish" groups like Led Zeppelin and Pink Floyd completely dominated my melodic spectrum).

Throughout this period of adolescent musical meandering, I often heard of the Grateful Dead, but never gave them much thought. Initially, given their ominous sounding name, I inadvertently and incorrectly placed them into the genre of heavy metal.

Things changed when I entered college and became inundated with kids from a broad ethnic spectrum who introduced me to a wide array of musical styles. By chance, a kid down the hall from me was a huge Grateful Dead fan, and in the matter of a couple months, he completely immersed me in their catalog.

I was hooked. The band turned out to be nothing like I had initially imagined and, in fact, was exactly the kind of music I was interested in. With their underpinnings of country and blues and their rambling solos that bordered on adventure, I felt like I had found a new best friend who was speaking to me in an entirely different but familiar language. At some point, it became clear that I had to make a trek to see a live Grateful Dead show.

Eventually, I heard about an east coast show and made plans to attend. I roped a couple friends into going with me knowing that a multi-day festival was not something one attempted to do alone. We packed our camping gear and headed out early on the advice of others who said the traffic would be 'Woodstock-like.'

Sure enough, it took almost as long to travel the last mile as it did to get to the event, but we made a party out of it (as did the other 100,000 people in attendance). I remember an odd feeling of camaraderie with everyone I interacted with; we were all on the same mission of fun.

My friends and I found a spot to park and set up our campsite. We brought all the necessary accoutrements, from food and

clothing to beach chairs and Frisbees. What we didn't have was readily available. In fact, every other person seemed to be selling something, from food items, to clothing, to jewelry, to just about any illegal substance you could imagine.

We had an amazing time on Friday night partying with all the attendees that camped around us. There were drum circles and

solo acoustic musicians performing. Fireworks were going off non-stop as were the sounds of nitrous balloons being filled from multiple locations. The atmosphere was tantalizingly electric.

We awoke Saturday morning slightly foggy, but ready for the day's activities, which included more partying and the concert.

When the Grateful Dead took the stage and began playing, my friends and I worked our way up as close as possible to the front of the stage. I enjoyed the chaotic vibes for a little while, but the heat and sweat eventually pushed me back to a more comfortable location.

All in all, the show was everything I hoped it would be. I had never been to a party with 100,000 other people. The music, people, and environment were intoxicating on multiple levels. I

went home from that concert even more enamored with the Grateful Dead and did what I could to spread the word about their music.

I wouldn't say I was a true Dead Head, but I was close.

This week's feature, "Parrot Heads," is a documentary about a similar group of people who love to celebrate in the same way, except their attention is focused on the music of Jimmy Buffett.

Jimmy Buffett is the originator of trop-rock, a genre of music that incorporates elements of rock, reggae, calypso, country, and pop while lyrical referencing the feelings and lifestyles of coastal and island living.

In short, Buffett's music makes you feel like you're on vacation.

Sadly, Jimmy Buffett died just a couple weeks ago, but he left an amazing catalog of music and a devoted fan-base who will undoubtedly carry on his themes of tropical devotion for decades to come.

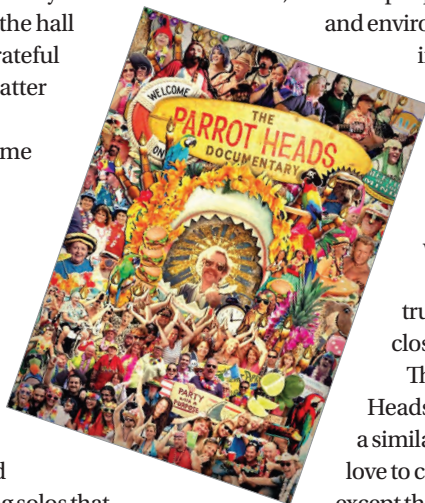
Check this one out if you loved Buffett's music, ever attended one of his shows, or simple are intrigued with the odd dynamics that make up devoted fan bases. The technical aspects of the film are sketchy, but the overall message is heartening.

A fanatical "B-" for "Parrot Heads," now streaming on Amazon Prime Video.

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



The Movie
Diary
By Dom Cioffi



Thick fog disorients into white emptiness

This will be an adventure, I thought as I pulled into the boat launch. Well, it looked like the boat launch but there was no water to be seen anywhere. Not like that commercial where the water is drained from the ocean because a tidal wave is coming. No, a great fog had settled across the entire town of Chittenden and it seemed as though the reservoir had simply ... vanished into thin air.

It was like a fog out of the movies, Brigadoon in fact. And so, with visions of Gene Kelly singing about the Heather on the Hill, I threw my canoe onto my shoulders and headed down to where the water should have been. Gradually, as I got closer to the shoreline, I could make out that new long dock and the big rock that mark the launch area. Looking up the ramp behind me, I could no longer see my car and I knew that on this evening I would be truly alone out there on the water.

There was about 10-20 feet of visual, almost like a bubble of vision inside the fog. Like one of those globes that people were eating outside in during the pandemic. And yet mine traveled with me, floating along as if attached to my canoe. After that, there was nothing. Not even a little bit of something.

Just pure white emptiness.

As long as I kept the canoe within a few feet of shore, I knew where I was. And so I decided the best option was to keep to the shore and follow it along. I've paddled Chittenden enough to know where I was based on the abutting features know the bigger turns based on the rocks jutting out into the water. Counting the coves, I made my way down the western shore toward Lefferts and the island.

It was simply stunning. The shore, vibrant in its full pre-foliage greens on my right and the Great Nothing on my left. There was a definite feeling that if I strayed too far toward the nothing, that I would indeed be pulled into it and lost forever. Not even Atreyu or Falcor would be able to save me. I passed the shadow of one lone fisherman in a cove, our bubbles of light joining and extending my vision just for that moment in time. He could have been a ghost ship, how blurry he seemed out there.

I made it around the island, and then here's where things got a little messed up. I decided that instead of paddling the shoreline, I would brave the middle of the lake. Just to see what it was like. I could just paddle due north and I would end up on the northern shore where all the campsites were and then follow the shore left to the big rock and then just keep paddling west back to the boat launch.

It was one of the trippiest, loneliest, most overwhelming experiences of my life. I've been in the white room while skiing — you know where the powder flies over your head and you cannot see anything but white? I know now that the phrase is a misnomer. There, one can make out the specks of snow around you and even though everything is white, you know you are traveling downhill.

That is not the case in the middle of a body of water in a thick fog. I was surrounded by nothing. I could see nothing. Once I pulled away from the shadows of the shoreline, I could have been going in any direction at all and would not have had any clue.

I found shore on the far side of the lake just as it was getting dark. Now, instead of the shore line of rocks and trees, all I can see is a dark shadow or a light shadow. That is it. I hadn't thought there could be more nothing, but as darkness descends on a fog, the vision bubble gets smaller until all you see is darker fog and the bow of your canoe.

Paddling in the fog is fun. Paddling at night in the fog is just ... kind of scary. Not spooky. Scary. Especially when you're alone.

But, as I learned while racing canoes 30 years ago, one must keep paddling and eventually you will get to where you are going. Whether you can see or not. Together, my compass and the shadows guided me. My heart rate finally slowed as the boat launch came into view. I had made it. And the next time I paddle in a fog, I might just stick to the shoreline.

Merisa Sherman is a long time Killington resident, local realtor, bartender and coach at Killington Mountain School. She can be reached at femaleskibum@gmail.com.



Livin' the Dream
By Merisa
Sherman





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← Bats in the house: from page 16

determine there is no concern for rabies exposure, the bat can safely be released outside.

“Living with wildlife doesn’t mean that we have to share our homes with bats in order to protect them,” said Bennett. “Our main concerns are avoiding human contact by safeguarding the living space, evicting bats from structures safely, and providing alternative habitat for displaced bats.”

Bat colonies are starting to disperse now that young bats can fly. Fall is a good time of year to think about safely evicting bats from structures where they are not wanted by following the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department’s Best Management Practices. These practices are available on Fish and Wildlife’s website or by calling 802-353-4818 or emailing Alyssa.Bennett@vermont.gov, where you can also obtain a list of professionals who perform safe evictions.

Large colonies of bats living in structures can also be reported on the department’s website to help find rare colonies of endangered little brown bats, which are eligible for free bat houses.



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2 MILES TO OKEMO MOUNTAIN RESORT & JACKSON GORE! HARRY'S CAFE. Well known just outside of Ludlow VT for wonderful cuisine & a relaxing chill atmosphere. Successfully run for 35 years with a huge following of customers from near & far. Newly renovated in 2018. Permitted as a 68-seat restaurant. The sale includes the real estate, business, all equipment & appliances, and the land which consists of 5.47 acres inclusive of a separately deeded 4.5 acre parcel. Mount Holly has no zoning so one could build another house or an investment property or whatever you could imagine adding at this location. Loads of opportunity here! **\$439,900**

PRICE REDUCED!

MOUNTAIN TOP HOME CHITTENDEN, VERMONT



26 Mountain View Road \$799,000

This **4 bedroom, 3 bath house** is sure to thrill! Located at **The Mountain Top Inn & Resort** and part of the Mountain Top Inn rental program, the open floor plan boasts panoramic views of Chittenden Reservoir and the surrounding Green Mountain National Forest. This beautiful home is at the end of a private cul-de-sac perched high on the mountainside. The Resort's lake access is easily accessible and comes with a selection of boats as part of the Mountain Top Resort Rental Program. Enjoy Mountain Top Inn's celebrated restaurant as well as activities like X-C ski trails, equestrian, boating, fishing, skating, sleigh rides, and snowmobiling. Close to local golf and downhill skiing at Killington & Pico. This is the perfect getaway providing the owner with **significant rental income potential**. New roof put on in the Fall of 2022. Propane generator included.



Scan to view



Bret Williamson BROKER, OWNER | Judy Storch BROKER | Gary Thompson BROKER | Cathy Quaglia BROKER | Laura Derderian REALTOR® | Walter Findeisen REALTOR® | Doug Quatchak REALTOR®



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Stunning Killington home situated on 19-acres of pristine Vermont wilderness, offering unparalleled privacy and tranquility. As you approach this exceptional residence, graceful terraced walls and authentic fieldstone facades provide the perfect counterpoint to the bold and contemporary architecture. Stow your gear in the convenient mudroom, then step upstairs to the main living level and you'll immediately appreciate the modern design and thoughtful updates throughout the home. The open floor plan seamlessly connects the living room, dining area, and gourmet kitchen, making it ideal for entertaining. Unwind in the sauna - perfect for soothing mind and body after an active day in the mountains. The generous primary suite provides a private oasis with its luxurious amenities, plus well-appointed guest rooms to accommodate a wide variety of sleeping arrangements. The exhilarating rooftop deck is the ideal place to sunbathe in summer or take in beautiful winter views of Pico during apres-ski gatherings. Outside, explore your private mountainside, stroll along the river or enjoy the local nature trails. Located midway between Routes 4 and 100, you'll have easy access to world-class skiing, golfing, biking. **Offered at \$985,000**

KPR Cares. Killington Pico Realty is proud to donate 1% of every dollar earned to charitable organizations.

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By Margeurite Jill Dye

Loons face each other on Kent Pond during a relatively calm sunny summer day.

← Meditation:

from page 34

lunch. The loon's cries ceased and peace prevailed once the eagle retreated to fish for its meal.

Eagle calls us to trust the guidance provided by our higher self and spirit, which is always encouraging and positive. Ego-driven impulses are discouraging and negative. Eagle also calls us to live in accordance with the natural laws of the universe.

I hugged the shoreline while trying to recognize places we've known from hiking for decades. I followed our friend Larry (a good Samaritan) who'd offered to help a young man in distress who was swimming and pulling his kayak to shore. Once safe, we paddled out 'til the loons appeared, approaching them slowly, then we remained still.

Papa Loon called out half-heartedly, flapping his wings to give us a warning. Satisfied we weren't a threat, he returned to fishing and feeding his chick. His mate concentrated on the other young one, diving and feeding her fish tidbits. The chicks were attempting to dive down too, but popped up quickly with their buoyant feathers. As we left, I heard a faint call. A chick was whispering a sound like "meow."

A few days later I returned solo to the

loons. The elders ignored me and continued to fish. One chick practiced diving, the other taking off, flapping her wings for a good dozen yards. Soon they'll be able to fly and fish. I sat enchanted by the family of loons, thrilled by the blessing of being in their midst.

Loons swim and dive expertly due to their large, powerful webbed feet. They walk on land awkwardly so nests are built on the water's edge, often on islands to be safer. For nearly a month they take turns incubating their 1-2 eggs laid 1-3 days apart. Loons live a lifespan of 20-30 years and return to their breeding home every year. During the winter they live on the sea without a nest and sleep while floating.

Our annual Kent Pond loon couple reminds us of the importance of family. Loon is a Sacred Messenger who enlightens and uplifts with joy and self-acceptance. Loon's haunting calls and peaceful ways teach us to find solace in nature, dive deeply into our subconscious and connect with our higher self.

How will you choose to connect today? What will your message from nature be?

Margeurite Jill Dye is an artist and writer who divides her time between the Green Mountains of Vermont and Florida.

The Spa

Certified Massage Therapist
We are looking for a candidate who enjoys working in a spa atmosphere where attention to detail is emphasized as the team works together. Candidate must have a diploma from a Massage Therapy School. The ideal candidate is professional, well-organized, punctual, and work well with a team.

Spa Attendant
The Spa Attendant is responsible for welcoming, escorting, and describing our spa amenities; locker rooms, bathrooms, showers, sauna, and jacuzzi to every guest. General cleaning and sanitizing spa areas, restocking linens, and collecting laundry. This is a great position to start your career in wellness with advancement opportunities available.

Culinary Extern

This is a seasonal position for students currently enrolled in an accredited program requiring an externship as part of the program.

Housekeeping

Floor Technician
One of the most beloved resorts in New England, The Woodstock Inn & Resort is seeking a hardworking, reliable, and detail-oriented Floor Technician to join our housekeeping team.

Housekeeper
Housekeeper responsible for maintaining the cleanliness of the guest rooms.

Athletic Club

Athletic Club Facilities Attendant
Responsibilities include general cleaning, laundry, pool upkeep, locker rooms, gym equipment and more. This position includes working indoors & outdoors. We are looking for a person who is detail oriented & who takes pride in creating a clean space and wants to be part of a great team. Full and Part-time positions available.

Personal Trainer
The Personal Trainer designs and implements individualized training programs for clients. The training sessions are conducted in a safe, effective and appropriate manner based upon physiological assessment, medical history and individuals goals and objectives.

Special Events

Banquet/Special Events
Banquet/Special Events Server responsible for setting up and break down of tables, serving food and beverages and providing excellent customer service to our guests. Knowledgeable in all resort services, plus, but will train candidates with enthusiasm.

Banquet/Special Events Supervisor
The Banquet/Special Events Supervisor is responsible for the proper execution of events at Woodstock Inn & Resort in accordance with the Banquet Event Order specifications and standards.

Banquet/Special Events Bar Supervisor
The Banquet/Special Events Bar Supervisor ensures the proper execution of all bar & service at Woodstock Inn & Resort in accordance to the Banquet Event Order specifications and standards.

Dining

Kitchen Steward
One of the most luxurious resorts in New England, The Woodstock Inn & Resort is seeking Kitchen Stewards. Responsible for maintaining a clean & organized dish station, sink & staff cafeteria.

AM Restaurant Host
The AM Restaurant Host warmly welcomes everyone while seating breakfast and lunch guests in the restaurants. Prior experience in hospitality, customer service or a restaurant is preferred.

Seasonal Restaurant Host
The Seasonal Restaurant Host warmly welcomes everyone while proactively greeting and seating guests in the restaurants. The appropriate candidate must be able to stand for long periods of time and be available to work a flexible schedule including weekends and holidays.

Restaurant Supervisor
The Restaurant Supervisor ensures the proper execution of all food service at Woodstock Inn & Resort breakfast and lunch service. This dynamic leader will effectively lead the team providing standards of quality in product, service delivery and elegance as expected by a luxury resort property.

Reservations

Reservation Agent
The Reservation Agent is responsible for booking reservations and maintain existing reservation requests for all incoming guests. Answer the telephone and greet prospective guests in a friendly manner using clear, verbal English communication.

Country Club

Woodstock Country Club
The Woodstock Country Club is seeking a full-time seasonal server to serve our guests at the club during the summer months. Candidates must be available to work approximately 10:30 am to 5:30 pm on weekends and during excellent experiences for our guests.

Saskadena Six

School Director
The School Director will manage the operations of the Snowsports School division, including recruitment, development, staffing, and program management.

Lift Attendant
The Lift Attendant supports the Lift Attendant Supervisor as well as the operation of the lifts for guests requiring assistance and supervision.

Bar Supervisor
The Bar Supervisor demonstrates genuine hospitality and provides excellent guest service by managing the bar and providing fantastic service to our guests in the bars and restaurants. This position oversees bar service at the Woodstock Country Club & Saskadena Six Ski Area.

Administration

Human Resources Coordinator
This role will assist with recruitment efforts and outreach to develop, prospect, and maintain recruitment sources and programs to assist with staffing needs. This will include but not be limited to attendance at local and regional job fairs, high schools, vocational schools, and colleges as well as networking with community resources, actively making calls, and outreach to develop potential job applicants.

Director of Sales
Develop, implement, and manage the objectives and policies for the sales department. This includes corporate and social sales, and weddings. Balance the business mix and sourcing to maximize volume, spend and yield. Analyze markets and propose strategies and sales promotion programs.

HELP WANTED!
Apply online at
Woodstockinn.com/careers



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*1st level has an ensuite w/private deck
*Deck off of Living-Dining area, Furnished
*Fireplace, indoor hot tub & sauna
\$750K

EDGEMONT - SKI IN, SHUTTLE OUT



* 3BR, 1.5BA, End Unit
* Mtn Trail views. 2 decks
* 1,168 sq.ft., W/dryer, fireplace
* remote thermostat, furnished, \$520K

MTN GREEN - SHUTTLE, POOL +++



*1 BR, 1BA, 613 Sq.Ft.
* Outdoor Pool & BBQ area
* Main Bldg with Spa, Bar/Restaurant
Ski/Bike Shop
* \$185K



Lenore Bianchi



Tricia Carter



Pat Linnemayr



Chris Bianchi



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Meghan Charlebois



Katie McFadden



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Mountainside at Killington



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Enjoy Vermont's finest autumn foliage, live music, fabulous food offerings, and dozens of the finest craft beers, ciders, and seltzers in the region at **Killington Brewfest** on **Saturday September 30th**. This event will once again be returning to the Pico Mountain Base Area.

Scan code or visit killington.com/brewfest to purchase.

