



CHET HAGENBARTH RETIRES

After a decade of service to the town of Killington Hagenbarth has retired. He was the highway and facilities director before being appointed town manager in 2018. In August he became the public works director.

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PICO SKI SWAP IS FRIDAY-SUNDAY

Don't miss the annual Pico Ski Swap this weekend! For the best selection head to the Pico Base Lodge Friday at 5 p.m.

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ANNUAL KILLINGTON COMMUNITY UPDATE IS THURSDAY AT K-1

Head to the new K-1 Lodge at 5 p.m. on Thursday for a cocktail party... and to learn about future developments planned for this season and beyond.

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Rodney Greene of Killington dies in Route 4 crash

On Thursday, Oct. 12 at 3:44 p.m., Rodney Green, 71, from Killington died in a two vehicles crash on US- 4, near Old Turnpike Road in Mendon.

Preliminary police investigation reported that Greene was a passenger riding with Rex Winney, 58, also from Killington. They were traveling eastbound on Route 4 in a

2020 Ford Fusion.

Their vehicle was hit when a 2016 Subaru Outback driven by Jon M. Lantman, 73, from Fitchburg, Massachusetts, with a juvenile age 13 from Mendon, traveling westbound attempted to turn left, crossing traffic, onto Gateway Courtt.

Greene was pronounced
Deadly crash → 10

Okemo's Diane and Tim Mueller are inducted into VSSM Hall of Fame

By Karen D. Lorentz

Diane and Tim Mueller were inducted to the Vermont Ski and Snowboard Museum Hall of Fame on Oct. 14 at Killington's spacious new K-1 Lodge. Recognized for transforming Okemo Mountain into a first-class destination resort and providing their guests with memorable experiences, they were also honored for making significant contributions to the world of skiing and snowboarding.

Also inducted to the Hall of Fame Class of 2023 were: John Egan, pioneering extreme skier, film star, and Sugarbush ambassador; Suzanne Rueck, snowboarding standout, developer of the snowboard school at
Hall of Fame → 4



By Karen D. Lorentz

Tim and Diane Mueller hold the Hall of Fame award made by John Todd of Killington.

Rutland mayor announces new loans to rehab rental housing, sets goal of 1,000 new units

By Ethan Weinstein/VTDigger

Rutland City is now accepting applications for a new revolving loan fund that will provide low-interest loans up to \$30,000 per unit to fix up market-rate rental housing.

Mayor Mike Doenges set a goal of creating 1,000 housing units in the next five years.

"Rutland City stands at a pivotal moment in its history," Doenges said in a press release earlier this

month. "By working collaboratively with our housing partners, developers, and the community," he said, the city could create a "brighter and more prosperous future" for its residents.

The revolving loan fund, endowed with about \$400,000 in federal American Rescue Plan Act funds, will be overseen by NeighborWorks of Western Vermont, a housing organization that works

in Rutland, Addison and Bennington counties, according to Ed Bove, executive director of the Rutland Redevelopment Authority.

"Rutland's housing market is unique in that we have an existing housing stock that's fit for a larger population," Bove said, noting that the city's population of about 16,000 is thousands below its peak
Rutland housing → 3



By Coach Mikkel Forsthuber

Soccer in the sun

Killington youth soccer players traveled to Rutland for a tournament Saturday, Oct. 14. The co-ed team won "about as many as we lost" said coach Mikkel Forsthuber. Pictured (l-r): Emily Derderian, Zoe Karr, Molly Dubois, Aiden Rodgers, Sam Kazatski, Eli Defrancesco-Sias, and Sammy Dubois.

Nearly \$10 million awarded to expand fiber internet locally

4,100 more homes, businesses to get multi-gig fiber internet

RUTLAND—Otter Creek Communications Union District (CUD) was awarded a \$9.9 million grant from the Vermont Community Broadband Board on Oct. 11. The grant will help fund construction of a multi-gigabit fiber network through a partnership with Consolidated Communications. By 2025, when complete, more than 4,100 homes and businesses will have access to fiber internet.

"We're excited to work collaboratively with Consolidated to bring future-proof internet to the 18 communities within our CUD," said Laura Black, chair of Otter Creek CUD. "This funding will put us well on our way to meeting the goal of universal service in the Rutland region, bringing all the opportunities that come with reliable, high-speed internet. The Otter Creek CUD board is proud to be on the way to bringing the broadband infrastructure this community needs to participate in the global economy."

The grant, along with a significant investment from Consolidated, will bring fiber-to-the-premise to 85% of homes and businesses in the Otter Creek CUD area. This includes more than 2,300 homes that are currently unserved by any broadband solution. Consolidated and Otter Creek CUD will continue to seek funding opportunities to deliver broadband to the remaining CUD area not included in this phase of the partnership.

"We are thrilled to work with Otter Creek CUD and bring Fidium fiber to even more Vermont communities," said Sarah Davis, vice president of Government Affairs for Consolidated. "We've seen firsthand how better internet brings new opportunities to small towns. We are all excited for the residents of Otter Creek CUD to benefit from new economic, employment, edu-

"We've seen firsthand how better internet brings new opportunities to small towns," said Sarah Davis.

Fiber internet → 10

Vermont State Police releases sketch of person of interest in killing of Honoree Fleming

CASTLETON — Last Wednesday, Oct. 11, the Vermont State Police (VSP) released an artist's sketch of a person of interest in the killing of Honoree Fleming in Castleton a week prior.

The sketch depicts an individual who was seen on the Delaware & Hudson Rail Trail at about 4:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 5. The sighting occurred just prior and close to the location where passersby discovered the body of Dr. Fleming, 77, on the rail trail.

Thus far, the fatal shooting of 77-year-old Honoree Fleming has left the college community, town and surrounding areas in Rutland County anxious, as no suspect has been identified.

"The purpose of this composite sketch and how this all came about was with witnesses that had observed a person of interest on the trail prior to coming across Ms. Fleming's body," said Capt. Scott Dunlap, commander of the state police major crime unit, at a press conference Oct. 11.

Witnesses have described the person of interest as a white man in his 20s with short red hair, standing about 5 feet 10 inches tall, and last seen wearing a dark gray T-shirt and carrying a black backpack.

Anyone who might recognize the individual in the sketch should call the Vermont State Police's Rutland Barracks at 802-773-9101, or provide an anonymous tip online at vsp.vermont.gov/tipssubmit.

The sketch was made by Detective Sgt. Adam Temple of the Sagadahoc County Sheriff's Office in Bath, Maine. Temple traveled to Vermont earlier this week to meet with witnesses who reported seeing the subject on the rail trail. Sgt. Temple interviewed the witnesses, obtained their descriptions of the person of interest, and then spent hours creating the sketch, reviewing it with the witnesses and making revisions based on their feedback, according to a

VSP news release.

"This is the best from their recollection, so it's not going to be 100 percent perfect," Dunlap said at the press conference.

Anyone who sees a person resembling the man in the sketch should call police immediately; do not confront that person themselves, Castleton Police Chief Peter Mantello reminded the public.

In addition to releasing the sketch to the public, detectives with the VSP continue to review potential evidence in the case, including forensic evidence with the assistance of the Vermont Forensic Laboratory at the Department of Public Safety in Waterbury. The Victim Services Unit is working closely with Dr. Fleming's family.

In addition, uniformed troopers from the Field Force Division will maintain a presence in and around Castleton and the Vermont State University Castleton Campus as part of normal shift coverage.

Case No. 23B4006310



Recognize this person? Call Vermont State Police in Rutland, 802-773-9101 or leave an anonymous tip online, vsp.vermont.gov/tipssubmit

COMMUNITY UPDATE

KPAA ANNUAL MEETING

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19TH FROM 5:00 P.M. - 8:00 P.M.

KILLINGTON K-1 LODGE

COCKTAIL PARTY IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING

HEAR FROM COMMUNITY MEMBERS:

Killington Pico Area Association

Mike Solimano, President/GM Killington Ski Resort

Michael Ramsey, Killington Town Manager

Michael Sneyd, President, Resort Residential Division Great Gulf

GREAT GULF

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New faces join the ranks at the town of Killington

By Polly Mikula

A number of personnel changes have taken place recently in the town of Killington.

On Monday night, Oct. 16, the Select Board accepted the resignation of Chet Hagenbarth who is retiring after over a decade of service to the town. He was the highway and facilities director before being appointed town manager in 2018. In August he became the public works director, as Michael Ramsey took over as the new town manager.

The town will be seeking to replace the public works position that Hagenbarth is vacating immediately.

The town has onboarded three new staff members and one intern over the past month.

Lisa Davis, who has been working as a planning consultant as a subcontractor has now filled the full time position as town planner; she is working with a new intern from UVM who is spearheading research for a municipal energy resilience program grant.

On the finance side, Mary Ellen Keenan-Haff has taken the position as finance director, which was recently vacated by Mark Dakota. Keenan-Haff was selected from a dozen applicants who applied for the position.

The town fire dept. also grew by two, hiring twin brothers Richard and Craig Bowman who are certified Advanced

EMTs and firefighters. The fire department will now be staffed 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, and is working to convert an office space to a bunk room.

On Oct. 3, the town police dept. also grew welcoming Greg Ricketts to the department, which now has four full time officers including Whit Montgomery, the police chief.

Ricketts came from the Rutland County Sheriff and is also an EMT. "He has really hit the ground running," said Montgomery, telling the Select Board Monday, Oct. 16, that he already has made two arrests for excessive speed and negligent operations of a motor vehicle. One was to someone going 99 mph on The Flats of Route 4 and one to someone going 80 mph on Killington Road.

"He enjoys the community policing aspect here, too, and is excited to get to do more of that," Montgomery noted.

On Monday, the Select Board approved \$18,000 for the purchase of six portable electric speed signs with messages. Two will be mounted to posts on Killington Road, two on River Road, one going downhill on West Hill Road and one on East Mountain Road.

The town expects the electric welcome signs at the base of Killington Road and the one in front of the public service building to be completed by early November.

Rutland Housing: from page 1

decades ago. For that reason, he suggested, Rutland already has the infrastructure and units in place to reach its goal.

But such a lofty target will only happen through collaboration, Bove suggested. In addition to the redevelopment authority and NeighborWorks, the Housing Trust of Rutland County, the Rutland Housing Authority, Community and Economic Development of the Rutland Region and Rutland Regional Planning Commission all plan to work toward the 1,000-unit target, according to the mayor's press release.

Almost exactly a year ago, Gov. Phil Scott visited Rutland County to celebrate the state's rental rehab grants through the Vermont Housing Improvement Program, which at the time had fixed up 329 units, with \$20 million still to spend.

NeighborWorks helped facilitate that rehab work, according to Josh Hanford, who served as commissioner of

the Vermont Dept. of Housing and Community Development until last month.

Bove praised the state's rental rehab grants, and said the city's similar program would complement that progress.

"Rutland's housing market is unique in that we have an existing housing stock that's fit for a larger population," Bove said.

According to Bove, Rutland had heard from private housing developers that low-interest loans would spur construction in the city. While the exact terms of the new rehab loans aren't yet set, Bove said they could be as

low as 1.5%.

Bove pointed to initiatives already in motion — such as the recently announced \$55 million state loan program and zoning reforms passed last legislative session — that will also help spur housing growth.

One-thousand may be a big number, but Bove sees it within reach. "Better to have an ambitious goal," he said. "We do have the opportunity here."

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← Hall of Fame:

from page 1

Stratton, and snowboarding coach; and Howard Buxton who moved the U.S. Army biathlon training facility from Alaska to Vermont. Two special awards were made with journalist and author David Goodman receiving the Paul Robbins Award and Nordic Combined Champion Tara Geraghty-Moats the First Tracks Award.

A short informative film on each inductee was made for the occasion. In the Mueller film, Tim recounted their house building experience in Londonderry; their experience building condos and managing a beach resort for Diane's parents on St. Thomas; and returning to the States for better schools for their children. In selecting Okemo for their next venture, he noted, "People want to be on the beach and on the slopes."

The Muellers met as 16-year-olds "in study hall" and "have been together a long time," as Diane said, noting a highlight of Okemo accepting snowboarding earlier than most areas and daughter Erica making it to the U.S. Snowboard Team.

In acceptance remarks, both credited teamwork, acknowledging the contributions made by employees over the years. "The entire team has a passion for what they're doing," Diane said, noting the award is an "employees award, too."

Tim added, "We get the credit, but they did all the work." He also noted, "The ski industry is changing and there aren't so many mom and pop operations anymore."

Accomplishments and accolades

As a "mom and pop" team, the Muellers played instrumental roles in the development and success of Okemo.

They purchased the ski area in 1982 after its board of directors set about finding new owners with the wherewithal to improve the ski area. With three double chairlifts and nine Pomalifts, Okemo needed updating to remain competitive. After seeing the master plan for future development, Tim Mueller saw Okemo as "a diamond in the rough," and they went to work as new owners.

Diane led initiatives to enhance the guest experience. Understanding what families go through to take a ski trip, she incorporated that understanding as part of employee training, thus getting a jump on a ski area focusing on guest service in the early 1980s. She contributed her ideas for improving infrastructure, expanding lodging options, and developing an array of on-mountain amenities. Her dedication to customer satisfaction and a commitment to providing a quality experience for all visitors were instrumental in Okemo's success.

Tim set about expanding the area's trail network, snowmaking, terrain parks, housing, and lodges. His construction and beach resort experience enabled him to envision Okemo as a destination resort that that would cater to all ability levels. He also sought input from his mountain workers and established a teamwork ethic that inspired workers to make significant contributions to the area's transfor-

mation to a year-round resort.

Under his leadership, Okemo crews installed an extensive snowmaking system, which included adding snowmaking capability to existing and new trails. When water withdrawals from the nearby Black River met with resistance, crews built a 73-million gallon snowmaking pond (1994) at a cost of over \$1 million at a time when Okemo could ill afford it and didn't know if they would ever need to use it. The compromise not only met demands for protection of the river and low water flows, it also put Okemo ahead of the game when snowmaking became a necessity during low snow years. Later, they expanded the pond to 150 million gallons, one of the many reasons Okemo gained a reputation for having good snow.

The Muellers also put Okemo ahead of the game with an early acceptance of snowboarding and teaching snowboarding. They developed children's programs, both childcare and instructional, that catered to families. The development of many trailside condominiums and homes was another factor that played a key role in Okemo's growing success as the convenience of ski-on/ski-off led to a booming real estate business. Profits were poured back into mountain expansion, snowmaking, and amenities like two nearby golf courses and summer activities. That led to ever-increasing visits and loyalty among families and ski enthusiasts.

The Muellers invested more than \$100 mil-

lion as they expanded the mountain to include three new skiing areas: Solitude, 1987; South Face, 1994; and Jackson Gore, 2002. Crews added trails, which were built in-house and replaced the aging Pomalifts with triple, quad, and six-seat chairlifts. When skiers requested more highspeed detachables, Okemo obliged.

By 1996, Okemo's annual skier visits reached the top twenty nationally and by 2001 the top three in Vermont. By 2008, Okemo had reached over 600,000 skier visits. With the development of the Jackson Gore Village, which includes adventure center, ice arena, sports center, a hotel and condos and hosts summer concerts and weddings, Okemo became a true year-round destination resort.

As Okemo garnered widespread recognition and accolades, inquiries from other ski areas led the Muellers to lease and operate Mount Sunapee (owned by the state of New Hampshire) in 1998. They took their expertise to Crested Butte in Colorado in 2004, purchasing and improving the ski area and adding more accommodations.

Under the Muellers' leadership, Okemo consistently ranked among the top resorts in the East. So it was not too surprising that when looking to expand its family of ski resorts, Vail Resorts made an unexpected offer, which the Muellers accepted in 2018. The exceptional service, well-maintained slopes, and family-friendly atmosphere that guests had come to know as "The Okemo Difference" fit in nicely with Vail's "Experience of a Lifetime."



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Kalow Technologies grows in Rutland

Company recently added 30,000 square feet and plans for multiple expansions

RUTLAND—Kalow Technologies, a leading contract manufacturer of packaging, beverage dispensing, ag tech, and 3D printing equipment recently leased and began renovation work on an additional 30,000 square feet of space at 155 Seward Road in Rutland. The additional space was acquired to meet their expanding manufacturing needs and to develop new engineering offices and a dedicated lab space for early-stage projects, according to an Oct. 11 news release.

Jon Blatchford, president of Kalow, said “we are thrilled to be expanding our presence in Rutland and believe the new space will allow us to better support our existing and new customers.”

Kalow leased and moved into 85,000 square feet in the same facility two years ago, but with the addition of a significant number of new product lines, securing additional space became imperative.

The company’s business has expanded significantly and become more diverse over the past few years. Besides investment in the building, the company has acquired new pieces of fabrication equipment, has updated their powder coating capabilities, and has invested in technology to better support the production of key product lines.

Blatchford explained, “It is an exciting time for our business and employees. We recently helped a major customer of ours successfully move production of a key line of products from Mexico back to our facility and have launched several new and innovative products.”

Renovation of the new manufacturing space was recently completed, and the engineering area should be completed early in 2024.

Kalow currently employs 90 full-time associates and expects to hire more people in early 2024.



Submitted

Kalow Technologies recently added 30,000 square feet to their current 85,000 square foot space at 155 Seward Road in Rutland.

Culvert construction on East Mountain Road is on schedule, closures remain

Mosher Excavating will finish work on the upper section of East Mountain Road (from Roundabout to the bridge) this week and will move to the lower section (Bear Mountain Road and down to Route 4) next week Oct. 23-Nov. 3, with that portion closed from 7 a.m.-5 p.m. weekdays.

There will be signs at the top and bottom of the closed portions. Paving is still scheduled to begin Nov. 6.

Road construction is ongoing in Rutland and Windsor Counties

A weekly report from the Agency of Transportation (AOT) lists of planned construction activities that will have traffic impacts on state highways and interstates in the local region. The following are those that affect driving in Rutland and Windsor counties.

I-89 White River Junction: AOT partners at NHDOT are working on a multi-year bridge replacement project on I-89 over the Connecticut River. Motorists should expect daily lane closures and speed limit reductions over the northbound and southbound bridges.

Hartford: Motorists can expect minor traffic disruptions along VT-14 as crews receive large deliveries of steel for an ongoing bridge replacement project.

Hartland: The Hartland 3 Corners intersection project continues this week with crews completing final pavement markings and traffic sign installations. Motorists may encounter slight delays and are advised to slow down and remain alert when traveling through the work area.

Killington: A bridge replacement project is underway on US-4 east of the Skyship Gondola. Motorists will continue to use the temporary bridge located just upstream of the existing bridge. Motorists can expect single-lane closures with alternating one-way traffic controlled by flaggers. Drivers should be aware that sections of the roadway within the work zone will be gravel surfaces.

Killington – A culvert replacement project is underway on US-4 at Spring Hill Road. Traffic will continue to be shifted to the south side of US-4 within the project limits. Motorists can expect single-lane closures with alternating one-way traffic controlled by flaggers. Portions of US-4 will consist of a gravel or scarified pavement surface. Drivers, especially motorcyclists, are encouraged to use caution and slow down while traveling through the work area.

Ludlow: A bridge replacement project is underway along VT 100, 3.4 miles north of the intersection with VT 103. Motorists can expect one-way alternating traffic managed by flaggers between 7 a.m. and 5 p.m.

Plymouth: A bridge deck replacement project continues along VT-100, 1.5 miles south of the intersection of VT-100 and VT-100A. Motorists should remain alert for lane closures and minor traffic delays as the project nears completion.

Poultney: A bridge replacement project continues at the intersection of Thrall Road and River Street where an alternating traffic pattern remains in place. Flaggers will be assist traffic through the work zone.

Quechee: A major rehabilitation of the Quechee Gorge Bridge continues. The trail under the bridge will remain closed year-round until November 2025. Hikers will need to exit the trail at the bridge underpass and use the visitor center trail to bypass the construction zone.

Ascutney Fire District fined for violating water supply rule

The Agency of Natural Resources Dept. of Environmental Conservation (DEC) fined Ascutney Fire District #2, the owner and operator of a public water system in Weathersfield, \$4,000 for violations of the Vermont Water Supply Rule (VWSR) on Oct. 13. It has been directed to bring the water system into compliance.

Many Vermonters use public community water systems for safe, reliable drinking water. These systems range in size from small condominium associations to large cities. Owners of public community water systems are responsible for managing and maintaining the systems in accordance with the VWSR. Among many other requirements, owners are required to have a

certified operator who is responsible and available at all times, and who must perform routine sampling and monitoring for water quality.

“Owning a public drinking water system comes with the responsibility to maintain drinking water standards and protect public health,” said Jason Batchelder, DEC commissioner. “Routine monitoring of public water systems plays a critical role in identifying any issues that have the potential to impact public drinking water.”

Fire District #2 owns and operates a public drinking water system in Weathersfield that serves approximately 485 residential users through 200 service connections. The district lacked a certified operator in 2021 and 2022. It also failed to monitor the

water for disinfectant byproducts each August from 2020 through 2022 and failed to sample the water for lead and copper between June 1 and Sept. 30, 2022.

The district retained a certified operator in 2023 and agreed to a pay a fine of \$4,000 for the violations. It also agreed to issue public notices in accordance with the supply rule and bring the water system into compliance by conducting the required water sampling. Under the agreement, the fire district will be subject to additional penalties if it does not complete the testing. This agreement was incorporated into a final judicial order of the Vermont Superior Court, Environmental Division on Oct. 3, 2023.

For more information including information about the Vermont Water Supply Rule, visit: dec.vermont.gov/water.

Owners are required to have a certified operator who is responsible and available at all times



PHOTOGRAPHER: Jack Affleck

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RRMC asks for public's help during cold, flu season

RUTLAND—In advance of the cold and flu season, Rutland Regional Medical Center (RRMC) is updating their visitor guidelines and asking the public's help in curbing the spread of infectious diseases.

"We are making some adjustments to our visitor guidelines," said Dr. Todd Gregory, chief medical officer for the hospital, in a news release, Oct. 12. "We want to keep our patients, visitors, and staff safe and lessen the transmission of

contagious diseases and viruses that tend to increase during the cooler fall and winter months."

The hospital relaxed some of its visitor guidelines this past summer and has extended visitation hours from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. seven days a week, as well as reopening its Allen Street entrance. Regardless of these updates, hospital leadership remains focused on safety for patients, staff, and visitors.

Some of the nuances

to the visitor guidelines include clarification around the number of visitors who can visit an individual patient or go to a particular unit. This may also include a restriction to the amount of time that a patient may have a visitor.

"Some units will have different visitation allowances based on the vulnerability of the patient population, patient safety concerns, or patient volumes on the unit," said Karen Ferreira,

RRMC → 10

BEGAP application portal to close Monday

The Vermont Dept. of Economic Development announced Oct. 13 that the Business Emergency Gap Assistance Program (BEGAP) application portal will close on Monday, Oct. 23 at 5 p.m. Businesses who have yet to apply or are still completing their application will need to do so by Monday.

"This \$20 million grant program has been a tremendous help to our flood damaged businesses, landlords, nonprofits, and farms," said Joan Goldstein, commissioner of the Vermont Dept. of Economic Development. "Many business owners have told us they would not have been able to reopen without these funds. We are grateful to Governor Scott and the emergency board for reallocating state funds to deliver immediate support to our employers, employees, and communities in the wake of the July floods."

- BEGAP was launched Aug. 3. To date there have been:
 - 495 successfully submitted applications
 - 382 approved for a BEGAP grant
 - 115 applications currently under review

- \$25,861 average award
- \$9,907,067 committed so far
- \$137.8 million total damage reported in applications
- \$105.8 million net damage (not covered by insurance, grants, fundraising) reported in applications

There are 155 incomplete applications currently in the system. To be considered, those applications must be finished and submitted by Oct. 23. The department has contacted those applicants to offer support in completing their applications and will notify applicants again, via email.

In September, the BEGAP award calculation changed, removing the \$20,000 award cap for applicants with eligible net damage amounts between \$100,000 and \$1,000,000 to provide additional funding to businesses in need, up to 30% of their total unmet damages.

Supplemental checks will begin going out this week to businesses that already received a BEGAP award. It is expected that all program funds will be expended when the application portal closes and the application approval queue is cleared.

Deadline to apply for FEMA assistance extended to Oct. 31

Vermont residents affected by July's severe storms, flooding, landslides and mudslides now have until Tuesday, Oct. 31 to apply for FEMA assistance.

This does not mean people should delay applying — the sooner people apply, the sooner FEMA can process your claim, a news release Oct. 11 from FEMA stated.

Those with storm-caused expenses and live or own a business in Caledonia, Chittenden, Lamoille, Orange, Orleans, Rutland, Washington, Windham or Windsor counties, FEMA assistance can provide grants and U.S. Small Business Administration loans to help cover temporary housing, home repairs and other disaster-related needs.

To apply, visit disasterassistance.gov, download the FEMA App or call the FEMA helpline at 800-621-3362. Additionally two disaster recovery centers remain active in Vermont. There FEMA and Small Business Administration specialists can answer questions, help upload documents and refer claimants to available resources. Centers are open 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday-Friday and 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday at Ludlow Community Center, 37 Main St., Ludlow and at Waterbury Armory, 294 Armory Drive, Waterbury.

VSU offers voluntary faculty buyout

Vermont State University (VTSU) Interim President Mike Smith released the voluntary faculty buyout plan to university faculty on Monday, Oct. 9, afternoon as part of the ongoing academic optimization efforts.

Optimization calls for programs to be either maintained, sunsetted, moved, or consolidated to save as much as \$3.35 million annually, to meet student needs better and to grow more relevant and in-demand programs. Additionally, this plan seeks to increase student-to-faculty ratios from approximately 1:13 today to 1:18 in the coming years. The plan involves the reduction of between 20-33 full-time faculty positions out of the current 207.

The voluntary buyout plan recognizes that faculty members have different personal and professional goals, according to the news release. Some may elect to leave Vermont State University after the close of the academic year, forestalling the need for layoffs.

President Smith emphasizes that this voluntary buyout ensures a soft landing for those ready to transition, with financial support and a deep appreciation for faculty contributions.

"This voluntary faculty buyout plan goes beyond the numbers; it is a commitment to our faculty that shows gratitude for their dedication. It is a generous option for faculty members to choose their path and hopefully avoiding the need for layoffs," said Smith. "It allows those who are ready to depart at the end of the academic calendar year to do so with additional financial support"

Optimization of academic programs is a critical step in efforts to unify as one university and streamline program offerings to better serve students now and into the future.

Details include:

- Faculty who choose the buyout will teach through the end of the 2023/2024 academic year.
- Faculty will receive the equivalent of one-half of their current annual salary at the end of the academic year.

In addition, faculty who are not eligible for retirement benefits under the collective bargaining agreement with the Vermont State Colleges Faculty Federation may continue to be covered under Vermont State Colleges' group insurance plans (medical, dental, vision, and FSA) until January 2025.

Faculty will receive a continuation of tuition benefits for family members who are currently enrolled (as of spring 2024) in an undergraduate program at Community College of Vermont or Vermont State University. These benefits will be available until the completion of their undergraduate degree for a maximum of 150 credits or six years as long as the student remains continuously enrolled.

Eligible faculty have until Oct. 27 to apply for the voluntary buyout program. Per the terms of the Vermont State Colleges (VSC) and VSC Faculty Federation contract, notices of layoffs for the coming academic year, 2024-2025 must be made by Oct. 31. VTSU leadership intends to evaluate voluntary buyout requests and only issue layoff notices if necessary.

In addition to these reductions in faculty positions, Interim President Mike Smith has pledged to issue recommendations for administrative savings by month's end, recognizing the need for greater efficiencies in administration and an "all in" approach to addressing the university's ongoing structural deficit, which was budgeted at \$22 million for fiscal year 2023.

In recent years, VTSU has received significant state investments and support from lawmakers and Governor Scott to stabilize the organization. In turn, the institution has a mandate for transformation by elected officials to unify the institution fully, find savings to achieve financial sustainability, and to modernize to meet the needs of students and the state now and in the future.

"There is a path forward if we work together to right-size this unified University and achieve both the savings and student-to-faculty ratios necessary to operate more efficiently in service to our students," added Smith. "I made a commitment to issue a plan for administrative savings before month's end and I intend to do that. We are all in this together, and together, we will emerge from this optimization process with a model for the nation for how to deliver affordable, rural, higher-education, training and certificates that grow our workforce and provide opportunities for students to succeed."

Vermont State University combines the best of Castleton University, Northern Vermont University, and Vermont Technical College and serves students on five campuses and multiple learning sites as well as online. For more information visit: VermontState.edu.



GUEST EDITORIAL

Countering social disintegration

By John McClaughry

Editor's note: John McClaughry writes for the Ethan Allen Institute, a conservative think-tank.

Of all the problems facing today's America, the most seemingly intractable is the intertwined issue of the physically and mentally sick and homeless, family breakdown, drug and alcohol addiction, street violence, retail theft, gang warfare, random shootings, protest riots, unmanageable students in classrooms, and similar afflictions.

Even the small towns in Vermont have more than their share of these problems. The headlines from San Francisco, Chicago and Philadelphia are far more alarming.

Sociologists have a name derived from this, and reams of research going back over a hundred years: "social disintegration."

The keys to those associations were belonging, mutual benefit, and efficacy.

The American experience in building social cohesion back in the turbulent 19th Century is worth examining. The source is David T. Beito's book, "From Mutual Aid to the Welfare State: Fraternal Societies and Social Services 1890-1967." In that era millions of Americans — in Beito's words an "Enormous Army" — joined fraternal societies like the YMCA, the Odd Fellows, the Patrons of Husbandry, Freemasonry, Lions, and the Loyal Order of Moose. The membership of these groups typically cut across class lines, and while racial integration was rare, there were countless active black counterpart groups as well as many like Sons of Italy, composed of newly arrived Americans-to-be.

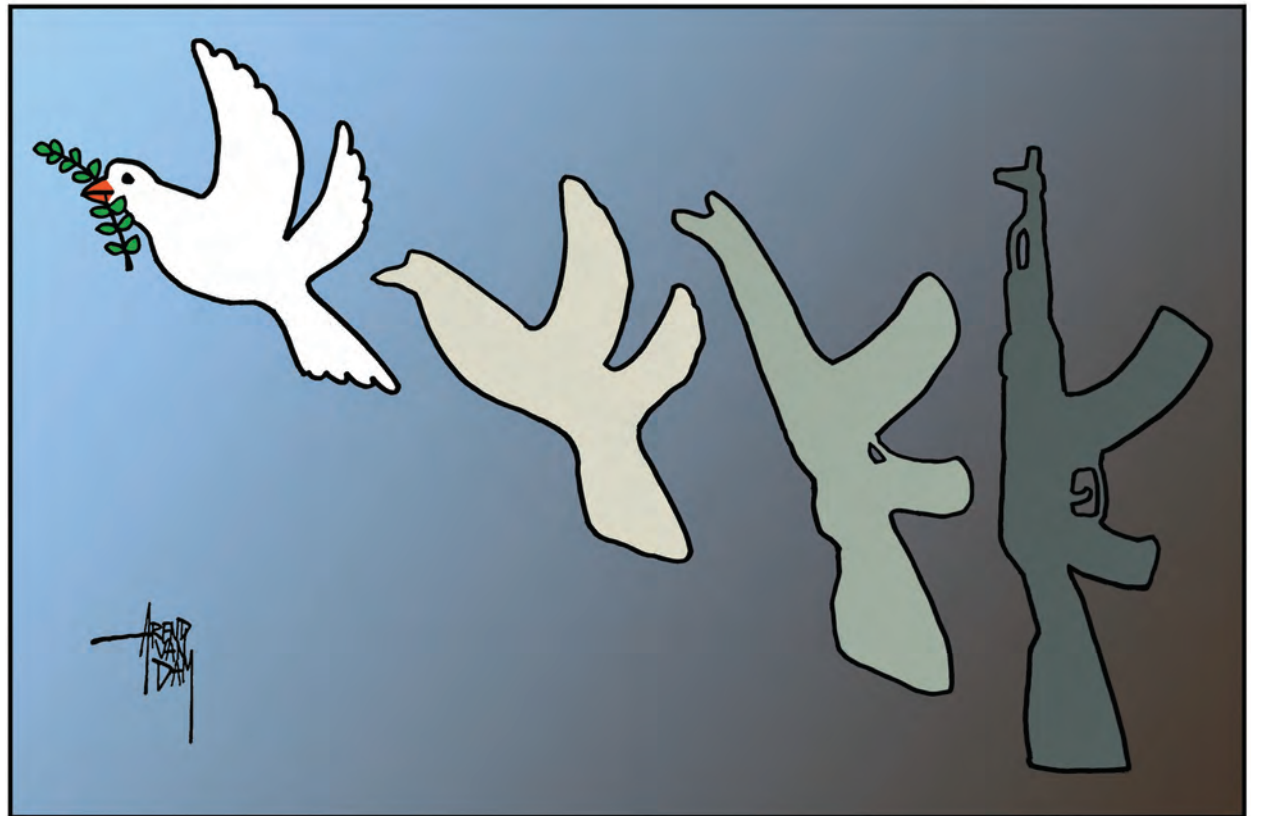
A typical formulation of the purpose of these bodies was "to promote the brotherhood of man, teach fidelity to home and loved ones, loyalty to country and respect of law, to establish a system for the care of the widows and orphans, the aged and disabled, and enable every worthy member to /protect himself from the ills of life and make substantial provision through cooperation with our members, for those who are nearest and dearest."

The keys to those associations were belonging, mutual benefit, and efficacy. Belonging required the practice of virtues like truthfulness, self-reliance, industry, charity, fair dealing, and usually shared religious faith. Efficacy means that the people involved could believe they had a realistic opportunity to achieve mutual and societal benefits through their own efforts, and not be held subject to heavy-handed authority, notably that of the all-engulfing state.

What happens when — for a multiplicity of reasons — that once-prominent model fades into insignificance? There is likely to be, at the extreme, social disintegration. The shared purpose, the willing adherence to agreed-upon morals and behaviors, the sense of responsibility to work with others to bring forth a constantly improving society, begin to slip away. In their place grows an individualistic desire to see that No. 1 gets taken care of, with little regard for the wellbeing of the society in which one lives and is, or should be, a contributing part.

The remedy is not bringing back the 19th Century, but a seminal article by Seth Kaplan of Johns Hopkins University titled: "A Systems Approach to Social Disintegration," published in National Affairs, Fall 2017, points out a way. Kaplan emphasizes that social disintegration is a complex cultural and behavioral issue. It can not be reversed by large scale programs to aid individuals, like welfare checks, food stamps,

Social disintegration → 30



From peace to guns by Arend van Dam, politicalcartoons

LETTERS

Be aware of the disadvantages of Medicare Advantage

Dear Editor,

We're being overwhelmed with advertising for Medicare Advantage (MA) plans, but there are no ads for traditional Medicare. The reason for the MA ads is that the Medicare Advantage corporations are making huge profits.

Medicare Advantage is privatizing Medicare. When you sign on for Medicare Advantage you are giving your Medicare dollars to an insurance company to do with as they please. MA programs advertise their low or \$0 premiums but don't mention that there are significant co-pays when you access health care services. With MA plans, you are confined to providers in the plan's network, prior-authorizations are required for many tests, procedures and services. These delay the care you need, and in many cases outright deny payment altogether, even though your doctors ordered the treatment.

I chose Traditional Medicare parts A and B and bought an additional Advantage? → 10

Questionable garbage disposal

Dear Editor,

Given that the standard in Vermont concerning the disposal of food scraps as well as waste is to compost rather than to dispose it in the trash any longer, questions have arisen within my mind about whether it should still be permissible (read: legal) within the state to dispose of food scraps as well as waste down a kitchen sink drain using a garbage disposal system.

Based upon information I have come across online and read thus far, food scraps and waste processed utilizing a kitchen sink garbage disposal unit can cause harm to old pipes whether in a building or an aging public sewer system.

It can also cause problems in older water treatment plants; and, even if a water treatment plant is modernized and upgraded to more properly handle and process such food waste, what is left over from the process often times either ends up in a landfill (which, if buried, creates methane, a greenhouse gas) or is otherwise incinerated (which creates

carbon emissions).

It goes without saying that neither of these is good or healthy for the environment.

It would appear obvious then, at least to my way of thinking, that the best practice would be to compost food scraps as well as

Vermont's food waste composting law has been quite popular across the state.

waste rather than tossing it either in the trash or down the drain of the kitchen sink (even when utilizing a garbage disposal unit).

By the way, according to a report by the UVM Gund Institute for Environment issued earlier this year, indications are that Vermont's food waste composting law has been quite popular across the state.

Meanwhile, apparently, using a residential or commercial kitchen garbage disposal unit is a practice not yet banned in Vermont. One is left to wonder whether it ought to be.

Morgan W. Brown,
Montpelier

The slow journey to equality in healthcare for the disabled


Dear Editor,

In 1973, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act became the first civil rights legislation protecting disabled people from discrimination. But no implementing regulations were enacted at that time. It took almost another four years, and consistent activism from people with disabilities culminating in a 26-day peaceful occupation of a federal building in San Francisco, before regulations were issued.

Even after these regulations were implemented, however, the promises of Section 504 remained largely unfulfilled. The disabled remained unable to get mammograms and pap smears because of inaccessible equipment, were still told they weren't eligible for an organ transplant because they "can't take care of themselves," and were ruled unfit parents because they had a disability.

I am blind and cannot access my primary care
Equality → 10

CAPITAL QUOTES



Jim Jordan, the co-founder of the ultraconservative House Freedom Caucus, fell 17 votes short of winning the House speakership on the first ballot Tuesday, Oct. 17, despite a right-wing pressure campaign to win the support of mainstream Republicans who opposed him. As of press time, no other vote had been called.

“We will make sure there are more Republican voices involved in our major decisions beyond the Five Families,”

wrote Representative **Jim Jordan** of Ohio, using House G.O.P. lawmakers' shorthand for the various factions in their ranks. It is also a reference to warring Mafia families, according to the New York Times.

“When you go outside the rules of your own conference because you didn't get your way, I think that is truly sad...That is a real indictment of who you are.”

said Representative **Mike Kelly** of Pennsylvania using a profanity to describe the tactics Mr. Jordan's supporters used to undermine Mr. Scalise's victory.

“Last week, eight colleagues joined all the socialist Democrats to carry-out a coup against our duly-elected Republican Speaker Kevin McCarthy. These 8 lit the fuse & every Democrat in Congress provided the gunpowder to overthrow the will of 96% of Republicans in Congress who voted to retain Speaker McCarthy. I will not partake in this despicable coup. Speaker McCarthy should have never been removed to begin with.”

wrote Florida Rep. **Carlos Gimenez** on the social media site X.

“We need to get a speaker today... whatever it takes to get a speaker today,”

said **Jim Jordan** prior to the first vote.

COMMENTARY

Can we disagree like adults?

By Maria Gigliello

Editor's note: Maria Gigliello is the communications coordinator for the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department.

“They [Vermont Fish and Wildlife] need to be dispatched (tortured, beaten) the same way [as a trapped animal].”

“You're no better than the Ku Klux Klan.”

“Bunch of in-breds out there just shooting animals for fun. Great job Vermont Fish & Wildlife!!!”

“Why any girl finds this fun [hunting] is beyond me...she must not have maternal instincts.”

These are just some of the social media comments that the Vermont Fish & Wildlife Information team sees on a regular basis. As the department's social media leads, Joshua Morse and I get a front row seat to the good, the bad and the ugly emotions that the department's work brings to Facebook, Instagram and Twitter. I write this piece as a reminder that despite the public's varying feelings on the work we do at Vermont Fish and Wildlife, there is always a place for kindness.

Probably due to the Covid-19 pandemic, we've seen a shift in the long-term trends of our social media audiences. More people are at home and online, therefore making them more observant and engaged with wildlife management decisions in the state. People are also interacting more with each other online and that separation from person to person by a screen has increased boldness in people—boldness in their comments to us and each other.

When people who feel strongly about wildlife conservation hit “send” on a com-

ment that calls department staff or other commenters rude names, threatens us, undermines our work, personally attacks us, etc., there are always actual people on the other end of that comment reading it.

These hateful comments are very concerning and do not accomplish anything positive.

One of the department's outreach goals is to use our social media platforms as educational tools. Teachers, students and other educational groups use our social media channels to learn about Vermont's wildlife. We see the value in making the natural world accessible to all. However, we often receive comments that are wildly inappropriate for young eyes. Comments such as, “Hey look the hunting idiot is back to showcase he provides nothing to Vermont wildlife but the brute force rifle he packs next to his tiny pecker.” We work hard to make our social media channels welcoming to all and we want to keep our channels welcoming to all.

Apart from the mental and emotional distress that daily hostile comments bring to department staff, this behavior raises concerns regarding our physical safety as these comments can translate to the real world. In July, Oregon Public Broadcasting published an article on how Oregon's natural resource staff face violent threats, including attack dogs and gunfire, in the field. In 2019, violent threats caused Washington's Department of Fish and Wildlife to cancel informational wolf management meetings. And in 2019, the U.S. Government Accountability

Civil disagreements → 30

Fentanyl overdoses are preventable

By Jody Boulay

Editor's note: Jody Boulay is a mother of two with a passion for helping others. She currently works as a community outreach coordinator for Addicted.org to help spread awareness of the dangers of drugs and alcohol.

October is National Substance Use Prevention Month, which means more overdose prevention messaging should be sent to every community. There are important messages that should be on repeat for everyone to know.

Amid the ongoing opioid epidemic, synthetic opioids like fentanyl have become the leading cause of overdose deaths in the United States. Local drug education and prevention campaigns and organizers in Vermont, along with reliable information about opioids, are important in saving lives and preventing overdose.

Most people know the opioid epidemic began with overprescribing prescription medications like OxyContin, advertised as safe and effective. Unfortunately, this created one of the worst drug problems in the country's history.

Since the early 1990s, it has gone in waves involving prescription pain pills like OxyContin, Oxycodone, and Hydrocodone, to a resurgence of heroin in the early 2000s, and now illicitly manufactured synthetic opioids.

Drug cartels have been the leaders in fentanyl production, and most fentanyl is smuggled across the southern border into the U.S.

The Covid-19 pandemic also worsened the epidemic significantly. Border closures and supply chain disruptions meant drug users relied on local suppliers and unknown substances. Lockdowns and social isolation meant countless drug users were using dangerous drugs alone without early intervention, support, or treatment options.

Preventable overdoses → 30

← **Social disintegration:**
from page 8

Medicaid, job training and housing vouchers. But Kaplan points to places like Harlem, Shreveport and some Virginia cities where enlightened civic leadership is working to restore social health and strong community attachment.

These non-coercive culturally supportive efforts bring together families, informal social networks, neighborhoods, schools, the workplace, businesses, voluntary agencies, churches, political structures, and of course the descendants of the 19th Century forerunners. Their aim is to affirm their human-scale society based on agreed behavioral principles, and stand against every effort to pit group against group in a destructive war of all against all.

Of all places, Vermont ought to be a place for this rebirth to flourish. In a book I co-authored, "The Vermont Papers" (published in 1989), chapter 5 titled "The Promise of Democracy Restored," Frank Bryan and I wrote "A small intimate community is essential to the flowering of the civic humanist ideal. It gives meaning and richness to human life. Its landmarks, its landscape, its uniqueness as place afford a sense of belonging and identity. A real community becomes a place of repair and solace, a scrapbook of shared memories, a gratifying niche in history. Most important, the preservation of community requires that decisions about things that matter be made by the people affected."

Our central proposal was the reconstitution of Vermont into some 40 cohesive democratically self-governed shires, within the framework of the rights and liberties confirmed in the Vermont Constitution. Back then that proposal was little more than a curiosity item. If the malign forces of social disintegration continue further into Vermont, maybe it would be worth giving that proposal another look.

← **Fiber internet:**
from page 1

cational, health and entertainment benefits that accompany fiber internet."

Consolidated recently completed construction of the fiber network that made the Southern Vermont CUD the first in the state to reach universal service. The Company has also built fiber to more than 110,000 Vermont homes and businesses since 2021.

Otter Creek CUD is a public entity (municipality) formed of multiple towns and one city in the Rutland Region of Vermont. The member municipalities consist of Benson, Brandon, Castleton, Chittenden, Fair Haven, Goshen, Hubbardton, Mendon, Pawlet, Pittsford, Poultney, Rutland Town, Rutland City, Shrewsbury, Sudbury, Wells, West Haven, and West Rutland.

Otter Creek CUD is an all-volunteer, not-for-profit municipal corporation whose mission is to bring access to high-speed affordable broadband to the constituents of the CUD.

← **Deadly crash:**
from page 1

deceased at the scene. Both cars were totalled.

Winney was transported by Regional Ambulance Service to the Rutland Regional Medical Center for treatment of his injuries.

Lantman and his juvenile passenger were transported by Regional Ambulance Service to the Rutland Regional Medical Center for serious injuries. They were both later transported to the University of Vermont Medical Center for further

medical treatment.

The weather was listed as wet and rainy.

Traffic on Route 4 was delayed as a result of the crash until 8:06 p.m.

State police were assisted on scene by Regional Ambulance Service, the Rutland City Fire Dept., and the Killington Police Dept.

Anyone with information regarding this incident is encouraged to contact the State Police – Rutland Barracks at 802-773-9101.

← **Advantage?:**
from page 8

supplement (medigap) and a Medicare Drug Plan. The cost of these Medicare Supplemental plans varies, but usually adds up to about \$175 for both the supplement and Medicare Drug Plan. With this coverage, I can receive care from all Medicare providers in the U.S., and not worry about prior approvals or denials or delays in care and treatment. I'm confident that I am well covered for my senior years, with decisions about my health made by my doctor and me, not some employee at a Medicare Advantage company that makes more money if I don't get the care I may need.

Dr. Marvin Malek detailed the many drawbacks to MA plans earlier this year in an OPED titled "State workers — and the rest of us — should resist Medicare 'Advantage.'" You can read it here: [Tinyurl.com/NoMedicareAdvantage](https://tinyurl.com/NoMedicareAdvantage).

Linda Andrews, BSN, NP in Women's Health Care, MPH

← **Equality:**
from page 8

doctor's digital portal using my screen reader. I need sighted help to access my medical information and to communicate with my doctor as the portal was intended to be used.

Last month HHS finally issued a proposed rule to address these continuing problems. HHS Office for Civil Rights (OCR) Director Melanie Fontes Rainer said, "Today's rule is long overdue and a major step forward in the fight to ensure that people with disabilities are not excluded from or discriminated against in health care and social services across the United States."

You can read the proposed regulation online at tinyurl.com/HumanServiceDiscrimination; public comments can be submitted until Nov. 13 at tinyurl.com/CommentOnRegulations.

Charlie Murphy, Bennington



Courtesy Ralph Pace

Even though it was raining, folks braved the weather to enjoy the various styles of chili featured in the 32nd annual Ludlow Rotary Club's chili cook-off, protected from the elements under a tent.

Even rain can't stop Ludlow Rotary's annual chili cook-off

The heavens may have opened last Saturday, Oct. 7, in Ludlow, but even the downpour didn't seem to faze the over 400 people who braved the weather so they could enjoy the many different varieties of chili available at the Ludlow Rotary Club's 32nd annual chili-cook-off.

Judges, town managers and Select Board leaders made certain that everyone had a chance to vote (including themselves) which resulted in honoring the following chili makers:

People's Choice:

1. Bird's Nest by Shelley Steinfeld
 2. Smokey T's Lone Star by Todd Patane
 3. Saylor Family by Chris Saylor
- Honorable mention - Castle Hill Harvest - The Castle Inn

Judge's Winners:

- Best in Show: Smokey T's Lone Star Chili by Todd Patane
Team Spirit: Local Yokel by Engel & Volker Real Estate
Spiciest: Reactor No 4 by Jarod A. P. Harlow

Kevin Barnes, cook-off chairperson, said "We're all very grateful to those hardy folks who braved the rain so that they could enjoy the great chilis prepared for this special event." Barnes added that he and the Rotary Club would do their best to ensure a dry 33rd annual Chili-Off in 2024.

The annual chili cook-off is one of the major fund-raising events for the club so that it can continue to provide funding and assistance to area groups and the community.

← **RRMC:**
from page 7

BSN, RN, RN-BC, nursing director in the surgical care unit. "Examples of this include the emergency department which may restrict the number of people who can be with a patient; intensive care unit where visitors may only be allowed to visit at certain times for certain patients; surgical care unit where patient volume could restrict the number of allowed visitors."

Decisions on visitation times and allowances are made on a patient-by-patient basis and/or by the nurse leader on each unit based on the unit's overall patient volume and acuity.

Healthy individuals

are invited to visit patients during the usual visitation hours. If the patient has an infectious disease such as the flu, Covid, RSV or other illness that calls for airborne precautions, the visitor will be asked to adhere to proper infection prevention proto-

People with cold or flu-like symptoms ... should not visit patients at the hospital.

cols during the visit. These include wearing a surgical mask, hand washing and sanitizing before and after entering the patient's room, and leaving the hospital directly after the visit.

People with cold or

flu-like symptoms and/or symptoms such as fever, chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, sore throat, muscle pain, new loss of taste or smell, runny or stuffy nose, headache, or diarrhea should not visit patients at the hospital.

"Whenever we've asked for the public's help, they've responded positively," added Dr. Gregory.

"The safety of our patients and our staff depends on all of us working together and using effective infection control measures, especially during cold and flu season."

For more information, visit: RRMC.org.

WORDPLAY

DENTAL HYGIENE WORD SEARCH: Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally and backwards

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

- ABRASION
- ADJUSTMENT
- BICUSPID
- CARIES
- HYGIENIST
- SEDATION
- ABSCESS
- AMALGAM
- BITE
- CLEANING
- PARTIAL
- STAINS
- ABUTMENT
- ANALGESIA
- BONDING
- CROWN
- PLAQUE
- TARTAR
- ACID
- BACTERIA
- BREATH
- FLUORIDE
- ROOT
- TOOTH

SUDOKU

Solutions →20

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.

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

Level: Intermediate

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Solutions →20

CLUES ACROSS

- 1. A device to disengage without a key
- 5. Subdivision
- 8. Network of nerves
- 12. Lounge chair
- 14. Ocean
- 15. C. European river
- 16. Bowl-shaped cavity
- 18. ___ Caesar, comedian
- 19. Lyric poems
- 20. Tia's sister
- 21. A way to develop
- 22. Cows collectively
- 23. Areas close by
- 26. Slightly disreputable
- 30. Made a mistake
- 31. One who cites
- 32. Food stall: ___ pai dong
- 33. Narrow valley between hills
- 34. Members of people living mainly in the Congo
- 39. More (Spanish)
- 42. Classroom implements
- 44. Cognizant of
- 46. One who tells on others
- 47. Free from slavery

- 49. Thick piece of something
 - 50. Containing two nitrogen atoms between carbon atoms
 - 51. Removed entirely
 - 56. Late rocker Turner
 - 57. Appreciated
 - 58. Observation expedition
 - 59. Opposite of subtracts
 - 60. Unit of work
 - 61. Wreckage on the sea bed
 - 62. Affirmative! (slang)
 - 63. Witness
 - 64. River in England
- CLUES DOWN**
- 1. A dissenting clique
 - 2. Japanese city
 - 3. Spiritual leader
 - 4. Second letter of Greek alphabet
 - 5. Musical term
 - 6. Ruled over
 - 7. Fortified wine
 - 8. First year player
 - 9. Moved in a circular way
 - 10. Adolescents
 - 11. Scottish or Irish Gaelic language
 - 13. Someone who

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									51		52	53	54	55
56									58					
59										61				
62											64			

- 17. Bring up
- 24. Factual written account (abbr.)
- 25. Having three sides
- 26. Annoy
- 27. Hustle
- 28. American WW2 leader
- 29. Stale atmosphere
- 35. US Treasury
- 36. Sound unit
- 37. They ___
- 38. Soviet Socialist Republic
- 40. Places to play video games
- 41. Medical event
- 42. When you hope to arrive
- 43. Fixed prices
- 44. Popular Boston song
- 45. Valley in Indiana and Illinois
- 47. Omit when speaking
- 48. German explorer of the Congo Basin
- 49. Stick around
- 52. From a distance
- 53. Heroic tale
- 54. Amounts of time
- 55. Eat

Guess Who?


I am a rapper born in Missouri on October 17, 1972. I aspired to be a comic book artist until I was introduced to Ice-T's song "Reckless." I became an international rap sensation. My stage name refers to the initials of my real name.

Answer: Eminem

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WEDNESDAY

10/18

Walk in Flu Vaccination Clinics

9:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Ludlow Pharmacy, 57 Pond Street, Ludlow. Smilin' Steve's Ludlow Pharmacy is hosting walk in flu vaccination clinics. 18+. No appointment necessary. Info: smilinsteve.com/ludlow.

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, email allie.griffiths@rcpcc.org. Info: rutlandfree.org.

Vermont Farmers' Wednesday Market

1-5 p.m. Depot Park, Evelyn St., downtown Rutland. Free to browse. Vermont Farmers' Market is one of the largest and most diversified farmers' markets in Vermont, and the first to operate year round. The Wednesday outdoor market ends Oct. 25. See the posting for the Saturday indoor market. For more info visit: vtfarmersmarket.org.

Fall Storytime (5 and Under)

10:30-11:15 a.m. (Wednesdays through Nov.15) Fletcher Memorial Library, 88 Main St., Ludlow. Each week focuses on early literacy activities, stories, songs and ends with a craft or science exploration. It is a great opportunity for your child to socialize and meet new friends and for adult caregivers to connect. Info: fmlnews.org/youth.

Proctor Sculpture to Be Unveiled

Noon. 47 Merchants Row. Rutland. The 11th sculpture on the Rutland Sculpture Trail, honoring business and civic leader Redfield Proctor, who was a business and military leader and founder of the Vermont Marble Company in 1880, will be unveiled in downtown Rutland. The sculpture, designed by Kellie Pereira and carved by Evan Morse and Taylor Apostol, is one in a series honoring regional history and planned through a collaboration by The Carving Studio and Sculpture Center, MKF Properties, Vermont Quarries, and Green Mountain Power.

RFL Book Club

1-3 p.m. Fox Room, Rutland Free Library, 10 Court St., Rutland. Free. Monthly book discussion group, all are welcome. For questions, please contact facilitator Al Wilkinson at alwilkin@comcast.net.

Pet Portrait Workshop

2:30-5p.m. Gallery at the VAULT, 68 Main St., Springfield. \$37. Mindy Fisher will walk students through the creation of a pet portrait. Great class for beginners. Bring a photograph of your best non-human friend for reference. All skill levels are welcome. Info: galleryvault.org.

Rick Stromoski-Let's Draw Monsters (Ages 9+ up)

3:30-4:30 p.m. Sherburne Memorial Library, 2998 River Road, Killington. Free. Have fun learning to draw monsters at the library. Info: sherburnelibrary.org

Bingo (Ages 9 and Up)

3:45-4:45 p.m. Sherburne Memorial Library, 2998 River Road, Killington. Free. Info: sherburnelibrary.org.

Cribbage!

3-5 p.m. Meeting room, Hartland Public Library, 153 Route 5, Hartland. Free. Group for adult cribbage players. Info: hartlandlibraryvt.org

Kids 'Watercolor Class with Dale Bills—Birch Trees

4-5:30 p.m. Chaffee Art center, 16 So. Main St., Rutland. \$25. Instructor: Dale Bills. Image: birch trees. Min 5 students. Must pre-register. Info: chaffeeartcenter.org.

Zentangle Workshops

4-5:30 p.m. Norman Williams Public Library, 10 The Green, Woodstock. Starter kits will be available (for a \$5 suggested fee). Zentangle is a method of drawing that is easy to learn and relaxing. A monthly gathering to bring your projects and learn new tangles from Jenny and each other. Info: normanwilliams.org.

Tales to Tails: Kids Reading to Dogs

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

Figure drawing with Live Model

5-7 p.m. (3rd Wednesday of each month.) Chaffee Art Center, 16 So. Main St., Rutland. Sign up for 4 weeks at \$60 or \$20 per class. Bring own supplies. Minimum students: 4. Info: chaffeeartcenter.org.

Book Group

5:30-6:30 p.m. (3rd Wednesday of each month) Chaffee Art Center, 16 So. Main St., Rutland. Book Group. RSVP Required. Info: chaffeeartcenter.org.

Sip-n-Dip Painting Class Date

6-8 p.m. Chaffee Art Center, 16 So. Main St., Rutland. \$35 per person includes all supplies. Perfect for a date night or just out with friends. Attendees follow along with an instructor and leave with a finished acrylic painting. BYO wine. Must pre-register: chaffeeartcenter.square.site. Info: chaffeeartcenter.org.

Acoustic Jam Session

6:30 p.m. 2095 Pomfret Rd, South Pomfret. Free. Here's a chance to play with other musicians. Bring your instrument and a few songs or tunes to play. We go in a circle and everyone gets a chance to call the tune (and a key!) Info: artistreevt.org.

THURSDAY

10/19

West Rutland Marsh Monitoring Walk.

8 a.m. Meet at the boardwalk on Marble Street. Free. Join us for our monthly monitoring of West Rutland Marsh. Go the whole 4-mile route or go halfway. Info: rutlandcountyaudubon.org/events.

DMH Conference 2023: Reshaping Mental Health

Systems Through Integration a symposium
8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Killington Grand Resort Hotel, 228 E Mountain Rd. \$125 for registrants; \$50 for presenters. The Vermont Department of Mental Health (DMH) is holding its annual conference featuring more than 20 engaging presentations. Keynote speakers William Killebrew and Jennifer Moss. Registration: <https://tinyurl.com/ma86t7y5>. Info: mentalhealth.vermont.gov/services.

Delightful Dairy

10-11:30 a.m. Billings Farm and Museum. 69 Old River Rd, Woodstock. \$20/student; \$15/member student. Ages 7-11. Learn about all things dairy. Students will meet a Jersey cow and see how she is milked. We will also meet the farm's calves. From farm to table, we will travel full circle, ending with an interactive butter-making demonstration. Info: billingsfarm.org.

Storytime! at Rutland Free Library

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

Killington Bone Builders

10 a.m. Sherburne Memorial Library, 2998 River Road, Killington. Free. 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. Free. 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. Must pre-register: chaffeeartcenter.square.site or call 802-775-0356.

Give Blood-American Red Cross

Noon-4:30 p.m. Castleton American Legion, 378 Route 4a West. Thousands of additional donations needed to replenish Red Cross blood supply. Gift cards, chance at \$5K for those who come to give during national shortage. All who come to give Oct. 21-Nov. 9 will receive a \$10 gift card by email to a restaurant merchant of their choice to enjoy lunch on the Red Cross and will be entered to win a \$5,000 gift card. Details are available at RedCrossBlood.org/Lunch. Info: RedCross.org/NNE or daniel.dowling@redcross.org.

Play Bridge!

2-4 p.m. (Thursday afternoons.) Norman Williams Public Library, 10 The Green, Woodstock. Members of the Friends will have priority at the tables. These are not bridge lessons though beginners are welcome to observe. Please email Peggy Fraser at fraserusa@gmail.com to reserve a seat or for more information. (RSVP requested) Info: normanwilliams.org.

Knitters Meet-up

2-4 p.m. (Thursday afternoons.) Norman Williams Public Library, 10 The Green, Woodstock. Free. Meet with other knitters in the library. All knitters levels are welcome. We will knit together, learn together, and provide each other assistance when needed. Show up with your current project, knitting questions or problems, or a pattern to share. Come when you can, stay as long as you like. For more information or to be added to the notification list, please email programs@normanwilliams.org. Info: normanwilliams.org.

"Green Books" discussion group

3:30 p.m. (Every 3rd Thursday.) Norman Williams Public Library, 10 The Green, Woodstock. In person and via Zoom. Explore non-fiction writing about the environment and sustainability. Info: normanwilliams.org.

STEAM - Masks

3:30-4:30 p.m. (Thursdays) Hartland Public Library, 153 Route 5, Hartland. Join us for STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math) and craft activities each Thursday. Something different every week! October's theme is Arts and Crafts Wearables. Info: hartlandlibraryvt.org.

Killington Community Update

5-8 p.m. K-1 Lodge Killington Resort. Hear from the KPAA, Town, Resort and Great Gulf about upcoming plans for the season and beyond. Cocktail party to follow. RSVP required: Killington.com/rsvp.

Watercolor Class with Dale Bills

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

Little Shop of Horrors

7 p.m. 2095 Pomfret Rd, South Pomfret. \$35. A deviously delicious Broadway and Hollywood sci-fi smash musical, Little Shop Of Horrors has devoured the hearts of theatre goers for over 30 years. One of the most popular shows in the world. Info: artistreevt.org.

Open Mic Nights at Artistree

7-9 p.m. Artistree Community Arts Center, 2095 Pomfret Rd, South Pomfret. (Alternating Thursdays) Join our relaxed, supportive, and fun atmosphere and show off your musical stuff. All levels and abilities are welcome to participate in the open mic experience. Come alone or with a group. Come to play or just to watch. Info: artistreevt.org.

FRIDAY

10/20

Qigong (online)

8:30 a.m. (Friday mornings.) Free. Donations accepted. Led by Gerry Sandweiss, via Zoom. Learn to increase blood circulation, oxygenation, flexibility, stability, balance, and overall sense of well-being. Info: normanwilliams.org.

Walk in Flu Vaccination Clinics

9:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Ludlow Pharmacy, 57 Pond Street, Ludlow. Smilin' Steve's Ludlow Pharmacy is hosting walk in flu vaccination clinics. 18+. No appointment necessary. Info: smilinsteve.com/ludlow.

Brandon Farmers' Market

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

Artery at Chaffee Art Center

10 a.m.-noon. (Fridays) Chaffee Art Center, 16 So. Main St., Rutland. \$10-\$20. Weekly Adult group for connection and inspiration. A time and place to create with others. Painting in all mediums welcome. No set topic or instructor, attendees will work on their individual artwork. When possible to include 30 minute technique focus with rotating artists. Must pre-register. Info and registration: chaffeeartcenter.org.

Blood Donation

10 a.m.-5 p.m. Upper Valley Aquatic Center, 100 Arboretum Ln, White River Junction. Give the Gift of LIFE. Info: redcrossblood.org/give.html/drive-results or contact ebuck@uvacswwm.org to register. Interested in volunteering at the drive? Reach out to Erin at ebuck@uvacswwm.org to offer a baked good, or to offer support during drive events.

Story Time at the Library

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

PICO SKI & SNOWBOARD SWAP AND SALE
FRIDAY-SUNDAY

← **Calendar:** Email events@mountaintimes.info from page 12

SATURDAY

10/21

Pico Ski Club's Annual Ski & Snowboard Swap/Sale

5-9 p.m. Pico Mountain, 73 Alpine Dr, Mendon. New and used skis, snowboards, clothing, snowshoes and equipment for kids and adults from the recreational snow sports enthusiast to the seasoned racer, along with local shops bringing great deals. Pico Ski Club accepting consignments of used, clean ski, snowboard and winter clothing (no street clothing), and modern alpine and snowboard equipment. Backcountry, telemark and skinning/AT skis accepted, but not traditional cross-country skis. All equipment must meet current safety standards for the Swap & Sale. Drop-off date: 10/18 4-7 p.m.; 10/19 4-7 p.m.; 10/20 Noon-3 p.m. (Only accepting items that have already been entered online.) All unsold consignment items must be picked up by 1 p.m., 10/22 at the Pico Base Lodge. Info: picomountain.com.

'Taylor Swift: The Eras Tour'

6 p.m. Woodstock Town Hall Theatre, 31 The Green, Woodstock. Tickets: \$19.19 adults; \$13.13 kids. The cultural phenomenon continues on the big screen. A concert film experience as Taylor Swift celebrates her meteoric rise in a musical autobiography. Eras attire and friendship bracelets are strongly encouraged. Info: pentanglearts.org.

Pittsford Haunted House

6-9 p.m. 426 Plains Road, Pittsford. \$10 Ages 10 and up; \$5 Ages 11-6. It's finally back! The 40th edition of the Pittsford Haunted House to benefit the Pittsford Volunteer Fire Department. Wagon ride, food and beverages and Bones Brothers Band to play. Wagon rides and ticketing lines are covered to keep you dry in case of rain. NOT RECOMMENDED FOR CHILDREN UNDER 6. Info: facebook.com/profile.php?id=100079915793403.

That's Amore! Pizza & Calzone Cooking Class

6:30-9:30 p.m. Bridgewater Corners, Bridgewater. \$85. We'll greet you with a warm welcome at our mountain top retreat which, wherever you look, has views and picturesque vignettes. Award-winning Chef Ted will then lead a hands-on pizza and calzone-making class. Info: odyseyeventsvt.com.

A Ghost Story

7 p.m. Stone Valley Arts, 145 E Main St., Poultney. Suggested \$5 donation. A 2017 American supernatural drama film written and directed by David Lowery and starring Casey Affleck and Rooney Mara about a man who becomes a ghost and remains in the house he shared with his wife. Info: stonevalleyarts.org.

Grant Gordy & Joe K. Walsh

7 p.m. Artistree Community Arts Center, 2095 Pomfret Rd, South Pomfret. \$25. The music of Grant Gordy and Joe K. Walsh arises from and expands upon the great tradition of guitar and mandolin duets. Drawing heavily from bluegrass and string band music with their deep improvisatory communication. Info: artistreevt.org.

October Artist of the Month: Hallie Monroe -

Reception Artist Talk

7-8:30 p.m. Brandon Artist Guild, 7 Center St, Brandon. Hallie's stained glass work uses contemporary and traditional vitreous glass painting techniques that are fired in a kiln and are fused to the surface of the glass. Her fused vessels are made with Bullseye glass. For pricing and further questions contact: brandonartistsguild.org/contact-1. Info: brandonartistsguild.org.

Little Shop of Horrors

7 p.m. 2095 Pomfret Rd, South Pomfret. \$35. A deviously delicious Broadway and Hollywood sci-fi smash musical, Little Shop Of Horrors has devoured the hearts of theatre goers for over 30 years. One of the most popular shows in the world. Info: artistreevt.org.

"Fireside Frights: An evening of Scary Stories Fun and Fantastic Food"

7-9 p.m. West Rutland Town Hall, 35 Marble St., West Rutland. \$20. around a campfire. Storytellers will present 10-minute short stories by famous authors as well as original work from the actors. Complimentary refreshments will include fall favorites. Info: paramountvt.org/event/vermont-actors-repertory-presents-fireside-frights.

Haunted Nights at Wilson Castle

Wilson Castle, 2970 W. Proctor Road, Proctor. Investigation from 8-11 p.m. \$45. Overnight Investigation: ticket includes the investigation from 8 p.m. - 2 a.m. & an overnight stay inside the castle \$90. An active investigation of this massive historic castle. *Responsible for own bedding (Sleeping bag, cot, pillow, blankets, etc.) Info: tinyurl.com/yj3mzfhp.

Drawing from Nature Class: Skulls and Bones—A

Biological Illustration Workshop

9a.m.-Noon. VINS Nature Center, 149 Natures Way, Quechee. \$50 General Public; \$45 VINS Member. In this Drawing from Nature class, the focus will be on exploring skulls and bones. Learn tips and tricks for drawing as well as for creating vivid pages that depict personal natural history experiences. Drawing/sketching experience not necessary, all skill levels welcome. vinsweb.org.

Pico Ski Club's Annual Ski & Snowboard Swap/Sale

9 a.m.-4 p.m. Pico Mountain, 73 Alpine Dr, Mendon. New and used skis, snowboards, clothing, snowshoes and equipment for kids and adults from the recreational snow sports enthusiast to the seasoned racer, along with local shops bringing great deals. Pico Ski Club accepting consignments of used, clean ski, snowboard and winter clothing (no street clothing), and modern alpine and snowboard equipment. Backcountry, telemark and skinning/AT skis accepted, but not traditional cross-country skis. All equipment must meet current safety standards for the Swap & Sale. Drop-off date: 10/18 4-7 p.m.; 10/19 4-7 p.m.; 10/20 Noon-3 p.m. (Only accepting items that have already been entered online.) All unsold consignment items must be picked up by 1 p.m., 10/22 at the Pico Base Lodge. Info: picomountain.com.

Vermont Farmers' Saturday Market

9 a.m.-2 p.m. Depot Park, Evelyn St., downtown Rutland. Free to browse. The crops are in, just in time for fall recipes, plus handcrafted wear for the season, grass-fed meats, free-range eggs, honey, preserves, maple syrup and much, much more! Vermont Farmers' Market is one of the largest and most diversified farmers' markets in Vermont, and the first to operate year round. The Saturday market moves indoors to the Howe Center Nov. 4. For more info visit: vtfarmersmarket.org.

Presentation by Duo Dickinson—Embodying Faith in

Our Buildings

10 a.m. Mission Farm, 316 Mission Farm Rd, Killington. For more information contact Lisa@missionfarmvt.org.

"Muster at the Mount: Mount Independence from the Ground Up"

10 a.m.-3 p.m. 497 Mount Independence Road, Orwell. \$25 (\$20 for Green Mountain Passport holders and Mount Independence Coalition members). Explore the story of Mount Independence, looking into significant but perhaps less well-known aspects. Historians, site interpreters, a geologist, archaeologist, and others will make a variety of presentations in different formats. Lunch is included. Pre-registration is a must. Call (802) 948-2000 for details on the schedule and how to pre-register. Info: historicssites.vermont.gov.

Storytime!

10-10:45 a.m. (Saturdays) Hartland Public Library, 153 Route 5, Hartland. Explore a different theme through reading and activities. We'll read, make crafts, create experiments, and play games. Saturday Story Time is intended for preschool and early elementary aged kids, but all are welcome. Info: hartlandlibraryvt.org.

Make & Take Saturday Kids Class

10:30-11:30 a.m. (Saturdays) Ages: 6-12. Weekly fun activity featuring arts and crafts. \$15. Min 5 students. Must pre-register. Info: chaffeartcenter.org.

Artist Reception: SVA Artist Member Show

11 a.m.-2 p.m. Stone Valley Arts, 145 E Main St., Poultney. This year's artist members' show includes 21 talented artists from around the state who represent a variety of media including painting, photography, woodturning, pottery, collage, and mixed media.

Still Life in Oil with David Gordon

11 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Gallery at the VAULT, 68 Main St., Springfield. \$65. We will work with still life subject matter and will focus on learning from direct observation while maintaining freedom and looseness in our process. Please refer to website for list of recommended materials. (\$15. materials fee) Info: galleryvault.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.

Tales to Tails: Kids Reading to Dogs

Noon-1 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.



3rd Annual Haunted Hillside Relay

Noon-3 p.m. Killington Base Camp Trails \$75-\$90 per team. Moguls afterparty 4-6 p.m. Afterparty tax: \$10. Racers will compete in teams of three in a relay-style race from TBR to Upper Base Camp loop. Prizes will be awarded to the team with the fastest time, best team costume, and best individual costumes. Funds raised will go towards the trails within the KMBC network. Live music from Last Chair, fun games, and treats for all ages from Sexy Llama Mobile Espresso Bar, and beer from Zero Gravity Craft Brewery. Afterparty held at Moguls Sports Pub and feature complimentary food, great drink specials, and raffle prizes. To register visit: killingtonmountainbikeclub.org/events. Info: killington.com.

Fall festival

1-4 p.m. Green Mountain Missionary Baptist Church, 98 Killington Ave., Free. Rutland. Bobbing for apples, face painting, music, games, and refreshments. Info: members.rutlandvermont.com/events/calendar.

Little Shop Of Horrors

2 p.m. 2095 Pomfret Rd, South Pomfret. \$35. A deviously delicious Broadway and Hollywood sci-fi smash musical, Little Shop Of Horrors has devoured the hearts of theatre goers for over 30 years. One of the most popular shows in the world. Info: artistreevt.org.

Area-802 Face Your Fears

3-9 p.m. Pine Hill Park, 2 Oak Street Ext., Rutland. Free. Kiddo friendly from 3-5 p.m. and then terrifying from 6-9 p.m. Free candy for the littles and activities for community friends. After dark, everyone 16+ can test their bravery and face their fears along the Scary Trail. Info: members.rutlandvermont.com/events/calendar.

Haunted Village Theater

5-9 p.m. Barn Arts, 115 North Road, Barnard. \$10-\$20. A unique theater experience for all ages staged around the small village of Barnard. Tours start every 30 minutes to 5 outdoor locations where actors perform stories or haunting scenes around a fire pit. The first two tours of each evening are guaranteed family-friendly, but things will get spookier as darkness sets in. A fall dinner buffet in the Barnard Town Hall is included. Info: barnarts.org.

'Taylor Swift: The Eras Tour'

6 p.m. Woodstock Town Hall Theatre, 31 The Green, Woodstock. Tickets: \$19.19 adults; \$13.13 kids. The cultural phenomenon continues on the big screen. A concert film experience as Taylor Swift celebrates her meteoric rise in a musical autobiography. Eras attire and friendship bracelets are strongly encouraged. Info: pentanglearts.org.

Little Shop Of Horrors

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"Fireside Frights: An evening of Scary Stories Fun and Fantastic Food"

7-9 p.m. West Rutland Town Hall, 35 Marble St., West Rutland. \$20. around a campfire. Storytellers will present 10-minute short stories by famous authors as well as original work from the actors. Complimentary refreshments will include fall favorites. Info: paramountvt.org/event/vermont-actors-repertory-presents-fireside-frights.

"Cruella" on Heald Auditorium Big Screen

7 p.m. (Doors open at 6:30 p.m.) 37 Depot Street, Ludlow. Free. Donations are appreciated. A screening of the film "Cruella," a gripping and stylish original story that explores the transformation of the iconic Disney villain, Cruella de Vil, before she fully embraces her wicked persona. info: fola.us.



 **Calendar:** Email events@mountaintimes.info from page 13

EagleMania: The World's Greatest Eagles Tribute
7-10 p.m. Paramount Theatre, 30 Center St., Rutland. \$35. EagleMania has been dazzling audiences for over a decade by spectacularly reproducing the music of The Eagles. EagleMania thrills internationally renowned audiences with their stunning five part harmony, virtuoso guitar work.

VSO Jukebox Fall Series

7:30-10 p.m. Roots Studio Space at Roots the Restaurant, 55 Washington St., Rutland. Pay-what-you-can \$15, \$25, \$35 + tax/fees. The VSO's Jukebox fall series showcases the intersection between music and art with works inspired by vivid colors, imagery and artwork. Over the duration of the concert, the music of Benjamin Britten, Jessie Montgomery, Philip Glass and more will guide and inform a live painting experience with Haitian/Vermont artist Julio Desmont as he creates a new piece of artwork in real time. Info: paramountvt.org.

SUNDAY
10/22

The Maxxis Eastern States Cup Intense Cycles

Downhill Series

9 a.m. Ramshead lift, at Killington Ski Resort. Race fees found with registration details. The Killington track has seen a lot of changes over the years and the racing experience just keeps getting better. As a bonus, Vermont's legendary fall foliage should be peaking on race weekend. A racer's top eight results will determine the Maxxis ESC Intense DH Series champion, with these finals delivering a 125% series points bonus. Info: killington.com. Registration: easternstatescup.com/events/killington-intense-dh-finals.

Pico Ski Club's Annual Ski & Snowboard Swap/Sale

9 a.m.-noon. Pico Mountain, 73 Alpine Dr. Mendon. New and used skis, snowboards, clothing, snowshoes and equipment for kids and adults from the recreational snow sports enthusiast to the seasoned racer, along with local shops bringing great deals. Pico Ski Club accepting consignments of used, clean ski, snowboard and winter athletic clothing (no street clothing), and modern alpine and snowboard equipment. Backcountry, telemark and skinning/AT skis accepted, but not traditional cross-country skis. All equipment must meet current safety standards for the Swap & Sale. Drop-off date: 10/18 4-7 p.m.; 10/19 4-7 p.m.; 10/20 Noon-3 p.m. (Only accepting items that have already been entered online.) All unsold consignment items must be picked up by 1 p.m., 10/22 at the Pico Base Lodge. Info: picomountain.com.

Monster Mash Halloween Bash

10-11 a.m. and 11:15a.m. - 12:15 p.m. Head Over Heels Gymnastic Center, 129 Forest St., Rutland. Must register and pay in advance. \$18 for member; \$20 non-member. Inflatable, shadow dancing, spooky skeleton trail, glow sticks, face painting, trick or treat bucket, monster mash dance, crafts, photo booth and more. Info: headoverheelsvt.com.

Making Strides Against Breast Cancer

11 a.m.-4 p.m. Vermont State University Castleton, 432 South St., Castleton. A celebration of courage and hope, a movement uniting communities to end breast cancer as we know it, for everyone. The Making Strides movement raises lifesaving funds that support breast cancer patients, survivors, thrivers, and caregivers through every step of the journey. Making Strides has always been more than just a walk, it's a movement. We are making it easier for anyone, anywhere to make an impact. We know the future can be free from breast cancer. We're asking you to join the movement and sign up to save lives. Info: makingstrideswalk.org/southernvt.

Hawkwarts School of Witchcraft & Wizardry

11 a.m.-2:30 p.m. \$15 Per Person, plus General Admission. Join a VINS educator for this magical event where you can choose your classes such as The Sorting Hat, Astronomy, Herbolgy, Care of Magical Creatures, and Potions, and learn all about the real world magic of science. vinsweb.org.

Artist Reception: SVA Artist Member Show

Noon-3 p.m. Stone Valley Arts, 145 E Main St., Poultney. This year's artist members' show includes 21 talented artists from around the state who represent a variety of media including painting, photography, woodturning, pottery, collage, and mixed media.

Truck-Or-Treat at Wonderfeet

12-4 p.m. Wonderfeet Kids' Museum, 66 Merchants Row, Rutland. Wonderfeet Kids' Museum will host a new, fun-filled event on Merchants Row in Downtown Rutland. This is a free event, but families are invited to participate in our coin drop. This combination "touch a truck" and "trunk or treat" provides an opportunity for kids, families and community members to visit and explore interesting vehicles, while also taking part in a safe and supervised Trick-or-Treating event. Info: members.rutlandvermont.com/events/calendar.

The 22nd Annual Killington Bridal Show

Doors open at 11:30 a.m., grand prizes at 2 p.m. Killington Grand Hotel, 228 E Mountain Rd. Do not miss out on wedding inspiration, opportunities to connect with some of the best vendors in the industry, and many amazing prizes. See inspiring ideas and fabulous flowers and taste perfect pairings, delicious desserts, and wonderful wedding cake. Info: killingtonbridalshow.com.

Spooktacular Family Mask Making

1-3 p.m. Stone Valley Arts, 145 East Main St., Poultney. Free. Make Halloween masks while enjoying eerie edible snacks including ginger deadmen, cauldron brownies, clementine pumpkins, boo berry bananas, graveyard dirt pudding and witch's cider brew will be served. There will also be Halloween-themed games like witch hat toss, ghost tin can bowling and a ghoulish photobooth. Info: stonevalleyarts.org.

Little Shop Of Horrors

2 p.m. 2095 Pomfret Rd, South Pomfret. \$35. A deviously delicious Broadway and Hollywood sci-fi smash musical, Little Shop Of Horrors has devoured the hearts of theatre goers for over 30 years. Howard Ashman and Alan Menken (Disney's The Little Mermaid, Beauty And The Beast, and Aladdin) are the creative geniuses behind what has become one of the most popular shows in the world. Info: artistreevt.org.

Haunted Village Theater

4-8 p.m. Barn Arts, 115 North Road, Barnard. \$10-\$20. A unique theater experience for all ages staged around the small village of Barnard. Tours start every 30 minutes with guides leading the audience to 5 outdoor locations where actors perform stories or haunting scenes around a fire pit. The first two tours of each evening are guaranteed family-friendly, but things will get spookier as darkness sets in. There will also be a fall comfort food dinner buffet in the Barnard Town Hall to enjoy. Info: barnarts.org.

Maker Monday at The MINT

5:30-7:30 p.m. (2nd, 3rd, and 4th Monday of the month) Have a question about what's possible in a shop? Need a refresher on how to use a piece of equipment? Want to demonstrate your skills to use the stained glass, electronics, or textile lab? Shop leads will be on hand to help you make the most of The MINT. Note: Some shops require registration for an initial instructor-led full tool training. Visit the calendar to sign up. Info: rutlandmint.org.

'Taylor Swift: The Eras Tour'

6 p.m. Woodstock Town Hall Theatre, 31 The Green, Woodstock. Tickets: \$19.19 adults; \$13.13 kids. The cultural phenomenon continues on the big screen. A concert film experience as Taylor Swift celebrates her meteoric rise in a musical autobiography. Eras attire and friendship bracelets are strongly encouraged. Info: pentanglearts.org.

Hands-on Hand-made Pasta Lesson

6:30-9:30 p.m. Bridgewater Corners, Bridgewater. \$85. Learn how to make three different types of pasta: tortellini, fettuccini, and ravioli plus three different fillings and three accompanying sauces. Info: odysseventsvt.com.

Science Book Club

7 p.m. (Sundays) Shrewsbury Library, 9823 Cold River Road, Shrewsbury. For more information contact Margery Salmon at salmonm@vermontel.net.

Joan Aleshire Book Reading

7 p.m. Shrewsbury Library, 9823 Cold River Road, Shrewsbury. Joan Aleshire will read from her new novel, Belfield, out now. Info: shrewsburyvt.org.

Joan Aleshire Book Reading

7 p.m. Shrewsbury Library, 9823 Cold River Road, Shrewsbury. Joan Aleshire will read from her new novel, Belfield, out now. Info: shrewsburyvt.org.

"Fireside Frights: An evening of Scary Stories Fun and Fantastic Food"

7-9 p.m. West Rutland Town Hall, 35 Marble St., West Rutland. \$20. around a campfire. Storytellers will present 10-minute short stories by famous authors as well as original work from the actors. Complimentary refreshments will include fall favorites. Info: paramountvt.org/event/vermont-actors-repertory-presents-fireside-frights.

MONDAY
10/23

Babies and Toddlers Rock

10-10:30 a.m. (Mondays) 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, 2998 River Road, Killington. Free. Weights are provided. For additional information call the library at 802-422-9765.

Give Blood-American Red Cross

12:30 p.m.-5:30 p.m. West Rutland Town Hall, 35 Marble St. Thousands of additional donations needed to replenish Red Cross blood supply. Gift cards, chance at \$5K for those who come to give during national shortage. All who come to give Oct. 21-Nov. 9 will receive a \$10 gift card by email to a restaurant merchant of their choice to enjoy lunch on the Red Cross and will be entered to win a \$5,000 gift card. Details are available at RedCrossBlood.org/Lunch. Info: RedCross.org/NNE or daniel.dowling@redcross.org.

Art Bar Open Craft Time!

3:30-4:30 p.m. 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.

Hands-on Hand-made Pasta Lesson

6:30-9:30 p.m. Bridgewater Corners, Bridgewater. \$85. Learn how to make three different types of pasta: tortellini, fettuccini, and ravioli plus three different fillings and three accompanying sauces. Info: odysseventsvt.com.

TUESDAY
10/24



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. (Tuesdays) 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 in books. Recommended for ages 0-5 but all are welcome. All books read during story time count toward 1000 Books Before. Info: hartlandlibraryvt.org.

Kindergarten. Info: hartlandlibraryvt.org.

Springfield Area Parent-Child Center Playgroup
10:30 - a.m.-Noon. Fletcher Memorial Library, 88 Main St., Ludlow. Free. Ages birth to 6. Playgroups provide parents and children with opportunities to socialize, learn and have fun in a safe environment lead by parent-child center specialist. Info: fmlnews.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. (Tuesdays) 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. Info: rutlandfree.org.

Book Discussion with Northern Ireland: "Things in Jars" with Jess Kidd

2 p.m. Norman Williams Public Library, 10 The Green, Woodstock. The Woodstock Library in Belfast, Northern Ireland, has reached out to libraries in Woodstocks around the world - including NWPL! We are invited to a transatlantic book discussion (obviously via Zoom) during NI Book Week in mid-October. Local folks can gather at the library and Zoom into Northern Ireland as a group or you may participate from home. Please email programs@normanwilliams.org for pricing or questions. Info: normanwilliams.org.

Tony Lu performs at Grace Church

2 p.m. - Grace Congregational Church, 8 Court St., Rutland. Freewill offering appreciated. After Tony's wonderful debut recital in Rutland last October, GCC welcomes him back to offer more of his transcriptions for piano on their Steinway piano. Info: gracechurchvt.org.

Halloween Stuffed Animal Storytime: Black Cat

5-5:30 p.m. Rutland Free Library, 10 Court St, Rutland. Settle in for a story or two before you make your very own stuffed animal black cat. Registration is required. Info: rutlandfree.org.

Swing Dance Class

6:30-8 p.m. (Tuesdays) Fox Room Rutland Free Library, 10 Court St., Rutland. Free. East Coast swing dancing. Move to music with Richard and Sue Good for beginners and intermediate swing dancers. Richard starts each class with instruction on steps; the rest is the dancing.



[MUSIC Scene]

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

WED

10/18

LONDONDERRY

6 p.m. New American Grill – Sammy B

POULTNEY

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

QUECHEE

6 p.m. Public House Pub – Kim Wilcox

THURS

10/19

BRIDGEWATER

CORNERS

5 p.m. Long Trail Brewing – Nick Bredice

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

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

PITTSFIELD

7 p.m. Clear River Tavern – Open Mic with Indigenous Entertainment

POULTNEY

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

QUECHEE

6:30 p.m. Public House Pub – Trivia with Questionable Company

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

SOUTH POMFRET

7 p.m. Grange Theatre – Little Shop of Horrors

FRI

10/20

BOMOSEEN

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

CHESTER

6:30 p.m. The Pizza Stone VT – Zach Yakaitis

KILLINGTON

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

7 p.m. Rivershed Killington – Nashville Hit Makers

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

8 p.m. Jax Food & Games – Nick Bredice

LUDLOW

8 p.m. Off the Rails – Live Music

POULTNEY

6 p.m. The Poultney Pub – Carl Anton

QUECHEE

5:30 p.m. Public House Pub – Sammy B

RANDOLPH

7 p.m. Underground Listening Room – Laur: "Nightbloom" Immersive Release Experience

RUTLAND

6 p.m. American Legion – Ryan Fuller

SHARON

7 p.m. Seven Stars Arts Center – Colin McCaffrey, Bow Thayer and Jim Rooney: Song Swap

SOUTH POMFRET

7 p.m. Grange Theatre – Little Shop of Horrors

STOCKBRIDGE

7:30 p.m. Wild Fern – Heather Lynne

SAT

10/21

BARNARD

5 p.m. Town Hall – Haunted Village Theater

BRIDGEWATER

8 p.m. Woolen Mill Comedy Club – NYC Comedy Showcase with Talal Alyan, Jessica Levin and Levi White

CHESTER

6:30 p.m. The Pizza Stone VT – Wild Idlers

KILLINGTON

6 p.m. Moguls Sports Pub – Duane Carleton

6 p.m. Rivershed Killington – Rob Pagnano

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

6 p.m. Summit Lodge – Green Mountain Jam

6 p.m. The Foundry – Live Music

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

8 p.m. Jax Food & Games – Nick Bredice

LUDLOW

6 p.m. Calcuttas – Ryan Fuller

7 p.m. The Killarney – Rick Webb

8:30 p.m. Off the Rails – Dance Party with DJ Dave

QUECHEE

5:30 p.m. Public House Pub – Kind Bud

RUTLAND

10 a.m. Depot Park – Farmers Market with music by Psylas

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

SOUTH POMFRET

2 p.m./7 p.m. Grange Theatre – Little Shop of Horrors

STOCKBRIDGE

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

SUN

10/22

BARNARD

4 p.m. Town Hall – Haunted Village Theater

BRIDGEWATER

CORNERS
3 p.m. Long Trail Brewing – Nick Bredice

KILLINGTON

12 p.m. Rivershed – Brunch with Rob Pagnano

5 p.m. The Foundry – Summit Pond Jazz

6 p.m. Liquid Art – Tee Boneicus Jones

6 p.m. Rivershed – Trivia Night

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

SOUTH POMFRET

2 p.m. Grange Theatre – Little Shop of Horrors

STOCKBRIDGE

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

WOODSTOCK

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

MON

10/23

KILLINGTON

5:30 p.m. Mary Lou's – BAK'n

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

10/24

KILLINGTON

5:30 p.m. Mary Lou's – Mountain Music with Bow Thayer & Krishna Guthrie

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

PITTSFIELD

7 p.m. Town Hall – Acoustic Music Jam

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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Courtesy BarnArts Center for the Arts

BarnArts scatters *Haunted Village Theater* around five outdoor locations in Barnard this weekend. Familiar and new tales that will start family-friendly and become more eerie as the night approaches with tours beginning at 5 p.m. on Saturday and 4 p.m. on Sunday starting at Barnard Town Hall. Tickets range from \$10-20 and can be purchased at barnarts.org with add-ons for a comfort food dinner buffet.



Courtesy BarnArts Center for the Arts

DeNeige and Olivia Piepmeier perform an original script set during the witch trials.



Courtesy BarnArts Center for the Arts

This is halloween - An all-ages cast of characters will surprise and delight attendees of all-ages! Clockwise from UL: Anita Hamalainen, Sally Zwain, Sara Norcross, Beth Damon, Doug Abbot, Nat Holland, Kaetlyn Collins, Asa Snyder-Hamalainen, Leo Snyder-Hamalainen (missing: Marlena Farinas & Kai Snyder-Hamalainen)

BarnArts Haunted Village Theater promises new and familiar tales this weekend for an all ages haunting theatrical experience

Saturday and Sunday Oct. 21-22—BARNARD—A team of 20+ local creatives are putting their finishing touches on a unique set of chilling scenes for BarnArts 2nd Haunted Village Theater, staged this weekend around fire pits throughout the village of Barnard. Fourteen Performances take place Oct. 21 and 22, and tickets are \$20 for adults, \$15 for students, and \$10 for 12 and under. There will also be a fall comfort food dinner at the Barnard Town Hall.

The first two tours each night will be family-friendly though the tone will darken from G-rated to PG13 along with the skies. Tickets and more info can be found at barnarts.org, including an add-on costumed tour guides will lead groups on walking tours of five locations around the village of Barnard starting at 5 p.m. on Saturday and 4 p.m. on Sunday. A large, all ages cast welcomes attendees and sets the festive mood at the first stop amid tall grasses in the old orchard behind the Barnard Town Hall. Directed by Kaetlyn Collins, the cast includes Collins as well as Doug Abbot, Anita Hamalainen, Nat Holland, Beth Damon, Marlena Farinas, Sara Norcross, Isa Snyder-Hamalainen, Kai Snyder-Hamalainen, Leo Snyder-Hamalainen, and Sally

Zwain. They will be performing a beloved song from “The Nightmare Before Christmas.”

Next, the tour will go lakeside for a haunting performance of “The Cremation of Sam McGee” by Kory Hirak on the edge of Silver Lake. Tapley Trudell will present a new take on the 18th century Barnard tale “The Mad Wolf,” supported by a series of haunting sound effects, in the Dorothy Thompson Memorial Common behind the Barnard General Store. Further along in the common, Killian White and Vander Gac will stage the eerie short story of “The Yellow Wallpaper,” beside the old Sinclair Lewis writing cabin.

The tour will wrap up outside the First Universalist Church with an original Puritan scene, “The Trial of Beth Wilde (again),” written by Elyse DeNeige and Olivia Piepmeie which uses comedy informed by history to remind all of the long record of intolerance in our country. Mary Urban joins them in the performance. Guides, Dan Deneen, Kevin Donohue, Eric Fritz, Laurie Marshall, Kerry Rosenthal, and Robin Simpson will share more stories mixed with interesting lore of the Barnard Village while leading the audience safely between sites.

All tours will start and end at the Barnard Town Hall, which serves as the home base for the event as well as a rain location in case of bad weather, as well as a site for rest and ADA bathrooms. Also available at the Barnard Town Hall will be a fall comfort food dinner. The menu includes warm stew and soups (vegetarian & meat-based options), macaroni & cheese (with a gluten-free option), grilled hot dogs, dessert, and warm herbal tea. Dinner tickets (\$15 adults, \$10 kids) can be purchased ahead with tour tickets or at the door.

All sites are a close walk from each other, but participants should be dressed for the outdoors and tromping across spots of uneven and damp ground. Chairs and blankets will be available for seating in some sites. For ADA accommodations please contact BarnArts.

While tour tickets will be good at any tour, a specific tour time is not guaranteed unless tickets are purchased ahead! Please consult the website and BarnArts social media pages for up to date weather information. More information and tickets can be found at barnarts.org (info@barnarts.org or 802-234-1645).

Conquer the 'Haunted Hillside Relay Race'

Saturday, Oct. 21, at Noon—KILLINGTON—The Killington Mountain Bike Club, a chapter of the Vermont Mountain Bike Association, is excited to announce the third annual Haunted Hillside Relay Race presented by Fox MTB. This event is a spooky good time filled with bikes, brews, and BOOS, and is a fundraising event for the Killington Mountain Bike Club. This year's event will be held on Saturday, Oct. 21, from Noon-3 p.m., with an after-party to follow from 4-6 p.m. at Moguls Sports Pub on 2630 Killington Road, Killington. The relay-style race will take place from TBR to Upper Base Camp loop, and racers will compete in teams of three. Prizes will be awarded to the team with the fastest time, best team costume, and best individual costumes.

The main goal of the event is to raise funds for building and maintaining the trails within the KMBC network. Funds raised from the event will be used to continue providing an excellent riding experience for all bikers in the Killington area. The KMBC has worked hard over the years to create a fantastic network of trails for everyone, and events like the Haunted Hillside Relay Race are essential in raising funds to keep trails maintained.

The event is open to both racers and spectators, with the vendor village featuring live music from Last Chair, fun games and treats for all ages from Sexy Llama Mobile Espresso Bar, and beer from Zero Gravity Craft Brewery.

The after-party at Moguls Sports Pub will feature complimentary food, great drink specials, and raffle prizes from Smith Optics, Fox MTB, and more.

Prizes will be awarded not only to the team with the fastest time but also to the team with the best team costume and the best individual costumes. This adds an exciting and entertaining element to the race and encourages participants to get creative with their costumes.

Early bird registration is \$75 per team, and week-of registration is \$90 per team. Each team registration includes race, after-party entry, and a pair of limited edition Haunted Hillside socks for each racer. For non-racers, after-party tickets are available to purchase for \$10 for anyone who wishes to attend.

The vendor village offers live music, fun games, and treats for all ages. The after-party at Moguls Sports Pub is another highlight of the event, with complimentary food, great drink specials, and raffle prizes from Smith Optics, Fox MTB, and more.

If you're interested in volunteering for the event, the KMBC is seeking volunteers to help with event execution. Volunteer hours can be used to satisfy merchant pass requirements, and volunteers receive free entry to the after-party. To sign up, please visit the following link: <https://bit.ly/3ROhMbc>.

For more information, visit: killingtonmountainbikeclub.org.



Face Your Fears Trail of Terror returns for a spine-chilling night at Pine Hill Park

Saturday, Oct. 21 at 3 p.m.—Rutland—Get ready for a night of spine-tingling thrills as Area 802: Face Your Fears Trail of Terror returns for its second year. Presented by Come Alive Outside and Partners for Prevention, this one-night-only event promises to send shivers down everyone's spine at Pine Hill Park, located at 2 Oak Street Ext. in Rutland.

This thrilling experience is open to all ages, and is free. The event is first-come, first-served, so guests are encouraged to arrive early to get in line and secure their spot.

The event kicks off at 3 p.m. and runs until 9 p.m., offering two distinct experiences for different fright levels.

Families and children can embark on a slightly eerie but fun trick-or-treating adventure through the woods. Guests can expect friendly scares, amusing surprises, and plenty of Halloween spirit to get everyone in the mood. Costumes are

encouraged.

The Spooky Kid-Friendly Trail is designed to provide an experience suitable for kids and families. The scares are mild and meant to be more amusing than truly terrifying. Children will have the chance to collect treats along the trail, creating a fun and memorable Halloween. This trail is perfect for families looking for a not-so-scary adventure that still captures the spirit of the season.

At 6 p.m., the terror intensifies. Guests should brace themselves for a hair-raising journey through a series of themed sections featuring clowns, zombies, and spiders come to life and more. From the moment guests enter the Trail, they will be immersed in a world of horror and suspense. Each themed section is carefully crafted to evoke a specific fear, pushing participants to face their phobias head-on.

Along the Trail, guests will find

activity booths hosted by different non-profit organizations. These booths provide an opportunity for attendees to engage with the community, learn about local initiatives, and support worthy causes.

Hungry guests should bring cash for the food trucks. This year's food trucks will be Frickin' Chicken and So-full Sisters.

Last year's event saw an overwhelming response from the community with over 600 attendees. Arwen Turner, executive director of Come Alive Outside, expressed excitement about the event's return. "It was great to see so many teens and families having so much fun together," she said. "For a lot of families, this event was the first time they had been to Pine Hill Park, and we hope it encourages them to come back and explore the park in the daytime."

For more information and updates, visit: comealiveoutside.com/events.

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The Taylor Swift Eras Tour is making history

WOODSTOCK— Taylor Swift Eras Tour has come to town! The cultural phenomenon continues on the big screen at Woodstock Town Hall Theatre, 31 The Green, for a once-in-a-lifetime concert film experience of the history-making tour. Show times are Oct. 19-22, 26-29, Oct. 31, and Nov. 2-5 at 6 p.m. Tickets are \$19.89 for adults and \$13.13 for kids, seniors and Pentangle Members.



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GOT NEWS?
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Fly like an Eagle to the Paramount Theatre to witness Eaglemania



By John Bruno
Eaglemania, the world's greatest Eagles tribute band.

Saturday, Oct. 21 at 7 p.m.—RUTLAND—EagleMania, the world's greatest Eagles tribute band, has been mesmerizing audiences for over a decade with their renditions of The Eagles' timeless music. With their remarkable five-part harmony, virtuoso guitar work, and uncanny ability to replicate the distinct sound of The Eagles, EagleMania captures the essence of The Eagles like no other tribute act. Their ability to emulate not only The Eagles' greatest hits but also the solo efforts of Don Henley, Glenn Frey, and Joe Walsh in songs like "Hotel California" or the foot-stomping energy of "Life in the Fast Lane," EagleMania delivers a performance that will transport you back to the heyday of The Eagles.

From the iconic outfits to the charismatic personas, EagleMania creates not just a sonic experience but visually stunning show as well.

The Eagles are one of the most influential rock bands in history, with a legacy that spans decades. Their unique blend of rock, country, and folk music, coupled with their lyrics and captivating live performances, won worldwide accolades.

For more information, visit: paramountvt.org.

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Redfield Proctor sculpture to be unveiled in downtown Rutland

Newest sculpture honors the founder of the Vermont marble industry

Wednesday, Oct. 18 at noon—RUTLAND—The 11th sculpture on the Rutland Sculpture Trail, honoring business and civic leader Redfield Proctor, will be unveiled Oct. 18 in downtown Rutland.

The sculpture will be unveiled at noon that day in a garden area at 47 Merchants Row.

Redfield Proctor was a business and military leader, locally and nationally. A lawyer, he enlisted in the Union Army at the outbreak of the Civil War. He mustered out as a colonel from the 15th Vermont Infantry after the Battle of Gettysburg.

He became manager of Sutherland Falls Marble Company in 1869 and founded the Vermont Marble Company in 1880. Under his leadership, Vermont Marble Company became one of the world's largest and most celebrated marble producers. The military headstones



and the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Arlington National Cemetery, the U.S. Supreme Court, Lincoln Memorial, Jefferson Memorial and the United Nations was produced in Proctor.

He served as lieutenant governor, the 37th governor of Vermont and were secretary of war under President Harrison, where he was credited with improving morale and conditions for Army soldiers. He served in the U.S. Senate from 1891 until his death.

The sculpture, designed by Kellie Pereira and carved by Evan Morse and Taylor Apostol, is one in a series honoring regional history and planned through a collaboration by The Carving Studio and Sculpture Center, MKF Properties, Vermont Quarries, and Green Mountain Power. It was funded by Mark and Nancy Foley.

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SUDOKU

PUZZLES—from page 11

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



Don't miss the Annual Killington Community Update, Thursday

Find out what this season has in store, as well as upcoming development plans. Leaders from the Killington Pico Area Association, town, resort and Great Gulf (village developer) will all share updates on what's to come. A cocktail party will follow. RSVP at KillingtonResort.com/RSVP.

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Original Lucy Mackenzie Humane Society short film “The Journey Home” to premiere online Oct. 24

Tuesday, Oct. 24 — WEST WINDSOR — “The Journey Home,” a Lucy Mackenzie Humane Society original short film, will premiere online on Tuesday, Oct. 24 at 7 p.m. A link to view the film will be posted on all of Lucy Mackenzie’s social media accounts (including YouTube, Facebook and Twitter) in addition to their website: LucyMac.org, at 7 p.m.

“The Journey Home” is the emotional story of the shared journey taken by every animal at Lucy Mackenzie Humane Society. Told intimately from the animals’ perspective, the film captures one of the most important and eventful chapters of the animals’ lives as they spend time at Lucy Mackenzie’s shelter. Finding their homes might be the ultimate destination, but the journey there, with all its many struggles and triumphs, is what ultimately helps define them.

Executive Director Jackie Stanley explained how the film came into fruition: “We were recently gifted a short film about Lucy Mackenzie entitled ‘The Journey Home’ by a talented and generous supporter and filmmaker. This film was two years in the making and is beautiful! Spanning over an entire year, the film depicts the shared journey that each

“The Journey Home” → 27

Meet the Green Mountain Fly Tyers, Oct. 25

Wednesday, Oct. 25 at 7:30 p.m.—RUTLAND—The Green Mountain Fly Tyers club will be holding its second meeting of the season on Wednesday, Oct. 25. The meeting will be held at 7:30 p.m. at the Godnick Center, 1 Deer St. Rutland. Presenting for the evening will be Paul Buccheri and he will be demonstrating two flies the AL Emerger and the Irish Caddis. Those interested in tying should bring their tools; however, the club always welcomes participants to observe and learn. GMFT will be collecting dues from returning members in the amount of \$20. Prospective members are welcome to join their first meeting as a guest and are encouraged to join thereafter.

The 22nd Annual Killington Bridal Show will prepare attendees for their dream wedding experience

Sunday, Oct. 22 at 11:30 a.m.—KILLINGTON—The 22nd annual Killington Bridal Show, organized by the Vermont Wedding Association (VWA), is a highly anticipated event for both wedding professionals and engaged couples. With a rich history spanning over two decades, the VWA has become synonymous with excellence in the wedding industry.

The VWA was born out of a need for a platform where wedding professionals could connect with couples in search of their dream wedding experience. In 2001, the Killington Bridal Show marked the beginning of a journey that would transform the wedding industry in Vermont.

As the VWA grew in popularity, it became a trusted partner for wedding professionals and a go-to resource for engaged couples. The organization’s knowledgeable team of dedicated wedding coordinators who commit to every detail of the show has earned them a reputation as the top wedding association in the industry. Attendees will have a chance to meet with top-notch industry pros from DJs and photographers to bakers, florists, and venues.

Hors d’oeuvres will be expertly paired with signature cocktails, providing a delightful culinary experience. Music will fill the air, with an ambiance that will transport couples into the realm of their dream wedding. Moreover, there will be numerous opportunities to win fabulous prizes, including a two-night stay at the luxurious Killington Grand Hotel with complimentary lift tickets, a round of golf for two, and various wedding-related certificates.

For the past 14 years, the VWA has been partnering with Kerry Ellis and the Marrow Donor Program at Rutland Regional Medical Center to raise awareness about the importance of marrow donation. At each bridal show, a table

is dedicated to welcoming couples and their families to learn more about becoming a donor match for patients in need. The VWA is proud to have found matches at five of their shows, giving hope and a second chance at life to those in need.

For more info, visit: Killingtonbridalshow.com.



Courtesy Killington Resort

The 22nd annual Killington Bridal Show, held this Sunday at Killington, will connect wedding professionals with couples in search of their dream wedding experience.



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Sophie—1-year-old.
 Spayed female. Domestic shorthair.



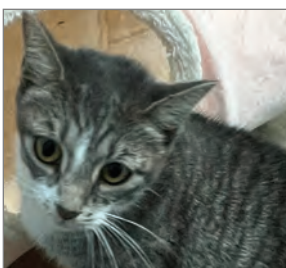
Ranger—1-year-old.
 Neutered male. Siberian Husky.



Hooch—3-year-old.
 Neutered male. Akita mix.



Misty—1-year-old.
 Spayed female. Domestic shorthair.



Miss Lilly—2-year-old.
 Spayed female. Domestic shorthair.



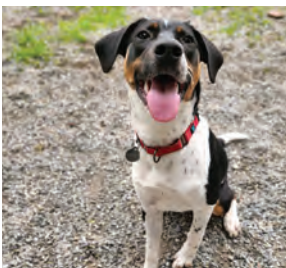
ELLA

Ella—2-year-old. Spayed female. Husky/ German Shephard mix.

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Genesis—7-year-old.
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Abby—19 week old.
 Spayed female. Australian Shepherd/Pointer mix.



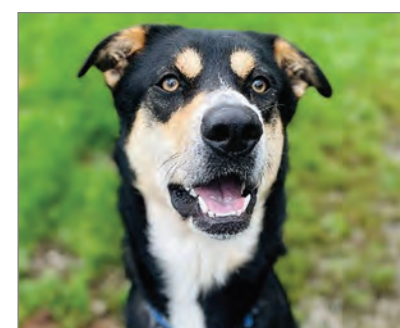
Zoey—2-year-old.
 Spayed female. Retriever mix.



Charlie—8 month old. Neutered male. Pointer mix.



Marshall—10-year-old. Neutered male. Domestic mediumhair.



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Cosmic Catalogue



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Aries March 21 - April 20

Ideas and images that are imposed on all of us about what love should be aren't always real. For each of us, love is universal but it's also different. Right now, you're figuring out what it is you actually need in relationships. You might be surprised to realize that you need something that is vastly different than what you have now. This doesn't have to mean the end, but you may need to rewrite the script about how to move forward.

Leo July 21 - August 20

The recent Solar Eclipse may have revealed issues in communication for you. Try as you might to get it right, things may not be going in the direction you wanted. What to do? Rather than pushing your perspectives onto others, consider if yours are worth pushing. It was your light that was blocked after all. Is there something you're not seeing or maybe you just don't want to see it. Self-reflection is the most beneficial thing you can do for yourself now.

Sagittarius November 21 - December 20

Some friends, groups or networks in your life are going to reveal themselves. As they do, you'll reconsider the value they have in your life moving forward. Some will be kindred spirits, ride or die allies. While with others, you'll recognize they've had their season in your life. It's time for you to focus on the alliances you have that truly support you, even when you're busy and can't give them the attention they deserve. If they stick around, value them!

Taurus April 21 - May 20

If you're feeling over this timeline, I don't blame you. You're so much more than just getting to work on time and making sure the bills are paid, though, pay them you must. Along the way, it's important not to forget joy and to have experiences that open your heart. As cliché as it has become, living, laughing and loving is honestly all we have. If you're not making that a priority, then you need to reconsider how you're spending your life.

Virgo August 21 - September 20

You really are such a giver. Perhaps a better description is a doer or a helper. Every now and then though, you may feel that the number of deposits you make exceeds withdrawals. That may be great in finance, but what about other areas of life? Emotional and financial entanglements need re-assessing. Don't cling on to a mistake just because you spent a long time making it. Know when to cut your losses in order to find peace within yourself again.

Capricorn December 21 - January 20

It can be disappointing to reach a peak in life and realize it didn't reveal all that you wanted it to. Right now, you may be feeling overlooked or overshadowed in a professional situation. Don't cut your nose off to spite your face. Instead, lean on your long-gone *modus operandi* and wait a situation out. If something is meant for you, it will come back around. If not, then let it go and move on. That is how you remain balanced and empowered.

Gemini May 21 - June 20

A sign of maturity is that you're not spending your weekends the same way as you did 10 or 20 years ago. As the seasons of life change, so does the way you experience fun. One season, it's drinking until 3 a.m. and in different season it's celebrating your kids' achievements. Whatever it is, if you're feeling you need to rearrange the way you enjoy life's most simple pleasures, then you'd be right. Your season is changing so you need to change with it.

Libra September 21 - October 20

How does it feel to be embracing more selfishness? How does it feel to make decisions that feel right for you regardless of other people's opinions? I hope you're feeling a sense of empowerment. It's not easily to break ingrained habits. Especially if those habits relate to how you give and receive love. Right now, the only relationship you need to be investing into is the one you have with yourself. Focus on you and everything else will work itself out.

Aquarius January 21 - February 20

Life is a buffet of options, choices and decisions for you now. Travel, study, mysteries of the Universe – all of it is being revealed to you now. Your challenge, if you choose it, is to let go of all that you've been taught and told and open up to a new perspective – an entire new outlook. This Eclipse season is helping you prepare for profound and permanent changes. Embrace it now and it will be easier when those changes arrive soon.

Cancer June 21 - July 20

You can try and patch up issues of communication or logistics in family matters. Or, you can just throw the whole template out and start again. You do your best to keep things balanced at home and keep everyone happy. We are in the middle of eclipses and you're more sensitive than usual. It's hard to keep balance when the scales aren't calibrated correctly. This week, do what you need to do to keep on an even keel. Even if that means upsetting the apple cart.

Scorpio October 21 - November 20

If you've been plagued by sleepless nights, vivid dreams or psychic occurrences, then you're right where you need to be now. One the one hand, you're ready for action and feel determined to implement whichever goals you've set for yourself. While on the other, there is a nagging call to continue to reflect and reveal your inner landscape. Why do they have to be mutually exclusive? Your dreams are revealing the next steps. It's your mission to answer the call.

Pisces February 21 - March 20

Life is about entanglements with other people, both the living and the dead. Love and money are a part of the picture. Even the ancestral inheritance isn't excluded from this. The recent Eclipse may have revealed something you've yet to consider. Whether it's the rising or falling of fortunes, life in this area is about new beginnings and endings simultaneously. Some may be bitter-sweet, while others, absolutely beautiful. It's all part of the circle of life.

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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.

Breaking open

As is usual during the time in between eclipses, there's an eerie reduction of planetary movement. That being said, the sky isn't completely devoid of consideration. A big part of this week is contemplating all that you've been taught and told. Is it true? Is it false? Is it even real? What is truth when something dies?

As you sort through the pieces and see them for exactly what they are and not what you projected, real truth can be revealed. It's not an easy process to put one's ego to one side and take a balanced perspective. But it's required.

As you go deeper, more truths are revealed. More blatant lies exposed. The more you find out, the more important it becomes to not let your emotion override your principles. Otherwise, confusion and imbalance make you easier to manipulate. What is real truth? It is love. Only love can cancel hate as the light cancels the dark.

As you search for the truth, don't lose your heart nor your humanity. Instead, let the pain and suffering you're experiencing now strengthen it. As a wise friend recently reminded me, a breaking heart is a heart breaking open.



Cosmic Catalogue
By Cassandra Tyndall

One of the wild

The raindrops hit my face,
Slowly,
Showing me nature.
I open my eyes,
Taking it all in,
The beauty of the world,
The beauty of nature,
The leaves,
All golden yellow,
And fiery orange and red,
A bird comes into view,
Singing its beautiful little song.
I take in the nature,
The nature takes me in,
I am one of the wild.

Poetry Is Power
By Bree Sarandrea

Gifts of sensitivity

We will return to the bear cave next week for Bear's enlightening messages, but I'm feeling called to interject some teachings I've learned and would like to share. I consulted my Power Animal Oracle Cards for a confirmation. Raven stood out above other cards and this is what it said: "raven—magic—own your power... Use your abilities to demonstrate to others that there is this amazing power of spirit available that can move mountains, a force that can be accessed with the proper mix of faith, intention, and focus. So stop doubting, worrying, or making excuses, and own your capacity to be a powerful magician. Use these gifts to help make this a better world for all beings."

When I was a child, my parents protected me because of my extreme sensitivity. Others would say (and sometimes still do), "You're too sensitive." I was confused. I knew it was good and vital to care, to feel compassion and

be kindhearted. Mom taught us to practice the Golden Rule: "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you."

Compassion's companion is often pain. It was easy to put myself in others' shoes. Sometimes I felt sad without knowing why. But after Mom's passing, my grief counselor explained,

"You're an empath! You absorb others' pain."

Since then I've learned my sensitivities extend to the "Three Clairs," the three main intuitive and metaphysical senses that bypass neurological pathways. They are conveyed through the psyche.

Clairsentience

Clairsentience is clear feeling in the gut about people, relationships, places, and situations. This may include feeling someone's true intentions, which may differ greatly from their smiles or words. All clairsentients are also empaths and often need learn how to distinguish

Meditation → 26



Mountain Meditation
By Marguerite Jill Dye

Moose in rut

On an October day years ago, my husband and I were canoeing on a pond in the Green Mountain National Forest. We heard crashing in the bushes along the shoreline just before a magnificent bull moose with large antlers appeared. He plunged into the water and swam across the pond, only 50 feet from where we were floating quietly in our canoe. I still remember the silhouette of his massive head and the glistening beads of water on his neck. The bull must have been on the trail of a cow moose, as he seemed oblivious to us. When he reached the opposite shore, he climbed out of the water and trotted off into the woods, grunting.

This moose was in "rut," a term used to describe the breeding season in members of the deer — or cervid — family. The rut occurs between mid-September and mid-October, when cow moose come into estrus and bulls are laser-focused on breeding with them. Scientists believe daylength triggers a rise in hormones that stimulates reproductive behavior.

By late summer, a bull moose's antlers are fully developed. As testosterone levels increase in September, the velvet skin covering of blood vessels and nerves — which aids in antler growth — dries and sheds, leaving hard antlers with sharp points attached to the broad palms. Moose rub their antlers against trees to scrape off the velvet. Antlers are designed to impress females, to intimidate rival males, and for fighting. A bull moose's neck muscles also expand to twice their normal size for the rut, and thick forehead skin serves as armor against punctures.

During rutting season, bulls travel widely in search of cows, responding to their bellows and the calls of rival bulls. Scent-marking also plays an important role in attracting a mate; both sexes leave calling cards by rubbing their heads against trees. Bull moose dig pits in the ground with their front hooves and urinate into these depressions, which are typically 1½ to 3½ feet long, 1 to 3 feet wide, and 3 to 6 inches deep. Bulls wallow in their rut pits, anointing themselves with their musky odor. Cows are attracted to these pits and have been observed rolling in them and keeping other cows away from the wallows of a preferred male. Bulls travel among their rut pits, checking for cows along the way. If accepted by a cow, a bull usually stays with her for about a week, courting and mating. The couple may take turns mud-bathing, rubbing against each other,

and following one another.

In a long-term study of moose behavior in Alaska's Denali National Park, wildlife biologist Victor Van Ballenberghe found that large, dominant bulls performed 88% of all matings. They accomplished this by defending cows from smaller bulls, aggressively chasing other bulls away, and defeating challengers in fights. Van Ballenberghe observed battles between two mature bulls of about the same size that began

with intense displays: the moose pawed the ground, thrashed their antlers against shrubs, and displayed their bodies and racks. Then they rammed their antlers together

and shoved back and forth until one moose gave up and left the area. These violent clashes may last for hours and can seriously wound or even kill an opponent. If the bulls' antlers become interlocked, both animals will die. Hikers and hunters may find torn-up shrubs, tufts of hair, and pieces of antlers after a moose fight.

After mating with one cow, the bull leaves to breed with successive cows. Van Ballenberghe found that most females mated with only one male. The rut ends when all cows in the area have passed through estrus. Afterwards, bulls are exhausted and spend long hours recuperating. They do not eat much during the rut and lose considerable weight, so must feed heavily in late fall to prepare for winter. Cows give birth to one or two calves in spring.

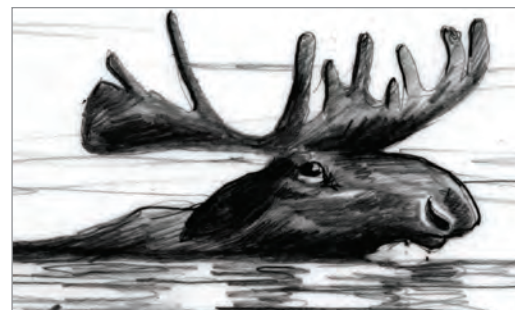
It is wise to give these huge, powerful animals a wide berth any time of year, but especially during the rut, when they're more aggressive. Moose occasionally approach humans in the woods to investigate the noise. Moose can run as fast as 35 miles per hour for short distances, so can outrun most people. If approached by a moose, hikers should put trees between them and the animal — and if a moose charges, climb a tree.

With the decline in moose populations in the Northeast due to climate change and increased winter tick infestation, it is a treat to spot a moose nowadays — from a safe distance. I'll never forget our close encounter at the pond with that impressive bull.

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



A decorated affair

When I was a kid, my mother stored all our holiday decorations in an attic room

just off her bedroom. It was a small, cramped spot that was difficult to move around in due to the slanted ceiling, but perfect for storing items that weren't accessed regularly.

I never liked this room. There was no light, it was dusty, and it had a particular smell. I suppose it qualified as "creepy" in the way that attic rooms sometimes do, so I never entered unless my mother was accompanying me.

Besides holiday decorations, the room was also filled with a multitude of other items deemed worthy enough to keep or just not crappy enough to throw away—things like old lamps, bedding, and dishware.

The holiday decorations (which consisted mostly of Christmas items along with a few Halloween and Valentine's Day pieces) were stored in an old trunk and a few tattered cardboard boxes (remember, this was long before plastic Tupperware containers entered the scene). Dragging the trunk out was an event since it was overtly heavy on its own. Throw in a ton of decorations and it was nearly unmovable.

I used to get excited when it was time to decorate the house for a holiday. My mother was always good about setting the scene with appropriate colors and decorations. When she was finished, our house always felt different, which enhanced the seasonal feelings associated with whatever holiday was on the horizon.

I especially loved how our house felt around the autumn/Halloween season. My mother had a couple of ceramic pumpkins that lit up, as well as several skeleton, witch, and black cat cutouts that adorned the doors and windows of our main floor. And while we rarely burned candles in our home, we always seemed to have a pumpkin candle ready to fire up in the living room.

Interestingly, Halloween never used to have lights or outdoor decorations associated with it (other than the occasional jack-o'lantern). But over the last few decades, Halloween decorating has leaped forward and is now second only to Christmas as the most popular annual holiday.

I jog a neighborhood loop and of all the houses I run past, I'd say 60% are decorated for Halloween this year. And while some may only have a pumpkin on the front

stoop, others have full-scale scenes crowding their front yards.

I love the creativity that some people exhibit when decorating for Halloween. There's one family on my running route that purchased three life-sized skeletons and every day they set them up in a different situation. For instance, yesterday they were placed in beach chairs with an umbrella. The day before they were playing poker. And the day before that they were pretending to ski.

There's another family that has created a comedic murder scene that features every character from horror movie history, including Freddy Krueger, Jason, and Michael Meyers, among others. It's comedic in that the murder scene features pumpkin people instead of real humans (which makes it more palatable for a neighborhood setting).

Of course, for every great decorating scenario, there are 10 that look like garbage. For instance, I'm not a fan of the inflatable decorations that have gained popularity over the last decade.

I've seen rare instances where these coexist in a front yard without looking awkward and out of place.

But the real winner over the last couple of years has been the gigantic 12-foot-tall skeletons that are popping up in yards across the country. Launched in 2020 by Home Depot, these gigantic \$300 skellies have taken decorating to the next level. My neighbor has two of them on either side of his front door and, combined with some eerie cobwebbing and lighting, presents a ghastly entryway.

In this week's feature, "A Haunting in Venice," we revisit Detective Hercule Poirot ("Murder on the Orient Express," "Death on the Nile") who, in this third installment, becomes intricately involved in his own ghastly affair.

Starring actor/director Kenneth Branagh as Detective Poirot and Tina Fey as a sassy American mystery writer, "A Haunting in Venice" casts an interesting combination of mystery and horror. And while this film delves into some creepy and murderous affairs, it still maintains an uncanny sense of fun.

Check this one out if you're looking for a smart and complex film that doesn't rely on gore to satisfy your need for horror.

An ornamented "B" for "A Haunting in Venice," now showing in theaters everywhere.

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



The Movie Diary
By Dom Cioffi



Stars in a dark night sky

No matter the time of day, I love laying on my blanket in the middle of a field and staring up at the sky. While you are the one that walks through the forest to create movement, the sky appears the exact opposite. Only when you lie perfectly still can you track the movements of the elements. The clouds rolling by, the planets slowly making their way, or tracking the stars from night to night. It's all right there, if you just sit and let it pass you by.

Don't mistake my appreciation for the sky as knowledge of it. I took a planetary astronomy class in college and cannot even remember the name of Jupiter's moons. I wasn't there for the science but for the hours of simply laying on my back on a blanket looking up at the night sky. Every once in a while you had to roll over and write something in your notebook, but I'm pretty confident the professor knew no one was really there to study...

I was there to be in the moment, to get lost in meditative study of the sky around me. To pay such close attention that I believed I could feel the earth moving un-

derneath the starry sky. I loved watching the clouds move around the moon, changing the feeling of a night from peaceful to eerie in just a few minutes.

But my favorite is when Orion the Hunter starts to rise in the sky. It's really one of the only constellations I know, and in our part of the world it rises as winter comes. It reminds me to get ready, to start prepping my home for the upcoming changes for the season. I mean, obviously I could look at the leaves to see that winter was coming, but the sky also tells a story — when we can see it.

Light pollution is getting worse. A recent study showed that it is increasing by up to 10% every year. That means that if there were 250 visible stars in the sky when someone was born, but by the time they are 18 years old they will only see 100 of those same stars. We are literally losing our sight in order to see — how screwed up is that?

For some reason beyond light pollution, we keep our house dark. There are no outside lights and our blackout curtains hide the interior lights from the outside

Living the dream → 26



Livin' the Dream
By Merisa Sherman

Remembering Halloween from yesteryear

It's almost time for Halloween and sometimes adults have as much fun as kids on this holiday.

Looking back to the 1950s when I went "trick-or-treating" the costumes were pretty simple. Most kids dressed as witches, ghosts, hobos or vampires. Celebrity or movie related costumes were not popular like they are today. Many of us wore homemade outfits with just the mask purchased at a store. Large paper bags from grocery stores or old pillow cases held our candy.

We went from door to door with friends. We were instructed to go only to the houses in our immediate neighborhood. If an outside light was not turned on we were to pass by that house. Back then parents knew their neighbors and safety concerns didn't seem to be an issue.

We all dreaded the houses that handed out apples. There were always a few people who wanted to give us something healthy and that didn't count as a "treat" to us!

As we got a little older, around 10 or 11 years old, we sometimes went "trick-or-treating" with a friend who lived in a different neighborhood. Doing that made us feel quite grown up. It also meant that age was catching up with us and our time to collect candy was about to end.

One Halloween I wanted to wear the mask of "Tramp" the dog from the Disney

movie "Lady and the Tramp." I was 11 at the time and it was probably the "last hurrah" for me to go from door to door for candy.

I only wore the mask and no costume. I needed a warm coat as it was chilly. When I got home with my stash my father decided to play a trick on our next door neighbor, Trudy O'Neill. He put on my mask and covered his head with a hat. He went over and rang her doorbell and when she saw him she said, "Aren't you a little old to be trick or treating?" He muttered "no" and she tossed an apple into his bag. He pulled

off his mask and they both started laughing. She then gave him some candy and he headed back home!

Fast forward to 1984 when I went to work at City Hall... Halloween was celebrated by just about every department and employees wore really creative costumes. Everyone gathered on the steps of the building for a group photo. Candy, purchased by employees, was on the counters for customers to take when they came into the offices.

I remember Laurie Wentworth (now Walters) made a clown costume for me one year. I bought a wig to wear with it and painted my face. Our cat was petrified and ran down cellar when he saw me! I encountered a slight problem when I went to the downtown banks to make deposits. There was a sign on every door to remove masks

Looking Back → 27



Looking Back
By Mary Ellen Shaw

← **Living the Dream:**
from page 25

world. We have a sensor light to chase away the bear (who is obviously not intimidated at all if we judge by the scratches on almost everything) and to light the entrance when we get home. But that's it.

According to the international light pollution map, our home has a brightness level of 0.206, the Killington Road is at 0.364 and Rutland stands the brightest at 1.01 mcd/m². While I'm not sure what that really means, I can tell you that New York City has an mcd/m² of over 10! The middle of the ocean is listed at <0.171, which leads me to believe that our little section of Vermont has some really good night views. I'm down for that.

Perhaps we need a stargazer club, to take advantage of our beautiful night skies. We stare at our leaves for weeks, people coming here from all over the world to enjoy their brightly colored beauty. Perhaps we need to remind our guests to step outside at night and look upward. It's difficult to capture on social media, but our skies are some of the most beautiful and accessible in the world.

I'm really writing this to remind myself to go lay outside this weekend when I get out of work. The sky is so dark when



I get home around midnight and I literally never remember to take a moment to look up. My ears are open, listening to the wolf and coyote yelling back and forth at each other and the owl telling them to shut up. I always take a deep breath of fresh air, because I love the smell of the earth. But rarely, if ever, do I take a moment to gaze up at the stars.

The next new moon is on Nov. 13. I'm marking that in

my calendar now and committing myself to stargazing that evening when I get home from Mary Lou's. I'm going to stuff some handwarmers in my sleeping bag and make myself a beautiful cup of hot chocolate for my thermos. Then I am going to lay there, in the middle of my lawn, and look as far into the cosmos as I possibly can. Who knows what we can see if we truly sit and look?

← **Mountain Meditation:**
from page 25

their emotions from others.' (This is also called clair empathy.) Many clairsentients feel overwhelmed in crowds due to the flood of peoples' emotions. In an energy healing class, I began to feel sick. I was picking up our patient's pain and illness. It took two classmates 20 minutes to restore my own energy field.

Claircognizance

Claircognizance is clear knowing with no clue as to why or how. It comes as insights and inner knowing through the heart unlike logic from the mind. Overthinking and analyzing are not needed. This information is downloaded from a divine source. Claircognizance requires trust since the ego and brain try to undermine divine guidance.

Clairvoyance

Clairvoyance is clear seeing of colors, symbols, and images, but not necessarily seeing the future as I had thought (which is called precognition). A creative imagination, artistic nature, or photographic memory are some clues. Internal clairvoyance comes through vivid dreams, meditations, and shamanic journeys with flashes or full visions or scenes. Each image holds a deeper meaning with answers to questions you may have about life. External clairvoyance may be flashes of light, seeing auras or floating orbs with open eyes.

I am a novice in understanding these abilities, but I experience some every day. I've also learned we all have these gifts—like when you think of a friend far away and then they call and you know who it is; when you have a gut reaction to a person you adore or don't trust and avoid; the good or uncomfortable feeling you may experience when you enter a room. Everyone has these intuitions and senses and we're often glad when we've paid them attention (to avoid mishaps, and accidents).

Becoming aware of these sensitivities is the first step to encourage their development, (otherwise they remain dormant). I've been focusing on them for a while (which could be the source of my animal interactions). I can't explain it, but it feels right and I now let my gut determine my actions.

My spiritual mentor, Rev. Lisa Johnson, along with Podcasts of spiritual leaders, mystics and shamanic practitioners have taught me much of what I have learned, but my other teachers come through meditation. I listen and write down every word.

If you're interested, try to meditate on your own gifts and ask the spirits what you need to know now. I encourage you to give it a try and write down your impressions. We are spiritual beings living human experiences.

Marguerite Jill Dye is an artist and writer who divides her time between Vermont and Florida.



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← Looking Back:.....
from page 25

before entering. That doesn't work with face paint. I opened the doors, told them who I was and got ushered in. Problem solved!

Another great costume was made by Cathy Cioffi (now Taggart) for all the employees of the city treasurer's office. She sewed "money bag" costumes complete with drawstrings at our necks and knees. There was a dollar sign on the front of the bag. We had many comments on that costume as we waited on customers.

The city treasurer's employees were all females and one year we dressed up to look like our boss, Ron Graves. We wore mous-

taches, slicked down our hair and wore oxford shirts and pants. If you happened to wear glasses that really added to the resemblance. Ron got as much of a kick out of costumes as all of us did.

So whether you're a kid collecting candy or an adult just having a day of fun enjoy Halloween as we all need to "lighten up" once in awhile.

Don't forget that the annual Halloween parade will take place in downtown Rutland on Saturday, Oct. 28 at 6:30 p.m. with a rain date of Sunday the 29. It's been around for over 60 years and won't disappoint!

← "The Journey Home":.....
from page 21

of the animals taken into our shelter. We are very fortunate — this incredibly unique fundraising opportunity has come at a most-needed time."

Over the past year, Lucy Mackenzie has gone through a necessary period of growth and planning for how they can best support the animals and people in the community. They have seen a rapid increase in senior animals being surrendered to their shelter due to owners losing their housing; many of these animals had been lifelong companions.

Additionally, the rising costs of veterinarian care have made it harder for people on fixed or limited incomes to appropriately care for their beloved animal companions when they're suffering and in

need of medical attention. This results in Lucy Mackenzie either helping to cover the cost of emergency care through their Jake's Friends Fund, or in many cases, results in the owner signing the animal over to the shelter.

In response, Lucy Mackenzie is dedicated to further expanding their programs that support keeping companion animals in caring and loving homes, such as their Pet Pantry and Jake's Friends Fund. Furthermore, they are in the planning phases of constructing an on-site medical suite, which will allow them to expand their low-cost medical offerings to the public.

Stanley further explained: "All of this comes at an immense cost, which is why we were so thrilled

when 'The Journey Home' was presented to us.

We see this as a unique opportunity to fund these ongoing and developing initiatives, as well as give viewers and supporters this intimate look at shelter life."

Viewers will be invited to donate towards this very special online event at lucymac.org. Proceeds will go towards the care of the animals at Lucy Mackenzie Humane Society, as well as towards further developing the initiatives that are geared at helping the community.

Lucy Mackenzie's shelter is located at 4832 Route 44 in West Windsor, Vermont, one-quarter mile away from the intersection of Route 106 and Route 44.

For more information, visit: LucyMac.org.

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← **Civil disagreements:**
from page 9

Office found that public land employees were faced with threats that ranged from phone harassment to attempted murder. This is a reality that many Vermont Fish and Wildlife Dept. biologists are aware of and fear. While luckily no physical harm has occurred, the anxiety lingers in the back of our minds, especially when we consistently experience aggressive and sinister language directed against the

department on social media. We need to be able to do our jobs without fearing for our safety.

If you want to help make our social media a more welcoming place for everyone and push back against the disturbing behavior that has become more common on these platforms,

Conserving wildlife requires respecting each other's different values and opinions.

this fall is a good time to think about how to be a better member of Vermont's online conservation com-

munity. As our commissioner has stated in the past, conserving wildlife requires respecting each other's different values and opinions.

We have noticed an increase in online hos-

tility when hunting and trapping seasons start. It is that time of year again and we ask you to approach each other with tolerance despite their varying viewpoints. Whether you are with an advocacy group, a hunter, a trapper, an angler or just an admirer of wildlife we all want to see the ecological systems of our state thrive. I am certain that we will not achieve this common goal by being cruel to one another.

← **Preventable overdoses:**
from page 9

By the end of June 2023, Vermont had had 115 opioid-related deaths. The number of overdose deaths is higher than the three-year average through June. There has also been an increased number of opioid deaths involving non-opioid drugs like xylazine and gabapentin.

Some critical preventive messages can

be adapted to reach every audience. Messages warning that fentanyl can be hidden in drugs. Fentanyl is increasingly found in counterfeit prescription pain medication and sold on social media platforms. It is also found in drugs like cocaine, heroin, and methamphetamine. It's nearly impossible to tell if drugs have been laced with

fentanyl without using fentanyl test strips.

Mixing drugs increases the risk of overdose, especially if one of those drugs contains fentanyl. Mixing stimulants increases the risk of stroke and heart attack. Mixing opioids with other depressants slows breathing and increases the risk of brain damage. Additionally, it is essential to

note that Naloxone saves lives and reverses opioid overdose.

It is found in all 50 states, and Good Samaritan laws are in place to help those who are overdosing. Finally, anyone in treatment and recovery needs support; this reduces stigma and encourages more people to seek help.



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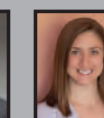
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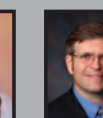
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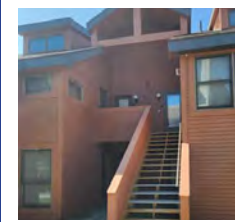
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NOW ACCEPTING NEW LISTINGS! CONTACT US FOR A FREE MARKET ANALYSIS!



FIRST TIME OFFERED
 ON MARKET. RARE
 OPPORTUNITY!

Prime spot a second away from the Long Trail Brewery. Minutes to Killington & direct access to VAST Trails. Magical Antique 4-bedroom Farmhouse with large, attached barn. 19 acres with huge pond. 2 car detached garage & pole barn.
CALL FOR PRICE.



Prime easy spot minutes to Killington, Okemo/Jackson Gore and Woodstock. This adorable, open concept floor plan home has 3 bedrooms, 1 1/2 baths, and is situated on 11.7 +/- acres w/winter seasonal mountain views towards Killington. Strong short-term investment opportunity in the heart of the Green Mountains.
\$479,000



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**



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