



**HALLOWEEN IS OCT. 31**  
See calendar for list of community events.

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**WENDY NEAL TO BE INDUCTED INTO SKI HALL OF FAME**

Wendy Woodworth Neal, formerly a coach and director of Okemo's competition programs and head of Okemo Mountain School will be inducted into the VARA Hall of Fame on Oct. 28.

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**ACROBATIC MIME TO PERFORM IN POULTNEY**

Internationally acclaimed mime/movement artist Karen Montanaro will perform a culminating show on Saturday.

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Submitted

*Honoree Fleming*

**CASTLETON PROFESSOR REMEMBERED**

Over 150 community members attended a celebration of life for Honoree Fleming who was randomly shot earlier this month.

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## 'Iconic' the new vision for Killington Village

By Polly Mikula

Great Gulf bought the rights and permitted plans to develop a village at the base of Killington Resort in May setting in motion a plan that's been decades in waiting. The new village is permitted to replace Snowshed and Ramshead lodges, as well as build condos and retail spaces at the base of the mountain on 1,095 acres of development land (the village portion will be 450 acres). Permits for Phase 1 includes about 32,000 square feet of commercial space and 225 new units of housing with a mix of condos (193 units), townhomes, and single-family homes.

Michael Sneyd, president of the Resort Residential Division of Great Gulf called the permitted plans "a substantial foundation," and "a very good plan" at the annual Killington Update, Thursday, Oct. 19 at Killington's K-1 Lodge, adding, "but we

"We believe this ski village should be better than any other ski village," said Sneyd.

think Killington deserves something better than very good. We believe this ski village should be better than any other ski village."

Great Gulf is a multifaceted company that includes commercial, mixed-use, and residential development, construction management, manufacturing, and more. The company has built more than 90,000 homes in 20 cities across the country.

"Although Hart Howerton [architectural designer for the village as permitted by SP Land] is a terrific architect, I think times have really changed over the past 15 years since that vision for this project

originated," Sneyd said. "Since then, we've learned a lot about best practices for village developments."

The newly proposed design create a pedestrian-friendly village (instead of a central bus stop), an obvious main street (where there wasn't one), public green spaces (instead of private ones), an enhanced experience of Snowshed Pond (rather partially filling it in), and one iconic base lodge (instead of two, with a second story connection over Killington Road). Future phases plan to fill out the village with more amenities for activities, public parks and walking paths.

"If you go back and look at the Act 250 approved plans, you'll see it's vehicular centric, so the village square is not really a village square as much as it's a village bus stop," Sneyd told the crowd of locals in

Great Gulf → 7

## Study finds Vermont has the largest candy economy

The beginning of the fall season means that Halloween is on its way. Scary movies, spooky costumes, and pumpkin carving are all time-honored Halloween traditions, but trick or treating—and the accompanying appetite for candy—is perhaps the season's most distinguishing feature.

Recent research from the National Retail Federation found that handing out candy is the most common way consumers celebrate the holiday, with more than two-thirds of households planning to do so in 2023. Despite a steep rise in candy prices over the past two years,

Candy → 15

## Killington sees growth, more tech, new village design plans, \$700K check

By Polly Mikula

Hundreds of locals and area leaders attended the annual Killington Update in the K-1 Lodge at Killington Resort, Thursday, Oct. 19, to hear updates from the Killington Pico Area Association (KPAA), Killington Resort, town of Killington, and Great Gulf, the planned Killington

Village developer.

The KPAA kicked off the meeting toting accomplishments including: more welcome center hours, hiring a director and doubling the revenue brought in by the annual Wine Festival (events make up 29.8% of the organization's annual revenue.

Only memberships brings in more at 47.6%).

Looking ahead, the protocol for merchant ski passes has changed, the KPAA announced. Employees must go to the Killington Welcome Center to verify eligibility with an electric paystub and ID.

Updates → 4



By Jerry LeBlond

## Mendon's \$9.3M forest headquarters is now open

The Green Mountain & Finger Lakes National Forests Offices in Mendon has officially opened. Tuesday, Oct. 17, was the grand opening for the new office, at 4387 Route 4 East in Mendon (across from Woodward Road). The \$9.3 million, 11,500-square-foot building will serve as the headquarters for the Vermont-New York region. The building can support 65 employees and aims to bring new visitors to the community by raising the national forest's profile.

## Woodstock innkeepers charged after fight involving gun with wedding guests

By Katy Savage

Innkeepers are being charged with aggravated assault with a deadly weapon and reckless endangerment after attacking and threatening guests of a wedding party with a knife and gun.

Police said Jeffrey McClain, the innkeeper of the Jackson House Inn, pointed a gun at a guest's neck while his wife Robin McClain attacked guests for recording the incident with their phones.

Police said Jeffrey McClain was carrying three knives — two pocketknives and a long stiff knife — and a loaded 9 mm pistol as he stood in the driveway of the inn on Senior Lane when police arrived around 8 p.m. Oct. 11.

Police said guests James Revene, his wife Amy Revene and their son William were part of a wedding party that rented seven of the 14 rooms at the Jackson House Inn.

An argument between the Revenes and McClains started over where the Revenes parked their car.

The Revenes went out to dinner on Oct. 11. When they returned, Jeffrey and Robin McClain were outside, asking the Revenes to move their vehicles.

James Revene refused and said Jeffrey McClain then abruptly

Gun threats → 10



## Police identify suspect that stole cruiser, rifle

The Vermont State Police identified the suspect that stole a Vermont State Police cruiser and patrol rifle as Timothy Gabriel, 29, whose most recent addresses were in Burlington and Rutland.

Members of the Vermont State Police located Gabriel walking on Cherry Street in Burlington on Wednesday, Oct. 18 around 4:30 p.m. He ignored commands directing him to surrender and had to be subdued by troopers. The stolen patrol rifle, which was in the vehicle, remains unaccounted for, and the VSP investigation into this incident is continuing.

The Vermont State Police has worked closely on this investigation with the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Vermont. Gabriel initially is expected to face a federal charge of being a felon in possession of a firearm in connection with the theft of the patrol rifle. His



Submitted  
**Timothy Gabriel**

initial appearance in U.S. District Court in Burlington is expected to be held Thursday afternoon.

Police said the cruiser was stolen from outside a residence in Rutland City between 2 a.m. and 4:40 a.m. Tuesday, Oct. 17. The cruiser was subsequently located elsewhere in Rutland City, but the Sig Sauer patrol rifle that had been secured in the vehicle had been forcibly removed. The

circumstances of the vehicle theft are under active investigation.

Surveillance video in the area captured images of the suspect carrying the rifle.

VSP is working in collaboration with the Rutland County State's Attorney's Office on this ongoing investigation, and additional charges are possible.

Investigators are continuing to examine the circumstances surrounding the theft of the police cruiser, which was assigned to Cpl. Christopher Loyzelle of the Rutland Barracks.

Anyone with information about this case is asked to call the Rutland Barracks at 802-773-9101 or provide an anonymous tip online at [vsp.vermont.gov/tipssubmit](http://vsp.vermont.gov/tipssubmit). Police will continue providing updates as the investigation unfolds.

## \$1K of tools stolen from AOT garage

Police said an Ingersoll and several Milwaukee tools were stolen from the Agency of Transportation garage in Tunbridge.

Transportation Area Maintenance Supervisor Daryl Benson told police the tools were last observed present at the site on Oct. 13 and later realized to be missing on Oct. 20 between the hours of 9 and 10 a.m. There was no surveillance video of the event, and no signs of forced entry and or damage were observed at the scene.

The tools are estimated to be worth \$1,000.

Anyone with information about this incident is encouraged to contact Trooper Flores of the state police Royalton Barracks at 802-234-9933 or submit an anonymous tip at: [vsp.vermont.gov/tipssubmit](http://vsp.vermont.gov/tipssubmit).

## Rutland man arrested for cocaine sale

After a four-month drug investigation, a Rutland man was arrested for five counts of sale of cocaine on Tuesday, Oct. 17.

Police arrested Kevin Seward, 36, of Rutland. The investigation into Seward's distribution of cocaine involved the use of confidential informants who purchased cocaine from Seward on five separate occasions.

During the investigation, the Vermont Drug Task Force identified Seward's residence on West Street in Rutland City — a point of drug distribution and a location where others were known to frequently gather to use controlled substances. The Oct. 17 search of the residence yielded evi-

dence of drug use and drug distribution.

Seward is due in Rutland District Court — Criminal Division in Rutland at a later date.

He is being prosecuted by the Rutland County State's Attorney's Office.

The timing of the search warrant execution was due in part to the

Vermont State Police's investigation of the theft of a cruiser and patrol rifle that had occurred Tuesday morning in Rutland. This aspect of the case remains an active and ongoing investigation, and further details will be released when possible.

Anyone with information about this investigation is asked to contact the State Police at 802-773-9101 or submit a tip anonymously at: [vsp.vermont.gov/tipssubmit](http://vsp.vermont.gov/tipssubmit).

Submit a tip  
anonymously at: [vsp.vermont.gov/tipssubmit](http://vsp.vermont.gov/tipssubmit).

## Pickup driver cited after going door-to-door asking for gas money in Hartland

By Curt Peterson

For two days last week the Hartland Listserv buzzed with residents' accounts of a 40-ish short white man in a white or silver pickup truck who appeared at multiple addresses on Oct. 18-19. The driver approached several homeowners requesting "money to buy gas to get to (his) bank in White River Junction."

Resident Joanna Cassarino noticed the pickup in her driveway and a man looking over her van, which was not for sale. Wisely or not, Cassarino opened her window and engaged the trespasser, who gave her the gas money story. She gave him some change, told him there was no more money in the house or van, and he left.

Lindsay Rose reported a similar incident at Z Botanicals Apothecary on Quechee Road. She told the visitor there was no cash on the premises, but let him take gas from a portable can she had handy.

Charles Martin said the pickup driver visited him on Quechee Road begging for gas money, and said he needed a place for him and his wife to live.

Another, unsigned listserv post said the pickup took off when spotted.

Dan Talbot saw a "gray (silver?) Tacoma" parked across from his house on Quechee Road, and the driver was "acting suspiciously."

The John Larkin Golf Club on Route 5 in Windsor had a

Panhandling → 6

## Committee presents policing recommendation for Hartland

By Curt Peterson

At the Oct. 16 Select Board meeting the Policing in Hartland Committee presented recommendations for future law enforcement. Mandi Potter, committee chair and a selectwoman, read the 1.5-page report created by the seven-member panel.

At the committee's Oct. 11 meeting, Potter condensed results of a public forum and other resident input. First, she said, "Everyone wants policing at a level above the current situation."

Response time to a call is very important to Hartlanders, Potter said, and currently contracted Vermont State Police has a less than stellar response record. In one case a woman finding a male intruder in her house called for help — the Windsor Police Dept. responded in 5 minutes, and a state trooper arrived 30 minutes later.

Committee member Chris Knippenberg emphasized the desire for better traffic control — Hartland comprises a large area with two state highways and many narrow dirt roads. Increased traffic, speeding, impairment and inattention make driving, cycling and walking dangerous.

After VSP policing, they have asked small contracted towns to look elsewhere for law enforcement, leading to formation of the committee.

Suggestions for replacing VSP services with an independent police department, a daunting and expensive undertaking, was not recommended. Hartford, Woodstock and Windsor municipal police departments were mentioned as possible providers, as well as the Windsor County Sheriff's Dept.

Tom Kennedy, committee member and selectman, said assuming these choices have the resources to serve Hartland may be erroneous.

Sheriff Ryan Palmer said a contract to serve Hartland might warrant an adjustment in their manpower and hours, but it can be done.

People are generally "Ok" with increasing the town's current \$80,000

policing budget, which covers both the VSP contract and the cost of the town constable.

"The committee recommends a minimum of 90% of [the chosen policing provider's] staff be level 3 certified officers," they stated, Oct. 16.

By this measure, Windsor County Sheriff's Dept. has approximately 55% Level 3 certified officers, and Windsor Police Department has approximately 92%.

A Level 2 certified officer can respond to and enforce a specified list of crimes, or crimes in process. Within reason he/she may take action to protect a person from harm. But if the situation isn't specified as within his/her authority, he/she must call for an officer certified (Level 3) to pursue enforcement.

Kennedy also said the FY 2025 budget is already in discussion, so urged

Police recs → 14







Ron Powers (left) husband, and Dean Powers (right) son, both spoke during a celebration of life for Honoree Fleming at the Vermont State University's Castleton campus on Sunday, Oct. 22.

By Glenn Russell/VTDigger

# Family, friends and colleagues celebrate the life of Honoree Fleming at memorial for slain Castleton professor

By Audifi Guha/VTDigger

CASTLETON — More than 150 people packed the Fine Arts Center at Vermont State University's Castleton campus on Sunday afternoon, Oct. 22. They were there to remember Fleming, who husband Ron Powers described as "brilliant in science and brilliantly loving."

Gail Freedman remembers an afternoon stroll with Honoree Fleming on the very rail trail where her friend would later be killed.

During that conversation, Freedman recalled, they discussed "the healing power of impassioned work, her fascinating, truly groundbreaking research, the simple joys of preparing food, the more complicated joys of marriage to wonderful but challenging men."

Freedman, an independent filmmaker, was one of several speakers Sunday afternoon at a memorial service for Fleming, a retired scientist who had served as academic dean at Castleton.

Fleming, 77, was shot to death on the D&H Rail Trail, not far from the campus, on Oct. 5. The identity of the shooter is unknown and no arrests have been made, though police have released a sketch of a "person of interest" who was seen in the area at the time of her death.

A former dean at Castleton who hired Fleming as an associate aca-

ademic dean in 2002, Joe Mark called Fleming a good friend and a trusted colleague whose sudden death has shaken the community. "The fact that someone so caring, so generous, so good would be savagely gunned down in broad daylight in our little town shakes us to the core," he said. "It

"She just kept putting up with me and kept forgiving me and kept loving me," Dean said.

profoundly threatens our world view, our understanding of human beings, our sense of what we can expect of life, even our confidence in moving about in nature."

Freedman is finalizing a documentary inspired by the nonfiction book "No One Cares About Crazy People: My Family and the Heartbreak of Mental Illness in America," which Fleming's husband, Ron Powers, wrote about their family. It was during Freedman's walk with Fleming that the latter agreed to be a part of the documentary that would tell their family story.

"Her brilliance was manifest. So were her warmth and her wit and her wicked sense of humor," Freedman said in her remarks Sunday. "I came to marvel at how this amazing, accomplished woman was so fundamentally good and decent and unspoiled."

Fleming, according to Freedman, was "one of the world's true gifts to humanity."

Dean Powers, Fleming's son, said in a eulogy that she always protected and looked out for her family. She had supported him steadily through tumultuous teenage years, he said, and a struggle with substance use disorder. "She just kept putting up with me and kept forgiving me and kept loving me," he said.

Though she was an agnostic who believed in science, not miracles, Fleming was "more Christian in her deeds than those who profess faith but practice it not," Dean Powers said. She sacrificed for her family and was loyal to its members.

"Mom was so concerned with providing for our family that she often wore discount or recycled clothing. I don't even own a suit," he said. Fleming didn't believe in outward appearances, he said, only in inner character.

"Brilliant in science and brilliantly loving," is how Ron Powers, a Pulitzer Prize and Emmy Award-winning journalist and writer, described her Sunday.

He said they met in the spring of 1976 on a flight from LaGuardia Airport to Chicago O'Hare International Airport. He remembered her as a luminous woman with long auburn hair and bright green eyes. But it was her

Remembering Fleming → 11

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## MOUNTAIN TIMES

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# Q&A with Town Manager Michael Ramsey clarifying Killington Forward, cost, timeline

Staff report

Killington Forward infrastructure investments and construction have recently kicked off — the official ribbon and tree cutting was Oct. 4 with the annual Killington Update at Killington Resort, Oct. 19. The events provided many answers but also left some residents and Killington visitors with additional questions about the project and its timeline.

Here are a few common ones we've heard and posed to Killington Town Manager Michael Ramsey to clarify:

**1) Is the timeline delayed? Wasn't Casella supposed to start earlier?**

Michael Ramsey: The project team does not forecast a delayed completion date. Casella is currently prepping the site and are scheduled

to finish construction of their portion of the project on time by Fall of 2025.

**2) The initial water line is going up the mountain, when will it be available for others?**

MR: We're predicting that private service connections will be available inside of Phase 1 by 2026-2027. It may be a little too ambitious to announce dates for Phase 2 and beyond, but we're focused on our goal of completing these phases back-to-back and are always mindful of designing the plans to efficiently move from one phase to the next.

**3) What construction bids has the town accepted so far? Has the town accepted a bid for any portion of the road yet? What's the timeline for put-**

**ting them out to bid/accepting bids?**

MR: Two bids have been awarded. Markowski Excavating Inc. won the bid to reconstruct the road and install a dry waterline from Anthony Way to Route 4. Casella Construction Inc. has been awarded the water project called Contract 1-3A, which includes the well house, pump station, and a water line to storage tanks located on Shagback Mountain.

Currently under design is Road Project 1A (which has a scope along the Lookout to East Mountain Road including the roundabout at the Killington Road/East Mountain Road intersection; a small section of East Mountain Road from Killington Road

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Passes can then be purchased online or at a ticket window. (Also new: businesses are no longer required to pay for their employees local passes.) Electronic confirmation will then serve as a voucher to validate and pick up or reload the local or regional merchant pass. Local merchant passes cost \$519+tax plus 8 hours of volunteer service. Business member staff in Killington, Bridgewater, Mendon, Pittsfield and Plymouth are eligible. Regional merchant passes cost \$749+tax. Business member staff in other regional towns are eligible.

Also new this year, you must go online and upload a photo of yourself on your profile in order to get on the lift.

### Killington Resort update

Mike Solimano, president and CEO of Killington Resort then gave an update on resort operations, visitor numbers and what to expect this winter season. He noted that there's been a record amount of rain and the subsequent flooding has taken a toll on resort infrastructure and mountain bike visitations (this summer logged 51,000, just 1,000 less than last year's record of 52,000 despite the rain). On the plus side, the flooded Skyeship base lodge is being redesigned in the style of the newly remodeled K-1 Lodge.

Sales of the resort's year-round Beast 365 pass, continue to increase, with 3,600 sold this year, up 300 over last year, Solimano reported. And winter skier visits last year hit a new record nationwide with 64.7 million skiers and riders, an increase of 6.6% over the prior year. Vermont had 4.1 million with an increase of 9.9%. Killington logged 8% more visits.

The resort has added even more technology to its operations this year with 95% cashless sales for food and beverage, a new integration with Strava on the Killington App, and a tool that track snow depths precisely, which helped the resort offer top-to-bottom skiing June 1 this year on Superstar.

This year there will be 135 wifi access points (40 more than last season) and they're installing a season-long Verizon cell tower at Bear Mountain.

Bear Mountain will also be the best place to park this season with Saturday morning lifts opening early — 7:30 a.m. from MLK day to mid-March. And the resort's world class snowmaking continues to improve with more guns and new snowgun technology. There have also been major investments in snowmaking and on an electric/hybrid snowmobile and groomer at Pico.

### Town of Killington update

Next up was Town Manager Michael Ramsey who explained the plans for Killington Forward and the new municipal water and road infrastructure planned in Phase 1. (See map and Q&A story, left).

### Great Gulf update

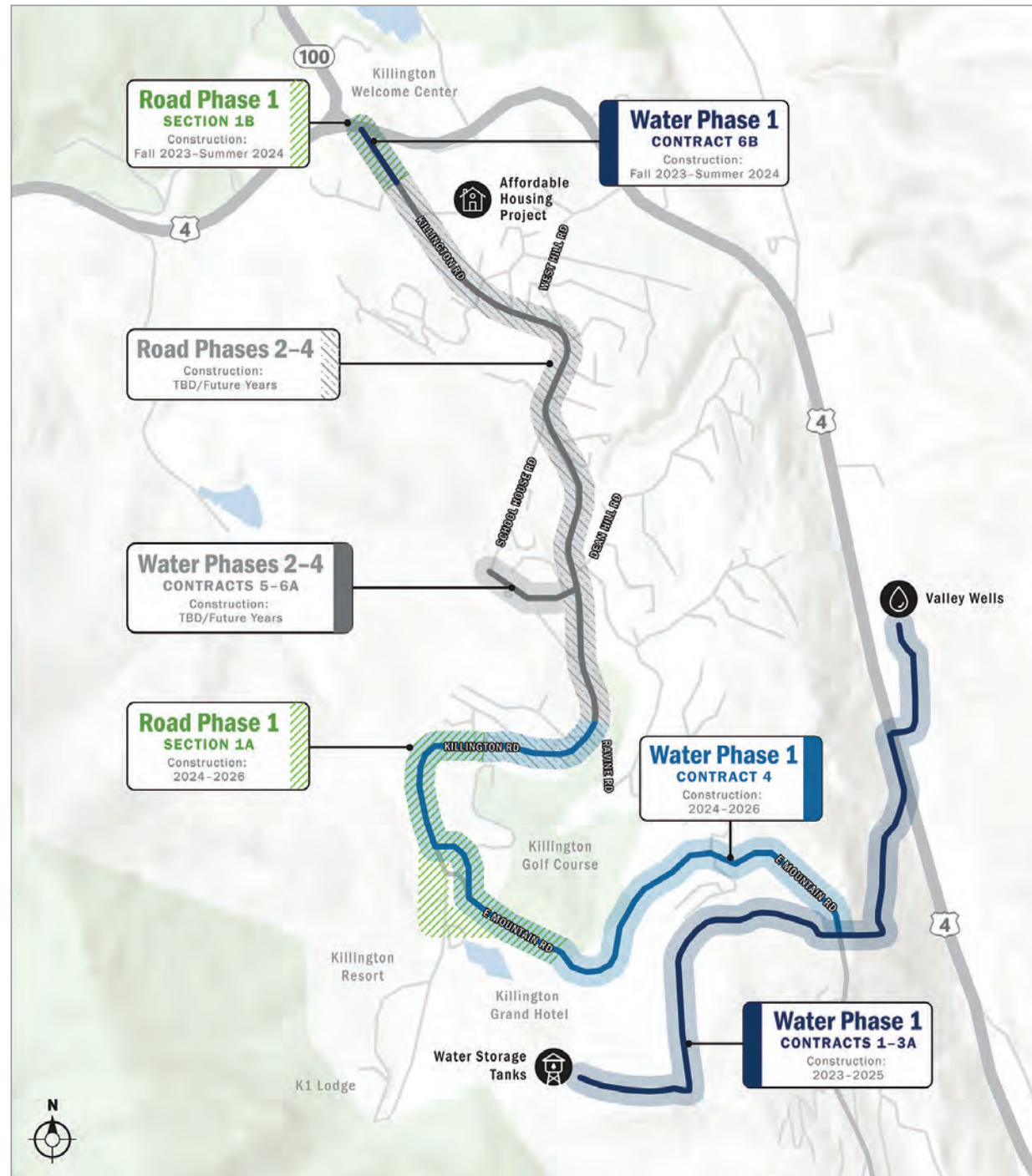
Michael Sneyd, president of the Resort Residential Division of Great Gulf closed out the Annual Killington Update explaining redesigned plans for the upcoming Killington Village (see related story on page 1).

The final surprise was a \$700,000 check that Killington Resort and Great Gulf collectively presented the town compensating it for its investment in a 70-acre workforce housing site just up from the intersection of Route 4 and Killington Road.

"Killington Resort and Great Gulf are pledging the money to reimburse the town for the land at the bottom of the road to create workforce housing that we're all looking for," said Mike Solimano.

Community members were generally very supportive of the update and upcoming changes. "The biggest takeaway was Michael Sneyd presentation of the reimagined village," said Kyle Kershner, owner/broker of Killington Pico Realty. "Particularly the walkability of the village."

Killington resident Ken Porter, agreed: "The wow factor for me was the way Great Gulf has adjusted the previously approved plans and how they have tried very hard to turn it into a walking community as opposed to a driving community."



Courtesy town of Killington

Map shows the locations of Phase 1 municipal water and road projects planned as part of the Killington Forward projects.





By Victoria Gaither

Great Gulf and Killington Resort presented the town of Killington with a check for \$700,000 for workforce housing.



By Polly Mikula

Great Gulf presented new plans for the Killington Village design/layout on Thursdays.



By Polly Mikula

The K-1 Lodge provided ample space, great acoustics and a stunning backdrop for this year's Killington Community Update held Oct. 19.

← **Great Gulf:**  
from page 1

the K-1 lodge Thursday.

Once the roads were removed from the village interior, “we had more land to play with and we didn’t have to fill in the pond,” Sneyd added.

Great Gulf has hired international firms Safdie Architects and PWP Landscape Architecture to help redesign the village.

“We knew early on, only a world-class design team could realize our vision for the four-season mountain resort we believe is the future of Killington,” stated Elly Reisman, chairman of Great Gulf on LiveKillington.com.

Safdie Architects is a design studio driven by a spirit of innovation and idealism, founded upon the principles that architecture should be inherently timeless, connected to nature, and profoundly humane, according to a news release announcing their partnership with Great Gulf. “Their design philosophy is rooted in the metaphor, ‘For Everyone a Garden,’ perceiving architecture as a generous act of creating meaningful spaces that serve as catalysts for vibrant public life.”

Architect Moshe Safdie said his “goal is to capture the spirit of and character of a Vermont village in a contemporary rendition of vital public spaces for all seasons.”

Safdie was the director of urban design at Harvard before establishing Safdie Architects, which is headquartered in Somerville, Massachusetts. Safdie is known for his work on some of the world’s most innovative residential and hospitality projects, including the iconic Marina Bay Sands Hotel in Singapore and Sri Lanka’s sky-defining Altair Residences. In North America, the firm is responsible for creating the renowned Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art in Arkansas and Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts in Missouri.

Safdie Architects has collaborated with PWP Landscape Architecture on a number of projects internationally. PWP is perhaps best known for their work on the National September 11 Memorial in New York City, creating the world’s largest indoor waterfall at the Jewel Chang Airport in Singapore and the 5.4-acre rooftop Salesforce Park in San Francisco.

“We’re going to celebrate everything Vermont has to offer with different landscaped elements,” Sneyd summarized.

**Year-round attractions, activity**

New plans for the Killington Village call for a “very prominent pedestrian Main Street where people will want to meet, promenade, shop, and stop in cafes,” Sneyd explained. Additionally, there are “two significant gathering areas: the main town square in the middle of the village and the Snowbeach square that celebrates the biggest ski beach in the East.”

The ski beach connects the Snowshed lift and the Ramhead lift. “And it’s flat the whole way,” Sneyd explained. Killington Road will be depressed underneath it and the skiers will go over it on a wide flat bridge. Killington Road will then continue up to K-1 via Vale Road.

The new plans are more modern (and safe), with well

thought-out details (like prioritizing lines of sight up to the slopes and across the pond) and feature an iconic new base lodge.

But the potential to see Killington more fully actualized and enjoyed year-round is what gets leaders at Great Gulf, Killington Resort and town officials most excited.

“We’re going to celebrate water and we’re going to celebrate snow and we want to celebrate gathering by having activities, amenities and events that provide interest beyond just being on snow and provide interest all year long,” said Sneyd.

“The village will be a hub of activity,” said Killington

Resort President and CEO Mike Solimano summarized. “Whether it’s something like ice skating or concerts, this will give people in the area a great place to come together and hang out, not to mention improving the availability of real estate and infrastructure in the Killington region.”

Sneyd often compares the potential for Killington’s new village to Blue Mountain — the largest ski village in Ontario, which he helped develop. “I’m able to take a lot of the lessons that we’ve learned over the years at Blue Mountain and apply them to Killington,” he explained.

“Blue Mountain does 750,000 skier visits a year — with just 700 vertical. And winter isn’t even their primary draw anymore,” he said, noting that Killington differs in that it has far larger mountains to play on. “But they do 2 million total visits a year... so they’re busier in the spring, summer and fall than in the winter!” he emphasized. “The reason is the village was designed to be a gathering place and people come from afar for enjoy mountain activities and events all year long.”

**Something “iconic”**

Because Great Gulf is planning for a major change to the permitted transportation plan, the new plans will now have to be approved by Act 250 — Vermont’s land use and development law, an extensive permitting process. SP Land Company first submitted plans for zoning, cite plan and Act 250 in 2008. They were approved seven years later in 2015.

“We had a decision to make: Do we change things ever so slightly, and then go for an administrative approval from Act 250?” Sneyd explained. “But as soon as we realized that we were changing traffic, we thought, ‘okay, it’s not going to be an administrative approval.’ So we’re going to have to go through this process — it’s the whole thing again,” he said.

Might as well redesign the plans to be the best they can be, they reasoned.

Sneyd expects to submit the new plans to Act 250 in January 2024. Timing from there is “hard to say... I mean, we would love it to take six to nine months.”

Their design philosophy is rooted in the metaphor, ‘For Everyone a Garden,’ perceiving architecture as a way of creating meaningful spaces.

If Act 250 goes quickly, construction could start as early as Spring 2025, Sneyd said. Once it gets started it will take two years to build out Phase 1. “Then, as soon as we get Phase 1 on its way, we’ll be working on the next phase of the village, which is really filling out the village,” he explained.

“We think it’ll be worth it,” Sneyd added. “Look, we could just go ahead and build the permitted village and it’d be ok, but we think we can do much better... We want to do something absolutely iconic.”

Great Gulf’s new single lodge will not have residential units in it, as the currently permitted plans do. The new plans aim to keep the condominium buildings within the village in

Phase 1 close to the previously approved Act 250 plans and the Ramshead subdivision remains the same.

Safdie and PWP got together and created a new village design “that is elegant in its simplicity, and addresses each

of the issues I’ve talked about,” said Sneyd, “But there’s still the same five condominium buildings with 193 units, we’re not asking for anything more than what’s already approved in the development for condos, retail centers and square footage for the lodge.”

When asked if Great Gulf was worried about opening the project back up to Act 250 scrutiny, public backlash, and possibly long delays, Sneyd said: “We take the 75% voter approval of the tax increment financing as a good indication of public support for the project,” adding that some past critics of the development are now supporters.

“Additionally, I think our process of being transparent with the public and the press, including our presentation with the resort Oct. 19, and the positive relationship that resort has with the community, all bodes well for us. We’re really trying to be a good partner in the community, to listen, and try to minimize or eliminate any opposition to the project.”

“We could have settled for what Act 250 had approved,” he continued. “In fact, I could come in tomorrow with permits to start building, but we looked at it and said we want excellence for this development... and we are going to achieve it for sure.”

**World Cup: renderings to be revealed**

Great Gulf plans to unveil specific renderings of its newly envisioned village at its booth at the World Cup over Thanksgiving weekend.

“It is going to be a big launch for us,” Sneyd said. “Because we don’t have full approval we’re not going to actually start the sales then, but we’ll have a registration process where people can express their interests and where we can learn more about what it is they particularly are looking for. Is it two bedrooms? One bedroom? Studio? Townhome? Single family home? We’re able to offer them all right now.”



# Wendy Neal honored by VARA Hall of Fame

By Karen D. Lorentz

Wendy Woodworth Neal, a coach and director of Okemo's competition programs (1986 - 2002) and Head of School for Okemo Mountain School (2002-2010) will be inducted into the Vermont Alpine Racing Association (VARA) Hall of Fame on Oct. 28 at the Lake Morey Inn.

An accomplished ski racer, Neal became a dedicated coach and teacher and spent over 30 years nurturing young athletes, fostering excellence, and shaping the future of ski racing. In announcing her induction, VARA noted her "dedication to the development of academic and athletic programs," and called her a pioneer whose contributions to VARA had an impact on the sport of ski racing.

In addition to honoring Neal for inspiring so many youngsters, VARA's induction also recognizes her for serving on many committees "involving the development of ski racing in Vermont and the nation. She was an influential member of the Eastern Children's Committee as Chair, was the VARA Children's Committee Chair, and held a position on the USSA National Children's and Development Committee. She was instrumental in creating the Can-Am series, an international children's event that is still going strong today and has become a prestigious competitive event for U14's."

Neal also served as interim

VARA director and for many years as part of the Eastern Alpine Competition Committee. "Her volunteer roles have greatly impacted the ski racing community," VARA noted.

Originally from Peabody, Massachusetts, as a youngster Neal raced out of the Lynn Snowchasers Ski Club. She raced throughout high school at Killington where she was part of an elite group of competitors that included Vermont skiers Bob, Lindy, and Marilyn Cochran, Dia Elliman, and Rick and Suzy Chaffee.

In 1970, Neal began her collegiate racing career at Johnson State College. A CAN AM level racer, she was on the top-rated women's Eastern college ski team for four years (before NCAA had women's events) and competed in Slalom, Giant Slalom, and cross country. She was also a member of Team USA for the International FIS U games in Lake Placid, New York in 1971.

Neal graduated from Johnson State with a major in health, recreation, and physical education and taught physical education for a year before transitioning to coaching for five years at Pat's Peak in New Hampshire. There her students included Pam Fletcher, who became an Olympic skier, and Julie Woodworth, her sister who went on to the U.S. Ski Team. As part of a coaching team at Pats

Peak, she helped start the Pats Peak Academy where she became the head J3/4 coach and worked with many youngsters who headed to Vermont programs and went on to prominence in the sport.

Neal moved on to the Stratton Mountain School where she taught biology and coached Junior I and II racers for seven years. During this time, she married John Neal, a racer, Okemo coach, and son of one of the early Okemo directors. She took time off when their children Abigail and Pearson were born and returned to coaching in 1985, becoming director of Okemo's racing program starting with the 1986-87 season. She was one of only a few women to head a major racing program at a U.S. ski area at that time.

In 1988, the growing program left the purview of the ski school to become its own department. The duties of the new and expanded Okemo Competitions Department included: coordinating and running all the races; oversight and coaching for all the development and Junior teams, local schools' race instruction, and NASTAR program; and supplying coaching for the Black River High School Ski Team and later the Okemo Mountain School. Under Neal's direction, Okemo's competitions program grew and expanded to include freestyle and



Courtesy Okemo

Wendy Woodworth Neal, a coach and director of Okemo's competition programs (1986 - 2002) and Head of School for Okemo Mountain School (2002-2010) will be inducted into the Vermont Alpine Racing Association (VARA) Hall of Fame on Oct. 28 at the Lake Morey Inn.

snowboarding competitors.

Neal also was a founder of the Okemo Mountain School (OMS), a winter tutorial and competition training program that began in 1991-92. In 1993 Neal was recognized for her contributions to ski racing with induction into the Johnson State College Hall of Fame.

She left the Okemo program in 2002 to work at OMS as head of

school and continued to coach. She was instrumental in the expansion of the school and its programs, adding academic leadership to her roles as a mentor, coach, and visionary for racing. In 2010, she left OMS and became the youth manager for the New York Ski Racing Association. In 2013, Neal fulfilled another passion, returning to Ludlow to become owner-chef of Stemwinder restaurant.

## ← Killington Forward: ..... from page 4

to the Grand Hotel plus Old Mill and Road H), and the water distribution line (Contract 4 found throughout the ski village and beyond), which are both scheduled for bidding in March 2024 with a 2-3 month solicitation period.

We acknowledge that all these contract and phase names can be difficult to track, but the town has an updated project map on our website at Killingtontown.com.

### 4) What's the timeline for affordable housing? Has it been delayed from the initial estimate?

MR: The key to constructing affordable housing is getting a municipal water system all the way down Killington Road to Route 4, and we don't expect delays to the original timeline of 5 to 6 years. I can't stress enough that we are working hard to ensure that each phase of Killington Forward is implemented contiguously, and announcing a ribbon cutting date for affordable housing will come after we move infrastructure further down the road.

### 5) What's the cost of the whole Killington Forward project? What money has the town received toward this?

MR: It's more rational to focus on what's been approved by the voters, which is \$47,000,000 for Phase 1. The most exciting news coming out of the Killington's Finance and

The most exciting news ...is that we've secured almost \$20 million in grants and forgiveable loans.

Planning Offices is that we've secured almost \$20 million in grants and forgiveable loans. The rest of the financing for Phase 1 Road and Water Projects has been secured with 0% interest loans through the state's Revolving Loan Fund and a USDA loan of \$18,394,000 at 3.625%.

### 6) For the money the town is borrowing, how will it affect local taxes?

MR: Tax Increment Financing (TIF) isn't the easiest tool to understand, but an important fact of it is that taxpayers (other than Great Gulf) will not be impacted by the

costs of projects inside of Phase 1. Depending on what grants we can secure in the future, the portion of the water line outside of Phase 1 (Lookout to Route 4) will be financed through subsidized loans and repaid through user fees.

### 7) Is there anything else that you feel needs to be clarified?

MR: We can't understate the incredible success that our team has had on attaining forgivable funds, and it's incredible that the town of Killington is leveraging all we've got to pull state and federal dollars back into our community. On a personal note, this has been one of the most exciting projects that I've ever been apart of, and it wouldn't be possible without the vision and commitment of our community leaders.

## ← Panhandling: ..... from page 2

similar visit.

Windsor County Deputy Sheriff Hunter Buchanan told one resident he and Sheriff Ryan Palmer had arrested the serial trespasser last week, when he was driving a white pickup.

Palmer told the Mountain Times the driver of the "phantom truck" was easily identified. "It was a poor homeless guy who has substance issues, and his wife," Palmer said. "He claimed his actions were totally innocent."

Palmer said the man, who apparently has at least two vehicles, was cited for operating with a suspended license and sent on his way with a warning not to "panhandle" door-to-door any more. "We also directed the driver to multiple sources he could approach for help, but he didn't seem that interested in pursuing any of those avenues," Palmer said.

Palmer said increasing homelessness and drug abuse have become more significant issues for more populated towns, such as Windsor, Hartford and White River, all within the sheriff department's territory. "People find they've dug a hole for themselves, and they can't get out," he said. "Directing them to a possible job or substance help is all we can really do."

Although he doesn't think this particular set of incidents involved casing homes for possible burglary or robbery targets, and the "pickup visitors don't pose a threat to public safety, he warns residents to be very cautious when confronted by strangers... Things could go south very quickly," he said.



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## Swimmer wanted: Killington team set to dive into the winter season, Nov. 6

### New Head Coach John Fisher takes the helm

KILLINGTON—The Upper Valley Aquatic Club (UVAC) will launch its second winter swim season at Pico's pool in Killington, starting on Monday, Nov. 6. With new Head Swim Coach John Fisher at the helm, the UVAC Killington swim team is set to welcome swimmers of all ages and backgrounds for an exciting and productive winter swim season.

The UVAC Killington team is eager to attract a diverse range of swimmers, offering training opportunities for athletes at all levels.

"Whether you're a newcomer looking to explore the world of swimming, an off-season athlete seeking to maintain peak performance, or an aspiring Olympic Trials contender, UVAC Killington has something to offer," UVAC stated in a news release.

"We have levels for all ages, whether they want to try a new sport, cross-train, or prepare for Olympic trials. Our senior and college training groups even have dryland sessions available in addition to in-water training," said Head Coach John Fisher.

Registration for the upcoming season is available on the day the season starts, but interested participants can also contact Coach Fisher in advance to secure their spot.

The swim program at Killington was formerly the Killington Aquatic Club at the Pico Fitness Center before merging with UVAC. The only noticeable change for swimmers is



the team swimsuit and cap as they transition to UVAC Killington. This merger promises to bring forth new opportunities and growth for the team, according to the news release from both organizations.

Coach John Fisher brings a wealth of experience and expertise to UVAC Killington. His swimming journey began in 1964 in Fulton, New York, at the local YMCA swim team, and he has since made significant contributions to swimming as both an athlete and a coach. Fisher's dedication to the sport and his extensive coaching background make him a valuable addition to UVAC Killington.

"We are excited to begin year two of the UVAC swim team at Killington," said UVAC Swim Team Head Coach Scott Ellis. "We expect to have some incredible athletes compete this season. This area is fertile ground with outstanding athletes, and we intend on cultivating some of them into quality swimmers."

The team will also have assistant coaches Kim Peters and Ken Wonsor. Kim Peters was formerly the Killington director of parks and recreation and now holds that position in Rutland. She is also a USA certified swim coach. Ken Wonsor is a veteran of swimming and has been coaching the Killington team for many years.

For more info and to register, visit: [uvacswim.org](http://uvacswim.org) or email [jfisher@uvacswim.org](mailto:jfisher@uvacswim.org).



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## Veterans invited to share stories, listen at Vets Town Halls

Vets Town Hall, a Vermont-based nonprofit that aims to increase understanding between veterans and civilians, is partnering with local organizations to host five events throughout the state in early November. At each Vets Town Hall, in Bradford, Brattleboro, Colchester, Rutland, and South Royalton, veterans are invited to speak for up to 10 minutes each about what their service means to them. Non-veterans are encouraged to attend and listen. These events are free and nonpolitical, and all perspectives are valued.

"Having an opportunity to gather with community members assists with the reintegration process and makes it possible for us to move beyond a narrative of conflict by honoring and sharing our stories," says Jon Turner, Vets Town Hall board member and emcee at the Colchester location. "Attending these gatherings is a reminder of the community we wish to embrace after military service."

Vets Town Halls were originated by author Sebastian Junger (War, Tribe), who partnered with Seth Moulton on the first such event in Marblehead, Massachusetts, in 2015. For several years after, events took place throughout the country, but without a centralized way for people to learn more about them. One of those early events - and the first of its kind in Vermont - was the November 2017 Burlington Vets Town Hall spearheaded by local event planner Kristen Eaton. Vets Town Halls have continued annually in Vermont (with a break in 2020 due to the pandemic).

Eaton, who is not a veteran herself, emphasizes that all are encouraged to attend these events, regardless of whether they've served: "There's something profound about listening without judgment or interruption, and that's a very real way to show up for our community members who are veterans. Vets Town Halls offer non-veterans an opportunity to gain a more nuanced understanding of the experiences of those who have served in the military."

In 2022, Junger, along with Turner and Eaton, formed the nonprofit Vets Town Hall with the aim of establishing these events in every state—and eventually in every community—in the US. Nationally, Vets Town Hall provides resources and consultations on best practices to those interested in starting

Vets Town Halls → 10





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# SASKADENA SIX

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## ← Gun threats:

from page 1

ly held a pistol at his neck.

James Revene stated that he first thought that Jeffrey McClain was grabbing for his neck but then felt the cold of its barrel pressed against him. James Revene grabbed for the gun and in doing so grabbed what he believed was the barrel of the firearm and cut himself on it as he pushed it away.

"I observed that his hand was bloody and had an open wound on the webbing between the thumb and index finger," Woodstock Police Chief Joe Swanson said in an affidavit.

Revene told police he thought McClain was "going to kill me, so the pain (from the finger injury) didn't register."

Meanwhile, Jeffrey McClain's version of events claimed James Revene grabbed the gun from his holster.

"I took this to mean that he pressed the gun to James Revene's neck after Revene grabbed the gun," Swanson said.

The Revene's son William told police there was no escalation or swearing at the time and that Jeffrey pulled the gun.

"William also stated that he felt that Jeffrey had a plan to kill them before they got there," Swanson said. "William also stated that Robin was attacking others and William tried to create distance between Robin and other guests."

William said Robin McClain punched him in the face when she noticed the Revenes were filming the altercation.

Robin told police the Revenes yelled, "F\*ck you, we are going to call the police," and they all whip out their cameras, right, so I start attacking their cameras."

"This big fat son comes up and does the whole thing and he's like starting to push people around," Robin told police, according to the affidavit. "I'm like no, I'm 66 and I have cancer."

Robin McClain started grabbing at the phones and struck William Revene in the face "with what he described as a 'closed fist,'" Swanson wrote.

William also told police Robin removed his shirt and pulled on his pants but they stayed up because he was wear-

ing suspenders. He went to the ground and scraped his knees through his pants.

Robin admitted they had a gun. "We have a property to protect," Robin said, according to police.

Robin said earlier the Revenes told them they had guns.

Robin was charged with simple assault and cited and released. Jeffrey McClain was transported to Southern State Correctional Facility in Springfield. He was released with conditions on Oct. 12. He was ordered to not buy or use firearms or dangerous weapons, to not contact James, William or Amy Revene and to stay 300 feet away from James and William Revene.

McClain is scheduled to appear in court Oct. 31. If found guilty of aggravated assault with a deadly weapon, he could be imprisoned up to five years or fined up to \$5,000 or both. If found guilty of reckless endangerment, he could be fined \$1,000 or spend up to a year in jail or both.

## ← Vets Town Halls:

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events. Here in Vermont, the nonprofit is more hands-on, directly facilitating some events, and helping with publicity and outreach for all in-state Vets Town Halls.

This year's program of Vets Town Halls is the most expansive the state has seen, and partners include emcees Kyle Aines, Marty McMahan, Tristram Johnson, and Jon Turner; venue sponsors American Legion Post 5, the Godnick Adult Center, Saint Michael's College Military Community Services and Student Veterans Association, and Vermont Law School; local event organizers Sean Braunstein and the American Legion Post 5 Tuesday Coffee Hour; food donors Meals on Wheels and Cabot Creamery Cooperative; the Vermont Veterans Outreach Program; Community College of Vermont; and others. These events are supported in part by Vermont Humanities.

Veterans who would like to speak at this November's events can indicate that when registering, or reach out to event organizers. Time permitting, veterans are also welcome to sign up to speak during the events themselves.

"Support of our military does not start with a 'support the troops' bumper sticker and culminate with grilled chicken on Memorial Day weekend," said Rutland Vets Town Hall emcee Kyle Aines. "As military members struggle to reintegrate back into society, it is imperative that society have a clear understanding of what they are transitioning from. The Vets Town Hall is that bridge and connection."

- Friday, Nov. 3 at the Godnick Adult Center, Rutland. 5:30 p.m. meal, 6 p.m. event.
- Sunday, Nov. 5 at 1 p.m. at American Legion Post 5, Brattleboro
- Sunday, Nov. 5 at 1 p.m. at McCarthy Arts Center, Saint Michael's College, Colchester
- Thursday, Nov. 9 at Vermont Law School's Chase Community Center, South Royalton. 5:30 p.m. meal, 6 p.m. event.
- Sunday, Nov. 12 at 1 p.m. at Orange East Senior Center, Bradford

RSVPs are only required for meals, but are encouraged for all attendees. RSVP by email at: vtvetstownhall.org. For more info, email: Kristen Eaton at vermont@vetstownhall.org.

# Join UVAC Killington Swim Team!



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John Fisher holds a Masters in Education, has coached swimming and diving at the high school and college level. He swam competitively in high school and college, and is a remarkable swim instructor with patience and humor. John also teaches all Red Cross Certification Classes. He is very happy to be part of UVAC, supporting area youth interested in competitive swimming and welcomes anyone to the Killington team!

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## GMP launches first in nation 2030 Zero Outages Initiative

Green Mountain Power (GMP) launched its Zero Outages Initiative, Tuesday, Oct. 10. It's the first utility in the country to commit to a comprehensive, data-driven plan that creates layers of resiliency across Vermont by building on GMP's successful and proactive undergrounding and storm-hardening of lines, as well as deployment of energy storage through batteries and microgrids. Combined, this work will keep customers and communities connected while lowering costs for all.

GMP serves more than 270,000 residential and business customers in Vermont.

The phased initiative rapidly accelerates this resiliency work through 2030, tackling the hardest hit areas in rural central and southern Vermont first, following a devastating year for the state that saw an unprecedented string of damaging storms due to climate change.

The three worst storms in GMP history, in terms of outages, happened in just the last 12 months.

“We all see the severe impacts from storms, we know the impact outages have on your lives, and the status quo is no longer enough,” said Mari McClure, GMP president and CEO. “We are motivated to do all we can to combat climate change and create a Vermont that is sustainable and affordable, but we must move faster. Together with our customers, regulators, our communities, and that Vermont spirit that manages to innovate despite all odds, we have all we need to revolutionize the energy system and ensure a stronger, more affordable Vermont.”

### How it works

The Zero Outages Initiative leverages circuit-level resiliency data, combined with the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) community vulnerability data, topography, and other metrics to determine the right resiliency approaches for each of GMP's 300 circuits. This ensures that all customers experience zero outages, whether in a remote area, or in a densely developed downtown.

The Zero Outages filing with regulators addresses the first phase of the initiative and calls for an investment of up to \$280 million over the next two years, with \$250 million of that for undergrounding and storm hardening lines, and \$30 million for energy storage.

The second phase of the initiative will involve another filing with regulators and will seek approval to accelerate and expand beyond 2026, while outages and associated repair costs start to drop off.

For context, major storm costs are escalating and not sustainable. In the past 12 months alone, major storms required more than \$45 million in repairs. Since 2014, major storms caused \$115 million in damage across GMP's service area, with 60% of that in the last five years, 40% of that in just the last two years, and the \$45 million in 2023 was the most yet. That is money spent to repair the existing system and get customers reconnected after storm damage, and it does not prevent future outages.

“Projects to reinforce the grid and integrate energy storage are more important than ever. We know that we will continue to see an increase in extreme weather events, and research shows that every dollar invested in disaster preparedness and mitigation ultimately saves several times more in avoided response and recovery costs, while also preventing health and safety impacts,” said Jeff Schlegelmilch, director of the National Center for Disaster Preparedness at Columbia University's Climate School. “Building resilience into the grid is essential to sustaining this life-line, which facilitates broader well-being.”

During the unprecedented storms over the last several years, some Vermonters have already experienced the benefits of the type of work planned under the Zero Outages Initiative. GMP has already installed 50 miles of underground lines in rural residential areas and those customers did not experience damage to those lines during these major storms. In addition, where spacer cable has been installed, trees from outside the rights-of-way fell on the lines, but did not cause an outage.

The three worst storms in GMP history, in terms of outages, happened in just the last 12 months, with highly skilled lineworkers like Mike Tyler based out of Rutland working around the clock to repair storm damaged equipment and get customers reconnected.

GMP has already installed 50 miles of underground lines in rural residential areas.

“This will be a game changer. For customers, the lights stay on for them, and then for us in the field, it increases safety. Every line worker I know has had a close call, and being up on a pole when there is a big gust of wind isn't a great feeling. Our exposure to the most severe elements will be reduced with Zero Outages, and our neighbors stay powered up,” said Mike Tyler.

The Zero Outages Initiative would provide residential batteries to customers in remote locations, delivering resiliency where it is needed most first, with a goal to have all customers have energy storage.

Vermont regulators recently agreed to GMP's request to lift the enrollment cap on its home battery programs, so all customers who'd like to get cost-effective home batteries can now sign up. There are currently 5,000 batteries in customers' homes.

This filing kicks off a public review process through the Vermont Public Utility Commission. If approved, the first projects could get underway in the spring/summer of 2024.

## Investigation finds nearly 9,000 Vermonters were improperly billed for contraceptive services, refunds on the way

Thousands of Vermonters will be reimbursed by the top three health insurance carriers in the state after a nearly two-year audit by the Department of Financial Regulation (DFR) identified contraceptive medical services for policyholders were incorrectly covered by Blue Cross Blue Shield of Vermont (BCBSVT), MVP Health Care (MVP) and Cigna Healthcare (Cigna), according to a news release Oct. 12.

In late 2021, the DFR received complaints concerning contraceptive services being processed by insurers with a member cost-share, in violation of state and federal laws. Under provisions of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2010, non-grandfathered health plans and health insurance issuers are mandated to provide coverage for certain contraceptive methods (including female sterilization) as well as related counseling and services, without any out-of-pocket costs.

Vermont expanded on the existing Federal Affordable Care Act and required, among other things, that health plans subject to state jurisdiction cover voluntary sterilization for men (i.e., vasectomies) and a 12-month supply of prescribed contra-

ceptives, all without member co-pays, deductibles or other cost-share mechanisms.

Following up on the complaints it received, the Department's Market Conduct Unit engaged with representatives from the health insurance carriers, federal agencies, healthcare professionals, and the Vermont

All three insurers wrongfully shifted in excess of \$1.5 million in contraceptive care costs to Vermont consumers—an amount which will be returned to them with interest within the coming weeks.

Department of Health to better understand the services encompassed by the ACA's contraceptive care mandate and how those services are provided and billed to insurance in Vermont.

The Market Conduct Unit then conducted an examination of contraceptive claims for medical services going back to 2017. The Department did not audit pharmacy claims. Collectively, BCBSVT, MVP, and Cigna provided over 250,000 medical claims to the department for review. The examination found over 14,000 claims where Vermonters improperly faced out-of-pocket

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serenity and aura of wisdom and decency that captured his heart. He prayed she would sit next to him, he recalled, and she did. “We were friends before we landed in Chicago, but I knew I wanted to marry her before she sat down,” he said.

Fleming was the best human he had ever met, he said. He described how she had supported the family through grave

misfortune, including the schizophrenia diagnoses of both their sons and the death by suicide of their younger son, Kevin, a week before his 21st birthday, in the summer of 2005.

“Her name could have been chosen by the gods. Honoree consecrated her life to love and goodness,” Ron Powers said. “She was a happy woman and she made others happy. She made me happy on a scale I'd never known existed. I hope I made her happy.”

Scrupulously honest, of staggering intellect and serene courage is how some of the speakers described the professor who retired from Castleton in 2012 but continued her research in cell differentiation.

Many shared stories of how Fleming touched and

changed their lives.

“She showed me the importance, through her actions of love and unceasing support, of family. And it's for that reason that I wish to celebrate the life of my friend and mentor,” said Ronald Sherwin, an associate professor at the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth.

Sherwin said Fleming hired him at Castleton in 2004 and “immediately began to mentor me in ways that changed my life.”

Despite tragedies in her life and challenges in his career, Sherwin said, Fleming “never missed a beat in her efforts to mentor me to help me become a more fully developed academic and, frankly, to be a better human being.”

He then sang a hymn: “Take my hand, precious lord, lead me home.”



Honoree Fleming

Submitted



## GUEST EDITORIAL

## Where has all that money gone?

By the Vermont State Colleges Labor Task Force

*Editor's note: the VSC Labor Task Force is a group formed in 2020 that fights to bring faculty and staff voices and research to the decision-making processes that have accompanied the formation and ongoing transformation of the Vermont State University system.*

Recent announcements from the Vermont State University administration propose making continued cuts to programs and faculty in order to “right” the VTSU’s fiscal ship.

We strongly disagree with this “cut it and they will come” approach, this notion that somehow cutting programs and faculty will increase enrollment on our campuses.

We believe that, rather than directly and negatively affecting our students on our campuses, the focus of cuts should first be on the rapidly expanded centralized VTSU administration.

Over the past three years, we have made periodic requests to the chancellor’s office for personnel census data — these are publicly available lists that show every administrator, faculty and staff member in the system, along with job title and salary. The data show that the VTSU administration has exploded to almost 150 positions, with an annual payroll of over \$13 million. And this does not include the millions of dollars that have been spent on outside consultants and managerial software.

We also believe that there is unnecessary duplication in the organizational structure. For example, in a small university system such as ours, do we really need a board of trustees AND a chancellor AND a president?

Two years ago, the Legislature granted increased funding to the state college system; in return, the system was required to merge into one university and continue to cut \$5 million per year for five years from our operating budgets. It must be noted that this came after decades of underfunding, contrary to the fiscal directive of the original statute that created the Vermont State College System in the 1960s.

And there have already been cuts to faculty, staff and programs over the past five to 10 years. For example, faculty numbers have decreased by 27% since 2012. How then can an increase in administration be justified?

Interim President Mike Smith continues to tout the increased funding while firmly stating that in return we must do the continued belt-tightening that the Legislature also has required.

To this, we ask: Where has all that money gone? If the campuses are still being required to reduce spending by \$5 million per year by cutting faculty, staff and programs, that money from the Legislature obviously has not gone toward supporting faculty, staff and programs.

Yes, there has been increased funding promised in some necessary places, such as expanding offerings in nursing. But other critical programs, such as those for students who want to be teachers, social workers, physical therapists and biomedical researchers among many, many other valuable career paths, have not been similarly supported, and faculty are currently being offered buyouts while the threat of layoffs looms large.

We can only conclude that too much of this one-time funding has gone toward hiring an unnecessary number of upper-level administrators, consulting firms, and managerial software, and this is where meaningful cuts in spending can and should be accomplished.

*The members of the VSC Labor Task Force: Helen Mango, Beth Walsh, Linda Olson, Mary Droegge, Ashley Stackowitz, Jonathan Kaplan, Amy Miller, Margaret Wald, Miranda Axworthy, Kate Gold, Denise Moses, Karry Booska, Nancy Thompson, Julie Theoret, Billie Neathawk and Cyndi Miller.*



Halloween 2023 by Dave Whamond, Canada, PoliticalCartoons

## LETTERS

### Gaza suffers for sins of Hamas

Dear Editor,

I am horrified at the collective punishment now being meted out to the civilians of Gaza. This is not the right response to the atrocities committed by Hamas on Israeli civilians. It will only compound the horrible situation by victim-

These actions will not ensure Israeli security. To the contrary, they will make Israel less secure.

izing even more civilians, and indeed victimizing an entire population.

Denying water, food and electricity, not to mention constant bombing, even of “safe” structures such as U.N. schools, are also war crimes. There is no safe place in Gaza; even when civilians flee south, they are being bombed there.

These actions will not ensure Israeli security. To the contrary, they will make Israel less secure. They also

Gaza → 12

### The meat industry scares me

Dear Editor,

I have no fear of zombies, witches, or evil clowns lurking on Halloween. What really scares me is meat.

This is the industry that deprives, mutilates, cages, then butchers billions of cows, pigs, turkeys, chickens — animals who feel joy, affection, sadness, and pain, as we do... that exposes undocumented workers to chronic workplace injuries at below living wage and exploits farmers and ranchers by dictating prices.

The industry that contributes more to our epidemic of diabetes, heart disease, stroke, and cancer, then bullies health authorities to remove health warnings from dietary guidelines.

An industry that sanctions world hunger by feeding nutritious corn and soybeans to animals, instead of people.

The industry that generates more water pollution than all other human activities, that spews more greenhouse gasses than all transportation, that destroys more wildlife habitats... etc.

Fortunately, there are alternatives: plant-based foods. Nothing here to fear.

Mario Vincelette, Rutland

### Are our chrysanthemums killing the bees?

Dear Editor,

Recently I bought a few chrysanthemums and asters from a local hardware store, but as I was about to plant them, I wondered if they too had been laced with the neonicotinoids I’d so carefully avoided when buying my summer bedding flowers.

Neonicotinoids are neurotoxic insecticides. They are systemic, permeate the entire plant and endure for three years, building up in the soil and water runoff. Not only do they kill the bugs that feast on plants, but also the pollinators who are responsible for one out of every three bites we humans eat. Songbirds who eat neonic-infected bugs are dying at a much more alarming rate than seed eating birds. White tailed deer and fish are also at risk.

This information comes from a very accessible webinar: “One Square Foot of Grass can have enough Neonicotinoids to Kill a Million Bees,” at the Pollinator Pathways website, pollinator-pathway.org.

The speakers are Dan Raichel, acting director of the Natural Resources

Defense Council’s Pollinator Initiative, and Dr. Kathleen Nolan, president of the Physicians for Social Responsibility, NY Chapter and senior research director at Catskill Mountainkeeper. Listening to the webinar, I learned some disturbing facts on how neonics are affecting humans, too. Year after year, neonics build up in the soil and water so that now nearly one third of Long Island’s groundwater is affected. The CDC estimates that on any given day, half of all Americans are exposed to neonicotinoids. Chronic exposure in pregnant women causes brain damage to their children. Eating organic food and using an advanced water filtration system is recommended, but not affordable for everyone. Moreover, the decline in pollinators is lowering crop yields so that good nutrition is becoming unaffordable.

What can be done? VPIRG has begun a public awareness campaign focused on phasing out the use of neonic coated seeds to save our pollinators.

Bees → 12



## CAPITAL QUOTES



After Kevin McCarthy's abrupt removal as House speaker, tempers have flared as Republicans attempt to elect a new speaker.

**"The American people — my constituents — are furious... They are frustrated, they are angry. They're not blaming just the eight, they're not blaming Joe Biden. They're blaming us, they're blaming me,"**

Representative **Dan Meuser** of Pennsylvania, dropped out on Monday evening as discussions began on the next nominee.

**"There's only one person that can do it all the way. You know who that is? Jesus Christ. If Jesus came down and said, 'I want to be speaker,' he would do it. Other than that, I haven't seen anybody that can guarantee it,"**

former President **Donald Trump**, the Republican presidential front-runner and de facto party leader, said on Monday in New Hampshire.

**"There's a lot of historical relationships that some are not going to ever be able to work around,"**

said Representative **Kevin Hern** of Oklahoma, the chairman of the Republican Study Committee, the largest of the G.O.P. ideological groups on Capitol Hill, and another contender for the post.

**"The regular functioning of the federal government can't wait on useless infighting and arguments,"**

Rep. **Jack Bergman** of Michigan said.

## COMMENTARY

# Dumb and Dumber, the left's two worst ideas

By Jules Older

*Editor's note: Jules Older is a Vermonter turned New Zealander who works as an executive consultant, medical educator, crisis counselor and writer.*

Don't let that headline fool you — I bat left. I know the 2020 election wasn't rigged, I think abortion is a woman's right, I'm sure Bill Gates didn't invent covid vaccine so he could control the world, and I'm dead-certain that yes, Black lives do matter. Oh, and climate change is both real and really alarming.

I bat left, but I can switch-hit. When my team comes up with a terrible idea, I say so. When it comes up with two in a row — read on.

The first dumb doctrine has been around for a long time; in my view, way too long a time. The notion that so irks me is — heavy sigh — appropriation.

Appropriation means that if you're a writer, as I am, and you have the temerity to create a character from an ethnicity that isn't your own, you're appropriating, a.k.a. stealing someone else's culture. And that, my friend, is a sin.

Why is this such an awful notion? For so many reasons. Here are but three:

1. Writers are supposed to create characters; that's what we do. I'm writing a kid's book based on Billings, Montana's brave response to hate crimes. It has three young heroes: Chip's a local white kid heading for trouble, Stevie's a Jew from Back East, and Quinelle's the Black catcher on the school baseball team. If I believed in appropriation, two of them would have to go.

2. The writers most limited by appropriation are ethnics, themselves. Should Lin-Manuel Miranda write only about Puerto Rican Americans, and not The King? Should Felicia Berliner have not written Shmutz because she's not Hassidic? Should gay writers limit themselves to gay detectives, Apaches to Apache warriors, Palestinians to Palestinian lovers?

3. Thanks to 'appropriation' in the arts, the world is a better place. Titian painted beautiful women. On "Modern Family," straight Eric Stonestreet played a wonderful gay parent. And American E. Annie Proulx wrote the great Newfoundland (and Pulitzer Prize winning) novel, "The Shipping News."

So. In my writerly opinion, appropriation is dumb, deeply dumb. But wait — there's

Dumb and dumber → 14

### ← Contraceptive services: ..... from page 11

costs for contraceptive services.

Combined, all three insurers wrongfully shifted in excess of \$1.5 million in contraceptive care costs to Vermont consumers—an amount which will be returned to them with interest within the coming weeks.

DFR Commissioner Kevin Gaffney said: "Ensuring that Vermonters have affordable access to family planning services is a top priority for the Department and we plan to continue to our efforts to provide education and outreach to policyholders."

Neither BCBSVT, MVP, nor Cigna were fully compliant with laws prohibiting member cost-share for contraceptive services during the audit period, which extended through Dec. 31, 2021. However, the department found no intent on behalf of any carrier to violate the mandate. According to the Market Conduct team, all insurers were cooperative, responsive to requests and agreeable to working toward solutions with the team.

"The findings were similar across all insurers' claims data," DFR Director of Market Conduct Karla Nuissl said. "The claims inappropriately processed to include cost-share to the member were generally the result of incorrect coding, differing interpretations of the mandate, and system limitations."

Policyholders of the audited plans who paid any out-of-pocket costs for the covered services automatically will begin receiving checks issued by their insurer before the end of the year. Policyholders are encouraged to contact their carriers directly with any questions about the status of restitution payments. In addition to the restitution payments, insurers are required to take a number of other corrective actions to ensure that similar errors do not continue or arise in the future.

The Department Consumer Services Division is available to assist those with questions and can be reached by phone 802-828-3302 and email [dfr.insuranceinfo@vermont.gov](mailto:dfr.insuranceinfo@vermont.gov).

For more information about what contraceptive services should be covered visit the contraceptive claims information webpage on the DFR website: [dfr.vermont.gov/contraceptive-services-claims-restitution-information](http://dfr.vermont.gov/contraceptive-services-claims-restitution-information).

The examination found over 14,000 claims where Vermonters improperly faced out-of-pocket costs for contraceptive services.



← **Dumb and dumber:** .....  
from page 13

something even dumber. And, for society, much, much worse.

I'm talking about the white savior complex. The accusation of 'white savior' is hurled at any member of the majority — usually a white majority — who tries to help someone from an oppressed minority — usually, but not always, a darker-skinned minority.

An example. The best — in just about every sense of 'best' — literary white savior is Atticus Finch, the white lawyer who risks own his life defending an unjustly accused Black man in Harper Lee's classic novel, "To Kill a Mockingbird." Surely, Atticus would escape the wrath of the anti-mob.

Nope. Here's but one from a long list of denunciations; the title tells it all: "Goodbye And Good Riddance To Atticus Finch And Other 'White Saviors.'"

What makes this not just dumb but awful? Because, making a better world starts with kindness, and the denigration of the white savior discourages and disparages kindness — especially that most important sort, kindness to the downtrodden.

Need examples of notable white saviors? The white Americans who hid escaping slaves on the Underground Railroad. The Christian family who hid Anne Frank and her family in their attic. Schwerner and Goodman, murdered in Mississippi for defending Black rights. The non-Muslim New Zealanders who embraced the Muslim community after the Christchurch mosque attacks. All white saviors. All models for a better world. All heroes.

We need more white heroes, not fewer. To make this happen, we should praise these real heroes, not convert them into self-serving, secretly racist villains. If we are going to make a better world, my fellow lefties should be leading the charge.

← **Gaza:** .....  
from page 12

threaten to cause an escalation into a wider regional war which could embroil our own country.

Certainly the tremendous misery and suffering they are causing will only create a new generation of Palestinians seeking retribution.

We need to speak out for an immediate ceasefire, de-escalation, and the protection of civilians. Otherwise, the United States is complicit in these ongoing war crimes, a dangerous position for our country to be in from both a strategic and moral angle.

If these violations of international law continue, we should send no further financial aid to Israel.

Every country has a right to defend itself, but we cannot be complicit by financing violations of international law and war crimes. That will not bring peace, but further destabilize the region.

*Ellen Oxfeld,  
Middlebury*

← **Bees:** .....  
from page 12

In Quebec and Ontario, where this has already happened, there has been no drop in crop yield or profit for farmers. VPIRG's goal is to have legislation in Vermont drafted and presented to the legislature this winter. Go to [popvt.org](http://popvt.org) to sign VPIRG's petition in favor of this legislation.

Meanwhile, what do we do with our beautiful mums? In my fruitless search for local, organic chrysanthemums, I finally accepted that almost all mums grown by conventional nurseries contain

neonicotinoids, even those that were started from cuttings. If they don't, they are not labeled neonic-free. As Dr. Nolan said, "If it's a pretty plant, we're attracting insects to their death." She suggested keeping the mums inside and being careful not to compost them. The nerve effects of neonics are permanent and build up over time. We don't want to feed ourselves, our children and our guests from food grown with neonic compost.

Let's get out of this

science experiment that we didn't sign up for. Plant hardy mums and asters native to New England that have been grown from organic seed. Support VPIRG and sign the petition. Join Pollinator Pathways of Addison County, [pollinatorpathway.addisoncty@gmail.com](mailto:pollinatorpathway.addisoncty@gmail.com).

Maybe someday we can find safe and beautiful chrysanthemums to grace our porches and public roadways, but it will take effort today.

*Marguerite Gregory,  
Starksboro*

← **Police recs:** .....  
from page 2

identifying financial recommendations by November.

He added the elected constable position can be eliminated by a vote at Town Meeting.

It can't be contemplated in the town budget, but a traffic ticket fine-sharing arrangement benefiting a town might reduce policing's net cost.

Member Trace Trancreti suggested Hartland will need active policing 40 hours per week. As a reference, Potter said Windsor currently charges West Windsor \$104,500

for 15-20 hours per week coverage.

If people want 40 hours per week, the budget might have to be as much as \$240,000 to \$250,000, she said.

Long-term goals identified in the report mention an independent police department, a town-wide survey to get feedback on real-time satisfaction levels with the chosen service, and an inventory of community resources and willing involvement that might be employed to support law enforcement.



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## Heritage Family Credit Union names Christopher Gomez new president/CEO

The Board of Directors for Heritage Family Credit Union announced the appointment of Christopher Gomez as the credit union's next President/CEO on Tuesday, Oct. 17. Gomez will take over the reins from the current retiring president/CEO Matthew Levandowski, on Monday, Nov. 6, 2023.

"The Board of Directors is very excited to welcome Chris to Heritage Family Credit Union as our next President/CEO. Chris stood out amongst a very strong set of candidates and has demonstrated a deeply held passion for the credit union movement. He brings more than 20 years of industry experience and a wealth of knowledge to our organization. Chris is committed to providing world class service and value to our members, and we look forward to the continued success and growth of Heritage Family under his leadership," said Kevin Loso, Chairperson of the Board of Directors."

Gomez will be moving to the Rutland community with his wife and daughter from upstate New York, where he most recently served as the chief experience officer for Mid-Hudson Valley Federal Credit Union. Beyond his professional responsibilities, Gomez served his community as an active volunteer

and served on several non-profit boards in leadership positions.

"I am extremely honored and excited to have the opportunity to lead the continued

growth and prosperity of one of Vermont's premier financial institutions. I look forward to working with the board, leadership team, and staff on delivering on our mission and providing valuable service to the members of Heritage Family Credit Union," said Gomez.

The Board engaged Shanley Search Partners to conduct a nationwide search for candidates.

Gomez was chosen from over 50 qualified applicants for the role. He

takes over the leadership of the credit union from outgoing President/CEO Levandowski who had a career spanning 30 years at Heritage Family Credit Union, serving as the leader for the last 10. Levandowski served under Ron Hance who held the position for over four decades.

Heritage Family Credit Union was formed in 1956 as the Ludlow Rutland General Electric Employees' Credit Union and has \$740 million in assets serving 50,000 members in the southern half of Vermont, parts of New Hampshire, New York and Massachusetts.



Submitted  
**Christopher Gomez**

### ← Candy: from page 1

the demand for Halloween candy in the U.S. shows no sign of waning. Americans are projected to spend a substantial \$3.6 billion this year to stock up on their Halloween treats.

With such a major economic impact, Halloween stands as one of the primary drivers of candy sales in the U.S. However, the country's candy production industry plays a role that extends far beyond a single holiday, exerting a noteworthy influence on the economies of various states and localities. In these designated "candy capitals," confectionery production and retail account for a disproportionate number of local jobs and businesses.

To determine which local economies are most reliant on the candy industry, researchers at Upgraded Points created a composite score that factored in the concentration of employment, payroll, and locations of candy producers and candy retail stores compared to the national average. Their new report is titled: "The Candy Capitals of the U.S. [2023 Data Study]" and was released Oct. 16.

For example, while California—the birthplace of Ghirardelli, See's, and Jelly Belly, among others—leads the nation in overall candy industry employment, the percentage of California workers in the candy industry is only about 1.4 times higher than the national average.

On the other hand, while Vermont employs a much smaller number of candy workers overall, the concentration of candy workers in Vermont is nearly 4.5 times the national average. Vermont—home of Lake Champlain Chocolates and a wide variety of maple sugar candy producers—also boasts the highest concentration of candy businesses in the nation, making it the U.S. state economy most dependent on the candy industry.

Summary of the data for Vermont:

- Composite score: 98.63
- Concentration of candy industry employment (compared to average): 4.4x
- Concentration of candy industry payroll (compared to average): 4.3x
- Concentration of candy businesses (compared to average): 2.6x

Other top-ranked state candy capitals include Illinois—home of Ferrara Candy Company, Tootsie Roll, and Wrigley's—as well as New Hampshire and Pennsylvania.

For more information, a detailed methodology, and complete results, see The Candy Capitals of the U.S. on Upgraded Points, visit: [upgradedpoints.com/news/candy-capitals-of-the-us](https://upgradedpoints.com/news/candy-capitals-of-the-us).

## Woodstock Inn & Resort names new president

The Board of Trustees of the Woodstock Foundation announced the appointment of Bruce Grosbety as president of the Woodstock Inn & Resort, a AAA Four Diamond Resort and one of New England's premier year-round vacation destinations. Grosbety will start his new role Nov. 16, taking over for Courtney Lowe, who was promoted president in 2021.

A native of the northeast who started in the hospitality industry at his family-owned resort, Grosbety brings several decades of hospitality experience to the Woodstock Inn & Resort

from diverse roles at world-class hotels and destination resorts across the country. He most recently served as vice president and general manager for The Yarrow Group, where he oversaw the daily operations of five hotels in Jackson, Wyoming and Fort Collins, Colorado.

"We are thrilled to welcome Bruce to the Woodstock Inn & Resort," said James S. Sligar, chair of the Woodstock Foundation Board of Trustees. "His vision, dedication and experience make him the ideal leader to help chart the organization's future. Bruce has spent decades working with a remarkable array of hotels and resorts in outstanding locations, where he developed a strong sense of stewardship as well as an understanding of what it means to guide an organization with a deep connection to the community, and the importance of investing in the development and mentorship of the staff and employees that serve guests every day. Bruce has had tremendous reverence for Woodstock and a clear vision for how we can continue to create unforgettable guest experiences and forge an even stronger tie with the Woodstock community, and we can't wait for him to get started."

During his tenure with The Yarrow Group, Grosbety oversaw the construction and opening of The Cloudveil, a new 100-room and suite Marriott Autograph Collection Hotel in Jackson Hole in 2021. The Cloudveil was specifically designed to honor the history and sense of community of Jackson Town Square where it is located, and has become one of the most photographed Autograph Hotels in the U.S. Grosbety's earlier career included key leadership roles at luxury hotels, resorts, and properties with deep ties with their local communities. He spent more than three years as the Director of Rooms at The Four Seasons at The Pierre in New York City before taking a role as General Manager with Vail Resorts in Jackson Hole, Wyoming.

Grosbety's engagement with Vail Resorts came shortly after the company acquired the RockResorts brand, which was founded



Submitted  
**Bruce Grosbety**

by Laurance S. Rockefeller in the 1950's, which with Vail Resorts grew to include six properties in the Rocky Mountains. Working with executives from former RockResorts properties, Grosbety oversaw the rebranding and reopening of Snake River Lodge & Spa, which became Teton Village's first AAA Four Diamond hotel. In the six years after leaving Vail Resorts, Grosbety held several roles with Hotel Terra in Jackson Hole and

MetWest Terra Hospitality, with a corporate commitment to sustainability, where he was vice president of operations for eight properties across the country, including the highly-regarded Topnotch Resort & Spa in Stowe, Vermont. Prior to his role at The Yarrow Group, Grosbety spent four years as the managing director of Enchantment Resort in Sedona, Arizona. There, he oversaw more than 500 employees of a 234-room, 70-acre property and implemented a long-term strategic plan to align all resort disciplines with a unifying set of priorities. Throughout his career Grosbety has held numerous roles focused on community engagement and development. He was a founding member of the Jackson Hole Travel & Tourism Board, where he served from 2011-14, and also spent six years on the Governor-appointed Wyoming Office of Tourism Board. During his time with Enchantment Resort, he served on the Sedona Lodging Council Board from 2014-17. Grosbety also previously served as the President & Chairman of the Wyoming Lodging and Restaurant Association (WLRA) and was President of the WLRA Education ProStart Program, launching ProStart at Jackson Hole High School in 2006.

"The Woodstock Inn & Resort, founded more than four decades ago and shaped by the vision of Mary and Laurance S. Rockefeller, is a premier gateway to Vermont's rural and agrarian heritage. It is a truly classic resort that has welcomed visitors from across the globe, setting the tone for hospitality and land stewardship in the region," said Grosbety. "It's an honor to be given the opportunity to extend the resort's legacy and help guide this iconic property into its next chapter. Throughout my career, I've made it a priority to cultivate a close relationship with the community, employees and guests, and I look forward to dedicating myself to everything that makes Woodstock such an extraordinary destination."





PHOTOGRAPHER: Jack Affleck

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**WORDPLAY**

KITCHEN & BATH 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  
 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

- |             |          |           |              |        |        |
|-------------|----------|-----------|--------------|--------|--------|
| BATHROOM    | FIXTURES | ISLAND    | OVEN         | SINK   | VANITY |
| CLEANLINESS | GATHER   | KITCHEN   | REFRIGERATOR | TABLE  |        |
| ESSENTIAL   | GRANITE  | MAT       | REMODEL      | TILES  |        |
| FAUCET      | HUMIDITY | MICROWAVE | SHOWER       | TOILET |        |

**SUDOKU**

Solutions → 27

**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.

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

Level: Advanced

**CROSSWORD PUZZLE**

Solutions → 27

**CLUES ACROSS**

1. Male children
5. Robert Wagner series "Hart to ..."
9. Unfolded
11. Digestive disease
13. Wednesday
15. Malignant tumor
16. Conscientious investment strategy (abbr.)
17. Slowed
19. Letter of the Semitic abjads
21. Weights of cars without fuel
22. Former CIA
23. Asian country
25. Instead
26. Ancient Egyptian King
27. Privies
29. Shopping trips
31. Paradoxical anecdote
33. It's on the table
34. Ancient Persia ruler
36. Small American rail
38. File extension
39. Days (Spanish)

41. Everyone has one
43. South American plant
44. About ilium
46. Vanished American hoopster
48. A type of breakfast
52. Uncooked
53. Examined
54. Christian recluse
56. Strong posts
57. Some are for pasta
58. Skinny
59. School-based organizations

**CLUES DOWN**

1. Ringlet
2. Type of complex
3. Midway between north and northwest
4. It becomes something bigger
5. German courtesy title
6. Genus of birds
7. Marked by public disorder
8. Least aggressive
9. Russian city
10. Insect repellent

	1	2	3	4					5	6	7	8	
9					10				11				12
13						14			15				
16				17				18					
19			20		21							22	
	23			24		25					26		
		27			28		29			30			
			31			32		33					
			34				35		36			37	
	38				39			40		41			42
43					44			45		46			47
48			49	50					51		52		
53								54			55		
56									57				
	58									59			

- |                             |                            |                             |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 11. Interruptions           | 30. North Carolina college | 45. Modes of transportation |
| 12. Scoundrels              | 32. Secured                | 47. Female sheep            |
| 14. 1,000 calories          | 34. A disgraceful event    | 49. Type of torch           |
| 15. What one does overnight | 35. Physical suffering     | 50. Piece of merchandise    |
| 18. Dwarf planet            | 37. The home of the free   | 51. Jump over               |
| 20. Pipe                    | 38. Some are boys          | 55. Wife of Amun            |
| 24. Black powdery substance | 40. Satisfy                |                             |
| 26. Set of four             | 42. Makes very happy       |                             |
| 28. Canned fishes           | 43. South American plants  |                             |

*Guess Who?*

I am a singer born in California on October 25, 1984. I am the daughter of two pastors who discouraged listening to pop music. Despite that, I became a successful pop singer and later an "American Idol" judge.

Answer: Katy Perry

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## WEDNESDAY

10/25

### Early Literacy Playgroup

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

### Blood Donation-American Red Cross

10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Northstar Room, Killington Grand Resort Hotel, 228 East Mountain Road. Donations needed to replenish Red Cross blood supply. Donors receive a \$10 gift card to a local merchant. Save time by visiting RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass to complete your pre-donation reading and health history questions (only on the day of your appointment). Info: redcrossblood.org or call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) to reserve your donation time slot over the phone.

### Cooperative Nursery Storytime

1:30-2:30 p.m. Meeting room, Hartland Public Library, 153 Route 5, Hartland. Free. Info: hartlandlibraryvt.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.

### Batman Sculpture Appears in Rutland

Noon. West Street, just west of Cottage Street in downtown Rutland. Free. A marble sculpture inspired by Batman and DC comic book creators will be unveiled along the Rutland Halloween Parade route. Italian sculptor Alessandro Lombardo has completed work on the larger-than-life sculpture designed by Chinese artist Jiannan Wu, using a 10-ton block of marble donated by Vermont Quarries.

### Vermont Farmers' Wednesday Market, Final Day

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 outdoor market closes for winter Oct. 25. See the posting for the Saturday indoor market. For more info visit: vtfarmersmarket.org.

### Book End Book Group

1-2 p.m. Sherburne Memorial Library, 2998 River Road, Killington. Free. Info: sherburnelibrary.org.

### RFL Book Club

1-3 p.m. Monthly. Fox Room, Rutland Free Library, 10 Court St., Rutland. Free. Contact facilitator Al Wilkin at alwilkin@comcast.net.

### Mending Circle

2-3 p.m. 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of month. Norman Williams Public Library, 10 The Green, Woodstock. Join us and mend, patch, darn, and hem those items languishing in your wardrobe or create your own darning sampler to practice your stitches. Info: normanwilliams.org.

### 'Little Shop of Horrors'

2 & 7 p.m. Runs to Oct. 29. ArtisTree, 2095 Pomfret Road, South Pomfret. \$35. This sci-fi smash musical, "Little Shop of Horrors" has entranced audiences over 30 years. Live at The Grange Theatre by acclaimed professional actors. Info: artistreevt.org.

### Art Project (Ages 9 and up)

3:45-4:45 p.m. Monthly. 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

### Tales to Tails: Kids Reading to Dogs

5-6 p.m. Weekly. 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

### Halloween Stuffed Animal Storytime, Day 2:

#### Halloween Unicorn

6-6:30 p.m. Fox Room, Rutland Free Library, 10 Court St., Rutland. Free. Settle in for a story or two before you make your very own stuffed animal unicorn with Halloween flair. Registration is required as materials are limited. Info: rutlandfree.org.

### Acoustic Jam Session

6:30 p.m. 2095 Pomfret Rd, South Pomfret. Free. Bring your instrument and a few songs or tunes to play. Everyone gets a chance to call the tune (and a key!) Info: artistreevt.org.

### Bird Encounters in 19 States and 4 Canadian Provinces

7 p.m. Grace Congregational Church conference room, 8 Court St., Rutland. Images and talk by Roy Pilcher. info: rutlandcountyaudubon.org/events.

### 'Little Shop of Horrors'

7 p.m. Runs to Oct. 29. ArtisTree, 2095 Pomfret Road, South Pomfret. \$35. This sci-fi smash musical, "Little Shop of Horrors" has entranced audiences over 30 years. Live at The Grange Theatre by acclaimed professional actors. Info: artistreevt.org.

### Green Mountain Fly Tyers Meeting

7:30 p.m. Godnick Center, 1 Deer St. Rutland. Participants to observe and learn are always welcome. Paul Buccheri will demonstrate two flies: the AL Emerger and the Irish Caddis. Those interested in tying should bring their tools. Dues are due from returning members. Info: 802-236-2543 or email: mroussel01@comcast.net.

## THURSDAY

10/26

### Joseph Citro!

7:00 p.m. ArtisTree, 2095 Pomfret Road, South Pomfret. Renowned storyteller Joe Citro will regale the audience with "Dangerous & Endangered Tales" drawn from his extensive investigations into Vermont's dark side. Join us, won't you, for this Hallowe'en sampler of spine-chillers. Bring a friend, or at least a hand to hold, tell a spooky tale or share an unnerving experience. A Q&A session will follow the presentation. A selection of Joseph Citro's books will be available for purchase and signing.

### West Rutland Marsh Bird Monitoring Walk

8 a.m. Monthly. Meet at the boardwalk on Marble Street, just beyond Water Street. Free. The West Rutland Marsh is a birdwatching mecca. Go the whole 4-mile route or go halfway. Info: rutlandcountyaudubon.org/events.

### Storytime!

10-11 a.m. Weekly. 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.

### Halloween Stuffed Animal Storytime,

#### Day 3: Pumpkin Bear!

6-6:30 p.m. Fox Room, Rutland Free Library, 10 Court St., Rutland. Free. Settle in for a story or two before you make your very own pumpkin bear stuffer. Registration is required as materials are limited. Info: rutlandfree.org.

### Killington Bone Builders

10 a.m. Weekly. herburne 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. Weekly. 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. Weekly. Chaffee Art Center, 16 So. Main St., Rutland. Free. Musician Steven Wilson leads the group through specific sheet music. All levels welcome. Must pre-register: chaffeeartcenter.square.site or call 802-775-0356.

### I Am Vermont Too Photo-Story Exhibit

1-4:30 p.m. VTSU Castleton Bank Gallery, 104 Merchants Row, Rutland. Free. This photo exhibit displays photos highlighting communities of color and their many stories. Info: therootsjc.org/i-am-vt-too.

### AARP VT: 2023 Legislative Session Recap & Coffee

1:30-2:30 p.m. Last Cup Cafe, 87 State St., Rutland. Free. Join AARP Vermont for coffee and discussion with Vermont lawmakers. Bring friends and family as well as your ideas and questions about our advocacy in support of Vermonters aged 50+. Email: vtaarp@aarp.org.

### Wheels for Warmth Tire Drive Gets Rolling

Bring your unwanted tires to Casella Construction offices in Mendon between 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. All makes, sizes and treads. The DMV will inspect donated tires for at least 1 year of future use and rejects will be accepted for recycling for a fee of \$5 or \$10 for truck tires. Info: wheelsforwarmth.org or facebook.com/wheelsforwarmth and Instagram: @WheelsForWarmth.

### Play Bridge!

2-4 p.m. Weekly. Norman Williams Public Library, 10 The Green, Woodstock. Members of the Friends of NWPL will have priority at the tables. These are not bridge lessons, although 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. Weekly. 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 assist when needed. Bring your current project, knitting questions or problems, or a pattern to share. For more information or to receive notifications, please email programs@normanwilliams.org. Info: normanwilliams.org.

### S.T.E.A.M.

3:30-4:30 p.m. Weekly. Hartland Public Library, 153 Route 5, Hartland. Join us for S.T.E.A.M. (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math) and craft activities each Thursday. Something different every week. Info: hartlandlibraryvt.org.

### 3D Pen Creations (ages 9 and up)

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

### Ann Aikens: 'A Young Woman's Guide to Life: A Cautionary Tale'

4 p.m. Norman Williams Public Library 10 The Green, Woodstock. Free. "A Young Woman's Guide to Life," collects Ann Aikens' advice in one volume aimed at helping "Young People" (hereafter referred to as YPs) avoid her mistakes—or at least make more interesting ones. Info: normanwilliams.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. Info: pentanglearts.org.

### 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.

### Woodstock Union Middle-High School Tour & Presentation

6:30-8p.m. Woodstock Union High School, 100 Amsden Way, Woodstock. The tour is followed by a brief presentation on the plans for the much-discussed and anticipated new campus. The Community Campus will provide care for children ages 5-12. For the kids, we will have free pizza and a movie. Sign up for childcareforms.gle/MFmEEw3WF3fgZjwW8. Info: mtrviews.org/breaking-new-ground.

### Open Mic Nights at ArtisTree

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

### 'Little Shop of Horrors'

7 p.m. Runs to Oct. 29. ArtisTree, 2095 Pomfret Road, South Pomfret. \$35. This sci-fi smash musical, "Little Shop of Horrors" has entranced audiences over 30 years. Live at The Grange Theatre by acclaimed professional actors. Info: artistreevt.org.

## FRIDAY

10/27

### Wheels for Warmth Tire Drive Gets Rolling

Bring your unwanted tires to Casella Construction offices in Mendon between 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. All makes, sizes and treads. The DMV will inspect donated tires for at least 1 year of future use and rejects will be accepted for recycling for a fee of \$5 or \$10 for truck tires. Info: wheelsforwarmth.org or facebook.com/wheelsforwarmth and Instagram: @WheelsForWarmth.

### Qigong (online)

8:30 a.m. Fridays. Norman Williams Public Library, 10 The Green, Woodstock. Free. Led by Gerry Sandweiss, via Zoom. Learn to increase blood circulation, oxygenation, flexibility, stability, balance, and overall sense of wellbeing. Info normanwilliams.org.

### Brandon Farmers' Market: Final Day

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



**Calendar:** Email [events@mountaintimes.info](mailto:events@mountaintimes.info)  
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### Artery at Chaffee Art Center

10 a.m.-Noon. Fridays. Chaffee Art Center, 16 So. Main St., Rutland. \$10-\$20. Adult group for connection and inspiration. Painting in all mediums welcome. Participants will work on their individual artwork. When possible, a 30-minute focus on technique focus will be held. Must pre-register. Info and registration: [chaffeeartcenter.org](http://chaffeeartcenter.org).

### Story Time at the Library

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

### I Am Vermont Too Photo-Story Exhibit

1-4:30 p.m. VTSU Castleton Bank Gallery, 104 Merchants Row, Rutland. Free. This photo exhibit displays photos highlighting communities of color and their many stories. Info: [therootsjc.org/i-am-vt-too](http://therootsjc.org/i-am-vt-too).

### Cynthia Bittinger to speak on the Roaring Twenties

1:30-3 p.m. Godnick Adult Center, 1 Deer St., Rutland. UVM Osher lecture. \$8. Cynthia Bittinger will discuss the Roaring Twenties, a time of great economic growth, but a period of cultural conflicts. Info: [rutlandrec.com/godnick](http://rutlandrec.com/godnick).

### 'Little Shop of Horrors'

7 p.m. Runs to Oct. 29. ArtisTree, 2095 Pomfret Road, South Pomfret. \$35. This sci-fi smash musical, "Little Shop of Horrors" has entranced audiences over 30 years. Live at The Grange Theatre by acclaimed professional actors. Info: [artistreevt.org](http://artistreevt.org).

### Life & Death Tour at Billings

4:30-6:30 p.m. Billings Farm & Museum, 69 Old River Road, Woodstock. \$16-\$18. Get into the Halloween spirit with a Life & Death tour of Billings Farm's 1890 farm manager's house and the historic Billings mansion, the centerpiece of Vermont's only national park. Costumed tour guides will share tales of the people who lived and died on the Billings farm and estate, while exploring Victorian-era superstitions, views on death, and mourning traditions through artifacts and stories. Gain a fascinating new perspective on these historic homes, beginning at Billings Farm & Museum and concluding at the Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Park. Intended for ages 13 and up, this tour discusses heavy themes. Advance tickets are required. Tix and Info: [billingsfarm.org](http://billingsfarm.org).

### Trick-or-Treat on the Trail

5-6:30 p.m. Rutland Town School, 1612 Post Road, Rutland. Free. Meet at the skating rink hut for Rutland Town Rec's Halloween party! The 8th Grade will have games ready on the festively lit trails behind the school as participants walk to fill their bags with candy. Info: [rutlandtown.com/event/rutland-town-school-halloween-party](http://rutlandtown.com/event/rutland-town-school-halloween-party).

### Spooksville Trunk-or-Treat

5-6:30 p.m. Estabrook Field, 760 Grove St., Brandon. Free. A bevy of generous treat givers are ready for your kids with music, fun and spooky decorations. Info: [members.rutlandvermont.com](http://members.rutlandvermont.com) or [facebook.com/events/2926372870830767](http://facebook.com/events/2926372870830767).

### The Haunted Library

5 p.m. Shrewsbury Library, 9823 Cold River Road, Shrewsbury. Free. Prepare to be scared. Info: [shrewsburyvt.org](http://shrewsburyvt.org).

### Trick-or-Treat Walk

5-7 p.m. Ascutney Outdoor Center, 449 Ski Tow Road, Brownsville. Donations appreciated. Enjoy candy, treats and more on the Ascutney Outdoor Discovery Trail. Wear your costumes, bring a flashlight, and join in on some Halloween fun. Co-sponsored by the Ascutney Trails Association. Info: [tinyurl.com/mr2ab9e3](http://tinyurl.com/mr2ab9e3).

### Trunk or Treat with Pumpkin Show

5:30-7:30 p.m. Sherburne Memorial Library, 2998 River Road, Killington. Free. All ages. This event is organized by the Killington Rec Center and the Sherburne Memorial Library. Info: [sherburnelibrary.org](http://sherburnelibrary.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. Final show: Nov. 5. Info: [pentanglearts.org](http://pentanglearts.org).

### Halloween Festival & Jack-O'-Lantern

#### Hike

6-8 p.m. Kehoe Education Center, 636 Point of Pines Road, Castleton. A fun and educational Halloween campfire show led by students from Vermont State University Castleton campus. Learn about the creepy, crawly critters that reside in Vermont. Other activities include a nature hike along a trail lit by carved pumpkins, wildlife-related crafts, face painting, and a campfire activity. Costumes are encouraged, but not required. For more information contact Corey Hart at [corey.hart@vermont.gov](mailto:corey.hart@vermont.gov) or 802-565-5562 or visit: [vtfishandwildlife.com](http://vtfishandwildlife.com).



### Halloween Spooktacular

6-10 p.m. Southside Steakhouse, 170 South Main St., Rutland. \$50. Rutland's new favorite grown up Halloween Party. There will be music by DJ Big Handsome, food, dancing, costumes and fun all while helping us Raise the Roof on affordable housing. Info: [housingrutland.org/raisetherooft](http://housingrutland.org/raisetherooft).

### Pittsford Haunted House returns for its 40th year

6-9 p.m. 426 Plains Road, Pittsford. \$5-\$10. If anyone knows how to put on a good haunted house, it's the Pittsford volunteer fire department! The Pittsford Haunted House admissions benefit the department. Wagon rides, food, beverages and Bones Brothers Band will keep you entertained while you await your turn to enter the haunted house. Wagon rides and ticketing lines are covered to keep you dry in case of rain. NOT RECOMMENDED FOR CHILDREN UNDER 6. Info: [tinyurl.com/yaedkaph](http://tinyurl.com/yaedkaph).

### Trunk-or-Treat

6-8 p.m. The Pines at Rutland Center for Nursing & Rehabilitation, 99 Park St., Rutland. Join us for our first ever truck-or-treat! Wear costumes and get tasty treats. Info: [members.rutlandvermont.com](http://members.rutlandvermont.com).

### That's Amore! Pizza & Calzone Cooking Class

6:30-9:30 p.m. Bridgewater Corners, Bridgewater. \$85. Award-winning Chef Ted leads a hands-on pizza and calzone-making class. Info: [odysseyeventsvt.com](http://odysseyeventsvt.com).

### 'Little Shop of Horrors'

7 p.m. Runs to Oct. 29. ArtisTree, 2095 Pomfret Road, South Pomfret. \$35. This sci-fi smash musical, "Little Shop of Horrors" has entranced audiences over 30 years. Live at The Grange Theatre by acclaimed professional actors. Info: [artistreevt.org](http://artistreevt.org).

### Bruce Cockburn at the Paramount

7:30 p.m. Paramount Theatre, 30 Center St., Rutland. \$35-\$45. One of Canada's finest artists, Bruce Cockburn has enjoyed an illustrious career shaped by politics, spirituality, and musical diversity. Info: [paramountvt.org](http://paramountvt.org).

## SATURDAY 10/28

### Statewide Wheels for Warmth Tire Drive Returns to Mendon

8 a.m.-Noon. Casella Construction offices, 25 Industrial Lane off Woodstock Ave. Now in its 18th year, the Wheels for Warmth tire recycling and resale drive has raised close to \$700,000 (WPTZ). Proceeds from the resale of unwanted tires of all sizes, brands and treads support emergency fuel assistance for low-income Vermonters, working together with community agencies, including the Bennington-Rutland Opportunity Council. Info: [wheelsforwarmth.org](http://wheelsforwarmth.org) or [facebook.com/wheelsforwarmth](http://facebook.com/wheelsforwarmth) and Instagram: @WheelsForWarmth.

### Vermont Farmers' Downtown Saturday Market. Last day of the season.

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 more! Vermont Farmers' Market is one of the largest and most diversified farmers' markets in Vermont, and the first to operate year round. On Nov. 4 the Saturday market moves indoors to the Howe Center. For more info visit: [vtfarmersmarket.org](http://vtfarmersmarket.org).

### SolarFest

11 a.m. Grace Congregational Church, 8 Court St., Rutland. \$10-\$30. Due to July's flooding, SolarFest '23 was postponed -- until now. SolarFest presents a one-day festival with fabulous musicians and compelling speakers on rebuilding America's communities, renewable energy policy and technologies, green energy careers, and the financing incentives available through the Inflation Reduction Act. Musical performances begin at 4:30 pm. The lineup includes the Caribbean percussion of Gammy Moses, celebrated singer-songwriters Louise Mosrie Coombe, Pamela Means, and Lara Herscovitch & the Highway Philosophers, Dar Williams, followed by the joyful jazz of the Ray Vega Band. Info and tickets: [evnt.com/events/?\\_evDiscoveryPath=/event/136956x-solarfest-day](http://evnt.com/events/?_evDiscoveryPath=/event/136956x-solarfest-day)

### 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](http://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. A minimum of 5 students is required to run the class. Must pre-register. Info: [chaffeeartcenter.org](http://chaffeeartcenter.org).

### The Running Scared 5K Halloween Parade

#### Fundraiser

11 a.m. Giorgetti Athletic Complex, Oak St. Ext., Rutland. \$15-\$20; 10 and under free. Dress to impress in the spirit of Halloween. The route will end at the Rutland Rec Community Center where the Rutland County Early Childhood Educators Network will host a trunk-or-treat, available to the 5K participants and the public. Info: [visit.rutlandrec.com](http://visit.rutlandrec.com).

### 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](http://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](http://rutlandfree.org).

### Drop N' Paint

Noon-2 p.m. Chaffee Art Center, 16 So. Main St., Rutland. \$25. All ages. All materials will be set up and ready for you with a choice of three images to paint. Materials include canvas, paint, brushes, easel, and smock. Youth must be accompanied by an adult. Must pre-register. Info and registration: [chaffeeartcenter.org](http://chaffeeartcenter.org).

### The Soufflé Also Rises and Apple-Tart Cooking Class

12-3 p.m. Bridgewater Corners, Bridgewater. \$85. Learn how to make our un-classic fallen soufflé using the classic combo of Vermont dairy and eggs. Then with apples from local orchards, you'll learn to make a light and delicious apple tart with Vermont maple cream. For more info, call or email us to discuss. 802-342-1513 or visit [odysseyeventsvt.com](http://odysseyeventsvt.com).

### I Am Vermont Too Photo-Story Exhibit

1-4:30 p.m. VTSU Castleton Bank Gallery, 104 Merchants Row, Rutland. Free. This photo exhibit displays photos highlighting communities of color and their many stories. Info: [therootsjc.org/i-am-vt-too](http://therootsjc.org/i-am-vt-too).

### Southern Vermont Arts Center Halloween Party

1-5 p.m. Southern Vermont Arts Center, 860 SVAC Drive, Manchester. Free. View "The Nightmare Before Christmas" movie at 1 p.m. Then, beginning at 2:30 p.m., the party begins with music, ghost stories, magic, face painting, games, fortune telling, a costume contest/parade, a bounce house, and more. A special appearance by the team at Second Chance Animal Center will be on site for the pet costume contest! Registration required. Visit: [svac.org](http://svac.org) for registration and details.

### 'Little Shop of Horrors'

7 p.m. Runs to Oct. 29. ArtisTree, 2095 Pomfret Road, South Pomfret. \$35. This sci-fi smash musical, "Little Shop of Horrors" has entranced audiences over 30 years. Live at The Grange Theatre by acclaimed professional actors. Info: [artistreevt.org](http://artistreevt.org).

### Life & Death Tour at Billings

4:30-6:30 p.m. Billings Farm & Museum, 69 Old River Road, Woodstock. \$16-\$18. Get into the Halloween spirit with a Life & Death tour of Billings Farm's 1890 farm manager's house and the historic Billings mansion, the centerpiece of Vermont's only national park. Costumed tour guides will share tales of the people who lived and died on the Billings farm and estate, while exploring Victorian-era superstitions, views on death, and mourning traditions through artifacts and stories. Gain a fascinating new perspective on these historic homes, beginning at Billings Farm & Museum and concluding at the Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Park. Intended for ages 13 and up, this tour discusses heavy themes. Advance tickets are required. Tix and Info: [billingsfarm.org](http://billingsfarm.org).

### Meet Some \*Really\* Old-Time Rutlanders with Julia Purdy

3-4:30 p.m. Fox Room, Rutland Free Library, 10 Court St., Rutland. Free. The Rutland Free Library is working on a project to digitize the family trees of Rutland County people from early settlement into the 20th century. You are invited to a "sneak preview" of the Marvel Swan genealogical collection that reveals the lives and stories of Rutland people of all walks of life. Info: [rutlandfree.org](http://rutlandfree.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. Final show: Nov. 5. Info: [pentanglearts.org](http://pentanglearts.org).



**Calendar:** Email events@mountaintimes.info from page 19

### Rutland Young Professionals Host a Pre-Parade Viewing Party

6-9 p.m. StartUp Rutland at The Hub CoWorks, 67 Merchants Row #201 (the Opera House) Rutland. \$7.50-\$20. Watch the annual Halloween Parade from above Merchants Row! This family-friendly event will feature a costume contest, family-friendly movies, pizza, beverages, and of course, candy. Ticket info: [tinyurl.com/y5wrmrupe](https://tinyurl.com/y5wrmrupe).

### 62nd Annual Rutland City Halloween Parade (Rain date: Sunday, Oct. 29)

6:30 p.m. Downtown Rutland. Free. You will tingle with excitement as the famous old-fashioned Halloween parade winds through downtown with all your favorites: fantastic floats, marching bands, vintage vehicles, clowns, all led by the Drumming Skellies from Drum Journeys of Earth. The parade route is available at [rutlandrec.com/halloweenparade](https://rutlandrec.com/halloweenparade). Be aware that there will be street closures along the parade route, beginning at 5:15 p.m.-approx. 8:30 p.m. Trophies will include Most Original = Superintendent's Trophy Best Costumed Marching Band, Best in Parade = Mayor's Trophy Best Costumed Marching Unit, and Most Creative = Department Trophy Honorable Mention Info: [rutlandrec.com/halloweenparade](https://rutlandrec.com/halloweenparade).

### 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: [odysseyeventsvt.com](https://odysseyeventsvt.com).

### 'Little Shop of Horrors'

2 & 7 p.m. Runs to Oct. 29. ArtisTree, 2095 Pomfret Road, South Pomfret. \$35. This sci-fi smash musical, "Little Shop of Horrors" has entranced audiences over 30 years. Live at The Grange Theatre by acclaimed professional actors. Info: [artistreevt.org](https://artistreevt.org).

### Karen Montanaro Workshop and Public Performance

4:15 p.m. Stone Valley Arts, 145 E. Main St., Poultney. A workshop for adults from 4:15-5:45 p.m. (\$15 fee), potluck from 5:50-6:30 p.m., and a public performance at 7 p.m. (donations requested, not required). Info: [stonevalleyarts.org](https://stonevalleyarts.org).

### Woolen Mill Comedy Club: Ray Jubela

8 p.m. Saturdays. Woolen Mill Comedy Club, 101 Mill Road (off US-4), Bridgewater. \$20. Ray Jubela is a Washington D.C.-based comedian who grew up idolizing George Carlin. Info: [tinyurl.com/yhzbkr9y](https://tinyurl.com/yhzbkr9y).

### Angler Pub Annual Halloween Party

8 p.m. Angler Pub, 52 Strongs Ave., Rutland. Wear your scariest costume and come have a ghoulish good time. Live music with Crispy Trio. Prizes for best costumes. The Band will be judging this year. Info: [members.rutlandvermont.com](https://members.rutlandvermont.com).

### Wobbly Barn Halloween Party

9 p.m. Wobbly Barn, 2229 Killington Road, Killington. \$10 suggested donation to support the Killington Fire Dept. Costumes required for entry. DJ Stevie B on the 1s & 2s. Prizes for best costume, best couples costumes, and best group costume. Info: [killington.com/things-to-do/events/events-calendar](https://killington.com/things-to-do/events/events-calendar).

# SUNDAY

## 10/29

### 'Little Shop of Horrors'

2 p.m. Final performance. ArtisTree, 2095 Pomfret Road, South Pomfret. \$35. This sci-fi smash musical, "Little Shop of Horrors" has entranced audiences over 30 years. Live at The Grange Theatre by acclaimed professional actors. Info: [artistreevt.org](https://artistreevt.org).

### Veterans Benefits Fair in Fair Haven

10 a.m.-2 p.m. Fair Haven American Legion, 72 S. Main St. Fair Haven. Representatives from Veterans Benefits Administration will be on-site to help initiate, check the status of, and answer questions related to disability claims. Bring a copy of your DD-214. For more information, contact: Public Affairs Office at the White River Junction VA Healthcare System, 802-295-9363 extension 5880 or via email at [vhwjrjpaov@va.gov](mailto:vhwjrjpaov@va.gov).

### Harvest Dinner

1 p.m. Chester Community Greenhouse & Gardens, Canal St., Chester. \$10 suggested donation. A harvest dinner, raffle, lawn games and music. Please RSVP to [chestergreenhouse@gmail.com](mailto:chestergreenhouse@gmail.com) or 802-875-8194. Info: [chestercommunitygreenhouseandgardens.org](https://chestercommunitygreenhouseandgardens.org).

### Pittsford Halloween Spooktacular and Trunk-or-Treat

1-5 p.m. Pittsford Recreation Area, 223 Recreation Area Road, Pittsford. A fun afternoon filled with games, music, and activities for the entire family. Registration: [lothrop-pto.square.site/trunk-or-treat-sign-up](https://lothrop-pto.square.site/trunk-or-treat-sign-up).

### Speaker Marty Podskoch: Civilian Conservation Corps

2 p.m. Plymouth Community Center, 35 School Drive, Plymouth. Free. A donations jar will be available. Historian and author Marty Podskoch will discuss The Civilian Conservation Corps. Learn more about Vermont's unique history and where remainders still exist of some of these CCC camps. Refreshments will be available. info: [plymouthvt.org/historical-society](https://plymouthvt.org/historical-society).

### 'SBOOKY Library' – Not-Too-Scary Halloween Fun

3-5 p.m. Norman Williams Public Library 10 The Green, Woodstock. Free. The library will be filled with creepy noises and decorated with cobwebs, goblins and ghosts. Enter the haunted Great Hall, and find your way through the spooky stacks. Down in the dungeon is the Halloween party in the children's room. Games, activities, and seasonal snacks. Costumes are encouraged. Bring a pumpkin if you wish to carve one. We'll set up the tables and supply the tools. Children under 11 must be accompanied by a caregiver 14 or older at all times. The pumpkin carving room closes at 4:30. Info: [normanwilliams.org](https://normanwilliams.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. Final show: Nov. 5. Info: [pentanglearts.org](https://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: [odysseyeventsvt.com](https://odysseyeventsvt.com).

### Science Book Club

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

# MONDAY

## 10/30

### Babies and Toddlers Rock

10-10:30 a.m. Weekly. 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](https://rutlandfree.org).

### Killington Bone Builders

10 a.m. Weekly. Sherburne Memorial Library, 2998 River Road, Killington. Free. Weights are provided. For additional information call the library at 802-422-9765.

### Monday Movie

1-3 p.m. Weekly. Sherburne Memorial Library, 2998 River Road, Killington. Free. Info: [sherburnelibrary.org](https://sherburnelibrary.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](https://rutlandfree.org).

### Poetry Group

4-5:30 p.m. Every other Monday. 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](https://normanwilliams.org).

### Urban Legends, Ghost Edition

5-7 p.m. Depot Park, 15 Evelyn St., Rutland. Free. Guided 1-mile sidewalk and street tour through historic downtown. Discover historical facts and tall tales from Rutland's past and present. Wheelchair and walker friendly. All ages welcome. Info: [comealiveoutside.com](https://comealiveoutside.com) or [members.rutlandvermont.com](https://members.rutlandvermont.com).

### 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: [odysseyeventsvt.com](https://odysseyeventsvt.com).

# TUESDAY

## 10/31

### 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](https://normanwilliams.org).

### Storytime at Hartland Public Library

10:30-11:30 a.m. Weekly. 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 Kindergarten. Info: [hartlandlibraryvt.org](https://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](https://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](https://normanwilliams.org).

### Stories on a String

10-10:30 a.m. Weekly. 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](https://rutlandfree.org).

### Halloween Fun at the Library

4-6 p.m. Meeting room, Hartland Public Library, 153 Route 5, Hartland. Free. Come to the library for some Halloween fun. Info: [hartlandlibraryvt.org](https://hartlandlibraryvt.org).

### Trunk-or-Treat MERCHANDISING GIMMICK

5-7 p.m. Benson's Chevrolet, 25 Pond Street, Ludlow. Free. Join us for our 4th annual Trunk-or-Treat event, hosted by Benson's Chevrolet on Halloween. Open to everyone. To donate treats or have a trunk please contact Corrie at 802.952.6267.

### Trick or Trunk Benefit for Child Advocacy

5-8 p.m. Rutland fraternal organizations support the work of the Child First Advocacy Center to advocate for children who are abused. New this year: The Club Trail. Free. Stop in at the Elks Club, 44 Pleasant St., the Moose Lodge, 78 Center St., and the American Legion, 33 Washington St., in Rutland, all within walking distance of each other. Contact [childfirstvermont@gmail.com](mailto:childfirstvermont@gmail.com) or 802-353-1623 if you want to participate in creating a theme, decorating your trunk and passing out treats. Info: [members.rutlandvermont.com](https://members.rutlandvermont.com).

### Play Chess & Backgammon!

5-7 p.m. Weekly. Norman Williams Public Library, 10 The Green, Woodstock. Play in the company of fellow enthusiasts where everyone is welcome. Info: [normanwilliams.org](https://normanwilliams.org).

### Bellevue Ave. Haunted House Benefit for Mentor

5:30-8:30 p.m. Bellevue Ave., Rutland. Donations accepted. This is a free haunted House tour through our private home on Halloween night only. We do accept donations on behalf of the Mentor Connector. Info: [boocrewhauntedhouse.com](https://boocrewhauntedhouse.com).

### Trick or Treat Drive-through at Fabian Earth Moving

6-8 p.m. Fabian Earth Moving, 1409 Pleasant St., West Rutland. Free. Come enjoy a spooktacular display of fun decorations and get sweet treats from your favorite characters. Info: [facebook.com/fabianearthmoving](https://facebook.com/fabianearthmoving).

### '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. Final show: Nov. 5. Info: [pentanglearts.org](https://pentanglearts.org).

### Swing Dance Class

6:30-8 p.m. Final night. 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.

### Tower of Power at The Paramount

7:30 p.m. Paramount Theatre, 30 Center St., Rutland. \$55-\$75. For over 55 years, Tower of Power has delivered the best in funk and soul music. Info: [paramountvt.org/event/tower-of-power](https://paramountvt.org/event/tower-of-power).





# [MUSIC Scene]

By DJ Dave Hoffenberg  
Have a music scene coming up? Email [djdavehoff@gmail.com](mailto:djdavehoff@gmail.com)

## WED 10/25

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

**QUECHEE**  
6 p.m. Public House Pub – Chris P

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

## THURS 10/26

**BRIDGEWATER CORNERS**  
5 p.m. Long Trail Brewing – Sammy B

**KILLINGTON**  
5 p.m. Moguls Sports Pub – Duane Carleton

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

6 p.m. Rivershed – Chris Pallutto

6 p.m. The Foundry – Liz Reedy

**LONDONDERRY**  
7 p.m. New American Grill – Open Mic Night hosted by DJ Jazzy Joel & Catnip John

**LUDLOW**  
6:30 p.m. The Killarney – Irish Session with Gypsy Reel  
7 p.m. Off the Rails – Chris P

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

**QUECHEE**  
6:30 p.m. Public House Pub – Halloween Costume Party Bingo with DJ Dave

**RUTLAND**  
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. Artistree - Dangerous & Endangered Tales with Joseph A. Citro

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

## FRI 10/27

**BRANDON**  
5 p.m. Estabrook Field – Spooksville

**CHESTER**  
7 p.m. The Pizza Stone VT – Halloween Costume Party with the Wild Idlers

**KILLINGTON**  
6 p.m. Rivershed Killington – Psylas

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

6 p.m. The Foundry – Ryan Fuller

7:30 p.m. McGrath's Irish Pub – Blarney Rebel Band

8 p.m. Jax Food & Games – Aaron Audet

**LUDLOW**  
8 p.m. Off the Rails – Sammy B and Friends

**PITTSFIELD**  
9 p.m. Clear River Tavern – Halloween Costume Party with The Idiots

**PITTSFORD**  
6 p.m. 426 Pains Road – Pittsford Haunted House

**POULTNEY**  
6 p.m. The Poultney Pub – Rutland's Least Wanted

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

**RANDOLPH**  
7 p.m. Underground Listening Room – Of Conscious Mind: "Spellwords" - EP Release Party w/ The Knife Kickers, No Fun Haus and it's a Halloween Costume Party

**RUTLAND**  
3 p.m. Pine Hill Park – Area 802: Face your Fears! A Trail of Terrors for Kids

6 p.m. Pine Hill Park – Area 802: Face your Fears! A Trail of Terrors for Adults

**SOUTH POMFRET**  
7 p.m. Grange Theatre – Little Shop of Horrors

**STOCKBRIDGE**  
7:30 p.m. Wild Fern – Heather Lynne

## SAT 10/28

**BETHEL**  
7 p.m. Babes Bar - 5th Annual Babes Halloween Party and Costume Contest

**BRIDGEWATER**  
8 p.m. Woolen Mill Comedy Club – Comedy Night with Ray Jubela

**CASTLETON**  
6 p.m. Third Place Pizza - Cooper

**KILLINGTON**  
6 p.m. Moguls Sports Pub – Duane Carleton

6 p.m. Rivershed Killington – Liz Reedy

6 p.m. Still on the Mountain – Rhys Chalmers

6 p.m. The Foundry – George Nostrand

7:30 p.m. McGrath's Irish Pub – Blarney Rebel Band

8 p.m. Jax Food & Games – Jamie Snook

9 p.m. Wobbly Barn – Halloween Party with DJ Stevie B

**LUDLOW**  
6 p.m. Calcuttas – Ruby Street

7 p.m. Off the Rails – Red Hat Band/DJ Halloween Party

**PITTSFORD**  
6 p.m. 426 Pains Road – Pittsford Haunted House

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

**RANDOLPH CENTER**  
6 p.m. Wayside Farm – Cowchella with music from Bow Thayer, Krishna Guthrie and more

**RUTLAND**  
6:30 p.m. Downtown Rutland – 62nd Annual Halloween Parade

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 10/29

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

**KILLINGTON**  
12 p.m. Rivershed – Brunch with Rhys Chalmers

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

**RUTLAND**  
7 p.m. Grace Church Sanctuary – A Celebration of Lives through poetry, music and prayer

**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 10/30

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

6 p.m. Rivershed - Mandatory Mondays Halloween Costume Party Bingo with DJ Dave

**LUDLOW**  
5 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 10/31

**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 – Halloween Party

**POULTNEY**  
7 p.m. The Poultney Pub – BOO-GRASS! Halloween Jam

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

**RUTLAND**  
5:30 p.m. Bellevue Ave – 20th Anniversary Haunted House

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



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**TAKE-OUT**



# DC's Batman sculpture to be unveiled in Rutland

Wednesday, Oct. 25 at Noon—RUTLAND—A marble sculpture inspired by DC's Batman and DC comic book creators will be unveiled along the Rutland Halloween Parade route.

Italian sculptor Alessandro Lombardo has completed work on the larger-than-life sculpture designed by Chinese artist Jiannan Wu, using a 10-ton block of marble donated by Vermont Quarries.

The sculpture features Rutland Halloween Parade organizer Tom Fagan, whose connections with comic book artists helped make the parade famous across the country. In the early '70s, comic book creators attended the parade and huge parties that followed and incorporated Fagan and the City of Rutland into numerous story lines in more than two dozen comic books.

The sculpture that features Fagan dressed as Batman, who stands face to face with the DC Super Hero is installed on West St., just west of Cottage St.

Organizers are excited to finally have Batman along the parade route as the sculpture was expected to be completed in time for the 2022 Halloween parade, but cold weather and the pandemic slowed the carving.

"We can't wait to unveil the result of Alessandro and Jiannan's efforts," organizers said. "It is a powerful, fun piece of art with deep connections to the parade's history, and Batman's role in it."

Batman first appeared in Detective Comics #27 on March 30, 1939, and has stood as a symbol of determination, courage, and justice to generations of fans for over 80 years. He has influenced every area of modern entertainment, appearing in countless DC comic books, Saturday morning cartoons, television series, video games, theme parks, toys, collectibles, and apparel and lifestyle products, as well as blockbuster animated and live-action films. Batman continues to be one of the most popular DC super-heroes ever created.

The piece has been funded by lead donors Captain Credit Union and Heritage Family Credit Union and Green Mountain Power, The City of Rutland, Davey Tree Expert Company, Downtown Rutland Partnership, Four Seasons Sotheby's International Realty, PEGTV Channels 1075, 1085 & 1095, Rob and Colleen Mzitchell, Russ and Renee Marsan, Rutland Blooms, Sara and Greg McClallen, Steve and Jane Costello, and TPW Management.

The Rutland Sculpture Trail began in 2017 as a community project centered at the West Rutland Carving Studio and Sculpture Center, to create art and interest in downtown, generate community pride, and highlight local and regional history. Batman will join 11 pieces already carved and installed in downtown Rutland, with several others in various stages of development, including a large piece honoring Ernie Royal, the Black owner-chef of Royal's Hearthside restaurant.

DC, a Warner Bros. Discovery Company, creates iconic characters, enduring stories, and immersive experiences that inspire and entertain audiences of every generation around the world and is one of the world's largest publishers of comics and graphic novels. As a creative division, DC is charged with strategically integrating its stories and characters across film, television, consumer products, home entertainment, interactive games, and the DC Universe Infinite digital subscription service and community engagement portal. For more information visit [dc.com](https://dc.com).



"We can't wait to unveil the result of Alessandro and Jiannan's efforts," organizers said. "It is a powerful, fun piece of art with deep connections to the parade's history, and Batman's role in it."

Submitted  
*Italian sculptor Alessandro Lombardo has completed work on the larger-than-life sculpture inspired by Batman, designed by Chinese artist Jiannan Wu, using a 10-ton block of marble donated by Vermont Quarries. will be unveiled along the Rutland Halloween Parade route.*



## Rutland to hold Running Scared 5K, Halloween Parade

Saturday, Oct. 28 at 6:30 p.m.—RUTLAND—Rutland City Recreation & Parks will celebrate the 62nd year of the Rutland City Halloween Parade. Expect street closures around the downtown area beginning at 5:15 p.m. and re-opening at approximately 8:30 p.m.

There will be limited parking along the parade route on Wales Street, West Street, Strong Ave, and Merchants Row on the day of the parade.

As always area schools, local businesses, and outside organizations will be participating in this overwhelmingly popular Rutland City tradition, said Recreation Superintendent Kim Peters. “We look forward to this year’s parade and are excited to see returning crowd favorites like the dancing skeletons and the creativity with new entries.”

### Parade route

Madison & Strongs Avenue, Strongs to Wales, Wales to West, left onto West, left onto Merchants Row, return along Strongs to point of beginning.

### Awards

- Most Original = Superintendent’s Trophy Best Costumed Marching Band



- Best in Parade = Mayor’s Trophy Best Costumed Marching Unit
  - Most Creative = Department Trophy Honorable Mention
- The Rutland City Halloween Parade will be shown live on PEGTV Ch. 1075 & VTel Ch. 163.

### Running Scared 5K

Leading up to the parade, the recreation department will hold the Running Scared 5K, a Halloween Parade fundraiser at Pine Hill Park, Oak Street Extension. The race is Saturday, Oct. 28, starting at 11 a.m. (Support will be pulled at 1 p.m.)

Runners are encouraged to dress to impress in the spirit of Halloween. Cost is \$15 per person (participants 10 and under are free). Day of registration is available from 9:30-10:30 a.m. for \$20 per person, at Giorgetti Athletic Complex (cash only).

New this year, participants will line up at Giorgetti Athletic Complex for the start of the race, proceed to the Creek Path, ending the route at the Rutland Rec Community Center where the Rutland County Early Childhood Educator’s Network will host a trunk-or-treat event.

For more information, visit: [rutlandrec.com](http://rutlandrec.com).



“We look forward to this year’s parade and are excited to see returning crowd favorites like the dancing skeletons and the creativity with new entries,” said Recreation Superintendent Kim Peters.

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Submitted

The Edward F. Kehoe Green Mountain Conservation Camp, operated by the Vermont Fish & Wildlife Dept. is hosting a Halloween wildlife festival and Jack-O'-Lantern hike at the Kehoe Education Center on Point of Pines Road in Castleton.

## Critters are part of Halloween too

Wildlife festival and jack-o-lantern hike spells fun Halloween for kids and families in Castleton

Friday, Oct. 27, 6-8 p.m. —CASTLETON—The Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department is inviting families to attend its annual Halloween Wildlife Festival and Jack-O'-Lantern Hike at the Kehoe Education Center on Point of Pines Road overlooking the south end of Lake Bomoseen. The festival features a fun and educational Halloween campfire show led by students from Vermont State University Castleton Campus. Kids will learn about the creepy, crawly critters that reside in Vermont and have a chance to don their costumes before the traditional trick-or-treat night.

Other activities include a nature hike along a trail that is lit by carved pumpkins, wildlife-related crafts, face painting, and a campfire activity.

"October is a perfect time to highlight the fun of Halloween while focusing on the

critters that make it so special," said Education Specialist Corey Hart. "This event gives families a chance to enjoy the season in a fun way and to learn that these animals may not be so scary after all."

"October is a perfect time to highlight the fun of Halloween while focusing on the critters that make it so special," said Education Specialist Corey Hart.

Admission and activities are free and open to the public, and all ages are welcome. No registration is required. Costumes are encouraged, but not required.

The Kehoe Green Mountain Conservation Camp offers educational programs in ecology, wildlife,

firearms and outdoor first-aid training.

Organizers are seeking donations of pumpkins for the event, so anyone with spare pumpkins is asked to contact Corey Hart at [corey.hart@vermont.gov](mailto:corey.hart@vermont.gov) or 802-565-5562. Pumpkin donations will be accepted until Oct. 25.

For more information, [vtfishandwildlife.com/learn-more/gmcc](http://vtfishandwildlife.com/learn-more/gmcc).

## Tower of Power, 70s funk and soul band, performs at Paramount Theatre in Rutland

Tuesday, Oct. 31 at 7:30 p.m.—RUTLAND—Tower of Power will perform in Rutland this Tuesday, Oct. 31 at the Paramount Theatre. For over 55 years, Tower of Power has delivered the best in funk and soul music.

"We were a Soul band called 'The Motowns,' recalled Emilio Castillo. "Rocco was the bass player, I was there, and my brother was the drummer. I met 'Doc' Kupka back in 1968, and gave him an audition. He came in the band, and we eventually changed our name to the Tower of Power."

The reason for the band name change was that they had a specific goal in mind.

East Bay Grease defined their sound and landed them with Warner Brothers. "Bump City," their 1972 debut for the label, was a hit

on both the Billboard 200 and the R&B Albums chart, and netted them the hits "You're Still A Young Man" and "Down to The Nightclub." The '70s were a boom period with radio classics like "So Very Hard to Go" and "What Is Hip?," and the band continued to tour and record over the years. Castillo says their love of the stage is the same today as it was back in 1968.

Fifty years later, in 2018, they returned to Oakland to celebrate their landmark 50th anniversary. Tower's window-rattling grooves and raucous party spirit has been a balm for the soul throughout their half-century existence, but the release of "50 Years of Funk & Soul: Live at the Fox Theater" couldn't have arrived at a better time.

The band has long since surpassed Castillo's modest aspirations, traveling the world, enjoying hit singles on their own and backing legendary artists including Otis Redding, Elton John, Santana, the Grateful Dead, John Lee Hooker, Aerosmith, Bonnie Raitt, and countless others. In the process they've defined an "Oakland soul" sound as instantly recognizable as those from Castillo's hometown, Detroit, as well as inspirations like Memphis and Philadelphia.

The future of Tower of Power is set out to be vigorous and dynamic, and will prove to be just that for fans around the world starved for the band's groove just the way Tower of Power likes it!

For more information, visit: [paramountvt.org](http://paramountvt.org).

## Southern Vermont Arts Center offers Halloween community event for all ages

Saturday, Oct. 28—MANCHESTER—Southern Vermont Arts Center will host its annual Halloween party once again this Saturday. To start the afternoon, the public is invited to view "Nightmare Before Christmas" (recommended for children ages 7+) at 1 p.m. Then, beginning at 2:30 p.m., Taconic Music and friends will present ghost stories, magician Tom Joyce will perform, Long Trail School band will perform, Maple Street School's pre-K will host a dance party; and there will be face painting, an art scavenger hunt, games, make and take art activities, fortune telling, a costume contest/parade, a bounce house, *boo-tiful* music class for young children and more. A special appearance by the team at Second Chance Animal Center will be on site for Halloween on the Hill's latest addition: the pet costume contest. This signature community event welcomes people of all ages. For more information, visit: [svac.org/class/halloween-on-the-hill-2023](http://svac.org/class/halloween-on-the-hill-2023).



By Dave Barnum

The public is invited to the annual Halloween party hosted by the Southern Vermont Arts Center in Manchester on Saturday.



# Wheels for Warmth, is not showing any signs of tiring

18th Annual tire recycle and resale event helps Vermonters heat homes

Thursday-Saturday, Oct. 26-28 — MENDON—The turning leaves are a signal of the changing seasons and a reminder to schedule the tire change-over. But in a year when Vermonters are facing unprecedented losses, damages, restoration, and recovery, the annual Wheels for Warmth event needs every tire people can spare to continue the work of driving safely and living warmly in Vermont.

The annual used-tire drive collects tires from around the state to be either recycled or sold at two area events on Saturday, Oct. 28. Proceeds from the event go to emergency heating assistance throughout Vermont provided by Capstone Community Action, BROCC Community Action and Champlain Valley Office of Economic Opportunity.

The annual used-tire drive collects tires from around the state to be either recycled or sold...

“This effort has had so many benefits since we started it almost 20 years ago,” said Governor Phil Scott. “But with so many Vermonters in need following our historic and catastrophic flooding, alongside rising costs in just about every area, it’s more important than ever for us to find ways to help our neighbors and our communities.

In 18 years, Wheels for Warmth has raised \$670,000 for emergency fuel assistance, sold 25,000 safe donated tires and recycled 50,000 unsafe tires. It’s also seen over 1,100 volunteers contributing time from over 120 companies/organizations, resulting in over 25,000 volunteer hours.

“Wheels for Warmth exemplifies the power of a community coming together to solve a problem. This event supports low-income Vermonters struggling to afford to keep warm in our

harsh winters, connects Vermonters to good used tires to keep them on the road safely and securely and properly recycles worn tires to reduce environmental impact,” said Alison Calderara, chief of advancement and programs at Capstone Community Action. “The partnership that makes it happen is priceless and Capstone is excited to continue to be a part of this timeless Vermont tradition of neighbors helping neighbors.”

Tires will be collected Thursday, Oct. 26 and Friday, Oct. 27 from 2-6 p.m. at Casella Construction in Mendon (as well as Vermont Granite Museum, Barre; Casella Waste Systems, Williston) and from 1-5 p.m. at Stowe Events Field, Stowe).

The tire sale will take place on Saturday, Oct. 28 from 8 a.m. - 12 p.m. in two locations: Casella Construction in Mendon and Vermont Granite Museum in Barre. Tires that are unsafe to sell are recycled at \$5 fee per tire, \$10 fee per truck tire. For more information, visit: wheelsforwarmth.org.

## Author and historian Marty Podskoch to visit Plymouth Historical Society

Sunday, Oct. 29 at 2 p.m.—PLYMOUTH— The Plymouth Historical Society will host renowned historian and author Marty Podskoch this Sunday. Podskoch is a retired teacher from New York and author of 11 books.

He is currently gathering information for future books on the Vermont Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) camps and the 68 camps in Massachusetts.

The CCC began on March 31, 1933 under President Roosevelt’s “New Deal” to relieve the poverty and unemployment of the Depression. CCC camps were set up in many Vermont towns, state parks, and forests. There were approximately 34 Vermont towns that contained camps, including, locally, Ludlow, Plymouth, Shrewsbury.

Podskoch is interested in meeting individuals who may have CCC stories and photos to contribute to these books. Meet at the Plymouth Community Center, 35 School Drive in Plymouth on VT-100 to learn more about Vermont’s partnership with the CCC. For more info, call 802-383-8527.



Submitted  
**Marty Podskoch**

## Veterans benefits fair held in Fair Haven

Sunday, Oct. 29 at 10 a.m.—FAIR HAVEN— The Fair Haven American Legion Post 49, White River Junction Veterans Affairs (VA) Healthcare System and Veteran Benefit Administration (VBA) are teaming up for a veterans’ outreach event. Representatives from multiple departments of the White River Junction VA and VBA will be present and ready to help veterans with claims, enrollment, and answer questions.

Representatives from VBA will be on-site to help initiate, check the status of, and answer questions related to disability claims.

Eligibility personnel will be ready to enroll Veterans as well. Please remember to bring a copy of your DD-214. Someone from Women Veteran Care

Clinic, Mental Health, Eligibility, White River Junction Vet Center, and more will all be available to speak with.

The goal of this event is to bring VA benefit information to a location within our veterans’ communities providing easy access to have all their inquiries addressed.

To work with VBA or speak with eligibility and other representatives, no appointments are needed for this event. Bring a copy of your DD-214 to be enrolled and scheduled on the spot.

For more information, contact the Public Affairs Office at the White River Junction VA Healthcare System at 802-295-9363 extension 5880 or via email at vhawrjpa@va.gov.

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# Experience storytelling through movement with acclaimed mime, movement artist Karen Montanaro at Stone Valley Arts

Tuesday-Saturday, Oct. 24-28—POULTNEY—Internationally acclaimed mime/movement artist Karen Montanaro performed at the Young at Heart Senior Center 206 Furnace St. in Poultney Tuesday, Oct. 24, and will perform a culminating show on Saturday, Oct. 28 at Stone Valley Arts, 145 E. Main St., Poultney. A workshop for adults will be held from 4:15-5:45 p.m. (\$15 fee) and a public performance will be held at 7 p.m. (donations requested, not required).

One moment an old gunslinger reminisces about his youth, the next an entire baseball game plays out in front of you with Karen Montanaro playing all the roles, including the avid baseball fan, the patient catcher, and an incredibly flexible pitcher.

It's storytelling through movement.

This one-woman tour de force is a triumph of athleticism, artistry and imagination. Montanaro blends the art forms of mime and dance to create theater with rare physical and emotional power.

She is a solo performer, an award-winning choreographer, and the innovator of "mime-dance" (the fusion of two classical art forms).

Montanaro studied ballet at the Cantarella School of Dance in Pittsfield, Massachusetts, the Ram Island Dance Center in Portland, Maine, and on scholarship with the Joffrey Ballet School in New York City. She danced professionally with the Ohio Ballet and the Darmstadt Opera Ballet in Germany. Upon moving back to the U.S., she also danced principal roles with the Portland (Maine) Ballet Company.

For more than a decade, she toured and taught her art forms internationally with mime master Tony Montanaro.

Karen Montanaro is leading workshops in five regional elementary schools, including Poultney, Wells, Mettawee, Fair Haven, and Middletown Springs.

Stone Valley Arts is located at 145 E. Main St., Poultney. For more information, visit: [mimedance.com](http://mimedance.com) or [stonevalleyarts.org](http://stonevalleyarts.org).



Karen Montanaro

By Sam Supine

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PUZZLES—from page 17

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# Celebrate bat week, Oct. 24-31

Bat Week takes place Oct. 24-31 and aims to raise awareness about the vital ecological functions of bats and to dispel the many myths and misinformation about them.

The onset of fall sends Vermont's bats into motion, which makes it an important time for conservation-minded Vermonters to learn about, and help conserve, our nine native bat species.

If you have noticed bats roosting in your attic, barn or office over the summer, fall and spring are the perfect times to

Bats migrate between winter and summer roosts during the fall and spring and do not have vulnerable young at these times.

safely evict these uninvited guests from your property. Bats migrate between winter and summer roosts during the fall and spring and do not have vulnerable young at these times. You can learn how to safely evict bats from your building at the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department's (VTF&W) best management practices page.

You can also help bat conservation efforts by reporting large colonies of bats living in structures to the department's website. Locations with rare colonies of endangered little brown bats are eligible for free bat houses from VTF&W.

Bat houses provide an alternative location for safely evicted bats to remain in your yard and continue eating huge quantities

of insects that may be forest, agricultural or human pests. Variety is important, so placing several bat houses with variable solar exposure to help bats find the right temperature ranges throughout the summer helps bats raise their young successfully.

Bat houses can be put up any time of year but do require some simple maintenance. Late fall or winter is the time to look up

inside your bat house and make sure all the bats have left before cleaning out any abandoned wasp nests and planning any needed

caulking or repainting.

"Fall also means Halloween, and scary images of bats, but this presents an opportunity to bring positive attention to bats as well," said VTF&W Small Mammals Biologist Alyssa Bennett. "We celebrate 'Bat Week' in the days leading up to Halloween."

"Vermont is home to several species of threatened and endangered bats that we are working to conserve and recover. We hope Vermonters will support these efforts and come to enjoy seeing bats in their natural environment," added Bennett. "Bats are a very important part of our natural world, and now more than ever they need our help."

For more information on Bat week, visit: [BatWeek.org](http://BatWeek.org).



Submitted

Bat Week takes place Oct. 24-31 and aims to raise awareness about the vital ecological functions of bats and to dispel the many myths and misinformation about them.

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# Bellevue Ave Haunted House celebrates 20 years

Q&A with homeowner/creator Barbara Spaulding sheds light on two decade of spook

By Karly Haven/Real Rutland

Tuesday, Oct. 31 from 5-8:30 p.m.—RUTLAND—Head to 52 Bellevue Avenue in Rutland, the Spaulding’s house and experience a masterpiece of spook that’s been perfected for two decades. They’re trying to hit a new record for attendance! All are welcome. To learn more about their impressive endeavour, I sat down with homeowner/creator Barbara Spaulding, who also volunteers with our concierge program.

**Karly Haven: First, can you tell me a little bit about yourself.**

**Barabara Spaulding:** I came to Rutland in 1980 and graduated from Rutland High School. I was going to go to Syracuse University to study media production communication, but instead met my husband and had two children. I have been married again and that is what kept me in Rutland. I love Rutland and I did not want to raise my kids anywhere else. I now work at the Rutland Redevelopment Authority (RRA). I have been there for 28 years. What got me that position at the RRA is the fact that I worked at the Rutland Herald and for an accounting office. So, combining those two attributes made me the grant writer.

**KH: How did the haunted house originally begin?**

**BS:** In 2003, my sons broke the news to me that they no longer were interested in trick or treating. And I was not ready to give it up yet. They were 13 and 15. I convinced them that if we created this haunted house, and let people go through it, it would be tons of fun and a way we could continue to celebrate Halloween together. And it was a hit, but it was exceedingly small. The first year, we only allowed people we knew to go through. It was not until a year or two later that we opened it up to the public.

**KH: More recently, how many people have visited the Haunted House?**

**BS:** Our record is 1,038 people in a three-hour period. We hope to break that record this year. With Covid, the numbers have gone down. We are hoping that they will move back higher.

**KH: How many volunteers help with the haunted house?**

**BS:** We are at 31 volunteers. And we are blessed to collaborate with the Mentor Connector. They supply many volunteers through their mentor matches. That is why we started a donation for the Mentor Connector at our front door. There is no charge to go into the haunted house. But now we do ask for donations.

**KH: What drives you to continue this after so many years? What keeps you going?**

**BS:** As I am setting it up in my home, I asked myself this question. Every year, why are we still doing this? It is so much work. I know there are people who go through and can see

the work and recognize the amount of work, but we cannot live in our home. We live there but it is not fun to live there. In converting the house into haunted house, we are limited in our space. But on Halloween night, what makes it all worth it is when kids come who have been through the haunted house and are now bringing their children through the haunted house. We have become such a tradition in people’s lives that they keep coming back every year and bringing their kids. It makes it all worthwhile.

**KH: How many days does it take to set up in your house?**

**BS:** We start planning in September, and then we start prepping the house the first weekend in October, our volunteers come for two weekends in October for setup, and then the week before is when we do the final setup. I used to try to think of how many hours it takes, but it is not countable. It starts in mid-September, and we finish probably an hour before we open the doors. There is always something that we

must do right before we open. It encompasses the first floor, the backyard, the decks, and the driveway.

**KH: What is your favorite moment from the haunted house?**

**BS:** When people tell us that they came when they were kids and are coming back with their kids, but also, when the haunted house is over, and all the volunteers are in the green-room in the garage. And we are all talking about our experiences through the night and what happened and who we scared and things like that. That camaraderie amongst our volunteers is the best feeling.

**KH: Is there anything else you think I should know about the haunted house that we have not covered?**

**BS:** The haunted house this year is on Oct. 31 for one night only. From 5-8:30 p.m. And it is at 52 Bellevue Avenue in Rutland. We do not charge admission, but we do graciously accept all donations to the Mentor Connector. We have a Facebook page, which is the Bellevue Avenue Haunted House Facebook page, please like us and follow us. We also have a website, that is boocrewhauntedhouse.com where you can get lots of information, watch videos, see pictures, and volunteer.

**KH: What is the Mentor Connector for those who might not know?**

**BS:** Mentor Connector is a youth organization in Rutland, which matches adults and children. The children are referred to the Mentor Connector through different means, like the schools, people, and parents. And they are matched one on one with a mentor who signs a contract to spend time with their match at a minimum of one hour a week for a year.

Our record is 1,038 people in a three-hour period. We hope to break that record this year.



Courtesy of boocrewhauntedhouse.com

The Spaulding’s house on 52 Bellevue Avenue in Rutland, is a haunted house that’s been perfected for two decades. All are welcome to see it this year on Halloween night, Tuesday.



# Rutland County Humane Society



## ORANGE CATS

Orange cats are our No. 1 requested color and right now we have several!! These sweeties range from 4 months to 2 years old. They are waiting here to be yours! We are open Wed-Sat from noon to 4 for walk-ins. Join us on Oct. 28 here at the shelter for a cat and dog vaccine clinic. It is on a first come basis. If you want to guarantee a spot call 802-885-3997 to sign up and pre pay. For more information call us or check out our events on Facebook.

This pet is available for adoption at  
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 \*Open by appointment only. [spfldhumane.org](http://spfldhumane.org)



## FINCH

"Hi! My name's Finch and I'm a 15-year-old neutered male. I came to Lucy Mackenzie when my beloved human companion passed away. It was incredibly sad at first, but things have been getting so much better everyday. I had some medical concerns that were addressed, mostly my ear. It hurt so bad, but the nice doctors and people here made it better. They can tell you all about it - I'm just glad it's not painful anymore! I've also made some really great kitty friends, and love my BFF, Daisy. We share a room here at the shelter - she's a senior, too, and lost her human companion, too - we share a lot in common. If you have room in your home and heart for a loving, easy-going senior guy to spend his twilight years (or perhaps a senior guy and his BFF, Daisy!), stop by and meet me today! Like us on Facebook, and follow us on Twitter, Instagram and TikTok.

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Andrew—10-month-old.  
 Doberman mix. Neutered male.



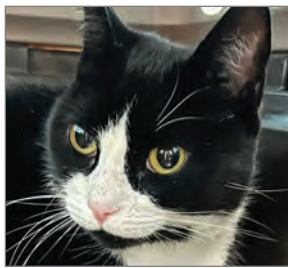
Daniel—1-year-old.  
 Neutered male. Domestic shorthair.



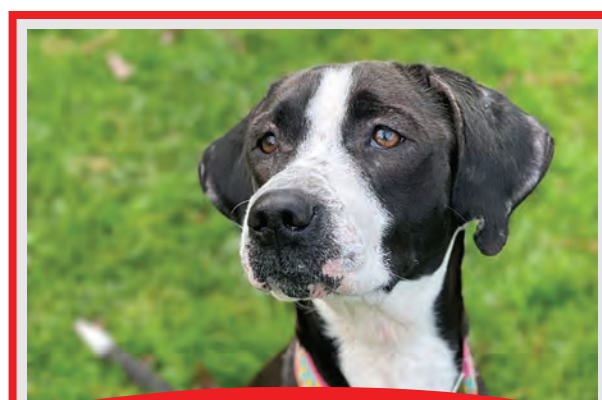
Henrietta—2-year-old.  
 Spayed female. Domestic shorthair.



Rocko—8-year-old.  
 Neutered male. Jack Russell Terrier mix.



Milkshake—2-year-old.  
 Spayed female. Domestic shorthair.



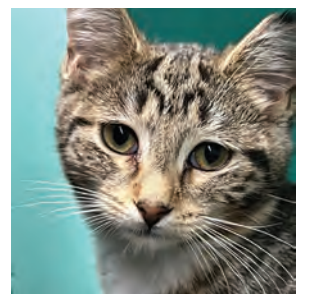
## COOKIE

Cookie—5-year-old. Spayed female. Hound mix.

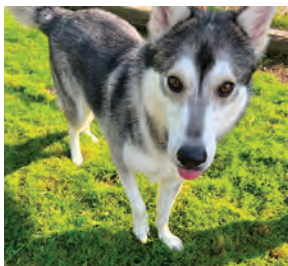
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Buddy—6-year-old.  
 Neutered male. Domestic shorthair.



Samantha—6 months.  
 Spayed female. Domestic shorthair.



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



Gus—2-year-old. Neutered male.  
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Genesis—7-year-old. Neutered male.  
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# Cosmic Catalogue



## **Aries** March 21 - April 20

As planets pile up in one of your most private zones, you too may feel the need to go under the proverbial radar. The chance to draw your energy inward, to examine your motivations as well as your fears and phobias will garner you fresh insights. While you're in this space, be open to new and uplifting perspectives too. The choice between the dark and the light is always yours.

## **Leo** July 21 - August 20

This week is worthy of reflection over the past two years. Your career, as well as your domestic life has been chaotic and full of change. This week brings another installment, so the changes aren't done with you yet. This time around though, you're being invited to decide upon what will make YOU feel stable and certain. Where do you want to grow roots? Decide on that and everything else will flow from that.

## **Sagittarius** November 21 - December 20

It's OK if you need some downtime this week. Life has been nothing short of chaotic for the past two years. You're about to see this cycle of change come to completion as new beginnings begin to take form. If you need to rest and recharge before you can get back to your usual optimistic self, then take it. You've more than earned it. Much, much better times are ahead for you.

## **Taurus** April 21 - May 20

This week gives you the chance to turn a situation around, especially if that involves someone else. You're not one who budes easily, but even the most stubborn Taurean knows that change is inevitable. Your challenge this week is to determine what changes are going to work for you and which ones won't. By all means, factor in someone else's desires, but if they don't work for you, be sure to suggest what will, rather than being avoidant.

## **Virgo** August 21 - September 20

Even the hardest of workers can only toil away at the grind for so long. Eventually, one has to throw their hands in the air and wonder what it is all for! If you've lost that sense of meaning and purpose or drive and inspiration, this week may bring a series of events that help you get back to that. Reshuffling your daily life may be required for you to be able to reconnect with a sense of the big picture.

## **Capricorn** December 21 - January 20

The past couple of years have revealed who your true friends are. Some have cut the mustard while others you realized, that your time together was either done or changed form. This is OK and what life is all about. All you need to do in the meantime is focus on the activities and creative outlets that bring you joy. If other can come for the ride, then great, if not, then that's great too! Keep doing you!

## **Gemini** May 21 - June 20

The coming days will provide a host of new problems to solve. That being said, some of these problems aren't new. In fact, they've probably been lying dormant for some time, but are being brought to the surface now. It all may seem a little intense, but what is the best way to remove a Band-Aid? In one go! Time to rip the Band-Aids off and do some deeper healing once and for all.

## **Libra** September 21 - October 20

Money – in terms of what you earn and what you owe is under the radar this week. In fact, it's been an issue in large and small ways for the past two years especially. This week provides an opportunity to reflect on these events and make the changes you know deep down you need to make. Avoid clinging onto any mistakes just because you spent a long time making them. It's never too late to make a change.

## **Aquarius** January 21 - February 20

In terms of your career and family life, the past two years have been filled with change and chaos. It's normal if you feel a bit out or sorts for now. It's an Eclipse this week, so the next chapter in terms of your living situation will be revealed. This cosmic event asks you to be the bigger person, to take the high road. Do this, and life will be so much better for you in 2024.

## **Cancer** June 21 - July 20

The way you spend your leisure time is under the cosmic spotlight. Are you enjoying yourself in a way which brings you joy and lights you up? Or, is there an underlining sense of tension or dissatisfaction? The fact is, only you are responsible for your happiness. If you're in a less than ideal situation regarding fun, romance or a situation with a child – then change it! Might be hard initially, but you'll be glad you did.

## **Scorpio** October 21 - November 20

A cycle of profound personal growth concludes this week. That being said, growth and self-development never really ceases, but you can start to say goodbye to this recent cycle of losses and endings. What you have lost provides the compost for your next cycle of gain. Your mission is to not cut your losses in terms of the wisdom you gained and the things you learned. Take that with you and relationships moving forward will be much, much easier.

## **Pisces** February 21 - March 20

If you feel as though the hits just keep coming this year, you'd be correct. What doesn't kill you makes you stronger – isn't that how it goes?! As cliché as it is, it's also kind of true. What you need to do is keep your spine strong, but your heart soft. The heart part you have covered. Your challenge now is to keep the spine strong. Stay true to your boundaries. It will be worth it in the end.

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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.



## Something worth fighting for

Another season begins as another one ends. By all intents and purposes, you might imagine that the line between them is clearcut. In some ways they are, while in other ways they are not. That is a very big part of what October's astrology has been about – the introduction of the new and the phasing out of the old. While they may be separate plotlines, they all form the story of the here and now. The events of the past two years have resulted in this week as the events of two weeks ago will reverberate well into

the next two years. This week highlights the tension between fact and fiction, what is worth fighting over and what is not. Opportunities for truth and justice can still be had, though they may not come as easily now. You can dig your heels in and argue your point, but who's even listening? Words can be weapons, to be sure. Words can also uplift, inspire and heal. Do you want to be right or do you want to be happy? I know what I'd prefer, do you? Be the reason that somebody else's boat catches the tide this week.



Cosmic Catalogue  
By Cassandra Tyndall

## Music for the moon

The moon was full,  
A bright fiery light,  
Glowing in the sky,  
The wolves howl at it,  
The owls hoot,  
A black cat meows.  
Or maybe,  
You see the flickering light,  
Of a jack-o-lantern,  
Smiling at the moon,  
Then you hear a faint,  
"Trick or Treat!"  
In the distance  
Or someone yelling,  
"Boo!"  
This is all music,  
Music to the moon.  
Music for the moon.  
Music of joy.  
Of love.  
Of happiness.  
Music of laughter.

That makes the moon smile.  
The big,  
Beautiful,  
Bright,  
Fiery moon,  
Smile.  
And all the animals around it too.  
They sing the song the moon  
loves to hear.  
You can sing it too.



Poetry Is Power  
By Bree Sarandrea



## Decluttering for clarity, a lesson from the Bear Cave

I entered the Bear Cave and asked out loud, "Are you coming today, sweet Bear Spirit?"

"Yes, my dear. I am coming to bring you good tidings of autumn," Bear said as he entered. "It's time for preparation for winter hibernation."

"That must be challenging, I imagine," I said.

"We are busy but must plan ahead—to not waste energy or resources. Quiet time is necessary to think clearly to be effective in our preparation."

"We are preparing for our annual migration south. It is always a challenge. Do you have any advice?" I asked.

"Yes. I've learned a few things in my bear life and lessons passed down through millennia."

"Please share" I said.

Bear continued with the following advice:

- Take only what you are certain you'll need. Less is almost always better.
- Prepare your body, mind and spirit for the transition through meditation. Without quiet moments important steps will be lost.
- See yourself in your new circumstances. Feel your feelings and view your new setting. What would make it more comfortable? What is getting in your way?
- See yourself enjoying the process and feeling at home inside your den. What will you need when you awaken there? What can you share with others or discard?"

"Perhaps this perspective may help a little," Bear said. "Transitions can be difficult but if the location is desired, it shouldn't be

Meditation →34



Mountain Meditation  
By Marguerite Jill Dye

## Caterpillar club fungi – more than meets the eye

"Look!" I exclaimed, bending to examine a pair of half-inch-tall, bright orange, club-shaped mushrooms. Kneeling in the leaf litter, with my 2-year-old son watching in puzzlement, I carefully scraped away at the base of the colorful clubs. Just beneath the soil was a glossy brown moth pupa: the origin of the mushrooms' stalks.

This is the orange caterpillar club (*Cordyceps militaris*), an insect-eating fungus that is easy to find, if you know what to look for. Naturalists have studied this species for centuries; its formal scientific description was written in 1753 by Carl Linnaeus, the scientist famous for formalizing the system of Latin names researchers use to categorize species. Its mushrooms are small, often 1 to two inches tall, or even smaller, and they're also neon orange and common in the Northeast. Each mushroom is shaped like a slender, elongated club. If you look closely, the head of the club is finely speckled with dark orange "perithecia." These are hollow, pear-shaped organs with a pore at the top that make the mushrooms' spores.

The orange caterpillar club fungus is one example of the 400 to 500 closely related species that are collectively known as cordyceps fungi. Most of the fungi in this group parasitize insects or other types of arthropods, but a few are parasites of different fungi. The orange caterpillar club, as its common name suggests, primarily parasitizes moth and butterfly species that pupate underground.

I tend to find orange caterpillar club fungi poking up from less-traveled forest trails during late summer and fall. What makes these mushrooms so much fun to spot is the story behind their appearance. While entomologists and mycologists are still piecing that story together, they currently think it starts when a caterpillar club spore, carried on the breeze, lands on the skin of a host caterpillar. Once there, it germinates, breaches the insect's cuticle, and grows into a fungus. After the caterpillar has pupated, that fungus slowly consumes the pupa from the inside, eventually becoming big enough to push an orange club mushroom up through the soil and release more spores, starting the story anew.

A number of moth species in the Northeast have larvae that burrow into the soil to pupate, and this fungus isn't picky about potential hosts. A 2016 study found that

*Cordyceps militaris* would parasitize at least 32 different insect species, including moths, butterflies, and beetles. I've found these mushrooms growing out of pupae ranging in size from 3/4 of an inch to 2 inches. The largest pupa I found also boasted by far the largest orange club, which was more than 2 inches tall.

Mushroom cultivators have begun growing *Cordyceps militaris* because of its potential medicinal value. It is related to *Ophiocordyceps sinensis*, a species that is used in traditional Chinese treatments. Possible anti-cancer, anti-inflammatory, anti-biotic, neuroprotective, immune, and

fertile benefits have been attributed to these fungi, although scientific research into their properties is ongoing. While the orange caterpillar club fungus requires a pupal host in the wild, cultivators can grow it on food sources manufactured from brown rice and a

careful balance of nutrients. Grown under these conditions, the mushrooms become a tangled mass of orange spikes, very different in appearance from the one or two clubs that pop up in the woods.

Fungi that specialize in living on, and eventually killing, insect hosts are collectively called "entomopathogenic." These types of fungi can target many kinds of arthropods and are sometimes used for pest control. Researchers are studying the potential for some species as a biocontrol option for ticks, while others are used in biopesticides to limit plant-eating insects, including aphids, thrips, and grasshoppers. Entomopathogenic fungi have even been investigated as a way to keep honeybee pests, such as the *Varroa* mite, in check. The easy-to-spot, brightly colored mushrooms of the orange caterpillar club fungus are visible eruptions of an unseen contest between arthropods and entomopathogenic fungi.

The woods are full of such hidden stories. Some of them, like a cordyceps mushroom, are easy to step right past. But if you spot an orange nub sticking up from the leaf litter, dig down a bit, and you just might find a moth pupa.

Rachel Sargent Mirus is a teaching artist and writer. 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](http://nhcf.org).



The Outside Story  
By Rachel Sargent Mirus





## One in a million

Quite often (especially in sports), situations arise where the odds are heavily stacked against a particular outcome. These 'long-shot' scenarios and wonderful to hype up in the hope that something unexpected will happen, but generally the majority of them fizzle out against the weight of the imbalance.

However, some long-shots do succeed, and their stories often capture people's imaginations due to the extraordinary nature of their achievements.

For instance, during World War II, Winston Churchill, then the prime minister of the United Kingdom, faced seemingly insurmountable odds when Nazi Germany was on the brink of conquering Europe. In 1940, when much of Europe had already fallen to the Nazis, Churchill rallied the British people with his inspiring speeches and determined leadership. Against all odds, he managed to keep Britain in the war and played a pivotal role in forming the Allied coalition that eventually defeated the Axis powers.

And then there's Nelson Mandela, the iconic anti-apartheid activist and former president of South Africa, who spent 27 years in prison for his efforts to end racial segregation and discrimination. The odds were stacked against him, but through his unwavering commitment to justice and reconciliation, he emerged from prison and went on to become the first black president of South Africa. He then played a crucial role in ending apartheid and establishing a multi-racial democracy in the once-segregated country.

And who could forget Louis Zamperini, a U.S. Olympic runner who became a bombardier during World War II. When his plane crashed in the Pacific Ocean in 1943, he and two crewmates survived on a life raft for 47 days, enduring shark attacks, starvation, and dehydration. They were eventually captured by the Japanese and held as prisoners of war. Zamperini's story of survival, resilience, and forgiveness (as told in the book "Unbroken" by Laura Hillenbrand), is a remarkable example of overcoming incredible odds.

But the greatest long shot scenario that I've personally witnessed was the United States men's ice hockey team winning the gold medal in the 1980 Winter Olympics.



The Movie  
Diary  
By Dom Cioffi

I was 14 years old in 1980 and enamored with all sports. And while hockey was far from my favorite activity, I appreciated the skill and athleticism that it involved.

That winter, the Olympics were being held in Lake Placid, New York, which was as close as a global event had ever come to my tiny Vermont town. And even though we were a couple hours away, everyone was abuzz that the greatest athletes on the planet were so close by.

The United States ice hockey team, composed primarily of amateur and collegiate players, faced off against the heavily favored Soviet Union during the first medal round. The Soviets had won the previous four Olympic gold medals in ice hockey and were heavily favored to win, especially since they were regarded as one of the best hockey teams in the world and had a roster of experienced professional players.

Despite the significant odds against them, the young and relatively inexperienced U.S. team, led by coach Herb Brooks, managed to defeat the Soviet

team 4-3 in a stunning upset. The U.S. team then went on to beat Finland in the final medal round to take home the gold.

Known as the "Miracle on Ice" (the moniker having been attached after commentator Al Michaels' exclamation "Do you believe in miracles?") is celebrated as one of the most iconic moments in the history of sports and exemplifies the idea of a long shot overcoming extraordinary odds.

In this week's feature, titled "Long Shot," we meet a middle-aged journalist who has just left

his job at a major newspaper. In a chance encounter and at an industry party, he runs into his former childhood babysitter—who just happens to be running for president of the United States and who just happens to need a speech writer.

Do you see where this is going?

Starring Seth Rogen and Charlize Theron, "Long Shot" doesn't fare too badly on the romantic comedy front. The two main characters have some genuine chemistry, which lends to the overall appeal of the film. Throw in a bevy of humorous scenes and you've got a solid comedy to enjoy.

Check this one out if you're looking for a few laughs wrapped in an obvious political agenda.

An unlikely "B-" for "Long Shot," now available to stream on Netflix.

Got a question or comment for Dom? You can email him at [moviediary@att.net](mailto:moviediary@att.net).



## Snowliage

I can feel the cold air entering my nose as I take a deep breath. I dare not open my mouth, because I just brushed my teeth and it will just feel too damn cold. I am on the chairlift, my legs swinging underneath me as the chair floats higher and higher up the mountain. Even though my legs are weighed down by my equipment, they still feel like they are floating underneath me. Jack Frost is nipping at my nose and my cheeks and my chin and I can feel my lips chapping on the ride up.

Watching the skiers beneath me, studying their technique and imagining the details of my own as we continue on the 2,250-foot glory ride to the top of the North Ridge. Looking over the treetops to the right, we can see the manmade snow floating up from the guns on Powerline. We're here, it's awesome and my whole body is twinkling with the excitement on the P-TEX touching snow once again.

Only it's not real. It still isn't winter yet and I feel like I might be going stir crazy. It's October and my body feels like it should be running laps on Rime. Over and over again. My legs should be swing around underneath me, my femur rotating in my hip socket, my knees angulating simultaneously as my shins remain parallel. My toes are lifting in my boots, pushing my heel back into the pocket as my skis swing underneath me like a conical pendulum.

The dreams are real. And vivid. And heartbreaking. Because they aren't quite real, just overwhelming. Well, they are real in the sense that I can feel everything muscle fiber moving in my body but unreal in the sense that I know I'll never ski this well in real life. The terrain is never this perfect — although there are days when it feels like it is so close.

My newsfeed is filled with pictures of opening days gone by and the big smiles that seem to me directly from the snow, through the heart and onto the frozen faces. We haven't opened in October since 2018 yet I still dream of snowliage. Those beautiful October days where the white snow is littered with multicolored leaves that are still falling from trees.

Have you ever truly seen that, the snowliage? Where you can feel the crunching of leaves beneath the thin layer of snow, the leaves working like a layer of insulation for the earth and my asparagus. And then the snow, just resting on top because there isn't enough weight yet to actually compress the leaves. It's a cool feeling, that floating snow when it hasn't quite settled in yet, snow that crunches underneath you while you're trying to make a turn. And I say trying, because while the snow isn't heavy enough to compress the leaves, your body is. And that means that sometimes you get stuck underneath, rather than on top of, the snow.

And good luck trying to turn without a hop in those conditions.

And then there are the leaves on top of the snow. Like someone vomited glitter all over the trail but it doesn't change the skiing at all. Except for the feeling of lifting a leaf with the tip of your ski - yes, you can feel it. Or skiing through a small pile beneath a tree that has just molted. Skiing through leaf piles. Not something I ever thought of until I moved to Vermont. It

happens much more frequently while Nordic skiing, I feel. Those moments where you think that WD-40 might be a better wax than even the classic yellow. I love it. Especially when a leaf gets stuck on your skis or in your binding. That is fall skiing.

And so we won't be open for Halloween. But it's not from lack of trying. The average temperature in Vermont has risen 2 degrees over the past century and 1.5 degrees since 1968 or something like that. I'm not really sure what that means, but there it is. Was it easier to open in October when the K Chair was there or now that the Stairway to Heaven takes us to the North Ridge? You cannot blame the K-1 Gondola installation in 1997, because we didn't open in November until 2000. All I know is that Killington works its butt off to put out a great product as soon as and for as long as they can.

And that's why I live here. Because we love snow here. We love floating over the cold white stuff while dreaming of greatness. Unfortunately, for now, it's more dreaming than achieving greatness but ... We seriously need the temps to drop. I'm going back to my dreams until they do.

Merisa Sherman is a long time Killington resident. She can be reached at [female-skibum@gmail.com](mailto:female-skibum@gmail.com).



Livin' the Dream  
By Merisa  
Sherman



By Merisa Sherman  
Preseason skiing is a mix... some foliage, some snow!



## ← Meditation:

from page 32

hard to navigate the change. Just let the rest fall away. It's easy to feel overwhelmed when surrounded by clutter—whether restaurant garbage (for hungry bears like me!) or built up clutter in your home. Life is more pleasant without it."

"Yes, I'm trying!" I admitted.

"Imagine yourself in an uncluttered life. How would it feel? What would it look like? What do you wish to accomplish one day? What really matters in your life? If something is at the top of your list then it should take precedence."

"Yes! I agree. For some reason it's difficult to let go—mostly of family items—but even other things I've been given or found are like a hurdle to get over," I admitted.

"It's called inertia. Your new qi gong practice will help unstick and move your chi (energy) in creative ways."

"That's great! Is there anything else you'd like me to know?" I asked.

"Treasure each moment you're here on Earth. It is a very special planet filled with creatures, humans and beauty—unsurpassed in the universe. Enjoy it. Respect it and live your life fully sharing compassion and love always."

"I love you, dear Bear Spirit!"

"I love you too, Jill. Cherish the oneness!"

Bear's advice rings true to my core for clutter clearing and organizing have challenged me for years. Our Killington ski lodge is filled with stuff—boxes of papers (Mom's and ours), collectibles, material, clothing, books, toys, trains, slides and who knows what else? The foremost message I received while walking the Camino de Santiago pilgrimage across Spain was to release all I don't need. I need to declutter to let go of the past, lessen distractions, and simplify life. Clutter overwhelms and is holding me back.

Clutter distracts and leads to stress, lack of clarity, and depression. Physical (and digital) clutter overwhelm and undermine our emotional well being. Creating open space and breathing room invites new opportunities in.

In summary: Decluttering simplifies and enhances life.

Clutter clearing and feng shui gurus have helped me make progress in spurts. I gather possessions to donate to the Mission, share with family and friends, list on Facebook Marketplace or Vermont craigslist, but I've failed at a major clear out. It's tough to let go of family heirlooms (and our own treasures from world travels). Plus, as an artist, I see potential in each man made and natural object. Art paraphernalia fills my two studios with *plein*

*air* paintings I created in France, Florida and Vermont, multiple frames and art materials for classes and myself. The exhibit years of Matisse's Materials at the Metropolitan Museum of Art (fabrics for backdrops in his still life and portrait paintings), helped me justify my own collections, but the time has come to simplify and downsize.

A few helpful resources are "The Tao of Dana" ([fengshuidana.com](http://fengshuidana.com)), Marie Kondo's books and "Tidying Up" on Netflix ([konmari.com](http://konmari.com)), and "Clean Sweep" with Peter Walsh (now on YouTube) who delves into the psychology of collecting and letting go.

"Clutter is not just the stuff on your floor. It's anything that stands between you and the life you want to be living," said Peter Walsh.

Bear and I challenge you to give it a go. Join me in eliminating the old and welcoming the new into your life. Making progress feels great!

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



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## Poultney Village gets new trailside amenities

With support from a "Quick Build" grant from the Vermont Dept. of Health, the Village of Poultney has installed three new benches, an informational kiosk, and a bike repair station along the D&H Rail Trail in the village, according to a news release, Oct. 16.

The new benches were custom made with donated material by REclaimED Makerspace and feature local slate bases donated by Taran Brothers Slate Company. The benches have reclaimed timber seats treated with a *shou sugi ban* technique for aesthetics and longevity. They are located at three key pause places along the trail; the Bentley Avenue parking lot, adjacent to the Poultney Pub

on Main Street, and behind the former Village Firehouse located at 98 Depot St.

The new kiosk features a wayfinding map delineating the length of the D&H Rail Trail and noting key access points, destinations, and other trail networks in the area. The kiosk also has space to host information about local events or other area recreational assets.

The new bike repair station is clustered with the kiosk and a new bench in the area behind the former Village Firehouse near the intersection of Church Street and the Rail Trail. Public parking is available at this location for the trail or to access businesses or other establishments in the village.

For more info visit: [RailTrails.vermont.gov](http://RailTrails.vermont.gov).



Submitted

The Village of Poultney has installed three new benches, an informational kiosk, and a bike repair station along the D&H Rail Trail in the village.



## Banners of legacy: Celebrating Poultney's heritage on Main Street

The Poultney Downtown Revitalization Committee (PDRC), in collaboration with the Poultney Historical Society, unveiled the Poultney's Banners of Legacy project on Main Street, Oct. 18. This initiative, generously funded by the Hills and Hollows grant from the Vermont Community Foundation, epitomizes a blend of art, history, and community engagement, breathing life and legacy into the heart of Poultney downtown.

The installation constitutes the first utilization of the new town branding and slogan, developed and adopted through collaborative engagements as part of the EPA's Recreational Economies for Rural Communities (RERC) workshops.

The Banners of Legacy project is a walkable timeline that vividly narrates the rich history of Poultney through creatively designed banners, according to the news release. Each lamppost banner depicts a significant milestone or figure in the town's history, paired with a slate plaque bearing a QR code. Upon scanning, visitors are led to a webpage curated by the Poultney Historical Society, offering a deeper dive into the narrative behind the banner. This interactive endeavor reinstates banners on Main Street, revitalizing it into a vibrant educational vista unlike any other in the region.

"This project underscores the commitment of the PDRC and the Poultney Historical Society to fostering a robust sense of place, pride, and community engagement," organizers stated. "It is envisaged to be a catalyst for increased foot traffic and engagement in Downtown Poultney, thus nurturing local businesses and promoting economic development."

Nic Stark, the project director from PDRC alongside Krista Rupe and Ennis Duling from the Poultney Historical Society, led a commendable team of local researchers, writers, designers, and fabricators in bringing this project to fruition.

"The collaborative spirit and the generous contributions in kind from various community stakeholders have been instrumental in actualizing this community achievement," organizers stated. "Together, we are not only preserving the past but are also paving the way for a promising, vibrant future."

For more information, visit: [PoultneyHistoricalSociety.org](http://PoultneyHistoricalSociety.org).



Courtesy Poultney Historical Society

Poultney's Banners of Legacy project were unveiled on Main Street celebrating the history of the town, Oct. 18.

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Sunday November 5th 8:00am - 12:00pm

Monday November 6th 8:00am - 4:00pm

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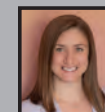
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## 8 Middle Road, North Chittenden



5 beds 3 baths 3,578 sq. ft.

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**\$495,000 | MLS 4970506**

Listed by Joe Villemaire  
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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.  
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