VOLUME 38 NO. 1

**Central Vermont's Most Popular Weekly Newspaper** 

**January 1-7, 2009** 

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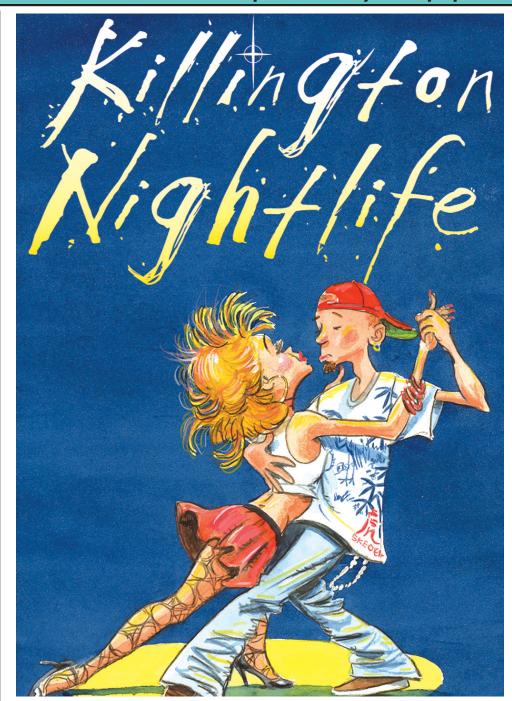
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# Party Down in K-Town

Story and Illustration by Greg Crawford

When I was asked to write a story on Killington's nightlife. I cackled with mischievous glee and said, "OH BOY! Field research!" I remembered the heady days and giddy nights of the late seventies and early eighties, cutting a wide swath through the club scene on "The Mountain." I was a seething cauldron of testosterone with a laser-guided onetrack mind and was probably horrifying to behold. Unless, of course, one happened to be a bubbling young cauldron of feminine hormones with similar intent; then we had us some FUN!

Ah, but now I'm a card-carrying curmudgeon on the shady side of sixty whom all the young lovelies address as "sir," if they acknowledge me at all. Sigh... No longer the Bionic Wee-wee who could

dance all night, I now just sit and watch the dance, banished to the sidelines by a litany of aches and pains that are interesting only to other old farts whose glory days are behind them. Make that WAY behind them.

Whatever. The music may have changed, but the biological imperative hasn't, so boys and girls will be boys and girls, and if they're looking for a place to party, the Killington Road is it! Let's start at the top of the hill and work our way down.

But first, this public service announcement: Don't drink to excess: hangovers suck, and it's even worse talking to Ralph on the porcelain telephone. Don't drink and drive; you can't afford it. But if,

Continued rpage 2

#### **Extended Forecast from the National Weather Service**

Tuesday: A slight chance of snow, high near 35°, low around 18°.

Wednesday: Snow, high near 21°, low around 4°.

New Year's Day: Sunny, high near 23°, low around 8°.

Friday: A chance of snow, high near 29°, low around 14°.

Saturday: Cloudy, high near 28°, low around 7°.

Sunday: Mostly cloudy, with a high near 27°.

Forecast Received December 29, 2008

Note: The altitude in central Vermont varies from around 95' to over 4,000 This means that weather conditions can differ WIDELY through the region!

## **The Stash Shred Naturally**



This past summer, Burton Snowboards and Killington Resort announced plans to build The Stash, a park for skiers and riders. It is a half mile run which utilizes the natural terrain such as rainbow log jibs, hidden powder slashes, fast banks, rock jibs, and flat down log slides. This is just a partial list of the 34 possible jib opportunities within the park. The park officially opened on December 16, 2008 and Killington is now one of five resorts in the world to boast of having this rare, allnatural park highlighting its terrain.

To ride is human, to jib divine. Truer words were never spoken. The internet encyclopedia Wikipedia defines jibs as any type of fixture which can be ridden with a snowboard or skis either parallel or perpendicular to the ground while spinning around, jumped, or tricked from. Many jib features resemble stairs, benches, tables, etc. Pretty much everything your Mom told you not to play on or around when you were but a tiny, young human. Thanks to the Burton Stash park you do not now have to travel across the seven mountains of Killington Resort to hit all of the jibs that fire up the adrenaline and have made you a better rider. Now, all on one trail, you are able to satisfy your jibbin' needs.

I took the opportunity for a first run through the park this past week. Actually, a few runs were enjoyed by myself and my favorite snowboard. The first run down was something of a recon-ride. Slowly I made turns under the big, allwood sign that reads simply The Stash. I rode by a vertical tree ride, a couple of oddly shaped log slides and there were built up hips to the sides of the trail. A few turns later I came upon the woodbanked wall ride. It is just that. A wall tilted slightly back and curved with the direction of the trail. About twenty feet or so long and very inviting. Suddenly the recon was over and I stepped on the gas. Speed is always your friend on a snowboard and I rocketed up the short ramp of snow onto the locally provided, all-wood wall. Suddenly the soft and relatively quiet sound of my snowboard turned to the slapping noise of wood on wood. High up on the wall I went, my back to the ground. Keeping the board flat while not using the edges, I was back on the snow in seconds.

Continued rpage 3

#### **Party in K-Town**

from page 1 -

by some unfortunate chance, you should exceed your capacity and discover that you can't even find your own butt with both hands and a flashlight, let alone find your way home, call Gramps' Shuttle at 802-236-6600, the Barrel Rider at 802-422-RIDE (7433), or take a seat on The Bus. And last, but certainly not least, tip generously; your bartenders and servers work hard for meager wages. So there.

Now, assuming you're being chauffeured around in a limousine, and both your mother's and your attorney's phone numbers are sewn into your skivvies, let's hit it!

After a wonderful day of shredding The Stash, flattening the bumps, or doing whatever it is that blows your hair back, it's time to relax and hang with your buds, a beer, and a bunch of munchies.

The Santa Fe Steakhouse (422-2124), located in the Mountain Inn, provides a laid-back ambience in which to wind down from a day on the slopes. Chef Dan Oaks starts serving his fine cuisine at 5 pm, and Ed McCarron caresses the 88's every Friday and Saturday night at the piano bar. They'll be hosting a New Year's celebration, of course, but you'd better call the number above right now for reservations, if they're not full already.

If you like a slightly livelier atmosphere, drop into Outback Pizza (422-9885). No worries, mate. You don't have to speak "Strine" to order one of their outrageously good wood-fired brick oven pizzas, served on one of those nifty little stands in the middle of your table! Word to the wise: Trying to fake an Aussie accent might win you a pained grimace from the staff, but certainly no brownie points; they've probably heard it five hundred and fifty-five times... that night! In an interesting aside, have you

noticed how many Aussies can fake a perfectly passable American accent? They're all over network TV. Anthony LaPaglia and Poppy Montgomery of "Without a Trace" are both from Down Under; Simon Baker of "The Mentalist" grew up with koalas and kangaroos, and I'm pretty sure Hugh Laurie of "House" was born under the Southern Cross. And they're just the ones I could think of right off the bat. I wonder how many Yanks have their own shows on Australian TV...

Anyway, the Outback plans a rockin' New Year's Eve party featuring Joey Leone's Big Band, as opposed to Joey Leone's Trio, which plays on Friday nights, or Joey Leone's Chop Shop on Saturdays, or Joey Leone and his solo guitar on Sunday evenings. Does this guy ever sleep? Wait! I'll bet he had himself cloned! How else could he play all over the mountain? The Energizer Bunny gets tuckered out just watching him. Well, whatever he's taking, I want two! Oh, by the way, tickets for New Year's Eve are \$45 per person, in advance. DJ Tech-One will be appearing at Tabu.

The Wobbly Barn Steakhouse (422-6171) is a Killington landmark. This place has been in operation since ski boots were made of leather! World famous for their mouthwatering steaks, they're also known for some of the best music on the mountain. This New Year's Eve features the Dead Poets. You can get tickets online (www.wobblybarn.com) for \$60, which includes \$10 off the price of your dinner, which is separate. If you wait 'til the last minute and buy a ticket at the door, it'll set you back \$65. Rick Meyer will entertain you during Happy Hour, but they're closing the doors at 8:30 to get ready for the New Year's celebration.

On Saturday, January 10, 2009, The Wobbly Barn Concert Series will present rapper, Slick Rick the Ruler. Tickets are available online. Also coming up will be the Killers of Comedy on February 6, the Red Bull Snowscrapers on the big screen February 15, and the legendary guitarist, Dickey Betts of The Allman Brothers, with his band, Great Southern, in their only Vermont appearance on Friday, March 9.

For other great entertainment at the Wobbly Barn, check out the Mountain Times, or the Wobbly's website.

If you like it loud and rowdy, you'll love the house that rocks Killington, The Pickle Barrel (422-3035). Four bars, three levels, two stages, and one hell of a lot of fun! The Pickle Barrel has been around for a long time, too, starting life as the VERY rustic Sugar Shack back in the sixties. As the Showcase East, folks could have a drink while they watched movies. Then, in 1971, Jack Giguere plowed his car through the front door. As an act of contrition, he bought the place and gave the club the name it carries today. Oh, and he fixed the door. He also made extensive renovations and improvements, and made the Pickle Barrel the benchmark by which nightclubs throughout the Northeast are measured.

In 1999, Chris Karr, who had managed the place for years, finally bought it, restoring the building and installing the state-of-the-art sound and lighting systems you enjoy today.

The Pickle Barrel's New Year's Eve celebration will feature music by Loudmouth and Jamie's Junk Show. Tickets are \$60 per person in advance (log onto www.picklebarrelnightclub.com), or \$65 at the door. Loudmouth will also be playing Thursday night, January 1. The Benjamins will entertain you on Friday and Saturday evenings, January 2 & 3. Check out the Pickle Barrel's website for

more upcoming performances.

The Grist Mill Restaurant (422-3970) offers outstanding dining, specializing in hearty New England fare at reasonable prices. The ambience is relaxing and the service impeccable. After dinner, great live entertainment gets the place rockin'. The Grist Mill is the home of the fabled "Goombay Smash," a potent potable if there ever was one. The recipe is a secret... well, sort of. But it's a drink you'll never forget. Try it, you'll like it! On New Year's Eve you will love the music and humor of Frank Chase and Brad Morgan on their Dueling Pianos. Between the two of them, they know almost every song ever written! If they don't know it, hum a few bars and they'll fake it. These guys are great! Happy Hour on Thursday, New Year's Day, brings Frank and Brad back again, following a brief nap while the floors are swept. On Friday night it's the Vibratones. Saturday Happy Hour brings you the Vibratones once again, followed by an encore performance by the Chase-Morgan Piano Bailout. Check out the Grist Mill's website (www.gristmillkillington. com) to see who else will be playing in the weeks to come. As long as you're in the neighborhood, drop up to The Summit Lodge (422-3535) on the hill behind the Grist Mill to meet Otto and Louise, the Summit's resident Saint Bernards. While you're there, have a drink down in the Saint's Pub, where the atmosphere is a bit more intimate. You can hear some fantastic music there, too. If you're from out of town, the Summit welcomes you with comfortable and cozy accommodations that really make you feel at home (summitlodgevermont.com).

Okay, we've talked about nightclubs, loud music, and wild parties. Continued rage 3



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#### **The Stash**

from page 1\_

Now all systems were go and I was looking down trail for the next jib of my choice. I was relying on my memory of the park from any of the number of times hiking up through the park with my dog this fall. Riding down through it was a whole different animal. Controlling speed by making wide turns I sighted a kicker, booster, ramp, or forest jump as the official Stash Map reads to my left just inside of the tree line. Tallyho! Thankfully it was not too big and I was in the air a short time. I personally operate better when my deck is firmly on the snow. Once again controlling my speed I sighted the Sugar Shack. Inside is a mural of the headless yeti character Burton calls a shreddie on horseback chasing a rider through deep powder under a moon in the forest. There is also a timeline of snowboarding history in Vermont as well as vintage gear and photos. What concerned me was the outside of the building. Facing me was a ramp of snow leading up the roof. The sugar shack is fair game. The roof, the railings, whatever your heart desires.

I rode up one side with just enough momentum to make the peak and shot down the other side of the roof.

I passed features to my left and right waiting for something to catch my eye and then came the pole jam. We have always called this feature the cannon. It is a common sight in terrain parks, often made of

metal. In The Stash it is a large log jammed into the hillside and sticks out into nothingness. Keeping the speed up I rode flat board out across its length and made a landing on the near perfect pitch below it. Finally, somewhere near the bottom of the park I got myself nerved up to launch off a sizeable step down jump. It is a ramp built out of trees harvested from the Killington mountainside. The ramp does not throw you up, but out into the air with a steep comfortable landing down slope. I added a bit of speed for safety's sake and shot out off the step down drop. I employed no 180's, 360's or creative grabs. I was on and off all of these features according to my own level of ability. Agood thing to keep in mind when riding any park. Like Harry Callahan said: "Aman's got to know his limitations."

Later I took a slow leisurely traipse through the park and stopped to enjoy the shreddies posted along the trail. The shreddies are the mascots for the Stash park. Each park throughout the world has its own version of a shreddie wearing a Burton Symbol from his neck. Totems of good luck, guardians, creative acts of art, or just clean fun. You can catch a glimpse of these beings as you make your way down trail. Killington's shreddie happens to be headless. Oh, there is a head there on each statue, it just hap-

Continued rpage 4



# **Okemo/Stratton Multi-Day Mountain Access**

When skiers and snowboarders purchase a three-day or more, multi-day lift ticket at Okemo Mountain Resort, not only do they save on the daily lift ticket rate, they also get two mountains' worth of skiing and riding for their hard-earned money.

Three-day lift tickets at Okemo start at \$180 for adults, and may be purchased alone or as part of a lift ticket and lodging package. Skiers and riders presenting a valid Okemo three-day lift ticket at Stratton's Guest Services desk will receive one complimentary lift ticket for that day. This offer is not valid for group-

rate lift tickets during holiday periods.

Both Okemo and Stratton have received an abundance of early-season natural snow. With their individual reputations for quality and service, these neighboring resorts combine to create a tour de force in value to skiers and riders visiting southern Vermont this season.

Okemo Mountain Resort also joins forces with Stratton Mountain to offer reciprocal season passes on its College, Midweek Super, Value Plus, and Ultra passes.

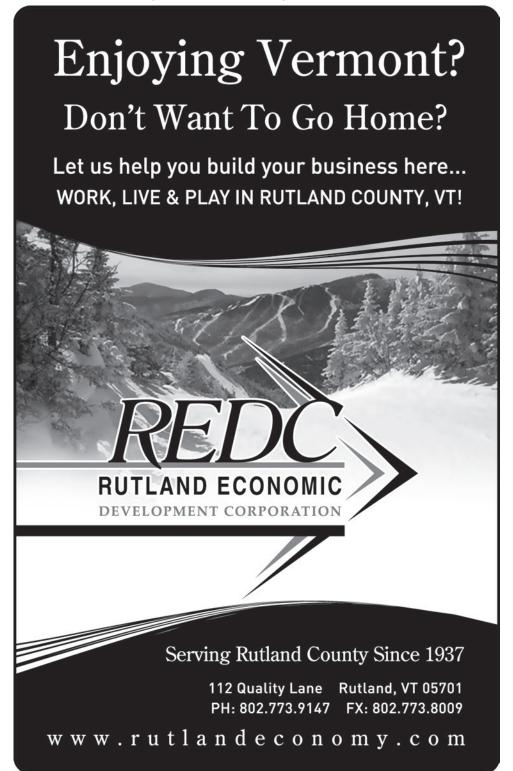
For more info (802) 228-1600 or visit okemo.com.

# **Party in K-town**

page 2

But maybe you'd like to enjoy a dining experience you'll remember forever. Just such an experience is assured when you dine at Hemingway's on U.S. Route 4 in Killington (422-3886). Hemingway's is a Mobil Travel Guide Four-Star restaurant that has won more awards than they have the wall

space to hang, and they deserve every one of them. The menu is extraordinary, the wine list superb, and the art outstanding. Ted and Linda Fondulas are your most gracious hosts. For more information, please visit Hemingway's website, www.hemingwaysrestaurant.com.





### **Digging Your Car Out of the Snow**



How to avoid the stress, strain and dangers of digging your car out of the snow

Stress, strains, accidents and other dangerous conditions often accompany a snowstorm. Although thousands of drivers will be digging their cars out from under the snow this winter, a sore back, fender-benders and serious injuries don't have to be the inevitable result.

To get off to a safe start, follow some common sense advice.

#### First Things First

Clear the tailpipe first. Dig the snow away from the vehicle's exhaust pipe before you start your car engine. Don't forget to dig a hole through the snow to the mid-section of your car's underbody to allow any leaks from your exhaust system to vent as well. Without proper ventilation, deadly gases can quickly build up in the passenger compartment.

#### See & Be Seen

Clearing the ice and snow from your windshield and rear window is a good start, but don't stop there -- the headlights, taillights and side view mirrors are essential for visibility. And, don't forget to clear away snow from the hood and roof, which will blow onto your front and rear windows again.

#### Rock It!

If your digging and spreading of sand near the wheels still don't have you out – use your car's weight to your advantage. By rocking the car with

quick forward and reverse movements, you can often use the weight and force of the car to push out and over any icy hill. Flooring the accelerator pedal rarely helps and can result in an unexpected and potentially uncontrollably dangerous acceleration.

#### Avoid Stress & Strain

It's tempting to get your car cleared off in the first attempt but, if you're not physically up to the task, take it in steps, bring a friend or hire a local towing company.

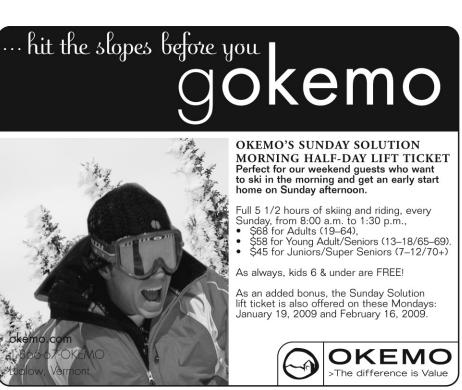
#### In a Skid?

Turn in the direction of the skid. It may seem counterintuitive at first and even a little scary when doing it, but turning into the skid is your best chance to regain some traction. If you have antilock brakes, apply firm and continuous pressure. If you do not have antilock brakes, mimic that effect by pumping the brakes.

#### Up...and Down

When you are heading up an icy or snow covered hill, you'll have the best chance of safely making it up by approaching it at a slow speed and maintaining that slow speed at a steady rate. Avoid sudden stops, quick accelerations and jerky motions. When heading down shift into a lower gear before making your descent and maintain a slow steady speed, rather than relying mostly on your brakes to improve traction.







I vow to become a better person in 2009. This may sound ambitious. Fortunately, I resolved on New Year's Eve of 2007 to become a terrible person, so improving now will be easy.

I will be kinder to my friends and family in 2009. I will stop pretending to forget my siblings' names. I will refrain from challenging relatives under the age of five to arm-wrestling matches and then calling them cowards if they refuse or "don't know how." I will no longer insist that, for my own convenience and easy remembrance, all my friends must celebrate their birthdays on the same date.

I also plan to quit smoking. First, I'll have to start smoking, but the health benefits of quitting after a month of inhaling a pack a day will be well worth that unpleasantness. I hope I am correct in assuming that the brown-colored end of the cigarette is edible.

I vow to grow at least a foot in 2009. I vow to solve a Rubik's Cube without peeling off the stickers. I vow to offer, on my birthday, a slice of the cake to each of the other people at the table, instead of having them watch and applaud as I consume the cake by myself. I vow to weigh no more than sixteen pounds by January 5.

I will volunteer more often, or even once, or at least to consider volunteering once. I will concede that volunteering to punch someone in the head doesn't really qualify as "volunteer work."

I vow to become the first person to run a mile in under 9.5 seconds. I vow to cure all major diseases with nothing but a rubber band, a tablespoon of salt, a roll of duct tape, and a spork at my disposal. I vow to throw and catch the winning touchdown in Super Bowl XLIII.

Here is a list of books I will stop pretending to have read: Virgil's "Aeneid," Homer's "Iliad," Goethe's "Faust," "Finnegans Wake," "Vanity Fair," "The Magic Mountain," "To the Lighthouse," "Robinson Crusoe," and "Tristram Shandy."

I hope to learn to enjoy more in life than just my enemies' misfortunes. Ideally, I'll learn to enjoy my friends' and family members' misfortunes as well.

I would like to see the world, largely by buying a new pair of glasses. I would like to meet new people, as well as a few aliens and androids. I would like to learn a new sport, especially if making fun of people who play Ultimate Frisbee qualifies as a sport. I would like to learn how to prepare Kraft Macaroni & Cheese. Most of my friends can do it, and it looks pretty easy.

I will finally admit that I'm often unable to locate Waldo. I will learn a foreign language, such as Spanish or Antarctican. I will win an Olympic gold medal before the year is out. I will build my own Batmobile, which I will call the Brettmobile.

I plan to run for class president at Robert Frost Elementary School in East Brunswick, New Jersey. Roughly a decade after my graduation, I finally believe I have experience needed to lead the student body into the penultimate year of the second millennium.

I will travel around the world in 80 days on a hang glider. In the boxing ring, I will take on Rocky Marciano and, forty years after his death, give him his first professional defeat. I will tug on Superman's cape, spit into the wind, pull the mask off the old Lone Ranger, and mess around with Jim.

I will write columns less idiotic than this one.

It's going to be a fun year. The only resolution I may be unable to keep is that last one.

#### The Stash

from page 3.

pens to be in the shreddies hand. There is even a headless shreddie on a horse. My friend Crocker and I snuck up on one to find that he was a friendly brute who happened to be quite photogenic. Maybe because his head was on his shoulders.

Big changes have once again been brought to Bear Mountain. Not only is there now an uncommon all-natural park on Bear, but there is now the much anticipated new Skye Peak Express which has replaced the Skye Peak Quad. The ride time which used to be 14 minutes or so is now shortened to less than five. If you have ever spent a cold day riding the old Skye Peak Quad you understand the significance of this change. The new Skye Peak Express is the first lift installed at Killington Resort in more than ten years. Not only does it cut the time of the ride to Skye Peak, but it delivers you in comfort to The Stash.

Total Snowfall at Killington this year has reached 134 inches. The average base on the mountain is 36 - 48 inches. Plenty of cover and more than enough snow to provide for a great day of skiing/riding. Killington is now the proud recipient of one of five Burton Stash Parks in the world and the park is indeed world class. Agreat place to hone your jibbin' skills and become a better rider. Take your time to get to know the park. There is plenty of time to familiarize yourself with the park features to make for a safer experience. For more info on The Stash you can go to www. the stash.com and there is also a map of the park at darksidesnowboards.com.

Yeti, Bigfoot, Abominable snowman, The Bumble. The story of a humanoid type creature continues in human history and legend with the Shreddie here at Killington. He is in plain sight and he has brought his snowboard.



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**Hours from January 4th on:** Mon. - Thurs., 8:30-6pm; Friday 8:30-9pm; Sat. 7:30-9pm; Sunday 7:30-6pm.













# The Mountain Journal

by Tony D. Crespi

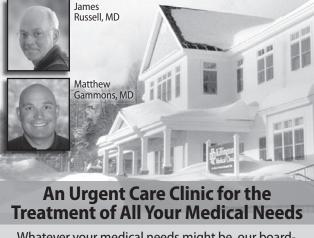
# Ski Tuning for the Performance Edge: a Tuning Guide for Maximum Speed and Control

"Even for a beginner tuning is really really important. As soon as snow gets firmer, the tune is critical," notes Jed Duke, a former racer and Race Room Service Director currently serving as the Division Manager for Blizzard Skis. "You just lose control without a proper tune. It is just mission critical to have skis be ready to ski out of the wrapper. Of course, it takes a lot of time and effort."





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The Killington Medical Clinic is an affiliate of the Vermont Orthopaedic Clinic of Rutland, VT.

Tuning maximizes performance. Untuned skis and poorly tuned skis simply cannot provide maximum control. Sharp clean edges maximize grip and glide while waxing protects a ski from hard and cold snow which eats into a base. In addition, waxing allow a ski to glide more easily and turn with less effort.

"Preparation is the easiest way to make a bad ski great or a great ski bad!" emphasizes Duke.

Understand, skis the like of Blizzard or Volkl – out of the box – may be sporting – to my way of thinking – some of the best tunes in the industry. You can actually ski these out of the wrapper. And, for me, this is rare as most skis need preparation even when new.

Is this actually important? Yes!

"Skis are expensive but with a bad tune the experience can be disastrous! In contrast, the results of a fresh, quality, tune are clearly evident," echoes Mike DeSantis, a former World Cup Tuner currently based in Framingham, Massachusetts. "Tuned to factory standards, and with proper on-going maintenance, you can maximize your investment!"

"The ski is a tool," emphasizes Warren Witherall, a world acknowledged authority on ski racing "If you ski on a ski that is untuned, it's like a carpenter with dull tools. A dull knife doesn't cut meat like a sharp knife and a dull ski doesn't cut ice like a sharp ski!"

Are your skis properly tuned? Do they need a tune-up?

Have you ever sliced bread with a dull knife? Just as a sharpened knife can slice food quickly and easily so a well-tuned ski can slice hard snow with ease while a poorly tuned or untuned ski makes advanced skiing less than ideal. Still, sharp edges tell only part of the tale. A waxed ski turns more easily, pivots more easily and glides more easily.

So, you know tuning is critical. Still, what should you know to effectively tune your skis? What can you do daily to maintain a well-tuned ski? The good news is that many shops in the area perform tunes so a good tune is easily accessible when you need it. Or, with a few home tuning tools, skis can readily be maintained at a high performance standard. Welcome to our Tuning Clinic.

Essential Tips For Real World Tuning

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The Skier's Guide To Edge Care

1) Wipe your skis daily after use.

Elite skaters wipe edges regularly. Similarly, wiping your skis minimizes corrosion on the edges, and helps remove harmful chemicals and pollutants which can damage the edges and base. Start with a small hand towel in your ski or boot bag, and wipe the skis at the end of the day. Do not leave wet skis in a car or rack. Wipe your expensive skis.

2) Inspect the bases.

Ski bases perform best when free of major gouges. Check your bases. Either fill or have the shop fill any notable gouges. Through a periodic stone grind, have the base kept clear and square.

3) File.

Have the shop file the edges to remove burrs or do it yourself using a file purchased from a ski tuning supplier as ski edges are harder than most hardware files. A small ski shop file can quickly restore sharpness. Following filing use the diamond stone to polish the edge.

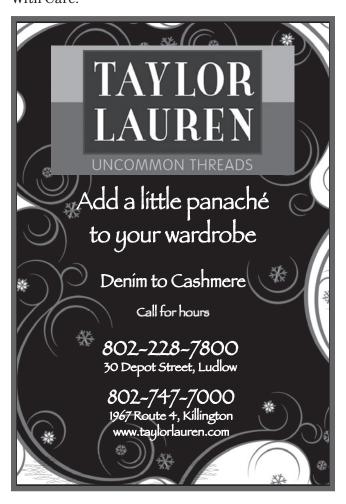
4) Wax.

Waxing protects the base and allows a ski to glide and turn more easily. Watch out it you're doing it yourself- unfortunately, hot waxing can damage a ski. "If you use an iron keep that iron moving all the time!" says Duke. But, if the use of a hot iron seems worrisome consider "rub on" paste waxes. In fact, some waxes can be applied with an applicator in a liquid state. Waxing protects the base and maintains easy gliding and turning qualities.

Tuning Tools

For those interested in tuning and general maintenance the good news is that a variety of effective tools are readily available through several mountain shops. or through on-line distributors. In fact, with a few basic tools it is relatively simply to maintain a well-tuned ski and maximize performance. Consider creating a small tuning kit for your needs.

Just a little maintenance, consistently, goes a long way. Maximize your investment. Be Aware - Ski With Care.





# **Wide Bindings for Wider Skis**

Imagine two pairs of fat skis being sent to you for a whole month with the only catch being you have to give them back. Well that is what happened to me last spring when I asked Marker USA if I could test their new Jester binding (made to go on skis at least 76mm wide at the waist), against their standard M-12 twincam step-in binding (made for 63 mm or wider skis). The skis were identical Volkl Mantra's with a waist of 92mm, which are ideal for powder and big mountain skiing. Being the middle of March, I did not have to wait long before a nice powder day came along here in the middle of Vermont. The normal thing to do when testing skis would be to take a couple of runs on one pair and then immediately switch to another pair. Well I decided since the skis are identical except for their bindings, to split the pairs up and have one of each binding on my feet. What better way to feel the difference, plus I did not have to return to the base of the mountain to switch skis.

Stepping into the mixed pair of bindings just before the lift opened on that powder day, I noticed the twopiece twincam binding has a soft-entry feature and the Jesters Inter-pivot heel did not. Chalk up one point for the M-12 step-in. With a foot of new snow my strategy to get "freshies", was to start on the out of the way groomers and then head for the trees. Switching skis from foot to foot I can honestly say I felt very little difference in the first runs with no tracks in the snow. Then I came out of the woods and tried them on the chopped up snow. Now I could feel the Jester binding helping the ski edge with more power and precision. It felt like I had to work more with the M12 binding to get the same edge angle I had on the Jester. The moguls were next on the menu and the secure hold of the Jester binding made me feel like wide skis can be fun in the bumps, where edge to edge quickness is handicapped with the wide waisted skis. Having the skis for only a month, I wanted to take them out as much as possible and on the days when the corduroy was firm and fast, the mixed pair of bindings did not last long. The Jester bindings made such a difference that I had to have both skis with

Being a visual learner, I decided to take the bindings to the shop and clamp them into the ski vise and see what happens when I torque on them. With both skis held firm by the vise I placed my boots into them and gently tried to move the boots sideways. This is what the lower leg does a lot easier than I can do by hand, to edge the ski. After a little more effort, I could see with my own eyes what I had felt on the firm snow. The heel piece on the Jester binding was not budging an inch while the step-in Twincam allowed the boot to move. Pushing the boots harder now, I could see the Jesters Inter-Pivot heel holding the boot so well that the plastic on the heel lug of my boot was bending while the step-in rocked upwards on one side. Moving

my attention to the toe pieces, I could see the Jester toe has a broader base at boot contact point (2 5/8) inches wide at boot contact) and designed for better retention while the design of the M-12 (2 1/8 inches wide at boot contact) has release as more of a priority and is also capable of releasing upwards during a backwards fall.

In the last three ski seasons the ski manufacturers have been pushing the dimensions of the all-mountain skis wider and wider and now a binding has come along to match this trend. After testing the bindings side by side I can see and feel why Marker went to a whole new design from the bottom up, creating the Jester or Griffon bindings specifically for wider skis.

#### **Celebrate the New Year at Killington Resort Enjoy Special Events, Lodging Packages**

Killington Resort is kicking off the New Year with more than 8 feet of natural snowfall and celebrating its 50th season on and off the slopes with event and deals that everyone will enjoy.

Killington New Year's First Tracks Ski & Stay

Now that your holiday obligations are over, take time for



yourself and take advantage of big savings with the New Year's First Tracks Ski & Stay Package. Arrive January 1st for three nights and depart Sunday January 4, 2009 or later. Packages start at \$134 per person, per night.

Martin Luther King Weekend

Celebrate Martin Luther King's birthday in the mountains of Vermont. Packages begin at \$117 per person per night for 3-Days/Nights arriving Friday, January 16 and departing Monday, January 19, 2009.

Killington Ski & Spa Getaway

After a day on the slopes, rejuvenate body and soul at Killington's newest day spa, located in the Killington Grand Resort Hotel. The Spa features a Vichy ShowerTM, wet room, the Sothy's spa line and Judith Jackson aromatherapy products. The Killington Spa Package is available anytime November through April 19, 2009 – choose from a large selection of services including massages, manicures, body wraps, facials, etc.

Mountain Dew Vertical Challenge

The Mountain Dew Vertical Challenge on January 3 is ski and snowboard racing fun for the whole family. The Mountain Dew team will head to Killington to set up the venue for you to enjoy all day long. There will be tons of prizes for the winners of the race as well as raffle prizes.

Collegiate Snow Fest

Take a break from the library and breathe in the fresh mountain air at Killington for two weeks of music, movies and parties. Ski and ride throughout the day, then head down the Killington Access Road and enjoy entertainment all night long, starting Jan 4-9 and Jan 11-16.

Mountain Dew Vertical Challenge

The Mountain Dew Vertical Challenge continues the day long racing fun at Pico Mountain on January 4. The race will begin at 11:00 a.m. at Lower Pike on Sunday with an awards party at 3:00 p.m. There will be tons of prizes for the winners of the race, plus raffle prizes for the spectators.







## **Mountain Dew Vertical Challenge Returns**

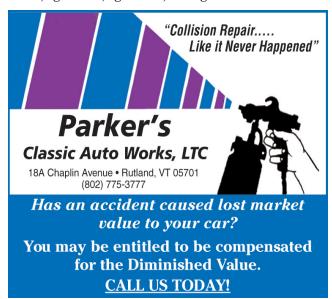
Show off your skiing and snowboarding prowess at this season's Mountain Dew Vertical Challenge! Held on Saturday, January 3 at Killington Resort, and Sunday, January 4 at Pico Mountain Resort, the MDVC is a series of free casual ski and snowboard races held on mountains throughout the northeast and west during each winter season, sponsored by Mountain Dew. Skiers and snowboarders are divided by gender and age group to compete for gold, silver, and bronze medals in each category. In addition to the race, prizes are given away throughout the day at a mountain for various reasons.

The MDVC is scheduled at many different ski resorts during each season. On the day of the event, participants fill out registration forms to sign up for the race in a certain category and receive a racing bib with a number on it. Registration is from 8:00 a.m - 11:00 am., the race is held 11:00 - 1:00 p.m with awards beginning at 2:30 p.m.

After registering, skiers and snowboarders can later begin racing on the trail where the slalom race is set up. This trail is usually rated green (easier) or blue (more difficult) so racers of all abilities can participate. The line for the race builds early, as some prefer to race with more snow on the course rather than slipping on ice which develops later.

Throughout the day, free Mountain Dew is given away from 9:00 a.m to noon and 1:00 p.m. until everything is given away. When racing is over, the results are tabulated for each category of racer so awards can be given out. Awards are given to the top three racers in each category, if there are that many. First place receives a gold medal, second gets silver, and bronze goes to third. Everybody who receives an award qualifies to go to the finals to race again at the end of the season. As the events go on throughout the season, fourth place or worse finishers can qualify if a person ahead of them on that day has already qualified for the finals. Generally, the qualifiers are also given bronze medals.

Categories for skiers and snowboarders are the same. Each age group is divided as follows into four different categories based on skier or snowboarder and male or female: age 6 and under, age 7-9, age 10-12, age 13-14, age 15-17, age 18-25, age 26-35, age 36-45, age 46-55, age 56-65, age 66-70, age 71-75, and age 76 and over.





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O'hara's Irish Red	\$2.99 + dep
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Blackstone Merlot ONE TIME SALE	\$9.69
SAVE \$2.90 • When it's gone, it's gone!	
Bud, Bud Light, Coors Light,	
Labatts, Labbat Light	\$19.49 + dep
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# **Ode to Skiing**

Give me the fluff of bottomless powder and an untouched glistening mountain at dawn waiting for my lonely winding tracks and I'll show you what freedom is. Show me a challenging trail to conquer and some moguls to put me in flight and I'll tell you what excitement is. Give me the blistery cold and ominous sky whistling winds that bend the trees and a few unexpected spills to slow me down and I'll tell you what respect for nature is. Surround me with familiar

voices filled with laughter and tales of wild ski adventures and I'll tell you what friendship is. Give me the joy of sunshine, a suntanned face a wine and cheese picnic at the summit and a spectacular view of endless mountains

Warm me with just enough brandy by a blazing fireplace and someone special to share it with and I'll tell you what contentment is. Give me the changing shapes of crystal snowflakes

the cool sharp smell of an evergreen forest and the glory of an azure sky and a starry night and I'll tell you what mystery and enchantment is.

This is alpine skiing at Killington. And no matter who you are or how you ski, you can experience it. Killington is the most exciting resort in the East for a ski vacation. Not only because our skiing is fantastic, but because everything else we offer the ski vacationer is fantastic, too. Six mountains, instead of just one. An outstanding ski school. Fabulous nightlife. Hosts of excellent lodges and restaurants.



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#### onomers Find Most Distant Water in the Universe

Astronomers have found the most distant water yet seen in the Universe, in a galaxy more than 11 billion light-years from Earth. Previously, the most distant water had been seen in a galaxy less than 7 billion light-years from Earth.

Using the giant, 100-meter-diameter radio telescope in Effelsberg, Germany, and the National Science Foundation's Very LargeArray(VLA)in New Mexico, the scientists detected a telltale radio "fingerprint" of water molecules in the distant galaxy.

The soggy galaxy, dubbed MGJ0414+0534, harbors a quasar -- a supermassive black hole powering bright emission -- at its core. In the region near the core, the water molecules are acting as masers, the radio equivalent of lasers, to amplify radio waves at a specific frequency.

The astronomers say their discovery indicates that such giant water masers were more common in the early Universe than they are today. MG J0414+0534 is

seen as it was when the Universe was roughly one-sixth of its current age.

At the galaxy's great distance, even the strengthening of the radio waves done by the masers would not by itself have made them strong enough to detect with the radio telescopes. However, the scientists got help from nature in the form of another galaxy, nearly 8 billion light-years away, located directly in the line of sight from MG J0414+0534 to Earth. That foreground galaxy's gravity served as a lens to further brighten the more-distant galaxy and make the emission from the water molecules visible to the radio telescopes.

"We were only able to discover this distant water with the help of the gravitational lens," said Violette Impellizzeri, an astronomer with the Max-Planck Institute for Radioastronomy (MPIfR) in Bonn, Germany. "This cosmic telescope reduced the amount of time needed to detect the water by a factor of about 1,000," she added.

The astronomers first detected the water signal with the Effelsberg telescope. They then turned to the VLA's sharper imaging capability to confirm that it was indeed coming from the distant galaxy. The gravitational lens produces not one, but four images of MG J0414+0534 as seen from Earth. Using the VLA, the scientists found the specific frequency attributable to the water masers in the two brightest of the four lensed images. The other two lensed images, they said, are too faint for detecting the water signal.

The radio frequency emitted by the water molecules was Doppler shifted by the expansion of the Universe from 22.2 GHz to 6.1 GHz. Water masers have been found in numerous galaxies at closer distances. Typically, they are thought to arise in disks of molecules closely orbiting a supermassive black hole at the galaxy's core. The amplified radio emission is more often observed when the orbiting disk is seen nearly edge-on. However, the astronomers said MG J0414+0534 is oriented with the disk almost face-on as seen from Earth.

"This may mean that the water molecules in the masers we're seeing are not in the disk, but in the superfast jets of material being ejected by the gravitational power of the black hole," explained John McKean, also of MPIfR.

Impellizzeri and McKean worked with Alan Roy, Christian Henkel, and Andreas Brunthaler, also of the Max-Planck Institute; Paola Castangia of the Max-Planck Institute and the INAF Astronomical Observatory of Cagliari in Italy; and Olaf Wucknitz of the Argelander Institute for Astronomy in Bonn, Germany. The scientists reported their results in the December 18 issue of the scientific journal Nature.

### **Music on Mars**

PASADENA, Calif. -- Climate cycles persisting for millions of years on ancient Mars left a record of rhythmic patterns in thick stacks of sedimentary rock layers, revealed in three-dimensional detail by a telescopic camera on NASA's Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter.

Researchers using the High Resolution Imaging Science Experiment camera report the first measurement of a periodic signal in the rocks of Mars. This pushes climate-cycle fingerprints much earlier in Mars' history than more recent rhythms seen in Martian ice layers. It also may rekindle debates about some patterns of rock layering on Earth.

Layers of similar thickness repeat dozens to hundreds of times in rocks exposed inside four craters in the Arabia Terra region of Mars. In one of the craters, Becquerel, bundles of a 10-layer pattern repeat at least 10 times, which could correspond to a known 10-to-one pattern of changes in the tilt of the planet's rotation axis.

"Each layer has weathered into a stair step in the topography where material that's more resistant to erosion lies on top of material that's less resistant to erosion," said Kevin Lewis of the California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, who is the lead author of a report on the periodic layering published in the Dec. 5 edition of the journal Science.

Some periodic change in the environment appears to have affected how resistant the rock-forming sediments became, perhaps from changes in what size of sand or silt particles were deposited by the wind, or from how the particles

were cemented together after deposition. Some of the individual layers are less than three feet thick.

The camera, called HiRISE for short, took pairs of images of each site from slightly different angles in orbit, providing the stereo information necessary for determining each layer's thickness.

"It's easy to be fooled without knowing the topography and measuring the layers in three dimensions," said Alfred McEwen of the University of Arizona, Tucson, principal investigator for the camera and a co-author of the new report. "With the stereo information, it is clear there's a repeating pattern to these layers."

Geologists commonly find "rhythms," or repeating patterns, in sedimentary layers on Earth. Determining the source of the rhythms can be difficult. Some result from annual or tidal cycles, or from episodic flooding that may not be periodic at all, but the role of longer-term astronomical cycles has been debated. One step in showing that astronomical cycles can leave their mark in sediments came from finding repeating five-layer sets in some terrestrial bedrock, matching a known five-to-one ratio of two cyclical variations in Earth's orbit.

Lewis and colleagues found something similar on Mars: "Our findings suggest that cycles of climate change led

to the patterns we see recorded in the Mars rock layers today, possibly as a result of similar variations in Mars' orbit," he said. "Mars has a 10-to-one ratio in cycles of how its tilt changes -- smaller wobbles within larger packages. Sure enough, we see a 10-to-one ratio in one of these layered deposits

It's like trying to identify a song -- it's easier if there are multiple instruments playing different parts, rather than just a single rhythm." In addition to having rhythm of 10 beats to the bar instead of Earth's five-beat pattern, Mars has characteristics that make it a good laboratory for studying how astronomical cycles affect climate. The tilt of Mars' axis varies much more than the axis of Earth, because Earth's relatively large moon provides a stabilizing effect. And, at least for most of its history, Mars has lacked the oceans and thick atmosphere that, on Earth, modulate the effects of orbital variations and add their own cyclical patterns.

The 10-beat pattern of Mars' wobble lasts about 1.2 million years. If the 10layer bundles in Becquerel crater are indeed signatures of that cycle, the 10 or more bundles stacked on each other record about 12 million years when environmental conditions affecting sedimentation were generally steady except for effects of the changing tilt.





## **Vermont Adaptive to Host Annual Winter Ski Festival January 16-18**

including military service members and costs. In addition to military service veterans with eye injuries, to learn to ski or race at Pico Mountain; Nordic skiing at the Mountain Top Inn.

As part of its commitment to introducing individuals with disabilities to the love of sports, including skiing and snowboarding, Vermont Adaptive Ski & Sports, will host the United States Association of Blind Athletes (USABA) Second Annual Winter Ski Festival Jan. 16-18, 2009. Blind and visually impaired skiers, including military service members and veterans with eye injuries, will learn to ski or participate in a competitive racing program depending on the individual's ability level. Alpine activities will be held at Pico Mountain while Nordic programs will be held at the Mountain Top Inn in Chittenden.

USABA, with the support of the Gibney Family Foundation, covers the majority of the costs for participants to attend the festival, includ-

Blind and visually impaired skiers, ing lift tickets, ski rentals and guide members and veterans, the New England Chapter of the National Association of Parents of the Visually Impaired (NAPVI) will meet while some of their children participate in the event. While kids are skiing, their parents will conduct support meetings and share information and resources for their children.

> The inclusive weekend includes lodging and daily transportation to the events as well as all meals, lift tickets, rental equipment, instruction, and specially trained guides. A banquet will be held Saturday night at the Killington Grand Hotel and Conference Center. A Paralympics athlete will be the featured keynote speaker. To learn more about the event or to fill out an application, visit www.usaba.org or contact Donna Stanley at Vermont Adaptive, 802.353.7584 or south@vermontadaptive.org, or Mark Lucas at USABA, 719.630.0422.

# **Squirrels: Chatty, Feisty and Briefly Romantic**

by Bryan Pfeiffer.

They are essentially introverts, yet they hunt and feed and breed in plain view in our own backyards. They can be ruthless predators, merciless vandals, or unwitting comediennes. Sure, they're rodents, but spend some time this winter getting to know your squirrels.

After all, squirrels are among our most abundant and accessible wild mammals. With thousands of miles in the woods behind me, I have encountered but a handful of black bears, a few fishers, and a grand total of two bobcats. Squirrels are far more obvious and almost as charismatic.

In Vermont and New Hampshire, we all know the two common species: eastern gray squirrel, which prefers deciduous woods, and red squirrel, found more often in evergreen woods. But we have three other squirrel-family members: eastern chipmunk, northern flying squirrel and southern flying squirrel. The chipmunks are in burrows for the winter and flying squirrels are nocturnal. But daytime in winter is a fine time to turn your binoculars on red and gray squirrels, who, by the way, don't need warmth to get excited, or hot, in the woods.

But first, what makes a squirrel a squirrel? What makes them so, well, squirrely? To my reckoning, it is teeth, toes and tail. Teeth and toes reveal much about where an animal goes, what it eats, how it survives. But with a squirrel the tail may be the most endearing and interesting component of its body plan.

Squirrels use their tails for balance while tightrope-walking on limbs or leaping from tree to tree. Accounting for about 40 percent of the squirrel's body length, the tail also can be a distraction to a predator; in a tussle with a bobcat, for example, it is far better to lose one's tail than one's head.

More importantly, the tail has a role in thermoregulation. A raised tail can shelter a squirrel from rain or snow or heat from the sun. A bundle of blood vessels at the base of the tail allows squirrels either to retain heat within the body core, crucial in winter, or dissipate it outward through the tail in summer, which is great during heat waves.

But squirrels also "talk" with their tails, something I try to observe during my time outside squirrel-watching. When agitated, red and gray squirrels will issue various vocalizations – mostly barking and chattering. But they also raise and flick their tails to show alarm or aggression

Tails may also factor into squirrel courtship and mating, which I regret to say I have yet to witness. That's because squirrels are largely solitary animals. Sure, we'll see a few of them together at the bird feeder. But they spend most of their lives alone, except during the breeding season, which happens once or twice a year. And it happens mostly during winter, so that the female's two or three young are born in spring and can exploit the season's abundance of food.

Most females -- which typically outnumber males five-to-one -- are in estrus and receptive to males for no more than eight hours on a single day during the breeding season. The consequence of this skewed gender ratio and females playing hard-to-get is that life during the breeding season can be, to say the least, challenging for the male. He'll spend lots of time following her in the days before she is in estrus. Should he be too forthcoming, too eager before she is ready, she will rebuff his advances with a swat to the face or a painful bite.

And when those precious eight hours finally arrive, a male is hardly alone for the drama. He often must compete, and fight, with other males for her affections

# VAC Offers Ski & Snowboard Program at Pico

The Vermont Achievement Center is pleased to announce that Kid's Quest, located at Pico Ski Resort, will offer a licensed child care program designed to introduce children ages 2 through 5 to the exciting world of outdoor winter sports and encourage each child's physical and emotional development as they progress in skiing and snowboarding.

The program is open 8:30 am to 3:45 pm Thursday thru Monday and holidays, including Christmas week, Presidents week, and Martin Luther King weekend, throughout the ski season.

The Kid's Quest program is managed and operated by Vermont Achievement Center's early education and care program based in Rutland, Vermont. VAC has been serving children and families in the greater Rutland region and throughout Vermont since 1937.

For more information about the Kid's Quest program or to make a reservation, call 802-775-5100.

(actually for a copulation that lasts about 20 seconds.) "To the casual observer, what ensues is probably best described as pure and unadulterated chaos," write biologists Michael A. Steele and John L. Koprowski in their fantastic book, "North American Tree Squirrels."

Now, I don't know about you. But most any self-respecting naturalist, when it comes to breeding, would relish witnessing "pure and unadulterated chaos" during a walk in the forest or even out by the backyard feeders.

So head for the woods and by all means look for a male squirrel on the trail of a female. You'll just have to pick the right eight hours

Bryan Pfeiffer of Plainfield, Vt., is an author, photographer and field naturalist. The illustration for this column was drawn by Adelaide Tyrol. The Outside Story, a weekly column, is assigned and edited by Northern Woodlands magazine, and is sponsored by the Wellborn Ecology Fund of New Hampshire: wef@nbcf.org



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Friday · January 2nd

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#### **TUESDAY, DECEMBER 30**

McGrath's Irish Pub Eve-The Granitemen
Jax Eve-Jamie & Floyd of Spookie Daly Pride
Pickle Barrel Eve-Badfish, Sublime Tribute
Wobbly Barn Eve-Savage Brothers
Outback Eve-Aaron & Company

#### **WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 31**

South Station **Eve-Duane Carleton Trio** McGrath's Irish Pub Eve-The Granitemen Grist Mill Eve-Dueling Pianos w/ Frank & Brad Jax Eve-New Year's Eve Party w/DJ Dream Team Pickle Barrel Eve-New Year's Eve Party w/ Loudmouth Wobbly Barn Eve-New Year's Celebration w/Dead Poets & DJ Jamma Phi Moguls Eve-New Year's Party w/DJ Derek

#### **THURSDAY, JANUARY 1**

Outback

Outback Eve-Joey Leone Trio
Wobbly Barn Eve-Dead Poets
Pickle Barrel Eve-Loudmouth
Grist Mill HH-Dueling Pianos w/ Frank & Brad
McGrath's Irish Pub Eve-The Granitemen
Clear River Tavern Eve-Open Mic

Eve-Joey Leone's Big Band

#### FRIDAY, JANUARY 2

Santa Fe Eve-Ed McCarron Piano Bar Outback HH-Wicked Acoustic Eve-Joey Leone Trio Tabu Nightclub Eve-DJ Dance Party w/Teck-1 Eve-Lima Bean Riot Wobbly Barn Pickle Barrel HH-Jamie's Junk Show Eve-The Benjamins Grist Mill **Eve-Vibratones** McGrath's Irish Pub Eve-Tom O'Carroll Lake House **Eve-Aaron Audet** 

#### **SATURDAY, JANUARY 3**

Jax Eve-Bloomer
Pickle Barrel HH-Jamie's Junk Show
Eve-The Benjamins
Grist Mill HH-Vibratones

Eve-Dueling Pianos w/ Frank & Brad
McGrath's Irish Pub Eve-Tom O'Carroll

Clear River Tavern

Wobbly Barn

HH-Wicked Acoustic

Eve-Temporary Grace

Outback

HH-The Shakers

Eve-Joey Leone's Chop Shop Band
Tabu Nightclub Eve-DJ Dance Party w/Teck-1
Santa Fe Eve-Ed McCarron Piano Bar

#### **SUNDAY, JANUARY 4**

Santa Fe

Outback

HH-Bobby & the Peace
Eve-Local's Night w/Joey Leone
Moguls

Eve-Open Mic Standup Comedy
R.U. Killington's Funniest Person?

Jax

Eve-Rick Redington

Grist Mill

HH-Dueling Pianos w/ Frank & Brad

#### **MONDAY, JANUARY 5**

Santa Fe Eve-Ed McCarron Piano Bar
Outback Eve-Joey Leone's Jazz
Tabu Nightclub Eve-College Week Bikini Contest w/ Teck-1

#### **TUESDAY, JANUARY 6**

Clear River Tavern Eve-The Reggae Connection w/DJ Beales

Outback Eve-Bobby Santa Fe Eve-Ed McCarron Piano Bar

#### WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7

Outback Eve-Joey Leone Acoustic
Tabu Nightclub Eve-DJ Dance Party w/Teck-1
Santa Fe Eve-Ed McCarron Piano Bar
Wobbly Barn Eve-Eren Cannata Band
Grist Mill HH-Dueling Pianos w/ Frank & Brad
Concert @ Pickle Barrel Night Club, "The House That Rocks



Killington" Jan. 1, **Wu Tang Clan**. Doors 8pm, show 11pm. 18+. 422-3035 or picklebarrelnightclub.com for tickets.

Renewal, **world music** ensemble of 15 college-aged singers from Northeast, presents concert Jan. 1, 7:30pm, Church of Our Saviour, Killington. 345-6460. Suggested donation \$8, \$5 students/ srs.

**Slick Rick the Ruler** comes to Wobbly Barn, Killington, Jan. 10. A legend & innovator in the rap industry. wobblybarn.com or 422-6171 for tickets & info.

**Open Mic** Nights held 1st Fri. of month, thru Apr. Church of the Wildwood, Chittenden. Musicians, poets, & music enthusiasts of all ages & abilities come share talents or enjoy the show. Desserts & coffee. Free will donation, portion benefits CVPS Shareheat. 483-2234.

Rutland Curbstone **Chorus**, men's barbershop chorus, invites all men interested in singing to join. Practice each week 7pm at Rutland High School choral room. Contact, 273-2911.



Rutland Area Physical Activity Coalition announces: **Marble Valley Runners** (MVR) have arranged for Rutland High School track to be open & lit for walking & running 6-9pm throughout winter. Open to all.

**Rutland Rec** Dept offers wide variety of activities for entire family over holiday vacations: Public skating, stick & puck, co-ed & men's adult hockey, adult learn to play hockey. www. rutlandrec.com or call 773-1822 for complete schedule.

**Giorgetti Arena** stick & puck: Dec. 30, 10:15-1:15. Dec. 31, 10:15-1:15. Jan. 1, 1:45-2. Jan. 2, 12:45-2:30. Public Skate: Dec. 30, 1:30-5. Dec. 31, 1:30-5. Jan. 1, 10-1:30. Jan. 2, 1-2:30. 773-1822.

6k New Year's **Fund Run** Dec. 31. Begins RHS track 6pm. Registration 5pm. \$9 suggested donation, tshirts \$10. Benefits Marble Valley Runners youth program. 786-2148.

Killington Section **GMC Outing**: Herrick Mountain, Ira, Jan. 3. Strenuous climb to enjoy the view. Snowshoes may be needed. Difficult, 8 miles. Meet Rutland's Main St. Park 9am. 775-3855.

Jan. 3-4 **Mountain Dew Vertical Challenge**, Killington Resort & Pico Mtn. Ski & snowboard racing fun for the whole family. Race gates set up on Highline Sat. Registration 8am, 3rd flr K-1 Lodge, race begins 11am. Awards party 3pm. Raffles & prizes. Sunday events at Pico, registration Pico Lodge. 800-621-MTNS. www.killington.com

Jan. 4-9, 11-16 Collegiate **Snow Fest** @ Killington Resort. A week of music, movies, parties & more geared toward college students. 800-621-MTNS. www.killington.com

Learn to **Square Dance** w/ the Cast-off 8's. Workshops Weds. nights 7-9pm, Lothrup School, Pittsford. First 2 nights free to new dancers. 492-3418. **Line Dancing** Class held every Tues. & Thurs., 1:30-2:30pm.

\$3. Ballroom Dance Class Sundays 2-3pm. Poultney Senior Center, 287-9200.

Teen (& otherwise young at heart) **Hip-Hop Class** with Zach (A Really BIG Show Winner) Fridays at 7pm, Pyramid Wellness Center, Rutland. \$6/ class. 10 class punch cards avail. 775-8080.

**Chess Club**, 7pm Thursdays. Dana Rec. Ctr, Rutland. 247-6423. Free, open to public. All ages.

ACBL Sanctioned **Bridge Games** Thurs. nights @ Godnick Senior Center, Rutland. \$5 fee/ player, guaranteed partner. 287-5756.

Modern Woodmen of America in Wells holds **Bingo** every Thurs. & Sun. Includes special game to benefit a local charity or good cause.



Rut. Co. Humane Society offers Good Dog **obedience classes** in January. Call 483-6700 or rchsvt.org for info.

Gallery in the Field brings Linda Durkee's collage & **paintings** and Liza Myers' Works in Clay exhibits thru Jan. 4. Brandon. 247-0125. galleryinthefield.com

**Recycle** Your Christmas Tree thru Jan. 31 @ Gleason Rd. Transfer Station. Must be cleaned of decorations & tinsel. Trees to be mulched & composted. 7am-3pm, M-F. 775-7209.

Moguls presents R.U. Killington's **Funniest Person**? Sundays, 9pm til ??? Open Mic sign up, 10 min. standup. Hosted by Hugo Shokoff, Bulgaria's funniest guy. Laugh hard & long. Win great prizes! Moguls, Killington Rd. 422-4777.

Family **craft program** featuring button crafts, read-a-loud, and hot cider. Dec. 31, Rutland Free Library, 3-3:45pm. Free. 773-1860.

**Hansel & Gretel** presented by Opera Theatre of Weston matinee performances Jan. 4, 2-4pm, Paramount Theatre. 775-0903. Jan. 10 & 11, 2-4pm, Weston Playhouse. 824-3821.

RRCC & REDC Legislative **Breakfast Series** kick off with Governor Jim Douglas Jan. 5, 7:30am, South Station Restaurant, Rutland. Public encouraged to attend. \$10 includes full breakfast buffet. RSVP required, 773-2747.

**Artistic masterpieces** by local youth ages 6 - 18 on display at Boys & Girls Club, Downtown Rutland Jan. 5-9. Jan. 5 artist's reception 5:30-6:30pm. Live music, all invited. 747-4944.

Retired CIA Counterterrorism Chief Haviland Smith **speaks** at Rutland Free Library Jan. 7, 7pm. "The Impact of the U.S. Invasion and Occupation of Iraq." 773-1860.

# in the Rutland/Killington Region

Rutland Co. Humane Society & Vt Companion Animal Neutering partner in low cost spay/neuter & rabies shot clinic in Middlesex. Transportation provided for cat, returned day of. Jan. 7 clinic. Pre-register @ 483-6700.

Register for the '09 Killington Snow Sculpture Contest by Jan. 9. Presented by Harpoon Brewery. Theme "50 Years of Killington." Build sculptures Feb. 10-12, judging Feb. 16-18. harpoonbrewery.com

Poultney Summer Theatre Co's '09 Shakespeare On Main Street production of Much Ado About Nothing auditions set for Jan. 10, 10am-noon & Jan. 11, 1-3pm. Audition w/slight to strong southern accent. 235-2400 for scheduling/info.

Informal group auditions at Chandler Center for the Arts to be held Jan. 14, 7pm. Theater production of Coyote Tales held Mar. 14. Weather date Jan. 15. 728-9878 for info or sign up.

Registration for VT Master Gardener '09 Course closes Jan. 17. Classes Tues. eves., Feb. 3-Apr. 28. Register @ 656-9562 or www.uvm.edu/mastergardner.

Killington-Pico Rotary Club meets every Wed., 6pm, Grist Mill Restaurant for dinner meeting/interesting speaker.

Pittsfield Historical Society meets at the Town Hall the third Monday of every month, 7pm.



Billings Farm & Museum, Woodstock. Rt 12N & River Rd. Wagon Ride Weekends Nov. - Feb., 10am-4pm. 457-2355. hillingsfarm.org

Carving Studio & Sculpture Center, Marble St., W. Rutland. 438-2097, carving@vermontel.net. Sats. & Suns., 1-4pm & by appt. Chaffee Center for the Visual Arts, S. Main St., Rutland. Tues.-Sat., 10-5, Sun. 12-4, closed Mon. 775-0356. www. chaffeeartcenter.org.

Chandler Gallery, Randolph. Thurs. 4-6pm, Sat & Sun, 1-3pm. 728-9878.

Dana House Museum, 26 Elm St., Woodstock. 457-1822. Admin. Offices M-F, 9-5. Museum open select days during holiday season. For events, call 457-1822 or visit www. woodstockhistorical.org.

Farrow Gallery, Rt. 4A, Castleton. 468-5683. Sculptures by Patrick Farrow & the work of Vt. artists. 10am-5pm, except Tues.

Green Mountain College William Feick Arts Center, Poultney. 287-8000 www.greenmtn.edu. Gallery hours M-F, 1-5pm.

Maclure Library, Rt. 7, Pittsford. Mon., Tue., Fri., 1-6pm; Wed., 10am-8pm; Thur., 10am-6pm; Sat., 9am-noon. 483-2972.

Montshire Museum of Science, Norwich. Open 7 days yr round, 10am-5pm. 649-2200, www.montshire.org for activities & programs. Traveling exhibition Crime Lab Detectives thru Jan. Norman Rockwell Museum, Rt. 4E, Rutland. 773-6095. Selfguided tour. Open daily. www.normanrockwellvt.com

Norman Williams Public Library, Woodstock. 457-2644. Open Mon., Fri., & Sat., 10-5, Tues., Wed., Thurs. 10-7.

Rutland Railway Association, Center Rutland Depot. Former Rutland Railroad depot. Museum exhibits the Rutland Railroad. HO & N scale models. Open Thursday eves 6-8pm. www. rutlandrailwav.org

Slate Valley Museum, Granville, NY. Tues. - Sat. 10am-5pm. Sun. 1-4pm. 518-642-1417. www.slatevalleymuseum.org

RAVNAH blood pressure & foot care clinics: Dec. 31, Rutland Godnick Adult Ctr. 12:30pm. Jan. 2, Poultney Young at Heart Center 9:30am. Jan. 5, Brandon Forestdale Sr. Ctr. 1pm. Jan. 7, Wallingford House 10:30am. Fee. 775-0568.

Kripalu Yoga (Meditation in Motion) Wednesdays, 5pm, 38 Rte. 4, Mendon. Call Louise Harrison to reserve space at 747-8444

Bikram Yoga @ Pilates, Yoga & Adventure Center, Pittsfield. Mon.-Fri., 5-6:30pm. Come with empty stomach, well hydrated, light clothing & ready to sweat. All ages & abilities.

Anusara Inspired yoga classes, Killington Yoga. Tues. 5:30pm basic yoga for beginners, Thurs. 5:30pm mixed level. 1st Friday each month at 5:30pm free intermediate/advanced practice. killingtonyoga.com

Bone Builders exercise program meets 9am, Mon. & Thurs. mornings, Park House, Rochester. Lightweight resistance training to help slow down or reverse osteoporosis. 767-3416. AA Hotline, Rutland area: 802-775-0402, 24 hours.

AlAnon: Call Pete: 773-9548 or Marcia: 775-7479 for meeting info.

Beginner meeting Fridays, 7pm, The Evergreen Ctr., Rutland. AA Meetings, Sherburne United Church, (little white church, Rte. 4) Killington. Tues., 7pm. Thurs., noon. Sats., 8:15pm.

Breastfeeding support groups: 1st Fridays 1-3pm & 3rd Mondays 9:30-11:30am, WIC Clinic ASA Bloomer Bldg, Rutland. 1st Wednesdays 10:30-noon & 3rd Thursdays 6-8pm, Trinity Episcopal Church Rutland. All free. 786-5811 for more info.

Tobacco Free for Life Support Group, Rut. Reg. Medical Ctr, 4:30-5:30pm 1st & 3rd Thurs. of every month. 747-3768 Man-to-Man Prostate Cancer Support Group meet 5:30pm, 4th Wed. of month @ Rutland Regional Medical Center, Rutland. 1-800-ACS-2345.

RAVNAH and RRMC offer classes for parents-to-be including Birth and Beyond, Birthshop. Fees. Class sizes limited, register 775-0568.

Look Good...Feel Better program, FREE service teaching female cancer patients beauty techniques; 1pm, 1st Monday of month, Rutland Regional Medical Center. 1-800-ACS-2345.



Saturday Worship, Catholic Mass, 4pm, Our Lady of the Mountain, Killington.

Sunday Worship, 9:30am, Church of Our Saviour (Episcopal), Killington. Small, welcoming, inclusive. 422-9064.

Sunday Worship, 9am, Sherburne United Church of Christ, Rt. 4, Killington. All Welcome.

Mendon Community Church, (50 Rte 4, East) Communion 1st Sunday of each month; Sunday worship 9:30am; Children's church 9:45am; Fellowship 10:30am; Adult study time 11am. Rev. Ronald Sherwin, 459-2070.

Sunday Worship, 9am. Pittsfield Federated Church. Rt. 100 N. Pittsfield. Communion Service 1st Sundays each month. Bible Study Weds. Eves 7pm. Rev. Dr. Howard Gunter, Pastor

Sunday Worship, 11am. United Methodist Church of the Wildwood, Holden Rd., Chittenden. Open hearts, open minds, open doors. Rev. Shirley Oskamp. 483-2909.

Unitarian Universal Church of Rutland, 117 West St. Sunday services begin 10:30am. Rev. Erica Baron. 775-0850.

Sunday Service, 10:30am worship. Sat., 5:30 worship. Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Rutland. 773-9659.

Sunday Services: 10am, Adult Bible Study, 5+ Sunday School, Nursery. 11am, Worship service. Wed. Services: 6:30pm, Adult Prayer & Bible Study, Youth Groups 5+. Brandon Baptist Church, 247-6770.

Weekend Catholic Mass, Rutland. Christ the King, Sat. 5:15pm, Sun. 7:30, 9:30, 11am. Immaculate Heart of Mary, Sat. 4:30pm, Sun. 8am, 10:15am. St. Peter, Sat. 5:15pm, Sun. 8:30, 10:30am.

Sunday Worship Services, 10:30am, First Baptist Church of Rutland City. Sunday School Classes, 9am for all ages. 773-8010.

Christian Reading Room @ Danby Congregational Church parsonage open Thurs., 4:30-7pm. Checkout, reference or personal study books & computer reference material. 770-2976.

Change the World Kids annual "Anti-Cabin Fever" Wednesday night dinners thru March. 6pm, North Universalist Chapel dining hall, Woodstock. \$8 adults, \$5 kids. Reservations suggested, 457-2622.

Green Mountain Interfaith Group sponsors Spiritual Cinema Circle 2nd & 4th Thursdays of month, 7-8:30pm, Park House, Rochester. 767-4905.

Hand-in-Hand Community Meal, Thursdays, 5-7pm, Northern Universalist Church, Woodstock. Jan. 1, New Year's Day. Jan. 6, World Itinerary Day. Free, donations accepted. 457-9272.

Slate Valley Ministry holds Community Breakfast last Sat. of each month. All welcome. Breakfast served 8-10:30am, Trinity Episcopal Church parish hall, Poultney. \$1/ person, under 14 free. Dec. 27.

Vermont Christian Riders from Motorcyclists for Jesus Ministries meeting 2nd Wednesdays of month, Denny's Restaurant, Rutland. 5:30pm. 483-2540 or email bikingforj@ msn.com

# Coming Events

Concerts @ Pickle Barrel Night Club, "The House That Rocks Killington" Jan. 11. The Machine, Feb. 5, Eve 6, Feb. 18, Chuck Wick. Feb. 19, State Radio. 422-3035 or picklebarrelnightclub. com for tickets.

Dead President's Rail Jam Feb 15, Killingotn Mountain Resort. 800-621-MTNS. Skiers & snowboarders compete in this competitor judged rail jam for cash & prizes at Bear Mountain. www.killington.com Check out Naughty By Nature evening at Wobbly Barn!

Calendar space is FREE to advertisers & nonprofit community organizations. To publicize your event, please send us the following information: Description, date, time, place, fees, phone number, additional details. Mail: The Mountain Times, P. O. Box 183, Killington, VT. 05751. Email: mtntimes@vermontel.com

All information must be received at least one week prior to the newspaper publication



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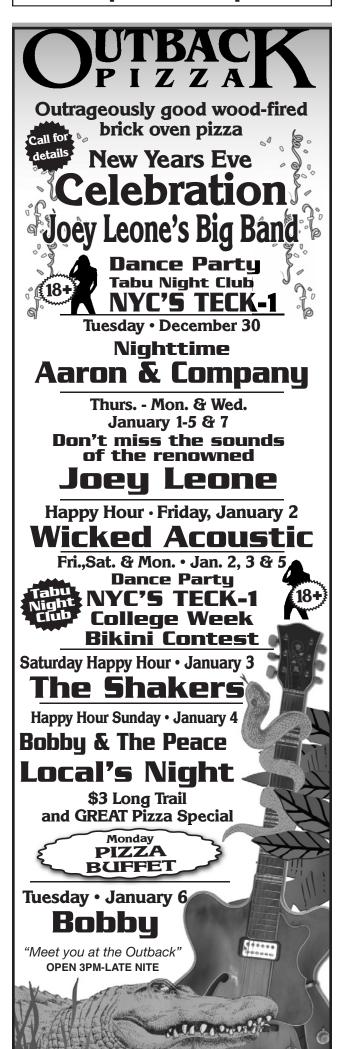
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# **Youth Art Exhibition and Reception**

Artistic masterpieces by local youth ages 6 - 18 will be on display at the Boys and Girls Club in downtown Rutland from Monday, January 5 through Friday, January 9. On Friday we will have an artist's reception from 5:30 -6:30 p.m. There will be live music and all are invited to see some art, check out the Club, and celebrate the young artists'accomplishments. Drawings, paintings and more will be showcased as a part of the National Fine Arts Exhibit and the Boys and Girls Club of America. All are welcome to this free exhibition. Call (802) 747 4944 for more info.

The Boys and Girls Club of Rutland offers well-supervised, quality after-school programming for kids ages 6-18. Hours are 2:30 - 7:30 p.m. on school days and from 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. on school vacation days. MEMBERS WANTED!! Membership is just \$15 for the rest of the school year. No child is ever turned away for financial reasons. Call (802)747 4944 or visit www. rutlandbgclub.org for more info.

# Gallery in the Field

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# **Hansel & Gretel Opera January 4**

Opera Theatre of Weston (OTW) will present 3 matinee performances of the enchanting fairy tale opera Hansel & Gretel on January 4 at Rutland's Paramount Theatre (2:00 pm) and on January 10 and 11 at the Weston Playhouse in Weston (2:00 pm). This professional production will feature acclaimed guest conductor, Maestro Karen Keltner of the San Diego Opera, who will lead some of New England's finest musicians including players from the Vermont Symphony Orchestra and Boston's awardwinning chamber ensemble A Far Cry. Serving as stage director/choregrapher for Hansel & Gretel is Cavendish, VT native, Ashley Hensel-Browning, a recent graduate from the Harvard Graduate School of Education.

The opera is based on the familiar Grimm's fairy tale, with music by Engelbert Humperdinck. Abounding in sprightly folk-melodies and sumptuous orchestral writing, this opera is a musical feast perfect for families & kids. Characters include Hansel, Gretel, Mother, Father, Witch, Sandman, Sleep Fairy, and a Gingerbread Children's Chorus of 16 local youth.

Keltner has conducted an extensive and wide-ranging repertoire of the opera literature for San Diego Opera, including her 1980 debut performance of Prokofiev's The Love for Three Oranges. She has been at the helm of much San Diego's French repertoire including Faust, The Pearl Fishers, and Carmen, and has become a recognized specialist in 20th century opera, conducting in 2005 that season's critically acclaimed Wozzeck and in other seasons' productions of Thérèse Raquin, Vanessa, Of Mice and Men, Cold Sassy Tree, and A Streetcar Named Desire. She travels extensively throughout the United States as a guest conductor to companies including the Washington National Opera, the New York City Opera, Seattle Opera, Pittsburgh Opera, The Opera Company of Philadelphia, Opera Carolina, Glimmerglass Opera, and has performed internationally in both Canada (Vancouver Opera and Manitoba Opera) and in France at the operas of Strasbourg and Nancy. Between 1999 and 2005, she was Principal Conductor of Anchorage Opera (Alaska). In February, 2009 Keltner will conduct the renowned Ferrucio Furlanetto and Denyce Graves in San Diego Opera's production of Don



Guest Conductor, Maestro Karen Keltner

Quichotte by Jules Massenet.

Hensel-Browning is the co-artistic director and founder of the modern dance company ZoAsh Dance and the Dance Director at Bethel Camp for the Arts in Bethel, ME. Her work has been presented at Harvard University, Hampshire College, and Mount Holyoke College. She is an avid performer and has performed in works by Trisha Brown, Agnes DeMille, Elizabeth Bergman, Amie Dowling, Jim Coleman, Terese Freedman, and many others. Most recently she was awarded a fellowship from Extending the Dance Map, a tri-state project in VT, NH, and ME "to increase dance opportunities for students in rural public schools". She has worked with the Boston Ballet as part of their Education Outreach program CityDance, conducting workshops in Boston public schools. Ashley has performed, choreographed, and directed with OTW for many years, most recently The Happy Prince and Die Fledermaus (Jan 2008).

For ticket info for the January 4 matinee performance please contact the Paramount Theatre at 802-775-0903 or online at paramountlive.org. For ticket info for the January 10 and 11 matinee performances please contact OTW at 802-824-3821 or email at otw@sover.net. Early reservations are strongly recommended.

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#### Chaffee Continues Outreach Exhibition Series

The Chaffee Art Center and Lake Sunapee Bank are pleased to announce a continuation of their new partnership with the installation of a sampling of the Chaffee's permanent collection of regional artwork in the bank's Center Street offices in Rutland.

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and to illustrate the wide range of the Chaffee permanent collection, we have selected 15 original paintings in a variety of media to share with the public through the month of January 2009. This eclectic grouping represents almost fifty years of collecting activity by the art center, pro-

As part of the Chaffee's Outreach Exhibition Series,

viding a reflection on the myriad of visual art that has been displayed in our galleries over the years. The exhibit is well worth a visit to the Bank's downtown location for local artists, art students and the general public to experience the work of local artists who have achieved a regional and national reputation.

Included is a range of mediums from watercolor, oil, opaque watercolor, to pen and ink, as well as various mixed mediums. The subject matter varies from portrait to landscape, from the metaphorical to the still life and cartoon.



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Stick and Puck Jan 1: 5:45pm-7:15pm

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Contact Richie McKenna. For more information or to register 802.775.3100

Check the website www.rrfh.org for full schedule/schedule change/calendar

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Rt. 4, at the top of the Sherburne Pass, Killington McGrath's Irish Pub at The Inn at Long Trail invites you to try our famous Guinness stew. Serving breakfast and pub menu daily. Live Irish music weekends! Dining Room. MC, VISA, AMEX.

MOGULS SPORTS PUB Killington Road, Killington

Family Dining offering steaks, burgers, pasta and Fun! Daily specials. Pool table, video games, dart board, great for the whole family. Open daily

**MOUNTAIN TOP INN & RESORT** Mountain Top Rd., Chittenden

Only 11 miles from Killington and Rutland. Breathtaking views of the lake and mountains, complemented by new American cuisine and award winning wine list, served in a refined dining room characteristic of a grand mountain lodge. Also our Highlands Tavern offers a relaxed casual option. Open year round. Reservations suggested. mountaintopinn.com. MC, VISA, AMEX

775-2537

at the Grey Bonnet Inn Rt. 100N, Killington

Romantic dining featuring fine American cuisine with fresh seafood, steak and pasta dishes, homemade soups and dessertswith nightly specials. Killington's best breakfast served daily. Reservations ap-

preciated for dinner. AMEX, MC, VISA, DISC. **OUTBACK PIZZA** 422-9885

Top of the Killington Rd. at Outback

Killington's best pizza is baked in a 900 degree wood-fire brick oven. We feature the best live music in Killington. Voted Killington's best place to dance. AMEX, MC, VISA 422-3004

**PASTA POT** Route 4 East, Killington

A classic Italian Pasta house. Italian food and wines at their best. Pastas, pizza, subs, Italian entrees are all homemade. Chef owned. Dinner served 5-closing. MC, VISA

**PICKLE BARREL** Killington Road, Killington

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PIRKEY'S PUB @ CORNERS INN

Rt. 4, Bridgewater Corners

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Woodward Rd., Mendon

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at The Mountain Inn

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224 N. Main St. (Rt. 7), Rutland VT home-cooking at affordable prices. Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner, daily specials. Steaks, chicken, seafood, wonderful burgers, sandwiches, even "Heart Healthy" menu items, salad bar, and children's menu. Our own ice cream- 39 flavors! Large parties welcome. Our dairy-gift store has Vt. foods & lots of gifts. Daily 6:30am-10pm. MC, VISA, DISC.

SOUTH STATION RESTAURANT 170 South Main St. Rutland, VT

Minutes from Killington

Chef owned. Lunch, Dinner, and Tavern menus served daily. Our Sunday Brunch is the areas most popular. Our famous Salad Bar is available during lunch and dinner. Steaks, Angus Prime Rib, Chicken, Veal, Pastas, and fresh Seafood and Fish are just a sampling of items served. In house soups, breads, desserts, and recipes by Chef Michael Gillam, 1975 Culinary Institute of America graduate. MC, VISA, AMEX, DISC, DC.

SUGAR AND SPICE RESTAURANT Route 4, Mendon Serving breakfast and lunch seven days a week 7am-2pm. Specialties run

from pancakes & French to a st with real maple syrup processed on premises,soups, sandwiches, burgers. Working sugar house. Gift shop featuring Vermont products. Homemade candy and ice cream. MC, VISA. SUSHI YOSHI/CHINESE GOURMET 422-4241

Midway on the Killington Rd., Killington

Sushi Yoshi offers fine Japanese cuisine, including favorites like Tempura, Sukiyaki, and Negimayaki, plus an expansive Sushi bar featuring the freshest seafood shipped direct from our Japanese purveyors right at the docks. • The Chinese Gourmet's features the finest Chinese cuisine and exotic drinks from the Orient. Relax in our Tattami Rooms while enjoying great Oriental treats. Take out and delivery available. Major credit cards.

TABLE 24 775-2424

24 Wales Street · Rutland

273-3000

Table 24's unique menu features bold American and upscale comfort foods with choices for all - from young families to sophisticated diners. Chef/Owner Stephen Sawyer prepares selected specialties on a wood-fired grill & rotisserie. Relax in the full bar and lounge and enjoy a great wine list with 25 wines by the glass. Lunch coming soon. AMEX VISA MC Disc

TWILIGHT BISTRO 422-2211

133 E. Mountain Rd, Mtn. Green Resort

A classic New England Bistro. Featuring Vermont farm products in a casual environment. Unexpected microbrew theme with a large selection of "By The Glass" wines. No reservations required, open year round. Breakfast and dinner, chef-owned. Amex, Visa, MC WOBBLY BARN STEAKHOUSE 422-6171

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The best steakhouse in ski country. Serving the finest in prime rib, steaks and seafoods with The Wobbly's famous soup, salad and bread bar. High altitude live entertainment. MC, VISA, AMEX.

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# Slick Rick the Ruler Hits the Wobbly Barn January 10

A legend and innovator in the rap industry, Slick Rick has been an influence to nearly every rapper today. Exposed to the early hip-hop beats and music scene in the Bronx, Slick Rick made a name for himself by competing in and winning nearly every MC battle contest he entered. After signing with Def Jam Records in 1988, Slick Rick released his solo album "The Great Adventures of Slick Rick". The debut album hit number one Billboard R&B/hip-hop charts and ended up being one of the first hip hop records to go platinum.

Born Ricky Walters and originally from South Wimbledon, London, he moved with his family to the Bronx in 1975 where he helped form the hip hop duo as Kangol Crew. He is best known for a series of rap recordings during the 1980s, including Hey Young World and Children's Story. Once he gained a degree of wealth, he earned a reputation for wearing an enormous amount of gold and diamond jewelry, including many large necklaces with giant pendants, bracelets, huge rings on each finger, and a gold tooth.

"La Di Da Di", "Mona Lisa" and "Children's Story" are among his best known songs, with "La Di Da Di" being covered nearly word-for-word by Snoop Dogg on his 1993 album Doggystyle. "Children's Story" was also covered with similar lyrics by the MC duo Black Star on their 1998 album, Mos Def and Talib Kweli are Black Star, as well as by Tricky on the album Nearly God, with the same name and lyrics.

A third album Behind Bars was recorded and was released to lukewarm sales and reviews. Released from prison in 1998, he remained with Def Jam Records and on May 25, 1999 released a fourth album, entitled The



Art of Storytelling, generally considered the authentic follow up to his 1988 debut. Storytelling was also an artistically successful comeback that paired him with MCs like Nas, OutKast, Raekwon, and Snoop Dogg, among others. On October 6, 2008, Rick was honored on the VH1 Hip Hop Honors show.

Slick Rick the Ruler hits the Wobbly Barn stage Saturday, January 10 and you won't want to miss it. For more details and ticket information call the Wobbly Barn at 802-422-6171 or visit us online at www.wobblybarn.com.

#### **Auditions at Chandler**

Chandler is pleased to announce auditions for its latest community theater production, Covote Tales, under the direction of Braintree resident and third-grade teacher Paulette Staats. In this delightful collection of dramatic stories, Coyote is always trying to trick someone, but things rarely turn out quite as he plans. Traditional stories come to life in this engaging play for young audiences. A small cast of adults will present performances for children at Chandler and in area schools this spring.

Informal group auditions will be held in the upper gallery at Chandler on Wednesday, January 14 at 7 p.m. In case of inclement weather, auditions will be

held Thursday, January 15. Aperformance is scheduled for Saturday, March 14 at 11 a.m. with the possibility of additional performances at area schools.

casting and creative costuming and set design. Staats hopes to involve adults in both onstage and backstage capacities and encourages a collaborative, creative approach to the production.

tacting Betsy Cantlin, Chandler's community outreach manager at 728-9878 or outreach@chandler-arts.org. For more information or questions about the production, please contact Paulette Staats at pettestaats@yahoo.com.

The production offers many opportunities for flexible

# Interested adults can sign up for an audition by con-

#### **Anti-Cabin Fever Dinners!**

Each Wednesday until the end of March (excluding Christmas and New Year's Eves), a local chef, many from the area's best restaurants, prepares a delicious meal.

These dinners are FUN, plus they subsidize costs for the Change the World Kids' annual work trip

Dinner is at 6:00 p.m. in the North Universalist Chapel

dining hall in Woodstock, and costs \$8 for adults and \$5 for children. Seating is limited, so reservations are suggested. Please call 457-2622, email the Change the World Kids at changetheworldkids@yahoo.com, or sign up on the sheet in the hall at the North Universalist Chapel.

Come dine, laugh, and beat the winter blahs and blues!

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70 South Main Street • Rutland, VT

New Year's Eve Buffet 5:00-9:00 pm **Duane Carleton Trio** 9:00 pm Call for information







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#### New Pub Menu • \$14.95 and Down

Pastas, Steak Sandwich, Burgers, Quesidillas, Nightly Comfort Food Specials \$12.95

Draft Specials • PBR Can Specials • \$1 Shrimp iPod Dock 9-10pm(share your music) • Pool Room • Wi-Fi • Board Games Come As You Are...Open at 4:30 p.m.

LIVE MUSIC **FRIDAY** 

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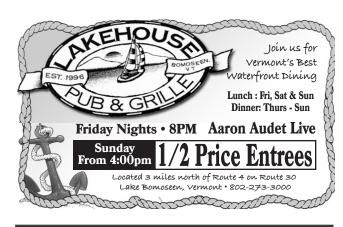
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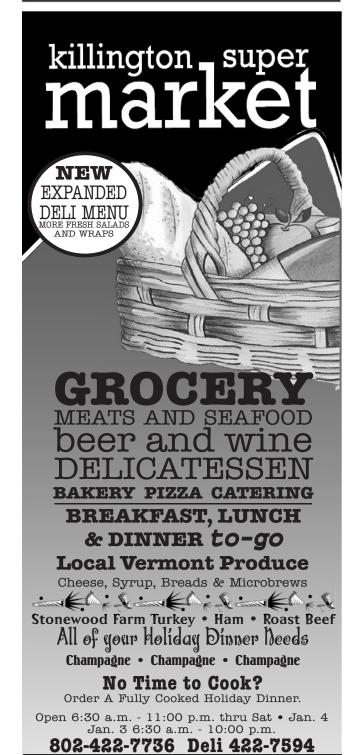
Serving Breakfast at 7:00am • Dinner 5:00pm 7 days a week throughout the year

133 East Mountain Rd, Killington • Mountain Green Resort

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## **Former CIA Chief at Rutland Free Library**

Retired CIA Chief of Counterterrorism Haviland Smith will discuss the impact and implications of the U.S. Iraq operation in a talk at Rutland Free Library on January 7. The talk, "The Impact of the U.S. Invasion and Occupation of Iraq," is part of the Vermont Humanities Council's First Wednesdays series and takes place at 7:00 p.m.

Smith will examine how the U.S. military presence in Iraq affects countries bordering the Persian Gulf as well as long-term issues such as ethnic rivalries, oil supplies, terrorism, Israel and Iran, U.S. interests, and our future policy options.

"The Impact of the U.S. Invasion and Occupation of Iraq" replaces a previously scheduled talk, "The Impossible Presidency: Presidential Greatness in the Post-Modern World" with UVM professor Frank Bryan, which has been cancelled.

The Vermont Humanities Council's First Wednesdays series is held on the first Wednesday of every month from October through May, featuring speakers of national and regional renown. First Wednesdays comes to Rutland for the first time in 2008-9; talks are held at Rutland Free Library.

Upcoming Rutland talks include "Book Clubs, Tupperware, and Oprah" with UVM professor Sarah Turner on February 4; "Mr. and Mrs. Prince" with Dartmouth professor Gretchen Holbrook Gerzina on March 4; and "On Writing Mark Twain: A Life" with Pulitzer Prize-winning author Ron Powers on April 1.

For more information, contact Rutland Free Library at (802) 773-1860.





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Winter dining hours through mid March:

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Daily 7:30am-9:30am, Sat & Sun 7:00-9:30am Daily 3:30-5:30 pm., Fri & Sat 9:30-11:00 pm Wed-Sun 5:30-9:30 pm

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Trio of Lobster

Lobster and Corn Cake, Lobster Canapé, Lobster Chowder Pea Tendrils, Citrus Oil

Hearts of Romaine

Caesar Dressing, Asiago Crisp, Grape Tomatoes

Medallion of Beef and Rosemary Lamb Chop Shrimp risotto and chevre potatoes

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Dark and White Truffled Mousse Blackberry Coulis

Dinner served with warm Basil Foccaccia Green Mountain Coffee and Tazo Teas

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Be sure to Join us in our lounge for good food & drink. Live Performances nightly, December 27 +30 with singer/songwriter, James Mee



Ring in the New Year with Dinner at the White House! Come, celebrate all the new that comes with 2009!

It doesn't matter what party, we'll all just make a toast... To good times and great food when Mangowood's your host!

# Happy New Year!

Two Amusing Spoons and a Shot Deep Fried Lychee Ball with a Pistachio Cheese Crust and Tuna Tartare with Lychee Essence accompanied by a shot of our House Lychee Ginger Ice Wine Martini

Savory Beginnings Choice of: Smoked Salmon Brulee, Carmelized Crust and a Tobiko Garnish • Crispy Sweet and Spicy Quail, Sesame Noodles • Roasted Wild Mushroom Capuccino

Enticing Entrees
Choice of: Organic Grass Fed Sirloin, Asian Garlic Marinade, Purple Mashed
Fingerlings with Bacon, Sour Cream and Carmelized Onions • Pistachio Crusted
Rack of Lamb, Sweet Ginger Honey Glaze with Sesame Cous Cous • Seared Sesame
Crusted Sashimi Grade Tuna, Crispy Noodle Cakes, Wasabi Aioli, Pickled Ginger
• Edamame, Shitake, Goat Cheese Ravioli with Ruby Beet Syrup

Sweet Endings Choice of: To Die For Sticky Toffee Pudding, Warm Caramel Sauce • Egg Nog Brulee • Chocolate Pot de Creme • Sorbet Trio

**Reserve Your Table Now!** 

Mangowood Restaurant is located at the Lincoln Inn at the Covered Bridge, Woodstock, VT Open Tuesday-Saturday Evenings from 6:00

 $Reservations \ Requested \ \bullet \ 802\text{-}457\text{-}3312$  Visit mangowood.com and lincolninn.com for information on Holiday Hours, Gift Certificates, Dining Events, Evening Menus and Lodging Packages.



#### "Farmer Fizz"

The Champagne region of France is an area about the size of Bordeaux, yet with only about a fifth of its land under vine as compared to Bordeaux. Compared to Burgundy, Champagne is about three times the size and produces almost twice as much wine, yet little distinction is made between the vast geographical differences of this region.

Nearly a hundred different appellations are in place for Burgundy, about twenty-five or so for Bordeaux... though they are subdivided into five 'growth' classifications called 'Cru', bringing the total up to about the same as for Burgundy. Yet, while no other 'Sparkling Wine' can be called "Champagne" unless it comes from there, Champagne's diversity is merely recognized.

Most the Champagne we know is produced by 'Champagne Houses', which buy the grapes from grape growers in different villages from the region to make their product. In order to keep their costs down these houses used to employ pretty unsavory methods... from intimidating and threatening the growers, to purchasing grapes from other areas outside of Champagne. A system to regulate the industry was developed in the mid 20th century called 'Échelle des Crus', which applies to the villages of origin but not the vineyards. These Champagne Houses have done a great job at marketing and creating an image that sells the wine rather than the quality of the wine itself.

The making of Champagne is a pretty labor intensive and expensive process. After primary fermentation and bottling, a second fermentation is induced in the bottle by adding special strains of yeast and some rock sugar. Each bottle is capped with a crown cap and riddled (stored in a specially designed rack at a 45% angle and hand turned), so that the lees (yeast cells and other sediments) settle in the neck of the wine bottle. This process takes about 6-8 weeks before the neck is frozen, the cap removed and the pressure in the bottle forces out the lees. The bottle is quickly corked to keep the carbon dioxide in the bottle and create the bubbles.

The diversity of the grapes depending on their origin makes for a lot of blending to come up with a consistent flavor, which often proves difficult and specific blends are created for different markets. A Veuve-Cliquot bought in Europe probably tastes very different to the one bought here in the US.

There is however a growing alternative to the 'factory produced' Champagnes of famous names: More and more growers make their own 'farmer-fizz', packing all the terroir and subtle differences that come with soil and climate into their bottles. Grower produced Champagnes are not blended in vast quantities to produce a lot of the same, but rather to produce wine of individual quality in small production. Locally you might find 'Gaston Chiquet', 'Pierre Gimonnet' or 'A. Margaine'.

Estate bottled, handcrafted grower-Champagne is real honest wine made by a vintner who took care of the vinevard all season long. It is wine that expresses the character of the family behind it, the grower's own connection to wine and vineyard. By drinking it you support a local family that cares for the land and thus creates and protects diversity. You know your dollars go directly to the family that worked for it rather than the big company out to make a big buck to keep the shareholders happy. It's like buying at the local farmers market instead of the supermarket – and the taste is your reward!

Every Champagne bottle lists a tiny license number on its label with an index of either NM (Champagne House) or RM (Grower-produced) followed by a sevendigit number. Try and find it, look for the 'RM' and taste the real stuff: 'Farmerfizz' from Champagne!







#### DINNER

Sunday - Thursday 5pm-10pm Friday & Saturday 5pm - 11pm Sunday Brunch 11am - 2:30pm

422-4030

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Offering the finest in handcut Steaks, Veal Lamb, Fish, Seafood and House made pastas. Flame Roasted Rotisserie Chicken, Lamb and Pork Sampler of all three. Prime Rib on weekends

Extensive Appetizers Gourmet Salads Espresso

Cappuccino pectacular Dessert Tray

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The "BEST VALUE" in Killington! Kids Welcome!

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Serving dinner through the Holiday week Tuesday thru Sunday 6:00-9:00 pm • Reservations appreciated

**Enjoy a Delicious Breakfast** Served Daily 7:30am-9:30pm

**LIVE IRISH MUSIC** 

Make your reservations early for our New Years Eve Gala

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Imported and Domestic Cheeses, Sliced baguettes

**8 PM Dinner** 

**Bisque and Salads Station** 

Lobster Bisque- Apple Butternut Bisque

Caesar Salad - Mesculn Greens, Selection of breads and rolls

**Pasta Station** 

Tortellini - Penne, Tomato Basil and Alfredo Sauce Shrimp, Scallops, Cheeses, Chicken Herbs, Vegetables

**Roast Prime of Beef Carving Station** Served with Au Jus and gourmet mustards

Baked Potato Buffet

**Entrée Station** 

Pan Seared Salmon with Leeks, Chives and Mushrooms Rosemary Roasted Chicken Breast with Bell Peppers and Cipollini Onions Vegetables of the Evening

<u>Children's Table</u>

Mac and Cheese, Crispy Chicken, Pigs in the Blanket Ice Cream Sundae Bar with all the Fixins

**10 PM Dessert Buffet** 

Tira Misu, Chocolate Mousse, Cannolies, Petit Fours, Chocolate Strawberries, Cakes and Tortes, Sliced fruits, Specialty Coffees and Toppings

Full Cash Bar all night with a Complimentary Champagne Toast at midnight

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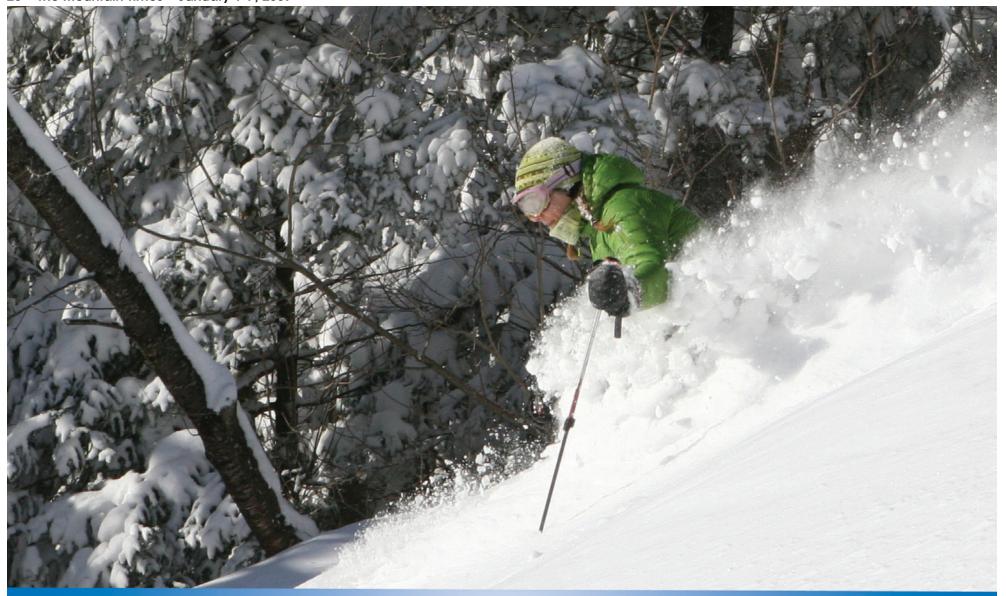
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# The Mountain SHOPPING **NEWS • SPORTS • EVENTS • ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT**

### **Remembering Gene Stiles**

DEWEY, Ariz. - Eugene "Gene" T. Stiles, 91, died Dec. 12, 2008, in Dewey, Ariz. He was born Aug. 10, 1917, in East Orange, N.J., the son of Eugene and Ruth (Snyder) Stiles.

He graduated from Summit High School in Summit, N.J., and later graduated with a bachelor's degree in 1985 from Castleton State College in Castleton, Vt.

He was an avid skier, the activity that first attracted him to Vermont.

He lived in Vermont from 1961 to 1999, first in Killington, then Rutland Town, and later in Florence. He began in the hospitality business at Killington, owning and managing the Ski Bunk Lodge that he enlarged as the Troll Inn. He also built and ran the Sugar Shack restaurant and lounge that is now the Pickle Barrel. While living in Killington, he was an active member of the local fire department.

He also had a passion for sports car racing. He competed successfully in 18 events from 1963 to 1972, racing Corvairs, an AMX, and Corvettes. He was a member of the Killington Sports Car Club and competed at hill climbs and racing events at Killington, Okemo, Ascutney and others. He won first place in the October 18, 1964 Killington Climb.

His other interests included obtaining his private pilot's license and learning scuba diving.

He was a member of the Southern Vermont Freedom Riders, and was active in the Christian Motorcycle Club the R.u.H.a Riders. He was a member of the Church of the Good Shepherd in Rutland, and served meals at the local mission.

He also enjoyed mineral collecting, and was a member of the Rutland Rock and Mineral Club. His other interests included playing the violin in his high school orchestra, playing trombone in swing bands, designing housing and business facilities in New Jersey and



Vermont, making jewelry, piloting airplanes, and generating interest in Vermont gold panning.

Mr. Stiles was especially active in Rotary International. His perfect attendance stretched to 53 years. He was president of the Rutland club in 1990-1991. His service was recognized in 1997 with Rotary's Paul P. Harris Service award.

Following the sale of his Killington properties, he opened an outdoor sports business, Leisure Lines, in Rutland Town.

Survivors include three sons, Gene Stiles Jr. of Dewey, Ariz., James Stiles of Federal Way, Wash., and Paul Stiles of Pittsfield, Vt., his wife Kathy and two grandchildren, Cameron and Jacki.

He was predeceased by a sister, Barbara Raynsford.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Killington Fire Department, for the perpetual upkeep of the

# **MUSINGS** What's Happening In & Around Killington



By Debbie Burke

The Town of Killington Economic De $velopment\, and\, Tourism\, Commission\, has$ an opening for an Events Producer. The job description is as follows: to attract, organize and manage events and conferences of various sizes and complexity for the Town of Killington, Vermont, one of the nation's leading resort communities. Key responsibilities include securing and managing from inception to execution events that will evolve and grow into significant generators of tourist visitors to the town. Knowledge of event design and scope; experience in negotiating and securing sponsorships and the execution of contracts is essential. The position may require travel and definitely requires flexibility in the work schedule. The successful candidate will possess

The primary responsibilities include working with the Town of Killington Economic Development and Tourism Commission in establishing an events plan that includes fiscal and timing models. Attract and manage events of various size and scope that are compatible with the fabric of the community that meet objectives defined in the plan.

outstanding communication skills.

Management includes, but may not be limited to, the following components for each event:

- Site selection
- Contract negotiation
- Venue set up and tear down
- Financial pro forma and subsequent fiscal management
  - Promotional marketing
  - Food and beverage

- Security
- Compliance with all State and local permits
- Completing all deliverables on time and on budget
- Establish, maintain and post key milestones on the department e-calendar
- Manage and liaise with all third parties involved in each event
- Maintain master notebook of all event site details, including drawings, technical specifications and other information needed by vendors and sponsors
- Provide weekly event updates to all pertinent town officers

Additionally, the Events Producer must have:

- Knowledge of vendors and suppliers
- Excellent communication and organizational skills
- Experience with and sense of positive customer service
- Ability and experience to collaborate and work in a team environment
- Excellent skills in task management and prioritization
  - Ability to work independently

Education and Experience: a minimum of three years in securing and successfully managing events of various sizes and complexities. Candidate must have a minimum of a Bachelor's Degree from an accredited four-year college or university.

Please send inquiries and applications to: Carl Spangler, Director, Town of Killington Economic Development and Tourism Commission, P.O. Box 429, Killington, VT 05751. Phone (802)422-3241.

#### firefighters monument, where Mr. Stiles will be remembered: send to 1-800-483-680 Killington Fire Department, PO Box **SALES** Real Estate **RENTALS** 99, Killington, VT 05751. PIGO Continued rpage 22





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#### WEEKEND AND SEASONAL RENTALS!!!

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# **Remembering Gene Stiles**

from page 21



Sugar Shack

As we celebrate 50 years of Killington Resort it's fitting to recall Gene Stiles as one of Killington's pioneer businessmen. These two family photos show The Sugar Shack and The Ski Bunk that Gene opened on the Killington Road. The Sugar Shack later became Showcase East, Killington's only movie theatre, and is the now the Pickle Barrel. The Ski Bunk had a number of transitions that included Killington's first pharmacy, Mother Shapiro's Restaurant, and now Sushi Yoshi and The Chinese Gourmet.



Ski Bunk



#### **Get The Answer**

The Killington Town/Killington Resort Relationship Committee is dedicated to facilitate communication and understanding within our community. We also work to answer questions and respond to rumors that may be of concern to you. The committee is made up of persons representing ALL interests, including business, residents, second home owners, government and visitors. Current members

are Co-Chairs Kathy Judge and Ted Olencki, Jill Frankle, Norm Holcomb, Mary Holland, Ken Lee, Chris Nyberg, Steve Selbo, Bill Vines. Just ask, and we'll provide balanced and honest answers to your concerns. Our responses will appear in this spot in The Mountain Times once a month or more.

Send your inquiries to editor@mountaintimes.info Please put "Get the Answer" in your email subject line.

## **Susie Martin Library Volunteer of the Year Award**

On Wednesday night the Pittsfield Women's alliance was kind enough to allow us to use their Christmas dinner to celebrate our super volunteer Angelique Lee.

Last year Pittsfield's Roger Clark Memorial Library created the "Susie Martin Library Volunteer of the Year" award in honor of Susie's long and continuing service to the library. Volunteers are important at every library, but at our 100% volunteer library they are everything.

This year the crown was handed to Angelique Lee. In the last year and a half Angelique wrote grant applications that brought the library thousands of dollars for new books, a new sign, a couch and several library programs. She organized our summer reading program and, along with Joyce, ran our incredibly well attended after school program. Angelique has recruited her family too, and together they have cataloged and mylared hundreds of new books. We've had an amazing year at our library, without Angelique's energy, ideas and time we would not have accomplished half of it.

So now the battle for the 2009 crown begins. Will An-

gelique hold onto the title for another year with the help of her family? Will she mylar, design and catalog her way to a 2 year run? Will Susie Martin spend enough hours emptying mouse traps, typing catalog cards and managing budgets to get the crown back? Or will it be someone new? Nancy Blessing is the new kid to watch, heading up the "Listen Up" downloadable book program, but close at her heels will be Sharon Mayer and Lorraine Fielder. They both are selecting books, mylaring, and now both covering desk shifts. The field is wide open. Will Eunice increase her shifts and achieve her secret dream of becoming a librarian? Will Karen Waterworth, the Thank You note and book sale queen take over the lead? Could April run an adult reading program? Joyce take over book cataloguing? The field is wide open. It's an exciting competition, and all you have to do to join it is stop by the library.

Thank you, Angelique, for your time and your enthusiasm. You are a great example to our community.



# SPECIAL NEW YEAR SAVINGS

Items on sale Dec. 29, 2008 - Jan. 11, 2009 Only! • All prices include VT taxes.

Visit The Vermont Department of Liquor Control website at http://www.liquorcontrol.vermont.gov



































# Poultney News



The Poultney Chamber of Commerce has announced Una Jean Capman as the Town's 2008 Citizen of the Year. Una Jean was chosen for her work with Poultney's youth. A reception was held in her honor by the Poultney Area Chamber of Commerce on December 28 at the American Legion in Poultney. Congratulations Una Jean on an award well deserved.

According to the minutes of a recent Poultney Board of Selectboard meeting the following information was presented to the Board

#### ROAD REPORT:

- 1. Potholes continue to be filled.
- 2. Copies of a letter from Mario Dupigny-Giroux, Traffic Safety Engineer for the Agency of Transportation was distributed regarding the Road Safety Audit that was conducted on the Thrall Road. Grant funds in the amount of \$15,000 is available to implement some of the recommendations from the Report, however the Town has not received a hard copy of the report. A meeting was scheduled with the engineer and Susan Schreibman from the Rutland Regional Transportation Planning Council to discuss the report.
- 3. The Rutland Regional Transportation Planning Council has requested a list of transportation projects from each town that are ready to go to construction for next year in anticipation of a second economic stimulus package.
- 4. The Agency of Transportation's Bridge&Culvert reimbursement forms have been submitted for the Bridge over the East Road. Construction costs including guardrail, paving and bridge amounted to \$78,131 in expenses. The Town Highway crew supplied labor and equipment for the local matching funds. The Agency of Transportation reimbursed the Town \$76,950 for
- 5. Bids were opened for the sand/salt shed building. Bids were received from Hollister Building

Company in the amount of \$89,750. Miracle Steel Structures bid in the amount of \$89,791. The total bids are being evaluated by the engineering firm of Forcier Aldrich & Associates. Griswold was the only bidder for concrete blocks. No action was taken at

#### TOWN MANAGERS REPORT:

- 1. The Listers received a fourth reappraisal proposal from the Vermont Appraisal Company.
- 2. The Rutland County Humane Society is working with several area residents to control stray cat population with assistance from several Green Mountain College students.
- 3. Town Manager Jonas Rosenthal is looking for the information requested by LT. David Notte of the Vermont State Police regarding contracts for local coverage since 1991.
- 4. Information regarding the Poultney Safe Routes to School Program was distributed. The Summary was prepared by Chuck Helfer who is the coordinator for this program.
- 5. The Traffic Count Report at the Poultney Elementary for the Safe Routes to School Program was also distributed. The information will be used in planning for traffic safety improvements next year.
- 6. Copies of the State press release regarding the Vermont Byways programs receiving nearly \$800,000 in federal funds were distributed. The Stone Valley Byways receive \$67,500 for the development of promotional materials and a website. Poultney is a member of the Byways.
- 7. Copies of the 2008 Lake St. Catherine Milfoil Management Report were distributed. This report was submitted for the Aquatic Nuisance Control Grant closeout to the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation.

Where Do We Go from Here? by Senator Bernie Sanders

When Barack Obama is sworn in as president of the United States on January 20, he will inherit a series of problems more severe than at any time since the Great Depression. Here are just a few of the issues that he, the Congress and all Americans must confront:

The middle class is continuing its steep decline with unemployment soaring, and millions of people in danger of loosing their homes, savings and health insurance. The dream of a college education is fading away for many working families as college costs go up while incomes go down. This year, as a result of the economic downturn, the bailout of Wall Street, ongoing tax breaks for the very rich and the war in Iraq, our nation will have a record-breaking deficit and a huge \$10.4 trillion dollar national debt.

As a result of Wall Street greed, recklessness and dishonesty, our entire financial system is in danger of collapsing. The taxpayers of this country have seen trillions of their dollars placed at risk in the largest bailout in world history.

Our health care system is disintegrating. Despite spending far more per capita than any other country, 47 million Americans have no health insurance, even more are underinsured and we pay the highest prices in the world for prescription drugs.

We are currently involved in wars in Iraq and Afghanistan which cost us not only the lives and well-being of our soldiers, but over \$10 billion a month. These wars are also stretching the Army and our National Guard to the breaking point.

Despite the reality of global warming we have not broken our dependency on fossil fuel and foreign oil, and have made only slight advances in moving toward energy efficiency and sustainable energy.

Those are some of our problems. There are solutions. Where do we go from here?

The very good news is that we are finally seeing the end of the most incompetent and reactionary administration in the modern history of this country. It is my hope and expectation that, in very short order, President Obama will begin moving this country in a very different direction from where Bush has led us, and I look forward to working with him in that effort. The time is long overdue for the U.S. government to begin representing the needs of our middle-class and working families, and not just the greedy, the wealthy and the powerful.

Here are some of the initiatives that I will be fighting for as soon as the new Congress reconvenes in January:

- A major economic recovery program which invests at least \$400 billion in each of the next two years to create millions of good-paying jobs rebuilding our infrastructure and moving us toward energy independence, sustainable energy and energy efficiency. In Vermont and throughout the country our roads and bridges are crumbling, our water systems and wastewater plants need major repair and older schools need to be modernized. Millions of homes and buildings are wasting huge amounts of energy and need to be properly weatherized, and we must be aggressive in improving and expanding our public transportation. Further, we now have the opportunity to create many new jobs by advancing such renewable technologies as wind, solar, geothermal and biomass.
- An investigation as to how the greed and recklessness of Wall Street financiers caused the greatest financial collapse since the 1920s. Those who are responsible for this debacle must be held accountable, and not be allowed to walk away with huge fortunes while the middle class bails them out. Most importantly, we must build a new financial system which discourages short-term and reckless profiteering and reestablishes proper governmental safeguards and regulations.
- Legislation to provide health care to every man, womand child as a right of citizenship. In addition, to greatly expand our primary health care capabilities by educating and sending more doctors, nurses, dentists and other health professionals into rural areas and other medically underserved parts of our country.
- An orderly process to bring our troops home from Iraq as soon as possible. We also need a national conversation about the best way to proceed in Afghanistan.

Vermonters often ask me whether I am pessimistic about the future of our country. My honest answer is that I am not. Difficult times often bring out the best in people. Now, in this moment of great national crisis, I am confident that with new national leadership and strong grass-roots participation we can come together and create the kind of nation that all of us know America can be.

# "Good Dog!" Classes in January

Do you know that the Rutland County Humane Society (RCHS) offers dog obedience classes? Would you like your dog to sit and walk nicely on a leash? Does your dog jump on you and your friends? If you'd like to work with your dog to make him a well behaved member of the family please consider

bringing him to obedience class. We use dog-friendly methods relying on positive reinforcement and management to achieve our training goals. New classes are starting in January. For more information please call RCHS at (802) 483-6700 or visit www.rchsvt.org.

# **Girl Scout Cookie Program Prepares Girls for Real Life**



cal Girl Scouts will be selling America's favorite - Girl Scout cookies! When you purchase Girl Scout cookies, you can be assured you are getting a great product AND, at the same

time, you are supporting this country's premier leadership development program for girls!

Like all Girl Scout programs, cookie activities are girl-driven. Girls make their own decisions, set personal and troop goals, and run the program with the help of nurturing adults. The Girl Scout cookie program fosters numerous life skills that prepare girls for the future. Girls use math skills to manage money. Girls work together to plan how they will use the money earned which builds teamwork and encourages goal-setting, saving, and budget planning. As girls explore how to meet their goals, they develop a marketing plan and action steps. Girls reach out to neighbors and community organizations through the cookie program, learning communications and public relations skills as well.

Your purchases support local troops and girls right in your own community. Girls use the money raised through the cookie program to pay national membership dues, attend camp, and to explore a wide-variety of leadership opportunities offered by the Council on such topics as math, science, engineering, information technology, wellness, and more.

The Cookie Program fosters community service, too. Many troops participate in Cookie Share! Cookie Share is a cookie-related service project where a Girl Scout troop adopts a local charity such as a food shelf, nursing home, or hospice. When customers order, they are invited to purchase cookies to be donated to the selected charity. Girls Scouts take the orders and deliver the cookies to the charity. Different troops select different charities, so many deserving organizations throughout the area benefit. Customers are able to support two worthy causes at the same time — Girl Scouts and a local charity.

Thin Mints (the most popular Girl Scout Cookie), Caramel DeLites, Peanut Butter Patties, Peanut Butter Sandwiches, Lemonades, and Shortbreads (the original Girl Scout Cookie, first sold in 1928) all will be back this year along with another "bloomin' good" cookie, Daisy-Go-Rounds, crispy cinnamon flowers that come in ready-to-go snack packs. ALL varieties of Girl Scout cookies are "zero trans fat," in accordance with U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) guidelines, and several varieties are low in fat as well. Afraid you might get missed? Call the Girl Scout Council at 800/639-3055 to have a troop in your area contact you.





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## **BRGNS Delivers Holiday Cheer!**

The first day of winter was a day that might have challenged even Santa's Reindeer and sled. But the incredible winter storm could not stop Black River Good Neighbor Services volunteers who at times drove through complete white outs to deliver Christmas food baskets and bags of gifts to those in need.

With great support from other BRGNS Board Members and an army of wonderful volunteers, Ray LaVanway headed the distribution efforts with the organization skills of a benevolent drill sergeant. Ray said "members of our local community as well as volunteers from as far away as New York City came to Fletcher Farm at 10 minute intervals from 8 am until 3 pm. Each volunteer would load their vehicle with deliveries for three to four families and then drive off to the assigned addresses". The towns served were Cavendish, Ludlow, Mt. Holly, Proctorsville and Plymouth.

In some cases the volunteer drivers had to maneuver over side streets that despite gallant efforts by the towns, were piled high with snow. But by the end of the day 121 families had received all the makings necessary for a very Happy Holiday.

Wednesday night, Dec. 17th, another stormy night, saw many individuals and families come to Fletcher Farm to help pack the boxes. These Christmas Elves braved the weather to make a positive impact on people who, in most cases, they don't even know.

#### **Stafford Tech News**

Students Master Internet Safety

Recently, the first year students in Stafford Technical Center's Public Safety Services Class became nationally certified as trainers in the area of internet safety. The students who are now certified to provide this training to others are: Daniel Ball and Ashley Barnes, from Rutland High School, Kayla Jones, Cantlin Eaton, Erika Stocker, and Nathan Hance from Mill River Union High School, Alyssa Tuttle from West Rutland High School, Jon Schaff from Fair Haven Union High School, and Cody Hesse and Justin Cram from Otter Valley Union High School. The students are now available to do presentations to school groups, Boy Scouts or Girl Scouts, church youth groups and other organizations that would benefit from this program.

Hospitality Students Receive From November 3, 2008 to December 12, 2008, U.S. Department of the Treasury's fall 2008 National Financial Literacy Challenge was taken by more than 75,000 high school students. Participants included students in rural areas, suburbs, and cities in this country, and in Department of Defense schools around the world. The following Stafford students scored in the top 25th percentile of the nation's scores. Stephen A. Bassett, Christian W. Doran, Morgan L. Harvey and Cassandra L. Schultz.

If you have a problem with domestic violence, sexual violence or child abuse you can get help! These organizations offer FREE and CONFIDENTIAL assistance 24 hours a day, EVERY day. You don't need to suffer alone. Ask for help!

#### **LOCAL HELP**

The Rutland County Women's Network and Shelter is dedicated to assisting survivors of domestic and sexual violence.

www.rcws.org

24-hour hotline: 802-775-3232

Free & Confidential

#### **STATEWIDE HELP**

The Vermont Network Against Domestic and Sexual Violence is committed to eradicating domestic and sexual violence through advocacy, empowerment and social change.

www.vtnetwork.com

24-hour Hotlines

**Domestic Violence: 1-800-228-7395** Sexual Violence: 1-800-489-7273

#### **NATIONAL HELP**

Stop It Now!® prevents the sexual abuse of children by mobilizing adults, families and communities to take actions that protect children before they are harmed.

www.stopitnow.com 24 hour hotline: 1-888-PREVENT

# rocto



On Sunday, Dec. 7, members and friends of the Union Church of Proctor joyfully celebrated the 35th anniversary of their pastor, Russ Gates. Russ earned his BA at Occidental College in Los Angeles, and his Masters of Divinity at Union Theological Seminary. He was ordained by the United Church of Christ in December of 1973.

Immediately following his ordination, Russ and his wife, Lenore, began serving the Congregational Church of Vergennes, where they stayed for twelve years. Russ had a "tent-making ministry," modeled after the Apostle Paul who made tents to finance his mission travels. Russ declined a salary and supported his family by restoring antiques, serving the church in the evenings and on weekends. He has since built a workshop for his woodworking at each church that he has served.

In 1985, Russ and Lenore accepted a call to the Second Church of Plymouth in Manomet, Massachusetts, where Russ continued his antique restoration and ministry combination. Four years later, they moved back to Vermont to begin serving Union Church of Proctor, where they have been for nineteen years.

Russ has become known in the Rutland area for organizing volunteer crews to build ramps, making people's homes accessible. He received the Governor's Award for Outstanding Community Service for these efforts. Last year, under Russ' leadership, Union Church completed its own accessible entrance.

For 35 years, Russ has successfully helped church members in each congregation that he has served become involved in the hands-on business of the ministry. Those at Union Church of Proctor, and many people in the Rutland region, congratulate him and wish him well on the occasion of this special anniversary. Special thanks to Nancy Allenby who helped provide this information.Proctor Elementary 5 & 6 graders have been participating in a new program this year called Starbase Vermont. This program provides valuable hands-on learning opportunities in science, math, teambuilding and personal development. Each class participates in activity-based curriculum conducted over 5 days which is typically over a five week period. It also offers hands-on training for our educators.

For example on day 1 consists of a team building activity, start rocket construction, ocean of air experiments which gets into pressure, space, fluid, and weight, and finally they do PTC computer aided design. In the following days activities they will also explore building hot air balloons, astronomy, visit the Rutland airport, flight simulation and launch their rocket/balloon. At the end of the program the students are asked to present their dreams collage. This is where the students think about their dreams/goals and put these ideas into concrete visuals and words, the important things being WHY they want to reach them and HOW the they are going to do it. PES is lucky to be able to participate in this wonderful program.

Here is a schedule of the upcoming Selectboard Meetings for January 2009. Many budget issues will be discusses so you may want to attend if you have any concerns. Monday, January 5, 6:00 p.m. at Proctor Free Library. A Special joint meeting with Finance Committee to solicit public comment on the proposed FY2010 municipal budgets. Monday, January 12 at 6:00 p.m. at Town Office. Regular first meeting of the month - Finance Committee presents their recommendations on the FY2010 budget. Monday, January 1 at 6:00 p.m. at Town Office. Special meeting to approve the final FY2010 budget, sign the warning, and compile the preliminary comments on the draft comprehensive preliminary engineering study. Thursday, January 22 at 5:00 p.m. at Town Office. Special meeting to discuss comments on the draft preliminary engineering study with Kevin Smith. And the final meeting is Monday, January 26 at 6:00 p.m. at Town Office. Regular second meeting of the month - approve final FY2008 Town Report.

## **Master Gardeners' Awards**

The Rutland County Master Gardeners announced Gary and Charlene Clifford as "Outstanding Master Gardeners" at their 18th Annual

Meeting held in Rutland. Nancy Hulett, Program director at the University of Vermont Extension Service presented the award. The Clifford's were cited for their work at Pine Hill Park, the Pocket Park in West Rutland and the Vermont State Fair. The Clifford's completed the Master Gardener Programwith the Class of 2004.

Other awards were presented to: ; Chapter Treasurer: Barb Smith ; Speakers Bureau: Vir-Nancy, Char and Gary ginia Small, Ron Hebert

and Elaine Nordmeyer; State Master Gardener Advisory Board: David Baird and Virginia Small; Site Facilitators of 2008 Master Gardener Course: Carol Macaluso and Diana Hayes; Scamp Camp at The Old Homestead Garden in Castleton: Rosemary Mosier; West Rutland Pocket Park: Charlene Clifford, Jerri 1499 or e-mail richcinvt@aol.com

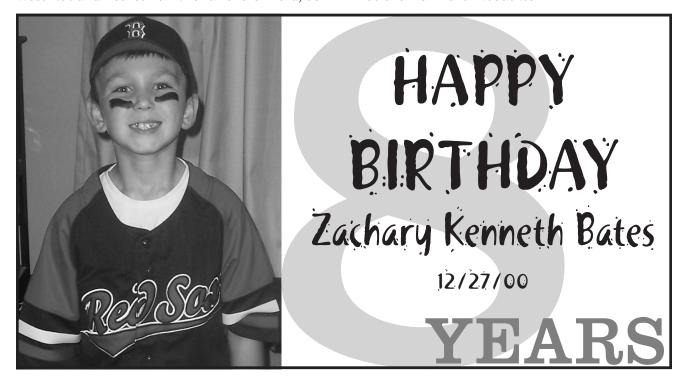
Hoffman and Bonnie Mylott; The Vermont State Fair:; Project Co-Leaders: Emmett Perry and Jan Sherman; Volunteer Scheduler: Natasha Sen: ; Raised Bed Gar-

> dens: Elaine Nordmeyer; Composting Component: Ron Hebert; Valued Master Gardener Supporter/ Contributor: Jane Hurley: ; Water Feature: Gary and Charlene Clifford: ; "Gardens for Learning" at the Boys & Girls Club:; Project Co-Leaders: Cheryl Gedris and Donna Gallant; Intern Mentor: Masako Gibeault; Clarendon Elementary School Garden: Barb Smith; Master Gardener Annual Plant Sale: Sarah Stoodley; Garden Ramble: Bonnie Mylott;



For more information regading the 2009 Master Gardener Course, contact:; Rich Carlson @ 802 236







by Johnnie Goldfish

The Pittsfield Pinecone ponders that New Year's Eve has always been a time for looking back to the past, and more importantly, forward to the coming year. It is a time to reflect on the changes we want (or need) to make and resolve to follow through on those changes. With that in mind the elusive, yet mouthy, Pinecone says, throw the dog a bone.

Rochester School sixth grader Darius Jordan has been invited to participate in the Junior National Young Leaders Conference in Washington, D.C. next spring. Sponsored by the Congressional Youth Leadership Council, the conference introduces young people to the tradition of leadership throughout American history and helps them develop their own leadership skills. During the six-day program, the students take part in educational activities and presentations, meet elected officials and Congressional staff members on Capitol Hill, and visit historic sites in the area.

Darius, who is interested in politics and American history, is very excited about the opportunity to attend the conference. However, he needs to raise the tuition money to participate in the program and is hoping area folks will be willing to help sponsor him. Anyone who would like to make a donation to his trip fund, should send it in care of his mother, Anna Jordan, PO Box 44, Rochester, VT 05767.

A Riddle: What do you throw out when you want to use it, but take back when you don't want to use it? Answer below.

The Super Green Polar Team, Stockbridge's Lego Robotics Team, would like to thank their sponsors for the 2008 season! These sponsors provided solid support for this team of fourth and fifth graders who made it to the Lego Championships. Thank you very much to the following individuals and businesses: Ed Grossman and Jeanne Conde, Catherine and Stephen Farrington, Applied Research Associates, Joseph DeSena, Northfield Savings Bank, Randolph National Bank, Mascoma Savings Bank, Peavine Family Restaurant and Cockadoodle Pizza. A big Good Neighbor, Yahooooo and Thank You!

Riddle Answer – An anchor.

The Bird Report: Long term investing in your bird feeding is a worthwhile endeavor for the birds and for

you aesthetically. Shop around for clearance fruit bearing trees and plant them. Mountain ash is popular with grosbeaks and robins. Bird favorites can be dogwood, chokecherry and pincherry.

The Stockbridge Central School (SCS) PTO's next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 6 at 6:30 pm. Everyone is encouraged to attend, a fun way to start the New Year.

From the SCS Newsletter: A,B,C's of Success; M is for money. Children can start learning about money at a young age. Parents can help very young kids understand how money is used by letting them hand money to a cashier. Soon children will be able to make choices about how to spend money as they learn that it is a limited resource. Older children can compare prices. (How much can be saved by buying a generic brand cereal?) Kids also need to learn about saving money. Young kids might use a piggy bank while older children will learn about interest by setting up a real bank account. Learning in and out of the classroom.

The Human Tail: one perspective; Think not of how, Savvy Readers, whether in terms of logistics, people, or inspiration, but of the end results you dream of. The end, in thought, combined with action, in its general direction, will always create the necessary circumstances, serendipities, epiphanies, ideas, and discoveries necessary to bring about the desired manifestation. The hard part is done for you. Your part is the easy part; Think and let go. Knock on every door and turn over every stone. Do not insist upon the path, but upon the overall change you wish to experience, and never take no for an answer. You can do this. You have been doing it all of your life. A note from the universe; one perspective.

Just a reminder during these difficult economic times that if your financial circumstances change, your family may become eligible for reduced school lunch rates and child care subsidies. For more information about free and reduced lunch, please contact The Family Place, 319 US RTE 5 South, Norwich, VT 05055, or call 802-649-3268 or toll free at 800-639-0039.

Thought for the Week: "Search others for their virtues, thyself for thy vices." – Abraham Lincoln, (1809-1865, believed to have said this on New Year's Eve).

Another great year of your news. Thanks from Johnnie Goldfish and the staff at the Mountain Times.

# \* MOTHER\* OF THE SKYE

Aries: (March 21-April 19): You should know better but you're going forward with this anyway. That's OK. Most of us have to learn the hard way. Somehow or other you have the idea that your ticket to normal involves following the herd. I hate to clue you but everyone else's rules aren't even working for them; what makes you think they'll work for you? If the answer to your prayers appears to be within reach, your bubble will burst the moment you start dealing with the reality of the situation. At this point maybe you should step back and reconsider your choices.

Taurus: (April 20-May 20): Don't press people or be over eager to hook up. Timing is everything when it comes to these things. If others are reluctant or seem unresponsive it's only because they're going through their own process and can't tune in to yours just yet. Underneath it all they want the same thing so be patient. The next time you feel inclined to approach them you'll be surprised at how willing they are to welcome you in. For now take their reservations with a grain of salt and use this time to reflect upon what it is you really want out of this.

Gemini: (May 21-June 21): Parental issues come in all different shapes and sizes. Sometimes they're right in our face and other times they run us from within. You aren't quite sure what to make of some of the stuff that's been coming up for you lately but you're beginning to see the extent to which your relationships have been totally messed up by Mommy and Daddy. If it seems as if you'll never crawl out from under the past, take heart; at the energetic level you're already free – and within the next 6 months your love life will begin to reflect everything your heart desires.

Cancer: (June 22-July 22): No one could have predicted this. Even those who know you can't figure it out. It seems as if life is calling you to move in a whole new direction. Part of you is as afraid of the unknown as you are excited about what you'll find when you get there – and you may be overly concerned about whether or not you'll be able to adapt to things that were definitely not part of the plan. You know what they say; if you want to make God laugh, tell him your plans! Let go of your security trips, and your certainty issues; winging it is where it's at right now.

Leo: (July 23-Aug. 22): Being there for people only works up to a point. You've been so good about helping someone deal with their difficulties your own needs have gotten lost in the process. It looks to me like they're strong enough to move forward without your support, so maybe it's time to get back into your own thing. This may involve reexamining your relationship to your work. Getting real about where that's going will require you to face the fact that you can't depend on anything right now. As far as that goes, don't assume that hanging in there will pay off.

Virgo: (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Trying to decide what you want when you don't know what it is, is insane. Stop putting so much pressure on yourself to have it all figured out. From a cosmic perspective you might as well be in limbo right now – and since that's what's happening it would be good for you to see that the latest clue to the new direction hasn't even formed yet. Give yourself plenty of space and time to think, roam, or just do nothing. The point is to stay joyful. If you can allow yourself to remain in that state your deepest wishes and desires will be plain as day in no time.

Libra: (Sept. 23-Oct. 23): Stay tuned to opportunities because they're going to be popping up everywhere. A lot of what's about to open up will happen where you least expect to find it. One of the keys to making things happen has to do with getting out and about. Invitations to do even the most mundane things could yield more than you can imagine. And if anyone invites you to take off on a trip or wants you to sign up for a seminar know that whoever is upstairs is just trying to put you in the right place at the right time. Who knows? In a year you could be exactly where you want to be.

Scorpio: (Oct. 24-Nov. 21): You haven't been this happy in a long time. And what you're seeing is that your happiness has less to do with people, places, and things than it does with how you feel inside. Looking back on your past there's been way too much trying to fit in to what you think is expected, or what you think someone like you should be doing. The changes of the last few years have shown you that most of that stuff is bull----! So now, here you are, filled with a sense of inner peace that will serve to attract only what is good into a life that has seen enough trouble.

Sagittarius: (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): You're wondering if all this confusion could have been avoided if you had just known enough to endure what you couldn't tolerate about a year ago. There's no way to tell what would have happened if you made different choices. Living with the circumstances you've created may be difficult, but at least you're aware of what you did. It'll take a while to heal this and it'll require you to put out an enormous amount of effort. That's OK. One thing you've got going for you is a positive attitude and a desire to grow beyond the lessons of the past.

Capricorn: (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Getting this much disrespect from people who should be grateful for everything you've given, and everything you've done for them is hard to swallow, but that's where it's at. You can't blame others for being too small or too messed up to see that they should be grateful. Health issues are also an issue and believe it or not they're connected to all of the above. Somehow or other your body has taken on what your mind can't handle. Forgiveness is the key to everything. Once you find it in your heart to forgive all of this will clear up instantaneously.

Aquarius: (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): What you couldn't foresee has put a monkey wrench into all of your plans. Moving forward will require you to adapt, and perhaps totally change your direction. If you're too stuck on pursuing the same dream you could easily wind up disappointed. Loosen the gears that drive your reality and try to see this as an opportunity to change absolutely everything. The truth is, whatever's been disrupted needed to fall apart. Don't freak out about it. Sometimes the universe has to hit us over the head with a sledgehammer to get us to see the light.

have bears any resemblance to what you want, guess again! Part of you knows this, but you're so good at making silk purses out of sows' ears you can't tell the difference anymore. I don't know how long it will be before you get real but I have a feeling you're almost there. Others are so obviously taking too much and giving so little in return you're running on empty. The sooner you get over the idea that this is working for you the sooner you'll be able to extricate yourself from a very unhealthy situation.

Pisces: (Feb. 19-March 20):You're living in a dream. If you think what you

## **Food Stamp Eligibility Expands**

Starting January 1, 2009, the eligibility limit for Food Stamps is being expanded so that more people can qualify for food assistance funds. There will be no restrictions on the amount of resources one can have with a gross income under 185% of the federal poverty level. That is equivalent to a monthly income of \$1,604 for one person and \$2,159 for a couple. Those with higher incomes might also qualify, but their resources cannot exceed \$3,000.

Food Stamps help people of all ages to eat better. Rules are more flexible for older adults to qualify. Their Food Stamp eligibility is based on their net income, instead of gross. The following living expenses are taken into consideration to get down to a net figure: medical bills and insurance premiums, rent, mortgage, property taxes, home owner's insurance and utilities. For a person age 65+, the Food Stamp benefit comes as a check, directly deposited into the recipient's bank

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

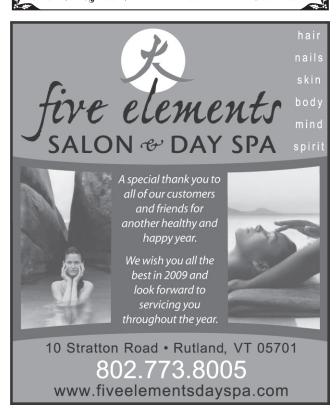
Each block is divided by its own matrix of nine cells. The rule for solving Suduko puzzles are very simple. Each row, column and block must contain one of the numbers from "1" to "9". No number may appearmore than once in any row, column, or block. When you've filled the entire grid the puzzle is solved.

This week's solution in the Classified section.

account. Those under 65 are issued debit cards for use at the grocery store.

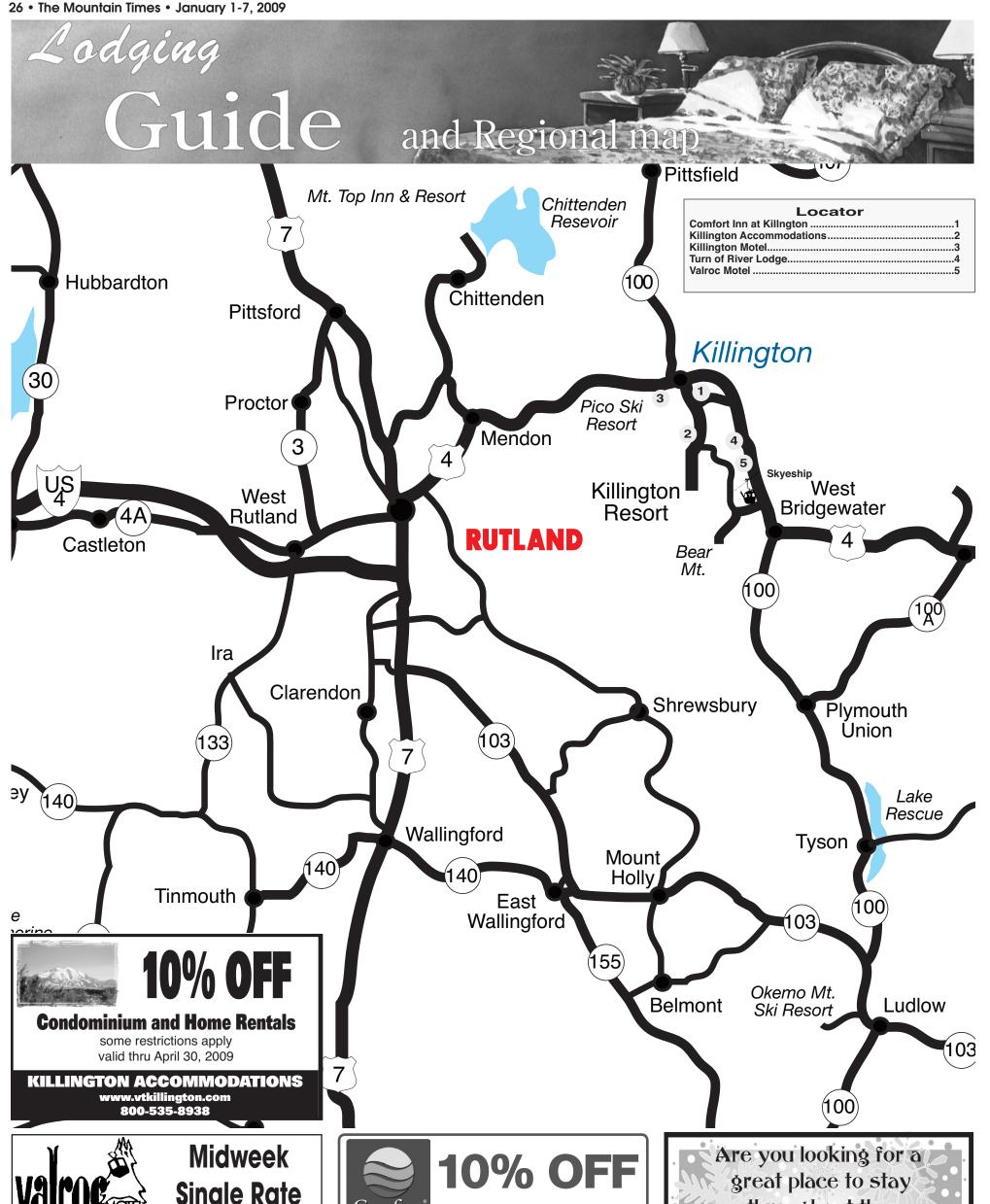
People age 60+ can get more information from the Senior HelpLine, Southwestern Vermont Council on Aging, serving Rutland and Bennington counties: 800-642-5119, 802-786-5991; seniorhelpline@svcoa.org; www.svcoa.org.





# Mother of the Skye

Mother of the Skye has 30 years of experience as an astrologer and tarot consultant. She may be reached by email to runewitch@hotmail.com





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Start the new year off with getting more exercise. Join the Killington Section of the Green Mountain Club on a strenuous climb of Herrick Mountain near Florence. Join up with other hikers at 9:00 a.m., Saturday, January 3, at Rutland City Park near the fire station. The hike is open to all ages and free. For more info, call (802)775-3855.

The children's tale of Hansel and Gretel comes to the stage of The Paramount on Sunday, January 4, in the form of "fairy tale opera" with music by Engelbert Humperdinck (the German composer, not the contemporary vocalist). The performance begins at 2:00 p.m. For tickets, call (802) 775-0903. (Hansel & Gretel returns to The Paramount stage on Tuesday, January 6, for a school children's performance.

The first 2009 Legislative Breakfast, sponsored by the Rutland Region Chamber of Commerce and Rutland Economic Development Corporation, features Governor Douglas speaking at South Station Restaurant. In addition to the attraction of the gov's speech, there's a full breakfast buffet to look forward to. Reserve your spot with a phone call to (802) 773-2747.

Letters to the Earth by Mark Twain is the focus of Annie's Book Stop's Reading Group on Tuesday, January 6 and 12, from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. Published posthumously, this collection of stories and essays has drawn more negative comments than any of Twain's other writings. The evenings are free and open to the public.

Congratulations to the American Red Cross on setting a record for one-day New England blood drives. The old one-day record had been set in Fenway Park, Boston, on September 11, 2006, with 722 pints collected. The new record, set in Rutland, December 23, 2008, is 849 pints; 1002 people came to donate. Thanks to CVPS, WJJR/WSYB, and The Paramount for their help. Over the past six years, the Gift-of-Life Marathon has collected 3,293 pints.

Rutland's fire department is asking city residents for help this winter in digging out fire hydrants. There are more than 600 hydrants in the city, and freeing them from ongoing snowfalls is a major task. If there's a buried fireplug near your home or business, please help dig it out so that, if needed, it can be connected and put in use quickly.

Town Meeting Day looms on the somewhat distant horizon, and among its numerous issues may be that of instant runoff voting for the mayor's race. Agroup of volunteers has been circulating a petition toward that end, hoping to gain the requisite 5 percent of voters to sign before the January 2 deadline. As proposed, it seems like one of those strange math puzzles you used to see in the Readers' Digest: voters would rank their candidates in order of preference and mathematical mumbo jumbo would then pull out the top two candidates. Votes for other candidates would be distributed among the top two if he or she is a voter's second preference.

The state is awarding \$18,000 to Rutland in a community development block grant, to go toward a Vermont Innovative Kitchen, a business incubator for small and start-up food companies.

Watch for monthly cooking demos at the Rutland Natural Food Market (the Co-op) on Wales Street.



# **Garrison Keillor at** The Paramount, February 2



Satirist and nationally prominent radio personality, Garrison Keillor will be bringing his "Evening with Garrison Keillor - Tales From Lake Wobegone" to the Paramount Theatre on Monday, February 2, 2009.

Paramount Director Bruce Bouchard, com-

mented, "There is no question that Garrison Keillor is an icon; a Mark Twain/Will Rogers of his day and his generation. To say that we are agitated with excitement and anticipation for this very special event would be something of an understatement. A number of corporate leaders and friends of the theatre pulled together to help us make this happen. It is clear that a person of Mr. Keillor's stature certainly raises the bar for The Paramount.

In an advance opportunity, tickets will go live Sunday, December 7-10, on the Paramount Theatre website, www.paramountlive.org. Any remaining seats will be available at the Paramount Theatre Box Office beginning December 11, at 11:00 AM. Tickets are \$40, \$60, \$80 and are available online at www.paramountlive.org or through the Box Office: 802-775-0903.

## **Downtown Rutland History**

courtesy www.rutlanddowntown.com

Native Americans were first to inhabit the region. Artifacts left by these ancient hunters date back as early as 8,500 BC. Settled in 1770, the first grantee of the township charter was from Rutland, Massachusetts. By 1774 thirty five families made their homes in the community. Rutland City was a prosperous community in the mid to late 1800's. Rutland was the seat of the state legislature from 1784 to 1804. Growth was spurred by the arrival of the railroad in 1850. Incorporated as a city in 1892 Rutland boasted a population of 16,000.

The historically preserved downtown is alive with shoppes, restaurants and entertainment.

Situated in a year-round resort area Downtown Rutland has long been a busy commercial and manufacturing center, a focus for the outlying area and a very urban place in the rural state of Vermont. As befits the Vermont lifestyle, the Green Mountain State's second-largest city moves at a comfortable, but not too-fast, pace.

Marble quarrying, an important economic activity since the 1840's, still flourishes nearby. Rutland's varied manufacturers include medical equipment, textile goods, electrical supplies, paper products, machinery, aircraft accessories, iron castings, and printed materials.

Rutland was once the hub of a railroad that linked the Atlantic seaboard with the St. Lawrence River. The first train arrived in November 1849 and the Rutland Railroad's depot, main yards and repair shops grew up here.

In the years before the Civil War, 45 trains rolled into Rutland daily. Trains made possible Vermont's marble and slate businesses. You can still find evidence of the railroad's impact on the downtown growth of Rutland in the presence of the magnificent business blocks along Merchants Row.

## 2009 Rutland Calendar Now On Sale!

The 2009 Rutland Calendar features 16 stunning photos of Rutland chosen from the 2008 Capturing the Heart of Rutland Amateur Photo Contest exhibited at the Chaffee Art Center. The photo contest attracted 167 photos that truly captured what makes Rutland special, from artistic views of downtown to rural farms to flowing creeks and local landmarks. Included in the calendar are some of the award winners from the photo contest. To see all 16 calendar photos please go to the Dismas House website at http://www. dismasofvermont.org/vdhr.htm

The calendars are great holiday gifts for your friends and family. They will be on sale for \$20 (\$10 tax deductible). All proceeds support the programs at Rutland Dis-

mas House, a transitional home for men and women coming out of prison.

Calendars will be on sale at the Farmer's Market on Saturdays from 9:00 a.m. until noon and daily (please call for hours) at Rutland Downtown Partnership, 103



Wales Street, 773-9380; Rutland Free Library, 10 Court Street, 773-1860; Calendars will also be on sale at the Chaffee Art Center during Art in the Park Weekend, October 11 and 12. For more information please contact Rutland Dismas House at 775-5539.

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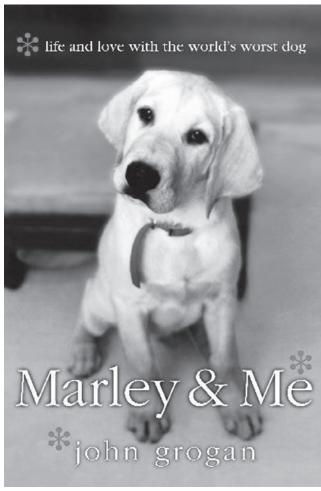


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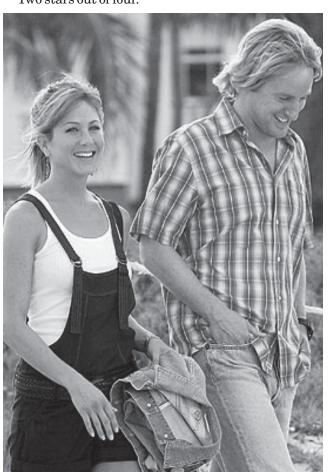
## "Marley & Me"

Christy Lemire, AP Movie Critic



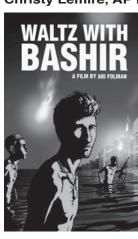
Aww, look at that cute, fluffy puppy in those "Marley & Me"ads. It almost makes you think you're in for a feelgood comedy about a rambunctious yellow Lab and the family who loves him no matter what chaos he causes. Well, "Marley & Me" is all that, but if you've read the best-selling memoir by John Grogan that inspired the movie, you also know that it has more than its share of hanky moments. Watching all those heart-tugging stories play out on a giant screen, though, we're not talking about just a tear or two welling up we're talking grown men and women snuffling and sobbing uncontrollably. So yes, it's effective in its ability to evoke emotion having said that, it's not a particularly good movie. Director David Frankel ("The Devil Wears Prada") leaps back and forth in blandly episodic fashion between the incorrigible Marley doing wacky, destructive things and his owners, journalists John (Owen Wilson) and Jenny (Jennifer Aniston), furthering their lives as a married couple and, ultimately, as parents. There's no great momentum, just a long, flat arc toward the inevitable. PG for thematic material, some suggestive content and language. 123 min.

Two stars out of four.



### "Waltz With Bashir"

**Christy Lemire, AP Movie Critic** 



Unlike anything you've ever seen before, this will change your ideas about the possibility of film. It's an animated documentary, which probably sounds like a contradiction in terms, but even describing it that way threatens to place it in the kinds of tidy, well-defined boxes that "Waltz With Bashir" consistently defies. Maybe it's best just to describe what director Ari Folman has done. The former Israeli army soldier finds himself unable

to recall his involvement in a massacre that occurred during the Lebanon war in 1982. A longtime friend, who's still haunted by what he saw back then, reminds Folman of it at a bar one night, but Folman can't even reach the slightest sliver of a memory in his mind. And so he goes back to visit his fellow former troops, both close pals and people he hasn't talked to in ages, and tries to piece together the bloody events that took place at the Palestinian refugee camps of Sabra and Shatila. He even talks to veteran war correspondent Ron Ben-Yishai for his insights. Folman then gathered the video footage of all those conversations and, in a hand-drawn process that took four years of painstaking work, had it illustrated by a team led by animation director Yoni Goodman and artistic director David Polonsky. The result is breathtaking: With bold strokes and delicate details, it looks like a graphic novel come vibrantly to life. One of the year's best pictures, "Waltz With Bashir" will stick with you long afterward, both for its startling content and striking imagery. R for some disturbing images of atrocities, strong violence, brief nudity and a scene of graphic sexual content. 87 min.

Three and a half stars out of four.



The Mountain Times is an independently owned weekly newspaper serving residents of, and visitors to, the Mid Vermont Region. Editorial and sales offices are located on Route 4, between Killington Road and the Killington Skyeship, Killington, VT

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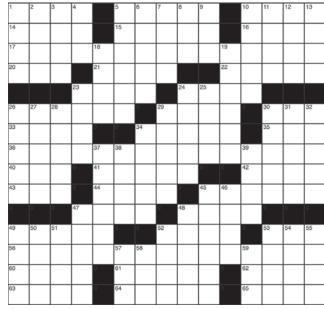
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# 2008 Year-End Rot REB/Hip-Hop Singles

- 1. "Like You'll Never See Me Again," Alicia Keys.
- 2. "I Remember," Keyshia Cole.
- 3. "Just Fine," Mary J. Blige.
- 4. "Heaven Sent," Keyshia Cole.
- 5. "Suffocate," J. Holiday.
- 6. "Lollipop," Lil Wayne feat. Static Major.
- 7. "Need U Bad," Jazmine Sullivan.
- 8. "No One," Alicia Keys.
- 9. "Spotlight," Jennifer Hudson.
- 10. "Can't Help but Wait, Trey Songz.



#### **ACROSS**

- 1. Run away quickly. 5. Treated with an application.
- 10. Stare of amazement.
- 14. Pertaining to aeronautics. 15. Strong, pleasant smell.16. \_ McHone, character in TV
- series, Christy, 17. Mountain range in
- southwestern Iran. 20. Acronym for Emergency Landing Site.
- 21. Adverb meaning "at that
- time. 22. Having wing-like
- extensions 23. Person with equal standing.
- 24. Monetary penance.
- 26. Branch of philosophy dealing with morality
- 29. At the top.
- 30. Humus layer formed by
- slow decomposition in acidic
- 33. Something that plays over and over
- 34. Not taken into account.
- 35. Anger.
- 36 Common form of arteriosclerosis
- 40. 19th letter of the Greek alphabet.
- 41. Senseless person
- Ruled as India until 1937
- 43. Tree of the genus Bulmus. 44. Acronym for Transistor
- Electroabsorption Transceiver. 45. Put a new sole on.
- 47. Alfred \_, English theatrical
- manager.
- 48. Time that has elapsed. 49. Character in Kipling's
- Mowali stories. 52. Largest member of the
- dolphin family. 53. \_ C. Jemison, first African-
- American woman in space 56. Study of paralanguage
- 60. Platform for stacking books. 61. Time of life between 12
- and 20. 62. \_ Netrebko, Russian
- sonrano 63. Turn slightly away from the
- wind. 64. Trade term to describe coffee free from harshness of Rio flavor.
- 65. Turn sharply.

Solution Classifieds Section

#### **DOWN**

- 1. Disturb composure of.
- Law-abiding.
   Work equal to the work done by a force of one dyne acting over a distance of one
- 4. Ancient, royal city of the Canaanites.
- 5. Punctuation marks used between parts of a compound
- 6. Abalone found near the Channel Islands.
- 7. In the near future
- 8. Flightless, Australian bird.
- Simmons, author. 10. Purposes toward which
- endeavors are directed. 11. Western Samoa seaport.
- 12. Breathe in a labored
- 13. Other than what is under
- consideration. 18. Acronym for Ocean Thermal
- Energy Conversion.
- 19. Engage secretly in something.23. Old English unit of wine
- 24. Being caused to depart from
- the true vertical or horizontal.
- 25. Vein-like deposit
- 26. Fill with joy.
- 27. Without limitations.
- 28. Not interesting. 29. English automobile
- manufactured between 1928
- and 1930. 30. Do wrongly.
- 31. Projection from a building's upper story. 32. City in the republic of
- Macedonia.
- 34. Inhabitant of Asia.
- 37. Prescribed procedure for conducting religious
- ceremonies.
- 38. Popular Japanese hot pot.
- 39. Kiln for drying hops.45. Based on racial intolerance.
- 46. Acronym for
- Environmentally Sensitive Areas Scheme.
- 47. Wide, flat end of a paddle.
- 48. Dried plum. 49. Vaulted extension.
- 50. New Zealand parrot.

form of an S.

- Sister of Ares 52. Section of molding in the
- 53. Type of bomb planted below the ground. 54. Pustular affection of the
- skin.
- 55. Acronym for Enhanced Synthetic Apeture Radar.
- 57. It is. 58. Of a kind not seen before.
- 59. 23rd letter of Hebrew alphabet.



# On the New Years Menu: Prosperity and Luck?

by Melissa Kossler Dutton, for The Associated Press

Justin Kimbro isn't sure if eating pork, black-eyed Pork also is popular, she said, because it's said that pigs peas and greens on New Year's Day will change his luck in the coming year. But he'll eat them just in case.

"I've never not eaten it," said Kimbro, of Murray, Ky. "I don't like to take chances."

In parts of the South, those foods are supposed to bring good luck and prosperity. Many cultures have special New Years foods, from lettuce in China to lentils in Italy.

"We don't have that many rituals left. People get excited about doing the same thing year after year," said Mitchell Davis, vice president of the James Beard Foundation in New York, a group devoted to America's culinary heritage.

Betty Hakes, who was raised in a Cuban neighborhood in Miami, grew up eating 12 grapes at midnight on New Year's Eve. "As a child, I never questioned why you did that," said Hakes, who now lives in Cincinnati.

It wasn't until she moved away from home that she realized it was not a common practice and began wondering about its history. She later learned that the tradition started in Spain, where some people make a wish each time they bite into the grape. Others believe the grapes represent the months of the year, and that a sour grape signals an unlucky month.

"There have always been lots and lots of food superstitions," said New York-based food historian Francine Segan. "People love to keep tradition. It's something they do even if they forget what the tradition was."

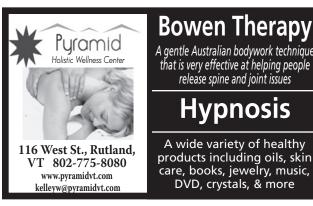
New Year's foods typically have properties that suggest good fortune, said Tina Ujlaki, executive food editor for Food & Wine magazine. Beans or leafy vegetables are favorites because they resemble coins and dollar bills, she said.

"Even cultures that don't have green money have adopted the association of green and cash," Ujlaki said.



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root forward and no one wants to dwell on the past.

Some cultures shy away from chicken because no one wants to scratch for their meals or their livelihood. And foods that expand during cooking, such as rice or noodles, also appear in many of the meals because they suggest abundance, Ujlako said.

"Everyone wants only good things going forward," she said. "All of these foods encourage that."

A sampling of some traditional New Year's foods:

> Hoppin' John: Southerners eat this dish made with pork and blackeyed peas. Both of the main ingredients have lucky connotations: pork because of a pig's tendency to root forward, and peas for their resemblance to coins.

Pork and sauerkraut: Germans and some Eastern Europeans serve sauerkraut with their lucky pork because cabbage resembles money and seems

to increase its yield when cooked.

Mochi: Japanese eat these sticky rice cakes topped with a bitter orange called daidai. The orange makes the dish lucky because daidai also means "several generations."

Lentils: Italians often prepare a meal of pork sausage and lentils on New Year's Day because of their coin-like appearance.

Lettuce: People in some parts of China eat foods wrapped in lettuce during the Chinese New Year because the word for lettuce is similar to the word for "rising fortune."

Noodles: Long noodles served uncut also are common fare during Chinese New Year. Noodles, which are also served in Japan on Jan. 1, symbolize a long life.

Apples and honey: During Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New Year, apples and honey symbolize the wish for a sweet new year.



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## **Lower Stomach Exercises**

An important and sometimes neglected step in stomach exercise routines is isolating particular muscles within the abdominal group. One such set of muscles which needs isolation in order to be exercised properly are the muscles in the lower stomach. There are a number of stomach exercises which isolate and work these muscles

Crunchless Crunch - This first exercise is fairly simple but can also be fairly difficult. Essentially, it involves trying to pull the belly button in towards the spine. This can be tricky, as it involves using muscles which you may not be used to activating. To start, either lie or on your stomach or kneel. You might want to try both ways and see which helps you feel the exercise better. Relax your body as much as possible, then try to use only the lower abdominals to move your belly button toward your spine. Hold for ten seconds. If holding for ten seconds feels easy, hold for a longer period.

Alternating Toe Touch - You will need to lie on a flat surface for this stomach exercise. The floor works best, using a mat or towel to cushion the spine. Lie on the floor and put your feet up in the air. Extend your right arm and use your lower abdominals to lift your shoulders off the floor. Touch your left toes with your right hand, then lower yourself back down. Switch hands and repeat. Keep your knees straight throughout and maintain a space between your chin and chest.

Sit-Up Hold - While you are still on the floor, try this stomach exercise. Bend your knees so your feet are flat on the floor and position your hands behind your head. Keep your elbows back so you cannot see them-- do not put them alongside your head. Use your lower abdominals to lift your shoulders off the floor. Hold for ten seconds. You may increase the number of seconds you hold as it gets easier. Be sure to lift with your abdominals and not with your arms or neck.



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# Betterium

#### **Gardening Resolutions 2009**

by Dr. Leonard Perry, Extension Professor, University of Vermont

The beginning of the New Year is the time to reflect on the past year, and to make resolutions for changes whether in health, personal habits, or in my case gardening. Here are a few of my gardening resolutions for this coming year that may give you ideas for yours.

--I resolve when ordering seeds this winter, to be realistic and only order what I can plant, and more importantly maintain during the season.

--When sowing vegetables in the garden, I'll make successive plantings, so all my lettuce and carrots don't all come ripe at once. Come to think of it, I'll do the same when setting out my gladiolus corms, so they don't all flower at the same time. I'll mark the calendar now to set them out 10 days apart, early, mid, and late May.

--Another item I didn't get to this year, I'll add to my resolutions for this coming year, is to plant enough vegetables to freeze, and make time to do this. Lacking the vegetables and time to keep up with them, my fallback option is to buy local produce to freeze.

--That's another great resolution I'll have to add, even if I have enough produce, visiting a local farmers' market regularly to get what I don't grow, and other food and fun goods.

--I will be more diligent in making good compost, turning my pile more often.

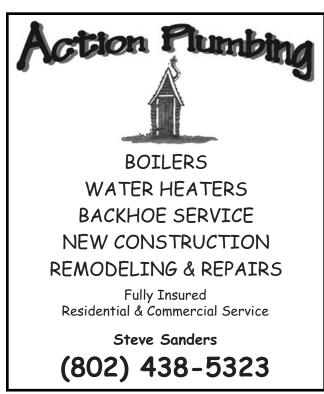
--On the topic of compost, early in the season I will either buy a bulk load or pallet of compost to spread on my beds before the perennials get too tall. With compost being used up yearly in the garden, so needing to be added each year, this resolution will be on my list for future years too

--With the weeds getting ahead of me this year in my perennial beds, I'll make it a priority to get the beds cleaned early this coming season, and to keep up with the weeds this year.

--Thinking of weeds, I'll start saving newspapers and get them laid down early in the season in garden paths







and cover with mulch, sawdust, or wood shavings from the local mill.

--I admit, sometimes this past year I didn't get sunscreen applied on sunny days. I'll do a better job with this, using one with a SPF rating of at least 30.



--Thinking about my health, I'll resolve to use garden tools properly, to lift heavy loads with my legs and not my back (or better yet to get help), to stretch and loosen muscles before gardening, to drink plenty of water, to take breaks (especially when hot), and to avoid long stretches of repetitive tasks (alternate among tasks every 10 to 20 minutes).

--My wife will like this one. I'll do a better job of taking my gardening shoes and boots off before coming indoors, even if just for a quick break. I've learned that those shoe scrapers are great, but with gardening mud don't quite do the job leaving a trail of muddy bits as proof.

--I feel embarrassed when guests visit and ask the name of a plant, and I can't find a label. At least I have a list of perennials by bed, which I'll go through this winter and research the colors of daylilies or roses or other large groupings I have. Then next season I'll try to match descriptions with the flowers when in bloom in order to get the names back on the plants. If you're not a plant collector, or just plant perennials for their beauty and design, or better yet keep up with your labels and plant names (congratulations if so!), this may not be on your list to do.

--For the wildlife, I'll resolve to keep bird baths cleaned and filled regularly, to keep bird feeders stocked and also cleaned periodically of old and rotting seeds, and to keep hummingbird feeders filled and cleaned every few days beginning the first of May.

--When buying plants this year, I'll try to find ones in pots I can wash and reuse rather than just discard as is common with so many cheap plastic plant containers. Better yet, I'll look for plants in pots made from recycled materials.

--I've begun to try and reduce my carbon footprint in my garden, using more hand tools and less power tools for starters. I'll continue to watch for ways to be more environmentally friendly.

--I've learned in our climate one has to take advantage of the nice days when we have them. If a nice day, and I can take a leave day from work and don't have essential commitments or meetings, I'll make a point to garden. To paraphrase a ski bumper sticker, Garden Today, Work Tomorrow.

--When tired of gardening or needing a break, I'll make a point to visit a local specialty perennial nursery (especially on a rainy day when its less fun to work in the garden). I'll try to visit some nurseries I haven't yet from the online listing (pss.uvm.edu/ppp/vpdgli.html). If tired of just flowers, I'll visit a local berry farm or orchard (www.uvm.edu/vtvegandberry/farmlinks.html), or make a local tour of cheese farms (www.vtcheese.com/cheesetrail.htm) and wineries (vermontgrapeandwinecouncil.com).

I'm sure I could think of many more resolutions, but these are probably enough to keep me busy and to get you started in your own. But don't forget, perhaps most importantly, resolve to take time to smell the flowers, to savor the vegetables, and to just enjoy your efforts.



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# Master Gardener Course Deadline is Near!

This University of Vermont Extension course will cover the fundamentals of plant and soil science and apply them to home gardening practices. Training focuses on a variety of horticultural topics such as; vegetable and flower gardening, botany, sustainable landscape design, soils, plant diseases, entomology, invasive plants, and more. University of Vermont faculty and experts from Vermont's horticultural agencies teach these classes. Certified Master Gardeners assist students at each classroom location. Participants purchase a comprehensive Vermont Master Gardener Sustainable Gardening Manual.

Students who wish to earn Vermont Certified Master Gardener status are required to fulfill an internship following course completion. Interns put their classroom knowledge to work by participating in established Master Gardener projects in their communities. Once certified, Vermont Master Gardeners are eligible for advanced gardening workshops and tours to stay up-to-date on horticultural research, learn and practice current gardening techniques, and enjoy the opportunity to network with advanced gardeners, UVM faculty, and other green industry professionals.

This course will be offered on Tuesday evenings, February 3 through April 21, in Bennington, Brattleboro, Johnson, Lyndon, Montpelier, Middlebury, Newport, Randolph Center, Rutland, Springfield, St. Albans, Waterbury, and White River Junction. Accommodations are available for participants to make-up a maximum of three missed classes if needed.

To register or for fees and other information please: visit www.uvm.edu/mastergardener; email master. gardener@uvm.edu; or call 802-656-9562.

# Pet /e...

# PET PERSONALS

BEN -2 year old. Neutered Male. Chow Chow mix. I am an adorable dog with a sweet personality, once I get to know you! I love attention and I enjoy going for walks. I will need to be supervised when meeting new people because I can get a bit nervous.

SIMBA -8 year old. Spayed Female. Domestic Long Hair Gray Tiger. I'm a beautiful lady who is quiet and sweet. I'm best friends with my sister, Phoebe, and we're both looking for new homes. Our previous owner was moving and couldn't take us along. I would probably do best in a quiet home without a lot of activity.

NUIT - 2 year old. Spayed Female. Domestic Short Hair Black. I'm a friendly, social gal who has a pretty face. I like being held and petted and being with people. I was a stray from Rutland so I'm looking for an insideonly house.

SHADOW - 1.5 year old. Spayed Female. Labrador Retriever/Pit Bull mix. I am very sweet and social! I love to play and would love a family that is very active and will provide me with the training that I need. I want to stay busy all of the time and am not much of a couch potato dog.

DOS - 7 month old. Spayed Female. Domestic Short Hair Gray. I'm a quiet, shy gal who has a sweet personality. I like to hang out with my brother Tres and we like to play together. I'm an active lady who loves to play with toys.

KITTENS - Boys and Girls. Every color and coat length you can imagine. Right now the RCHS has many kittens from which to choose. Kittens are wonderfully entertaining and full of spirit.













SNOW WHITE-2 year old. Spayed Female. Domestic Short Hair Black. I'm a super sweet Mom and all of my kittens have been adopted and now it's my turn! My kittens and I were found as strays in Rutland and it was scary being out there on our own!

DONOVAN-1 year old. Neutered Male. Hound mix. I'm as cute as can be! I'm very playful and I love to go for walks. Being a Hound mix, I tend to follow my nose and I can be independent at times. Being a young dog I love to chew so I shouldn't be left unattended to free roam the house.

GABBY - 2 year old. Spayed Female. Domestic Short Hair Calico Tiger with White. I'm a beautiful lady who likes being in charge. I would do best as the only cat in the household or with only a few other cats. If you have cats at home it might take me a few days to adjust to them and get along.

and get along.

MOOSE - 7 year old.

Neutered Male. Rottweiler/German Shepherd

mix. I am an older guy
looking for a home where
I can rest easy. My story
is a sad one. I was left
abandoned in the snowy
woods of Mt. Holly.

TWIGGY - 1 year old. Spayed Female. Domestic Short Hair Black. I'm a real cutie and I'm super playful!I had to get a few stitches under my arm where they think I had a collar embedded but I'm feeling better now!

TRES - 7 month old. Neutered Male. Domestic Short Hair Gray. I'm an outgoing, playful fella who is adorable, too! My favorite toys are feather toys but I'd settle for a ball of string, too! My sister Dos and I are best buddies and we like to hang out together and play.













# Thank you from the Rutland County Humane Society!

The Board of Directors, staff and animals at the Rutland County Humane Society would like to send out a special "thank you" to our community who is so supportive of us! You're always there for us and we couldn't do what we do without you! Our best wishes for a happy, healthy and safe new year!

# **Don't Forget the Homeless Animals this Holiday Season**

The homeless animals at the Rutland County Humane Society (RCHS) would love to be added to your holiday list this year! RCHS is always in need of supplies for the animals and is grateful for your continued support. The animals at RCHS are currently in need of the following items:

- Canned cat, kitten and dog food
- Large comforters and blankets
- Soft chewy dog treats
- Small paper plates
- Heavy duty garbage bags (30 gallon)
- Paper towels
- Pig ears

Thank you for remembering the homeless animals at the Rutland County Humane Society!

# Pet of the Week



Lucy Mackenzie Humane Society has many wonderful, loving cats and kittens in need of homes. If you are thinking of getting a new cat or kitten come see all the cats at Lucy Mac. We are sure that we can find the purrfect match for you and your family. The shelter is open to the public 12 to 4 Tues - Sat. For more information about our cats please call 802-484-5829 or come visit us we are located at 4832 RT 44 in West Windsor.



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# Mendon/Chittenden/Pittsford/Brandon Notes

The Mountain Top Inn in Chittenden will host the Fourth Annual Youth Paintball Biathlon on Sunday, January 25, 2009. This event will be held in partnership with the Mountain Top Nordic Ski Club and Tippmann at the Resort's Nordic Ski and Snowshoe Center. The event includes a High School division as well as the Bill Koch Youth Ski League division. Participants come from all over New England to be a part of this very unique competition.

The 6 km High School division begins with registration and range practice at 8:30 a.m. and race time is at 10 a.m., with 15 second individual starts. The Bill Koch League division registration starts at 11:30 a.m. and the paintball range opens at 12 noon for their practice. The Lollipop Race, with cross country skiing only, begins at 1 p.m,. and the remaining Bill Koch League classes (J6, J5, J4 and J3) begin at 1:15 p.m. Each class will ski to completion before the next one begins. Paintball guns will be provided by Tippmann

by Debbie Burke i and awards will be given out at the conclusion of the J3 race. Deadline for advance registration is Friday, January 23, 2009. The cost is \$10 per child. For additional race and registration information visit the website www.mountaintopinn.com/ccskiprogram. html or call the Nordic Center at 802-483-6089 or Mary Anne Levins at 802-775-0779.

The Mountain Top Inn & Resort offers 60 km of cross country ski and snowshoe trails, horse drawn sleigh rides, ice skating, and snowmobile tours. They have snowmaking capabilities on a 1 km loop and daily grooming on 40 km. Only 11 miles from Killington, the Mountain Top Inn and Resort is set majestically on 350 acres and is known for its sweeping mountain vistas, endless winter adventures, wonderful cuisine, and warm hospitality. The resort has 29 lodge guest rooms and five "pet friendly" mountain cabins. For more information call 802-483-2311 or visit www.mountaintopinn.com.

## **Regulators Adopt New Credit Card Rules**

by Marcy Gordon - AP Business Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) - Federal regulators on Thursday adopted sweeping new rules for the credit card industry that will shield consumers from increases in interest rates on existing account balances among other changes.

The rules, which take effect in July 2010, will allow credit card companies to raise interest rates only on new credit cards and future purchases or advances, rather than on current balances.

Amid the economic crisis and rising job losses, consumers - even those with strong credit records - have been defaulting at high levels on their credit cards. Banks already battered by the mortgage and credit crises have been bleeding tens of billions in red ink from the losses.

The rules were approved by the Federal Reserve, the Treasury Department's Office of Thrift Supervision and the National Credit Union Administration. The changes mark the most sweeping

clampdown on the credit card industry in decades and are aimed at protecting consumers from arbitrary hikes in interest rates or inadequate time provided to pay the bills.

"The revised rules represent the most comprehensive and sweeping reforms ever adopted by the (Federal Reserve) for credit card accounts," Fed Chairman Ben Bernanke said in a statement. "These protections will allow consumers to access credit on terms that are fair and more easily understood."

Most of the rules were first proposed in May and drew more than 65,000 public comments - the highest number ever received by the Fed. They also restrict such lender practices as allocating all payments to balances with lower interest rates when a borrower has balances with different rates.

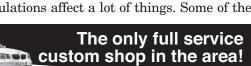
But the changes also could make it more difficult for millions of people with bad credit to get what is known as a subprime card carrying higher interest rates, some

In addition, consumers will have to be given 45 days notice before any changes are made to the terms of an account, including slapping on a higher penalty rate for missing payments or paying bills late.

The changes could cost the banking industry more than \$10 billion a year in interest payments, according to a study by the law firm Morrison & Foerster.

Roughly 16,000 companies in the U.S. issue credit cards. The biggest lenders include Discover Financial Services LLC, Bank of America Corp., Citigroup Inc., JPMorgan Chase & Co., Capital One Financial Corp., American Express Co. and HSBC Holdings.

"The regulations affect a lot of things. Some of the



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things we don't do, never did, and some of the things will affect us," David Nelms, CEO of Riverwoods, Ill.based Discover Financial, said in an interview. Nelms said, for example, that the company doesn't have account-opening fees and gives customers well over 21

days to make payments.

Sen. Carl Levin, D-Mich., said the new rules "are a good first step, but they don't prevent a number of unfair, deceptive and predatory practices that saddle many American families with crushing debt."

"Every day the taxpayer is being asked to foot the bill for our biggest banks' irresponsible lending practices," Levin said in a statement. "America's banking giants can't be allowed to dig themselves out of the hole they are in by loading up American families with unfair fees and interest charges."

Levin and Sen. Christopher Dodd, D-Conn., chairman of the Senate Banking Committee, have proposed stringent legis-

lation to change credit card practices.

The head of the American Bankers Association called the changes "strong new regulations ... (that are) unprecedented in their scope and signal the beginning of a new market structure for credit cards."

"While the new rules are designed to increase protections for consumers, the Fed itself has recognized that they may result in increased costs for most card users and reduced credit availability, particularly for consumers with lower credit scores or limited credit history," ABA President and Chief Executive Edward Yingling said in a statement. "With the uncertainty facing our financial system, it's absolutely vital for policymakers to understand the full impact of these regulations on consumers and the economy before judging their success or further restricting the marketplace."

The new rules prohibit:

-Placing unfair time constraints on payments. A payment could not be deemed late unless the borrower is given a reasonable period of time, such as 21 days, to pay.

-Placing too-high fees for exceeding the credit limit olely because of a hold placed on the account.

-Unfairly computing balances in a computing tactic known as double-cycle billing.

-Unfairly adding security deposits and fees for issuing credit or making it available.

-Making deceptive offers of credit.

Under the new rules, credit card lenders will be required to apply any payment above the minimum to the part of the balance with the highest interest rate.

The so-called subprime cards for people with low credit scores typically have no more than a \$500 credit limit but require a large upfront fee.

The rules cap that fee at 50 percent of the credit limit and allow the cardholder to pay off the initial balance over a year, not immediately.

The Consumer Federation estimates that credit card debt held by U.S. consumers is about \$850 billion, some four times what it was in 1990.



# LAKES REGION NEWS

#### by LANI DUKE

Sunday, January 4, Fair Haven's Eureka Lodge #75, at 131 N. Main St, holds a pancake breakfast, with a menu of pancakes, scrambled eggs, bacon, sausage, home fries, coffee, tea, and orange juice. Don't have time to sit down and enjoy your neighbors? Pick up a take out. Hours are 8:00 to 11:00 a.m.

The Vermont Association of Snow Travelers is offering snowmobiling safety classes at Castleton Village School four Fridays in January, from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. For information and registration, call (802) 287-2243 or 287-9755.

Hook up with the Fair Haven Area Chamber of Commerce, meeting the second Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. Current officers are Kerry Fowler, president; Kevin Durkee, vice president; and Gordon Foster, treasurer. For info, call (802) 265-8600.

Rutland Area Visiting Nurses and Hospice offers a foot clinic at Castleton Meadows, at 12:30 p.m. on January 8. RAVNAH makes a monthly visit to offer this service, the second Thursday of each month.

If your days are short on fun, check out the activities at the Castleton Community Center, on Route 4A in Castleton, formerly known as the Old Homestead. Its newsletter, complete with a monthly calendar, is available online, courtesy of local computer services company Button Systems. Among the weekly possibilities are group lunches on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays; Friday morning coffee hours; Bone Builders classes; dominoes and bingo.

Fair Haven Grade School students are back in school after a two-week break to enjoy the holidays with their families. Hopefully, they've had enough snowball fights, snowman building, skiing, and other outdoor fun to settle down in school for a while. And on really cold days, most of them undoubtedly curled up with the free book each, from EEE through grade eight, received through the Reading Is Fun distribution before winter break began.

Mrs. Whalen, stalwart of the EEE program at FHGS, is retiring after a career of service to area young people. She has been working with the Addison-Rutland Supervisory Union's EEE program when it was held at St. Mary's School. Later, she worked at West Haven School before coming to FHGS.

Local third and fifth graders toured Park Mc-Cullough House in Bennington before their Christmas break began. Third graders made ornaments, snacked on cider and cookies, and discovered what it might have been like celebrating Christmas during Victorian times.

Fifth graders used their time at Park McCullough as part of their study on immigration. Their visit had the students taking on the role of servants, learning to clean a saddle, set a table, polish shoes, and brush coats. A bit like taking part in one of those educational TV shows for a day.

## **Food Stamp Eligibility Expands**

Starting January 1, 2009, the eligibility limit for Food Stamps is being expanded so that more people can qualify for food assistance funds. There will be no restrictions on the amount of resources one can have with a gross income under 185% of the federal poverty level. That is equivalent to a monthly income of \$1,604 for one person and \$2,159 for a couple. Those with higher incomes might also qualify, but their resources cannot exceed \$3,000.

Food Stamps help people of all ages to eat better. Rules are more flexible for older adults to qualify. Their Food Stamp eligibility is based on their net income, instead of gross. The following living expenses are taken into consideration to get down to a net figure: medical bills and insurance premiums, rent, mortgage, property taxes, home owner's insurance and utilities. For a person age 65+, the Food Stamp benefit comes as a check, directly deposited into the recipient's bank account. Those under 65 are issued debit cards for use at the grocery store.

People age 60+ can get more information from the Senior HelpLine, Southwestern Vermont Council on Aging, serving Rutland and Bennington counties: 800-642-5119, 802-786-5991; seniorhelpline@svcoa.org; www.svcoa.org.

# Winter Baseball Programs to be Offered



Castleton State College Baseball Coach Ted Shipley will be offering two separate baseball programs starting in January. The first one is the popular Sunday Evening Winter Baseball Program that will begin on Sunday,

January 4 and go for nine consecutive Sunday evenings, concluding on March 1. The Sunday Evening program will be held from 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. for those who

are 13 - 18 years of age only.

The second program, the Sunday Morning Youth Baseball Program is a new offering for boys and/or girls ages 7-12, from 10:30-noon for six Sundays, beginning January 4 and ending February 8.

Both programs will be held at Castleton State College's SHAPE gymnasium. For more information or a registration form, please check the Castleton web site www. castleton,edu, or contact Coach Shipley at (802) 468-1485.

# **Recycle Your Christmas Tree**

For a limited time District residents can dispose of their Christmas trees, help the environment and save money. Between Friday, December 26 and Saturday, January 31 the District will accept trees (cleaned of all tinsel and decorations) at no charge at the Gleason Road Transfer Station. The trees are ground into a

mulch which is then composted - the ultimate in organic recycling! Each year approximately 1200 Christmas trees are recycled by the District through this program. Deliver trees between 7:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Monday - Saturday. Questions? Call 775-7209 or email jimo@rcswd.com.

# The Vermont Holiday Festival Wraps up its Fifth Year Killington Chamber Thanks You

As we carefully pack up 32 boxes of decorations, breakdown Santa's Workshop and painstakingly store 137 tree stands, the 5th Annual Vermont Holiday Festival comes to a close. Excited children, proud parents & grandparents came to the Killington Grand Resort Hotel to perform on stage, visit with Santa Claus and play in the magically transformed Oscar Wilde Ballroom.

Over 110 trees were on display at the Festival of Trees. The following businesses took home awards:

Mortgage Trust Company Best in Show
Ellen Marie Crompton Traditional (1st place)
Mendon Mountainview Lodge Traditional (2nd place)
Lookout Tavern Most Creative (1st place)
Snowed Inn Most Creative (2nd place)
Magic Hat Brewery Best Beverage Tree
Phat Italian Market & Deli Best Food Tree
VAC at SES Best Children's Tree (1st place)
Killington Girl Scouts Best Children's Tree (2nd place)

This year's Festival was scheduled closer to the Holidays, bringing an influx of both local and out-of-state tourists to the event. Each year, the festival continues to grow in both size and attendance. Originally the brainstorm idea of Casey Crompton, the event has grown into a local holiday tradition. The festival sustains itself through community participation, without

which the tradition would fade away.

As a result of everyone's hard work and dedication, the Chamber was able to help 8 needy area families and the Rutland Community Cupboard, through this very challenging holiday season.

The Board of Directors of the Killington Chamber of Commerce would like to extend a sincere thank you to each and every 2008 volunteer. Clearly a lively group, from setup to breakdown, from tree watering to Santa's Elves, every piece of the puzzle filled in.

Thank you to all businesses who sponsored the event through tree representation. And last but not least, thanks to TD Banknorth, Casella Waste Systems, Catamount Radio and the Killington Grand Resort Hotel, for without their generous donations, this event would not take place.

Best Wishes in 2009, Killington Chamber of Commerce





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**KILLINGTON AREA** 5 bdrm, 3 bath new log cabin home. 2 car garage w/loft. \$259,000. 973-985-1339. Email for pics baldwinni@ gmail.com 27/TFN

10+ ACRE LOTS, one minute from the Killington Skyeship. Inground septic. Call 802-422-4267. TFN

DON'T MISS this one! 4 bdrm, 1.75 bath cape with large new addition, 2 car garage, 26 +/- acres, old barn & pasture land for horse. In Bridgewater, \$349,000. JIM FISH FOR D.R. SYMMES & ASSOCIATES. CALL 802-672-3668. Listings Wanted. 52/TFN

CENTURY 21 CON-TEMPORARY ASSO-CIATES, Killington Road. 800-338-3735; 802-422-3244. www. vthomes.com **TFN** 

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KILLINGTON VAL-LEY REAL ESTATE PO BOX 236 2281 Killington Road Killington, VT 05751. 802-422-3610 or 1-800-833-KVRE. Email: www.kvre@ vermontel.net TFN

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# **Home Water Treatment Systems - 5 Things You Must Know**

Home water treatment systems are plentiful to choose from. But, some of the water treatment products on the market are just a waste of money. Here are 5 things you must know to choose the best home water treatment system.

1. Price- Price may not help you compare water treatment products. Some of the most expensive devices will not remove chlorine or other chemical contaminants that plague our waterways.

But, just as a point of reference, you can get effective whole home water treatment systems for less than a thousand, a kitchen purifier for less than \$125 and a showerhead system for less than a hundred.

2. Impurities-What does it take out? What's left behind? That's what you need to look at. As an example, let's look at a product I will call Brand X. The underthe-sink unit costs over three hundred

dollars. It removes chlorine, lead and cysts, but it does not remove chlorination byproducts (CBPs), volatile organic compounds (VOCs), pesticides, herbicides, benzene, TCE or MTBE.

Water treatment products like this are not providing complete protection. CBPs are more dangerous than chlorine. Exposure to them causes hundreds of new cancer cases per year, per country. TCE and benzene also cause cancer. TCE is one of the most common surface and groundwater contaminants. You should look for a multi-stage home water treatment systems that remove all of the contaminants mentioned here.

3. Environmental Concerns-The most expensive water treatment products on the market include a reverse osmosis (RO) step. This creates gallons of unusable wastewater, something that the planet cannot afford. It is possible to purify practically every drop of water that comes through your system.

Both RO and distillation devices require the use of electricity. So, more of our natural resources are wasted, when it is totally unnecessary. Your current

water pressure is enough to allow for proper purification.

4. Mineral or Electrolyte Content

Home water treatment systems like RO and distillation remove all of the minerals that are naturally present in our surface Continued rpage 38

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Exceptional one-level contemporary • Extensively renovated • Idyllic views from every room • Chef's kitchen, luxurious 3-room primary • Substantial rental income potential • Resort amenities and pristine lake minutes away Chittenden • \$1,250,000 Exclusive





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• Wonderful balconies and deck • 5 luxurious bedrooms • Private, very near lifts Killington • \$975,000 Exclusive





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9. 15,400 SQ. FT. RETAIL/OFFICE BLDG ON US RTE 7: Fully tenanted, or move into his	alf \$1.05 mil
10. 4.35-ACRE DEVELOPMENT OPP'TY: at Jct of two State Hwys, mtn views, sewer avail	\$ 89,500
11. 14,000 SF BRICK BLDG Retail / Office / Light Industrial, Downtown., ample parking	\$895,000
12. 23 ACRES PERMITTED FOR 58 APARTMENTS Spectacular views of the city	\$1,160,000
13. 7-ACRE RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITY: Mendon, Vt, sewer shares	\$139,500
14. 4.35 ACRE COMMERCIAL CORNER LOT: Junction of 2 State Hwys, sewer at hwy	\$175,000
15. TWO INDUSTRIAL BLDGS DOWNTOWN: Frontage on 3 streets ample parking	\$650,000

#### **FOR LEASE**

16. 750 Sq. Ft. PROFESSIONAL OFFICE: Rte 4, park at your door, ADA-compliant....... 18. 1,400 St. Ft. FIRST FLOOR OFFICE/RETAIL SPACE: high traffic count.........\$1,200/mo.Gross 19. 6,000 Sq. Ft. Warehouse/Mfg. Space with 2 loading docks, 20' to 32' ceilings...... \$3.25/sf, NNN 20. 2,500 Sq. Ft. Modem Office Space in new retail complex: Park at your door ....... \$7.50/sf, NNN

PLUS: Over 30 More Office, Retail and Industrial Spaces For Lease

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G. RAY AULT, REALTOR®

P.O. Box 6306, Rutland, VT 05702

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\$209,000 Killington Cozy A-frame located in the heart of

Killington, Vermont. On Mountain View Drive, this 3 bedroom with loft A-frame is just north of the Ski Area. Easy access to the mountain makes this a great vacation home. On 1/2 acre, it faces south soaking up the warm winter sun. Perfect for someone looking to get their foot in the door in Killington Real Estate



Rutland Town Picture perfect! This is an ideal family home on a quiet cul-desac in Rutland Town. No work required, just move in! Screen summer room attached to enjoy private backyard. Energy efficient R11. Less than 700/yr per CVPS



Killington \$275,000 Cozy house in great neighborhood located in the heart of Killington. Vermont. On Telefon Trail with easy access to the ski area and restaurants and nightclubs, makes this a great vacation home. Perfect for someone looking to get their foot in the door in Killington Real Estate. Nice. Pond on site. Deck expanded in 1999



\$149,000 Bridgewater Gorgeous open concept contemporary on 24 private acres with beautiful on 24 private acres with beautiful mountain views. Thoughtful details throughout including a gournet kitchen, magnificent fieldstone fireplace, vaulted ceilings, great loft with gas stove, wonderful sunroom, screened-in porch, 2 decks, an outdoor hot tub, and a luxurious master suite. Close to Okemo or Killington.

CENTRAL

**VERMONT LAND** 

Chittenden

Killington

Killington

Killington

Woodstock

\$15,000

\$25,000

\$60,000

\$75,000

\$99,000

\$375,000

Pittsfield

#### Condominiums **Pico** 2 BR..(lowest price)..\$179,900 3 BR..(lowest price)..\$235,000

3 BR.....\$249,000 **High Ridge** 2BR (lowest price)..\$239,000

Sunrise 3BR..... \$295,000

Fall Line 3BR..... \$329,000

Trail Creek .\$335,000

Ledges at Hawk 3 BR.....\$295,000

Talk to the people who know the neighborhood. Want to learn more about our community? Contact ERA Mountain

1.5 A±

1.0 A±

1.0 A±

1.0 A±

**ERA Mountain Real Estate** Conveniently located at:

Real Estate and we'll help you find the right home for you

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At The Killington Grand Hotel 228 East Mountain Road Killington, Vermont 05751 Toll free: 1-800-613-0959 Local: 802-422-6900

800-338-3735 or 802-422-3244

E-Mail c21ca@vthomes.com

# **Home Water Treatment Systems**

and groundwater. Researchers have concluded that we get some of our necessary daily mineral requirements simply by drinking water. Without proper electrolyte intake, our body cannot maintain its homeostasis. In other words, it won't stay properly hydrated.

5. The Healthiest Choice-Selective filtration devices remove impurities, but not minerals. The best water treatment products removes lead and traces of other metals through a process called ion exchange.

This process catches metallic ions and replaces them with ions of the most important electrolytes; sodium and potassium. So, it actually enhances the electrolyte content

and that's the healthiest thing that you can drink.

The step also balances the pH level, so that is neither too acidic nor too alkaline, but just right for the digestive system. In addition, if you have excessive hardness, it can take care of that as well by balancing mineral content.

Only the best home water treatment systems include ion exchange and enough other steps to counter and remove the things that are bad for our health, while providing something that tastes good to drink. Take the time to compare as I did to find the best home water treatment system.

## **Ask Efficiency Vermont**

Q-I know people planning to use portable electric heaters this winter to ward off some of the high cost of oil and propane. Does that really lower the cost of heating a house?

A-I can see why people would think that using a portable heater would be an energy-saving solution to today's gas and oil prices. But in Vermont, electricity is still one of the most expensive ways to heat. A typical portable electric space heater can increase your heating costs unless you intend to turn off your central heating system and use a portable heater in only the room you occupy. If you can stay comfortable and healthy doing that, keep in mind that your plumbing can't; pipes in unheated spaces can freeze.

A better approach is to make your central heating system work as efficiently as possible. Be sure your furnace filter is clean. Seal and insulate heating ducts, and have your furnace or boiler professionally inspected, cleaned and tuned each year. Vacuum or dust heating vents or baseboards and move furniture away from them so heat can circulate.

Then, take some steps to keep warm air in the house and to keep cold air out. Find places where air can move between the attic and heated spaces and seal them with expanding foam or caulk. Likely places for air leaks are around plumbing, wiring, chimneys, and gaps around recessed lights and fans. Lastly, be sure you have at least 12 inches of insulation on your attic floor. You can hire a Home Performance with ENERGY STAR® contractor to do a whole-house assessment and to make the improvements that can enable you to use less central-heating fuel and keep you comfortable without the expense of running portable electric heaters. To find a contractor near you, visit www.efficiencyvermont.com/ homeperformance.

- Kathleen from The Home Team

Custom Design/Build Services

• Custom Interior Finish

Additions, Porches, Garages

• Post & Beam Homes and Additions

• Kitchen & Bath Cabinet Warehouse

Have a question about saving energy? Want to read more tips from the Home Team's Li Ling, Bob and Kathleen? Visit www.efficiencyvermont.com/askthehometeam or call, toll-free, 888-921-5990 to speak with a customer service representative.

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#### Toast the New Year — in a Pittsfield Hawk House

Views. Private community with covenants. Breeze to maintain. Two bedrooms. Spa-like designer bathroom.

Serving the

for 37 Years

Killington Area

Hot tub. Easy winter access. Swimming pond. At road's end. So much more. See more details at: vermonthawk.com and call (802) 746-7995



## 802-683-4065 Frank Heidenrich MUST SEE PROPERT

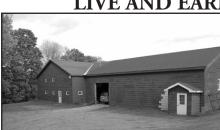
FLY FISHING, CROSS COUNTRY SKIING & SWIMMING!

Pittsford. This 3-4 bdrm, 2 bth Arts Craft English Cape Cod offers all of these hobbies without having the upkeep of a lot of land. This one of a kind property offers a private pool area oversize 2 car garage



a hidden cabin that is used as an exercise rm that reveals views of Furnace Brook. This home is a real charmer and is very unique to the market. Minutes from Skiing and Lakes! \$327,500 Call The Hughes Group Ext 12

#### LIVE AND EARN



Mtn views nestled W Tinmouth Rd this property has great rental income and a 2,000 sq ft open plan living area. Formerly Chipen Gym has 3,000 sq ft heated storage

rented that has a number of great uses. This property set on 1.2 A. The living area has a 20 x 30 living r w/loft master bdrm and bth, open kitchen w/gas range unlimited possibilities. \$249,900 Call Ron Ext 20

#### AFFORDABLE CAPE COD IN PROCTOR

Proctor, This 4 bdrm. 1.5 bth Cape Cod features a large eat in kitchen, formal dining spacious living rm with hardwood flrs Master bdrm with 1/2 bth on first flr, lovely exposed staircase, three large bdrms



and full bth upstairs. Quaint covered screened in front porch and two car garage plus side shed adds to this already attractive offering. \$134,900. Call The Hughes Group Ext 22



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Contemporary Associates Take a Visual Tour of our www.vthomes.com listings at www.vthomes.com Century 2I Contemporary Associates

Wishes Everyone a very NEW custom kitchen, granite counters, cabinets, appliances, tile floors, laundry Happy New Year! room. 3 BR, 3 BA+Den, Office, separate Dining & Family Rms, Screen Porch w/brick BBO. Hot Tub in Sun Rm. Stone FP in Living. FP in Mstr BR Suite, whirlpool MLS#221885 \$785,000



MAGNIFICENT, 6 br. 7 ba. Contemporary home in ENJOY THE VIEWS of the Killington Ski Basin trails, turn key, 5 bedroom plus, 5 1/2 bath contemporay chalet w/3 mstr suites and 1 1/2 mstr suite, 2 fireplaces, family/recreation room, hot tub, large deck, 1.5 car garage. A wonderful vacation, year round, or rental property. MLS# 2725639 \$529,000



CHITTENDEN; 101 ACRES OF SCENIC VER-

MONT LAND with a rustic, unfinished chalet and

a mobile home pad on site. Land borders the Green

Mountain National Forest. The possibilities are exten-

sive for this unique piece of property, depending upon

the buyers vision. MLS# 2664867 \$284,999

THIS SPACIOUS CONTEMPORARY style home is large and close to skiing, restaurants and entertainment. Many extras include 6 zone heating, renovated kitchen, fireplace engineered to heat entire house, a brick floor hot tub room. MLS# 2745995 \$699,000.

Killington. 2 kitchens, 3 gas fireplaces, granite counter tops, cherry cabinets, tile floors, cathedral ceilings, huge granite top wet bar, patio w/hot tub, 2nd floor deck, attached 2 car garage w/master suite above. MLS# 2725645 Dramatic Reduction to \$799,900

**COMMERCIAL PROPERTIES** 

HOMES 802-422-3244 • 800-338-3735 • 1810 KILLINGTON ROAD, KILLINGTON, VT. 05751

LAND NEW CONSTRUCTION Each Century 21 Office is Independently Owned and Operated

#### **CONDOS** 3BR-4BR Ski In & Out Pico-Studio (P) \$189K Pico-Condos (P) \$200K \$215-\$339K Pico-Slopeside (P) \$280-\$370K \$355-\$399K Sunrise Condos (P)(T) Sunrise T/house (P)(T) Trailside Village \$200-\$215K \$359K Ski In / Shuttle Out Edgemont Fall Line (P) \$97-\$105K \$155-\$162K \$320-\$325K Highridge (P) (T) Trail Creek w/loft (P) Trail Creek (P) \$305-\$309K \$175K-\$190K \$325K Whiffletree (P) (T) \$135-\$155K \$169-\$195K Shuttle Glazebrook T/houses (P)(T) Glazebrook T/houses (P)(T) S80-\$85K Mtn Green (Bldg I & II) (P) 57 Mtn Green (Bldg III) (P) 58 Mtn Green (Bldg III) (P) 58 Mtn. Green (Bldg III w/garage spc.) \$99-\$109K \$105-\$122K \$199-\$200K \$149K \$144K \$268K The Heights The Woods-Village Ctr. (P)(T) \$150K The Woods - Townhouse (P)(T) Close Drive to Slopes Colony Club T/houses (P)(T \$299-\$329K Fox Hollow (P)(T) \$214K \$119-\$129K \$275K Killington Gateway (P)(T) Moon Ridge T/House \$118K Valley Park (P)-Pool (T)-Tenn

#### **LAND**

**KILLINGTON** 1AC - BusinessZone \$249K

**PITTSFIELD** 14 AC - \$79K 10 AC - (3 BR SSD Perm) \$80K

#### **Stage Coach Pass**

Four, 3+ Acre Parcels Includes: 3BR, septic system hookup \$150K to \$175K

#### **New Luxury Town Homes**





# Ski Country REAL ESTATE RMIS

"First" on Killington Rd • #1 Since 1989 • Open 7 Days a Week



3BR+Loft, 2 1/2 baths KILLINGTON – Propane heat the Great Eastern Ski Trail Garage -Cathedral Ceiling

Southern Exp. – Open floor plan Finished w/out w/hot tub & wet bar \$830,000



3-bedroom "Riverfront" home 4.7 acres on the White River Vaulted ceiling living room

Large deck and vard Full basement & outbuilding New furnace & hot water www.HomeOnTheWhite.com



LINDAL CEDAR HOME

Plymouth, VT – 1 AC Post & Beam – Streamside 3BR/3BA – propane heat Metal Roof – Family Rm

Garage - Finished W-out Direct VAST Trail access

Location! WALK to TRAIL

Gas Heat - Open Floor Plan

Great for entertaining - deck Slate fireplace—outdr hot tub

Cathedral ceiling/skylights \$895,000

Killington – Contempora 3BR/2BA–Single Family



Best priced mountain house

Killington – 1 Acre 4BR/3BA Elec/Gas heat 1800 sq.ft, gas fireplace Caretaker / In-law apt.

Large liv-dining area New metal roof

4BR/2BA



"Highwood"-Stockbridge, cent lands for sale

1.4 AC-radiant- guest suite, Wood,tile,granite, 2 stone f/plcs, Overszd 2-3 car heated garage Loft, wine cellar, landscaped, Stream-front. \$698,500



One of a kind - 4BR/3.5 BA

Post & Beam - Open Floor Plan

Snectacular Pond, Paved driveway Rolling open acreage, mom-in-law apt.
Oversized garage, 2 kitchens-granite Walk-out lower level, sheds, deck, etc



Snowmobile from driveway

3BR/2BA - Pittsfield Open Floor Plan

Great entertaining space Custom mud room

Partially furnished Southern exposure

Cath ceiling, Floor-ceiling windows. Stone fireplace, hot tub rm, oak floors

Cherry cabinets, corian counters.

• SKI TO & FROM end of driveway.

Builder's home. Red cedar exterior.

4BR/2 w/private baths, 2 AC - Oil.

Finished lower level w/pool table Furnished &equipped.



4BR/2BA - Propane Heat

KILLINGTON EAST Cathedral Ceiling – LOFT

Stone fireplace – Metal Roof Walk out, 2<sup>nd</sup> Liv-Den Room

Laundry, Hot Tub in deck

Mountain Views

3BR/2BA saltbox chalet Cathedral ceiling Whirlpool tub; new decks Good rental history

 Just off Killington Road www.35AnthonyWay.com



Sophisticated mtn. colonial 4BR/3BA, den & family rm

5 fireplaces; 2-car garage Located next to golf course Beautifully landscaped

www.528BarrowsTowne.com

4BR/3BA renovated home On-mtn cul de sac location Convenient outdoor hot tub Vaulted ceilings, fireplace Views from deck & great rm Finished basemt with rec rm www.396AnthonyWay.com

\$349,000

DUPLEX or LARGE HOME Killington – on cul de sac 3BR/2BA Each side –Priv. Setting Cathedral Ceiling, living-dining

Wood burning fireplaces
Lots of glass – large deck Spacious – Open Floor Plan



Killington: Spacious, well-maintained

Fantastic location off Killington Rd

Close to everything, in a private setting.

Heated garage, oil heat & lots of closet

Large bedrms, eat-in kitchen

Wood burning f/place, deck

\*KILLINGTON – 1 AC – Gas heat \*Master Bedroom –Bath Suite Stone fireplace -Open Floor Plan Great kitchen for entertaining

Furnishings negotiable



2BR/2BA rustic cabinClose to Killington

Views of Pico

 Vaulted ceilings and fireplace
 Basement with 2<sup>nd</sup> kitchen and bathroom Needs some TLC



4BR/3BA

2 Snowmobiles-

New Heating sys, bath New Kitch, flooring

Mud rm, garage,

\$330,000





335 Killington Road • www.skicountryrealestate.com •















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Celebrate



# **New Luxury Town Homes**

Quality and craftsmanship in every detail

Spectacular Views! Over-sized Garages! Energy efficient, low monthly fees, immediate occupancy.

Prices starting at \$469,900



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**Dennis Volante** Jayne Major Gail Flynn



WHIFFLETREE Killington's BestValue resort. Fully furnished units with ski home trail, shuttle service, tennis, swimming pool, great rental income. IBR, IBA \$101,900, Penthouse 3BR, 2BA \$189,000



BREATHTAKING VIEWS from just about every room in this large renovated home. Excellent rental income, 2 stone fireplaces, granite top kitchen and large deck with full view of Killington. You will not be disappointed!!! \$729,000



ONE OF THE OLDEST HOMES in Gaysville and original side-by-side Duplex. Walking distance to Post Office and one of the best swimming holes in the area. Only 20 minutes to Killington. Great starter home with a rental and priced below assessment value. Priced to sell at \$172.900



SUNRISE I BEDROOM TRAILSIDE at Cambridge. 3rd floor unit with views, indoor pool, outdoor pool, pond, exercise room, and restaurant on site. \$179,000

1967 Route 4 • P.O. Box 833 • Killington, Vermont 05751 FAX: 802.773.8805 • Toll Free US: 888.599.8800 • UK: 0.800.917.8519



3 Bedroom Contemporary Ranch in a very private setting. All cedar, garage, stream and not to be missed. Close to mountain. \$375,000



AWESOME 3 bedroom 2 bath contemporary farmhouse with sunken living room, cherry kitchen, private upscale Killington neighborhood with lots of perennials. \$389,000



PRICED AT \$275,00 this 3 bedroom 2 bath farmhouse w/ barn sits on a very desirable 3 acre lot. Surrounded by 2 beautiful re-furbished ponds. Upscale neighborhood, excellent school system and close to all the amenities Killington has to offer. Other 3 acre lots available the surrounds on environmental school school to the surrounds of the surrou



3 BEDROOM 3 BATH CONTEMPORARY HOME with winter views of Killington/Pico. Set on 6.4 acres with apple trees, perennials, 2 car garage and beautiful lawn. New cherry kitchen, granite counter tops, state floors and new standing seam roof. \$399,000 MULTINE LISTING SERVICE REALTS

www.killingtonholidayrealestate.com

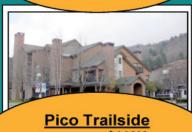


# Prestige Real Estate of Killington

# Exclusively Killington!







Studio unit \$119K 2BR/2BA townhome\$189K 3BR/2BA end unit \$245K







**Highridge** 1BR/2BA w/loft \$215K 2BR/2BA lockout \$240K 2BR/2BA 2-IVI VIEW \$285K





3BR/3.5BA town home \$305K

Sunrise 1BR/1BA \$178.9K 2BR/2BA \$199K 3BR/3BA town home \$315K; 4BR/3BA town home \$325K











Killington's 50th Birthday in a BIG way!

We're offering to pay up to \$50,000 in closing costs in honor of Killington's 50th birthday!\* If you've been watching the market by the sidelines -**NOW** is the time to buy!

Call us to find out how your purchase may qualify.

\*Specific rules & conditions apply

**New Construction** 4BR/4.5BA on 5 acres \$1,175,000





Spacious 3BR2.5BA, 3-level Wood-burning fireplace, deck \$209,000



Great house for big family or "shares" for group 4BR/3BA 2-car garage \$429,000



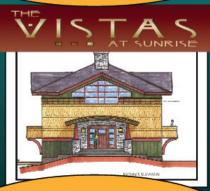
Killington Basin 4BR/4.5BA 3.9 acres LOTS of updates \$519,000



Ski in & out to Skyship 3BR + loft/2BA Deck, hot tub, great rental \$595,000



Magnificent log home 6200 sqft of ski home living 3-car garage, sauna, gym \$1,695,000



Seven single family residences with 3-4BR/4.5BA View furnished model! Pre-construction \$1,395,000

10 stunning acres of privacy & incredible views in the heart of Killington \$299,000

