

By James Kent **Tyler Jankoski**

RUTLAND WELCOMES NEW TV STUDIO

NBC5 WPTZ has a new studio, downtown.

Page 3

SPRING HAS SPRUNG

Enjoy our special section dedicated to the joys of the season.

Page 16



MOTHER'S DAY IS SUNDAY

Don't for get to call your mother! Buying flowers, chocolate or cards or showing your love through acts of service are always appreciated (and not just on Mother's Day!)



Courtesy Killington, FB

MID-WEEK SKIING ENDS MAY 11

Killington lifts continue to spin seven days a week through May 11 (then weekends only). The Canyon Quad is open until 5 p.m. on Saturdays.

Hartford High School grapples with PCB contamination

About 60% needs to be torn down, rebuilt By Polly Mikula

Shortly after the presence of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) chemicals were identified at Hartford High School and Hartford Area Career and Technical Center, the Hartford Select Board learned that over half of the school in White River Junction will need to be razed and rebuilt. How the district will come up with the funding for such a large and urgent project remains unclear.

At it's most recent meet-

ing, April 23, the Hartford School Board grappled with the scope of the remediation necessary.

"We are going to tear down 60% of the high school in all likelihood and have to rebuild it in record time," Hartford School District Facilities Manager Jonathan Garthwaite explained to the board. "These are areas we have to demolish. There's no way around it."

Hartford PCBs → 9

Burke Mountain Resort is sold for \$11.5 million

By Habib Sabet/VTDigger

A federal judge has signed off on the sale of Burke Mountain Resort for \$11.5 million, releasing the Northeast Kingdom ski mountain from nearly a decade of federal receivership.

Judge Darrin P. Gayles issued the order in U.S. District Court in Miami formally approving the sale of Burke Mountain to Bear Den Partners LLC, a consortium of entities with longstanding ties to the ski resort.

"A private sale to the Buyer is the only current viable alternative for preserving and capturing the value of the Assets for the benefit of the receivership estate," Gayles wrote in the court order.

The ski area's buyer is a group that includes Burke Mountain Academy, a world-class ski racing school in Burke, and the Graham family, who briefly owned the resort in the early 2000s. The group has pledged to put around \$30 million into the resort to fund significant upgrades to its lift infrastructure and the hotel at the base of the mountain.

Burke sold \rightarrow 7



By Jerry LeBlon

Dozens turn out for 4th annual Peavine Whitewater Race despite rain

By Mike McDonnell

Whitewater enthusiasts from all over Vermont and at least six other states converged on the White River in Stockbridge Saturday, May 3, to compete in the 4th annual Peavine Whitewater Race. In total, 52 racers disregarded the sporadic rain showers as they navigated the five miles of rapids between Ted Green Ford and Gaysville bridge in various types of canoes, kayaks, standup paddleboards, and rafts. The field included

six youth paddlers and several competitors 70-plus.

Hugh Pritchard (kayak) and Hannah Rubin (canoe), both of Montpelier, were the fastest in the men's and women's classes, respectively.

Members of the White River Valley Swiftwater Rescue Team worked with safety kayakers to provide assistance to any who might need it. A score of local volunteers handled registration, shuttling, timing, and food responsibilities. Mark Nicholson of Bethel generously provided access to his property off Route 107 for post-race food and awards.

The event is organized and hosted by the Ridgeline Outdoor Collective. Results can be found at: creekvt. com/races/peavinerace.

Next spring, the 5th annual PWR is scheduled for Saturday, May 2, 2026.

For more photos from this year's event see page 17.

At Vermont State University, Canadian college students navigate an uncertain political landscape

"I love my life, my

lifestyle, this college, and

Vermont," Edwards said.

By Jackson Burden Community News Service

Editor's note: This story is via Community News Service in partnership with Vermont State University Castleton.

At Vermont State University, Castleton, a vibrant community of Canadian students has long thrived, embracing the American

dream while pursuing their college years in the U.S. in a welcoming academic haven.

However, following the 2025 presidential election, President Donald Trump's aggressive 25% tariffs on Canadian goods have unleashed economic turmoil, casting a shadow over their aspirations.

The Canadian students say they are frustrated by how tariffs affect their daily lives, particularly due to the rising exchange rate, which makes U.S.

goods and services more expensive, straining their budgets.

"They're definitely affecting us personally. When Trump took office, the Canadian dollar was \$1.3 to the U.S. dollar and went up to \$1.4," said Jackson Ed-

wards, a Canadian student-athlete at VTSU Castleton.

The volatility of the Canadian dollar, driven by the tariffs, has plunged students — and their parents — into financial uncertainty. And it's having an impact on how they view America.

"My mom is anti-American right now, refusing to

buy American goods to support Canada. We're very much like, you know, standing with our flag and our country," Edwards added, reflecting a broader Canadian students →14

Table of contents

| Local news2 |
|-------------------------------|
| State8 |
| Opinion10 |
| Puzzles15 |
| SPRING section |
| Events calendar 32 |
| Music calendar35 |
| |
| Arts, dining, entertainment36 |
| Arts, dining, entertainment |
| |
| Pets46 |
| Pets |
| Pets |



We are stocked with nonperishable food, paper goods & cleaning supplies. Any person in need, please call to arrange a pickup. Donations accepted. Please call Nan Salamon, 422-9244 or Ron Willis, 422-3843.

Sherburne UCC "Little White Church," Killington, VT

MOUNTAIN TI

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

| Polly Lynn Mikula | Editor & Publisher |
|-------------------|------------------------------------|
| Jason Mikula | Marketing Manager & Co-Publisher |
| Lindsey Rogers | . Marketing/Advertising Consultant |
| Pat Wise | Graphic Designer |
| James Kent | Publishers' Assistant |
| Roger Rivera | Distribution Manager |

Call: 802-422-2399

For news: editor@mountaintimes.info For advertising: linds ey @mountain times. in foFor events: events@mountaintimes.info





©The Mountain Times 2024 The Mountain Times ullet P.O. Box 183 Killington, VT 05751 • 802-422-2399

mountaintimes.info

Former Woodstock police chief files \$5 million lawsuit

Staff report

Woodstock's former police chief Joseph Swanson has filed a \$5 million civil lawsuit against Municipal Manager Eric Duffy and five village trustees over his demotion from chief of police to patrol officer.

In addition to Duffy, Seton McIlroy, the board chair; Jeffrey Kahn, the vice chair; and fellow trustees Brenda Blakeman, Lisa Lawlor and Frank Horneck are named as individual defendants in the case filed in Vermont Superior Court in Woodstock. The Village and Town of Woodstock are also named as defendants along with Burgess Loss Prevention Associates of Lebanon, New Hampshire, in the wide-ranging 31-page lawsuit.

The lawsuit states the defendants made "extraordinary unlawful efforts" to remove Swanson as the police chief. Those actions "damaged the professional reputation of Plaintiff and caused him to suffer extreme emotional distress and economic damages," states the lawsuit.

The lawsuit requests a judgement of \$5 million "inclusive of compensatory and punitive damages against the defendants to provide full, fair and complete compensation for all past and future losses."

A jury trial is also requested. Duffy, the village and town of Woodstock are alleged to have violated three other counts: breach of contract, wrongful discharge, and breach of covenant of good faith, the lawsuit states.

Woman dies in Thetford crash, kids suffer minor injuries

Staff report

On Saturday, May 3, at 1:54 p.m., police responded to a reported rollover crash on I-91 south in Thetford. Troopers arrived on scene and determined a 2004 Pontiac GTO was traveling south when it failed to maintain its lane, resulting in the vehicle striking a guardrail. Passenger Alyssa Tetreault, 27, from Pepperell, Massachusetts, was pronounced deceased at the scene. The operator, Joseph Hamilton, 40, from Plaistow, New Hampshire, suffered suspected major injuries and was transported to Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center for treatment. Two juveniles, age 5 and 8 of Pepperell and Billerica, respectively, were also transported to DHMC as a precaution.

Neither Hamilton nor Tetreault were reportedly wearing seatbelts.

According to the police report, it was raining with standing water the roadway.

Hamilton has been cited to appear in Orange County Criminal Court on June 11, to answer to the charge of Gross Negligent Operation - Death Resulting.

This crash remains under investigation and anyone who witnessed the crash is asked to contact Trooper Rodzel at 802-222-4680.

Troopers were assisted on scene by the Thetford Fire Department, Upper Valley Ambulance, and Vermont Agency of Transportation.

Sergeant Keith Lorman retires after 23 Years of dedicated service to Rutland City

After more than two decades of service with the Rutland City Police Dept. and nearly four decades in law enforcement, Sergeant Keith Lorman officially retired on May 3. Known for his dedication, leadership, and unwavering commitment to community safety, Lorman leaves behind a legacy that touched nearly every corner of public safety in Rutland.

Lorman began his law enforcement career with the Vermont Dept. of Corrections after high school, graduating from the Vermont Police Academy and joining the Rutland City Police Dept. where he spent the next 23 years in numerous roles that showcased his broad skill set, empathy, and deep connection to the community.

One of his early assignments was in the patrol division, where he earned the Highway Safety Award for his efforts in keeping city streets safe. He later became a school resource officer, teaching D.A.R.E. (Drug Abuse Resistance Education). His connection with young people became a hallmark of his service.

Lorman's service also extended to the Child First Advocacy Center, where he investigated child abuse cases—a role that requires not only professionalism but compassion and emotional resilience. He demonstrated his range



Rutland City police sergeant Keith Lorman.

and capability as he took on detective work in the Bureau of Criminal Investigations (BCI) and was later promoted to corporal in that division.

One of his most impactful assignments came with the Southern Vermont Drug Task Force, where he contributed to regional drug enforcement efforts and earned the Henry "Hank" Haverkoch Memorial Award for excellence in drug investigations. Through this role, he helped combat the opioid crisis and other drug-related challenges affecting Rutland County.

Throughout his career, Lorman also

served as a motorcycle officer, using a Harley-Davidson motorcycle not just for enforcement but as a tool for community engagement. He frequently used the bike for outreach and educational events.

As he progressed through the ranks, Lorman was promoted to staff operations sergeant, where he managed the department's daily operations and administrative functions. He returned to BCI as a sergeant, often on call and available to guide and support fellow officers. Most recently, he served once again in the patrol division, closing out his career in the field where he started.

In addition to his practical experience, Lorman completed numerous advanced training programs, including leadership training, hostage negotiation, and field training officer certification. He holds a bachelor's degree from Plymouth State University.

Described as someone who "makes everyone feel safe and secure," Lorman is widely respected within the department and the broader Rutland community.

"Keith has been involved in the Law Enforcement community in some capacity for 37 years, starting his career $in \, the \, Department \, of \, Corrections \, after \,$ graduating high school," according to a news release. "Thank you for your many years of dedication!"

NBC5 opens downtown Rutland studio

NBC5 WPTZ announced the grand opening of its new studio, the NBC5 Rutland Bureau, located at 48 Merchants Row, on May 1.

The NBC5 Studio in Rutland will include a fully equipped set for live reporting and interviews, helping enable NBC5 reporters to provide meaningful news coverage tailored specifically to the Rutland region.

The Chamber of Economic Development of the Rutland Region (CED-RR) held a ribbon-cutting ceremony on Monday, May 5.

"This new studio is a testament to our dedication to the communities we serve," said Ryan Rothstein, president and general manager of NBC5. "Rutland is a vibrant and important part of our region, and we are excited to be closer to the stories that shape this community. We look forward to being a trusted source of news and a partner to local businesses and organizations. Community members are warmly invited to attend and celebrate our milestone May 5 event."

"Our commitment is to bring local news to the forefront, giving the Rutland community a voice and



By James Kent

NBC5 celebrated with a ribbon-cutting ceremony Monday, May 5.

focusing on the stories that matter most," said Michael LaFlesh, news director at NBC5.

NBC5 WPTZ, based in Burlington/Plattsburgh provides broadcast news, weather, sports, community service and entertainment on multiple platforms including NBC5, mynbc5.com, MyNBC5 mobile, The Valley CW (WNNE Channel 31), and The Valley's MeTV. NBC5 is owned and operated by Hearst Television

Inc. NBC5 is an NBC affiliate with a current morning newscast from 4:30-7 a.m., noon, evening newscasts from 5-6:30 p.m., late news at 11 p.m., weekend mornings Saturday 5-7 a.m. and Sunday 6-8 a.m., and a 10 p.m. newscast on The Valley CW and The Valley's MeTV. In May of 2021, NBC5 was recognized with the regional Edward R. Murrow award for "Excellence in Diversity, Equality and Inclusion."

Woodstock High School students and educators traveled to Arizona to learn about efforts to transform learning

Staff report

Last week, 80 representatives from nine New England communities traveled to Tucson, Arizona, to visit and learn from Desert View High School and the Sunnyside Unified School District.

Nine of those attendees were from Woodstock High School. They included two students: Owen Whalen (11th grade) and Anna Young (10th grade); two educators: Vanessa Cramer (science department chair and teacher) and Heather Vonada (math department chair and teacher); and five administrators: Aaron Cinquemani (principal), Sherry Sousa (superintendent), Elliot Rubin (board member), Sofia Bertocci (counseling department chair) and Jennifer Settle (director of curriculum, instruction, and assessment).

"The goal of this trip was to see innovative teaching and learning in person and develop actions to try in our school," Settle shared in the agenda prepared for the May 5 Mountain Views School Board meeting.

AZ ed trip \rightarrow 14

Red Cross urges blood donations in Rutland, Windsor Counties this May

The American Red Cross is urging Vermonters to roll up their sleeves this month and help ensure hospitals have the blood and platelets they need when emergencies strike. With spring events and summer travel just around the corner, May is a critical time to donate.

Throughout Trauma Awareness Month, the Red Cross is highlighting the need for blood donations—especially from Type O donors and platelet donors—to help accident victims and patients in life-threatening situations. As a thank-you, all donors who give blood or platelets through May 18 will receive a \$20 e-gift card, and those who donate between May 19 and

31 will receive a free Red Cross solar lantern while supplies last. Every May donor will also be entered for a chance to win a U.S. adventure trip for two.

Give blood in Rutland County

Pittsford: May 8, 12:30–6 p.m., St. Alphonsus Liguori Church, 2918 US-7 Rutland: May 8, 12:30–5:30 p.m., Elks Lodge #345, 44-46 Pleasant St.

Rutland: May 10, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., Rutland Regional Medical Center, 160 Allen St.

Rutland: May 12, 10 a.m.-2:30 p.m., Franklin Conference Center, 1 Scale Ave. Rutland: May 13, 12-5 p.m., Elks Lodge #345, 44-46 Pleasant St. Bomoseen: May 12, 12-4:30 p.m., Castleton American Legion, 378 Route 4A West

North Clarendon: May 19, 12:30–5 p.m., Mill River Union High School, 2321 Middle Road

Give blood in Windsor County

- Brownsville: May 14, 1–5:30 p.m., Holiday Inn, 485 Hotel Dr.
- Stockbridge: May 17, 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m., Stockbridge Meeting House, 97 Maple Wood Dr.
- Ludlow: May 19, 12–5:30 p.m., American Legion, 133 Main St.

To make an appointment, visit RedCrossBlood.org, call 1-800-RED CROSS, or use the app. Walk-ins are welcome, but appointments help.

Why did the herp cross the road? 'Big Nights' mean big risks for amphibians and reptiles

Volunteers across Vermont gather to help herps traverse the roads By Theresa Golub

Editor's note: This story is via Community News Service in partnership with Vermont State University Castleton.

Across Vermont, the songs of spring peepers marking the change in seasons. Temperatures rise, snow melts and water runs into the dips and divots of the land to form vernal pools.

Biologists call those springtime basins the coral reefs of the forest — and their emergence helps explain why spring peepers and other frogs get so vocal this time of year.

The fishless bodies of water are vital to the survival of reptiles and amphibians, known together as herptiles or herps, and provide safe breeding grounds for species such as wood frogs, spotted salamanders and, to a lesser extent, the peepers. Without fish around to eat herptiles' eggs, breeding can boom.

In early spring, forests are dry and barren. Vernal pools spread nutrients across the landscape, serve as sites for photosynthesis and help manage flooding by providing a place for water to settle.

It all makes the pools a prime destination for species such as herps. But the journey often is not easy.

On rainy nights, when temperatures reach above freezing, herps leave their winter habitats to head toward vernal pools — and frequently attempt to cross busy roadways, said Jim Andrews, a herpetologist who manages the Vermont Reptile and Amphibian Atlas.

Those migrations, known around the country as "Big Nights," see hundreds of herps per hour crossing roads to reach the vernal pools.

To protect the creatures and reduce casualties, volunteers across Vermont gather on those nights to help herps traverse the roads. Most often, that entails people scooping critters into their hands and shuttling them to safety.

They also collect data.

"We record the number of herps we see, the species, how many are dead or alive and the sounds we hear," said Ira Powsner, an assistant at the Vermont Reptile and Amphibian Atlas.

The info collected by these volunteers is used by the atlas and the Vermont Center for Ecostudies to track the location of the vernal pools and the herps statewide.

Despite those efforts, vernal pools and their herp inhabitants face increasing threats as the result of both climate

Herp crossing \rightarrow 55



By Theresa Golub

Emily Kaplita, an educator with Audubon Vermont, holds a frog during an April 23 herp-filled event in Huntington.

OBITUARY

David MacIver Loman, 37

David MacIver Loman — known to many as "Dave," "Dave the Rave," "Davey Baby," "Davey Jones," or "Dirty Dave" — passed away on Tuesday, April 15, at age 37. Born in Randolph on April 11, 1988, and raised in Killington, David brought warmth, laughter, and depth to every place and person he touched, from the slopes of Vermont to the riverbanks of Montana.

David was a gifted athlete. He was crowned Vermont State Champion in the Giant Slalom during his youth. He continued to race at a high level throughout high school and college, ultimately helping lead Castleton State College to its first-ever podium at the USCSA Regional Championships. He went on to place as the

top overall Castleton skier at its second-ever appearance in the USCSA National Championships. During high school, he was also a four-year varsity soccer player.

He graduated from Killington Mountain School and Woodstock Union High School and later earned his bachelor's degree in English from the University of Montana in Missoula.

David's love of mountains and skiing ran deep — he worked for many years as a ski instructor and race coach and held various roles in ski towns that felt like home to him. In the final days of his life, he shared his desire to return to



Submitted

David MacIver Loman

one. Beyond the ski world, David worked in a multitude of roles: property manager, ranch hand, carpenter, cook, and more. He often worked in service of others' needs, perhaps even at the expense of his own ambitions. His generosity and magnetic personality were such that he was elected Prom King at Woodstock Union High School, a school he only attended part-time. He also had a knack for hosting trivia nights, keeping the room engaged and entertained with his quick wit and easy charm.

David was kind. He was brilliant. And he was deeply generous. He had a way of offering himself entirely — his time, hands, and humor without expecting anything in return. He could fix anything, drive

anything, ski anything. His mind was lightning-quick, especially regarding puzzles, puns, and crosswords, often solving the NYT Mini in under 25 seconds. He shared a legendary back-and-forth of wordplay with his father, Roy, the two usually speaking for minutes at a time in nothing but puns.

He found joy in the simple things: a well-made eggs Benedict, a bluebird ski day, a classic film, a new novel, a long float down the river, a good joke. He was a lover of Batman, goofy comedies, science fiction, and deeply human Obit: David Loman \rightarrow 7

Jimmy LeSage Memorial Scholarship awarded to Brycen Gandin of Mendon

The first-ever Jimmy
LeSage Memorial Scholarship, a \$2,500 award
created to honor the life
and legacy of wellness
pioneer Jimmy LeSage, has
been awarded to Brycen
Gandin, a graduating senior at Rutland Senior High
School. Brycen, a resident
of Mendon, can use the
scholarship toward the
college of his choice this
coming academic year.
Brycen was selected



Brycen Gandin

.

by the scholarship committee for his sincere and thoughtful essay that reflected a personal and introspective understanding of wellness, according to a statement from the committee, April 30. "Brycen exemplified the qualities that echoed the mission behind New Life Hiking Spa. The creativity of his essay brings one into a deeply personal, reflective moment that felt more like a scene from a memoir. His story of a personal hiking experience was incredibly heartfelt, well written, and was what Jimmy wanted the guests to experience while at New Life Hiking Spa," the committee wrote in a news release.

This scholarship was established in 2024 following the passing of Jimmy LeSage, founder of the nationally

LeSage scholarship → 14



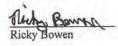
WARNING SPECIAL TOWN MEETING MAY 28, 2025

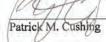
The legal voters of the Town of Killington, County of Rutland, State of Vermont are hereby warned and notified to meet at the Killington Town Office at 2706 River Road in Killington on Wednesday, May 28, 2025, from 7:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M. to vote by Australian ballot on the following Article.

Article 1. To elect the following town officers:

- A selectboard member for a term of one year;
- A selectboard member for a term of two years.

Dated at Killington, Vermont this 14th day of April, 2025.





Jim Haff

SOLID WASTE TRANSFER STATION

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

Phone Number: (802) 422-4499

Website:killingtontown.com/transferstation

Summer Hours Are In Effect Saturday & Monday 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

Hazourdous Waste

June 21, 2025 -11:30am-1:30pm

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







Courtesy The Woodstock Foundation Pictured (l-r): David Simmons, president of the Woodstock Foundation and executive director of Billings Farm & Museum; Joaquin Jones-Welker, first place awardee; Maggie Knox, second place awardee; Jane Stout, third place awardee; Rachel French Weber, trustee of the Woodstock Foundation; and Rick Kendall, superintendent of Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historical Park.

Woodstock Foundation honors the winners of new Rockefeller Legacy Scholarship

Three Woodstock Union High School students were honored on April 30 for their visionary ideas about shaping Vermont's future as the first recipients of the Laurance and Mary Rockefeller Legacy Scholarship, a new annual essay competition created to honor the Rockefellers' lasting impact on the community.

The scholarship program was launched in 2025 by The Woodstock Foundation, in collaboration with Billings Farm & Museum, Woodstock Inn & Resort, and Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historical Park, to celebrate and carry forward the Rockefellers' values of environmental stewardship and long-term community investment.

During a reception hosted by the scholarship partners, Joaquin Jones-Welker, a junior at Woodstock Union High School, was announced as the first-place winner, receiving \$2,500 in scholarship funds. Maggie Knox, also a junior, earned second place and a \$1,000 award, and Jane Stout, a senior, took third place with a \$500 prize.

Students were asked to envision a sustainable environmental, cultural, or economic impact for Vermont lasting 25, 50, or 100 years into the future. Essay themes ranged from green, affordable housing and expanded community land trusts to creative ideas for intergenerational connection and cultural exchange.

"This scholarship creates an opportunity for the next generation to learn about [Laurance and Mary Rockefeller's] impact and reflect on how their values and actions can inspire us today," said David Simmons, president of The Woodstock Foundation and executive director of Billings Farm & Museum. "We're grateful to all of the students who shared their impressive ideas and are proud to recognize our inaugural award winners."

Bruce Grosbety, Woodstock Inn & Resort's president, praised the students' engagement. "We're incredibly appreciative to all who participated," said Grosbety. "This contest is about engaging with the next generation—especially local residents who benefit from the Rockefellers' vision every day—so that legacy endures and they have the knowledge to take up the mantle.

The stewardship chain has grown stronger with each generation... It is beyond gratifying to see, through these essays, that the next generation of people are ready to care

Woodstock Foundation scholarship → 14

TOWN OF



KILLINGTON

VERMONT

NOTICE OF ADOPTION OF WATER SYSTEM ORDINANCE

On April 28, 2025, the Selectboard of the Town of Killington, Vermont, adopted a Water System Ordinance pursuant to 24 V.S.A. Chapter 59. This notice is published pursuant to 24 V.S.A. § 1973 to inform the public of the adoption of the Water System Ordinance and of the citizens' right to petition for a vote to disapprove the adoption of this ordinance.

SUMMARY OF WATER SYSTEM ORDINANCE

Purpose: To govern the operation of the Killington Water System and provide a potable water supply and fire protection capacity, permitted by the State of Vermont, under efficiently managed conditions. <u>Principal Provisions:</u>

| Section 1-100 | General Provisions |
|---------------|---|
| Section 1-101 | The Water Commission |
| Section 1-102 | Definitions and Abbreviations |
| Section 1-103 | Connection to the Water System |
| Section 1-104 | Connection Fees/Responsibility |
| Section 1-105 | Work Commencing Before Permit Issuance |
| Section 1-106 | Permits For The Construction of Water Service Lines, Extensions, or |
| | Additions to the Water System |
| Section 1-107 | Service Lines |
| Section 1-108 | Discontinued Water Service Lines |
| Section 1-109 | Inspections |
| Section 1-110 | Water Meters |
| Section 1-111 | Water Mains and Appurtenances - Operation, Repairs, and Replacement |
| Section 1-112 | Lawn Sprinklers |
| Section 1-113 | Use of Water for Unauthorized Purpose |
| Section 1-114 | Turn-Offs for Repairs or Drought; Notice to Users |
| Section 1-115 | Fire Hydrants |
| Section 1-116 | Tampering, Etc. With Property Belonging to Town |
| Section 1-117 | Water Rates/Billing |
| Section 1-118 | Control of Cross Connections and Backflow |
| Section 1-119 | Other Penalties |
| Section 1-120 | Severability |
| Appendix A | Construction Specifications and Standard Details |
| Appendix B | Rates, Special Charges, and Connection Fees |
| Appendix C | Water Service Allocation & Connection Permit Application |
| Appendix D | Killington Water System Map |

FULL TEXT

Adoption and Effective Date

The full text of the ordinance is available at the Town Clerk's Office, 2706 River Road, Killington, Vermont and may be examined during regular office hours. The ordinance is also available on the Town Website at www.killingtontown.com under Killington Water System and Town Ordinances.

CITIZENS' RIGHT TO PETITION FOR VOTE

Title 24 V.S.A. §1973 grants the citizens the right to petition for a vote at a special or annual Town Meeting to disapprove ordinance amendments adopted by the Selectboard. To exercise this right, citizens must present to the Selectboard or the Town Clerk a petition for a vote on the question of disapproving the amendments signed by not less than five percent (5%) of the Town's qualified voters. The petition must be presented within forty-four (44) days following the date of the adoption of the amendments. Unless a petition requesting a vote is filed pursuant to 24 V.S.A. §1973, the amended Traffic Ordinance shall become effective sixty (60) days from the date of said adoption.

PERSON TO CONTACT

Additional information pertaining to this Ordinance may be obtained by contacting Abbie Sherman, Director of Public Works, at the Town Manager's Office located at 2706 River Road, Killington, Vermont, 05751 or by calling 802-712-4243 during regular office hours.

DATE POSTED: May 5, 2025.



Snow, summer, and snowshed: 1960 saw fast progress

How Killington became The Beast: Part 9

By Karen D. Lorentz

Editor's Note: This is the ninth segment of an 11-part series on the factors that enabled Killington to become The Beast of the East. Quotations are from author interviews in the 1980s for the book "Killington, A Story of Mountains and Men."

The Vermont Forest & Parks Dept. had been unable to complete a base lodge in time for Killington's debut in 1958, but in 1959, they erected a modern two-story Killington Base Lodge, which surpassed expectations. (Killington expanded it several times over the years before replacing it with today's spectacular K-1 Lodge.)

The summer of 1959 saw mountain progress with crews carving two trails off Killington Peak — the steep Cascade trail and the easier Goat Path (now Great Northern), which meandered over to the Glades (now North Ridge) and allowed lower ability-level skiers to utilize the new chair and pursue a longer route to the base. The Great Bear Trail was built on Snowdon, and the novice area by the base lodge



Submitted

Skiers ride an original K chair with lattice towers.

was expanded.

Preparation for the first chairlift included cutting the lift line and installing foundations for the lattice towers. However, Killington's first chairlift was delivered late, which resulted in a challenging installation due to early snowfall.

A tough first chair install

"It was a 6,300-foot-long chairlift and the first chairlift I'd ever built. We were doing things on a shoestring and had elected to build the chair with our own crew. It was a learning process, from learning how to read blueprints to building all the footings and putting all the pieces together. We did pretty well, except I don't think I did an excellent job planning the time. We plugged along," recalled Pres Smith of a trying time.

"Cold weather came, and we still weren't done," he continued. "Then it snowed; we were almost done, but then it snowed and snowed. We were still aligning the towers, and there were 5 to 6 feet of snow on the ground, and we had to dig down for each of the four legs on the lattice towers. It was prolonged and difficult."

"We ended up getting that lift into operation in March [1960]! I realized then that we had to do things differently," Smith added.

Ironically, before it could prove itself for winter ski operations, the Killington Double Chair inaugurated summer business, carrying almost 5,000 visitors to the historic peak between late June and October.

Sue Smith noted that when they originally researched starting a ski area, summer business levels in the White Mountains of New Hampshire led them to believe Killington could be a four-season resort and that summer revenues would contribute significantly to total operating revenues. Envisioned as a year-round resort, the 1960 summer operation of the chairlift marked the first attempt to attract summer and fall foliage season business.

Billed as the East's highest chairlift (which it was before Beech Mountain was developed in North Carolina in the 1970s) the aerial lift brought sightseers to the 4,200-foot elevation, where they could enjoy spectacular views or take a short hike to the 4,241-foot rocky pinnacle for more views. Plans were to run the chair year-round with the exception of May and November, which at the time were non-ski months!

With the Killington chair operating for its first full winter 1960-61 and the trails greatly expanded and improved, the



Submitted

Skiers on a K double chair overlooked the beginner slope.

ski area caught the eye of ski clubs, colleges, and racers. So, although the 1960-61 season was a recession year for the ski industry in New England, Killington enjoyed a successful and record third season. Gross revenues were up 58% to \$218,000, and net income rose to \$9,837 as attendance jumped from 39,804 to 64,850, and the season extended from December 14 to May 8 for 145 days of operation. Only one other area in Vermont reported an increase in attendance that year.

A focus on beginners

Original development plans had called for an aerial lift or Pomalift to be built to the top of 3,800-foot Skye Peak, the third mountain area, but due to the wind conditions there, serious doubts had arisen as to its feasibility.

At the same time, Smith could foresee the phenomenal 1960s growth of the sport and was interested in catering to beginners and new skiers. A decision was made to install a lift on the lower portion of Skye Peak, where the terrain was previously thought to be too flat to appeal to skiers!

A Pomagalski and Cie three-quarter-mile long double

and brilliant

sense of

humor.

The Beast \rightarrow 8



 $Melissa\ Gullotti, a\ spokesperson\ for\ Bear\ Den\ Partners, said\ that\ pending\ a\ few\ administrative\ details\ being\ resolved,\ the\ group\ expected\ to\ formally\ close\ the\ deal\ in\ early\ May.$

The decision comes just days after Michael Goldberg, the lawyer overseeing the resort's receivership, asked Gayles to approve the deal, writing at the time that the agreement was

"in the best interest of the investors, the employees and the Burke ski community."

Gayles appointed Goldberg receiver of Burke Mountain Resort and Jay Peak, another Northeast Kingdom ski area, in 2016, when the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission brought a civil suit against

In 2022, Jay Peak sold ... for \$76 million. About \$60 million of that went to defrauded investors.

Ariel Quiros, the former owner of both properties, and Bill Stenger, former CEO of Jay Peak. The two men were accused of defrauding investors participating in the federal EB-5 visa program in what has since become the largest fraud case in Vermont history.

In 2022, Jay Peak sold to Pacific Group Resorts Inc., a Utah-based management company, for \$76 million. About \$60 million of that went to defrauded investors, though it only covered an average of 22% of their losses.

In court filings, Goldberg has suggested that much of the proceeds from the sale of Burke Mountain Resort would similarly go toward making the investors whole, although it's unclear how much they would receive.



Obit: David Loman:

from page 4

dramas. He had a wry and brilliant sense of humor — equal parts witty and silly — and a smirk that could grow into the most radiant, toothy grin you can imagine.

Above all David loved He He had a wry

Above all, David loved. He gave of himself so fully that it was sometimes hard for him to save any kindness for himself. He was the kind of person who would drive across a state to

help you move a couch, who'd tell you he was "fine" just to keep from burdening you with his own pain.

David is survived by his mother Esther, father Roy, sister Sarah, brother Dan, sister-in-law Becca, nephew Carter, niece Audrey, and his beloved dog Pesto. He also leaves behind many dear aunts, uncles, and cousins. He leaves not only those closest to him but also friends scattered across the

country, many of whom now carry a deep and aching absence.

A small gathering was held in Montana,

and a larger celebration of David's life will be held at Killington Resort in Vermont on Saturday, June 14. Details can be found at daveloman.com/memorial.

Those wishing to share stories, photos, or videos can

do so at daveloman.com/memories or by emailing memories@daveloman.com.

Those wishing to donate in his honor can contribute to a foundation of his namesake, available at daveloman.com/foundation.

Though David left us too soon, the love, laughter, and generosity he gave the world endure. May we honor him by showing up for each other as fully as he did—for no reason other than love.

The Beast: from page 7

chairlift was ordered from France. However, when they received the engineering profile, the company thought a mistake had been made as the slope seemed too shallow. "They had never received an order for a chairlift to be built on such a flat hill," Smith noted.

This idea to cater to beginners with what was considered at the time to be very flat terrain was unheard of in the ski industry and was deemed "tremendously risky. It was scary because we didn't know it would fly," recalled Operations Manager Paul Bousquet.

A major lift and skiing area just for beginners was considered heresy as most beginner terrain at that time was steeper than Snowshed or smaller in size and utilized surface lifts. (The 34 -mile-long Snowshed slope has a gradient ranging between 6% and 15%, while Snowdon averaged 24%.)

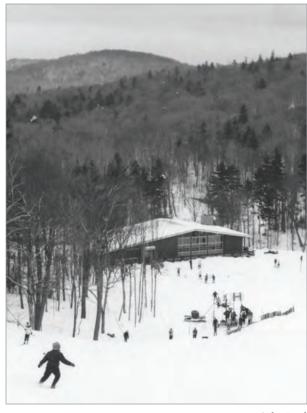
But Smith thought that Snowshed's gentle terrain would make an ideal, separate learning area and an appropriate place for ski school classes.

Having learned a valuable timing lesson with the Killington chair, crews began clearing a 3,600-foot liftline on Snowshed on May 22, 1961. Two gradual trails, Snowshed (a narrow trail under the lift) and nearby Yodeler, were cut.

A connector trail, Highland [later renamed Highlander] was built to Killington Basin where a much smaller beginner area had been built by the base lodge. The original Idler trail brought skiers back to the Snowshed Area, which had increased the overall vertical of the ski area to 2,000 feet. A new Snowshed parking lot was built by the Vermont Forests & Parks Dept., and a rustic, temporary base shelter was built by the company.

A second 600-foot novice Pomalift, a Model "D" specially designed to be a gentle, slow riding lift for children, was also added to the novice slope above the Killington Base Lodge, bringing the area's total to two double chairs and five Pomas with a total capacity of over 4,600 skiers per hour. Investment in the mountain by the Sherburne Corporation, banks, and the State of Vermont had reached almost \$1 million.

Next week, we'll explore how Killington's ability to grow eventually made it known as The Beast of the East. Comments and insights are welcome: email klorentzski@ vermontel.net to share thoughts about skiing in the 1950s.



Submitted

The first Killington beginner area situated above the K base lodge with baby Poma to left and new chair to right, circa 1960.

Sanders introduces Medicare for All

U.S. Senator Bernie Sanders, ranking member of the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions (HELP), alongside Rep. Pramila Jayapal (D-Wash.) and Rep. Debbie Dingell (D-Mich.), introduced the Medicare for All Act last Tuesday, April 29. Hundreds of nurses, health care providers and workers from around the nation joined the lawmakers for a press conference in front of the U.S. Capitol.

In America, despite spending twice as much per person on health care as other wealthy nations, more than 85 million Americans are uninsured or underinsured, one out of every four Americans cannot afford their prescription drugs, over half a million people go bankrupt due to medically related debt, and more than 60,000 die because they cannot afford to go to a doctor.

"The American people understand, as I do, that health care is a human right, not a privilege and that we must end the international embarrassment of the United States being the only major country on earth that does not guarantee health care to all of its citizens," said Sen. Sanders. "It is not acceptable to me, nor to the American people, that over 85 million people today are either uninsured or underinsured. Today, there are millions of people who would like to go to a doctor but cannot afford to do so. This is an outrage. In America, your health and your longevity should not be dependent on your wealth. Health care is a human right that all Americans, regardless of income, are entitled to and they deserve the best health care that our country can provide."

"It is a travesty when 85 million people are uninsured or underinsured and millions more are drowning in medical debt in the richest nation on Earth," said Jayapal. "We don't suffer

"We don't suffer from scarcity in America, we suffer from greed," said Jayapal.

from scarcity in America, we suffer from greed. That's most clear in our broken health care system, which is why we need Medicare for All."

"Every American has the right to health care, period. If you're sick, you should be able to go to the doctor without being worried about the cost of treatment or prescription medicine. Too many families must decide between putting food on the table and getting medical care that they desperately need," said Dingell. "We've been fighting this fight since the 1940s, when my fatherin-law helped author the first universal health care bill. It's time to get this done."



Submitted

Sanders joined Jayapal, Dingell, and hundreds of health care workers in from of the U.S. Capitol last week to introduce the Medicare For All Act.

Under this legislation, Medicare would provide comprehensive health care to every American with no premiums, no co-payments and no deductibles. It would also expand Medicare to include dental, hearing, and vision

care, and it would give every American the freedom to choose their doctors without endless paperwork or fighting their insurance company.

The Congressional Budget Office has estimated that Medicare for All would save our health care system \$650 billion a year. Further, researchers at Yale University have estimated that Medicare for All would save 68,000 lives a year.

This legislation would also create a health care system that finally puts people over profits, Sanders, Jayapal and Dingell stated.

Since 2001, the top health care companies in America spent 95% of their profits, \$2.6 trillion, not to make Americans healthy but to make their CEOs and stockholders obscenely rich. While nearly one out of four Americans

cannot afford the life-saving medicine their doctors prescribe, 10 top pharma companies made \$102 billion in profits in 2024. Meanwhile, the CEOs of just four prescription drug companies

— Pfizer, Johnson & Johnson, Eli Lilly, and Merck — together made over \$100 million last year.

The legislation has 104 cosponsors in the House and has 16 cosponsors in the Senate — an increase in the number of Senate cosponsors from last Congress.

"With the passage of the Medicare for All Act, physicians can focus on healing patients, not battling insurers over denials and delays. Patients will finally be able to seek care without the constant fear of crushing medical bills."

"America spends much more than other wealthy countries on health

care only to have the worst health outcomes," said Robert Weissman, co-president of Public Citizen. "The system works for health insurers, Big Pharma, hospital chains and private equity firms — but no one else. Medicare for

The Congressional Budget Office has estimated that Medicare for All would save our health care system \$650 billion a year... save 68,000 lives.

All would ensure everyone in America can get the care they need throughout their lives. It is the realistic, humane, just and efficient reform we need."

"Every time we negotiate with a boss for the right to see a doctor, they nickel and dime us until people have to choose between their health and putting food on the table," said Shawn Fain, President of the international union, United Automobile, Aerospace and Agricultural Implement Workers of America (UAW). "We're sick of having to go on strike just to have decent health care."

"Instead of getting health care, Americans get delays, denials, and bills they cannot afford. Today, predatory insurance CEOs are poised to reap the windfall from the tax scam giveaways earmarked for billionaires and corporations. The oligarchs that put Donald Trump and Dr. Oz in power want everything we have. We get sicker, make impossible choices, and go broke. They boost the stock prices of corporations — like UnitedHealth that profit off our pain, and buy more mansions and yachts. We can put an end to those warped priorities through Medicare for All," said Sulma Arias, executive director of People's Action Institute. "Working people have made this the wealthiest nation in the history of the world, and there is more than enough if we don't let the corporate crooks and billionaires steal it. So it's time to choose: Our health care or their greed?"

Threading the needle

By Rep. Jim

Harrison

Last Thursday, May 1, the full Senate approved its version of the state budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1 with numerous changes from the House. On Friday the

House and Senate appointed a conference committee (three House and three Senate members) to work out the differences between the two chambers. Once that happens, it will need approval once again by the full Legislature before sending it to the governor for his signature. As the budget affects all areas of state government, it is a "must pass" bill, otherwise things shut down July 1.



Approximately one-third of the state budget relies on federal dollars.

At his weekly press conference two weeks ago, Scott was critical of the Senate plan for its extra spending and new state positions, especially with a backdrop of potential federal cutbacks in state funding — approximately one-third of the state budget relies on federal dollars.

As one of the members of the conference committee, we met on Friday afternoon to begin the process of identifying the differences and mapping out a schedule for this week in the hope of reaching an agreement by Thursday or Friday. Meanwhile, our inboxes are getting filled with emails from various advocacy groups that prefer some of the spending additions that the Senate made to their version of the budget. We have our work cut out for us.

In most years, the budget agreement is the last bill to be completed before the Legislature adjourns. That is not expected to be the case this year, as the work on education governance and financing is taking additional time. At this writing, there are significant differences between the House and Senate, although the Senate has not finished its work yet. That bill will likely also go to a conference committee in a few weeks, where "threading the needle" may be much more complicated and contentious than the state budget.

Other issues of interest:

 The House Ways & Means Committee advanced the governor's proposed targeted tax cut package, which will be voted on by the full House this week. The bill includes an increase in the age for the child tax credit to 6; an increase in the earned income tax credit; an increase in the income threshold for exempting a tax on Social Security benefits by \$5,000; and a new exemption for the tax on income from veteran pensions. Under this provision, military pensions

will not be taxed if total family income is under \$125,000. The pension income will be partially taxed for families whose total annual income is between \$125,000 and \$175,000.

 The U.S. Dept of Justice filed complaints against Vermont and New York over their climate superfund laws, Vermont's law

passed last year allows the state to bill oil companies for damage caused by climate changes. The measure, which was the first in the nation, is already facing lawsuits by industry and is expected to be tied up in courts for years.

- In a suit brought by Legal Aid, a
 Vermont judge issued an order
 requiring that the state give motel
 voucher program recipients ade quate notice before ending their
 benefits along with time to appeal
 (to be determined).
- House and Senate Republicans made several attempts to offer amendments to several bills to repeal the Clean Heat Standard or make changes to the renewable energy standard to help mitigate some of the future cost increases to ratepayers. All were ruled non-germane to the bills under consideration and votes were not allowed on the amendments. The governor and Republicans in the Legislature are getting increasingly frustrated over the Democratic majority's unwillingness to consider changes to costly energy laws that were enacted the past few years by overriding gubernatorial vetoes.
- The House gave final approval to an amendment to the Vermont Constitution that would protect and enshrine the right of Vermont workers to organize and collectively bargain. As the proposed amendment has successfully been approved by two different legislative sessions, it will go to the voters for a vote in the next general election (2026).

If this were a normal year, the Legislature would finish its work around May 16 (18 weeks). Education reform efforts are expected to extend adjournment by one or two weeks. As each day costs an estimated \$60,000, there will be pressure to minimize any extension to the session.

Jim Harrison is the state representative for Chittenden, Killington, Mendon, and Pittsfield. He can be reached at JHarrison@ leg.state.vt.us.

Good news, progress, and more work to come

The best news of the week was that Mohsen Madawi was released from detention here in Vermont.

The federal government offered no acceptable justification for Madawi's detention, and, as a result, Judge Crawford of Vermont's U.S. District Court freed him. The conditions of his release seem relatively simple: he is now free to go back to Columbia University and resume his life as a student, and he can live in Vermont and continue his process of becoming an American citizen.

This was such welcome news.

More good news followed on May Day. The House passed Proposal 3, which means that this proposed amendment to our Vermont constitution will be on the November 2026 ballot for a vote. Proposal 3 would enshrine the right for Vermont workers to organize unions and collectively bargain. The language, which had to be passed in both chambers in two consecutive biennia, states that "no law shall be adopted that interferes with, negates, or diminishes the right of employees to collectively bargain." Six other states explicitly affirm this right in their con-

stitutions, and several other states have laws that have further enhanced these rights.

I was also heartened to see the Johnson Public Library, which had flooded numerous times, moved to higher, hopefully, flood-free land. In an impressive engineering feat, this 1909 40 x 45-foot brick library was lifted and moved on 48 wheels half a mile away to the grounds of the elementary school. It took three hours in the middle of the night, between 3 and 6 a.m., to accomplish this,

despite it getting stuck at one point. This example of resiliency is inspiring.

At this point in the session, a great deal is in play. In a typical session, this week's passage of the Senate's version of the FY26 Budget H.493 would indicate that we were about two weeks away from adjournment, but not this year.

This year our top priority, on top of many other top priorities, is the education transformation work. This effort is now embodied in H. 454, which has just passed out of the Senate Education Committee and will be considered by two other Senate committees

Clarkson \rightarrow 13



y Sen. Alison Clarkson

Hartford PCB:

PCB testing was mandated by Act 74, passed in 2021, which requires school districts to test for PCBs in educational facilities constructed prior to 1980. If found, cleanup is immediately mandated,

considered redirecting a portion of the \$21 million voters approved last year for other building repairs.

"This is much more than a planned renovation where we have years to consider what we're doing.

There is no way to remove the PCBs at Hartford High School as they are in cinder block walls, Garthwaite explained to the board.

too. While the state had initially seeded some money for such efforts, those funds have run out and there are no plans for reallocation.

PCBs are carcinogenic and exposure can also affect the body's nervous, immune, reproductive and endocrine systems.

There is no way to remove the PCBs at Hartford High School as they are in cinder block walls, Garthwaite explained to the board.

At the meeting, April 23, the Hartford School Board We're dropping a bomb here." Garthwaite said.

There also a chance that some fund could come from the Monsanto Corp.

— which manufactured PCBs from the 1930s-1970s. The Hartford School district has joined about 100 other Vermont school districts in a lawsuit against the company. Bayer (the parent company of Monsanto) has settled other lawsuits brought against Monsanto for PCBs.

For now the district must put out requests for

proposals for more bulk sampling at the high school and tech center and for the first phase of abatement.

The board will meet again this Wednesday, May 7. "Funding for PCB Remediation and Abatement" is on the agenda with Jacob Vezina, the district's director of finance, scheduled to present a report to the board. The board may also receive more testing results. While Hartford Memorial Middle School tested negative for PCBs, the results from air test at the White River School (which were conducted over April break) were not received as of the last board meeting, according to Garthwaite.

The elementary schools Dothan Brook School and Ottauquechee School were built in the 1990s, and thus are exempt from testing because PCBs were banned in 1979 by the federal Toxic Substances Control Act.

GUEST EDITORIAL

Rutland can't afford to lose Head Start, or the programs that keep us together

By Leslie Burg

Editor's note: Leslie Burg, Manchester, is a community member of the Rutland Head Start Policy Council and an emerita professor of literacy and disabilities at Northeastern University.

Show the state and the country that Rutland will not stand by while its most vulnerable residents are abandoned.

Rutland is a city that represents the best of what it means to be American: hardworking, community-minded and resilient. But right now, we are facing a crisis that could upend the lives of hundreds of local families — and leave an already stretched community reeling.

The Trump administration has proposed eliminating all federal funding for Head Start in its 2026 budget. If this budget moves forward, it will not only devastate Rutland County Head Start — it will also trigger a ripple effect across countless essential services in our region.

Let me be clear: Head Start is not "just child care." It is a lifeline.

Our program currently serves 69 of Rutland's most vulnerable infants, toddlers and preschoolers — all from families living at or below the poverty line. For \$1.9 million in federal support, Rutland receives a comprehensive, wraparound support system that includes:

- Family stabilization Rutland County Head Start Director Donna Barrow has told me that 25% of our families are homeless and 50% are navigating mental health needs.
- Developmental screenings Barrow also says that 25% of children we serve receive special education support because we caught early warning signs.
- Health and nutrition Many of our children would not eat consistently without the meals and snacks we provide daily.
- Job security for parents Without our program, working parents — mostly in low-wage jobs would lose their ability to earn an income.

We've spent over 30 years building a program that works. It's efficient, effective

and deeply rooted in the needs of this community. If the proposed cuts go through, this entire system collapses overnight. And not just ours.

Other local programs — those that support domestic

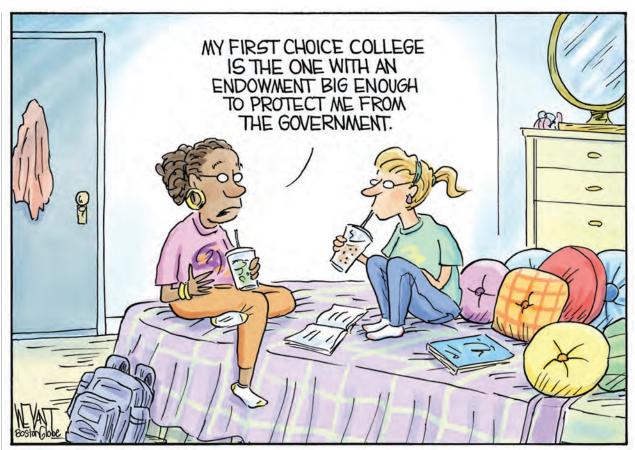
We've spent over 30 years building a program that works...

If the proposed cuts go through, this entire system collapses overnight.

violence survivors, provide mental health services, house the unhoused and deliver early intervention care — are also dependent on fragile federal and state funding streams. Many are already stretched to the breaking point. If one piece falls, others will be forced to fill the void with fewer resources and greater need. The cost will not only be measured in dollars, but in the toll on families, frontline workers and the long-term health of our city.

We're already seeing the warning signs: Families living in cars and tents. Parents with not enough food for their family. Children poisoned by lead, left untested until they show signs of learning delays. Teachers and staff — some

Head Start → 12



Big University Endowment Protections by Christopher Weyant, The Boston Globe

LETTERS

Stop the SAVE Act and protect women voters

Dear Editor

On April 10, the Safeguard American Voter Eligibility (SAVE) Act, H.R.22, passed the US House and is on its way to the Senate.

The League of Women Voters of Vermont (LWVVT) opposes the SAVE Act because it requires American citizens registering to vote or updating registration information to present in-person proof of citizenship. This disenfranchises voters by creating barriers to voting, particularly since election officials already verify voter eligibility and ensure voter rolls are accurate.

SAVE will make it harder for American citizens to vote as it eliminates many modes of voter registration: register by mail, online, through the DMV or other state agencies, and voter registration drives.

Under SAVE, individuals must go to an election office in person to register to vote or update registration information. This places significant staffing, financial, and bureaucratic burdens on election officials, disrupting

systems that have kept our elections running smoothly.

SAVE creates disproportionate barriers for more than 21 million Americans who may not have easy access to mandatory documents.

- Eight in 10 married women have changed their last name, meaning their birth certificates don't match their current legal name.
- Rural voters, working-class voters, voters of color, and older Americans are less likely to hold passports or easily accessible birth certificates.
- Military members abroad cannot register or change their voter registration in person.
- Tribal members with tribal IDs that don't usually list their place of birth may not be able to vote.
- Survivors of natural disasters who have lost all their person-

SAVE Act \rightarrow 12

Under one roof: Vermont or bust!

Dear Editor,

We're heading north and so excited. We're moving full time to Vermont! For decades we've been snow birds, like my parents, spending half the year in Bradenton, Florida.

But now our Florida house is up for sale — a 1929 Spanish Mediterranean brimming with beauty and charm. A young family we hope will soon own it. I hear their children's footsteps sound room to room. Fingers crossed the sale goes through.

Returning to Vermont fills me with joy for we live in the house my father built. Since I was 7 he followed his dream to build a ski lodge in Killington. It took several decades just coming on weekends from Montclair, New Jersey where I grew up. Killington was just starting in 1958 when we began to clear the land.

Now there's a twist to our return: Our son and his family will join us soon.

Our lodge is large, but with seven of us, we'll have to squeeze in just like

Vt full-time \rightarrow 12

Tech, nature are out of synch

Dear Editor.

I have been thinking since Earth Day about modern technology and our environment and how much they are out of touch with each other. Last summer, my wife and I traveled to Fairbanks, Alaska, for a wedding. While there, we went to the Museum of the North at the University of

Al cannot create new land, new water, new air.

Alaska-Fairbanks. It was an amazing experience.
Although I had been familiar with traditional Native hunting, fishing, traveling, and living techniques for decades, what really hit home for me was just how in tune Native technology was with their environment.

Yes, there was often starvation and horrible deaths, but the technology they developed was 100% based on what they had to work with — and they respected their animals, their waters, their land. A salmon-skin

Tech vs nature → 13

CAPITOL QUOTES

Resurrecting "The Rock?"

Alcatraz is a decommissioned maximum federal security prison in San Francisco Bay that hasn't held any prisoners since 1963. That didn't stop President Trump from issuing a directive to recommission the prison for use. Rising upkeep costs were one reason for its shutdown. It's anyone's guess how much it could cost to make Alcatraz functional as a prison again.

A "substantially enlarged and rebuilt" Alcatraz will house the nation's "most ruthless and violent Offenders." It will "serve as a symbol of Law, Order, and JUSTICE,"

said President Donald Trump on Truth Social.

"I think that this is a great idea from President Trump. Historically, Alcatraz was used to house the worst of the worst, and that's exactly what we're doing at Guantanamo Bay and could potentially do at Alcatraz as well,"

said **Tricia McLaughlin**, a spokesperson for the Dept. of Homeland Security, on Fox News.

"Alcatraz closed as a federal penitentiary more than 60 years ago. It is now a very popular national park and major tourist attraction. The president's proposal is not a serious one,"

said Nancy Pelosi on X.

"100% tariffs on foreign films (maybe shutting off China market for U.S. films?) Re-open Alcatraz (closed for 60+years)? I really do not think it is a good idea to leave President Trump alone on Sunday nights,"

said American journalist **Jeff Greenfield** on X.

"Reopening and rebuilding Alcatraz as a prison would cost approximately \$235-\$370 million upfront and \$40-\$60 million annually to operate. Where you at DOGE?"

said Democratic strategist TheMaineWonk on X.

COMMENTARIES

From incarceration to community care: Reinvest in health, justice, common good

The U.S. currently

restricts the freedom

of more people per

capita than any

other independent

democracy.

By Brian Cina

Editor's note: Brian Cina is a Vermont-State Representative for Chittenden-15. Cina is a clinical social worker with a full-time

therapy practice and is a part-time crisis clinician.

State-sanctioned punishment and violence perpetuate harm under the guise of accountability, justice, and public safety. Since 2017, Governor Phil Scott has pushed for new prisons

while consistently undercutting public education—a key driver of health and crime. Vermont plans to build a \$100 million "women's re-entry facility," but we could instead expand justice reinvestment efforts and redirect funds toward housing, health care, and education.

The true economic and social cost of incarceration incurs a moral debt that lasts for generations. Decades of disinvestment and the erosion of the social safety net have worsened poverty, housing insecurity, lack of care access, violence, discrimination, and other social and structural drivers of both health

and criminal behavior.
The carceral system fails to address root causes and often does more harm than good—worsening health disparities, increasing recidivism, and reinforcing criminogenic factors. Incarceration is a costly and ineffective gov-

ernment practice that imposes significant social and economic burdens.

Yet mass incarceration is on the rise in the U.S. in 2025 as national crime rates fall to the lowest since 1961. According to the Prison Policy Initiative, the U.S. currently restricts the freedom of more people per capita than any other independent democracy—"nearly 2 million people in 1,566 state prisons, 98 federal prisons, 3,116 local jails,

Incarceration \rightarrow 13

Homeless legislation encounters Sturm and Drang

A cohort of Vermont's social service providers has embarked on an editorial campaign challenging the

House's recent legislation that would disrupt the status quo of homeless services funding administration.

Angus Chaney, executive director of Rutland's Homeless Prevention Center (HPC), appears to be the author of the editorial and is joined by about a dozen fellow non-profit leaders in the following requests:

1) that Vermonters look closely at the H.91 legislation; 2) that the General Assistance (GA) program and the Housing Opportunity Program (HOP) not be painted with the same brush; 3) that HOP be held harmless as the GA is reimagined; 4) that the state supports the Office of Economic Opportunity (OEO); 5) that "we" have a seat at the table as the state implements a new strategy for GA funding.

Other than stating that "we feel" the H.91 legislation has the potential to destabilize an existing network, the cohort does little to build a case for the status quo over the proposed funding reorganization.

Rep. Theresa Wood, D-Waterbury, chairs the House Human Services Committee, and she writes:

"The House Human Services Committee, which I chair, has created a real step forward that integrates emergency housing with the supportive services necessary for many individuals to successfully transi-

tion to permanent, affordable housing.

The bill H.91, which has passed the House and is now being considered by the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare, creates the Vermont Homeless Emergency Assistance and Responsive Transition to Housing Program (V-HEARTH for short). This program is intended to replace



It uses existing resources but moves the management of those resources to Vermont's five community action agencies. These agencies will work with other community partners to provide emergency housing and integrate supportive services such as referrals to substance use treatment, mental health services, financial and job coaching, assistance with landlord-tenant relationships, etc. In essence, each household will participate in a needs assessment and have an individualized plan to achieve housing security.

Without increasing the state's current budget, this is a significant step forward to address a basic human need for shelter

Accidental Activist → 15



The Accidental
Activist
By Stephen Box

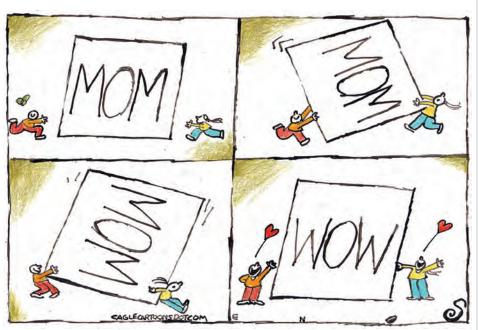
CARTOONS



Man Demonstrates Listening Skills by Jonathan Brown, Political Cartoons



Superman is no match for Mom by Dave Whamond, Canada, PoliticalCartoons



Kids with "Mom" sign by Randall Enos, Easton, Connecticut

Head Start: from page 10

of them parents themselves — facing the threat of losing their homes if our program disappears.

This is not hypothetical. This is already happening. And without action, it's about to get much worse.

It doesn't have to be this way. Rutland has the power to respond — together.

We need our elected officials, local leaders, business owners, nonprofit partners and neighbors to come together and push

back. We must tell our stories. Write letters. Make calls. Organize. Show the state and the country that Rutland will not stand by while its most vulnerable

 $residents\,are\,abandoned.$

This is not just about Head Start. It's about every program that helps keep our community whole. It's about the belief that every child, regardless of ZIP code or income level, deserves a fair start.

The attack on Rutland's Head Start program is close and personal to us. However, we need to understand that this is taking place across our country. Programs intended to help our most vulnerable, children, families, the disabled and our elderly, are being defunded and strategically destroyed.

Programs intended to benefit America's middle-class — i.e. Pell grants so high school students who wish to can afford to go on to college, and, yes, Social Security — are being stripped and sold for parts. The list goes on.

The eroding of our institutions and programs that support the health and welfare of all Americans has but one objective — to weaken them until they ultimately collapse, taking our federal government with them, opening the door to an oligarchic dictatorship, erasing everything America has stood for over the past 250 years.

Rutland has to speak out, opposing the elimination of our Head Start program, so essential to our community. However, we also

have to recognize the danger to our country as a whole, and make our voices heard while we can. The kind of future those currently in power have for

America will find us in a country we no longer recognize and don't want to live in. We must speak out now, before we lose the rights we take for granted and our voices are silenced.

This is not just about Head Start. It's about every program that helps keep our communities and our country whole. It's about the belief that every child, regardless of ZIP code or income level, deserves a fair start and that every American deserves a fair shake.

If you're reading this and wondering how to help — start by speaking up. Talk to your neighbors. Share this story. Contact your representatives. Demand that programs like Head Start, and the many others serving families in crisis, be protected and fully funded.

Rutland is stronger when we stand together. Let's raise our voices before it's too late.



SAVE Act:

from page 10

al records may not be able to vote.

 Inmates who can vote will have difficulty obtaining documentation and cannot go to an election office to register.

SAVE purports to protect elections from non-citizen votes, of which there is no widespread evidence. It is already illegal and extraordinarily rare for non-citizens to vote. Violations lead to heavy fines, imprisonment, and deportation.

According to a Brennan Center study, during the 2016 election, election officials identified 30 incidents of suspected non-citizen voting across 23.5 million votes cast in 42 jurisdictions — comprising 0.0001% of total votes.

This is not hypothetical.

This is already happening.

And without action, it's

about to get much worse.

LWVVT calls on the US Senate and our Vermont Senators Sanders and Welch to oppose the SAVE Act and protect the rights of American citizens to vote without undue hardships or obstacles. SAVE is dangerous, undermines our democracy, and disenfranchises sizable portions of our citizens.

Sue Racanelli, president of the League of Women Voters of Vermont



Vt full-time:

from page 10

the Waltons. After all, I discovered my great great grandmother was an ancestor of the Walton clan.

Why leave behind our tropical retreat for snow and ice in the frozen north? We yearn to be with our family and participate more in our grandchildren's lives. What could be more satisfying? Like families all around the world, living together is a common tradition that's

We cheered as we crossed the border of Vermont.

often lost in our modern day. We know it won't always be easy or peaceful but we'll realize our dream by working together.

We cheered as we crossed the border of Vermont, a family tradition for 55 years. Soon we'll arrive at our family homestead perched on the mountain and surrounded by forest. There, we'll reconnect with nature and begin our new adventure in the state we love the most.

Marguerite Jill Dye, Killington

Jill Dye is an artist and writer. She wrote a column called "Mountain Meditations" in the Mountain Times from Aug. 2016 to Oct. 2024.



1,277 juvenile correctional facilities, 133 immigration detention facilities, and 80 Indian country jails, as well as in military prisons, civil commitment centers, state psychiatric hospitals, and prisons in the U.S. territories — at a system-wide cost of at least \$182 billion each year."

Vermont is no exception.

In 2024, Vermont—despite having the nation's second-lowest incarceration rate—spent \$199 million on its Dept. of Corrections and had the second-highest cost per prisoner. In 2023, the DOC signed a \$21.4 million contract with CoreCivic for up to 300 out-of-state private prison beds due to in-state overcrowding. According to the American Civil Liberties Union of Vermont, "65% of the 1,358 people held in Vermont's prison system have either not been convicted of a crime and are being detained pre-trial, or they have already served their minimum sentence but are being held past their minimum release date."

In 2022, 19% of those incarcerated past their minimum release dates remained in prison due to a lack of suitable housing.

Housing is a practical tool for breaking cycles of incarceration. Vermont can invest in more supportive and transitional housing grounded in the evidence-based Housing First approach.

For those with longer sentences or higher needs, residential recovery facilities can provide cost-effective, community-based alternatives to correctional facilities. Created in partnership with FreeHer VT and shaped by the voices of those with lived experience, H.456 proposes establishing a state-funded and community-based continuum of care for justice-involved individuals.

The VT Dept. of Corrections is

currently under a \$113.5 million
contract with Wellpath
to provide health care in
our correctional facilities
from 2023 to 2026, despite
serious concerns about
safety, quality of care, and
financial difficulties. While incarcerated, individuals are cut off from their
existing care providers and often receive
inadequate treatment within Vermont
correctional facilities. Both correctional
staff and residents reported widespread
negative health impacts and dangerous
conditions in the 2022 Vermont Prison

Rather than spending on out-of-state contractors, Vermont should invest in its local healthcare system to provide continuity of care from incarceration and hospitalization to community-based settings. As the General Assembly reimagines healthcare delivery

Climate Survey.

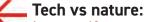
and finance, we must ensure equitable access to comprehensive care for all, including justice-involved individuals, especially those who are incarcerated. Justice does not require the violent denial of healthcare as a human right.

"In fact, violence merely increases hate...Returning violence for violence multiplies violence, adding deeper darkness to a night already devoid of stars. Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot

We can choose a different future—one rooted in restoration, redemption, recovery, and hope.

drive out hate; only love can do that," said Reverend Martin Luther King Jr., guided by the teachings of Jesus Christ, responded to state violence with spiritual clarity now supported by scientific evidence.

We are at a crossroads. Humanity can continue down the path of harm, punishment, trauma, and despair. Or we can choose a different future—one rooted in restoration, redemption, recovery, and hope. Reinvestment from incarceration into community care can finally fulfill the dream of deinstitutionalization. This choice is not only fiscally responsible—it's a moral imperative.



from page 10

rain parka at the museum was one of the ultimate ways that they did this.

Our technology today so often works against the very environment that we depend on for life. Take the incredible amount of energy that is required to run massive data centers for artificial intelligence. Does it really make sense? AI cannot create new land, new water, new air. Is supposedly making our lives "better" really worth it? I have my doubts.

Let's always remember that life is dependent on what the earth gives us. *Ed Blechner, Addison*



before it goes back to the House for consideration.

At stake is how we fund education (shifting to a foundation formula); district, school, and class sizes; state aid for school construction; education governance; how career and technical education is to be re-organized and financed; the timeline for accomplishing all this and the future of public tuition funds. This bill, which will require a great deal more negotiation, both with the House and the governor, is really the barometer of when the 2025 session will wrap up.

While the education transformation work is high-profile, many other bills will be finalized in the coming weeks. All the legislative committees are in the last stages of finishing their work on their bills —on housing, data privacy, health care, transportation, the re-organization of how we manage those who are unhoused, updating unpaid family leave, cannabis regulation, our capital investments, regulating child care educators and a host of other issues. May promises to be an intense and very busy month.

Vermont Sen. Clarkson can be reached by email: aclarkson@leg.state.vt.us or by phone at the State House (Tues-Fri) 802-828-2228 or at home (Sat-Mon) 802-457-4627.





The Spring 2025 Innovative Schools Learning Excursion to Arizona was organized by the national nonprofit Next Generation Learning Challenges (NGLC) with funding from the Boston-based Barr Foundation.

The nine visiting communities were selected through a competitive application process and received a grant, ranging from \$11,200 to \$12,600, to support their participation and follow-up activities from the visit. These teams all

> "It is truly remarkable what happens when school communities come together like this. It gives us hope for the future of public education," said Calkins.

included representatives in a variety of roles, from students and parents to teachers and administrators and school board members.

"Every team is required to include two high school students," explained NGLC co-director Dr. Carlos Beato. "Students have the most important perspective to contribute when it comes to learning. Teams on past NGLC excursions have treasured the variety of roles on their

teams, broadening their perspective on what's possible in their high schools."

In addition to Woodstock's Mountain Views Supervisory Union, the eight other New England school communities were:

- Blackstone-Millville Regional High School (Massa-
- 2. Gateway Regional School District (Massachusetts)
- 3. Hamden High School (Connecticut)
- Hinsdale School District (New Hampshire)
- Holyoke High School North Campus (Massachusetts)
- Salem Public Schools (Massachusetts)
- Taunton Public Schools (Massachusetts)
- Wachusett Regional School District (Massachusetts)

This excursion is part of a series of such trips that NGLC has offered, with support from the Barr Foundation, for the past eight years. This is the program's first visit to learn with Sunnyside Unified School District. NGLC has co-designed this experience with Angélica Duddleston, principal of Desert View High School, and Pam Betten, chief academic officer of Sunnyside

Unified School District. They, in turn, have brought in the high school's student ambassadors plus many teachers and school and district staff to lead activities for the New Englanders.

While in Tucson, visitors learned about the high

school's college and career academies; the district's profile of a graduate and commitment to identity, agency, and purpose; student agency; and intentional teaching and assessment strategies. They observed classroom learning, toured the high school, listened to student panels, sat in on teacher-led roundtables, and engaged in interactive workshops about the many strengths of Desert View and Sunnyside Unified's approach to learning.

"The kinds of discussions that participants have with each other and with their colleagues in Arizona are rare in public education, especially across the variety of roles represented on the excursion," the press release stated. "Inspired to think differently and explore new ideas and strategies, teams are also provided a foundation to apply what they learn to advance their own community's vision for learning."

"We have seen the amazing energy coming out of these Learning Excursions to create the kinds of learning and schools that our young people need and deserve," added NGLC co-director Andrew Calkins. "It is truly remarkable what happens when school communities come together like this. It gives us hope for the future of public education."

For more information, visit: nextgenlearning.org or barrfoundation.org.



LeSage scholarship:

recognized New Life Hiking Spa & Wellness Retreat in Killington. For over 40 years, Jimmy guided thousands of guests toward healthier lives through hiking, nutrition, mindfulness, and connection with nature. The retreat grew from just 12 guests a season in 1978 to over 1,000 guests a season as it celebrated its 40th anniversary. New Life Hiking Spa was consistently listed as one of the top wellness retreats in the world and was even featured on the Today Show when it won the #1 Destination Spa in America by Travel + Leisure Magazine.

LeSage's approach to wellness was one grounded in simplicity, whole foods, hiking, bodywork, and the healing power of the mountains. New Life Hiking Spa was open in Killington each May-September, and there were also winter retreats in Tortola

and Nicaragua during various years. Most of New Life's employees came from Rutland and Windsor counties.

"Jimmy had a gift for helping people reconnect with themselves and with nature to live a healthier lifestyle," said Kathleen LeSage, his wife. "This scholarship is a way to keep that spirit alive and to invest in young people who share his values. This scholarship is to recognize a student in the same region where Jimmy built his life's work as a way to give back, which I know he would want."

The Jimmy LeSage Memorial Scholarship will be awarded annually each May to a graduating high school senior from Rutland or Windsor County who plans to pursue a 2- or 4-year college degree and who demonstrates a passion for wellness and a meaningful connection to the outdoors.



Canadian students:

sentiment of national pride amid the trade war.

Beyond exchange rates, Canadian students face another frightening complication: tightened U.S. border policies.

U.S. Customs and Border Protection has intensified scrutiny at the northern border, citing concerns about drug trafficking and illegal crossings. Trump has declared a national border crisis, though less than 1% of U.S. fentanyl seizures occur at the Canadian border.

This has led to stricter protocols, mirroring those at the U.S.-Mexico border, despite Canada's significantly lower drug trafficking volume.

"I'm not going home for spring break because I'm scared I might not get back in," said Codi Bacon, a student-athlete at VTSU Castleton from Alberta.

Bacon said the whole situation is frustrating.

"I don't think it needs to be done to the same extent as Mexico," Bacon added, echoing sentiments that Canadians are being unfairly targeted by the U.S. by treating them like Mexico, where the drug issue is much greater.

These border restrictions, coupled with economic pressures, have disrupted Canadian students' lives. For years, they crossed the border freely, unburdened by exchange rate concerns or visa issues. Now, the weakened Canadian dollar and fear of border delays force them to cut back on spending and seek internships or campus jobs to offset costs.

"At first, I didn't understand what the tariffs meant. Looking into it, with the exchange rate

"I'm not going home for spring break because I'm scared I might not get back in," said Codi Bacon, a student-athlete at VTSU Castleton from Alberta.

right now, it's just gotten a lot more expensive as a Canadian living in the States. It's disappointing," said VTSU Castleton hockey player Josh Ward.

The U.S. and Canada, founding NATO members since 1949, have long been close partners, but the tariffs have threatened this bond.

To counter the tariffs, then-Prime Minister Justin Trudeau imposed 25% retaliatory tariffs on \$30 billion of U.S. goods. They primarily target products such as peanut butter, wine, beer, motorcycles, and cosmetics. Provinces such as British Columbia and Nova Scotia also removed American liquor from their stores.

 $Trude au \, then \, stepped \, down, \, endorsing \, Mark \, Carney, \, former \, governor \, of \, the \, Bank \, of \, constant \, and \, constant \, const$ Canada and Bank of England, who defeated conservative opponent Pierre Poilievre in national elections earlier this week.

"I've never been a huge fan of Trudeau — he hasn't done much for Canada — but I was pleased with his response to Trump's initial tariffs," Bacon said.

Despite the challenges they face, some Canadian students remain optimistic.

"I love my life, my lifestyle, this college, and Vermont," Edwards said.

That said, he shared that the trade war's impact is undeniable, forcing Canadian students to navigate a precarious economic and logistical landscape, testing their resilience as they pursue their dreams in the U.S.



Woodstock Foundation scholarship: from page 5

for these places around Woodstock," said Rick Kendall, Superintendent of Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historical Park, emphasizing the importance of generational stewardship.

"This essay contest allows these young folks the ability

to cultivate deeper reflection and synthesize what they've learned in order to propose a better future," added Kat Robbins, the high school's place-based learning coordinator.

The essay competition is open annually to Woodstock Union High School students in grades 10 through 12. The program is supported by The Woodstock Foundation, Woodstock Inn & Resort, the Countryside Fund, and the Green Mountain Foundation.

For more info, visit: woodstockfoundation.org.

WORDPLAY

SAFE BUILD WORD SEARCH

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally and backwards

S D D U 0 B S М U 0 C N В G Н М L N L F Ε L Ε C T R Ι C Ι Α N L S S N Α L P Y Ι R E Ε G E K G R 0 U D C W Y J М Ι N W C Ε М Ε В E P T S Ι 0 J Ι W L N A W J Α Ι F C F D 0 S D В R S Ι D W B A C E G W N E Ε N 0 D G М N C N В T C W R G Ι K Ι 0 T T Y 0 C S R R U P C D Y K B N 0 W G Ι C E T J D Α Α Ι R D E T R W N Ι Т R Ν M T R R 0 P D E U T J M Ι J Ι N R Α W C Α E G C L Ε L G Ι Α T S N U 0 Α М U K D R Н J T N T L C Ι W D Ι M Y A N L U Ι E Ι В E N J F M Н N R Υ Ν L J J U N P S S F R Н P G F U D D K R N D 0 T N Α 0 C T C N J Ε K M L E N N U S R K P A L F M A Ι 0 C В 0 Α R D L Α Н E S N N U 0 S N 0 Н A K D C Т D В W J J Ι J S 0 T C U C Н C Ε T S S F J Ε C U C R 0 Н C Ν Α S Ι C R Ι R U В R R Y D W R Y Н Y A L C F В J D K М J G K Ε D K Т L A Y Α N W A 0 S G N Ι Н S A F W M Ι Т N 0 W L J G

ANCHOR APRON BOARD

43. Soldier

phers

45. Photogra-

48. Language

50. Expressed

55. Ancient Greek

49. Mimic

pleasure

spoken in Nigeria

oneself

Andrews

23. Records

24. Popular

electric currents

Alto

12. Golf score

14. Tech hub __

19. Sportscaster

CAULKING CIRCUIT BREAKER COLUMN

CONCRETE

CONDUIT DISCONNECT DRYWALL DUCTS

ELECTRICIAN FIRE RATED FLASHING FOUNDATION FRAMING GRADE GROUND WIRE INSULATION

IOIST PANEL PLANS TRUSSES

47. Dough made from corn

54. College's Blue Devils

58. Midway between south

flour

48. Fallow deer

51. Swiss river

53. Engrave

and southeast

52. Grayish white

Solutions → 46 CROSSWORD PUZZLE **CLUES ACROSS** sophist 1. Herring-like 56. Beverage 13 12 fish container 5. Perform on 57. Night monkey 16 15 17 stage aenus Soda 59. Lace bugs 11. Small growth 60. Hogshead 20 21 18 13. In support of (abbr.) 14. Step taken 61. Frameworks 23 24 62. Keyboard key when walking 15. Hollyhocks 63. Greek god-16. Returned madess of the dawn terial authorization 64. Influential 30 31 Korean indepen-(abbr.) 17. Feel pain dence figure 32 33 35 36 18. San Diego **CLUES DOWN** ballplayer 38 39 42 20. Inches per 1. A place to minute (abbr.) unwind 43 21. Fat from a 2. Helped (arpig's abdomen chaic) 22. Create again 3. Razorbill 46 25. Honors once genus 4. Bleached more 53 51 52 30. Thin coating 5. Continent 6. Fruit preserved 55 of gold 56 58 31. Welsh river in syrup 32. Japanese 7. Impediment to 60 61 novelist Mizumura one's freedom 33. Husks of corn 8. Nocturnal 63 38. Green vegerodents table 9. Earthy pigment 41. Showing guilt 10. Relieved 36. Extra charge Hitchcock film

25. Revolutions per minute

28. When you hope to get

26. NY Giants legend

27. Sports radio host

29. French seaport

35. Rocker's accessory

Patrick

somewhere

34. Thai river

37. Influential American

40. Great Plains people

42. Soluble ribonucleic acid

46. Behind the stern of a

39. Pain in the head

41. Consumed

44. Improves

45. Secret clique

president



Accidental Activist:

from page 11

to maximize the possibility of preventing homelessness through earlier intervention and to provide links to supportive services many people need if they become homeless."

Interesting!

I'm a Vermont Houser, working with 22 agencies and authorities to provide safe and healthy affordable housing to those who need it the most. From this perspective, I am a strong advocate for reorganization efforts that result in greater efficiencies and more effective oversight.

Over the last five years, Vermont's homeless population

The status quo is indefensible, and all future options should be on the table.

Our goal as Vermonters is to end homelessness, not salvage departments, protect headcount, and cling to the processes that have failed to deliver solutions to the current housing crisis.

Stephen Box is a Rutland-based house, general contractor, landlord, and advocate for citizen developers.

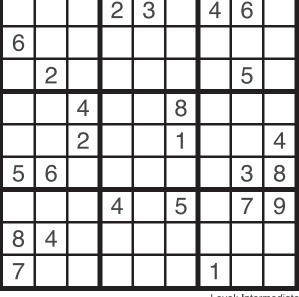
For more information, visit: partnersinhousingvt.com.

SUDOKU

Solutions → 46

How to Play

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



Level: Intermediate

GUESS WHO?

I am an actor born in Kentucky on May 6, 1961. In my teens, I tried out for the Cincinnati Reds but didn't make it past the first round of cuts. I've played a pediatrician, Batman, a gangster, and a ship captain in my career. A newer role has been Dad to twins.

Answer: George Clooney



Courtesy University of Vermont

 $University \ of \ Vermont's \ Sam \ Alger \ pictured \ working \ with \ bees.$

Vermont beekeepers work to produce future generations of disease-resistant bee colonies

A new hygienic testing method helps identify bee colonies better at preventing sickness. Now, scientists are working to breed these colonies to generate more resilient hives for commercial and hobbyist beekeepers.

By Izzy Wagner/VtDigger

Honey bee colonies worldwide suffered massive losses last year, but University of Vermont researchers and international partners developed a new testing method that may lead to more disease-resistant colonies in the future, including in Vermont.

"It's incredibly promising. We are all really excited with the results," said Andrew Munkres, a beekeeper at Lemon Fair Honeyworks in Cornwall.

Beekeepers in the U.S. lost 70-100% of managed honey bee colonies in 2024, according to the nonprofit group Project Apis m. In order to keep honey bee populations stable, beekeepers must breed replacements — but this can be a time-consuming and costly process.

"It's definitely more desirable for a beekeeper to have bees that are better adapted at taking care of their diseases themselves," Samantha Alger, a research assistant professor in UVM's College of Agriculture and Life Sciences and head of the Vermont Bee Lab, said in a University of Vermont press release.

Alger said the trick to breeding resilient colonies starts with the ability to identify hygienic colonies that can identify and remove diseased brood, which are the hive's youngest members and include eggs, larvae and pupae.

In a honey bee colony, the queen bee lays one egg inside each cell. As the eggs hatch, nurse bees feed the larvae and eventually cap over the developing cells with a protective wax layer. When nurse bees are stimulated by pheromones to detect sick or dead developing bees, they will uncap

the cell and remove the damaged pupa. This is known as hygienic behavior.

That's where the UBeeO testing method comes in. This screening tool developed at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro tests for hygienic behavior by mimicking the pheromones emitted by diseased bees and measuring the nurse bees' response.

UBeeO differs from previous hygienic testing methods. Rather than testing the bees' ability to identify dead brood, it measures the bees' ability to identify diseased brood, which makes it more "realistic to what bees experience," Alger said in the release.

The UBeeO method provides a quantitative value of how hygienic the colony is because researchers can count the number of cells that have been manipulated by nurse bees.

"If 60% or more of the cells were manipulated, the colony is considered hygienic, and those are the genetics you want to breed for," Alger said in an interview.

The Vermont Bee Lab discovered that the UBeeO method detects more pathogen loads than previously thought. This could drastically improve breeding programs, Munkres, a commercial beekeeper, said.

However, the trouble lies in passing on the hygienic behavior to offspring from the disease-resistant colonies.

"Without (hygienic behavior) being more heritable, it's less useful to test for," Munkres said.

Alger and other researchers are now investigating the heritability of hygienic behavior and other underlying caus-

es that led to 2024's massive colony losses.

"People like simple answers, and so they always ask, 'What's the reason the bees are dying?" Munkres said. "What I have to tell them is that it's like one of those multiple choice tests in school."

Periodic mites, pathogens, temperature disruptions due to climate change and pesticides all contribute to colony losses, he said.

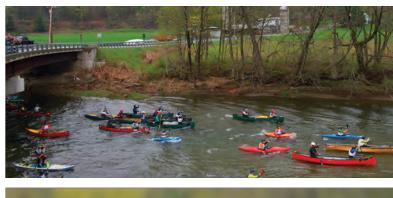
"Even if we were able to populate the state of Vermont with all of these UBeeO tested hygienic bees, we would still have to deal with controlling the pesticides and creating a healthy environment for the pollinators to live," Munkres said. "If we can get the pesticide use under control, then this type of technology will be huge in terms of helping to boost healthy populations of bees."

Vermont lawmakers passed a bill last June to restrict the use of some of the most toxic pesticides, called neonicotinoids — some so lethal that using a teaspoon of them could kill every single bee in the state, Munkres said.

Regulators are currently working on a plan to implement Act 182, which bans farmers from using cereal grain seeds treated with neonicotinoids by Jan. 1, 2029.

About 35% of the world's food crops — one out of every three bites of food consumed — depend on animal pollinators, according to the United States Department of Agriculture. Therefore, it is crucial to pollinator survival, and to global food security, to ensure the neonicotinoid ban is properly enacted, Munkres said.

Peavine:











By Jerry Leblond

Racers power through the rapids on the White River at the Peavine Whitewater Race last Saturday May 4.

Bill's Landscap ng GREEN MOUNTAIN DIVISION LLC



Services Offered

Tree Removal
Trail Building
Onsite Firewood Processing
Onsite Sawmill Services
Landscape Design and Consultation
Landscape Construction and Installation
Master Gardner Planning and Design
Arborist Services







Gardening Tip of the Week

A plant some may consider is from the past such as Rhubarb has several qualities that make it a reliable option for not just growing in your garden, but adding to a landscape idea. Rhubarb is a cool weather climate admirer, and tends to do extremely well. It grows happily in full sun or part shade making useable in just more than one area of your yard. It's visually

in just more than one area of your yard. It's visually simple and classic looking. Rhubarb's full growth in a season can spread to 4-5ft in width, and needing not much maintenance at all. Vibrant red, or pink stalks become brighter throughout summer and fall. Rhubarb also acts as a natural pest deterrent, and to top off the list it's a sweet old fashioned ingredient in desserts many of us have grown up with.



© 802–503–3787

Licensed and Insured

Bridgewater | Killington | Woodstock | Barnard | Plymouth and surrounding towns



UNIQUE GIFTS IN A MAGICAL SPACE

FIND THE PERFECT GIFT FOR MOM!

THE SPARKLE BARN
1509 US 7 S, WALLINGFORD, VT
WWW.THESPARKLEBARN.COM

Plan your kid's creative summer at Chaffee Art Center

RUTLAND—Spring is here, but now is the perfect time to look ahead and register for the Chaffee Art Center's popular summer camps before they fill up. With a wide variety of creative opportunities for children ages 6–12, Chaffee's summer programming offers young artists a chance to explore their imagination, build skills, and have fun in a supportive, inspiring environment.

The camps run from late June through August. They are held at the Chaffee Art Center

in Rutland and are led by experienced teaching artists. Whether your child loves painting, theater, sculpture, science, or cartoons, there's something for everyone this summer.

Parents must pre-register for all camps and can also sign up for before- and after-care services from 8–9 a.m. and 4–5 p.m. for \$15 per hour, as well as optional, supervised lunch coverage from Noon–1 p.m. for \$15 per day. Registration is available online at chaffeeart-center.square.site or by calling 802-775-0356.

Here's what's on tap this summer at the Chaffee:

June Camps



July Camps



August Camps

• Create Art Studio Camp (June 23–27, 9 a.m.-noon, \$150)

Drawing and painting with water color, pastel, acrylic, and more. $% \label{eq:color_pastel}$

Instructor: Deb Dauphinais

• Explore the Art of Nature (June 23–27, 1–4 p.m., \$150)

Make art from rocks, leaves, twigs, and other natural elements.

Instructor: Karen Wurster

• The Art of Science (June 30-July 3, 9 a.m.-noon, \$120)

Mix science and art with slime, tie-dye, and shaving cream prints.

Instructor: Michele Robie

• Theater Improv Camp (July 7-11, 9 a.m.-noon, \$150)

Learn improvisation and perform a short play. *Instructor: Cathy Archer*

 All About Sculptures (July 7-11, 1-4 p.m., \$150)

Build sculptures with wood, textiles, papier-maché, and more

Instructor: Karen Wurster

• Musical Theater - ALL DAY CAMP (July 14-18, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., \$295)

A full-day camp ending in a musical performance of The Lion King.

Instructor: Marisa Valent

 Puppets, Puppets, Puppets (July 21-23, 9 a.m.-noon, \$95)

Create puppets, write a play, and perform a puppet show.

Instructor: Cathy Archer

- Clay Creations (July 21–25, 1–noon, \$160) Make pottery and sculptures using air-dried clay. Instructor: Karen Wurster
- Let's Get Crafty (July 28-Aug. 1, 9 a.m.-noon, \$150)

Explore yarn art, card making, and stamping. *Instructor: Michele Robie*

• Discover the World of Mosaics (Aug. 4–8, 1–4 p.m., \$160)

Learn paper and glass mosaic techniques. Instructor: Karen Wurster

 Play with Art Camp (Aug. 11–15, 9 a.m.–noon, \$150)

Graffiti art, puffy paint, shrink art, and more. *Instructor: Matt Aucoin*

• Cartoon-O-Rama Camp (Aug. 11–15, 1–4 p.m., \$150)

Create comic strips and learn cartooning basics. Instructor: Matt Aucoin

 All About the Arts (Aug. 18–22, 9 a.m.–noon, \$150)

Paint ceramics, craft, and make storybook art. *Instructor: Michele Robie*

• Robots! Robots! (Aug. 18–22, 1–4 p.m., \$150)

Build robot buddies and explore games and dances. *Instructor: Karen Wurster*

With a mix of half-day and full-day options and themes ranging from puppetry to improv to nature-inspired art, the Chaffee Art Center's camps are a fun and enriching way for local kids to spend their summer days. But space is limited—and filling up fast.

For more information or to register, visit: chaffeeart-center.square.site or call 802-775-0356.







Submitted

Rutland Garden Club plant and bake sale returns May 17

Saturday, May 17 at 8:45 a.m.—RUT-LAND—A beloved springtime tradition is back in downtown Rutland. The Rutland Garden Club's annual plant and bake sale will occur on Saturday, May 17, at the corner of Main and Center streets in front of the Hull Maynard building.

This highly anticipated event draws gardeners and sweet-tooth enthusiasts alike. The plant sale kicks off at 9 a.m., and the bake sale begins at 8:45 a.m.

What makes the Rutland Garden Club's plant sale unique is its selection of plants dug from local gardens, offering visitors healthy, regionally adapted greenery for their flower beds and containers. Shoppers will find perennials, groundcovers,

and more—carefully nurtured by Garden Club members and ideal for the Vermont climate.

Meanwhile, the bake sale will tempt passersby with homemade pies, cookies, breads, and other sweet and savory treats. Now in its third year, proceeds from the bake sale directly benefit the Rutland Garden Club's scholarship fund, which supports local students pursuing careers in environmental and horticultural fields.

Rain or shine, the club hopes to see a strong turnout on May 17 for what has become one of Rutland's most cheerful and greenest springtime staples.

For more information, visit: rutlandgardenclub.org.

Vermont's largest skilled trades expo set to inspire the next generation

"It's like touch-a-

truck for teens and

grownups," said Shana

Brunye, executive

director of Bring Back

the Trades. "There

are so many amazing

exhibits happening at

the Vermont event-I

can't wait for the

students, parents, and

community members to

see the creativity."

Tuesday, May 20, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.— CASTLETON — With over 1,600 students from nearly 40 schools already registered, the Bring Back the Trades Skills Expo, presented by F.W. Webb, is shaping up to be one of the most im-

pactful career-focused events in Vermont this year. The Skills Expo will take place on Tuesday, May 20, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Vermont State University Castleton campus and will be open to students, parents, educators, and community members interested in exploring hands-on, high-demand careers.

The event, hosted in collaboration with the Chamber & Economic Development of the Rutland Region (CEDRR), is part of a nationwide initiative to address the grow-

ing skills gap in the trades. Organizers are responding to what has been called the "silver tsunami," where five skilled tradespeople retire for every two entering the workforce.

"The skills expo is a powerful way to connect students with industry leaders and help them envision a successful future in the trades," said Lyle Jepson, Executive Director of CEDRR. "Our mission is to create a thriving economic climate, and that starts with workforce development."

From plumbing, electrical work, and HVAC to welding, construction, cosmetology, and culinary arts, the Skills Expo will give students and attendees hands-on exposure to real career options. Interactive exhibits and live tool demonstrations will allow participants to explore new technologies and learn directly from professionals in the field.

"It's like touch-a-truck for teens and

grownups," said Shana Brunye, executive director of Bring Back the Trades. "There are so many amazing exhibits happening at the Vermont event—I can't wait for the students, parents, and community members to see the creativity."

Event highlights:

Interactive trade exhibits: Hands-on activities and demonstrations from Vermont businesses showcasing their industries

Tool & equipment demos: Live displays of the latest tools and technologies used across

skilled trades

Networking opportunities: Students will engage with local professionals and potential employers.

Scholarships: Bring back the trades will award more than \$20,000 in scholarships to Vermont students pursuing careers in the skilled trades.

Supported by local businesses and education partners, the expo also aims to challenge outdated perceptions of trade careers and promote them as lucrative, fulfilling options for young Vermonters.

For more information, visit: bringback-thetrades.org.







Celebrating Nurses VVeek and the Power of Nurses

May 6 - 12, 2025











Thank you for all your hard work in keeping our community healthy!

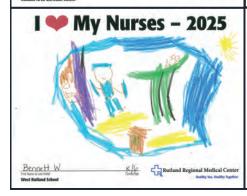




Check Out More Artwork From Local Schools Online:

















Hall Art Foundation reopens for the season with four bold exhibitions and a flourishing sculpture park

READING—As spring bursts into bloom across Vermont, the Hall Art Foundation in Reading is again opening its indoors and outdoors for a new season of contemporary art, nature, and community engagement. With its season officially launching on May 10, the foundation invites visitors to take advantage of the fresh air and renewed creative energy by exploring four new exhibitions and enjoy its sprawling 400-acre sculpture park—making it the perfect spring arts destination for families, day-trippers, and art enthusiasts alike.

Located just off VT Route 106, the Hall Art Foundation transforms a former dairy farm into a dynamic space for art and reflection. More than 6,000 square feet of gallery space and installations stretch across fields and woodlands along a tributary of the Black River. The picturesque setting and the thoughtfully curated exhibitions provide a rare combination of cultural depth and natural beauty that's especially inviting in the season of renewal.

Four compelling spring exhibits "Pop Perspectives": Ramos, Rosenquist, Ruscha

This vibrant show brings together works from three titans of American pop art—Mel Ramos, James Rosenquist, and Ed Ruscha—each challenged and reshaped mid-20th-Century visual culture. From Ramos' provocative takes on consumerism to Ruscha's typographic landscapes, these artists highlight the witty, critical, and

sometimes irreverent character of the pop movement. First championed by legendary dealer Leo Castelli, their works converge here in a celebration of postwar commercial aesthetics.

Joel Sternfeld

Known for his large-format color photographs that capture the American landscape with haunting beauty and subtle irony, Sternfeld's exhibit includes pieces from his iconic "American Prospects" and "Walking the High Line" series, alongside his lesser-known 2016 video work, "London Bridge."The exhibit encourages reflection on change, space, and the passage of time—an especially fitting theme for spring.

Gladys Nilsson

Nilsson, a key figure of the Chicago-based "Hairy Who" art collective, brings a riot of color, texture, and form to her solo exhibit at the Hall. Over 15 pieces trace her decades-long journey from whimsical 1960s watercolors to complex, large-scale figurative paintings in recent years. The works are playful, politically tinged, and wholly absorbing—a testament to an artist still exploring with childlike curiosity and masterful technique.

David Wojnarowicz

Bold, raw, and emotionally charged, Wojnarowicz's works from 1982 to 1990 speak powerfully to identity, resistance, and the human condition. A self-described

outsider, Wojnarowicz confronted marginalization headon, weaving together imagery, symbolism, and visceral emotion. The show includes over 15 paintings and sculptures created during the peak of his career, offering a deeply moving counterpoint to the other exhibitions.

Nature, sculpture, and community

Beyond the gallery's walls, visitors can explore the outdoor sculpture park, which features installations by internationally renowned artists, including Olafur Eliasson, Antony Gormley, Richard Long, and Marc Quinn. These works are integrated into the landscape, providing an immersive experience that changes with the seasons.

Visitors can also enjoy a meal or snack at Café Lex, located on-site, which serves food by Brownsville Butcher & Pantry. Outdoor seating near the Black River offers a serene place to unwind and reflect after taking in the art.

Visitor Information

The Hall Art Foundation is open on weekends from May 10 through November 30.

Self-guided visits: Saturdays and Sundays, entry times between 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. (\$15 adults, \$5 children 12 and under, 50% off for Reading residents)

Guided tours: Saturdays and Sundays at 10 a.m. (\$18 per person, limited capacity, reservations recommended)

For more information, visit: hallartfoundation.org.

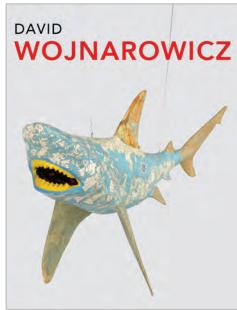


Courtesy Hall A Café Lex will offer visitors a perfect atmosphere for dining while enjoying the surroundings of Hall Art.



By Joel Sternfeld

"Kenai Peninsula, Alaska, July 1984." Twenty of Joel Sternfeld's iconic large-scale color photographs from his "American Prospects" and "Walking the High Line" series will be on display beginning May 10 at the Hall Art Foundation.



By David Wojnarowicz Untitled (Shark), 1984. Artist David Wojnarowicz is one of four exhibitions that will be on display to open Hall Art Foundation's new season on May 10.



er throughout the Hall Art's grounds.

Courtesy Hall Art There are many wondrous sculptures to discov-



Courtesy Hall Art

Walk Hall Art's grounds and experience its 400-acre sculpture park.



By Gladys Nilsson

"Three Women," 1965. Over 15 of Nilsson's vibrant and irreverent works will be featured at the Hall Art Foundation on May 10.

Handcrafted resilience: Shackleton Thomas rebuilds stronger after fire

By James Kent

BRIDGEWATER — There is a quote written as you come through the door of Shackleton Thomas, from namesake Earnest Shackleton:" Optimism is true moral courage. "For nearly four decades, Shackleton Thomas has stood true to that quote. The furniture and pottery makers are a testament to craftsmanship, creativity, and perseverance. Nestled along Route 4 in Bridgewater, the high-end furniture store, manufacturer, and pottery studio has weathered more than its fair share of storms—literally. Since its founding in 1987, the business has endured Hurricane Irene, a second flood, the pandemic, and, most recently, a fire in July 2024.

Yet, each time adversity strikes, ShackletonThomas comes back stronger. "We've done it four times now," said co-founder and master furniture maker Charlie Shackleton. "Two floods, Covid, and a fire."

"The mill's on fire"

On the evening of July 19, 2024, Shackleton and his wife, Miranda Thomas, were sipping tea, reflecting on past challenges, which seemed to be in the rear-view mirror and recent triumphs—including their daughter's wedding—when the phone rang.

"One of the ladies who lives in an apartment by the Bridgewater Mill said the mill's on fire. And that was all I heard," recalled Shackleton.

Racing to the Mill, where Shackleton Thomas is located, Shackleton was met with smoke pouring from the top floor. "The fire's tiny—I'll show you, it's a black mark on the floor," he said. "But the sprinklers went off... and there was an inch or more of water on the top floor. It came down through the workshop, it

 $came\ down\ through\ here, all\ the\ ceilings\ started\ falling\ down."$

Thanks to recent upgrades made after previous flooding, basement pumps and barriers kicked into action. Still, the damage was extensive and forced the business to close for four months. Insurance delays added to the hardship, but Shackelton

made a familiar decision: to turn disaster into opportunity.

"We used this as a chance to say, okay, let's rebuild this better... this will set us up for the next 30 years," he said.

A handmade philosophy

ShackletonThomas is one of the rare places where the term "handcrafted" is not just a branding slogan—it's a way of life. Every item, from ornate high-back chairs to sturdy four-poster beds, is built on-site by a team of dedicated craftspeople.

"Our pieces have a slight variation among them... it's because it's being done by hand," said workshop manager

and master furniture maker Shea Rodgers. "There's something about when it's done that way that feels like there's more life invested into those pieces."

Furniture at ShackletonThomas is not mass-produced. Each craftsperson sees a project through from start to finish—selecting the lumber, crafting the joinery, and applying the finish. "That's the big difference," Rodgers noted. "We're not manufacturing—we're craftsmen."

Even as modern tools like CNC routers find limited use in the studio, the team is constantly debating what to automate and what to keep entirely handmade. "We take a lot of pride in the fact that we are doing it traditionally," Rodgers said.

A home for craft

The business employs about a half dozen full-time furniture makers and several studio artists on the pottery side. Many of them, like Rodgers, sought out ShackletonThomas as a rare place where artistry and function still meet.

"I moved across the country to be here because there's a certain character to this furniture that you only get by hand," Rodgers said.

That commitment is embedded in every element of the business, from how pieces are constructed to how they're priced. "We just barely make money," Shackelton said with a wry smile. "We're always saying, we're gonna make mon-

ey... and we will be successful. And we've been saying that for the last 37 years. But we've grown. And we're still here."

Art meets utility

Much of Shackleton Thomas' charm is the marriage of utility and artistry. Miranda Thomas' pottery studio, located next door to the showroom, produces elegant, bespoke pieces, including the coveted honey pots gifted to guests

ShackletonThomas → 28



By James Kent Shackleton Thomas' co-owner and master furniture maker, Charlie Shackleton, provided a tour of his factory office on April 17.



 $Courtesy\,Shackleton Thomas$

Each craftsperson sees

a project through from

start to finish—selecting

the lumber, crafting the

joinery, and applying the

finish. "That's the big

difference," Rodgers noted.

"We're not manufacturing-

we're craftsmen."

ShackletonThomas' craftsmanship on display.



By James Kent

Shackleton Thomas shop manager Shae Rodgers demonstrated some of the handcrafting techniques that go into making a chair.



By James Ke Potter Megan Gray demonstrated how to "throw"pottery at Miranda Thomas' nextdoor pottery studio.



Killington K-1 BASE LODGE

Planning, Architecture and Construction provided by ightharpoonup



BreadLoaf

Architects Planners Builders

www.breadloaf.com

24. Gardenin





Grey dogwood (Cornus racemosa) produces round, white berries on pink stems

By Bonnie Donahue

The red twig dogwood (Cornus sericea), also known as red osier dogwood, is a popular choice for landscapes. It comes in many cultivars and is tolerant of both wet and dry conditions and partial or full sun.

Each species has different uses in

the landscape. Some may be found at

commercial nurseries, while others may only

be available at native conservation nurseries.

Native dogwoods: Great for your garden

By Bonnie Kirn Donahue, Extension Master Gardener, University of Vermont

Dogwoods, in the genus Cornus, are among the most versatile native shrubs. With seasonal interest, tolerance of less-than-perfect conditions, and benefits for wildlife, these shrubs are worth considering.

in the fall. It does best in moist to wet soil and full sun to part shade.

Planting native dogwoods has many benefits. They flower in the spring, offering food for native insects and pollinators. They set fruit in the fall, feeding many species of birds and mammals.

These plants are also attractive additions to the garden. The leaves have a quilted quality with highly visible veining and strong green leaves. Depending on the variety, berries can be white, purplish-blue, or black.

Unique clusters of tiny white flowers are supported on a bed of green leaves. Some varieties have bright red stems that lighten up the winter landscape, and some varieties have leaves that turn burgundy red in the fall.

Dogwoods require little maintenance. Pruning is unnecessary unless you are trying to keep the shrub at a certain height. Make a mistake and cut back too much? Dogwoods are very forgiving plants that will persist in gardens in spite of it.

Several native varieties of dogwoods can be grown in Vermont, including red-twig dogwood (Cornus sericea), pagoda dogwood (Cornus alternifolia), grey dogwood (Cornus racemosa) and silky dogwood (Cornus amo-

Each species has different uses in the landscape.

Some may be found at commercial nurseries, while others may only be available at native conservation nurseries.

Red twig dogwood (Cornus sericea), also called red osier dogwood, is a landscape powerhouse species of the dogwood genus. This

plant is tolerant of wet and dry conditions and partial or full sun. Deer tend to leave them alone, though occasionally nibble the spring buds. This plant likes to spread, so it can be useful in areas

that need erosion control, such as riparian areas, but can also compete with other plants if left unmanaged.

The straight species (plant species without cultivars) grows 6 to 9 feet tall and 7 to 10 feet wide. Red twig dogwood has many cultivars available, including some that grow smaller and others with more brilliant stem colors.

If you're trying to create a more ecologically authentic native garden, choose the straight species. If you are looking for a native plant with certain characteristics, a red twig dogwood cultivar may work well for you.

Pagoda dogwood (Cornus alternifolia) is often found in nature on the edge of woods. This large shrub or small tree has a distinct, airy, horizontal branching pattern

that helps it stand out from other plants at the edge of the forest.

Growing 15 to 25 feet tall and 20 to 32 feet wide, the pagoda dogwood can grow in part or full sun with medium moisture requirements. Pink stems hold blue-black

fruit propped upright above the dark green, horizontal foliage. The leaves turn a burgundy red in fall.

Grey dogwood (Cor*nus racemosa*) prefers moist to wet soil and full sun to part shade.

This plant would be appropriate closer to the water in a riparian buffer planting or in a rain garden. In the fall, round, white berries are presented on pink stems, giving this plant a unique natural look. The grey dogwood grows 10 to 15 feet tall and wide.

Silky dogwood (Cornus amomum) is another species of shrub that prefers medium to wet soil conditions. Like the grey dogwood, this species would do better closer to water, like in a rain garden or wet area. Growing 6 to 12 feet tall and wide, it has more of a natural appearance, so it may be better planted in areas left to naturalize.

Interested in more? Check out your local nursery to see what species of dogwood are available.

Simple tips for stunning clematis

By Nadie VanZandt, Extension Master Gardener, University of Vermont

Clematis reigns supreme among climbers, with its abundant blooms in a wide range of colors, from soft white to dark purple, pink, and even yellow.

A genus in the buttercup (*Ranunculaceae*) family, clematis are versatile, easy-to-maintain perennials that grow as climbers, spreading shrubs, or groundcovers. More than 300 species grow worldwide, including many native to North America.

The flowers and foliage depend on the species. Four to eight sepals surrounding a cluster of stamens form showy blooms in the shape of bells or stars. Their leaves may be deciduous or evergreen, typically compound with several leaflets and arranged alternately along the stem.

They thrive in locations where their foliage and flowers receive sun while their roots remain shaded. To shade the base of the plant, a low-growing bush, decorative stones, or mulch will do the trick.

Clematis enjoy moist, well-drained soil with a neutral to slightly alkaline pH. Their deep roots require thorough watering. As heavy feeders, they will benefit from a low-nitrogen, slow-release fertilizer applied as needed during the growing season.

Depending on the species, clematis can thrive in U.S. Department of Agriculture hardiness zones 3 to 11 and bloom from spring to fall. They adapt to many climates, temperatures, and soil types, which explains their presence in forests, along rivers, and on mountains and rocky slopes throughout the world.

These plants are divided into three large flowering groups designated as Group (or Type): 1, 2, and 3. The timing and method of pruning depends on which group and is crucial to ensuring abundant blooms.

Group 1: flowers in early spring (often with small flowers) and blooms on old (previous year's) stems. They do not require pruning, but you can prune them lightly in summer after flowering to remove dead or damaged shoots and cut

back branches above a large bud.

Group 2: flowers in late spring and fall. These large-flowered varieties bloom on old and new wood. Prune lightly before flowering in spring by removing dead branches and cutting weak ones just above a bud. To encourage fall blooms, perform a second pruning by cutting the plant to half its height after spring flowers fade.

Group 3: flowers in summer or fall on new wood. Prune them a foot above ground in late winter to encourage new growth.

All parts of the clematis plant are poisonous to humans and animals. When crushed or damaged, the plant releases a toxic compound that irritates the skin and can be harmful if ingested. It is advisable to plant them in an area least accessible to children and pets. While the plant's toxicity generally repels deer and rabbits, young shoots remain vulnerable.

Like any climbers, clematis plants need support to wind their tendrils. Whether using a trellis, wire mesh, or netting, it is important that the support is installed 4 inches away from a wall to allow space for the plant to grow behind it.

To plant, dig a hole 8 to 12 inches away from the wall. It should be deep enough to bury the first set of leaves and wide enough to position the clematis at an angle with its stems towards the support.

Fill the hole with water and allow it to drain. Place the plant in the hole and water again. Add topsoil around the sides of the root ball and the first set of leaves, then pat down gently.

Finish by applying a general amount of compost followed by a 1- to 2-inch layer of mulch. With proper care, these remarkable vines will grace your landscape for decades.

For questions about growing clematis or other plants, contact the University of Vermont Extension Master Gardener Helpline at: go.uvm.edu/gardenquestion.



 $By \, Nadie \, Van Zandt$



MOUNTAIN TOP RESORT

10 Stratton Road, Rutland VT



one of Vermont's best views!

802.483.2311 | mountaintopresort.com

in the Event Barn with

Gift ideas for mom that keep on giving

By Melinda Myers

Even though your mom may say, "It's the thought that counts," you want to find the perfect gift this Mother's Day to express how much you appreciate all she does throughout the year. No matter your budget, giving mom a gift that provides days, months, and even years of joy is possible.

Cut flowers are one of the most popular Mother's Day gifts. They require no dusting or maintenance and are sure to generate a smile. Behavioral research at Rutgers University found that the gift of flowers has immediate and long-term benefits.

Extend her enjoyment further by helping her grow, tend, and enjoy gardening throughout the growing season. A gift certificate to her favorite garden center, hobby store, or retail location allows mom the freedom to select her own gift. She can enjoy time shopping for something special that she wouldn't normally buy for herself.

A hanging basket or container garden is another way to give Mom a season of flowers and much more. Gardening helps improve health and well-being by reducing stress, lowering blood pressure, strengthening muscles, and increasing flexibility.

If Mom likes to cook, a potted tomato, container of greens, or window box of herbs may be the perfect gift. She can grow, prepare, and boost the flavor and health benefits with fresh, flavorful, and nutrient-rich vegetables and herbs.

If she prefers to plant herself, consider giving her a container, potting mix, and some seeds or plants. Add some plant labels, and let her create her own container garden.

Update her garden tools and accessories with something colorful, like the Burgon & Ball* British Meadow pruner and holster set. This pretty and functional gift, with

comfort-grip handles, allows Mom to keep gardening longer. The colorful holster keeps the pruners right where she needs them for deadheading and pruning small branches.

No matter Mom's age or fitness level, it's important to protect her joints when gardening. Gifting her a colorful Kneelo* kneeler or knee pads (coronatools.com) will encourage her to do just that. The bright colors make them easy to find, and the shock-absorbing foam interior provides a very comfortable surface that helps reduce knee stress.

Add a hat to further protect Mom from the heat and sun when working outdoors. If it's comfortable and looks good, she'll be more likely to wear it. For added sun protection, include some sunscreen and a pair of sunglasses.

Many mothers appreciate the gift of time. Helping Mom in her garden, working around her home, or assisting her with another hobby is a great way to spend time together and create memories while doing something she loves.

Consider giving Mom one of these or another gift that provides immediate and long-term enjoyment. She'll appreciate your thoughtfulness when she opens the package, unwraps the flowers, or puts the tools and accessories to use all season long.

Melinda Myers has written more than 20 gardening books, including the recently released "Midwest Gardener's Handbook, 2nd Edition" and "Small Space Gardening." Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for "Birds & Blooms magazine" and was commissioned by Wild Valley Farms to write this article.

For more information, visit: MelindaMyers com



Courtesy Corona Tools

Stylish garden gloves and a pruner with comfortable grip handles are functional gifts that allow moms to garden longer.



By Mary Jane Duford/Pexels

A soil test provides information on soil pH, organic matter, and levels of macronutrients and micronutrients, making it easier to make an informed decision about what to add to the soil before planting.

Get your garden ready with a spring soil test

In the chosen area,

identify about 10

different spots to collect

soil. These should be

distributed throughout

the space. Dig a small

hole about 6 to 8 inches

deep (the root zone for

most plants). Then, take

a slice of soil along the

side of the hole. Put this

sample in your bucket.

By Andrea Knepper / Extension Master Gardener, University of Vermont

There's no need to guess what your garden needs for optimal results. Take a soil test this spring to create the right conditions for your garden from the start.

A simple soil test will help prevent problems later in the season. By following the recommendations in your results, you can give your plants a strong start, leading to better growth, bigger blooms, and a more rewarding harvest.

A soil test provides a complete picture of what's happening beneath your garden's surface. You will get information on the pH of your soil, how much organic matter is present, and the

levels of phosphorus, potassium, magnesium, and other macronutrients and micronutrients.

Nitrogen is not included in soil tests because its availability in the soil fluctuates due to biological activity and weather conditions. With the test result information, you can decide what to add to your garden soil before you plant.

The University of Vermont (UVM) Ag-

ricultural and Environmental Testing Lab conducts soil testing for home gardeners and commercial farmers. Visit its website at https://go.uvm.edu/soiltest for the

submission form and additional information. A basic nutrient soil test costs \$17 per sample.

To begin collecting your soil sample, you will need a clean trowel or small shovel, a clean bucket, and a plastic bag. The bag needs to hold 1/2 to 1 cup of soil. It is important that all materials are clean to avoid contamination.

Choose the area you want to sample. If your garden beds have different purposes, collect a sample for each space you want

to test. For example, if you have one bed for annual flowers and another for garden vegetables, you may want to sample these separately as they have different nutritional needs.

`Repeat this process at each location. The more locations you take samples from, the better your results will represent the average conditions of your garden.

Soil \rightarrow 29

Spring marks the beginning of Feast & Field's 2025 concert season

Staff Report

BARNARD— Spring is here, which means it's getting closer and closer to outdoor music season, and one of Vermont's most beloved outdoor concert traditions returns Thursday, May 29, as Feast & Field kicks off its 2025 music season With the Chad Hollister Band. For more than 15 years, late spring Thursday evenings get rocking and rolling in Barnard with Feast & Field's perfected recipe of food, music, and community in a setting that celebrates local agriculture and artistic expression. The 2025 season opens with a performance by The Chad Hollister Band, a popular Vermont-based rock quartet known for its high-energy sound and strong following.

"Chad Hollister gives a great rock and roll vibe," said Music Director for the Feist & Field concerts, Victoria Johnson. "They're local but well-known and a perfect way to start the season."

While Feast & Field's performance shed ran into an Act 250 land use violation, which has of yet been resolved, Johnson said that until a final resolution of the matter, nothing should alter plans or performances this season.

Family Day & global voices

Feast & Field isn't just about music—it's an immersive experience for all ages. June 19 will feature a special family day event, including performances by Cate Great, a seasoned circus performer trained at the Quebec Circus School, and Cold Chocolate, a Boston-based bluegrass band. Face painting, local food, and drinks will round out the

family-friendly fun.

On June 26, the stage turns international with La Muchacha y el Propio Junte, a Colombian rock band led by Isabel Ramírez Ocampo, an outspoken activist for gender and LGBTQ+ rights.

"This is something very special," Johnson noted. "We're partnering with Mid Atlantic Arts, who is supporting the band's trip here, and there will be a community talk to engage around their work."

Weekly rhythms and local roots

Concerts typically run 6 to 7 p.m. and 7:30 to 8:30 p.m., with the grounds opening at 5:30 p.m. each Thursday evening.

What sets Feast & Field apart is its deep connection to local agriculture. The event is hosted in collaboration with BarnArts and the Feast & Field collective of Barnard-area farms, and much of the food served onsite is grown or raised by the farmers themselves:

Fable Farm & Fermentory will provide the cider. Eastman Farm will provide the beef for grilled fare, and Kiss the Cow Farm will offer homemade ice cream.

"Almost everything you eat here at these events comes from these farms," said Johnson. "We're really excited about what we're offering this season."

For more information about the full season lineup, including the Inuit Pamyua residency and performance on May10, visit: barnarts.org and feastandfield.com.



Courtesy BarnArts

Spring is the perfect season to begin Thursday evening adventures, listen to music outside, and enjoy the beautiful grounds at Feast & Field in Barnard.



Courtesy BarnArts

Crowds dance to the music at a previous Feast & Field concert event.



Courtesv BarnArts



Concertgoers enjoyed food and drink at an earlier Feast & Field event.



Shackleton Thomas:

from page 22

at Twin Farms Resort and gorgeous hand-thrown pieces available online and in the furniture showroom.

Meanwhile, the furniture—built from sustainably harvested cherry, walnut, and maple—is designed for generations. "These objects in here are obviously functional," said Shackelton, "but they also represent my wife and my passion for people expressing themselves through making things by hand."

While the cost of a \$14,000 bed or a \$2,500 armchair may be out of reach for the average IKEA shopper, Shackelton sees each piece as a legacy item. "If they perceive it as art, and something they're going to hand down, it's a whole different thing." And the furniture, to the eye, is sexy as heck.

Looking ahead

Despite the challenges—and perhaps because of them—ShackletonThomas remains committed to the ideals it was founded on: craftsmanship, creativity, and community.

"I believe in the philosophy so much," Shackleton said.
"This is important in this day and age... there needs to be some soul to objects that make people's lives not only more functional but also ones they love."

Building furniture isn't just a job for Charlie Shackleton and his team. It's a calling. As the embers of past setbacks continue to fade, the legacy being carved—one chair, one table, one plate at a time—endures.



Courtesy Shackleton Thomas A skilled Shackleton Thomas artisan meticulously perfects a piece, showcasing exceptional craftsmanship and attention to detail.



Spring sounds Rockin' the Region: Live music highlights before summer hits full swing

By Dave Hoffenberg

As the days stretch longer and the scent of lilacs fills the air, Vermont's live music scene is warming up right alongside the weather. From jazz duos and fiddle tunes to bluegrass jams and benefit festivals, the Green Mountain State is alive with sound this spring. While many music series extend into summer, now through June 21 is packed with can't-miss performances—perfect for filling your calendar before the Solstice.

Here are some of the top music happenings to enjoy this spring across the region:

Weekly vibes in Quechee

Harry's Cocktail Lounge is your weekend headquarters for live music, featuring local folk, jazz, and acoustic acts every Friday (5 p.m.), Saturday (6 p.m.), and Sunday (2 p.m.). A standout pick this season: The Preacher & The Teacher, a soulful jazz duo with Rev. Leon Dunkley and Stephen Stuntz, performing Friday, May 16.

Just down the road, The Public House offers a steady weekly lineup with Jim Yeager (Tuesdays), Kim Wilcox/Chris Pallutto (Wednesdays), and weekend bands starting at 5:30 p.m. Don't miss Jacob Green on June 7 with his impressive one-man-band setup, or Kind Bud on June 20, delivering a blend of covers and originals with feel-good energy.

Music on the Mountain returns to Okemo

The 2nd annual Music on the Mountain festival is back Saturday, May 17, at Jackson Gore Resort in Ludlow. This family-friendly, substance-free event benefits the Divided Sky Foundation and features a powerhouse lineup including Karina Rykman, Sun Ra Arkestra, and the Divided Sky All-Stars with Anders Osborne and more. The music runs from 2–7 p.m., with plenty of food, fun, and good vibes.

Poultney and Killington keep it local

Head to the Poultney Pub on May 30 for a performance by Marcos Levy, known for his roots in traditional Irish and folk music with Cold River Band and Extra Stout. His current project, The Plumb Bobs, blends original songs and classic tunes.

Over in Killington, Still on the Mountain hosts Nancy Johnson and Barry Schoenwetter on May 31 at 6:30 p.m.—a last chance to catch the duo live before Barry heads to Alaska for the summer.

A double bill in Woodstock

Make it a music-filled evening on May 31 with the Ben Kogan Band and The Freeze Brothers performing at the Woodstock Town Hall Theatre at 6 p.m. Bluegrass fans will also want to know Ben hosts an informal jam at the Ottauquechee Yacht Club every other Monday starting May 12.



Courtesy

Music on the Mountain, Jacxkson Gore, Okemo

Feast & Field kicks off in Barnard

The beloved Feast & Field Concert series begins May 29 and runs through Sept. 25 at Fable Farm in Barnard. The first show features Chad Hollister Band. Enjoy live music, farm-fresh food, and family fun every Thursday night.

A classic musical outdoors

BarnArts presents "The Sound of Music" at King Farm in Woodstock, running June 19–22 and June 27–29. This outdoor theater event combines Vermont's natural beauty with timeless melodies—bring a picnic and enjoy under

Upcoming series to watch

Several concert series begin just before summer and offer a taste of what's to come:

Music on the Hill at Artistree in Pomfret starts June 11, bringing weekly Wednesday shows at 6:30 p.m.

Tunesday Concerts at Pittsford Village Farm kick off June 17, with local and regional bands playing 6–8 p.m. Keep an ear out for The Mojo Birds on July 1, a funky group with Colorado roots that wowed crowds last year.

Rutland's Seven to Sunset Concert Series returns June 25, along with the grand reopening of the Main Street Park Gazebo, and continues every Wednesday evening through the season.

Looking ahead

While summer may bring more outdoor stages, music festivals, and backyard jams, spring is when Vermont sets the tone. Whether you're enjoying jazz with a cocktail in Quechee, catching fiddle tunes in Poultney, or grooving on the mountain in Ludlow, there's no shortage of ways to dance into the season.



Courtesy Artistree

Rutland Garden Club plant and bake sale returns May 17

Saturday, May 17 at 8:45 a.m.—RUTLAND—A beloved springtime tradition is back in downtown Rutland. The Rutland Garden Club's annual plant and bake sale will occur on Saturday, May 17, at the corner of Main and Center streets in front of the Hull Maynard building.

This highly anticipated event draws gardeners and sweet-tooth enthusiasts alike. The plant sale kicks off at $9 \, \text{a.m.}$, and the bake sale begins at $8.45 \, \text{a.m.}$

What makes the Rutland Garden Club's plant sale unique is its selection of plants dug from local gardens, offering visitors healthy, regionally adapted greenery for their flower beds and containers. Shoppers will find perennials, ground-

covers, and more—carefully nurtured by Garden Club members and ideal for the Vermont climate.

Meanwhile, the bake sale will tempt passers by with homemade pies, cookies, breads, and other sweet and savory treats. Now in its third year, proceeds from the bake sale directly benefit the Rutland Garden Club's scholarship fund, which supports local students pursuing careers in environmental and horticultural fields.

Rain or shine, the club hopes to see a strong turnout on May 17 for what has become one of Rutland's most cheerful and greenest springtime staples.

For more information, visit: rutlandgardenclub.org.



Submitted

An array of plants will be available in front of the Hull Maynard building in Rutland on May 17.



Submitted

Rutland Garden Club members helped set up a previous plant and bake sale event.



Submitted

Left to right: Kathy Perkin, Val Cleary, and Suzanne Wohlhuter are shown helping at a past plant and bake sale.

There will always be room for tomatoes

By Melinda Myers

Nothing beats the flavor of fresh-from-the-garden tomatoes. Keep them close at hand by growing one or more containers on your patio, balcony, or front steps.

Any tomato can be grown in a pot, but determinate varieties are shorter and more compact, making them a bit easier to manage in a container. They produce fruit in a relatively short period, making them great choices for preserving and using fresh. Look for a "D" or "determinate" on the plant tag, seed packet, or catalog description.

Indeterminate tomatoes, often designated with an "I," are usually much taller and continue growing, flowering, and producing fruit until frost kills the plant or you pinch the growing tip. These are usually staked or grown in wire cages to save space, reduce pest problems, and make harvesting easier. Many new containers have built-in trellises, or creative gardeners craft their own, making it easier and more attractive to grow these bigger plants in pots.

Semi-determinate varieties are between these two. They are compact like determinates and often trailing but produce fruit throughout the growing season like indeterminate varieties.

You can now find compact varieties often sold as miniature and dwarf plants that grow well in small 4 to 8" pots. They are an excellent option for those with limited space, gardening on balconies, indoors in a sunny window, or just about anywhere. Kitchen Mini tomatoes, Heartbreakers, Red Velvet, and Micro Tom Thumb are just a few.

Grow one tomato per container for maximum productivity. Use a 5-gallon or bigger container for large varieties and at least a two- to three-gallon or similar-sized pot for smaller varieties. Some research suggests growing tomatoes in a pot that is at least 14 inches but preferably 20 inches wide will yield greater results. Adding flowers and herbs to the container boosts the beauty and diversity of your container garden but will reduce the number of tomatoes produced.

Growing tomatoes in containers also allows you to start the season earlier. Just move the planter inside when the weather is harsh and back outside when the weather is

Tomatoes \rightarrow 30

Free Screening of 'Kiss the Ground' Comes to the Paramount

May 14 at 7 p.m.—RUTLAND — Gardeners, environmentalists, and community members curious about soil's role in saving the planet won't want to miss a free screening of the documentary "Kiss the Ground" on Wednesday, May 14, at 7 p.m. at the Paramount Theatre, in downtown

Hosted by the Rutland chapter of the UVM Extension Master Gardeners, the event highlights the powerful potential of regenerative agriculture to combat climate change, restore ecosystems, and secure food and water resources through soil health. Narrated by actor and activist Woody Harrelson, the film breaks down complex environmental challenges into inspiring, nature-based solutions.

Admission is free, though voluntary donations are appreciated to support ongoing community education efforts. Whether you're a seasoned grower or simply interested in learning how land stewardship can help the planet, this is an evening worth digging into.

For more information about the Rutland Master Gardeners, visit: uvm.edu/mastergardener.

Leave turtles in the wild, Vermont officials warn

The Vermont Fish & Wildlife Dept. urges residents not to keep wild turtles as pets, citing potential harm to animals and broader turtle populations.

"Capturing a wild turtle and keeping it as a pet, even if only for a short time, is not only bad for that individual, but it could hurt turtle populations as well," said Vermont Fish & Wildlife herpetologist Luke Groff.

According to Groff, turtles released after time in captivity can spread wildlife diseases and disrupt local genetics. Displaced turtles may also wander in search of familiar habitat, increasing their chances of being hit by vehicles.

Adult turtles, he notes, are particularly vulnerable to relocation because of their established home ranges. "They know where to find food, mates, and shelter," Groff said. "A turtle released in unfamiliar habitat may roam greater distances."

The department is especially concerned about the loss of mature female turtles. In Vermont's northern climate, many turtle species don't reproduce until they are at least 10. Older females are key to sustaining populations because they lay

more eggs and have already survived many threats.

Species commonly seen in Vermont include the painted turtle and Snapping turtle. Rarer species—such as the wood turtle, Spotted Turtle, spiny soft shell, and eastern musk turtle—should be reported to the Vermont Reptile and Amphibian Atlas at vtherpatlas.org. "Older, sexually mature females are critical to the long-term persistence of some of Vermont's turtle populations," Groff said.

The department encourages Vermonters to admire native turtles in their natural habitat and take photographs—rather than animals—home.

To learn more about Vermont's turtles or to report sightings, visit: vtfishandwild-life.com.



By Luke Groff

A painted turtle. The Vermont Fish & Wildlife Dept. warns against capturing a native wild turtle to keep as a pet.



Why Row when you can GO? **1-877-369-1063**



WWW.FUNONTHEWATER.BIZ

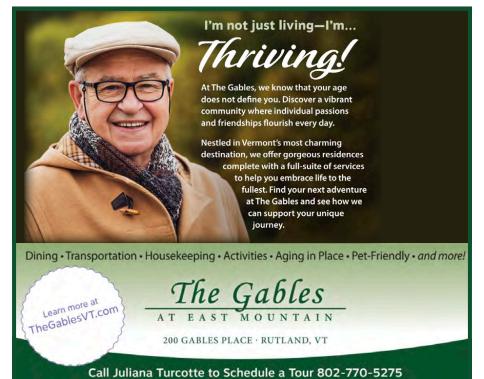








(802) 672-6223 | 950 VT Rte. 100A, Bridgewater Corners, VT 05035





(closed Mondays)

189 Richmond Hill Rd. Bridgewater Corners

(802)770-9445



warm and sunny. As the weather turns cold at the end of the growing season, cover the planter or move it into a frost-free location as needed. Some gardeners even move a pot or two inside to finish off the tomato season.

Plant tomatoes in a container with drainage holes and fill it with a quality potting mix. Reduce the time spent watering with a self-watering pot that has a reservoir to hold water and extend the time between watering. Further, reduce the need for water by adding an organic, sustainable soil amendment like certified organic Wild Valley Farms' wool pellets (wildvalleyfarms.com) to the potting mix. Made from wool waste, this product reduces watering by up to 25%.

Water thoroughly when the top few inches begin to dry. Mulch the soil with evergreen needles, shredded leaves, or other organic mulch to keep the soil consistently moist and suppress weeds. Consistent soil moisture encourages more flowering and fruiting while reducing the risk of blossom end rot, cracking, and misshapen fruit.

Harvest tomatoes when fully colored or leave them on the plant for a few more days for an even sweeter flavor. You'll enjoy the convenience of harvesting fresh tomatoes right outside your door for use in salads, sauces, and other favorite recipes.

Melinda Myers has written more than 20 gardening books, including the recently released "Midwest Gardener's Handbook, 2nd Edition" and "Small Space Gardening." Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for "Birds & Blooms magazine" and was commissioned by Wild Valley Farms to write this article. For more information, visit: MelindaMyers.com.



By Melinda Myer

 ${\it If gardening space is limited, grow to matoes in hanging baskets or containers.}$



Thoroughly mix the samples in your bucket. Then scoop 1/2 to 1 cup of soil and place it in your plastic bag. Label the bags, especially if you are submitting multiple samples. Your soil is now ready to send to the lab for testing.

Include the completed soil test submission form and mail your sample to the UVM Agricultural and Environmental Testing Lab for analysis. You'll receive your results in two to three weeks by email or mail, according to your preference.

Your results will include information on the current state of your garden soil, recommendations for amendments to maximize the quality of your soil for gardening, and resources to help you interpret the results of your soil test.

 $The UVM \ Extension \ Master \ Gardener \ Helpline \ can \ also \ help \ you \ understand \ garden \ and \ lawn \ soil \ test \ results. \ Complete \ the form \ at go.uvm.edu/gardenhelpline, upload \ a copy of your soil \ test \ results \ and \ an \ Extension \ Master \ Gardener \ will \ get \ back \ to \ you.$

Starting your garden with a soil test can save you time, money, and frustration. Instead of guessing your garden needs, you'll know how to help your plants grow healthy and strong. It's a small step that can make a big difference and is worth doing every few years.





SAT. @ 5 P.M

VINS NIGHT OW

WED

S.E.A.T. Exercises

9-10 a.m. (Wednesdays) Godnick Adult Center, 1 Deer St., Rutland. \$6 per individual class or \$5 per class when paying for the whole month upfront. A brand-new, chair-based full body workout led by Melissa Cox. rutlandrec.com/godnick or 202 772 1952 802-773-1853.

Active Seniors Lunch

11:30 a.m. (Wednesdays) The Lookout Tavern, 2910 Killington Road, Killington. \$5 donation towards the meal. 908-783-

Gentle & Restorative Yoga 11:30 a.m-12:30 p.m. (Wednesdays) Wise Pines, 184 Hartland Road, Woodstock. \$15 or \$30 for three classes. Yoga class for seniors, wisepines.com/events.

Cribbage for Adults

-5 p.m. (Wednesdays) Hartland Public Library, 135 Route Hartland. Free. hartlandlibraryvt.org/calendar or 802-436-

Bone Builders at the Chaffee 3:30-4:30 p.m. (Wednesdays) Chaffee Art Center, 16 S. Main St., Rutland. Free. Heather Wilson leads a bone-building class focused on weight training and balance exercises. chaffeeartcenter.org.

Hay for Horses: Equine Nutrition & Hay Quality 4-6 p.m. Green Mountain Horse Association, 5491 South Road, Woodstock. Free. Farmers and horse owners are invited to explore equine nutrition and best practices for producing, selling, and buying quality horse hay. Learn from feed experts, grazing specialists, and experienced hay producers. Hosted by CRWFA and ONRCD. Light refreshments provided. crwfa.org/calendar/crwfa-field-days-

Ballroom Dance with Patti Panebianco

Join instructor Patti Panebianco for ballroom dance with East Coast Swing at 5:30 p.m. and Salsa at 6:30 p.m. stonevalleyarts.org.

Louise Glück: Vermont's Nobel Laureate
6-7 p.m. JAM (Junction Arts & Media), 5 S. Main St., White
River Junction. Free. Part of the Vermont Humanities
Snapshot Series, this talk explores the life and work of
Nobel Laureate Louise Glück. Poet, novelist, and professor
Elizabeth A.I. Powell discusses how Vermont's landscapes shaped Glück's reflections on resilience, loss, and beauty.

Beginner & Intermediate Line Dancing Lessons 6-8:30 p.m. Springfield Vermont Recreation Center, 139 Main St., Springfield. \$15 beginner, \$10 intermediate (\$5 if attending beginner). Learn line dancing with beginner lessons from 6-7:30 p.m., followed by improver/intermediate lessons from 7:30 8:30 p.m. Outside food and non-alcoholic beverages permitted. Wednesdays through May 21. copperheadlinedancing.com.

Jazz Ensemble Concert
7-8 p.m. Casella Theater, VTSU
Castleton, 62 Alumni Dr., Castleton.
\$10 adults, \$5 seniors, free for
students, faculty, staff, and alumni.
Enjoy a night of musical entertainment
by the VTSU Castleton Jazz
Ensemble, directed by Professor
Michael Craner. Marisa.Valent@
VermontState edu or 802-468-1119 VermontState.edu or 802-468-1119.

Film Screening: 'The Legend of

Ochi' 8 p.m. Playhouse Movie Theatre, 139 Main St., Randolph. \$7-\$10. PG. Fantasy film about a young girl who discovers a mystical baby creature named Ochi. playhouseflicks.com.

THURS

5/8

Essentrics Stretch and Strengthen
9-10 a.m. (Thursdays) Stone Valley Arts, 145 E. Main St.,
Poultney. \$10. No-weights, low impact workout combines
principles from ballet, tai chi, and physiotherapy to restore
flexibility and balance. Bring a mat and water. dianes. essentrics@gmail.com or stonevalleyarts.org

Intermediate Line Dance

9:30-10:30 a.m. (Thursdays) Godnick Adult Center, 1 Deer St., Rutland. rutlandrec.com/godnick or 802-773-1853.

Survivors Support Group

10 a.m.-noon. (Thursdays) Godnick Adult Center, 1 Deer St., Rutland. Free. Fliers are available at the Godnick Center or call 802-775-3232. rutlandrec.com/godnick.

Bone Builders

10 a.m. Sherburne Memorial Library, 2998 River Road, Killington. Free. Weights are provided. sherburnelibrary.org or 802-422-4323.

Rutland Spring Job Fest
11 a.m.-2 p.m. Depot Park, 49 Evelyn St., Rutland. Free.
Connect with employers who are actively hiring at this
outdoor career event. Bring your resume and explore new
opportunities. Sponsored by the Vermont Department of
Labor, Catamount Radio, and HireAbility Workforce Partners.
labor.vermont.gov/event/rutland-spring-job-fest.

Chaffee: Artery
Noon. (Thursdays) Adults. Connect and create with others. \$10-\$20. Painting in all mediums welcome. No set topic or instructor, attendees will work on their individual artwork. Must pre-register. chaffeeartcenter.square.site.

Ukelele Group
Noon–1 p.m. (Thursdays) Chaffee
Art Center, 16 S. Main St.,
Rutland. Free. Attendees will
play a collection of sheet music. All levels welcome, ages 12+. Must pre-register by Wednesday at noon. chaffeeartcenter.square.site.

Play Bridge! 2-4 p.m. (Thursdays) Norman Williams Public Library, 10 The Green, Woodstock. Free. Beginners are welcome to observe. normanwilliams.org or 802-457-2295.

Fiddlehead Foray
4:30-6 p.m. Vermont Institute
of Natural Sciences (VINS),
149 Natures Way, Quechee. \$12
general public, free for members.
Learn to identify and sustainably
harvest ostrich fern fiddleheads along
the trails at VINS during their short
spring season. Participants will take home
neir foraged finds and a recipe. Advance
stration required, vinsweb.org. registration required, vinsweb.org.



SINGO Night at The Sparkle Barn 6-8 p.m. The Sparkle Barn, 1509 U.S. 7 S., Wallingford. \$5. Join a musical twist on bingo—three rounds, three prizes, and a dazzle bingo dauber to keep. Prizes include gift cards to local businesses. BYOB. Limited seating; tickets must be purchased in advance. thesparklebarn.com.

6-8 p.m. Vermont Farmers Food Center, 251 West St., Rutland. Free. A social and learning space for women and gender expansive individuals 18+, with time for connection, discussion, and light refreshments. socialtinkering.org/ womenscircle.

Glenn Miller Orchestra Performs in Randolph

7 p.m. Chandler Center for the Arts, 71-73 Main St., Randolph. \$40. The World Famous Glenn Miller Orchestra returns for one night only with big band hits like "In The Mood," "Moonlight Serenade," and "Chattanooga Choo Choo" led by Erik Stabnau and featuring vocalist Jenny Swoish and The Moonlight Serenaders. chandler-arts.org.

Gregory Harrington in Concert
7-9 p.m. Casella Theater, VTSU Castleton, 45 Alumni Dr.,
Castleton. \$10 adults, \$5 seniors. Internationally acclaimed
Dublin-born violinist Gregory Harrington performs selections
from his global repertoire. No signup required for Soundings
students. Marisa. Valent@VermontState.edu or 802-468-1119.

Senior Café

10-11 a.m. Hartland Public Library, 153 US-5, Hartland. Free. Monthly gathering on the first Friday for unprogrammed social time with refreshments. Technical support appointments available by request. Transportation assistance may be arranged through Volunteers in Action. admin@ aginginhartland.org or via@mahhc.org.

Friends Book Sale

10 a.m.-2 p.m. Rutland Free Library, 10 Court St., Rutland. Free. Browse a wide selection of books, audiobooks, CDs, puzzles, and rare finds. No fixed prices—donations accepted. Proceeds support library programs. rutlandfree.org.

Bone Builders
11 a.m.-noon. (Fridays) Chaffee Art Center, 16 S. Main St., Rutland. Free. Heather Wilson leads a bone-building class that focuses on weight training and balance exercises to improve strength, balance, and bone density. chaffeeartcenter.org.

Connections & Interconnections of Life Weekly Group Noon-1 p.m. (Fridays) Chaffee Art Center, 16 So. Main St., Rutland. Free. A place to share thoughts, philosophies, spirituality, cultures, and more in a respectful way. All are welcome. Must RSVP: chaffeeartcenter.square.site.





Calendar: Email events@mountaintimes.info.

from page 32

Major Opening Reception 5-7:30 p.m. Gallery, 7 Center St., Brandon. Free. Celebrate two new artists, a bi-annual refresh of work, and the unveiling of a newly expanded gallery space designed for larger works and community engagement. Enjoy art, conversation, and a preview of upcoming workshops and events. brandonartistsguild.org.

Lucy Mackenzie Humane Society Gala & Auction 5:30 p.m. Billings Farm & Museum, 69 Old River Road, Woodstock. \$150. Celebrate 110 years of Lucy Mackenzie Humane Society at their annual benefit gala featuring cocktails, a silent auction, gourmet dinner by Chef Chris Sailer, live auction with Eric Nathan, and dancing. Proceeds support animal care and community programs. Tickets: one. bidpal.net/lmhs2025gala/welcome.

Ethan Allen in Castleton Commemorates 250th Anniversary of Green Mountain Boys' Campaign 6-8:30 p.m. Castleton Village Green, Main St., Castleton. Free. Celebrate the 250th anniversary of Ethan Allen's May 1775 council of war and the Green Mountain Boys' pivotal campaign at Fort Ticonderoga with a patriotic parade, reenactments, live drama, musket salutes, and children's flag giveaway. Saturday at 9 a.m., cheer cyclists recreating Major Beach's legendary run. Bring a chair. rain location: Federated Church. greenmountainboys250.org.

Monthly Queer Film Series 6:30-9 p.m. Rutland County Pride, 106 West St., Suite 1, Rutland. Film revealed when the lights go down. Light snacks and refreshments provided. rcpride.org.

Rutland Youth Theatre Presents: 'Mary Poppins' 7 p.m. Paramount Theatre, 30 Center St., Rutland. \$12-\$15. Enjoy the beloved Disney musical featuring local youth. paramountyt.org.

Film Screening: 'Eephus'

7:30 p.m. Playhouse Movie Theatre, 139 Main St., Randolph. \$7-\$10. PG-13. Grown men's recreational baseball game goes to extra innings the day before their field's demolition. playhouseflicks.com.

5/10

Birding Meet-up: Global Big Day
7-9:30 a.m. Vermont Institute of Natural Science (VINS),
149 Natures Way, Quechee. Free. Join VINS staff and fellow
birders for a special Global Big Day birding meet-up to
observe and track bird species across multiple local habitats.
Designed for intermediate to advanced birders, but all levels
welcome. Bring binoculars or borrow on site. Held rain or
shine. vinsweb.org.

Morning Bird Walk with Sue

8-9 a.m. Pittsford Village Farm, 42 Elm St., Pittsford. Free. Join local birding expert Sue Wetmore for a walk along the farm and nearby trails to identify spring birds. Binoculars helpful but not required. All skill levels welcome. pittsfordvillagefarm.org.

Vermont Farmers Market 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Depot Park, Downtown Rutland. Free. Outdoor market open for the season. Shop local produce, crafts, and goods every Saturday through Oct 25. vtfarmersmarket.org.

April Showers Bring May Flowers Workshop
10 a.m.-noon. Cavendish Community Library, 573 Main
St., Proctorsville. Free. Rescheduled flower-making
workshop hosted by the Cavendish Historical Society invites
participants of all ages to create red, white, and blue paper
flowers in honor of Revolutionary War Patriots. Materials
provided. Supported by the Cavendish Community Fund.
cavendishhistoricalsocietynews.blogspot.com.

Friends Book Sale

Frends Book Sale
10 a.m.-2 p.m. Rutland Free Library, 10 Court St., Rutland.
Free. Browse a wide selection of books, audiobooks, CDs, puzzles, and rare finds. No fixed prices—donations accepted. Proceeds support library programs. rutlandfree.org.

Pokémon Go Birding

10 a.m.-2 p.m. Vermont Institute of Natural Science (VINS), 149 Natures Way, Quechee. Included with admission. Join Professor Oak's team for a fun birding adventure inspired by Pokémon Go. Spot and photograph real-life "Pokémon" (birds) around the VINS campus and trade your sightings for collectible cards while learning bird ID and contributing to the Great Backyard Bird Count. vinsweb.org.

Finishing Techniques 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Green Mountain Yarn & Fiber, 217 Woodstock Ave., Suite E, Rutland. \$50. Learn finishing techniques for your handknit projects including seaming, grafting, weaving in ends, picking up stitches, and blocking. Bring four 6"x6" worsted weight swatches in a light color. Preregistration required. greenmountainfibers.com.

Quilt-Mapping Flood Recovery in VT 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Fletcher Memorial Library, 88 Main St., Ludlow. Free. A community quilt-mapping event hosted by the Rural Rivers research team invites Black River Valley residents and workers to share stories and emotions around the 2023 floods through color-coded fabric patchworks. Free lunch and childcare provided. Registration appreciated but not required. tinyurl.com/quiltmailinglist.

Jedi Trails at Pine Hill Park
11 a.m.-1 p.m. Pine Hill Park, 2 Oak St. Ext., Rutland. Free.
Star Wars fans of all ages are invited on a Jedi-themed
adventure through the forest to find missing characters and
enjoy activities in the Jedi Village with games, crafts, and
local vendors. No RSVP needed. Presented by Come Alive
Outside. comealiveoutside.org.

Community Quilt Mapping

Rutland Railway Association & Model Club
11 a.m.-3 p.m. 79 Depot Lane,
Center Rutland. See an operating
HO scale model railroad set up and displays of hundreds of rare or antique model trains, photographs, signs and more. facebook.com/p/ Rutland-RailwayAssociati on-100066761013097/.

Hall Art Foundation Season

Opening
11 a.m.-4 p.m. Hall Art
Foundation, 544 VT Route
106, Reading. \$10. Opening
day of the 2025 season
features four new exhibitions:
"Pan Paraparting," with "Pop Perspectives" with works by Ramos, Rosenquist, and Ruscha; large-format photography by Joel Sternfeld; vibrant figurative works by Gladys Nilsson; and paintings by Double Sternfeld; and sculptures by David Wojnarowicz. Set on 400 scenic acres, the converted dairy farm also includes outdoor sculptures by major international artists. hallartfoundation.org. Art at the Chaffee: Drop N' Paint

Noon-2 p.m. (Saturdays) Chaffee Art Center, 16 So. Main St., Rutland. \$25 per person, instructor help optional with a fee. All ages. Supplies and images to paint are provided. Must pre register by Friday noon at: chaffeeartcenter.org.

Rutland Youth Theatre Presents: 'Mary Poppins' 1 p.m. Paramount Theatre, 30 Center St., Rutland. \$12-\$15. Enjoy the beloved Disney musical featuring local youth. paramountyt.org.

Just Do the Damn Thing!

Just Do the Damn Thing!
2-3:45 p.m., Kaleidoscope Art Supply, 37 Center St., Rutland.
\$10-\$30. Poet Bianca Zanella leads a playful poetry and art workshop designed to help perfectionists break through creative blocks with joyful imperfection. Includes writing, meditation, and messy art-making. All materials provided. Minimum 4 participants. kaleidoscopeartsupply.square.site.

Decked Out Days

3-5 p.m., K-1 Lodge patio, Killington Resort, Killington. Free. Celebrate spring with live music, games, and Michelob ULTRA giveaways. Enjoy après on the deck with a set by Nick Bredice from 2:30-5:30 p.m. Event moved to K-1 due to construction on Superstar. killington.com.

Morgan Extravaganza Event

3:30-8:30 p.m. Main Arena, 175 So. Main St., Rutland. \$25. Celebrate the elegance and versatility of the Morgan horse breed with an evening showcase at the Vermont State Fair Equestrian Center. vermontstatefairequestriancenter.com.

Pamyua Outdoor Performance 5-7:30 p.m. Barnard Town Hall, Barnard. \$10. Celebrate the culmination of Alaska-based Inuit fusion band Pamyua's residency in Barnard with an outdoor concert featuring traditional drums, R&B vocals, and vibrant cultural performance. Comfort food and nonalcoholic drinks available. barnarts.ludus.com/200481380.

VINS Night Owls

5-7:30 p.m. Vermont Institute of Natural Science (VINS), 149 Natures Way, Quechee. \$37 general, \$32 members; \$45 general with drink, \$40 members with drink. Enjoy an adults-only evening with Trail Break tacos and brews, after-hours exploration of the Nature Center, raptor presentations, and nature talks that dive into the wilder side of science. Tickets required in advance. vinsweb.org.

'Uncomfortable Female Organism/UFO' Opening Reception

5:30-7:30 p.m., Kaleidoscope Art Supply, 37 Center St., Rutland. Free. Opening reception for artist Emily Brookman. Show is ongoing through June 14. kaleidoscopeartsupply.

Regency Affair at Wilson Castle

6-10:30 p.m. Wilson Castle 6-10:30 p.m. Wilson Castle, 2970 W. Proctor Road, Proctor. \$85-\$125. Step into a Bridgerton-inspired evening of elegance with hors d'oeuvres, live entertainment, and outdoor contra dancing under the stars. Formal attire encouraged; 21+ only. A fundraiser for Rutland County Pride Festival. rcpride.org/events-1/a-regency-affair.

Rutland Youth Theatre Presents: 'Mary Poppins' 7 p.m. Paramount Theatre, 30 Center St., Rutland. \$12-\$15. Enjoy the beloved Disney musical featuring local youth. paramountvt.org.

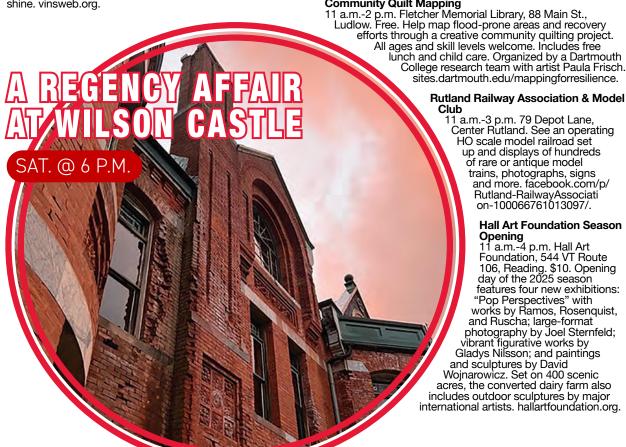
Chad Hollister and Primo
7-9 p.m. Mission Farm, 316 Mission Farm Road, Killington.
\$30. Limited seating intimate concert with area musical legend Chad Hollister and Rutland guitar hero Jeff "Primo" Poremski. missionfarmvt.org. chadmusic.com.

Film Screening: 'Eephus'

\$7:30 p.m. Playhouse Movie Theatre, 139 Main St., Randolph. \$7-\$10. PG-13. Grown men's recreational baseball game goes to extra innings the day before their field's demolition. playhouseflicks.com.

Spring Fling Extreme Trail Competition
10 a.m. Vermont State Fairgrounds, 175 So. Main St.,
Rutland. \$30 pre-entry, \$50 post-entry. The 2nd Annual
Spring Fling features Open, Novice Horse, Novice Rider, and
In Hand divisions, with judging by Ruth Reich. Age divisions if
entries warrant. vermontstatefairequestriancenter.com.

DIY Moss Wall Art
10 a.m.-noon. Kaleidoscope Art Supply, 37 Center St.,
Rutland. \$30-\$50. Create your own framed "living" art using
mosses and dried flowers in this Mother's Day workshop led by Liz, The Green Thumb Guide. All materials included. Buy two tickets and save \$10. kaleidoscopeartsupply.square.site.





Magical Garden Event 3 p.m. Kelly Way Gardens, 14 The Green, Woodstock. \$200. Fundraiser for Zack's Place featuring guest speakers John Gaeddert and Heather Durkel of Brook and Blossom Farm. Includes garden tours, cocktails, a locally sourced dinner by Chef Matthew McClure at 5:30 p.m.,

and a live auction of garden-themed items. Space limited to 40. Register at: zacksplacevt.org/magicalgarden-event.

> Community Music Jam 4-6 p.m., Stone Valley Arts, 145 East Main St., Poultney. Free. An informal jam circle where musicians of all instruments and skill levels are encouraged to join in. The group takes turns choosing songs to play-simple selections from

any genre are welcome. ass" is always an option when it's your turn. lobomithra@gmail. com or 802-753-4048. stonevalleyarts.org.

> MON 5/12

Bone Builders

10 a.m. Sherburne Memorial Library, 2998 River Road, Killington. Free. Weights are provided. sherburnelibrary.org or 802-422-4323.

Monday Movie
1 p.m. (Mondays) Sherburne Memorial Library, 2998 River
Road, Killington. Free. sherburnelibrary.org/movie-monday or
802-422-9765.

Fairgrounds East Bird & Nature Walk 7:30-10:30 a.m., meet at Fairgrounds Trail parking area, 131 Town Farm Road, Poultney. Free. Explore a 3-mile route with Slate Valley Trails and Rutland County Audubon on easy to moderate terrain. Great for all experience levels—bring water, snacks, binoculars, and a camera. jptilley50@gmail.com or 802-598-2583 (7–8 p.m. only).

Alzheimer's Support Group 4-5 p.m., (Monthly, 2nd Tuesday) Community Health, 71 Allen St., Suite 403, Rutland. Free. A monthly meeting for Alzheimer's caregivers and family members to share experiences and support one another. The group is run by participants with hands-on experience in caregiving. chcrr.

Long Pose Figure Painting
5:15-7 p.m. Kaleidoscope Art Supply, 37 Center St., Rutland.
\$22. Join Raven for a guided long pose figure painting
session. Open to all skill levels, ages 18+ or 16+ with waiver.
Supplies available or bring your own. RSVP by texting to
802-417-2295. kaleidoscopeartsupply.square.site.

Wallingford Walking Group
6-7 pm. Hart Library, 14 S. Main St., Wallingford. Free. 25-45 min. walks with Heather Johnson. Walk at the pace of the group. No pressure and no judgment, just enjoyment of the outdoors. comealiveoutdoors.com.

Rutland Area Toastmasters

6-7:30 p.m. (1st and 3rd Tuesday) Courcelle Bldg, 16 North St. Ext., Rutland. Develop public speaking, listening, and leadership skills. Guests welcome. 802-775-6929. toastmasters.org.

ONGOING

Arantza Peña Popo's Visual Journalism

Through-May 30. JAM – Junction Arts & Media, 5 S Main St., White River Junction. Free. Explore full-color comics journalism by Arantza Peña Popo, blending reporting with visual storytelling to illuminate themes of queerness and belonging; includes projected works and original art on display. junctionartsandmedia.org.

'Maytag Virgin'
May 8-25. Briggs Opera House, 5 So. Main St., White River Junction. \$12-\$40. Shaker Bridge Theatre presents "Maytag Virgin," a heartfelt, funny drama by Audrey Cefaly. Alabama neighbors Lizzy and Jack are both grieving their spouses when a clothesline connection sparks a deeper bond. Directed by Jammie Patton and starring Napiera Groves Boykin and Greg Alverez Reid. shakerbridgetheatre.org.

Spring Plant Start Sale at Woodstock Union High School May 1-30. 9 a.m.-2 p.m. (Mon., Tues., Thurs., Fri.) Woodstock Spring Plant Start Sale at Woodstock Union High School May 1-30. 9 a.m.-2 p.m. (Mon., Tues., Thurs., Fri.) Woodstock Union HS/MS Greenhouse, 100 Amsden Way, Woodstock. Free. Browse a wide variety of student-grown organic, heirloom, and pollinator-friendly plants. Extended hours until 6 p.m. on Monday, May 5. Also featuring Fedco seeds, saved seeds, and a plastic pot recycling drive. Cash or check only. abbie.castriotta@mtnviews.org.

The Vermont Farm Project: A Farm-to-Stage Musical' May 7-25. Northern Stage, 76 Gates St., White River Junction. \$23–\$77. This world premiere indie-folk musical follows eight Vermont farmers through a single summer day, weaving real stories into a heartfelt, toe-tapping production. Inspired by interviews across the state and featuring live actor-musicians. northernstage.org.

Theater in the Woods Presents: 'Faith Healer' 7 p.m. (May 16-17); 3-p.m. (May 18). West Rutland Town Hall Theater, 35 Marble St., West Rutland. \$30 adults, \$25 seniors/students. Brian Friel's critically acclaimed "Faith Healer" explores truth, identity, and illusion through the conflicting memories of three complex characters. Directed by Meg Bouchard. Proceeds benefit Theater in the Woods' summer theater camps. theaterinthewoodsvt.org.

The Vermont Palette: VPS Members' Exhibition
Through May 22. Chaffee Art Center, 16 South Main St.,
Rutland. Free. Presented by the Vermont Pastel Society,
this exhibition invites artists to explore Vermont's diverse landscape through pastel, pushing creative boundaries and embracing new expressions. vermontpastelsociety.org.

'Unbound Vol. XIII' - A Celebration of Book Art **'Unbound Vol. XIII' – A Celebration of Book Art**Through-May 24 Artistree Community Arts Center & Gallery, 2095 Pomfret Road, South Pomfret. \$30. Artists and writers from VT, NH, and New England are invited to submit pieces for "Unbound Vol. XIII," showcasing both traditional and unconventional Artist's Books, as well as 2D and 3D bookinspired art. Awards given for People's Choice and Curator's selections. artistreevt.org/unbound-vol.xiii-cfe.

UPCOMING

Killington Community Breakfast
May 14 from 7-10 a.m. Sherburne United Church of Christ
(Little White Church), Route 4, Killington. Free. Pancakes &
maple syrup, bacon & sausage, fruit, coffee, tea, and juice. killingtonucc.org.

'Z Lion King'

May 14 at 5:30 p.m. Town Hall Theater, 31 The Green, Woodstock. Free. Donations appreciated. Zack's Place Theater Guild presents its original production "Z Lion King," hosted by Pentangle Theater. A fun community performance with costumes, sets, and music. Seating is first come, first served. zacksplacevt.org. pentanglearts.org.

Judy Collins live

May 15 at 7:30 p.m. The Paramount Theatre, 30 Center St., Rutland. \$39-\$49. Grammy-winning icon Judy Collins brings her legendary voice and timeless folk classics like "Both Sides Now" and "Send in the Clowns" to the Paramount stage for one night only. paramountvt.org.

Race Around the Lake

May 18 from 10:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Silver Lake State Park, 250 North Road, Barnard. \$15-\$50. Join BarnArts for a 10K run or 5K run/walk followed by lunch, live music, and an awards ceremony by the lake. Virtual race option available. Proceeds support BarnArts Youth Programming. barnarts.org.

Summer Horse and Pony Camp 8 a.m.-Noon. (Pony Camp) and 8 a.m.-5 p.m. (Horse Camp), 25 Grout Road, Hartland. \$350-\$1200. Registration is open for 2025 Horse and Pony Camp in Hartland. Activities include horseback riding, games, crafts, grooming, and animal care. Pony Camp for ages 5-10: June 16-20 & June 23-27 or July 21-25 & July 28-Aug. 1. Horse Camp for ages 8-15: June 30-July 4 & July 7-11. No experience necessary. Optional overnight July 4-5 for Horse Campers (\$100). daisyelainejohnson@gmail.com or 802-291-4778.

Mother's Day Drag Brunch Extravaganza

SUN @ 3 P.M.

10:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Bailey's Place, 13 Evelyn St., Rutland. \$20. Celebrate Mother's Day with sass, sparkle, and show-stopping drag performances. Doors open at 10:30 a.m., show starts at 11:30. Entry includes entertainment; food and drinks sold separately. 21+ event. Tickets must be purchased in advance. facebook.com/BaileysPlaceVT.

Mother's Day Tea Service
11 a.m., 1 p.m. or 3 p.m. Barnard General Store, 6134 VT12, Barnard. \$25 adults, \$16 children. Celebrate Mother's
Day with tea, flower crown-making, and sweet and savory
finger foods on elegant tiered trays. Dressing up encouraged.
Choose your seating time and reserve tickets in advance at bgsvt.com/mother-day-high-tea.

Film Screening: 'Eephus'

2 p.m. Playhouse Movie Theatre, 139 Main St., Randolph. \$7-\$10. PG-13. Grown men's recreational baseball game goes to extra innings the day before their field's demolition. This screening shown with open captions. playhouseflicks.com.

Open Mic Poetry at Phoenix Books 2-3 p.m. Phoenix Books, 2 Center St., Rutland. Free. Join host Bianca Amira Zanella for an afternoon of poetry. Come to read, listen, or both. Sign up to read at the door. phoenixbooks.biz.

Violin/Piano Concert at RJC for Mother's Day

2:30 p.m. RJC Mintzer Hall, 96 Grove St., Rutland. \$18-\$36 suggested donation. Celebrate Mother's Day with a live concert featuring violinist Tudor Dornescu and pianist Edoardo Carpenedo, performing works by Mendelssohn, Gershwin, Bloch, Kreisler, and other traditional Jewish favorites. Mimosas will be served. rutlandjewishcenter.org.



MUSIC Scene

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

CASTLETON 7 p.m. Casella Theater – Jazz Ensemble Concert

LUDLOW

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

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

QUECHEE 6 p.m. The Public House – Chris Pallutto

RUTI AND

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

THUR

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

BRIDGEWATER CORNERS 5 p.m. Long Trail Brewery – Jacob Green

CASTLETON 7 p.m. Casella Theater – Gregory Harrington: Violinist

KII I INGTON 7 p.m. Killington Cafe & Wine Bar – Karaoke with Sunset Entertainment

LONDONDERRY

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

LUDLOW 6:30 p.m. The Killarney – Irish Sessions with Gypsy

POUI TNFY 6 p.m. Poultney Pub - Vinyl Night with Ken

5 p.m. Harry's Cocktail Lounge - Live Music With Sandiland and Vincent

6 p.m. Public House Pub ame That Tune Bingo with D.J Dave

RUTLAND 6 p.m. Speakeasy Cafe – Trivia Night

8 p.m. Center Street Alley Karaoke 101 hosted by

SOUTH POMFRET 7 p.m. Artistree – Open Mic Night

BRIDGEWATER CORNERS 6 p.m. Long Trail Brewery Taproom Trivia

CASTLETON

6 p.m. Blue Cat Bistro - Carl Anton **KILLINGTON**

6 p.m. Killington Cafe & Wine Bar – Rick Webb

POULTNEY

6 p.m. Poultney Pub – Electrostatic Cats

5 p.m. Harry's Cocktail Lounge - Live Music with Peter and Friends

5:30 p.m. Public House Pub - Rebecca Turmel

RANDOLPH

7:30 p.m. The Underground Listening Room - Derek & The Demons with Bull & Prairie and Honey

RUTLAND 5:30 p.m. Moose Lodge – Aaron Audet

6 p.m. Stonehedge Indoor Golf – Duane Carleton

7 p.m. Bailey's Place - Chris Pallutto

SAT

BARNARD 5 p.m. Town Hall – Pamyua: Innuit Soul Music from Africa

BOMOSEEN

5:30 p.m. Lake Bomoseen Lodge & Taproom – James

BRIDGEWATER CORNERS 4 p.m. Long Trail Brewery – Singo

KILLINGTON

30 p.m. K1 Base Lodge atio – Decked Out Days Patio with Nick Bredice

7 p.m. Mission Farm – Chad Hollister and Jeff "Primo" Poremski

QUECHEE

5:30 p.m. Public House Pub - Kind Bud

6 p.m. Harry's Cocktail Lounge - Live Music With Start Again

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

WOODSTOCK 6:30 p.m. Ottauquechee Yacht Club – Plymouth Rock

SUN

BRIDGEWATER CORNERS 3 p.m. Long Trail Brewery Liz Reedy

KILLINGTON

6 p.m. Killington Cafe & Wine Bar – Open Mic hosted by Liz Reedy

QUECHEE

2 p.m. Harry's Cocktail Lounge - Live Music with Derek Burkins

RUTLAND p.m. CJ's Suds South Karaoke with Sunset Entertainment

STOCKBRIDGE

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

MON

5/12

CASTLETON

5 p.m. Casella Theater – VTSU Castleton Fine Arts

KILLINGTON 5:30 p.m. Sushi Yoshi -

Thoneicus Jones

LUDLOW

8:30 p.m. The Killarney – Open Mic Night hosted by Indigenous Entertainment

RUTLAND

7 p.m. Angler's Pub – Music Bingo by Sunset Entertainment

WOODSTOCK

6:30 p.m. Ottauquechee Yacht Club – Bluegrass Etc. Jam with Ben Kogan

PITTSFIELD 7 p.m. Town Hall - Open Jam

POULTNEY

7 p.m. Poultney Pub – Bluegrass Jam

RUTLAND

8 p.m. Center Street Alley – EDM Night with DJ EG, DJ Sims and Sunset Dreamz

Rockin the Region with Chad Hollister

Rockin' the

Region

By Dave

Hoffenberg

 $Saturday, May\,10\,at\,7\,p.m. - KILLINGTON - Chad\,Hol$ lister and his good friend Jeff "Primo" Poremski are playing Mission Farm in Killington for an intimate, limited-seating concert. I've known Chad for 25 years and have always liked his music. My favorite music is music that moves you, and

his definitely does. There's a message behind his music, and he is spreading positivity through kindness and love. Fittingly, the next single he'll be releasing is "Be Kind," due out in a month or so. Chad's Acoustic Quintet will be at the Trapp Family Lodge in Stowe on June 22 for year 5 of the Trapp's 75.

"For people who have never heard me, picture like if Dave Matthews and Jack Johnson had lunch and had a baby with Tom Petty, and they churned out this dude, and Paul Simon too, who was going to play some songs. That's the style mix," said Hollister. "I like to connect with the audience. When I do shows like this, I get to see people from my past. People come out of the woodwork. It's just an intimate show where, at the end, people get to hang out."

The Mission Farm show came about because of Hollister's good buddy Eric Baughman: his brother Scott and sister-inlaw Lisa own Mission Farm.

"It's a beautiful church," said Hollister. "Primo and I get to do our thing in our nook." Hollister's been playing in Killington since the late '90s. Primo is a regular fixture in the area,

plus he lives in Rutland. "We're really excited to be kind of coming home. All the shows these days are carefully thought out. I try not to overplay an area."

Hollister's latest focus is these listening room shows and house concerts. "It's one of my favorite things to do, to perform

in people's homes with listening room vibes. Imagine a concert in your very own living room," said Hollister.

In addition to these intimate shows, Hollister has been making custom songs for people. It's a high-end thing, not something that everyone can do, but Hollister said it's really cool to have that as an option. He's also doing VIP retreats.

"One focuses on the music for the weekend where I do a couple of sets, and then we go out and experience the community from meals to hot springs," said Hollister. "They're in different locations. In July, I'm doing one in Steamboat Springs,

Colorado. That's a songwriting weekend where only two people come, and they write their songs with me. They're limited. Sometimes it's a few more people, and they get to know me better, I get to know them better. It's an intimate hang, and you come out with a song. It's pretty cool."

Hollister has written and recorded five albums, and last year, he released the single "Inner Sovereignty," which is per-

Rockin' → 42



But I've learned, dear Cat, that the secret is

clear—It's not in the hustle, it's not in the fear.

And seeing the beauty that's always there.

It's in slowing down, in giving some care,



Submitted

 $Visitors\ to\ Pine\ Hill\ Park\ on\ May\ 10\ may\ have\ to\ use\ the\ Force\ to\ get\ past\ storm troopers\ as\ Jedi\ Trails\ returns\ this\ weekend.$

The Jedi Trails strike back: 'Star Wars' adventure returns to Pine Hill Park

May 10 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.—RUTLAND—Lightsabers at the ready—Jedi Trails returns to Pine Hill Park on Saturday, May 10, inviting "Star Wars" fans and outdoor adventurers alike to join a free, family-friendly galactic quest through the woods. This event is quickly becoming an annual springtime favorite

Hosted by Come Alive Outside, the event runs from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. along the Lower Giorgetti Trail and transforms the forest into an intergalactic scavenger hunt complete with characters, crafts, food, and Jedi-worthy challenges. Costumes are encouraged, and no registration is required—just show up, follow the trail, and use the Force.

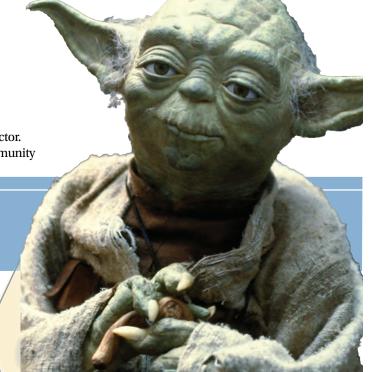
"This is one of Come Alive Outside's favorite community events of the year," said Arwen Turner, executive director.
"We love introducing and reintroducing "Star Wars" fans of all ages to the trails at Pine Hill Park and sharing community resources in a fun and quirky way." Participants can complete a scavenger hunt and trade it in at the Jedi Village for a special prize.

New features this year include:

- Appearances by the 501st Legion in full "Star Wars" costume
- Free HOTH DOGS courtesy of the Vermont Cairo Shriners
- $\bullet \quad \text{Frozen treats from Scoop' N Chill Italian Ice} \\$
- An obstacle course challenge from Whirlie's World
- A pop-up Jedi archive by the Rutland Free Library
- Galactic crafts and activities from the Boys & Girls Club of Rutland County, Community Care Network, The MINT, and more
- A new Tatooine Teen Area for ages 11–18, with free snacks and chill hangout zones

Whether you're a padawan or Jedi master, Jedi Trails offers a playful and imaginative way to get outside, connect with nature, and meet community partners—no lightsaber training required.

For more information, visit: comealiveoutside.com.





Courtesy Ethan Allen Project, FB

The "Ethan Allen in Castleton" 250th anniversary event occurs on May 9 in Castleton.

Castleton prepares to celebrate "Ethan Allen in Castleton" with history, theater, and community spirit

Friday, May 9—CASTLETON—A major historical milestone occurs in Castleton on Friday, May 9. The city will commemorate the 250th anniversary of Ethan Allen's famed council of war with a free public event. "Ethan Allen in Castleton" will feature open historic buildings, a parade, a live theatrical performance, commemorative souvenirs, and special postal services, all centered around Castleton's Revolutionary War heritage.

In anticipation of the event, the Castleton Historical Society will open two of its historic buildings—Buel Block and the Higley Homestead—for free public tours from 4-6 p.m. on May 9. The Buel Block, Castleton's oldest commercial building, and the Higley Homestead, located at the corner of the village green, will showcase Green Mountain Boys memorabilia, century-old panoramic photographs, and artifacts dating back to Castleton's 1925 Ethan Allen celebration.

The evening celebration will begin with a patriotic parade at 6 p.m., followed by activities on the Castleton village green, including a staged reenactment of the Green Mountain Boys' final preparations before capturing Fort Ticonderoga. The live dramatization, written by award-winning playwright James Thatch of Bennington and directed by Kevin Commins of

Weybridge, will feature 15 speaking roles, including Ethan Allen, Major Beach, and Castleton tavern keepers Zadock and Anne Remington.

From 6-8 p.m., visitors can also browse and purchase commemorative souvenirs, including \$5 coin-shaped tokens designed by Joe Vyvial, \$20 Green Mountain Boys flag baseball caps, slate coasters, cheeseboards, and Vermont-themed Christmas ornaments. Special "Ethan Allen in Castleton" cacheted envelopes with a 1955 $3 {\complement\, Ticonderoga\, stamp\, will\, be\, available}$ for 250¢ each. The Castleton Post Office will hand-cancel these envelopes on-site, marking them with "Castleton Station" and the anniversary date.

Community members have volunteered for the event, offering costume creation, stage setup, and acting in the historical reenactment. As they have every 50 years-first in 1925, then 1975, and now 2025—Castleton residents honor their town's pivotal role in Revolutionary War history and celebrate their shared heritage with pride.

Every 50 years, Castleton re-claims its Revolutionary history. Celebrate this half-a-century tradition as the Castleton community honors its past legacy.

For more information, visit: castletonvermont.org.

Heart, humor, and healing fuel Shaker Bridge Theatre's production of 'Maytag Virgin'

 ${\it May\,8\,through\,25-WHITE\,RIVER\,JUNCTION-Shaker\,Bridge\,Theatre\,continues\,its}$ 17th season with "Maytag Virgin," a tender and witty two-person play by Audrey Cefaly, at the Briggs Opera House. Directed by Jammie Patton, the play follows two widowed neighbors navigating grief, connection, and the possibility of love, all from the vantage of their back porches.

The story centers on Alabama schoolteacher Lizzy Nash and her new neighbor, Jack Key. Both have recently lost their spouses and find themselves face-to-face with fresh starts and buried emotions. Over the course of a year, through laughter and poignant exchanges, the two come to terms with their losses and consider what it means to begin again.

Making their Shaker Bridge debuts, Napiera Groves Boykin stars as Lizzy and Greg Alverez Reid plays Jack. Boykin's credits include Broadway's "Spamalot," "Dreamgirls" (national tour), and appearances in American Auto, High School Musical: The Series, and US. Reid brings a rich resume from "Sweat" at Northern Stage, "Fences" at McCarter Theatre, and television roles in "FBI" and "Wu-Tang: An American Saga."

Director Jammie Patton, returning to Shaker Bridge after last season's "The Cake," has helmed acclaimed productions at Vermont Stage and Shadowland Stages. She brings her signature blend of humor and depth to this intimate drama.

Playwright Audrey Cefaly is known for her lyrical, character-driven works that explore the emotional landscapes of the American South. Her credits include "The Gulf," "Alabaster," and "The Last Wide Open." Maytag Virgin continues Shaker Bridge Theatre's season-long focus on works by women playwrights.

The production features lighting by Clif Rogers, sets by Craig Mowery, and costumes by Martie Betts.

Tickets range from \$12 to \$40 and are available at shakerbridgetheatre.org or by calling 802-281-6848. Performances are Thursdays through Saturdays at 7:30 p.m., with Sunday matinees at 4 p.m.

For tickets and additional information, visit: shakerbridgetheatre.org.



Courtesy Shaker Bridge Theatre

Left to right: Actor Napiera Groves Boykin, director Jammie Patton, and actor Greg Alverez Reid will bring "Maytag Virgin" to life on stage at the Briggs Opera House from May 8 through 25.



By DJ Dave Hoffenberg

Hank Azaria performed as Bruce Springsteen for an enthusiastic crowd at the Paramount Theatre on May 3

Hank Azaria shines as The Boss at the Paramount Theatre



Rockin' the Region By Dave Hoffenbera

Hank Azaria and the EZ Street Band at The Paramount Theatre this past Saturday, May 3, was an absolute stunner. Azaria shone as The Boss and the band was so tight. The whole show was incredible. When I interviewed Hank last

month, he told me, "Bias aside, this band is good." That's an understatement. I'd go to see them, even without Azaria. There are nine people on that stage, including Azaria. two keyboards and two guitars, one of whom plays harmonica too, bass, drums, sax, and an incredible female singer.

Azaria left the stage for one song, and that's when you could digest the talent level

in the band he assembled. The harmonica-playing guitarist sang one song and blew me away. Speaking of blowing, the sax player really wails on that horn. He crushed it. Honestly, everybody up there shone.

"I'm working really hard to try and reach their level as a singer. It's not easy. I didn't expect to enjoy that part this much, learning to sing properly and try and keep up with what they're doing. I'm the weak link. We need one more guitar, I don't play guitar," Azaria said.

During our interview, Azaria offered to help out my charity, Pie in the Face for Chase. That wasn't lip service. I met Azaria in person at the show, and he messaged his assistant to remind her. It blew me away.

Although Azaria has only been performing with the EZ Street band for a year, he felt their performance at the Paramount Saturday evening was one of their best.

Azaria \rightarrow 43

Circus Springboard's 'Thank You For Waiting' is anything but boring

Seven talented ProTrack New England Center for Circus Arts (NECCA) performers thrilled and entertained Rutland on May 1 By James Kent

BORING, or the Bureau of Regional Inter-existential Non-Governmental Goings-on (at least I think that's what the acronym stands for), is the waiting queue you don't want to find yourself in unless you are the seven talented women in Circus Springboard's "Thank You For Waiting," who know how to manage a Kafka-esque crisis—through twists, turns, spins, contortions and a whole mess of fun.

The New England Center for Circus Arts (NECCA), based in Brattleboro, lent out seven of their brightest talents to amuse and entertain those fortunate enough to find themselves in attendance at downtown Rutland's Paramount Theatre on Thursday evening. The show, part of NECCA's ProTrack program, which features soon-to-be graduates of its $3\hbox{-year professional training program, is a}\\$ perfect showcase to introduce rural audiences to the wondrous world of aerialists and acrobats in a theatrical presentation, stripped down from the grand splendor of a 3-ring Big Top Circus so filled with eye-popping visuals, sounds of animals, and vantage points typically far removed from the action it's difficult to appreciate the individual artistry on display fully. No, in this Circus Springboard presentation, the audience at the Paramount got an up-close and personal peek at these perform-

ers, and what they did brought repeated cheers and applause from those on hand.

The concept of this specific show was a waiting room to nowhere. If you think waiting your turn in the afterlife queue in "Beetlejuice" is long, just try your luck in a BORING line. Numbers get called over a loudspeaker, but it will never be yours. The host for this never-answering queue is Miss Agatha (Avery Ucker), who walks the audience through the proceedings and helps encourage the six unfortunate waiting in line to use their imaginations to pass the time, so to speak. And pass the time they

pass the time they do. For 90 minutes, these performers lobby of the Paramount Theatre find interesting and unusual ways to break out of the boredom through various acrobatic of many.

out of the boredom through various acrobatic and contortion routines. Each performer, including Miss Agatha, got the opportunity to showcase one of their signature talents. Ucker kicked things off with a dance trapeze act that set the tone for the evening. Esther van de La-

Esther van de Lagemaat (The

gemaat, a Denver native studying at NECCA, wowed the crowd with her lasso skills. Later, Lagemaat returned for a showdown with "The Captain," a space-warrior who might as well have appeared from the planet Camp. Camille Echeverri (The Captain) also shone during her aerial hoop routine, and her duel with Lagemaat got roaring approval from newly-minted fans at the Paramount Theatre.

Paxton Asher specializes in contortion, and what she can do with a chair and a collection of boots has to be seen to be believed. And Eliana Perlmutter showed how a wheel is more than a wheel performing acrobatic tricks with a Cyr wheel. Harper Hayes displayed a different set of skills, using a circle with a boatload of tricks and an aerial loop. Not to be outdone, the seventh member of this troupe, Emma Maines, showcased her abilities with the aerial pole.

All of these disciplines were interwoven into a fun story that the many kids in attendance enjoyed. For adults, the dollop of risqué humor and infusion of nightclub cabaret sexuality brought a depth of enjoyment that gave the proceedings a decidedly naughty 1980s PG13 vibe while still keeping it wholesome enough that parents didn't have to cover any young ears and eyes.

After the show, all seven performers raced out to the Paramount lobby to greet

guests as they walked out. Each was generous with their time, posing for

their time, posing for photos and answering questions, and it was clear: the moment of this evening was just as, or possibly more exciting, for them as it was for us, the audience. Seeing the joy on these talented performers' faces, knowing they had succeeded in their mission to inspire and delight an audience, was an added reward. I had such a great time watching Circus Springboard that I cannot wait to see them again. I know that NECCA's co-founder Serenity Smith Forchion hopes

last night's performance at the Paramount Theatre is the first

of many. I second that. For those not able to make it to the show last night, make a note and keep your eye out for future performances from the New England Center for Circus Arts. I guarantee you, they are anything but BORING.

'Z Lion King' roars to life at Woodstock Town Hall Theatre

By James Kent

Wednesday, May 14 at 5:30 p.m.—WOODSTOCK —The curtain rises on a heartwarming production this spring as Zack's Place presents its annual community play at the Woodstock Town Hall Theatre. Admission is free, though donations are gratefully accepted to support the nonprofit's enriching programs for adults with developmental disabilities.

The Zack's Place theater program is a cornerstone of the organization's mission. Participants work and rehearse together each year to perform a theatrical production. This year's play is inspired by Disney's "The Lion King," a musical reimagined as "Z Lion King" in honor of the community that powers it.

"It makes everybody so happy," said Dail Frates, who directs the play and was formerly the executive director of Zack's Place. "The participants of Zack's Place have this opportunity to show their talents to the world, and they embrace it and work so hard to be the best they can be. It makes me feel so good to see them shine."

Rehearsals began in early March with readings and script development and moved to the Woodstock Playhouse stage in April, with twice-weekly sessions to prepare. Every participant who wants a part gets one, and the show is tailored to highlight their unique strengths—through dance, song, and storytelling.

"The Lion King' was actually a good choice because there's a lot of dancing, a lot of singing, and a lot of important characters," said Frates. "So we could really accommodate everyone's talents."

Among this year's performers is Jack Rasmussen, a 22-year-old from Killington who was born with Dup15q syndrome, a rare genetic condition that can cause developmental delays and seizures. Rasmussen skis and has participated in the Vermont Special Olympics. He also enjoys acting on stage. His aunt, Joan Ronan, has been bringing Rasmussen to rehearsals while his mother is visiting his brother in New Zealand.

"Jack loves it," Ronan said. "That's his first question to me every day now: 'Do I have play practice today?' It's such a great opportunity. It can be hard for disabled adults to find outlets to socialize with other adults, so this is a fantastic



Submitted

Left to right: Alison Johanenssen, Denise Thorburg, and Patrick Greene practiced the production of "ZLion King."



Submitted

Left to right: Lionesses Kate Eneper and Nissah Armstrong rehearsed for the upcoming Zack's Place production of "Z Lion King."

opportunity. Jack so looks forward to it. He knows all the performers by name; they all know each other. Everyone is very accepting of one another."

Rasmussen is part of the zebra ensemble in the show. "It's a great role for him," said Ronan. "And this community has really taken Jack under its wing. Wherever we go in Killington, people say, 'Hey Jack, how are you?' People watch out for him."

"Z Lion King" continues a beloved Woodstock tradition, one that routinely fills the theater to standing-room-only crowds each year. Community members—including former NBC correspondent Bob Hager—volunteer on stage and behind the scenes to support the show.

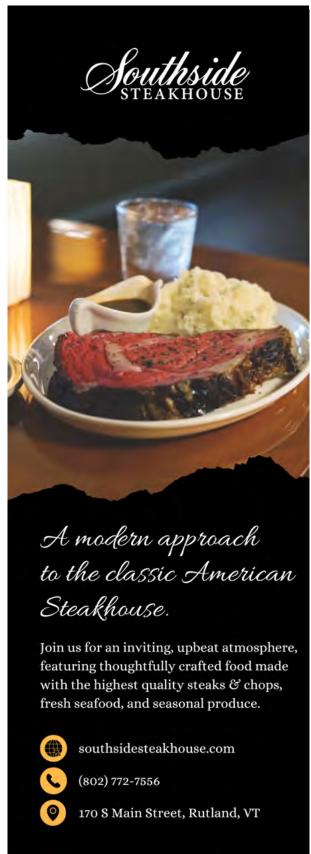
"What I'd like people to know is that my participants have so much talent to share with the world," said Frates. "Hold on to your seats—because you're gonna see a great show." See you on May 14.

For more about Zack's Place and its programs, visit: www. zacksplacevt.org.



Submitted

Jack Rasmussen will appear as one of the zebras in Zack's Place's upcoming production of "Z Lion King" on May 14.







Indulge your taste buds









Killington Wine Bar

At Killington Café and Wine Bar, we believe that wine tasting should be a journey of both enjoyment and learning, all within a relaxed and inviting setting. Inspired by some of the best boutique wine bars across the country, we're passionate about making fine wine accessible to everyone. Whether you're a

seasoned connoisseur or a curious newcomer, our diverse selection and knowledgeable team are here to guide you. killingtonwinebar.com, 802.353.6423.



Lookout Tavern

A place for fun, friends and good times here in Killington! Everything from soup to nuts for lunch and dinner; juicy burgers, fresh salads, delicious sandwiches and K-Town's best wings. Your first stop after a full day on the Mountain for a cold beer or specialty drink and a great meal! lookoutvt.com, 802-422-5665.

CHOICES Upscale casual and family friendly Chaice Postswart 8 Patients has

Choices Restaurant & Rotisserie has been a Killington,VT favorite for over 35 years. We offer a 40-item menu

that features fish and seafood, hand-cut steaks and fillets, sandwiches and home-cut fries, and house-made fettuccine. Try an item from our Rotisserie menu that includes chicken, tri-tip steak, and stuffed pork with prime rib on most weekends. Join us at our wraparound bar with 20 wines by the glass, signature cocktails, and craft beers. Finish off your dining experience with our baked in-house desserts, choicesvt.com, 802-422-4030

Killington Market Take breakfast, lunch or dinner on the go at Killington

Market, Killington's on-mountain grocery store for the last 30 years. Choose from breakfast sandwiches,

hand carved dinners, pizza, daily fresh hot panini, roast chicken, salad and specialty sandwiches. Vermont products, maple syrup, fresh meat and produce along with wine and beer are also for sale. killingtonmarket.com 802-422-7736 or 802-422-7594.

MOUNTAIN TOP Mountain Top Inn

N & RESORT Whether staying overnight or visiting for the day, Mountain Top's Dining Room & Tavern serve delicious cuisine amidst one of Vermont's best views. A mix of locally inspired and International cuisine - including salads, seafood, poultry and a new steakhouse menu - your taste buds are sure to be satisfied. Choose from 12 Vermont craft brews on tap. Warm up by the terrace fire pit after dinner! A short drive from Killington. mountaintopinn.com, 802-483-2311.



Vermont Craft

Vermont Craft is a lively bar and restaurant located in the Mountain Green Resort in Killington, serving locally sourced craft beer and a range of shareable, casual foods inspired by local farms vermontcraft.net (802) 342-5469



Back Country CaféThe Back Country Café is a hot spot for delicious breakfast foods. Choose from farm fresh eggs, multiple kinds of pancakes and waffles, omelets or daily specials to make your breakfast one of a

kind. Just the right heat Bloody Marys, Mimosas, Bellini, VT Craft Brews, Coffee and hot chocolate drinks. Maple Syrup and VT products for sale. Check Facebook for daily specials. 802-422-4411



Sugar and Spice

Stop on by to Sugar and Spice for a home style breakfast or lunch served up right. Try six different kinds of pancakes and/ or waffles or order up some eggs and home fries. For lunch

they offer a Filmore salad, grilled roast beef, burgers and sandwiches. Take away available. www.vtsugarandspice.com 802-773-7832.



South Side Steak House

Southside provides a modern approach to a classic American steakhouse. Join us for an inviting, upbeat atmosphere featuring thoughtfully crafted food made with the highest quality steaks & chops,

fresh seafood, and seasonal produce. We offer dinner and drink service in our dining room, bar & lounge, and on our seasonal patio, weather permitting. 802-772-7556 southsidesteakhouse.com



FOR STATE OF STATE OF

LIVE AT MISSION FARM KILLINGTON, VT

SATURDAY DOORS 6:30 PM SHOW 7 PM **MAY 10**

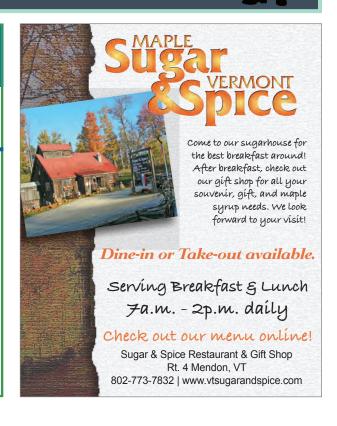
LOCAL PEOPLE. LOCAL SERVICE.

HOME COMFORT **ALL SEASON LONG!**

- **HEATING Boilers**, Furnaces,
- Space Heating
- Heat pumps
- Water heaters Generators
- Smart Home
- Fuel Stops
- Fuel storage tanks
- Propane & **Fuel Delivery**
- Tank monitoring
- 24/7 Emergency Service



Call us now at 866-395-7220



Steak on a bun: The Hangry Hogg smash burger is a local legend in the making

BBQ food delivers big lunchtime flavor in Rutland

Bv James Kent

If you've driven past the corner of West Street and Main in Rutland around lunchtime in the past few months, chances are you've recognized the food truck with the big pig cheflogo on the side and large letters spelling out "Hangry Hogg" with the tagline, "Put some South in your mouth." That's the Hangry Hogg food truck, owned and operated by Jason Evans, serving smoked meats, comfort food, and one of Vermont's best burgers.

This season marks Evans' fourth year operating The Hangry Hogg in Vermont. The location in the parking lot of the former Rite Aid is where you'll find The Hangry Hogg from Tuesdays through Thursdays, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Evans accepts cash and all major credit cards, including Apple Pay. People can also order in advance online at hangryhogg. com and then come and pick up their orders right at the parking lot.

Evans prepares everything fresh, from house-made sauces to hand-cut pork rinds and brisket smoked with pecan wood. His best-selling menu item? The BBQ Poutine.

"This is our No. 1 seller. It's smoked brisket, pulled pork, crispy fries, cheese curds, beef gravy, barbecue sauce, and scallions," said Evans. When the Mountain Times visited Evans on Wednesday, April 30, a customer was waiting to pick up an order of poutine. Jermey Marcouillier from Rutland told the MT that the fries stood out for him and made Hangry Hogg's poutine better than others he's tried.

Another standout was the freshly fried pork rinds, which Evans provided the Times

with a sample.

"These are still warm. I just fried them to order. I have multiple flavors. I have a white cheddar, salt & vinegar, dill pickle, and ranch," said Evans. We didn't try any other flavors, but the regular pork rinds did fine on their own.

But the real star of the Hangry Hogg menu is Evan's Brisket Smashburger, which he offers in a one-, two-, or three-patty option.

"This is our fresh ground brisket, double smash burger on a Martin's potato roll," Evans said of the sample he provided the Mountain Times. "I grind the fresh brisket meat daily. It's an Oklahoma-style smashed burger with Vidalia sweet onions, pickles, and American cheese, and I make my own smash sauce that goes along with it. And that's on a tallow-toasted Martin's potato roll out of Pennsylvania."

The taste of this fresh ground, smoked 100% brisket burger was unlike anything this reviewer had experienced in smash burger before. Instead of traditional ground beef, the use of brisket provided a juicy flavor-bomb explosion that gave the impression of a dynamite steak and cheese, yet with the consistency of a smash burger. To borrow a word from that fictitious chocolatier, Willy Wonka, it was "scrumdiddlyumptious." If you take pride in experiencing all types of burgers, you'll want to find space on your lunchtime calendar on a Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday to seek this burger out.

Evans is busy prepping early and cleaning late when not serving the food.

Calendar →43



By James Kent





VT LICENSED DISPENSARY THE & CBD PRODUCTS

CBD Products

Gummies, Pet Products, Lotions & Creams, Oils, Teas, Hemp Products

THC Products

Gummies, Baked Goods & Chocolate, Vapes Tinctures



(802) 483-6503
Order Online at VTterps.com
Free Shipping for Online Orders (CBD Only)
Or Visit Us:
Mon-Sat: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
4270 US Route 7, Pittsford, Vermont 05763, United States

Cannabis has not been analyzed or approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). For use by individuals 21 years of age and older or registered qualifying patients only. **KEEP THIS PRODUCT AWAY FROM CHILDREN AND PETS. DO NOT USE IF PREGNANT OR BREASTFEEDING.** Possession or use of cannabis may carry significant legal penalties in some jurisdictions and under federal law. It may not be transported outside of the state of Vermont. The effects of edible cannabis may be delayed by two hours or more. Cannabis may be habit forming and can impair concentration, coordination, and judgement. Persons 25 years and younger may be more likely to experience harm to the developing brain. It is against the law to drive or operate machinery when under the influence of this product. National Poison Control Center 1-800-222-1222



formed by the Chad Hollister Acoustic Trio, which consists of Chad, Primo, Rudy Dauth on bass, and special guest John Dunlop of the Vermont Symphony Orchestra on cello.

Hollister's musical inspirations come from everyday life and his family.

"My wife and two kids are a constant source of inspiration to me. Katie, Riley, Bodi, they're everything. My family, too. Three sisters, a brother, my Mom is 93. My music, it's how I hope the world can be. The state of affairs right now is a nightmare. I choose to dive into my community and bring kindness,

love, empathy, community everywhere I go, and just hope that spreads. I'm inspired by people everyday, who are great people, that do care about our world, the environment, immigrants who make our country what it is. The reality is, it's insanity right now but I believe in the greater good of people. You just have to work a little harder these days to find it and let people know there's plenty of love and kindness out there," said Hollister.

Giving back is another essential quality of the Chad Hollister ethos. He dedicates time to helping out with mental health, specifically the Vermont Federation of Families for Children's Mental Health (vffcmh.org). With the Trapp show, Hollister

Chad Hollister has been

going strong for 30

years, and it's the people

that keep him going.

is starting a memorial fund for Amy Lincoln Moore, who passed away in February.

"She [Moore] was an amazing champion and worked at the VFFCMH. Mental health is our thing, and letting people know it's OK to not be OK means there's help out there. We talk about this negative world, and a lot of people don't

have the family support we have and don't know where to go, but there's so many resources and help to be had," Hollister said.

Chad Hollister has been going strong for 30 years, and it's the people that keep him going.

"Ilove it so much, and I love to inspire people. If there's one mission of my music, it's to inspire. I like seeing people's faces." For more information, visit: chadmusic.com



Courtesy Brian Drourr Photography Left to right: Jeff "Primo" Poremski and Chad Hollister will perform an intimate concert at Mission Farm in Killington on May 10.





By James Kent

himself on customer

Jermey Marcouillier received an order of brisket poutine from Hangry Hogg's Jason Evans on April 30



By James Kent

Hangry Hogg's 100% ground brisket smash burger is available in a single, double, or triple patty option.



"I've been up since 6 o'clock this morning, smoking chicken wings, prepping for the week. When I go home today, I have another four hours of cleaning to do, you know, all the equipment, sanitizing, going shopping, and then coming back out and doing it again tomorrow." Evans prides

On weekends, Evans and the Hangry Hogg food truck are also at various festivals and events across the state.

service and quality. "We're in Bennington for the home brew festival on Saturday, and then we go to Rockingham for another festival," said Evans of his plans for the first weekend in May. "We travel from as far north as Bristol and as far south as Bennington during the summer season."

Originally from Utica, New York, Evans has lived in Vermont for 25 years. Despite the cold, he keeps the truck going as often as possible, with a two-month break from mid-December to mid-February.

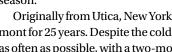
"We've been open since February 12 because the bills don't know it's winter. So, if I can get out, I'm gonna get out." In addition to lunch service. Evans participates in events

like Food Truck Fridays in West Rutland, where he offers kid's combo meals and his brisket poutine.

> Evans prides himself on customer service and quality. "Everything is made to order, so anything can be omitted. If you don't like onions, you don't have to have them. We try to accommodate as much as we can."

From fresh ground brisket burgers to smoked meats and hand-crafted sauces, Evans prides himself on Hangry Hogg's do-it-yourself approach.

"All the wing sauces are made from scratch. All the coleslaw is made from scratch. I do everything," said Evans. The payoff is in the flavor. Once you've tried the Hangry Hogg, you'll be strategizing your lunch plans around a mid-week trip to Rutland.





A woman walked on the stage to dance with Azaria to "Dancing in the Dark," much to his and the audience's surprise and delight.

"It made my job easy. I was looking around for someone to bring up. I really was going to bring up Ernie the dog, but then this woman just volunteered. Yes. Please," said Azaria, who also enchanted the crowd with his impersonation of Moe from "The Simpsons" and his spot-on Al Pacino impersonation.

"This show is not a nostalgia act, but almost," Azaria said. "You see the demographic; it's Bruce fans. I'm perfectly fine if people just sit nicely during the show. It's fun when they get up, but we're having so much fun."

The show had a VH1 Storyteller vibe. Azaria told stories along with the songs, some from Bruce's life and

"They're really paying attention to the stories and really into the songs. I'd probably be sitting down if I were at the show because I'm old," Azaria said in his tonguein-cheek style.

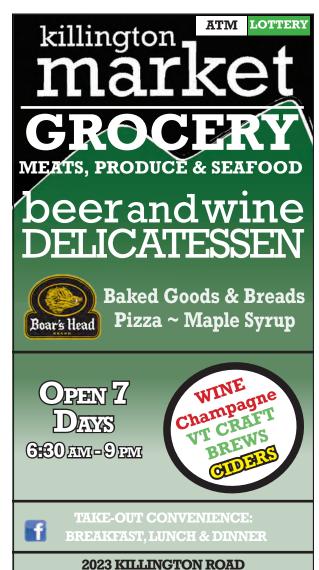
 $I^{\prime}m$ so glad I went to the show, supported his charity, and saw this incredible band.

I didn't want the night to end.



Courtesy ezstreetnyo

Hank Azaria





Come to historic Downtown Rutland to discover more dining, shopping, art and scenery

MURALS • SCULPTURE TRAIL • EVENTS • KIDS' MUSEUM • LIVE THEATRE & MORE!



VERMONT'S LARGEST SELECTION OF SUITS, **TUXEDOS AND ACCESSORIES!**

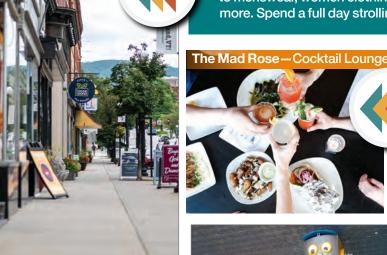


MCNEIL & REEDY

MENS STORE | EST. 1956

NO APPOINTMENT REQUIRED **MONDAY-SATURDAY 9-5PM** (802) 773-7760 | MCNEILANDREEDY.COM







Shop

Our diverse downtown offers an assortment of small businesses to explore and shop from art supplies, records, thrift and consignment to menswear, women clothing, gift shops, books, and so much more. Spend a full day strolling through our vibrant downtown.

> Downtown Rutland is home to a wonderful selection of cafes, bakeries, lunch and dinner spots, bars, specialty food shops, and more. Visit our website to learn more and discover all the great offerings from our historic district.



Explore

We are home to the state's largest year-round farmers market, a brilliantly restored 1912 Paramount Theatre, incredible public art installations, an engaging children's museum and more.









MURALS • SCULPTURE TRAIL • EVENTS • KIDS' MUSEUM • LIVE THEATRE & MORE!

For the latest on new businesses, event information, and downtown news, visit

DOWNTOWNRUTLAND.COM







DOWNTOWNRUTLAND.COM

VERMONT

Spring Sip & Shop

 $Downtown \,Rutland \,Partnership's \,popular \,Spring \,Sip \,\& \,Shop \,pairs \,local \,beverage \,and \,food \,producers \,with \,downtown \,All \,Partnership's \,popular \,Spring \,Sip \,\& \,Shop \,Pairs \,Pair$ Rutland businesses. Ticket holders will visit up to twenty stops where they can shop, enjoy sales and raffles, taste something new, meet up with friends and enjoy an evening downtown together.

Tickets are on sale at downtownrutland.com/sipandshop

Ticket options include:

\$25 All-Inclusive Ticket: With this ticket, you can sample spirits, beer, wine, and food from vendors hosted at Downtown Rutland businesses.

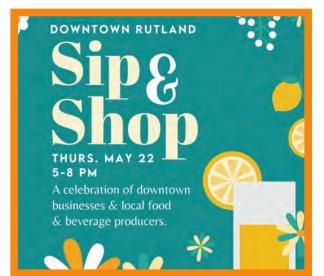
\$15 Non-Drinking Ticket: If you don't drink alcohol or are a designated driver, you can still enjoy the Sip & Shop with this non-drinking ticket option. This ticket allows you to sample food and taste non-alcoholic drink vendors. Each attendee will receive a map of all participating businesses, a shopping bag with a tasting glass, and one entry into

a raffle for items from vendors and businesses. Plus, ticket holders are eligible for additional door prizes and raffle prizes throughout the event!

Don't miss out on this unique event that introduces new tastes and treasures in Downtown Rutland! Head to down town rutland. com/sip and shop to learn more andpurchase your ticket today.

Date: May 22, 2025 Time: 5-8 p.m.

Location: Downtown Rutland



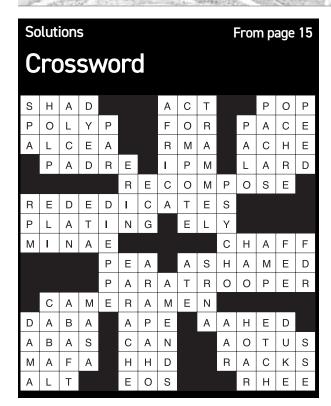


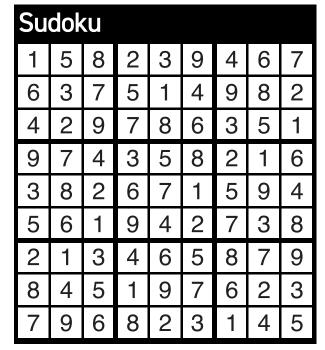












Eat Shop Drink Local





765 Stevens Road, Pittsford, VT 802-483-6700 www.rchsvt.org Tues-Sat 1 1 am-4pm | Closed Sun. & Mon.





Barron—4-year-old. Male. German shepherd.



Charlie—6-month-old. Male. Beagle and cocker spaniel mix.



Stormie—12-year-old. Male. Domestic shorthair.



Piper—1-year-old. Female. Anatolian shepherd.



Sammie—4-year-old. Male. Domestic shorthair.



Ruger—7-year-old. Male. Mastiff mix.



Binks—4-year-old. Male. Domestic shorthair.



Tortellini—8-month-old. Female. Domestic shorthair.



Emma—1-year-old. Female. Terrier mix.



Maizy—3 ½-year-old. Female. Great Pyrenees.

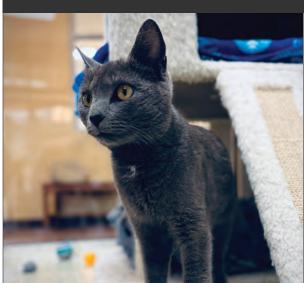


Grover—6-month-old. Male. Hamster.



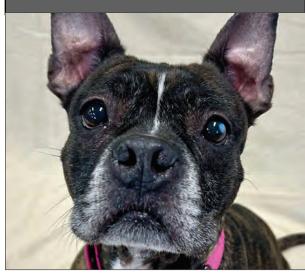
Ernie—6-month-old. Male. Hamster.

Lucy Mackenzie Humane Society 4832 VT-44, Windsor, VT • (802) 484-5829 *By appointment only at this time. lucymac.org



SMOKEY—2-year-old spayed female.

Springfield Humane Society 401 Skitchewaug Trail, Springfield, VT- (802) 885-3997 *Open by appointment only, spfldhumane.org



ATHENA—Adorable, goofy, 33-pound 7-year-old Frenchie mix adores people.



It's OK to be a little bit self-indullacksquare gent now and then and adopt a slower pace. You're still getting used to this vague yet inspiring period. If it feels like you're going through the fog, it will lift soon enough. For now, this is the rest you need, even if you're not one who enjoys taking it easy! A little bit of helpful self-talk and thinking better thoughts will help



t may feel as though everything is starting to fall into place. It's been a rough year for you so far as progress has been stalled or uncertain. The reality is, there are always going to be factors that are uncertain. You have to decide that your self-belief, coupled with the action you take, is what is completely certain. Even if you have to fake it until you make it, make it



R elationships—personal, professional, or both—are working out so well for you. As long as you keep the lines of communication, honesty, and transparency open, everything will work in your favor. Do what you can this week to have the conversations you might otherwise avoid. Things may get a little serious and/or difficult soon, so nip what you need to nip in the bud this week. Accountability counts!



Cosmic Catalogue By Cassandra Tyndall

we've lived so lifetimes in these past five years that 2019 seems like an eternity ago.

Don't get stuck

in an outdated

timeline

Regardless of which corner of the

globe you're reading this in, there is

no denying we are in a dramatically

different timeline. In many ways,

It seems that people have become ideologically captured, emotionally dysregulated, and completely disconnected from their souls. This isn't their fault; it's been designed this $way. \, Some \, people \, will \, stay \, in \, pre\text{-}2019 \, reality, \, while \, others \,$ will move on to new timelines.

This is where the greatest obstacle and the greatest gift of this particular era lie: when everything feels so fractured, broken, and hopeless when the idea of burning it all down feels more satisfying than repairing, when apathy feels easier than hope and hard work. When all hope is gone, that's when you have to shine brighter in order to light up the dark.

This week presents some subtle opportunities to find hope and inspiration through our words. Words create realities, so if you find yourself reaching for content in contempt, reach for a better thought and a better word and share that.

Real connections in real life and online start with words of hope rather than cynicism.



vou a lot!

Taurus

Iommunication planet Mercury moves into your sign for an annual visit. If you're trailing behind on logistical or organizational matters, you'll have the chance to catch up. Also, you may have to dig a little deeper for honesty this week, especially with yourself. You know where you have to pick up your proverbial socks and get on with things. Don't let a relaxed attitude hold you back from progress. There are still a few big changes to be made.



efore you know it, all the oppor-Bunities that have seemingly fallen into your lap may begin to run dry. It's not sunshine and roses all the time, so you do need to strike while the iron is hot. You can try to weigh up the pros and cons of every little decision, but then you could miss out on something good. Sometimes, you just have to say yes and then figure out the details as vou go along.



Some kind of pressure at the moment. You might be taking a home, family, or domestic situation more seriously than usual. This is the longer-term focus for you, so if you find yourself wondering all the "what if's" there's a reason for that. If you have a dream in your heart for what your domestic life looks like, start the discussions you need to have to realize them.



Gemini

may be your role to raise the boats this week. Your words can uplift and inspire. So be mindful of the conversations you have with a friend, group, or community, both online and in real life. Also, keep your ear to the ground regarding opportunities to progress or advance your personal goals. It may be a case of you raising the tide for your own boats, too. A bit of positive self-talk will go a long way now.



Soon, you'll realize that all the toil and trouble you've been through so far this year will be rewarded. With that in mind, this isn't the time to give in or give up. There's some confusion around you, either in a romantic or professional relationship. Do your best to communicate with clarity, keeping your vision of the future in mind. Any issues will be able to sort themselves out soon



Aguarius

ife doesn't have to be hard and heavy all the time, even when you're going through a lot. There's also a rare and potent opportunity to be really enjoying yourself. Are you taking these opportunities? If not, then why not? Life is too short to not try and make the good times last. Where you might be tempted to say no, say yes. It may just turn your life in a new and exciting direction.



Cancer

When everything feels foggy, overwhelming, or confusing, your best bet is to shut out the noise. Being moon-ruled, it's so easy for you to absorb the light of everyone and everything else, even when you don't mean to. Trusting your own intuition will be the key to manifesting your future opportunities, and those are closer to you than you might otherwise think. A little bit of confidence shown now will go a long way.



Just as you felt ready to strike out in a new direction or make waves at work, things may not have gone according to plan. You might feel passed over or overlooked to some degree. There may not be much you can do about it right now except just enjoy the ride. Sometimes, the most productive thing you can do for yourself is absolutely nothing. Enjoy the break, and see it as a chance to recharge.



Pisces

ife is going to feel so much ⊿lighter very soon. That said, it's your finances that will take on new levels of responsibility and commitment, especially in regard to family or real estate. This week, initiate the conversations or look into the details you need to look into in order to set the wheels in motion. A great opportunity may come up for you, but you have to be organized in order to seize





VERMONT

22 WALES STREET, RUTLAND

Go online to see our full schedule: trueyogavermont.com



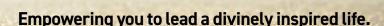
Wellness Center

LIMITED TIME INTRO SPECIAL:

\$10 FOR 10 DAYS UNLIMITED CLASSES



CONVENIENTLY LOCATED WHERE THE KILLINGTON ACCESS RD MEETS US-4



Cassandra has studied astrology for about 20 years. She is an international teacher of astrology who has been published all over the globe.

Hepatica: Ephemeral or evergreen?

The Outside

Story

By Catherine

Wessel

As the days get longer and the sun warms the forest floor, hepatica flowers emerge. These charming early bloomers captivated

the writer and naturalist John Burroughs, who extolled their "winsome grace" in his poem "Henatica."

Hepatica flowers close on cloudy days and when night falls to preserve their pollen for when pollinators are most likely to be on the wing. But when they're open, the flowers are easy to spot amid the brown leaf litter of the past fall. Hepaticas vary in color from white and pale pinks to deep purples and, as Burroughs put it, "every shade of azure."

Like many plants in the buttercup family, their number of sepals (modified leaves, and in this case, petal lookalikes) ranges, with many flowers displaying five to seven sepals. Their stems and new leaves are covered in long, silky hairs, which protect the plant from the lingering cold.

Spring ephemerals, in the strictest sense, are plants that emerge in early spring and disappear from sight by the time the canopy closes, completing their whole life cycle before the leafed-out trees block sunlight from reaching the ground. However, the term is also used more loosely to describe flowers that bloom within this time frame but may bear leaves throughout the season - and sometimes beyond. "The definition is not always consistent," said Abby Yancy, who studied the biogeography and phenology of spring ephemerals at the Carnegie Museum of Natural History and is now completing her PhD at the University of Pittsburgh.

Though hepaticas bloom early, their leaves last until the following spring, turning reddish or purplish brown and becom-

> ing leathery as the months pass. By hanging onto these older leaves, the plant can jump-start photosynthesis the following spring, providing the resources it needs to bloom as soon as things start to warm up. "Although they flower in early spring, the presence of overwintering leaves makes them evergreen," said Yancy.

The three-lobed leaves are the key to their name, which comes from the Latin hepaticus, or liver. The "doctrine of signatures," an idea that

became popular in the 16th century, postulated that the healing properties of plants were divinely communicated through their appearance. In other words, if it looks like a liver, it must be good for the liver. Though some plants have been critical in the development of effective medicines, scientists have found hepatica to be toxic in large quantities.

Hepaticas were once in their own genus, though botanists now place them in the Anemone genus, with wood anemone and other windflower species. In the Northeast, we have two species of hepatica, which are delightfully easy to tell apart. Sharplobed hepatica (Anemone acutiloba) has, you guessed it, sharp lobes. Each of the three lobes on a leaf ends in a pointy tip, while blunt-lobed hepatica (Anemone americana) has rounded lobes. Because the leaves last year-round, both species

Outside Story \rightarrow 53



A cut above

The Movie

Diary

Ву

Dom Cioffi

Only three people have ever cut my hair: There was the older gentleman that my mother brought me to when I was young. Then there was the son of my dad's barber, who cut my hair for decades. And finally, there's the guy I've been going to for the last several years.

I especially liked the middle barber. Not only were he and his father great hosts at their establishment, but the vibe inside was always unique and entertaining. You always got some town gossip when you visited their barbershop. And you also would likely run into someone you hadn't seen in years. It was the kind of barbershop and atmosphere you'd expect to see featured in a Martin Scorsese film.

I'd still be going to that barbershop if life hadn't intervened and moved me far enough away that the visit became inconvenient. On my final stop to his location before moving, I explained the situation and promised I'd be back when the timing worked out. He then gave me some advice about choosing a new barber: "No matter what," he said, "look for the barber pole."

The barber pole, a tall, cylindrical pole with red (symbolizing blood), white (symbolizing bandages), and blue (symbolizing veins) spiraling stripes, dates back to medieval times when barbers also performed bloodletting and minor surgeries. The pole symbolized the staff patients would grip during their procedures, and the bowl at the top or bottom represented the basin used to catch blood. The rotating or spiraling motion was meant to draw attention and symbolize the movement of the barber's hands.

Consequently, everywhere I drove in my new environment, I looked for the barber

But in a world where Great Clips and beauty salons reign supreme, finding a legitimate, convenient barber was no easy task. I asked several coworkers who they went to, and surprisingly, most went to the upscale salons, where lovely young women pampered them with cocktails and neck massages along with their hair cutting.

I try hard not to be sexist, but when I get my hair cut, I prefer a man. I have nothing against women stylists; it's just all I've ever known. I've been to beauty salons to pick up my wife, and the vibe is totally different from the traditional barbershop. Moreover, while I love a good cocktail and neck massage, these are two things I don't require when getting a haircut.

Eventually, I found a shop in the area I was looking for and decided to take a chance. On my first day, I wandered in and startled an old guy who had fallen asleep in the sunshine streaming through the front window. Two attractive women were busy

cutting hair, and for a brief second, I

considered breaking my own rule and requesting one of them. However, the old guy popped up and ushered me to his chair before I could say anything.

This guy wasn't in the best shape physically, which gave me pause. He limped around the chair and occasionally let out a horrible cough, suggesting decades of cigarette abuse. But when he was finally ready to start cutting, his fingers came alive.

The old guy ended up being a great conversationist (everyone knows half of the experience of a haircut is the conversation). He balanced some interesting stories about his life with several questions about mine. I watched intently in the mirror as he adeptly scissored my scalp, never once pausing or stopping to review his work.

When he was finished, he took a moment to display his work with a handheld

> mirror, explaining why he approached certain areas of my hair the way he did. I was taken aback and impressed; the old guy had given me the exact haircut I wanted on his first try. I paid him, threw in a nice tip, and told him I'd be back. And I've been

My barber turned out to be a consummate professional, the opposite of the main character in this week's feature, "The Amateur," a spy thriller that

common man against a corrupt and shady CIA.

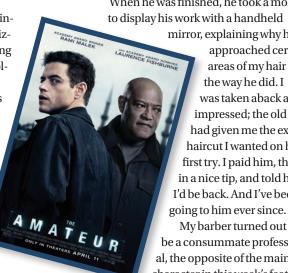
Rami Malek stars as Charlie Heller, a CIA cryptographer whose life is upended when his wife is killed in a terrorist attack in London. Frustrated by his superior's inaction, Heller embarks on a global mission to track down those responsible for his wife's death.

This is certainly a cerebral take on the spy thriller genre, with Malek giving a strong performance as someone completely out of his league. Unfortunately, the story is a bit improbable, making aspects of it hard to swallow.

Check this one out if you love the feel of a good thriller; just don't expect it to entertain reality.

A sneaky "B-" for "The Amateur," now playing in theaters everywhere.

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





By Merisa Sherman

Merisa (right) and Becky (left) ripped up The Canyon on a recent spring weekend.

Short poles

Living the

Dream

By Merisa

Sherman

It never felt like this before. My chest was in the right position and wasn't getting bounced backward every few turns. My

right shoulder wasn't getting jammed into itself with every pole plant, forcing my torso up and my entire body to stretch out. That beautiful extension that forces me to then retract everything while twisting my legs 180 degrees in hopes that my skis will come with them.

It wasn't anything like that. My torso stayed right where it was supposed to, stacked in line with my feet, and all I had to do was flick each wrist to tap the top of the mogul. I wasn't getting thrown fore and aft like a ship

in a turbulent storm. I was right there, able to anticipate the next turn and even the turn after that. I stayed in the damn zipper and felt like I was actually flowing down the troughs rather than launching up and over everything.

What was the magic, you ask? Something that my sister has been telling me to do for about two decades. Nope, most definitely three. The magic secret to moguls—

short poles

Now, that might not mean much to some of you, but as a former ski racer, I was used to using 50" noles until I retired, when I

to using 50" poles until I retired, when I switched to 48" poles. For ski racing,

you need long poles to keep you upright for Slalom and then to wrap around you for all the other disciplines. It was only this past season that I dropped my pole length to 46" because I had developed a really bad habit of (1) dragging my poles behind me as I finished a turn, pulling me up the hill in a very unattractive manner on steep terrain and (2) the combination of arthritis hip pain and tall poles was preventing me from getting low enough during the compression part of my turn

that I was developing straight leg syndrome on steep terrain. Again, very embarrassing and causing an overly high edge angle and lack of control, which all develops into an increase in fear.

Yep, my tall poles were causing me to be afraid of steep terrain, like Double Dipper and Lower Downdraft. Knowing we were going to be in The Canyon this year moti-

Living the Dream \rightarrow 53

Hartland Bees meet town manager

Asked what he thinks

of the Hartland listserv,

he said finance director

Martin Dole advised

him on his first day to

join the listserv ASAP.

"I'll never forgive him,"

Broker-Campbell

quipped.

By Curt Peterson

HARTLAND—In mid-April, Town Manager John Broker-Campbell met with four representatives of the Ladies Benevolent Society (of the First Congregational Church of Hartland—UCC), a.k.a. "the Hartland Bees." Responding to (very) small group dynamics, the women were able to get Broker-Campbell to relax and say a little about himself. The young town official has lived in Weathersfield for 20 years, following a short stint in a rural area near Juneau, Alaska. He's been in his present role for 14 months. "My wife and I hadn't planned to have

children for a while, but fate had other ideas, and we found ourselves expecting," he said. "With the only hospital a three-hour plane ride away, we decided to move closer to medical services readily available."

The discussion topic was "A Day in the Life of the Town Manager." Broker-Campbell said his responsi-

bilities are "varied - very varied. Everything but the roads."

But there are highway-related issues in which he has to be involved. Hartland has about 75 miles of town roads, 60 of which are unpaved. Heavy trucks take a toll on village roads, and posted weight limits "are just empty words," as propane and oil trucks have to get to customers on the posted roads. The expense of maintaining Hartland's roads absorbs half the annual budget.

The estimated cost of reconstructing the worst stretch of the notorious Ottauquechee Road would be \$5 million. Ripping up paving and recovering as a gravel road might save short-term money, Broker-Campbell said, "but then we'd have to grade it once a week."

Roads foreman BJ Mattson and his crew are currently patching potholes that have actually flattened tires on the road.

land, Broker-Campbell said the town has an unusual community network, including Hartland Community Arts, the resurrected monthly Hartland Community Breakfast, and the new town free newsletter, the Hartland Voice.

"Many Hartland people are unique and talented," he said. "Every day, I go home with a new, good story to tell [my son] Beniv."

Asked what he thinks of the Hartland listserv, he said finance director Martin Dole advised him on his first day to join

the listserv ASAP. "I'll never forgive him," Broker-Campbell quipped.

The Hartland
Bees was founded in
1840 by UCC church
member women who
wanted to raise funds
to make up a deficit in the minister's
salary. Other than a
half-dozen years when
the organization was
inactive, its mission

continues to contribute financial support for the church and for local non-profit groups in town.

The Bees' fund-raising events have included a roast beef supper, a white elephant sale, a quilt raffle, and a bazaar. Bees members also serve as volunteer staff for post-funeral receptions.

Carol Williamson, a long-time Bee member, said membership has fluctuated, lately about 6-8 members. "In the old days, when women did not work outside the home, they found community participation good for socializing and a release for their skills." The church arranged day trips as social events for the group.

Pat Richardson, Bees treasurer since 1989, told the Mountain Times, "I have to say we are fewer and older, ... so we struggle to stay together and to remain relevant. It's social contacts and fund-raising that bind us together today."



Celebrating 35 years!



Ski Country REAL ESTATE



www.skicountryrealestate.com | Email: info@skicountryrealestate.com | Office: 800-877-5111



Charming Woods Condo

Don't miss this bright, 2BR, 3BA end unit in the convenient Woods community. This spacious unit offers ample space for relaxing and entertaining. Each bedroom has its own bathroom, providing privacy and convenience. The second bedroom and bath offers a lock out option should you wish to rent a portion of your unit. The unit is equipped with a new hot water/heater system, sauna and a Murphy Bed to accommodate guests. Fitness center, spa, indoor pool, tennis courts and a new restaurant are all located in this community.

Offered at \$600,000

Call to schedule your showing today!









Lenore Bianchi



802-353-6109



Megan Charleboi 802-558-3846



Patrick Bowen 802-558-6929



Pat Linnemayr 802-236-0854



Michlelle Lord



Katie McFadden



Carolyn Bianch





IDEAL PROPERTIES CLOSE TO KILLINGTON, OKEMO OR WOODSTOCK!





HOMES | CONDOS | LAND COMMERCIAL | INVESTMENT

802.353.1604 VTPROPERTIES.NET



Marni Rieger Broker 802.353.1604



William Spanos 802.345.0693

Marni@PeakPropertyRealEstate.com 1995 Route 4, Killington VT 59 Central Street, Woodstock VT

KW VERMONT LUXURY-PEAK PROPERTY GROUP PROUDLY AVERAGES OVER 96% LIST TO SELL PRICE!

CASTLETON -12 UNITS- PRIME MULTI-FAMILY OPPROTUNITY! 3 brick buildings, 1-bedroom units, 4 units per building. All units besides 2 have been renovated. Strong, stable occupancy at 100%. Rental income gross is over \$200K annually. Close to Castleton University and Lake Bomoseen. Established easy investment for someone wanting to grow their multi-family portfolio. \$1,600,000

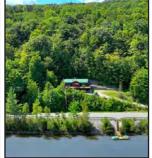


PLYMOUTH HAWK-SWEET SEASONAL VIEWS! A gorgeous 4 bedroom/4 bath open concept, multi-level contemporary located minutes between the 2 largest ski resorts in the East-Killington & Okemo Mountain Resorts. Great property for STR investment. **\$699K**



BREATHTAKING VIEWS! Beautiful Lake Amherst property with 200 feet of lake frontage and a great new dock. Prime location minutes to Killington,Okemo, and Woodstock. Enjoy panoramic lake and mountain views from the entire main level of this open concept 2 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath contemporary gem. Price is 750K





TURNKEY GEM! PICTURESQUE PROCTOR-AWESOME SPOT! 3 bedroom/2 bath w/detached garage. Large eat in kitchen, formal dining & living rooms, a cool TV/den room & 2 sound-proofed offices for those that work from home! Direct access to Pine Hill Park trail system & located across the street from the year-round skating rink, playground & high school. Proctor pool is just up the street. \$525K





Killington Land For Sale

www.KillingtonLandForSale.com

Extraordinary opportunity in the heart of Killington. Stunning 98-acre parcel on River Road offering rare combination of size, location and versatility. State of VT Wastewater Permit is in place for a 5-bedroom home. Primary building site is cleared and level. A second potential homesite awaits exploration at the northern end of the property.

Offered at \$450,000.







2814 Killington Rd. 802-422-3600













R

Navigate the Killington area real estate market with local knowledge!

Tucker Adirondack Lange









COMPANY

4740 Main Street, Waitsfield, VT 05673 | vermontrealestatecompany.com

Are You Ready to Purchase a Home?

Make the Local Choice—Contact Kerry!



Kerry Mazzariello **VP Mortgage Origination**

kmazzariello@bennbank.com 802.445.7990 • NMLS #216188 143 Woodstock Ave., Rutland

TheBankofBennington.com

Scan to connect today



The Bank of Bennington™

Your Money Stays Here, Works Here, and that Makes a Difference.™





3755 River Road, Killington NEW PRICE \$1,150,000 Beautiful River Location, just in time for spring!

• Timber-framed home with high-ceiling living areas and large windows

- for natural light and views.
- Glass-walled hot tub room offers breathtaking views.
- Upstairs studio space includes with floor-to-ceiling windows
- Home is permitted for three bedrooms but features additional rooms for various uses like office spaces, workout/game rooms
- Walkout basement includes a living area 4th bathroom
- Attached 2-car garage



802.422.3610 killingtonvalleyrealestate.com

Bret Williamson, Broker/Owner

Judy Storch, Broker | Gary Thompson, Broker | Cathy Quaglia, Broker Walter Findeisen, Broker | Doug Quatchak, Realtor | Laura Derderian, Realtor

Vermont sees nation's largest household income increase

Census Bureau data recently released indicates that Vermont was the nation's leader in income growth from 2022 to 2023. Vermont median income grew 5.4% year-over-year, while the national median stayed roughly flat with a 0.15% decrease. Vermont's median income increase represents a jump from below to above the national median. Vermont ranks 17th in household income. Vermont's median income in 2023 was \$81,200.

Washington, D.C., had the highest median at \$108.2K, but among the states, Massachusetts was highest at \$99.9K, closely followed by New Jersey (\$99.8K) and Hawaii (\$95.3K). The lowest were Mississippi (\$54.2K) and West Virginia (\$55.9K).

Household income is the total money received in a year — wages, pensions, investments, public assistance, and more — by everyone in a household over 15.

Median incomes change over time due to a range of factors: inflation, economic growth or recessions, shifts in industries and technology, changes in workforce education and demographics, and policy adjustments like minimum wage laws or tax reforms.

After adjusting for inflation, the U.S. median household income increased from \$77,000 in 2022 to \$81,200 in 2023. Median household income was highest in 2021 among the years for which data is available. Vermont's median household income was 4.5% higher than the U.S. median.

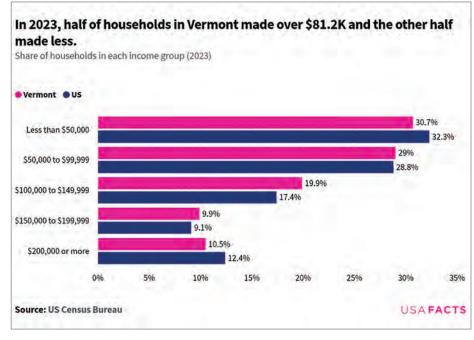
 $2020\,\mathrm{data}$ is excluded due to problems in data collection caused by the Covid-19 pandemic

Median household income in Vermont, adjusted for inflation (2023 dollars)

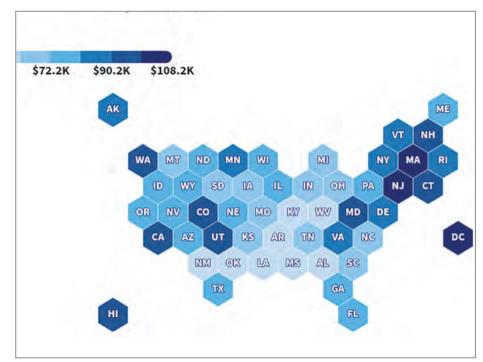
Lastly, household income also varies by geography due to differences in cost of living, local job markets, and economic opportunities (e.g. the presence of high-paying industries or declining sectors). Regional policies (like minimum wage), access to education, and other economic factors can also play a role in shaping local income levels.

When ranked highest to lowest, Vermont was ranked 17th in median household income among states in 2023. States with a similar median income include Delaware (16th) and Illinois (18th).



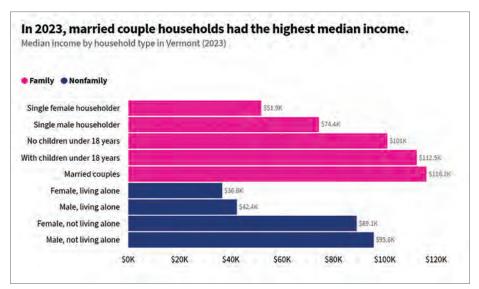


Source: US Census Bureau



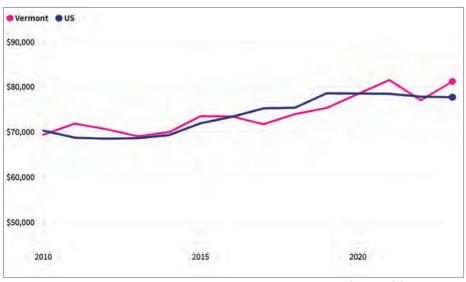
Courtesy usafacts.org, data updated Feb. 19, 2025

In 2023, Vermont ranked 17th in median household income amoung states. Map shows the median houshold income by state.



Source: US Census Bureau

Household income can differ depending on the makeup of the household. Married couple households (with and without kids) had a higher median income than other types of familial households in 2023. Among nonfamily households, single male householders had a higher median income than single female householders.



Source: US Census Bureau

Compared to the US as a whole, Vermont had more households in the \$100,000 to \$149,999 income range and fewer in the \$200,000 or more range.



can be identified in any season. Beyond morphology, the two species also have slightly different ecological niches. Sharplobed hepatica grows in deciduous and often rocky forests, where there is some enrichment in the soil, while blunt-lobed hepatica favors drier, less rich sites.

When hepaticas bloom in early spring, pollinators can be scarce. One theory for their color variety is that different colors attract different pollinators. Because resources are limited for pollinators at this time of year, hepaticas don't need to put any energy towards nectar production – when a pollinator finds a flower in a shade it likes, no extra incentives are needed. Hepaticas are also perfect flowers, meaning they contain both male and female parts and are capable of self-pollination.

When hepaticas fruit, they bend under the weight of their achenes, dry, one-seeded fruits. Each achene has an elaiosome, an attached deposit rich in protein and fat, which makes it an appeal-

ing meal for an insect. Hepaticas rely on ant-dispersal (*myrmecochory*). An ant brings the achene back to its nest, consumes the elaiosome, and then discards the achene with other nutrient-rich waste – meaning it's in an ideal location to grow next year.

These achenes must be exposed to cold to germinate successfully, so we have our winters to thank for their success. While you search the forest floor for hepatica flowers this spring and enjoy what Burroughs called a "concert sweet without sound," remember that their namesake leaves will remind us of the delights of this brief flowering season all year round.

Catherine Wessel is the assistant editor at Northern Woodlands. Illustration by Adelaide Murphy Tyrol. The Outside Story is assigned and edited by Northern Woodlands magazine and sponsored by the Wellborn Ecology Fund of New Hampshire Charitable Foundation: nhcf.org.



vated me to chop my poles down 2 inches, and man, did that make a difference. Instead of rising for my pole plant, I was now sinking and finishing off my turns beautifully. I felt so much better and smoother, just like a weight had been taken off my shoulders. Man, have I been so stubborn for way too long.

And once you are willing to experiment, you have to keep that going, right? Well, after skiing one day with my sister and watching her pole plants in the moguls, I went and bought the exact same poles. They are hot pink and 42". I think they are

also children's poles, but that's what she had, so that's what I got (my sister was a nationally ranked bump skier back in the day).

I am amazing and cannot stop telling everyone how amazing short poles are! I am now in the moguls, right where I am supposed to be, rather than fumbling around like an alpine racer caught in a mogul field. It's so much fun! I have so much more confidence in my turns and even had the courage to follow some of my fellow KMS coaches (and Skiddy!!). How neat to feel that pull from the person in front of you as they ski along. You don't really feel that in ski racing, but you can through a mogul field!

That entire week of sunshine, I couldn't get enough time in the moguls. I went from hating myself on Lower East Fall to lapping it over and over again. I want the moguls. I mean, don't get me wrong—even though I'm feeling super awesome doesn't mean that I am actually awesome. I was having a blast on Lower East, thinking I was doing so well, when former US Freestyle Ski Team Member and Killington resident Alex Lewis

came flying by me. It was like a jet engine passing and one of the coolest feelings.
Okay, it was also mixed with pride since I coached Alex when he was in Ministars, but I had to stop and laugh at how different our turns were.

The whole short pole experience is

The whole short pole

experience is amazing.

I'm only slightly annoyed

at myself for being so

stubborn and not taking

my sister's advice.

amazing. I'm only slightly annoyed at myself for being so stubborn and not taking my sister's advice. Don't get me wrong —I'll be going back to my 46" GrassSticks in the fall when Killington reopens, but Short Poles will be back every

spring to rip some bumps with some of the best mogul skiers in the world. Until then, I'm here to enjoy every inch of snow we have left. See you in the Canyon!

Merisa is a longtime Killington resident, global real estate advisor, town official, and Coach PomPom. She can be found on social media at @femaleskibum or at Merisa.
Sherman@SothebysRealty.com.



Employment

LINE COOKS, DISH-WASHERS, DAYTIME PREP COOK wanted. Worthy Kitchen is looking to fill these positions. Experiences preferred, not necessary Benefits include dental insurance, paid sick time. flexible schedule, paid time off, monthly gas card for fulltime kitchen team, potential performance bonus, referral bonus and employee discounts. If interested, please email Richard at richarde@ worthykitchen.com.

TOWN OF CHITTENDEN seeks Select Board Assistant (5-8 hours per week). Send cover letter and resume to clerk@chittendenvt. org. Computer experience, strong writing skills essential. Position open until filled.

For Sale

CHAIRLIFTS FOR SALE. We have a chairlift for sale from Killington Resort. These are double chairlifts in great condition. Willing to drive to you for a fee or you can come get them. \$300 each. Call Jason if interested. 802-342-3456.

Real Estate

KILLINGTON PICO RE-**ALTY** Offering professional buyer and seller representation in Killington and the surrounding communities since 2013. Looking to sell? With our unique marketing plan, your property will be promoted in print and online. Ready to buy? Our fulltime Realtors have special training in buyer representation to ensure you have a positive buying experience. Call us today to learn more. 2814 Killington Road (next to Choices Restaurant). 802-422-3600 www.KillingtonPicoRealtv.com

KILLINGTON VALLEY REAL ESTATE Specializing in the Killington region for Sales and Listings for Homes, Condos, Land, Commercial as well as Winter seasonal rentals. Call, email or stop in. We are the red farmhouse located next to the Wobbly Barn. PO Box 236, 2281 Killington Rd, Killington. 802-422-3610, bret@killingtonvalleyrealestate.com

KW VERMONT LUXU-RY (KELLER WILLIAMS REALTY). Specializing in listing and selling Homes, Investment Properties, Condos, Land, and Commercial Properties in the Killington, Okemo and Woodstock Areas. Our Killington office is located at 1995 US Route 4, Killington. Contact us anytime for all of your real estate needs. Free Market Consultations. Marni@ PeakPropertyRealEstate. com or 802-353-1604.

PRESTIGE REAL ESTATE OF KILLINGTON, 2922 Killinaton Rd., Killinaton, We're different. We only deal with Killington real estate, the town we love and call home. We concentrate on only one thing: property sales. And we do it well. Our focus allows us to spend more time understanding your needs either as a buyer or as a seller of Killington VT real estate. Specializing in the listing & sales of Killington Condos, Homes, & Land. Call 802-422-3923. prestigekillington.com.

SKI COUNTRY REAL ESTATE 335 Killington Rd., Killington. 802-775-5111. SkiCountryRealEstate.com – 9 agents servicing: Killington, Bridgewater, Mendon, Pittsfield, Plymouth, Stockbridge, Woodstock areas. Sales & Winter Seasonal Rentals. Open Monday-Saturday: 10 am – 4 pm. Sunday by appointment.

Services

BEAUREGARD PAINTING, 30 years experience. 802-436-1337

MASONRY. BRICK BLOCK STONE. New construction. Repairs. Call or text free estimates 802-431-3829

Wanted

GARDEN HELPER WANT-ED for residential garden in Mendon, 4-8 hours per week. 802-775-1795

For Rent

KILLINGTON OFFICE SPACE! 300 square feet of dedicated office space. plus bathroom, kitchen, and storage for rent. Office is on the second floor of the Mountain Times newspaper building located at 5465 U.S Route 4 on the flats Quiet, professional working environment must be maintained. Willing to renovate to reflect the needs of your business. Some office furniture can be provided. Option for premium signage on Route 4 available to help promote your business. If interested, please email jason@mountaintimes.info or call the office at 422-2399.

STORAGE UNITS AVAIL-ABLE and garage space for rent starting at \$75.00 per month. If interested, email or call paquettepropertymanagement.com or 802-855-8113.

PUBLISHER'S NOTICE

All real estate advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation, or discrimination because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination." This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis.

CARPETKINGOFVT.COM



CREATIVE WOOD FLOORS & MORE

Chris Messer, Owner

Interior/Exterior Painting Install Refinish Floors/Windows/Doors/Siding **Decks/Tile Work/Carpentry/Pressure** Washing/Stonework

802.345.8916

Fully Insured | Free Estimates christophermesser71@yahoo.com





Commercial Carpet

No Wax Vinyl Flooring

Luxury Vinyl Tile

GREAT SELECTION

THE CARPET KING

OF VERMONT

INSTALLATION & REPAIR • FULLY

Plush Stainmaster

Hardwood Floors

802-770-8088 LICENSED

www.]Wplumb.com



WATER WELLS PUMPS COMPLETE WATER SYSTEMS HYDRO FRACKING GEOTHERMAL

East Poultney, VT 05741 802-287-4016 parkerwaterwells.com



144 Main St. • P.O. Box 77 • Bethel, VT 05032 Providing Insurance for your Home, Auto or Business

Short Term Rentals • High Value Homes **Free Insurance Quotes**

Call Mel or Matt 802-234-5188

www.washburnandwilson.com

Plumbing and Heating, Inc.

Michael J. Belanger

Residential/Commercial/ Backflow Testing

VT Master Plumber Serving Central VT 802-797-8292



Iron & Sulphur Removal • Water Pressure Tanks • Water Softeners UV Light Systems • Arsenic & Radon Removal

FREE ESTIMATES

Jeffery L. Leonard, Proprietor **Professional Service Since 1983**

Professional Solutions to your Water Quality Problems

(802) 236-0426





#1 RENTAL AND MANAGEMENT OFFICE IN KILLINGTON FOR 45+ YEARS

- VACATION RENTALS
- Property Management
- CLEANING SERVICES

KILLINGTONGROUP.COM

KILLINGTON ROAD - (802) 422-2300



- Cabinets
- Countertops
- Flooring

Appliances Wood floors

- Hardware
- Plumbing Fixtures
- Installation

Kelly & Nick | 802-245-4474 125 Valley View Drive, Mendon, Vermont kndesigns125@gmail.com



REFUSE & RECYCLING

ge needs since 1998. Call Today: 802-422-2230





Valcour Enterprises LLC

Specializing in cleaning, servicing, and maintaining heat pumps for clean and healthy air quality.

Eric Valcour-Owner valcourent@gmail.com | 802-246-7430



Free Estimates | Fully Insured | All Calls Returned

- ◆Preventative
 ◆Siding
 ◆Framing
 ◆Structural Maintenance • Decks
 - Eric Schambach | (802) 342-6026 | visionbuildersvt.com





Professional Service, Professional Results For All Your Plumbing & Heating Needs Specializing in Home Efficiency & Comfort

> 24 Hour Emergency Service (802) 353-0125

'Secret Mall Apartment' takes street art to a new level

Director Jeremy Workman's documentary, "Secret Mall Apartment," spins a crazy yarn about a group of Rhode Island street artists who, in a brazen and ingenious-level piece of establishment corporate defiance, fooled the Providence Place security for four years by

building a secret apartment

within a hidden nook of the mall

Screens and Streams Artist Michael Townsend By James Kent is the brainchild behind this

clandestine operation, which was born out of his and a group of his fellow Rhode Island School of Design graduate friends' frustration with the gentrification and supposed urban beautification of an area of downtown Providence they cherished as their underground art playground.

The mall, which Providence lawmakers hoped would revitalize the downtown, was a massive undertaking, and for a time, it brought people to the downtown. Of course, history is what it is; we all know what happened to the state of shopping malls. In the most ironic twists of a story filled with twists and turns, the Providence Place Mall would eventually have to look at unique revenue-generating schemes, including apartments, to survive.

I've been to Providence Place, and it is a behemoth of a thing. It's not hard to

imagine getting lost there or figuring out how to stash away a hidden apartment.

> And that's just what Townsend and his renegade band of enthusiasts

do. Over four years, they slowly evolved their project, which began as a secret hangout, to one where the mission and goal become,

"How do we make this a legitimate apartment?" It would be a shame to spoil all of the fun by telling you what they do, but let's say Townsend's obsession includes smuggling furniture into

the space and eventually building a cinder block wall with a working locked door to complete the ruse.

As the events of this documentary occur prior to the invention of the smartphone, the video cameras used by Townsend and friends are a bit low-tech, but it's a wonder that they were able to document their process at all. So, while the imagery is a bit low-tech, the results are still amusing and, I'll admit, at times suspenseful. It's fun to watch the team elude mall security, even when it looks like they've been caught red-handed.

"Secret Mall Apartment" is a fast watch, clocking in at a tight 91 minutes. Most of the focus is on Townsend and his friends, with modern interviews mixed with footage taken by them during the four years they found



Courtesy Secret Mall Apartment

The documentary "Secret Mall Apartment" is available to rent on demand.

and built their secret mall hideaway and eventually were discovered. It would have been fascinating to hear the other side of the story from the mall security team that let this charade go undetected for four years. Still, there was probably too much embarrassment over the incident for security people to want to sit for an interview. Although

Townsend was banned permanently from the mall after being apprehended, all may be forgiven. "Secret Mall Apartment" had a premier event at the Providence Place Theater, which was about as meta as you get. Look for this one on your on-demand and streamers.

It's a hidden gem.



change and human development.

"We're seeing changes in hydroperiods," said Kevin Tolan, a staff biologist at the Vermont Center for Ecostudies, referring to times when land is waterlogged.

Less snowfall and warmer winters shrink spring runoff and dry up vernal pools, leaving less time for herptiles to breed successfully and survive.

Early warm spells often cause herps to migrate too soon, only for temperature to drop again and cause more deaths. Increased flooding across the state - also tied to climate change — has effectively sterilized streams, cleaning rocks and getting rid of leaf matter and other

Vermont's herptile populations remain healthier than those in many more heavily developed states.



organic material that herptiles rely on for food, Andrews, the atlas manager, said.

Flooding also flushes salamanders downstream, killing many. Those that survive and return to their homes find them unsuitable.

Development often isolates breeding areas, forcing herps to make dangerous road crossings during their migrations.

Building over vernal pools directly destroys the basin herptiles rely on. Development within 400 to 500 feet of a pool, known as the "life zone," can significantly disturb their habitat, Tolan said.

Still, Vermont's herptile populations remain healthier than those in many more heavily developed states.

Only a few herptile species, such as the boreal chorus frog and Fowler's toad, are believed to have disappeared in Vermont in recent decades. The frog, for example, hasn't been seen or heard here in over 25 years.

In 2019, the Vermont Center for Ecostudies launched the Vernal Pool Monitoring Project to track herptile populations. Volunteers visit pools throughout the spring, recording egg masses, frog calls and water temperatures to monitor the timing of events and population trends.

Protecting herp habitats, after all, first requires identifying them.

'Vernal pools qualify as protected wetlands, but they must be officially mapped and documented," Tolan said.

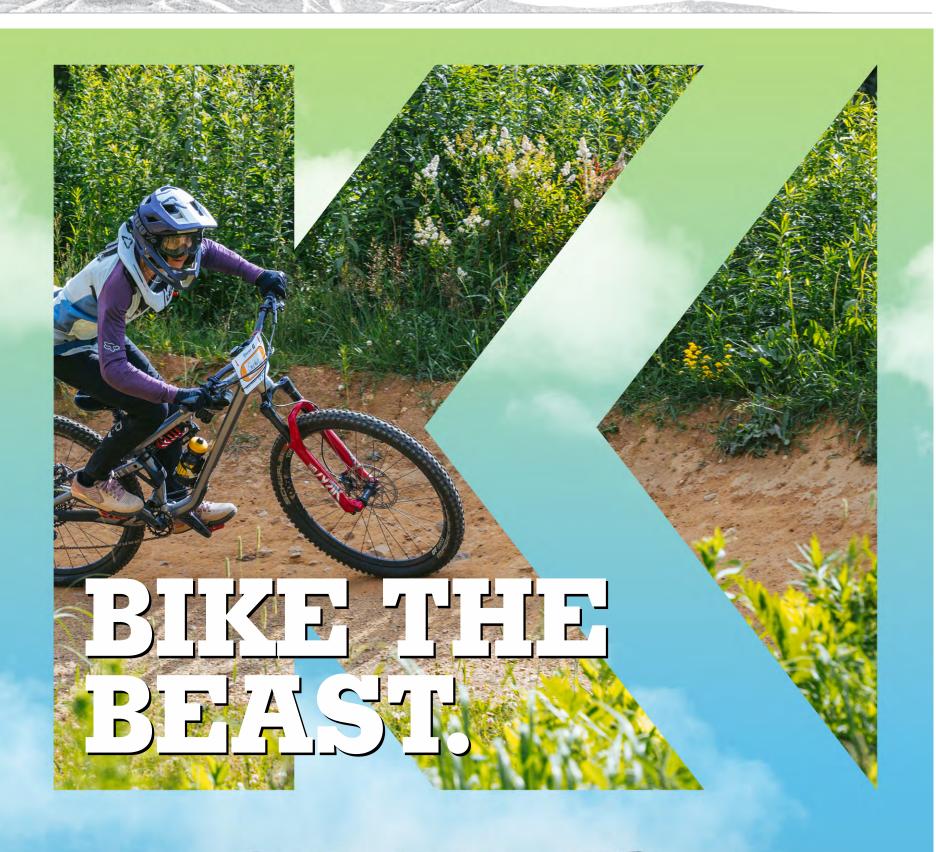
Citizens play a growing role in conservation by helping with monitoring and crossings, or by submitting sightings through platforms like iNaturalist.

Projects including road closures on rainy nights and organized crossing events also help raise awareness of the importance of herp migrations. And groups statewide keep the conversation going. University of Vermont students run a club dedicated to herps. Last month, a crew of people came to Huntington for a new Audubon Vermont event called "Women Who Herp."

In Monkton, wildlife underpasses have been installed to help animals safely cross busy roads, reducing roadkill and preserving migration routes, Andrews said.

"Introducing people to herptiles is key to conservation," he said.







Get a Bike Park season pass for unlimited access to 35 miles, 35 trails and 1,972 vertical drop of gravity-fueled big mountain terrain for all ability levels. Buy for the best price through June 2nd.

