



CANDIDATES

ANSWER QUESTIONS

The Killington Select Board is poised to add two more members to its board. Four candidates are facing off for the open 1-year and 2-year seats. Their answers to 10 questions will help guide voters.

Page 4



VTSU CASTLETON GRADUATION IS SATURDAY

Saturday, May 17 at 10 a.m. students at VTSU's Castleton campus will celebrate commencement. John Casella, CEO of Casella Waste Systems and a Castleton alumnus will be the guest speaker.



COCKTAILS TO-GO!

Friday, May 9, the state Legislature passed a bill to permanently allow cocktails to-go. The bill now heads to Gov. Scott's desk. A temporary measure passed during Covid is set to expire on July 1, 2025. Since the pandemic, 29 states and D.C. now permanently allow cocktails to-go.

Killington resort celebrates muddy finish to ski season, looks ahead to summer

Staff report

May rains washed away the remaining snow at Killington, forcing the resort to shut down Saturday, May 10.

Just a week prior on Sunday, May 4, the resort had been hopeful for a longer spring season, posting on Facebook: "We're keeping the stoke alive with daily operations through Sunday, May 11. After that, lifts will be open Friday to Sunday, running until 5 p.m. for the remainder of the season. Spring conditions are in beautiful shape thanks to hard work from our Mountain Ops teams."

That was before the full 5+ inches of rain fell, wiping out that possibility. The resort closed Wednesday-Friday to pre-Skiing ends → 10

Pittsfield reverses course on local option tax

By Brett Yates

On second thought...

Approved just two months ago on Town Meeting Day, Pittsfield's local option tax didn't live long enough to see implementation. Following a petition drive led by business owners, 37 residents voted on May 10 to overturn the 1% surcharge on rooms, restaurant meals, and alcohol, which would have taken

effect on July 1.

Officials counted 21 ballots in favor of the tax and one abstention. Pittsfield's town hall accommodated a bigger crowd for Saturday's special town meeting than it had in March, with eight additional voters in attendance.

In April, the town clerk verified 47 signatures from locals demanding a reconsid-

eration of the Town Meeting Day article, which had passed on a voice vote. According to Select Board Chair Ann Kuendig, only four of those signatories, representing more than 10% of the registered voters in the town of 504 residents, thus triggering a mandatory revote by state law, had attended the regular Option tax → 7

Rutland's Vermont Farmers Food Center receives \$466,143 in Resilient Food Systems grants

Polly Mikula

The Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets (VAAF) and the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture (USDA) announced May 5 awards of the Resilient Food Systems Infrastructure Program (RFSI) in Vermont. The program targets two segments of the Vermont food system: Infrastructure and equipment.

For infrastructure, Rutland's Vermont Farmers Food Center (VFFC) was awarded the largest grant among the six total food system organizations who collectively were granted \$2.1 million for larger-scale projects that extend capacity and infrastructure for aggregation, processing, manufacturing, storing, transporting, wholesaling, or distribution of locally produced food.

For equipment, 14 Vermont food system organizations are receiving just under \$1 million in grants collectively for "special purpose" equipment that must be used for mid-supply chain activities, such as processing, storage, transportation, aggregation, distribution, or wholesaling of Vermont or regional food products, according to a press release from the state Agency of RFSI grants → 10



VERMONT FARMER'S FOOD CENTER
Food Aggregation & Storage Facility - Southeast View

Rendering by RCWA, courtesy VFFC

A rendering of the new produce packing center, by Robert Carl Williams Associates of Pittsfield, will be located behind the main VFFC building.



Courtesy Vermont NEA

Rutland teachers prepared to strike Wednesday

After 18 months of negotiations, the union and the board have been unable to work out a deal

By Olivia Gieger/VTDigger

The Rutland school board moved Friday, May 9, to impose a contract on Rutland City's teachers, a day after an overwhelming majority of the union's members voted to strike next week without a deal.

The two sides have been negotiating a new teachers' contract for 18 months.

"After 18 months of fruitless talks with a board

that seems more eager to fight, manipulate, threaten, and walk away than reach a settlement with us, we have had enough and we're not going to take it anymore," said Sue Tanen, the union's elected president, in a press release issued May 8.

If the board fails to reach a settlement with the union before the start of school Wednesday, May

14, it will be Vermont's first teachers' strike in nearly a decade. The Burlington Education Association struck in 2017.

"We've been ready to settle since we began. We've been ready to agree to the recommendations of a neutral factfinder, despite being far less Teacher strike → 6

Table of contents

Local news	2
State	7
Opinion	8
Puzzles	11
Events calendar	12
Music calendar	15
Arts, dining, entertainment	16
Pets	24
Horoscopes	25
Columns	26
Real estate	28
Service directory	30
Classifieds	31

StartUp Rutland’s gALPHA accelerator showcased the next generation of entrepreneurs

Following the success of its gBETA accelerator program last fall, StartUp Rutland—an initiative of the Chamber & Economic Development of the Rutland Region—launched a four-week sprint this spring unlike any other: the gALPHA accelerator, powered by gener8tor, a global accelerator and venture capital fund. Designed for aspiring entrepreneurs and early-stage founders, the intensive program brought together 24 participants across 18 startups for a crash course in ideation, validation, and early product development.

gALPHA is completely free and requires no equity from its founders. Instead, it focuses on rapid execution and deep mentorship, empowering founders to go from idea to Minimum Viable Product (MVP) or pivot their existing business model through a structured blend of customer discovery, product development, pitch refinement and much more.

Participants came from across the Northeast—14 of them from Vermont and New Hampshire, with the rest dialing in from New York, Massachusetts, and even California and Florida. Despite



By Mose Cassaro
Cristina Kumka presents Bow Wow Babysitters at the final pitch showcase, May 1.

the geographic diversity, one thing united them all: the drive to solve meaningful problems with innovative solutions.

The cohort featured both first-time builders and experienced founders testing ideas or making strategic pivots. A few Rutland-based startups stood out:

- Thicket Adventure: A plus-size outdoor clothing startup with strong existing traction that reduced customer acquisition costs by 50% in the program.
 - Bow Wow Babysitters: A highly
- Entrepreneurs → 10

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Sherburne UCC “Little White Church,” Killington, VT

MOUNTAIN TIMES

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Paying back the bond: A look at the safety nets

A common concern regarding the Rutland City TIF District is: what happens if the development doesn’t generate enough tax revenue to pay back the bond? This week’s article seeks to answer that question, as well as explain some of the safety nets that are in place to make sure the City remains financially secure.

By law, the municipality pledges its “full faith and credit” to back a TIF bond. That means the City’s general fund would step in to cover any shortfall if the TIF revenue isn’t enough. However, there are several important safeguards in place to protect taxpayers.

Development agreements help share the risk

With the Master TIF District in place, Rutland City can now begin with the next step: phase filing. This is the step in the process where the City will finalize plans for Phase One (the downtown hotel). A major piece in that planning process is for the City and the hotel developers to finalize the terms of a development agreement. This is the first safety net.

Frequently, a municipality enters into one or more contractual agreements with developer(s), known as a development agreement, which lays out two critical and mutual commitments: how the developer commits moving forward on the project, and how the City will finalize the

Rutland 360 → 10



Vermont Secretary of State visits Rutland businesses as part of statewide listening tour

Vermont Secretary of State Sarah Copeland Hanzas visited four local businesses in Rutland on May 9 as part of an ongoing statewide listening tour to gather feedback from small business owners following recent upgrades to the Secretary of State’s online business filing system. The tour reflects her office’s effort to streamline processes and strengthen support for Vermont’s business community.

The Rutland visits included Brothers Carpentry and Renovations, Village Snack Bar, Kaleidoscope Art Supply, and Miss Jackie’s Studio of Dance. Two businesses were newly established within the past year, while the other two were longtime operations that had recently registered new LLCs. Copeland Hanzas met with owners and staff to hear about their experiences registering with the state, challenges they’ve faced, and ideas for improving access to state services.

“Each of these businesses emphasized their commitment to Rutland and the support they’ve experienced in the community here,” said Copeland Hanzas. “We were able to discuss not only my office’s business services division, but also some of our other points of contact, such as the Office of Professional Regulation. Small businesses like those we visited today bring immense value to our state, and when it comes to my office and our state government, we’re working to make sure they find support, and not barriers.”

The listening tour will continue across the state.

For more information, visit: sos.vermont.gov.



Henry and Jo Biathrow

Celebrate the lives of Henry and Jo Biathrow

Saturday, June 7, from 12:30 to 4:30 p.m.—KILLINGTON—The family of Henry and Jo Biathrow welcome the Killington community to join them in remembering and celebrating the lives of Henry and Jo at the Killington Grand Hotel.

Family and friends are warmly invited to gather, share memories, and honor two incredible lives.

The Grand Hotel is kindly offering discounted rooms if you would like to stay for the night.

If you would like to join the celebration, please send a personal message to Deb McGillivray's Facebook page or email bjbiathrow@gmail.com.

AOT plans to replace four bridges on Route 100, 100A

Public meeting is May 19 in Plymouth

The Vermont Agency of Transportation (AOT) will host a public meeting Monday, May 19, at 6 p.m. about four upcoming bridge projects on Route 100 and 100A in Plymouth and Bridgewater, addressing the short- and long-term construction schedule and traffic impacts.

The presentation will be held at the Plymouth Select Board meeting at Plymouth Town Hall, 68 Town Office Road. Folks can attend either in-person or virtually via Zoom (plymouthvt.org/selectboard-agendas).

Project details:

- AOT will replace or reconstruct four bridges, that were damaged by rain and flooding in 2023, during the next three construction seasons, 2025 through 2027.
- On Route 100A:
- Bridge No. 9 spans Pinney Hollow Brook in Plymouth. It is approximately 2.95 miles southwest of the intersection with Route 4 and 3.7 miles north of Route 100. Construction will occur this summer.
- On Route 100:
- Bridge No. 112 spans Tinker Brook in Plymouth. It is approximately 1.4 miles north of the intersection with Route 100A. Construction is planned for the summer of 2026.
 - Bridge No. 116 spans Madden Brook in Bridgewater. It is approximately 4 miles north of the intersection with Route 100A. Construction is planned for the summer of 2026.
 - Bridge No. 108 spans Money Brook in Plymouth. It is approximately 1 mile south of the intersection with Route 100A. Construction is planned in 2027.



By Bob Weinmann

'Here, fishy'

It's Oh-FISH-al, the season has started! The Mack family (Dad Chris; Natalie, 7; and Jacob, 4) smiled with their catch at the Kiwanis Fishing Derby, Saturday May 3.

Your Summer Lunch Spot.

The Fairway Grill - Now Open!

Join us for lunch on the deck with classic favorites, local beers on tap, and refreshing cocktails at the Woodstock Country Club!

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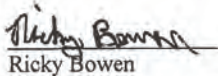
TOWN OF
KILLINGTON
VERMONT

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.


Ricky Bowen


Patrick M. Cushing


Jim Haff

Candidates for two new seats on the Killington Select Board answer questions

Staff report

On Wednesday, May 28, Killington residents will vote on who will fill two new seats on the Select Board. A measure to expand the Select Board from three to five members was approved at Town Meeting Day. Polls for this special election will be open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. at the Killington Town

Office. Ballots are also available in advance at Town Hall. Bill Vines and David McComb are running for the two-year seat while Jon Wysocki and Jay Hickory are running for the one-year seat. The following are short answers to questions posed by

the Mountain Times to help voters better understand each candidate's motivations and qualifications for being on the board as well as their intentions to address both opportunities and obstacles facing the town if they were to be elected to the board.

Jay Hickory, 1-year seat

1. Why do you want to be on the Killington Select Board? What do you feel best qualifies you to represent the residents of Killington?

1. Honesty, leadership, fiscal responsibility
2. Common sense, no nonsense, cooperative

2. Are there specific problems or concerns that are motivating you to run now?

I am tired of being lied to by certain people. We need the truth to come out so we can move on with the important issues that face the town.

3. What are the biggest obstacles the town faces and how do you plan to address them as a select board member? What are the town's biggest opportunities?

The biggest obstacles are to make sure the town is financially sound, and we have enough money until tax revenues come in again.

The biggest opportunities are to make the Town of Killington a safe and welcoming place to raise a family.

4. How do you see your role on the Select Board under our town manager form of government?

I see the board supporting as well as guiding the town manager. Creating policy, enforcing current policy, and overseeing the Town's finances.

5. How do you feel about the town's "Killington Forward" initiative and the TIF funding that helps support it? What experience do you have that may aid in future discussions about development?

I support the village and the water project and affordable housing. I spent most of my adult career as a construction supervisor as well as owning my own business. I believe that experience will be very

beneficial.

6. What are your thoughts about the new town recreation center plans?

In light of our current financial situation, I don't believe that it would be feasible to move forward with this at this time.

7. What, if any, role should the Select Board play in helping remedy the current housing/workforce shortage? How do short-term rental regulations help or hurt?

I believe they go hand-in-hand. Airbnbs eliminated all of the long-term rentals so there is no housing for full time workers.

8. Conflict of interest has been a hot topic. Do you have any current conflicts of interest? If so, what are they? How will you handle those, or others that may arise, if elected to the board?

I do not have any conflicts of interest, but I feel that there are some conflicts of interest. I think the answer is clear, that we enforce the policies that are in place.

9. Many are concerned about taxes and the affordability of Killington. Would you advocate for cuts to the municipal budget or planned future projects? If so, which ones? Would you advocate for spending for the future betterment of the town? If so, which ones?

I think the tax issue is mostly driven by the state education tax and is a state-wide issue as well as a local issue. I think we will have to be selective and thorough when moving forward with future projects.

10. Is there anything else you'd like voters to know about you?

I grew up in Bridgewater, Vermont. I moved here after my wife and I were married and we raised three children here. I worked in the construction industry for over 45 years. I am currently semi-retired and work at the town transfer station.

Jon Wysocki, 1-year seat

1. Why do you want to be on the Killington Select Board? What do you feel best qualifies you to represent the residents of Killington?

I believe in volunteerism, what better way to help guide our community through its challenges/opportunities both today as well in the future than to serve on the Select Board if provided the opportunity by my fellow townspeople.

I have a unique background and skill set that I believe can benefit our community. I have a firm knowledge of costing, project management/scheduling, staff management, and marketing from my corporate background, as well as an intricate knowledge of negotiations, sales and acquisition, land use, permitting, development, and construction, through my real estate services business.

2. Are there specific problems or concerns that are motivating you to run now?

My objective is simple: I intend to serve the residents/taxpayers of Killington to produce the highest and best possible outcomes for all matters which the board interacts. Our town has a unique profile, with 1,300+/- residents. We are a small town. However, our business and commerce are that of a small city. It takes a unique skill set and personality to contribute to the board in such a way that meaningful and productive outcomes can be produced. If my fellow townspeople have been watching Select Board meetings (links available on the town's website if you have not been able to attend) over the past 6-12 months you know there has been rift brewing over a number of issues, some of these are management related and some appear to have become personal. I am concerned that my counterpart may be more focused and motivated by personal grievances than actually looking out for the residents and taxpayers of Killington. We have a lot going on; there is a need to stay focused on things like the TIF management, Killington Forward, and other large capital projects; we have no time for distractions. Killington needs team players who want to produce results.

3. What are the biggest obstacles the town faces and how do you plan to address them as a Select Board member? What are the town's biggest opportunities?

One clear obstacle we have had as a town has been in the leadership role. A revolving door of sorts, resulting in a lack of structure with how we operate the business of Killington. I believe with the addition of David Atherton as the town manager, we finally have an equilibrium in that space. Allowing



Submitted

Jon Wysocki

the town to develop a proper organizational structure, policies, and procedures will result in a more productive organization and reduce the board's interaction with day-to-day activities. Looking forward, let's state the obvious: we are literally the most incredible place to live in the Northeast, with that comes endless opportunities and risks. We need to strike a balance between maintaining our sense of community and the necessary growth of the future. The Village presents a tremendous opportunity to showcase our community, but we need to properly and sustainably fund the infrastructure that goes along with it, we must support the young people in our community by finding creative ways to develop affordable housing for workers, we need to retain the children we raise here who may be our future entrepreneurs, we need to ensure the Access Road businesses are able to thrive in the face of the Village retail center. Our opportunities are endless, but we must have measured planning to produce the best outcomes.

4. How do you see your role on the Select Board under our town manager form of government?

The voters of Killington decided the "town manager format" was the way we will manage our government. I concur. We are all familiar with the term "stay in your lane," the town manager is compensated to run the daily affairs of Killington, generally they should have the latitude to do so, it is the Select Board's role to establish policy that the manager then executes. I see my role, and the board's at large, to establish policy and counsel the town manager accordingly.

Wysocki → 9



SELECT BOARD CANDIDATES FORUM

MAY 20TH - 7:00PM AT
KILLINGTON WELCOME CENTER

MEET

Get to know your candidates

ASK

Listen and learn from Q&A submitted by locals!

ELECT

Cast your ballot on Special Election Day
May 28, 2025

BE VOTE-READY!

At the public forum residents can hear directly from the 4 candidates running for the two newly added seats on the Killington Select Board.

2-year Seat:

- Bill Vines
- David McComb

1-Year Seat:

- Jay K. Hickory
- Jon Wysocki



Bill Vines, 2-year seat

1. Why do you want to be on the Killington Select Board? What do you feel best qualifies you to represent the residents of Killington?

When I announced my candidacy, I said that my goal would be to focus on three core principles within town government: respect, transparency, and sound management. Killington is a multi-dimensional entity. It is a town, of course, and a source of pride for many residents... it is a resort we enjoy... it is a source of revenue for the state of Vermont. It is also experiencing rapid change with the village development, changes in short-term rental practices, and population changes in response to Covid. The Killington Select Board needs to keep up. To be successful, process matters; or the town's future could be at great risk. Process starts by having a Select Board that operates based upon being respectful to all, transparently communicating town activities, and working with the town manager to make sure sound management practices are followed. Should I be elected, that is what I want for the Killington Select Board.

My personal experiences have given me the tools for success. I've worked as an engineer at Raytheon; I've traveled the world as an international marketing director for Motorola promoting American products around the globe; I've sat at the table with the town, resort, and business community while president of the KPAA; and I have successfully managed the transition to personal retirement after owning and running a Killington small business (Birch Ridge Inn). All these experiences have prepared me to represent the residents of Killington on the Select Board.

2. Are there specific problems or concerns that are motivating you to run now?

First and foremost, we must reinvigorate town government if the town is to be successful going forward. Killington uses a "Town Manger" form of government. Dave Atherton, the recently hired town manager, has his job cut out for him to reign in all the projects that are managed out of his office. Providing Dave with the support he needs to put in place sound management practices at town hall is a big concern of mine and a huge motivating factor for me to run for the Select Board.

3. What are the biggest obstacles the town faces and how do you plan to address them as a Select Board member? What are the town's biggest opportunities?

The biggest obstacle the town faces is balance. A lot of people, including many Vermonters who do not live in Killington, have this image that anyone who lives here is wealthy. And while many second homeowners are people of means, Killington itself is run by regular Vermonters who are often overlooked when others think of Killington. This obstacle is also Killington's biggest opportunity.

In addition to feeding the fascination people have with the resort, new projects



Submitted

Bill Vines

must also respect the needs of residents so they will continue to willingly welcome guests to Killington. Finding balance for both residents and guests is the key opportunity for Killington to get right going forward.

4. How do you see your role on the Select Board under our town manager form of government?

There are several... In the near term, as I said previously, I am committed to see the Select Board provide the necessary support to allow the town manager to put in place sound management practices at Town Hall. The practices need to provide transparency so that residents can be kept informed about activities taking place, and they also must show respect for all.

In the long term, I think the town of Killington would be best served with the Select Board resuming its traditional "advise and consent" role with the town manager handling the day-to-day management of town departments.

5. How do you feel about the town's "Killington Forward" initiative and the TIF funding that helps support it? What experience do you have that may aid in future discussions about development?

In a changing world, the town of Killington must change to stay current. The fact investors see opportunities in town recognize that Killington's future potential is bright. Both the "Killington Forward" and TIF funding programs reinforce that at the local level.

In my pre-Killington days, I managed many large projects for multinational corporations. I respect the strength of listening to project stakeholders and creating processes to manage projects thru to successful completion. That is a big reason why I believe in making sure our town government puts sound management practices in place. Both "Killington Forward" and the TIF funding are keys to Killington's future success. But they must be soundly managed to minimize risk, especially financial, to the residents of the town.

6. What are your thoughts about the new town recreation center plans?

Vines → 9



Dave McComb, 2-year seat

1. Why do you want to be on the Killington Select Board? What do you feel best qualifies you to represent the residents of Killington?

I'm running for the Killington Select Board because I care deeply about Killington's future. As a town, we're facing big decisions right now, including infrastructure, housing, staffing, fiscal responsibility, and especially how we balance growth with what makes Killington special. I want to make sure residents have a strong voice at the table.

What best qualifies me to represent the residents of Killington is a combination of real-world experience and local investment. I've run companies, built teams, served on boards, served on the Planning Commission, and navigated complicated regulatory and budget challenges. I'm a full-time resident, a parent, and someone who's active in town life. I understand what it's like to raise a family here, to run a business here, and to worry about where the town's headed. I work hard, I show up, I listen, and I try to ask good questions. I'm not afraid to challenge the status quo when I believe it's in the town's best interest.

2. Are there specific problems or concerns that are motivating you to run now?

Yes, a few.

First, I'm glad the town voted to expand the Select Board from three to five members. The scale of the projects we're taking on from Killington Forward to major roadwork to new infrastructure, demands broader representation and oversight. It's just too much for three people to manage well.

Second, I've heard concerns from town staff about workplace culture and communication. When people working for the town don't feel supported or heard, it affects everything, from day-to-day operations to long-term planning. I think we need to make sure leadership is fostering a healthy, professional environment where people can do their best work.

And finally, we need to bring stronger fiscal discipline to the table. I've reviewed the budgets and sat through the meetings. We're making big financial commitments, and I want to make sure we're asking the right questions, avoiding waste, and being smart with taxpayer money.

3. What are the biggest obstacles the town faces and how do you plan to address them as a Select Board member? What are the town's biggest opportunities?

One of the biggest challenges is execution. That is, translating plans into real results. We've got major infrastructure projects in motion, and if we don't manage them well, we risk cost overruns, missed deadlines, or outcomes that don't meet residents' needs. As a Select Board member, I'd bring project management experience and a focus on accountability, making sure we stay on track and that the public is kept in the loop.

Another obstacle is community trust.



Submitted

Dave McComb

Whether it's questions about budget decisions or how staff are treated, we need to rebuild confidence in town leadership. That starts with transparency, better communication, and more listening.

Killington has huge opportunities. We're in a position to shape what kind of town we want to be — not just a resort destination, but a sustainable year-round community. We've got the chance to improve housing options, grow our recreation economy beyond winter, and invest in infrastructure that supports residents and local businesses alike. If we get it right, Killington can be a model for how to grow without losing what makes a place feel like home.

4. How do you see your role on the Select Board under our town manager form of government?

The Select Board sets the direction, including big picture priorities, budgets, and policy, and the town manager carries out the day-to-day operations. I see my role as providing oversight, asking the right questions, and making sure the town manager has clear guidance and the support they need to succeed. It's not about micromanaging, it's about setting standards, being accessible to residents, and ensuring decisions are made in the best interest of the whole community.

5. How do you feel about the town's "Killington Forward" initiative and the TIF funding that helps support it? What experience do you have that may aid in future discussions about development?

I'm a huge proponent of "Killington Forward." It's a once-in-a-generation opportunity to invest in our town's future through better infrastructure, a stronger year-round economy, and a more livable town. TIF funding is a useful tool, but we have to manage it carefully and transparently. I bring experience in business, project management, and real estate, which means I can help ensure the project stays on track, the TIF is well-managed, and the benefits reach our local community.

6. What are your thoughts about the new town recreation center plans?

I'm really encouraged by the strong

McComb → 8

Teacher strikes:

from page 1

than we've sought," Tanen added. "And what has the board done instead? Proffer mistake-riddled offers because creating accurate salary schedules is 'hard,' according to the superintendent. Authorize their attorney — who has so far charged taxpayers over \$116,000 for his work representing the board — to issue threats of court injunctions and unilateral imposition of working conditions. And, sadly, walked away from Monday's mediation session."

According to Tanen, she and her colleagues are among the lowest paid in the state; have the least amount of sick leave in the region; and are unable to consistently collaborate for their students.

In a meeting, Friday afternoon, the Rutland Board of School Commissioners responded by imposing terms for this and the next school year on the teachers' union.

"The board has a fiduciary responsibility to make a fair contract that is sustainable," said Board Commissioner Charlene Seward, Friday. "We don't want taxes to go up, and that's what will happen. We don't want to make layoffs. There is not a secret pile of money we are sitting on."

The union's leadership objected to the School Board's vote, saying in a news release that imposing terms for two years — and not just one — defies Vermont law. They cited a primer of labor law provided by the Vermont Labor Relations Board.

Seward said the Board released two separate contracts (one for each year) to comply. She added that because Rutland's voters approved an education budget for the 2025-26 school year, the Board believes it can create a contract for that year.

The School Board and union had been expecting to continue working through the details after school Friday. But the Board now says the imposition of contract terms puts an end to those talks.

The teachers' union's statement said leaders still hope to



Courtesy Vermont-NEA

Rutland City educators stand outside the Rutland Intermediate School after authorizing a strike on May 8, 2025.

negotiate and avoid a strike starting May 14. The union posted a photo of their negotiators waiting to begin Friday evening talks with the Board, even though the Board said the talks would no longer be happening.

It is unclear when they will resume.

Seward said the Board tabled Friday's talks after not receiving a response from union representatives to an email about timing. However the union disputes this and provided VTDigger with emails from the lead negotiator to the

district superintendent, saying "The Board needs to send a team that is authorized to make a deal. We hope to see your team after school today."

The decision not to meet "was not on a contentious basis," Seward said. "We definitely want to keep talking, hopefully soon," she added.

The negotiations have exhausted the tools for mediation set out in state law, which concluded with an independent fact-finder whose report was delivered to each side last month. For the union, that meant the next step was deciding whether to strike. For the Board, it was imposing contract terms for a period of one year. Each tactic is designed to force an agreement.

The Board's new terms include a salary increase of 4.8% for the first year and 4% in the second year. It's a step back down from the offer the Board made earlier this week: 5% increases in base salaries for both school years, on the condition that a strike is avoided. They are also offering one additional sick day, rather than the fact-finder's recommended two.

The union is asking for larger salary increases to keep teachers' pay in line with their peers across the state, and in line with a living wage for Rutland. The union has agreed to the terms outlined by the independent fact-finder.

The primary dispute comes down to what those salary increases include. The union is asking for a percentage increase over and above the annual step up in wages that would occur each year. The Board is offering a percentage increase that includes the step increases. The Board's terms also outline deeper restructuring to these salary grid steps for incoming teachers.

"Our hope is that they reverse course," union president Sue Tanen said in the press release. "Otherwise, we will do what we promised — begin our strike on Wednesday."

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We met our match!

As I may have mentioned before, our House Appropriations Committee has a tradition of starting off each day with a short joke or riddle. Sometimes they are funny or get a laugh because they are lacking. It helps break the ice before we take testimony or discuss various expense priorities. Starting off the budget conference committee (three members of Senate Appropriations and three members of House Appropriations), last week to resolve differences in our versions of the budget, we thought we would try that routine with our Senate colleagues. Little did we know that the Senate Chair, Andy Perchlik, has a past as a stand-up comic. Not only could he answer many of our riddles, but he had his own that quickly came forward. We met our match and then some in this area!



By Rep. Jim Harrison

On the actual budget, I am pleased to report that many compromises were made by all sides, including the governor's team, to get us to the point that the six of us signed the report on Friday afternoon, May 9. It was a long week of meeting three times a day with other huddles in-between to resolve differences and come up with a new version of H.493 that will be presented to both chambers for approval this week. There is something in the package for everyone to take issue with as well as to like. After all, it is a \$9 billion package including federal funded programs, state transportation funding and education payments.

Probably no surprise to my colleagues in the House, I was the last one to get to a "yes" on the package. I strongly objected to a \$700K line item the Senate budget included to start up a climate superfund to eventually bill oil companies for past climate damage in Vermont. While the concept sounds good, the potential cost and likelihood of reward on this issue puts too much risk on Vermont taxpayers. It could cost Vermont many millions of dollars in future years with only a chance of success. As it is, we are already being sued by the U.S. Justice Dept. (along with 24 other states) over this first in the nation's law. On Thursday, we reached a compromise on the issue and agreed to split the difference to 350K. I want to thank my

House colleagues on the committee, Robin Scheu of Middlebury and Tiffany Bluemle of Burlington, along with the House Speaker Jill Krowinski, and the governor and his team

for working with me on it (the governor was not a fan of the new expense either).

Friday afternoon also saw conference committees resolve two other major money bills, transportation and capital construction. If this was a normal year, agreement on these three pieces of legislation would signal a week or less of the session left. However, with this year's education reform efforts still under consideration, as well as housing and health care reform, adjournment is likely to be extended by a couple of weeks.

Other issues of interest:

- The House and Senate approved the annual yield bill that sets the statewide property tax rates. Using one-time surplus funds, the Legislature lowered the average increase in tax rates to about 1%. Communities may see higher or lower rates depending on their individual school budgets and adjustments for the Common Level of Appraisal. Some lawmakers warned that utilizing surplus funds to bring down tax rates could cause even larger increases next year.
- H.218, which authorizes expenditures from the Opioid Abatement Special Fund, has been approved and sent to the governor. The legislation includes funds for the startup of the safe injection site in Burlington, which was passed last year over a veto by the governor.
- As of Friday, 32 bills have been passed by both chambers, with 15 signed into law thus far. There have been two vetoes (both were versions of the mid-year budget adjustment bills).
- With the money bills completed, let's hope the committees working on the other major issues like housing, education and health care can also find a way forward.

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



By Ashley Moore

House and Senate budget conferees shook hands after the successful completion of the conference report of the FY26 state budget.



By Brett Yates

During a special meeting on May 10, Pittsfield residents reversed course on a local option tax.

Option tax: from page 1

annual meeting.

Although all three members of the town's Select Board had supported the local option tax, they celebrated the petitioners' undertaking — and the additional civic discussion and participation that it had yielded — as a triumph of the democratic process.

"Democracy works when people get to have a vote and people listen to each other respectfully," Selectman AJ Ruben said. "It makes me so grateful to be part of this town."

Near the start of the meeting, business owner Katie Stiles of Pittsfield's Original General Store, The Backroom, and Vermont Farms Catering took the floor. A nonresident, Stiles had heard about the tax only after its approval and subsequently spearheaded the effort to repeal it.

"I think one of the big things was, as a business, we were never consulted about it," Stiles said.

She noted that, prior to the town's vote, she had already executed contracts for events that would take place in the latter half of 2025. Those contracts "never factored this in because it wasn't a thing that existed, and now we have to turn around to our clients and tell them, 'You have to pay more in addition to what you are already paying.'"

Stiles emphasized that her businesses already pay a number of taxes at the state level.

"To me, as a business that employs people who live in this town and people who live in the greater Vermont area, that does our very best to contribute positively to the operation of both Pittsfield and Vermont as a whole, as a small business, as people who want to see Vermont thrive — this, to us, feels very, very punitive," she added.

Mark Stugart, owner of the Clear River Inn and Tavern, agreed with Stiles's assessment.

"One percent is not the biggest amount in the world, but with inflation and the prices going up, it could make a difference," he said.

Much of the townspeople's subsequent debate, both during and after the meeting, seemed to hinge on the question of whether the local option tax constituted an exacerbation or a mitigation of what they saw as Vermont's cost-of-living problem.

"We are the 11th most expensive state to live in, and every day it becomes more and more challenging for people to live," one woman said in opposition to the tax. "It's 1% this year. It's 2% next year. It's 3% the

following year."

Kuendig tried to present the opposite case. As she saw it, the local option tax would pass some of the cost of Pittsfield's municipal government onto vacationers and motorists from other states, saving money for locals.

The Vermont Dept. of Taxes had estimated that the tax would raise \$20,000 to \$30,000 annually for the town. But per Selectwoman Joyce Stevens, that estimate did not factor in Pittsfield's Airbnbs, which she believed would contribute another \$20,000. By Kuendig's math, \$50,000 in local option revenue would reduce property taxes by \$96.50 for a homeowner with a house valued at \$250,000.

But Stiles countered that, amid other budgetary uncertainties, officials could not guarantee those savings. In conversations with the Mountain Times, one voter wondered whether the Select Board might use the local option revenue to increase spending instead of cutting taxes, and another pointed out that no one seemed to know what share of the new tax revenue would actually come from out-of-towners, as opposed to Pittsfield residents dining locally.

Townspeople cast their votes by circling "yes" or "no" on a small pink slip, instead of voting by voice as they had in March. Afterward, Stevens speculated that the change in method may have contributed to the changed outcome. Town Meeting Day attendees had supported the local option article in what one resident recalled as a "very lopsided" vote, and Stevens now wondered whether the absence of a secret ballot may have discouraged dissent.

"That is the reason we went to the ballot vote today — to make sure that no one felt uncomfortable about it," Stevens said.

Pittsfield officials haven't necessarily given up on the local option tax. Ruben brought up the possibility of a future Town Meeting Day article that would potentially seek to impose the surcharge strictly on hotel rooms (including Airbnbs), not on meals or alcoholic beverages. He promised that improved outreach would accompany such a proposal.

"We will certainly make sure that the affected businesses in town have personal knowledge," Ruben said. "It's not that hard to go across the street and talk to someone."

GUEST EDITORIAL

Vermont can hold polluters accountable

By Sen. Nader Hashim and Rep. Martin LaLonde

Editor's note: Senator Hashim is the chair of the state Senate Judiciary Committee and Rep. LaLonde is chair of the state House Judiciary Committee.

When floodwaters tore through Vermont in July 2023 and again exactly a year later, they left more than physical destruction in their wake. They also revealed to Vermonters the mounting price tag of climate change. While national media attention may have shifted to climate-change catastrophes in other parts of the country, Vermont families are still displaced, businesses are shuttered or drowning in debt, and communities are struggling to rebuild.

The financial toll of climate change in Vermont is real and ongoing. Every washed-out road, damaged bridge, and flooded home and business represents a cost someone must pay, and right now, that burden falls squarely on Vermont taxpayers. We see it through higher property taxes, rising insurance premiums, and reduced municipal services.

This dire reality prompted our Legislature to pass the Climate Superfund Act, applying the same principle that has governed environmental cleanup for more than 40 years: Those who contribute to a problem should help pay for its solution.

Overwhelming scientific consensus tells us that some of the world's largest and most profitable fossil fuel corporations are at the root of the climate crisis. For decades, these corporations knew their products were likely to cause the kind of costly damage Vermont increasingly faces as the planet overheats. Vermont's Climate Superfund Act applies this established polluter-pays approach to the mounting costs of our climate-related disasters, requiring these corporations to pay their fair share and help clean up the climate mess their products and activities have caused.

Americans across the political spectrum have long embraced the ethical standard that when someone makes a mess, they should help clean it up. Directing these massive fossil fuel corporations to contribute to recovery efforts isn't radical; it's basic fairness.

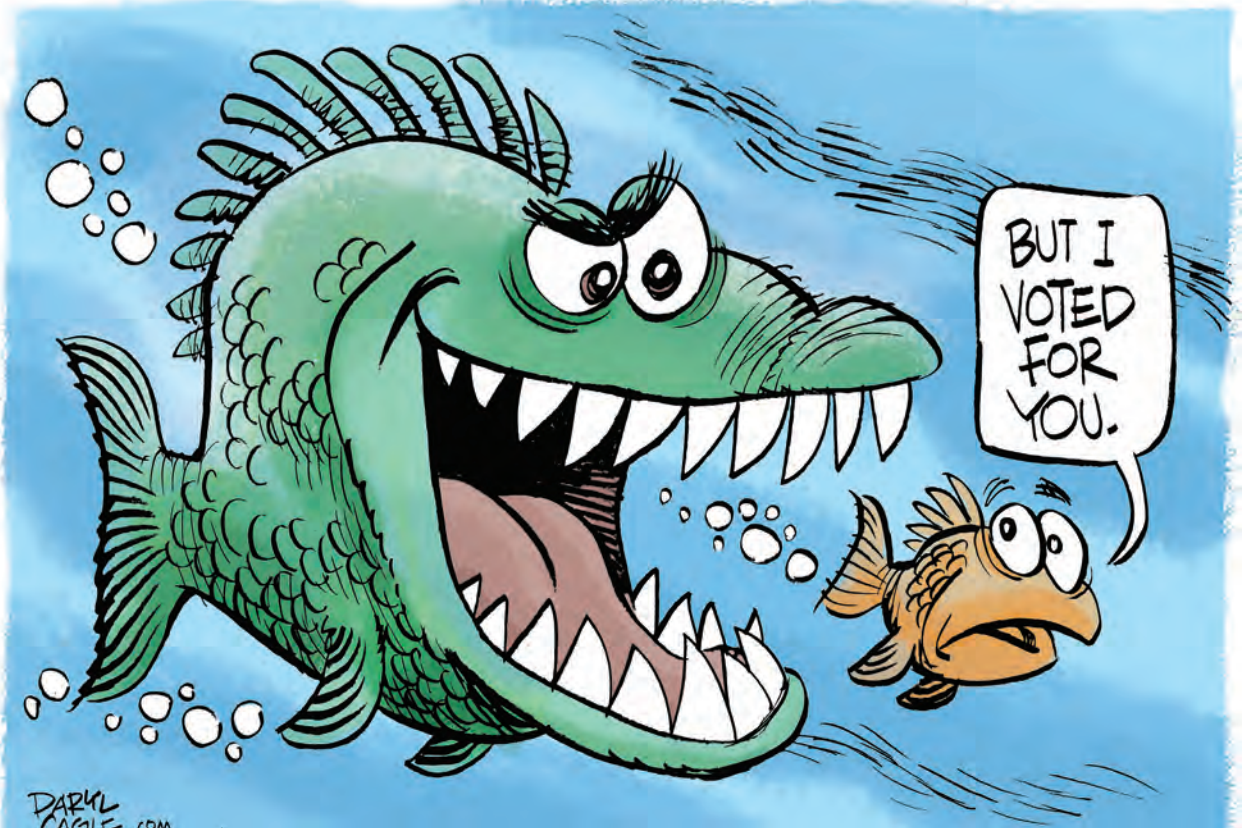
The U.S. Dept. of Justice has filed a complaint in the U.S. District Court of Vermont to stop the law from being enforced. Last year, when we took up the bill that would become the Climate Superfund Act, the House and Senate Judiciary Committees vetted the legal and constitutional claims that could be made against the Act. We were confident that it would stand up in court.

As chairs of the Vermont General Assembly's Judiciary Committees, we take our legal and constitutional obligations seriously. We appreciate the proper balance between state and federal authority. States have long served as the proving grounds for practical solutions to our challenges, and Vermont's Climate Superfund Act continues this proud tradition.

The law establishes a careful, science-based process to determine which companies should contribute and how much, ensuring fairness while addressing pressing needs.

This law passed with strong support from Vermonters of all political parties, but we knew that powerful interests would fight back. The recently filed lawsuits against Vermont and our neighbors in New York, who passed their own Climate Superfund Act, merely confirm what we already understood: Our approach is effective enough to warrant powerful opposition.

Climate change presents unprecedented challenges, but addressing them requires the same principles of responsibility and fairness that have always guided our legal system. Vermont's Climate Superfund Act upholds these principles while protecting taxpayers from bearing costs they shouldn't have to shoulder alone.



But I Voted For You by Daryl Cagle, CagleCartoons

LETTERS

Witch hunt

Dear editor,

During his first campaign, Donald Trump complained that people were mounting a "witch hunt" against him, relying on the conventional implication that the quarry doesn't exist and the hunt is futile and fruitless.

But those were conventional times. Who was prepared for the ways that Donald Trump stands reality on its head? Trump's strategy, "the art of the deal," is to destabilize the opponent to the point of bewilderment, knowing that

Rational people
rarely can
understand the
irrational.

rational people rarely can understand the irrational.

But in fact, with inspiration drawn from history books, Trump signals exactly what he will do if we tune our ears to the right frequency. So when he railed against "witch hunts," we might have expected he was contemplating deploying the practice for his own use.

Centuries ago, in Europe, the uneducated believed that disasters, pestilence,

Witch hunt → 19

← McComb:

from page 5

community support we saw at the public meeting. People clearly want this, and I agree that it would be a great asset for the town. We need to be smart about how we build it. I think a phased approach makes the most sense. We start with what we can afford, make sure it's used and maintained well, and then build on that over time. If we plan it right, the recreation center can serve residents of all ages, support local events and programs, and strengthen our year-round community.

7. What, if any, role should the Select Board play in helping remedy the current housing/workforce shortage? How do short-term rental regulations help or hurt?

The Select Board has a real role to play. Securing 70 acres for workforce housing was a great move by the previous board. Now we need to follow through and make sure that land becomes housing that full-time workers can actually access.

Killington is a resort town with a lot of second homeowners who use and rent their properties. Short-term rentals are part of our economy. I support fair, safety-focused regulation, but overreaching could hurt locals and responsible owners. The real fix is building more housing, not just restricting existing use.

8. Conflict of interest has been a hot topic. Do you have any current conflicts of interest? If so, what are they? How will you handle those, or others that may arise, if elected to the board?

I don't have any current conflicts of interest, and just to be clear, I have no financial ties to Killington Resort, which I know has been a concern for some. That said, I take the issue seriously. If any conflict ever did arise, I'd disclose it immediately and recuse myself from the discussion and vote. I also support the adoption of a formal code of ethics policy for the town. It sets expecta-

tions and builds trust, and we need more of both in local government.

9. Many are concerned about taxes and affordability of Killington. Would you advocate for cuts to the municipal budget or planned future projects? If so, which ones? Would you advocate for spending for the future betterment of town? If so, which ones?

Affordability is a real concern. I think we need to take a hard look at the budget and ask where we can tighten things up without cutting essential services. That might mean delaying or scaling back certain capital projects, or being more disciplined about staffing and operational costs.

At the same time, I support spending where it creates long-term value. I support investments in infrastructure that improve water, roads, and housing access. I also think community-focused projects, like a well-planned recreation center, are worth funding if they're done with strong budget controls. The goal is to build a town that's more livable and sustainable, not just more developed.

10. Is there anything else you'd like voters to know about you?

I'm deeply connected to the Killington community, not just as a resident, but as a business owner, a volunteer, and a neighbor. My family lives here full-time. We've established roots here. My wife has served on the library board for years, and I currently serve on the Planning Commission. I run a local business with a great team, who live right here in the area. We do our best to contribute to the local economy and support the people who make Killington home.

I'm running because I want to make sure that future works for all of Killington. I bring experience in business, planning, and local government, and I'm committed to listening, asking the hard questions, and representing this community with integrity.

Wysocki:
from page 4

5. How do you feel about the town’s “Killington Forward” initiative and the TIF funding that helps support it? What experience do you have that may aid in future discussions about development?

As I previously mentioned, we have a unique profile, the “Killington Forward” initiative is a key component to the future of our community and its businesses. Would I love to maintain status quo forever, sure, but it is unrealistic based on the real needs of our community, so I support the initiative. I am not going to lie, TIF funding has a very mixed result in the state of Vermont, I think we have a good plan, but we must manage it vigorously, it must NOT become a burden of the taxpayer.

My experience and knowledge in the area of costing, scheduling, planning, project management, marketing, permitting, land use, etc. all will be drawn upon to varying degrees to aid in future discussions about development.

6. What are your thoughts about the new town recreation center plans?

What is a community without a place to congregate? In the winter, we have the resort to recreate, but that does not embody the community in the same way as our 4th of July celebration! Our children need a place to grow, our more mature population needs a place to socialize. It is clear the facilities are aging, there was some great foresight to see the eventuality of this matter and begin funding in 2018+/-, we have a pretty substantial balance that we need to grow to help bring the project to fruition. I firmly believe we have little option but to address the issue. I support a plan that will produce a beautiful place that we can all be proud of and I know the folks spearheading the initiative will bring the right options to the table. We need to formulate a strategic plan to properly fund the rec center whilst minimizing the burden on the taxpayer. I am certain we could generate more income through our summer programs etc., as well as find grant money and private donations to help make this happen. As they say, “It takes a village...”

7. What, if any, role should the Select Board play in helping remedy the current housing/workforce shortage? How do short-term rental regulations help or hurt?

Without housing, who will operate our businesses? Without young people, what is the future of our community? Do I think this is the responsibility of the town, not 100% but I do feel the Select Board should be heavily engaged with the businesses in our community to understand the true need and work hand in hand with the goal of finding solutions to the problem. We can assist with establishing public funds, grants, etc., but these businesses will need to play a strong role in the process.

Clearly short-term rentals (full disclosure, I do own STRs outside the Killington region) have a negative effect on affordable rental housing supply and affordable ownership for young families. I also feel they can have a negative effect on quality of life in our residential districts. I feel we should look at the fee structure associated with our regulations and should consider raising the fees, perhaps

even adding a specific local tax (if applicable under law) but not to add to the General Fund, specifically to fund workforce housing in our community. The owners of STRs benefit from the community therefore the community must have workers to provide the support services to the STRs and their guests in order to provide an optimal “Killington” experience.

8. Conflict of interest has been a hot topic. Do you have any current conflicts of interest? If so, what are they? How will you handle those or others that may arise, if elected?

I do not have any conflicts of interest. The only property I own in Killington is my primary residence. I do not own a business that operates locally. I am not invested in any local business. If a conflict of interest were to arise, I would publicly acknowledge said conflict and recuse myself from the business at hand. The upside of the five-person board is there should be enough in the instance of a recusal to both establish quorum, as well enough input to allow for thorough examination of the business.

9. Many are concerned about taxes and affordability of Killington. Would you advocate for cuts to the municipal budget or planned future projects? If so, which ones? Would you advocate for spending for the future betterment of town? If so, which ones?

Am I concerned about taxes, absolutely!!! They are a primary concern. I am concerned for the elderly who did all of the right things in their life to eventually own their home, only to be taxed out of Killington. I am concerned about the younger people who want to raise their children here, but can’t afford the tax bill coupled with their mortgage.

This is far less a local issue and primarily a state issue in the way we fund education. The state education tax component is nearly 5x the local tax. We need reform in Montpelier.

As it relates to local budgets and the resulting tax, these are the things we can control, I feel the local budget has been reasonably responsible. I do feel our payroll has grown a lot in town over the recent years, again, we are not really as small a town as our census would imply. I think it would be disingenuous for me to sit here and say, cut X and Y without being deep in the realities of the conversation, but what I will say is I am a fiscal hawk, who understands the need to have proper resources to do the job properly today as well plan for tomorrow as “kicking the can down the road” usually cost more than sound planning.

10. Is there anything else you’d like voters to know about you?

For those who do not know me, my passions run deep, I am the proud father of 18-year-old twin boys Jonas and Zev, who I would like nothing more than for them to be able to call Killington home when they raise their eventual families. I am beyond fortunate to have the most incredible wife Jennifer who is my best friend. We have made our dream a reality, living and raising our children in Killington. If you agree with my thoughts as stated here, great, if you do not, let’s discuss them as a room full of like minds is a boring place.

Now please, get out and VOTE!

Vines:
from page 5

The need to replace the pool at the recreation center is well known. It is a shining example on how capital investments made 50 years ago can still benefit the community. It’s time to be replaced.

Other elements of the recreation center plans are very forward thinking. I would like to see further analysis on how the facilities could be financially sustained by town residents, second homeowners, and Killington Resort visitors directly, versus taking a “build it and they will come” approach. But in general, I am a supporter.

7. What, if any, role should the Select Board play in helping remedy the current housing/workforce shortage? How do short-term rental regulations help or hurt?

Killington is facing the same problem that many resort communities are facing. Unfortunately, over the years, lip service has been paid to the problem under the belief that local workforce housing would naturally develop outside the resort in the surrounding cities and towns.

The work housing portion of the ‘Killington Forward’ project is a good start. A longer-term solution requires working with planning and zoning. Developing housing and transportation projects to sustainably support the local workforce is a challenge that needs to be addressed for Killington to be successful.

Short-term rental regulations neither help nor hurt the workforce housing situation. While forcing some short-term rental properties to become long-term housing for workers sounds good, market forces must be in place to make it work. The current cost to build and maintain properties in Killington, combined with real estate taxes, currently push many owner-investors towards short-term rentals in the absence of any encouragement to provide long-term housing.

8. Conflict of interest has been a hot topic. Do you have any current conflicts of interest? If so, what are they? How will you handle those, or others that may arise, if elected to the board?

My only conflict of interest is that I love living in the town of Killington. When we moved out of corporate life 30 years ago, my partner, Mary Furlong, and I chose to move to Killington. Our small business plan specifically targeted eventually purchasing property in Killington with the intention of retiring here. And we successfully achieved that three years ago.

We are not investors in the private group which purchased the resort. Nor, since we retired, are we business owners in any Killington related business. Should an unforeseen situation arise where I was to find that I did have a conflict of interest in performing my Select Board duties, I would recuse myself to cure the conflict.

9. Many are concerned about taxes and affordability of Killington. Would you advocate for cuts to the municipal budget or

planned future projects? If so, which ones? Would you advocate for spending for the future betterment of town? If so, which ones?

Key to respecting town residents, second homeowners, and Killington businesses is operating the town in a fiscally responsible manner. As a Killington property owner, I am concerned about the trajectory of local taxes. I am also concerned about potential liabilities with major projects occurring around Killington with implicit town guaranties. And then we have state of Vermont education spending.

I am not in a position yet to advocate for municipal budget cuts. The impact of Covid, inflation, and potential tariff cost increases are still working their way through town spending. When you combine these costs, with a new town manager who has only just begun to study the town budget, our only recourse is to make sure that sound management practices at Town Hall are in place. Town government needs to be positioned to harvest cost saving opportunities when identified and minimize unplanned spending increases.

The same holds true of the potential liability exposure the town may have to major projects the town has guaranteed. Here it is critical to take a disciplined management approach to prevent mission creep, cost

overages, unplanned expenses, or vendor short comings.

On future projects, we need to coordinate future bond requirements with current bond retirement. Given

concerns on affordability, we should be very cautious about taking on new bonded liabilities until we understand that the town has its fiscal house in order.

Education funding is another matter. Somehow the town of Killington needs to get a seat at the table during the state-wide education funding conversation. Killington needs to be a constructive participant in the discussion. Supporting our schools and educating future generations of Vermonters is one of the highest priorities current residents have. But it needs to be accomplished in an affordable fashion.

The town of Killington runs itself using regular Vermonters being paid regular Vermont wages. The median income of Killington residents is very close to the median income of Vermonters at large. The mere fact that Killington is home to the largest resort on the East Coast and has a tax base supported by many second homeowners of means, does not change the financial facts for many Killington residents. Killington must be an affordable place for people to call their full-time home.

10. Is there anything else you’d like voters to know about you?

I believe in Killington. The people who call Killington their home bring a richness of experiences to town that transcend economic means. I believe Killington’s future is bright, and I look forward to doing whatever I can to assure Killington’s success.

I believe
Killington's
future is bright.

← **Entrepreneurs:**
from page 2

successful local and mobile adventure doggy daycare that explored expansion, conducted pricing analysis, and evaluated a potential franchising model.

- Autism Advocacy & Intervention: A successful business empowering autistic individuals and ABA professionals across California, Georgia, and Vermont, headquartered in Rutland. Their team explored offering AI-powered tools to reduce costs and generate video content to support families of children with autism by improving client outcomes.

These local ventures were joined by other founders from across the country, working on everything from healthcare automation and AI referral engines to social media platforms, medium-term rental platforms, and more. Together, they formed a dynamic cohort that reflected both the promise and diversity of the broader entrepreneurial landscape—and their national participation served as a strong testament to the program’s reach in major tech hubs.

In addition, three founders entered with a different or without a clear business idea and, through the program, developed new, aligned ventures based on their strengths and interests.

Over the course of four weeks, found-

ers participated in 103 one-on-one mentor meetings, more than 100 customer discovery interviews, and six core workshops developed and delivered in-house by StartUp Rutland. These included Lean Canvas Development, Markets and Competitor Analysis, How to Pitch to Investors, and even a hands-on Minimum Viable Product (MVP) design session on how to build a mobile app and website in under 60 minutes.

gALPHA also brought in outside experts. Google for Startups team led a go-to-market strategy and founder resources info session, while Carta delivered the most-requested session on startup equity and cap tables.

The program culminated in a final pitch showcase on Thursday, May 1, at The HubCoWorks, where each team had the opportunity to share its progress with a room full of community leaders, investors, and mentors. For some, it was their first pitch. For others, it was a testing ground for future funding conversations.

The quality of ideas and execution on display left many in the audience buzzing about the future of innovation in Vermont. Beyond the structured programming, StartUp Rutland was designed to support local economic growth. Founders received free coworking space at the Hub CoWorks, access to business support services, and tailored guidance from both local mentors and

nationally recognized startup leaders. “This cohort moved fast—we saw new products launched, cost reductions, pilots secured, and business models pivoted in just four weeks,” said Mose Cassaro, director of venture capital at StartUp Rutland. “Local founders were collaborating with peers from New Hampshire, New York, and Boston—exactly the kind of energy that pushes ideas forward and puts Rutland on the map.”

The results are already showing. Two startups are launching pilot programs with regional partners, one team is cutting customer acquisition costs by 50%, and eight new product features were rolled out. Several teams are now exploring fundraising or hiring local talent to scale or refine their models—and they continue to receive one-on-one support from StartUp Rutland.

“As Rutland positions itself as a rising hub for entrepreneurship, programs like StartUp Rutland are creating the infrastructure, network, and belief system to continue to make that vision a reality,” said Lyle Jepson, executive director of the Chamber & Economic Development of the Rutland Region (CEDRR).

“It’s one thing to say you support startups—it’s another to build the infrastructure, pipeline and support system that actually gets them from 0 to 1,” said Cassaro. “That’s what we’re doing here. And this is still just the beginning.”

← **Rutland 360:**
from page 2

construction of the needed public infrastructure investments to support it.

Development agreements also often include protections for the City, such as a minimum agreed assessed value for the project that ensures enough incremental tax revenue will cover the bond payments. A development agreement might also provide that the municipality will not commence its infrastructure improvements until the developer has closed on financing and entered into a binding construction contract for the project.

It’s normal for TIF districts—including those that are projected to be net positive—to face a revenue gap when increment is insufficient to pay debt service in any given year.

Planning is key

It’s normal for TIF districts—including those that are projected to be net positive—to face a revenue gap when increment is insufficient to pay debt service in any given year. This is what municipalities do. They manage cash flow with a variety of tools and options.

In Rutland, the possibility of a cash flow deficit won’t occur for several years. At that time, the City could make the choice to pay debt service with pooled cash that gets repaid with increment the following year, or it can use short-term financing and pay the interest from the General Fund. Both strategies are compliant and offer different advantages.

While the City may need to make those decisions at a later date, this highlights the importance of why good planning is key: give future administrations and administrators the flexibility and range of tools to respond to the evolving circumstances.

The Vermont TIF record

While there are no guarantees, Vermont’s experience has been overwhelmingly positive.

As of today, all eight active TIF districts are fully paying their costs, including debt service. In order to make sure that Rutland is among these success stories, the City has pledged to put the appropriate personnel with the right expertise in place to manage the TIF District and future projects.

For more information, visit the Rutland 360 website: rutlandvtbusiness.com/tax-increment-financing.

← **Skiing ends:**
from page 1

serve what was left for the weekend, but in the end was only able to make it through Saturday. Terrain required walking to, from and between the snow with photos and videos posted of people using ropes to descent muddy sections between the patches of snow.

“Even though it wasn’t your typical closing day, what a ride it was to close out the 2024/25 winter season. Here’s to an incredible season—our first under the new ownership of the Killington Independence Group,” the resort posted on its conditions report, May 10.

“While the lifts won’t be spinning anymore, The Beast never sleeps. We’re getting ready to open the golf course later this week on Friday, May 16, and trail crew has already been putting in work over in the Bike Park for its scheduled opening on Friday, May 23. The Adventure Center is slated to open on May 24,” the resort stated.

Killington was open for 174 days and received a total of 253 inches of snowfall this season.

For more information, visit: Killington.com.

← **RFSI grants:**
from page 1

Agriculture Food and Markets.

The VFFC grant will be allocated toward a \$1 million expansion of its food hub facility for local produce aggregation, processing, storage, and distribution in central and southwestern Vermont, according to the grant description. “This facility will also serve as a minimal processing hub, as part of the campus’ planned expansion efforts to increase food system resiliency in the region. The facility will benefit 790 local agricultural producers, provide 10 new jobs, and help reach four new markets,” the agency stated.

The storage and distribution facility had been part of the long-term plan for the organization’s growth, but in 2021 preliminary environmental testing found high levels of contaminants, which forced VFFC to close the building until extensive remediation was completed in 2024.

The Winter Farmers Market was held at the Vermont Farmers Food Center at 251 West St. until this past Saturday, May 10, when the market moved outdoors for the summer. It’ll be at Depot Park downtown through October. Renovations at the Farm Center began immediately.

“Construction has begun on the new commercial food processing and storage facility in Farmers Hall!” VFFC posted on Facebook May 10.

“Infrastructure is vital to the future of Vermont’s regional food system,” stated Anson Tebbetts, Vermont Secretary of Agriculture in the press release. “The small organizations that are receiving these grants make the regional food system work for our producers and consumers and support the public’s access to local food. This was a recommendation of Governor Scott’s Future of Agriculture Commission, and we are thankful to have these investments from USDA.”

These RFSI grants target projects that expand process-

ing capacities, modernize equipment, update IT systems, construct new facilities and install more efficient and climate-smart equipment. This program creates new opportunities for Vermont’s small and midsize producers to thrive, expand access to nutritious food options, and increase supply chain resiliency.

- The Vermont RFSI Infrastructure grant awardees are:
1. Vermont Farmers Food Center – Rutland: \$466,143
 2. Barred Woods – Montgomery Center: \$450,000
 3. Food Connects – Brattleboro: \$428,531
 4. Boyden Valley Winery – Cambridge: \$385,970
 5. Myers Produce – West Glover: \$257,280
 6. Vermont Bean Crafters – Warren: \$137,200

- The Vermont RFSI Equipment-Only grant awardees are:
- 80 Goats Inc – Leicester: \$57,197
 - Addison County Relocalization Network (ACORN) – Middlebury: \$99,831
 - All Souls Tortilleria – Burlington: \$76,867
 - Butterfly Bakery of Vermont – Barre: \$64,879
 - Center for an Agricultural Economy – Hardwick: \$93,750
 - Eden Ice Cider Company, Inc. – Newport: \$85,509
 - Mayo’s Maple Farm – Richford: \$95,143
 - Moon and Stars - South Royalton: \$31,200
 - Pure Gold Sugaring – Sutton: \$51,300
 - Runamok Maple, LLC – Fairfax: \$75,697
 - Sidehill Farm – Brattleboro: \$79,449
 - Sterling Mountain Farm – Johnson: \$80,810
 - vonTrapp Farmstead – Waitsfield: \$66,785
 - Todd Parlo/Walden Heights Nursery and Orchard – Walden: \$39,785

For more information, visit: agriculture.vermont.gov.

WORDPLAY

PHOTO TIME WORD SEARCH

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally and backwards

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

ANGLE
APERTURE
CAMERA
DEPTH OF FIELD

DIGITAL
EXPOSURE
FOCUS
F-STOP

ISO
LENSES
LIGHT
LIGHT METER

PHOTOGRAPHER
POSING
PRINTS
PROOFS

SETTING
SHOOT
SHUTTER
SMILE

SPEED
TELEPHOTO
VIEWFINDER
ZOOM

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Solutions → 24

CLUES ACROSS

1. Two-person
German submarine
6. 60-minute intervals (abbr.)
9. Database management system
13. Vertical position
14. American jazz singer Irene
15. Ancient Greek City
16. Former Senate Majority Leader Harry
17. Japanese seaport
18. Self-immolation by fire ritual
19. Assigns tasks
21. Beloved type of cigar
22. Discounts
23. Cambodian communist leader Pot
24. Important football position
25. Kilometers per hour
28. Lentil
29. Extremely angry
31. Yellow-flowered European plant
33. American state
36. Some are made by rabbits
38. Express with a head movement
39. Affair
41. Cured
44. Youth organization
45. 18-year astronomical period
46. Automobile

48. Focus a shot
49. The NFL's big game (abbr.)
51. Mouth
52. Infections
54. Curved pieces of a horse collar
56. Shameless
60. Assist in escaping
61. Capuchin monkey genus
62. Cold wind
63. Retired Brazilian NBAer
64. Tropical Old World tree
65. Bulgarian city
66. Speak indistinctly
67. Soviet Socialist Republic
68. Between-meal sustenance

CLUES DOWN

1. Not soft
2. Sharp-pointed dueling sword
3. Line a roof
4. Greek god of the underworld
5. Software
6. Large-headed elongated fishes
7. Shag rugs
8. Type of whale
9. Lacking a plan
10. Spill the beans
11. Some is "heavy"
12. One who has been canonized
14. Indicate times
17. Greeting

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8		9	10	11	12
13						14				15			
16					17					18			
19				20					21				
			22					23			24		
25	26	27		28				29			30		
31			32		33		34					35	
36				37		38				39			40
	41				42			43		44			
		45					46		47		48		
49	50		51			52			53				
54		55				56				57	58	59	
60					61					62			
63					64				65				
66					67				68				

20. Broadway actor Josh
21. Seashore
23. Indicates before
25. Electrical power unit
26. Destitute
27. Drags forcibly
29. Impropiety
30. Word forms
32. Equal to 10 meters
34. Neither

35. Computer language
37. Practice of aging film or TV characters (abbr.)
40. A woolen cap of Scottish origin
42. A promise
43. Challenges
47. Official
49. People living in Myanmar
50. Notable tower

52. Type of sword
53. Vaccine developer
55. Listing
56. Summertime insects
57. Concluding passage
58. Guitarist Clapton
59. Damp and musty
61. Central nervous system
65. Against

SUDOKU

Solutions → 24

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.

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

Level: Intermediate

GUESS WHO ?

I am a singer born on May 16, 1966 in Indiana. As a young girl, I dreamt of being a jockey, but the family business of singing ultimately had a bigger pull. I became one of the most successful pop artists in history with sales from my fifth album, which bears my first name.

Answer: Janet Jackson



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WED
5/14

Killington Community Breakfast

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.

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 802-773-1853.

Active Seniors Lunch

11:30 a.m. (Wednesdays) The Lookout Tavern, 2910 Killington Road, Killington. \$5 donation towards the meal. 908-783-1050.

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.

Diabetes Support Group

1-2 p.m. (Monthly, 2nd Wed.) RRMC Diabetes & Endocrinology Center, 160 Allen St., Rutland. Free. For patients managing diabetes, to discuss challenges, ask questions, and provide support. Hosted by Community Health and Rutland Regional Medical Center's Diabetes & Endocrinology Center. Contact Michele Redmond at 802-277-5327. chr.org/diabetes-support-group.

Cribbage for Adults

3-5 p.m. (Wednesdays) Hartland Public Library, 135 Route 5, Hartland. Free. hartlandlibraryvt.org/calendar or 802-436-2473.

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.

Diabetes Support Group

5-6 p.m. (Monthly, 2nd Wednesday) Community Health Castleton, 261 Route 30, Castleton. Free. For patients managing diabetes, to discuss challenges, ask questions, and provide support. Contact Michele Redmond at 802-277-5327. chr.org/diabetes-support-group.

'Z Lion King'

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.

West Coast Swing Dance Classes

5:30-6:30 p.m. West Rutland Town Hall (upstairs), 35 Marble St., West Rutland. \$15 per class, \$10 for students, \$12 for RRMC employees and family. Learn West Coast Swing with flexible registration options for individual nights or the full series. Pre-registration required. vtwestiebest@gmail.com.

Ballroom Dance with Patti Panebianco

5:30-7:20 p.m. Stone Valley Arts, 145 East Main St., Poultney. 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.

Watercolor Wednesdays – Snails & Fungi

6-7:30 p.m. Kaleidoscope Art Supply, 37 Center St., upstairs, Rutland. \$20. Beginner-friendly watercolor class led by local artist Caitlin G. Ages 15+; all supplies included. Refreshments available. kaleidoscopeartsupply.square.site.

RYP Mix at DownValley Bikes

6-8 p.m. DownValley Bikes, 10 Merchants Row, Rutland. Free. Join Rutland Young Professionals and local cycling fans for a mixer with brews from Von Trapp Brewing. Learn about local trails, routes, and types of cycling in the Rutland area. rutlandyoungprofessionals.org.

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.

Film Screening: 'Kiss the Ground'

7 p.m. Paramount Theatre, 30 Center St., Rutland. Free. The UVM Extension Master Gardeners host a public screening of Kiss the Ground, a documentary narrated by Woody Harrelson that explores the promise of regenerative agriculture in combating global challenges. Voluntary donations welcomed to support community education. uvm.edu/mastergardener.

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.

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.

Hiking Group - Rail Trail

9 a.m.-2 p.m. Godnick Adult Center, 1 Deer St., Rutland City. 18+. Free. Moderate elevations. Hikers encouraged to wear sturdy footwear, long sleeves/pants to protect against ticks. Bring water and lunch. Meet at Godnick Center to carpool. rutlandrec.com.

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.

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.

Spring Poems: Robert Frost Poetry Walk

3:30-5 p.m. Vermont Institute of Natural Science (VINS), 149 Natures Way, Quechee. \$12. Free for VINS members. Join VINS Executive Director Alden Smith for a guided poetry walk exploring seasonal works by Robert Frost. Includes trail walking, discussion, and interpretation. Advance registration required. vinsweb.org.

Kids' Mandala Painting

4-5 p.m., Chaffee Art Center, 16 S. Main St., Rutland. \$20. Young artists will explore mandala art using various mediums in a fun, mindful session. All supplies provided. Pre-registration required. chaffeeartcenter.org.

Member Family Picnic

4:30-6:30 p.m. Billings Farm & Museum, 69 Old River Road, Woodstock. Free. Billings Farm member event. Bring a blanket and picnic for this family-friendly members event featuring lawn games, story time, farm animal visits, cheese samples, and a free scoop of ice cream from the Farmhouse Scoop Shop. Walk-ins welcome or reserve at cart.billingsfarm.org/performance.aspx?pid=2136.

Mandala Painting

5:30-7 p.m., Chaffee Art Center, 16 S. Main St., Rutland. \$25. Create colorful mandala dot art while enjoying tea, treats, and stories from Chaffee history. All supplies provided. Pre-registration required. chaffeeartcenter.org.

'A Daffodil Affair' Spring Social

6-8 p.m. Norman Williams Public Library, 10 The Green, Woodstock. \$75. Celebrate spring with music, food, and drinks at this library fundraiser and seasonal social. Limited childcare available with preregistration. Details at normanwilliams.org/events/daffodil.

Spring Rummage Sale

6-9 p.m. Grace Congregational UCC, 8 Court St., Rutland. Free. Shop a large selection of household items, clothing, toys, linens, and more. Jewelry and home decor featured in the Boutique. Enter through Center St. office entrance. Parking available in the West St. lot. No early birds or vendors. gracechurchvt.org.

Invasive Plant Discussion

7 p.m. Abbott Memorial Library, 15 Library St., South Pomfret. Free. Join the Pomfret Invasive Plant Committee for a community conversation on identifying and managing invasive plants. Open Q&A session encourages sharing of local experiences and effective strategies. rhodes@sover.net or alan.c.graham@gmail.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.

Judy Collins live

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.

FRI
5/16

Spring Rummage Sale

9 a.m.-Noon Grace Congregational UCC, 8 Court St., Rutland. Free. Special discounted Bag Sale—fill a bag for one low price. Proceeds support Women's Ministries. Enter through Center St. office entrance. Parking in West St. lot. Handicap accessible. No early birds or vendors. gracechurchvt.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.



**SPRING
RUMMAGE SALE**

THURS. 6-9 P.M. & FRI 9 A.M.-NOON

Calendar: from page 12



SAT. 11 A.M. & 3 P.M.

STARLIGHTS DANCE ACADEMY: SHOOT FOR THE STARS

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.org.

Pinecone Feeder Craft Meet-Up

5-6 p.m. Stone Meadow Park, Wallingford. RSVP Heather Johnson at 802-345-3484. comealiveoutside.org.

GENDER QUEER! 18+ Affinity Space

6-7 p.m., Rutland County Pride Center, 106 West St., Suite 1, Rutland. In-person gathering for Trans, Non-Binary, and Gender Non-Conforming adults, held every first and third Friday of the month. rcpride.org.

Mother's Day Potluck

6-8 p.m. Bridgewater Grange #284, 129 VT Route 100A, Bridgewater Corners. Free. Bring a dish to share. All are welcome. For more info, call Alice at 802-672-6223.

Film Screening: 'Sinners' (R)

7:30 p.m. Playhouse Movie Theatre, 139 Main St., Randolph. \$7-\$10. Twin brothers, Smoke and Stack, envision a juke joint, but get more than they bargained for. Michael B. Jordan and Hailee Steinfeld sizzle in Ryan Coogler's can't miss thriller. playhouseflicks.com.

Campfire Jam: Anders Osborne, Daniel Donato & Steve Poltz

8-10 p.m. Jackson Gore Resort, Ludlow. SOLD OUT. An intimate evening performance presented by The Phoenix as part of the Music on the Mountain weekend benefiting Divided Sky Foundation. musiconthemtn.com.

SAT
5/17

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.

Rutland Garden Club Plant and Bake Sale

8:45-11 a.m. Corner of Main and Center Sts., Rutland. Annual sale featuring plants from local gardens and fresh baked goods. Proceeds support the club's scholarship program for students pursuing environmental careers. rutlandgardenclub.org.

Divided Sky Fun(d) Run

9 a.m.-noon. Jackson Gore Resort, Ludlow. A 5K race and walk kicks off the day, followed by a vendor village and post-race celebrations including live music and awards. Register at: tinyurl.com/dsfr2025. musiconthemtn.com.

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.

Clean Water Day at VINS

10 a.m.-5 p.m. Vermont Institute of Natural Science (VINS), 149 Natures Way, Quechee. \$General admission. Celebrate the legacy of VINS founder David Laughlin with a day of water-focused family activities including wildlife programs, guided walks, and hands-on games exploring river ecology, aquatic life, and clean water conservation. vinsweb.org.

ReCreate Famous Art — Kid's Painting Class

11 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Chaffee Art Center, 16 S. Main St., Rutland. \$25. Kids choose from famous artworks and paint their own version while learning about art history and styles. All supplies provided. Pre-registration required. chaffeeartcenter.org.

Public Safety Building Open House

11 a.m.-1 p.m., Rutland Town Public Safety Building, 272 McKinley Ave., Rutland. Celebrate the opening of Rutland Town's new Public Safety Building with a community open house. Tour the new facility and meet local safety personnel.

Wildlife Encounters @ Pittsford Village Farm

11 a.m. & 2 p.m. Pittsford Village Farm, 42 Elm St., Pittsford. \$10 + tax/fees, 3 and under free. Enjoy a 60-minute "imaginary safari around the world" featuring Ambassador Animals and led by Wildlife Encounters Ecology & Wellness Center educators. Outdoor lawn event; bring your own chair or blanket. paramountvt.org.

Starlights Dance Academy: Shoot for the Stars

11 a.m. & 3 p.m. Paramount Theatre, 30 Center St., Rutland. \$25-\$35 (11 a.m.); \$10 all seats (3 p.m.). Celebrate student dancers ages 3 and up in this showcase of talent and community spirit, featuring the Starlights Competition Team. paramountvt.org.

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-RailwayAssociation-100066761013097/.

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.

Mentor Connector Bowling Fundraiser

12:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m., Rutland Bowlerama, 158 S. Main St., Rutland. Benefit event for The Mentor Connector supporting youth and family mentoring programs in Rutland County. mentorconnector.com/bowling.

Plus-Size Adventure Group - Waterfall Hike

1-3 p.m. Thundering Brook Falls Trail Head, 2295 River Road Ford, Killington. Free. Welcoming and inclusive community for plus-size community explore the outdoors. No experience needed. comealiveoutside.com.

Music on the Mountain Festival

2-7 p.m. Jackson Gore Resort, Ludlow. Family-friendly, substance-free music and arts festival featuring The Sun Ra Arkestra, Soule Monde, Karina Rykman + Evan Jennison, and the Divided Sky All-Stars with Anders Osborne, Daniel Donato, Natalie Cressman, Russ Lawton, and Ray Paczkowski. Benefits Divided Sky Foundation. musiconthemtn.com.

Book Launch: "A Conversation with Louie about Mama and La Mia Famiglia"

2:30-3:30 p.m. Rutland Free Library, Nella Grimm Fox Room, 10 Court St., Rutland. Free. Book sale to benefit USCRI-Vermont in support of refugees and immigrants. RSVP: LGGVT@yahoo.com or text 802-233-0756.

Spring Fling at Rochester Library

4-6 p.m. Rochester Public Library, 22 South Main St., Rochester. Free. Friends of the Rochester Public Library host their 1st annual Spring Fling featuring a keynote by Vermont State Poet Laureate Bianca Stone, live painting by artist Char Gardner, silent auction, membership drive, and complimentary refreshments. 802-767-3942.

Film Screening: 'Sinners' (R)

7:30 p.m. Playhouse Movie Theatre, 139 Main St., Randolph. \$7-\$10. Twin brothers, Smoke and Stack, envision a juke joint, but get more than they bargained for. Michael B. Jordan and Hailee Steinfeld sizzle in Ryan Coogler's can't miss thriller. playhouseflicks.com.

Mary Frances Leahy in Concert

7-9 p.m. Chandler Music Hall, 71 N. Main St., Randolph. \$10-\$55. Canadian Celtic-jazz virtuoso Mary Frances Leahy performs original works blending folk, jazz, and Latin influences. Free fiddle workshop at 4:30 p.m. and community potluck at 6 p.m. Tickets and workshop registration at chandler-arts.org.

Film Screening: 'No Other Land'

7:30-9 p.m. Woodstock Town Hall Theater, 31 The Grn #2, Woodstock. \$10. Screening of "No Other Land," a documentary made by a Palestinian-Israeli collective that captures the ongoing destruction of the occupied West Bank's Masafer Yatta region. pentanglearts.org.

MUSIC ON THE MOUNTAIN FESTIVAL

SAT. 2-7 P.M.



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

SUN
5/18

Acoustic Brunch with Murray’s Law

10 a.m.-noon. Jackson Gore Village, Ludlow. Enjoy a laid-back brunch at the Jackson Gore Inn with free live acoustic music from Jimmy Law & Brian Murray of Dogs in a Pile. No sign-up necessary. musiconthemtn.com.

Lens on the Wild: Photography Workshop

10 a.m.-noon. Vermont Institute of Natural Science (VINS), 149 Natures Way, Quechee. \$52 general, \$45 members. Join photojournalist Rob Strong for a raptor photography workshop geared toward beginner and intermediate photographers. Includes technique review and an outdoor bird portrait session. Ages 18+ (ages 13+ with adult). vinsweb.org.

Mission Farm Spring Clean-up Day

10:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Mission Farm, 316 Mission Farm Road, Killington. Free. Join in for community camaraderie and help keep Mission Farm a beautiful, welcoming space for all. Email Sue at info@missionfarmvt.org.

Race Around the Lake

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.

Partner Dance and Lessons

3:30-8 p.m. Artistree Community Arts Center, 2095 Pomfret Road, South Pomfret. \$15 workshop, \$20 dance. Enjoy an afternoon of two-step, swing, salsa, tango, and more with lessons and open dance. No partner needed. Light refreshments provided. artistreevt.org.

MON
5/19

Bone Builders

10 a.m. Sherburne Memorial Library, 2998 River Road, Killington. Free. Weights are provided. sherburnelibrary.org or 802-422-432.

Wallingford Walking Group

10 a.m. Gilbert Hart Library, 14 S Main St., Wallingford. Free. 25-45 minute walk with Heather Johnson. Easy pace walk with kindness, curiosity, and good company. comealiveoutside.com.

Monday Movie

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

LIVE From Prague: Arvo Pärt 90th Birthday Tribute Concert

2-4 p.m. Woodstock Town Hall Theater, 31 The Green #2, Woodstock. Suggested donation \$15. A live HD stream of a historic concert from Prague, celebrating the 90th birthday of revered Estonian composer Arvo Pärt, conducted by Tõnu Kaljuste with the Estonian Philharmonic. pentanglearts.org.

TUES
5/20

Fairgrounds East Bird & Nature Walk

7:30-10:30 a.m. Meet at the D&H trail crossing on South St, Castleton. Visitor parking behind the Stafford Academic Center. 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).

Bring Back the Trades Skills Expo

9 a.m.-3 p.m. VTSU Castleton Campus, 62 Alumni Dr., Castleton. (Event is currently sold out) Free. Hands-on expo introducing students in grades 7-12 to careers in skilled trades. Includes interactive displays, equipment demos, paid internship info, free food tent (10:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.), and noon scholarship presentation. Pre-registration required. BBTT.org.

Market Shocks & National Events: How to Stay

Calm and Invest Smart

11 a.m.-Noon. Godnick Adult Center, 1 Deer St. Rutland City. Free. Explore ways to navigate volatile markets, and stay focused on long-term financial goals. rutlandrec.com.

Handcraft Gathering

2-4 p.m. (Monthly, 3rd Tuesday) Abbott Memorial Library, Library St., So. Pomfret. Bring your knitting, crocheting, embroidery, or mending projects. abbottmemoriallibrary.org.

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. chcr.org.

Night Golf League

5 p.m. (Tuesdays) Green Mountain National Golf Course, 476 Barrows Towne Road, Killington. Weekly four-person team scramble league open to all ability levels. Sign up by 4:30 p.m. Tuesdays at the clubhouse. greenmountainnationalgolf.com.

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.

Gather Together with Social Tinkering

6-8 p.m. Vermont Farmers Food Center, 251 West St., Rutland. An inclusive all-ages community social with games, puzzles, and activities; participants are welcome to bring instruments, crafts, or games to share. socialtinkering.org/gatherttogether.

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 Alvarez 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 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@mtnews.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

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 book-inspired art. Awards given for People’s Choice and Curator’s selections. artistreevt.org/unbound-vol.xiii-cfe.

UPCOMING

Sip + Shop

May 22 from 5-8 p.m., Downtown Rutland businesses, check-in at 4:30 p.m. at Depot Park, Rutland. \$15-\$25. Explore Downtown Rutland during this spring Sip + Shop event, pairing local food and drink producers with downtown businesses. Enjoy tastings, sales, raffles, and more across up to 20 participating locations. Includes tasting glass, shopping bag, and raffle entry. Must be 21+ with ID to sample alcoholic beverages. downtownrutland.com/sipandshop.



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[MUSIC Scene]

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

WED 5/14

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 – Kim Wilcox

RUTLAND

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

WOODSTOCK

5:30 p.m. Town Hall – Zack's Place Presents: Z Lion King

THUR 5/15

BRANDON

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

BRIDGEWATER

CORNERS
5 p.m. Long Trail Brewery – Krishna Guthrie

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 Reel

POULTNEY

6 p.m. Poultney Pub – Vinyl Night with Ken

QUECHEE

6 p.m. Public House Pub – Name That Tune Bingo with DJ Dave

RUTLAND

6 p.m. Speakeasy Cafe – Trivia Night

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

WOODSTOCK

6:30 p.m. Ottawaquechee Yacht Club – BnB with Rebecca Turmel and Brendan Gill

FRI 5/16

BOMOSEEN

6 p.m. The Lakehouse – Ryan Fuller

CASTLETON

6 p.m. Blue Cat Bistro – Brothman

KILLINGTON

6:30 p.m. Still on the Mountain – Rhys Chalmers

PITTSFIELD

9 p.m. Clear River Tavern – Anniversary Party with The Idiots

POULTNEY

6 p.m. Poultney Pub – Aaron Audet

QUECHEE

5 p.m. Harry's Cocktail Lounge – Live Music with The Preacher and The Teacher

5:30 p.m. Public House Pub – George Nostrand

RANDOLPH

7:30 p.m. The Underground Listening Room – May Songwriters in the Round

RUTLAND

6 p.m. Stonehedge Indoor Golf – Duane Carleton

WEST RUTLAND

7 p.m. American Legion – Karaoke with Sunset Entertainment

SAT 5/17

BOMOSEEN

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

BRIDGEWATER

8 p.m. Woolen Mills Comedy Club – Comedy Night with Headliner Von Mychael

KILLINGTON

6:30 p.m. Still on the Mountain – Sammy B

LUDLOW

2 p.m. Jackson Gore Courtyard – 2nd Annual Music on the Mountain

8 p.m. Jackson Gore Spring House Pool – All Request Swim Dance Party with DJ Dave

PITTSFORD

11 a.m. Pittsford Auto – Go Topless Day with music by Ryan Fuller

QUECHEE

5:30 p.m. Public House Pub – Jennings & McComber

6 p.m. Harry's Cocktail Lounge – Live Music With Borrow the Bones

STOCKBRIDGE

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

WOODSTOCK

6:30 p.m. Ottawaquechee Yacht Club – The Freeze Brothers

SUN 5/18

BRIDGEWATER

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

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 Jim Yeager

STOCKBRIDGE

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

MON 5/19

LUDLOW

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

RUTLAND

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

WOODSTOCK

6:30 p.m. Ottawaquechee Yacht Club – Richard Enderlin

TUES 5/20

POULTNEY

7 p.m. Poultney Pub – Bluegrass Jam

RUTLAND

5 p.m. Moose Lodge – Liz Reedy

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

SOUTH POMFRET

6:30 p.m. Artistree – Acoustic Jam Session with Kerry Rosenthal

WOODSTOCK

6:30 p.m. Ottawaquechee Yacht Club – Line Dancing with Britt Crompton

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Little Feat rocks Rutland with new tunes and classic hits

The Little Feat show at the Paramount Theatre on Cinco de Mayo was a 10. This performance was the kick-off of their "Strike Up The Band" tour, supporting their just-released album of the same name. This is Little Feat's first album of new original songs in 13 years.

"Tonight was rockin'," said Little Feat's Fred Tackett after the show. "The grooves were killer. A lot of excitement because it was the first show of the tour and we haven't seen each other for about a month. It was a lot of fun, really good, excellent show tonight. We never have a bad show. Some things might happen here and there, but it's all part of the game."

From start to finish, the show was hit after hit. They performed 17 songs. The place was packed, and people were dancing from song 1, which was their 1973 hit "Fat Man in the Bathtub". From there, Little Feat jumped a decade to "Hate to Lose Your Lovin'", off their 8th studio album, 'Let It Roll.' That song is one of

my favorites from that album, and many other people agreed since it earned the band their first #1 hit on the Mainstream Rock Tracks chart.

A few favorites later, the band previewed their new LP by performing "Too High To Cut My Hair," a song co-written by fellow guitarists Fred Tackett and Scott Sharrard. It's a fun song with a fun story, and an even more fun music video is available on the band's YouTube.

Halfway through their show, Little Feat slipped in a debut cover of The Band's "Don't Do It," a song originally recorded by Marvin Gaye. It was cool to hear Little Feat's rendition. The Band's Levon Helm was a longtime friend of Little Feat. Fittingly, Tony Leone sang it from behind the drum kit as Helm did at many The Band shows. Leone was a longtime member of Helm's Midnight Ramble

Band.

Rockin' → 19

Rockin' the Region
By Dave Hoffenberg



By Juergen Frank

Violinist Jennifer Koh will perform Philip Glass' "Violin Concerto No. 1," plus music by Frank Zappa and Bizet on Valentine's Day, 2026.



Courtesy VSO

VSO's Music Director and Conductor Andrew Crust will kick off the 2025-2026 Season with an "East Meets West" program at The Flynn in Burlington and The Paramount Theatre in Rutland.



By Max Whittaker

Grammy-winning artist Sandeep-Das is one of several guest performers headlining VSO concerts during its 2025-2026 season.

Vermont Symphony Orchestra unveils bold and diverse 2025-2026 Season

Season to feature Grammy winners, world premieres, Disney celebration, and a collaboration with The Moth



The Vermont Symphony Orchestra (VSO) has announced an ambitious and wide-ranging 2025-2026 season that blends audience favorites with adventurous new programming, highlighting the orchestra's ongoing commitment to artistic excellence, community engagement, and musical innovation.

Marking its 91st year, the VSO will offer a season packed with musical treasures—from holiday traditions to contemporary premieres. Season highlights include collaborations with Grammy Award-winning artists, new works by Vermont com-

posers, and a one-of-a-kind partnership with "The Moth Radio Hour" that will pair storytelling with live music.

"VSO's 2025-2026 season exemplifies our dual commitment to honoring cherished traditions—such as our summer tour and holiday programs—while embracing bold new artistic directions through world premieres, recently commissioned works, and new community collaborations," said Andrew Crust, VSO's music director. "We are particularly pleased to present a diverse array of programs, designed to engage audiences of all ages. It is a privilege to collaborate with distinguished guest artists who share our vision of bringing artistic excellence and exciting musical works into the broader community."

Among the major performances:

East Meets West (Sept. 26-27): Featuring sitar and tabla virtuosos Rajib Karmakar and Grammy-winning Sandeep Das, along with Mussorgsky's *Pictures at an Exhibition*.

"Pastoral Symphony" (Oct. 25): Includes Beethoven's Symphony No. 6 and Chelsea Kom-schlies' "Mycelialore," inspired by the hidden networks of fungi.

"Made in Vermont with The Moth" (Nov. 14-16): Blending music and local storytelling in a series of concerts across the state.

"Holiday Pops" (Dec. 5-7): A seasonal favorite with sing-alongs, Santa, and a new commission based on Jewish folklore by composer Michael Schachter.

Valentine's Day Concert (Feb. 14): Featuring violinist Jennifer Koh performing Philip Glass' "Violin Concerto No. 1," plus music by Frank Zappa and Bizet.

"Disney in Concert" (Mar. 20-21): Family-friendly favorites with orchestral suites from "The Lion King," "The Little Mermaid," "Pirates of the Caribbean," and more.

"Carmina Burana & Ortiz" (May 9): A powerful season finale pairing Carl Orff's dramatic cantata *Carmina Burana* with Gabriela Ortiz's *Kauyumari*.

The season will also include multiple "Jukebox" chamber concerts, educational residencies, and student collaborations throughout the state. Special events will occur at major venues, including The Flynn in Burlington and the Paramount Theatre in Rutland.

For more information and the full schedule, visit: vso.org.

A growth roll to popularity and success

How Killington Became the Beast, Part 10

By Karen D. Lorentz

Editor's note: This is part 10 in a series on the factors that enabled Killington to become The Beast of the East. Quotations are from author interviews conducted in the 1980s for the book Killington, A Story of Mountains and Men.

Although Killington was conceived of as a ski area dedicated to experienced skiers, Snowshed recognized a new market: first-time skiers, novices, and families. It turned out to be a stroke of genius, but at the time, experienced Vermont ski area operators were shaking their heads at Smith's "crazy" ideas.

A story told by Walter Morrison illustrates Pres Smith's dead seriousness in catering to all comers. Morrison suggested, "Killington needed to define a market niche." In most businesses, including the ski business, this is a sound operating philosophy, but in the case of Killington, a market segment was tantamount to blasphemy!

Smith's response had been, "What do you mean a market niche? We want everyone!"

On a growth roll

The winter season of 1961-62 proved to be a good one, running from December 2 to April 30 for a five-month total of 150 days. Attendance crossed the 100,000 mark with 118,000 skier visits, and the company realized a net profit of some \$35,385 as gross revenues advanced to \$388,782, up 78%.

Amidst a season of races and active junior programs, the area held its first Appreciation Day, inviting all Vermonters to a complimentary ski day on February 8 or 9. Smith wanted to afford Vermonters the opportunity to visit the ski area and see what Killington was all about. According to a press release, Killington was "attempting to pioneer a movement that would see other ski area operators pause to show their facilities in hopes of sharing the stimulating facts concerning

skiing in Vermont."

During the summer of 1962, Killington continued to offer chairlift excursions to the peak and embarked on an ambitious \$300,000 capital expansion program.

The development of the fourth mountain area, originally called North Peak (elevation 3,610'), expanded existing facilities by some 30-40%. The 6,600-foot double chair on Rams Head (later changed to Ramshead) serviced a 1,400-foot vertical drop and added intermediate terrain, enhancing the variety of trails already in place. The Ramshead Area also gave Killington its first trails of relatively constant grade of more than a mile and one-quarter in length (Header and Timberline). Connector trails included Vagabond, an intermediate trail to Snowdon, and the Vale, a novice trail from lower Snowdon to Ramshead.

A large 10,000-square-foot Ramshead Base Lodge featured a modern translucent panel design and a unique series of four peaks, symbolic of the four peaks of Killington Basin. About \$250,000 was expended on the Ramshead development (\$100,000 on the lodge and \$150,000 on the mountain), and another \$50,000 was spent to improve existing trails, while the state added a parking lot at Ramshead.

As the fifth season began, Killington operated eight lifts, three of which were chairlifts. With a lift capacity of 5,700 rides per hour, the area had doubled its first season capacity and had become the third largest area in the state after four years of operation.

Pres Smith noted at the 1962 annual stockholders' meeting, "This meeting is particularly exciting to me because I can now see with clarity that Killington will be one of the greatest ski areas in the Eastern United States, something that for me was only a dream seven years ago. Killington contin-

ues to build an image of financial success, dependability of snow, and continuous growth."

The 1962-63 season proved that image accurate. New England enjoyed an excellent winter, and Killington received 267 inches of snow. Attendance skyrocketed to 193,000, and revenues increased 83% to \$710,989. The season ran from December 8 to May 5 for a 148-day total, and net income increased 45% to \$51,236. A day lift ticket cost \$5.75 and five days of lift and lessons cost \$20.

Growth breeds growth

The reasons for this continued increase in the growth of the area at a pace well above industry trends were set forth in the 1963

Annual Report. They included a growing skier knowledge and acceptance of Killington and the physical attributes of the ski area — high

elevation, novice skiing on upper mountain slopes, early snowfall, diversity of terrain, and vast expanse of both potential and developed areas. In addition, the area sported one of the highest lift capacities in the East and good proximity to metropolitan areas.

The establishment of an active public relations department was also cited as a factor. In January 1961, a news and public relations department was established, and the new director, Phil Camp, brought creativity and a penchant for promotion to his public relations and advertising work that, in a short period of time, put Killington on the map. A Playboy shoot garnered Killington preferential publicity spreads in a magazine with good demographics for the ski area, while a segment on the Dave Garroway Show and an "ABC Discovery" television program

attracted national attention for the area. This first step toward professional marketing was an early contributing factor to the ski area's rapid success.

Interestingly, the 1963 report repeated the prior year's caution that such large increases in gross income (73% in 1962 and 83% in 1963) "would someday fall to a point more nearly characteristic of ski industry progress."

However, increasing affluence and leisure time, accompanied by a burgeoning interest in recreation as healthy exercise, fueled the growth in skiers and skier visits in the 1960s. Baby boomers were entering the sport, and the number of skiers grew 10 to 15% a year.

Pres Smith noted at the 1962 annual stockholders' meeting, "This meeting is particularly exciting to me because I can now see with clarity that Killington will be one of the greatest ski areas in the Eastern U.S."

Although the weather did not always cooperate, the time was right for new ski areas to make rapid gains in skier markets.

Reaping increasing revenues from the popular mountain, Smith and the Sherburne Corporation continued to plow profits back into programs and facilities. The ninth ski lift, another three-quarter-mile double chairlift, was added to Snowshed in 1963, and total lift capacity increased to 6,900 rides per hour for the 1963-64 season. A 6,000-square-foot, two-level modern Snowshed Base Lodge replaced the temporary 1961 shelter, and Killington's first snowmaking system was installed on Snowshed.

Next week, we'll explore the pioneering R&D approach that snowmaking triggered. Comments and insights are welcome: email klorentzski@vermontel.net.



Courtesy Killington Resort

Snowshed with second chair and snowmaking added in 1963.



By Bob Perry

Above: 1963 aerial photo with new Ramshead Area on the right and test trail on Skye Peak far upper left. Below: New Ramshead Lodge with four peaks reflecting skiing on four mountain areas. Seen under construction for the 1963-64 season.



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‘Nonnas’ is a ‘cheesy,’ slice of goodness

By Ellie Trinkle

It has long been suggested that the power of food transcends beyond simply “tasting good”; it can heal, invite, and inspire. Stephen Chbosky’s new Netflix film “Nonnas” depicts this multitude of food in a heartwarming and tender way. The film follows middle-aged Joe Scaravella, played by Vince Vaughn, whose mother’s recent tragic passing inspires him to open an Italian restaurant in her memory. The catch is that all of the chefs he hires are Italian grandmothers, *nonnas*, and they are cooking the family meals that are dear to them.

Known for his feel-good, intimate films like “The Perks of Being a Wallflower” (2012), “Wonder” (2017), and “Beauty and the Beast” (2017), Chbosky has made excellent contributions to the family-film genre, and “Nonnas” is no exception.

The film oozes compassion. It is based on the true story of Jody Scaravella, who opened his restaurant “Enoteca Maria” in Staten Island in 2007. While the plot may be a bit formulaic and, beyond all the pizza, certainly cheesy, the true story element shines through and gives the film an intimate feel. What you see is what you get, and beyond a simple style and somewhat clichéd tropes, what you see are people coming together through a shared love of food.

When Joe’s mother initially passes away, his childhood friend Bruno (Joe Manganiello) and his wife Stella (Drea de Matteo) attempt to cheer him up. Joe, who works for the Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA), finds his job unfulfilling. One day, Joe takes the ferry from his home in Brooklyn to Staten Island to visit an outdoor Italian market he used to go to with his mother and grandmother. It is here he meets an old Italian woman named Antonella, played by Brenda Vaccaro. While talking to her, he runs into Olivia (Linda Cardellini), Antonella’s neighbor, with whom Joe has an ambiguous teenage past.

As Joe walks back from the ferry, he passes a beat-up old restaurant and notices a “For Sale” sign. Until now, Joe has been cooking to honor his late mother and grandmother, attempting to keep their memory alive through their food. Rather impulsively, Joe purchases the restaurant. His concept? Hire real Italian *nonnas* to be his cooks and recruit contracting and design assistance from Bruno and Stella. He soon decides to name

the restaurant “Enoteca Maria” after his mother.

While Bruno and Stella are initially hesitant, they slowly begin to see that this restaurant is more than a business move for Joe—in fact, he can hardly afford to renovate the place—but instead a way for him to reconnect with his late family members. They agree to help him, and Joe looks for actual *nonnas* to hire as his chefs.

After some trial and error, he finally solidifies four chefs: Antonella from the market, his mother’s lifelong friend Roberta (Lorraine Bracco), former Nun Teresa (Talia Shire), and his mother’s hairdresser and close family friend Gia (Susan Sarandon). Together, the *nonnas* bring different dishes and cooking styles from various parts of Italy and are arguably the highlight of the film.

The *nonnas* provide the audience with moments of both comedy and strong female friendship. However, the *nonnas* do not initially get along; in one moment, Roberta and Antonella get into such a severe food fight that they accidentally start a kitchen fire. But as the women spend more time cooking together, they begin to become friends.

While the film is full of joyful, hilarious moments, there are also plenty of hardships. Joe struggles to support the restaurant financially and often has to have coworkers at the MTA lie for him so he can spend more time at the restaurant. He is also grieving, and must usually set these emotions aside to develop his business. However, by the end, it feels that all of these hardships have been perfectly wrapped up in a little bow. While this fits with the film’s simpler stylistic approach, it perhaps verges too far on a black and white representation of grief.

Also, the film wants Joe and Olivia to be together from the first screen encounter. I was far more compelled by the *nonnas* and their lives than by Olivia and Joe’s “will they won’t they” plotline. Joe and Olivia are perfectly likeable characters. However, it felt like the audience was being forced to root for them, and it distracted from the film’s more interesting elements.

“Nonnas” has its flaws, though at its core, it is a tender portrait of grief, food, and family. The ending is undoubtedly heartwarming and reaffirms the film’s strongest elements. Billy Joel’s “Scenes from an Italian Restaurant” scores the last few moments, and while perhaps a bit on the nose, it encapsulates all of the cheesiness into one great slice.



Courtesy IMDb

at Artstree in South Pomfret, including book-crafting with Carolyn Shattuck and a storytelling session with Joni B. Cole. The evening includes the UNBOUND Book Art Exhibit and a special opening night panel featuring local authors. Saturday offers the heart of the festival, with author talks by Marjan Kamali, Peter Canellos, Alison Espach, and Kevin Fedarko, a poetry reading by Robert Pinsky, and a full schedule of live music and activities on The Green. The acclaimed film *American Fiction* screens that evening. Sunday includes poetry readings, a memoir workshop, and a guided walk-and-talk with author Steve Kemp at Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historical Park.

Bookstock in Woodstock: A Literary Play on Words

The 3-day festival returns May 16-18

WOODSTOCK—This year Woodstock's Village Green will again come alive with stories, music, and local spirit as Bookstock returns May 16 through 18. This popular three-day festival welcomes book lovers, poets, and curious minds for a vibrant weekend of author talks, poetry readings, hands-on workshops, music, children's activities, food vendors, and more.

Events kick off Friday with workshops at Artstree in South Pomfret, including book-crafting with Carolyn Shattuck and a storytelling session with Joni B. Cole. The evening includes the UNBOUND Book Art Exhibit and a special opening night panel featuring local authors. Saturday offers the heart of the festival, with author talks by Marjan Kamali, Peter Canellos, Alison Espach, and Kevin Fedarko, a poetry reading by Robert Pinsky, and a full schedule

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ities on The Green. The acclaimed film "American Fiction" screens that evening. Sunday includes poetry readings, a memoir workshop, and a guided walk-and-talk with author Steve Kemp at Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historical Park.

Activities on The Green are free and open to the public. They include a used book sale, a children's tent, food and exhibitor tents, and live music throughout the weekend. Registration is required for workshops and author events.

Dining & shopping in Woodstock

Visitors will find plenty of dining options during the festival. Grab lunch or a snack at Mon Vert Mini, The Village Butcher, Splendid Bakes, or The Green Bunny on or near The Green. Sit-down options include The Red Rooster, Coburn's Tonic, and The White Cottage Snack Bar. Consider The Prince and the Pauper, Melaza, Santé, or Worthy Kitchen for dinner. You can explore even more eateries — and places to stay — at woodstockvt.com.

Festival-goers can enjoy Woodstock's sidewalk sale on May 16-17 and browse locally owned shops and galleries throughout town. The Mt. Tom Farmers' Market opens Saturday, May 17, from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Saskadena Six in South Pomfret.

Parking is free at Woodstock Union High School and Woodstock Elementary School, with metered parking available downtown.

For more information, visit: bookstockvt.org.

WOODSTOCK—This year Woodstock's Village Green will again come alive with stories, music, and local spirit as Bookstock returns May 16 through 18. This popular three-day festival welcomes book lovers, poets, and curious minds for a vibrant weekend of author talks, poetry readings, hands-on workshops, music, children's activities, food vendors, and more. Events kick off Friday with workshops at Artstree in South Pomfret, including book-crafting with Carolyn Shattuck and a storytelling session with Joni B. Cole. The evening includes the UNBOUND Book Art Exhibit and a special opening night panel featuring local authors. Saturday offers the heart of the festival, with author talks by Marjan Kamali, Peter Canellos, Alison Espach, and Kevin Fedarko, a poetry reading by Robert Pinsky, and a full schedule of live music and activities on The Green. The acclaimed film *American Fiction* screens that evening. Sunday includes poetry readings, a memoir workshop, and a guided walk-and-talk with author Steve Kemp at Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historical Park.

Witch hunt:

from page 8

crop failures, and unconventional behaviors were the work of witchcraft. Many churchmen throughout the period condemned it as superstition but the "witch craze" overswept the public imagination, especially in northern Europe and England, when thousands of unfortunate suspects were scapegoated as heretics or witches, and seized with no evidence other than hearsay, resulting in the murders of hundreds of thousands of suspects, as we know from the infamous witch trials of colonial Massachusetts.

The Salem Trials are now known to be a farce, with the

foreseen outcome thanks to a chorus of naïve young girls whom church leaders had coached to bear false witness against the victims (and conveniently blamed on an enslaved woman of color, Tituba, who later, intimidated, made "confessions" that satisfied the prurient interests of her interrogators).

Aside from the inquisitions, "tests" were performed to ferret out guilt. All were of the "damned if you do and damned if you don't" variety. The most notorious one was the "swimming test."

We are witnessing a modern replay of the witch hunt. Warrantless, willy-nil-

ly seizures of agricultural workers presumed guilty at first glance, thrown into the Catch-22 of a judicial system that evokes esoteric, ancient laws to evade due process, knowing the language barrier alone precludes their civil rights. False imprisonment far from family and legal support, with little or no recourse. Arraignments that don't happen because the accused is hustled onto a plane before the court date, in one Texas county, forfeiting his bail bond.

The claim to be fighting domestic terrorism is turned on its head when the self-same terrorism is meted out

Rockin':

from page 18

"He's a monster. That cat plays amazing stuff, and he sings," said Tackett.

Every member of Little Feat is a musical beast, and fun to watch. The band looks like they're having a blast up there.


"We do have a blast," said Tackett. "We say we get paid for riding the bus, and do the gigs for free. The music is free, the travel is what we charge for."

Little Feat finished the show with four hits in a row of "Willin'," "Dixie Chicken," "Feats Don't Fail Me Now" and their encore of "Let It Roll." Everyone in attendance at the Paramount Theatre was "hooping and hollerin'" and dancing to all these remaining songs. The energy in the room was off the charts.

"That's the whole point," said Tackett.




"Dixie Chicken," by far my favorite Little Feat song, was a nearly 10-minute version this night. Everyone was singing word for word. Sharrard led the song. He has a great voice and absolutely rips on guitar. The late, great Lowell George would be proud. Original member Bill Payne shone on keys, with some great solos. Tackett had a nice solo on electric guitar.

Little Feat has been going strong for 47 years, an incredible feat (no pun intended). I didn't want the show to end.



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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.



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Upscale casual and family friendly 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. choic-esvt.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.



Back Country Café

The 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.



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



Mountain Top Inn

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. mountaintopin.com, 802-483-2311.



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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.



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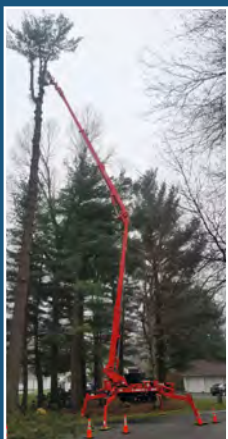
GREEN MOUNTAIN DIVISION LLC

Services Offered

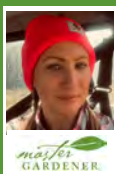
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Gardening Tip of the Week



Creating landscapes that resemble the simple, purposeful, and classic looking gardens of the early Colonial Era still offer a timeless look. Grapevines have always been a center piece due to their visual appeal with their over sized green foliage and love for climbing up any structure provided. Grapevines offer beautiful Autumn colors, with vibrant reds and orange. Grapevines can provide food and shelter for birds and pollinators, enhancing the local ecosystem. Once established, grapevines can be relatively low-maintenance and sustainable. They don't require intensive watering or fertilizing, especially if planted in well-drained soil with proper sun exposure. Lastly, Grapevines provide a fresh eating treat, bountiful harvests to make jams, or whatever else you can create and imagine.



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# Lawson's Finest Wins Silver at World Beer Cup for Vermont-Brewed Fayston Maple Imperial Stout

WAITSFIELD — Lawson's Finest Liquids earned international recognition earlier this month, winning Vermont's only medal at the 2025 World Beer Cup, the world's premier professional beer and cider competition. The brewery's Fayston Maple Imperial Stout claimed a silver medal in the British-Style Imperial Stout category, celebrated for its robust flavor and strong Vermont roots.

The 10.1% ABV stout is brewed with a mix of roasted and black malts, plus over two gallons of Vermont maple syrup per barrel. That syrup is sourced from Purinton Maple in Huntington, making the beer as distinctly Vermont as it is bold in character.

"This beer is really special to me as it is a home brew recipe I created more than 30 years ago," said Lawson's founding brewer Sean Lawson. "It's an honor to be recognized for such a uniquely Vermont beer."

The beer's name pays tribute to Paul Marble, a sugar maker from Fayston who helped inspire the original recipe. Lawson's original version of the stout placed third in a 1995 homebrew competition. Today's ver-

sion remains true to its roots while gaining acclaim on the global stage.

The 2025 World Beer Cup, held in Indianapolis, Indiana, brought together 8,375 entries from 1,761 breweries across 49 countries. A panel of 265 judges from 37 nations awarded 349 medals during the

May 1 ceremony, which was hosted in conjunction with the Craft Brewers Conference.

"Being honored at the World Beer Cup is a proud moment for Lawson's Finest and a testament to the innovation and craftsmanship that define our work,"

said Lawson's CEO Adeline Druart. "This award celebrates not only Vermont's iconic beer and maple syrup but also the passion and dedication of our incredible brewery team."

The Fayston Maple Imperial Stout is available in limited quantities at Lawson's taproom and retail store in Waitsfield, alongside other exclusive small-batch brews.

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

Lawson's original version of the stout placed third in a 1995 homebrew competition.



Vermont craft brewer recognized on the international World Beer Cup stage.

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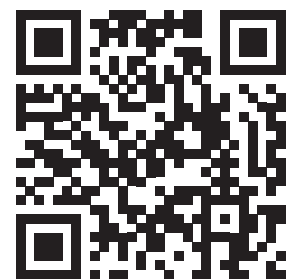




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# DOWNTOWN RUTLAND

VERMONT



## Spring Sip & Shop

Downtown Rutland Partnership's popular Spring Sip & Shop pairs local beverage and food producers with downtown Rutland businesses. Ticket holders will visit up to 20 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](https://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 [downtownrutland.com/sipandshop](https://downtownrutland.com/sipandshop) to learn more and purchase your ticket today.

*Date: May 22, 2025*

*Time: 5-8 p.m.*

*Location: Downtown Rutland*



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Solutions

From page 11

Crossword

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

Sudoku

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

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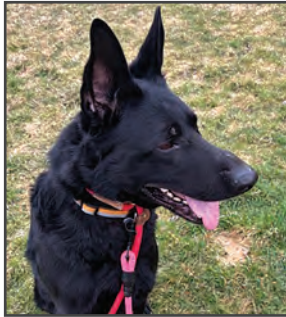




Jay—5-year-old.  
Neutered male. American  
Staffordshire Terrier.



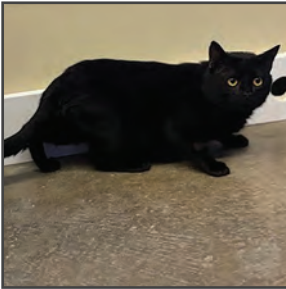
Piper—1-year-old. Fe-  
male. Anatolian Shepherd.



Barron—4-year-old.  
Neutered male. German  
Shepherd.



Stormie—12-year-old.  
Neutered male. Domestic  
Shorthair.



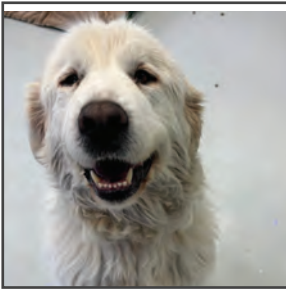
Sammie—4-year-old.  
Neutered male. Domestic  
Shorthair.



Grover—6-month-old.  
Male. Hamster.



Ernie—6-month-old.  
Male. Hamster.



Maizy—3 1/2-year-old.  
Female. Great Pyrenees.



Charlie—12-year-old.  
Neutered male. Domestic  
Shorthair.



Raymond—1-year-old.  
Male. Mixed breed.



Ruger—7-year-old. Neu-  
tered male. Mastiff mix.



Lynx—1-year-old.  
Neutered male. Domestic  
Shorthair.

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\*By appointment only at this time. lucymac.org



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# Cosmic Catalogue



## Aries

March 21 - April 20

Love and money are highlighted for you this week. It might be time to have an honest conversation about what works for you and what doesn't. That conversation needs to be with yourself. Are you going along to get along and hoping for the best, or are you being respectful of your own needs and wants too? Whatever you're burying your head in the sand about, confront it. Face any issues head-on rather than denying them.



## Leo

July 21 - August 20

Life may feel a bit like a pinball machine right now, as all areas of life are demanding your attention. Work, family, relationships, and not to mention that you're catching up on your personal goals as well! There may be no clear solution to navigating this week other than don't spark fires you're not prepared to kindle beyond a fast burn. When making choices, keep the longer term in mind.



## Sagittarius

November 21 - December 20

Pay extra attention to your dreams and intuitive inklings this week. Don't be so quick to write something off as a coincidence or nothing to pay attention to. If something feels off, then it's off. If something feels good, then it probably is. Do your best to think philosophically and intuitively rather than being overly logical. Your gut instinct will tell you all you need to know, so do be sure to trust in that.



## Taurus

April 21 - May 20

Relationships of all kinds are going to be in focus this week as the Full Moon lights up your Partnership Zone. You may be tempted to dig your heels in about a particular issue. If you're faced with a problem, face or fight the problem together rather than taking it out on each other. Lead the way and initiate the conversation you may have been avoiding. Words can hurt or they can heal, and you get to decide now.



## Virgo

August 21 - September 20

It's one thing to have grand plans and lofty visions, but what are you doing on a daily basis to make them manifest? This week, take a look at the way you're spending your time. Is social media chewing up valuable hours and energy you could be focused on doing better things, such as your goals and aspirations? If so, adjust accordingly. Do something each day that your future self will thank you for.



## Capricorn

December 21 - January 20

The five people you spend the most time with tend to determine your life direction. Hang with negative people; you'll be negative. Hang with positive people, and you guessed it. This week, take a look at the company you keep. Are they heading in the places you'd like to go? Do they motivate and inspire you? Your tribe determines your vibe. Adjust accordingly if needed and keep your hopes and dreams at the center of your choices.



## Gemini

May 21 - June 20

Just when you thought you might be able to slow down the pace a bit, the Full Moon will spotlight your Hard Work Zone. You may have more tasks on your to-do list than you think you can handle, but handle them you will. Life is really amping up for you, and you have to amp yourself up along with it. Do what it is you have to do to get ahead of the curve. A.k.a., get organized, not distracted.



## Libra

September 21 - October 20

Wealth and abundance aren't just about money, although that is a part of it. It is also about your time, freedom, and flexibility. Consider the ways that you may feel as though the balance of give and take in a certain area of life isn't as balanced as you'd like it to be. Friends, family, relationships, or your time-versus-money equation may all need to be recalibrated. The clarity you need will arrive soon.



## Aquarius

January 21 - February 20

Your career or overall life direction is in the spotlight now. So when things are seen, there are issues to deal with, problems to solve, and opportunities to seize. On the one hand, this may seem overwhelming and problematic. On the other hand, it's everything you've ever wanted. New level, new devil. Are you willing to break through and make choices that you know are authentic and will help you get to where you want to go?



## Cancer

June 21 - July 20

You may get a preview this week about just how much better your life is going to get. Sure, there's going to be some pressure and added responsibility, but it will all be for a likely cause. This week, focus on fun, joy, and romance. The more good you welcome into your life, the more good you'll receive. Things will only be as hard as you choose to make them. Put happiness at the forefront.



## Scorpio

October 21 - November 20

A Full Moon in your sign will highlight personal choices you're going to need to make. A choice in one area of life will ricochet into another, so you need to keep the big picture perspective in mind. Life has been very stop-start for you so far this year. Striking out in a new direction is one option. Another is to keep doing the same thing until you reach a breakthrough. The choice is yours.



## Pisces

February 21 - March 20

Your big-picture visions for the future are likely to come into focus now. What you once wanted you may no longer do, and you might like something else instead. This week, give yourself permission to change your mind. You may have to let go of what you thought should be in order to reveal everything that could be. Opportunities tend to multiply when you seize them! Take a risk, see what happens!

## The Full Moon signals the real beginning



Cosmic Catalogue  
By Cassandra Tyndall

Astrologically speaking, so much has already happened in 2025. Despite this, the big events of this year and next have barely even begun.

This week's Full Moon divides May into two chapters: the quiet chapter, which we've already moved through, and the loud chapter, which we are only just beginning.

There is something about this week and the rest of May that is a portal or gateway into the next few years. Big changes mean big choices and embracing what's to come, like it or not.

Full Moons tend to illuminate something unseen or hidden that has been building beneath the surface. There's nothing quite like a Scorpio to reveal what needs to be brought into the light.

Once something is seen, it cannot be unseen. Once something is heard, it cannot be unheard. Whatever you see or hear this week, choices will be required. Do you stay in the same, the familiar, and the secure? Do you take the path less travelled, the one that is authentic for you, and see what lies ahead for you in the new light? Sometimes, the greatest risk is to take no risk at all.

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Cassandra has studied astrology for about 20 years. She is an international teacher of astrology who has been published all over the globe.



## How growth rings chronicle the seasons

The longer, warmer days of spring spark phenological changes in trees, from root to tip. As the limbs of trees stretch and twist toward the sky in search of sun, their trunks grow wider to support the new weight. New wood is added year after year to the cambium, the area of a tree just beneath the bark, where cell division happens. This expansion creates growth rings, also called tree rings. Though growth rings are often hidden from view, the emblematic bullseye pattern can be seen on stumps left behind after felling a tree, or on cut logs strewn across a hiking trail.

Each ring corresponds to growth in one year. Under magnification, or with the keenest of eyes, they have a visible ombre effect, shifting from light to dark gradually, then abruptly back to light again, reflecting how trees respond to the seasonality of temperate climates.

The wood that cambium produces in spring and early summer is called earlywood. Earlywood is light in color because the cells are large and open to efficiently transport water upward, much like a drinking straw. As the growing season progresses towards autumn, trees prepare for dormancy in winter. They need less water, so their cells get smaller. The constriction of cells results in denser and darker wood; eventually, once winter comes, new cells stop being created altogether. The ombre coloration pattern shows a tree's slow winding down of biological processes heading into winter, then hitting the ground running when spring rolls back around.



In places with distinct seasonal changes, like the Upper Valley, one ring typically represents one year of life. But in tropical regions, where the climate remains more constant, trees may grow continuously without forming visible rings at all.

To examine growth rings without cutting down or permanently damaging a tree, researchers drill perpendicular to the trunk and extract narrow, pencil-sized cores. Obtaining a core does no more harm than tapping a maple for sap. Tree cores are a powerful tool, allowing scientists to ask and answer questions about growth and climate over extended time spans. Forest ecologists at the Harvard Tree Ring Lab are examining the Northeast's oldest trees to reconstruct climate fluctuations back to the 1500s.

Recently, through a microscope lens, I counted the rings of a red spruce I first

encountered this past summer in Vermont. The rings were so tight together I couldn't accurately count them in the field with just a hand lens. I tallied the rings in sets of 10, and by the time I finished, I had counted 29 sets and seven rings; the spruce was at least 297 years old, possibly even older. I returned the tree core back to a desk drawer where it sits next to 107 others, all ready to give insight into Vermont's past.

Another term for examining a tree core is "reading" it, because there is more to the story than just age – tree rings are clues to the life and trials of a tree and the forest in which it grows. My research studying Vermont's old-growth forests relies on tree rings to under-

stand how forests change structurally with age. When I read a tree core, I count it to estimate age, but I also take note of the tree ring widths. Wide rings represent times when a tree's light, water, and nutrient needs were all well met, allowing for substantial growth. Narrow rings can indicate a time of suppressed growth due to stressful conditions, such as a drought or competition for sunlight. The tight rings of the 297-year-old red spruce meant its growth was suppressed, competing for sunlight in a dense forest. Other life events marked in cores are fire and insect infestations, which create signature scars.

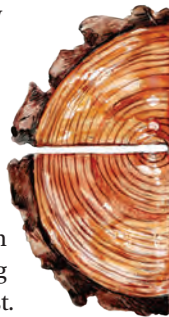
Growth rings are nature's diary, chronicling the climate across centuries. While rings record growth internally, bark bears the marks of expansion externally. The new wood added year after year generates a width the bark must expand to accommodate. Dr. Alexandra Kosiba, UVM Extension assistant professor, explained that the bark gets ripped apart, then generates new cells to repair where cracks occur. This ripping and repairing creates the craggy, deeply furrowed appearance of old trees. They're like stretch marks: an external echo of the story within.

The history we can learn in growth rings is only possible thanks to our cold winters and warm summers. As we march towards summer, trees continue their seasonal cycle, writing their story in wood.

*Alyssa van Doorn is a naturalist and forest scientist from South Burlington, Vermont. Illustration by Adelaide Murphy Tyrol. The Outside Story is assigned and edited by Northern Woodlands magazine and sponsored by the Wellborn Ecology Fund of New Hampshire Charitable Foundation: nhcf.org.*



**The Outside Story**  
By Alyssa van Doorn



## Savoring tradition

"Eat the meat!"

I can hear my grandmother's voice bellowing through the kitchen like it was yesterday. She was famous for her Sunday Italian meals, which she relentlessly provided to an extended family throughout her life.

My grandmother grew up in "The Gut" of our city, where all the Italian immigrants (including her parents) had migrated at the turn of the century. After her mother's untimely death, she quit school to stay home to help take care of her brothers. Later, she married another Italian, a plumber, and raised a family of 5.

Throughout her unremarkable but fulfilling life, she cooked. You couldn't walk into my grandmother's home without eating. Upon entering, her first words were always, "Sit down. I'll get you some food." Within minutes, you'd have a bowl of pasta sitting in front of you with her famous sauce, fresh bread, a sausage or two, and plenty of Parmesan cheese. It was her way of showing love.

It was also great to see everyone during those Sunday meals. The cast of characters would change week to week, but the core family was always present. I could always tell when one of my cousins had a serious relationship because that person would be brought along. If they survived the gauntlet of questions and lighthearted needling, we might just accept them into our family. Some of those people I met during those Sunday dinners are still around.

The first serious girlfriend I brought to our Sunday meal was overwhelmed. She was shy, reticent, and intimidated by my loud and boisterous female cousins. Needless to say, that relationship didn't last. The second serious relationship I put to the test was the woman who would become my wife. Conversely, she jumped right in. If she was needled, she needled back, and she asked just as many questions as she received. But her winning move was doing the dishes after the meal ended.

I don't remember this scenario actually happening, but there's a good chance after she did that, one of my aunts leaned over and whispered in my ear, "She's a keeper, that one," while gesturing towards my future wife.

As time passed, people died, and lives moved on; those Sunday dinners got smaller and smaller. Being away at college meant I didn't attend as much either. However, once I moved back to town after

graduation, I always made it a point to stop by to see my grandmother. By then, she was quite old and slowing down considerably.

At the later stages of her life, she stopped driving and holed herself up, relying on others to maintain her home and sustenance. She was wary of strangers and often sat behind a curtain near the front window to keep an eye out for sketchy characters.

When I arrived, I would knock on the side door and wait for a reply. I could hear her shuffling across the room and then yelling, "Who is it?" At which point I would reply, "It's me, grandma." Without fail, she would dutifully unlock the door and open it, unconcerned that the person she was letting in had gone unnamed.

Upon seeing me, she would smile widely, exposing her missing teeth. I would bend over to give her frail frame a hug and then obediently take a seat at the kitchen table where she would begin her waitering. It would have been hard for her to just sit and talk, so I simply rambled on about my life while she warmed up any leftovers she had stored in the fridge (usually pasta, of course).

Inevitably, soap operas would be playing on the television. Since her world was devoid of much drama, she relied on fictional TV stories to keep her mundane life at bay. I never watched them myself, but I knew the storylines well simply because of the updates she gave me.

It's been many years since that beautiful, loving woman passed away. I cherish my memories of her, and I'm confident those in my family who remember her feel the same way.

This week's feature, "Nonnas" starring Vince Vaughn, had the same vibe as those Sunday meals at my grandmother's, which is probably why it hit a nerve with me.

"Nonnas" is the story of a middle-aged man who is adrift in life. When his mother passes away, he decides to take his inheritance and do something drastic that will rekindle his love for the spirit of his Italian heritage.

Anyone who grew up in a traditional family with immigrant roots will appreciate the underlying point of this film. The delivery doesn't always suggest high art, but the ingredients are all there, making it heartwarming to the core.

A tasteful "B" for "Nonnas," now available to stream on Netflix.

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



**The Movie Diary**  
By Dom Cioffi





# We're all MAD here

It's over. Wait, seriously, it's over? It's like the second week of May and my friends are putting their skis away for the season. Some of my spring friends I didn't even get a chance to ski with and it's all over? It's all over and I was just getting started, just getting the hang of short poles and a new way of skiing the moguls. I was just making new spring skiing friends and settling into the parking lot BBQ scene that will suffice as dinner for the month of May.

And now it's gone.

The rivers underneath Lower East Fall and Double Dipper are literally rotting the blanket of snow on which we were skiing from the bottom up. The top looks great, with cracks ripping across the trail that will open up into a deep crevasse in a matter of days. That one river running down Lower Double Dipper at the bottom broke so early it was almost a shock to the system. And Lower Downdraft, forget it.

The Canyon isn't Superstar, obviously. Even though we thought we could make it be. There's a magic to that trail — and also no rivers. It is a well drained field with some rocks on the headwall and on Preston's Pitch that heat up and create the S shape that we all know and love. But there's also that World Cup snow that creates a solid buffer layer from the ground as it heats up. It protects the skiable snow for much longer than just a straight base, as we witnessed this past week. Once that starts, it's gone.

But man, did we have fun while it lasted. Saturday was one for the history books. Everyone out there was nuts. And we knew it. You would make eye

contact with someone out there on the trail and you would both break out into a stupid grin. Because if you were out there, skiing the "snirt" (snow-dirt) combo that transitioned into pure mud skiing, you are mad. Like Alice in Wonderland MAD.



By Merisa Sherman

You cray cray, sister. And with that, came freedom.

There was singing and laughing. So much that you could hear it from the lift. These were the true die-hards, not just the ones that come out when the sun is shining. Those of us that were out there in the pouring rain since May began love skiing and adventure so much it hurts. We're not afraid of looking stupid while trying to cross a grassy patch, we're laughing hysterically and throwing our poles up in victory at the end. It wasn't just young guys trying to ski the mud down to the Quad - but all ages and genders of folks saying, screw it! Let's give it a try. What's the worst that can happen?? I get muddy!

It's that attitude. You can tell whose parents told them not to get dirty when they were kids — it certainly wasn't those of us out there this past weekend. Despite the early date, it was probably one of the most awesome closing days I can remember. Sure, there wasn't a big crowd at the top, but there was still sparkling wine and fireworks and a cheer when that "Last Chair" sign crested over the ridge. And I'll tell you what — it was a whole lot safer than any of those 1,000 person-June 1st days over on Superstar. The grass was lower angle, the respect by other skiers and riders for other skiers and riders was top notch and everyone supported everyone that day. We built a community. A family.

And that was in full effect in the parking lot after 5 p.m. When the BF and I left the lot at 8 p.m., the gathering was still going strong with no intention of letting up. Folks walking around with parking lot meat and snacks and sharing whatever they had with everyone, whether they knew them or not. The best part was when the sun finally came out and as the first rays hit the gathering, a huge cheer rang out. The rain was over. After nine days and 5.5" of rain, we were finally free from the darkness. It was as though Mother Nature was apologizing for the ending and letting us have one last gathering to celebrate.

Am I at a loss for what to do for the rest of May?

Not really. I'll do the same thing that I did when Killington would close at the end of April when they were first purchased by Powder. I'm going paddling (once I get my canoe fixed up). I'll get my bike out and explore the local trails. I'll be working on my garden. Ha! Who am I kidding? I'm going skiing until the last patch melts from the mountain or my right hip collapses. Whichever comes first.

*Merisa Sherman is a long time Killington resident, global Real Estate Advisor, town official and Coach PomPom. She can be found on socials @femaleskibum or at Merisa.Sherman@SothebysRealty.com.*



By Merisa Sherman

## Creating your own outdoor oasis: A relaxing retreat in your backyard

When May arrives, it's time to think about spending time in your yard and gardens. But all of your time outdoors shouldn't be spent working. After all, you need a break from doing "chores". Creating your own oasis will entice you to relax and enjoy nature while you are outside.

Find a spot where you are and can enjoy reading a good book or watching the birds and critters pass through your yard. Life will automatically slow down—for a little while anyway!

Settle back in a comfortable chair. For me, it's an Adirondack chair with armrests wide enough to accommodate a coffee cup or a cold drink. Add a pillow to your back, and you are all set for some "downtime!"

Surround yourself with flowers and attractive shrubs. My oasis is the area by our pergola. It's behind a 6-foot board-on-board cedar fence, which makes it private. I can enjoy a nearby flower garden and containers with bright pink geraniums. The flowers change with the seasons, providing spectacular color from spring to fall.

Juniper and cypress shrubs in the pergola area provide a feel and contribute to the feeling of privacy.

Part of the relaxation process is watching birds fly in and out of a tall cedar tree nearby. The white-breasted nuthatch is entertaining as he walks down the trunk. The black-capped chickadees always have a lot to say! They are the "chatterers" of the many birds that call

our yard home.

Having bird houses as part of your "oasis space" is a fun attraction. The size of the opening will determine the types of birds you can expect to build a nest in the house. My handy husband, Peter, has made many birdhouses over the years. Most have openings that are 1 1/8" to 1 1/4". These attract house wrens every summer. In fact, they often build nests twice during that period. It's fun to watch the mother and father work together to build the nests. The mother tends to be fussy and often tosses out small sticks or grass that the father has brought into the house. He gets "A for effort," anyway!

Watching the baby wrens get fed is fun to watch. Their heads come out of the birdhouse with their mouths wide open to receive the food that has arrived. At the end of the day, the parents must be exhausted from continuously flying back and forth with food for their little ones.

A bird bath is another part of a relaxing oasis. Watching the birds splash in the water while they bathe will bring a smile to your face. Having a place to drink is undoubtedly a welcome treat for the birds on a hot and dry day. Be sure to keep the bird bath clean to prevent the spread of disease.

Watching butterflies perch on nearby flowers is proof that your garden is doing its part in the pollination process.

So find your oasis location and gradually add to it the things that will provide a sense of peace and relaxation, right in your own backyard. Enjoy!



**Looking Forward**  
By Mary Ellen Shaw



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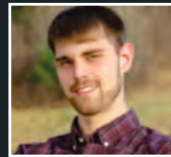
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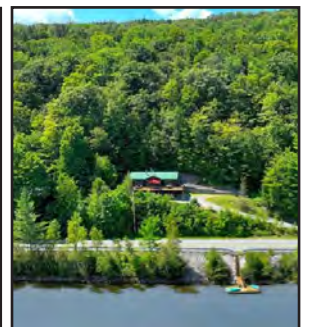
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valcourent@gmail.com | 802-246-7430

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## Employment

**LINE COOKS, DISH-WASHERS, DAYTIME PREP COOK** wanted. Wor-thy 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 full-time 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.

## Real Estate

**KILLINGTON PICO REALTY** 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 full-time 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.KillingtonPicoRealty.com](http://www.KillingtonPicoRealty.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@killingtonvalleyreal-estate.com](mailto:bret@killingtonvalleyreal-estate.com)

**KW VERMONT LUXURY (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 Killington Rd., Killington. 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](http://prestigekillington.com).

**SKI COUNTRY REAL ESTATE 335 Killington Rd., Killington**. 802-775-5111. [SkiCountryRealEstate.com](http://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.

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**BEAUREGARD PAINTING**, 30 years experience. 802-436-1337.

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## Wanted

**GARDEN HELPER WANTED** 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](mailto:jason@mountaintimes.info) or call the office at 422-2399.

**STORAGE UNITS AVAILABLE** and garage space for rent starting at \$75.00 per month. If interested, email or call [paquettepropertymanagement.com](mailto:paquettepropertymanagement.com) or 802-855-8113.



## Want to submit a classified?

Email: [classifieds@mountaintimes.info](mailto:classifieds@mountaintimes.info)  
or call 802-422-2399 by Monday at 4 p.m.

Rates are 50 cents  
per word,  
per week.

### Town of Plymouth, Vermont Part-Time Assessor Assistant

An Assessor Assistant generally provides administrative, technical, and field support to the Assessor's office, primarily focused on real property appraisal and assessment. This includes tasks like data collection, preparing assessment records, assisting with tax map updates, and providing public assistance.

#### Key Responsibilities:

**Data Collection and Record Keeping:** Gathering, organizing, and maintaining information related to property valuations, including deeds, surveys, and property transfers.

**Appraisal Support:** Assisting with field inspections, preparing appraisal reports, and updating assessment records, both manual and computerized.

**Tax Map Maintenance:** Assisting with the upkeep of tax maps, including identifying new properties, updating them with new subdivisions, and incorporating data from building permits.

**Public Assistance:** Providing information to taxpayers and the public regarding assessments and related matters.

**Exemption Processing:** Assisting with the processing and maintenance of exclusion and exemption claims.

**General Office Support:** Providing administrative support to the Assessor, participating in staff meetings, and coordinating activities.

#### Skills and Qualifications:

**Proficiency in Computer Software:** Demonstrates strong computer skills, including proficiency in using Microsoft Office programs, NEMRC, Proval, and CAMA.

**Familiarity with Tax Laws and Regulations:** Understands local and state tax laws and regulations relevant to property assessment.

**Strong Communication Skills:** Can effectively communicate with taxpayers and other members of the public.

**Detail-Oriented:** Can accurately maintain records and process information efficiently.

**Ability to Work Independently:** Can perform tasks with minimal supervision.

**Experience in Real Property Valuation:** Prior experience in related fields like appraiser, valuation data manager, or real property appraisal aid is often preferred.

Please submit your resume and/or a completed application to the Plymouth Town Clerk's Office at 68 Town Office Road, Plymouth, Vermont 05056 or email [clerk@plymouthvt.org](mailto:clerk@plymouthvt.org). Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. The Town of Plymouth is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

## SOLID WASTE TRANSFER STATION

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

Phone Number: (802) 422-4499

Website: [killingtontown.com/transferstation](http://killingtontown.com/transferstation)

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

**BULKY ITEM DAYS**  
**Saturday May 3rd, 8 a.m.-4 p.m.**  
**Monday May 5th, 8 a.m.-4 p.m.**

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.





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