

Soup 'N Chocolate Supper in Westford

By Phyl Newbeck
Special to the Mountain Gazette

It was the lack of good pie crust makers in Westford that led to the founding of the annual Soup 'N Chocolate Supper. For years, Marian Stark had been in charge of a Thanksgiving fundraiser for the United Church of Westford, which involved baking pies. When she passed away, a group of citizens tried to continue the tradition. "We discovered that none of us knew how to make a good pie crust," recalls Wendy Doane. "There were some not very satisfactory Thanksgiving pies that year."

Pies or no pies, the United Church of Westford was in need of repairs and although congregation members had been successful in securing grants, most awards required matching funds so they decided to try something new. On Green Up Day, in conjunction with the Fire Department's tag sale, they held a dinner centered around varieties of chocolate and soup. The plan worked and this year will mark the tenth anniversary of the annual Soup 'N Chocolate Supper.

Doane said one reason for the theme is that Green Up Day marks the end of mud season. "Chocolate looks a little bit like mud," she said. Over the years, close to 100 people have come out annually for the event, helping themselves to both the soup and chocolate dessert buffet tables. For those who want to add a greater variety of sustenance, there is bread and butter, cornbread, and a variety of beverages. The cost for the event is unchanged since 2012: \$8 for adults, \$5 for children five and up, and \$25 for families.

The annual dinner features a silent auction with over 50 prizes donated by individuals and businesses from Westford and beyond including flights at Stowe airport, handcrafted woolens, courses in furniture making and bread baking, a Smugglers' Notch Bash Badge, art by Peter Miller, and a variety of restaurant coupons. The Steeple Market and J&L Hardware in Fairfax have contributed gift certificates for many years. Other auction items include \$75 worth of turkey from Adams Family Farm, maple syrup, and some of the chocolate concoctions created for the occasion. "It's been really successful," said Doane. "Even those who aren't part of the church community participate." All the money raised goes to the preservation of the historic building, which is used for a variety of community functions. This year, the funds are being directed toward painting the church, finishing the steeple, and repairing the handicap railings.

This will be the eighth or ninth year that Joan Farmer has been contributing her "celebration cake" to the silent auction. "I love Westford," she said. "Anything that I can do to help the town prosper or help the historic buildings stay viable is important to me." Farmer is not a member of the United Church of Westford but that hasn't stopped her from helping their fundraising efforts. "I have friends who are congregants and the building is used for other purposes," she said. "It's a historic building and it's crucial to the Town Commons. It's a beautiful structure."

"This is my favorite community gathering," Doane said. "We get people from all generations and it seems like everyone is contributing. It's a fairly easy event to put together considering how much fun everyone has."

Underhill man honored with ACS Volunteer Award

Five Vermont residents have been awarded the 2017 Sandra C. Labaree Award by the New England Division of the American Cancer Society (ACS). This volunteer award is the most honored accolade by the New England Division and, during National Volunteer Week April 23-29, recognized the impact Society volunteers have on the mission to save lives and end cancer. The 2017 recipients are: Shaun Bartlett, Underhill; Dave Birmingham, Grand Isle; Renee Dall, Essex Junction; Samantha DeLabruere, Newport, and Brigitte Olson, Castleton.

The Sandra C. Labaree Award recognizes and honors those volunteers whose actions and service in the fight against cancer most exemplify the ACS' organizational values: mission, data-driven, diversity, respect, and stewardship. These awards are very special reminders of the power volunteers have to save lives and reduce suffering from cancer. They are also imbued with special meaning because they are named in honor of the late Sandy Labaree, a Society volunteer from Maine and founding member of the New England Division Board.

Shaun Bartlett is a passionate *Making Strides Against Breast Cancer* supporter. As general manager with Jolley Associates, Bartlett developed the pink cup campaign, which has raised nearly \$500,000 over the years to help fight breast cancer. His Jolley stores conduct fundraising throughout the year, and he walks alongside colleagues as the largest and most successful fundraising team every October.

For more information on volunteer opportunities with the ACS, or to learn about free programs and services, visit www.cancer.org or call 1-800-227-2345.



"I shall compete for the enjoyment of the game well played and take winning or losing in stride, remembering that without good manners and good temper, sport loses its cause for being." Pony Club member Fiona Stoltz rides her equine partner Skyler.

PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

Citizen scientist volunteers needed for Essex road salt study

Do you harbor a passion for protecting local water quality and seek a meaningful way to give back to your community this summer? Then consider volunteering for the Winooski Natural Resource Conservation District's (WNRCD) new Citizen Scientist sampling program in Essex!

If you're a Vermonter, you've likely heard about the summer algal blooms in Lake Champlain from excessive nutrient runoff, but what about the other pollutants impairing the health of our streams and lakes? Between 10-20 million tons of salt are applied to roads across the United States annually, and the science is clear: road salt application is having a negative impact on our water resources.

Elevated amounts of sodium chloride within our waterways are due largely to road salt application during winter. Excessive sodium chloride reduces fish spawning, degrades instream habitat, encourages establishment of invasive species, and harms our sensitive, native species like Brook Trout and Sugar Maple. An increase in chloride levels also shifts algal species dominance from green algae to cyanobacteria, which could exacerbate the toxic algal blooms already impacting our bodies of water.

Foreseeing the issue road salt poses on stream health, the Essex Department of Public Works has significantly reduced the amount of road salt applied to public roads over the last ten years, and has even implemented a winter sampling program of their own. WNRCD's new monitoring project will re-sample Alder, Indian, and Sunderland Brooks (as well as chloride-impaired Sunnyside Brook in Colchester), which were previously sampled in 2006 by the Essex Waterways Association, to determine if the legacy effect of sodium chloride has reduced over this time from the implementation of reduced road salt application.

If you are interested in volunteering for the WNRCD Citizen Scientist monitoring program and collecting samples, please contact holly@winooskinrcd.org or call 802-288-8155 ext. 104. The sampling season will be every Sunday from June 4-October 15, and we are hoping for commitments of at least one month. For more information on the Sodium Chloride reduction initiative and the Citizen Scientist monitoring effort: www.winooskinrcd.org or info@winooskinrcd.org.

Lions need gently used sports equipment for camp

The Green Mountain Lions Camp, formerly held at the Austine School in Brattleboro, has been moved to the Covenant Hills Campground in Cabot. The Lions are having to rebuild sports inventory.

In an effort to gather gently used sports equipment for the upcoming Green Mountain Lions Camp, the Jericho-Underhill Lions Club will hold a Sports Equipment Round-Up to be held in the back United Church of Underhill parking lot. The event is Saturday, May 13 from 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM. Donations appreciated.

Who are we: we are the Pleasant Valley Pony Club

By Ava Stotz, age 15

Pleasant Valley Pony Club (PVPC) is a small, local group of kids, parents, and instructors dedicated to their horses and learning more about equine care and management, as well as riding. Every Wednesday afternoon, members bathe and prepare their mounts, and collect necessary equipment for the following day. No speck of dust is left on a pony, and no knot can be found in their tails. Early Thursday morning the barn driveway fills with trucks, trailers, and cars as the kids and their noble steeds are loaded into rides, and trekked a few miles down the road to the club meeting place. There lessons on all the knowledge needed to ride and care for your horse occur throughout the day.

Pony Club is an international organization that strives to provide equestrians young and old with equine knowledge, as well as instill independence, confidence, responsibility, leadership, and sportsmanship in all members. This non-profit was started in 1954, and is based around the British Pony Club which was created in 1929. The community Pony Club creates for young equestrians helps them strive to become the best that they can be. Pleasant Valley Pony Club is only one small club of many worldwide that helps to bring this community and equine education to our local area.

The Pony Club Pledge agreed to by all members worldwide sets an example for the equestrians to follow. "As a member of the United States Pony Club, I stand for the best in sportsmanship as well as in horsemanship. I shall compete for the enjoyment of the game well played and take winning or losing in stride, remembering that without good manners and good temper, sport loses its cause for being. I shall endeavor to maintain the best tradition of the ancient and noble skill of horsemanship, always treating my horse with consideration due a partner."

All the Pony Club horses receive the best love and care from their kids, which makes their poo all the better! Come to the annual Pleasant Valley Pony Club manure sale on Saturday-Sunday, May 13-14 next to the Dollar General on VT Rt. 15 in Jericho to pick up some bagged, composted poo to make your garden happy! All proceeds go towards the members' equine education, from riding and management lessons and pony care, to guest speakers such as local veterinarians and farriers. Thank you!



Pony club members are ready for the Pleasant Valley Pony Club manure sale on Saturday and Sunday, May 13-14 next to the Dollar General on VT Rt. 15 in Jericho. Come by to pick up some bagged, composted poo to make your garden happy!

Smuggs' Area Chamber to join Lamoille Region CoC

After several public meetings with members and non-members, the Board of the Smugglers' Notch Area Chamber of Commerce (SNACC) has decided to dissolve our Chamber and hand over our assets to the non-profit Lamoille Region Chamber of Commerce (LRCC). We feel this is in the best interest of promoting the community we love so much. Details for members will follow by mail and email. LRCC is already making an effort to reach out to our community with an upcoming breakfast meeting:

Please join us on Tuesday, May 9, 7:30 – 9:00 AM, for the Lamoille Region Chamber of Commerce Breakfast Meeting in the Meeting House at Smugglers' Notch Resort. We'll introduce The Vermont Flannel Company, our newest member, and Mark Kelley of Efficiency Vermont will be on hand to discuss energy saving opportunities for small and medium businesses. Please RSVP to jen@lamoillechamber.com or visit <https://www.lamoillechamber.com/> to register.

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COMING EVENTS

Tuesday, May 2
The Black Witch book launch, 7:00 PM, Phoenix Books Burlington, 191 Bank St., Burlington. Join Vermont author Laurie Forest to celebrate the launch of her new young adult novel. This is Laurie’s first novel. Tickets \$3 per person include a coupon for \$5 off the featured book. Coupons expire at closing the evening of the event. Seating is limited. Information: www.phoenixbooks.biz or 448-3350.

Wednesday, May 3
Video Games: Changing Stories and Changing Behaviors, 7:00 PM, Brownell Library, Essex Junction. Ann DeMarle, director of Champlain College’s Emergent Media Center, explores digital gaming, how designers and players both participate in the storytelling process, and ways some game creators seek to effect social change through gaming. Part of the VT Humanities Council’s First Wednesdays program. Free and open to the public.

Senator Leahy: A Life in Scenes Burlington book launch, 7:00 PM, Phoenix Books Burlington, 191 Bank St., Burlington. Philip Baruth’s biography tells the story of the blockbuster life of America’s most senior senator. Baruth is a professor of English at UVM and served as the majority leader of the VT Senate from 2012–2016. Proceeds from ticket sales will go to the VT Foodbank. Tickets \$3 per person include a coupon for \$5 off the featured book. Coupons expire at closing the evening of the event. Seating is limited. Information: www.phoenixbooks.biz or 448-3350.

Wednesday, May 3
Nowhere to Go: A Mental Health Patient in the Emergency Room, 7:00 PM, Green Mountain Technology and Career Center Community Room, 738 VT Rt. 15, Hyde Park. Multi-media presentation presented by Copley Hospital and produced by Copley Hospital Ethics Committee in collaboration with students in the Creative Media, Art & Design class at Green Mountain Technology and Career Center. Panel discussion with front line professionals: Michael Brigati, Emergency Services Nurse Director, Copley Hospital; Monique Reil, Mobile Crisis Team Manager, Lamoille County Mental Health; and Dale Porter, RN, Emergency Services. RSVP at copleyvt.org/classes-and-events/2017-05.

Thursday, May 4
Free Community Soup and Bread Supper, 4:30 – 6:30 PM, Covenant Community Church, 1 Whitcomb Meadows Lane, Essex. A quick, easy, and delicious meal to enjoy with friends and family at the church, or to pick up to take home. Choose from a variety of hearty soups and breads and a sweet dessert. Donations are welcome, but not expected. Call Pastor Steve Anderson, 879-4313, for more information.

Write Your First Novel or Non-Fiction Book, 6:00 – 8:00 PM, Milton Artist Guild (MAG) Art Center & Gallery, 199 U.S. Rt. 7 South, Milton. A course for first-time authors. Professional writer and published author J. P. Choquette will share useful tips and strategies to help you write your first book. Her insights will help you with a writing plan, real-life logistics (making the time, where to start, how to keep going till you finish) and she will answer your book-related questions.

\$20 MAG members, \$25 non-members. Contact MAG workshop registrar Christina Lesperance, castlegarden_vt@yahoo.com for more information or to register.

Unveiling children’s mural, 7:00 PM, Phoenix Books Burlington, 191 Bank St., Burlington. Celebrate the ribbon cutting for our new mural! Local artist Kristin Richland has brought beloved book characters to the walls of our children’s section, and will join us for a reception and light fare. Kristin is a painter living in Underhill. Animal imagery is a constant theme through her work, and her paintings of creatures and critters are the work of an active imagination, the one you wish you never lost when you grew up. Children’s literature fans of all ages are welcome to this free event. Information: www.phoenixbooks.biz or 448-3350.

Friday-Saturday, May 5-6
Rummage Sale, Friday 3:00 – 7:00 PM, Saturday 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM, United Church of Fairfax Baptist Building, 1210 Main St., Fairfax. Bag sale all day Saturday. Clean clothes, books, toys, white elephant. Benefits the missions of the United Church of Fairfax. Information: 849-6313.

Spring Rummage Sale, Friday 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM, Saturday 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM, Grace United Methodist Church, 130 Maple St., Essex Junction. Take what you need and pay what you can. For information, call (can leave message) Ann, 879-7943, or the church, 878-8071.

Saturday, May 6
GREEN UP DAY!
Pie for Breakfast, 8:00 – 11:00 AM, Cambridge Elementary School cafeteria, Cambridge. All you can eat pie and bottomless coffee for \$5! Hosted by the Cambridge Area Rotary.

Tag Sale and Open House, 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM, Westford Volunteer Fire Department, Westford Town Garage, Cambridge Rd., Westford. Hot dogs and baked goods for sale. Meet our firefighters and learn about fire safety. Come find treasures and support your local volunteer fire department!

50 years of Brown Bear, 11:00 AM, Phoenix Books Essex, 21 Essex Way, Essex. Join us to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the classic picture book **Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See?** with a story time and activities. This is an official event of Children’s Book Week, an annual national celebration of books for young people and the joy of reading. All ages. Free. Information: www.phoenixbooks.biz or 872-7111.

Genealogy Research in New York State, 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM, VT Genealogy Library, Hegeman Ave., Fort Ethan Allen, Colchester. Don’t just watch “Who Do You Think You Are.” bring what you know to the Vermont Genealogy Library and we’ll help you start your search. All classes \$5; parking and entrance are across from the State Police Building. For information: www.vtgenlib.org or 802-310-9285.

Saturday-Sunday, May 6-7
Annual Spring Sale, Saturday 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM, Sunday 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM (rummage only), Fletcher Historical Society Building, Fletcher. Benefits the Binghamville Methodist Church. Food, plants, books, white elephant, and huge rummage sale. Soup and sandwich lunch served all day. No TVs, tires, or computers accepted. For

information or to donate items call Charles Tinker or Dennis Getty, 849-2120.

Sunday, May 7
Monkton Volunteer Fire Dept. Spring Breakfast, 8:00 – 10:30 AM, Monkton Volunteer Fire Department, 3747 States Prison Hollow Rd., Monkton. All-you-can-eat breakfast: scrambled eggs, blue berry pancakes, egg casserole, bacon, sausage, French toast, juice, coffee, tea, milk. All are welcome! For information call Charlie, 877-2442.

Tuesday, May 9
Onion River press launch party, 7:00 PM, Phoenix Books Burlington, 191 Bank St., Burlington. Join us for the official launch of Onion River Press, a new self-publishing program based out of Phoenix Books geared toward promoting the voices of Vermont authors. The launch will feature a short information session highlighting how aspiring authors can access the services that Onion River Press offers, and celebrate this new venture supporting the local community. Free. Information: www.phoenixbooks.biz or 448-3350.

Wednesday, May 10
JSC Community Meal, 11:30 AM – 12:30 PM, United Church of Johnson, 100 Main St., Johnson. Johnson State College offers a free community meal to the public, at which JSC students, faculty, and staff serve as volunteers, serving a hot lunch on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month through May for all who attend.

Thursday, May 11
Collateral Trout book launch, 7:00 PM, Phoenix Books Burlington, 191 Bank St., Burlington. Catch up with Burlington’s own legendary fly fisher Peter Shea at this book launch celebration! For more than 50 years, with fly rod in hand Shea has chased trout in Vermont and elsewhere. Along the way, he’s documented their geography in maps and guidebooks, and shared his own often hilarious angling stories. His newest book reprises several out-of-print reader favorites, adding new-to-print memoirs, and including the author’s first works of fiction. Proceeds from ticket sales go to VT Foodbank: \$3 per person includes a coupon for \$5 off the featured book. Coupons expire at closing the evening of the event. Information: www.phoenixbooks.biz or 448-3350.

Saturday, May 13
Donate sports equipment to Lions camp, 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM, behind the United Church of Underhill, Underhill Flats. The Green Mountain Lions Camp has been moved to the Covenant Hills Campground in Cabot. The Lions need to rebuild sports inventory for their relocated camp. All donations will be appreciated.

Lasagna dinner, 5:00 and 6:00 PM servings, Bingham Methodist Church, Fletcher. Take out available. Menu: Lasagna, tossed salad, garlic bread, homemade dessert. Adults \$10, children under 12 \$5, pre-school free. For reservations, call Dennis / Charles, 849-2120.

Jason Chin and Deirdre Gill, 11:00 AM, Phoenix Books Burlington, 191 Bank St., Burlington. Join authors Chin and Gill for a reading, Q&A, and drawing demo. Jason’s new book is Grand Canyon, a gorgeously illustrated exploration of the Grand Canyon past and present. He is the award-winning author of Redwoods, Coral Reefs, and Island: A Story of the Galápagos. Deirdre’s newest title, Trains Don’t Sleep, has the feel of a classic and vivid artwork that captures the power and majesty of trains. Her debut book Outside (2014) was inspired by her own

experiences of playing outside as a child. Free. Information: www.phoenixbooks.biz or 448-3350.
VNA 5K Fun Run, 8:00 AM check-in, 9:00 AM start, Malletts Bay School, 609 Blakely Rd., Colchester. Run, walk, jog, bike, and stroll to raise money for the new McClure Miller VNA Respite House. Register yourself or a team at <https://www.vnacares.org/event/vermont-respite-house-5k-fun-run-jiggety-jog/>. Set up a pledge page. More information: www.vnacares.org.

Sunday, May 14
MOTHER’S DAY!
Mother’s Day Breakfast, 8:00 – 10:30 AM, St. Thomas Parish Hall, Underhill Center. Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus Council #7810, the buffet style breakfast will include juice, fruit, eggs, pancakes, sausage, bacon, home fries, and coffee or tea. The cost is by donation. All are welcome! Come and bring the whole family to this delicious breakfast in honor of Mom on her special day.

Mother’s Day Brunch, 8:00 – 10:30 AM, VFW Post 9653, Pleasant St., Morrisville. Menu includes eggs, bacon, sausage, ham, sausage gravy and biscuits, corned beef hash, strata, pancakes, baked beans, mac and cheese, home fries, fresh fruit salad, and more. Adults \$10; children under 10 \$5. Benefits VFW Auxiliary to Post 9653.

Thursday, May 18
Sound System: The Political Power of Music, 7:00 PM, Phoenix Books Burlington, 191 Bank St., Burlington. Musician and activist Dave Randall will discuss his new book, which looks at the raves, riots, and revolution of contemporary culture to answer the question: how can we make music serve the interest of the many, rather than the few? Sound System is the story of one musician’s journey to discover what exactly makes music so powerful. Proceeds from ticket sales go to VT Foodbank: \$3 per person includes a coupon for \$5 off the featured book. Coupons expire at closing the evening of the event. Information: www.phoenixbooks.biz or 448-3350.

Friday-Saturday, May 19-20
Tag Sale / Plant Sale, 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM both days, Calvary Episcopal Church, 370 VT Rt. 15, Underhill Flats. Children’s and adult’s clothing, toys, games, books, kitchen and ho8usehold items, furniture, electronics, tools, and more.

Saturday, May 20
Forever Garden Story Time, 11:00 AM, Phoenix Books Burlington, 191 Bank St., Burlington. Enjoy your Saturday morning with Phoenix Books and City Market at a reading of the children’s book The Forever Garden by Laurel Snyder. After we read together, we will have a fun and interactive healthy food activity! Free; all ages. Information: www.phoenixbooks.biz or 448-3350.

Wednesday, May 24
JSC Community Meal, 11:30 AM – 12:30 PM, United Church of Johnson, 100 Main St., Johnson. Johnson State College offers a free community meal to the public, at which JSC students, faculty, and staff serve as volunteers, serving a hot lunch on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month through May for all who attend.

Saturday, May 27
Bird Monitoring Walk, 7:30 AM, Birds of Vermont Museum, 900 Sherman Hollow Rd., Huntington. All birders welcome to walk in forest and meadow. Free; please pre-register. More information: 434-2167, museum@birdsofvermont.org, or www.birdsofvermont.org.

Events at the Birds of Vermont Museum

Many events at the Birds of Vermont Museum are free, or are included with Museum admission. Contact the Museum, located at 900 Sherman Hollow Rd., Huntington, for more information on these and other upcoming events and programs, 434-2167 or museum@birdsofvermont.org. The Museum is open daily 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM, through October 31.

Birding by the Numbers – What would ornithology be without math? What new facts and figures about feathered phenomena do you most appreciate? Explore bird-focused art that incorporates a feeling for number with artistic expression, and discover Vermont artists.

On second and fourth Tuesdays (e.g., May 9 and 23) 10:30 – 11:30 AM, *Nestlings Find Nature* is a program where preschoolers discover how

nestling songbirds grow and develop in their challenging world. Books, crafts, nature walks, and outdoor activities make up investigative play.

Sundays in May and June, 7:00 – 8:30 AM, come for Early Birder Morning Walks. Ramble the Museum’s forests and meadows, led by experienced Vermont birders. Finish the walk with bird-friendly coffee at the viewing window inside the Museum. Tick repellent, binoculars, and good walking shoes recommended. Best for adults and teens.

Who Walks These Woods – on second Sundays, 1:00 – 3:00 PM, expert tracker Mike Kessler guides a journey into the ancient art of tracking, to learn as much about ourselves as the animals and landscape around us. Please pre-register.



The drive along the Richmond-Hinesburg road features flocks of Canada geese raising their young at a beaver pond and on surrounding lawns. Geese have nested here for generations.

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COMMUNITY COLUMNS

The Old Woman goes to the grocery store

By Sue Kusserow
Special to the Mountain Gazette

The dogs need a nice tough reindeer bone (much longer-lasting than beef). And the cat says that the milk turned a little crisp, since it was left on the counter overnight. And for me, there are the delights of sloshing through leftover April mud puddles, balancing on a large size grocery cart. I have become an instant diagnostician, observing how we old people use a grocery cart: the amount of bend to the back is a layman’s diagnosis of arthritic knees. Holding on, literally, for dear life, is a sign of breathlessness. The examination of a fascinating product, which you have no intention of buying, is a good cover up for a rest stop. Sometimes my old friend goes with me, and we have cart races to see who can get lost first, somewhere between the broccoli and the Krispy Krunchies.

Since I am just starting this little adventure, and know this store quite well even in its many disguises of enlargement, readjustment, and confusion, I am able to swiftly go by the come-ons piled into bins at the entrance, and neatly swerve into Produce. The anemic eastern-grown Iceberg Lettuce reminds me of a time in California visiting a Farmers’ Market: a box of Romaine Lettuce, so green it would remind an Irishman of being back home in the spring of Kerry. I was so entranced I just stood staring, mentally anointing the bursting pile with ample amounts of toasted sesame oil and freshly chopped garlic. Even here in our cold Northeast, we can benefit from the piles of products that come from the West. The displays of produce are a kaleidoscope of color: piles of carrots with the tops still in plumes, huge obese bags of grapefruit, alligator-skinned avocados, ruby gems of strawberries, bags of tiny leaves of emerald spinach. It is always a decision between convenience, price, and temptation.

I do like shopping at a huge bulk store with better prices; I am easily overwhelmed. It is such a temptation that I end up going home and discovering that I already had plenty of spinach, albeit slippery and wet at the bottom of the vegetable bin. I once bought a towering stack of toilet paper that was on sale... 2 for 1. I sometimes wonder whether one should include these items in one’s will, giving instructions for the distribution of bulk mistakes. I recently bought an LED light bulb, which is guaranteed for 20 years. Since I don’t plan on being around, should I include this in the list?

I usually meet some interesting shoppers in this place: carts tipping over with a doggie bed ample enough for a Great Dane, large trolleys sprouting gargantuan bags of “Green And Healthy” kale chips, enough spaghetti sauce to last for the next year at least. Most of the shoppers here are serious about their shopping, and most of them show the damage of bulk bargains. Since I myself am no slim wonder, I feel a similar triad of: temptation, pricing, and self-destruction. I head down the Aisle \$# tunnel, stopping of course for the samples doled out by retirees who need some extra change. Regulations insist that they drape a hairnet over hair, beard, or mustache and these drooping attempts to meet health standards are an amusing failure. Sometimes, out of this disguise, comes a well-worn attempt to persuade one to stop... a quick spiel with a splash of originality. One of the men, a retired teacher, loves to sing old-fashioned songs. Since I remember such tunes, I join in: *In the Good Old Summer Time* and *In Your Easter Bonnet* seem to sell a few more tidbits. With my cart full of too much of this and too little of that, I take my departing bow to frivolity: a large hotdog which one can glop with red, yellow, and green sauces. I remember to buy an extra, unadorned one for the dogs, who have been waiting in the car for their shopping needs to be met.

But grocery shopping can be gentle, too. Getting lost among ethereal directions posted on the ceiling but going nowhere, is for when one has time. Selectivity takes minutes, choosing between white tea leaves from Sumatra and African Red Bush Tea. There is an exhibit of chopped nuts, each variety being layered in a large glass jar labeled Natural. I have never been sure what that means. If something is labeled Natural, can I therefore assume there is an opposite: Artificial? I have never seen an artificial nut, but so many things have changed in my lifetime that I probably was not well-informed. I guess I don’t understand why cane sugar deserves the rather angelic adjective: pure. Or how the same piece of salmon can be labeled both Farm and Fresh. Or how there can be so many hints of almond, cinnamon, fresh raspberries, and aged oak, with the characters of sweet lime and pear...all in one bottle of wine.

I feel old, so I linger in produce where an orange still looks like an orange, although it was probably raised in Eden’s Garden before that became corrupted by an apple. It is obviously time to take a break. As I sip my coffee, I can hear the blender spinning kale, carrots, and arugula into a green mush. It doesn’t look very appetizing, but on the other hand, most everyone dancing behind their carts looks enviably thin. The young women behind the counter present an uninhibited display of artistry: nose and tongue earrings, lashes thick with kohl, rings on every finger, and hair of two extremes: scalp-short or long in a huge topknot. Often, this tour of sybaritic America is worth the price of two hand-molded raspberry tarts to accompany my Guatemalan hand-picked coffee.

I hope that this brief introduction helps you realize that it is not the lengthening shopping list that should be considered first. It is more important that the duty fits the day... and the right choice of grocery for one’s mood.

I find my old friend in the cereal aisle. Since neither of us can bend very easily, we can avoid the kiddie viewing level, which seems to be a variety of unknown grains, naturally blessed with pure cane sugar. Somehow, we find that oatmeal, with a few raisins, a great morning pickup to begin the day. Enjoy!

Spring flowers

By Sue Kusserow
Special to the Mountain Gazette

The flowers are coming! Right now in Underhill at least, they are small beings huddled under large hopes. Each gardener remembers just where the huge six-foot Larkspur was last year, and the vagabond, lower-class immigrant patch of daisies that landed among the queens of the plantation, and with some accidental help from drifting fertilizer, became a queen herself. She is a tramp of the roadside, compared to her wealthy cousin, the Shasta Daisy (actually a member of the Chrysanthemum family). Her persistence paid off.

I can mumble all I want about the joys of the wild flowers, yet still have great respect for the gardeners in my life: Robert, the son-in-law of the green thumb (nay, actually of his whole hand!) who sneaks out before getting his kids to school, hiding beneath his torn straw hat to dig and scatter for a few moments. Lee has many small micro-gardens around her house, and as you turn each corner, there is another small tableau of colors. She also has a wonderfully arthritic bush called a Harry Lauder Walking Stick Bush in honor of a song-and-dance Scotsman, which is so homely and gnarled that it sets off an amusing contrast for tulips and daffodils. Betsy has a patch of Jack-in-the-Pulpit that, if I were a thief, would be hand-dug (quietly, no shovels please) by the dark of the moon and driven with all furtive speed down her rain-soaked dirt road, to my shaded rock in my woods. I am not quite sure why I have a criminal’s yearning for this plant; perhaps because as a child, my sudden discovery of one in the woods was such a rare good deal. But Betsy also grows the more formal-type plants and gardens, all of which are ten feet tall with gargantuan petals.

I am Robert’s third-class assistant gardener, which means I need many lessons. He is partial to blue, so I try and sneak in a geranium or two between the Ageratum and Cornflowers. I know I will never become a formal gardener – a wanderer, yes, but not a row-next-to-row gardener. I could say this is due to my early love of the natural, the uninhibited. I could also say I am just plain lazy. And I do have a chronic leg problem that occasionally leaves me prone among the peonies with a microscopic view of the sprouting red shoots.

But nothing can be as beautiful or as exciting as the discovery of a yellow Ladies’ Slipper. I saw it, guided by Viv Wright, whom some may remember as a wanderer with a good memory for the hidden flowers. I saw it once with her, but it never re-appeared. The evanescence is part of the hunt: you may never see it again. That is part of the excitement of free-lance gardening... the discovery of beauty that you haven’t planted, predicted, expected. And there is no digging; one does not dig (destroy) a natural beauty. I remember my discovery of Trailing Arbutus, rather rare in northern Vermont. It was next to a rocky path where a spot of sunlight gave it life. For years this meant Spring, and I would – deliberately this time – lie prone to it, inhaling the delicacy of its impossible perfume. It is gone now, probably a victim of sprouting trees blocking the sun.

Shadbush is a favorite – the ghostly-white tree on the edge of a wood. It will die when it gets surrounded by its fast-growing neighbors of Red Maple, Gray Birch, Poplar. The flowers are small white... insignificant as individuals, but collectively they hold the promise of the seasons: a brief introduction to the Summer woods, then they are quickly blown away by the first wind.

As long as you give me the mundane pleasure of spotting the first Wood Anemone, the verifying finger stains of the Bloodroot, the drooping yellow head of the Trout Lily, a.k.a. Dogtooth Violet, Fawn Lily, Adder’s Tongue. The Cowslip and Squirrel Corn are both washed in Oak-infused black water pools, keeping company with False Hellebore, so poison that a meal of it became a test for certain Indian tribes: whoever lived, became the next chief. So I’m sure we will get along. Although I doubt I will ever get promoted to second class assistant gardener.

Oops, there goes another Peony shoot... It sure looked like a weed to me!

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Let’s take the long view

To the Editor,
Why does the Legislature just focus on issues that have or are about to become crises?

Each year we face a “budget gap” with insufficient revenue to meet our current level of services. Each year we resolve the crisis by cutting state services, moving money around, or raising bits of revenue with increases in fees and narrowly-targeted tax adjustments. We make it through another year without deficit spending, but also without solving the underlying problems.

Many legislators acknowledge that the state should invest in the cleanup of the state’s waters, increasing child care subsidies, funding for community mental health and developmental services, and in higher education. But energy gets focused on today’s budget gap without long-range planning or investment.

These consistent budget gaps track with our changing economy. Income growth has been much more robust for high earners and growth in consumption has tended to be in services that are not taxed, not in goods that are. Our tax structure hasn’t adapted to this new reality.

We have been more willing in the past to adjust revenue up and down with changing circumstances. Governor Snelling used to point out that people needed more, not less, from government in tough times, and he backed it up with temporary tax increases during the recessions in the early 1980s and 1990s. And we have never been able to budget counter-cyclically, raising revenue when times are good to save for the truly rainy day.

Now we “manage to the money” – spending just what the state takes in with little attention to what makes for effective state government. Both parties seem to agree that less spending is better than more, regardless of the consequences. Over time, administration policy and planning staff have been cut, lessening the state’s effectiveness in monitoring contracted services. So fiscal restraint in itself becomes a higher goal than having an excellent infrastructure with which to grow our economy. And we move from crisis to crisis.

We need long term solutions, we need long term thinking. We are not really putting our finances in order and it is leaving us with an aging infrastructure, polluted water, and more children and people with disabilities living in poverty.

The One Vermont coalition (onevt.org) has offered a promising possibility for lawmakers to consider. By eliminating tax giveaways to upper income taxpayers we could generate savings that could be used for smart investments, for lowering nominal tax rates for all, and for balancing MORE than one year’s budget.

Do you have grandchildren?

Ed Paquin, Executive Director, Disability Rights Vermont

Home alone, intentionally

By Lewis First, MD
Chief of Pediatrics at UVM Children’s Hospital

Recently I’ve noticed that parents have been eager to ask me at what age they can leave their children home without a sitter. I feel at home, but not alone, with this common question so let me provide some information on the topic.

First of all, children under 10 should never be left alone, even for a few minutes. If your child is over 10, but still frightened or apprehensive about being left alone, don’t leave them alone either.

On the other hand, if they are over 10 and showing signs of responsibility, such as getting homework and chores done without asking, following rules and understanding safety measures in your house, and are interested in trying to be left alone while you are out, then you can consider leaving them alone by themselves.

Here are a few suggestions that will make things go well:

- Set the house rules ahead of time and make sure your child understands and can repeat back to you these rules. Just what these rules are is up to you, but they usually include no guests when an adult is not at home, never answering the door for a stranger, and never telling a stranger on the phone that they are home alone. There might also be a rule about not using the oven in your absence and how long television is to be watched or the internet used when you are not home.
- Make sure your child knows how to respond in the event of an emergency, such as a fire, by talking through such situations and hearing how they would respond.
- Post all key phone numbers and any special instructions on a visible place, such as the fridge.
- If your children are staying alone after school until you get home, ask one of them to call you – or a neighbor if you are unavailable – as soon as they get home from school to let you know they’re okay.

With these hints in place, you might give your child the opportunity to try this experience perhaps first by leaving him or her alone for a brief period of time, such as 15-30 minutes and then increasing the time alone over time. Hopefully tips like these will hit home when it comes to allowing your older child to stay home alone when you cannot be there to provide supervision.

Lewis First, MD, is chief of Pediatrics at UVM Children’s Hospital and chair of the Department of Pediatrics at the Robert Larner, M.D. College of Medicine at UVM.



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Tuesday - Thursday

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Friday - 11:00 AM - 9:00 PM

Saturday

11:00 AM - 8:30 PM

Sunday

4:00 - 8:00 PM

899-3718

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Health workshops sponsored by Northwestern Medical Center

Cancer Exercise Rehab Group, ongoing every Tuesday and Thursday, 11:00 AM – 12:30 PM, NMC Rehab gym, Cobblestone Building. A physical therapy evaluation is required to assure that the client is able to participate. This class pinpoints the common needs of patients. This includes decreased range of motion, decreased strength, cancer related fatigue and lymphedema. Wendy Lawrence, certified NMC Oncology Rehab Physical Therapist. Preregistration required; 524-1064 to register or for more information. Free for the first eight weeks, then \$40 for open gym access.

Prenatal Fitness, Wednesdays, 5:30 – 6:30 PM, NMC Wellness & Fitness Room. Free prenatal exercise sessions to strengthen and prepare you for a successful birthing experience. Join other moms as we lead you through a customized routine designed to make you feel energized and confident. Please consult a physician before beginning this exercise program. Stephanie Freedom, AFPA. Pre-registration required; contact Stephanie, 802-288-1141 or stephanie.freedom@gmail.com to register or for more information. Free to Northwestern OB/GYN patients.

Program Now Enrolling First Time Mothers – Franklin County Home Health Agency’s Nurse Family Partnership Program (NFP) helps first time mothers in Franklin, Lamoille, and Grand

Isle counties. NFP is an evidenced-based program that enrolls mothers during pregnancy and provides them with regular nurse visits until their child’s second birthday. Nurses provide support, education, and counseling on health, behavioral, and self-sufficiency issues. Interested women and their healthcare providers can call 802-527-7531 for more information.

Healthy Weight Support Group, every Monday, 12:00–12:30 PM, Northwestern Medical Center, Grand Isle Room. This weekly support group for those working on weight management combines behavioral and nutritional strategies to increase physical activity and decrease calorie intake. It will provide you with techniques to help you manage your eating behaviors. Come 15 minutes early for a weight check. Speakers Kay Tran, Registered Dietitian, MS, CDE, and Leslie Gardzina, Registered Dietitian, Northwestern Medical Center. Free. No registration required, just drop in to attend.

Healing Circle Cancer Support Group. A self-help cancer support group for women of all ages and lifestyles who have cancer. At our monthly meetings, we share information, offer each other support and comfort, and learn new things from speakers. We extend an invitation to any woman who has cancer, whether you are newly diagnosed or a long term survivor. Held the

have call Tony at 802-393-6503.

Chronic Disease Support Group Workshops, Healthier Living Workshop – held at various locations and dates. Are you or someone you know living with a chronic health condition? Then this workshop is for you! Learn to feel better by learning how to deal with frustration, fatigue, and pain, manage symptoms and medications, and improve strength and flexibility. Each session is 2½ hours once a week, for six weeks. Pre-registration required; contact Deb Robertson, 524-1031 or drobertson@nmcinc.org. Free.

Grief and Recovery Support Group – Experiencing a loss can be painful to face alone. Franklin County Home Health’s Grief and Recovery Support Group serves as a safe place to share feelings with others who are coping with grief. This support group is offered free of charge to anyone who would like to talk to others and help one another. It also provides a resource for grief education in our community. The group meets the first and third Wednesday of each month from 7:00 – 8:00 PM at the Franklin County Home Health office in St. Albans, 3 Home Health Circle. For more information and to pre-register, contact Lori Wright, 527-7531.

Shadows Of The Moon Autism Support Group – for 1:1 phone support, please call Cheryl, 802-868-3658, or Laura, 802-849-2817.

Alzheimer’s Support group – This group for those with Alzheimer’s and caregivers, family members, and friends meets the last Tuesday of each month at NMC in the Green Mountain Room from 6:00 – 7:00 PM. For information, contact Amanda Wilson, 527-7531.

Parkinson’s Support Group – open to those with Parkinson’s and their caregivers, including family and loved ones. Monthly meetings can provide an open forum to share experience with others who are coping with the disease, gaining education, and support. Second Tuesday of each month, 10:00 – 11:30 AM, Pillsbury Senior Community, 3 Harborview Dr., St. Albans. Wheelchair accessible. Free; pre-registration not required; for information, contact Pat, 802-524-5520 or Judy, 815-895-2312.

Free monthly events for pregnant and nursing moms: Breastfeeding Moms Group, first Wednesday of each month, 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM. Meet once a month for snacks, crafting activities, making baby blankets, and get information from the experts. Free; call 393-6591 for location and to pre-register. **Breastfeeding and Infant Massage Group**, second Wednesday of each month, 9:30 – 11:15 AM, Alburgh Library. Join other moms and babies to learn how

to massage your baby and discover more about breastfeeding and parenting. Free; no registration necessary. **Latch On! Discussion Group**, third Saturday of each month, 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM, Family Birth Center, NMC. Learn about breastfeeding and share your stories. Enjoy light refreshments and connect with other Moms. Free; no pre-registration necessary.

Baby Bumps Support Group for Mothers and Pregnant Women – Pregnancy can be a wonderful time of your life. But it can also be a time of stress that is often compounded by hormonal swings. If you are a pregnant woman, or have recently given birth and feel you need some help with managing the emotional bumps in the road that can come with motherhood, please come to this free support group lead by an experienced pediatric registered nurse. This group is for both pregnant women and mothers. Second and fourth Tuesdays of the month from, 5:30 – 6:30 PM, Birthing Center, Northwestern Medical Center, St. Albans. Free; for more information and to pre-register, contact Rhonda Desrochers at Franklin County Home Health Agency, 802-527-7531. This free program is presented jointly by Franklin County Home Health Agency, Northwest Counseling and Support Services, Northwestern Medical Center, and the VT Department of Health.

Foot Clinics – Regular care of your feet can prevent problems. If you are an elderly and/or disabled person who is unable to do your own foot care, please consider attending a Foot Clinic. Franklin County Home Health Agency offers monthly Foot Clinics throughout the year in St. Albans, Swanton, Franklin, East Fairfield, and Enosburg. To schedule an appointment, please call our office at 802-527-7531. The cost for Foot Care Clinics is \$20.

Who’s Your Person, What’s Your Plan? – End of Life Planning. We plan for all life’s milestones – marriage, birth, retirement. But few of us have plans in place for our end of life. Planning for end-of-life starts with understanding your care options, including hospice and palliative care options. An advance directive can provide this information for your family and physician. Start this conversation with your family before you are in a health crisis. Information and materials to help facilitate your conversation are available on a new website for the Start the Conversation statewide initiative, www.starttheconversationvt.org. You can also call Franklin County Home Health Agency to learn more about your hospice and palliative care options, 802-527-7531, or visit our website www.fchha.org.

UNITED WAY VOLUNTEER CONNECTION LISTINGS

By Sue Alenick
United Way Volunteer Columnist

Spring up. Volunteer! United Way of Northwest Vermont’s mobile-friendly Volunteer Connection search platform connects you to hundreds of volunteer needs with local nonprofits. Search by age, date, county, or interest; find nonprofits by causes that are important to you. Now volunteers have even more ways to stay connected to community needs. Go to www.unitedwaynwvt.galaxydigital.com or contact volctr@unitedwaynwvt.org or 860-1677.

JOIN US AT HOCHELAGA – **United Way** is partnering with **Comcast** for a volunteer work day at the YWCA’s Camp Hochelaga in South Hero on April 22 from 8:00 AM – 2:00 PM. Help get camp ready for a summer supporting positive goals and growth for girls. Contact Cari Kelley, 861-7851 or cari@unitedwaynwvt.org.

BOOKMOBILE FUNDRAISER – **Franklin Grand Isle Bookmobile** is looking for volunteers for a Taco Party Fundraiser in Swanton on April 22, from 2:00 – 5:00 PM. There will be lots of food, fun, prizes, and more, and volunteers can sell tickets, direct people through the food line, staff activities, set up games, etc. Contact Deb Grennon, 868-5077 or fgibookmobile@yahoo.com.

TEENS AT THE MUSEUM – **Shelburne Museum** is looking for teen volunteers to act as CITs at this summer’s camps. Teens, age 13 and up, will be paired up with education staff to assist in running the camps; each week has a different theme. For more information contact Laura Need, 985-2331 or lneed@shelburnemuseum.org.

SPRING PROJECTS: Spring is finally here and many organizations need help with outdoor clean up projects:

- **Common Ground Center** in Starksboro, a multi-age arts, education, and outdoor center, needs help with site projects and spring clean up such as trail work, raking, weeding, etc. Work sessions will take place on April 21 and May 3 and 5, 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM. Contact Emily Gibbs, 453-2592 or Emily@cgcv.org.
- **Winooski Valley Park District** needs volunteers Wednesday, May 3 from 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM for a Colchester Pond project to plant shrubs and plants along the riparian buffer. Contact Tim Larned, 863-5744 or timlarned@wvpd.org.
- **Missisquoi National Wildlife Refuge** in Swanton will host a Refuge Green Up Day activity on Friday, May 5 from 9:00 AM – 12:00

PM. Volunteers will help with river cleanup activities and meet at Louie’s Landing at 9:00 AM. Contact Dave or Robert, volunteer@friendsofmissisquoi.org.

• **Family Room Community Gardens** at the Ethan Allen Homestead will host a Garden Work Day on May 6 from 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM. Volunteers will help prepare the 40 garden plots provided to families with young children for the summer. Repair picnic tables and trellis, spread compost, hand till, and weed. Contact Emily Merrill at 862-2121 or merrillE@ynacares.org.

• **The Nature Conservancy** has posted their 2017 Spring Volunteer Stewardship Days, which include projects throughout Vermont. Local dates and locations include May 11 and 26, June 1 and 15 at Williams Woods in Charlotte, May 17 and June 23 at Raven Ridge in Monkton, June 21 at LaPlatte River Marsh in Shelburne. Work takes place from 9:30 AM – 2:30 PM. Contact the Volunteer Coordinator at 229-1347 or volunteervt@tnc.org.

• **The Farm at VYCC** in Richmond’s Health Care Share project provides CSA shares to food insecure families. Volunteers are needed through the summer to help. Spring work includes seeding plants, constructing greenhouses and hoop houses, preparing fields and transplanting veggies. This is a great large-group project. Schedule a time by calling Emma Homans, volunteer@vycc.org.

Howard Center has volunteer clean up and gardening projects in May and ongoing gardening opportunities through the summer at various sites in Burlington. Contact Denise Vignoe, 488-6912 or dvignoe@howardcenter.org.

WALK FOR COTS – **COTS** annual walk is set for Sunday, May 7, and they are in need of volunteers to help with set up, traffic control, registration, mascots (to wear the Ben & Jerry’s Moo mascot costume and Vermont Ted E. Bear costume), data entry, and more. To join the fun, contact Sian Leach, 864-7402 or sianl@cotsonline.org.

MARATHON – **RunVermont and The People’s United Bank Vermont City Marathon** bring together over 1700 volunteers for race weekend (May 26-28). Volunteers monitor the course for safety, hand out race bibs and t-shirts, provide water, and more. Volunteers receive an official t-shirt and are entered to win cool raffle prizes. Groups are encouraged to volunteer together. Call 863-8412 or volunteer@runvermont.org.

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first Tuesday of every month, 4:30 – 5:00 PM socializing, 5:00 – 6:30 PM meeting, NMC Conference Franklin Room. Please call 802-524-8479 with any questions or to RSVP (not required). Free.

Have you lost a loved one to suicide? If yes, please consider attending a free, confidential group that meets monthly in St. Albans. Everyone in the group, including its facilitators, has had someone close to them take their life and knows how devastating that experience can be. You can just come and listen to others share what they are going through and how they are coping or you can share your own story. The choice is always yours to do what feels best to you. Second Thursday of every month, 6:00 – 7:30 PM. For more information on dates, times and location or to answer any questions you may

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LIBRARY NEWS

DEBORAH RAWSON MEMORIAL LIBRARY UNDERHILL

The French Conversation Group will meet on Thursday, May 4 at 6:30 PM. This is not a French “class,” but a relaxed setting for adults and high school/college students to listen to and practice speaking French at any level, from beginner to advanced. Stop in for some conversation and cultural exchange. For more information call Henry, 899-3349.

Movie Night: Friday, May 5, 7:00 PM. We will be showing yet another 2017 Academy Award-nominated film. A five-year-old Indian boy gets lost on the streets of Calcutta, thousands of kilometers from home. He survives many challenges before being adopted by a couple in Australia. Twenty-five years later he sets out to find his lost family. Please join us for this outstanding film!

Maj Madness! Sunday, May 7, 12:00 PM until ??? Join us for a Mah Jongg tournament! We’ll have “round robin” play, snacks, and PRIZES! Come for the whole afternoon or for part of the day.

Tuesday, May 9, 6:30 PM: *Wolf Peaches, Poisoned Peas, and Madame Pompadour’s Underwear: The Surprising History of Common Garden Vegetables* – Rebecca Rupp discusses the stories behind many of our favorite garden vegetables, among them the much-maligned tomato and potato, the (mostly) popular pumpkin, and Vermont’s Gilfeather turnip. Find out why a lot of us don’t like beets, how a 17th century pirate named the bell pepper, how carrots won the Trojan War, and how George Washington was nearly assassinated with a plate of poisoned peas. Rebecca Rupp is the author of nearly twenty books for both children and adults, and blogs on food science and history for National Geographic. We are proud to present this delightful talk, thanks to the generosity of the Vermont Humanities Council.

Wednesday, May 10, 6:30 PM: We will be showing the documentary *Now is the Time: Healthcare for Everybody* and will welcome Anna Carey, MD, from the Vermont Physicians for a National Health Program. Learn how an Improved Medicare For All, also known as Single Payer Healthcare, will cover every man, woman and child from cradle to grave, with no co-pays and no deductibles.

The 18th Annual Deborah Rawson Lecture will be held on Tuesday, May 16 at 6:30 PM: This event is an annual lecture on topics related to Vermont and the environment. This year we present “Helping to Protect our Future Landscape... Today: the Story of the Jericho Underhill Land Trust.” We will welcome Livy Strong, President of the Jericho Underhill Land Trust, for an informative evening about your local land trust. This all-volunteer, non-profit organization has protected over 1500 acres of farm and forest, scenic vistas and wildlife habitats. Land conservation can only be accomplished with landowner and community support. The best-known example of the Jericho Underhill Land Trust’s effort to protect land is the purchase and creation of Mills Riverside Park. Please join us for this interesting evening.

And for children and families...
Saturday, May 20 at 12:00 PM: Music with Buddy Dubay at DRML! Families are welcome to come on by and sing with Buddy Dubay! No registration required.

Library hours: Tuesday 12:00 – 8:00 PM, Wednesday 10:00 AM – 6:00 PM, Thursday 12:00 – 8:00 PM, Friday 10:00 AM – 6:00 PM, Saturday 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM, Sunday 1:00 – 4:00 PM; closed Monday. For information on any of the library’s programs, call 899-4962.

JERICHO TOWN LIBRARY
Transition Town Jericho meets on Monday, May 8 from 5:30 – 7:00 PM at the Jericho Town Library for a meeting led by certified permaculture designer Tucker Shaw. A short presentation, *Regenerating Abundance*, will cover topics from rainwater retention to diversified fruit/nut planting, followed by a Q & A. There will be an opportunity to participate in a group plant purchase. More info: transitiontownjericho.net

COMMUNITY PROGRAMS & EVENTS AT JTL
Wildlife Tracking for Kids and Adults: Wednesdays, May 3, 10:30 AM. Have you ever been in the woods and wondered, “Who’s been here?” Are you curious about what wildlife lives on your land? Join Mike Kessler on a multi-sensory adventure in wildlife tracking. This once monthly workshop is designed for all ages (Pre-K-adult). Animal tracking connects us with nature in a way that engages both our bodies and minds. Learn how to use your senses to locate clues, read signs and tell the stories of the landscape. Shine or rain. Dress for all weather. Workshop begins at the Jericho Town Library and will explore the surrounding grounds and the Green.

YOUTH PROGRAMMING AT JTL
LEGO CLUB: Thursdays, May 4 and 18, 4:30 – 5:30 PM. Lego, Lego, Legos! Join us for Lego missions, competitions, activities, and more! Grades K-6. Please note: younger children must be accompanied by an adult.

New! Tot Yoga (Third Friday series): Friday, May 19, 3:00 – 4:00 PM. Join early childhood educator, certified YogaKids instructor, and mama Meredith Bartolo for this once-monthly parent/toddler yoga. Come stretch, wiggle, move, and groove with Tot Yoga! Two-and three-year-olds are invited to come do some fun yoga poses and relax on a cloud while singing songs, hearing stories, and playing games together. No prior yoga experience necessary! Space is limited pre-registration is required, sharingcircleeducation@gmail.com.

DUNGEONS & DRAGONS: Wednesdays, 4:30-6:30 PM. This group is led by adult Dungeon Master Dana VanHorn. No experience necessary but a commitment to the group is needed in order to follow the on-going story line.

Baby Yoga (ages 0-1): First Friday Monthly Series: Friday, May 5, 3:00 – 4:00 PM. Join early childhood educator, certified YogaKids instructor, and mama Meredith Bartolo for once-monthly parent/baby yoga. Happy baby, flying baby, and dancing baby are all a part of this baby yoga workshop! We will spend time getting flexible with our babies, stretching them and ourselves. There will be postures for babies that may help with things like colic and gross motor skills, and postures for caregivers that will focus on strengthening and stretching overused muscles and general relaxation. No yoga experience or equipment necessary. Space is limited pre-registration is required, sharingcircleeducation@gmail.com.

ALL LIBRARY PROGRAMS ARE FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.

NEWS FROM THE JTL BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Board meetings are held the second Monday of every month at 7:15 PM at Jericho Town Library. Everyone is welcome to attend.

For more information on programs and library services, please visit our website at www.jerichotownlibraryvt.org or give us a call at 899-4686.

VARNUM MEMORIAL LIBRARY, JEFFERSONVILLE

Story Hour and Crafts with LN, every Thursday, 10:00 – 11:00 AM. Come hear stories from a gifted and talented storyteller, and she does a craft with kids!

Weekly Crafting Circle, Mondays, 5:00 – 7:00 PM. Come and enjoy fiber and fabric with craft novices, as well as folks who have enjoyed handwork arts for their lifetimes! Have a project you’re already working on? Bring it in and share your expertise and enthusiasm.

The Varnum Library, P.O. Box 198, 194 Main St., Jeffersonville, 802-644-2117; thevarnum@gmail.com. Please visit Varnum Library’s website, <http://thevarnum.org>.

Hours: Mondays and Tuesdays 12:00 – 7:00 PM, Wednesdays 3:00 – 7:00 PM, Thursdays 9:00 AM – 7:00 PM, Fridays 2:00 – 5:00 PM, and Saturdays 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM. Closed Sundays.

WESTFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY,
Early Literacy Storytime for birth to preschool age children is every

Thursday, 11:00 AM. No registration needed. Several stories around a theme, and a theme-based craft. All ages and levels of attention are encouraged to come. Don’t worry if they fidget – they are still getting a lot out of it!

Library Hours: Wednesday 1:00 – 7:00 PM, Thursday 10:00 AM – 7:00 PM, Friday 1:00 – 7:00 PM, Saturday 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM; website www.westfordpubliclibrary.wordpress.com; email westfordpubliclibrary@gmail.com. Like us on Facebook. 878-5639, Bree Drapa, Librarian.

RICHMOND LIBRARY
May Art Show: circular weaving pieces by Richmond Elementary School fourth graders under the direction of art teacher Kim Aucter. We will highlight a sampling of weaving done by the other grades in the foyer display case.

Book Discussions: Tuesday, May 9, at 6:30 PM in the Mezzanine: The Diver’s Clothes Lie Empty by Vendela Vida. A woman travels to Casablanca, Morocco, on mysterious business. While checking into her hotel, she is robbed of her wallet and passport, all her money and ID. Stripped of her identity, she feels burdened by the crime yet strangely liberated by her sudden freedom to be anyone she wants to be. Thursday, May 18, at 7:00 PM in the Mezzanine: Death of a Doxy: a Nero Wolfe Mystery by Rex Stout. When an old acquaintance and fellow P.I. is accused of murdering a kept woman, Nero Wolfe investigates and finds several suspects in a mystery blackmailer, a sexy lounge singer, and a cold-blooded lady-killer.

The Dorothy Canfield Fisher (DCF) Book Award: The winning book will be announced at the end of April, which is when the 30 titles for the next year are unveiled and take their place on our DCF shelf! The 2017-18 list is rich with books that brilliantly incorporate adventure, imagination, and history such as Some Kind of Courage by Dan Gemeinhart, The Bitter Side of Sweet by Tara Sullivan, The Inquisitor’s Tale: Or, The Three Magical Children and Their Holy Dog by Adam Gidwitz, Projekt 1065: A Novel of World War II by Alan Gratz, and A Bandit’s Tale: The Muddled Misadventures of a Pickpocket by Deborah Hopkinson. Fantasy lovers will enjoy The Evil Wizard Smallbone by Delia Sherman, The Seventh Wish by Kate Messner, Beautiful Blue World by Suzanne LaFleur, and The Girl Who Drank the Moon by Kelly Barnhill. And there’s more: books that feature sports (Soar by Joan Bauer), animals (The Poet’s Dog by Patricia MacLaughlin), school situations (It Ain’t So Awful, Falafel by Firoozeh Dumas), and families (Wish by Barbara O’Connor) to name just a few.

Summer Programs: We are putting together a summer schedule that includes our youth reading program, stories, art, music, yoga, nature programs, movies, crafts and more. Schedules will be out in early June, but mark your calendar today with our kick-off program on June 29 at 10:30 AM. Dinoman will educate us and dazzle us with life-size blowup dinosaurs.

Weekly Children’s Programs:
• Baby Laptime. This short storytime is for babies ages 0-24 months and their grownups. We will share the magic of stories, songs, rhymes, bounces, and fingerplays designed to introduce these youngest children to color, sounds, fine motor skills, and body movement. Join the fun on Mondays at 10:30 AM.
• Storytime. For children age 2-5. One of the best things you can do for your child is introduce them to the wonderful world of books. We’ll share excellent picture books both new and old as well as the classics at this storytime on Wednesdays at 10:00 AM.
• Early Bird Math Storytime. For children ages 2-5. We will explore numbers, shapes, patterns, and sets through books, songs, rhymes, and games. This fun, interactive storytime happens in the community room every Friday at 11:00 AM.

Richmond Area Playgroup meets on Wednesdays from 8:45 – 10:15 AM in the Library Community Room.

The Library is closed on Monday, May 29, Memorial Day.
Other Events:
Browse www.rfl.kohavt.org to discover new audiobooks, movies, and books for all ages! The catalog will also search downloadable ebook and audiobook titles from ListenUp Vermont.

Richmond Free Library, 201 Bridge St., P.O. Box 997, Richmond, VT 05477; 434-3036; 434-3223 (fax); www.richmondfreelibraryvt.org.
Open Monday and Wednesday, 10:00 AM – 8:00 PM, Tuesday and Thursday, 1:00 – 6:00 PM; Friday, 10:00 AM – 6:00 PM; Saturday, 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM.

FAIRFAX COMMUNITY LIBRARY
All events are free unless noted. Pre-registration encouraged. Call or email libraryprograms@fwsu.org.
Tuesday, May 2, 6:00 – 8:00 PM: Family Game Night. Join us for this fun monthly tabletop game event! Bring a favorite game or come and learn a new one. Drop in. All Ages.

Youth Events
Tuesdays in May, 9:30 – 10:30 AM: Preschool Story Hour. May 2: Babies. May 9: Mothers. May 23: Bugs. May 30: Bunnies. Join us for themed stories, songs, and activities for ages 0-6. No registration necessary for story hour.

Thursday, May 4, 17, 3:15 – 4:15 PM: READ to a DOG. Kids ages 5-10 can read a book of their choice to a fuzzy, friendly dog. Call to reserve a 15-minute slot.

Tuesday, May 2 and Wednesday, May 3, 3:00 – 4:30 PM: Sewing Club I & II. Youth age 10+ will learn a variety of sewing skills with Karin Hernandez. Must register.

Thursday, May 4, 6:00 – 7:00 PM: PJ Story Hour. Kids age 0-6 listen to themed stories, followed by a craft and snack. Thanks to Building Bright Futures for this wonderful program.

Wednesday, May 10, 3:00 – 4:00 PM: LEGO Club. Ages 6+ enjoy themed Lego play after school. Please register.

Monday, May 15, 3:00 – 4:00 PM: Crafternoon. Bird Houses. Kids 6+ will paint bird houses. Must register.

Tuesday, May 16, 9:30 – 10:30 AM: Preschool Story Hour: Music Special with Caitlin. Join us for themed stories, songs, and activities for ages 0-6. No registration necessary for story hour.

Monday, May 22, 3:00 – 4:00 PM: Lab Girls. This club empowers young women to explore science through hands-on experiments and activities. Grades 6-12. This month students will meet a marine biologist and do a hands-on project. Must register.

Wednesday, May 31, 3:00 – 4:00 PM: STEM Club. Kids age 6+ will continue a series on “six simple machines.” Must pre-register.

Adult Events
Saturday, May 20, 9:00 – 11:00 AM: Tech Help. Get help with individual tech questions. You can ask any tech question and/or bring in a device with which you need help. You will be ably assisted by our techie, Josiah. Call to reserve a half hour time slot, or drop in.

Thursday May 11, 6:30 – 8:00 PM: Fiction Book Group discusses The Forgotten Garden by Kate Morton. Abandoned on a ship headed to Australia as a young child and raised by the dockmaster and his wife, Nell searches for her real identity when she learns the truth on her 21st birthday.

Saturday, May 13, 10:00 – 11:00 AM: Woof! Dog Communication in the Human World. Deb from GoldStar Dog Training of Fairfax presents this popular, long-running dog communication and safety lecture – a multi-media extravaganza of fun where the audience also gets to test their “dog reading” skills. In an hour, she’ll demystify dog communication, reveal some common dog-human misunderstandings, and explore how we can all live safely and happily together. (Shhhh... this is for humans only... dogs must be left at home!) Please register.

Thursday, May 18, 5:30 – 7:30 PM: Book Binding for Beginners. Learn

how to create a simple book with Nicole Vance using the Japanese stab binding technique. Materials fee \$10. Must register.

Thursday, May 25, 5:30 - 7:30 PM: Tea and Bristles. We welcome back Julie of Blue Jay Creative Common to lead this fun step-by-step painting class, perfect for beginners. A \$25 fee covers all materials and tea/refreshments. Must register.

The library is open Monday and Wednesday 8:30 AM – 5:30 PM, Tuesday and Thursday 8:30 AM – 8:00 PM, Friday 8:30 AM – 3:15 PM, Saturday 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM.

For up-to-date info about programs, visit our website: www.fairfaxvtlibrary.org, where you can also find a link to the interactive Google calendar.

DOROTHY ALLING MEMORIAL LIBRARY, WILLISTON

All events free. Children 8 and younger must be accompanied by an adult while at the library.

Preschool Story Time: Tuesdays, 10:30 AM. Includes a simple craft activity. February 21: At the Beach. All ages.

Preschool Music: Mondays, 11:00 AM with Peter Alsen; and Thursdays, 10:30 AM with Marcie Hernandez. Up to age 5 with a caregiver. No pre-registration. Limit one session per week per family.

Thursday Playtime: Thursdays, 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM. Preschoolers and their caregivers are invited for an informal playtime following our Preschool Music program. For children birth to age 5. Presented with Building Bright Futures.

Dorothy Alling Memorial Library, 21 Library Lane, Williston. 802-878-4918, www.williston.lib.vt.us.

BROWNELL MEMORIAL LIBRARY, ESSEX JCT.

Tuesdays, May 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, 3:15 – 4:00 PM: Read to Daisy. Daisy loves to listen to kids read. She is certified by Therapy Dogs of Vermont. Daisy’s owner is Maddie Nash, retired school counselor. For all ages.

Tuesday, May 2, 3:30 – 4:30 PM: LEEP. Library Elementary Event Planners meet to plan their last event of the year – starting a garden. Snacks served. For middle school students.

Wednesdays, May 3, 10, 17, 24, 31, 12:00 and 1:00 PM: Tech Help with Clif. Offering one-on-one technology help. Reservation required. Please call 878-6955 at least 24 hours in advance.

Wednesday, May 3, 7:00 – 8:30 PM: First Wednesday Lecture. *Video Games: Changing Stories and Changing Behaviors* – Ann DeMarle, Director of Champlain College’s Emergent Media Center, explores digital gaming, how designers and players both participate in the storytelling process, and ways some game creators seek to effect social change through gaming.

Thursdays, May 4, 11, 25, 3:15 – 4:00 PM: Read to Archie. Archie loves to listen to kids read. He is certified by Therapy Dogs of Vermont. Archie’s owner is Christine Packard, Chair of Brownell Library Trustees. For all ages.

Fridays, May 5, 19, 10:00 – 10:30 AM: All Ages Story Time. Come listen to Picture Book Stories and have fun with puppets, finger plays and rhymes.

Friday, May 5, 3:00 – 4:30 PM: TAB. Last Teen Advisory board meeting for school year. Welcome LEEP graduates going to high school, send off graduating seniors, and talk about summer volunteer opportunities. For high school students.

Friday, May 5, 6:00 – 8:00 PM: *Magic: The Gathering*. Whether you know the game or are curious to find out more, come have tons of gaming fun!

Fridays, May 5, 12, 26, 6:30 – 8:30 PM: Maggie’s Fiber Friday for Adults. Maggie Loftus, veteran knitter, will be settled in front of the fireplace in the Main Reading Room. She invites adult knitters and crocheters to join her with their projects and engage in conversation. Bring patterns to share if you’d like. If you wish to contact Maggie: 6maggie2@myfairpoint.net.

Saturday, May 6, 10:00 – 11:00 AM: How to Connect with Young Children online. Learn how to use Skype or FaceTime to read with your children or grandchildren when you’re far away.

Monday, May 8, 10:30 – 11:15 AM: Spanish Musical Kids. Join Constancia Gómez, an experienced Spanish teacher, for this interactive Spanish musical class for kids. This class will have activities to keep little ones and parents moving.

Mondays, May 8, 15, 22, 12:00 and 1:00 PM: Tech Help with Clif. Offering one-on-one technology help. Bring in your new gadget or gizmo and Clif will sit with you to help you learn its ways! Reservation required. Please call 878-6955 at least 24 hours in advance.

Monday, May 8, 3:00 – 4:00 PM: Crafternoon. Do you know someone who likes to cook? Do you like to cook? Come and design your own recipe card holder to give as a gift or keep for yourself.

Monday, May 8, 6:30 – 7:30 PM: Must Read Mondays! Brown Girl Dreaming by Jacqueline Woodson. In vivid free verse, award-winning author Jacqueline Woodson shares what it was like to grow up in the 1960s and 1970s in both the North and the South. Raised in South Carolina and later in Brooklyn, NY, Woodson often felt halfway home in each place, and describes the reality of living with the remnants of Jim Crow and her growing awareness of the civil rights movement. Pick up a copy of this 2017 Vermont Reads book at the main desk.

Tuesdays, May 9, 16, 23, 9:10 – 9:30 AM: Story Time for Babies and Toddlers. Picture books, songs, rhymes and puppets for babies and toddlers with an adult.

Tuesdays, May 9, 16, 23, 10:00 – 10:45 AM: Story Time for Preschoolers. Picture books, songs, rhymes, puppets, flannel stories, and early math activities for preschoolers.

Tuesday, May 9, 3:30 – 4:30 PM: K-3 Gardening Program. LEEP (Library Elementary Event Planning) offers their last activity of the year. Each participant will plant a vegetable to take home and care for, listen to a “green” story and more!

Fridays, May 12, 26, 10:00 – 10:45 AM: Songs and Stories with Matthew. Matthew Witten performs songs about our world and tells adventurous tales. Funded by the Brownell Library Foundation. For all ages.

Fridays, May 12, 26, 3:30 – 5:00 PM: LARP. Live Action Role Play with Sydney is open to all middle and high school students who want to have adventures in a mythical land.

Fridays, May 12, 26, 6:30 – 8:30 PM: *Dungeons and Dragons*. Embark upon imaginary adventures. Our Dungeon Master, Aiem, serves as the game’s referee and storyteller. Grades 6 and up.

Saturday, May 13, 1:00 – 3:00 PM: Vermont Astronomical Society: Basic telescope. What you can see and telescope maintenance. Program to promote Brownell’s telescope, including slide show of what could be seen with Brownell telescope. People are invited to come with their own telescopes for instruction and a tune up. Great opportunity for novice astronomers, and those more experienced!

Tuesday, May 16, 7:00 – 9:00 PM: Brownell Library Trustees Meeting.

Thursday, May 18, 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM: Library closed for staff inservice.

Friday, May 19, 6:30 – 8:30 PM: Family Movie. Free popcorn and drink.

Monday, May 22, 3:00 – 4:00 PM: Chess Club. Come play! Teen chess players help you discover new moves. All ages and skill levels are welcome. Kids 8 and under must be accompanied by an adult. Chess sets funded by the Brownell Library Foundation.

Wednesday, May 24, 3:00 – 4:30 PM: Lego Fun. Participate in fun and friendly building with LEGO. For kids entering K and up. (Kids under 5 are welcome to participate with parental supervision).

Saturday, May 27, 9:00 – 11:00 AM: March with Brownell in Memorial

TV in VT: What’s happening at MMCTV?

By Angelike Contis

We’re dreaming big in our 20th Anniversary year. In fact we are planning on adding a new, government-content Channel 17 in 2017! Comcast recently gave us the green light to activate that “17” that’s been on your cable lineup for some years now, so we are planning to upgrade our playback system and production gear! We are celebrating two decades of public access for Jericho, Richmond, and Underhill throughout the year.

What do you think? We started the year by listening to... you! We conducted online polls of local officials, organizations, and the general public to learn how we can improve our services. Our poll size was small (30), but we were happy to see that over 80% of those polled found us “valuable” or “very valuable,” with high marks for our hard-working staff. More than half of those polled watch our content only online, as opposed to on Comcast Cable.

“More, please” was the main feedback. Officials and the public most appreciated our coverage of local government/school meetings, but called for more meetings, plus more videos about local events. Those who responded seemed most interested in history and the environment.

It was helpful for us to see that people are still becoming aware of our online services, and we will keep looking for ways to get the word out, in places including the *Mountain Gazette*!

Underwriting Opportunities – To make that “more, please” happen, we are asking for your community support in our 20th year. For just \$100, local individuals/business can become a “20th Anniversary Underwriter,” and support the meeting series or other video program series of their choice, with their name listed for the entire year both on MMCTV and online. There is a potential to reach not only local viewers, but our 24 state-wide sister stations too! Gold Sponsors get a short video made about their company that will air on MMCTV and online. Please contact me or visit www.mmctv15.org for more info.

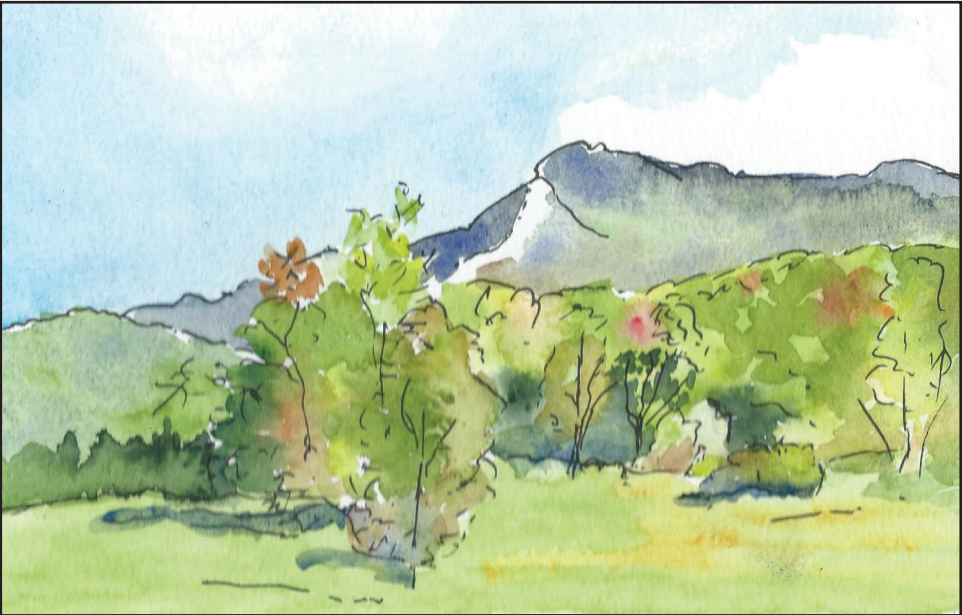
Videos – In terms of production, Town Meeting Day is always a highpoint for us. We are, after all, all about ultra-local events and free speech. This year it was Underhill’s turn have its first-ever live town meeting; we aim in the near future (maybe even 2018) to be able to stream all three town meetings online simultaneously. We are streaming an increasing number of local meetings live at the website new.livestream.com/mmctv as well as on our Comcast Channel 15.

Our local producers continue to crunch away in the editing room. There is a new episode of Richmond penman Chris Carfaro’s *Inkwell Vermont*, which is already showing on public access channels throughout the state and country. Gregg Stevens of NOFA-VT, has been providing us with some of the best talks from NOFA’s 2017 Winter Conference. *The Cuban Bridge*’s latest episode (#63) features the best of the Burlington Discover Jazz festival’s youth performers. Meanwhile Matt Stern is whittling down hours of



Kids participating in a February video workshop at MMCTV, aiming to make a Vermont Access Network competition film.

PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED



Mansfield by Jane Sandberg, one of the images on exhibit at the offices of MMCTV through May 31. To see the exhibit, drop by during most office hours Monday-Thursday; we recommend calling 434-2550 just to be sure someone is in, or to make an appointment.


interviews with local Jericho/Underhill residents for a video about different reactions to the 2016 presidential election.

Youth – No less than five short films were produced at MMCTV in March as a part of the Vermont Access Network’s Video Challenge. Rumor has it that one may have even won an award (to be announced as this paper goes to press!)

Art – We are blessed with many amazing artists in our towns, and had enjoyed Mary Hill’s colorful paintings on our walls through the winter. On March 31, we held a reception to inaugurate the exhibit of Jericho artist Jane Sandberg. You can view her work through May 31. Drop by during most office hours Monday-Thursday; we recommend calling 434-2550 just to be sure someone is in, or to make an appointment.

Angelike Contis is the Executive Director of MMCTV, which is one of 25 public media centers in Vermont. To find out more about MMCTV and how to get involved in volunteering, underwriting or making your own show or series, please contact me at angelike@mmctv15.org or call 434-2550.

Site: www.mmctv15.org.



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COLLEGE NEWS AND NOTES

Corinne J. Jacobsen of Westford, VT has been selected for membership in the St. Lawrence University (Canton, NY) chapter of Phi Alpha Theta, the national history honorary society. Jacobsen is a member of the class of 2018 and is majoring in History and Business in the Liberal Arts. Jacobsen attended Essex High School.

Grayden Shand of Jericho, VT has been initiated into the Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi, the nation’s oldest and most selective all-discipline collegiate honor society. Shand is pursuing a degree in Entrepreneurship at Clarkson University, Potsdam, NY.

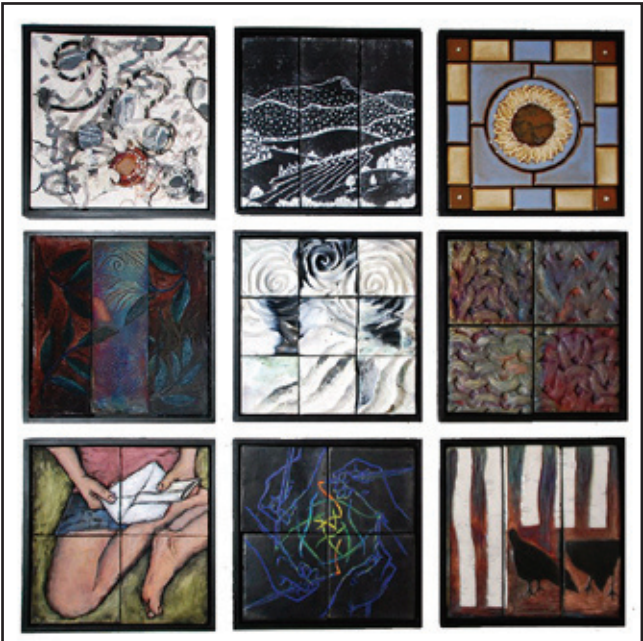
August Stevens of Waterbury, VT won a scholarship given by the Stiller School of Business Division at Champlain College, Burlington, VT. Stevens is a Computer Science and Innovation, Finance major.

ART / MUSIC / THEATER




This painting titled Deerfield Beach, Florida by Cambridge artist Karen Winslow is part of the Traveling Artists exhibit now hanging at the Bryan Memorial Gallery, Jeffersonville.

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED




Dianne Shullenberger of Jericho is one of nine women featured in Nine by Nine, sponsored by Frog Hollow VT Craft Gallery in Burlington. Nine tiles created by nine woman artists will be auction to benefit the women served by Vermont Works for Women. The auction will take place at Frog Hollow on Friday, May 5. Dianne Shullenberger Gallery, 228 Nashville Rd., Jericho. For information, www.vtdianneshullenberger.com, vtddianne@hotmail.com, or 899-4993.



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PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

JUST MARRIED



Bibb-Capponi

Derik Andrew Bibb, a son of Andrew and Mary Bibb of Jericho, VT, and Randa Ann Capponi, the daughter of Antonio and Darlene Capponi of Steep Falls, ME, were united in marriage on Saturday, December 3, 2016 in North Conway, NH. Trevor Bibb, youngest brother of the groom, performed the ceremony. Heather Manz was the maid of honor. The bridesmaids were Ashley Calvert, Tiana Bibb, younger sister of the groom, and Kristy Capponi, sister-in-law of the bride. Like Derik, the groomsmen were all former Mount Mansfield Union High School cross country runners. Tyler Alexander was the best man. Groomsmen were David Manz, Matthew Alexander, and Stefan Bibb, brother of the groom. Derik’s entire immediate family was in attendance including his older sister Alissa and brother-in-law Andrew Dana from Russia, and LTJG Connor Bibb, a U.S. Navy helicopter pilot, from Japan. Derik graduated from MMUHS, Jericho, VT and the Rochester Institute of Technology, Rochester, NY. He is a senior systems administrator for Bottomline Technologies in Portsmouth, NH. Randa graduated from Bonny Eagle High School in Standish, ME, Colby College, Waterville, ME, and received her law degree from the University of Maine School of Law. She is an attorney in private practice in Saco, ME. They reside in Arundel, ME.

OBITUARIES



D. Jean Fertick of Bolton, VT moved to Vermont in 1976 and resided in Bolton for the past 16 years, where she passed away peacefully on Thursday, April 13, 2017, at her home. Born in Philadelphia, PA on September 7, 1928, she was the daughter of the late Augustus and Helen (Clark) Delcamp. Jean was a graduate of Olney High School in Philadelphia where she spent her youth, before getting married and raising a family. After living in New Jersey, Indiana, and Ohio, she moved to Vermont, a state she dearly loved. She worked in the medical insurance field and attended the Community College of Vermont. Jean loved gardening, bird watching, books, and watching Jeopardy. Survivors include her three daughters and sons-in-law: Kim R. (Fertick) and Wayne Deslaurier, Merrie J. (Fertick) Ford, and Dale E. (Fertick) and Michael Trombley. She is also survived by her grandchildren and their spouses: Julie (Deslaurier) Coulombe; Patricia (Deslaurier) and Brien Reeve; Spartacus Deslaurier and Laura; Beth (Deslaurier) and Jonathan Champlin; Jennifer (Mayville) and Troy Lund; Mandy, Kyle, Michele, and Abby Trombley; and ten great-grandchildren: Kristina and Michelle Coulombe, Eros and Winter Deslaurier, Colin and Amber Reeve, and August, Reid, and baby on-the-way Champlin; and Sara and Ben Lund. In addition to the immediate family, Jean has two nieces: Laura Slade and Cheryl Bailey; nephew Glenn Clingroth; cousin Dorothy Bunn; and two close friends: Jean Matis and Shirley Terrill. She was predeceased by her parents and her younger sister Joyce (Delcamp) Clingroth and brother-in-law Joseph Clingroth. A church service to celebrate Jean’s life was held on Thursday, April 20, 2017 at the Richmond Congregational Church, 20 Church St., Richmond, VT. Interment will take place at the Riverview Cemetery in Richmond at a later date. In lieu of flowers, her family suggests donations to www.feedthechildren.org.



Roland A. Pigeon of Westford, VT, age 95, died peacefully on Wednesday evening, April 27, 2017, at his home, and was surrounded by his loving family. Roland was born on May 11, 1921 in St. Joachin, Québec, the son of Emile and Dorilla Pigeon. In 1929, his family immigrated to the United States, settling in Westford where they purchased a family farm. At the age of 16, Roland began playing music for local events. He later formed the band *Roland and his Happy Ramblers*, playing professionally throughout northern VT for over 60 years, as well as performing at events for several generations of families. Roland also contracted school buses for the Town of Westford and elsewhere for over fifty years, retiring in 1996. He owned and operated a charter coach bus company, which provided services to include everything from local high school teams as well as a national presidential campaign. He married Nettie Burnor on November 6, 1948, at St. Mary’s Catholic Church, in St. Albans, VT. In addition to his wife Nettie, he is survived by his son George and wife Noreen and son Dayle and wife Ann, both of Westford, and by his daughter Luane Pigeon and her husband Andrew Jacob of Tempe, AZ. He is also

survived by his grandchildren: Stefanie, Justin, Shauna, Jordan, Susan, Sarah, Benjamin, Samuel, Anna, and Danielle; by his nine great-grandchildren; and by his siblings Annette Boutin, George and Raymond Pigeon, and Doris Emond; and by several nieces and nephews. Visiting hours were held on Sunday, April 30, 2017 at the Minor Funeral Home in Milton, VT. Memorial contributions in Roland’s memory may be made to the Red Brick Meeting House, P.O. Box 63, Westford, VT 05494. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on Monday, May 1, 2017 at St. Luke’s Catholic Church, Fairfax, VT, with burial following at St. Luke’s Cemetery. Online condolences may be made to www.minorfh.com.



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ART / MUSIC / THEATER



The Westford Music Series and the Westford Public Library present Buddy Dubay in the final concert of the Westford Music Series Sunday, May 21 with a children’s concert, 4:00 – 5:00 PM at the UCW white church on the green, Westford Common. Free. PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

ART/PHOTOGRAPHY

CHICKENS! Contrary to the proverbial wisdom, go ahead and count them! Please join us at a reception celebrating the art and artists of *Chickens!* – the new show at the Jericho Town Hall, on Sunday, May 7, from 2:00 – 4:00 PM. Meet the participating artists and watch noted illustrator Sarah Rosedahl painting these endearing birds. The event is free but if you bring a nonperishable food item, you’ll have a chance to win her demonstration piece! The food will be donated to the Jericho Underhill Food Shelf. The exhibit is scheduled through August 2017 at the Jericho Town Hall. The exhibit is one of an ongoing series of shows that are part of a collaborative project between the Town of Jericho and a committee of volunteers involved in the arts.

Dianne Shullenberger of Jericho is one of nine women featured in *Nine by Nine*, sponsored by Frog Hollow VT Craft Gallery in Burlington. Nine tiles created by nine woman artists will be auction



Danceland, an evening of student dance performances set to music, will be held at the Dibden Center for the Arts, Johnson State College, Johnson on Friday-Saturday, May 5-6, 7:00 – 10:00 PM both nights. The event is an end-of-semester performance by JSC’s Dance Club. Students choreograph and design lighting for each piece. Free for the public, but reserve tickets early at the Dibden box office because the shows sell out. For more information, 636-1476 or jscBoxOffice@jsc.edu. PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

to benefit the women served by Vermont Works for Women. The auction will take place at Frog Hollow, beginning at an opening reception on Friday, May 5, 5:00 – 8:00 PM and concluding Wednesday, May 31 at 6:00 PM. Dianne Shullenberger Gallery, 228 Nashville Rd., Jericho. For information, www.dianneshullenberger.com, vidianne@hotmail.com, or 899-4993.

A Duo Exhibit of *Vermont Watercolors* by Vermont artists Amanda Amend and Susan Bull Riley will be at the Emile A Gruppe Gallery in Jericho through Open Studio Weekend, Saturday-Sunday, May 27-28. Susan’s primary muse is Vermont’s natural world. The work reflects her “love of botanical watercolor, my bottomless affection for birds, and a need to release, via art, the intensity of my affection for the landscapes of my native state.” She has collaborated with a number of institutions that seek to protect the natural world, and has several paintings hanging in the VT State House. Amanda calls her paintings contemplations: “contemplations on the textures, colors, forms and sensory experiences of the world around me, and on the thoughts that they inspire.” She is a master at “lost and found edges,” the exploration of the blending of edges between image and reflection. She says “Watercolor is the perfect medium to explore the morphing of form.” Amanda has participated in exhibitions around the state, is a signature member of the VT Watercolor Society, and was featured in the VT Arts Council Spotlight Gallery in 2016. Emile A Gruppe Gallery, 22 Barber Farm Rd., Jericho. For more information, go online to www.emilegruppegallery.com or call 899-3211.

Bryan Memorial Gallery presents *Traveling Artists*, a group show



by 60 artists of works from their travels, from the United States – California, Utah, New Mexico, Florida – to the other side of the globe – Myramar, Finland, Armenia, Cesky-Krumlov. Over one hundred works in a variety of mediums reflect how small the world has become and how artists can adapt almost anywhere. The exhibit provides the artists the opportunity to show what they do when confronting the unfamiliar – unfamiliar scenes, light, composition, terrain, surroundings, and accommodations. All of the work in *Traveling Artists* is for sale and is also available on the Gallery’s website: www.bryangallery.org. The exhibit includes watercolors, oils, acrylics, photographs, pastels, mixed media artworks, and clay. Call to artists: *Land and Light and Water and Air*, a juried exhibit of Vermont and New England landscapes. Submissions due to the jury by Friday, July 14. The exhibit runs from September 8-November 5. Cash prizes awarded. For complete specifications, please go to www.bryangallery.org and click on *Call To Artists*. Bryan Memorial Gallery, 180 Main St., Jeffersonville; Thursday-Sunday, 11:00 AM – 4:00 PM and by appointment; 802-644-5100; mickey@bryangallery.org.

The 36th Student Art Show at Helen Day Art Center, 90 Pond St., Stowe runs through Saturday, May 27 and features artwork from students at all levels of Stowe schools. Complimentary ice cream will be served at the reception, and guests will be invited to participate in an art activity. Gallery hours Tuesday-Saturday, 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM or by appointment. Information: Rachel Moore, director@helenday.com, www.helenday.com, or 802-253-8358.

The Vermont Folklife Center in Middlebury announces *Family Traits: Art, Humor, and Everyday Life*, celebrating familial culture through the artwork of Stanley Lyndes, will be open through Monday, May 15 in the Center’s Vision & Voice Gallery. Free and open to the public, Tuesday-Saturday, 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM; the Gallery is ADA accessible. VT Folklife Center, 88 Main St., Middlebury, 802-388-4964.

Burlington City Arts begins its 2017 spring exhibitions with *Ready. Fire! Aim*, a joint exhibition with the Hall Art Foundation in Reading, VT; it runs in Burlington through Sunday, July 9. This group show explores the psychology of impulsive action and strategic thinking. *Ready. Fire! Aim*. brings together artworks addressing issues of violence and decay, gestural abstraction and linear precision, as well as the sensible and the absurd. The presentation will include work by six emerging to nationally recognized Vermont-based artists, while the Hall Art Foundation’s presentation (May 6-November 26) will feature a selection of paintings, sculptures, and photographs by internationally recognized, contemporary artists. Also at BCA, UVM grad and former BCA artist-in-residence Justin Hoekstra returns with *Heavy Smile*, a solo exhibition of large scale abstract paintings. BCA exhibitions are free for public viewing Tuesday-Thursday, 11:00 AM – 5:00 PM, and Friday-Saturday, 11:00 AM – 8:00 PM. BCA center, 405 Pine St., Burlington.

PechaKucha Night (PKN) returns to the Fleming Museum of Art on Thursday, May 4. PKN is an evening event where people gather to hear presentations from creative individuals in our communities. Each presentation consists of exactly 20 slides with each slide appearing onscreen for exactly 20 seconds. There are usually 10 presentations during a PKN event, with presentations from artists, photographers, travelers, filmmakers, writers, gardeners, ice sculptors, architects, designers, stone masons, graphic novelists, community activists, dreamers, and many more. Anyone and everyone is invited to present; the only requirement is 20 images and a passion. Contact fleming@uvm.edu for more information. \$6 suggested donation at the door to help keep things running. Learn more about PechaKucha Night at the global website, <http://www.pechakucha.org>. View presentations from a recent PechaKucha Night on RETN’s website, <http://www.retn.org/pechakucha-night-burlington-vol-23>.

At River Arts in Morrisville: through May 9, *Women, Beasts and Dreams* is an exhibit of acrylic painting by Carolyn Mecklosky of Waterville. Her recent work portrays a personal and evolving mythology. Through her use of vibrant, uncomplicated color she allows space within the work for a flowing dreamscape of imagery. For more information including cost for this and other programs, <http://www.riverartsvt.org>. River Arts, 74 Pleasant St., Morrisville.

At the Fleming Museum of Art, artist Barbara Bloom enlisted print scholar Susan Tallman to contribute text to two artist’s books, on view in the European and American Gallery of the Fleming through Sunday, May 21. In *The Collections of Barbara Bloom*, retrospective is turned on its head with gathered images of Bloom’s multimedia installations and objects from her personal collections, with commentary by Tallman. In *Gifts*, Bloom explores the nature of gifts through the format of eight giftwrap papers she designed, which come wrapped in a linen box along with a book in which Tallman provides context for the designs. Regular admission; free to Museum members and to UVM students, staff, and faculty. The Fleming Museum of Art, UVM, 61 Colchester Ave., Burlington, <http://www.flemingmuseum.org>. Regular admission; free to Museum members and UVM students, staff, and faculty.

Shelburne Vineyard will hang a new exhibit in the Tasting Room, titled *Freedom Speak* by Shelburne artist Kate Longmaid, through May 31. Her message is both contemporary and culturally, socially, and politically relevant, expounding upon the importance of taking a stand and “speaking on behalf of those who cannot speak or are at risk of being silenced. Open every day, 11:00 AM – 5:00 PM. Shelburne Vineyard, 6308 Shelburne Rd., Shelburne. Information: 985-8222 or www.shelburnevineyard.com.

At the Shelburne Museum: *Backstage Pass: Rock & Roll Photography* through Sunday, May 7 includes studio portraits

Art / Music / Theater continued on page 9

MOUNTAIN GAZETTE

Publication & Deadline Dates 2017

The Mountain Gazette publishes on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month .
The deadline for receiving copy is Thursday, a week before publication, at noon.
The advertising deadline is Thursday, a week before publication at 5:00 PM.

For more information, please contact Brenda Boutin
Publisher of the Mountain Gazette
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Phone: 453-6354 • mtgazette@earthlink.net
On the web at www.mountaingazetteofvermont.com

PUBLICATION DATES:	DEADLINE DATES:
THURSDAY	THURSDAY
January 5	December 29
January 19	January 12
February 2	January 26
February 16	February 9
March 2	February 23
March 16	March 9
April 6	March 30
April 20	April 13
May 4	April 27
May 18	May 11
June 1	May 25
June 15	June 8
July 6	June 29
July 20	July 13
August 3	July 27
August 17	August 10
September 7	August 31
September 21	September 14
October 5	September 28
October 19	October 12
November 2	October 26
November 16	November 9
December 7	November 30
December 21	December 14

FEATURED PUBLICATIONS:

Northwestern Vermont Animal Resources Guide - Deadline April 15, 2016 • Distribution after July 1, 2016
Jericho Underhill Directory - Deadline June 30, 2016 • Distribution after September 15, 2016

mtgazette@earthlink.net
www.mountaingazetteofvermont.com
For information Brenda Boutin • 802-452-6354
Fax: 802-453-2468

ONGOING EVENTS

ADULT ACTIVITIES
Veterans Job Networking, Wednesdays, 9:30 – 11:00 AM, VFW Post, Essex Jct.; 1:00 – 2:30 PM, American Legion Post, St. Albans.

The Vermont Genealogy Library in Fort Ethan Allen, Colchester has the resources to help you find those elusive ancestors. We are open every Tuesday from 3:00 – 9:30 PM. We continue to be open every Tuesday. Please see our website www.vtgenlib.org for more information including directions and how to contact us if you are visiting the area.

Toastmasters of Greater Burlington, 2nd and 4th Wednesdays, 7:00 PM, Holiday Inn, 1068 Williston Rd., S. Burlington. Do you want to develop your speaking and leadership skills? Ace an interview? Ignite your career? If so, Toastmasters of Greater Burlington is the place for you. You'll find a supportive learn by doing environment that helps you achieve your goals. For information, 802-782-4832.

Yoga, Tuesdays, 6:30 – 8:00 PM, Collins-Perley Sports Complex, St. Albans. For information including cost, 802-527-1202.

Eagles Auxiliary #3210 holds bingo at the club house, VT Rt. 109, Waterville, Friday nights. Doors open at 5:30 PM. Bingo starts at 6:45 PM. For information, contact Sally, 644-5377.

Handbell ringers, Tuesday evenings, United Church of Underhill. All are welcome at rehearsals. Two ensembles; opportunity for small groups/shorter time periods. We ring a variety of music in a variety of settings and look forward to new faces joining us. Beginners welcome. Call Roger, 899-3106, for information.

Mt. Mansfield Scale Modelers, 3rd Thursday of the month, 6:30 – 8:30 PM. Modelers encompassing all categories of interest and skill levels are welcome. Brownell Library, Kolvoord Community Room, Lincoln St., Essex Junction.

Smugglers’ Notch 55+ Club meets Wednesdays at Smugglers’ Notch for a social time, then breaks into groups to ski. Brief organizational meeting, coffee and rolls, and then head out to the trails in self-selected ability groups. Gather informally in summer for a wide variety of outdoor activities. Membership benefits include various discounts at Smuggs. Information: Deborah, 644-5455 or just attend a meeting at the Morse base lodge, 9:00 AM every Wednesday.

The **Underhill Historical Society** meets at the Underhill Town

Hall on the 2nd Monday of the month, 6:30 PM. Anyone welcome.
HEALH EVENTS & GROUPS

La Leche League of Essex Junction – monthly breastfeeding support meetings, first Thursdays, 6:30 – 8:00 PM, Essex Free Library, 1 Browns River Rd., Essex Jct. Join us whether you are pregnant, nursing your first tiny baby, or weaning your last toddler. Free! We meet downstairs in the children’s area.

Al-Anon meetings, Jericho United Methodist Church, Thursdays 10:00 AM, and Saturdays, 10:00 AM.

Alcoholics Anonymous meeting, “Women’s Big Book” group meets Thursdays, 6:00 – 7:00 PM, United Methodist Church, VT Rt. 15, Essex Jct., across from Grange Hall.

Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting “Wing It” group meets Sundays, 11:00 AM, Maple Leaf Farm, Stevensville Rd., Underhill. Open Speaker meeting followed by a brunch (\$10 for brunch).

Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting, “The Firing Line” group meets Wednesdays, 7:15 – 8:15 PM, Maple Leaf Farm, Stevensville Rd., Underhill. Open Step meeting.

Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting “The Firing Line” group meets Saturdays, 8:00 – 9:00 PM, Maple Leaf Farm, Stevensville Rd., Underhill. Open Speaker Discussion meeting.

Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting, “Keep It Simple” group meets Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, 8:00 – 9:00 PM and Saturdays, 6:30 – 7:30 PM, United Church of Underhill, Underhill Flats.

Alzheimer’s support group, monthly on the 3rd Wednesday, 9:30 – 11:30 AM, The Arbors, 687 Harbor Rd., Shelburne. Free education for individuals and families in the early stages of Alzheimer’s disease and related dementias. For information and to register, contact Nicole Houston, 985-8600.

Brain Injury Support Group – a place for survivors and family members, caregivers, friends, and the community to receive valuable resources and information about brain injury. The support group is a place to share experiences in a safe, secure, and confidential environment. Monthly meetings: 4th Fridays at the YMCA in Winoski 11:00 AM – noon; 1st Wednesdays at Fanny Allen in Colchester, 5:30 – 7:30 PM; and 2nd Tuesdays at the Saint Albans Diner in Saint Albans. Call the BIAVT help line, 877-856-1772.

Mom’s Night Out, first Thursday of each month, 6:00 – 8:00 PM, LaQuinta Inn (Franklin Meeting Room), 813 Fairfax Rd., St. Albans. Are you the mother of a child with special needs? Do you

have to advocate for your child and family? Do you wish you had someone to have conversations with, who understands because they are the mother of a child with special needs too? Contact: Betty Morse, Family Support Consultant, 1-800-800-4005-ext. 201 or betty.morse@vfn.org.

Approach Autism With Advocacy, Recovery & Education (AAWARE) in the Lamoille Valley, 3rd Sunday, 3:00 – 5:00 PM, Second Congregational Church of Jeffersonville Community Room, Jeffersonville. Special topics, guest speakers, resource information; playroom for kids, fenced side yard for outdoor play. For information, Terry Holden, 644-2759 (Jeffersonville) or Tina Karl, 888-3430 (Hyde Park.)

Eating Disorders Parental Support Group, monthly on the 3rd Wednesday, 7:00 – 9:00 PM, Covenant Community Church, VT Rt. 15, Essex Center. For parents of children with, or at risk of, anorexia or bulimia. We focus on being a resource and providing reference points for old and new ED parents. For information, Peter, 899-2554.

Foot Clinics – Having trouble trimming your own toenails? Franklin County Home Health provides foot clinics around the county that can help. Call 802-527-7531 for an appointment and cost information. Cost: \$20.

Healthy Weight Support Group, Mondays, 12:00 – 12:30 PM, Northwestern Medical Center, Conference Room 3, St. Albans. For those working on weight management. Behavioral and nutritional strategies to increase physical activity and decrease calorie intake; techniques to help manage eating behaviors. Come 15 minutes early for weight check. Kay Tran, Registered Dietitian, MS, CDE, & Leslie Gardzina, Registered Dietitian. No registration required, just drop in.

Overeaters Anonymous meets 6:00 – 7:00 PM Wednesdays, Jericho United Methodist Church, VT Rt. 15, Jericho.

Champlain Valley Prostate Cancer Support Group, 6:00 – 8:00 PM, 2nd Tuesdays, Hope Lodge, 237 East Ave., Burlington. Newly diagnosed? Prostate cancer reoccurrence? General discussion and sharing among survivors and those beginning or rejoining the battle. Information: Mary L. Guyette RN, MS, ACNS-BC, 802-274-4990.

TOPS Chapter 145 meets Thursdays 6:15 PM, Eagles Club, VT Rt. 109, Jeffersonville. Weigh-in 5:15 – 6:00 PM.

Healing Circle Breast Cancer Network, support group for women with breast cancer, monthly meetings 1st Tuesdays 5:30 PM, Northwestern Medical Center, Conference Room #1. RSVP at 524-8479.

Lamoille Home Health & Hospice: Hospice Volunteer Training. Health care professionals share their knowledge and passion for hospice. Please contact Charlene at 888-4651 or ccamire@lhha.org for more information.

Franklin County Prostate Cancer Support Group, monthly, 1st Tuesdays, 5:15 – 7:00 PM, Northwestern Medical Center Conference Room #2, St. Albans. This support group offers men opportunities to educate themselves and each other; share and learn from each other’s experiences; offer support to each other, a spouse or partner; and advocate early detection of prostate cancer. Information: Fern Mercure, 524-0719.

Statewide Quit Line, Telephone Smoking Cessation Counseling. Call 1-877-YES-QUIT (1-877-937-7848). Free.

KIDS

Playgroups free of charge and open to all children birth-5 years, and their caregivers. Stories, songs, crafts, free play, local events and information, and more – an opportunity to play with the children in your life, meet other playmates, and connect with other parents and caregivers. Playgroups follow the school calendar. Come to any or all groups that fit your schedule. For information on any playgroup, contact Heather Lebeis, 899-4415 or underhillplaygroup@yahoo.com. Mondays: Good Shepherd Church, VT Rt. 15, Jericho, 9:30 – 11:00 AM; Wednesdays: Richmond Free Library, 8:45 – 10:15 AM; Fridays: Underhill Central School, 9:30 – 11:00 AM; Fridays: Huntington Public Library, 10:00 AM – 11:30 PM.

Kids’ Yoga, 3-5 years and 6 years and up. Toddler tumbling and new moms’ groups. The Well, 644-6700.

Early Literacy Storytime, Thursdays, 11:00 AM, Westford Public Library. Stories and activities using early literacy concepts for ages birth-preschool. Drop-in; no registration needed. New families welcome. Information: Victoria, 878-5639 or westford_pl@vals.state.vt.us, or visit www.westford.lib.vt.us and click on Events @ Your Library.

SENIORS/COMMUNITY MEALS

Jeri-Hill XYZ Seniors meet at the Catalyst Church on the Raceway, Underhill on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month. All seniors welcome. Dinner served at 11:30 AM. Information, Bette Workman, 899-4446, Loreen Teer, 899-1363, or Doug Keith, 899-2582.

Johnson Community Meal – 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month, 11:30 AM – 12:30 PM, United Church, Johnson. Come for a hot meal and get to know your neighbors. Meal followed by community gathering. Information: Ellen Hill, 635-1439, ellen.hill@jsc.edu.

Westford Senior Lunches – Join Westford Seniors for lunch at the Red Brick Meeting House on the Common, monthly on the 2nd Monday. Lunch, 12:00 noon; short meeting or presentation after. Call 878-7405 or 879-7382 for information or for a ride.

Bolton Up and Downtown Club meets the last Thursday of the month at the Bolton Fire Station. Meal at 5:00 PM. Open to adults 60+. Contact Doris Wheelock at 434-3769.

Huntington senior meal site – The Huntington senior meals are served monthly on the 3rd Tuesday, 12:00 noon at the Community Baptist Church, Huntington Center.

St. Jude’s Church senior meals, Hinesburg, 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month. Bingo games afterward. Everyone welcome, including caregivers. Dinners \$4 per person. Information: Ted Barrette, 453-3087.

Starksboro First Baptist Church senior meals, Starksboro, 4th Thursday of the month, 11:30 AM. Call Brenda Boutin, 802-453-6354 for more information. All ages are welcome!

“Good Food for All” free dinners, 2nd Thursday of the month, United Church of Underhill, VT Rt. 15, Underhill Flats, 5:00 – 7:00 PM; and on the last Thursday of each month at Calvary Episcopal Church, VT Rt. 15, Underhill Flats, 5:00 – 7:00 PM. Everyone in the communities is invited.

SPORTS ACTIVITIES

Ongoing Pilate classes, Dakini Studio, Underhill, Mondays and Thursdays, 6:00 PM. Register at 899-4191. For more information and other scheduled classes, www.dakinistudio.wordpress.com.

Ongoing events continued on page 10

Library news continued from page 5

Day Parade. Join Brownell in the Memorial Day parade. Promote the Summer Reading Program – Build a Better World! Sign up at youth desk!

Monday, May 29 – Library closed for Memorial Day.

Brownell Library will welcome New Hampshire based Wildlife Encounters on Saturday, April 22 at 10:30 AM for a special all ages program in the Main Reading Room. Educator Meaghan Dow will offer a special program with a selection of animal ambassadors from around the world that may include an alligator, wallaby, and giant Flemish rabbit! Participants will learn about the animal ambassadors that visit, with some ambassadors even allowing audience interaction! Wildlife Encounters focuses their message on sharing awareness concerning people, animals and the earth, a unique program that should not be missed!

Monday, April 24, 12:00 and 1:00 PM: Tech Help with Cliff. Offering one-on-one technology help. Bring in your new gadget or gizmo and Cliff will sit with you to help you learn its ways! Reservation required. Please call 878-6955 at least 24 hours in advance.

Friday, April 21, 3:45 – 7:00 PM: TAB. All teens interested in helping with Essex Eats Out meet at 3:45 PM at the library or at St. James Church by 5:00 PM.

Friday, April 21, 6:30 – 8:30 PM: Family Movie. Free popcorn and drink.

Saturday, April 22, 10:30 – 11:30: Wildlife Encounters. Meet some exotic and North American wildlife up close! Wildlife Encounters is bringing their educational program to learn about these unique animals! A program for all ages! *Animals used in programs are all non-releasable wildlife either because of injury, legal situations, or they were not born in the wild.

Art / Music / Theater continued from page 8

and candid outtakes of famous rock and roll stars and jazz greats from Miles Davis, Elvis, and the Beatles to David Bowie, Prince, and *The Beastie Boys*. *Upstream with Ogden Pleissner*, through October 31 will feature paintings, prints, and ephemera from the Museum’s permanent collection to transport viewers to some of the avid anglers’ favorite streams, rivers, and lakes from Maine to Wyoming. This summer running Saturday, June 3-Wednesday, August 23, the museum presents *Wild Spaces, Open Seasons: Hunting and Fishing in American Art*, the first major exhibition to explore the visual culture of hunting and fishing in both painting and sculpture from the early 1800s to WWII. The exhibition will include a wide variety of portraits, landscapes, still lifes, and genre scenes, and will include iconic works by Thomas Eakins, Winslow Homer, and John Singer Sargent, as well as key pictures by specialist sporting artists such as Charles Deas, Alfred Jacob Miller, Carl Rungius, and Arthur Fitzwilliam Tait. This is the only east coast venue for this exhibition, and will include objects like decoys, antlers, and firearms; more than 70 paintings and sculptures. Shelburne Museum, Shelburne Rd., Shelburne; 802-985-0881 or klevesque@shelburnemuseum.org.

Essex Art League meets the first Thursday of the month, September-June, from 9:00 – 11:00 AM at the Essex Junction Congregational Church on VT Rt. 15. The meeting includes a business and social time followed by a guest artist presentation. For a detailed calendar of meetings, speakers, and online gallery of members’ works: <http://www.essexartleague.com/>.

MUSIC

The Westford Music Series and the Westford Public Library present Buddy Dubay in the final concert of the Westford Music Series on Sunday, May 21 with a children’s concert. Dubay is widely beloved for his ability to capture the total amazement and involvement of his audience. Buddy is the musical director of the Minor Key Youth Music Programs and Our Community Cares Camp in Richmond. He teaches music at the Bellwether School and the Poker Hill School. Buddy has been performing for children in the area for over 30 years. All age groups will find this a special hour of enchantment. The concert will be held from 4:00 – 5:00 PM at the UCW white church on the green, Westford Common. Free.

The Anderson/Fader Guitar Duo, a world-class New York-based classical guitar duo, will perform in the Old Round Church on Saturday, May 20 at 7:30 PM. Sponsored by the Richmond Historical Society and Vermont composer Damon Ferrante, the concert features works by J.S. Bach, Granados, and Haydn, as well as Ferrante’s *The Footbridge*, a lyrical and energetic piece (a little symphony for two guitars) inspired by Alexander

Friday, April 28, 10:00 – 10:45 AM: Songs and Stories with Matthew. Matthew Witten performs songs about our world and tells adventurous tales. Funded by the Brownell Library Foundation. For all ages.

Friday, April 28, 6:30 – 8:30 PM: Dungeons & Dragons. Embark upon imaginary adventures. Our Dungeon Master, Aiem, serves as the game’s referee and storyteller. Grades 6 and up.

Friday, April 28, 6:30 – 8:30 PM: Maggie’s Fiber Friday for Adults. Maggie Loftus, veteran knitter, will be settled in front of the fireplace in the Main Reading Room. She invites adult knitters and crocheters to join her with their projects and engage in conversation. Bring patterns to share if you’d like. If you wish to contact Maggie: 6maggie2@myfairpoint.net.

Wednesday, April 26, 3:00 – 4:30 PM: Lego Fun. Participate in fun and friendly building with LEGO. For kids entering K and up. (Kids under 5 are welcome to participate with parental supervision).

Friday, April 28, 2:30 – 3:30 PM: Money Smart Kids. We will read some books and do activities, incorporating ways to be smart with money. For kids grades K-4.

Brownell Library, 6 Lincoln St., Essex Junction. Hours: Monday, Wednesday, Friday: 9:00 AM – 9:00 PM; Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday (July until after Labor Day, closed Saturdays): 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM. Call Main Desk 878-6955, Youth Desk 878-6956, Reference Desk 878-6957, or email frontdesk@brownelllibrary.org.

Calder’s sculpture. A suggested donation of \$15 for adults, \$10 for seniors, and \$5 for children and students will be taken at the door. For more information about the performers, please go to www.steeplechasearts.com/andersonfader-guitar-duo. For more information: 434-3220 www.oldroundchurch.com.

Each year, the winner of Burlington Chamber Orchestra’s open competition for music students is invited to perform a concerto with the chamber orchestra in the final concert of the season, this year on Saturday, May 13. The 2017 winner of the Young Artist Solo Competition is Sebastiaan West, who will be performing the first movement of Bach’s *D minor Keyboard Concerto*. Sebastiaan was born in the Netherlands and moved to Vermont in 2010. He is a student of master teacher Paul Orgel, who teaches at UVM, and he plays in the Flynn Youth Jazz Combo and the jazz combo *Blue Slate*. A sophomore at Mount Mansfield Union High School in Jericho, Sebastiaan also plays marimba and bells in the school’s marching band and orchestra. Conducted by BCO’s Artistic Director Dr. Yutaka Kono, the concert also will feature the classical music favorite *Symphony No. 2* by Ludwig van Beethoven, and the *Overture, Scherzo and Finale* by Robert Schumann. Tickets \$25 for adults, \$10 for students with ID. For more information, 893-4082 or www.bcovt.org.

THEATER/FILM

Dorset Theatre Festival opens its 40th anniversary season with the world premiere of Theresa Rebeck’s *Downstairs*, starring brother and sister Tim Daly and Tyne Daly, who will be appearing together for the first time on the stage. The show will run for 16 performances between June 22-July 8, at the Dorset Playhouse, 104 Cheney Road, Dorset. *Downstairs* is a thought-provoking family drama written with Tim and Tyne in mind. The play follows the story of Eileen (Tyne Daly), whose brother Teddy (Tim Daly) has decided to move home and live in her basement. Eileen’s husband is less than thrilled about this. And Teddy is more than a little off his game. As the brother and sister struggle to understand their present and their past, questions of betrayal, disappointment, and madness rise and fall. Who is saving whom? Subscriptions for the 2017 Summer Season now on sale; single tickets go on sale April 1. For information call the box office, 802-867-2223 ext. 2 Monday-Thursday, 12:00 – 4:00 PM; to purchase subscriptions and tickets online, www.dorsettheatrefestival.org.

Who’s Afraid of Virginia Wolf? will be broadcast live to the Flynn Center for the Performing Arts, Burlington from The National Theatre Live on Thursday, May 18. For information and tickets, 802-863-5966 or www.flynnitix.org.

www.affectionatelycats.com
860-CATS(2287)

AGE WELL COMMUNITY MEALS

Age Well hosts Community Meals at over 70 locations. Programs vary from small rural gatherings, to senior centers, to an ever-growing array of restaurants. Menus are available on the 22nd of each month for the following month. Meals are on a first-come, first-serve, month-by-month basis. Call Age Well, 802-662-5200, for reservations for the following month on, or after, the 22nd of the month. If the 22nd falls on a weekend, reservations may be made the following Monday. Milk is served with all meals.

Tuesday, May 2 – Pizza Hut, Susie Wilson Rd., Essex Junction, check-in 11:00 AM, lunch 11:30 AM. All you can eat salad and pizza buffet.

Wednesday, May 3 – Athens Diner, Colchester, check-in 10:30 AM, lunch 11:00 AM. Roast pork, mashed potatoes, green beans, dessert.

Thursday, May 4 – Dutch Mill, Shelburne Rd., Shelburne, check-in 10:30 AM, lunch 11:00 AM. Baked stuffed chicken breast, mashed potatoes, mixed vegetables, strawberry shortcake.

Tuesday, May 9 – Pizza Hut, Susie Wilson Rd., Essex Junction, check-in 11:00 AM, lunch 11:30 AM. All you can eat salad and pizza buffet.

Wednesday, May 10 – Pizza Putt, S. Burlington, check-in 10:30 AM, lunch 11:00 AM. Baked ziti and meatballs, tossed salad, garlic bread, ice cream cake.

Thursday, May 11 – Holiday Inn, 1068 Williston Rd., S. Burlington, check-in 10:30 AM, lunch 11:00 AM. Turkey stew, mashed potatoes, biscuits, salad, assorted desserts.

Monday, May 15 – Papa Nick’s, Hinesburg, check-in 2:30 PM, lunch 3:00 PM. Lemon chicken, mashed potatoes, mixed vegetables, rolls, dessert.

Tuesday, May 16 – Ray’s Seafood, Essex Jct., check-in 10:30

AM, lunch 11:00 AM. Fish, potato, coleslaw, squash, roll, and creemee.

Wednesday, May 17 – JP’s Diner & Deli, River Rd., Essex Junction, check-in 10:30 AM, lunch 11:00 AM. Chicken and biscuits, strawberry shortcake.

Thursday, May 18 – Colonial Room, Essex Educational Center, Essex Junction, check-in 11:00 AM, lunch 11:30 AM. Stuffed chicken breast, salad, potatoes, vegetables, dessert.

Tuesday, May 23– Ray’s Seafood, Essex Jct., check-in 10:30 AM, lunch 11:00 AM. Fish, potato, coleslaw, squash, roll, and creemee.

Wednesday, May 24 – American Legion, Colchester, check-in 10:30 AM, lunch 11:00 AM. Open-faced hot turkey sandwich, potato, vegetables.

Thursday, May 25 – Pizza Putt, S. Burlington, check-in 10:30 AM, lunch 11:00 AM. Baked ziti and meatballs, tossed salad, garlic bread, ice cream cake.

Tuesday, May 30– Ray’s Seafood, Essex Jct., check-in 10:30 AM, lunch 11:00 AM. Fish, potato, coleslaw, squash, roll, and creemee.

Wednesday, May 31 – Athens Diner, Colchester, check-in 10:30 AM, lunch 11:00 AM. Turkey dinner, mashed potatoes, stuffing, green beans, dessert.

Restaurant ticket program – Age Well’s restaurant tickets are available on the first of each month, and must be used during the month they are purchased. Tickets are nonreturnable and not exchangeable. For tickets, connect with Pat Long, Community Meal Coordinator, 802-662-5200. Tickets must be presented before ordering. Restaurants have the right to offer limited menus.

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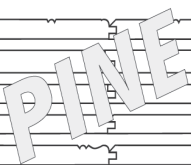
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