

MOUNTAIN GAZETTE



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CESU Voters will decide on merger proposal June 7

By Ted Tedford

Special to the Mountain Gazette

Voters in the five towns that comprise the Chittenden East Supervisory Union (CESU) will cast ballots June 7 on whether they want to combine their seven school districts into one.

If it passes, the proposal would mean the approximately 3,000 students would still attend the same schools as they do now, but those schools would be controlled by one school board instead of seven.

But first, the plan to create a Regional Education District (RED) prepared over months of study must be approved by the State Board of Education which is expected to act on it April 19 at a meeting in the Capital Plaza in Montpelier at 10:00 AM.

Voters in all the seven school districts must approve the new plan for it to take effect.

Rovbert Letovsky, chairman of the Volunteer Merger Planning Committee, said the state board has given indications it favors the merger proposal and he expects it to be approved.

If voters in Bolton, Huntington, Jericho, Richmond and Underhill approve the merger plan the district would be operational by July 1, 2012.

The planning committee has not discussed closing any of the nine schools and has no plans to, Letovsky said. With declining enrollments throughout the district, concerns have surfaced over the years that some schools, such as Smilie Elementary in Bolton and the Underhill I.D. School might be closed. Smilie's enrollment in grades kindergarten through Grade 4 is down to about 88 students. Voters in the Underhill I.D. school district have for several years blocked any attempts to close that school that houses students from the border area of Jericho and Underhill Flats.

If the plan is OK'd the new RED board would be comprised of 15 members, compared to 45 in the present seven districts.

Letovsky said merging the districts into one would not mean substantial savings, although an estimate in the committee's report shows merger

would potentially save \$372,500 the first year. The report also notes that the state would provide financial incentives the first four years to lower property taxes. That would mean a savings of about \$700 in taxes over four years for someone with a home whose value is \$300,000, Letovsky said.

"The most important thing (of the merger) would be to offer the same opportunity to kids across the district," he said. "What it lets us do is improve the operation of the whole RED to benefit the students, their families, teachers, non-teaching staff and building leadership, and ultimately the taxpayers," Letovsky said. "There will be much better allocation of resources," he said. For instance, teachers and non-teaching staff could be shifted around buildings when necessary."

Letovsky said operations in the new RED would be streamlined and more efficient.

He said one district would reduce volatility. For instance, he said, if several families with children moved into one town over a short period that would cause a huge spike in that school's budget. With a unified district the cost would be spread around.

CESU schools include the elementary schools in Bolton, Huntington, Jericho, Richmond and Underhill. The I.D. School is located in Jericho, plus Mount Mansfield Union High School in Jericho, Camels Hump Middle School in Richmond and Browns River Middle School in Jericho.

Public informational meetings in the school districts have been scheduled as follows: April 26, Underhill I.D. School; April 27, Richmond Elementary School; May 3, Underhill Central School; April 28, Mount Mansfield Union High School; May 4, Smilie Elementary School, Bolton; May 10, Brewster Pierce Elementary School, Huntington; May 11, Jericho Elementary School. All meetings start at 6:30 PM.

Letovsky said the study committee also plans to meet with the selectboards in all five towns, but meeting dates and times are pending.

Back to the drawing board for Richmond Rescue

By Phyl Newbeck

Special to the Mountain Gazette

Richmond Rescue wants to move to a paramedicine system. President and CEO Ronald J. Mack thinks such an upgrade would be a great benefit to the towns his squad serves, but they may not be able to make the change as quickly as they would like.

According to Mack, Chittenden and Grand Isle were the last counties in Vermont to switch to paramedicine. Essex and Colchester Rescue are the only squads within that area who have already made the jump. Mack said that while EMT Intermediates have to go through 250 hours of classroom training to get certified, paramedics need an additional 1,200 hours which doesn't include

testing and observation time. Because of the intense preparation, those who finish the course generally become full-time rescue workers. Mack said there is nothing to prevent a volunteer from taking the course but it is unlikely that anyone would go through all that training without wanting a full-time position in return. For this reason, Richmond Rescue asked the towns it serves – Bolton, Huntington and Richmond – to double their appropriations to the squad so they would be able to pay a full-time employee who finishes the course. Unfortunately, only the voters of Bolton proved generous. Huntington and Richmond did not provide the extra funds.

Mack explained that under a paramedicine sys-

Richmond Rescue continued on page 16

Westford – A Vote for History and No School Budget Drama

By Phyl Newbeck

Special to the Mountain Gazette

Westford Town Meeting

Westford's budget of almost \$1.5 million was approved by nearly 300 votes. Voters also gave the okay to putting \$15,000 into the equipment reserve fund and spending \$20,000 for gravel for the town's roads. Former Select Board member Ira Allen defeated Alex Weinhagen to rejoin the board after a two and a half decade absence.

Voters approved the town's plan to spend up to \$140,000 to purchase the Spiller property, as well as a proposal to borrow up to \$50,000 for that purchase, if necessary. The property was purchased by the Westford Historical Society in 2010 with the goal of having the town acquire an ownership interest in it. A public meeting prior to the vote showed that townspersons were interested in buying the property but were concerned that the town planned to sell another plot of land to be able to do so. Select Board member John Quinn and other members of the Westford Com-

mon Concepts Committee were a little bit worried about how the Town would vote on the purchase. "There wasn't a lot of buzz out there," said Quinn. "We didn't have a good feel for which way it was going to go. It's refreshing that it was done on a handshake and voters joined in on that and bought into our vision."

The Town of Fairfax weighed a similar purchase but that Selectboard opted to ask residents whether they wanted to bond for the purchase; a proposal which was turned down. In Westford 65% of the residents voted in favor of purchasing the property but only 53% voted for a subsequent proposal authorizing the town to borrow to help fund the purchase, if necessary. Quinn is thankful the committee decided to sell land to cover the costs rather than request a bond; fearing that if they had gone the same route as Fairfax, the vote might have failed. Quinn is sensitive to residents' fear that the proposed sale of property will lead to a loss of

Westford town continued on page 14

From Russia with love



March 16, 2011
Dear friends,

I am so excited to write to you from Vladimir, Russia. Over six months have passed since I left Vermont to move here with a humanitarian organization called the Boaz Project. Our small team of three has been working in the nearby orphanages, as well as studying the Russian language at a local university.

It has been a truly amazing adventure! The Boaz Project sponsors five orphanages in the Vladimir region, providing humanitarian aid and Russian partners to conduct weekly classes on life skills and values. My team, which includes myself and two other Americans, volunteers in four of the five orphanages.

In each orphanage we have developed a unique program directed towards the individual children. The children we have worked with range from the age of 3 to 15, and, as you would imagine, there are a wide range of personalities and needs. These children are smart, funny, creative, and have so much potential. In one of the orphanages, I work with five boys who will soon be graduating from the orphanage system and living on their own at the young age of 16. In Russia all children take an entrance exam, after the 9th grade, to determine if they are eligible for any form of further education, such as technical school or university.

Many orphans do not pass this exam, due to lack of preparation and adult involvement, but I have been determined to not let this statistic stand in the way of these five boys' potential. When I first met these boys, I saw faces filled with feelings of rejection, loss, boredom, passion, and a deep desire to be known by someone... anyone. I have been able to see how they hide behind the walls they have built in order that they might protect themselves from those who do not know them, those who could never understand what they have been through, those who might bring a spark of hope only to leave them broken hearted and once again feeling alone.

Together we've talked about various aspects of personality, learning styles, and personal strengths and weaknesses through discussions and activities. I recently challenged the boys to reflect on what they value and hold to be most important in their lives: love, athletic ability, bravery, honesty, revenge, good looks, peace, family, a good career.

What these boys treasure the most are honesty, love, fame, athletic ability, and career. One boy even shared that it takes bravery to face every day and live in this world. Viewed as complete outcasts

because of their orphan status, these boys face intense prejudice and discrimination, not only from classmates and teachers, but from people and systems in society. In the world's eyes they have every right to store up hate and look favorably on valuing revenge.

And yet, the core of who these guys are is stronger than that. Instead they hope for honesty. They desire love, peace, bravery, a sense of humor, and kindness. They all want a career, to do something with their life. They are willing to give everything they have for a family. And they all want to be known and loved.

I have learned so much from these boys, as well as from the other children with whom I volunteer. And while these 6 months have surely been challenging, I have found an inspiration of hope in each of the children's stories, because of the people they are and because of what they each have to offer others. I have seen the amazing hope that can be found in the love of God and the difference that human nurture can make in the way a child views himself. I've found this experience living in Russia to be challenging, but I really can call Vladimir, Russia home. History has not made life easy for Russians, and I would say that daily goals and patterns differ greatly from those of Americans. The culture is slower and more intimate than life in America. The Russian mindset places great importance on relationships for anything and everything. My perspective on life has been influenced by living in Russia. I'll return to Vermont mid-June, and while I know that three months will go by quickly, every minute will be an opportunity to give love and learn something from this rich culture. I am grateful for the support and encouragement I have received from everyone in Vermont!

Niānēá! (Thank you!) Ièð è áéäâäöü! (Peace and grace!)

Sincerely
Bethany Johnson



COURT REPORT

February 9, 2011, **Heather H. Wry**, 26, Underhill, VT, charged with DUI, first offense, in Burlington, VT on December 28, 2010; amended to vehicle operation – careless or negligent; pleaded guilty; sentenced to three to 12 months, suspended, probation.

February 14, 2011, **Joseph Klemm Jr.**, 28, Westford, VT, charged with vehicle operation – license suspended in Williston, VT on May 20, 2010; pleaded guilty; fined \$200.

February 18, 2011, **Jason T. Schofield**, 28, Jeffersonville, VT, charged with reckless endangerment in Burlington, VT on September 23, 2010; pleaded guilty; sentenced to eight to 12 months, suspended but 63 days, probation; charged with violation of conditions of release in Williston on December 24, 2010; pleaded guilty; sentenced to one to three months, concurrent, suspended, probation.

February 24, 2011, **Michael Johnson**, 21, Jericho, VT, charged with DUI, first offense, in South Burlington, VT on February 4, 2011; pleaded guilty; sentenced to three to six months, suspended, probation.

February 28, 2011, **Amber Guyette**, 21, Jericho, VT, charged with retail theft \$900 or less in South Burlington, VT on October 8, 2010; pleaded guilty; sentenced to two to four months, suspended, probation.

POLICE REPORT**Vermont solving nonviolent crimes with DNA analysis**

The Valley News reports that violent crime rates are relatively low in Vermont, so the state is able to devote greater resources to using the analysis to pursue nonviolent offenders.

In one crime, the police in Hartford were able to identify a burglary suspect stemming from an August break-in at the Quechee Club. DNA extracted from blood on a shard of glass recovered from the crime scene was matched with 34-year-old Joseph Heim of Richmond, who was arrested.

Police say Heim's DNA profile is in the state's Combined DNA Index System, or CODIS, because he has a record of burglary and larceny charges.

Neighbors plan to keep watch on Leary Road

March 20, ten Leary Road residents met to discuss the recent burglary and to decide whether to set up a Neighborhood Watch. Residents agreed to be more alert to any unusual activity, people, or cars in the area. An email group was set up and a decision made to get signs erected warning burglars that we are watching. Other residents will be informed and encouraged to support this neighborhood effort.

Make a CASH donation to help out a friend in need!

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There are many dogs and cats that are neglected, abused, and left unspayed or unneutered.

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Many folks have made donations of pet food and supplies and for that Roy and Lisa are forever grateful.

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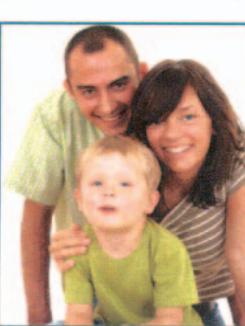
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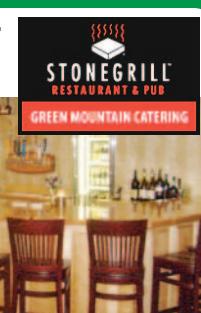
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NEWS BRIEFS**Brief road closures planned for Route 2 "Checkered House Bridge" construction**

"Checkered House Bridge" on Route 2 over the Winooski River in the Town of Richmond will require temporary road closings, including Interstate 89, for brief periods over the next several weeks beginning Tuesday, April 5.

The blasting is related to preparation for construction of the temporary detour that will be installed so that traffic can be maintained while the bridge is widened. Starting on April 5, two blasts a day – one at 11:00 AM and one at 3:00 PM – are planned every weekday for up to four weeks.

During the blast, no traffic will be allowed into the blast zone. Flaggers will stop traffic from entering the zone. The State Police will manage a rolling roadblock on the highway. It is anticipated that traffic stoppages will last a maximum of 10 minutes during this period.

The following roads will be affected: Johnnie Brook Road, Kenyon Road, U.S. Route 2, Route 117 (in the vicinity of Route 2), and Interstate 89 between Exit 11 (Richmond) and Exit 12 (Williston). Throughout the project there will be timely communication with the public about conditions that may affect travel. In addition, VTrans will use www.511vt.com to post traffic alerts. A project website, www.checkeredhousebridge.com, has been developed to provide information on the project.

University Mall's Earth Day Event

Starting on Tuesday April 19 and continuing through Saturday April 23 the University Mall wants your help in celebrating Earth Day, all week long! Drop off unique recyclables to be reused or recycled. All items collected will be used at their future homes at other businesses within the Champlain Valley. Some of the items being collected include: wine corks, old cell phones, tennis balls, foam packing peanuts, phone books, crocs footwear, individual candy wrappers, plastic grocery bags, and old SRS cameras. Check out our website for more information on specific items being collected: www.umallvt.com. Or call (802) 863-1066 x11.

Clutter Barn accepting donations

The Clutter Barn will begin accepting donations on Saturday May 7 from 8:30 AM – 12:00 noon from May - September, except during Tag Sales which are the last Saturday of each month.

The Clutter Barn is sponsored by the United Church of Underhill and is located adjacent to the Church on the green in the Village of Underhill Flats, Route 15. Staffed by volunteers from the Church, donated items are sorted, priced and arranged by category, and on the last Saturday of each month during the summer, beginning in May, the Barn is opened for a Tag Sale when lucky shoppers may browse and purchase useful and interesting items at bargain prices.

We accept clean, working household items, books, toys, games, puzzles and clothing. Clothing: We accept only spring and summer clothes during May, June, July.

We accept only fall and winter clothes during August and September.

Things we cannot take: computers, printers, computer equipment, telephones, TVs, exercise equipment, luggage, large appliances, large furniture, rugs, magazines, National Geographics, building or plumbing materials, beds, tires, rims, roof carriers, truck tops and truck racks.

We do not accept donations the last Saturday of the month. Questions? Call Kathy Williamson (899-3122) or Sharon Damkot (899-3572).

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Letters Policy:

**Letters: maximum 400 words;
one letter per writer, per calendar month.**

Must be signed for attribution,

with writer's address and phone.

COMMUNITY COLUMNS

Alternatives to cold medicines for infants and toddlersBy Dr. Lewis First, *First with Kids*

Parents have been hot recently asking me what they can do for their young children's colds now that over-the-counter cough and cold medicines are no longer recommended for children under 2 and have not really been found to be that effective in children under 6. So this week, let me put everyone in the nose as to how to treat your child's cough and cold symptoms safely.

Before I do that, it is important to recognize the reasons why over-the-counter medicines have been pulled off the market for infants and toddlers. There are no good studies on how to dose these medicines in younger children. There are no good studies that suggest they work in this age group. There are good studies suggesting that the side effects - if overdosed or taken accidentally - can be quite severe such as hallucinations, irritability, and irregular heartbeats that can be fatal.

So what can we do? Well, since most common infections that cause cold and cough are due to viruses, and viruses get better with time, my best suggestion is to ride out those cold symptoms with some rest and plenty of fluids. If you want to clean out a stuffy nose, consider a cool mist humidifier to loosen-up some of the congestion as well as saltwater nose drops for the nostrils which can also help loosen-up the mucus or snot. You can make the drops by putting a teaspoon of salt in 8 ounces of water. Put a few drops in one nostril at a time, let them sit for 3-4 minutes and then clean out that nostril with a suction bulb and repeat the sequence for the other nostril before your infant eats or before sleep.

When do we worry that a cold may be more than just a cold? If you find that your child is not getting better with their cold after a few days, has a high fever, persistent cough or wheezing, difficulty breathing, or you are just concerned, then speak to your child's doctor who will probably want to see your child and make sure they don't have an infection that might require a prescription antibiotic, or a form of asthma that will require other prescription medications. And if you want to prevent a cold, the name of the game is not over the counter cough and cold medicines, but good hand washing and avoiding exposure to second hand smoke.

Hopefully, tips like this will help tell you what is and is not recommended when it comes to treating your child's cold without those over-the-counter decongestants.

Lewis First, M.D., is chief of Pediatrics at Vermont Children's Hospital at Fletcher Allen Health Care and chair of the Department of Pediatrics at the University of Vermont College of Medicine.

Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission is seeking participants

The Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission is seeking participants for a Regional Stakeholders group to create stronger networks among those involved in cultural heritage and historic preservation, recreational opportunities and sustainable tourism in Chittenden County. The inaugural meeting of the group will be held on Tuesday, April 26 from 4:00 to 6 PM at the CCRPC's office in Winooski. The Group will provide input to management of the Champlain Valley National Heritage Partnership (CVNHP), determine needs for each sector in the County and suggest budget priorities for CVNHP in the coming year.

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Madeline Nickerson, age 10, of Underhill, who is pointing to a chart being used by the United Church of Underhill Sunday School to keep track of money raised to purchase an "Ark" for Heifer.

United Church of Underhill Sunday school works to fill the Ark

The Sunday school students at the United Church of Underhill have set a lofty goal for their offering money this year. They are trying to raise \$5,000 to buy an "Ark" through Heifer Project. Heifer International uses donated funds to purchase farm animals to give to families living in poverty to help them obtain food or the means to buy food and other necessities. From honey bees to llamas to a whole "boatload" of animals, Heifer matches family needs and trains them to care for their animals and to pass on off-spring to other families in need. Families are so thankful for the hand-up that Heifer provides that they take exceptional care of their new investments. A farmer in Thailand who received a \$250 water buffalo said, "If I die, my family will weep for me; if my buffalo dies, my family will starve." The gift of an \$850 camel to a family in Tanzania yielded this response, "When we get camels we are happy because they changed our life."

During Lent, the period leading up to Easter on April 24, the Church family at the United Church will be helping the students in their efforts. Everyone at the church has received Lenten banks which will be collected on Easter Sunday. They will make daily or weekly deposits in their banks based on blessings they have received or ways they have changed their lives during Lent. An anonymous donor in the Church has agreed to match all donations for Heifer Project.

Because children are filled with eternal hope, these children are absolutely certain that they will raise the money necessary for an "Ark," which contains these animals to be distributed around the world: 2 cows (milk), 2 sheep (wool), 2 camels (transportation), 2 oxen (work), 2 water buffalo (work in rice paddies), 2 pigs (meat), 2 beehives (honey and beeswax), 2 goats (milk), 2 donkeys (draft animals), 2 trios of ducks (eggs to eat and sell), 2 trios of rabbits (food), 2 trios of guinea pigs (meat), 2 flocks of geese (eggs and meat), 2 flocks of chicks (eggs), and 2 llamas (wool).

If anyone in the communities would like to help the Sunday school reach its goal for Heifer International, please contact Julianne Nickerson at 899-3798.

Lenten reflection on the Cross to be held at St. Thomas in Underhill Center

A celebration of the Mass with a Lenten reflection on "The Cross" will be held this coming Monday March 28 at 6:30 PM at St. Thomas Church in Underhill Center. The reflection will be given by Msgr. Richard Lavalley, Pastor of St. Francis Xavier Parish in Winooski. All are invited and encouraged to attend. This will be an opportunity to make this year's Lenten experience special.

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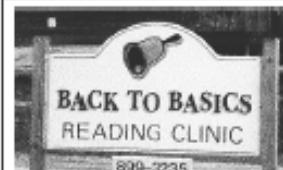
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3



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Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Jericho, 6:45 - 7 AM
(followed by continental breakfast)

Thurs., April 21 MAUNDY THURSDAY

United Church of Underhill, 6 PM
Light potluck supper with Holy Communion and moving Tenebrae (Shadows) Service

Fri., April 22 GOOD FRIDAY WALK, 12 - 3 PM

Starting at United Pentecostal Church, Route 15, Jericho Village, with stops at area churches for brief meditations</

Flowers and Gardens

By Suzanne Kusserow
Senior Guest Columnists

Brenda Boutin, our esteemed editor, notified us that the next issue of the Mountain Gazette would emphasize gardens. Since I haven't vigorously gardened in a long time, and have never gardened with any method, plan, color scheme or design I am sure I can qualify as an expert. And of course, my current position as an old Underhill matriarch, gives me some respectful, but unwarranted, authority on most any subject that I really don't know. I have learned that a firm voice, a stentorian tone, a regal bearing with plenty of sweeping hand gestures, usually belittles any possible mutterings that I might be a fake. I do try and put a spirited color in a raised bed near the entry into the house: cardinal-red Geraniums, mustard-yellow Marigolds, with the blue of Ageratum. This was quite attractive until Luna (a dog) decided the underlying earth was cool and moist.....a lovely place to dig a hole and live therein on hot days. So there went half of my display. But, even covered with hastily-cut birch branches, some of the color still came through.

A small herb garden gets cut down every year, for spreading on newspaper in the balcony, where the sun assures that the dried products will be available in midwinter. And sometimes, the roughly-pruned mothers of these herbs do have enough maternal instinct to sprout again. The Leeks reach their glory in potato and leek soup, and then soften into gangly hollow tubes that blow over in the wind. The Chives fare better: potato salad is sprinkled green with them and they can be given away freely to city dwellers, who don't know how ruthlessly we will be pulling out the cheery illegitimate sprouts that crowd around Mama. I add Savory and Thyme and in a hopeful moment, a couple of plants of Rosemary, knowing I will be hearing from everyone else how THEIRS adjusted to potting and moving indoors.

Going away for a week, the weeds add their own possessive definition of beauty, and it's no use trying to outwit a weed; the only defense is to rename it a flower and live with it. It is kind of the botanical equivalent of the rule: "If you can't fight 'em, join 'em." But sometimes, into this chaos of weeds, grow some very luscious flowers: Jack-in-the-Pulpit, Solomon's Seal, Thalictrum (Meadow Rue), a huge Wake Robin, Blood Root, which drops its snow-white petals at the first tiny breeze, bordered by Ostrich Fern (the only fern I know that does not look buggy, tattered and horrible by August). All these have been transplanted from the wild....to give them some

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COMMUNITY COLUMNS

recognition as lovely emigrants, and to fool myself into thinking I can grow something.

Actually, I know quite a bit about wild flowers, often called weeds. Their progress into patrician gardens has stumbled ahead in fits and starts. Whoever thought that a daisy would look so much like a tall, elegant Shasta Daisy, or that a Black-eyed Susan would be called Gloriosa. Or that a ragged spindly rose, found growing in an old

cellar hole would, with good soil, Miracle Gro and a leaf blanket for the winter, blossom into an amazing soft-pink hybrid. And I am appalled sometimes to see clumps of Knapweed (*Centaura*), a cousin of Bachelor's Button, planted because of its soft mauve color. It is an exotic (a word that does not quite give the intended feeling of misplacement from its country of origin.)

It spreads viciously from farm fields to cow pastures, to any garden it can sneak into, and has a root system that can defy any fork or spade.

There are three names to plants:

The Latin classification of class, order, family, genus and species, created by Linnaeus, an 18th century Swedish naturalist. I've always like the rhythm of the names and the hidden messages exposed upon translation: Cypridium – like a shoe – Lady's Slipper; anything with canadense, borealis, montana, lives in cold places; pennsylvanica, virginiana, caroliniana, will probably be south of us; alba, rubra, nigra, tell us the color. And the only plant he named after himself: Linnaea borealis or Twinflower.

Then there are the names that are called 'common': instantaneous, that-looks-just-like-a names: Johnny Jump Up, Jack in the Pulpit, Skunk Cabbage, Cucumber Root, Cowslip, Buttercup, Goldthread.

And the most important: the memories that we all planted with each one. My mother loved the prairie roses that grew in South Dakota; my grandmother made tea from Tansy and Bergamot; I pick huge bunches of Daffodils that grow around a deserted farmhouse in Cambridge; I have waded into waters stained black by oak leaves, to gather Dutchman's Breeches and Cowslip; the Iris that Zilda Metcalfe had so much of she didn't want the color anymore.

So, when we add these names together, we welcome our gardens, our Spring, and our memories that keep us digging and planting and pruning and weeding and pushing us into summer!

Green & Clean -The top 15 trashy Headlines of 2011

By Bernard Paquette

Vermont cities and towns will host the 41st annual Green Up Day Litter/Trash Hunt on Saturday, May 7, 2011. Over 15,000 people volunteer annually in picking up litter (over 40,000 bags of trash) on Green Up Day. Google GREEN UP VERMONT; find a list of town coordinators. View what a green and clean Vermont looks like in the eyes of students in grades k-12 – poster and writing projects. Share the website with your family-download winning poster, view photos and videos, buy t-shirts, check out the blog, learn about Green Up Day history, and more, <http://www.greenupvermont.org/index.php>. Many do not know the "State" does not do Green Up. The non-profit organization must raise about 80% of its funds from the private sector. Support the businesses that support Green Up Vermont. Interested individuals can also donate money.

When in my teens, no longer a child needing my parent's attendance yet still harboring a deep down desire for family experiences, I sought out Green Up Day as a continuation of tradition mixed with my growing independence. As I joined friends that Saturday morning I felt like we were doing something good that seemed leveraged well beyond the ten or twelve bags of trash we collected. The activity was not as work anymore than climbing the hill to slide back down was in the winter. What I saw and felt that Saturday encourages me to view every day that I walk outdoors as Green Up Day.

I seldom see so many families and friends gathered enjoying each

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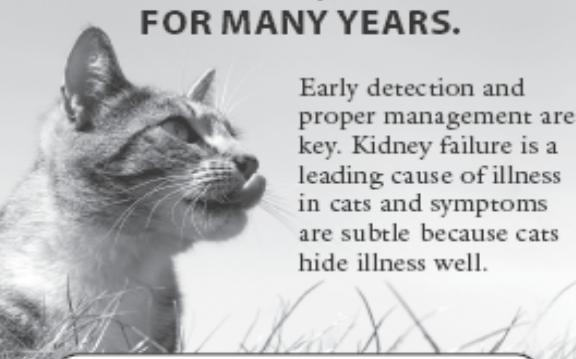
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The Lesser-Known Tax

By Jennifer R. Luitjens

Its tax season yet again – a time where we struggle to complete our income tax filings by the April 15 deadline. However, this article will not address any last-minute income tax tips; rather, we will explore the world of a lesser-known tax - the estate tax.

Without perhaps too much fanfare, our federal Congress made some significant changes to the estate tax law within the "Tax Relief, Unemployment Insurance Reauthorization, and Job Creation Act of 2010" (TRUIRJCA) passed last December. Had Congress failed to act prior to the close of the year, the provisions of the 2001 tax law known as the "Economic Growth and Tax Relief Reconciliation Act" (EGTRRA) would have expired, resulting in a return to an earlier tax law where the asset threshold was \$1 million and the maximum tax rate was 55%.

So what does all this mean? Well, if there is a death in 2011 or 2012, and the decedent's assets are less than \$5 million, then there is no federal estate tax. For estates in excess of \$5 million, the maximum tax rate is 35%. In addition, there was a repeal of carry-over basis and reinstatement of stepped-up basis, a restoration of unified credit against gift tax for gifts, and an option to a surviving spouse for the portability of the Deceased Spouse's Unused Exclusion Amount (DSUEA). And if the decedent's favorite color was green, there is a tax surcharge of 10% unless the date of death is Sunday or a day with the number "1" in it. Just kidding – well, at least for the last part.

These new federal tax provisions are actually a temporary tax relief, effective for 2 years, with the hope that Congress will address these estate tax issues in a more permanent way. Until the close of 2012, we do know that most estates (individuals under \$5 million and couples under \$10 million in assets) will avoid federal estate taxes. So, good news for most, as the concern for paying up to 55% in taxes is at least temporarily relieved.

However, these are just federal taxes, and it is still important to consider the existence of any state estate taxes, as many have lower thresholds than the federal markers. In Vermont, we have a lower threshold of \$2.75 million for 2011, and \$3.5 million for 2012. Other states, such as Massachusetts, levy taxes on estates with assets at \$1 million or more.

While some progress has occurred, the estate tax picture is still

Lesser known tax continued on page 5

other's company in a statewide yet community based tradition as on Green Up Day. Join your group on Saturday May 7; collaborate with those whom make Vermont a special place and Green Up Day a day to remember.

The Top "Trashy" Headlines. Vote your favorite!

- 1) Litter Spotted From Space – Aliens Pick Vermont-Cleanest Landing Spot.
- 2) Cat Boycotts Green Up Day- hides her litter.
- 3) Insects Decry Litterbugs - Launch "Sting-Em" Campaign.
- 4) Youth make it Cool to be Clean – Environment Wins!
- 5) Critters Bitter About Litter-Stage demonstration along roadsides.
- 6) Scavengers Seek Trashy Treasure Saturday May 7- Start early for best pickings.
- 7) Litterbugs denounced for ASBO (Anti social behavior disorder) – IJAF- Littering is wrong.
- 8) Psychics Predict World Will Clean Up Its' Act if we don't trash it first.
- 9) Umpire Throws Out Litter-Dirty Call!
- 10) Lawyer Files Suit against Fast Food Corporations claiming their food wrappers are responsible for clients littering behaviors.
- 11) Businesses Quick to Move In after explorer discovers litter-free city.
- 12) Cigarette companies begin Recycling Effort –Target 2.1 Billion Cigarette Butts thrown on the ground each year. Second hand-smoke anyone?
- 13) Uncovered Pickup Spills Trash leaves telltale trail. Driver complains to police "don't see you ticketing Hansel and Gretel".
- 14) Shortage of Litter Threatens Green Up Day. April Fools!
- 15) VERMONTERS ERADICATE LITTER - Dozens Scramble to Pick Up Last Piece. Now That Was Easy!

"All that is necessary for the triumph of evil is that good men do nothing". Edmund Burke

Green Up Day is on Saturday, May 7. Make it a day to remember.

See more short stories reflecting Vermont Green and Clean-Vermont values at <http://www.litterwithastorytotell.blogspot.com/>.



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COMING EVENTS

Saturday April 9,
University Mall annual Mascot March and Easter Egg Hunt, 11:00 AM -1:00 PM. Easter Egg Hunt, store-to-store, 11:00 AM - 12:00 Noon. Meet local mascots such as Champ, Rally, Stormy, Teddy and more as they march to the Easter Bunny tree house in Center Court, 12 Noon. Be sure to bring your camera! Free event, recommended for ages 8 and under. For more info, please call (802) 863-1066

Sunday April 10

The St. Thomas Church Knights of Columbus Council #7810 will host its Annual Polish Dinner on Sunday, April 10th from 5:30 to 7:00 PM in the St. Thomas Parish Hall on River Road in Underhill Center. The meal will include homemade smoked kielbasa, pierogi (Dough stuffed with cheese or stuffed with potatoes and cheese), cabbage, sauerkraut, potatoes, dessert and a beverage. The tickets are \$10.00 for adults and \$5.00 for children aged 6 to 10 years. Children 5 and under will be the guests of the Knights. No reservations are necessary. Simply pay at the door. Take-out dinners will be available. Why not let the Knights do the cooking and treat your whole family to this delicious dinner? For further information, please call the church office at 899-4632.

Thursday April 14,

Vermont Consultants Networks (VCN) meeting 8:00 AM, Network Performance Inc in So. Burlington. Continental Breakfast provided. Non-members \$15; first-time guests free. Network Performance Inc. (NPI), 85 Mountain View Drive, So. Burlington, VT. For membership information and to RSVP, call Bob Uerz at 802-373-8379

Saturday April 16

Flea market at Grace United Methodist Church, 130 Maple Street, Essex Jct., 9:00 AM -1:00 PM. For more information call church office at 878-8071.

Greek Spring Pastry and Dinner Take-Out Sale to be held. Pastry sale starts at 10:00 AM and dinner starts at 11:00 AM. Greek Orthodox Church, Burlington, 862-2155, corner of Ledge Rd. and So. Willard St.

Beginning Genealogy- from 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM - Sheila Morris will teach you how to get started with this very rewarding hobby. You

CVA Senior Meals

The Champlain Valley Agency on Aging offers an ongoing series of special meals for groups of seniors at a variety of restaurants in the area. The schedule is listed below. All seniors are welcome to join the group and enjoy lunch with neighbors and friends. Participating seniors must be at least 60 years old, or the spouse of someone at least 60 years old. Suggested donation for meals is \$3 at Covenant Church and United Church; for meals at other sites, \$5. Transportation may be available if needed. Reservations are required for these meals and may be arranged ahead of time by calling 865-0360.

Friday April 8 - United Church Hinesburg, 12:00 noon - Vegetarian Lasagna, Tossed Salad, Whole Wheat Rolls, Pumpkin Pudding

Monday April 11 - Covenant Church Essex Ctr., 12:00 noon - Shepherd's Pie, Corn No Gravy, Peas & Carrots, Whole Wheat Roll, Fig Newtons

Tuesday April 12 - Pizza Hut, Susie Wilson Road, Essex Jct., 10:30 a.m. check in, 11:00 a.m. lunch - "All you can eat Pizza Buffet"

Wednesday April 13 - Colonial Room, Essex

Lesser know tax continued from page 4

not entirely clear. Federal relief is temporary, and states still scramble to meet budget deficits. And we didn't even fully explore TRUIRJCA, DSUEA, nor even address QTIPS and state tax decoupling! Hopefully, we've learned something about estate taxes. In any event, perhaps finishing that simple income tax return won't seem so painful!

Jennifer R. Luitjens is Certified as an Elder

do not need to have French-Canadian ancestors to get started with our resources. Bring as much information as you can about your grandparents; births, marriages, deaths and where they lived. Afterwards our volunteers can help you get started. Hegeman Ave., Colchester.

Tuesday April 19

Bird Homes (School Vacation Program), 10:00 - 11:30 AM. Vacationing school children are invited to join us at the museum for a bird house or nest craft. Fee includes admission for child and one accompanying adult. \$10 members, \$15 non-members. Please pre-register (so we'll have enough materials). Call 802 434-2167 or email us at museum@birdsofvermont.org.

ONGOING EVENTS**ADULT ACTIVITIES**

Chittenden County Postage stamps and post card club meets every first Wed. of the month 6:15 -8:30 PM, AIDX Circle GE Healthcare Building. South Burlington Information e-mail: Laineyrapp@yahoo.com or call me at 802 660-4817

The **Essex Art League** holds monthly meetings at the First Congregational Church, 39 Main St., Essex Jct. For information, 862-3014.

Chittenden County Stamp Club, First Wednesday of the month 6:15-8:30 PM, GE Healthcare, 1 IDX Circle, South Burlington, VT. Everyone is welcome to come learn about stamp collecting, postage history, cachets, postcards and postage stamps or a variety of other knowledge. Lainey Rappaport (802) 660-4817.

Eagles Auxiliary #3210 holds bingo at the club house on Rt. 109 Friday nights. Doors open at 5:30 PM. Bingo starts at 7:00 PM. For more info contact Sally at 644-5377.

Green Mountain Chapter of the Embroiders Guild will meet on April 13 at 9:30am at the Pines Senior living community, 7 Aspen Dr, South Burlington. First meeting is complimentary. Contact number 879-0198.

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 gather on the

Jct. Educa. Ctr., 11:15 a.m. check in, 12:00 noon lunch - Roast Pork Dinner

Thursday April 14 - Holiday Inn, So. Burlington , 11:00 a.m. check in, 11:30 a.m. lunch - Turkey Dinner

Friday April 15 - United Church, Hinesburg, 12:00 noon - Tuna Pea Wiggle, Broccoli & Cauliflower, Fruit Bread, Pears

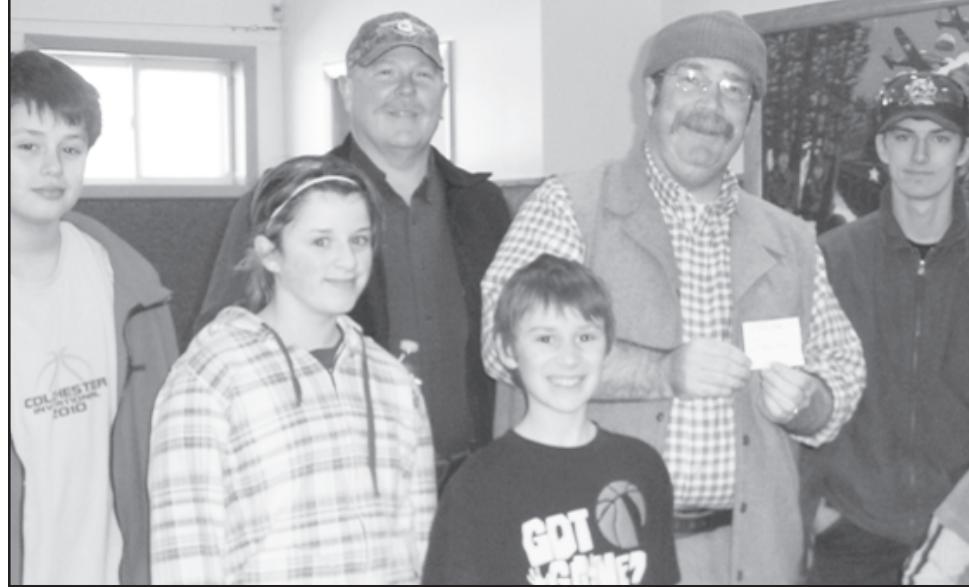
Monday April 18 - Covenant Church, Essex Ctr., 12:00 noon - Sweet & Sour Chicken, Rice Pilaf, Oriental Vegetables, Rye Bread, Tropical Fruit

Monday April 18 - Papa Nicks, 3:00 p.m. - Baked Ham Dinner

Tuesday April 19 - T-Bones, Hampton Inn, Colchester, 10:30 a.m. check-in, 11:00 a.m. lunch - Roast Turkey

Wednesday April 20 - Essex Grill, Essex Jct., 10:30 a.m. check in, 11:00 a.m. lunch - Chicken & Biscuits

Thursday April 21 - Pizza Hut, Susie Wilson Road, Essex Jct., 10:30 a.m. check in, 11:00 a.m. lunch - "All you can eat Pizza Buffet"

HEALTH / SENIOR INFORMATION**4-H club presents rifle to contest winner**

The Lamoille Lead Slingers 4-H Club recently raffled off an Octagon 22 Lever Action Rifle to raise money for their club. The winner of this year's raffle was Chris Leach of Swanton. Club members and its leaders would like to invite any youth ages 8-18 who are interested in shooting sports to contact the 4-H Office to learn more about this club. Contact 4-H Educator Lauren Traister at 888-4972 x 402 or lauran.traister@uvm.edu.

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

third Thursday of the month from 6:30 to 8:30 PM. Modelers encompassing all categories of interest and skill levels are welcome. Brownell Library, Kolvoord Community Room, Lincoln Street, Essex Junction. Next meetings Thursday December 16, 2010; Thursday January 25, 2011; and Thursday February 24, 2011.

The women of the United Church of Underhill meet on the second Saturday of each month (March 12) at 8:00 AM at the Church located at the park on Rt. 15 in Underhill Flats. Women interested in sharing Christian prayer and discussions are welcome. Contact Julianne Nickerson at 899-3798 for more information.

The VT-French-Canadian Genealogical Society presents two classes in April to help you in your search for your ancestors. Donations are appreciated for the classes. Vermont French Canadian Genealogical Society is located in Fort Ethan Allen, Colchester. We can help you get started in finding your ancestors, even those that are not French Canadian. We have the complete Vermont Vital Records so you don't need to drive to Middlesex to access that information. Come see us on Tuesdays from 3:00 to 9:30 PM and Saturdays 10:00 AM to 4:00

PM. Parking and entrance on Hegeman Ave. across from the State Police. Please visit our website [Http://www.vt-fcgs.org](http://www.vt-fcgs.org), or call 802-238-5934 for more information.

Beginning Genealogy- Saturday, April 16, from 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM - Sheila Morris will teach you how to get started with this very rewarding hobby. You do not need to have French-Canadian ancestors to get started with our resources. Bring as much information as you can about your grandparents; births, marriages, deaths and where they lived. Afterwards our volunteers can help you get started.

The Civil War- Scott Tower will give a presentation on the different resources he uses to research a Civil War soldier's records and personal history. He will also do a slide show on the different battlefields and historic sites he has recently spent two weeks touring. Please join us on Saturday, April 30, 2011 from 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM.

HEALTH EVENTS & GROUPS

Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting, "Wing It" group meets Sundays - 11:00 AM at Maple Leaf Ongoing events continued on page 6

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Ongoing continued from page 5

Farm on Stevensville Road, Underhill - it's an Open Speaker meeting followed by a Brunch (there is a \$10 charge for the brunch)

Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting, "The Firing Line" group meets Wednesdays, 7:15 PM - 8:15 PM at Maple Leaf Farm on Stevensville Road, Underhill - it's an Open Step meeting

Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting, "The Firing Line" group meets Saturdays, 8:00 - 9:00 PM at Maple Leaf Farm on Stevensville Road, Underhill - it's an Open Speaker Discussion meeting

Alzheimer's Support Group - Free educational support group series for families coping with a loved one with Alzheimer's disease and related dementias. This series gives caregivers the opportunity to better understand and develop strategies for the future. Held monthly at The Arbors at Shelburne. For more information and to register, contact Nicole Houston, Director of Family Services, The Arbors at Shelburne, 985-8600.

Overeaters Anonymous meets 6:00 - 7:00 PM Wednesdays at the Jericho United Methodist Church, VT Rt. 15, Jericho. TOPS Chapter 145 Jeffersonville meets 6:15 PM on Thursdays at the Eagles Club, Route 109, Jeffersonville. Weigh-in 5:15 - 6:00 PM.

Healing Circle Breast Cancer Network, support group for women with breast cancer, meets first Tuesday of every month at 5:30 PM, Northwestern Medical Center, Conference Room #1. RSVP at 524-8479.

Franklin County Prostate Cancer Support Group, first Tuesday of each month, 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. For information, Fern Mercure, 524-0719.

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

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

KIDS

"**MUSIC WITH MIA**" weekly musical story time at University Mall. Kids can enjoy music, stories, and sing-a-longs with local singer/songwriter Mia Adams. Located in center court, Mondays at 10:30 am. Free. This series goes

through March 28, 2011. For more information, please call 863-1066 x11.

Playgroups are free of charge and open to all children birth through age 5 and their caregivers. At playgroup you will find stories, songs, crafts, free play, local events & information, and more. It is a wonderful 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 more information on any of the playgroups, please contact Heather Lebeis at 899-4415 or underhillplaygroup@yahoo.com.

Wednesday: Bolton's Smilie Memorial School 8:15 - 10:15 AM and Richmond Free Library 8:45 - 10:15 AM

Thursday: Huntington's Brewster Pierce Memorial School 3:00 - 5:00 PM.

Friday: Underhill Central School 9:30 - 11:00 AM.

Bolton Family Play Night, in the Smilie School gym, usually the first and third Fridays, 6:00 - 7:30 PM. Free. Mostly unstructured play with the school's equipment. Contact Tim Grover, 434-4180.

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

SENIORS/COMMUNITY MEALS

Jeri-Hill XYZ Seniors meet at the Town Hall in Underhill Center on the first and third Wednesday of each month. All seniors are welcome! Dinners are served at 11:30 AM. For information, please call Bette Workman, 899-4446, Loreen Teer, 899-1363 or Doug Keith 899-2582.

Johnson Community Meal - Every 2nd & 4th Wednesday, 11:30AM-12:30pm at the United Church in Johnson. Come for a hot meal and get to know your neighbors. The meal will be followed by a community gathering. For more information, please contact: 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 the second Monday of each month. The next senior luncheon is on Monday, September 13. There is no lunch in July or August. Lunch is served at 12:00 noon with a short meeting or presentation following. 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 Suggested \$3.00 donation. Meal at 5:00 PM. Open to adults 60 and over. Contact Doris Wheelock at 434-3769.

Huntington senior meal site - The Huntington Senior meals are served the third Tuesday of

each month at 12:00 noon at the Community Baptist Church in Huntington Center.

St. Jude's Church, Hinesburg, senior meals held on second and fourth Wednesday of each month with bingo games after the dinners. Everyone is welcome including caregivers. Dinners are \$3.00 per person. For information call Ted Barrette at 453-3087.

Starksboro First Baptist Church, Starksboro - senior meals, fourth Thursday of the month, 11:30 AM, call Brenda Boutin at 802-453-6354 for more information.

SPORTS ACTIVITIES

Pliates - Wednesday evenings at 6:30 PM at MMU. Monday evenings at 6:00 PM and Saturday mornings at 9:00 AM at Dakini Studio. Call Lisa Timbers at 899-4191 for more information or visit her website at <http://timbers.wordpress.com>

Zumba - Wednesday evenings, 6:00 PM, Jericho Community Center. For more info contact Lori Preiss at 899-0343 or visit website: www.greenmountainzumba.com

SUPPORT GROUPS

CFS, Fibromyalgia, Lyme Disease, Chemical Sensitivity and Gulf War Syndrome, 1:00 to 3:00 PM every third Thursday at: The Bagel Cafe, Ethan Allen Shopping Center Burlington, VT call or visit website www.vtcfids.org or Lainey at 802 660-4817 or 800-296-1445 ask for Rik

Alzheimer's support group, third 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.

Approach Autism With Advocacy, Recovery & Education (AAWARE) in the Lamoille Valley, third 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.)

Veterans Job Networking, Wednesdays, 9:30 - 11:00 AM, VFW Post, Essex Jct.; 1:00 - 2:30

Copley Hospital reaches key benchmark in electronic health record initiative

Copley Hospital reached a key benchmark this week in its Electronic Health Record initiative to improve patient care and safety and improve the exchange of information among healthcare providers and patients. The initiative is designed to meet federal and state "meaningful use" standards as defined by The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), the Office of the National Coordinator (ONC) for Health Information along with standards set by the Department of Vermont Health Access and Vermont Information Technology Leaders (VITL).

Copley's hospitalists are now electronically submitting medical orders for patients treated in the hospital's Medical/Surgical and Special Care Units. The physicians are using a new "computerized physician order entry" (CPOE) module from CPSI, Copley's electronic health record platform. The medical order is then verified electronically and carried out by clinical staff who then documents completion of the order in the patient's electronic medical record. In order to use CPOE,

Copley Hospital's April Tuck honored as Workforce Development Leader of the Year

April Tuck, Copley Hospital's Senior Director of Human Resources and Corporate Compliance, was named the Workforce Development Leader of the Year by the Lamoille Regional Chamber of Commerce. Tuck was honored for Copley Hospital's ongoing work with the Vermont Department of Labor and Vocational Rehab, and Copley's piloting of the *Health Careers for Youth* program.

PM, American Legion Post, St. Albans.

Eating Disorders Parental Support Group, third 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.

TOWN GOVERNMENT & ORGANIZATIONS

Cambridge Area Rotary meets on the first Thursday of the month, rotating to local restaurants, 7:00 - 8:00 AM. For information, call Anita Lotto, 793-0856, or Chuck Hogan, 644-8134.

Westford Fire Department, Mondays, 7:00 PM, at the fire station next to the Town Garage. For information, email John Quinn, jquinninv@aol.com

Jericho-Underhill Water District meets first Monday of each month at the United Church of Underhill, Underhill Flats, 7:00 PM. For information, call 899-4076 or 899-3810.

Jericho Historical Society, second Thursday, 7:30 PM, Old Red Mill, Jericho.

Jericho Underhill Park District Board meeting, first and third Wednesdays, 7:00 PM, Deborah Rawson Memorial Library project room, Jericho. Residents of Jericho and Underhill always welcome. 899-2693 for information.

Village of Jericho, Inc. - Please be advised that the Board of Water Commissions of the Village of Jericho, Inc. will hold its next monthly meeting Tuesday April 19, 2011, 7:00 PM.

Jericho Energy Task Force meets the third Wednesday of every month from 7:00 to 8:30 PM at Jericho Town Hall.

THRIFT SHOPS & FOOD SHELVES

The Heavenly Cents Thrift Shop located just east of the Five Corners in Essex Jct. on Rte 15, the hours are from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM on Tues. and Wed., 4:00 to 8:00 PM on Thurs. Please check us out.

Westford Food Shelf, open on the third Saturday of every month, 8:00 - 10:30 AM, United Church of Westford. All are welcome. Fresh produce, meat, and non-food items available.

Copley Hospital reaches key benchmark in electronic health record initiative

Copley had to upgrade its information technology infrastructure and hardware. A number of employees, including physicians, nurses, pharmacists and other clinical staff, were involved with process preparation, the selection and installation of the appropriate software and training for implementation. Funding for the implementation of CPOE was funded in part by a grant from the Lucy D. Nisbet Charitable Fund.

Copley continues to build upon and integrate more functionality into its electronic health record. Already underway is an updated Med Verification process that occurs at the bedside, which confirms that the right medication in the right amount at the right time is being given to the right patient. The hospital is also improving inter-and intra-facility communications by building a bi-directional health record interface between VITL and Copley which will enable transmissions to and from the Vermont Health Information Exchange (VHIE) network by July 1, 2011.

Copley Hospital's April Tuck honored as Workforce Development Leader of the Year

Tuck describes both opportunities as gratifying, stating "It's very rewarding for me to watch these individuals grow in their workplace. They not only develop relationships, they build valuable skills and increase the confidence they need while helping the hospital meet the needs of our community."

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Richmond Free Library

On Friday, April 1, at 7 pm, join us for "All About Bluebirds," a presentation by John Rogers, a recognized authority on Bluebird conservation. The presentation will consist of the life history of the Eastern Bluebird with beautiful photographs, bird song audios, creative graphics, and information about nest box maintenance. Contact: Shirley Johnson, 878-4132, or Bruce MacPherson, 863-2436. Sponsored with the Green Mountain Audubon Society.

Join the Arthritis Foundation Tai Chi Program offered for 8 weeks at the library starting Monday, April 11 from 1:30-2:30 PM. Tai Chi improves flexibility, reduces stiffness and keeps joints mobile. Call Michael Bortin at the Champlain Valley Agency on Aging at 800-642-5119, Ext. 1038 for more information or to register for the classes.

The AARP is again offering free tax preparation assistance to the elderly and to those under certain income limits. Please call the library to schedule an appointment with a tax preparer. One hour sessions will be held on Mondays between 10:30 PM and 1:30 PM beginning February 7.

Richmond Free Library Trustees will meet on Wednesday, April 6 this month at the library at 6:00 PM.

The book, *In the Fall* by Jeffrey Lent will be the title discussed at the library at 7:30 PM on Tuesday April 12. Multiple copies are available for check-out. All are welcome.

Join other Scrabble aficionados for Game Day, Sunday April 17 at 3:00 PM. Contact Cathy Laurita for more information at spicykiki@yahoo.com.

Recent acquisitions: (NonFiction) *No regrets: the life* by Edith Piaf by Carolyn Burke; *I remember nothing and other reflections* by Nora Ephron; *Book of Silence* by Sara Maitland; *Pioneer Woman: Black Heels to Tractor Wheels* by Ree Drummond; (Fiction) *Saturday Big Tent Wedding Party* by Alexander McCall Smith; *Emily & Einstein* by Linda Lee; *Fleet Street Murders* by Charles Finch; *The Complaints* by Ian Rankin; *Conspirata* by Robert Harris; *Sing You Home* by Jodi Picoult; *Damage* by John Lescroart; and *Started Early, Took My Dog* by Kate Atkinson.

Huntington Public Library

Planet Huntington – Patagonia: Despite increasing threats, Patagonia remains one of the last great wild areas on the planet. Lightly populated and extraordinarily beautiful, the region has long captured the imagination of travelers. In a slideshow incorporating photos from multiple trips to Patagonia, Tom Butler will discuss several large-scale wilderness protection and restoration initiatives underway in the region, and the innovative ecological agriculture efforts that complement them. Join us on Sunday April 10 at 7:00 PM.

Annual Chocolate Egg Hunt: Kids age three to ten are invited to participate in our Annual Chocolate Egg Hunt on Saturday April 16, at 3:00 PM. Thanks in advance to Lake Champlain Chocolates for sponsoring this fun event.

An Evening for Book Lovers: We are making plans for a special night of festivities featuring local author Amy Seidl reading from her soon-to-be published book *Finding Higher Ground*. The evening will be a special tribute to Huntington's Adopt-an-Author Patrons and will include good books, good local food and good community fun. Mark your calendar today and watch for more details about this event on Friday May 13 beginning at 5:30 PM.

Maple Bank Fundraiser Once again the Friends of the Library are holding a maple bank fundraiser. Banks are available at the library. Please consider taking a bank and dropping in a few coins every now and then to support the library. Banks will be collected in early summer.

Download Audio Books: We subscribe to listenupvermont.org a service which allows library patrons to download audio books for free and listen to them on their home computer, a portable device or burn them to CD. The service is easy to use and can be accessed anytime from anywhere with your library card. Call or stop by the library and we'll get you started.

Shelburne Farms Pass: As the weather turns warmer you might consider a field trip to Shelburne Farms. Check out the library's membership card, and entry to the Farm is free.

Renew Books: Please call to renew your books if you would like to keep them beyond the three week check-out period. It's fast and easy and it saves us time and money.

Good Search: Thank you to everyone who uses GoodSearch.Com to search the web. We earn a penny for every search, and the pennies add up to the dollars we turn into new books. Keep it up!

New Adult Books: *Eternal on the Water* by Joseph Monninger; *At Home* by Bill Bryson; *Squirrel Seeks Chipmunk* by David Sedaris; *The Man Who Loved China* by Simon Winchester; *The Fixer Upper* by Mary Kay Andrews; *The Mistress of Nothing* by Kate Pullinger; *Fadeaway Girl* by Martha Grimes; *Treachery in Death* by J.D. Robb; *Hard Times Require Furious Dancing* by Alice Walker; *Life* by Keith Richards; *Mystery of Grace* by Charles de Lint; *Cryoburn* by Lois McMaster Bujold; *The Union Quilters* by Jennifer Chiaverini; *Minding Frankie* by Maeve Binchy.

New Intermediate Books: *Moon Over Manifest* by Clare Vanderpool; *Dragonbreath Curse of the Were-Wiener and Lair of the Bat Monster* by Ursula Vernon; *Season of Life* by Jeffrey Marx; *the Illustrated Guide to Snowboarding* by Kevin Ryan; *Daisy Dawson and the Big Freeze* by Steve Voak; *Ivy and Bean: Doomed to Dance* by Annie Barrows;

New Picture Books: *Balancing Act* by Ellen S. Walsh; *Animal Baths* by Beth Fielding; *Little White Rabbit* by Kevin Henkes; *Everything for the Horse* by Holly Hobbie; *Brontorina* by James Howe; *Lots of Dots* by Craig Frazier;

Storytime: We currently address the six early literacy skills, as adopted by the Vermont Department of Libraries, every week at Storytime. These six pre-reading skills are ones a child can start learning from birth. The third skill is "Print Awareness". This involves teaching very young children to recognize words and text in the world all around them. All young children are invited to join us for books, music and fun at 10:00 AM every Friday.

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RICHMOND HUNTINGTON NEWS**OBITUARIES**

Ruth E. (Line) Malone, 89, died Monday, at the Sterling House in Richmond, on March 28, 2011, after a courageous battle with Alzheimer's disease. She was born in Georgia, VT on July 28, 1921, the daughter of the late Albert and Emma (Cook) Densmore. Ruth graduated from Burlington High School in 1940 and later was employed at Koffee Kup Bakery for over 17 years. She was married to John Malone on August 15, 1964. He later predeceased her on June 30, 1992. Ruth was the matriarch of her family, a role she fulfilled lovingly and proudly. When her own children were young, she often times cared for nieces and nephews. From her annual summer excursions to Maine with family, to recitals, sporting events and graduations, she was always a reigning presence in her family's lives. As a young girl, she lived with her Aunt Mable and Uncle Beef who had six children of their own. She was always referred to as No. 7. Ruth jumped many hurdles in her life, from literally on the

high school track team, to life's many challenges and always survived with grace. Among her many interests she enjoyed crossword puzzles, playing cards, bingo and spending time with her family. Ruth leaves her five children and their spouses, Donna Lee Wooster and her husband Bob of Shelburne, Ronald Line and his wife Paula of Essex Jct., David Line and his wife Dona of Burlington, Bruce Line and his wife Sherry of Winooski, Kimberly Catchapaw and her husband Richard of Ferrisburg; 14 grandchildren and their spouses, Carrie and Steve Savoy, Jim and Pam Wooster, Scott Wooster and his companion Tresté Loving, Steven and Dana Line, Michael and Selena Line, Christopher Line and Karen Wisehart, Tony and Angie Line, Matt Line, Elizabeth Line, Brian and Tricia Line, Corey Line, Katie Line and her companion Josh Brunelle, Benjamin and Karrinne Johnson and Jennifer Johnson; 11 great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her son, Larry Line; her first husband, John Line; two brothers, Percy and Wilfred Densmore; and a grandson, Jason Daignault. The family would like to give special thanks to Dr. Zale Barry of PACE and also to Nance Bourne and the staff at the Sterling House for the special care and kindness they provided. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on Friday April 1, 2011 at 11:00 PM in St. John Vianney Catholic Church in South Burlington. Interment followed in Lakeview Cemetery in Burlington. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to PACE of Vermont, 786 College Parkway, Colchester, VT 05446 or to The Sterling House, 61 Farr Rd., Richmond, VT 05477. Visiting hours will be on Thursday from 4:00 to 7:00 PM in the LaVigne Funeral Home and Cremation Service, 132 Main St. in Winooski.

Douglas S. Green, Hunting-

ton, VT, passed away peacefully in the Vermont Respite House on March 18, 2011, having faced several years of health chal-

lenges with dignity and grace. He was born January 30, 1953 in New York City, and he grew up in Florida, Texas, Rhode Island, Tennessee, and finally San Diego, Calif. Doug graduated as valedictorian from Saint Augustine High School. He earned his bachelor's degree in biology from Stanford University in 1975, and a Ph.D., also in biology, from Princeton University in 1980. Doug also earned a masters degree in Computer Science from Worcester Polytechnic Institute in 1986. Doug met his future wife, Donna Bozzone, in 1978 when she started her graduate work at Princeton. They married

in 1982 and then gradually moved north living first in Poughkeepsie, N.Y. while Doug taught at Vassar and Donna completed her thesis. Next they moved to Massachusetts where Doug taught and studied at WPI and Donna did a post-doc at the Worcester Foundation. Finally in 1987, they made their last move and happily made their home in Vermont. Doug was a professor at Saint Michael's College, first in the computer science department and then in biology. Doug devoted his professional life to learning and teaching and was well respected and loved by his students and colleagues. He was even more devoted to his family. He has two daughters, Samantha was born in 1989 and Allison in 1993. No father was ever more over the moon about his children than Doug was about his daughters. Doug's life and the lives of his family, friends, students and colleagues were enriched by his many hobbies and interests: science fiction, gardening, wood-working, chess, astronomy, chess, and puzzles of all kinds, biology, computer programming, robots, and especially playing guitar. An unrelentingly positive person, Doug remained a faithful fan of his San Diego Chargers and believed every season that they would win the Super Bowl "this year." In addition to his wife Donna, and daughters Samantha and Allison, Doug is survived by his father, Oscar and his wife Doris of Prescott, Ariz.; his sister, Linda Ybarra of Aberdeen, Wash.; brother, Kenneth of Italy; and brother, Steven and his wife Michelle of San Diego, Calif. He is also survived by his brother-in-law, William Bozzone and his wife Janet and their children, Stephen and Laura. Finally, he leaves behind his "adopted" family, Frank Vella and Kathleen Verville and their children, Laura, Christopher, and Michael. Doug was predeceased by his mother, Dorothy (Harding) Green. Our family would like to thank the wonderful members of the Saint Michael's and Huntington communities for their care and help. Also, we are grateful for the gentle care that Doug received from Dr. Thomas Roland, Jeanne Sheehan, the VNA, and the angels at the Vermont Respite House. Visiting hours will be held on Friday March 25, 2011 from 4:00 to 7:00 PM at Ready's Funeral Home, Mountain View Chapel, 68 Pinecrest Drive, Essex Junction. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated, Saturday March 26, 2011 at 2:00 PM in the chapel on the campus of Saint Michael's College. Gifts in Doug's name can be made to the Vermont Respite House or the Cancer Patient Support Program Emergency Fund at FAHC. To send online condolences, please visit www.readyfuneral.com.

WELCOME HOME**HUNTINGTON**

(Chase, Bartsch) Rosana Chase and Jason Bartsch had a son, Parker Milo Bartsch, on Saturday, February 19, 2011 at Fletcher Allen Health Care in Burlington, VT.

RICHMOND

(Sobel, LaFreniere) Genevieve Sobel and Christopher LaFreniere had a daughter, Ava Theresa LaFreniere, on Wednesday, March 9, 2011 at Fletcher Allen Health Care in Burlington, VT.

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RICHMOND HUNTINGTON NEWS

COURT REPORT

February 3, 2011, **Raymond Liberty**, 24, Richmond, VT, charged with retail theft greater than \$900, felony, in South Burlington, VT on July 25, 2010; amended to retail theft \$900 or less, misdemeanor; pleaded guilty; sentenced to six months, concurrent; charged with DUI, first offense, drug or both, in Burlington, VT on September 7, 2010; amended to vehicle operation – careless or negligent; pleaded guilty; sentenced to six months, concurrent, consecutive; charged with domestic assault in Burlington, VT on September 18, 2010; amended to simple assault; pleaded guilty; sentenced to 12 months, consecutive, concurrent; charged with depressant/stimulant/narcotic possession in Burlington, VT on September 18, 2010; pleaded guilty; sentenced to six to 12 months, concurrent, consecutive.

February 7, 2011, **Chris Nazer**, 27, Essex Junction, VT, charged with vehicle operation – license suspended in Richmond, VT on January 6, 2011; pleaded guilty; fined \$300.

February 9, 2011, **Ernest Bergman**, 22, Burlington, VT, charged with marijuana possession less than two ounces in Richmond, VT on March 19, 2009; pleaded guilty; fined \$100.

February 9, 2011, **Thomas Haynes**, 20, Moretown, VT, charged with vehicle operation – license suspended in Williston, VT on August 4, 2010; pleaded guilty; sentenced to nine to 10 days; charged with petty larceny \$900 or less in Richmond, VT on October 18, 2010; amended to unlawful taking of tangible property; pleaded guilty; fined \$100.

February 14, 2011, **Charles Ring**, Richmond, VT, charged with unlawful trespass – land in Williston, VT on July 14, 2010; pleaded no contest; sentenced to two to three months, suspended, probation; charged with DUI, first offense, in Essex, VT on August 29, 2010; pleaded no contest; sentenced to four to 18 months, concurrent, suspended, probation.

ENGAGEMENT

ROSE-ADAMS

Edward and Jeanne Adams of Richmond, VT announce the engagement of their son, Ryan Adams, to Samantha Rose, daughter of David and Alycia Rose of Bryn Mawr, PA. A summer 2012 wedding is planned.

Notes from Montpelier

By Rep. Bill Frank

Health Care Reform and the budget was the work for the last two weeks for the House of Representatives. This is the time during the legislation session when the money committees of the House finish work on the budgets they are responsible for and the full House takes them up. The House committee on Health Care completed their work on the first phase of health care reform. The last two weeks we took up and passed the 2012 fiscal year State Budget from the Appropriations Committee, commonly known as the Big Bill; the Capital Construction and State Bonding bill, the Capital bill, from the Committee on Corrections and Institutions; from the Ways and Means Committee the commonly called Misc. Tax Bill, An act relating to tax changes, including income taxes, property taxes, economic development credits, health care-related tax provisions, and miscellaneous tax; and from the Transportation Committee the 2012 fiscal year budget for the State's Transportation Program, commonly called the T-bill.

The Big Bill this year was the fourth year in a row that the State budget required major reductions, this year \$176 million. A very wide variety of services were eliminated or reduced, many of which I did not want to see reduce but the alternative was generally worse. For example the Student Assistance Program which provides grants to schools to help fund a counselor. The grant program was scheduled to be eliminated. Locally this counselor is part of the Chittenden East Community Partnership which promotes a safe environment for our youth, free of alcohol, tobacco, other drugs and violence in our schools and communities. This has been a very successful program at MMU, BRMS and CHMS. I was successful in staving off elimination, instead a major reduction in the funding. Hopefully, we will be able to restore this funding in the future.

For the first time in years the Capital budget was written as a two year bill to better provide funding for a new State Health Laboratory. The long outdated lab at the corner of Colchester and East Avenues by Fletcher Allen Hospital has been visited for many



years by Joe Gunther, a character in Archer Mayor's books. The bill also sets a goal for a 20% reduction in energy consumption for state buildings.

The \$544 million transportation budget includes repaving more than 100 miles of interstate highways and 135 miles of state highways. The amount for pothole repair doubles to \$4 million. But the discussion on the T-bill was almost entirely on the Clark Truck Center sign in Jericho. The committee suggested a solution that didn't completely address Randy Clark's request to the transportation committee. Rep. Till and I offered an amendment that was not agreed to. Members were very concerned doing a patch in the law for one specific sign. In the end no changes were made to the sign law and the committee on Natural Resources and Energy agreed to do a comprehensive review of sign laws in light of the number of new technology signs and the desire to maintain our state without billboards.

The Health Care Reform bill, H.202, passed second reading about 12:30 am Wednesday night, a Historic event. Many said there were too many questions about this bill; I listened to over 13 hours of questioning, all with answers. The first time I ran for election to the House in 2004 I made it very clear that health care reform was one of my top priorities, and I have continued to work for it. I was very proud to cast my vote in favor of H.202. I have posted a paper with general information, questions and answers and the timeline for H.202 on my web site, www.RepBillFrank.com.

Last Friday the 3rd and 4th grader from Underhill Central School visited the State House. They were able to see me work on the floor of the House, have a tour of the State House and Vermont's history museum. Rep. Till and I sat with them on the House floor and answered some of their many questions. Rep. Till and I will be at the Deborah Rawson Library Thursday evening, April 14, 6:30-8:00. Please join us for discussion on any of these topics, or anything else the legislature is working on. You can also contact me by email: Bill@RepBillFrank.com, phone: 899-3136 or mail: 19 Poker Hill Rd, Underhill, 05489.

From the Statehouse

By Rep. Martha Heath

Heath continued on page 9

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Heath continued from page 8

A TOUGH BUDGET

On Thursday and Friday, March 24th and 25th, the House considered its proposed FY12 state budget. After hearing the presentation from the Appropriations Committee on Thursday and considering various proposals of amendments on Friday, the budget bill passed by a vote of 95-34.

The FY12 budget is the fourth in a series of difficult budgets caused by the Great Recession whose effects have been felt both nationally and within our state. The state's revenues are beginning to slowly climb. They have not, however, grown enough to fill the gap created by the end of federal ARRA funding. The state was fortunate to have these ARRA funds to create jobs, make much-needed improvements to transportation and telecommunications infrastructure and create a bridge for those of our neighbors who are most in need of government services. This year, with those revenues gone, the state is faced with a \$176M gap between projected revenues and projected needed expenditures. The House version of the budget fills that gap and once again Vermont is poised to pass a balanced budget.

The governor's proposed budget filled the \$176M gap with a combination of cuts, particularly in Human Services, \$12M in savings related to state employee contracts and positions, revenue enhancements accomplished by changes in provider assessments in the health care system, a reduction in education spending and the availability of various carry forward dollars, increased revenue projections and dollars from the Human Services Caseload Reserve.

The House budget makes changes to the governor's proposal. It does not move the Catamount health insurance program in the state's Medicaid system because, in the Appropriations Committee's judgment, it would have created too great a burden for the state's health care providers. The impact of the state's financial situation on the elderly, disabled and those who receive important home and community based service was lessened by reducing proposed cuts to the Choices for Care program, mental health services, and developmental disability services by 50%. Cuts to tobacco programming and to the student assistance program counselors were partially restored. Funding was restored for the administration of regional conservation districts that assist farmers and protect water quality. These changes were accomplished by making different cuts in the



budget and finding other funding sources. In the end, the House version of the budget, when all funding sources are considered, is 3.6% lower than the final FY11 budget.

The budget reflects the state's difficult fiscal reality. With the dark cloud of potential cuts at the federal level looming and the reality of a slow economic recovery facing the state, it is a responsible, balanced proposal that meets the challenge of filling the projected budget gap while retaining essential services for the state's citizens.

The budget bill now moves to the Senate for its consideration. In three to four weeks it should be ready for a conference committee between the House and the Senate. The decisions this year were difficult. It was, however, helpful to work with various members of the administration who were willing to work with the legislature to make their original proposals better.

If you have questions about the budget or any other matter before the legislature, please contact me by calling 893-1291 or by e-mail at mpheathvt@gmail.com. I always appreciate hearing from you.

Julia Andrews joins VPT board and CarShare

Julia Andrews of Westford, VT, has been elected to the board of directors of Vermont Public Television, Vermont's statewide public television network. She is marketing strategist/account executive at Spike Advertising in Burlington, VT from 2004 to 2010; she was sales operations and marketing manager at Comcast. She has held marketing positions at Charter Communications and Competitive Computing. Andrews is affiliated with Vermont Businesses for Social Responsibility and is co-founder of the Westford

Food Shelf.

CarShare Vermont has named Julia Andrews, marketing strategist at Spike Advertising, as one of the newest members of its Board of Directors. CarShare Vermont is a non-profit organization that provides a network of vehicles around town for residents and commuters to share on an as-needed basis. An active community volunteer, Julia co-founded the Westford Food Shelf, and more recently led a grassroots fundraising campaign for Sustainable Orphanages for Haitian Youth.

She is a graduate of the University of Massachusetts at Amherst.



Stowe Weekend of Hope registration now open

Copley Hospital encourages cancer survivors to participate in the upcoming Stowe Weekend of Hope. Now in its 11th year, the event is scheduled for Friday April 29 through Sunday, May 1 at the Stoweflake Resort and Spa with additional activities held at a variety of Stowe establishments. Whether you participate for just a day or for the entire weekend, the Stowe Weekend of Hope provides cancer survivors and their families with a broad range of free seminars, workshops and discussion groups; opportunities to find the information and inspiration they need to cope. The event also offers hands-on-workshops and support group gatherings to help promote healing, growth, and relaxation among survivors and their families. Registration is now open online at stowehope.org. The Stowe Weekend of Hope is presented by Stowe Weekend of Hope, Inc. in cooperation with the Vermont Cancer Center, Copley Hospital, Central Vermont Medical Center, and Stowe Area Association

Friday's events include an all day workshop titled "Pink Cope, Pink Hope for Breast Cancer Survivors" that covers topics such as living without fear, the diet connection and exercise for the body and mind. Additional workshop topics for the day include tools to navigate life's big interruptions, empowerment and expressive arts and communicating concerns and feelings. A variety of "Dessert & Discussions" are scheduled for 7:30 PM Friday evening, organized by cancer type. A popular highlight of Friday is the annual Fashion Show at 7:00 PM, featuring spring and summer fashions modeled by local breast cancer survivors. It is fun and uplifting reminder that "Survival is a Beautiful Thing!" Pre-registration is needed for each of Friday's events as space is limited.

Up to 40 medical and non-medical workshop sessions along with yoga, massage and Reiki sessions are offered on Saturday at the Stoweflake Resort. The keynote address this year is "Walking across Hot Coals without Burning Your Feet" by Betsy Neisner of the Cancer Connection. From 10am to 4pm various organizations will participate in the annual Health Fair and Wellness Expo, providing valuable resources and information. The day ends with an ecumenical candlelight service for remembrance and hope at the Stowe Community Church followed by a dance party at the Rusty Nail. It is only fitting that such an inspirational weekend has a memorable closing ceremony scheduled for 11:00 AM Sunday at the Trapp Family Lodge Concert Meadow. A detailed schedule of events is listed online at www.stowehope.org.

Since its inception, the Stowe Weekend of Hope has grown locally and nationally. Survivors come as near as Morrisville and Stowe and as far as Wisconsin and California. And, thanks to the generosity of many Stowe Area Association Lodging members free rooms are donated for out of town participants.

Copley's Cancer Care Program provides a holistic approach, with an oncology team made up of oncology certified nurses, an oncology nurse practitioner and an oncologist, with an exceptional care team that includes surgeons, radiologists, nurses, pharmacists, nutritionists, social workers and support staff. Copley utilizes state-of-the-art diagnostics, less invasive treatments and contemporary chemotherapy treatment in home-like, private rooms where friends and family are welcome. Information about Copley's Cancer Care Program is available online at www.copleyvt.org/cancercare.

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Need an ambulance but it doesn't require a 911 call? "Providing a Difference for the Distance"

Trans-Care Ambulance Service is a newly established 24/7 non-emergent medical transportation service, locally owned and operated out of Essex, VT. Providing non-emergent ambulance service, wheelchair van service and ambulatory services to all areas of the Greater Champlain Valley.

Non-emergent transport is a form of medical transportation which is provided in non-emergency situations to people who require special medical attention. Ambulances or other vehicles are utilized in non-emergency medical transport; the goal is to get the patient from one location to another safely while offering medical support, rather than to offer 911 emergency field treatment and rapid transport to an emergency facility. A candidate for non-emergent medical transport is a medically stable, but still in need of medical support patient. For example a resident of a nursing home who has just spent time in the hospital might need non-emergency transport to get back to the nursing home so that EMS (Emergency Medical Service) personnel can monitor the patient's condition and deal with any medical issues associated with the patients needs. Likewise, a chronically ill patient might need medical transport to get to scheduled doctors or rehabilitation appointments.

In this type of medical transport, the patient is transported on a stretcher, and he or she is accompanied by at least two (2) EMT-B (Emergency Medical Technicians-Basic) or higher. The ambulance has medical equipment in the event that it is needed and is inspected by the State of Vermont EMS (Emergency Medical Service) Department. This equipment is also utilized to monitor the patient during the transport.

Patients, who need to be transported with supervision or in a wheelchair, however do not require medical monitoring can utilize wheel chair van transportation and do not require EMT's to accompany the patient.

The Noyes and Butkus families came together to provide this specialized service to the communities, acknowledging the current infrastructure, resources, and experience that all partners possessed.

Lisa Butkus has worked for Frontline Fire and Rescue since 2003. She is currently the General Manager. Lisa and her husband Craig, have two daughters and a son. Lisa holds a Batchelors Degree in Business Administration.

Lorrie Noyes is the Vice President and CFO of Frontline. She has been involved in the Fire and Rescue service since 1985. She is currently an EMT/Safety Officer on the Essex Fire Department as well as a member of Essex Rescue. Lorrie and her husband Phil have two children.

Craig Butkus is the Executive Director of Essex Rescue. He has been involved in the Fire and Rescue service since 1992, and was the previous Fire Chief of Essex Fire Department, and the Fire-EMS Chief of Standish, ME. He also previously held the position of Vice President of Vermont Mechanical/Encompass Mechanical Services, Vermont Operations.

Phil Noyes JR. is the President and CEO of Frontline Fire and Rescue. He has been involved in the Fire Service since 1973, and is currently the Assistant Chief of the Essex Fire Department.

Kurt Poulin is currently a Paramedic in the area and has been involved with Emergency Medical Services and non-emergency transportation since 1993. Kurt is the Operations Manager for the company and also works as a Paramedic for Essex Rescue. Kurt has a son and daughter and resides in Essex.

Non-Emergent Ambulance Service: For those who need to be medically monitored or cannot sit upright in a wheelchair, Trans-Care will take patients from point to point utilizing a stretcher. **Wheelchair Van Service:** Our specialized vehicles are designed to allow easy entry and exit for wheelchair passengers. **Ambulatory Service:** Door thru door transport, for those who need ambulatory

assistance, and for patients who need supervision. We will assist our clients to their point of check-in ensuring they are signed in with appropriate staff.

Patient care is top priority as we provide transportation that is clean, comfortable, and suited to the patient's needs. Trans-Care's fully trained and cheerful staff will treat each patient as if they were members of our own family. The following are some types of transportation needs that we provide service for: trips to and from doctors' appointments, physical therapy, dialysis treatment, outpatient surgery, treatment center, and emergency room pick-up, hospital check out, assisted living facilities,

nursing homes, rehab centers, interfacility transports, and long distance (Canada included).

Trans-Care will work with clients to customize a plan that meets all of their non-emergent, ambulatory, wheelchair, and stretcher transportation. Providing personalized room to room service, drive you



to your destination, arrange pick up and drive you back in a safe, comfortable and dignified manner.

Trans-Care Ambulance can accommodate most types of billing and payment methods. (Prior authorization is required for HMO's, insurance or third party payer sources.)

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

What is an acceptable use of neighbors property

To the Editor,

Dear neighbors,

In reading the last issue of the Mountain Gazette I was glad to learn that Jericho has chosen to start a Trails Committee but was very troubled by Naylor's concluding remark, "there should be a way to get people out in the woods and to make that acceptable to landowners."

I fully agree in encouraging people to get out in the woods but forcing landowners to accept anything they are not individually open to, is thankfully not Naylor's prerogative.

I believe the historic private ownership and responsible management of farm and forest land in Vermont should be preserved. The traditional recreational usage of private Vermont forestland was always been with landowner permission, even if this was generally implicitly understood between many landowners and their neighbors. The use of any and all private land in Vermont is a privilege which should be responded to with gratitude, rather than placing expectations or additional demands upon landowners.

Would you mind if a complete stranger blocked your car in by parking in your driveway and then proceeded to have a picnic on your front lawn without asking your permission, or appreciating the money, time, taxes and maintenance you spend to keep your home?

Sincerely,
David Demarest, Underhill

Thank for you support

To the Editor,

The MMU Academic Boosters sponsors the Honor Roll Rewards Program three times each year. Students who are on the honor roll are eligible to participate in the rewards program. Local businesses offer special discounts and free items to MMU students who are on the honor roll.

We are able to offer this program because of the generosity of the local businesses listed below. Please support these businesses in our community and thank them for supporting students and academic excellence.

THANK YOU Beaudry's Store, Birds of VT Museum, Bolton Store, Bolton Valley Ski Area, Bridge Street Cafe and Grill, Bridge Street Hair, Crimson Poppy, Film Buzz, First Step Print Shop, Gert's Beauty Shop, Head Spins, Jacobs Family Market, Jericho Center Country Store, John's Shoe Shop North, Jolley's Store, Mountain High Pizza Pie, On the Rise Bakery, Pleasant Mount Farm, Sleepy Hollow Ski and Bike Center, Showtime Video, Underhill Country Store, Village Cup, Village Service and Auto Repair, Wells Corner Market.

Donna Wyatt and Anne Clift
MMU Academic Boosters co-chairs

LIBRARY NEWS

DEBORAH RAWSON LIBRARY, UNDERHILL

Art for April will feature watercolors by Theresa Rivers.

The board of Trustees will meet Thursday April 21 at 7pm. This meeting is open to anyone that would like to attend.

The next silent auction item is donated by Underhill Hair Styles. It is a certificate for a shampoo, cut, blow dry, manicure and pedicure. You can have a spa day all at once or separate it into two visits. Bidding started April 1 and the item will be awarded April 21 at 8:00 PM. Stop by to bid.

Deborah Rawson Book Lovers (DRBL) is an adult once-a-month general interest book club that meets the second Tuesday of every month at 7:00 PM at the library. Books are borrowed in sets from Essex Free Library and distributed monthly. New members are always welcome. Contact Christine Staffa at christine@cstaffa.com for more information. In March, our book was *The all-true travels and adventures of Lydie Newton* by Jane Smiley - given about a 50% approval rating by the club. The April 12 book will be the classic *Handmaid's tale* by Margaret Atwood.

The library will be closed Sunday April 24. April is National Poetry Month. In honor of that the library is hosting an open mic Community poetry reading on Sunday April 10 from 1:30 to 3pm and Sunday April 17 from 1:30 to 3:00 PM. Come share your original poems or read a favorite poem. This event is open to all ages. Call the library to sign up, 899-4962.

Game night for adults is Wednesday April 13 at 6:30 PM. Do you love to play board games or card games? Please join us for an evening of game fun. There will be a variety of games to choose from. If you have a favorite game, bring it and a friend. If you are new to the area this is a great way to meet people also.

Join George Till and Bill Frank on Thursday April 14 at 6:30 PM for a legislative update and discussion.

A New Book Discussion group coming together this spring:

Our book for consideration is *An Ethical Compass*, edited by Elie Wiesel (2010), and the discussion leader is Michael McKnight. The subtitle

of this book is *Coming of Age in the 21st Century*. It is a collection of challenging essays written by college students over the past twenty years. Each essay was selected as a prize winner in the annual Elie Wiesel Foundation's Ethics competition. They cover the gamut of topics relating to finding a moral or ethical compass in our fast-moving world.

Of the many essays in the book, Professor McKnight has selected ten as the best of the best. We will be reading and discussing two each week for six Mondays started on April 18, 6:30 - 8:00 PM. Group size is limited to twenty and books will be supplied without charge by the library. So, sign up at the library soon.

The mystery book group will meet Tuesday April 19 at 7:00 PM to discuss *Odds against* by Dick Francis. Join us for a lively discussion.

The Friends of DRBL will meet Thursday April 27 at 1:00 PM. Please consider joining this volunteer organization that benefits the library.

Baby Tea: Families of babies born in Jericho and Underhill in 2010 are invited to attend a tea, at the Deborah Rawson Memorial Library, in celebration of their child's birth. In addition to refreshments and prizes each family may select a library book to dedicate to their baby then enjoy harp music provided by Evergreen Erb. Saturday, April 16 from 3:30-5:00 PM. Please call to register: 899-4962. Co-sponsored by: Deborah Rawson Memorial Library, Jericho Town Library and the Chittenden East Welcome Baby Project.

Preschool Story Times for Spring: Stories, songs, fingerplays, snack and craft for preschoolers and their caregiver. Drop in, no registration needed: Wednesday at 11:00 AM: April 13, 20 May 4 and 11; Thursday at 10:00 AM: April 7, 14, 28 May 5 and 12.

Parents with older preschoolers and children in kindergarten through second grade are invited to join us for stories, craft and light refreshments. Thursday, April 7 at 6:30 PM. Registration required. Call: 899-4962.

The Bird Lady from Tracy Campbell-Pearson's book, *The Purple Hat*, will visit our library. Join her on Tuesday April 19 from 10:30 - 11:30 AM for scavenger hunt where you will learn about birds you are likely to see in the neighborhood. For students in grade 2 and up. Advance registration required.

Libraries continued on page 11

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Libraries continued from page 10

tion required. Call: 899-4962.

Therapy dog Cullie and her owner, Wendy Huntly, will return to library on Wednesday, April 20. Sign up in advance for a block of time and come read to Cullie. Scheduled times will be available between 10:15 and 12:00 noon. Be sure to bring a book that you think Cullie will enjoy. To register call: 899-4962.

Learn the Basics of Juggling: Have you ever watched someone juggle and you thought you'd like to do that, this is your chance. Tom Hartwick will demonstrate his skills and then share some of the more basic moves. Open to those in middle school through adults. Thursday April 21 from 1:30-3:00 PM. Advance registration required. Call 899-4962

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.

FAIRFAX LIBRARY, FAIRFAX

The library is located at 75 Hunt Street Fairfax VT 05454. Library Hours Monday, Wednesday, and Friday 8:00 AM-3:15 PM, Tuesday, and Thursday 8:00 AM – 8:00 PM. <http://www.bfafairfax.com/pages/communitylibrarynews.html>. 802-849-2420.

JERICHO CENTER, LIBRARY

Home school event: Monday, May 2, 1pm-3pm, come join us for May: Flora of the Forest Floor. Come learn about wild edibles, medicinal plants, wildflowers and deciduous trees with teacher Rachel Rose. Students should come dressed for the woods, rain or shine, with a water bottle, sunscreen, bug spray and journal or camera. It will be held indoors if it rains, for families or Grade 3 up. Contact the library at 899-4686 for more information.

Eighth Annual Poetry Workshop: Come celebrate National Poetry month during April with us. "The Ear of Poetry" – This is the theme for the eighth Annual poetry reading and writing workshop directed by retired UVM Professor Mary Jane Dickerson. This event is sponsored by the Jericho Town Library and the Deborah Rawson Library. The working sessions will meet Mondays April 4, and 11, from 6:30-8:00 PM at the Jericho Town Library, and conclude with a final evening of sharing at the Deborah Rawson Memorial Library on Monday April 25 from 6:30-8:00 PM. Poets of all ages are encouraged to participate. Attendance in the past has been a mix of middle and high school students and adults. Registration is required: please call JTL at 899-4686 to sign up.

Writers' Club - The writers club continues with meetings every other Wednesday while the Poetry workshop is in session and moves back to Mondays in May, 6:30 – 8:00 PM. All ages are welcome. For current schedule and more information, please contact the library.

Volunteer help for the Summer Reading Program: The library is looking for volunteers to help with the Summer reading program, including presenters, teen helpers, and an assistant to help with scheduling. Contact the library for more information.

General information reminder: The board of trustees meets regularly on the first Thursday of each month at 7PM at the library and the public is always welcome to attend. The next meeting is April 7.

Library hours are Monday 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM, Wednesday 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM and 2:00 PM - 6:00 PM, Friday 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM, and Saturday 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM. For more information, call the library at 899-4686, email Jerichotownlibrary@gmail.com, or visit the library website at www.jerichotownlibrary.org.

VARNUM MEMORIAL LIBRARY, JEFFERSONVILLE

The Libri Foundation is a nationwide non-profit organization which donates quality, hard-cover children's books to small, rural public libraries in the United States through its BOOKS FOR CHILDREN program. The Foundation supports the concept that children who learn to enjoy reading at an early age continue to read throughout their lives. In order to develop a love of reading, children must have access to books which stretch their imaginations, touch their emotions, and expand their horizons. For many children in rural areas, the local public library is the primary source of reading materials, and the Libri Foundation helps to expand the options of those children.

Established in 1989, the Libri Foundation has the sole purpose of helping rural libraries acquire children's books they could not otherwise afford to buy. Since October 1990, the Foundation has donated over \$4,600,000 worth of new children's books to more than 3,000 libraries in 49 states, including Alaska and Hawaii.

The Varnum Memorial will be celebrating the Libri Foundation and its BOOKS FOR CHILDREN program on April 14, from 9:00 AM to noon with a Story Party. All are invited to come enjoy books from the Libri Foundation, and make origami books of their own.

For the pre-readers, Preschool Story Hour is on Thursdays at the Varnum Memorial Library. The Story Hour begins at 10:30 AM in the Library on Main St. in Jeffersonville. Come join the fun.

The Varnum Memorial Library is open Mon-

days and Tuesdays from 1:00-8:00 PM and Thursdays and Saturdays from 9:00 AM - 12 noon. There are programs for children and adults, free WiFi access, and of course books and materials to check out including the ECHO Center pass. Call 644-2117 if you have any questions.

WESTFORD LIBRARY, WESTFORD

Upcoming Events:

Continuing in April... Free Individualized Computer Tutoring for Ages 50+ By Appointment Only. Offered in collaboration with Champlain Valley Agency on Aging. Americorps member Colin Hunt offers personalized help with all your computer questions....everything from "How do I turn this thing on?" to "How do I use the Internet and email?" and more. Call Victoria at 878-5639 to setup an appointment.

Wednesday April 6 – 7:00 PM: Trustee Meeting.

Thursday April 7 - 11:00 AM: Early Literacy Storytime. Stories and activities utilizing early literacy concepts for ages birth-preschool. Theme: Poetry.

Thursday April 7 – 1:00 – 3:00 PM: Homeschool Gamers . Bring your own games or enjoy the library's selection. Hosted by Matt Taylor.

Wednesday April 13 – 6:00 – 7:00 PM: Book Discussion: *Skeletons on the Zahara* (King).

Thursday April 14 - No Storytime. As always, families are welcome to enjoy the craft supplies and other activities in the Children's Area.

Thursday April 21 - No Storytime. As always, families are welcome to enjoy the craft supplies and other activities in the Children's Area.

Thursday April 21 – 1:00-3:00 PM: Homeschool Gamers . Bring your own games or enjoy the library's selection. Hosted by Matt Taylor

Friday April 22 – 6:00 PM: Strategy and Board Games for Teens and Adults. Hosted by Matt Taylor.

Thursday April 28 – 11:00 AM: Early Literacy Storytime. Stories and activities utilizing early literacy concepts for ages birth-preschool. Theme: Rain.

New Additions to the Collection Include: Adult Fiction: *Swamplandia* (Russell), *Weird Sisters* (Brown), *Delirious* (Palmer), *Object of Beauty* (Martin), *Skipping a Beat* (Pekkanen), *The Jungle* (Cussler), *Sing You Home* (Picoult). Adult Nonfiction: *Allergic Girl - Adventures in Living Well with Food Allergies* (Miller), *Battle Hymn of the Tiger Mother* (Chua), *Running a Side Business* (Stim), *Same Kind of Different as Me* (Hall), *Naturally Curious* (Holland), *Life is a Highway: A Century of Great Automobile Writing* (Holstrom), *Material World: A Global Family Portrait* (Menzel).

Teen: *Mermaid* (Turgeon). Juv: *Picture Book: Art and Max* (Wiesner), *Dream Big Little Pig* (Yamaguchi), *Nabeel's New Pants* (Gilani-Williams). *Easy Reader: I Broke My Trunk* (Willems). *Transitional: Andrew Lost #II* (Greenburg). Fiction: *One Crazy Summer* (Williams-Garcia), *Eagle Strike* (Horowitz), *Emily Windsnap and the Sirens' Secret* (Kessler), *The Everafter War* (Buckley). Nonfiction: *Mirror Mirror* (Singer). Graphic Novel: *Amulet 1 and 3* (Kibuishi). DVD: *The Fighter, Black Swan, 127 Hours, To Kill a Mockingbird*.

DOROTHY ALLING MEMORIAL LIBRARY, WILLISTON

Attention Westford Childcare Providers: The Westford Public Library, as part of the State's Early Literacy Initiative, is preparing to offer a two-hour session on Early Literacy/Every Child Ready to Read. Topics include the six early literacy components and how you can use these ideas with young children. You will receive five books, a Beginning with Mother Goose guide, and earn one credit towards certification. Session will be scheduled in May or June. Contact Victoria at 878-5639.

Summer Reading Program Sneak Preview: International Fair, Poland, Cuba and Ecuador will be represented. There are over 190 countries left....which one do you want to represent?

The library is open Wednesday 1:00 - 7:00 PM, Thursday 10:00 - 6:00 PM, Friday 12:00 noon – 6:00 PM, and Saturday noon-2:00 PM. We can be reached at 878-5639, westford_pl@vals.state.vt.us, and www.westford.lib.vt.us. Our catalog is available via our website.

Science Magic: Wednesday, April 6, 3 pm. Is it science or is it magic? Amaze your friends and family with science tricks using simple household materials. Presented by Karen Cutler. Gr. 3-8. Pre-register at 878-4918

Story Hour: Tuesdays, 11 AM. April 5, 12, and 26. No story hour on April 19. Stories and a craft. Ages 3-5. No pre-registration. **Raptor Encounter!** Saturday April 16, 1:00 PM. This first-hand encounter with live falcons, hawks, and owls focuses on the natural history, ecology, and adaptations of these efficient predators. Touchable artifacts and hands-on materials round out this special experience. Presented by Vermont Institute of Natural Science.

Music with Raphael: Mondays, 10:45 am, Thursdays, 10:30 AM, and Saturday, April 23 at 11:00 AM. Come sing, dance, and clap your hands with Raphael and his guitar! Children participate and experience traditional and original folk music. Up to age 5 with a caregiver. No pre-registration. Limit: one weekday session per week per family.

Saturday Music with Raphael: April 23 at 11:00 AM. Up to age 5 with a caregiver. No pre-registration.

Babysit Playgroup: Wednesdays, 10:30 AM-12:00 noon (except for the 1st Wed of each month- April 6). April 13-27. For infants and tod-

dlers. Sponsored by Building Bright Futures of Williston. Call Marjorie Von Ohlsen for more information at 658-3659.

Dorothy Alling Memorial Library, 21 Library Lane, Williston, VT. www.williston.lib.vt.us

Brownell and Essex Free Libraries: Cooperation for Quarter Century Plus

Back in 1983 when Penny Pillsbury became the Northwest Regional Librarian, one of her favorite libraries to visit was the lively Essex Free Library and its livelier director Sue Overfield. Pillsbury became Brownell's Director in 1986.

Together the two Essex/Essex Junction librarians have seen their libraries grow and change in many ways that were unforeseeable two and a half decades ago. Both had spaces that were too small. Essex Free had no copier. Brownell didn't have a water fountain. "Sue threatened to suspend a copier from the ceiling of the little white library that is now the Essex PW department on the green. At my second library trustee's meeting at Brownell, I begged for a water fountain, there was an anonymous donation," says Pillsbury. Together the two have worked together and with many of their Chittenden County colleagues to further library service in many ways.

The "Home Card" system was adopted in November 1991 after Sue came up with the idea of Chittenden County libraries adopting a borrowing system which utilized the card issued to them by their own community library. Each library assumed the Interlibrary Loan needs and the fiscal responsibility for their own residents. In 2011 this system allows patrons in 18 public libraries in the region to have access to over half million items. Within the last decade online computer catalogs in libraries around the area allow patrons to save time by finding where materials are and fetching them directly.

Brownell is open Monday, Wednesday and Friday Nights till 9:00 PM. Essex Free open until 8:00 PM on Tuesday and Thursday nights. There's a library open in Essex/Essex Jct. each night of the week. Both libraries have Internet access, so

Congratulations on outstanding performances

A big congratulations to the MMUSIC Northwest Music District students who on March 3 and 4, thirty-nine students from the instrumental department attended a two day music festival. This is after an audition process back in December. What a treat to hear them at the final concert last Friday. We are so proud and honored to have these fine musicians in the MMUSIC program. They all got to work with other professionals and gain experience with new music, meet new friends and of course show the BFA

Fairfax community what great students we have at Mount Mansfield.

MMUSIC congratulates Quinn Parker-Trombone and Daniel Shank-(Piano accompanist) for a fantastic, wow and amazing scholarship performance.

CESU Meetings

Thursday April 7, Chittenden East Voluntary Merger Planning Committee meeting, 4:30 PM at the Central Office, Richmond Town Center.

Wednesday April 13, Jericho School Board meeting, 7:00 PM at Jericho Elementary School.

Wednesday April 13, CESU Negotiations Committee and teachers negotiations, 4:00 PM at the Central Office, Richmond Town Center.

Thursday April 14, MMU Facilities Committee meeting, 6:30 PM at BRMS.

Thursday April 14, MMU School Board meeting, 7:30 PM at BRMS.

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COLLEGE NOTES

Lindsey Wyatt, of Jericho, VT was named to the Dean's List for the fall 2010 semester at St. Lawrence University.

Kaitlyn Begins, daughter of Daniel Begins of Richmond and Krista Begins of Jericho, will be inducted into the Saint Michael's College chapter of the national honor society Phi Beta Kappa in ceremonies to be held April 8 on the campus of the liberal arts residential Catholic college, located in the Burlington area of Vermont. Begins graduated from Community College of Vermont before coming to Saint Michael's.

Krista Luchini, of Jericho, Vermont has been named to the Dean's List for the fall 2010 semester at Southern New Hampshire University in Manchester.

Sarah Valyou, daughter of Corey and Heather Valyou of Westford, is spending the spring 2011 semester studying abroad in Sydney, Australia, through a program run by Saint Michael's College. Valyou is a student at BU Internship Program.

Emily Bogaczyk of Underhill, VT 05489 has been named to the fall 2010 Dean's list at Mansfield University. The following local residents were named to the Dean's List at Ithaca College for the fall 2010 semester.

Taylor Willey, daughter of Giles and Tammy Willey of Jericho, VT, was named to the Dean's List at Ithaca College's School of Health Sciences and Human Performance.

Abigail Peterson, daughter of Robert and Judith Peterson of Underhill, VT, was named to the Dean's List at Ithaca College's Roy H. Park School of Communications.

Jenna Heath of Jericho, VT was recognized as a member of the Alpha Lambda Delta First Year Honor Society at Becker College.

Nicholas Andrew Exler, a freshman majoring in music education – instrumental and applied music (saxophone) at the Eastman School of Music at the University of Rochester, has been named to the Dean's List for academic achievement for the fall 2010 semester. Exler is the son of Steve and Anne Exler of Underhill, VT.

Douglas Arthur Clift, a junior majoring in biomedical engineering at the University of Rochester, has been named to the Dean's List for academic achievement for the fall 2010 semester. Clift, a

resident of Jericho, VT, is the son of Anne and David Clift.

Jeffrey Daki Demas, a senior majoring in optics at the University of Rochester, has been named to the Dean's List for academic achievement for the fall 2010 semester. Demas, a resident of Underhill, VT, is the son of Liz and Doug Demas.

Meghan Foster of Jericho, VT recently received a bachelor of science in nursing from Western Governors University in Salt Lake City, UT.

Michael William Gambino of Westford, VT, a senior majoring in financial economics and mathematics, has been named to the dean's list at the University of Rochester in Rochester, NY. He is the son of Jackie and Jeff Gambino and is a graduate of Essex High School.

Sarah Anne Litten, daughter of Susan and David Litten of Jericho, VT, has been named to the dean's list at the University of Rochester in Rochester, NY. She is a junior majoring in political science, and a graduate of Mount Mansfield Union High School.

Nick Merlo of Westford, VT was named to the president's list at Lyndon State College for the fall semester. He is the son of Charles and Gail Merlo and is a television studies major.

Hollyjean Stone of Jericho, VT has been placed on the dean's list of the College of Engineering and the College of Arts and Sciences at Syracuse University for the fall semester. She is studying bioengineering and biochemistry and is a 2010 graduate of Mount Mansfield Union High School.

Musical tribute to Roland Pigeon on his 90th Birthday

A community wide birthday celebration will be held in honor of Roland Pigeon on Sunday, May 8 from 4:00 to 6:00 PM at the UCW White Church in Westford. All are invited to join family, friends and fellow musicians as the Westford community-at-large gives recognition to one of its favorite sons. The afternoon will offer a wide variety of country, folk and old time fiddle music by a broad spectrum of talent. Master of Ceremonies will be John Nutting. Birthday cake and refreshments will follow the entertainment.

ENGAGEMENTS**CODDING-CADORET**

Gail Tuscany of Jericho, VT announces the engagement of her daughter, Michelle Coddington, also the daughter of Steve Coddington of Underhill Center, VT, to Justin Cadoret, son of John and Gisele Cadoret of East Dorset, VT. A July wedding is planned.

SCHRIBER-RONDEAU

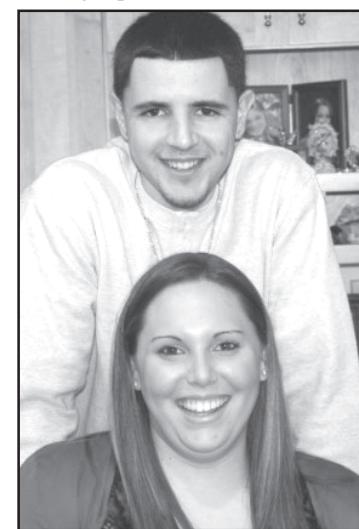
Thomas and Sharon Schriber of Underhill, VT and Rhonda Schriber and Jeff Douglass of Morrisville, VT announce the engagement of their daughter, Brianne L. Schriber, to Joseph R. Rondeau, son of Roger and Janet Rondeau and Diana Dovano of Thompsons Station, TN. A May 28, 2011 wedding is planned.

FARRELL-MATHIEU

Randy and Lisa Farrell of Richmond, VT announce the engagement of their daughter, Kayla Farrell, to Daniel Mathieu, son of Gaitan and Genny Mathieu of Underhill, VT. A September 17, 2011 wedding is planned.

COLE-WEIR

Brenda Jean Farrell of Williston, VT and Timothy and Tina Cole of Jericho, VT announce the engagement of their daughter, Lauren Jean Cole, to Dustin Charles Weir, son of Gerri Anne Cutler of Colchester, VT, Steven Weir of Underhill, VT, and Doug Cutler of Williston, VT. A 2012 wedding is planned.

**WELCOME HOME****BOLTON**

(Hempey) Jennifer (Rock) and Scott Hempey had a son, Sebastian John Richard, on Wednesday, February 2, 2011 at Fletcher Allen Health Care in Burlington, VT.

JEFFERSONVILLE

(Curley) Jennifer (Sell) and Seamus Curley had a son, Glenn Patrick, on Thursday, March 10, 2011 at Copley Hospital in Morrisville, VT.

(Lafountain) Erica (Bidwell) and Shawn Lafountain had a son, Jared Michael, on Tuesday, March 1, 2011 at Fletcher Allen Health Care in Burlington, VT.

Wyckoff

Shelby (Minor) and Dan Wyckoff had a daughter, Madison Maye, on Thursday, February 24, 2011 at Fletcher Allen Health Care in Burlington, VT.

JERICHO

(Abbott) Katy and John Abbott had a son, Hazen Phillip, on Sunday, January 30, 2011 at Fletcher Allen Health Care in Burlington, VT.

Cotton

Kelley (DesRoches) and Ashley "Ash" Cotton had a daughter, Sophie Wren, on Saturday, January 29, 2011 at Fletcher Allen Health Care in Burlington, VT.

Ford

Michelle (Hunkins) and Jeff Ford had a son, Garrett H., on Wednesday, February 16, 2011 at Fletcher Allen Health Care in Burlington, VT.

Makowenskyj

Dawn (O'Connell) and Paul Makowenskyj had a daughter, Clare Elizabeth, on Thursday, February 3, 2011 at Fletcher Allen Health Care in Burlington, VT.

UNDERHILL

(Baslow) Elise (Morong) and Russell Baslow had a son, Brayden Thomas, on Monday, January 31, 2011 at Northwestern Medical Center in St. Albans, VT.

Genter

(Leila Bandar and Robert Genter had a son, Jacob William Genter, on Sunday March 6, 2011 at Fletcher Allen Health Care in Burlington, VT.

WESTFORD

(Carpenter) Maureen (Kinney) and Brent Carpenter had a son, Travis Ryder, on Saturday, February 11, 2011 at Fletcher Allen Health Care in Burlington, VT.

Glass

(Karen (Champagne) and Dustin Glass had a daughter, Norah Sandra, on Wednesday, February 9, 2011 at Fletcher Allen Health Care in Burlington, VT.

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PEOPLE NEWS/SPORTS

OBITUARIES

William John Robert "Bill" Winston, 60, passed away at his home in Cambridge on Tuesday, March 29, 2011. There will be no visiting hours held. A memorial service will be held at A. W. Rich Funeral Home - Fairfax Chapel, on Sunday, April 3, 2011, at 4:00 PM. with Reverend Elizabeth Griffin officiating. Inurnment will be private and at the convenience of the family. Arrangements are by John D. Workman, A. W. Rich Funeral Home - Fairfax Chapel, 1176 Main St., Fairfax, VT 05454. The family invites you to view further information and share your condolences by visiting www.awrichfuneralhomes.com. Memorial contributions in Bill's memory can be made to the American Cancer Society , 55 Day Lane, Williston, VT 05495-1460.



Yung Lee "Bonnie" LaFountaine-Hall, 77, died peacefully March 29, 2011, at her home in Westford, surrounded by her loving family. Yung was born on October 6, 1933, in Pusan, Korea. She was predeceased by her parents, Jung Soo-Kil and wife, Han Ja-Keun, of Korea. She was married to Raymond "Buzzy" Hall on June 3, 1995, in Westford. She retired from the Colchester School District where she was employed for many years. In addition to her husband, Raymond, of Westford, Yung is survived by her children, Lee LaFountaine and wife, Shin, of New Jersey; Harry LaFountaine and wife, Debbie, of Grand Isle; Pennie Companion and husband, David Lawder, of So. Burlington; Kevin LaFountaine of Massachusetts, and Frank LaFountaine of Maine; grandchildren, Daniel and wife, Andrea, Kenny and wife, Jennifer, Bonnie Faye, Harry Jr. and wife, XenLee, Brandy and husband, Joshua, April and husband, Richard, Michael, Andrew, Tyler and girlfriend, Lauren, Shawna and boyfriend, Danny, Josh, Chara and husband, Frank, Cole and Raven; greatgrandchildren, Kai, Aviana, Hallie, Savanah, Honora, Colbi and Emmett; her family in Korea; her sisters and brothers-in-law, Beverly Hall of Westford, Lois Jerome of Fletcher, Alice and Bob Giroux of Westford, Jim and Claire Hall of Milton and Frank and Julie Hall of Fletcher; and by many nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her daughter-in-law, Cindy LaFountaine. No memorial service will be held. A reception will be held on Friday, April 1, 2011, at 1:00 PM. at the Eagles Fraternal Charter 793, 1233 Shelburne Rd., B-1, South Burlington, VT, 05403. Burial will be at Pleasant View Cemetery in Westford at a later date. Online condolences may be made to www.minorfh.com.



Mary Elizabeth (Robins) Porter, 93, died of natural causes on Saturday, March 12, 2011. Mary was born in New Haven, Conn. on Nov. 13, 1917, the daughter of the late Harry and Emma (Nesbet) Robins. Mary graduated from New Haven High School, and received her teaching degree at New Haven Teacher's College, where she graduated in 1939. Mary began her teaching career at Long Lane School in Middletown, Conn. While teaching there she met and married her loving husband, of 58 years, Clifford C. Porter, of Cambridge, Vt. In 1943 she began her country life on a beautiful dairy farm in Cambridge. Mary taught at Cambridge Elementary School. She was very active with the Cambridge United Church of Christ and the United Church of Christ conference. She later attended the Waterville Union Church. Mary enjoyed her life in Pleasant Valley, where she raised six children, enjoyed sugaring, gardening, cooking, raising calves and cleaning milking equipment, but most of all she loved doing for others. The family wishes to extend a sincere thank you to all who have loved and helped Mary throughout her life. Mary is survived by her children, Elaine Thomas and husband Denny of Waterville, Judy Wanderer and husband Peter of Shoreham, N.Y., David Porter and his wife Jane of Jeffersonville, Marilyn Porter and husband Richard Goff of Cambridge, Robert Porter and wife Diane of Cambridge, Kathy Tobin and husband Eric of Johnson; 13 grandchildren; two step-grandchildren, 11 great-grandchildren; and nine nieces and nephews. A Celebration of Mary's life will be held at the Waterville Union Church on Saturday, March 19, 2011 at 2 p.m. with a reception to follow. In lieu of flowers, please send contributions to a charitable organization of your choice in memory of Mary Robins Porter.



Edna Margaret Pollard died peacefully on March 5, 2011 in Birchwood Terrace Healthcare. Edna was born in Hanksburg VT on June 25, 1913, the daughter of George and Mildred Baker. She was a longtime resident of Underhill, where she ran a dairy farm with her loving husband, Wayne. They were married Dec. 25, 1934 and shared 62 years of marriage. He predeceased her in 1996.

Edna was an avid gardener and lover of the flowers which always adorned her home. She was a friend to many and always welcomed

those who called or came to visit and often could be seen taking many walks along the roads in Underhill. Her homemade cinnamon rolls, bread and pickles were enjoyed by all. Edna loved children of all ages and took many under her wing and was an 'adoptive mother and grandmother' to all the kids in town. She was a member of Essex Alliance Church, Christian Womens Club, A Matron with the Eastern Star, Home Dem, Christmas Card Club, a food judge at the Champlain Valley Exposition, as well as a member of the Jerihill XYZ Senior Citizens. She is survived by her sisters, Dorothy Field of Seattle, Wash., Geraldine Siple of Fairfax, and Gina Gaudette of Winooski; as well as several nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her brother, Freeman Sweetser.

A funeral service and burial will be held in the spring. Arrangements are in care of Gifford Funeral Home of Richmond. In lieu of flowers, donations may be sent to Essex Alliance Church Building Fund, 37 Old Stage Rd., Essex Junction, VT 05452 or Birchwood Terrace Healthcare, 43 Starr Farm Rd., Burlington, VT 05408.

Charlotte M. Alden, 95, former resident of Jericho, died Wednesday, March 16, 2011 at Burlington Health & Rehab following several years several years of lingering illness. Born March 2, 1916 in Bridgeport, Conn., she was the daughter of Willie and Louisa (Waring) Crowfoot. Charlotte was a member of Jeri-Hill Senior Citizens (XYZ). She is survived by her three children and their spouses; Wayne and Pat Alden of Gloversville, N.Y., Jean Emmerich and Robert of Bridgeport, Conn. Howard and Marjorie Alden of Jericho, seven grandchildren, ten greatgrandchildren and several nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her husband Harry Alden, two brothers, John and William Crowfoot and two sisters, Florence Dawson and Viola McNamara. A graveside service will be held in Pleasantview Cemetery, Jericho in the spring. In lieu of flowers, memorial gifts may be made to the charity of one's choice. Gifford Funeral Service, 22 Depot St., Richmond in charge of arrangements.

Constance "Connie" W. Hanover, 68, passed away on Tuesday, March 22, 2011 in Fletcher Allen Hospital of Burlington. Visiting hours will be held on Sunday March 27, 2011 from 3:00 to 6:00 PM. at A. W. Rich Funeral Home - Essex Chapel. Funeral services and inurnment will be private and at the convenience of the family. Arrangements are by A. W. Rich Funeral Home - Essex Chapel 57 Main Street, Essex Junction, VT 05452. The family invites you to view further information and to leave online condolences by visiting www.awrichfuneralhomes.com.

ART/MUSIC/THEATER

ART

Come explore the Spring Inspired exhibition of the **Essex Art League**. An opening reception for this show will be held at Phoenix Books & Cafe on Tuesday April 12 from 6:00-7:00 PM. Everyone is invited to this reception offering an opportunity to meet and support local artists. This show will be on display from April 10 through the month of May at Phoenix Books & Cafe located at the Essex Shoppes and Cinema, 21 Essex Way #407, Essex Junction.

For more information on the Essex Art League's programs and exhibitions please visit the website at www.essexartleague.com

Portrait Drawing with **Sue Bahr** at the **Essex Art League Meeting** on Thursday, April 7. The Essex Art League will hold their April meeting on Thursday, April 7 at 9:00 AM. This meeting will feature Portrait Drawing with Sue Bahr. Ms. Bahr is a graduate of UVM in fine arts and teaches *Portrait Drawing* and *Open Studio Art* at the Essex Junction Recreation Department. During this lesson, she will teach participants how to draw a portrait. Participants are asked to bring a large photo or magazine clipping of a face, plus a pencil and sketch book.

The League meets the first Thursday of the month, from 9:00-11:00 AM, at the Essex Junction Congregational Church on Main Street. A yearly calendar of meetings is available on the Essex Art League's website.

For more information on the Essex Art League's programs and exhibitions please visit the website at www.essexartleague.com

Essex Art League member, Susan Noel will be exhibiting her work through the month April at the Essex Town Offices. Susan is exhibiting her acrylic and watercolor paintings in this solo show. **17th Annual Jericho - Underhill Open Studio Tour**, Saturday May 28 and Sunday May 29 from 10 AM to 5 PM. 16 Artists will open their studios to visitors for sales and demonstrations: Betsy Chapek, John Connell, Sally Duval, Russ Fellows, Bruce Gilbert-Smith, Mary Hill, Irene Lederer LaCroix, Mimi Mathieu, Ken Morris, Grace Nelson, Carl Newton, Britt Nielsen, Lynn Ann Powers, Kristin Richland, Marcia Rosberg, Dianne Shullenberger. Tour Map and 16 Artist Displays available at Tour Headquarters.

Michael Smith's new show, Rural Pop Art and Other Behavioral Oddities opens at the **Emile A Gruppe Gallery**, in Jericho, will hang through Sunday, April 10. Rural Pop Art is a contrast to pop art generated by urban popular culture during the '60's; combination of acrylic and mixed media, features bright colors and unusual presentations of commonly known objects and themes, which are familiar to the more rural world.

Idoline Duke and Gowri Savoor, East Gallery, Helen Day Art Center, Stowe, Vermont, now - April 17. Join us this winter at the Fleming Museum of Art for an incredible new line-up of exhibitions, programming and events as we celebrate life and spectacle under the big top. *Under the Big Top: The Fine Art of the Circus in America* – now through May 22.

MUSIC/DANCE

Sunday April 10, 3 PM in Billings at the University of Vermont. **Craobh Rua, a celebration of Irish music and song**. A mix of rousing jigs, reels and polkas with tender ballads and airs featuring uilleann pipes, fiddle, whistles, tenor banjo, mandolin and guitar. General admission. \$15 suggested donation. Contact mrksustc@together.net

Queen City Contras will hold its regular dance on Friday April 8 at 8:00 PM at the Edmunds Middle School, 299 Main Street, Burlington, VT. Will

Mentor will be the caller. Music will be provided by Tidal Wave/Raz de Maree. All are welcome, all dances taught, no partner or experience necessary. Beginners' session at 7:45. Admission is \$8.00 adults. Under 12 free. Please bring clean, soft-soled shoes for dancing. Dance Info: 802-371-9492 or 802-343-7165

4/7/11

Irish Session at the On The Rise bakery in Richmond. Fourth Thursdays. Contact 802-434-7787 or <http://ontherisebakery.net>

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4/8/11

Contra Dance with Will Mentor (caller) and Tidal Wave/Raz de Maree at 8pm at Edmunds Middle School in Burlington. Beginner's session at 7:45 PM. Presented by Queen City Contras. Contact 802-371-9492, 802-343-7165 or www.queencitycontras.org

Fridays (every week except where noted otherwise).....

Contra Dance with Delia Clark (caller) and Old Sam Peabody at the Little Theater in Woodstock. Vegetarian dinner from 5:30 to 7:30 PM followed by family dance at 6:00 PM, potluck dessert at 7:30 PM and contra dance from 8:00 PM to 10:30 PM. Third Fridays.

Contact Steve 802-785-4039

or hoffmanathome@gmail.com

Square Dance with Will Mentor (caller) and Pete Sutherland and Jim Burns at 7:00 PM in Billings North at the University of Vermont in Burlington. Part of the UVM Old Time Festival. Contact mrksustc@together.net

International Folk Dancing with Ben Bergstein and Louise Brill from 8:00 to 10:00 PM at North End Studio in Burlington. 1st and 3rd Fridays starting in April 2010. Contact ben@vpal.us.org or 802-863-6713.

Old Time Session with Pete Sutherland and Jim Burns after the square dance in Billings North at the University of Vermont in Burlington. Part of the UVM Old Time Festival. Contact mrksustc@together.net

4/9/11

Fletcher Histocial Society Annual Meeting featuring Latimer Hoke and Sarah Bahr with Mark Sustic at 5:00 PM at the Fletcher Union Meeting House. Contact Pat Root 802-849-6461.

Earthly Ground: The Vermont Poetry and Song Project, Part 1 with Social Band at 7:30 PM at the First Baptist Church in Burlington. Contact Ann Pearce 802-658-8488 or www.socialband.org

Westford town continued from page 1

open space but said the Selectboard will work with Smart Growth Vermont to help alleviate fears. "We've got good resources," he said. "The people engaged in the process have wonderful skills."

Quinn was very happy to see the town provide funds for the equipment reserve fund and gravel. "People recall the nightmare that mud season used to be," he said, remembering how as recently as around the year 2000, residents had to abandon their cars in the middle of the road and school was closed because buses couldn't navigate the ruts. Quinn said Westford roads require an average of 658 tons of gravel annually. During a wet year, even more material is needed. It took several years to do so, but Westford has established a road committee to look into maintenance issues. They are about to complete their report which will help the Selectboard determine their next steps.

Quinn was a little disappointed that only 86 people came to the meeting, noting that it was the most sparsely attended session he could recall. He recognizes that the weather was bad which may have had an impact. In addition, many people are not interested in attending a meeting that might end late. At one point, Westford tried to hold their meetings on Saturdays but that was also not overly

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4/10/11

Craobh Rua at 3:00 PM in the Billings North Lounge at the University of Vermont in Burlington. Presented by Young Tradition Vermont and the UVM Old Time Music Club. Support provided by Culture Ireland. Contact mrksustc@together.net

Earthly Ground: The Vermont Poetry and Song Project, Part 1 with Social Band at 4:00 PM at the Congregational Church in Charlotte. Contact Ann Pearce 802-658-8488 or www.socialband.org

4/15/11

Detox From Taxes Family Dance and Contra Dance with Alison James (caller) and the Irregulars at the Town Hall in Shelburne. Family Dance 6:30 to 7:30 PM. Contra Dance from 7:45 to 9:00 PM. Contact 802-985-1124.

Benjamin Miller Senior Recital with Hannah Beth Crary, Tim Cummings, Susan Summerfield and others at St. Michael's College in Colchester. Contact Ben Miller bmiller1071@gmail.com

Steve Gillette and Cindy Mangsen at North End Studio in Burlington. Contact 802-863-6713.

4/21/11

Vermont Maple Festival in St. Albans. Contact www.vtmaplefestival.org (4/15/11 through 4/17/11)

4/21/11

Katie Trautz and the Tall Boys at 7:30 PM at the Bee's Knees in Morrisville.

THEATER/FILM

The Richmond Climate Action Committee, whose mission is to move Richmond towards a sustainable energy future through education and action, is pleased to announce our spring Film Series. The monthly films explore different aspects of the global climate change crisis – from ocean acidification with its disruption of the entire salt-water food chain, to the politics of denial in the US and the progress of alternative energy elsewhere.

All films will be shown in the Richmond Free Library Commu-

successful.

Westford School Meeting

This year it wasn't close. The Westford School budget of just over \$5,000,000 passed by a vote of 329 to 159. Voters overwhelmingly approved plans to set aside \$45,000 for increased high school tuition expenses and \$5,000 for roof repairs. However, the proposal to add \$15,000 to the budget to institute a world language program was defeated by 23 votes. Mark Drapa bested David Brisson for a three year seat on the Westford School Board.

"It feels really good after what we went through last year," said School Board Chair Martha Heath. Like Quinn, Heath would have liked to see more people at the Monday night meeting but pointed out that roughly 30% of the population of Westford took part in Australian balloting which is twice the percentage that came out to vote in many towns. Heath was pleased to see the voters' willingness to set aside funds for the future, having been worried whether residents would recognize that the money represented unspent money from FY '10. She was sad that the world language program will not be funded. "The board continues to feel it's important to make that available for our students," she said. "We'll continue to look at it and see if we can find a way to get it into the curriculum." Heath recognizes that it will be difficult to find the funds to do so. "It's going to be tough," she said. "Declining property values puts more pressure on school boards to keep costs and budgets as low as possible."

Although the budget passed easily, voters did voice some concerns Monday night regarding the budgeted amount for salary and benefits, noting that this might influence contract negotiations. School board member Allison Weinhagen replied that a number had to be put in the budget but this should have no effect on upcoming discussions. Heath said there is some frustration that the negotiation process takes so long; the team has yet to formally meet. "People would have liked to know the outcome prior to the budget vote," she said, "but we are determined to keep the community as well informed during the process as possible."

4 CAR STORAGE...

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nity Room, starting at 7:00 PM and lasting until about 9:00 PM. Admission is free. Some screenings may have childcare provided – please call us at 434-4415 ahead of time if this is of interest. All films are suitable for grade 7 through adult.

The dates and film titles are as follows:

April 15, 2011 — "A Sea Change" — Ocean acidification threatens over 1 million species with extinction — and with them, our entire way of life.

May 15, 2011 — "Everything's Cool" — Examines the media strategies that have resulted in the US government's failure to take decisive action on global warming.

June 15, 2001 — "The Suzuki Diaries" — David Suzuki and daughter Sarika travel to Europe to visit inspiring people and projects that give hope for a sustainable future.; and "Weather Report" — A report from the frontlines of climate change in Kenya, India, Canada, the Arctic, China and Montana where people's lives have already been dramatically altered.

July 14, 2011 — "Dirt: the Movie" — The story of the Earth's most valuable and underappreciated source of fertility, from its miraculous beginning to its crippling degradation. This film will be presented in cooperation with the Chittenden Solid Waste District. Please visit the Richmond Climate Action Committee's website www.richmondclimateaction.net for more information about the group, the film series or our other projects.

New foster care film to play Burlington April 15,16 - Ask us Who We Are: foster care in Vermont, the search for family and a sense of belonging will kick off its 16 town Vermont tour in Burlington on April, 15,16 at 7:00 PM. Contois Auditorium.

Tickets are \$10 adults \$5 youth at the door. For more information visit www.kingdomcounty.com.

Record times set In Catamount Trail Backcountry Ski Race

Forty-five adventurous skiers from throughout New England and New York stood on the starting line at Trapp Family Lodge for the 4th Annual Catamount Trail Backcountry Challenge Race and Tour on March 13th.

As the valley residents were experiencing rain in the lower elevations, these hearty backcountry participants were treated to lightly falling snow and up to five inches of fresh cover in the elevated mountainous areas. Unlike other Nordic ski races and tours, the participants were totally self sufficient on this remote backcountry trail. The 17km course in one of the most famous and well used sections of the Catamount Trail, generally skied from South to North. Race and Tour participants skied it in reverse fashion, which entailed a 2300 ft vertical climb and a 1300 ft hair raising descent off Bolton Mountain to the Bolton Valley Nordic Center below.

The touring division was given a head start before the competitive skiers raced off the start line 90 minutes later. While the touring division was able to enjoy the incredible scenery on their leisurely tour up and over Bolton Mountain, the racers were giving 100% of their effort to reach the finish line in the shortest possible time.

In the hotly contested field of elite racers, it was Eli Enman of Huntington Vermont who broke free of the main pack early in the race to set a new course record of 1:30:30, improving on his winning time and record from the 2010 race. Olympian Marc Gilbertson of Hyde Park and Eric Tremble of Jericho raced head to head throughout the entire race. Brie's alpine racing experience paid off in the final descent, edging out her sister Tyne by two seconds to take second in a time of 2:13:13.

The women's race developed into a similar scenario as the men's competition with Kate Crawford of Essex breaking free from the pack early in the race and setting a new course record in 2:05:22. The second and third positions were up for grab as Brie and Tyne Pike-Sprenger of West Dover, Vermont raced head to head throughout the entire race. Brie's alpine racing experience paid off in the final descent, edging out her sister Tyne by two seconds to take second in a time of 2:13:13.

Following their heroic efforts over the grueling course, all participants were treated to a meal and over \$2000 in donated raffle prizes and awards. Sponsors included Outdoor Gear Exchange, Rossignol Ski Company, Darn Tough Socks, Seventh Generation, Green Mountain Coffee Roasters and Silversmith Jewelry Design Company. A special thanks goes out Trapp Family Lodge, Bolton Valley, and the Bolton Valley Ski Patrol for making this Catamount Trail Association event so successful.

LEGAL NOTICE**NOTICE OF APPLICATION
FOR INDIVIDUAL WETLAND
PERMIT #2010-129**

A request for An Individual Wetland Permit, required pursuant to the provisions of Section 9 of the Vermont Wetland Rules has been received from Nicole MacHarg of McCain Consulting Inc., representative for Elena Shapiro.

Approval is being requested for the construction of a driveway to access a proposed house lot located at 647 Poker Hill Road in Underhill. The proposed project will impact 490 square feet of Class II wetland and 2,419 square feet of buffer zone. This wetland has been designated as a significant (Class II) wetland in the Vermont Wetland Rules.

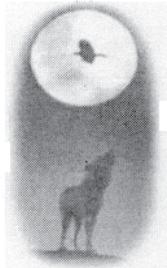
Copies of the application are available for review at the Vermont Wetlands Office in Essex, the Town Clerk's Office in Underhill and the Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission office in Winooski. Individual Wetland Permits may only be approved if it is shown that the proposed use will not have an undue adverse impact on the functions and values of any significant wetlands or their adjacent buffer zones. Any person may file comments in writing on this application through April 22, 2011 with:

Julie Foley
District Wetlands Ecologist
Water Quality Division
111 West Street
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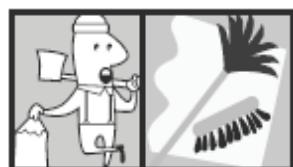
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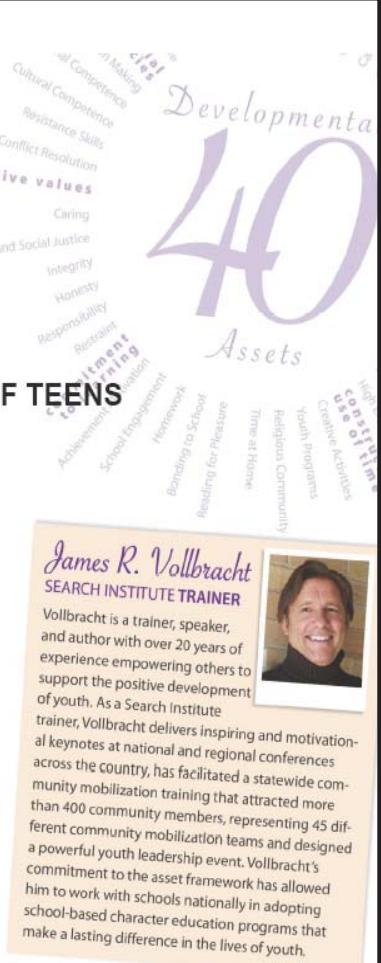
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Richmond Rescue continued from page 1

tem, patients in transit to the hospital can receive the kind of treatment and medication they would normally only obtain in their first half an hour in the emergency room including cardiac care and medications for pain and seizures. "We have quick and simple fixes," he said, "but paramedics can make a patient more comfortable. They can alleviate a lot of pain and suffering." In addition, hiring paramedics would provide Richmond Rescue with scheduling stability. Although the squad has more volunteers than Mack has seen in his almost twenty years in Richmond, there are still times they cannot respond to requests because they are understaffed, don't have the right staff, or are out on other calls. Hiring a full-time paramedic would create some stability, but it would cost money.

Although he did not get the desired result at two Town Meetings, Mack still thinks the experience was a positive one. "Being in both Richmond and Bolton I got a ton of feedback from residents," he said. "But what was disheartening was that although we tried to make people aware of this, a lot of people didn't know about it." Mack had scheduled public hearings in each of the three towns but cancelled the Bolton meeting after the previous endeavors did not garner any visitors. A separate public forum for all towns had a dozen attendees, including Richmond residents who felt that the squad should only cover Richmond. Mack was upset when the Richmond fire chief reported that he had requested ambulance assistance three times and only had the squad show up once. "That really bothers me," said Mack. "There are almost 8,000 people in our primary service area who count on us. It's important that Richmond Rescue is always staffed and available."

After a meeting of the Richmond Rescue board they decided to start over again. The extra appropriations from Bolton will be returned and the

board will try to assemble a group with liaisons from Bolton, Huntington and Richmond (and perhaps Jericho since they also cover part of that town) to form an advisory committee. Mack would like multiple representatives from each town but hopes that at the very least a Select Board member from each community will be willing to attend regular meetings. In addition, Richmond Rescue will submit quarterly reports to each of the towns. "I've been concerned with the lack of communication and dialogue between the towns," said Mack. "We want them to know what we're doing on a regular basis."

Ironically, the Bolton Select Board had met the evening before Richmond Rescue's meeting and reached a similar decision regarding the funds. Select Board chair R.J. Vallie said the board voted unanimously to authorize payment to Richmond Rescue in the amount of the original appropriation and to put the remaining money authorized by town voters into a reserve fund. The fund would be paid out to Richmond Rescue if they were able to explain to the Select Board how they could expand service or, if Richmond and Huntington voters changed their minds and also allocated additional funds.

On learning the news from the Richmond Rescue meeting, Vallie proclaimed the results "a big win" and said he was happy the issue would be resolved without acrimony. "I'm very pleased," he said, "that Richmond Rescue is being proactive in wanting to set up a better communication system and looking for a liaison with each of the three communities. We'll probably end up with a much better product long term." Vallie stressed that the Bolton Select Board wants to support Richmond Rescue but reiterated that the town felt it could not afford to provide the extra funds with no guarantee that a paramedicine system would be the result.

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