



The select entrance to the parking lot for the Village Restaurant at Hardwick. The select board recently decided to remove barriers that had been installed to keep vehicles from illegally cutting through the parking lot, finding a long-term solution was proven difficult. In the meanwhile, safety concerns persist.

Barrier Debate Continues for Parking Lot Next to Village Restaurant

by Michael Bielawski

HARDWICK — On again, off again, the changing of the east entrance to the parking lot next to the Village Restaurant is causing confusion and there's no clear solution in sight.

"Some folks were saying it was still confounding down there the way it was set up, that barriers were partially moved out of the way when the town workers started measuring," town manager Jon Jewett said. "People weren't sure if it was open or not, even though there was a sign that said do not enter."

In early January, the select board took down the barriers until a long-term policy is decided. "I think some businesses in town thought it should be open so that people can drive into that area to go to park more conveniently," he said. "There are a lot of issues still going on. I think the safety issue is still there."

Select board member Sarah Cornish reiterated that the current policy is confusing, and she brought the matter up at their January 4 meeting.

"It was there was a chain across that was easily moved," she wrote in an email. "Then concrete pillars were placed, and they too seemed to block the way to the side. It is not clear to me, who is moving the barrier."

"What was clear was that the confusion was compounded by the inconsistent application of blocking the



Photo by Vanessa Fournier

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Icy Roads Challenge State and Local Authorities

by Michael Bielawski

HARDWICK — The January 15 select board meeting addressed problems arising from water pouring over roads and freezing, especially along Route 15.

"We didn't have a whole lot [of flooding] here that I was aware of. There was two significant spots on Route 15 Friday night and into Saturday morning," Hardwick Police Chief Aaron Cochran said.

"There are two culverts that have quite often freeze, and they run over the road and I think that's exactly what happened. The more significant one was over by the old Gene and Ed. That one actually laid a fair amount of ice on the road."

The other action involved the newly paved portion of Route 15 as a section going into some Scruvens. Cochran said he had hoped this section could have been mitigated during the new construction, but it wasn't.

"It's been a problem for a number of years. The state knew about it, because they are out there every



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Greensboro Board Approves Three-Year Police Contract

by June Pichel Cook

GREENSBORO — The select board approved a three-year police contract at its January meeting with the Hardwick Police Department (HPD) to continue providing police services in Greensboro.

The contract was accepted with a contingency that the COPD grant funding for the equipment needed to provide normal policing functions, i.e., automobiles, equipment, vehicles,



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Neighboring School Districts Seek Facility Solutions

by June Pichel Cook

CHAFFETTS — Several ideas were aired at the Craftsbury School Board facilities meeting last Tuesday, with about 25 people, including two school superintendents.

Miller expressed the distinction by asking each person to share his/her ideas or visions for the future of the Craftsbury Elementary School.

He said "we are exploring ideas for the future of the Craftsbury Elementary School, exploring options. It is important to have some kind of vision, a vision for 5 to 10 years from now."

Superintendent Davis said she was present to see how Albany could partner and/or collaborate with Craftsbury.

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Barren Hills 811 'An act relating to improving recreational use of limited amounts of marijuana by adults 21 years of age or older' into law

by Doug McClure

MONTEPHER — Governor Phil Scott on Monday signed bill H.111 to legalize the recreational use of cannabis. The formal title of H.111 is "An act relating to eliminating penalties for possession of limited amounts of marijuana by adults 21 years of age or older."

I've had, with mixed emotion, I have signed H.111. I said what I thought, S.22 is a prosumer legislation bill in May. I personally believe that what adults do behind closed doors and in private property is their choice, so long as it does not negatively impact the health and

of the country, along with Washington, D.C. to improve the recreational use of cannabis. Vermont becomes the first state to legalize through legislation. The other states and the District of Columbia legalized

the property was "quick-claimed" to another person, which further complicates the situation. In any case, Jewett said the town will look at assessing fees for the property owner and will explore other options.

There had been a lot of heating fuel tanks running out of the town and business owners have been battling out to get tanks on all and prevent pipes from freezing. More Insurance, the Gazette, and the Depot building all faced or almost faced frost burning off.

In the case of the Depot, which is the site of the Vermont Historical Society is located, disaster relief funding was provided.

"If those pipes burst, it would have cost a great deal more to undo the mess. Then it would be just get on it and fix it, thank you," board member Elizabeth Dow, who is also president of the Historical Society, said.

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