

Police Shortages Weaken Coverage

by Michael Bielawski

HARDWICK — Police department personnel shortages, especially at the state level, are continuing to challenge rural communities. For towns with out any police department, that leaves them reliant on the state police.

At the June 11 select board meeting, it was mentioned that residents only seem to see officers when they are serving paperwork occasionally, a trooper is stationed around Woodbury Lake looking for speeders.

The situation is expected to get even worse, as towns are expected to see more officers being reassigned to other towns. It isn't just a local issue.

"I wouldn't say it's a Vermont State problem, I would say recruiting and staffing levels nationwide," Lt. Steve Coote, Director of Recruiting and Training for the Vermont State Police said. "If you look anywhere, recruiting has been difficult in law enforcement in the last few years."

"We've seen a decline in applicants for several years, that includes the Vermont State Police, that includes the Vermont State Police, as well as for many agencies throughout the state and throughout New England."

Last year, the Hardwick Police Department requested an additional officer, part of whose salary will be paid for via a Federal grant for the first three years. While there was much debate among select board members of whether to approve the new hire, ultimately the board approved the request. That officer has not yet been hired, however.

Coote said potential reasons for the dip in applicants could be the low unemployment rate and the unconventional schedule for officers which includes nights, holidays, and weekends. He also noted that law enforcement is often portrayed negatively in the media.

Coote used to work as a road trooper in the Rutland County area. He said communities struggling to find good police coverage is nothing new.

"The Rutland County Sheriff's Department offers police services to some of the towns in our area as a contracted service," he said. "But I have seen towns that have done that with sheriff's departments and other agencies and have either decided that it wasn't their best use of funds or that they didn't want the services any longer and then it defaults back to state police for coverage."

Coote said likely for him there are still some strong applicants moving through the training process, which takes six to eight months from hire to start date.

He said that based on his 16 years on the job, he has no regrets with his career choice.

"It's a demanding job, I wouldn't change it for anything now as I see 15 years on the job," he said. "It's challenging, but you can say that about any job."



The pristine beauty of Little Hosmer caught the eye of the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation, which has identified it as one of 13 Vermont lakes of outstanding quality.

Caledonia Grange #9 is the oldest operating Grange in New England. With the Village Designation, it's Hardwick hoping to have access across to grant money to complete renovations for accessibility to the building.

New Opportunities for East Hardwick

by Doug McClure

EAST HARDWICK — On June 26, East Hardwick made its case to the state and was granted a Village Center designation. With this designation, area businesses will have easier access to grants that could help restore some of the town's historic center to its former glory.

One of the reasons for the push for Village Center designation was the Caledonia Grange Hall #9. It is the oldest operating Grange hall in New England and is in need of upgrades. It is in the process of trying to sort out how to achieve those goals that became clear the Village Center designation might help that Grange and also area businesses.

Gary Michaels, a member of the Grange board, said the designation will help start the building's renovation. He said there are new grant timelines. The goal is to start with building accessibility. The Grange has a \$250,000 grant in place from the Vermont Preservation Trust, according to

Michaels. He said that the renovations will be dependent on additional grant funds, and many of those require matching funds. The Village Center designation should make securing additional funds easier.

"It's a \$250,000 grant, which is not enough to do what we need to do. We're going to have to find some funding sources and now [with the designation] we have other opportunities. Many of the new grants require matching funds. So we can use the original grant from the Vermont Preservation Trust to match," said Michaels.

Necessity is just the first of the projects the Grange intends, but it's a head start.

"The accessibility issue will be addressed with a new ramp along the north side of the building will help start the building's renovation. He said there are new grant timelines. The goal is to start with building accessibility. The Grange has a \$250,000 grant in place from the Vermont Preservation Trust, according to

"The accessibility issue will be addressed with a new ramp along the north side of the building will help start the building's renovation. He said there are new grant timelines. The goal is to start with building accessibility. The Grange has a \$250,000 grant in place from the Vermont Preservation Trust, according to

"The accessibility issue will be addressed with a new ramp along the north side of the building will help start the building's renovation. He said there are new grant timelines. The goal is to start with building accessibility. The Grange has a \$250,000 grant in place from the Vermont Preservation Trust, according to

See OPPORTUNITIES, 3

Nisbets Revisit Alaska Trip With 75 Friends

by Hester L. Fuller

GREENSBORO — Just over a year ago, Tim Nisbet left Greensboro on a mission: to collect water samples from all 47 corners of the United States. Heading out with his first wife, gathered in Portland, Maine, he traveled south on his Harley Davidson motorcycle to the "southeastern corner" of Key West, Florida, then headed cross-country to the Pacific at San Diego, California.

Waiting for his wife Bobbie to fly in from Vermont (her bike had been shipped ahead of him), Tim's motorcycle trip took him to Mexico. He described colorful exchanges with his local patrol, his brief days "abroad" and his subsequent dismay when he turned around to meet his wife Bobbie in her plane. He described colorful exchanges with his local patrol, his brief days "abroad" and his subsequent dismay when he turned around to meet his wife Bobbie in her plane.



Bobbie and Tim Nisbet of Greensboro presented awards and congratulatory messages to a group of motorcycle riders at the signing ceremony for the 75th Anniversary State seal anniversary.

He made a back in time to meet his wife Bobbie in her plane. He described colorful exchanges with his local patrol, his brief days "abroad" and his subsequent dismay when he turned around to meet his wife Bobbie in her plane.

Tim's motorcycle trip took him to Mexico. He described colorful exchanges with his local patrol, his brief days "abroad" and his subsequent dismay when he turned around to meet his wife Bobbie in her plane.

He made a back in time to meet his wife Bobbie in her plane. He described colorful exchanges with his local patrol, his brief days "abroad" and his subsequent dismay when he turned around to meet his wife Bobbie in her plane.

See NISBETS, 2

Little Hosmer Pond Declared Sentinel Lakes

by June Pichel Cook

CRAFTSBURY/GREENSBORO — Thirteen lakes in Vermont have been designated as sentinel lakes by the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation. The lakes were chosen as reference lakes for the

2012 National Lakes Assessment (NLA) project, as well as for long-term study sites. Sentinel lakes are minimally disturbed, water bodies that have significant portions of their watershed connected to the lake.

Sentinel lakes have been identified as having good quality based on measures used in the Vermont Fish Monitoring Program (VFLMP), which is part of the NLA project. Spring phosphorus data has been collected for several years. It is an effort to examine the impacts of climate change, acid rain, and lakeohere development.

Eight of the thirteen lakes lie in the Northeast Kingdom, which includes five acre-to-one Little Hosmer Pond, Craftsbury; Long Pond, Greensboro; Stannard Lake, Stannard; and Schofield Lake and Zerk Woods, Hyde Park.

David Davis is an official that Big Horn Pond has been part of the volunteer water quality monitoring program for decades, with Craftsbury Conservation Commission member John Broad-

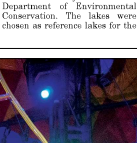


photo by Doug McClure

lead spearheading the work. The Craftsbury Outdoor Center (COC) has supported the work; Broad returned from COC after spending many years as manager and director of operations/activities.

For decades, Broad has also led an ongoing millil erosion program on Big Hosmer, supported by state grants and the COC. According to Davis, Little Hosmer's national surveys started about six years ago, with Amelia Peris as the primary volunteer.

The VFLMP needs volunteers to collect samples from the various lakes for the NLA and sentinel lake project. Davis indicated an effort to examine the impacts of climate change, acid rain, and lakeohere development.

Eight of the thirteen lakes lie in the Northeast Kingdom, which includes five acre-to-one Little Hosmer Pond, Craftsbury; Long Pond, Greensboro; Stannard Lake, Stannard; and Schofield Lake and Zerk Woods, Hyde Park.

David Davis is an official that Big Horn Pond has been part of the volunteer water quality monitoring program for decades, with Craftsbury Conservation Commission member John Broad-

lead spearheading the work. The Craftsbury Outdoor Center (COC) has supported the work; Broad returned from COC after spending many years as manager and director of operations/activities.

For decades, Broad has also led an ongoing millil erosion program on Big Hosmer, supported by state grants and the COC. According to Davis, Little Hosmer's national surveys started about six years ago, with Amelia Peris as the primary volunteer.

The VFLMP needs volunteers to collect samples from the various lakes for the NLA and sentinel lake project. Davis indicated an effort to examine the impacts of climate change, acid rain, and lakeohere development.

Eight of the thirteen lakes lie in the Northeast Kingdom, which includes five acre-to-one Little Hosmer Pond, Craftsbury; Long Pond, Greensboro; Stannard Lake, Stannard; and Schofield Lake and Zerk Woods, Hyde Park.

David Davis is an official that Big Horn Pond has been part of the volunteer water quality monitoring program for decades, with Craftsbury Conservation Commission member John Broad-

lead spearheading the work. The Craftsbury Outdoor Center (COC) has supported the work; Broad returned from COC after spending many years as manager and director of operations/activities.

For decades, Broad has also led an ongoing millil erosion program on Big Hosmer, supported by state grants and the COC. According to Davis, Little Hosmer's national surveys started about six years ago, with Amelia Peris as the primary volunteer.

The VFLMP needs volunteers to collect samples from the various lakes for the NLA and sentinel lake project. Davis indicated an effort to examine the impacts of climate change, acid rain, and lakeohere development.

Eight of the thirteen lakes lie in the Northeast Kingdom, which includes five acre-to-one Little Hosmer Pond, Craftsbury; Long Pond, Greensboro; Stannard Lake, Stannard; and Schofield Lake and Zerk Woods, Hyde Park.

David Davis is an official that Big Horn Pond has been part of the volunteer water quality monitoring program for decades, with Craftsbury Conservation Commission member John Broad-

lead spearheading the work. The Craftsbury Outdoor Center (COC) has supported the work; Broad returned from COC after spending many years as manager and director of operations/activities.

For decades, Broad has also led an ongoing millil erosion program on Big Hosmer, supported by state grants and the COC. According to Davis, Little Hosmer's national surveys started about six years ago, with Amelia Peris as the primary volunteer.

The VFLMP needs volunteers to collect samples from the various lakes for the NLA and sentinel lake project. Davis indicated an effort to examine the impacts of climate change, acid rain, and lakeohere development.

Eight of the thirteen lakes lie in the Northeast Kingdom, which includes five acre-to-one Little Hosmer Pond, Craftsbury; Long Pond, Greensboro; Stannard Lake, Stannard; and Schofield Lake and Zerk Woods, Hyde Park.

David Davis is an official that Big Horn Pond has been part of the volunteer water quality monitoring program for decades, with Craftsbury Conservation Commission member John Broad-

lead spearheading the work. The Craftsbury Outdoor Center (COC) has supported the work; Broad returned from COC after spending many years as manager and director of operations/activities.

For decades, Broad has also led an ongoing millil erosion program on Big Hosmer, supported by state grants and the COC. According to Davis, Little Hosmer's national surveys started about six years ago, with Amelia Peris as the primary volunteer.

The VFLMP needs volunteers to collect samples from the various lakes for the NLA and sentinel lake project. Davis indicated an effort to examine the impacts of climate change, acid rain, and lakeohere development.

Eight of the thirteen lakes lie in the Northeast Kingdom, which includes five acre-to-one Little Hosmer Pond, Craftsbury; Long Pond, Greensboro; Stannard Lake, Stannard; and Schofield Lake and Zerk Woods, Hyde Park.

David Davis is an official that Big Horn Pond has been part of the volunteer water quality monitoring program for decades, with Craftsbury Conservation Commission member John Broad-

lead spearheading the work. The Craftsbury Outdoor Center (COC) has supported the work; Broad returned from COC after spending many years as manager and director of operations/activities.

For decades, Broad has also led an ongoing millil erosion program on Big Hosmer, supported by state grants and the COC. According to Davis, Little Hosmer's national surveys started about six years ago, with Amelia Peris as the primary volunteer.

The VFLMP needs volunteers to collect samples from the various lakes for the NLA and sentinel lake project. Davis indicated an effort to examine the impacts of climate change, acid rain, and lakeohere development.

Eight of the thirteen lakes lie in the Northeast Kingdom, which includes five acre-to-one Little Hosmer Pond, Craftsbury; Long Pond, Greensboro; Stannard Lake, Stannard; and Schofield Lake and Zerk Woods, Hyde Park.

David Davis is an official that Big Horn Pond has been part of the volunteer water quality monitoring program for decades, with Craftsbury Conservation Commission member John Broad-

lead spearheading the work. The Craftsbury Outdoor Center (COC) has supported the work; Broad returned from COC after spending many years as manager and director of operations/activities.

For decades, Broad has also led an ongoing millil erosion program on Big Hosmer, supported by state grants and the COC. According to Davis, Little Hosmer's national surveys started about six years ago, with Amelia Peris as the primary volunteer.

The VFLMP needs volunteers to collect samples from the various lakes for the NLA and sentinel lake project. Davis indicated an effort to examine the impacts of climate change, acid rain, and lakeohere development.

Hardwick Electric Dam in Need of Costly Repair

by Michael Bielawski

WOLCOTT — For almost a half century, the hydroelectric dam has been operating without one of its primary safety features: the sluice gate. For years, this has been a sore spot on the dam's safety reports. Now, Hardwick Electric Department is moving to fix it as a safety liability.

"The dam is a basically a hole at the bottom of a dam," Hardwick Electric Department manager Mike Sullivan said to the select board on it and if the dam were in imminent failure — if there were supsigh flood waters and you needed to relieve the pressure on the back of the dam — that's what the sluice gate does."

Part of the reason reports have been put off for so long is that estimates of the cost of repair exceed a quarter million dollars. Sullivan said in discussions among state agencies on whether they would utilize using the device in the first place.

"The dam is an integral part of HED's power production. It was constructed in 1912 and it generates about 20% of HED's annual power output."

Sullivan said the last time the sluice gate was operated was in 1972 and since then it's been buried in about 500 feet of sand, boulders, and logs.

Sullivan noted that the dam is due for a six-year safety inspection and once again HED must report that the sluice gate is inoperable.

"It's just a mess," he said. "Since the last 15 or 20 years this inoperability has been on our safety report and it's about a \$250,000 to \$300,000 job to replace that."

Sullivan said he's refused to touch the issue due to conflicts between state entities.



photo by Doug McClure

Fire Station Advisory Vote May be Held in August

by Will Walters

CABOT — Voters may get their first say on how they feel about a new fire station in town. Select Board Chair Mike Hogan wants to have a vote, he thought the board's seeking funding to build the new fire station. Little Hosmer Pond's parking near the ball field in lower Cabot.

The board has already bought the property for \$80,000 and is looking to borrow money to raise the structure on the site. Hogan said an advisory vote is defined in starting on a vote where a specific dollar amount is not in the budget. He said if a bond vote comes necessary, then the voters will have to approve the bond before the board can proceed.

The board is expected to not be looking to borrow money to raise the structure on the site. Hogan said an advisory vote is defined in starting on a vote where a specific dollar amount is not in the budget. He said if a bond vote comes necessary, then the voters will have to approve the bond before the board can proceed.

The board is expected to not be looking to borrow money to raise the structure on the site. Hogan said an advisory vote is defined in starting on a vote where a specific dollar amount is not in the budget. He said if a bond vote comes necessary, then the voters will have to approve the bond before the board can proceed.

The board is expected to not be looking to borrow money to raise the structure on the site. Hogan said an advisory vote is defined in starting on a vote where a specific dollar amount is not in the budget. He said if a bond vote comes necessary, then the voters will have to approve the bond before the board can proceed.

The board is expected to not be looking to borrow money to raise the structure on the site. Hogan said an advisory vote is defined in starting on a vote where a specific dollar amount is not in the budget. He said if a bond vote comes necessary, then the voters will have to approve the bond before the board can proceed.

The board is expected to not be looking to borrow money to raise the structure on the site. Hogan said an advisory vote is defined in starting on a vote where a specific dollar amount is not in the budget. He said if a bond vote comes necessary, then the voters will have to approve the bond before the board can proceed.

In Sports, 10

TUESDAY NIGHT TRAIL RACE

9:22P - 10:04P

In Towns, 2

HISTORICAL EXHIBIT OPENS IN GREENSBORO

In Arts, 6

HAZEN PRESENTS INTO THE WOODS

hardwickgazette.com
9722P - 10:04P

In Sports, 10
TUESDAY NIGHT TRAIL RACE
9:22P - 10:04P

In Towns, 2
HISTORICAL EXHIBIT OPENS IN GREENSBORO

In Arts, 6
HAZEN PRESENTS INTO THE WOODS

In Arts, 6
HAZEN PRESENTS INTO THE WOODS

In Arts, 6
HAZEN PRESENTS INTO THE WOODS