

THE Hardwick Gazette

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Signs Tagged, BLM Mural Marred

by Doug McClure

CRAFTSBURY, HARDWICK – During the past week at least three signs were tagged by someone in Hardwick and Craftsbury, and a newly-created “Black Lives Matter” mural was damaged. While state police are reporting the incidents in a single report, they say “It is not yet known if these acts are connected.”

The Black Lives Mural in front of Craftsbury Academy on North Craftsbury Road was damaged by someone in “a dark-colored full-sized pickup truck doing a burn out on the pavement at approximately 2130 hours on 06/18.” Tire marks are streaked across it. This incident recalls racist graffiti painted on Jasper Hill Farm’s barn in September 2017.

The spray-painted signs are the Hardwick Lake sign on Route 14, the Greensboro/Hardwick sign on Route 14, and police say additionally a Craftsbury Farmers’ Market sign at the intersection of Route 14 and South Craftsbury Road “was defaced with spray paint.”

Police say the color of the paint used on the Greensboro/Hardwick sign is consistent with the Farmers’ Market sign, but no one had reported the damage to the Hardwick Lake sign which is also consistent in color. Neither the Greensboro/Hardwick sign nor the Hardwick Lake sign has a legible word.

Anyone with information on this incident is asked to contact the Vermont State Police in Derby at (802) 334-8881.



photos by Doug McClure

On the night of June 18, State Police say a “dark-colored full-sized pickup” did a “burn out” defacing a Black Lives Matter street mural (top) in front of Craftsbury Academy. (Lower right and left) State police are investigating several acts of vandalism in the area. The sign for Hardwick Lake on Route 14 between Greensboro and Hardwick was tagged with orange spray paint, as were signs on Route 14 near the Greensboro/Hardwick town line and at the Craftsbury Farmers’ Market on Route 14 at South Craftsbury Road.

OSUED Considers Campus Configurations

by Emmett Avery

HARDWICK – The Orleans Southwest Union Elementary District board met June 16. The meeting’s purpose was to cut their list of potential new campus configuration options down to a reasonable number so the impact and efficacy each can be analyzed. The board ended up settling on four main possibilities with various sub-categories. In no particular order, the options are as follows.

The first main idea is to provide more opportunities for early education, baby through preschool. This option could include preschool, toddler daycare, or early and after school care. It would be a public-private option housed at one of the three schools. It could also mean creating a public-private option for prekindergarten, including infants and toddlers, separate from Head Start. The final option under this heading would be to create an early education center that would offer prekindergarten as well as early and late hours, including baby and toddler rooms. The administration noted that some of these options could be revenue positive.

Another main idea is to provide a location for Head Start

at one of the schools and potentially partner with the program. The administration noted that this could be revenue positive. They also said that Hazen Union is looking into a similar idea.

The third idea was a big one, housing many suboptions. The over-arching idea is to rearrange where grades are housed. Some of these options include having fourth through sixth grades at the Hardwick campus and kindergarten through third grades at Lakeview, Woodbury and potentially Hardwick. The other options, as written, include other alternate grade reconfigurations, consolidate grades a few at each campus, or bring all students to Hardwick. The administration noted that bringing everyone to Hardwick would generate savings, but that there may not be enough room for all students unless the sixth grade was moved out of the building. This brings us to the next option under this heading, which is the possibility of combining Hazen Union and the OSUED schools into one district so that students could move among all four buildings without causing revenue issues. This could mean moving sixth grade

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COVID Case Prompts Response From Creamery

by Tyler Mollere

CABOT—Emergency Manager Jennifer Miner announced to the Cabot Select Board at his Monday night meeting that the town had its first COVID-19 case reported late last week.

The list of cases by town was updated on June 18 and showed that Cabot now had anywhere between one and five coronavirus cases that had popped up since the map was last updated on June 11. Since then, Miner has been fielding questions from community members over safety concerns.

One of those concerns were that the resident in question and known close contacts were recently witnessed out in public. Miner wanted to be clear that several pieces of information should be considered instead of making assumptions.

“They might have already

completed their mandated quarantine period,” she said. Vermont Department of Health guidelines say a patient with COVID-19 must isolate themselves for 10 days after the onset of symptoms, with no evidence of a fever for 72 hours and improvement of symptoms. Miner also said quarantine orders extend to close contacts of that individual, who may have exited quarantine after being away from the individual for seven days with a negative test.

Close contacts are defined by the Department of Health as the intimate partners and household members of an infected individual. Other instances of close contact include traveling in the same car with a person who is infected.

She had also been asked by members of the public to address the use of protective coverings by employees at the Cabot Village

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