

THE Hardwick Gazette

INDEPENDENT LOCAL NEWS SINCE 1889

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Craftsbury School Board Bows to PUC Decision

by June Pichel Cook

CRAFTSBURY – Following an executive session at its April meeting, the Craftsbury School Board voted unanimously to pay Hardwick Electric Department (HED) \$141,865.80 to settle a dispute of HED's underbilling for electricity used between 2010 and 2019. The dispute had moved from the Department of Public Service to the Public Utility Commission (PUC).

A hearing was held in January before the PUC. On March 31, PUC Hearing Officer Michael Tousley ruled that the school district should pay for the un-

der-billed electricity, with payments to be made over nine years without interest. The Department of Public Service had reached the same decision almost a year earlier.

"We're done and moving on," Craftsbury School Board Chair Harry Miller said in a phone interview. "We saw our legal fees just going up and up. We don't have the money to fight it. Our legal fees are way over the budget. We made a financial decision. Not much we can do. I sort of felt it's the fox (PUC) watching the hen house and they don't ever lose. It's done."

See DECISION, 4

Hearing Officer Proposes School District Pay Bill

by June Pichel Cook

CRAFTSBURY – Public Utility Commission (PUC) Hearing Officer Michael Tousley
See BILL, 4



courtesy photo

The Center for an Agricultural Economy staff in Hardwick packs local produce for delivery to food pantries.

Is Food Still Saving our Towns? The CAE's Community Outreach in a Pandemic

by Anna Kolosky, UVM Community News Service

HARDWICK – Growing up on a fifty-cow dairy farm, Jon Ramsay understands farming as essential to both his life and the lives of others. After working for the Vermont Land Trust for 21 years, Ramsay both runs his family farm as a beef operation and oversees a number of food initiatives as the executive director for the Center for an Agricultural Economy (CAE).

Founded in 2004, The Center for an Agricultural Economy, is a 501(c)3
See FOOD, 2

With Yields Down, Sugar Makers Still Appreciate Working Outdoors

by Maggie Lee, UVM Community News Service

CABOT – This sugaring season, Chuck Talbert, a fourth-generation sugar maker in Cabot, only produced about two-thirds the crop he usually does. "It's the same story as everybody who makes maple syrup," Talbert said.

He has about 2,500 taps on his farm, which has been sugaring since the late 1800s, according to the Talbert's Maple Farm website. The main way the Talberts sell their farm's product is via wholesalers, so they didn't see the impact on income from lack of visitors during the sugaring season.

Greg Burttt, owner of Burttt's Orchard and a Cabot sugar maker with close to 27,000 taps, painted a similar story of his sugaring season. "It was definitely down this year," Burttt shared, adding
See OUTDOORS, 3



photo by Chuck Talbert

The Talbert Maple Farm sugar house was working hard even through the low-yield season.

Wolcott Elementary School Budget Voted Down Again

by Doug McClure

WOLCOTT – Wolcott voters rejected Wolcott Elementary School's proposed budget for a second time.

This most recent budget proposal, totaling \$5,137,392.24, was voted down 213-189. If passed, the budget would have increased the tax rate by 2.3 cents. Four-hundred-three voters cast ballots, representing a nearly 75% increase from the 231 voters who rejected the previous \$5,154,519 budget by 138-91. The school board chair and the school's principal said they could

not recall a budget ever failing twice.

Describing the failed vote as "distressing to say the least," Wolcott School Board Chair Elliot Waring said, "Combined with the fact that Wolcott was one of only three towns in the entire state to not pass a budget on Town Meeting Day, it is disheartening to think that the voting townspeople don't appear to feel the same way as me (or the board) in regards to the value of education in our town. I'm hopeful we can get a budget passed, and also improve the communication between the voters/taxpayers and the board to ensure we are all working with

a shared vision for the kids of our town going forward."

Wolcott Elementary Principal Matt Foster said, "My staff and I are very disappointed in the results." Foster said in his five years as principal he had not seen a budget fail to pass on its second attempt. "I have already met with the OSSU [Orleans Southwest Supervisory Union] business office to begin crafting the next budget proposal," he said. "We hope to get a budget proposal back out to the community in early June that will get the additional 24 votes to pass and

See AGAIN, 3

Contents

Police Reports..... 3
 Board Deals with Sand Pricing..... 5
 Craftsbury Farmers' Market Plans Opening..... 8
 Our Communities..... 9, 10
 Obituaries..... 10
 This Week's Events 11
 T.W. Wood Gallery Announces Exhibits..... 11
 In the Garden: Pollen, Allergies and Plants..... 12
 Yankee Notebook: You Can Go Back as Far as You Want.... 13
 Another Opinion: A Newer Human-Wildlife Relationship... 14
 White Mountain Honors Standouts at Banquet..... 16
 ACT Next Stop Thunder Road 16
 Wildcats Bounce Back..... 17
 Local Runners Deliver at Paul Mailman Race..... 17
 Chargers Impressive in Opening Meet..... 18

Food

Continued From Page One

non-profit organization that hosts a number of food initiatives like Just Cut, Farm Connex, and Everyone Eats! According to Ramsay, most of the programs focus on food access and finding ways to get local produce to Vermonters, especially with the onset of COVID-19.

"It's an exciting time to be part of the food system conversation, but it also feels like we're on a treadmill that's going really fast right now, because of COVID," Ramsay said. "Our work this last year led us to invest more in food access and we see a connection between food access and market access for farmers."

Through Just Cut, the CAE is able to take raw produce -- such as beets, potatoes, carrots, cabbages and rutabaga -- from local farms like Last Resort Farm and Naked Acre Farm, and prepare them for use in institutional kitchens, Ramsay said. Thus, the CAE is able to sell farm fresh produce in bulk to hospitals, K-12 schools and universities like the University of Vermont and Norwich University, Ramsay added.

"It creates a market opportunity for farmers that otherwise wouldn't exist. When COVID hit, we shifted that program and started boxing produce for families and distributed it through our delivery service. Through that, we've been able to pack 65,000 pounds of produce."

Based in Hardwick, Farm Connex is a local, small producer-oriented non-profit delivery service that now operates on a statewide level. From producers like Black Dirt Farm to Jasper Hill Farm, \$5.2 million worth of local products were moved through markets for farmers in 2020 alone, Ramsay stated.

"We delivered meals for essential workers around the state through the Farm Connex delivery service," Ramsay said. "In 2020, we distributed 65,000 meals to frontline workers around the state."

Similar to Farm Connex, Everyone Eats! was born out of the need to partner with restaurants and distribute food statewide. One way the CAE did this was by working with restaurants in Hardwick, like the Village Restaurant, to provide meals for community members, Ramsay noted.

"There was a community meal that the United Church of Hardwick did every week that provided meals to about 60, 65 people. When COVID hit, the church wasn't in a position to keep it going. So we raised around \$20,000, and our

"It creates a market opportunity for farmers that otherwise wouldn't exist."

idea was to work with restaurants that were hit hard and have them make the meal."

The restaurants were asked to source a percentage of their ingredients from local farmers, Ramsay said. The CAE would then pay for the meals with the funds they raised and distribute the meals to people who needed them.

Partnering with local farms and educating the community about growing its own food has also been essential to the Center's work, Ramsay said. The CAE works with over 150 local farms like Pete's Greens, Jasper Hill Farm, and Myer's Produce, and educates community members and high-school students on how to grow their own food, as well.

"We have a program called Grow Your Own that is about building leadership in the community and teaching people skills that are transferable to everyday life," Ramsay said. "We also have a close partnership with the local supervisory union where we focus on incorporating entrepreneurship and youth voice and leadership in curriculum development."

Even with all of this community outreach underway, the CAE still has big plans for future projects, Ramsay stated.

"We have a lot on our plate, and we're working hard to understand our blind spots. We have big infrastructure projects related to Farm Connex coming up. We're looking to expand our loan program and continue to increase market opportunities for farmers. So, we have a big list."

While the results of these food initiatives have brought positive change, staying rooted in the reality of the pandemic is just as important, Ramsay added.

"It's been a hard thing to balance all of these positive outcomes in what is a really tragic time," Ramsay said. "We went through a surge of COVID in the Northeast Kingdom a couple of weeks ago, and it was one of the most difficult times. So, balancing and reconciling all of this and seeing how these initiatives pivot and evolve, I think, is going to take time."



April 28 - May 4

Clothing & Footwear Mother's Day Sale May 5 - May 11		Wiley's Store Now Hiring	
Maple Grove Pancake Mix \$2.99 24 oz.	Stash Teas \$2.99 18-20 ct.	Barilla Pasta 4/\$5 16 oz.	
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Cascadian Cereal \$3.49 9.2-16 oz.	Nabisco Oreos 2/\$5 14.3-15.35 oz.	Ritz Crackers 2/\$5 12.9-13 oz.	
Food Club Peanuts 2/\$4 16 oz.	Charmin 6 Mega Roll Bathroom Tissue \$6.99 172 s.f.	Bounty 4 Double Roll Paper Towel \$6.99 176-199 s.f.	
Mission Flour Tortillas 2/\$5 17.5-20 oz.	Florida Natural Orange Juice 2/\$6 52 oz.	Chobani Greek Yogurt 5/\$5 5.3 oz.	
Food Club Cream Cheese \$1.29 8 oz.	Pepperidge Farm Turnovers \$2.99 12.5 oz.	American Flatbread Pizza \$6.99 13.8-16.8 oz.	
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POLICE REPORT

Hardwick Police

Media Log Summary

April 19: Suspicious Event, Kate Brook Rd.; Motor Vehicle Complaint, Wolcott St.; Assist – Other, Wolcott St.; Citizen Dispute, High St.; Suspicious Event, W. Hill Rd.; Accident – Property Damage Only, Wolcott St.; Traffic Stop, Vt. Rte. 15W; Traffic Stop, Mill St.; Traffic Stop, Wolcott St.

April 20: 911 Hangup, S. Main St.; Suspicious Event, Houston Hill Rd.; Transport, High St.

April 21: Wanted Person, High St.; Suspicious Event, Vt. Rte. 15; Welfare Check, School St.; Medical, S. Main St.; Animal Problem, Woodbury St.; Accident – Property Damage Only, Vt. Rte. 15; Transport, High St.; Assist – Public, High St.; Noise Disturbance, High St.

April 22: Accident – Property Damage Only, Vt. Rte. 16; 911 Hangup, S. Main St.; Suspicious Event, Vt. Rte. 14S; Traffic Stop, S. Main St./Lower Cherry St.; Traffic Stop, Rte. 15.

April 24: Suspicious Event, S. Main St.; Traffic Stop, N. Main St.; Traffic Stop, Wolcott St.; Traffic Stop, Wolcott St.; Traffic Stop, Cottage St.; Traffic Stop, Vt. Rte. 15; Traffic Stop, Wolcott St.; Traffic Stop, Wolcott St.; Traffic Stop, Wolcott St.

April 25: Assist – Other, Bunker Hill Rd.; Motor Vehicle Complaint, The Bend Rd.; Citizen Dispute, Highland Ave.

April 26: Littering, Tucker Brook Rd.; Assault, Stratton Rd.; Alarm, Slap Hill Rd.

Hardwick Police

Grand Larceny, Prohibited Acts, Domestic Assault

Atticus Gillen, of E. Hardwick, was cited into Caledonia Court for June 21 on the charge of Grand Larceny.

Andrew Kroeger, of Greensboro, has been charged with two counts of Prohibited Acts and will appear in Orleans County Court on May 4.

On April 21, at 8:00 a.m., Kevin J. Fradette, of Hardwick, was arrested on an active warrant out of Lamoille County. Fradette was cited to appear in Lamoille Court

on April 21 at 2 p.m. and released.

On April 22, Donald Stetson Jr., of Hardwick, was served a citation to appear in court on June 7 for charges of Domestic Assault on April 4.

This report is based on information provided by the Hardwick Police Department but is not a full accounting of police activities. Persons named in this report are presumed to be innocent unless they plead or are found guilty in court.

AWARE Report

HARDWICK – AWARE served eight survivors of domestic and sexual violence from April 18 through April 25. AWARE is a nonprofit organization, established in 1984, dedicated to

resolving the causes and effects of domestic violence and sexual assault in the greater Hardwick area.

The 24-hour hotline is 802-472-6463.

Again

Continued From Page One

keep the impact on our students and staff to a minimum.”

Voters passed a ballot measure, 292-108, to transfer \$50,000 from the building maintenance reserve fund to be used as general fund revenue in the FY22 budget to decrease local taxes.

As noted in previous meetings, the proposed rate of \$1.6987 was heavily influenced by Wolcott’s dropping Common Level of Appraisal (CLA). In the eyes of the

state, Wolcott’s houses are selling for considerably more than the town valued them in its Grand List. If the CLA had been the same as last year, the tax rate would have been lower than in FY21, but the CLA dropped from 95.51% to 94.21%. One analysis showed out-of-state buyers spent \$1m on homes in Wolcott in 2020, more than the previous three years combined. If the CLA hits 85%, the state will force a reappraisal. The board met on April 27 to start to hammer out a new plan.



photo by Vanessa Fournier

Saturday, May 1, is Green-Up Day. Roadside litter picked up in green up bags may be dropped off at the Hardwick Town Garage from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Green Up bags are available before Saturday and may be picked up at the Whistle Emporium on Main Street in Hardwick.

Outdoors

Continued From Page One

that it was a “short season, with a warm spell starting right near the beginning of the season.” Burt is hopeful, however, that future seasons will help make up for the lost crop this year, but knows that this is the nature of the business. “You know, that’s the way it is with farming, I guess,” he said.

But despite the low yields brought on by less-than-ideal weather conditions, Talbert and Burt both expressed an appreciation for what they do, especially in the past year, living with the COVID-19 pandemic.

Talbert revels in the sugaring season as a sign of winter coming to a close. “Sugaring, for me, it’s a lot of like marking your time and the seasons,” he says. “That’s your guarantee that winter is going to

end.” He also acknowledged the good fortune of being able to work being outdoors. “Being in any kind of a lock-down, I didn’t even notice it,” Talbert continued, “I spend sugaring season within this mile triangle from my home, to sugar house, and in the woods.”

Talbert has still needed to make some adjustments. The few sales that they had at the farm have had to be done contactless. “Since COVID hit, people will call and ask, ‘can I pick up syrup?’ And I would just leave it on the porch with an envelope to leave money in.”

Even with less sap and maple sugar this year, Burt has also found comfort in the isolation of the work. He’s thankful not to have been significantly affected as a business, and cited the ability to work outdoors. “Yeah, it’s nice to not really feel affected by it, just being out in the woods by yourself.”

The Hardwick Gazette

PEOPLE SERVING PEOPLE

Decision

Continued From Page One

Miller said he had tried to represent Craftsbury taxpayers as best as he could.

The faulty meter was connected in 2010 when Craftsbury Academy was refurbished. The school was rewired from a Phase 1 to a Phase 3 system as part of a complete renovation of the building which included efficiency measures. The school won an efficiency award for the renovations.

HED inspected, approved, and powered up the system. In 2019, when the board sought information on installing a generator, HED realized the faulty metering and invoiced the school district for nine years of under-billing.

HED and the school district tried to amiably work out a solution. The school district then appealed to the Department of Public Service, which determined that the district was responsible for paying for the electricity

used. The board hired a lawyer and appealed to the Public Utility Commission, which led to the PUC hearing in January with all parties presenting. The Department of Public Service supported HED's being paid the under-billing.

Tousley concluded that both the wiring and inspection of the metering equipment were performed incorrectly by Craftsbury and Hardwick Electric, which resulted in the inaccurate measurement of electricity usage. He acknowledged that HED took no other steps to determine the new metering equipment's accuracy or the billing charged to the school district.

Tousley stated in his Proposal for Decision: "However, I find that Hardwick Electric's billing failure is an insufficient basis to justify Craftsbury not paying the underbilled amount because otherwise it would receive a discriminatory lower rate for the electricity it used."

He stated that Craftsbury was aware of the drop in costs, but did not investigate the fact that its energy savings were nearly eight times

greater than what had been projected by Efficiency Vermont. He concluded that Craftsbury was in a much better position than HED to investigate the cause of the "unpredicted energy savings windfall."

Tousley rejected the school district's assertion paying for the unbilled electricity would result in cutbacks at the school and impact the community.

The Proposal for Decision is not final, however, and parties had until Friday, April 23, to make comments. Although a request for oral argument was filed by Craftsbury's lawyer, Pietro J. Lynn, the filing is moot in view of the school board's action at its last meeting. HED has filed comments objecting to the PUC's conclusion with regard to HED not having the right to disconnect service if Craftsbury School District fails to pay.

The Department of Public Service, which supported HED through the controversy, had no comments on Tousley's Proposal for Decision.

Bill

Continued From Page One

concluded that the Craftsbury School District and Hardwick Electric Department (HED) were both at fault for inaccurate electric metering at Craftsbury Academy.

In his March 31 Proposal for Decision, (PFD) Tousley proposed the district should pay the \$141,865.80 that HED has claimed it is owed. He also concluded, however, that HED not be allowed to shut "off power to the Academy solely as a result of nonpayment of the previously unbilled amount."

Parties to the dispute had until Friday, April 23, to make comments. The comments were to be sent to the PUC, along with Tousley's Proposal for Decision, for a final determination and order by the PUC. At its April 14 meeting, the school district acquiesced to Tousley's PFD and voted to pay the \$141,865.80 under-billing over nine years without interest.

Attorney Pietro Lynn, on behalf of the school district, had filed comments to Tousley's findings and had requested oral argument before the PUC. His comments and request are now moot. Lynn could not be reached for comment before press time. HED could not be reached, either.

Although Tousley found in favor of HED, Atty. Eli Emerson, representing HED, disagreed with Tousley's conclusion regarding disallowing a disconnection and invoking Rule 3.401(B). Emerson stated that a caveat should have been at the beginning of the findings as HED had already agreed not to disconnect pending the investigation. The standard of Rule 3.402(B) is not met once the dispute is resolved, according to Emerson.

He stated in HED's Comments on Proposal for Decision: "Therefore, the Commission

should not 'advise' HED not to disconnect the District's service if they (school district) fail to make payments pursuant to the Repayment Plan."

In Lynn's comments on the PFD, (now moot), he argued that denying Craftsbury's request for relief from the under-billing creates a challenge for the PUC to apply in future cases and "does not promote fairness."

He argued that Tousley concluded that HED inaccurately metered the electricity from January, 2011, through December, 2019, and underbilled the school district for electricity used at Craftsbury Academy. Craftsbury was ignorant of HED's under-billing and detrimentally relied on HED's billing, Lynn argued.

The drop in bills for electricity at the school was expected as extensive renovation was done and efficiency upgrades implemented. The school district had no "baseline or barometer for gauging what its electric bill should be with the new electrical distribution system and efficiency upgrades in place, as the start of Hardwick Electric's underbilling coincided with the completion of the Academy's renovation. From an electrical distribution perspective, the Academy was effectively a new building following the renovation," Lynn wrote.

Lynn further argued that "The PFD does not cite Commission precedent establishing a clear rule for when a drop in a consumer's electric bill following energy efficiency upgrades is large enough to put the consumer on constructive notice that it is being under-billed."

He disagreed with Tousley's findings that the savings were large enough that Craftsbury should have questioned the result. Lynn said the PFD's recommendation put consumers at a signifi-

cant disadvantage "without any standard for a consumer, like Craftsbury, to use to determine when it should suspect it is being underbilled."

"There was no rule or decision giving notice to Craftsbury that it was obligated to investigate and confirm the size of the drop in Craftsbury's electric bills," Lynn wrote. "While the PFD jumps to the conclusion that the size of the drop here was large enough that 'Craftsbury should have questions the result,' there is no rule or standard being applied to reach that conclusion."

Lynn concluded that Craftsbury did not know it was being under-billed and relied detrimentally on HED's billing. "Craftsbury paid every bill it received from Hardwick Electric, in full, with the understanding that Hardwick Electric would not, out of the blue, seek an additional \$141,856.80 in payment from Craftsbury."

Tousley's PFD noted that the Department of Public Service helped HED estimate the faulty meter's error and estimated underpayment amount.

"The general rule in most jurisdictions," Tousley wrote, "is that a person who receives goods or services from a regulated utility must pay for them at the tariffed price, no matter what the impact upon the customer may

be and no matter how careless the utility may have been in its billing."

Billing negligence wasn't an excuse for non-payment for services rendered by a utility. The general rule is based on public policy against discriminatory rates, he added.

"Excusing a customer from paying for electrical service because of a billing error by the utility may be seen as constituting unfair discrimination in rates in favor of that customer," Tousley wrote.

Craftsbury failed to prove two of the four elements needed to have prevailed in its request for relief from the underbilling. It failed to meet the threshold that "the customer must be ignorant of the true facts" and failed to prove a detrimental reliance on the under-billing.

Tousley found Craftsbury's claim it detrimentally relied on HED under-billing when setting its annual budget was not supported by the record.

In his conclusion, Tousley acknowledged HED should bear some consequence of its mistake in failing to correct the faulty meter when it inspected and energized that meter. He concluded that HED should adopt the interest-free, nine-year payment plan the Department of Public Service had encouraged both parties to accept.

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Board Deals with Sand Pricing, Sand Piles and Issues not Related to Sand

by Doug McClure

WOLCOTT – At the April 21 Wolcott select board meeting the board had to choose which bid to accept before deciding whether it would pay the state to keep the town’s sand pile where it currently sits.

Bids for sand came in from Wolcott’s Gravel Construction, H.A. Manosh Corporation of Morrisville, and Salvias Paving of Stowe. The bids were based on different metrics, with Gravel and Salvias’ based on cubic yards, and Manosh’s based on tonnage.

Roads Forman Dillan Cafferky said the sand left in the pile amounted to roughly a thousand cubic yards. He estimated that the town might need another 5,000 cubic yards to cover the next winter. Gravel bid \$6.75/cubic yard, Salvias \$7.41/cubic yard, and Manosh/\$7.55 per ton, but the sand would have to be trucked from Eden.

The board felt Gravel’s bid would be best regardless of how many cubic yards were ordered, and asked Cafferky to investigate if the bid could be interpreted as per-cubic-yard and not a lump sum until the fate of the sandpile was decided.

The problem with the town sandpile is that it currently sits in the right-of-way for the Lamoille Valley Rail Trail (LVRT). In addition, a separate sand pile for public use, the diesel pump used by both the road crew and fire crew, and the area where employees from those two departments park are also in the right-of-way. To continue to use the site, the town would need to pay VTrans to lease 25 feet of the right-of-way at a cost of \$250 per year. A \$300 fee would be incurred for writing up the

The board decided that the only option was to lease the 25-foot right-of-way. Some board members expressed concern about motorized vehicles on the rail trail endangering pedestrians in the right-of-way, but vehicles are not allowed on the LVRT.

necessary documents.

The board accepted that moving any of the items would be complicated, and vice chair Kurt Klein said he thought the sand pile was in an “ideal location.” He said “with the ledge behind it... I’m assuming you can get [the pile] up so high because you go up on the ledge?” Cafferky confirmed that was the case.

The board decided that the only option was to lease the 25-foot right-of-way. Some board members expressed concern about motorized vehicles on the rail trail endangering pedestrians in the right-of-way, but vehicles are not allowed on the LVRT.

The board also looked to a new phase in the campaign against COVID-19 as increasing numbers of residents are vaccinated. Chair Linda Martin, Kurt Billings, and Richard Lee said they were looking forward to returning to in-person board meetings.

Town administrator Randall Szott said whether the state would allow in-person meetings depended on “what the board determines the word ‘necessary’ means.” State guidelines say that select boards should meet in person only when “necessary.” The board is looking to June 2 as “the most practical date” to attempt an in-person meeting. Martin clarified that restrictions about distancing, face coverings, “and other things” would in no way be relaxed.

The board heard that a grant for a planning design for the transfer station was not what it appeared to be. The confusion stemmed from an inadvertent reversal of the town’s match and the state’s contribution, with Wolcott paying \$1,800 and the state \$2,700, instead of the other way around. Szott said that even with that miscommunication, \$1,800 from the state was still significant.

Another issue is that the

state will only pay its share of the planning study if the project is built.

“We only get reimbursed for the study money after construction begins,” said Szott. “Since we were doing planning, there wasn’t necessarily construction happening.” If the study comes back with a cost estimate that exceeds what the select board is willing to fund, he said, the town would have to pay the entire cost of the design.

Klein said “I don’t like that. It seems like an opportunity to lose some money.”

Szott said the explanation given to him by Josh Kelly of the Department of Environmental Conservation was that in the 1990s the state funded “hundreds of thousands [of dollars]” of projects that did not result in actual construction.

Martin said the transfer station was already “running in the red” and “I don’t think we have the money to pay for the grant at this point.” She added “we need someone with some experience to come in and help us figure out the format up there.”

Board member Richard Lee said, “It’s quite a gamble as far as I’m concerned.” The board decided to reject the grant opportunity.



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Dr. Katie Piet



photo by Vanessa Fournier

The rollercoaster weather ride continues as winter returned, bringing six inches of snow April 22 to the Hardwick area. The spring snowstorm also brought snow squalls, strong winds and a temperature in the low 30s.



photo by Vanessa Fournier

Signs of spring were once again covered up when six inches of snow fell in Hardwick last Thursday.

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COVID Vaccination Clinics

Tricia Follert of Wolcott rolls her sleeve up for her first dose of vaccine given by Copley Hospital's Andy Duff, RN at a recent clinic.

Copley Hospital will be holding COVID vaccination clinics at the Morrisville VFW Post 9653 - 28 VFW Street (behind River Arts)

Clinics are by appointment only

Wednesday, April 28	7:00-10:15am; 1st dose	10:45am-2:30pm, 2nd dose
Thursday, April 29	7:00-10:15am; 1st dose	10:45am-2:30pm, 2nd dose
Wednesday, May 5	7:00-10:15am; 1st dose	10:45am-2:30pm, 2nd dose
Thursday, May 6	7:00-10:15am; 1st dose	10:45am-2:30pm, 2nd dose
Wednesday, May 12	7:00-10:15am; 1st dose	10:45am-2:30pm, 2nd dose
Thursday, May 13	7:00-10:15am; 1st dose	10:45am-2:30pm, 2nd dose

Please arrive no earlier than 5 minutes before your scheduled time

How to Make an Appointment:
To register for a vaccine appointment, visit healthvermont.gov/MyVaccine (preferred method) or call 855-722-7878. Please have your name, date of birth, address, email, phone number, and health insurance information available. The website also provides helpful tips on registering including videos.

For a full schedule of clinics visit www.copleyvt.org



Phyllis Rachel Larrabee
2015 file photo by Vanessa Fournier



photo by Vanessa Fournier

A poetry share hosted by the Jeudevine Memorial Library was held at the Atkins Field Pavilion April 23 in memory of Phyllis Rachel Larrabee who passed away on April 7. Eleven people attended. Pictured (from left): Martha Zweig, Victor Densmore, Nancy Schade, George Larrabee, library director Lisa Sammet, David Rodgers, Alex Bottinelli and Ryan Ives.



photo by Vanessa Fournier
George (Peskunck) Larrabee holds a book of poems written by Phyllis Rachel Larrabee at a poetry share in her memory April 23.

The
Hardwick Gazette
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News,
Opinion,
Entertainment,
Sports
& More!

Get your gardens
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Amanda's (four) Greenhouses at 185 Rte. 215 S. in Cabot, open Saturday, May 1, and open every day from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Six-packs are \$2.99 and 10-inch hanging baskets are \$16.99. Many perennials have been dug and are sold in 4.5-inch pots for \$3.99, or large gallon-plus pots for \$8.99. For more information, amandasgreenhouse.com, (802) 426-3783. (Moms appreciate gift certificates!)

ACT 250 NOTICE
MINOR APPLICATION #7R0507-4 10 V.S.A. §§ 6001 – 6093
On April 9, 2021, Sterling College, P.O. Box 72, Craftsbury, VT 05827 filed application number 7R0507-4 for a project generally described as renovation of Simpson Hall, including demolition of ± 841 square feet, accessibility upgrades, expansion of the ground floor with new entry porch, and continued (reconfigured) use as a lab, classroom, and office space. The project is located 1332 North Craftsbury Road in Craftsbury, Vermont. No hearing will be held and a permit will be issued unless, on or before May 11, 2021, a party notifies the District 7 Commission in writing at the address below of an issue requiring a hearing, or the Commission sets the matter for a hearing on its own motion. Any person as defined in 10 V.S.A. § 6085(c)(1) may request a hearing. Any hearing request must be in writing to the address below, must state the criteria or sub-criteria at issue, why a hearing is required and what additional evidence will be presented at the hearing. Any hearing request by an adjoining property owner or other person eligible for party status under 10 V.S.A. § 6085(c)(1)(E) must include a petition for party status under the Act 250 Rules. Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law may not be prepared unless the Commission holds a public hearing. The application and proposed permit may also be viewed on the Natural Resources Board's web site (<http://nrb.vermont.gov>) by clicking "Act 250 Database" and entering project number 7R0507-4. If you have a disability for which you need accommodation in order to participate in this process (including participating in a public hearing, if one is held), please notify us as soon as possible, in order to allow us as much time as possible to accommodate your needs. For more information contact Kirsten Sultan at the address or telephone number below.
Dated this 22nd day of April, 2021.
Kirsten Sultan, P.E.
Coordinator District #7 Environmental Commission
374 Emerson Falls Road, Suite 4
St. Johnsbury, VT 05819 802-751-0126
kirsten.sultan@vermont.gov

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Craftsbury Farmers Market Plans Season Opening



photo by June Pichel Cook

April snow showers in Northeast Kingdom on Dustan Road, Craftsbury Common. Can spring be far behind? The Craftsbury Farmers Market is gearing up for a spring revival despite April's cruellest last comments.

by June Pichel Cook

CRAFTSBURY – Despite April's cruel joke of snow showers, (rather than rain showers), the Craftsbury Farmers Market (CFM) is gearing up for an exciting 2021 summer season. A Zoom meeting last week drew both new and returning vendors, with over 20 participants.

The season opens Saturday, May 22, and continues every Saturday through October 2. The market will be open from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Following last year's COVID restrictions, the market promises to be a rejuvenation, with a familiar feeling of social interaction, music and picnic tables. Social distancing, hand sanitizing, and mask wearing are still in place, and the market must adhere to state regulations affecting businesses.

Ordering on line and picking up products will be ongoing, but in-person shopping is more flexible than regulations imposed last season. Vendors may decide how they will manage their individual booths.

The CFM will not have a curbside pick-up table in front of the market as was implemented last year. Sanitizing stations will be placed at entrance points on

either end of the market space.

Music will be coming back to the market and interested performers should contact Gabriela Benham or Kris Coville, who will coordinate the music events.

The market is planning to reinstate the Vermont Blueberry Festival, which was put on hold last year. A harvest festival may be a possibility; plans for special tastings are on hold until safety precautions can be vetted carefully.

At the Zoom meeting, vendors introduced themselves and explained their specialties. New product features at the market will include baskets; bath balms, scrubs, and salts; hot sauces, spices, and granolas; soft pretzels, meat pies, and mustards; frozen perogies, and sourdough breads. Young blacksmith Alder Hardt will be returning with his ironwork after last year's brief respite.

The market is offering a broad spectrum of meats (including duck), eggs, cheese, milk, jams, jellies, canned goods; fresh produce, vegetables, and mushrooms, baked goods, fermented products and kombucha, fiber arts and knitted products, art and screen prints, herbs, flowers and hanging baskets, soaps and salves, quilts, and many other products.

Market goers will have a wide variety of tasty hot food offerings, from Mexican to Middle-Eastern. The lemonade stand will be up, as will Raz Mille's smoothies.

Coville, chair of the steering committee, was re-elected to the committee; Nancy VanWinkle serves as co-chair. New members elected were Aaron Malys and Nadav Mille, who will also serve as treasurer. The steering committee

includes members Lyman Locke and Katie Sullivan; Liz Echeverria serves as secretary.

The market's webmaster, Larry Bohan, will continue working with the CFM.

The group voted to continue having a market assistant on board at each session.

For more information or interest in vending, e-mail craftsburyfarmersmkt@gmail.com.

TOWN OF GREENSBORO 82 Craftsbury Road

Greensboro, Vermont 05841 802.533.2911/greensborovt.org

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The Greensboro Planning Commission hereby provides notice of a public hearing being held pursuant to Title 24, Section 4441 and 4444 of the Vermont Statutes Annotated for the purpose of hearing public comment on the proposed amendments to the Greensboro Zoning Bylaw.

DATE, TIME, & LOCATION OF HEARING

The public hearing has been scheduled for Wednesday, June 2, 2021, at 6 p.m. This will be a virtual meeting. The Zoom link is included below.

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/99943410933>

Meeting ID: 999 4341 0933

One tap mobile: 13017158592,,99943410933# US (Washington DC)

13126266799,999434 1 0933# US (Chicago)

Dial by your location

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: 1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

: 1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

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+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

t 1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)

Meeting ID: 999 4341 0933

Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/j/99943410933>

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE:

- Preserve vegetation and natural cover of the shores adjacent to Caspian Lake and the western shore of Eligo Lake (as defined by Zoning Maps) in order to protect surface water resources and prevent pollution;

- Recognize the extreme vulnerability of lakeshore properties to erosion;

- Preserve or improve the natural stability of shoreline;

- Prevent degradation of water quality;

- Preserve the undeveloped wooded vegetation views both to and from the lakes and to avoid problems resulting from continued development of the lakeshores which would cause natural and scenic resource degradation; and

- Retain the mix of residential/summer homes as well as the recreation uses traditional to these lakes while it protects wildlife habitats and conserves both the natural scenic beauty that currently exists along the shorelands as well as the open fields and undeveloped forest viewsheds within the Town of Greensboro.

GEOGRAPHIC AREA AFFECTED

The entire Town of Greensboro.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Article 2: Zoning Districts

§ 2.3 Greensboro Village District, § 2.5 Rural Lands District, and § 2.6 Resource District: sign setbacks.

§ 2.7 Shoreland Protection District: Description; Purpose; Precedence; Applicability; Exempt Development; Permitted Uses; Conditional Uses; Dimensional Standards; General District Standards; District Standards for Single-family Dwellings, Boathouses, Accessory Structures, Accessory Dwelling Units, Nonconformities, and Vegetative Cover; Nonconforming Uses and Structures; Erosion Prevention and Sediment Control Standards for New Construction, Reconstruction, and Relocation.

Article 3: General Regulations

§ 3.8 Nonconformities: Conditional Use requirements.

§ 3.9 Protection of Water Resources: setback and buffer distances from rivers and streams.

Article 5: Administration and Enforcement

§ 5.1 Zoning Permits: Minor Subdivision, Major Subdivision, Application Requirements.

Certificate of Compliance.

§ 5.4 Conditional Uses: Specific standards.

§ 5.13 Zoning Enforcement Policy.

Article 8: Lake Shoreland Protection District Bylaw

This article has been merged into § 2.7 Shoreland Protection District.

Article 9: Definitions and Acronyms

§ 9.2 Definitions: Building footprint, Height (of structures).

FULL TEXT OF PROPOSAL

Copies of the proposed changes to the Greensboro Zoning Bylaw are available at the Town of Greensboro's official website (www.greensborovt.org), in the Municipal Building located at 82 Craftsbury Road, in the Greensboro Free Library, located at 53 E. Craftsbury Road; the Greensboro Bend Post Office at 975 Main Street; the Greensboro Village Post Office at 12 Cemetery Ridge, in Greensboro, Vermont. Written comment on the proposed changes should be directed to the Planning Commission, via the Zoning Administrator at:

PO Box 119, Greensboro, VT 05841

802-533-2640 zoning@greensborovt.org

Dated at Greensboro, Vermont this 21st Day of April, 2021.

Greensboro Planning Commission

Carol Fairbank, Chair; MacNeil, Christine Armstrong, Kent Hansen, Ellen Celnik, Jerilyn Virden, Linda Romans

OUR COMMUNITIES

Al-Anon Is Alive and Well in Vermont

MONTPELIER – Are you troubled by someone else's drinking? We welcome you to attend an Al-Anon meeting. Al-Anon Family Groups, established in 1951, offers help and hope to anyone who has been affected by a loved one's drinking.

Alcohol is a cause of family trouble for over one-third of Americans, according to the latest Gallup Consumption Habits poll. Thirty-seven percent report alcohol-related incidents have interfered with their family life, and about 1 in 10 children live in households with at least one parent who suffers from alcohol use disorder.

Al-Anon Family Groups, which includes Alateen for younger people, understands the importance of family recovery from the effects of alcoholism. In Vermont, our first Al-Anon group started in Windsor, in September 1949, at a time when families and friends attended Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) meetings with the alcoholic. It was then known as a non-AA group. Today, there are about 60 Al-Anon groups in Vermont. Some are temporarily suspended due to COVID-19 but many are meeting virtually online.

While Al-Anon first started with the wives of AA members, Al-Anon today includes husbands, partners, parents, grandparents, brothers, sisters, friends, and relatives who seek help because of a problem of alcoholism in a relative or friend.

Nearly 14,000 local Al-Anon groups meet throughout the U.S. (including Puerto Rico), Bermuda and Canada every week. Al-Anon meetings are held in over 133 countries, and Al-Anon literature is available in more than 40

languages.

Al-Anon Family Groups is fully self-supported by voluntary contributions from members and the sale of literature. There are no dues or fees to attend a meeting, and no appointments or referrals are necessary – anyone concerned about someone else's drinking is welcome to attend any Al-Anon meeting.

Al-Anon Family Groups is a spiritual fellowship, not a religious one, and anonymity is an important spiritual principle of the Al-Anon program. Personal anonymity, as well as confidentiality of members sharing in our program, creates a safe place to get help. We often say, "Whom you see here, what you hear here, when you leave here, let it stay here."

For more information about Al-Anon/Alateen, go to alanon.org to view a copy of "Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism 2020" or to listen to a "First Steps to Al-Anon Recovery" podcast. To find meetings in Vermont, visit vermont.alanonlateen.org. To talk with an Al-Anon member or to find a meeting, call the VT Answering Service at 866-972-5266 (toll-free).

If you are a teen, we encourage you to visit the Teen Corner: A place just for teens affected by someone else's drinking at al-anon.org/newcomers/teen-corner-alateen. You are welcome to attend any Al-Anon meeting.

If you are a professional, we encourage you to visit Al-Anon Family Groups Headquarters, Inc., on LinkedIn at al-anon.org/linkedin. Find articles and videos with relevant testimonials from professionals.

Libraries Celebrate Children's Book Week with Story Walks

GREENSBORO – Six local libraries have teamed up to celebrate children's book week. May 5 through May 19 with outdoor story walks set up in Barton, Cabot, Craftsbury, Glover, Greensboro, and Hardwick. There will be story walk passports at each story walk and a stamp for the story walk passport.

Barton will feature "Beyond the Pond" by Joseph Kuefler; Cabot will feature a wonderful book to be determined; Craftsbury will feature "Swirl By Swirl" by Joyce Sidman; Glover will feature "Thank You Earth -- A Love Letter To Our Planet" by April Pulley Sayre; Greensboro will feature

"The Three Little Dassies" by Jan Brett; and the Jeudevine in Hardwick will feature "The Three Questions" by Jon Muth.

Those interested should contact one of the libraries with questions or comments: Barton: bartonkidsread@gmail.com or 525-6524; Cabot: cabotlibrary@yahoo.com or 563-2721; Craftsbury: childrenslibrarian@craftsburypubliclibrary.org or 586.9683; Glover: littlelibraryinglover@gmail.com or 525-4365; Greensboro: greensborokids@gmail.com or 533-2531; Jeudevine (Hardwick): jeudevineyouthlibrarian@hardwickvt.org or 472-5948.

The Museum of Everyday Life Seeks Submissions

GLOVER – The Museum of Everyday Life is soliciting submissions for its upcoming exhibition featuring lists and notes, which will open on Saturday, July 17, at 1 p.m. The Museum also invites community participation in the exhibit installation.

Lists and notes can be many things: sociological artifacts, poems, containers of obscure stories. They can be richly laden with personal resonances, or cold reflections of an entirely impersonal world. All kinds of lists will be considered: to-dos, grocery lists, instruction lists, inventories, packing lists, guest lists, attendance lists, lists of ingredients, waiting lists, set list, and bucket lists. Also welcome will be love notes, endnotes, break-up notes, memos, research notes. The museum asks for random odd notes of daily life.

The museum will accept personal artifacts accompanied by individual narratives; vague, raw ideas for displays from fully realized art objects to theoretical writings and research.

Contributors should be aware that the museum is a self-service institution and does not always have staff on hand, therefore the safety and security of donated

objects cannot be guaranteed.

Sometimes the volume of contributions means that the museum will be unable to display everything; the museum curatorial staff makes the final display decisions.

Contributors should include a self-addressed, postage-paid envelope or box with a contribution. To contribute to the exhibition, or for more information, contact Clare Dolan via the "contact us" form on the Museum website (museumofeverydaylife.org) The mailing address is 3482 Dry Pond Rd., Glover, VT 05839. The deadline for submissions is June 6.

Frayed Knot: the human art of tying and untying, will remain on display throughout April, May and June. Visitors must wear masks, sanitize their hands, and practice social distancing.

Community work weekends will be held June 26-27, July 3-4 and July 10-11. COVID precautions will be observed by working outdoors, appropriately spaced, and sanitizing surfaces and shared tools. Intensive installation week will be from July 13 to 16. Those interested may use the "contact us" form on the museum website alert the museum staff if interested.

The Funnery Camp Moves to Highland Center

GREENSBORO – Peter Gould's Shakespeare camp, "Get Thee to the Funnery," will be held this summer outdoors under the big tent at the Highland Center for the Arts (HCA).

The Funnery is a physically and mentally demanding program that has taken place the first two weeks of August for more than twenty years. It's a day camp for anyone aged 12 to 20, and scholarships are always available.

"It's a theater day camp," Gould says, "a community-building experience for all, and more important than ever this year as we all come crawling out of our shells!"

Camp begins on Monday morning August 2 and will top off with at least one final public-but-safely-spaced performance in the late afternoon of Friday, August 13

at HCA.

The study of this summer's play, "A Midsummer Night's Dream," will also focus on climate change, a crisis that Vermont Humanities calls "an escalating, perhaps uncontrollable catastrophe in the making." Campers and staff will find out what Shakespeare wrote about that 400 years ago.

Gould says the camp has been supported decades by the Craftsbury, Greensboro, and Hardwick communities. The camp is also supported by Vermont Humanities, the Vermont Council on the Arts, the Craftsbury Community Fund, and the Northeast Kingdom Fund.

Camp information at getthethefunnery.org, at (802) 257-4844. or via email at petergouldvt@gmail.com.

OUR E-MAILS

news@hardwickgazette.com
ads@hardwickgazette.com

OBITUARIES

SHIRLEY R. MILLER

GREENSBORO BEND – Funeral Services for Shirley R. Miller, who died February 21, in Greensboro Bend will be held at 11 a.m., on Saturday, May 8, at the Lamoille Valley Church of the Nazarene in Johnson with Pastor Al Lamos officiating.

Burial will follow in the family lot in the Fairmont Cemetery in Wolcott. A mask and distancing will be required.

Arrangements are in the care of Dian R. Holcomb of Northern Vermont Funeral Service, 60 Elm Street, Hardwick.

OUR COMMUNITIES

Poster Contest Deadline May 21

MORRISVILLE – Healthy Lamoille Valley is launching a poster and social media graphic contest to educate about the damage that tobacco and nicotine products do to the environment.

All fifth- to twelfth-grade Lamoille Valley students are invited to participate (including all of Lamoille County and the towns of Hardwick, Greensboro, Craftsbury, Stannard, and Woodbury).

The top ten submissions, as voted by the Lamoille Area Youth

Council, will be entered in a drawing to win a \$25 gift certificate from a local merchant. Entries due by May 21. Winners will be announced on World No Tobacco Day, May 31.

Students interested may visit healthylamoillevalley.org/environment, and/or other reputable sources, to learn about how tobacco harms the environment, and create a poster, picture or graphic to upload. Contact Brian Duda at brian@healthylamoillevalley.org if you have any questions.

Spring Wildflower Walk May 2

MARSHFIELD – The Jaquith Public Library will sponsor a spring wildflower walk on Sunday, May 2, (rain or shine) from 1 to 3:30 p.m., with naturalists Brett Engstrom and Annie Reed.

The walk is also sponsored by the Marshfield Conservation Commission and the Stranahan Stewardship Committee. Those

interested will meet at the Stranahan Forest parking lot at the beginning of Thompson Road (right off of Hollister Hill Road). Masks are required and there is a 20-person maximum. Preregister by contacting Brett Engstrom at engstrombrett@gmail.com or call the library at 426-3581.



photo by Vanessa Fournier
Greensboro Firefighter Devin Burgess (left) and instructor Billy Jones (right) dump water from a tanker into a fold-a-tank at a training session for the Vermont Fire Academy's Pumping Apparatus Driver/Operator class on Saturday in Woodbury.

**The
Hardwick
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THIS WEEK'S EVENTS

Thursday, April 29

JAQUITH PUBLIC LIBRARY, 122 School St., Rm. 2., Marshfield, Tuesday through Friday, 9 a.m. - noon and 3 - 6 p.m. Curbside service only. Home deliveries available for senior citizens within a 10 mile radius. Information: 802-426-3581 or jaquithpubliclibrary@gmail.com.

GRACE FREE VIRTUAL COMMUNITY WORKSHOP. Free online art class every Thursday, 1 - 3 p.m. Join at <https://meet.jit.si/GRACECommunityWorkshop>. Free materials kit available for pickup or delivery. Information: carol@wonderartsvt.org or 802-472-6857.

PARENT CAFE SERIES, hosted by Healthy Lamoille Valley, 4:30 - 5:30 p.m. on Zoom. A monthly gathering designed to highlight a community resource or parenting skill and encourage conversation with other parents/caregivers. Preregistration and information: healthylamoillevalley.org/parent-cafe-series.

Friday, April 30

BLACK LIVES MATTER/Peace and Justice Vigil, 5 - 6 p.m., Fridays, Peace Park, Hardwick. All welcome.

JAQUITH PUBLIC LIBRARY, 122 School St., Rm. 2., Marshfield, Tuesday through Friday, 9 a.m. - noon and 3 - 6 p.m. Curbside service only. Home deliveries available for senior citizens within a 10 mile radius. Information: 802-426-3581 or jaquithpubliclibrary@gmail.com.

ets at highlandartsvt.com.

EVERYONE EATS PROGRAM, free frozen meal, Fridays, 3:30 - 5:30 p.m., Wolcott United Methodist Church, 4023 Vt. Rt. 15. No pre-registration needed. Information: ereid@capstonevt.org.

Saturday, May 1

BLACK LIVES MATTER/Peace and Justice Vigil, 3 - 5 p.m., Saturdays, South Main at Wolcott Street, Hardwick. All welcome.

AUDITIONS for the musical comedy "Annie", presented by the Lamoille County Players. May 1 and 2, Hyde Park Opera House. For more information: LCPlayers.com/annie.

Sunday, May 2

AUDITIONS for the musical comedy "Annie", presented by the Lamoille County Players. May 1 and 2, Hyde Park Opera House. For more information: LCPlayers.com/annie.

Monday, May 3

CELEBRATE RECOVERY, Mondays, 6 p.m., Touch of Grace AG Church, 104 Vt. Rt. 16, E. Hardwick. Men's Addiction Group. Information: 802-279-2185.

GRACE presents free, virtual weekly art prompts. Each week GRACE will post a piece of art from their "Outsider Art" collection for peo-

ple to use as inspiration for their own original creation. These will be available on Mondays at <https://graceart.org/virtual-artcommunity/virtual-art-prompts/> with responses due by Sunday evenings. Email responses to AmeriCorpsVista@WonderArtsVT.org.

ONLINE TALK by guest lecturer Beth Packer, CS of New South Wales, Australia, 7:30 p.m. "The How, Why and Wonder of Spiritual Healing." Sponsored by the Christian Science Church in Montpelier. Get the link on their website at CSMontpelier.org.

Tuesday, May 4

JAQUITH PUBLIC LIBRARY, 122 School St., Rm. 2., Marshfield, Tuesday through Friday, 9 a.m. - noon and 3 - 6 p.m. Curbside service only. Home deliveries available for senior citizens within a 10 mile radius. Information: 802-426-3581 or jaquithpubliclibrary@gmail.com.

THE DADS' GROUP, every Tuesday, 8-9 p.m., on Zoom. A great place to connect with other Dads. Information and link to the Zoom meeting: Rob at rcary@LRCVT.org or 802-730-3000.

THE MOMS IN RECOVERY Support Program, tailored to support pregnant and parenting mothers and their families. In person, every Tuesday, 10:30 - 11:30 a.m., North Central Vermont Recovery Center, 275 Brooklyn St., Suite 2, Morrisville. Information: crystal.morrissey@ncvrc.com, 802-635-0084.

Wednesday, May 5

JAQUITH PUBLIC LIBRARY, 122 School St., Rm. 2., Marshfield, Tuesday through Friday, 9 a.m. - noon and 3 - 6 p.m. Curbside service only. Home deliveries available for senior citizens within a 10 mile radius. Information: 802-426-3581 or jaquithpubliclibrary@gmail.com.

EAST HARDWICK GRANGE SUPPER, a free meal for the community, Wednesdays, 5 - 6 p.m. Caledonia Grange #9, 88 East Church St., East Hardwick. A curbside dinner for the whole family to enjoy. Information or delivery: easthardwickgrange@gmail.com or 472-8987.

Exhibits

MARTHA ELMES: Relief Prints, Collage Assemblage and Block Prints on exhibit at the Parker Pie Gallery, West Glover, through May 26. Information: 802-525-3366.

1111 COPPER NAILS: Bread & Puppet Calendar Prints - A 36-Year Retrospective, a Dual Location Exhibition in Hardwick, through the Summer. The Hardwick Inn, 4 S. Main St., Exhibit on all 3 floors, 8 a.m. - 6 p.m. Mon. - Sat. Front Seat Coffee, 101 S. Main St., B&P Calendars and Art for sale, 8 a.m. - 2 p.m. Mon. - Fri. Information: VtPieGirlCo@gmail.com, oliveylin1@gmail.com or BreadandPuppet.org.

To get your event listed free in our weekly events calendar, please e-mail: news@hardwickgazette.com.



photo by Vanessa Fournier

Barre City firefighter Camden Morrison (left) and Marshfield Fire Chief Will Schwarz (center) roll up hoses during a training session held by the Vermont Fire Academy. In the back are Woodbury Lt. Caleb Cerutti (left) and class instructor Troy Ruggles (right). The training was hosted by the Woodbury Fire Department on Saturday.

T.W. Wood Gallery Announces Two New Exhibits for May

MONTPELIER – "Sweet" and "ANEW" showcase the talents of Montpelier-area artists and Vermont artists with disabilities at the T.W. Wood Gallery.

The "Sweet" exhibit is on view in the Nuquist Gallery, through July 31. The curator tour is scheduled for Saturday, July 10 at 1 p.m.

The exhibition curated by The Front gallery co-founder Glen Coburn-Hutcheson, explores the question: "What does it mean for a painting, or any other work of art, to be 'sweet?'"

Sweet has its genesis in the genre paintings of Thomas Waterman Wood, including the newly acquired work "In the Jelly Jar," with the speculation that they may be too sweet for some contemporary viewers. Sweetness remains present, if transformed, in the art practice of six contemporary Vermont artists: Lois Eby, PJ Desrochers, Monica DiGiovanni, Deluxe Unlimited, Sam Talbot-Kelly, and Cheryl Betz. The works in "Sweet" present alternatives, critiques, and new tastes to sample and consider.

"ANEW" is the latest Inclusive Arts Vermont exhibition showcasing works by Vermont artists with disabilities. This is a traveling exhibition of work by 29 artists who each give a unique interpretation to the title of the

show, highlighting beginnings, doorways, fresh starts, and opportunity. Established and emerging artists share work in a variety of mediums: sculpture, photography, multimedia, painting, collage, textile and more. The show also includes accessibility features such as large print and braille documents and verbal description of all artwork.

"ANEW" is on view in the Hallway Exhibitions gallery, through June 25. To register for curator's tours, register at twwoodgallery.org or email mcoleman@twwoodgallery.org.

"ANEW" is presented with support from the Vermont Community Foundation Arts Endowment Fund, the Vermont Arts Council, and Fountain Fund.

Online artist talks will be given by Gyllian Rae Svensson on May 23 at 6:30 p.m., and Willow Bascom, on June 9, at 6:30 p.m. on Facebook at facebook.com/inclusiveartsvermont. During COVID the Wood Gallery is open to the public on Thursdays through appointment only. Call (802) 262-6035 or email mcoleman@twwoodgallery.org to make a reservation for either exhibit. Visit the gallery web page, twwoodgallery.org, for updates on visiting hours as state restrictions and guidelines are updated.

THANKS

FOR SAYING YOU SAW IT IN THE HARDWICK GAZETTE

IN THE GARDEN

Pollen, Allergies and Plants

by Henry Homeyer

CORNISH FLAT, N.H. – If you suffer from spring allergies, this would be a good time to know what plants are affecting your comfort. Right now, many trees are dumping their pollen. Most trees are wind pollinated and produce lots of pollen. They depend on the wind to move pollen around – and up your nose.

Although some trees and shrubs produce both male and female flowers, many are dioecious, meaning that male and female flowers are on separate plants. It is thus to their advantage to produce lots of pollen before the leaves get in the way. Which, for me, is right now. Showy flowers do not necessarily mean that trees like catalpa are low on the aggravation index (they are rated 8 of 10 on the index), but others like magnolias are lower. Both of those are pollinated by insects.

Of the trees, male poplars are among the worst – and in my area, they are just starting to bloom. Other culprits include willows, birches, oaks

and peonies are obviously trying to get attention. They are the flirts – and insect pollinated. Others such as hostas are among those least likely to cause an allergic reaction.

and peonies are obviously trying to get attention. They are the flirts – and insect pollinated. Others such as hostas are among those least likely to cause an allergic reaction. According to Lucy Huntington in her book, “*Creating a Low-Allergen Garden*,” members of the daisy family have flowers that are insect pollinated, but their pollen is highly allergenic to most sufferers. Chrysanthemums, asters, marigolds and zinnias can bother folks with allergies. I suppose that is particularly the case if you enjoy sniffing their scents. She also suggests avoiding geraniums (*Pelargonium* hybrids), strawberries, dahlia hybrids, foxglove, sunflowers, nicotiana, and cosmos.

Huntington’s book is full of lists and suggestions for low-allergen plants. Here are some of her suggestions for plants suitable for people with pollen allergies:

After the trees do their thing, along come the grasses. The seven



courtesy photo
Hakuru nashiki willows do not produce pussy willows or allergic reactions.

and some maples, but not all. If you are buying trees, look for trees that have separate male and female plants (as opposed to both on one). Always buy the female specimen if you can as it is the males that produce the pollen and cause the allergic reactions. Not all plant tags will tell you if the plant is male or female, but good nurseries may know.

Very popular in the landscape industry right now is the ‘Hakuru nashiki’ willow. It has tri-colored (green, white and pink) leaves in June, and is sold either as a multi-stemmed shrub or as a “standard”. Standards are created by grafting branches on the top of a straight,

worst offenders are introduced species of grass, including orchard grass, bluegrasses and timothy grass, which is commonly grown for animal feed. Grasses are wind pollinated, and their pollen can float long distances. Your lawn should not be a problem so long as you never let the grass get tall enough to blossom. But fungal spores in the lawn can cause allergic reactions, and can be stirred up by mowing, so if you get hay fever, you have a good excuse to get your spouse or kid to do the mowing.

Flowers with flashy form generally are not significant allergy-producers. Tulips, delphinium



courtesy photo
Catalpa blossoms are showy and insect pollinated, but still can cause hay fever.

and peonies are obviously trying to get attention. They are the flirts – and insect pollinated. Others such as hostas are among those least likely to cause an allergic reaction.

According to Lucy Huntington in her book, “*Creating a Low-Allergen Garden*,” members of the daisy family have flowers that are insect pollinated, but their pollen is highly allergenic to most sufferers. Chrysanthemums, asters, marigolds and zinnias can bother folks with allergies. I suppose that is particularly the case if you enjoy sniffing their scents. She also suggests avoiding geraniums (*Pelargonium* hybrids), strawberries, dahlia hybrids, foxglove, sunflowers, nicotiana, and cosmos.

Huntington’s book is full of lists and suggestions for low-allergen plants. Here are some of her suggestions for plants suitable for people with pollen allergies:

Annuals: Snapdragons,

petunias, annual phlox, scarlet sage (*Salvia splendens*), purple salvia (*S. farinacea*), pansies, bacopa, Californai poppies, nasturtiums and verbena

Perennials: columbine, astilbe, bellflowers (*Campanula* spp.), bleeding heart, delphinium, daylilies, Siberian iris, peonies, oriental poppies, penstemon, garden phlox, Jacob’s ladder (*Polemonium caeruleum*), hollyhocks, alliums, globe flower (*Trollius* spp.), lady’s mantle, coral bells, catnip, hosta, foamflower (*Tiarella cordifolia*) and periwinkle (*Vinca minor*).

The good news is this: pollen is generally released in the morning, and by evening much of it has settled down, so evening should be a better time to garden. And rain knocks the pollen out of the air, so run outside and pull weeds after a nice downpour. You don’t have to cut down the culprits and wearing a COVID mask will help if pollen is really bugging you!



courtesy photo
Male pollen producing pussy willow flowers on left, with female flowers on right.

YANKEE NOTEBOOK

You Can Go Back as Far as You Want

by Willem Lange

EAST MONTPELIER – On a nearly perfect mid-April morning, a group of us gathered at a freshly created parking lot near the western foot of two small mountains near West Newbury. Tucker Mountain, dominated by its less spectacular, but taller (by 52 feet) neighbor, Woodchuck Mountain, was our goal for the day.

Besides the two-man film crew armed with three cameras and a drone, there was a couple from Greenfield, Mass., the high bidders on New Hampshire Public Broadcasting’s auction for “a day with the crew; there was Gary Moore, a good friend from Bradford, with his 175-pound Saint Bernard puppy, Oak; and I was there with Kiki, my 25-pound terrier, who took every chance she got to stand between my feet gazing anxiously at Oak, who, after a perfunctory sniff, carelessly ignored her.

Three other folks, known collectively as the Stewards of Tucker Mountain, were hiking in from the east and would meet us at a junction near the summit. So we filmed the “open” of the episode and were off up the ancient rocky road. Slabs of scarred bedrock occasionally served as the pavement. It wasn’t hard to tell the continental ice sheets had dealt grumpily with tough gray mounds of schist that had stood in their way so many millennia ago.

You can go back as far as you want to with Tucker Mountain. About 400 million years ago it was part of a continental shelf beneath the ocean east of the Adirondacks. When the Proto-Eurasian tectonic plate came calling some 375 million years ago, the sediments of the shelf were crumpled and driven upward into what are now the mountains of Vermont, reduced to stumps of their former selves by subsequent erosion and recent glaciation.

The Abenaki lived here along the Connecticut River before the arrival of the colonists, who swallowed up the fertile land that had been the bottom of a long-lasting post-glacial lake whose level you can still see in the riverbanks upstream of Hanover. The present up-and-over Tucker Mountain Road most likely follows Indian trails into the Waits River Valley. (The Waits River was named for Captain Joseph Waits of Rogers’

Rangers, who retreated with his company down that busy stream after their raid on St. Francis and, as legend has it, shot a deer, saving his men from starvation, and left the uneaten meat hanging in a tree, where a following party found it.)

Once the bottomland was taken, later settlers migrated up the hillsides – the origin of the Vermont hill farm. It was invariably rocky and difficult; the miles of stone walls half-hidden by undergrowth attest to that. The lives of the Tucker Mountain pioneers, their sheep and milk cows, and their battles with potato-loving deer, are nostalgically described by Tom Kidder, the retired director of Dartmouth’s audio-visual department, in an online (and illustrated, naturally) essay, “A History of Tucker Mountain.”

After decades of changes in ownership that resulted eventually in part-time residence by non-resident owners, vandalism and the threat of it – one beautifully restored house was gutted of its antiques and set ablaze in an attempt to conceal the theft – convinced some owners to look for buyers who would protect the land from further “civilization.” After much negotiation, it was conveyed finally to the Town of Newbury as the 600-acre Tucker Mountain Town Forest.

We met the other three hikers and stewards of the mountain, Tom Kidder and John and Caroline Nininger of the Wooden House Company, and climbed to the cleared, grassy summit. To the east, the view stretched beyond Mount Moosilauke and Franconia Ridge to Mount Washington; to the south, Mount Ascutney; to the west, the Green Mountains; and to the north, the little hump of heavily wooded Woodchuck Mountain. The summit was cleared laboriously of decades of brush by willing volunteers, and is mowed annually, keeping the magnificent view open.

Watched carefully by my tiny canine accompanist, I munched a bologna sandwich in the delightful company of friends of long standing and reflected on the effects of the devotion of many good people who care for beautiful, delicate places like this modest mountaintop. The challenge of their calling is never-ending. We can only hope that succeeding generations will rise to it.

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EDITOR
Ray Small

SPORTS EDITOR EMERITUS
Dave Morse

PHOTOGRAPHER
Vanessa Fournier

CIRCULATION
Dawn Gustafson

PRODUCTION
Sandy Atkins, Dawn Gustafson

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS
Sandy Atkins, Michael Bielawski,
Ken Brown, June Cook,
Jim Flint, Eric Hanson,
Pat Hussey,
Willem Lange, Doug McClure,
Daniel Métraux,
Joyce Slayton Mitchell

ADVERTISING SALES
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MEETING MEMO

Tuesday, May 4
•Danville School District Board of Directors’ Regular Meeting, 6 p.m. <https://ccsu.zoom.us/j/7143620563>. Meeting ID: 714 362 0563. Dial 1-646-558-8656.**Town Websites,**
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Stannard: Stannard town clerk: (802) 533-2577, open Wed., 8-noon, townofstannard@myfairpoint.net
Walden: Walden town clerk: (802) 563-2220, open Mon. - Wed., 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Thurs., 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. waldentc@pivot.net
Wolcott: wolcottvt.org
Woodbury: woodburyvt.org

ANOTHER OPINION

To Seek A Newer Human-Wildlife Relationship

by David Kelley

GREENSBORO – When I was young, everyone in my family hunted and fished. In fact, when I was young, it seemed like everyone in Vermont hunted and fished.

At Otter Valley, where I went to high school, absenteeism shot up during deer season. Going to deer camp was a rite of passage for most teenage boys. Almost all of my neighbors hunted and fished.

On the other hand, I never knew a single person who trapped until years later when I moved to Montana. In Montana I occasionally worked with a neighbor who claimed to be a direct descendant of Kit Carson, and who was a trapper. In Montana I got to see trapping up close and personal. It wasn't pretty.

Today, the human-wildlife relationship is undergoing significant changes. Climate change, disease, shifting cultural values, shrinking habitat, declining biodiversity, and declining numbers of hunters and fisherman are all compelling us to rethink our relationship with wilderness and wildlife. The value of wilderness, our interdependence with wildlife, and the importance of ethics in that relationship are all coming into sharper focus.

Those most fearful of change have begun to defend recreational trapping by equating trapping and hunting. From time to time even spokespeople for Vermont's Fish and Wildlife Department use

this canard. It is a false narrative used to avoid engaging directly in a debate about leg-hold and body crushing traps that today are being used by a small handful of people for fun and recreation.

Not inflicting unnecessary suffering on animals has always been the Eleventh Commandment of most hunters. Recreational trapping is just the opposite. It is the essence of unnecessary suffering.

Hunting is strictly regulated, and hunters are generally penalized for shooting the wrong species. We have a season, we have a bag limit, and we are not allowed to bait animals. Hunters don't leave their guns unattended and ready to shoot. In Montana it is even illegal to leave a fishing pole unattended. On the other hand, a trapper can set and leave as many leg-hold and body crushing traps as they want.

A hunter knows what he is shooting at. A hunter is there to immediately dress and retrieve the animal he kills. A trapper doesn't know what animal he's going to trap: a domestic pet, an endangered or threatened species, an eagle, an English Setter, or a Canadian Lynx. If a hunter shoots a deer, turkey, partridge or rabbit it is invariably used as food. A trapped fox, coyote or bobcat is almost never eaten. In fact, even their fur has little value today. In most cases, trapping is the very definition of wanton waste.

A skilled hunter kills with care and respect for their prey. A quick kill that avoids unnecessary suffering of the life we are taking for food is a hunter's preeminent purpose.

The mechanics and equipment used by trappers is sadistic. Talk about "best management practices" or "padded traps" is like putting lipstick on a pig. Trappers leave animals crippled without food or water. They leave wildlife defenseless against all of the elements and all of the predators that might be a threat in the wild. The truth of the matter is that most trappers never use padded traps and many honor "best management practices" only in the breach. In fact, evidence of their real practices can be found all over Facebook and YouTube, despite admonitions from the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department in their Furbearer Newsletter to be careful of such posts on social media, because those posts might offend someone. And they offend people with good reason, I might add.

Hunting and fishing are constitutionally protected in Vermont. Nobody is going to take those rights away.

As we confront change and as we consider a new ethic in relation to wildlife there are some, even in the Vermont Department of Fish and Wildlife, who react like Chicken Little. Their mantra is always how the consequences of change are to be feared. The sky will fall. The earth will stop spinning. They'll

take away our guns. Instead of engaging in a debate on the merits of trapping there is a well-honed response: "They are 'anti-hunting.'" As we carry these conversations and the debate forward, I urge you to listen to those child-like tantrums with a dose of skepticism.

I don't hunt much anymore, but I still fish every chance I get. And I am very much pro-hunting. As I think about the shifts in the human-wildlife relationship taking place in Vermont today I can't help but think about women's suffrage and gay marriage.

Change is somehow frightening for many. When the ground is shifting beneath our feet it can get scary. But it is part of the human journey. It is how we get better. I think often of a poem Robert Kennedy used to quote: "How dull it is to pause, to make an end, to rust unburnished, not to shine in use... Come my friends, 'tis not too late to seek a newer world."

As we proceed with this debate, toward a new human-wildlife relationship, be wary of Chicken Littles. History never moves forward in a straight line. It zigs and zags. But whether it is medicine, government, travel, or communications, by embracing change we make progress. So let us have a vigorous, and honest, debate and in that way seek a newer, better world for ourselves and Vermont's wildlife.

[Editor's note: David Kelley is on the board of the Vermont Wildlife Coalition.]

Woodsmoke by Julie Atwood



"HE CAN'T SEE YOU IF YOU DON'T MOVE!"

PUBLIC NOTICE OF INTENT TO APPLY HERBICIDE

A permit has been applied for through the Commissioner of Agriculture, Food & Markets, by Vermont Electric Power Company, Inc. for the purpose of making a selective ground-based application of herbicides: Accord, Rodeo (Glyphosate), Arsenal (Imazapyr), Escort XP (Metsulfuron Methyl), Garlon 4, Garlon 4 Ultra (Triclopyr), Polaris (Imazapyr), Habitat (Imazapyr) and Krenite S (Ammonium Salt of Fosamine) on their 230,000 and 115,000 volt transmission line rights-of-way located in the following towns:

Caledonia County

Waterford, St. Johnsbury, Lyndon, Sutton, Sheffield, Barnet, Ryegate, Groton.

The application will start on May 31, 2021.

Landowners adjacent to the areas to be treated should contact Vermont Electric Power Company (VELCO) if private water supplies or other environmentally sensitive areas are located within 100 feet of the right-of-way. For further information

Contact Scott Carlson
Forester/Utility Aborist
Vermont Electric Power Co. Inc.
366 Pinnacle Ridge Road
Rutland, VT 05701
(802) 353-3584

The state agency to contact with questions or comments is:

Vermont Department of Agriculture
Plant Industry Division
Montpelier, VT 05602
(802) 828-2431



photo by Vanessa Fournier

Kingdom Construction, Inc. project supervisor Dwayne Bowen (left) and lead carpenter Kyle Benson (right) work on the fireplace in the Leesa Fine addition to the Craftsbury Public Library. The addition is planned to be completed soon.

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Please contact the Town of Greensboro, P.O. Box 119, Greensboro, VT 05841, or 82 Craftsbury Road, or at 802-533-2911 or at townclerk@greensborovt.org for details. All bids must be in the town clerk's office by Thursday, May 6, 2021, to be opened at the May 12 select board meeting.

The select board reserves the right to accept or reject any and all bids.

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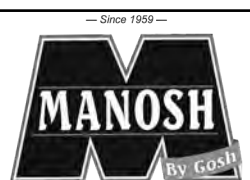
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SPORTS

Wildcats Bounce Back after Losing Season Opener

by Ken Brown

MONTPELIER – After a hard-fought loss to Montpelier in their season opener, the Hazen Union baseball team dominated Northfield last week to even their record at 1-1.

Andrew Tringe pitched out of a bases-loaded jam in the top of the sixth inning and added a back-breaking two-run single in the bottom half to lead Montpelier to a 10-3 home win over the Wildcats last Friday. Will Talbert added a two-run double for the Solons as they improved to 2-0 on the season.

Jadon Baker, Andrew Menard, and Tyler Rivard had a hit apiece for Hazen Union, Ethan Shopland drove in a run, and Lyle Rooney struck out nine in three innings of work in his varsity debut.

“I was impressed with how Lyle threw the ball in our opener, he battled hard and changed speeds well. It was our first live game, so we still have some rust to knock off, but despite some untimely errors and walks we were right in the ballgame late. Montpelier did a nice job of capitalizing on everything we gave them and that was the difference,” said head coach

Spencer Howard.

James Montgomery and Tyson Davison combined for six hits and nine stolen bases as Hazen Union bounced back in a big way on Saturday with a 14-4 road win over Northfield. Ethan Shopland, Tyler Rivard, and Jadon Baker kept the Marauders bats silent for most of the day on the mound and Rivard added a hit and two RBIs in the win.

“It was a great response by the guys after Friday and everyone contributed in one way or another in a solid team win. We still have some things to clean up with our control

on the mound, but the defense was better and, overall, we had more quality at bats. It’s still early and we have a lot of games to play in a short period of time, so we just need to keep making progress and getting a little bit better every time out. We have a busy week ahead, but we’re healthy and getting stronger and I like the direction the guys are heading,” said Howard.

Hazen Union was scheduled to travel to Thetford on Tuesday before hosting Danville in their home opener on Thursday. They wrap up the week with a trip to Williamstown on Saturday.

Local Runners Deliver at Paul Mailman Race

by Jim Flint

MONTPELIER – Donna Smyers of Adamant topped the list of Gazette-area participants on Saturday at the 46th Paul Mailman Ten-Miler. The 63-year-old triathlete was one of a small cohort of local athletes competing in the first Central Vermont Runners group race of the 2021 season.

The enthusiastic field of pandemic persevering runners was treated to bright blue skies, calm winds, and ideal running temperatures in the 50s.

Twenty-two of the 46 ten-mile finishers were age 50 and above. Smyers averaged 8:16 per mile to place 19th overall. She completed the out-and-back course in one hour, 22 minutes, and 37 seconds. Smyers seems to have improved with age. She cut more than three minutes

off her 2019 Paul Mailman time of 1:26:01.

“It was great to be back racing for real again,” said Smyers. “Although I pushed myself a lot during virtual races last year, there is a very different feeling being out on the course with other runners, at a set time, with timers at the finish line. The event was very safe. We started in small waves of ten or fewer with our masks on until we started running, and everyone immediately spread out.”

Tim Hogeboom, 69, of Walden, will soon enter a new running age group. In celebration of his senior status, Hogeboom won the men’s 60-69 age group at the Paul Mailman Ten-Miler. His time of 1:26:02 was the 26th-fastest overall.

Dot Helling, the dean of local female runners, competed in the 70-79 age group for the first time on

Saturday. The 71-year-old veteran marathoner averaged 9:29 per mile for the ten-mile distance. She placed 38th overall in 1:34:43.

Elizabeth McCarthy, 68, of Walden drew cheers from fellow runners as she crossed the Paul Mailman finish line in 1:47:41. McCarthy’s positive attitude captured the spirit of the event.

“On the last few miles running along the river, I looked across and saw a burial service in progress at the cemetery,” she reflected in a Facebook post. “It made me feel lucky to be running last in a 10 miler.”

A 5k race was held concurrently with the ten-mile venue. For Adamant’s Chris Andresen, the event marked a return to running after a hip injury sidelined him in 2020. Andresen, 65, ran the 3.1-mile out-and-back course at a 7:39 pace. He placed tenth of 36 runners in a time of 23:43. Montpelier’s Tim Noonan, 64, bested Andresen’s time by two seconds to win the men’s 60-69 age group.

“It was a race for everyone,” said Andresen. “New runners had a nice flat course which was great for fast runners who wanted an early season PR. We started in waves. The drawback was that you couldn’t tell how you were doing until the final results. I was surprised by my time. My hip was sore the next day but I knew it would be.”

Molly Brock of Marshfield, 40, and Richard Wiswall, 64, of Plainfield, rounded out the 5k finishers from towns covered by the Gazette. Brock placed 17th in a time of 25:29. Wiswall finished 22nd in 26:26.

The Adamant Half Marathon is next up on the Central Vermont Runners schedule. The 13.1-mile event is slated for Saturday, May 8. Ninety percent of the course is on rolling dirt roads. Athletes can enter as individuals or as a relay team. Preregistration is required. COVID-19 race protocols will be followed. Additional information is available at cvrunners.org.



photo by Vanessa Fournier
Craftsbury 8th grader Ruth Krebs throws a practice javelin as coach Jeff Tucker (right) watches.



photo by Vanessa Fournier
Hazen Union track and field team members Anna Wright (left), Lila Meyer (center) and Ella Considine (right) do dynamic warm ups during a recent practice. The team is coached by Kathy Fortmann.

SPORTS



photo by Vanessa Fournier

Craftsbury sophomore Cormac Leahy gets set to throw a shot-put during track and field practice Friday. At left is sophomore Charles Krebs. The team competed in a meet at North Country on April 24.



photo by Vanessa Fournier

Craftsbury freshman Sadie Skorstad throws a javelin during track and field practice on the common April 23.

Chargers Impressive in Opening Meet at North Country

by Ken Brown

NEWPORT – The Craftsbury Academy (CA) track and field team showed little rust and a lot of promise under new head coach Jeff Tucker last week as they opened their season at the North Country Union High School.

Senior Camille Bolduc and sophomore Cormac Leahy both took home first place honors in the 800m to lead a Charger team that held its own against North Country, Lake Region, and Lamoille last Saturday.

Bolduc has earned back-to-back state titles in the event, including setting the school record

at CA in 2019. Leahy dominated his first varsity 800m event with teammate Charlie Krebs just under two seconds behind for a runner-up finish. The duo blitzed the field by nearly thirty-seven seconds. Bolduc and Leahy also had strong third place finishes in the 1500m event and Bolduc anchored her team of Sadie Skorstad, Ava Purdy, and Rachel Bjerke to a runner-up finish in the 4X100 relay event. Skorstad also posted an impressive runner-up finish in the 100m and a third-place finish in the javelin event.

“Camille is our lone senior and Ida Eames is our only junior on a very young team, so their leadership as athletes is welcomed. Camille has a lot of varsity meet experience and she did a great job of navigating everyone through their first competition. Cormac and Charlie worked a really hard race together. It was fun to watch and they should be really proud of their effort. Sadie had never run the 100m before and her focus on preparation really paid off and will be a big confidence booster for her going forward. The blind hand-offs in the relay are extremely technical and the girls did a great job of executing and really ran a fast

race,” said Tucker.

Dalton Gravel also had a strong day for the Chargers, posting a runner-up finish in the shot put and a third-place finish in the discus event.

COVID-19 canceled the 2020 Vermont spring sports season, so many of Tucker’s student athletes are making the jump from middle school straight to varsity competition.

“We had five first timers today and everyone had something to proud of. Dalton hasn’t even worked on strength training yet, but his preparation and execution on his technique was great. Linden Stelma-Leonard did a great job of finishing his 300m hurdle event, which is probably the most intimidating of all of the events. It’s a great group of kids and they are doing a nice job so far of not focusing on the results. They are approaching everything before and after the competitions the right way and controlling only what they can control. We want to learn from our experience and most importantly have fun doing it,” said Tucker.

The Chargers will be back in action on Wednesday at St. Johnsbury Academy.



photo by Vanessa Fournier

Matthew Califano, a freshman at Craftsbury Academy, throws a discus during team practice Friday.

SPORTS



courtesy photo

Barton's Shane Sicard won his third straight Flying Tiger championship in 2020.



courtesy photo

Gilman's Jeff Marshall received the 2020 WMMP Sportsmanship Award for his respectful attitude in the face of adversity.



courtesy photo

St. Johnsbury's Stacy Cahoon was recognized as the "King of the Mountain" for the sixth time at the 2020 WMMP Banquet of Champions.

White Mountain Honors 2020 Standouts at Banquet of Champions

N. WOODSTOCK, N.H. – White Mountain Motorsports Park honored the top drivers from the past racing season at the 2020 Banquet of Champions on Saturday, April 24.

For the sixth time in his career, St. Johnsbury's Stacy Cahoon was recognized as the "King of the Mountain". The 62-year-old overcame tough competition and the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic to earn the 2021 Late Model crown.

On August 22, Cahoon posted his first feature win in more than two years. By finishing in the top 10 of every feature, he was able to hold off Quinny Welch's bid for a sixth straight crown. In an offseason interview, Cahoon said this championship meant the most for the people who have supported him during his 34 years of racing.

White Mountain also honored the champions and top points finishers in its other local divisions. Barton's Shane Sicard was officially crowned the Flying Tiger champion for the third straight year. Despite a huge increase in car counts and several tough competitors, Sicard again had a banner year. The veteran won five times and finished on the podium in 10 of the 12 point-counting events.

Despite coming up short to Sicard in the season-long standings, Hardwick's Jaden Perry still was a champion in 2020. He captured the Triple Crown Series for the Flying Tigers by just two points over Sicard and Colin Cornell.

Several special awards were also presented at the banquet. Gilman's Jeff Marshall took home the 2020 WMMP Sportsmanship Award. Marshall

had a respectful attitude all year even things didn't go his way. He also never let adversity stop him from giving his all on the track.

Danville's Laci Potter was named the 2020 Most Improved Driver. The 15-year-old struggled at the start of her first Flying Tiger season but made rapid gains..

Waterford's Andy Hill picked up his trophy for the Late Model Rookie of the Year Award. He posted 10 top-10 finishes in a division that drew 20-plus cars at several events.

St. Johnsbury's Kasey Beattie was the Flying Tiger Rookie of the Year. The 16-year-old, who is jumping to the Late Models for 2021, finished third in weekly points and fourth in Triple Crown points. Beattie was also the Rookie of the Year at Thunder Road.

American-Canadian Tour Next Stop at Thunder Road on May 2

BARRE – The American-Canadian Tour (ACT) keeps its early 2021 season rolling with a trip to Thunder Road Speedbowl on Sunday, May 2. The 23rd Community Bank N.A. 150 pits the stars of the ACT Late Model Tour against the track's Late Model weekly standouts.

No track has hosted the ACT Late Model Tour more times than Thunder Road. The Community Bank N.A. 150 will be the 76th point-counting visit for the series. Many current ACT drivers, including reigning champion and recent Northeast Classic winner Jimmy Hebert, former Rookie of the Year Dylan Payea, and multi-time top-10 points finisher Stephen Donahue cut their stock car racing teeth at the "Nation's Site of Excitement".

Still, the May 2 event will

be a challenge. The ACT Tour is going from New Hampshire Motor Speedway, the biggest track on the schedule, to one of the smallest tracks on the schedule.

When the ACT regulars arrive, there will be a host of Thunder Road's best Late Model racers waiting for them. Eight of the last nine ACT winners at Thunder Road were either current or former weekly Thunder Road racers. This means out-of-staters such as Ben Rowe, Tom Carey III, Derek Gluchacki, and D.J. Shaw have a tall order ahead.

Although defending champion Hebert has plenty of laps at Thunder Road and won the track's Flying Tiger championship in 2009, he has yet to crack the winner's circle there in a Late Model. A pair of second-place finishes in the 2014 and 2016 Community Bank

N.A. 150 are the closest he's come, which speaks to just how hard it is to win on the Barre high banks.

The rest of the local divisions also have their season-openers on May 2. The Flying Tigers, Street Stocks, and Road Warriors have full fields are expected in all three

divisions for a pit area teeming with race cars.

A limited number of tickets are available for fans who have not been vaccinated against COVID-19. Advance tickets can be purchased at happsnow.com/event/Thunder-Road-Speedbowl



courtesy photo

The ACT Late Model Tour helps open the 62nd season of racing at Thunder Road, Sunday, May 2, with the 23rd Community Bank N.A. 150.