

THE Hardwick Gazette

INDEPENDENT LOCAL NEWS SINCE 1889

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Volume 132 Number 28

Jeudevine Expansion Delayed Until 2022

by Doug McClure

HARDWICK – After the select board declined to provide additional emergency stopgap funding, construction of the Jeudevine Library expansion was put on hold until 2022.

The project hit a roadblock when the USDA required a 10% contingency fee for cost overruns — twice the amount budgeted for contingencies by the project's architect. An additional \$600,000 could be coming to the project in the

fall through Sen. Patrick Leahy's earmark, but it is not guaranteed.

The project had already seen a 50% increase in material costs due to COVID-19-related price increases. With that in hand, the library retooled its plans to "take out everything we can and still have a usable building," said Jeudevine Library Trustee Chair Jodi Lew-Smith at the time.

The project was still over budget, so in May the select board signed off on a guarantee

of \$200,000, with a caveat that the town did not expect to actually spend the funds, but instead have the library find ways to fill in the gap. Last Thursday, Lew-Smith told the board that to obtain a notice to proceed from the USDA the library would need another \$249,388. It asked the board to increase its commitment to \$493,000. Lew-Smith said all other options had been exhausted, and fundraising was "tapped out." With the earmark expected in the fall, the

See DELAYED, 4

Bridge Workshop Draws Enthusiastic Crowd

by Doug McClure

HARDWICK – If there was any question as to whether holding a two-and-a-half hour-long workshop on a Saturday afternoon to discuss the future of the pedestrian bridge capture people's interest, those concerns were put to rest by a robust turnout. At least 41 people attended last Saturday's "Community Workshop in Hardwick to Plan for the Future of the Historic Downtown Pedestrian Bridge." The event

See WORKSHOP, 5

Designing Our New Bridge

by Elizabeth Dow

HARDWICK – When you have a community on both sides of a river, you need bridges. Since the mid-1790s, Hardwick village has had a bridge at the site of the North Main Street bridge.

See DESIGNING, 2



photo by Vanessa Fournier

Among the approximately 50 people who attended the community workshop to plan for the replacement of the historic downtown pedestrian bridge broke into smaller groups to gather different ideas for the project. Pictured (from left) are Diana Peduzzi, Norma Wiesen, Tobin Porter-Brown, and Hardwick select board chair Eric Remick.

Select Board Discusses Future of Hardwick Police Department

by Doug McClure

HARDWICK – Prospective scenarios for what the Hardwick Police Department (HPD) will look like in coming years were discussed at the only regular July select board meeting. A series of recent unfortunate events may have left HPD's current level of service unsustainable, at least in the short term.

As for long term scenarios, the board discussed whether to providing police services to Hardwick and East Hardwick only. Town Manager Jon Jewett, Business Manager Casey Rowell, and HPD Chief Aaron Cochran presented a series of options.

Chief Cochran said that with its present numbers, the HPD will struggle to continue operating its third, or overnight, shift. An officer recently resigned, citing uncertainties about the department's future, and two officers are away for deployment. Chief Cochran said he believes officers are worried about the "stability" of HPD and it is impacting department morale. He

See FUTURE, 4

Sprucing Up

Workers from Heritage Slate spruce up the 1874 Building on South Main Street in Hardwick on Friday. Just two buildings away, workers spent all last week giving the Bemis Block a fresh coat of paint.

photo by Doug McClure



Pietryka Honored by Vermont EMS

by Tyler Molleur

HARDWICK – The last time members of the Hardwick Rescue Squad (HRS) gathered to celebrate their work and thank their family members was in 2019.

As roughly 50 volunteers and their families assembled at Atkins Field on Wednesday night, appreciation was extended to crew members who helped their communities and the organization tackle a challenging year.

Providing member appreciation in 2020 was challenging as gatherings, such as a picnic,

See PIETRYKA, 3



photo by Vanessa Fournier

Hardwick Rescue Squad president Lindsay O'Steen (left) presented Matt Pietryka (center) with an engraved stethoscope after he was given the Vermont Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Basic Life Support Provider of the Year Award by EMS Chief Will Moran (right).

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Designing

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The first information we have about a footbridge in Hardwick appears in an August 1883 Montpelier newspaper's announcement that "E[merson] Brush has erected a bridge across the river near the hay scales which must prove a great convenience to the public...."

From the Village Restaurant, you can see a piece of a dam attached to the bank below Daniels' Block parking lot. From at least the middle of the 1800s, it powered a grist mill that occupied the area now used by the Village Restaurant and its parking lot. The water behind the dam backed up through the village and people referred to it as the grist mill pond.

Emerson Brush lived where Bert Hooper lives (65 Brush Street), and he had a drug store on Main Street. In 1883, he built a bridge just wide enough for a person to walk across. He rebuilt the bridge in the spring of 1884—we don't know why—this time making it wide enough to accommodate a wheelbarrow.

The river destroyed that bridge in January of 1885, and, in May, Brush replaced it "...near his residence."

In November, 1886, when ice threatened his bridge, Brush stood a line of men on it, and armed them with poles so they could break the ice, and force it under the bridge. He won that battle, but conceded the war; in January, 1887, he began removing his bridge for the winter.

Brush wasn't alone in building bridges. George B. Shipman owned a sawmill at the site of today's motel, and in 1889, he built a footbridge across the river, "so as to shorten the distance from his dwelling to the mill." He lived where Mike and Melissa Carr live, at the corner of Church and Depot Street.

Shipman also had to rebuild his bridge regularly.

Until 1903, all foot bridges seemed to have been built up-river from the grist mill dam, paid for by individuals.

Then, in March 1903, the Woodbury Granite Company (WGC), located at Atkins' Field, won the largest contract for a granite building ever offered up to that time—the Pennsylvania State Capitol. The Company had 24 months to quarry, cut, deliver, and set 400,000 cubic feet of granite. The WGC scrambled to hire workers, and any worker who lived across the river had to use the North Main Street bridge, or Brush's bridge, to get to work.

So, in March 1903, Town Meeting voters instructed the Selectmen to construct a bridge across the Lamoille to Wolcott Street. For the first time, they were spending tax money to build a bridge below the dam. I suspect the WGC instigated that vote, but I don't

know where they put the bridge.

The river must have washed it out, because in May, 1904, the paper reported that the bridge below the grist mill dam was rebuilt by the people who used it. They couldn't wait for the Town to fix it — they needed it to get to work.

The war with the river continued: in 1905, the Gazette announced that "The Wolcott Street footbridge has been constructed". Perhaps at a different place, or perhaps again.

In July 1906, someone was putting in a foot bridge for the workers across the river at Elm Street. Meanwhile, one block down at Cottage Street, the Town was constructing an iron bridge for both wheeled and foot traffic, where the hump-backed bridge is now.

Nothing more appears in the papers about Hardwick bridges until March 1915, when the voters at Town Meeting instructed the selectmen to spend no more than \$350 (about \$9,000 today) to build a bridge from a point between the Gazette Building and the Flatiron Building, which stood where the small park beside the Swinging Bridge now exists. Sam Daniels would pay the rest.

Brush's bridge was still in place, but not many people used it.

Sam Daniels had recently purchased what we now call the Daniels Block to set up a foundry. He was an aggressive and highly competent inventor and businessman who may have designed the bridge and definitely took over its construction; he finished it in February 1916. The Town apparently gave him control of the bridge. He posted a sign saying "Private Way: Use at your own risk" at each end, and he regularly closed it one day a year to maintain or assert his authority.

Because of the dam, the water was higher than it is now. Daniels built his bridge high above the water. And, he built it well.

A headline from the Gazette sums up the spring flood of 1927:

"36 to 40 hours of rainfall caused large and small streams to overflow — highway and railroad bridges swept away — houses washed downstream and destroyed — river channels changed — landscape and roadways changed — thousands and thousands of dollars of damage — no lives lost and no one injured in Hardwick."

Probably because of its flexibility, the Daniels bridge survived intact despite the tons of logs and lumber from the upstream sawmill and despite several demolished houses from behind Mill Street—all of which slammed into it and battered its deck.

Sam Daniels' bridge outlasted the 1906 iron bridge at Church Street — wiped out by the flood of 1964, age 58. It outlasted the 1923 iron bridge on Main Street — replaced in 2000, age 77. The Sam Daniels bridge died of old age last year, age 105.



July 21 - July 27

<p>Meat Dept. Strip Steak \$8.99 lb. Chicken Leg Quarters 79¢ lb.</p>	<p>Men's Swimsuits back in stock \$29.99</p>	
<p>Poland Spring Sparkling Water 4/\$3 33.8 oz.</p>	<p>Folgers Coffee \$6.99 24.2-30.5 oz.</p>	<p>Cholula Hot Sauce 2/\$5 5 oz.</p>
<p>Blue Diamond Nut Thin Crackers 2/\$5 4.25 oz.</p>	<p>Food Club Beans 59¢ 15.5 oz.</p>	<p>Geisha Solid White Tuna 2/\$3 5 oz.</p>
<p>Full Circle Organic Honey \$4.99 16 oz.</p>	<p>Keebler Fudge Cookies \$2.99 8.5-12 oz.</p>	<p>G.M. Chex Cereal 2/\$6 12-14 oz.</p>
<p>Bear Naked Granola \$3.99 11-12 oz.</p>	<p>Diamond Almonds 2/\$6 6 oz.</p>	<p>Simply Done 6 Roll Paper Towels \$9.99 373.1 s.f.</p>
<p>Simply Done 12 Roll Bathroom Tissue \$9.99 369.2-371.8 s.f.</p>	<p>Green Mtn. Greek Yogurt \$4.59 32 oz.</p>	<p>Florida Natural Orange Juice 2/\$6 52 oz.</p>
<p>Almond Breeze Milk Alternative 2/\$6 64 oz.</p>	<p>Breyers Ice Cream \$3.99 48 oz.</p>	<p>Crav'n Self Rising Pizza \$4.29 28.2-32.7 oz.</p>
<p>P.A. Peaches Are Here \$3.39 lb.</p>	<p>California Pluots \$2.69 lb.</p>	<p>Northwest Dark Cherries \$3.99 lb.</p>

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POLICE REPORT

Hardwick Police

Media Log Summary

July 12: TRO/FRO Directed Patrol, Upper Cherry St. Violation, High St.; Assist – Other, Wolcott St.; Alarm, Main St.

July 13: Vandalism, Vt. Rte. 16; Suspicious Event, Town Farm Rd.; Alarm, N. Main St.; Motor Vehicle Complaint, Vt. Rte. 15; Suspicious Event, Glenside Ave.; Theft, Upper Cherry St.

July 14: Motor Vehicle Complaint, S. Main St.; Assist – Public, N. Main St.; Theft, Wolcott St.; Citizen Dispute, Church St.; Noise Disturbance, Glenside Ave.;

July 15: Animal Problem, Vt. Rte. 15 W; Welfare Check, Vt. Rte. 16; Animal Problem, Vt. Rte. 15.

July 16: Accident – Property Damage, Vt. Rte. 15 W; Assist – Other, Wolcott St.

July 17: Suspicious Event, Kate Brook Rd.; Theft, S. Main St.

July 18: Traffic Hazard, Granite St.

July 19: Theft, Spring St.; Theft, Glenside Ave.; Assist – Agency, Vt. Rte. 15.

AWARE Report

HARDWICK – AWARE resolving the causes and effects of domestic violence and sexual violence from July 11 through July 21. 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.

State Police Report

Car Sideswiped by Truck on Interstate

On July 17, at 12:04 p.m., Aimee Prevost, of Walden, notified VSP that she had been in a collision involving a tractor trailer unit on Interstate 91 southbound near mile marker 78. Prevost was traveling in the left lane when the vehicle collided with her from the right lane, causing her to hit the guardrail. The tractor trailer unit did not stop and was believed to have a white trailer with orange lettering on the side. Anyone with information about this incident is asked to contact the Royalton State Police Barracks.

This report is based on information provided by the Vermont State Police but is not a full accounting of police activity.



photo by Vanessa Fournier

Hardwick Rescue Squad president Lindsay O'Steen (left) presented a custom Yeti tumbler to five of the ambulance drivers who drove the most hours during the 15-month COVID-19 period. Pictured (from left) are Rob Alcusky (164 calls), Dean Hill (81 calls), Rick Sullivan (76 calls), Derrick Tatro (54), and Harry Besett (66 calls). Andrew Casavant (right) is a member of the board and helped present the awards.

Pietryka

Continued From Page One

yielded to state restrictions on public assemblies. The volunteer force of certified EMS professionals and drivers who assist in patient care temporarily dropped by nearly a dozen members, but the shortage also highlighted the exceptional dedication of a select few.

The awards presented at the membership appreciation picnic included the Vermont EMS Basic Life Support Provider of the Year Award, given to Matt Pietryka of Hardwick. Pietryka has been a member of the rescue squad since 2016. Vermont EMS Chief Will Moran attended the picnic to present Pietryka with the award and speak of the numerous nominations his office received for the five-year member of the ambulance service.

"Matt stood out from his peers throughout the state," Moran said as he discussed the process of reviewing the nominations. "(He's) selfless, committed, puts community before self: an effective team member who raises up those around him."

"We hope the younger generation gets to mentor under him."

Hardwick Rescue President Lindsay O'Steen presented Pietryka with an engraved stethoscope. Pietryka grew up in the Randolph area. A graduate of Randolph High School, he went on to study at Vermont Tech and Perdue University to start his career as a land surveyor. He studied at Southern Oregon University to get a master's degree and teach. For several years, he worked at Hazen Union School as a middle school math teacher.

Pietryka says he was looking for something to do in retirement and just happened to stumble upon a flyer for an EMT class.

"Knowing the people on the squad is a great thing. All these

people are people who are doing something for the benefit of the community," he said. "You genuinely are providing a necessary service. It feels like a worthwhile thing to do."

Of the family members on hand for the presentation of Pietryka's award were his parents, Napoleon and Agnes. The couple has been married for over 70 years and received a dedication in the 2018 Randolph Town Report for their service as educators and long-standing history of volunteerism.

Pietryka is the second HRS provider to be recently recognized by the state for their dedication to the squad. In 2019, Hardwick resident Patty Meyer received the Vermont EMS Lifetime Award from the state in a ceremony at the Highland Center for the Arts.

A moment was taken at the picnic to recognize members of Hardwick Rescue who volunteer as drivers. O'Steen said that the rescue squad is rare in the sense that it recruits non-clinical drivers to supplement ambulance crews, allowing for two clinical staff to care for the patient in the back in many circumstances. That, she said, enhances the quality of patient care.

"It's a luxury to have a driver," said O'Steen. "We can't do it without you."

In the spring, clinical volunteers received compensation through the Vermont EMS Provider Stabilization Grant for their workload during the pandemic, but drivers were not eligible. As a thank you for their contributions, the squad's board of directors chose to present five drivers with custom Yeti tumblers. These drivers spent the most time on the ambulance in the 15-month pandemic period. Among the drivers were Rob Alcusky (164 calls), Dean Hill (81 calls), Rick Sullivan (76 calls), Harry Besett (66 calls), and Derrick Tatro (54 calls).

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Future

Continued From Page One

requested, but did not receive, permission from the select board to add one full-time officer.

“With four officers down, I need to know a direction,” Chief Cochran said. “Do I hire for the position the officer just resigned from, or are we leaving that open, leaving me four officers down?”

Town Manager Jon Jewett told the select board that with staffing as it is now, discussing whether to continue the current 24-hour coverage was moot.

“If you’re down for four or three [officers], you’ll have to move ahead to eliminate that third shift. There won’t be anything for you [to decide],” he said. He added that the select board did not have any control over the situation because the officers “can’t work that many hours. They won’t physically be able to maintain” round-the-clock coverage.

Chief Cochran said that part-time officers cannot solve the problem because by statute their duties are limited. For certain situations, a full-time, Level 3 officer is required.

“I fear if we don’t [hire] we will lose other officers,” he said. He added that police officers prefer a highly stable work environment, free from worry over whether budget issues will eliminate their positions.

Board member Michael Deering asked whether the third shift would be lost without the hire, and Jewett said yes. Chief Cochran later reiterated that with the officer’s two-week notice of their departure on July 29, providing 24-hour service did not seem possible. Deering asked whether, with an additional hire and officers returning from deployment, HPD would be fully staffed. He also asked if HPD could provide policing to another town if requested. He was told yes. Deering said he believed that was the correct long-term solution. “We can’t not hire another officer,” he said, but declined to make a motion.

The board considered whether HPD should continue with regional policing, as it has since about 1980, or if it should focus locally. Rowell said that continuing at the current budgeted staffing levels would require regional policing. It was pointed out that there are only so many adjoining towns where that option would be possible.

Greensboro decided not to renew its contract with HPD, terminating a four-decades-long relationship with Hardwick. Chief Cochran had been in conversations with Woodbury, and even before the officer resigned, had viewed the arrangement as having little upside for HPD. Woodbury sought

non-criminal, part-time policing, primarily for things like traffic enforcement that the county sheriff wouldn’t do.

With the additional resignation, Chief Cochran saw no path forward, as HPD will be stretched to its thinnest just by policing Hardwick and East Hardwick. He said, “another town” has been inquiring about contracting with Hardwick for policing services. While he did not say it explicitly, Wolcott is investigating multiple options for police services.

Chief Cochran said prolonging the debate as to whether HPD is a regional or local department could jeopardize whether HPD was seen by the “other town” as a viable alternative solution for policing.

The board wanted to know about the third shift and whether a backup solution could be found. Chief Cochran said the Vermont State Police, who are also short-handed, go home at 2 a.m., and after that do not respond to any situation that isn’t life-threatening. Jewett said that he lives in East Montpelier, and the state police provide after-hours coverage there without any major incidents. Chief Cochran did not have a price for third-shift service from LCSD, but he said based on HPD’s costs, he did not believe having the sheriff fill in would not be less expensive. Sheriff Roger Marcoux is on vacation, and he will be contacted to get an estimate.

HPD, like all law enforcement agencies, is also facing a crisis of far fewer incoming recruits. COVID-19 is only partly to blame for that problem, Chief Cochran said, with the academy running at half-capacity in 2020 to ensure social distancing guidelines were met. But the field is drawing fewer applicants, he said. “The other part of [the problem] is nobody is coming into law enforcement. The number is way down,” he said. Chair Eric Remick said the “in the grand scheme” that fact might be an argument against preserving the strategy of policing other towns.

Board member Shari Cornish, who stated she believes the department should only police Hardwick and East Hardwick, said this was a decision that the public should make. “I do think the community needs to be able to weigh in,” she said. HPD represents roughly a third of the town budget. The cost difference between staffing to police only Hardwick and staffing for regional policing is around \$250,000 — over a quarter of the department’s current budget. Vice chair Ceilidh Galloway Kane wanted to know about hiring a consultant to take a look at the scenarios and make recommendations.

The board decided not to take official action at this time

but plans to put the question to the community. Board members could not agree whether that should be done by vote or at a special meeting. The board does not meet again formally until

August 5. The members discussed, but did not commit to setting a separate special meeting before the resigning officer departs HPD to address the matters of concern more thoroughly.

Delayed

Continued From Page One

the project could be financially set by the spring, but some timelines relied on construction commencing in 2021. A point of major concern was a donor who gave \$200,000 to the project with the condition that construction begin in 2021.

The trustees were uncertain if the donor would accept a delay.

Vice chair Ceilidh Galloway-Kane asked if the library could ignore the USDA ultimatum by not accepting its \$157,000 of funding. Lew-Smith said there had been no consensus on that, but it was deemed unwise to put the USDA in an adversarial position as the earmark funding goes through that agency, and the USDA provides grant opportunities the library might want to use in the future.

While Galloway-Kane said she was convinced the project was a good thing for the town, she voiced some reservations. “Basically, we’re committing to an additional \$500,000. I just don’t know where that’s coming from,” she said.

Chair Eric Remick said that “While I really want to see library move forward, I feel like the last time you came to us, we went way out on a limb to the point where I was teetering on the edge of being comfortable with it, because it was an awful lot of money, but on the other hand it was going to get the project through,” he said. “Now, I’m feeling what you’re looking at the town to cover is nearly the bond amount again. It’s almost that much more money. I guess I’m feeling a little uncomfortable committing the town potentially to twice what they voted for in a bond vote.”

Member Elizabeth Dow asked what the town’s fund balance “looked like,” and it was determined the town could probably provide the funding, but it would be tight. In the end, only Dow and Shari

Cornish agreed the town should provide the additional backing and the request was denied.

Lew-Smith’s concern was that if construction did not begin in August, the project would essentially go back to the drawing board. The library would incur additional expenses from the architect. The project had already pushed Middlebury-based contractor Breadload Construction, LLC past their bid’s expiration, while another piece had been delayed due to COVID-19.

With the board’s denial of the request, the expansion will not be completed in 2021 and the project will go out for re-bid.

Trustee Ross Connelly said that “fundraising is easier when you have a tangible project.” In his view, the delay would create a public perception and credibility problem. He compared it to one of Hardwick’s major fires where the rubble sat for a long time before anyone did anything about it. “Just seeing that pile of rubble on the street for two years” was not good for the town, he said.

“The voters came through [with the bond], and said, ‘yeah, let’s do it,’ and all of a sudden we say, ‘we’re not going to do it.’ [The voters will think] ‘There it goes again, it’s a screw-up.’ They see the senior center’s been torn down, there’s a hole in the ground, they want to know, ‘what’s it going to look like?’”

The hope is that by the spring the earmark funding will be secured, and the other fundraising and grants will remain intact despite the delay.

“In 1868, Hardwick, which had a Grand List of \$5,000, bonded themselves for \$60,000 to support a railroad,” Dow said before the meeting closed. “That’s 12 times the Grand List. I’m amazed at the courage of those people, and it paid off. There would have been no granite industry without that railroad.”



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Workshop

Continued From Page One

was divided into five segments.

The first was the optional “Walk and Talk” which was designed to educate people about what forced the bridge to close last fall. Planning Commission Chair Dave Gross, landscape architect David Raphael, and Bob Neeld, Professional Engineer at Engineering Ventures, hosted a small group on the South Main Street end of the bridge. Beyond answering questions, the three shared their own experiences and memories of the bridge. Raphael suggested that at this preliminary stage, without any cost parameters established, it was okay to think big. That theme would be revisited several times throughout the day. He also encouraged people to think of bridges as destinations: places people visit because of unique factors such as aesthetics and location, and where the bridge provides a singular experience that stays in people’s minds.

Raphael, Neeld, and select board chair Eric Remick gave a brief introduction under a tent in the Daniels Building parking lot, adjacent to the bridge’s entrance. Refreshments were on hand, donated by Front Seat Coffee, the Buffalo Mountain Co-op, the Village Market, and Jasper Hill Farm, including a small lemonade stand staffed by children. The tent was paid for through a \$500 donation from the Golub Foundation, the charitable arm of the same group that owns Price Chopper, according to select board and downtown commission member Shari Cornish. The Galaxy Bookshop provided a microphone for the workshop.

From the introductory session, it was clear residents valued the bridge’s aesthetics and characteristics and wished to preserve them as much as possible. One person asked about repurposing the bridge’s stanchions in the final project. Others brought up the bridge’s tendency to swing, which

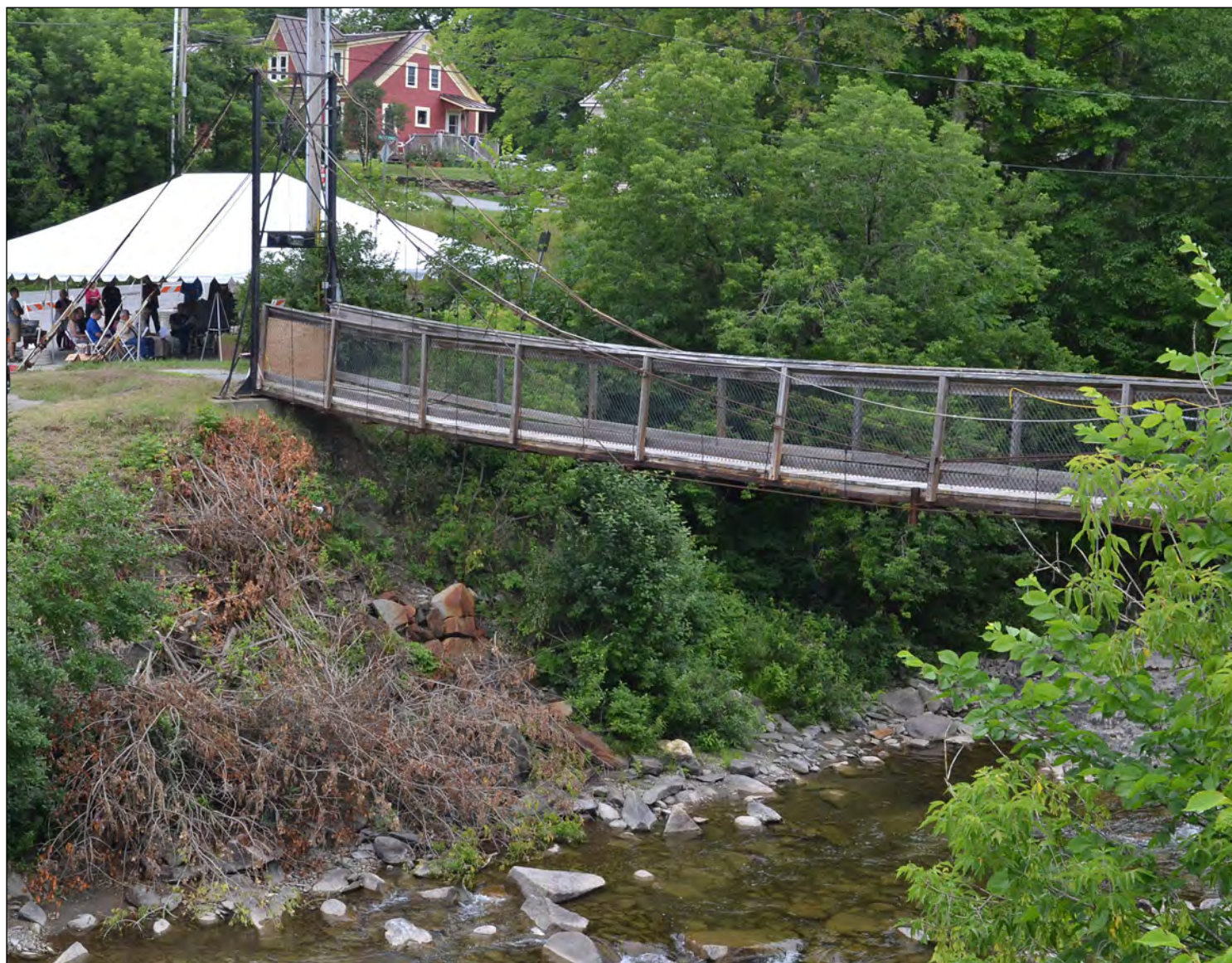


photo by Vanessa Fournier

This swinging bridge in Hardwick was completed and opened in February of 1916. It had to be closed to pedestrians on August 17, 2020, because of a broken support cable and issues with the cable suspension. A community workshop was held July 17 to discuss plans for replacing the bridge.

some people said they enjoyed, while others did not.

Next, select board member and Hardwick Historical Society President Elizabeth Dow gave “Some History,” a brief narrative about the town’s bridges from a historical perspective. Then attendees divided into three groups, led by Cornish, Dow, and Gross. Each group was tasked with considering community expectations for the replacement bridge and coming up with ideas for improving the site.

All three groups preferred a suspension-style bridge, and the consensus was that the new bridge should pay homage to the old one without being a direct replica. Cornish’s group was “very fond” of the current bridge’s aesthetics and wanted something unique to the town so people would want

to visit it. That group favored a custom-designed bridge, specifying “nothing cheesy.” Remick’s group wanted something similar to the current bridge, but wider, to accommodate bikes, noting the upcoming Lamoille Valley Rail Trail’s completion. The current bridge is just four feet two inches wide. That group also wanted a “flare” in the middle of the bridge so people could stop and look over the river. Gross’ group agreed both with a widened, bike-friendly bridge, and an “observational opportunity on the bridge itself.” The group summarized part of its design philosophy with the equation “attractiveness equals income,” meaning the more attractive the bridge, the more likely it is to prove a revenue-generator for the town.

Residents agreed that replacing the bridge would provide an opportunity to improve access to the river; an important consideration for all. Gross’ group envisioned a terraced green space on the riverfront. That group also suggested enhancing the bridge’s entryways. Cornish’s group also expressed interest in the new design affording access to the Lamoille River.

The three groups generally agreed on practical concerns. All three wanted the bridge to be low-maintenance, helping meet its stated goal of a one-hundred-year lifespan. People also agreed that the design process should

Neeld said once funds and permits are secured, it could take a year and a half to two years to complete the new bridge, which surprised and disappointed some residents.

include simplifying snow removal for the structure, with Remick’s group suggesting investigating whether it was feasible to make the replacement bridge plowable. Remick’s group also wanted to make sure the bridge was ADA-accessible, a point Gross’ group also raised. Gross’ group also wanted planners to think about resilience and resistance to flood events.

After presenting their thoughts, Remick, Raphael and Neeld fielded some final questions. Remick was asked about a timeline and funding, and he said at this point both are in flux. Neeld said once funds and permits are secured, it could take a year and a half to two years to complete the new bridge, which surprised and disappointed some residents. Affection for the previous bridge translated into enthusiasm and optimism for the new one, with updates coming soon on the workshop’s feedback combined with over 30 mailed responses to a survey.



photo by Vanessa Fournier

Landscape architect David Raphael (right) speaks to a crowd of approximately 50 people Saturday about the future of the historic pedestrian bridge on Main Street in Hardwick.

Taxes, Water and Sewer Discussed in Marathon Meeting



photo by Doug McClure

Resident Patrick Kane raised concerns at the July 15 Hardwick Select Board meeting about a recently moved electric panel that he said potentially created a safety issue for the visually impaired, as well as having a negative impact on the visual appeal of the historic village.

by Doug McClure

HARDWICK – The Hardwick Select Board conducted a marathon three-hour meeting on July 15, with residents and others chiming in at the board’s only July select board meeting. The town customarily does not maintain its usual bi-weekly meeting schedule in July as it does for the rest of the year.

A resident brought up the subject of one village building’s main electric panel, which they felt had been moved to a location that appeared to violate Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements and also had a poor visual impact. Patrick Kane pointed out that the building adjacent to the Legion had its giant utility panel placed right on the front of the building when it previously was out of sight. He believed that due to its height and how far it projected out, it could potentially injure a visually impaired person who depended on a cane because its placement would mean that it wouldn’t be detected by that assistive equipment.

He wanted the board to see what he was talking about, so he had printed out color photos of that box. The board reacted with surprise, since no one had really noticed it, and was not happy, but decided that any sort of response to that was not their

bailiwick. They suggested he take concerns possibly to the planning commission. Town Manager Jon Jewett said he doubted that Hardwick Electric had any guidelines regarding keeping the historic feel of the village intact when choosing where they placed utility panels, and added that any argument made about access to the panel contradicted the utility’s stated objective of reading meters automatically without needing physical access.

The Hardwick Electric Department gave a brief update of its own. Commissioner Nat Smith gave a more specific report of the utility’s recent acquisition of a large transmission line from Green Mountain Power. He said the utility estimated \$150,000 a year in savings. He also

explained that the utility’s crews were working on a new feeder line in the village “that will provide significant flexibility if a line goes down.”

Police Chief Aaron Cochran responded to Ceilidh Galloway-Kane’s concern about “reports of vandalism all over,” and in specific at the Main Street Cemetery. Chief Cochran attributed the apparent incidents to “a little more mischief with people out and about,” and asked residents to keep a watchful eye and let police know if, for example, they saw people in the cemetery after hours. He said it did no good for Hardwick Police Department to learn about something after it had happened.

Jewett spoke about delinquent property taxes in his town manager’s report, which prior to the meeting stood at \$85,000, he said. The last day to make payments on those property taxes is August 6, after which unpaid bills go to the town’s attorney for tax sale. The 2021 tax sale is set for October 5. The town will make contractual arrangements with people in arrears. Business Manager Casey Rowell said that this year there were “very few” contracts in place for people who were behind on their taxes.

Chair Eric Remick said, “If you haven’t paid your taxes, you should definitely contact the town manager’s office.”

Jewett added that “Your house won’t go to tax sale if you initiate a contract to pay your taxes up within the next six or eight months, and you continue to pay. If you don’t pay, even with a contract, it’s going to go to tax sale, eventually. But at least it helps to have people come in and

talk to us about it.”

Delinquencies on water and sewer continue, but have dropped by about \$20,000 to \$44,000, Jewett said. Rowell also had news about the FY2022 water and sewer budgets. The town had learned that the sewer bond could not be extended out 30 years, since it was not deemed to be an infrastructure project but instead an equipment project. Therefore, it could not go past 20 years.

The sewer rate for the first year was projected by Rowell to increase from 5.12% to 5.44%, offset by a 4.44% decrease in water, during the first year. Over successive years, both of those rates would “level back down” to more typical numbers for increases.

Rowell and Jewett had taken a look at the two departments’ budgets, and discovered what Jewett said was a disproportionately high amount of salary costs coming only out of the two budgets. The amount worked out to roughly \$78,000 in each. He said in his opinion that those would be more appropriately placed in the town’s general fund. “I can envision years ago, when they decided to make these decisions, they were just saying ‘we need to keep the municipal budget down, let’s just put a little more in water and sewer.’ You have 550 hookups, and you’re expecting those people to pay for all those employees. That’s ridiculous.”

Another town-related number under discussion was the Grand List. Rowell said that the figure was \$191 million, a \$3.2 million increase over last year’s total, which she said was “really awesome.” According to the town report, the Grand List was expected to total \$187.8m.



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photo by Vanessa Fournier

Caroline Hitchcock (left) of Hardwick presented a 36x40-inch quilt she made to the Greensboro Nursing Home on July 14. Accepting the gift are (second from left to right) Mary Rowell and her dog Zadie Jane, Meals on Wheels volunteer; Stephanie Crawford, Dietary Assistant Manager; Bobbie Nisbet, President of the Board of Trustees; Janney Johnston, Meals on Wheels volunteer; Rod Boula, Director of Operations; Robin Talmadge, Dietary Aide. The quilt will be hung on a wall in the Nursing Home.

Quilt Donated in Appreciation for Greensboro Nursing Home

by Janney Johnson

GREENSBORO – Caroline Hitchcock is a creative senior citizen who loves to quilt. She also has been receiving home delivered meals, even throughout the COVID pandemic.

Hitchcock wanted to express her appreciation for the 20 volunteers who deliver the food and for the Greensboro Nursing Home dietary staff who prepare the 300 meals a week for about 50 people in the surrounding communities.

So, Hitchcock made a quilt, which she donated this to Greensboro Nursing Home, where the dietary staff prepares the meals and volunteers pick up the food for distribution. The quilt will be a wall hanging to cheer the halls of the nursing home. It will also be a reminder of Hitchcock's gratitude for the volunteers and dietary staff that make this community service possible in Greensboro, East Hardwick, Hardwick, Stannard,

and South Walden.

The quilt depicts a road leading toward the horizon, a symbol of the travels taken to deliver the meals to people's homes. On the back of the quilt, Caroline placed a message: "In appreciation for all the good you do for Vermonters."

Home-delivered meals are made possible through a contract between The Northeast Kingdom Council on Aging and Greensboro Nursing Home, which prepares the meals and provides milk, desserts, and bread. Northeast Kingdom Council on Aging's home delivered meal program is a member of the national Meals on Wheels organization. In recognition of this, Hitchcock has placed the Meals on Wheels logo in the upper portion of the quilt. The partnership between Northeast Kingdom Council on Aging, Greensboro Nursing Home, and community volunteers has allowed the home delivered meals program to continue for over 25 years.

WonderArts Receives Vermont Afterschool Summer Grant

GREENSBORO – WonderArts was recently selected to receive \$20,000 in funding from the Vermont Afterschool Summer Matters for All grant program. According to Governor Phil Scott, the Summer Matters for All grant program will award up to \$3.85 million to programs in 13 counties with the goal of expanding access to summer enrichment opportunities for K-to-12 youth this summer.

WonderArts offers enrichment-based learning, with core activities occurring in the morning before an afternoon spent exploring recreation activities or visiting Caspian Beach. Each week explores elements of WonderArts' core areas of focus: arts, recreation, technology, and sustainability.

"Our Summer Enrichment Program serves youth of the Northeast Kingdom with stimulating programming and a safe environment. Our youth will be able to explore new areas of interest and interact in-person during the summer months for the first time in more than a year," says WonderArts Executive Director Kathryn Lovinsky.

Governor Scott has put an

emphasis on helping Vermont children recover from the pandemic and the isolation it caused, including creating opportunities for them to safely reconnect with their peers and their communities. The purpose of the grant program is to increase access to summer enrichment opportunities for K-to-12 youth statewide during the summer of 2021. This was a highly competitive process, with 188 proposals requesting \$7,427,584 in requests, which far exceeded available funds.

The grants, funded by federal dollars secured by Senator Bernie Sanders and administered by Vermont Afterschool, were awarded to a variety of programs, including summer camps, libraries, municipalities, teen centers, non-profit social services organizations and more, to expand the number of weeks and slots, as well as to increase affordability and accessibility of summer programs. These offerings will supplement school-based programs, as districts in Vermont received separate federal funds to support summer learning and afterschool programs.

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WonderArts Receives In-School and After-School Grant

GREENSBORO – WonderArts was recently selected to receive \$5,000 in funding from the Vermont Children’s Trust Foundation to expand its in-school and after-school programs.

Programs from WonderArts engage children across the region in dancing, writing songs, cooking, exploring the outdoors, designing marble runs, doing yoga, felting, making pottery, or working on any number of projects.

“In the past few years, our school programming has grown exponentially because of our community’s need for high-quality expanded learning opportunities and our organization’s dedication to providing developmentally appropriate, engaging activities,” says Kathryn Lovinsky, WonderArts executive director.

WonderArts provides enrichment programs in four distinct formats: in-school preschool classes, elementary-midlevel after-school classes, middle-high in-school programming, and in-school artist residencies at all levels. Preschool programs provide children with a variety of classes to meet the developmental needs in early childhood, including open

ended music, dance, yoga, and art.

WonderArts in-school residencies reach all ages and vary from theater arts and puppetry to lantern-making and creative writing. Each area of this program benefits students by providing them with tools and activities that nurture self-expression, curiosity, positive communication, self-worth, empathy, and problem-solving.

WonderArts is also developing plans to offer professional development opportunities during SY20-21 to school staff, community members and instructors, with the intention of advancing protective-promotive factors within and beyond WonderArts classes.

WonderArts afterschool classes serve six schools with over 200 classes per year, with content varying with the needs of the schools; from bookmaking and cooking to taekwondo and yoga. In-school activities will run weekly and provide middle-high school students with hands-on experiences in entrepreneurship, environmental education, literacy, and the arts.

Families may learn more about in-school and after-school programs by emailing info@wonderartsvt.org or calling (802) 533-9370.



photo by Vanessa Fournier
Braxton Daigneault, 2, touches an Americana chicken held by Warren Hill of Caspian Critters 4-H Club in Greensboro. Waiting their turn (from left) are Maddison LaPoint, 6, Madison Colpron, 5, and Colton Daigneault, 7. Fifteen adults and 12 children attended the Greensboro Free Library summer program “Tails and Tales” on July 15. The 4-H’ers brought chickens, a Jersey calf, a sheep, rabbit and a dog. The two leaders of the 4-H club are Heather Lumsden and Lauralea Curavoo.



courtesy photo
Some of the new Girl Scout Daisies of Troop 61654 join their older troop members in showing the Girl Scout sign. Daisies are girls in kindergarten and first grade. Pictured are (back row from left) Cadette Jesalyn, Cadette Grace, Cadette Lydia, Senior Fiona, and Cadette Kaylee. In front are Daisies Alaedra, Taylyn, Angelina, Melody, and Eleanor. Missing is Daisy Aariah.

Girl Scouts Welcomes New Daisies

WOLCOTT – New Girl Scout Daisies are enjoying the outdoors, making new friends, and beginning their Girl Scout experience in Wolcott. Ten girls in Troop 61654 are now able to meet in person with safety precautions in place. The troop includes girls from Daisy through Senior level, which is kindergarten through tenth grade.

“Our troop is comprised of several girls from different areas

and schools who are excited to make friends and ready to engage in activities,” said troop leader Kasey Greene. “They have a diverse range of interests we are trying to accommodate and include in the ‘girl-led’ fashion, ranging from first aid/babysitting, horseback riding, science, cooking, and more. They are incredibly motivated to keep learning more and more and to engage in the community.”

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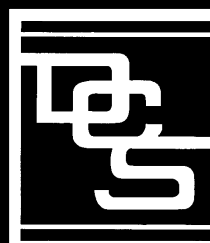
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The Craftsbury Children's Farmers' Market

Photos by
Vanessa Fournier



Hunter Clifford, 4, and his sister Rylee Clifford, 6, of Walden, were selling eggs and fresh garlic.



Lincoln LaCoss, 6, of Morrisville, said he was selling gummy bears that he made with some help from others.



Aemilia Terrone, 9, of Craftsbury, had bracelets, anklets, necklaces, cookies, and banana bread that she made for sale.



Haven Young, 12, of Eden, had crackled marbles, necklaces, earrings and plants for sale at his booth.



Iris Jacobs, 9, of Craftsbury, had flowers, wooden peg people, and stress balls for sale at her table.

Hazen Union Looking into Bike Repair Training Program

by Doug McClure

HARDWICK – Hazen Union is exploring offering students a new training program through California-based Project Bike Tech, said Principal Jason Di Giulio. The skills taught in the program have a practical application to real-world careers, and students who complete the course earn an official industry certification.

The program is described by Project Bike Tech as “a credited high school elective that uses bicycle mechanics as a conduit to teach STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) elements to students.” Project Bike Tech stated its “proprietary curriculum” is classified under the Transportation Sector of Career Technical Education as an “Introduction to Systems Diagnostics, Service and Repair.”

“We also incorporate career building skills and techniques as a component of our class,” the company stated. “Students leave our course knowing the basics of portfolio building, resume writing and interview tactics.”

Di Giulio said students would be industry-certified “by the actual builders of the bikes,” and the program would feature ten bike stations with the necessary tools for each. Once underway, ten to twenty students at a time could become certified in bike mechanics, Di Giulio said.

He explained that while the program in California is focused on transportation, here its focus would be recreation. He said that due to the many opportunities for biking in the area, including Hardwick Trails right behind the school, and the upcoming completion of the Lamoille Valley Rail Trail, he expects the number of bikes in the area would increase.

“The area is just exploding with mountain biking as a sport, industry, and recreation, and students can get in on that,” he said.

He offered the example of his previous school, Lyndon Institute. “I had students at my last school that went through the program, became certified, and started a mobile repair service out of a trailer,” he recalled. “They would go to the trailhead to repair bikes right there. Some others went to Northern Vermont University at Lyndon to explore outdoor recreation as a career, using this as a building block.”

Di Giulio said he hopes to expand the basic program to include community-oriented features and inspire students to think creatively about mountain biking.

“How do we get to work, build trails, [perform] trail maintenance?” he asked rhetorically. “That kind of approach really helps students to not just gain the technical skills of how to repair these complex things, but also how to interface with the public, lead tours, and make a living here.”

Di Giulio said establishing a synergistic relationship with Northern Vermont University at Lyndon or Johnson could afford students a dual-enrollment opportunity. Through a type of dual enrollment, students could be involved in those schools’ outdoor recreation programming, which could “provide students more viable options about how to stay in the area [after graduation].”

Project Bike Tech will take an estimated \$60,000 of investment to launch, he said. The school is investigating whether grant funding or recovery money might help pay for it, or if some community partners

might be interested in helping make the program happen. Di Giulio said if things progress quickly, it is possible that the program could launch sometime in the second half of the school year, but next year is more likely.

Like the upcoming Amazon coding skills program for middle schoolers, Project Bike Tech is part of the school’s individualistic approach to education. “We hope that these [programs] can really appeal to students that learn in lots of different ways,” Di Giulio said. “This is the place where they can explore pathways and seize a future for themselves.”



photo by Vanessa Fournier

Sometime during the early hours of July 17 three bottles of liquid dish soap was poured into the fountain at Memorial Park in Hardwick. After being notified, someone from the town turned off the water so suds would stop flowing out of it. When the scene was spotted by Errol Grant, Bryce Martin, and Dominic Mitchell at 11:30 that morning, they could not resist playing in it.

Hazen Union to Offer Middle-schoolers Computer Coding Instruction

by Doug McClure

HARDWICK – Starting this fall, Hazen Union will offer middle-schoolers computer coding instruction through Amazon’s Future Engineer curriculum. The program will be funded by a grant from Amazon.

The middle school course will be taught by middle school science teacher Arne Hagman. Principal Jason Di Giulio said Hazen’s goal is to start building a technologically oriented pathway for students, with the Amazon program as a first step. The school is also hoping in the future to hire a teacher trained in Advanced Placement Computer Science Principles who would provide computer science training for juniors and seniors, as well as using code.org’s curriculum for tenth graders.

Amazon describes the curriculum that Hazen will be using part of as “a comprehensive childhood-to-career program aimed at increasing access to computer science education for children and

young adults from underserved and underrepresented communities.”

Di Giulio said that the program was developed by Amazon because it was having trouble finding coders to hire.

“In order to secure their business in the the future, [Amazon needed] to grow more STEM-oriented [Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics] students and graduates.”

A key focus of the program is “algorithmic problem-solving,” which is a problem-solving strategy that teaches students a different approach to problem solving.

“It’s thinking algorithmically, and experimentally, rather than linearly,” said Di Giulio. “Amazon, and other computer science companies, have found that when we approach problems using only seven problem-solving steps, like we’re traditionally trained, it doesn’t allow us to extemporize, think

entrepreneurially, or to think like a coder.”

He said that students who

learn this skillset will “open [themselves] up to thinking outside the box, like there are

many solutions to a problem, and the one [to] select is the one that works the most elegantly or efficiently.”

Students graduating from schools that lack computer science education are at “a significant disadvantage,” said Di Giulio. While this program is just the first step of many the school hopes to make in coming years, “by giving students a middle-school introduction to coding, we’re hoping to take care of a bit of that [problem].”

He said, “We’re looking at [in] maybe three to five years, having a good, solid, computer science pathway for students that would elect to do that.”

Di Giulio said that offering this course at the middle school level might turn some students on to computer science. But, even if a kid were to find that this path isn’t for them, the new knowledge gained about problem-solving strategies would be beneficial. “If

they don’t like it, that’s fine. But at least they’re exposed to how to think through a problem a little differently.”

Di Giulio said the school began looking into a “grant opportunity” last fall, though that opportunity is not like a traditional grant. Amazon provided a grant so the school could get its curriculum and teacher training, and there was no dollar amount put on it. Di Giulio estimated, based on experience, that the dollar value

for this sort of programming would be somewhere between \$6,000 and \$8,000.

“We applied [last fall], and because we’re a semi-rural school in the Northeast Kingdom of Vermont, we were able to win the grant. It’s not a massive grant, but it’s a perfect one,”

The exact way the program will be structured has not yet been determined. Di Giulio said the school is deciding whether to offer it as a more intensive, semester-long course or split the curriculum between two semesters.



courtesy photo
Joseph and Jeannine Young of Craftsbury celebrated their fiftieth anniversary on June 26.

Youngs Celebrate 50 Years

CRAFTSBURY – Joseph and Jeannine Young of Craftsbury celebrated their fiftieth wedding anniversary on Saturday, June 26, beginning with the 6 p.m. Mass at Our Lady of Fatima Church in Craftsbury.

By coincidence, the traveling “Our Lady of Fatima” Statue from Fatima, Portugal, dressed in white, with a white veil, was present for the Mass. Fr. Thomas Aquinas gave

the couple a blessing and presented them with a 50th Wedding Anniversary Certificate from The Most Reverend Christopher Coyne, Bishop of Burlington. Bernie Lussier and Alice Perron supplied music for the Mass. Family and friends gathered in the church hall for a reception following the Mass. The couple was married on June 26, 1971, at St. Norbert Church in Hardwick.



photo by Vanessa Fournier
Standing in front of the new Twin Valley Senior Center sign in East Montpelier (from left) are Rita Copeland, executive director; Rose Paul, volunteer; Denise Wheeler, vice chair of the board of directors; Cecile Sherburn, board member. The sign was designed by board member Fred Wilber. The Senior Center serves the towns of Cabot, Calais, Marshfield, Plainfield, Woodbury, and East Montpelier. The Center closed in March of 2020 because of the pandemic and reopened on July 7 of this year.

OUR COMMUNITIES

Animal Tails and Tales at Atkins Field on July 22

HARDWICK – On Thursday, July 22, at 12:30 p.m., Kurt Valenta, known as Mr. K, will lead a program that takes a look at the tails of animals and birds.

Participants will explore what tails are used for by their owners

while being able to handle a number of real tails. This event will be held at Atkins Field, rain or shine. For more information, please contact youth librarian Diane Grenkow at jeudevinyouthlibrarian@hardwickvt.org or 472-5948.

Library Expansion Celebration on July 25

CRAFTSBURY – The Craftsbury Public Library has completed an expansion project and the public is invited to an opening celebration on Sunday, July 25, at 4 p.m., at the library.

Created in memory of Leesa Fine, a longtime member of the library, the addition includes a quiet reading room, a small remote meeting space, and upgrades to the children’s room.

The afternoon will begin with reflections on the project by library board president Ned Houston, librarian Susan O’Connell, and Leesa’s son, Ben Kubic. The building will be open for visitors to tour, music will be supplied by the Rowell sisters, and refreshments will be served.

For more information on the library’s opening celebration call 586-9683 or email director@craftsburypubliclibrary.org.

Free Webinar Series on Tap for Sugar Makers

BURLINGTON – A free webinar series offered through University of Vermont (UVM) Extension covers a broad array of topics of interest to maple producers, from maple production and forestry practices to business management.

Eight online sessions will be held from late July to October. Presenters will include Abby van den Berg, a UVM plant physiologist; Anthony D’Amato, UVM Forestry Program director; Mark Cannella, farm business management specialist; Mark Isselhardt, maple specialist; and Chris Lindgren, forest business coordinator, all with UVM Extension.

A separate registration is required for each webinar with the deadline to register 48 hours prior to the 7 p.m. start time for each session.

To register, go to maple-manager.org. Society of American Foresters Continuing Forestry Education Credits are available.

Topics and dates are as follows: July 21 - Total Yields from Red Maple; July 28 - Maple Start-Up Profiles and Financial Benchmarks; Aug. 11 - Best Practices for Birch Syrup Flavor; Aug. 25 - Sugarbush Inventory Methods; Sept. 15 - Sap-Only Enterprises; Sept. 29 - Binding Contracts and Legal Agreements; Oct. 13 - Maple Forests and Carbon; Oct. 27 - Northeast Forest Land Taxes and Programs

To request a disability-related accommodation to participate, please contact Christi Sherlock at (802) 476-2003, ext. 200, or (866) 860-1382 (toll-free in Vermont) at least three weeks prior to the webinar date.

EDUCATION

Perchlik Named to Dean’s List

ITHACA, N.Y. – Ithaca College field, Vt., was named to the Dean’s student Wren Perchlik of Plain- List for the spring 2021 semester.

Moffatt Earns Degree from Clark University

WORCESTER, Mass. – Aidan Saturday, June 12, and Sunday, James Moffatt, of Craftsbury, June 13. Moffatt graduated magna cum laude with a Bachelor of Arts in Community Youth and Education Studies.

Community College of Vermont Announces Spring 2021 Dean’s List

MONTPELIER – Victoria (CCV). This honor recognizes full-time students with a grade point average between 3.5 and 3.99. Mayo and Sophia Morgan of Cabot were named to the spring 2021 Dean’s List at the Community College of Vermont



photo by Vanessa Fournier
Natalie Hill (center) of the Caspian Critters 4-H Club in Greensboro lets Madison Colpron, 5, of East Hardwick (left) and Tobin Purdy, 5, (right) of Wheelock pet her Jersey calf "Daisy" during the Greensboro Free Library summer program "Tails and Tales" held July 15.

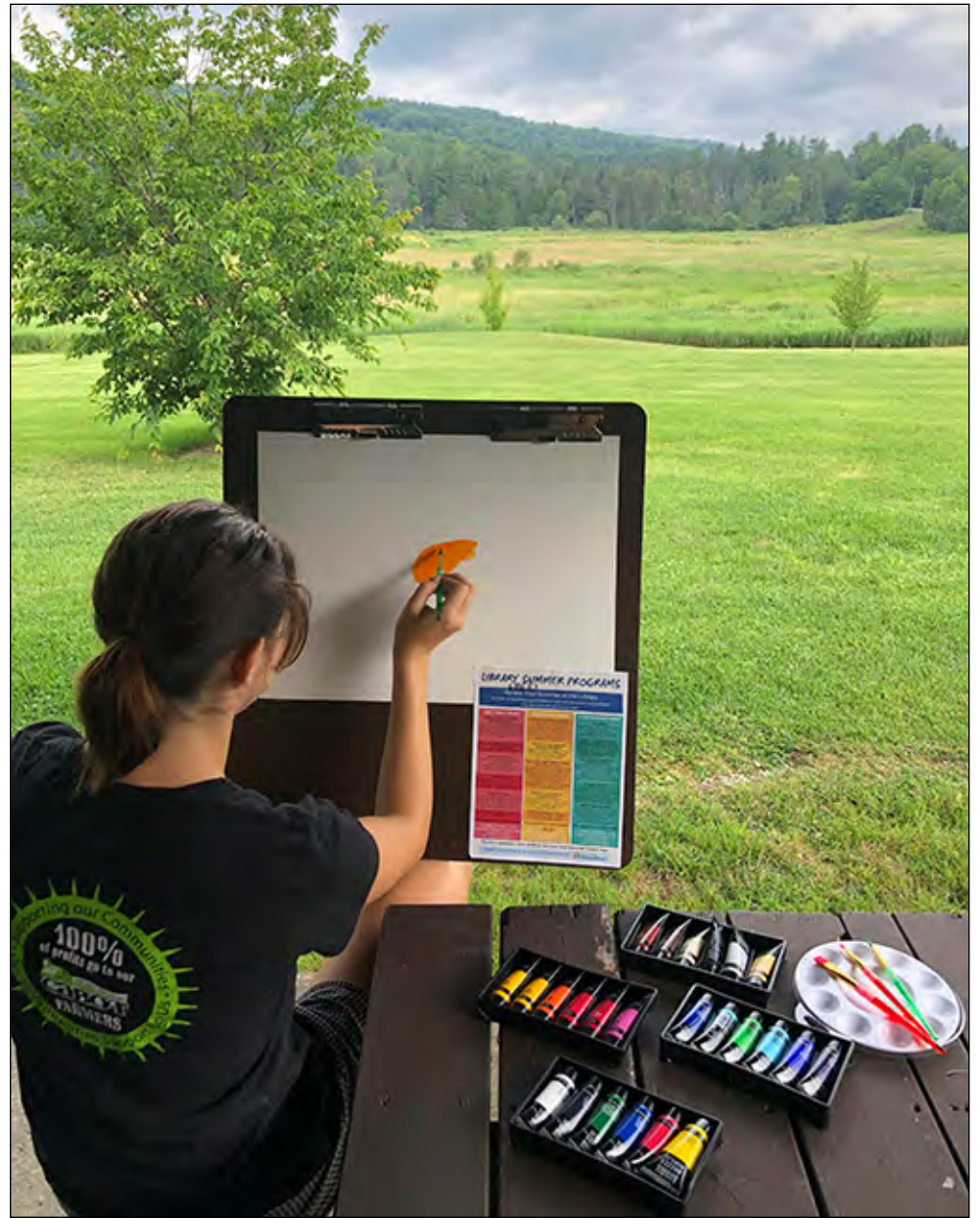



photo by Amanda Otto
Lucia McCallum begins a painting at the Cabot recreation shelter as part of the Artful Activities program held Fridays from 9 to 10:30 a.m. through July 30. Participants explore modern art through a variety of mediums and activities with local artist Amanda Otto.

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Exploring Modern Art on Fridays
CABOT – The Cabot Public Library is presenting a program to explore modern art through a variety of media and activities. Artful Activities, with local artist Amanda Otto, meets Fridays through July 30, from 9 a.m. to 10:30 p.m., at the Cabot Recreation Fields shelter.



The Stannard Town School Board requires a Tuition Voucher and proof of residency for any students in grades 7-12 that live in Stannard. The Tuition Voucher form is available at Lakeview Elementary School, Craftsbury Academy, and Hazen Union School, as well as the Orleans Southwest Supervisory Union Central Office. You can also email tblaisdell@ossu.org for a copy. The form is due on or before August 2, 2021. Please note: the form must be completed in order for the tuition payment to be made to the respective school district.

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THIS WEEK'S EVENTS

Thursday, July 22

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.

MONTHLY PARENT CAFE SERIES, hosted by Healthy Lamoille Valley, 4:30 - 5:30 p.m. on Zoom. Designed to highlight a community resource or parenting skill and then encourage conversation with other parents/caregivers. Information and pre-register at healthylamoillevalley.org/parent-cafe-series.

GREATER GREENSBORO Progress update, 7 p.m., Greensboro Free Library upstairs meeting room. The four task forces formed in 2019 will highlight their efforts. Information: 533-2531 or greensborofree@gmail.com.

Friday, July 23

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

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.

KIDS' FRIDAY, 11 a.m., with Lunchbox at 11:30 a.m. Hands-on learning each week, through August 25. Free lunch by the Green Mountain Farm to School Lunchbox, Old Stone House Museum, Brownington. Information: 802-754-2022, OldStoneHouseMuseum.org.

ARTFUL ACTIVITIES - Friday, July 23 and 30, 9 - 10:30 a.m., with Amanda Otto, Cabot Rec. shelter. Explore modern art through a variety of mediums and activities. Information: 563-2721, cabotlibrary@yahoo.com.

Saturday, July 24

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

Sunday, July 25

BACK ROADS READINGS, with Victoria Redel and Marie Howe, 3 - 4 p.m., Highland Center for the Arts, 2875 Hardwick St., Greensboro. Readings followed by a book signing and reception. Outside in a tent. Information: highlandartsvt.org, 802-533-2000.

Monday, July 26

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 people 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.

Tuesday, July 27

JAQUITH PUBLIC LIBRARY, 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.

COPING WITH COVID: Managing Re-entry Anxiety, 1 - 2 p.m. COVID Support VT. Information: 802-431-6222, ext. 701, junapr.com.

COVID RECOVERY: Wellness Through Gratitude, 3 - 4 p.m. COVID Support VT. Information: 802-431-6222, ext. 701, junapr.com.

Wednesday, July 28

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.

ACTIVITY GROUPS for Older Vermonters: Games and Social Time, Wednesdays, through July 28, 2 - 3 p.m. COVID Support Vt. Information: 802-431-6222, ext. 701, junapr.com.

Exhibits

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: VtPie-GirlCo@gmail.com, oliveyin1@gmail.com or BreadandPuppet.org.

DONNA UNDERWOOD OWENS: The Animal Whisperer. Photographs of wild and domestic animals. Parker Pie Gallery, West Glover, through August 18.

CHARLIE EMERS, new art show, Third Floor Gallery in the Hardwick Inn called "Wheelbarrow Art." Opening on Friday, July 23, from 4 to 6 p.m.

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



courtesy photo

Mister Chris and Friends Band will perform August 15 at Highland Center for the Arts.

Mister Chris and Friends Band Perform August 15

GREENSBORO – The Mister Chris and Friends Band comes to Highland Center for the Arts on Sunday, August 15, at 3 p.m.

Emmy-winning Mister Chris brings to the stage learning and exploration for the entire family. From their homes in Vermont, Caleb, Chris, Emma, Tyler, and a revolving cast of musi-

cians, producers, engineers, and educators work hard to express the experience of early childhood with their songs, videos, and dynamic interactive live performances.

Events are weather permitting. Check the website at highlandartsvt.org or social media on the day for a final notice for rain calls.



courtesy photo

"Get Thee to the Funnery" Shakespeare Camp for teens will take place at Highland Center for the Arts from August 2 through August 13.

Shakespeare Camp begins August 2

GREENSBORO – The "Get Thee to the Funnery" Shakespeare Camp for teens will meet at Highland Center for the Arts from August 2 through August 13, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Peter Gould's Shakespeare camp "Get Thee to the Funnery" will be held this summer outdoors under the big tent. As usual, the season is the first two weeks of August for this physically- and mentally-demanding day camp.

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

late afternoon of Friday, August 13.

This will be the 24th summer session of the Funnery camp which features team-building and leadership training for each camper.

The study of this summer's play "A Midsummer Night's Dream" will focus on Shakespeare and climate change, a crisis that Vermont Humanities calls "an escalating, perhaps uncontrollable catastrophe in the making."

For camp information contact gettheetothefunnery.org, at 802-257-4844, or via email petergouldvt@gmail.com.

Gruhler Exhibit Presented through August 29



Gruhler Chelsea Series 1965 #18, oil on canvas.

GREENSBORO – The Gallery at Highland Center for the Arts (HCA) will host an exhibit titled “Paul Gruhler’s Harmonics: 60 Years of Life in Art,” through August 29. The HCA exhibition will present Gruhler’s early work from his Chelsea Series (1963-1978).

Gruhler is a dedicated Geometric Abstractionist. Over 60 years, he produced a series of paintings, drawings, and paper collage embodying the essential forms of Geometric Abstraction. Gruhler was (and remains) intrigued by the expressive nuances and subtle internal sensations stirred by such painstaking, deliberate arrangement of art’s basic elements - form, color, line, and shape - and quickly adopted this minimalist style for life-long experimentation in response to the changing world around him. His artistic drive is to make order and harmony of all that is inchoate. He paints that “visual sensation, a feeling or idea, divorced from literal representation.”

Born in 1941 in Brooklyn, Gruhler grew up in neighboring Queens. A self-taught artist, at 21, he opened his first studio in Chelsea, the flower district in lower Manhattan, in 1962. Gruhler became fully immersed in the artists’ networks and

connective communities where artists, curators, intellectuals, and creative thinkers regularly gathered to passionately exchanged ideas about art.

Early in his career, Gruhler was fortunate to form relationships with prominent older artists and notably was mentored by the celebrated sculptor Michael Lekakis, who had exhibitions at the Guggenheim, the Whitney, and the Museum of Modern Art. Lekakis took the young Gruhler under his wing, helping him navigate through New York’s avant-garde art scene and introducing him to renowned artists, including Alexander Calder, Isamu Noguchi, Louise Nevelson, and Barnett Newman. Meanwhile, Gruhler’s own work was exhibited in galleries and museums in the U.S., Mexico City, Finland, Germany, The Netherlands, and Sweden. Another of Gruhler’s primary influences was Herb Auch. He introduced Gruhler to acrylic paint and to sourcing his paint by grinding his own pigments, allowing for even, deep, saturated color. Auch also shared a material that sealed the canvas, preventing paint from bleeding into the surface. Around 1975, Gruhler’s paintings showed exposed, unpainted canvas playing against saturated color

forms. He practices this method still today.

Gruhler’s third main influence was Harold Weston, a powerful force in the art world. Both a celebrated, widely exhibited painter and a social activist, Weston and his wife, Faith, were Gruhler’s first patrons and, according to Gruhler, his intellectual parents. They, too, introduced him to the extensive art world and recommended him for many grants and gallery shows.

Gruhler’s Chelsea period, the work produced between 1963-1978, represents an education, an evolution, and a confirmed dedication to Geometric Abstraction. He stayed the course in his experimentation and representation of

geometric abstraction for 60 years.

Gruhler moved to Vermont in 1993 and now lives in Craftsbury. He continues to work daily in his studio overlooking Vermont’s Green Mountains. Gruhler’s paintings are held in numerous national and international collections, both public and private.

A catalog, “Paul Gruhler, Harmonics: 60 Years of Life in Art,” accompanies this exhibit. The catalog will be available at the Gallery during the exhibition. It features an essay on Paul Gruhler’s work by Carolyn Bauer, associate curator, Shelburne Museum.

For additional information contact: maureen@highlandartsvt.org.



courtesy photo

Dahlia Dumont and her band the Blue Dahlia will perform July 25 at Dog Mountain in St. Johnsbury.

Levitt AMP St. Johnsbury Presents Blue Dahlia on July 25

ST. JOHNSBURY – Dahlia Dumont and The Blue Dahlia takes the stage Sunday, July 25, at Dog Mountain as part of the Levitt AMP St. Johnsbury Music Series, which brings free concerts to Dog Mountain on Sundays at 5 p.m. through September 4.

The concert features Blue Dahlia, who will present audiences with both French and English lyrics, French and Mexican accordion, klezmer violin, and the rhythms of reggae, ska, and Latin America, as well as some jazz influence and French chanson. Blue Dahlia has appeared as an acoustic trio in bistros in New York and Paris and as an electric big band in venues and festivals worldwide.

Brooklyn singer-songwriter Dahlia Dumont showcases the broad multicultural influences of a life spent traveling from an early age. Her Eastern European heritage and years as an anthropology student and

teacher in France and Senegal shaped her musical palette. In 2012, with ukulele in hand, she created The Blue Dahlia and has since released two albums, “The Blue Dahlia,” and “La Tradition Americaine.”

The Levitt AMP St. Johnsbury Music Series will bring free, family-friendly live music to Dog Mountain every Sunday through August 28 and Saturday, September 4, and dogs are welcome. Parking is available on-site, including handicapped spaces, and carpooling is encouraged. Bar service will be provided by Kingdom Taproom and food served by Calex and Genuine Jamaican. Picnicking is welcome, but no outside alcohol is permitted. Patrons are encouraged to comply with evolving CDC COVID-safety guidelines.

For more information about Catamount summer programming, including the full Levitt AMP St. Johnsbury line-up, visit catamountarts.org.

YANKEE NOTEBOOK

“That’s Not Enough: We Need a Majority.”

by Willem Lange

EAST MONTPELIER – I started writing this week on a cool, soft, moist evening in central Vermont, with Kiki snoozing in the easy chair behind me, and the windows open to catch any breeze and let in the sound of the rain dripping from the eaves. The setting hardly could have been more idyllic.

Central Vermont, though, is not where I’d planned to be at that moment. I was supposed to be two time zones west, sitting on a shaded veranda in Wolf Creek, Montana, sipping my usual pre-prandial and chatting amiably with one of my oldest friends and fishing buddies. The next morning after breakfast, we’d begin the first of several day-long floats down the Upper Missouri River, casting tiny, almost-invisible flies to the large brown and rainbow trout that long have haunted this beautiful stretch of river – one from time immemorial, the other since 1889. Brown pelicans, the most graceful of fliers, would float by above. As usual, I’d imagine Lewis and Clark’s crew dragging and poling their loaded boats upstream and, on their return run, gleefully shooting downstream toward home. That setting, too, hardly could be more idyllic.

Except that my friend and I weren’t there. Instead, just as the economy had begun to burst

into action after the pandemic downturn, another pestilence had struck. This is part of the letter we got from our outfitter: “We are capping our guide trips for the remainder of the summer season and will be taking no more bookings ... for July and August. We hope to resume ... in September at which time we will re-evaluate and proceed accordingly. Hopefully things will improve as fall approaches. We recognize that this is an inconvenience for those making last minute plans for a guided day on the Missouri, ...but we feel it’s in the best interest of the river, the fish and all of our clients to do what we can to reduce our impact for the remainder of the summer season.”

We canceled. My buddy opined that there was “no sense roasting at 100 and taking our tackle for a ride.” I googled the Wolf Creek weather and the river statistics. The next couple of weeks, the days are all in the nineties, and the river is flirting with 70°, almost lethal to trout.

Here in the lush, green Great Northeast, we tend to think ourselves as insulated somewhat from the climate change-induced horrors we read about to the south and west of us. But every so often we hear an ominous rumble of that distant thunder. This was one of them. I’m quite aware that two retired old guys being frustrated from enjoying

their fly-fishing vacation is hardly a blip in the cosmos. But I have a strong feeling that it may be a harbinger.

If you’ve ever stood in a salt marsh as the tide comes in, you remember the trickles flowing into the lowest spots, pebbles disappearing, the little waves on the deepening water, and finally the conviction that it was time to get the hell out of there. That’s how this is happening.

Many skeptics have long made fun of Albert Gore and wish Bill McKibben would just shut up; but those two are turning out to be right. Greenland and Antarctica really are shedding ice at increasing rates; high temperatures in the American West have exponentially exacerbated the threat of forest fires; the mighty Colorado River is already failing the millions of people who’ve been relying upon it for irrigation and power; Germany (which doesn’t stagger easily) is staggering from deadly floods in the Rhineland; homeowner’s insurance in calamity-prone areas may soon be out of reach or impossible to obtain; and the fishing guides and outfitters of the Upper Missouri are sitting on their hands and waiting for a change that may not occur in human history.

The story of Noah’s ark, which appears in other ancient traditions, is clearly a myth. But myths and fables have serious aims. Noah was a crackpot, until it started to rain. The United States, with its history of anti-intellectualism, from the 1828 Jackson-Adams Presidential campaign right through to Ronald Reagan and Donald Trump, and now achieving apotheosis on the Internet, has had difficulty in addressing complicated concepts, or solutions to them that involve significant personal or corporate discomfort. (A supporter of Adlai Stevenson once called out, “All thinking people are with you.”

“That’s not enough,” he quipped. “We need a majority.”)

The heat is on, and it’s increasing. If the Gulf Stream continues decelerating, as it has been, the west coasts of Ireland and Norway will be, paradoxically, much colder. In the South Pacific, the island nation of Vanuatu is the most at-risk country in the world, thanks to increasingly violent and frequent cyclones, rising sea levels, and tsunamis. The 48 contiguous states of the United States just recorded their hottest June in 127 years of record-keeping. This is not a normal warming cycle. Changing the moon’s orbit, as one Congressman has suggested, won’t do much to affect it.

One reason for the disconnect between “existential threat” and “government hoax” (beyond the fact that many folks can’t define “existential”) is the confusion about what’s to be done. While we proles increasingly swelter and find our opportunities shrinking, the people we’ve elected to represent and protect us seem to be doing nothing but rearranging the deck chairs, jockeying for advantage, and assuring their reelection. The few politicians calling for stronger measures are labeled radical. Bernie Sanders: “As cities around the world experience 100-year floods every year, as the Pacific Northwest is inundated with wildfires, and as heat waves around the world burn and suffocate wildlife, I ask again – how is bold action on climate considered radical, and this new normal is not?” Much as I hate to be pessimistic, the solutions, if there are any anymore, will require a vast corporate effort. The American people, responding to the national need for simple mass vaccination, have demonstrated their contempt for intelligent, sensible solutions.

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IN THE GARDEN

Mulch Can Help Keep Down Weeds

by Henry Homeyer

CORNISH FLAT, N.H. – Mulch is commonly used to help suppress weeds and to hold in soil moisture in dry times. There are many different kinds of mulch and it is important to get the right kind and to apply it properly if you wish to get the benefits of mulch.

The most commonly used type in flower and shrub borders is sold as bark mulch. It is sold in bags, or by the scoop at garden centers to people who have access to pickup trucks. Bulk mulch is less expensive than bagged mulch if you have a truck or can borrow one from you brother-in-law.

I'm an organic gardener, so I avoid the orange and black mulches. Read the bag before you buy any to see what is in it. According to a report from the University of Massachusetts, the dyes themselves are probably not toxic, but the wood is usually recycled wood from pallets, old decks, and scrap. Those sources are dry and accept dye more easily

use as mulch. You can also use your mower to chop fall leaves before raking them. I have friends who store the chopped leaves in bags in the barn until needed. Chopped leaves rarely blow away after they have been rained on.

In addition to weed suppression, a layer of mulch keeps soils from drying out quickly in the hot summer sun. Essentially, it shades the soil, keeping it moist and cool. In the spring I do not mulch my vegetable garden until after soil temperatures have reached their summer level, say 60 degrees or more.

In May, I want the sun to heat up the soil as my plants need warm soil to grow in, and seeds need warm soil to germinate. And yes, that means weed seeds will germinate, too. But weeding or hoeing the early weeds is not bad and goes quickly – just be sure to get the weeds before they get too big.

Mulch gets broken down over time by soil microbes. That is a good thing – wood chips or leaves



courtesy photo

Little or no mulch is needed in a mature garden bed with plants growing shoulder to shoulder.

grown and cut before seeds are formed. Nonetheless, straw often does have seeds, much to the dismay of gardeners who have paid a premium price for it. Buy it from a source you trust!

Hay is just grass grown for animal feed that has gotten wet after cutting. Those pampered cows or horses won't eat it, so it is sold as mulch for a few bucks a bale.

I always lay down two to four layers of newspaper on the ground before applying hay or straw. This accomplishes two things: it keeps light away from any weeds that germinate even with a layer of hay, and it slowly breaks down and adds more organic matter to the soil.

In the old days, newspapers used dyes with heavy metals, including lead. But now inks are made with soy products and are said to be non-toxic, or at least free of heavy metals. The newspaper itself is made from cellulose derived

from trees, though some chemicals are used in producing the paper.

Black plastic will keep weeds from germinating, but it breaks down and goes into the landfill. It's also ugly, and I avoid it. There are various "landscape fabrics" to put under mulch that do help, though pernicious weeds can grow through some kinds. The woven kind is more susceptible to that.

What about papers that have been through a shredder? I don't find them easy to use or aesthetically pleasing. What about coffee grounds? These are quite acidic, and if you collect them at your local coffee shop, use them only for acid-loving plants like blueberries, hollies or azaleas.

I use no mulch in my mature flower beds. By letting perennials mature and spread, they will choke out almost any weeds, except perhaps in early spring. But by now, they shade out all but the most difficult of weeds.



courtesy photo

This new bed needs mulch to keep down weeds and hold in moisture.

than fresh bark or chipped branches. Recycled pressure treated wood, if older stuff, may contain arsenic; pallets may have been exposed to spilled toxins.

I often see deep layers of mulch to keep weeds down. However, a layer four inches deep will also keep a short rain shower from getting to the soil and your plants. I use an inch or two of mulch, maximum. Yes, some aggressive weeds will poke through a thin layer of mulch, so I try to do a good weeding first.

Chopped leaves are wonderful mulch. Last fall we raked up our leaves and stored them outdoors in a pile. This summer we ran that pile through a chipper/shredder and turned it into a fine product we

that break down add organic matter to your soil and encourage earthworms to aerate the soil and add their castings to the soil, and they are rich in minerals.

Some gardeners tell me that they worry about soil microbes using up nitrogen in the soil as they breakdown mulch. A nitrogen-starved plant has yellowish leaves, not dark green leaves. But I doubt that you've seen that occur, even in flower beds with plenty of mulch. If it has been a problem, or you worry it will occur, apply some slow-release organic fertilizer on the soil surface before mulching.

In the vegetable garden, I mulch with straw or hay. Straw is sold as seed-free and is often



courtesy photo

Newspaper around tomato plants will be covered with straw.

LETTERS FROM READERS

Are There More Power Outages?

To the editor:
Is it just me, or do we seem to be having more power outages since senior management changed at the Hardwick Electric Department some years ago? I was a commissioner for HED for several years and, at the time, the department spent significant funds and effort on right-of-way clearing and maintenance. In fact, it was a major line item in each year's budget. This emphasis on the clearing of overhanging tree limbs and other vegetation gave HED one of the best records among

all state electric utilities for the least number of annual outages. I doubt if that is any longer the case. HED, like all utilities, is required to report annually on all power outages. I would be curious to know if I am correct about the number having increased in the last several years or if it just seems that way. As I think other rate-payers would be interested in this information, I would ask the HED general manager to respond to this in the Gazette.

John T. Mandeville
East Hardwick

Woodsmoke by Julie Atwood



MEETING MEMO

Monday, July 19

•**Danville School District Board of Directors' Special Meeting**, 6 p.m., Danville School Library. Remote access also available.

Town Websites, Town Clerks
Cabot: cabotvt.us
Calais: calaisvermont.gov
Craftsbury: townofcraftsbury.com
Greensboro: greensborovt.org

Hardwick: hardwickvt.org
Marshfield: town.marshfield.vt.us
Plainfield: plainfieldvt.us
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
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• **Family Development Housing Counselor**

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Only those applicants selected for an interview will be contacted.

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Qualifications: Bachelors Degree in early/special education, social work, psychology or related field. Comprehensive understanding of child development and social work practices. Strong communication skills and ability to collaborate with multiple community partners. Since travel throughout the Lamoille Valley is required, a valid Driver's License and reliable, insured transportation are necessary.

Please send cover letter and resume to:
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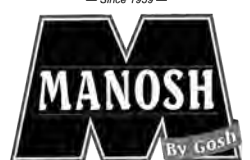
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SPORTS

Molleur Strikes First to Lead Vt. over N.H.

by Ken Brown

HANOVER, N.H. – Hazen Union's Macy Molleur gave Vermont an early lead and the defense would hold off New Hampshire late in last weekend's 46th annual Lions Twin State Soccer Cup.

The senior striker buried a feed from U-32's Caroline Kirby to give Vermont an early 1-0 lead that would hold up until halftime. New Hampshire found the equalizer sixty seconds into the second half, but Burlington's Payton Karson converted on a direct kick two minutes later to make it 2-1. Mount Mansfield's (MMU) Willa Clark added an unassisted insurance goal midway through the half and Emma Ezzo (Fair Haven) and Olivia Moore (Colchester) combined for nine saves to preserve the 3-2 victory. CVU's Olivia Zubarik was named MVP for team Vermont and Molleur was given the Twelfth Player Award.

It was a fitting end to a stellar career for Molleur, who led the Lady Cats to their first state title match in 33 years last fall. She had an outstanding senior campaign up front for head coach Harry

Besett, finishing with 16 goals, including seven in the playoffs. Molleur led Hazen Union in scoring the past two seasons and found the back of the net 40 times during her high school career. She will be attending the University of Utah this coming fall and plans to continue to play soccer at the intramural or club level.

On the boys' side, Colchester's Adolphe Alfani and Will Hauf (MMU) scored two goals apiece to lead Vermont to a decisive 5-1 win over New Hampshire. Peoples Academy's Dylan Haskins and Isaiah Schaefer-Geiger (Stowe) were outstanding in net for Team Vermont, combining for 12 saves in the win. Alfani took home MVP honors and Sam Hogg of Burlington received the Twelfth Man Award.

Proceeds from the match are divided evenly between the two states. The Vermont Lions donate their funds to the Green Mountain Lions Camp for children who are deaf or hard of hearing. The Lions Sight and Hearing Foundation receives the Granite State's half, which supports hearing and vision projects throughout New Hampshire.

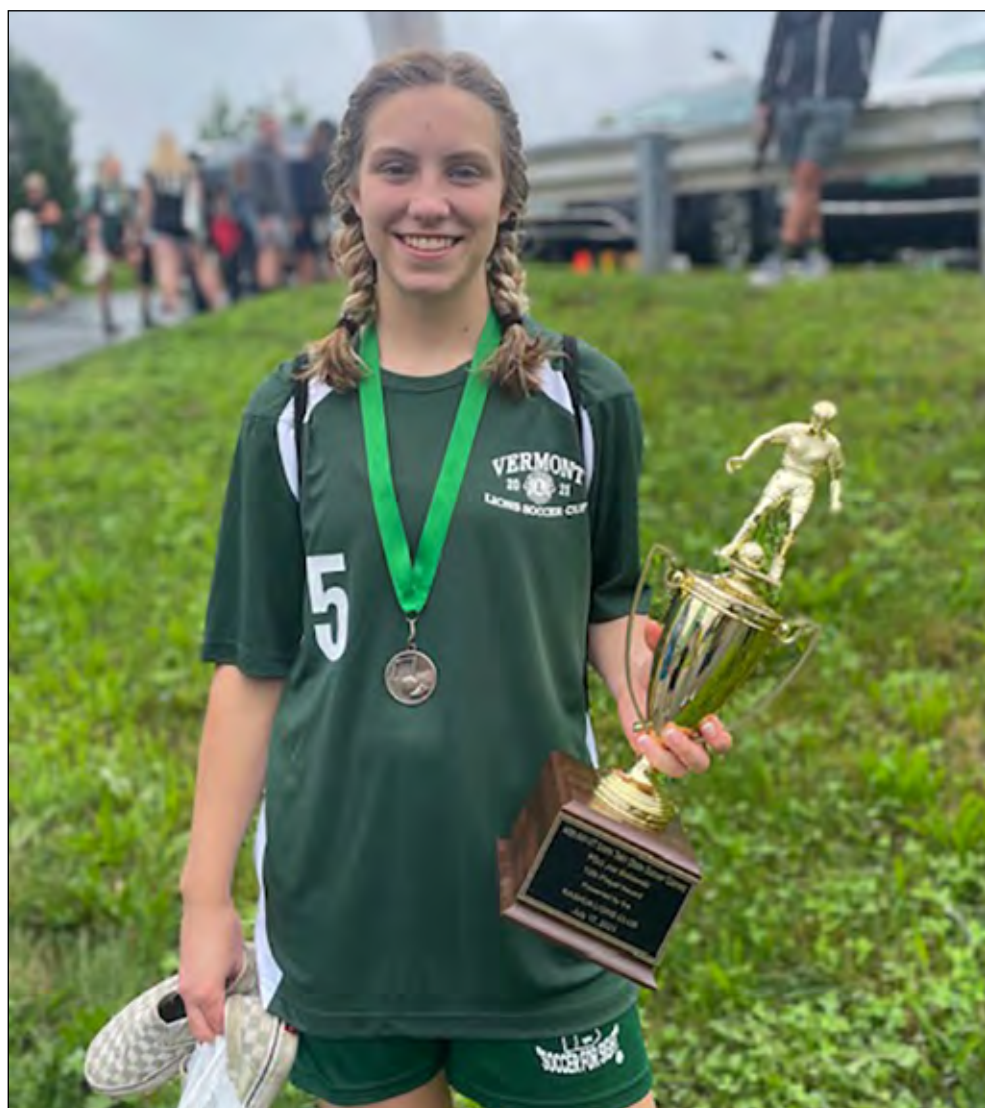


photo by: Cassie Molleur

Macy Molleur, Hazen 2021 graduate from Woodbury, holds her Twelfth Player Award trophy after her participation in the Lions Twin State Soccer Cup in Hanover, N.H.

Flat Stick Battle Leads to Razor-thin Victory

by Patrick Hussey

GREENSBORO — It was a battle of the flat sticks last week at Mountain View Country Club and, not surprisingly, the margin of victory was razor thin as 34 golfers came out on this cloudy and cool evening.

The threesome of John Sperry, Mike Nixon, and Dan Mencucci won first place in a putting war by an average of 0.17 of a putt. They crowned themselves the weekly champions by needing just 46 putts to complete their nine-hole rounds. That was an average of 15.33 each, best of the evening.

Sperry led the way with 14 putts in a solid round of three-over par 38. Dan Mencucci kept up his recent strong play by using his flat stick just 15 times in a round of 43. Right there with him was Nixon, with a round of 45 and 17 putts. That was barely enough to beat two other teams who were breathing down their necks the whole round.

The first team to tie for second place was stuffed full of Mulligans. Joe Mulligan, the father, and his two sons Neal and Patrick, teamed up with John Hogan to post a total of 62 putts, an average of 15.5 per man. Joe Mulligan led the way with 13 putts in a round of 38.

His son Neal shot the low round of the evening with a two-over 37 and used 16 putts during his round. Patrick Mulligan shot a round of 43 with 16 putts and Hogan shot a 45

Kip Doyon had himself quite a night, shooting a 39 to win the low net round with a 27. It was the first time in his life that Doyon had broken 40

with 17 putts. This team struggled on the final hole, using up nine putts. Otherwise, they were destined for victory.

Tying them for a second-place finish, also with 62 putts, was the foursome of Dan Miko, Nate Brown, Ivan Menard, and Rob Montgomery. Miko would end up as the putting champion on this evening, needing just 12 in his round of 41. Brown shot a 40 with 16 putts and Menard posted a strong round, shooting a 48 as both he and Montgomery ended with 17 putts each.

In fourth place, with 64 putts, was the foursome of George Gattone, Frank Gattone. Jim Charonko, and Slade Farnham. George Gattone paced this group with 14 putts, Frank Gattone had 15, Farnham 17 and Charonko 18. They averaged 16 putts a hole.

Behind them in fifth with 66 putts and a 16.25 average was the foursome of Kerry Sheedy (18), Dillion Sheedy (18), Dave Bellavance (15),

and Pat Hussey (14). The threesome of Dan Hudson, Bill Jenkins, and John Stone weren't far behind in sixth with an average of 16.33.

Kip Doyon had himself quite a night, shooting a 39 to win the low net round with a 27. It was the first time in his life that Doyon had broken 40. He just beat out Dan Gauthier for the low net title. Gauthier's 41 gave him a net 28 and he just needed 13 putts in his round.

Doyon posted pars on three, four, and five consecutively, and also parred seven and eight. He bogeyed his other four holes. He continued his strong evening by winning closest to the pin on the fifth hole, landing his drive just four feet, seven inches from the hole.

Young Patrick Mulligan beat out Kerry Sheedy for closest to the pin on three, leaving his tee shot seven feet, four inches from the pin. On nine, Nate Brown hit his approach to three feet, nine inches to win closest in two. No golfer got closest in two on eight.

The team of Dave Burnham, Dan Gauthier, Rob Lewis, and Brad Ferland placed seventh with an average of 16.5 per player. Behind them was the threesome of Bill Richardson, Pete DesChamps and Marcus Brown at 16.66 per player.

Finally, Karl Ferland, Richard Coolbeth, Dennis Pudvah, and Dave Campbell averaged 17 apiece. The threesome of Kip Doyon, Rowdy Doyon and Richard Brochu averaged 18 putts, as did the twosome of Jim Bellavance and Ian Drown.

SPORTS

Copley Hospital's Golf Tournament Nets More than \$25,500

MORRISVILLE – On Saturday July 10, twenty teams kicked off 18 holes of play at the Copley Country Club to raise money for Copley's MRI project.

"There were many winners, but when all was said and done, Copley and our community were the biggest winners in the 34th Annual Copley Golf Scramble," said Trish Rick, Copley's VP of Development and Marketing. This year's tournament netted just over \$25,500.00 and will help with the new MRI build, a project breaking ground in the next two weeks.

After golfers finished their 18-holes of play, they enjoyed a barbecue luncheon while cheering on teams receiving awards. Those taking home prizes included:

First place, with a net score of 54: Fred Connor, John Connor,

Michael Connor, and Steve Connor; second place, with a net score of 54: Tom Bjerke, Mike Menard, Tom Brooks, and Cody Johnston; third place, with a net score of 55, Donald Dupuis, MD, Stephanie LaBarron, Nick Lussier, and Luke Sienkiewicz; fourth place, with a net score of 55: Tom Scull and Steve Burnett from The Richards Group, and Copley CEO Joe Woodin; fifth place, with a net score of 56, Steve Clokey, Brian Horton, Pat Kelley, and Garrett Beeman.

Two teams were recognized for their fun day of play: Copley's Dr. Joe McLaughlin's team (Orthopedic Surgeon Joe McLaughlin, MD, Laura Brown, Melody Bezio, and Jason Brunelle) and a foursome of friends: Robi and Jim Hodge, Susan Rodgers, and Kathy Devers.



courtesy photo
Third-place winners at the annual Copley Scramble Golf Tournament, with a net score of 55, had some familiar Copley faces: General Surgeon Dr. Donald Dupuis and Stephanie LaBarron, VP Ambulatory and Provider Services, with Nick Lussier and Luke Sienkiewicz.



photo by Vanessa Fournier
Hazen's Xavier Hill rebounds the ball as Lyndon players Ethan Lussier (left), Evan Sanborn (center), and Chevy Bandy (right) cover the play. Hazen defeated Lyndon 67-55 during summer basketball Wednesday.



photo by Vanessa Fournier
Carter Hill of Hazen aims for the basket as Lyndon's Chevy Bandy (right) defends the action during summer basketball July 14. At left is Evan Sanborn of Lyndon. H.U. won 67-55.

SPORTS



courtesy photo

Jason Corliss (near left) received the Governor's Cup trophy from Vermont Governor Phil Scott (far left) and NASCAR Cup Series driver Ryan Preece (far right).



courtesy photo

Bryan Wall from East Kingston, N.H., took his second Flying Tiger win of the season.



courtesy photo

Berlin's Christopher Davis beat Kaiden Fisher by 0.020 seconds to win the Street Stock feature on his 50th birthday.

Corliss Goes Back-to-Back at Vermont Governor's Cup

BARRE – Hometown racer Jason Corliss left NASCAR's Ryan Preece and everyone else behind on the way to his second straight Vermont Governor's Cup victory at Thunder Road on Thursday, July 15. Corliss took the lead from three-time track champion Derrick O'Donnell on lap 41 of the 150-lap event and dusted the 27-car field en route to a statement win.

It was the third Late Model win for Corliss this season and the 23rd of his career. The triumph moved Corliss into sole possession of second place on the track's all-time Late Model.

Former Vermont Governor's Cup winner Brooks Clark earned the pole and led the first 34 laps. Behind him, the only early drama came on lap 11 when Wolcott's Marcel J. Gravel cut a tire and slid into the turn-one tire barriers, forcing his retirement from the race.

Clark pulled away at first on the restart, but came back to the field just as O'Donnell and Corliss were making their moves. O'Donnell swung to the outside of Clark and took the lead on lap 35 with Corliss right behind him. The reigning champion made the former champion's stay at the front short-lived at Corliss, who started seventh, blasted around O'Donnell on the high line to take the lead with 41 circuits complete.

The second and final caution on lap 45 for Andy Hill's encounter with the turn three wall was the only thing that slowed Corliss from there. When the green flag came back out, Corliss was gone, showing why he is one of the most accomplished racers in Thunder Road's modern area. O'Donnell fell behind Clark for a stretch, but even after retaking the second spot on lap 92, he had trouble making the #66VT larger in his windshield.

The action was fierce from fourth on back, with Kyle Pembroke and Scott Dragon fighting their way from deep in the field. Preece, Chip Grenier, Tyler Cahoon, Matthew Smith, and others were part of a huge pack battling for every position and point they could get. But Corliss was so dominant that he caught this pack in the closing laps. With a straightaway and four laps cars between himself and O'Donnell, Corliss chose not to force the issue. Instead, he cruised to the Governor's Cup win, which was presented by Governor Phil Scott and Preece after they

climbed out of their race cars.

North Haverhill, N.H.'s O'Donnell was second followed by Fayston's Clark in third. Pembroke came from 20th on the starting grid to swipe fourth from Grenier in the final laps. Scott Dragon, Trampas Demers, Brendan Moodie, Bobby Therrien, and Preece rounded out the top 10.

East Kingston, N.H.'s Bryan Wall Jr. got his second win of the year in the Flying Tigers. Wall started third for the 40-lap feature due to a recent bad luck stretch. After the race's only caution on lap seven for Colin Cornell's spin, leader Mike MacAskill pushed a little high out of turn two. Wall dove underneath him for second as Barre's Cameron Ouellette went to the point.

Wall shadowed Ouellette for a few laps before swinging to the high groove. The pair then dueled side-by-side for more than a dozen laps, swapping the lead three times before Wall finally cleared him with 12 laps to go. Derrick Calkins and Brandon Gray then began an onslaught on Ouellette for the second spot, which gave Wall some breathing room to take his fourth career Flying Tiger victory.

Ouellette eventually escaped the pressure to earn a runner-up trophy. Gray finished a Flying Tiger career-best third as Calkins faded in the closing circuits. Robert Gordon, Kelsea Woodard, Calkins, Mike Martin, Keegan Lamson, Tanner Woodard, and Jason Woodard were fourth through 10th.

Berlin's Christopher Davis celebrated his 50th birthday by winning an Street Stock barnburner. Davis started second in the 25-lap feature and quickly got the lead from polesitter Jared Rouleau. He was comfortably up front when a trio of cautions flew at lap 10. The calamitous lap began when point leader Tommy "Thunder" Smith tangled with Tyler Whittemore, and it ended with a seven-car pile-up after Rouleau lost it off turn four.

Shelburne's Kaiden "Tropical Storm" Fisher was able to avoid the carnage, and after two separate crashes on lap 15, Fisher lined up alongside Davis for the restart. Davis was able to fend him off at first before Fisher put another charge on the outside with five laps to go.

Fisher led laps 21-24 by a bumper while Smith thundered back into the picture. Davis

found a little something extra on the final lap, and in the drag race to the checkered flag, he beat Fisher by just 0.020 seconds.

Williamstown's Smith unofficially retained his point lead with a third-place effort. James Dopp, Jamie Davis, Jeffrey Martin, Kyle MacAskill, Justin Blakely, Gary Mullen, and Michael Gay completed the top 10.

The Thunder Road season hits halfway next Thursday, July 22, at 7p.m. Midseason Championships. Added distance, double points, and double prize money are on the line for all four Thunder Road divisions. The annual driver autograph session also returns at intermission.

UNOFFICIAL RESULTS

Pos., Start Pos., Driver, Car #, Hometown, Laps (local competitors)

LATE MODELS

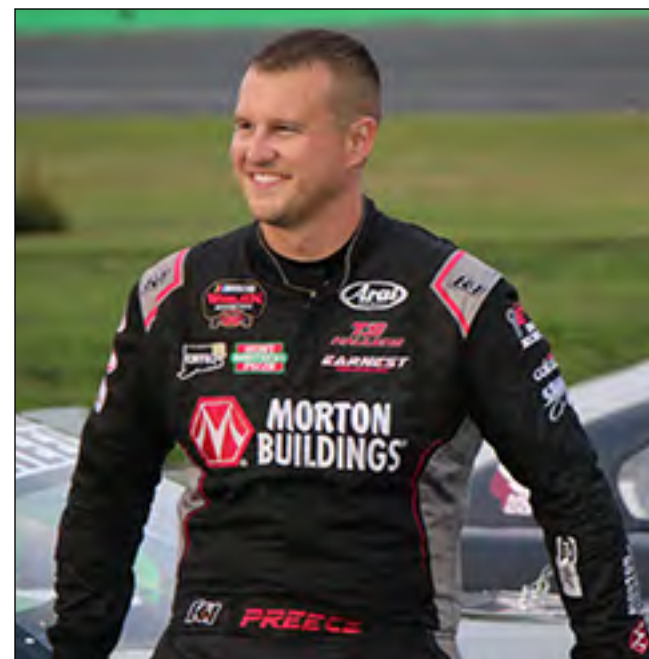
8. (6) Brendan Moodie (94VT) Wolcott, 150 Laps
26. (15) Marcel J. Gravel (86VT) Wolcott, 11 Laps

FLYING TIGERS

2. Joel Hodgdon (90VT) Craftsbury Common
7. Michael Martin (01VT) Craftsbury, Common
13. Stephen Martin (9VT) Craftsbury, Common
16. Jaden Perry (92VT) Hardwick

STREET STOCKS

5. Jamie Davis (43) Wolcott



courtesy photo

Ryan Preece from Berlin, Conn., surveys the crowd during driver introductions for the Vermont Governor's Cup.