

THE Hardwick Gazette

INDEPENDENT LOCAL NEWS SINCE 1889

Hardwick • Cabot • Calais • Craftsbury • Greensboro • Marshfield • Plainfield • Stannard • Walden • Wolcott • Woodbury

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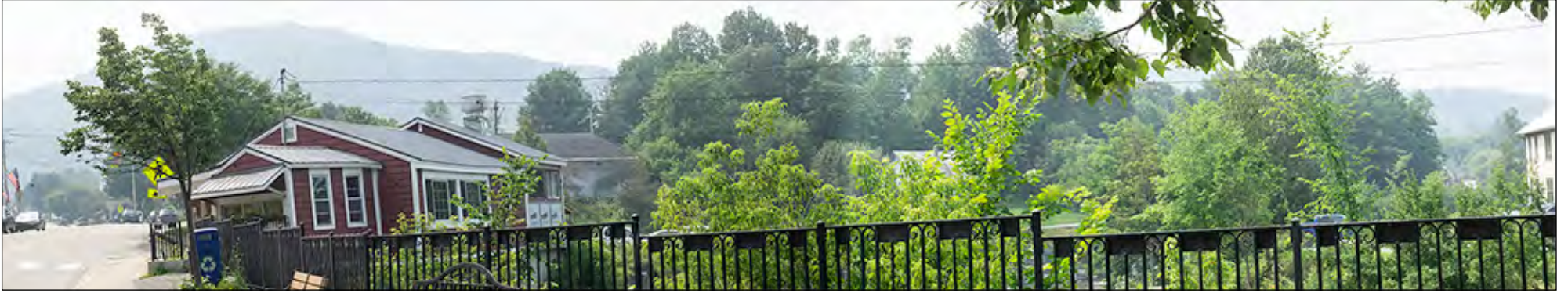


photo by Doug McClure

Hazy smoke drifting in from western wildfires prompted air quality alerts in Hardwick on Monday. According to the National Interagency Fire Center, "85 large fires have burned 1.5 million acres in 13 states," some so large that they produced their own weather.

Area Towns to Receive Nearly \$1.5m in Rescue Funds

by Doug McClure

MONTPELIER – The state has released the allocation amounts from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) municipal funding for all Vermont towns, and the towns covered by the Hardwick Gazette are slated to receive nearly \$1.5m in funding, divided into two payments of equal amounts, one in 2021 and the other in 2022. Hardwick is slated to receive a total of

\$299,512, with \$149,756 in each year.

According to a release from Governor Phil Scott, the 2021 payment has been received.

"The State's request, or certification for the funds, was submitted on July 15, deemed complete on July 21, and payment was received on July 22." The release said the ARPA funds must be distributed to the towns within 30 days of the state receiving them.

Hardwick	\$299,512.00
Cabot	\$150,018.00
Calais	\$167,919.00
Craftsbury	\$123,113.00
Greensboro	\$73,177.00
Marshfield*	\$154,205.00
Plainfield	\$132,116.00
Stannard	\$22,822.00
Walden	\$99,767.00
Wolcott	\$176,713.00
Woodbury	\$92,439.00

* combined town and village amts.

An ongoing issue is that the federal government has decreed Vermont has an active county government, which it does not. Potentially, that could mean even more funding reaches town governments. Wolcott Town Administrator Randall Szott, who was previously a state legislator, said at a meeting in June that how distribution via county governments would work is unclear. He said, "Who they're going to allocate it to is an interesting question: The sheriff? The courthouses? The presumption is that whatever entity receives that money will then give the money back to the state, and once it goes back to the

See FUNDS, 2



photo courtesy of Hardwick Historical Society

This undated photo shows the original North Main Street bridge that was used from 1873-1923. When the replacement iron bridge hit a statutory lifespan limit in 1994, there was a debate about bringing a covered bridge back to Hardwick.

Modern Traffic Requirements Settled Hardwick's Last Debate on Bridge Replacement

by Doug McClure

HARDWICK – In 1994, Hardwick residents and the select board faced a challenge similar to one the town faces now: what to do about repairing an old bridge?

The 1994 case concerned the North Main Street bridge. That bridge was made of iron and had not failed, but it was at the end of its statutory lifespan and needed to

be replaced to meet federal requirements because it was part of the primary connector to Greensboro.

The original bridge, constructed in 1873, was a covered bridge made of wood. It had been replaced in 1923 by the iron bridge. When the bridge replacement discussion started in 1994, residents wanted the town to investigate bringing back a covered bridge.

See REPLACEMENT, 4

Petition Submitted for Official Recognition of Buffalo Mountain

by Doug McClure

HARDWICK – On July 22, resident Mike Lance submitted documentation to Vermont State Librarian Jason Broughton for a Geographic Naming Petition. While most in the area know the mountain as Buffalo Mountain, that moniker does not have official recognition, an oversight that Lance has worked to correct over the past few months. The 79-page petition features a mountain of supporting evidence for that official recognition.

One central mystery is whether the mountain depicted on the town

See PETITION, 2



photo by Doug McClure

Buffalo Mountain, as seen from the village of Hardwick. Resident Mike Lance has submitted a petition to the state seeking official recognition of the mountain's name.

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Petition

Continued From Page One

logo and on signage at the town entrances is Buffalo Mountain. If so, that would provide significant justification for the recognition.

Identifying the source of the logo has proven to be a problem. Lance established that the designer of the original logo was Barnabas Kane, and learned from former town manager Charles Safford that the logo was designed during his tenure between 1991 and 1996.

Lance found a reference to new signs in 1994 select board minutes, but no specifics given on what those were.

He said, "The select board minutes in early 1994 talked about putting signs out in front of the Memorial Building and also the library. Charles Safford, then town manager, also asked if the board wanted to put three more signs as greetings on the three main highways into town. But there was no mention about what was on the signs."

Half of the select board minutes for 1994 are lost to time, Lance said. A former board member did not recall a logo contest, and the Hardwick Gazette archives that Lance reviewed make no mention of a logo contest. 1994, however, did see a large number of Hardwick businesses collaborating on economic development projects to raise the town's visibility, as well as a new town motto and brochure, Lance said.

With the available information, Lance believes that the most likely answer is that the logo was designed "outside of the auspices of the select board," and most likely in 1994. Kane confirmed that the original logo's

mountain is Buffalo Mountain.

Lance received letters of support for the petition from the Hardwick Select Board, Hardwick Historical Society, East Hardwick Neighborhood Organization, and Chief Donald Stevens, Nulhegan Band of the Coosuk Abenaki Nation. Chief Stevens provided a letter addressing any concerns people might have about cultural misappropriation.

The letter of support from the select board described Buffalo Mountain as "a commanding figure to town residents," a "well-known peak," and noted, "Buffalo Mountain long held a position of interest and history." The letter cited Buffalo Hill Quarry, which was active during Hardwick's "granite heyday." The board wrote that it was surprised that no official recognition existed. "It comes as a surprise that the peak is not recorded in Vermont's list of geographic features."

Elizabeth Dow, president of the Hardwick Historical Society (HHS), as well a select board member, wrote in the HHS letter of support that "the names appear in both the U.S. Department of the Interior's USGS Bulletin 404 in 1909, 'The Granites of Vermont,' and the Report of the State Geologist on the Mineral Industries and Geology of Vermont, 1915-1916."

Lance also sourced multiple state and federal documents in support of the naming petition, as well as news articles from 1891 to the present day, all of which use the descriptor "Buffalo Mountain" as a commonly understood geographical feature of Hardwick. Far more than double the required number of people signed Lance's petition for official recognition of the name.

Funds

Continued From Page One

state, the legislature decides."

The state's release does little to clarify that issue. "Vermont may also receive 50% of the \$121 million in additional funds to redistribute to municipalities due to a special rule established in ARPA that redirects county funds in States where counties are not considered units of general local government, such as in

Vermont. The State is awaiting a final determination from the U.S. Treasury that these funds should be distributed to the State for distribution to local units of government pursuant to the special rule."

Governor Scott said in the release, "This certification also provides the opportunity for municipalities to make their own investments based on the needs of their communities."



July 28 - August 3

Meat Dept. Ground Round \$4.99 lb. Boneless Pork Chops \$1.99 lb.		New Arrivals Men's Carhartt Shorts, Tees and Vests
Carr's Crackers 2/\$6 4.25 oz.	Bar Harbor Chowders 2/\$5 15 oz.	Arizona Tea 2/\$6 128 oz.
G.M. Honey Nut Cheerios \$2.99 15.4 oz.	Kellogg's Pop Tarts 2/\$4 13.5 oz.	Annie's Mac & Cheese 2/\$3 6 oz.
B.C. Suddenly Salad 2/\$3 7.25-7.75 oz.	Old El Paso Refried Beans 4/\$5 16 oz.	Old El Paso Taco Kits 2/\$5 8.8-12.5 oz.
Crav'n Fudge Cookies \$1.69 8.5-12.5 oz.	Cheez-it Crackers 2/\$6 9-12.4 oz.	Era Laundry Detergent \$3.49 50 oz.
Northern 6 Mega Roll Bathroom Tissue \$7.99 179.8-207.7 s.f.	Green Mt. Greek Yogurt 5/\$5 5.3 oz.	Food Club Shredded Cheese \$1.79 8 oz.
Newman's Fruit Drinks 2/\$4 59 oz.	Ben & Jerry's Ice Cream \$3.49 16 oz.	Swanson Hungryman Dinner 2/\$6 16 oz.
Maine Cauliflower 2/\$5 hd.	Maine Broccoli Crowns \$1.49 lb.	Support Local Farms Blueberries, Lettuce, Tomatoes and more


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The Hardwick Gazette



PEOPLE SERVING PEOPLE

POLICE REPORT

Hardwick Police

Media Log Summary

July 19: Theft, Spring St.; Theft, Glenside Ave.; Assist – Agency, Vt. Rte. 15; Parking Problem, S. Main St.; Wanted Person, Wolcott St.; Directed Patrol, Upper Cherry St.

July 20: Assist – Public, Bridgeman Hill Rd.; Alarm, N. Main St.; Directed Patrol, Upper Cherry St.

July 21: Dead Body, Glenside Ave.; Welfare Check, Montgomery Rd.; Overdose, Vt. Rte. 14 S; Intoxication, S. Main St.; Alarm, Vt. Rte. 14 S.

July 22: Assist – Agency, W.

Hill Rd.; Citizen Dispute, Lower Cherry St.; Noise Disturbance, Spruce St.

July 23: Intoxication, Hopkins Hill Rd.; Suspicious Event, Mill St.; Suspicious Event, Wakefield St.

July 24: Alarm, N. Main St.; Citizen Dispute, Vt. Rte. 15 E; Assist – Public; Fire, Vt. Rte. 15 W; Citizen Dispute, Lamoille Ave.

July 25: Alarm, N. Main St.; Accident – Injury to Person(s), Vt. Rte. 15/Brown Farm Rd.; Deliver Message, Elm St.; Directed Patrol, Upper Cherry St.

Hardwick Police

Outstanding Warrants, Guardrail Collision

On July 19, at 6:57 p.m., Jamie Bocash was arrested on Wolcott St. for two outstanding warrants, one out of Washington County and one out of Caledonia County. Bocash was cited to appear in Washington Court on July 20 on both warrants.

On July 25, at 12:38 p.m., Police responded to a one-car accident on Rte. 15 near Brown Farm Rd. Elaine Silver of Greensboro Bend hit the westbound guardrail and

ended up in the eastbound lane. Unknown why. Her passenger was James Silver. No injuries and cleared by Hardwick Rescue Squad. Hill Group towed the vehicle.

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

AWARE Report

HARDWICK – AWARE served 16 survivors of domestic and sexual violence from July 18 through July 25. AWARE is a nonprofit organization, established in 1984, dedicated to

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

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

State Police Report

No Valid License, DUI-Drugs

On July 20, at approximately 4:40 p.m., Troopers were on patrol when they observed a vehicle traveling 50 mph in a posted 35 mph zone on Upper French Hill Road in the town of Johnson. Troopers subsequently stopped the vehicle and identified the operator as Justin Bertrand, of Wolcott. Bertrand did not possess a valid driver's license and had active court conditions stating he could not operate a motor vehicle without a valid driver's license. Bertrand was cited into Lamoille County Superior Court, Criminal Division.

On July 25, at 10:00 a.m., VSP Derby Troopers were dispatched to a report of an unresponsive person in a vehicle on Rte. 58E in Lowell. Upon arrival the operator was identified as Adam Moodie, of Craftsbury. Suspicion of impairment led Moodie to be taken into custody and processed for DUI

2 – Drugs. Upon completion of processing, he was issued a citation to appear in court on Sept. 28.

On July 26, State Police responded to Woodbury for a report of a violation of conditions of release. Subsequent investigation revealed that Dorothea Wrobel, of Woodbury, had violated multiple court orders by being at the same location as the listed victim. Wrobel was issued a citation to appear in Washington County Superior Court – Criminal Division on July 27 at 12:30 p.m. to answer to the offenses of violation of an abuse prevention order and violation of conditions of release.

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



photo by Doug McClure

Adam Beckley (left) is teaching jiu-jitsu to kids ages four and up on Monday at the Open Space (left to right): August Cieri, 6, brother Nick Cieri, 8, Max Baker, 7, with his father Shane, assisting, Max's brother Charlie Baker, 4, and Ryker Williams, 4

Jiu-Jitsu Offered for Children at the Open Space

by Doug McClure

HARDWICK – For Hardwick's younger residents looking to learn a valuable life skill, Adam Beckley is offering Brazilian jiu-jitsu classes for children four and up at the Open Space in the Gohl Block. The first class is free.

Jiu-Jitsu is a family of primarily defensive martial arts with a focus on mental acuity, said Beckley.

Beckley previously had taught the martial art in Morrisville for

several years, but COVID made those classes virtual last year. He conducted classes over Zoom or Hangouts and felt that, even with the constraints kids had on space at home and the limitations of a virtual learning environment, the classes went well. After eighteen months, Beckley decided that it was time to return to in-person training. He ran into two problems. First, Beckley said, "some of [the kids] just aren't ready" to go back to in-person, yet.

See JIU-JITSU, 4

Calderwood

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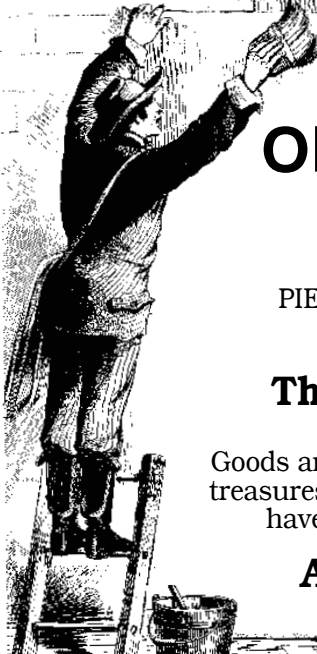
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Replacement

Continued From Page One

An immediate concern was that a covered bridge was estimated to cost 25% more than a steel-and-concrete bridge, and the town would be paying for a lot of anything beyond a basic replacement bridge. Proponents of the covered bridge argued that those cost metrics failed to account for what they said was the longer lifespan of a well-maintained covered wooden bridge. When a state engineer noted that a covered bridge was designed for horse-and-buggy traffic, not modern traffic loads, a proponent brought up the Fisher Bridge in Wolcott, which was “thought to be one of the last remaining railroad covered bridges in the country.”

Another concern raised was that to meet current standards a covered bridge in that location would have to be considerably taller and wider than the original covered bridge. One consultant said that with those modern requirements a covered bridge would “look more like a warehouse.”

In January 1994, the select board agreed to put the question of spending up to \$5,000 to hire an engineer for a preliminary design to voters. That February, the Hardwick Gazette surveyed Vermont towns with covered bridges. The survey “revealed the structures to be the most sought-after scenery by tourists who stop by the chambers of commerce and information booths.” The article said that covered bridges “are identified in the imagination of visitors as synonymous with Vermont’s

mystique. It remains to be seen whether the possible local economic benefits due to increased tourist traffic can outweigh the costs of such a project in Hardwick. But one thing is certain — existing covered bridges are deemed local treasures by the communities they now serve.”

A petition circulated, with the Gazette reporting town-provided estimates of “over 400” signatures by mid-February. The petition read in part, “A covered bridge once spanned the Lamoille River at this location and a new one would enhance the image of the town, bring new visitors to the town, and be a stimulus to the economy.”

“Anonymous donors have pledged money for the bridge,” the [Hardwick] Gazette reported, and the town set up a special account to hold donations in should the project proceed.

But cost questions continued. The cost of a steel-and-concrete design was estimated at \$550,000, with Hardwick paying 10%. It was questionable whether there would be any extra funding to offset the extra costs of a wooden bridge. Then-town manager Charles Safford calculated that “a covered bridge is to cost the town \$200,000 more than a concrete bridge,” which to taxpayers who owned a \$60,000 home amounted to “an extra \$20.94 a year for eight years.” He noted that was less than the town’s new fire truck cost. An even bigger concern was the size required for a covered bridge to meet modern requirements.

At town meeting, the topic ignited an impassioned debate. The Gazette reported that those opposed “made it crystal clear they



photo by Doug McClure

The pedestrian bridge in Hardwick, forced to close due to a broken cable last fall, is the subject of debate about its replacement. A similar debate happened in 1994.

thought the study was a waste of money because they didn’t like the idea of having a covered bridge built in the center of town, and they thought the projected cost was too high.” The extra cost estimate had grown to \$300,000. One resident who was an architect said that in his experience working with state engineers, “the transportation officials would always say steel and concrete bridges were cheaper than wooden ones.” Then-State Representative Paul Cillo “pledged to do what he could to get the state’s Agency of Transportation to change its funding policy for a bridge” if voters chose a wooden one. The debate went on for nearly an hour, the Gazette reported, and the final vote was 66-65 in favor of the study.

In September, the select board received an update on that study. The engineer reported that “the bottom line is, it’s not feasible.” The cost would have been at least

\$400,000 more than a steel and concrete bridge, a total cost of “between \$1 million and \$1.2 million.” The engineer also noted that a covered bridge was “going to be massive. It’s going to be as tall as any of the buildings on the street. It’s going to be imposing.”

The engineer said that the new bridge would be twice as wide as the original covered bridge and would be taller than the Morse Insurance building. The bridge’s eaves would “hang about a foot from the Morse Insurance windows.”

It was also reported that the state’s traffic counts, which could impact design considerations, were wrong. The board voted down any further work on the study. Then-member Ann Batten commented, “Maybe we could all go back to buggy traffic and Model-T Fords.” The board also nixed bringing any question to a vote on the subject at town meeting.

Jiu-Jitsu

Continued From Page Three

The larger problem was that during the pandemic, the building Beckley had been using for his classes was bulldozed, and Morrisville doesn’t have a gym space suitable for his classes.

“I decided, I want to see what I can do here in the community [I live in], and offer it to the local community in Hardwick,” Beckley said.

He started the classes in July and plans to run them through August. Beckley said the space on the second floor of the Gohl Block, which is just above Front Seat Coffee, has been working out well. He likes the natural light, and the room has more than enough space to roll out the mats for his classes.

Beckley is trained in multiple martial arts. He is a fourth-stripe blue belt in jiu-jitsu, and also a black belt in karate. He stressed that jiu-jitsu is a very different martial art than karate, and people might not understand how the approach differs. Unlike some other martial arts, jiu-jitsu is defensive, with a very mental focus.

He said, “Our goal is, we should be able to defend ourselves. Outdo our attacker without having to throw punches and strikes. We don’t have to.”

Beckley said he tries to provide as structured an environment as he can, while still

making it loose enough that the children learn while having fun. He wants to engage the kids, he said, because a large percentage of youngsters are not getting enough physical activity.

The children in Monday’s class ranged from four to eight years of age and had wildly varying attention spans and skill levels. Beckley worked around the differences between his students to make sure all got the focus they needed.

Shane Baker is the father of two of the boys, Max and Charlie, ages seven and four, and put on a gi himself and joined in with the class to help. Another four-year-old, Ryker Williams, was in the class, and another set of brothers, August and Nick Cieri, ages six and eight, joined. Max was one of the older children and is learning quickly, so Beckley sometimes used him to demonstrate more difficult techniques for the others while letting Max know that he’s making things a bit more challenging for him to match his developing skills. For each student, Beckley took the time to adapt to their skill level so they could learn the technique he was working toward teaching them. He put extra effort in to get even the youngest to focus.

Beckley said the jiu-jitsu has given him a mental and physical boost, and even helped him overcome a significant injury. He hopes that he can pass the benefits of the martial art,



photo by Doug McClure

Max Baker, 7, demonstrates a takedown in Adam Beckley’s (left) jiu-jitsu class on Monday.

mental and physical, on to the kids he teaches while giving them a life skill.

The classes are on Mondays from 4:30 until 5:15, with the goal of teaching the children self-defense, getting them exercise, and having fun. The first class is free. For more information, contact Adam Beckley at adambeckley87@gmail.com, or (802) 282-8215.

Wolcott Discusses Firearms in Town Buildings

by Doug McClure

WOLCOTT – The Wolcott Select Board tackled several issues at its meeting, including firearms in town buildings, joining the Lamoille Fibernet Communications Union District (CUD), fuel bids, the tax rate, and a new refrigerator.

Town administrator Randall Szott started his report to the board with an update on the proposed town forest. He said that a natural resources inventory had been done, which turned up seventeen new acres of wetlands, “multiple populations of a rare plant,” four ecologically rare areas, and, in an “exciting” find, “a good spot for a natural swimming hole.”

He filled out some details on how the project could be paid for, as well. The primary strategy now is to leverage the Department of Environmental Control’s (DEC) Wastewater Infrastructure Sponsorship Program (WISPr) funds. WISPr offers towns doing wastewater upgrades a lower financing rate if those towns become fiscal sponsors for another town’s project. Szott said the DEC is meeting with both Burlington and Vergennes, and if that worked out, the sponsorship could cover the cost of land acquisition, as well as some other costs.

He described WISPr as “the ideal route,” but also had a Plan B. A grant from the Vermont Recreational Education Collaborative is in the process of being applied for, and another opportunity from the Vermont Housing and Conservation Board is in the works. A landowner asked permission to do soil testing, which if given would help the overall project meet its parameters. He asked the board to think about a special vote or meeting toward the end of September, because “one of the ways to give yourself a better chance [at funding] is to demonstrate wide community support.”

Wolcott is trying to find a place for a community leach field for its wastewater project. Thus far, no viable spot has been found for siting it. A possible option, though, would be at the school, and partly where the proposed town forest is. The town will conduct soil tests. Wolcott

is also contacting an individual who worked with Westfield, which is doing a similar project. That town purchased land for a forest, and was able to get an easement for their wastewater leach field with support from its funding sources.

Wolcott received three fuel bids that did not exactly align with one another’s specifications. Fred’s Energy, Irving Oil, and Bourne’s Energy all responded with rate schedules for the three types of fuel Wolcott depends on. Szott gave the board a way to “contextualize those prices” after Martin said “their prices are all over the place.”

Szott also addressed the subject of employees carrying personal guns during work hours, an issue raised by board member Kurt Billings. Billings made the proposal, and at this night repeated, “I just had the feeling [it was important], just for the safety of the people in this building.” Alburgh has a policy against employees carrying personal firearms while on the job, Szott said, and thus far no challenge had been made, even though the law is a “little unclear.” The Vermont League of Cities and Towns felt that the situation was “a little murky,” and recommended Wolcott speak to its town attorney about any policy, though the easiest route might be to replicate what Alburgh did. Chair Linda Martin asked if it might be possible to extend that policy to any guns on town property, which Szott said might fall into the board’s purview since the board “has the power to manage public buildings” and take action “for the safety of the employees.” Billings pointed out that the town has done exactly that with its no-smoking policy and said “it’s



courtesy photo

Wolcott is applying for a \$4,000 grant from the Vermont Council on Rural Development focused on energy efficiency, which would in part be used to replace lighting around the town offices and community garden with solar-powered lights.

probably the same.”

Another grant application will be sent out, this one from the Vermont Council on Rural Development (VCRD). Klein said that his read was that this grant would support projects focused on energy efficiency, and serving underserved people in a community. He felt that replacing the lighting around the town office and community garden with solar could serve those ends and benefit the garden which is a town greenspace. The amount the town will ask for is \$4,000.

The board officially signed off on joining the Lamoille Fibernet CUD, bonding it to both that and the NEK Community Broadband CUD, since Wolcott straddles the coverage area of both. The board appointed Bruce Wheeler as its representative, and Michael Davidson as the alternate.

Wolcott received three fuel bids that did not exactly align with one another’s specifications. Fred’s Energy, Irving Oil, and Bourne’s Energy all responded with rate schedules for the three types of fuel Wolcott depends on. Szott gave the board a way to “contextualize those prices” after Martin said “their prices are all over the place.” The

town used diesel the most last year, consuming 12,800 gallons, followed by fuel oil at 4,325 gallons, and lastly, 900 gallons of propane. Only Irving had a fixed price for diesel, which troubled the board. A major concern was that the town has never used Irving before, and the supplied bid made no mention of additional services that Bourne’s and Fred’s both offer. Irving is also based in New Hampshire and owned by a Canadian company, so it was unclear where its trucks would dispatch from.

Wolcott currently uses Bourne’s, which is a logistical consideration since changing companies requires changing tanks and waiting for a refund on unused propane that Town Clerk Belinda Clegg said could take months. Klein said he was leaning to continuing with Bourne’s but wanted to “do the math.” Board member Richard Lee liked that Bourne’s and Fred’s were “super local” companies.

The listers provided data that allowed Clegg to set the tax rate. Education tax rates went up slightly for non-residents, and stayed the same for residents, she said. That brought the combined homestead rate to \$2.4460, and the non-resident rate to \$2.4820.

Clegg asked the board to approve a new copier, which would come out of her town clerk’s budget. The board noted “very unprofessional” large black marks on their copies and approved the \$100/month lease. Clegg also brought up replacing the refrigerator, which had been donated to the town in 2017 and dated back to 2003. She said that the appliance is not cooling properly, and the freezer wouldn’t freeze. Clegg pointed out that a small refrigerator would work, but she wanted something slightly larger, so that when, for example, the girl scouts were using the offices, they could use the fridge. The board decided to approve up to \$700 toward a new fridge.

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photo by Emily Michaud
Greensboro Bend 4-H'er Natalie Michaud was named Junior Fitting and Showing Champion at the Orleans and Essex 4-H County Dairy Show, July 22, in Barton.



photo by Erica Smith
Trevor Smith, from Hardwick, placed third in the Novice Fitting and Showmanship contest at the Orleans and Essex 4-H County Dairy Show, July 22.

Local 4-Hers Compete at Dairy Show

BARTON – It was all about cows on July 22 at the Orleans County Fairgrounds in Barton as 36 members of area 4-H clubs competed in the annual Orleans and Essex 4-H County Dairy Show.

The show was open to 4-Hers ages 8 to 18, who showed their animals in both fitting and showmanship and conformation

contests. The University of Vermont (UVM) Extension 4-H sponsored the event, which was judged by Seth Johnson of Tunbridge.

In fitting and showmanship, Johnson evaluated the exhibitors on their poise and how well they handled their animal. Natalie Michaud, from Greensboro Bend, a member of the Kingdom Country

Farmers, won the Junior (ages 12-13) Fitting and Showing Championship award.

The first-place winners in the fitting and showmanship contests received a trophy and rosette ribbon.

The 4-Hers also competed in the conformation classes, which are organized by age and breed of animal. Talon Michaud, East

Hardwick, received an Honorable Mention.

Among the individuals who were named breed champions were: Holstein, Reserve Grand Champion Talon Michaud, East Hardwick, with his spring calf; Jerseys, Junior Champion Brooklyn Blair, Craftsbury Common, with her spring calf.

Walden Select Board Sets Tax Rate

WALDEN – The Walden select board met on Monday, July 19.

They set the municipal tax rate at .6154 and reviewed Cabot and Danville curb cut recommendations. Walden will put curb cut recommendations together for the next meeting.

The road crew is hauling sand and checking roads and maintained the beaver deceiver on Corner Road. The International truck has been in the shop for a month waiting for parts, but should be fixed in a week. The board also discussed an ARPA project at the corner of Bayley

Hazen Road and Route 15, approximately 400 feet of road.

The board voted to allow the town clerk to get a credit card through Union Bank with a limit of \$2,000 and discussed the need to put a new hazard mitigation plan in place. Grant funds are available for this.

The COVID vaccine clinic held at the firehouse resulted in nine people receiving the second shot and two receiving first shots.

The next meeting will be August 2, at 6:30 p.m., at the firehouse and via Zoom.

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photos by Vanessa Fournier
 Above: The Northeast Kingdom Shape Note Singers (from left): Scott Luscombe, Maria Schumann, Ned Houston, Josh Karp, Erika Karp, Joan Alexander, Judy Carpenter, Ezra Halleck and Tamar Schumann sang several songs at the dedication of the Hinman Road Sign held July 21 in Greensboro. Right: Paulette Brochu-Colburn (left), of Hardwick and Conrad Bellavance (right) of Newport, attended the dedication of the Hinman Road Sign July 21. The two are descendants of Timothy Hinman, who built the road, and are the children of Dorcas Hinman Bellavance. Around 50 people attended the ceremony.

Greensboro Historical Society Dedicates Hinman Road Sign

by Alison Gardner

GREENSBORO – On Wednesday, July 21, over 50 people joined the Greensboro Historical Society (GHS) to dedicate the sign commemorating the starting point of Hinman Settler Road in Greensboro and Timothy Hinman, the man who built it.

The road, carved through the wilderness in 1792 and 1793, runs north, linking the town and the Bayley-Hazen Road with areas of northern Vermont, and it opened

them up for settlement.

The dedication program included talks by Laura Trieschmann, state historic preservation officer; Gail Sangree, an authority on Timothy Hinman; and Peter Romans, chair of the Greensboro Select Board. Two Hinman descendants in attendance, Conrad Bellavance and Paulette Brochu-Colburn (children of Dorcas Hinman Bellavance), praised the effort. Lastly, the group enjoyed the Northeast Kingdom Sacred Harp Singers, who shared

songs written in that century.

The sign complements a similar state historic sign located in Derby honoring Hinman's founding of the town of Derby and Hinman Road near where it ended at the Canadian border. The sign located in Greensboro can be viewed at the corner of the ballfield where Breezy Avenue and Lakeshore Roads intersect.

For additional information about Hinman and the Hinman Road, visit the Greensboro Historical Society for a copy of the map of

Hinman Road. Copies of this year's "Hazen Road Dispatch" include an article on Timothy Hinman and are available for sale locally (GHS, Willey's, Smith's Store, the "Genny," and the Galaxy Book Store).

At the GHS Annual meeting, on August 9, 7 p.m., at UCC Fellowship Hall, two experts will discuss the Hinman Road and whether Timothy Hinman was a "Rogue or Hero?" Later this summer, planning is underway for a walk on Hinman Road from Greensboro to Glover.



photos by Vanessa Fournier
 Left: Zoryan Ivakhiv-Gray, 10, of Greensboro, unveils the Hinman Settler Road historical sign Wednesday during a dedication held at Tolman Corners in Greensboro. Above: Gail Sangree, (front center) researcher, author and authority on Timothy Hinman, speaks to a crowd of 50 during the Hinman Road Sign dedication held Wednesday at Tolman Corners in Greensboro.

Wolcott Board Wrestles with Trash

by Doug McClure

WOLCOTT – The perennial problem of what to do about the transfer station came up once again at Wolcott’s July 21 select board meeting. The board has been wrestling for months with challenges, both practical and financial, regarding the transfer station, some of which the pandemic made worse.

The most practical concern the board is attempting to resolve is the heater’s fan, which does not work, and no one has a clear understanding of why. Board member Richard Lee was the most familiar with the situation and said that the reason is simply that the transfer station changed to a solar-driven power system, which did not have an extra outlet, and might not be able to power the fan if it did. He said the older system with two plugs could drive the fan but had other problems. The only short-term solution he could come up with was to try to get a 12-volt fan that could be powered with a 12-volt battery.

The town’s contracted electrician just retired and Wolcott is in the process of trying to find a replacement. The board recognized that a new electrician might not have expertise in solar arrays. The board will look for someone with that expertise to examine the transfer station fan and make recommendations, with chair Linda Martin suggesting perhaps Skorstad Solar of Hardwick be contacted.

This meeting’s financial discussion came after vice chair Kurt Klein and member Allen Carpenter received detailed reports from Town Clerk Belinda Clegg about the facility’s revenues and expenses going back to 2018. Klein cautioned that the information had only just become available, so the analysis was not detailed yet, but the two had a “high-level” view of the financial picture.

Carpenter focused on the revenues, and said “most of it looked pretty steady” and saw only “normal patterns.” Klein said the revenues were “amazingly steady”

and “haven’t declined,” but expenses have increased to the point where “I believe 2021 will be running at about a five to seven-percent deficit.”

He attributed the increase in expenses to additional fees, a slight increase in payroll, and, in what he said he found surprising, cardboard.

Klein said, “I think this is the result of the pandemic. People did their shopping on Amazon, and I believe that’s not going to change. That’s the new standard.”

He said to put the transfer station on a better financial trajectory, the only solution he saw was increasing prices because the current situation was “unsustainable.”

Klein said, “There’s a lot of open issues with the facility, and I don’t see easy answers. I can see that, if we continue as we are now, it’s going to get bad.”

His preliminary analysis said the transfer station’s fee schedule might need to increase to “be a little bit higher than Stowe.” Klein added that “the whole county is in trouble, transfer stations are shutting down” because of staffing/personnel issues.

He suggested that the fee for trash increase, because “trash is where the income is,” but also said it was important to try and pay for the costs of cardboard by, for example, not treating ten boxes the same price-wise as a hundred.

Martin did not disagree with that, conceptually, but said, “We need to think about how that’s handled, is someone going to stand there manually, and put [the boxes] in?” She said that because of the layout, workers at the transfer

station could sometimes not determine what was being thrown in, and how much.

The town has cut back on its compost pick-up as discussed at the last meeting, but is still spending \$20 for the service. Board member Kurt Billings said, “If you get \$5 worth of compost and you have to spend \$20 to get rid of it, why are we even doing it?” The rest of the board reminded him that composting is now mandated by the state.

Clegg said that even the sort of fees Klein had brought to the table were in her opinion “very low,” especially considering many of the people using the transfer station were “coming from outside [the state].” She had an example of a friend in Connecticut who had someone remove and dispose of a piece of furniture, and the associated expense was far more than the \$10 that it would have cost at the transfer station.

Klein said another part of the problem was “discipline,” for which he gave examples of simply making sure that one compost bin was filled before the other instead of two half-full ones, and not calling for pickup of the roll-up unless it was needed. He also wanted to see more attention paid to the customers getting the correct pricing at the window.

The board decided to reach out to the Lamoille Regional Solid Waste Management District and discuss some options. Klein believed there might be a different strategy than the town is using for cardboard, which relies on Casella, since that one item is, in his opinion, “just going to get bigger and bigger.”



photo by Vanessa Fournier

Senator Bernie Sanders (right) of Burlington visited some REACH! Summer and Afterschool programs in Vermont July 23, including Hardwick’s. He visited with REACH! staff (from left) Mieke Riddlebarger, Audrey Grant, Dana Prouty, and Natalie Dunn at the Pavilion on Atkins Field. The Senator discussed funding of after-school programs made possible by the American Rescue Plan. The Senate returns to session Monday in Washington.

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**Request for Proposal
Playground Area Upgrade
Hardwick, Vermont**

Proposal Submission
Businesses wishing to submit proposals should do so by no later than 2 p.m., August 2, 2021, by submitting two copies of the proposal and any company brochures, pamphlets and/or materials indicating the business’ qualifications to Northeast Kingdom Community Action, Inc. (NEKCA) 70 Main St, Newport, VT 05855.
Questions concerning this RFP may be directed to Nancy Powers at 802-274-1534 or by email at: npowers@nekcavt.org.

BACKGROUND
NEKCA Head Start has eight locations.

SCOPE OF SERVICES
NEKCA Head Start would like a play area that allows children to play in a natural setting. The playground needs to be equipped for play all year around.

TIMELINE
Project needs to be completed and billed by September 3, 2021.

EVALUATION AND TIMELINE
Proposals will be reviewed for appropriate experience with similar projects and a decision will be made by August 6, 2021.

BUDGET
Estimated project budget is \$30,000 - \$40,000.

New Trail Bridge Installed over Winooski River

EAST MONTPELIER – The Cross Vermont Trail Association announced completion on Friday of the first stage of a new trail bridge over the Winooski River. The 205-foot-long steel bridge in East Montpelier is a vital link in the 90-mile trail between Lake Champlain and the Connecticut River.

Onlookers cheered from Route 2 as the bridge settled onto new riverbank abutments after contractors gently eased it across the river. CCS Constructors of Morrisville installed the steel framework of the bridge using a floating river barge and two tall cranes.

When completed, the new Winooski River bridge will allow recreationists and commuters to safely travel a wooded trail near the river and avoid using the shoulder of busy Route 2. The bridge will be open to the public later this fall after decking is installed and approaches are built on either side. The Association is planning a public ribbon cutting ceremony for October.

“Safety and accessibility are always on our minds as we build the trail,” said CVTA Executive Director Greg Western. “The Siboinibi Path gets a ton of use, and I’m excited to think that folks will be able to continue past the Montpelier Civic Center and keep going,” he said, referring to the recent extension of the Montpelier bike path.

Western is currently working with an AmeriCorps crew from the National Civilian Conservation

Corps to begin construction of a new path beginning at Gallison Hill Road and east to the new bridge. The bridge is the centerpiece of a three-year project to build 3.3 miles of the Cross Vermont Trail off-road in East Montpelier, plus several side trails connecting to the U-32 School and providing access to natural lands along the river. The project runs from Gallison Hill Road to a planned crossing of Route 2 and east to join a current trailhead on the east side of Route 14.

The project is being built and opened in phases, and trail users can go to crossvermont.org for regular updates and maps.

In addition to the bridge installation, people will see two more contractor-built projects later this season. A new guardrail along Route 2 will accommodate a fully separate bike path for 650 feet at a narrow place where the highway is very close the river. And a new trail-head parking area on Route 2 will be built upstream of the new bridge. The remainder of the new trails between Gallison Hill Road and the new Route 2 trailhead, plus the connectors to U-32 school, will be built from fall 2021 through summer 2022 by CVTA, and the association invites volunteers to help with this work.

“Much of our trail building is done with volunteers and youth groups using pickaxes and shovels” explained Western. “There is plenty of opportunity for volunteers to help build important parts of the project



courtesy photo

The first stage of a new trail bridge has been completed over the Winooski River in East Montpelier as part of the Cross Vermont Trail.

in East Montpelier,” Western added, “as well as joining ongoing smaller trail building and maintenance that we do statewide every year.”

Funding for the \$1.75 million project between Gallison Hill Road and Route 14 comes from multiple sources: a large federal grant managed by the Vermont Agency of Transportation, plus state and private foundation grants, as well as donations from hundreds of private individuals and local businesses. All of the towns in the U-32 School District, as well as Montpelier and Plainfield, have contributed.

“We are deeply appreciative

of the broad community support this project has had over many years,” says Western. “For me, the real story here is that a significant piece of regional transportation infrastructure is being built in a truly grassroots way, by ordinary people all coming together.”

Those wishing to volunteer and donate to the trail project can visit crossvermont.org, where trail maps are available. The mission of the Cross Vermont Trail Association is to create and maintain a multi-use trail across Vermont through the Winooski and Wells River Valleys between Lake Champlain and the Connecticut River.

Select Board Wants to Hear From Wolcott Residents

by Doug McClure

WOLCOTT – At the final July meeting last Wednesday, Wolcott Select Board Chair Linda Martin said that the board now had multiple opportunities for things that would improve the town, and wanted to inform the public.

“I’m feeling that we’re at places with different things that we’re working on, that it’s time for community involvement,” said Martin. She spoke of the proposed town forest, the upcoming American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds, signage for the Lamoille Valley Rail Trail (LVRT), and broadband. The board also, in her opinion, needed to decide once and for all what to do about the old schoolhouse.

“Personally, I’m getting sick of [doing] studies and not doing anything,” Martin said, later adding, “Even though we have the authority to do all these things without [residents’] permission, I think it’s only respectful that they’re involved in the decision-making. But, I don’t like it

when people make decisions when they’re uninformed.”

The board felt it had done its homework on all of the issues, vice chair Kurt Klein said, calling Martin’s proposal an “excellent, excellent” idea. Klein wanted whatever form the meeting took to include a way to “present what we have learned and researched in the past year.”

It was suggested that perhaps each of the main topics be set up with a station, like a small community fair, where people could learn in-depth about topics from the people on the select board or other town entities most involved.

Klein suggested that “maybe the way to bring people here is with food,” which led board member Richard Lee to jokingly suggest that the board “set it up as a gauntlet, so [people] have to go through it to get to the barbecue.”

Town Administrator Randall Szott saw an opportunity for this to be part of a “more concerted effort to inform the public in general.” He suggested considering a “plain-language summary” of select board

agendas and minutes for residents, that would be available for them to read.

Board member Kurt Billings worried about the ability of people without internet service to access those summaries and suggested that instead of only making them available at the town office, make them available at the Wolcott Store. Billings said that in his case, his work schedule means it would not be possible to pick something up from the town office due to its hours. He said he had an issue recently with another notice because it was only at the town office.

“I hate to say it,” said Billings, “but if it was only posted here [in the town office], I never found out.”

Szott had a second idea for the board itself.

“Right now, the board is operating in a purely reactive mode. ‘Here are the twenty things that have come up, here the twenty things we knock down.’ [What about] having a meeting where the board discusses, ‘here are the things we want to do?’”

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OUR COMMUNITIES

Tales of Raccoons on July 29

HARDWICK – Tales of Azban, the trickster raccoon of the Abenaki traditional stories, will be presented on Thursday, July 29, at 12:30 p.m. at Atkins Field

The Lamoille County Nature Center will present the program. There will be a reading of a story from Vermont author Brian Chenevert's book "Azban's Great

Journey" and a presentation about the real raccoons. There will be a game of "Follow the Biologist" and a test our wildlife knowledge with a round of "Whose Tail is it Anyway?"

Atkins Field is located at 100 Granite Street. For questions and information, call the library at 472-5948.

All About Mars on July 29

GREENSBORO – On Thursday July 29, at 1 p.m., at the Greensboro Free Library, NASA scientist and part-time Greensboro resident Gaj Birur give a presentation about his experiences with NASA robotics, the Mars Rover landing, and Mars facts.

Gaj Birur is a principal spacecraft engineer/technologist at NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, Calif. He has led teams that developed advanced spacecraft thermal technologies, many of which have been implemented on NASA Mars rovers such as the Mars Pathfinder (1996) and the Mars rover "Curiosity" (2011). He has been awarded the NASA's Exceptional Engi-

neering Achievement Award and the NASA's Exceptional Service Award. He received his M.E. in Aeronautics in 1971.

In 2004, Birur co-founded a Bangalore-based NGO that provides science educational outreach to underserved government primary school children in rural areas of India. He was a co-chair of the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) Alumni Association of North America (2015-18) and the founding editor (2013) of the IISc AANA Newsletter.

This event is free and open to the public. For more information contact greensborokids@gmail.com or the library at 533.2531.

Modern Times Theater on August 3

GREENSBORO – Join Modern Times Theater in the backyard of the Greensboro Free Library Tuesday August 3rd at 2pm!

The summer reading theme is Tails and Tales and we know they have a tale to spin. What will Mr. Punch and Judy delight us with this year? Modern Times Theater delights family audiences with their handmade wooden and papier-mache puppets, in a modern Vermont update of the age-old Punch and Judy show. There will be live acoustic music on a variety of instruments, from the ukulele to the bicycle pump, as well

as a thrilling puppet show, all calculated to delight and enlighten both children and their folks.

Rose Friedman and Justin Lander have been making and performing puppet shows together since 2003. They are co-founders of Vermont Vaudeville, Vermont's premier Vaudeville troupe. Librarians say Modern Times Theater "engages all ages with their superb talent, wit and enthusiasm", and "you must, must see them in person"! Everyone is welcome to this all ages, free event! Contact the library at 533.2531 or greensborokids@gmail.com for more info.

Mears to Speak at Annual Meeting

GREENSBORO – David Mears, executive director of Audubon Vermont and vice president of the National Audubon Society, will address the Greensboro Land Trust's annual meeting on Monday, August 2, at 7:30 p.m. in the Greensboro Church Fellowship Hall.

Mears supports the educational and outreach programs based out of the Green Mountain Audubon Center in Huntington. He also coordinates policy work for Audubon Vermont focused on bird species protection in the areas of climate, working lands, water, and bird-friendly communities. Prior to joining Audubon Vermont, Mears served as the associate dean of envi-



courtesy photo
David Mears from Audubon Vermont will speak at the Greensboro Land Trust's annual meeting on August 2. ronmental programs at Vermont Law School.

All are welcome to the event.



photo by Bethany Dunbar

A member of the Michaud family demonstrates how to steer the young oxen at the Atkins Field Open Farm Week event in 2019. This year they will bring the fully-grown team to the event on August 13.

Community Farm and Food Celebration on August 13

HARDWICK – Atkins Field will be full of activity on Friday, August 13, from 3 to 6 p.m., for a celebration of Open Farm Week and the agricultural community.

For the past 11 years, The Center for an Agricultural Economy (CAE) has helped organize Kingdom Farm and Food Days, an annual celebration of local agriculture and food. This event at Atkins Field will celebrate the greater Hardwick area's community and agricultural contributions.

The event will offer food, music, and activities for children and adults. There will be baby goats, live oxen, and artisan craft demonstrations. The Hardwick Farmers' Market will host a taste test of heritage tomato varieties with voting for favorites. WonderArts will host art activities

for children.

In addition to offerings by weekly market vendors, signature cocktails by Barr Hill in commemorative ceramic mugs and grilled cheese sandwiches from Jasper Hill Farm will be available for purchase. A raffle of local farm and food products will round out the event.

Event proceeds will support CAE and its dedication to a thriving local agricultural community.

The event is free and open to the public, though people can purchase food, drink, and produce from local vendors. Donations to the Center for an Agricultural Economy will also be accepted. Atkins Field is located at 100 Granite Street.

For more information, see the Center for an Agricultural Economy website at hardwickagriculture.org/fun.

Park Passes Available at Library

HARDWICK – Local residents may check out passes to several museums and the Vermont State Parks at the Jeudevine Library.

Passes include the Vermont State Parks pass, which allows one vehicle with up to eight people into the park for free; the Vermont State Historic Sites pass, which allows one vehicle with up to eight people into the park free; the Fairbanks Museum pass, which allows one family entry into the Fairbanks Museum; the Vermont History Museum pass, which allows one family to tour the exhibits free; the ECHO Museum pass, which allows

two adults and three children entrance at \$7 each; the Old Stone House Museum pass for free admission with library pass; and the American Precision Museum pass, which allows two adults and their children in free.

Check the pass out the day before your visit, use the pass the next day and return the pass on day three. Passes are available to members of the Jeudevine Library. If not a member, come to the library with a photo ID and a piece of mail so to verify an address.

For more information, call the library at 472-5948.

OBITUARIES

HAZEL WARD BURTON GRAY

November 9, 1931 - December 31, 2020

GREENSBORO – Hazel Ward Burton Gray, the fifth of six children born to Ella Lindley Burton and Ward Cotton Burton (who arrived at his 1917 wedding by sailboat), grew up on the shores of Lake Minnetonka, Minn., in “Quarterdeck,” a stately Georgian house built of bricks her father had shipped from his native Boston.

Her carefree childhood ended with the death, a day before her twelfth birthday, of her beloved older brother Gale at the age of twenty-five.

Hazel’s love for all creatures, dogs and horses in particular, led to her piano teacher’s ultimatum forcing her to choose between her horse and her piano lessons; Hazel consequently became an accomplished rider as a teenager. She also became a passionate sailor, crewing for her father despite a battle of wills at one point when he refused to allow her on the boat unless she removed her lipstick. Neither party gave in that day, despite Ella’s claim, “Oh, Ward, all the girls do it,” and the boat sailed without Hazel.

Following her graduation from Northrop Collegiate School (since merged with the Blake School), she had her trunk shipped to Smith College, where it spent the fall in her dormitory basement as Hazel intermittently wondered what had become of it while struggling to survive German and regularly dropping in at the college chapel to pray she would pass her courses: a habit possibly contributing to her choice of Comparative Religion as a major.

Following graduation from Smith in 1953, Hazel set out for San Francisco with her good friend and classmate Polly Byrd, before marrying Philip Gray the next year in Minneapolis on September 1, 1954. The young couple moved to New York for graduate work at Columbia University, where Hazel earned an MA in Elementary Education before Phil (having completed his MA in Political Science) joined the Army and was sent to Augusta, Ga., where daughter Margot was born. (Wives were not welcome near the Army barracks, but Hazel, never one to let rules stop her, followed Phil to Augusta with their cat and defiantly rented an apartment).

When Phil joined the U.S.



Hazel Ward Burton Gray

State Department’s Foreign Service as a diplomat, the young family – now including son Burr – set off for Beirut, Lebanon, where Ellen was born. A second posting took the family to Baghdad, Iraq, where youngest child Bruce arrived during a revolution, requiring Hazel to obtain a special pass through both warring factions to reach the hospital.

The family’s final posting was to Amman, Jordan, before settling in the northern Virginia suburbs of Washington, D.C., where Hazel indefatigably room-mothered, car-pooled, chauffeured, and community-volunteered while raising children, horses, dogs, cats, rabbits, gerbils, tropical fish, ducks, and raccoons. Upon the departure of her last child to college, she returned to her beloved “Quarterdeck” to care for her ageing mother and younger sister, Elinor – ultimately moving with Elinor, two dogs and two cats to a new home on a beautiful pasture north of Seattle, where she took in rescue horses and enjoyed travelling up and down the I-5 corridor for activities and celebrations with Ellen, Bruce and their families.

Hazel was diagnosed with Inflammatory breast cancer in July of 2020. Her children and grandchildren were at her side during her final months.

Throughout her life, Hazel held unyielding principles, unhesitantly expressed: she was fiercely kind, generous, compassionate, loyal, loving, inclusive and triumphant in living long enough to vote Trump out.

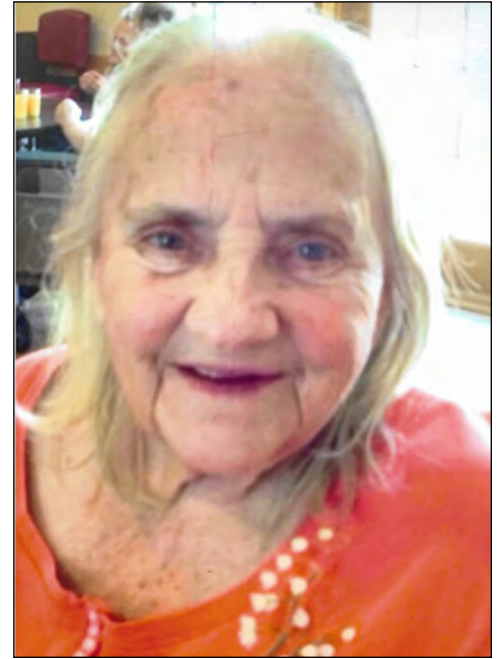
A service will be held at the Greensboro United Church of Christ Friday August 6, at 4 p.m. All are welcome.



Shirley Colburn

SHIRLEY COLBURN

HARDWICK – A memorial service for Shirley Colburn, who passed away on June 6, 2020, will be held on Saturday, August 14, at Hazen Union School in Hardwick. Visitation will begin at 10 a.m., in the gymnasium for one hour prior to the service at 11 a.m. Burial will immediately follow the service at Fairview Cemetery in Hardwick. Those wishing to attend are welcome and friends not attending the burial are invited to move to the Hazen Union cafeteria for refreshments while Shirley’s family returns from the cemetery. The complete obituary may be found at dgfunerals.com.



June Quinn

JUNE QUINN

HARDWICK – A graveside service honoring June Quinn, who passed away on February 17, will be held on Saturday, July 31, at 10 a.m., in Fairview Cemetery, Hardwick.

A celebration of life will directly follow the burial at the American Legion in Hardwick. The complete obituary may be found at dgfunerals.com.



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THIS WEEK'S EVENTS

Thursday, July 29

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.

Friday, July 30

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, 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 31

HIGHLAND CENTER FOR THE ARTS presents a public preview of Cirque Barcode's Branché: a circus show for people of all ages, played outdoors, that evokes with simplicity and optimism the climate crisis by celebrating the strength of community, 3 p.m. and 6 p.m. Requires the audience to walk a short distance, including uneven terrain. Picnic dinner available. Order in advance when you purchase your tickets online. Information: highlandartsvt.org, 802-533-2000.

5TH ANNUAL VERMONT Blueberry Festival, at the Craftsbury Farmers' Market, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m., Craftsbury Common. Special blueberry-themed products developed by the vendors especially for the Festival. Face-painting, family-friendly entertainment by Gordon's Granite Calliope.

THE GREENSBORO HISTORICAL SOCIETY'S Annual Ice Cream Social, 2 - 4 p.m., next to Willey's Store. Historical Society display features the oldest registered fold of Highland cattle in the USA. The Society's annual book sale from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. across from Willey's at Lyles Garage parking lot.

Monday, August 2

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, August 3

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.

Wednesday, August 4

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

Exhibits

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."

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



photo by Vanessa Fournier

Charlie Emers of East Hardwick stands in front of two of his oil paintings at the opening of his "Wheel Barrow Art" show July 23 at the Third Floor Gallery in the Hardwick Inn. The show, which runs through September, consists of around 76 different pieces of assembled art and paintings. Emers is the owner of Patchwork Farm & Bakery.

Third Concert in Series on August 31

PLAINFIELD – The Craftsbury Chamber Players (on their own portable flatbed truck stage) will present another performance on Saturday, August 31, at 4 p.m.

The concert is the third in the summer music series presented by the Friends of the Plainfield Opera House in collaboration with the Plainfield Recreation Committee.

This upcoming concert will feature combinations of a string quartet and a piano playing music by Gershwin, Ellington, Ravel, Queen, Carey and Vermont

composer Gwyneth Walker. The performers for this concert are Mary Rowell and Katherine Winterstein (violins), Wendy Richman (viola), Frances Rowell (cello), and Inessa Zaretsky (piano).

In the event of rain, the concert will be moved indoors to the Plainfield Opera House.

Admission is by donation. All proceeds go directly to the musicians. Bring your own chairs or blankets.

For more information go to plainfieldoperahouse.org, or phone or text (802) 498-3173.



photo by Vanessa Fournier

Rose Friedman and her husband, Justin Lander, in a comical musical skit about people moving to Vermont during the pandemic. The act was part of the five sold-out shows of Vermont Vaudeville's "The New Normal," held at the Highland Center for the Arts July 21-24.

Vermont Vaudeville at the Highland Center for the Arts



photo by Vanessa Fournier
 Maya and Brent McCoy as the popular characters Margaret and Charlie during the live, in-person outdoor original production of Vermont Vaudeville's "The New Normal" held July 21-24 at the Highland Center for the Arts.



photo by Vanessa Fournier
 The Farmer's Daughter, Molly Keczan of Ontario, Canada, walks over five milk bottles in cowboy boots during a balancing act in Vermont Vaudeville's "The New Normal" held at the Highland Center for the Arts. Five sold-out shows were held from Wednesday through Saturday.



courtesy photo
 Cast members in "Waiting for Godot" (left to right): Donny Osman, Clarke Jordan, Matthew Grant Winston, and Tom Murphy.

Godot Comes to Calais

CALAIS – "Waiting for Godot" opens a two-week run on August 12 at the Unadilla Theater, running Thursday through Sunday.

From a humble and not very successful beginning at a small Paris theater, Samuel Beckett's play has become one of the most important plays of the twentieth century. A true modern classic, "Waiting for Godot" is one of the most produced plays in the world. Beckett calls the work "A tragic comedy in two acts."

This production boasts a cast with over a century of combined professional experience as performers, actors, and writers.

Jeanne Beckwith of Roxbury directs the play. Beckwith is a theater director, playwright, and scholar. Her plays have been staged from coast to coast and as far away as Dublin, London, and Istanbul. This year, her new play in process, "Sam and Jim in Hell," had a public reading at Lost Nation Theater in Montpelier on Saint Patrick's Day.

The cast, in order of appearance, features Matthew Grant Winston as Estragon. Winston is a graduate of the drama school at SUNY Purchase. He says that he has always wanted to play the part of Estragon, which was originated by the great Bert Lahr in the first Broadway production.

Donny Osman plays Vladimir. Osman has a long history in theater; he founded and directed "The Two Penny Circus," which

toured New England and beyond for ten years, and he toured his own solo shows and taught theater worldwide for more than twenty years. He played a leadership role in founding Circus Smirkus, was the director of the Vermont Governor's Institute on the Arts, and was elected to the Vermont Legislature.

The hapless Lucky is played by Tom Murphy. Murphy has been touring professionally for over forty years. He is a performer-clown in the vaudevillian tradition. He can juggle fire, ride a ten-foot unicycle, and easily fall off a six-foot stage. But he says that playing Lucky and memorizing his famous, incredible speech is the hardest thing he has ever done in theater.

Clarke Jordan plays the sometimes cruel and sometimes piteous Pozzo. After twenty some seasons at Unadilla playing mostly kings or clowns, he's enjoying taking on Pozzo, who seems to him a bit of both. His first encounter with Godot was as Estragon in a high school production in 1968. Since then, he has appeared in productions of "Krapp's Last Tape" and "Happy Days."

Making his debut at Unadilla Theater is Case Phinney as the Boy. Phinney is fresh off a run of the "Hobbit."

Show times are 7:30 on August 12, 13, 14, 15, 19, 20 and 21, and a matinee at 2:30 p.m. on the August 22. For more information, email unadilla@pshift.com, call (802) 456-8968 or visit unadilla.org.

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YANKEE NOTEBOOK

The Roar of the Common People

by Willem Lange

EAST MONTPELIER – There’s a distant sweet sound alive on the breezes coming from the south. It floats across the Florida Straits and is audible, I fervently hope, to even the tin ears of Washington, D.C. No, it’s not salsa music, though that’s pretty sweet, too. It’s the roar of common people – most importantly, young people – objecting to the repressive authoritarian rule of the inept successors to the Castro brothers. The Cuban government, naturally, has labeled the insurgents “counter-revolutionaries,” and is having them beaten in the streets, imprisoned, and possibly even disappeared. It won’t work.

Fidel and his ragtag revolutionaries, you may recall, were first supported by the United States government as the only viable alternative to the Batista regime, which had in its second iteration become a corrupt dictatorship. Batista fled Cuba on New Year’s Day in 1959 (you may recall the scene in “Godfather II” in which Michael Corleone gives his brother Fredo “il bacio della morte” and heads for the airport), opening the country to Castro. But when Castro later came to speak in Washington, President Eisenhower went golfing to avoid him; and Vice-President Nixon, who did have a conversation with him, hinted darkly at his Communist potential.

The young people of Cuba, from whom it’s impossible anymore to keep information of the outside world, and who increasingly have access to a 3G network, are seeing Parea, and they like it. They want it. And they will have it. The videos and photos now leaking out of Cuba, of demonstrators being clubbed, shot, and dragged away are the sonograms of a sclerotic, frightened, and doomed government. I hope Xi Jinping is watching.

They were right, of course. The United States Congress, in the fierce grip of McCarthyism (remember “The Russians Are Coming! The Russians Are Coming!?”) and patriotically adding the name of God to our money and mottoes, happily endorsed the embargoes we slapped on the former so-called Jewel of the Antilles. Then, of course, the Russians really were coming – to Cuba. You’d be amused to see how many Cubans have first names like Vladimir and Natasha. After the collapse of the Soviet Union,

the Russians left. And there she sits, impoverished, only ninety miles away. Just as generals are reputed always to be fighting the last war, our aged Congresspeople are still fighting the bugbear of Communism! Just the word makes many of ‘em sit up straight.

So, the island and its people have languished, starved by those who could help it and in the increasingly tight grip of the Castros and their apparatchiks. On our last visit, we spotted soldiers with Uzis and hand-held radios guarding most intersections in Havana, a sober counterpoint to the amazing array of cherished 1950s automobiles happily spewing blue smoke into the Caribbean air.

El Lider is now long gone, and his milder-mannered brother Raul, now ninety, quietly retired. Even without the inspiration that El Caballo provided with his fiery speeches reminding everyone of the glories of la Revolución, the peasants mowing the sides of the highway with hand sickles and the farmers trotting to market on their one-pony carts still seem to be accepting of their poverty.

But their kids are not. None of us remember, but just after World War I Sophie Tucker and Eddie Cantor popularized a wartime song that prophetically asked, “How Ya Gonna Keep ‘Em Down on the Farm After They’ve Seen Parea?” The young people of Cuba, from whom it’s impossible anymore to keep information of the outside world, and who increasingly have access to a 3G network, are seeing Parea, and they like it. They want it. And they will have it. The videos and photos now leaking out of Cuba, of demonstrators being clubbed, shot, and dragged away are the sonograms of a sclerotic, frightened, and doomed government. I hope Xi Jinping is watching.

If ever there was a moment in the last sixty years for the United States to get over its own puritanism and executive sclerosis, this is it. (As a naughty aside, the Democratic Party could win the State of Florida by agreeing, for a change, with the Cuban exile community there). We could, with no prohibitive military costs, ease the plight of the people of what was once touted as another state of our union, and ease the apparatchiks into the dustbin of history.

If the young people of Cuba do manage to wrest control from the existing government, the sequel will be a chaotic mess. But many exiles will return, bringing their experience of democracy (such as it is in Florida); and the magnificent, now-nearly empty United States embassy can help as a benevolent presence, rather than a symbol of foreign oppression. It’s fairly certain that this conversation is taking place somewhere on the Potomac. With all that’s competing for attention right now, let’s hope that at least some of our leaders can walk and chew gum at the same time.

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IN THE GARDEN

Is It Time to Grow Up? Vines Offer Special Features

by Henry Homeyer

CORNISH FLAT, N.H. – The story of Jack, of bean stalk fame, appealed to me as a boy, and still does. I love climbing vines and grow many including those that are perennial or annual flowers, and some vegetables. Vines are a great way to save space and to get blossoms up and visible.

In the vegetable garden I have had great luck growing cucumbers on trellises. I made a simple frame to support my cukes, and you can, too. You can use four six-foot long two-by-two pieces of lumber for the framework. Attach them in pairs with simple gate hinges from the hardware store. Then space them five feet apart with pieces of strapping at the top and bottom, and attach chicken wire for the vines to grab onto.

I used a cordless drill and

If you have only grown bush beans, you should also try pole beans. As the name implies, these will encircle a pole and grow up eight feet or more. The great thing about them is that if you keep on picking them, they will produce beans all summer. Bush beans produce just one load of beans over a three-week period, and then they are done.

Beans fix nitrogen, taking it from the air and storing it in useable form in nodes in the roots, but only if the soil has a certain bacterium to work with your beans. You can buy inoculant to make sure your beans do fix nitrogen and can add some to the soil and water it in, even now.

Climbing hydrangea is a perennial woody vine that looks good all year. It is slow to get started, but once established (after a few years) it grows quickly. It does well on the shady



courtesy photo

This fall-blooming clematis had hundreds of blossoms.

fall bloomers. Some are fragrant, others not.

If you have lived in a warmer part of the country, you may long for wisteria, a woody vine that blooms profusely with blue or purple flowers, and occasionally in shades of pink and white. Each blossom is actually a cluster of blossoms that hang down like a cluster of grapes. Although most wisteria varieties will survive our winters, most bloom on “old wood” and the flower buds get killed in winter.

I grow two varieties that do bloom in Zone 4 because they bloom on “new wood”, or this year’s growth. One is called “Blue Moon,” a hybrid developed in Minnesota. The other is “Amethyst Falls,” a native variety with smaller leaves and blossoms. Both bloom for me in late June or early July, and re-bloom lightly throughout the

was one of two heritage plants that inspired the creation of the Seed Saver organization and seed company. They grow quickly so it’s not too late to plant some by seed.



courtesy photo

Amethyst Falls wisteria blooms on new wood so is not bothered by cold winters.

Two decorative flowering beans that I like are purple hyacinth bean and scarlet runner bean. The purple hyacinth bean is a beautiful plant: the leaves are purple, along with the flowers and seed pods. It is slow to germinate and get up a pole or trellis, so it is best started in pots indoors before it can be planted outdoors. The young beans are edible raw or cooked, but the mature pods have seeds better used as dry beans.

Scarlet runner beans, like the hyacinth bean, can climb up a support and grow 10 feet in a season. They are quicker to grow than hyacinth beans, and I often start them in the soil near my hexagon cedar shade structure where I also grow wisteria. The bean has bright orange flowers and standard bean leaves. Plant four to six seeds around a pole and watch them grow - just like Jack, the bean stalk kid.



courtesy photo

Climbing hydrangea covers the north side of my barn and looks good all year.

short sheet rock screws to put it all together. I made it sturdier by cutting short pieces of strapping to go from the front legs to the back legs. To ensure it doesn’t blow over, I drove in a hardwood grade stake into the ground on each end and screwed it to that strapping. Once the vines are long enough, lift them up onto the chicken wire, and they will quickly attach to it and grow up.

Other vines will grow up on trellises, too, including squashes and gourds of all sorts. For heavier fruits you may want to build your trellis with two-by-fours, and perhaps to use stronger wire mesh or the stuff used to reinforce concrete that comes in four-foot by eight-foot pieces.

north side of a building, a place often difficult for flowers. It will attach to brick or stone, but needs to be attached to a wood building, either with a trellis or individual ties. It blooms in June, but the large white panicles look good long after, even into winter.

There are many types of clematis, but all have wonderful blossoms, some six inches wide or more, others small but profuse. Most will grow six- to 10-foot tall; some die back to the ground each year; others have woody vines that send out new shoots and flowers each year. The key to success is to give the vines plenty of sunshine, but to protect the roots with shade from other plants to keep them cool. There are spring, summer and



courtesy photo

A cucumber trellis is easy to build.

summer.

Annual vines are vigorous and delightful, too. We generally grow morning glories from seed. These come in many colors: reds, pinks, blue, purple, and white. My favorite is called “Grampa Ott.” It is a deep purple and can grow up to 15 feet in a season. It

Woodsmoke *by Julie Atwood*



“HAND OVER YOUR VACCINE CARD!”



photo by Vanessa Fournier

A turkey poult brooder on the RW Bothfeld Farm in Cabot keeps these 200 eight-day-old baby White Holland turkeys warm and will for six to eight weeks or until they are fully feathered. Then they will be moved into an outdoor pen.

MEETING MEMO

Monday, August 2

•Walden Select Board, every other Monday

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

Woodbury: woodburyvt.org



Craftsbury Community Care Center is looking for dedicated, caring individuals to join their team.

Openings include:

Personal Care Attendant, per diem, current opportunity to work at least one day a week with potential for more. Duties include personal care, med pass, daily monitoring of resident's well-being and communication of resident needs.

Resident Assistant, part-time, assist resident with morning and evening routines as well as other activities of daily living.

Cook, part-time, prepare, cook and serve healthy nutritious meals.

All positions require some weekend hours.

For more information regarding these positions or to apply, please contact kroberge@craftsburycarecenter.org or by calling 586-2415



Orleans Southwest is looking for a dynamic Program Director for its REACH! After School and Summer Programs across multiple schools.

Job Overview: Oversight of all programmatic and budgetary aspects of REACH! After School and Summer programs with a primary focus on developing concrete strategies for the long-term sustainability of out-of-school-time programs for grades K - 6. This is a year-round position with full benefits and paid time off.

REACH! - What we stand for:

- RECREATION:** Plant the seed for enjoyable lifelong physical activity.
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- ACADEMICS:** Support and reinforce the learning from the classroom.
- CULTURE:** Explore diversity through drama, visual arts and music.
- HEALTH:** Relate our choices to our well-being.

If you are a dynamic and innovative person with grant and program management experience, willingness to collaborate with multiple stakeholders, and oversee an integrated program to support after school and summer learning, please apply on SchoolSpring Job #3611614

Town of Greensboro, 82 Craftsbury Road Greensboro, VT 05841 (802) 533-2911/greensborovt.org

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

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

DATE, TIME, & LOCATION OF HEARING

The public hearing has been scheduled for Tuesday, August 24, 2021, at 6 p.m., at the United Church of Christ, Fellowship Hall, at 165 Wilson Road in Greensboro. This also will be a virtual meeting. The Zoom link is included below.

Join Zoom Meeting

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STATEMENT OF PURPOSE: This bylaw seeks to protect the town's natural resources and residential districts while acknowledging the opportunity offered by STR's. The intent of this bylaw is:

1. To protect our abundant natural resources;
2. To establish a balance between the desire of homeowners to rent their residential properties to STR visitors for compensation and the desire of homeowners to preserve the residential character and livability traditional to residential neighborhoods;
3. To equitably manage the STR use of residential properties in the Town of Greensboro; and
4. To promote the safety of occupants of short-term rentals.

GEOGRAPHIC AREA AFFECTED: The entire Town of Greensboro.

TABLE OF CONTENTS: (A) Short-Term Rental Definition; (B) Short Term Rental Requirements; (C) Additional Rental Requirements in the Shoreland Protection District; (D) Permit Application Requirements

FULL TEXT OF PROPOSAL

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

PO Box 119

Greensboro, VT 05841

802-533-2640

zoning@greensborovt.org

Dated at Greensboro, Vermont, this 21st day of July, 2021.

Greensboro Planning Commission
Carol Fairbank, Chair, MacNeil, Christine Armstrong,
Kent Hansen, Ellen Celnik, Jerilyn Virden, Linda Romans

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The Lamoille Family Center seeks an organized and team oriented individual to provide home visits with families of children (0-3 years) with developmental delays. This full-time case manager position is part of the Early Intervention team within the Children's Integrated Services program. Vacation time, sick time, and single person health insurance benefits are included in this position.

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:
 Angela Mendieta, Lamoille Family Center
 480 Cadys Falls Road Morrisville, VT 05661
 or amendieta@lamoillefamilycenter.org



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For more information or to apply, contact Road Commissioner Alfred Larrabee at calaisroadcommissioner@myfairpoint.net or at 456-7466. Applications accepted until position is filled.

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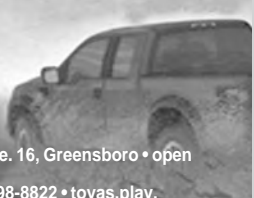
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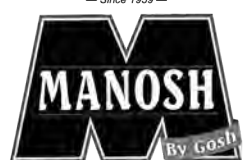
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SPORTS

Craftsbury Siblings and Dad Begin End-to-End Trek

by Jim Flint

MAINE JUNCTION, THE LONG TRAIL – Joe Krebs of Craftsbury may never forget his eighth birthday. Sunday, July 25, was Joe's tenth day on the Long Trail. He and his sister, Ruth Krebs, 14, his brother Charlie Krebs, 16, and their dad, Matt Krebs, 48, are on a 28-day quest to hike the 273-mile footpath through the wilderness.

A steady rain was falling when the Krebs awoke Sunday morning near Gould Brook, south of Killington Peak. Breakfast would have to wait until after they packed up their tent and broke camp. The first stop was the Governor Clement Shelter, a low stone building with a roof overhang on the front.

Brendan Quinn, 17, of Fairfax, Vt., spent Saturday night at the Clement Shelter, which has bunks for four people. On Sunday morning, Quinn watched as the Krebs and other hikers emerged from the woods seeking a dry place for breakfast. By 10 a.m., twenty backpackers had squeezed into the shelter and under the front porch.

"It was rainy and gloomy," said Quinn. "But when we learned about Joe, we were glad and in good spirits. The whole group sang Happy Birthday to him."

The Krebs started their journey at the Massachusetts-Vermont border on July 16. The Long Trail was soggy from heavy rains. After Joe started to get blisters, the Krebs wrapped plastic bags around their socks before putting on their hiking shoes. Weather conditions gradually improved as they continued north.

Food and supplies are distributed according to physical fitness and age. Athletic teens Ruth



photo by Jim Flint

Long Trail hikers (left to right) Charlie Krebs, Ruth Krebs, Joe Krebs, and Matt Krebs of Craftsbury reached the Maine Junction trail marker, north of Killington Peak, on Monday. At the Maine Junction, the Krebs reconnected with "Tree Man" (far right). The 66-year-old Georgia backpacker is through-hiking the Appalachian Trail. His nephew, Brian Toomes of North Carolina, second from right, is accompanying Tree Man for part of the 2,193-mile journey, which began on February 15.

and Charlie carry 30-pound packs, Matt's pack is 25 to 26 pounds and Joe carries ten to 12 pounds on his back. The Krebs average nine to 12 miles a day. Their longest hike to date is 15.8 miles, on the day before Joe's birthday.

"When you are Joe's or my age," you have to keep moving," said Matt. "Joe's stomach is the smallest, so we make sure that he grazes on food throughout the day and drinks enough fluid."

Food is carefully planned at 1-1/2 to two pounds per person, per day. The Krebs shoot for 100 calories per ounce of dry food weight. Freeze-dried foods, granola, macaroni and cheese, tuna pouches, peanut butter, and powdered milk are staples for the hike. Nutella is

an occasional treat.

Water is put through a gravity filter for purification. Cooking is done over a homemade stove that Matt fashioned from two aluminum beverage cans. The super lightweight stove runs on denatured alcohol. Food is resupplied at points along the route, roughly every four days.

Sunday's rainy weather prompted a change in overnight plans. After the rugged climb over Killington Peak, the Krebs made it to Route 4 and caught a bus ride to the Killington Motel. Joe's birthday and reaching the 100-mile mark were celebrated with hot showers and comfortable beds.

Killington holds a special spot in the Krebs' family history. In 2002, Matt Krebs and Alyssa Moore were through-hiking the Appalachian Trail, separately, from Springer Mountain, Ga., to Mount Katahdin, in Maine. They met for the first time in Killington, then reconnected at points along the way north.

At Gorham, N.H., Matt and Alyssa formed a lasting bond. They hiked the last 300 miles of the Appalachian Trail together. A year later, in 2003, they returned to Vermont to through-hike the Long Trail from end to end.

Marriage and children soon followed. Their children began climbing mountains at an early age. Alyssa Krebs teaches language arts

at Craftsbury Academy. Matt works for the Green Mountain Club.

The Long Trail and the Appalachian Trail run together from the Massachusetts-Vermont border to a point just over a mile north of Route 4. At the Maine Junction trail marker, the Long Trail heads north to the Canadian border, while the Appalachian Trail goes east toward New Hampshire and Maine.

As Joe, Ruth, Charlie, and Matt paused for a break Monday at the Maine Junction mark, a familiar figure came along the trail. "Hey Tree Man!" the Krebs called out with a friendly greeting.

"Tree Man" is the trail name for a 66-year-old Appalachian Trail through-hiker from Georgia. He started north on February 15. The Krebs first met him at Little Rock Pond, near Danby. Tree Man was at the Governor Clement Shelter on Sunday to sing Happy Birthday to Joe.

"They are awesome hikers who stayed right up with me, or ahead of me," said Tree Man about the Krebs family. He waved goodbye to them as he headed east from the Maine Junction.

Most of the Krebs have also adopted trail names. Joe is "Rock Hopper." Ruth is known as "Mud Stomper." Although Charlie hadn't chosen his moniker yet, Tree Man nicknamed him "Just Charlie." Matt is "Zues," pronounced like "Zeus." Matt picked up his trail name, which is intentionally misspelled, some twenty years ago.

Leaving Maine Junction on Monday afternoon, the Krebs continued north. They plan to reach Middlebury Gap, the halfway point on the Long Trail, on Thursday, July 29. Alyssa will meet them along the trail the next day. If all goes according to schedule, the Krebs will reach the Canadian border on August 12, the twenty-eighth day of their trek.

Each evening, the Krebs tuck into their tent by 9 p.m. They are sharing a copy of *The Hobbit*, by J.R.R. Tolkien. Though Charlie has read the book four times, this is Joe's and Ruth's first experience hearing the full story read aloud.

One can imagine the tired but happy hikers drifting off to sleep, dreaming about Bilbo Baggins and his traveling companions. Like the adventurous Hobbits, the Krebs are finding their way along the winding trail of an adventurous journey, "to there and back again."



photo by Jim Flint

Ruth, Matt, Charlie, and Joe Krebs (left to right) headed north on the Long Trail from Maine Junction on July 26. On July 29, the Krebs plan to be halfway in their 28-day quest to hike the 273-mile Long Trail from end to end. They hope to make it to the Canadian border near North Troy on August 12.

SPORTS

Hardwick FC Scores Six Times Before Halftime

by Harry Besett

HARDWICK – Number two Hardwick FC faced bottom-of-the-table Williamstown this past Sunday at home in Hardwick.

The game started out in an even gridlock in the middle of the field with both teams possessing the ball well but being wasteful in the final third. Twenty minutes in, Hardwick was able to start to take control of the match and put Williamstown under more pressure, causing more wasteful possession for the visitors and comfortable distribution between midfield and defense for the hosts.

The shift in momentum paid off when Walker McAllister dribbled the ball into the box and down to the baseline before passing across for striker partner Nate Phelps to finish off comfortably. The halftime whistle would come as a welcome sound for Williamstown as Hardwick found the back of the net five more times before it sounded for a halftime score of 6-0.

Hardwick continued its dominance in the second half, but in a more relaxed way. Controlling the ball in the middle of the field and pushing forward less directly than the first half, Hardwick scored once in the second half for a final score of 7-0.

Hardwick will look to use this positive performance to boost its confidence going into the final game of the regular season next Sunday in Williamstown against current No.



photo by Vanessa Fournier
Hardwick FC's Walker McAllister heads up Hudson Field ahead of Max Hale of Williamstown during action Sunday. McAllister got one goal and two assists. Hardwick FC won 7-0.



photo by Vanessa Fournier
Angus McAndrew of Hardwick FC aims for one of his three unassisted goals as Williamstown's Brandon Martin follows the play. Hardwick FC blanked Williamstown 7-0.

1-ranked Salt Hill.

Next Sunday will be the last game of the regular season and Hardwick will look to use the challenging game to prepare to go on a strong run in the playoffs which start the following week. Goal scorers for Hardwick

were Nate Phelps (assist Walker McAllister), Luke Smith (assist Walker McAllister), Angus McAndrew (unassisted), Angus McAndrew (unassisted), Walker McAllister (assist John Kimball), Sy Keglro (unassisted) and Angus McAndrew (unassisted).



photo by Vanessa Fournier
Aasha Gould of Hazen heads toward the basket defended by Ben Francis of Orono during a game held at the Barre Auditorium on Sunday. In the back are Carter Hill of Hazen and Will Francis of Orono. Maine 207 won the summer challenge match against Hardwick 802 with a score of 69-59. The Maine teams hosted a tournament at the Barre Aud which included four Vermont teams.



photo by Vanessa Fournier
Jeter Demers of the Hazen middle school team dribbles around U-32 players Zack Parton (center) and Cole Pitsley (right) during action at the Barre Auditorium on July 20. U-32 beat Hazen 39-25.



photo by Vanessa Fournier
Hazen middle school player Lincoln Hill shoots as Zack Parton (left), Cole Pitsley (center), and Keagan Rossi (right) of U-32 watch for the rebound during a summer basketball game held on July 20 at the Barre Auditorium. The U-32 team rented the Barre Aud and invited Hazen to play them. U-32 won 39-25.

SPORTS

Pelkey Comes Out on Top of Wild Midseason Championships

BARRE – Graniteville’s Christopher Pelkey had the car, the skill, and the luck to earn victory in the Midseason Championships at Barre’s Thunder Road on Thursday, July 22. Pelkey took the lead from Wolcott’s Marcel J. Gravel just before halfway in the wild 75-lap main event to pick up his second Late Model win of the season.

The first-place trophy was worth double points and double prize money. It also came on a night where championship leaders Jason Corliss and Trampas Demers were felled by on-track carnage, allowing Pelkey to unofficially grab the point lead under a full moon.

Front row starters Phil Scott and Gravel went back and forth in the early laps before Gravel finally cleared him with seven complete. The pot that was simmering boiled over six laps later when Grenier looked inside Scott for second on the backstretch. Grenier had to check up entering turn three, and with the field inches apart, things stacked up quickly. Stephen Donahue eventually went around entering turn four, and with nowhere to go, Corliss, Demers, and Kyle Pembroke all piled in.

All three were eventually able to make it back for the restart following a long caution period for water clean-up. But the craziness was far from over. First, Scott had trouble on the restart and went backwards through the field. Then one lap after going green, Chris Roberts lost a right-front tire entering turn one and pounded the barriers. At that point, Corliss was forced to drop out of the event due to ongoing complications from the previous crash, while Demers made multiple pit road trips to try and repair his machine.

When the green flag flew again, Chip Grenier put his bumper out front to lead lap 15 before Gravel took the top spot back one lap later. Tyler Cahoon then went below

Grenier for second only for Grenier to lose control entering turn three. Eric Chase ended up climbing the driver’s door on Grenier’s car while Darrell Morin caught a late piece, forcing all three out of the event and completing the trilogy of carnage.

Cahoon was able to lead one lap following the restart before Gravel swiped it back. Pelkey then slid under Cahoon for second and spent the next 15 laps hounding Gravel. He finally made his move on the outside, snatching the lead with 36 laps complete. Gravel hung to Pelkey’s bumper for a while, but with the race going green the final 59 laps, Pelkey’s long-run power paid off for his second victory in three weeks.

Gravel’s second-place finish was still impressive, given the circumstances. The youngster had hit the wall during practice after a right front failure. With his car unfixable at the track, Gravel borrowed a ride from Scott Coburn to earn his third podium finish of the year.

Hometown racer Cameron Ouellette scored a popular victory in the 50-lap feature for the Flying Tigers. Ouellette spent the first 30 laps stalking polesitter Keegan Lamson, with Mike Billado and Kelsea Woodard in tow. As they plotted moves, son-father duo Stephen and Michael Martin of Craftsbury Common picked their way through the pack.

Ouellette put the nose under Lamson with 30 complete, just as Colin Cornell spun in turn two to bring out the caution flag. The yellow negated the pass and put the field double-wide for a restart. Then Ouellette got the jump only for a car to dump fluid entering turn one, drawing another caution and again frustrating Ouellette’s bid.

The third time was the charm, though, as Ouellette got the break on the second restart attempt. The field then jumbled up as Lamson slowed with a flat right rear tire, allowing the Martins to jump to second and



photo by Alan Ward

A jubilant Christopher Pelkey emerges from his car after winning the Late Model feature at the Midseason Championships on Thursday, July 22.

third. Stephen kept the pressure on Ouellette for the rest of the event but could not get around him.

Waterford’s Dean Switser, Jr. picked a great time for his first win of the year by capturing the 35-lap Stock feature. Switser slashed his way from ninth on the grid to move into second following a lap-18 caution for a Jamie Davis spin. He then set his sights on leader Derek “Zeke” Farnham, who was trying to turn around a dismal season to date.

Switser worked the outside line multiple to times to no avail. But with nine laps to go, he switched things up and was able to get inside Farnham to grab the lead. No one could catch Switser from there as he rolled to the double-point win.

South Royalton’s Farnham tied his career best with a second-place finish. Berlin’s Kyler Davis inherited the third spot after Trevor Jaques was disqualified for too much left side weight.

Milton’s Bert Duffy had just enough to grab his first career Road Warrior victory. Duffy started on the pole for the 25-lap feature and ran away early. After a trio of mid-race crashes, he again put the pedal down and took off.

However, Duffy’s car began showing smoke in the closing laps. At the same time, Graniteville’s Frank Putney, who had been last on the track after an opening-lap scuffle, and Williamstown’s Nate “Tater” Brien were chasing him down. Putney caught Duffy first and got alongside his passenger door on the final circuit. Despite his car coughing and wheezing, Duffy was able to hold on by half a car length and get the win.

Thunder Road begins the season’s second half next Thursday, July 29. A full card of racing is scheduled for all four divisions along with the return of the famous Port-A-Potty Grand Prix.

UNOFFICIAL RESULTS

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

LATE MODELS

- 2. Marcel J. Gravel (86VT) Wolcott
- 6. Brendan Moodie (94VT) Wolcott

FLYING TIGERS

- 2. Stephen Martin (9VT) Craftsbury, Common
- 3. Michael Martin (01VT) Craftsbury, Common
- 8. Jaden Perry (92VT) Hardwick

STREET STOCKS

- 26. Patrick Lacasse (9) Wolcott



photo by Alan Ward

Waterford’s Dean Switser, Jr. took the double-point win in the Street Stocks at Thunder Road.



photo by Alan Ward

Milton’s Bert Duffy won the Road Warrior feature despite smoke coming from his car at race’s end.



photo by Alan Ward

Barre’s Cameron Ouellette earned his first Flying Tiger victory since coming back from a kidney transplant.