

THE Hardwick Gazette

INDEPENDENT LOCAL NEWS SINCE 1889

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Wednesday, July 5, 2023

Volume 134 Number 26

Sen. Welch Hosts Listening Session in The Bend

by Francesca Kitch

GREENSBORO — On Monday, approximately 100 people from the near and far corners of Vermont traveled to see Senator Peter Welch visit the Northeast Kingdom at the Hill Farmstead Brewery in Greensboro Bend.

The purpose of his visit was to host a listening session to understand how he – and Congress – can better support rural communities. Sen. Welch said that he is interested in doing “everything I can to revitalize rural America.”

Attendees were eager to learn and share their own experiences, as well as soak up the atmosphere of a community coming together. “It was neat to see how many different types of people came out.

Some people really came from far afield,” said Greensboro resident Naomie Ranz-Schleifer.

Senator Welch was joined by a panel of local leaders, business owners, and champions, including Representative Katherine Sims, Andy Kehler of Jasper Hill Farm, Jon Ramsay of the Center for an Agricultural Economy, Sarah Waring of the USDA Rural Development office, Jessica Savage of the Vermont Council on Rural Development, and Shaun Hill of Hill Farmstead Brewery. Each spoke briefly about their recent efforts to support the communities of the Northeast Kingdom, and outlined how they will work with Congress in the future.

Andy Kehler spoke about
See WELCH, 2



photo by Vanessa Fournier

Members of the Jeudevine Memorial Library board of trustees (from left) Daphne Kalmar, Board Chair Jodi Lew-Smith, Library Director Diane Grenkow, Milo Tandy and Andrea Brightenbach welcomed Senator Peter Welch (fourth from left) June 26 when he visited the library to congratulate them on their hard work on the expansion project. In fiscal year 2022 Senator Patrick Leahy secured \$600,000 in USDA funding for the expansion project. As his successor, Sen. Welch is following up on the project.

Dave Morse's Life and Legacy Shared in New Book



photo by Vanessa Fournier

Artist Brittany Lumsden presented a portrait to Hardwick Gazette sportswriter Dave Morse at a celebration in his honor on February 15, 2014. Morse died of cancer on March 28, 2015.

by Jim Flint

HARDWICK – During his over-three decades as a Vermont sportswriter, Dave Morse was a consummate story teller. Thousands of Vermonters read his articles in the Barre-Montpelier Times Argus, Rutland Herald, and Hardwick Gazette. Tucked away in scrapbooks and shoe boxes, news clippings authored by Morse chronicle the struggles, aspirations, and

achievements of countless athletes and teams, spanning a world of sports.

Brendan Buckley, a retired physician from East Hardwick, knew Dave Morse during the last 21 years of Morse's life. Buckley and his wife, Helen Beattie, are long-term residents of East Hardwick. After graduating from the University of Massachusetts Medical Center in 1985, Buckley worked at the health centers in Hardwick and Greensboro. Specializing in primary care medicine, he retired from the Hardwick Area Health Center in 2019.

Twenty years after leaving the Rutland Herald, Morse re-emerged as a sportswriter with the Hardwick Gazette. He was hired by the Gazette's former editor, Ross Connelly, in February, 1994. Morse wasted no time making connections in Hardwick and the nine surrounding towns that the Gazette covers.

Dr. Buckley's two children were active in
See MORSE, 4



Hardwick Gazette archive photo

Dr. Brendan Buckley (left) is the author of a biography on Dave Morse, to be published on July 18. Buckley and his family were active year-round in sports during Morse's 21 years at the Gazette.

Brendan Buckley talks about The Morse Code, Legacy of a Vermont Sportswriter

Interview with Jim Flint



Congratulations, Dr. Buckley, on your new biography of Dave Morse, the Hardwick Gazette's beloved sportswriter. Thank you for answering questions and sharing insights ahead of the book's release and celebration, on July 18,

at 7 p.m., at the Hardwick Townhouse.

When and how did you first come to know Dave?

See BUCKLEY, 5

Roads Dominate Select Board Agenda

by Gazette Staff

GREENSBORO – At its June 14 regular meeting, the Greensboro Select Board's agenda focused mostly on roads, paving, roads, plowing, and roads.

Library trustee Beth Meacham reported that the north section of library driveway needs to be repaired. The board and road foreman

See ROADS, 3

Antiques & Uniques Celebrates Its 50th Anniversary

by Francesca Kitch

CRAFTSBURY – Since 1973, on a Saturday in July, vendors from all over Vermont gather on Craftsbury Common to sell their crafts. Ranging from woven baskets and flowers to vintage jewelry and ceramic pieces, this event offers both the “antique” and the “unique”.

The “Antiques & Uniques” event has not been held since 2019 due to COVID complica-

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photo by Hal Gray

Bobbi and Tim Nisbet visit with U.S. Senator Peter Welch and his driver during the senator's June 26 gathering at the Hill Farmstead Brewery in Greensboro.

Welch

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cost barrier between medium- and large-scale industry and how gaining support in rural areas can allow for independent businesses to thrive. He added that over half of every dollar spent by Jasper Hill Farm is spent within a 15-mile radius, summing to about 250 million dollars invested within the Northeast Kingdom.

Jon Ramsay mentioned the importance of advocating for efficiencies in the process of rural agricultural communities throughout the state, and Sarah Waring emphasized the themes of interdependence and complexity in rural areas in the context of their fragile economies. She drew the bottom line that locals have to recognize that federal and state agencies "should not feel anonymous," and that they are here to help people like them.

To this point, Representative Sims discussed the recent 3-million-dollar federal investment to increase human capacity to know what grants are available to locals – an example of directly using federal dollars to invest in people and their impact on their own communities.

Waring's "three-legged stool" of rural economic development drove this point home. These legs included connections to federal and state leaders who have the decision-making power to make money move downstream; local leaders who help to bring money to the community or volunteer, bringing value to the communities; and the federal and state agencies that can implement those federal dollars, putting them in the hands of those leaders.

At this point, anyone in the crowd was given the opportunity to come forward and raise a concern or question they had for the panel. Residents mentioned their concern for how "Vermont feeds itself,"

organic food, care for the elderly, and accessibility of affordable options for sustainable energy.

"My job is to work with other people as much as I can," said Welch. He noted that the key to this is igniting conversations with different politically-affiliated residents in ways that ask how they are dealing with certain issues universal to rural communities, rather than how they voted in the last election.


"You build some trust because you have concern for what's happening with the community" rather than talking about "things we disagreed on."

Overall, the event was well received, and after the question-and-answer session was over, the mingling began. Ranz-Schleifer admitted that she wished that "there had been a little bit more time for question and answer, because we all learn a lot about the state level or regional level programs that exist that we don't necessarily know are happening" but that it was "nice to see that Peter and the others are responding to [our feedback] because this is how the work gets done."

Her thoughts were echoed by Shaun Hill, who was asked how he felt about hosting an event like this. "It's humbling and wonderful to have such a profound turnout" and it truly serves "as a reminder that people are hungry for connection, and that people really care about community."

"[Senator Welch] is authentic," Kehler added, and is really working "to make our lives a little better here in the Northeast Kingdom."





July 5 - July 11

Local Strawberries and Other Produce are in		"Thank You" for Shopping Local	
Spindrift Sparkling Water \$4.99 96 oz.	Post Pebbles and Honey Comb Cereal 2/\$5 11-14.95 oz.	Post Honey Bunches of Oats Cereal 2/\$6 11-12 oz.	
Betty Crocker Suddenly Salad Mix 2/\$5 6.2-8.3 oz.	ChiChi Tortilla or Fajitas 2/\$5 16-17.5 oz.	Chichi Salsa 2/\$4 16 oz.	
Kraft Salad Dressings 2/\$6 16 oz.	Hellmann's Mayonnaise \$4.99 15-30 oz.	Heinz Ketchup 2/\$5 20 oz.	
Sweet Baby Rays BBQ Sauce 2/\$4 18 oz.	Stubb's Marinade or BBQ Sauce \$3.99 12-18 oz.	Vlassic Pickles 2/\$5 16-32 oz.	
Jello Pudding Mix 4/\$5 1-3.9 oz.	Jet Puffed Marshmallows 2/\$3 10-12 oz.	Hershey's 6 Pk. Milk Choc. Bars \$3.99 9.3 oz.	
Nabisco Graham Crackers 2/\$6 14.4 oz.	Cheez-It Crackers 2/\$6 9-12.4 oz.	Planters Dry Roasted Peanuts 2/\$5 16 oz.	
Planters Mix Nuts/ Peanuts or Cashew Halves \$4.49 8-10.3 oz.	Ben & Jerry's Ice Cream \$4.49 16 oz.	Hoods Ice Cream \$3.49 48 oz.	

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POLICE REPORT

Hardwick Police Unlawful Trespass

On June 3, 3:12 p.m., Liam Lyman-Leas, of Hardwick, was arrested for unlawful trespass for entering upon the grounds of the Hazen Union School at which he had previously trespassed. Lyman-Leas is set to appear in Caledonia Court on August 28, at 8:30 a.m.

Berlin Police Department Absconding from Furlough

On July 2, Berlin Officers were called to Hobby Lobby at the Berlin Mall for a report of a female in a hospital gown acting suspiciously. Upon their arrival, the female was identified as Amanda Belville, of Cabot. Officers were able to confirm that Belville had an active arrest warrant issued by the Vermont Department of Corrections for absconding from furlough. Belville was taken into custody and transferred to the Chittenden Regional Correctional Facility for lack of bail.

Vermont State Police Missing Person, Stolen Purse, DUI

The Vermont State Police is investigating a report of a missing person. Brock Adams, of Albany. Adams was last seen at approximately 4 p.m. June 29 at a residence on Park St. in Morrisville after leaving his workplace in Morrisville. Adams was expected to return to his residence in Albany and did not arrive. Friends, family members, and law enforcement have since been unable to contact Adams and his whereabouts are currently unknown. Adams was last seen operating a silver 2018 Nissan Altima with Vermont license plate HXY606. Adams is approximately 6'0" tall, weighing 190 lbs. And there is no known clothing description. Police ask anyone with information that could assist investigators to call the Derby Barracks at 802-334-8881.

Update: Brock Adams has been located and is safe.

On June 14, at 6:46 p.m., the State Police received a report that a purse was stolen from a vehicle, belonging to Mary Cole,

of Woodbury. As a result of the investigation, Serina Flood, of Woodbury was identified as the accused. On June 30 Flood was issued a citation for petit larceny. She is scheduled to appear in Washington County Superior Court – Criminal Division on August 10.

On July 1 at approximately 2:50 a.m., the Vermont State Police conducted a traffic stop after observing several motor vehicle violations.

The operator was identified as Graham Cassinell, of Woodbury. While speaking with Cassinell, Troopers observed indicators of impairment. Cassinell was screened and resisted arrest before being taken into custody for suspicion of DUI. Further investigation revealed Cassinell was in possession of a firearm which he was prohibited to possess.

Cassinell was transported to the Middlebury Police Department for processing and later released with a citation for the above violations to appear in Addison County Superior Court, Criminal Division at a later date.

Troopers were assisted on scene by members of the Middlebury and Brandon Police Departments.

Roads

Continued From Page One

believe repaving would be the best approach. The Altmans, who own the land, are in favor of using staymat and the board decided to respect their wishes. The board also reviewed a quote for the work that was solicited by Meacham. Board Chair Peter Romans felt that the bid was high and said he would solicit a few more bids. While the work will not be done until fall, Meacham said she will discuss the project with the Altmans, as they indicated they might contribute funds to the project.

After discussion, the board voted to renew the police services contract with the Orleans County Sheriff's Department. The price of the contract is \$190,000, which is unchanged from last year.

Road Foreman Tom Camarra reported that the town's roads are in decent shape, despite a significant amount of rain. Current work includes culvert replacements, ditching on T.H. #8, and grant-funded work on Lakeview Road. The road crew has reclaimed shoulders on 9.5 miles of town roads. Camarra said that the reclaimer did a great job. The road crew is trying to fit vacation time in prior to July 1. Romans requested that the crew address the issue of stormwater running directly into Tate Brook on North Shore Road.

The board discussed the only bid for road paving, from Pike Industries. Under the terms of the contract, one mile of paving will cost \$138,659, while the town budgeted \$165,000 for paving. The question was raised about using the entire budgeted amount and paving an additional stretch of road beyond one mile. Pike employee Nigel Friend said the company could do this, assuming their equipment can be driven, rather than trucked, to the second location. The board voted to accept Pike's paving bid. The company will be asked to pave as much road as the \$165,000 budget will allow.

The board then voted to accept the only bid that was received for roadside mowing. Mike Montgomery submitted a bid for \$8,467.50. The board also voted to accept the lone bid for gravel crushing and sand screening, which was submitted by McCulloch with a cost of \$5.25/yd. for gravel crushing and \$4.25/yd. for sand screening, using the town loader to stockpile sand.

No bid was received for sidewalk preparation work. Camarra reiterated that it may make sense

to replace or repair the storm drains along Breezy Avenue prior to the new sidewalk being installed. No decision was made by the board.

The board returned to the subject of damage done to driveways during snowplowing, which was raised during its last meeting. Board member David Kelley's draft letter to Perry's, requesting a meeting to discuss damage done to driveways last winter, was reviewed and approved for sending.

A discussion continued about a petition to change the speed limit on Main Street in Greensboro Bend to 25 mph. Romans said that a speed study will be conducted using the town's speed cart to inform the discussion on changing the speed limit. He hopes to have the study completed by next month's meeting.

In an update on the town garage, board Chair Peter Romans said that \$250,000 to \$500,000 could be saved by siting the new town garage on the fire station lot. An advantage of this approach is that the road crew wouldn't have to work around a disruptive construction project at the current town garage site. Despite some inefficiencies created by splitting town garage infrastructure into two locations, Road Foreman Tom Camarra was in favor of this plan. To determine whether this option is possible, a few regulatory items must be taken care of first, such as obtaining a new wetlands delineation. If the option is found to be possible, discussions with the fire department would be a next step.

With current fuel oil prices significantly lower than last year, the board voted to pre-order 3,500 gallons of fuel oil from Blanchard Oil at \$3.16/gallon and pay a cap fee of \$1,750.

The board also voted to accept a Northern Vermont Development Association bid for the Hazard Mitigation Plan update, and accepted John Sperry's three-year proposal for mowing the town's cemeteries. The contract will pay \$14,500 for FY24, and \$15,000 each year for FY25 and FY26

On July 15 there will be a celebration of the opening of the Lamoille Valley Rail Trail (LVRT). Governor Scott will travel the entire Rail Trail and may make a stop in The Bend. If this stop is confirmed, refreshments will be offered, and a poster will be put up to thank the governor for his support of the LVRT project.

The board also approved the dispatch contract with the Lamoille County Sheriff's Dept. for \$11,577.69, and approved the Town Hall tenants contract.



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Morse

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local sports. Morse soon discovered that Buckley served on the spring training medical team for the Boston Red Sox. A February 25, 1998, "Morse Code" column in the Gazette was creatively titled, "Buckley Takes Pulse of Red Sox."

Morse, the omniscient observer of community life, quietly developed a bond with Buckley and his sports-minded family. Little League, soccer, cross country skiing, hockey, running, and cycling were among the Buckleys' activities covered by Morse. In an August 15, 2007, story, Morse celebrated Buckley's recovery and return to cycling after being seriously injured in a June 2006 bicycle-car crash.

Morse's final sports stories in the Hardwick Gazette were published on January 28, 2015. He died of cancer on March 28, 2015. Over 500 people attended Morse's memorial service at Hazen Union High School on April 4, 2015. Brendan Buckley was among the speakers that evening.

"I am very sad today because I still don't know Dave's whole story," Buckley said. "I was looking forward to years of conversations

with him that would fill in the blanks for me. If we can leave here today proud of our community, and with an eye out for how we can give back, we will truly honor this wonderful man."

As a community, Hardwick remembered its commitment to follow Morse's motto of "selflessness and teamwork." Since 2015, Hazen Union High School has hosted the annual Dave Morse Basketball Classic. A framed painting of Morse, by artist and Hazen Union grad Brittany Lumsden, is on display at the school.

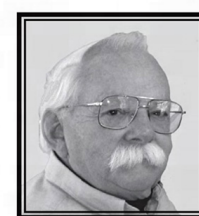
Brendan Buckley followed through with his quest to share Morse's story. Dr. Buckley spent five years researching and interviewing, then writing Morse's biography.

"The Morse Code: Legacy of a Vermont Sportswriter" will be published on July 18. The Galaxy Bookshop plans to host a community celebration with Buckley that evening at 7 p.m. Held at the Hardwick Townhouse, at 127 West Church Street, the event is free and open to the public. A large crowd is expected.

The Galaxy Book Shop has ordered multiple copies of The Morse Code. Interested readers can talk with Sandy Scott or Andrea Jones to reserve a book. Dr. Buckley plans to sign all the



Dave covering a game in 2011. From left: Aaron Hill, Morse, Alan DeLaricheliere and Justin DeLaricheliere.



The Morse Code

copies that the Galaxy has in stock. For readers outside of the Hardwick area, The Morse Code may be ordered online at rootstockpublishing.com.

The theme of Brendan Buckley's 152-page book is summed up by Dave Morse's moral codes: "Triumph over hardship. Pay it forward. The power of community."

More than a biography, the book is an homage to a legendary sportswriter who inspired generations of athletes through his words, written and spoken, and his unselfish ways of caring for others.

Rail Trail Opening Celebration Scheduled to Stop in Town

by Gazette Staff

WOLCOTT—At its June 21 meeting, the Wolcott Select Board discussed the opening celebration for the Rail Trail, made appointments to fill vacancies, and worked through several issues with representatives from the Lamoille Valley Planning Commission.

The Lamoille Valley Rail Trail (LVRT) will hold a celebration on Saturday, July 15. The Governor and Sen. Sanders will participate. There will be a celebration in Morrisville between 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. A water stop is scheduled for Wolcott at 2:45 p.m. The Town Garden Committee will host a garden party that afternoon with refreshments for participants and visitors.

Notice was received from Vermont Green Energy Systems that Randy Buker, Walnut Lane, has applied for a small wind energy system. Anyone with questions can contact Linda Martin.

Next, Meghan Rodier, regional planner with the Lamoille County Planning Commission (LCPC), discussed a packet of information presented to the board on the Clean Water Service Provider (CWSP) grant application. The project involves the preliminary design for flood mitigation involving a section of the Wild Branch and the Gulf Road bridge. The applicant would be LCPC. LCPC was seeking a letter of support from the Town of Wolcott to attach to the application, which is due July 7. The purpose of the project is to reduce the energy in the Wild Branch. The board voted to approve a letter of support to be included with the CWSP grant application. LCPC should know by the end of July if funding will be awarded. If not, Rodier indicated there are other funding opportunities

that can be pursued in the fall.

Seth Jensen, deputy director, and Salvador Morales, planner with LCPC provided a follow-up to information presented at the June 7 meeting regarding the waste water project. Although Agency of Natural Resources funds have already been allocated for this fiscal year, there will be funds available for the next fiscal year starting July 1. Amy Macrellis, senior water quality specialist with Stone Environmental, discussed sources for reimbursement funds, and addressed sections of the agreement being reviewed by the board. Morales outlined LCPC's role.

Jensen mentioned a property in North Wolcott that had previously been considered for a buyout because it is on the flood plain. Although the property was not eligible in the past, it is now considered eligible, and funds are available for buyout. No local match funds are required. The board voted to authorize LCPC to prepare an application for the buyout of the North Wolcott property.

LCPC's Morales has been administering the Municipal Planning Grant for the town regarding the old School House Revitalization project. LCPC proposed entering into a formal agreement to allow Morales to continue providing project manager services. The board voted to enter into a formal agreement.

Belinda Harris Clegg, Treasurer, reviewed the end-of-fiscal-year financial reports. A total of \$19,881.25 remains in the budget in the selectboard manager category. The board voted to transfer \$19,000 from the end balance of the selectboard department 2022-2023 budget to the equipment account. The board also agreed that the transfer station should continue with monthly payments to repay the loan from the board.

In the project manager report, it was mentioned that a notice was posted on the town's website to remind folks of invasive plant species found along the roadsides in Wolcott. Residents are advised not to use roadside soil to avoid spreading these plants. Roadside mowing dates have been set.

The LCPC conducted a road study on sections of North Wolcott Road and Gulf Road between May 25 and June 12. The board reviewed the traffic count summaries. The board had previously discussed the possibility of adopting an ordinance that would prohibit tractor trailer traffic on North Wolcott Road in an effort to reduce maintenance costs. The board will contact the Craftsbury Select Board to see if there is interest in having a road traffic study conducted on sections of the Wild Branch Road.

Sarah Lillibridge, outreach coordinator with the Lamoille Regional Solid Waste Management District (LR-SWMD), will be present at Wolcott's

transfer station on Saturday, July 29, to help educate folks on proper recycling.

A draft of a green burial policy will be presented for board review at the July 5 board meeting.

The Highway Department continues to work on berm removal, culvert installations, and hauling winter sand.

The board voted to submit to the state the names of Bernard Earle as health officer, and Kurt Klein as deputy health officer, and named Sheila Halpin to fill the vacancy on the Forest Committee. Mike Green was appointed as the town's representative for LVRT, and Linda Martin was named an alternate.

The final discussion addressed parking along Corley Road and Elmore Pond Road. People are reportedly parking there to access the Rail Trail. The town will order special no parking signs for these areas that will direct traffic to the parking area by the gazebo on Railroad Street.

Greensboro Development Review Board Warning

The Greensboro Development Review Board will conduct a hearing on Thursday, July 27, at 7 p.m. via Zoom. The board will consider a variance request by Steve Kirby and Kathy Newbrough to build a garage at 685 Harrington Road. A site visit is scheduled for Saturday, July 22, at 11 a.m. The hearing and site visit are open to the public.

To join the ZOOM hearing, log into the town's website calendar at greensborovt.gov. Or, sign into Zoom. The meeting number is 853 6941 8069. There is no password. You may phone into the ZOOM meeting at: 305 224 1968 (this is not a toll free number).

The application is available for review at the Greensboro Town Hall or at the Greensboro Town website, www.greensborovt.gov. Participation in the proceeding, either in person or in writing, is a prerequisite to the right to make any subsequent appeal. Interested persons may attend the hearing or send a letter or email (zoning@greensborovt.gov) to the Development Review Board at the Greensboro Town Clerk's office to comment on the proposed plan.

Greensboro Development Review Board

Buckley

Continued From Page One

I first met Dave in the mid-1990s, not long after he arrived at the Gazette, as our children were discovering sports. I was intrigued by this interesting-looking fellow who showed up at our children's various events. One day I sat next to him and introduced myself. And so began a conversation that continued until he died in 2015.

What can you share about your relationship with Dave during his 21 years in Hardwick?

Occasionally our paths crossed at the Village Restaurant, Connie's, or along Main Street, but most of the time we were watching an athletic event somewhere. To my everlasting regret, most of our conversations were about sports, past and present. Rarely did we share glimpses into each other's lives.

At the 2014 Appreciation Night held at Hazen Union High School, in Dave's honor, I told Dave that I hoped he would write a book about his life. This sentiment came from my knowledge of how much Vermont sports history he had witnessed across his career, and my certainty that he had great stories to share.

After Dave fell ill suddenly, early in 2015, did you have an opportunity to talk with him?

I was aware that Dave had been an important figure in the lives of many local athletes but doubted that Dave would ever write of such things himself. Dave knew before he died that I wanted to tell his story, but we never had an opportunity to speak about his life beyond our sports-related conversations.

During the first few years following Dave's death, what was happening in your life?

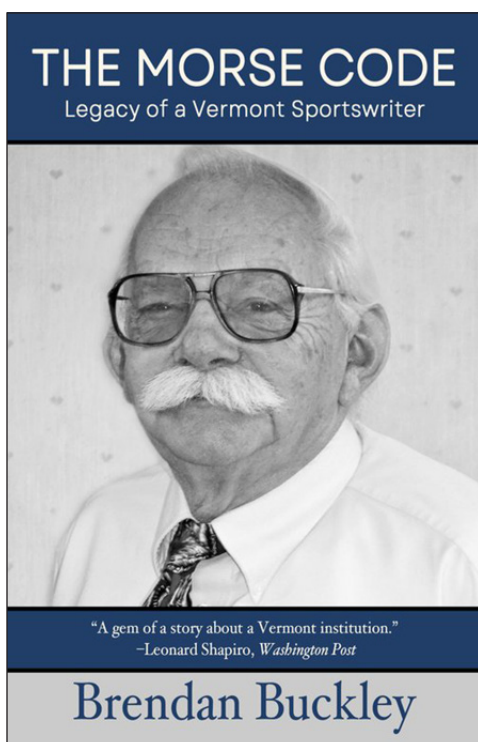
I was still working when Dave died. Upon leaving full-time medical practice, in 2018/early 2019, I began to pursue the book project.

How did it come about that you reached out to Dave's sister, Deanna French?

My first interview was with Dave's sister, Deanna. I anticipated that she would fill me in on his childhood history, early adulthood, and employment history, leaving it to me to add in the twenty-plus years he spent in Hardwick. Within five minutes of sitting down together, I learned that Deanna and Dave were separated during their childhood, and then at midlife, Dave went missing for several years.

What challenges did you face in researching the story of Dave's life?

My second interview was with Tom Haley, the long-time sportswriter for the Rutland Herald and an ardent admirer of Dave. He was a student intern at the Herald when Dave was the Herald's sports editor and Tom was at Castleton State



College. Tom confirmed that Dave had abruptly disappeared from the Herald and that no one knew what had become of him. Tom gave me a long list of names to pursue. Ultimately, I never found a former colleague or friend who knew what happened to Dave through those years, before he re-emerged in Hardwick. I found myself facing the challenge to trace the arc of Dave's life, without many leads.

How did you keep going with your research before and during the COVID-19 pandemic?

Pre-COVID, I did several in-person interviews and spent many hours at the Rutland Free Library and the State Archives, in Middlesex. I also traveled to Maine and Ohio to pursue the family history of Marietta Burns. She and Dave were married in 1973 and divorced in 1974.

Once COVID restrictions were put in place I was unable to access public record venues. People were reluctant to meet in person. Up until then, I had imagined that I would gather all the necessary information needed, and then sit down to write. Stuck at home without access to that information, I began to write "what I knew." It went far better than I imagined. From then on, my working model was writing the known parts and filling in the new information as I learned it.

During the research process, you delved into the different chapters of Dave's life. You mentioned in the book that Dave guarded against sharing much about himself. As a researcher and biographer, how did you decide which experiences in Dave's life were important to his legacy?

Dawn Gustafson at the Gazette was gracious and welcoming through the worst of COVID to allow me upstairs to read back issues. I essentially read every word of each Morse Code column Dave wrote. He would occasionally drop in a bit of personal history, and, given how much of his

life remained unknown to me, those snippets were gold.

Was there ever a time when you questioned whether you could complete the book?

Of course, I had doubts that I might ever actually complete the task. This was in part why I shared with so many people that I was working on Dave's life story. If I kept it to myself, it would be too easy to give in to the disappointments when leads turned into dead ends, and that happened often.

In the book, you mentioned that Dave's interest in sports began at Waterbury High School. After high school, he enrolled in Burnett Business School, in Boston, but dropped out of the two-year program. From your research, do you sense that Dave aspired to follow his own path to fulfill his dreams, or did adversity, necessity, and life circumstances lead to the path he followed?

Dave was indeed a private soul. Countless interviews with those who shared conversations with Dave confirmed that most of us seemed to know the same bits of his biography. That cannot have happened by accident. The pattern of Dave's re-treating, and even disappearing, in times of crisis began early in his life. His early childhood years were filled with sadness, cruelty, and the lack of a consistent loving presence. Deanna remembered him as the most sensitive of the four siblings, and, as the oldest, perhaps the most aware of the pain in the world, and most touched by his mother's absence and death.

Dave was a one-man sports department for the Hardwick Gazette for 21 years. In your research, did you gain a sense of how he overcame challenges and continued to write, nearly to the end of his life?

Dave had some wonderful mentors who set him on a path through life, but I don't think he ever found a healthy pathway for managing his emotional pain. The wounds from his childhood never fully healed. In writing the book I tried to highlight events that followed that thread through his life.

What is the central message of "The Morse Code, Legacy of a Vermont Sportswriter" that you hope readers will reflect on?

As I wrote, my working title was always "The Morse Code." I love the duality, that it was Dave's column, but it was also how he chose to live his life, despite hardship, looking out for others, especially children who might need a helping hand. The book's epigraph is that message. The publisher, Rootstock, worried that shoppers would think that a book titled "The Morse Code" was a war novel or a history of Morse Code. For a time, many other titles were considered. I could not be more pleased that we settled at last on "The Morse Code: Legacy of a Vermont Sportswriter."

Tell us about the event at the Hardwick Townhouse on July 18? Where will copies of the book be sold?

On the evening of July 18, at the Hardwick Town House, I plan to do a presentation covering why I wrote the book, the story behind the writing, and a window into the book itself. The Galaxy Book Shop is ordering copies. Interested readers can talk with Sandy or Andrea there to reserve a copy. I plan to sign all the copies that the Galaxy has in stock. My website, brendan-buckley-author.com, has additional information about Dave Morse and the book. Books can also be ordered from rootstockpublishing.com.



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photo by Hal Gray

Senator Peter Welch answers a question from the audience during his June 26 visit to the Hill Farmstead Brewery in Greensboro.



photo by Hal Gray

Senator Welch chats with Katherine Sims, State Representative (Orleans 4), at the June 26 gathering in Greensboro at Hill Farmstead Brewery.

Anniversary

Continued From Page One

tions; however, organizers are hopeful for this year's event, as a number of changes have been made, including fresh ideas from new board members and learned experience from complications from years past.

Attendance has hovered around 3,000 in the past, even hitting over 4,000 one memorable year, with a parking lot full of license plates from both in- and out-of-state.

Though the event is celebrating its 50th anniversary since the inaugural fair in 1973, the Town of Craftsbury has only been organizing it since 2010. Prior to that, the Vermont Children's Aid Society out of Burlington used to organize and fund the event. As a nonprofit, this was their biggest fundraiser of the year, and they had volunteers working to make it happen. As the organization began to decline, the Town of Craftsbury took over as directors.

With this new influx of organizers and ideas, the board decided it needed something "to make it a kind of unique, stand-out event" according to Bruce Urie, longtime board member. Under the leadership of Karen Bartlett, rather than paying workers to help out with the event, the board decided that their wages would instead be donated to a local organization of the volunteers' choice. These could vary from the Craftsbury Public Library to the Community Care Center or any similar organization. Michelle Warren, Co-Chair of the Antiques and Uniques

Organizing Committee, said that she doesn't "know any other event like it," with their volunteer plan being what sets their event apart from others and "makes Craftsbury special."

Urie also notes that Craftsbury has always had a friendly competition with the Antique market in Chelsea, over vendors. The largest number of vendors to date has vied for a spot in the Common next weekend. With over 100 vendors listed on the website – over 25 of which are antique dealers – and many more sponsors, the 2023 event is the biggest yet.

Additional changes have been made since the last event, with a hired musical set and food vendors, relieving the board of their historical cooking duties. Urie emphasized the event's accessibility to all, with a plan for handicapped shuttles to run to and from the parking lot, and a covered area to sit in while eating or taking a break from shopping.

The history of this event has been community- and family-oriented, as families and businesses have been coming back since the beginning. Urie, who had a stand for his business, Stillmeadow Gardens Flowers, for many years, noted that an older couple who have always had a booth next to his own got a booth this year with their grandson, who is skilled in his forge work and will be selling his own crafts.

"There's just something about it that has a vintage feel to it, yet it attracts a lot of different ages. It's not just all older people looking at older things, it's got fun

jewelry and crafts" said Warren. Urie added that it's a great event for the family, noting that it's "such an interesting collection [of people] because kids can be there and be happy getting French fries, or getting their faces painted at the children's events" while their parents

shop and their grandparents meet up with old friends or sit and enjoy the music.

The event will take place this Saturday, July 8, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. All are welcome and, in typical Kingdom fashion, they are encouraged to spread the word.

Vermont American Legion Elects Cloutier as Department Commander

MONTPELIER – The American Legion Department of Vermont convened its annual department convention on June 23 and 24, at Double Tree Hotel, Burlington. Mark Cloutier, Post 7 in Hardwick, was elected department commander.

Other officers elected and installed to lead the organizations for the year 2023-2024 were Joseph Zickmund, Barre Post 10, senior vice commander; Brian Massey Jr., Squadron 3 in Montpelier,

detachment commander of Sons of The American Legion; Marc Colety, Post 69 in Arlington, senior vice commander.

Also elected were David Hendee, Squadron 50 in Castleton, director of the American Legion Riders; Christopher Wood, Post 59 in Waterbury, assistant director; Debi Graziano, Unit 1 in St. Albans, department president of American Legion Auxiliary; and John Tester, Unit 50 in Castleton, department vice president.



photo by Vanessa Fournier

The Hardwick Farmers Market will run every Friday from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. until October 6 on Atkins Field.

Plant Dyeing Workshop

Photos by Hal Gray



Barbara Mutrux lifts fabric dyed yellow from rhubarb root, while artist-instructor Sara Riegler (Waterville) looks on during WonderArts (Greensboro) Botanical Dyeing workshop June 18, in the Greensboro church kitchen.



Botanical dyeing workshop participants view plants in the garden of local resident Rick Ely (center) during an instructional walk-about.



Sara Riegler (center) with Beth Meachem (left) and Barbara Mutrux (right) retrieve rhubarb-root-dyed fabric made more vibrant in an iron bath.



Workshop participants look at lupine during an instructional walk-about.



Dyeing workshop participants Ruth Gerson, Beth Meachem, Sara Riegler (instructor), Sarah Mutrux (WonderArts representative), Marie LaPre Grabon, Sarah Tewksbury (hidden) and Barbara Mutrux look at invasive plants at the roadside, and list color-dyeing properties.



Sara Riegler and Sarah Tewksbury retrieve fabric dyed green with a natural dye they created from lupine stems.



photo by Hal Gray
Andrew Koehler (keyboard) and his wife Mavis MacNeil (voice) performed at the June 16 Hardwick Farmers Market.



photo by Hal Gray
Folk musicians Maia and her brother Kellon Mencucci (the Skillet Lickers) performed at the June 23 Hardwick Farmers Market.

OUR COMMUNITIES

Introduction to Bike Skills July 11

CRAFTSBURY – The Craftsbury Public Library will hold an introduction to basic bike skills and bike safety with an emphasis on off-road riding on July 11, from 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. Led by Ollie Burruss, Mountain Bike Program Director at the Craftsbury Outdoor Center, participants will gain some tips to feel more confident and be safe out on the roads and trails.

Please bring bikes and helmets for participants if possible. This program is free and suitable for families and kids ages 6 and up. If you have questions call the library at (802) 586-9683 or email childrenslibrarian@craftsburypubliclibrary.org.

EDUCATION

CCV Announces Spring Student Honors List

MONTPELIER—The following students at the Community College of Vermont (CCV) were named to the spring 2023 Student Honors List: East Hardwick, Alan Celley; Hardwick, Monica Billings, Madeline Foster-Pudvah and Natalie Geoffroy; Marshfield, Marie Barney, Alanna Flynn and Wendy Koponen-Robotham. This honor recognizes part-time students with a 4.0 grade point average.

CCV Announces Spring President's List

MONTPELIER – The following student at the Community College of Vermont (CCV) was named to the spring 2023 President's List: Cabot, Abigail Scribner. This honor recognizes full-time students with a 4.0 grade point average.

Local Students Named to Dean's List

CASTLETON – The following students were named to the Castleton University Dean's List for the spring semester of the 2022-23 academic year: Sydney Aubuchon and Lauren Thomas of Hardwick, Lillian Bailey and Jeremy Maxfield of Cabot, Nicole Pelton of Marshfield and Nicole Thomas of Plainfield. To qualify for this academic honor, the student must maintain full-time status and a semester grade point average of 3.5.

Molleur Makes Dean's List

ROCHESTER, N.Y. – Carson Molleur of Woodbury was named to the Dean's List at Rochester Institute of Technology for the spring semester of the 2022-2023 academic year. Molleur is in the mechanical engineering technology program. Full-time degree-seeking undergraduate students are eligible for Dean's List if their term GPA is greater than or equal to 3.400; they do not have any grades of "Incomplete", "D" or "F"; and they have registered for, and completed, at least 12 credit hours.

Russell Graduates from Clarkson University

POTSDAM, N.Y. – Michael Kai Russell of Plainfield, Vt., received a bachelor of science degree in environmental engineering, sustain energy sys eng minor, electrical engineering minor from Clarkson University on May 13.

OBITUARIES

BETTE L. O'CONNOR

HARDWICK – Bette L. O'Connor and wife Sara, Alex Thomas and wife Rachel, Jaime Thomas and husband Joey Roberts, Caitlin O'Connor and husband Dayton Halverson, Bridget O'Connor, Allyson O'Connor, and Patrick O'Connor as well as eight great-grandchildren; Ryleigh, Emily, Ivy and Ruby O'Connor, Charlotte, Emelia and Jameson Thomas, and Cohen Halverson. She also leaves her sister Sara Joyal of Melbourne, Fla., and many nieces and nephews.

Bette graduated from Cabot High School in 1959 and from Vermont College in Montpelier in 1961. Bette married Dan E. O'Connor of Hardwick on September 1, 1962, at the Trinity Methodist Church in Montpelier. Dan predeceased Bette on April 18, 2002. They were united on Earth for forty years and are now reunited in Heaven for eternity.

Bette is survived by her daughter, Carmel Thomas (and Rob Martin) of Waterbury Center, her son James O'Connor (and Shannon) of Manchester, N.H., and her son Dan O'Connor Jr. (and Jamie) of Elgin, Minn. Bette is also survived by her seven grandchildren; Ryan

A graveside service for the family will be held at a later date. Contributions may be made in Bette's memory to the Lamoille Area Cancer Network, 198 Farr Avenue, Morrisville, VT. Arrangements are with the des Groseilliers Funeral Home, 97 Church Street, Hardwick. Condolences and memories of Bette may be conveyed to the family at dgfunerals.com.

The Center for an Agricultural Economy is Hiring a Database and Communications Coordinator

Come be a translator and a bridge to get the word out about CAE! We're looking for someone who is comfortable with database management and creating internal systems as well as outward-facing communication. The ideal candidate would have a strong comfort and excitement about technology, enjoy creative problem solving and love to learn and connect effectively with our community at in-person events or online. Full-time, hybrid position, in-person and remote, \$40,000-\$50,000 salary /year.

Read more details at hardwickagriculture.org/jobs.



Center for an Agricultural Economy

Now Hiring Head Cook

AT CRAFTSBURY SCHOOLS

The Orleans Southwest Supervisory Union is seeking an experienced Head Cook to join their dynamic team. The successful candidate will lead the Craftsbury Schools meal program by performing a number of duties including preparing, cleaning, and serving meals to students and staff in an atmosphere of efficiency, cleanliness, and courtesy. **This is a full-time, extended school-year position with excellent benefits and paid time off.** The additional duties as the Head Cook comes with additional earnings on top of the regular contract.

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OUR COMMUNITIES

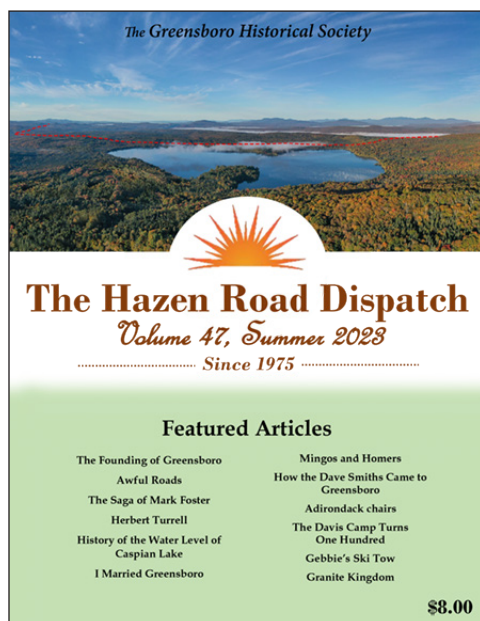
Latest Edition of Hazen Road Dispatch Released

by Gail Sangree and Alison Gardiner

GREENSBORO – This year's Hazen Road Dispatch features several new voices as well as those of some old-timers. New voices include Ross Connelly, one of the former editors of the Hardwick Gazette. He reviews Eric Pope's book, "Granite Kingdom." Sandy Gebbie and Mike Metcalf contributed some memories about the Gebbie ski tow and the "I Married Greensboro Club."

Two regular contributors, Clay Simpson and Dan Mettraux, have pieces about Herbert Turrell, founder of the Turrell Fund and the Greensboro Association, and about early Craftsbury's horrible roads.

Tim Breen, a historian of early American history, has written an account about the founding of Greensboro and Gail Sangree writes about Cyrus Homer, Timothy Hinman's slave, and contrasts him with Paul Mingo, an African American who settled in Greensboro before 1810. Wiz Dow writes



a well-researched account of Mark Foster's life, a former Hardwick town treasurer, who turned embezzler during his tenure.

There's more, including more photos. The 2023 issue is available in Greensboro at Willey's, Smith's and Wilson Farm Market; in Craftsbury at the Genny and the C Village Store; and in Hardwick at Front Seat Coffee, the Galaxy and Buffalo Mountain Market.

"Rags to Riches" Exhibit Opens July 4

PEACHAM – The Peacham Historical Association (PHA) exhibit, "Rags and Riches: Poverty and Wealth in 19th Century Peacham," will open on July 4 from noon to 4 p.m., at the PHA Historical House (Church Street, Peacham). The exhibit draws on PHA's collection of local textiles, clothing, and housewares to explore the gap between Peacham's rich and poor. This gap widened dramatically from the beginning to the middle of the 19th century, leaving some Peachamites with nothing but rustic homespun

and others with elegant formal wear and even ball gowns. Susan Chandler, assisted by Steve Galinat, Sarah Lydon, and Frank Miller, curated the exhibit.

Following July 4, the exhibit will be open on Sundays (through Labor Day) from 1 p.m. to 4 pm. Special programs related to the exhibit will take place on some Sundays: July 16, "19th Century Games" (Steve Galinat), July 30, "Woolen Arts" (Marilyn Magnus and Kathy Galinat) and August 20 "Tea and Textiles" (Susan Chandler).

D&D Role Playing and Managing July 8, July 15

ALBANY – How to run, manage and create role playing adventures for popular games, such as Dungeons & Dragons, will be presented on July 8 and July 15 at the Albany Public Library. Run by Jessie Mayer, an experienced games master, the series is open to all levels of experience, ages 12 and up and free.

As role-playing games such as Dungeons and Dragons explode in popularity, the series will give information on run role-playing games for other players. In this two-class series an experienced games-master will walk through the basics of how to understand and run these games.

On the first week, the basics of what a role-playing game will be covered, and what some of the

popular systems are today. Attendees will have the opportunity to create a character using the Dungeons and Dragons rule set and to play a small amount in order to get a feel for the game.

On the second week, there will be information on brainstorming, safety, and group management, all the things that are very important in running a role-playing group. The class will endeavor to leave people feeling confident to begin creating and running their own role-playing adventure.

The Introduction to Role Playing on Saturday, July 8, will run from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. Running a Role-playing Game will be presented on Saturday, July 15, from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Solar Project Introduced July 9

CRAFTSBURY – The Craftsbury Public Library and the Craftsbury Energy Committee invite everyone to celebrate the success of a collaborative solar project at the Craftsbury Public Library, 12 Church Lane, Craftsbury Common. On Sunday, July 9, at 5 p.m., the two organizations will introduce the library solar power and battery back-up system, made possible by numerous funding partners, and designed and built by Vince O'Connell of the Craftsbury Energy Committee.

The goal of the renewable energy and back-up power system is to ensure uninterrupted access to internet communications and library resources during power outages. The system includes roof-mounted solar panels, a 20 kWh back-up battery and other components that will provide renewable and reliable power rain or shine. The project ensures a safe and reliable work space and access to resources to carry out essential internet-dependent work at home impossible. With this resilient system in place local citizens are now able to access communication and vital information

sites as they cope with the challenges of power outages.

The solar generation will also eliminate most of the electric utility costs for the library as well as contribute to Vermont's goals for renewable energy and resilience. In addition to being directly useful to the library the project serves as an example of a resilient energy system that similar organizations can replicate. The solar generation of the system will be able to be tracked from the library website.

This project has come to fruition through a unique combination of donors, including the Association of Rural and Small Libraries, the AKC Foundation, the Vermont Council on Rural Development, municipal American Rescue Plan Act funding, Concept 2, individual donors, and volunteer labor which reduced the project cost by over 50%. The design and installation of the system, amounting to hundreds of hours of skilled labor, was donated by Vince O'Connell. Vince will be explaining the system at the solar celebration on July 9, and sunny snacks will be available. For more information, contact the library at (802) 586-9683.

Housing Forum Hosts July 10 Panel

by Hal Gray

EAST CRAFTSBURY – The Community Housing Forum meeting June 25 in the East Craftsbury Presbyterian Church discussed various housing topics including its Monday, July 10, panel of four speakers addressing Accessory Dwelling Units (ADU). These units, also referred to as second units, in-law units, or granny flats, are accessories to a primary residence and have complete independent living facilities for one or more persons. ADUs may be separate or attached to the primary structure and address the lack of affordable housing, especially for renters.

Speakers at the July 10 panel will include Dawn Cross, the Homeownership Center Director of Rural Edge, who has considerable knowledge about the difficulties of creating ADUs in rural areas; Patrick Shattuck, Rural Edge Executive Director, with many years of development experience, including what the creation of ADUs can do to help the housing crisis in our area; Patrick Larson, a local

engineer who designs waste systems and how this relates to adding an ADU; and Jean Lowell, who built an ADU, going through the process of getting funding and assistance from the Vermont State Housing Authority.

The meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m. After short presentations there will be time for questions.

The Community Housing Forum hosting this panel is a group of interested residents of local towns including Craftsbury, Albany and Greensboro, and has been meeting monthly under the leadership of Neil Urie, from East Craftsbury Presbyterian Church, on various housing topics, including ADUs; Home Sharing (in which a homeowner shares his or her home under carefully controlled circumstances, thus addressing everyone's needs as well as the shortage of affordable housing); the need for senior housing; and the availability of land in local village centers, for which state funding is accessible. Monthly meetings, in addition to the July 10 panel, are currently set for July 30 and August 27.

Events

Thursday, July 6

TAI CHI CLASSES, Thursdays, 9:15 - 10:15 a.m. Beginning Yang 24 Tai Chi, 10:30 - 11:30 a.m. Tai Chi for Health & Fall Prevention (no experience needed, including seated Tai Chi and remote options via Zoom), United Church of Christ, 165 Wilson St., Greensboro. Sponsored by Northeast Kingdom Council on Aging. Classes taught by Norma Spaulding, (802) 472-8724, nspauld@gmail.com and Paul Fixx, (802) 441-4599, pfixx@pfixx.net.

GAME NIGHT, at the Village Restaurant, Hardwick, Thursdays, 6 - 8 p.m., unless there is a home basketball game. A limited menu of burgers and appetizers. Hosted by Sarah Tewksbury. First come, first serve event, with room for roughly 10 teams.

Friday, July 7

STORY TIME AND PLAYGROUP, for kids birth to age 5, Fridays at 10:30 a.m., Jaquith Public Library, 122 School St., Rm. 2, Marshfield. Information: 802-426-3581.

Saturday, July 8

CRAFTSBURY ANTIQUES & UNIQUES, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m., Crafts-bury Common. Rain or shine. Antiques, collectibles, jewelry, quilts, and more. Information: crafts-bury-antiquesanduniques.com.

Tuesday, July 11

TAI CHI CLASSES, Tuesdays, Atkins Field, Granite St., Hardwick. 9:15 - 10:15 a.m., Qigong & Tai Chi Forms (some experience recommended), 10:30 - 11:30 a.m., Tai Chi for Health & Fall Prevention (no experience needed, including seated Tai Chi). Sponsored by Northeast Kingdom Council on Aging. Classes taught by Norma Spaulding, (802) 472-8724, nspauld@gmail.com and Paul Fixx (802) 441-4599, pfixx@pfixx.net.

Wednesday, July 12

DEATH CAFE, 6 p.m., Albany Public Library, 830 Main St. An informal conversation about death. Refreshments provided. Information: (802) 755-6107, albanypubli-clibraryvt.org

Thursday, July 13

TAI CHI CLASSES, Thursdays, 9:15 - 10:15 a.m. Beginning Yang 24 Tai Chi, 10:30 - 11:30 a.m. Tai Chi for Health & Fall Prevention (no experience needed, including seated Tai Chi and remote options via Zoom), United Church of Christ, 165 Wilson St., Greensboro. Sponsored by Northeast Kingdom Council on Aging. Classes taught by Norma Spaulding, (802) 472-8724, nspauld@gmail.com and Paul Fixx, (802) 441-4599, pfixx@pfixx.net.

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



photo by Vanessa Fournier
Hazen Union Drama Club students Kaylee Ewen (left), and Ursa Goldenrose, (right); watch as Juniper Book shakes hands with Sadie Gann as they perform in a scene from "The Flying Doctor" by Moliere. The play was directed by Mariana Considine and held at the Highland Center for the Arts in Greensboro on June 14 and 15.

Author Stephen Kiernan Returns to Hardwick

HARDWICK – The Galaxy Bookshop and Jeudevine Memorial Library will present an evening with author Stephen Kiernan on Tuesday, July 11, at 7 p.m. Kiernan will be at the Jeudevine Library to read from and talk about the writing of his latest novel, "The Glass Chateau," a story set in post-WWII France. Books will be available to purchase from The Galaxy Bookshop, and a portion of the event's proceeds will benefit the library.

"The Glass Chateau" is Stephen Kiernan's fourth novel centered on WWII. In this book, he writes about the search for healing for individuals and for a country scarred by war. In a rural French chateau where stained glass has

been made for over 400 years, men suffering the physical and psychological effects of war create glass to repair the windows of churches and cathedrals across Europe, and in the process may find a way to mend themselves.

Stephen Kiernan is an award winning journalist and the author of seven books, including "Universe of Two," "The Curiosity" and "Last Rights." He is also a musician who has recorded three CDs of solo instrumentals and composed music for dance, the stage, and documentary films. He lives in Vermont.

This event is free and open to the public. For more information, call (802) 472-5533 or visit galaxy-bookshop.com for a full schedule of events.

The Galaxy Bookshop and Jeudevine Library welcome **STEPHEN KIERNAN** author of the novel "The Glass Chateau" speaking at the library **TUESDAY, JULY 11, 7 p.m.** Book sales will benefit the Jeudevine Library!

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IN THE GARDEN



courtesy photo

Deer ticks are carriers of Lyme and other diseases.



courtesy photo

This simple structure provides a place for beneficial solitary wasps to lay eggs.

The Gardener's Bane: Slugs, Bugs and Ticks, Oh My!

by Henry Homeyer

CORNISH FLAT, N.H. – All gardeners have to contend with a variety of insects and other small pests in the garden – those that attack our plants and those that bite us. Mosquitoes? I can live with them. But ticks? That is another story.

I've tried every kind of spray to repel ticks and prevent bites. I haven't found any that are 100% effective. There are lots of "all natural" ones out there, but it is hard to tell how effective they are. I don't like sprays with Deet in them, but believe they probably are better at repelling ticks than the herbal applications. But I don't rely just on repellents.

When I am working in brushy areas I wear long pants: lightweight quick-dry nylon. Then I either tuck the pants into my socks or wear some special tick gaiters. The ones I use are called Lymeex. According to their advertising, they are

a mesh treated with EPA-registered micro-encapsulated permethrin tick repellent and closed with Velcro. LL Bean and other suppliers also sell clothing treated with permethrin to kill or repel ticks, mosquitoes and other insects.

From what I have read, permethrin not only repels ticks, it kills them. I have read about "tick tubes" treated with permethrin to kill the ticks on mice – a vector for Lyme. These little tubes contain treated cotton balls that mice bring to their nests, where the permethrin kills the ticks. I plan to get some for my woodpile.

Slugs and shell-covered small snails are always a problem in my garden. I usually keep a jar of soapy water in the garden near my lettuce, which is the preferred treat for these nasty critters. Pick and drown works.

Another garden pest is the Colorado potato beetle. This striped beetle can decimate the leaves of potatoes if you don't control them early, even killing the plant or reducing your crop. The beetles are yellowish with black stripes, the larvae are beige to red with rows of black dots. The eggs are orange and generally found on the underneath side of the leaves. It is important to pick these pests early as they mature quickly and each female lays many eggs, multiplying their impact quickly if not controlled.

If you have too many potato plants to hand pick them all, there is a biological control called Bt. It is a bacterium that is diluted in water and sprayed on the plants. It is not a contact poison, it needs to be consumed by the larvae when they are

young. They sicken, stop eating and die. But you may need to use it for a few years to really solve the problem. There are several different Bt formulas, so be sure you get one labeled for potatoes.

Striped cucumber beetles look a bit like potato beetles, but they are smaller and fast moving. They can strip all the leaves off your vine crops in a single night if they are present in the soil when your cukes or squash-family plants first germinate. You can cover the crops with row covers to keep them away, but they may already be present in the soil. Me? I start my vine crops indoors and only plant them when they have at least a six-inch long vine and can't be killed by the beetles.

My least favorite pest is the tomato hornworm. Big, up to four inches long, they are aggressive when you pick them up. There is a natural predator, a parasitic wasp that lays eggs in them. So if you see what looks like grains of rice on them, just remove them to a faraway part of the garden. Those "grains of rice" are larvae that will suck them dry and keep them from reproducing. You can make or buy houses for these wasps and other good wasps and hang it on your shed. These are simply a collection of hollow bamboo pieces they can use for shelter.

A good reason NOT to use insecticides is that they will inadvertently kill good bugs like lady beetles, spiders, praying mantises and more. You've probably never seen an assassin bug, but they are relentless killers of bad bugs, sucking them dry.

Many of us grew up thinking that most bugs, beetles, moths and other insects are harmful.

For a long time my first inclination on seeing an insect in the garden was to squish it. Not anymore. Mother Nature tries to create a balance that keeps pests from taking over. Unless you know an insect is a pest – think Japanese beetle, rose chafer, striped cucumber beetle – leave it be. It might be the critter that controls others from decimating your garden.

If you want to learn about the bugs you see, you might want to pick up a copy of a nice small paperback called, "Good Bug, Bad Bug: Who's Who, What They Do, and How to Manage Them Organically" by Jessica Walliser. It is well illustrated and also tells you how you can attract good ones– or even purchase them.

Being an organic gardener means you have to pay attention. Watch for problem pests and try to control them before they can ruin your flowers or veggies. And never use a chemical pesticide as it will throw everything out of balance.

[Henry is a lifelong organic gardener, and a 20-year veteran of the UNH Master Gardener program. He is the author of four gardening books and a gardening consultant. Reach him at henry.homeyer@comcast.net.]



courtesy photo

Larvae of parasitic wasp on tomato hornworm will kill it.



courtesy photo

Leaves eaten by striped cucumber beetle.

THE OUTSIDE STORY

Flying Tigers Feed on Lilac Nectar

by Susan Shea

RANDOLPH – When our lilacs bloom in late May, pale yellow butterflies with black stripes arrive to feed on their nectar. These are tiger swallowtails. These exquisite butterflies have a broad black band along the edge of their forewings bordered with yellow dots. They also have small red spots and “tails” at the base of their hindwings. Both the Canadian tiger swallowtail and the eastern tiger swallowtail inhabit our region, and are easy to spot, although the two species can be difficult to distinguish from one another.

“One of the most magnificent butterflies of spring, showy in flight and unmistakable in its markings, is also a magnificent source of mistaken identity,” Vermont-based field entomologist Bryan Pfeiffer wrote about tiger swallowtails in an article on his website.

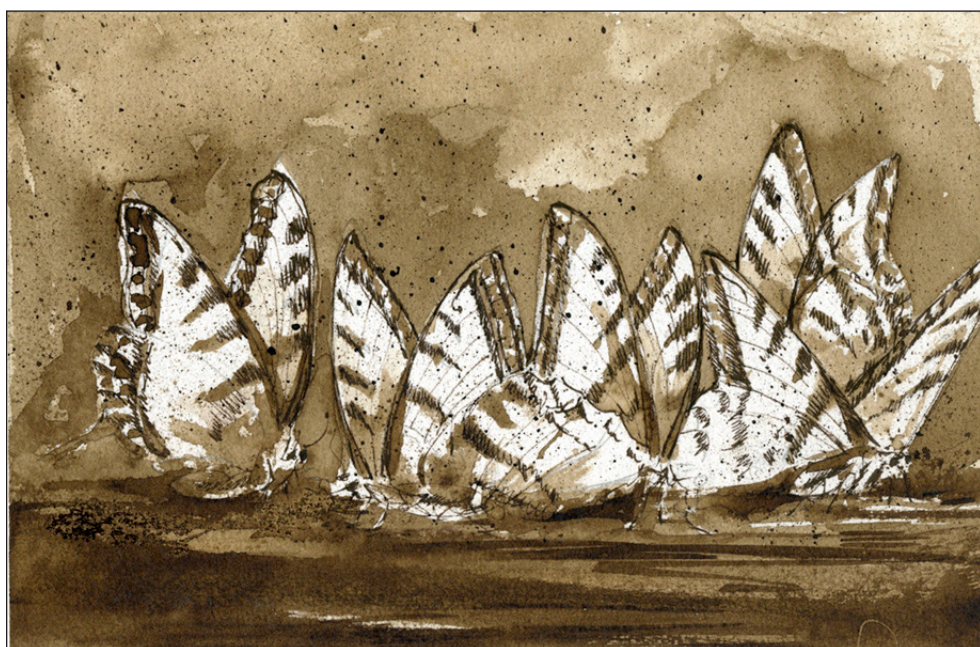
Eastern tiger swallowtails (*Papilio glaucus*) are larger and deeper yellow than Canadian tiger swallowtails (*Papilio canadensis*), with a thinner black line along the margins of the underside of each hindwing. Identification can be challenging, in part, because the two species hybridize. To make things more confusing, some female eastern swallowtails look like a different species altogether. They are black with a bluish cast, although the row of yellow dots on the outer edge of the forewing is a clue to their true identity.

Smaller, lighter-colored Canadian tiger swallowtails are the most common of these species in northern New England. Found in deciduous and mixed forests, pine barrens, and along woodland edges and stream banks, they have also adapted to meadows

and gardens. From late May to mid-July, these butterflies emerge from the chrysalises where they spent the winter. (If you see a tiger swallowtail after July, it is likely an eastern, which has two broods per year and flies through September.) In some years, tiger swallowtails are quite abundant – I’ve had to watch carefully to avoid hitting these butterflies while driving down our dirt road. They spend their brief lives (one to two weeks) mostly feeding, resting, and reproducing.

Like many other butterflies, tiger swallowtails visit flowers to partake of the sweet nectar, often pollinating these plants in the process. To harvest nectar, a butterfly unfurls its proboscis, a tube that functions like a straw and is coiled below the head when not in use. It inserts the proboscis into the flower and sucks up nectar by rhythmically contracting the muscles in its head. Sugars in the nectar provide energy for flight, defense, reproduction, and other daily activities.

Tiger swallowtails also obtain nutrients and replenish fluids through “puddling,” congregating in large groups on mud or wet sand around puddles, on stream banks, and on piles of fresh manure. Here they take up salts, proteins, and minerals with their proboscises. Salt is scarce in the butterfly diet, but is essential for reproduction and flight. Puddling is primarily a male behavior, and during mating, a male butterfly transfers salt to a female in a sperm package, which she incorporates into her eggs. Researchers have found that sodium increases reproductive success in some butterfly species. During puddling, groups of males are conspicuous to females seeking mates. Males also patrol at treetop level looking for mates, swooping down to intercept females.



Tiger Swallowtails Puddling

The female Canadian tiger swallowtail lays her eggs singly on the leaves of aspen, birch, willow and black cherry trees. Eastern tiger swallowtails prefer tulip, black cherry, and sweet bay magnolia trees. Caterpillars hatch in about a week. The residual egg yolk provides their first meal. Brown and white, at first the caterpillars resemble bird droppings – a defense tactic to diminish the chances of being gobbled up by a hungry predator. They spin a silken mat in a curled leaf to rest on and feed from. As they grow larger, the caterpillars molt their skin several times, going through five stages or “instars.” In the final instar, a swallowtail caterpillar is dark green with two false eyespots and a yellow collar. Finally the caterpillar turns brown and attaches

to the underside of a stick or dead leaves on the ground. The skin splits to reveal a chrysalis. Here, the caterpillar will overwinter until emerging as a butterfly the following spring.

As with other butterfly species, tiger swallowtails can be affected by loss of habitat, pesticide use, and climate change. To help butterflies and enjoy their beauty, plant native flowers, trees, and shrubs, and leave a portion of your lawn unmown to create meadow habitat. Adult tiger swallowtails are especially attracted to the blossoms of cherry, lilac, blackberry, raspberry, clovers, joe-pyeweed, milkweed, and thistle.

[Susan Shea is a naturalist, writer, and conservationist based in Vermont. Illustration by Adelaide Murphy Tyrol.]

Concert to Benefit Nursing Home July 9

GREENSBORO – A family-fun benefit concert with Roy MacNeil, Mavis MacNeil, Andrew Koehler and Alice Perron will be presented Sunday, July 9, 7 p.m., at Greensboro United Church of Christ. The program will include

folk and fiddle tunes, country, jazz and traditional Quebecois musical styles.

All proceeds will benefit the Greensboro Nursing Home Activities Department. Admission by donation.

The Gazette matters, now more than ever!

What's going on here?

Although we no longer have a location in Hardwick, we continue to cover Hardwick and the ten towns in our coverage area. We are located in the Spark space in the Greensboro Town Hall and thanks to the high-speed digital connections provided by Spark in Greensboro, we continue to produce a weekly electronic newspaper and look forward to continue our 134-year coverage of your home town.

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IN THE GARDEN



courtesy photo

Uglynest caterpillars are yellow with a black head capsule and are fully grown at about three-fourths inch when they pupate in the nest.



courtesy photo

Found throughout Vermont, uglynest caterpillars make their nests by spinning a dense web of foliage, frass and silk around branches and leaves of many species of hardwood trees and shrubs.

Beware the Uglynest Caterpillar

by Ann Hazelrigg, Extension Plant Pathologist, University of Vermont

BURLINGTON – If you spot any trees or shrubs that appear to be covered in fake spider webs, those aren't early Halloween decorations, but rather the work of the uglynest caterpillar (*Archips cerasivorana*), which can be found throughout Vermont.

This pest feeds on several types of hardwood trees and shrubs and is often found on chokecherries, pin cherry and black cherry. The caterpillar's eggs hatch when the leaves flush although, thankfully, there is only one generation of the pest per year.

The larvae feed from May to September in unsightly webbed

nests made up of bits of foliage, frass and silk, hence the name uglynest caterpillar. The yellow caterpillars have a black head capsule and are fully grown at about three-fourths inch when they pupate in the nest.

Adult moths emerge and are active from the end of June to September, when eggs are laid on the bark of host plants. Although ugly, these nests and pests cause minimal permanent damage.

The caterpillars are best controlled when small if you spot them early. If you are able, and there are only a few nests, removal of the nests and caterpillars by hand and then dropped into soapy water would reduce the damage.

Once they have approached three-fourth inch in size, they

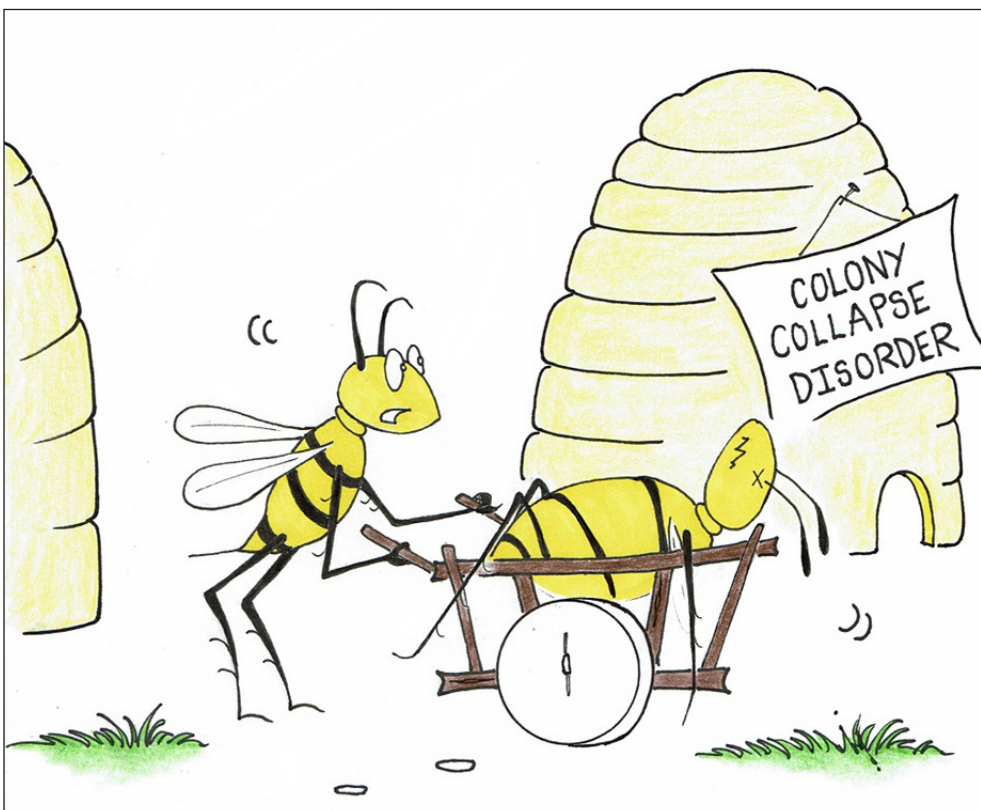
are tough to control as they are protected within the nests. At this point, they are likely to be getting ready to pupate and will not cause further damage.

If the tree has been decimated by the pest, anything you can do to remove further stress in the tree, such as thorough watering during drought conditions, will help it


withstand the attack. There should be no long-term health issues for the tree, however, but you may want to watch for the pests next year when the leaves flush to try to manage any infestations.

[Dr. Ann Hazelrigg is the University of Vermont Extension plant pathologist and director of the UVM Plant Diagnostic Clinic.]

Woodsmoke *by Julie Atwood*



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YANKEE NOTEBOOK

My Six Falls this Year Have Taken a Toll

by Willem Lange

EAST MONTPELIER – I discovered the links among strength, body weight, and balance during the winter of 1959-60. Working at the Lake Placid bobsled run introduced me to a whole new gang of men, most of them from “the other side of the mountain.” They ranged in age from about 24 (me) to Spencer Branch (if he wasn’t 70, he at least looked it). We ranged in skills from middle-aged dubs suited best for the most menial of jobs, like mixing ice slush, to “plasterers,” old hands who stood on staging planks and with the flat backs of their shovels smoothed the slush into the parabolic curves of ice all the way down the run.

The one guy who often caught my attention was Georgie Farrell. Short, maybe five-seven, quick as a red squirrel, and what the old-timers (many of them alumni of the extinct logging camps) called “catty,” George could run across a horizontal eight-inch spruce pole 20 feet in the air to get to the staging high up on a curve. None of the rest of us ever even tried that. The pole was too skinny and the distance too far down. But it did suggest to me that his native strength had a lot to do with his confidence and sense of balance.

This combination of unavoidable declines in strength and balance, failing eyesight, loss of focus, and the side effects of some drugs for arthritis, dizziness, low blood pressure, and drowsiness is the bad news. Add to that uneven or slippery surfaces (two common Vermont rocks, green schist and verde granite, will kill you when they’re wet), poor lighting, cluttered halls, scatter rugs, poor peripheral vision – and we old folks are slow-moving targets.

I think fairly frequently of George these days as age, diminished strength, and fading balance threaten almost every

step I take. My six falls so far this year have taken a toll on my bones, mobility, and – most of all – my confidence. In addition, the outlook for the future is bleak. Doctors have offered little beyond bone-strengthening drugs and modest exercises to forestall what appears to be a continuing and inevitable degradation of mobility.

There is, however, some hope for those of us increasingly faced with deterioration of ability and life style. An article by Evan Papp, associate professor at Tufts University, lays out the risks – “Balance declines with age... – and the remedy – “... exercise can help stave off some of the risk of falling.” If you were looking for a magic bullet, forget it. There isn’t any.

All of us experience age-related changes in our bodies, much as many of us try to deny them. I never was muscular myself – “stringy” would be a better word – but when I reach up each night to turn off the reading light beside my bed, I try not to see the crepey skin that once was taut with muscle. I’ve become an expert in heating stubborn jar lids to loosen them. And Herschel, my speedy four-wheeled walker, is my nearly constant companion around the house. In the absence of anybody to help me up, it’s crucial not to fall.

This combination of unavoidable declines in strength and balance, failing eyesight, loss of focus, and the side effects of some drugs for arthritis, dizziness, low blood pressure, and drowsiness is the bad news. Add to that uneven or slippery surfaces (two common Vermont rocks, green schist and verde granite, will kill you when they’re wet), poor lighting, cluttered halls, scatter rugs, poor peripheral vision – and we old folks are slow-moving targets.

The good news is vigorous exercise. The drawback to that is that it’s not something you can read about; you have to do it, no matter how boring. None of the articles I’ve read on the subject mentions age-related torpor and disinclination to get moving. We tend to put exercises off until tomorrow, even though our tomorrows grow fewer every day.

Besides the mantra which accompanies most of the things I do – Do Not Fall! – I sometimes wish I still had an old video-cassette someone once sent me. In it, a naked beauty rides a bike just ahead of the camera and every so often turns her head to smile at the viewer. I never did catch her. At 88, should I manage it, it might involve an embarrassing explanation.

THE Hardwick Gazette Since 1889

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MEETING MEMO

Wednesday, July 5

• **Wolcott Select Board**, first Wednesday of month, 6 p.m.

Thursday, July 6

• **Hardwick Select Board**, first Thursday of month, 6 p.m.

Monday, July 10

• **Calais Select Board**, second Monday of month, 7 p.m.

Tuesday, July 11

• **Hardwick Energy Committee Meeting**, 6 p.m., Hardwick Memorial Building, 20 Church St., 1st floor. Information: Bill at (802) 249-6004, Energy.Coordinator@HardwickVT.org

Wednesday, July 12

• **Greensboro Select Board**,

second Wednesday of month, 6:30 p.m.

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ANOTHER OPINION



courtesy photo

Vermonters pause at Union Station in Washington, D.C., on June 18, before attending the Moral Poverty Action Congress. They were (kneeling) Kolby LaMarche; (all left to right) front row, Zack Hughes, Ronni Liddell, Zarina Castro (Walden) and Winna Curran; back row, Everett Hickey-Briggs, Becca Schuchat, Amy Lester (Plainfield), Ash Hickey, Manny Mansbach, Lehana Guyette, Anna Kennedy and Amanda Harris.



courtesy photo

Vermonters who attended the Moral Poverty Action Congress Washington, D.C., gather outside the office of Representative Becca Balint on June 20. They were (all left to right) kneeling, Ash Hickey; front row, Everett Hickey-Briggs, Rep. Becca Balint, Winna Curran and Amy Lester (Plainfield); back row, Ronni Liddell, Zarina Castro (Walden), Manny Mansbach and Becca Schuchat.

Three Local People Attend Moral Poverty Action Congress

by Zarina Castro

WALDEN – Three people from the Gazette's coverage area, Pastor Ed Sunday-Winters from Greensboro United Church of Christ, Amy Lester of Plainfield, from the Vermont Workers' Center, and Deacon Zarina Castro of Walden, from the Church of St. John's in the Mountains, joined 13 others from Vermont to attend the Moral Poverty Action Congress of the Poor People's Campaign (PPC), a National Call for Moral Revival. This took place in Washington, D.C. from June 19 to June 21. Before the congress, Bishop William Barber II, one of the co-chairs of the PPC, spoke forcefully about the fact that, in this country, poverty kills. On the first day of the Congress, the presenters were University of California Riverside Professor David Brady, the author of a recent report about poverty, Valerie Wilson from the Economic Policy Institute, and Valerie Eguavoen, Associate Director of the Kairos Center for Religions, Rights and Social Justice. They have all researched and studied the effects and costs of poverty. The most startling statistic cited was that, before COVID, poverty was the fourth leading cause of death in the United States. It follows heart disease, cancer and accidents. Following poverty as causes of death in the United States are homicide, firearms, drug overdoses, suicide, and diabetes. We hear a lot in the news about homicide, firearms, drug overdoses, and suicide. We hear little about poverty, and yet the effects of poverty kill more people in the United States than do these other causes.

The Congress had three components. The first day was devoted to presenting the data from the experts

on the effects and costs of poverty. Thereafter, members of the Congress, from 30 states and the District of Columbia, planned for visits to all their Senators and Congressional Representatives. On the second day, the entire Congress of over 600 individuals convened and then took 16 buses to the Capitol to make arranged visits to over 400 congressional leaders. The Vermont delegation had arranged visits with staff from the offices of Senator Sanders, Senator Welch, and Representative Balint.

I went with others to the office of Representative Balint. We introduced ourselves. One of our members was a person who was recently homeless in Burlington. They shared some of their experiences as a poor person who has physical challenges because their father was exposed to Agent Orange in Vietnam. As a homeless person, they have experienced health issues because of having to live for a time in a trailer with black mold; of having medical directives not followed; of having food poisoning because of not being able to refrigerate their food; and of being the witness to a drive-by shooting. They are living on \$6 a day for their food, and this has to include purchasing water. Poverty, they said, is killing people. Another member of the delegation presented fact sheets of poverty in the U.S. (poorpeoplescampaign.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/2023-National-Fact-Sheet-8.5-%C3%97-11-in.pdf), and about poverty in Vermont (poorpeoplescampaign.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/Vermont-State-Fact-Sheet-2.pdf). Lastly, another member requested that the Congresswoman support all the goals articulated in the Third Reconstruction agenda of the Poor People's Campaign. These goals can be seen in their entirety at poorpeoplescampaign.org/wp-content/

uploads/2022/10/Third-Reconstruction_long_9-15.pdf. After meeting with Senators and Congress-women and -men, we convened at the foot of the steps of the Supreme Court for sharing of stories by affected persons. This was a very powerful part of the program, and showed the very personal ways that individuals across the country are affected by the limitations and privations of poverty. We then walked to Capitol Hill for a press conference, and then to a nearby park for dinner, before returning on buses to the hotel. On the last day, we heard some of the history of the Poor People's Campaign, which was begun in the 1960's by the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. shortly before his murder. We heard of the five key principles of the United States Constitution: to establish justice, ensure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare and secure the blessings of liberty for ourselves and future generations. The presenters argued that these principles are not being met in our country where: between 2020-2022, billionaire wealth in the United States grew by \$1.5 trillion, more than \$2 billion a day; in Vermont, 194,000 people, or 31.3% of the state's population, were poor or low-income; in Vermont, over 98,000, nearly one-third of the workforce, earn less than \$15 per hour; in 2022, average Vermont household debt rose 5% to \$51,170; and approximately 100 million Americans struggle with medical debt.

In 2021, 17 million low-wage workers without children received the Earned Income Tax Credit and 65 million children received the expanded Child Tax Credit (CTC). These programs contributed to a dramatic decline in poverty among adults and children. In one year,

the expanded CTC alone moved 3.7 million children in the United States above the poverty line. When the expanded Child Tax Credit ended in 2021, over 3.5 million children were pushed back below the poverty line. In 2022, expanded SNAP benefits (food stamps) reached 42 million families in the United States and prevented 850,000 instances of food insufficiency every week. In 2023, SNAP benefits were reduced by \$90-\$250/month, cutting average benefits to just \$6 per day. The Third Reconstruction agenda of the Poor People's Campaign has many demands from our political leaders concerning the poor. The campaign demands that the 140 million poor and low-income people in our nation are no longer ignored, dismissed or pushed to the margins of our political and social agenda. The campaign challenges the lie of scarcity in the midst of abundance. A full list of the demands is in the Third Reconstruction document cited above. Through the Congress, at every transition, participants sang and danced to songs of the movement, led by theomusicologists and an always present band with drums, keyboard, electric guitar and a saxophone player, the last of who also accompanied us when we went to Capitol Hill. The first verse of one of the frequently played songs was:

Somebody's hurting my brother
and it's gone on far too long
Yes, it's gone on far too long
It's gone on far too long
I said, somebody's hurting my
brother
and it's gone on far too long
And we won't be silent anymore.
That last line captures the theme of the congress well: We won't be silent any more!

[Zarina Castro is a resident of Walden.]



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Read more details at hardwickagriculture.org/jobs.



Town of Stowe Executive Assistant to the Town Manager

The Town of Stowe is seeking to hire a full-time executive assistant, who is customer-service oriented with exceptional attention to detail, to assist the town manager.

The executive assistant's primary role is to provide professional administrative support to the town manager, who is the CEO for the Town of Stowe. This position includes a variety of duties that require considerable judgment, discretion, emotional intelligence, and initiative. The ideal candidate will be organized, have excellent proof-reading skills, possess advanced computer skills and have the ability to operate and troubleshoot office equipment.

Other responsibilities include serving as the front desk for the Akeley Memorial Building (Town Hall) and as the clerk to the Stowe Selectboard. These duties include answering questions in a professional manner and routing people to the appropriate municipal employee. As clerk of the selectboard, the employee is responsible for compiling meeting materials, posting agendas, taking minutes, and managing electronic attendance at their meetings. Some evenings are required.

Associate degree supplemented with three years of experience in a professional office setting is preferred, or an equivalent combination of education and experience. Pay range is \$25.52 to \$30.28, dependent upon experience. The Town of Stowe currently offers an excellent benefit package including BCBS health plans with a 5% or 10% employee premium share, dental insurance, generous paid leave including 13 paid holidays, 10.6% employer contribution to VMERS pension plan, life insurance and more.

Job description and employment application can be obtained at townofstowevt.org

Submit letter of interest, resume and employment application to: Town of Stowe, c/o HR Director, PO Box 730, Stowe, VT 05672 or by email recruit@stowevt.gov

Applications will be reviewed on July 13, 2023.
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SPORTS



photo by Vanessa Fournier

Meles Gouge batted over .400 this past spring in his second season as the Bears shortstop.



photo by Vanessa Fournier

Meles Gouge has led Twinfield-Cabot soccer in scoring the past three seasons, earning him back-to-back All-State honors.

Senior Spotlight: Meles Gouge has the Golden Boot

by Ken Brown

MARSHFIELD – Meles Gouge has been a multi-sport athlete for Twinfield-Cabot the past three seasons but has few peers when he steps foot on the soccer pitch as his prolific goal scoring has made the Trojans into a perennial title contender.

Gouge came to the Marshfield community from Ethiopia when he was nine years old. He remembers developing an affinity for the game of soccer at an early age, watching the greatest footballer of all time glide across his television screen.

“My friends and I used to watch Messi play on TV in Ethiopia when I was little, and I was so impressed with how he played. I wanted to be just like him, and I have been following his career closely since then,” said Gouge.

His first three varsity seasons on the pitch as a Trojan has been closer to imitating his boyhood idol than he thinks. He led Twinfield-Cabot in scoring as a freshman and helped the program win their first match in the Division IV playoffs in 11 years. The speedy striker was even better in his sophomore campaign, burying 20 goals

in the back of the net and assisting on six others, while leading Twinfield-Cabot to 11 wins and their first Final Four appearance in 21 years. He was the only tenth grader to earn First Team honors in the rugged Mountain League and recognized as one of the best players in Vermont with an All-State selection. He transitioned into more of a leadership role last fall, moving to midfield and directing a young team consisting of six freshmen starters to another 11 wins and back to the Division IV semifinals. While battling through injuries, he still led the Trojans with 20 goals and was the point man on one of the most potent offenses in the division that found the back of the net 60 times. His efforts earned him another All-State selection and First Team honors in the Mountain League. His pairing with head coach Peter Stratman has helped lead the program to 30 wins the past three seasons and Gouge credits his head coach in developing him into the player that he is today.

“Peter has dedicated himself to helping me and the team. He has helped me not get into my own head when things aren’t going our way. He puts his trust in me on the field

as one of the captains, pushing me to get better every day and making me work hard to achieve greatness. He is always prepared and ready to coach me and the team every practice and every game,” said Gouge.

Stratman has turned a spiraling Trojan program into a divisional power, winning 39 matches in his four seasons at the helm. Gouge’s impact on the program as he’s developed into one of the best soccer players in the state is not lost on him.

“Meles brings so much energy to the game and the seamless transition he made into a leadership role in the midfield last season was outstanding. He’s an incredible player, who gives it his all every match and he did an amazing job holding our young team together last season,” said Stratman.

Gouge is poised for a truly special senior season on the pitch this coming fall and Twinfield-Cabot will once again be a title contender as they look to end a state championship drought that has lasted over three decades. Gouge’s reaction to those kinds of expectations is perhaps the true secret to his unbelievable success.

“The most exciting thing is that

I get to play the game again with my friends. We’ve been playing soccer together since I was in the fifth grade and that’s what I look forward to the most in my final season of playing at Twinfield-Cabot,” said Gouge.

There are no off seasons for Gouge, as he plays point guard for the Trojan basketball team in the winter and shortstop for Danville’s baseball team in the spring. He was a Mountain League Honorable Mention on the hardwood as a junior and claimed Second Team honors in the Mountain League on the baseball diamond earlier this month. He batted over .400 for the Bears, with seven doubles, four triples, while stealing 17 bases. His thoughts on representing his school and serving as a role model to younger athletes makes you realize that Meles’ character might actually be his true superpower.

“The most important thing to me is to have pride in my small school, whether I’m representing Twinfield-Cabot or Danville on the court or on the field. I didn’t want to experience burnout from playing just one sport. I believe that playing multiple sports gives you the opportunity to make new friends and helps you grow as a person,” said Gouge.

SPORTS

KEN BROWN'S HIGH SCHOOL ROUNDUP

Hardwick Loses Pitching Duel to St. Johnsbury

ST. JOHNSBURY – St. Johnsbury's Rex Hauser and Hardwick's Lyle Rooney went toe to toe last week in an old-fashioned pitcher's duel, with a sacrifice fly being the only difference for St. Jay in Senior Babe Ruth action last week.

Hauser twirled a one-hitter, striking out 11, and driving in the only run of the game as St. Johnsbury edged Hardwick at home last Tuesday 1-0. Rooney was equally as impressive, as the former Hazen Union Wildcat struck out 12 and allowed just a bloop single in the loss. Logan Burgess earned the only hit for the home team and Andrew Menard had a hit and a stolen base in the loss for Hardwick.

"Lyle was great throwing the ball and fielding his position several times throughout the game. Hauser was throwing well and we made some good contact on him, but it was right at people. This team has too much talent not to get it going offensively. It is still early on in our schedule and this team is filled with too many competitors for them not to find their rhythm at the plate sooner than later," said head coach Ivan Menard.

Hardwick will host Newport on Thursday at Hudson Fields and stay at home for a matchup against Northfield the following Tuesday.

Strong Makes Vermont Make-A-Wish All-Star Roster

SOUTH BURLINGTON – Jackson Strong put a bow on his stellar high school hockey career over the weekend with a selection to the Vermont Make-A-Wish All-Star roster.

Strong is the son of former Hazen Union baseball standout Jeff Strong, who also played four years at Lyndon State College. He is the grandson of Wildcat coaching great Jack Strong, who guided Hazen to their only baseball state championship in 1982. The Rice Memorial standout defenseman

was named Division I Player of the Year by the coaches after leading the Green Knights to the top seed in Division I, claiming Vermont Mr. Hockey honors by the Burlington Free Press earlier this spring.

The all-star showcase features the top graduated high school seniors from Vermont and New Hampshire on the ice at Gutterson Field House. The Vermont and New Hampshire rosters squared off for the 31st time over the holiday weekend. All proceeds from the star-studded event go to fulfill special wishes for children with life-threatening medical conditions.

Davis to Return to the Sidelines

COLCHESTER – Former Craftsbury Academy legend Jeff Davis will return to the sidelines to lead the Colchester varsity girls' basketball program this coming winter after a three-year hiatus from head coaching.

Davis was a 1,000-point career scorer for the Chargers in the early '90s, leading the program to its last state championship and four straight appearances in the Division IV title game. He went on to play for Norwich University. He was the head coach for a Mount Mansfield Union varsity boys' program that won three state championships, racking up nearly 300 career wins over 20 years at the helm. He takes over a Colchester program that hasn't had a winning season in six years, but will get an infusion from an incoming freshman class, led by his daughter Anya.



Contact the Hardwick Gazette during these hours:

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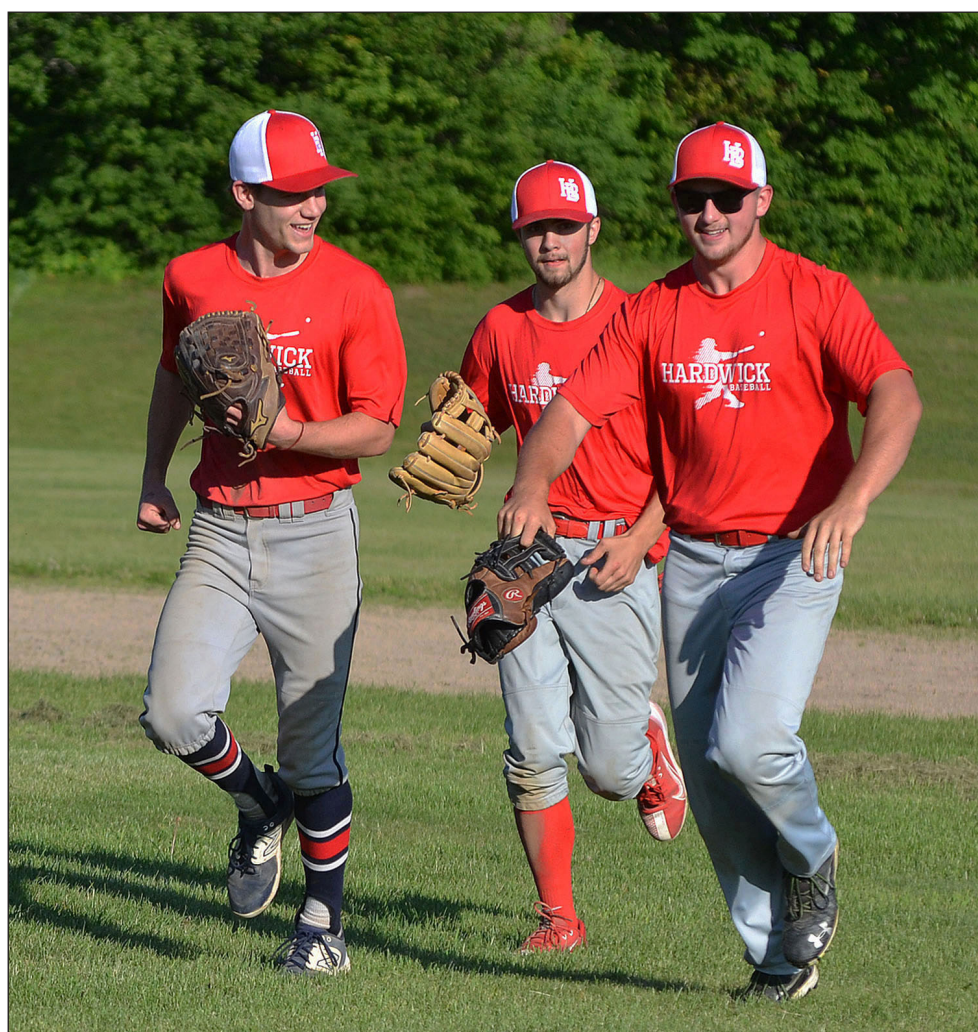


photo by Vanessa Fournier
Hardwick Senior Babe Ruth players Lyle Rooney (left), Jadon Baker (center) and Dan des Groseilliers (right) come off Hudson Field after their home opener against Franklin County June 22.



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SPORTS

JIM FLINT'S RUNNERS' ROUNDUP

Thornton-Sherman Nears 14-minute 5k Mark

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. — Evan Thornton-Sherman, from Waterford, keeps getting stronger and faster. On June 30, he traveled to the Boston area. He competed in the Tracksmith Twilight 5000m event at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

The Tracksmith series offers runners of diverse ages and abilities a summer opportunity to race on the outdoor oval. Athletes compete without club or school affiliation. The low-pressure environment promotes camaraderie and brings out the best in runners.

A 2022 St. Johnsbury Academy grad, Thornton-Sherman is a rising sophomore at the University of Maine. He competes for the Black Bears in cross country and track and field.

At the Twilight Meet, he ran in the fastest of eight heats, finishing in a new personal best time of 14:09. Thornton-Sherman placed fourth of 261 entries in the 11-1/2 lap race. Paul Arredondo, from Brighton, Mass., won the race in 14:03.

Thornton-Sherman's next stop is Eugene, Oregon, for the USA Track and Field U20 Outdoor Championships. He plans to compete in the 1500m and the 5000m events. The meet is held July 6-9 at the University of Oregon's historic Hayward Field.

Parker is State Champion Triathlete

LAKE DUNMORE — Former Sterling College student Lance Parker is the 2023 USA Triathlon Vermont state champion. Parker, 29, lives in Moretown. He earned the title by winning the Vermont Sun Sprint Triathlon on June 18. The event started with a 600-yard swim at Branbury Beach State Park, followed by a 14-mile bike leg and a 5k run.

Conditions were cool, rainy, and breezy. Most of the triathletes wore wet suits as they entered the chilly water. Parker was eighth of 43 men coming out of the water. His 11:21 swim leg compared to the top time of 10:33.

Parker made up the gap during the bike leg. He burned through the course in 35:57 to take the lead. His nearest competitor, Justin Hines, was now a minute and a half behind. Hines gained 13 seconds back on Parker in the final transition.

Parker's lead was just under a quarter mile at the start of the run. Hines was determined. He averaged 5:44 per mile for the run leg — 25 seconds faster per mile than Parker. As the finish approached, Parker held on. He crossed the line six seconds ahead of Hines. Hines ran the final 5k leg in 17:46 to Parker's 19:05. Parker won the triathlon in 1:08:39. Hines was second in 1:08:45.



photo by Alec Troxell

On June 30, at the Tracksmith Twilight 5000m race, Evan Thornton-Sherman led the fast heat two-thirds through the race. Paul Arredondo (#233) moved up from fifth to first. He won in 14:03, followed by Eli Moskowitz (#183) in 14:05 and Jack Pinho (#273) in 14:05. Thornton-Sherman placed fourth in a new personal best time of 14:07. Erik Linden (#268) was fifth in 14:11.

Bears Ready for Runners

MIDDLESEX — Adventurous athletes head to Rumney Elementary School on Saturday, July 8, for the 44th Annual Bear Swamp Run. The infamous 5.7-mile course climbs 450 feet in the first three miles, then gradually descends along tree-lined dirt roads to the finish. After the race, runners who make it through "the swamp" can soak tired legs in a cool mountain stream.

Registration begins at 8 a.m. for a 9 a.m. start. Sponsored by Central Vermont Runners (CVR), the entry fee is \$10 for day of race registration. Details are at cvrunners.org.

Bear Swamp is part of the 2023 CVR/Onion River Outdoors Race Series.

Race in the Granite Quarries

WEBSTERVILLE — If early registrations are an indicator, a big field is shaping up for the Barre Heritage 5k Trail Race on Saturday, July 29. Held at the Millstone Trails in the Barre Town Forest, the mostly single-track course through wooded terrain skirts the historic quarries.

Runners and walkers are encouraged to participate. Registration begins at 7:45 a.m. for a 9 a.m. start. The Barre Heritage Trail Race is part of the 2023 CVR/Onion River

Outdoors Race Series.

Last year's winner, Ben Taska, is already signed up to run. Taska knows the Millstone Trails well. He moved to Barre during the pandemic after spending several years in Woodbury and Craftsbury.

Day of race registration is \$20. Discounts are available for early online registration. Race details are at cvrunners.org.

Caspian Challenge Registration Opens

GREENSBORO — The 12th Annual Caspian Lake Challenge is on Sunday, July 30. Participants can choose a 5k fun run/walk or a 6.8-mile "round the lake" loop. Both races start at the Tolman Corner ball field. Lake loopers begin at 8:30 a.m., with the start of the 5k race shortly after.

The lake loop is one-third paved roads and two-thirds dirt roads, with some hills mixed in. The 5k course is an out-and-back route on Lake Shore Road. The entry fee for teens and adults is \$15. To encourage family fitness and fun, entry fees are waived for children ages seven to 13. Online registration at greensboroassociation.org is encouraged.

Sponsored by the Greensboro Association, race proceeds support the Greensboro Rail Trail Development Projects.

SPORTS



photo by Alan Ward

Flying Tiger Victory Lane included (left to right) Michael MacAskill (3rd), winner Jason Pelkey, Sam Caron (2nd).



photo by Alan Ward

In Late Model Victory Lane were (left to right) Kyle Pembroke (3rd), winner Kaiden Fisher, Brandon Lanphear (2nd).

Jason Pelkey Takes Emotional Flying Tiger Win

BARRE – In true Thunder Road fashion, for the second-consecutive week, a first-time winner has carried on a strong family name to Thunder Road victory lane while high-speed two and three-wide moves wowed the crowd at hand.

The Street Stock 25-lap feature led to green by Mike “The Biffer” Gay and Chris Davis. The Biffer would spin on the backstretch just two laps in following contact from third-place runner Todd Raymo with both re-starting at the tail of the field. Now under the command of hardluck campaigners Davis and defending champion Dean Switser Jr., the field took off once again. Youngsters Taylor Hoar and Trevor Jaques made their way into third and fourth as the second caution flag would fly on lap 15 for the spinning rookie Logan Farrell on the front-stretch.

With just 10 laps remaining and Davis and Switser at the helm, Jeffrey Martin began to make waves at the front. Martin made his way into third before taking second around Switser with just three laps remaining. Although he would jump to the outside under the white flag, time ran out for the former champion as he got the best seat in the house for teammate Chris Davis’ second

career victory at The Road. Defending champion Dean Switser Jr. took home third to round out victory lane.

The Late Model was led to green by the winningest driver in Thunder Road history and a greenhorn rookie on the front row for the first time. Phil Scott would take the quick lead over Claremont, N.H.’s Cody Schoolcraft at the onset as the field began to stretch under the long green flag period. Fellow rookie Kaiden Fisher would take the initiative from the fourth starting position as Schoolcraft backtracked on the outside lane. The yellow lights would flash on lap 39 for the spinning Chris Pelkey in turn four.

“Tropical Storm” would get the jump on Scott as the all-time wins leader slid back until a daring three wide move wedged between Nick Sweet and Scott Dragon sent Scott twirling in turn one to call out the second and final caution on lap 42. This time Fisher would best Brandon Lanphear at the line and take his lead all the way to the end. Kaiden Fisher would follow in father Jamie Fisher’s footsteps, bringing the 18VT Late Model back into Thunder Road victory lane. Brandon Lanphear turned a horrible week around to take second followed by Kyle Pembroke to round

out the podium.

Cooper French and Kevin Streeter would lead the second round of the Triple Crown Series for the Flying Tigers. The two would continue to battle at the front following the lap six caution for the spinning Chris Laforest in turn two with Jason Pelkey and Brandon Gray joining the picture. Pelkey would use French’s ill-handling machine sliding off turn four to sneak under and steal the lead with Gray in tow before the lap 16 caution for a spinning Colin Cornell off the bumper of Mike Billado.

Pelkey and Gray would lead off the pack under the restart green while Mike MacAskill would capitalize on a backtracking Gray to steal second with Logan Powers. Three blown right front tires would follow for the Kyle Streeter, Trevor Jaques and Adam Maynard machines each calling out the yellow with only Jaques unable to rejoin the field. One common denominator would follow as Pelkey and MacAskill continued to duke it out at the front of the field. While Pelkey led the way, MacAskill battled doorhandle-to-doorhandle with Logan Powers as Caron and Gray looked on. The lapped car of Luke Peters would reshuffle the top guns in the end but it would be Jason

Pelkey fist-pumping his way across the start/finish line to claim his first Triple Crown win. Sam Caron rebounded from last week’s disappointments to claim second followed by a hard-charging Mike MacAskill who used all the real estate on the outside groove to come home third.

The Road Warriors put up a lightning-fast 20-lap feature event to round out the night. Ryan Sayers would show the way from the onset in the five minute and thirty second feature. While Brodie Frazier fought through a fogged-over windshield to run second for 75% of the race, Tyler Wheatley used the cross-over to move into second with four laps remaining to move up from his often third-place finish.

UNOFFICIAL RESULTS

- (local competitors)
- Flying Tigers – (75 Laps)**
 5., 36VT, Joel Hodgdon, Craftsbury Common
 27., 22VT, Travis Patnoe, Wolcott
- Late Models – (50 Laps)**
 9., 01VT, Stephen Martin, Craftsbury Common
 11., 86VT, Marcel J. Gravel, Wolcott
- Street Stocks – (25 Laps)**
 8., 5, Kyle Gravel, Wolcott
 9., 34, Patrick Tibbetts, Plainfield



photo by Buzz Fisher

Winners in Street Stock Victory Lane were (left to right) Dean Switser Jr. (3rd), winner Chris Davis, Jeffrey Martin (2nd).



photo by Alan Ward

In Road Warriors Victory Lane were (left to right) Brodie Frazier (3rd), winner Ryan Sayers, Tyler Wheatley (2nd).