

# THE Hardwick Gazette

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Wednesday, July 9, 2025

hardwickgazette.org

Volume 136 Number 28

## Jeudevine Library Unveils New Building Addition



The new West Church Street entrance to the Jeudevine library was open to visitors for the first time on Monday, July 7. photo by Alex Strand

by Alex Strand

HARDWICK – The Jeudevine Library addition opened its doors to the public on Monday, July 7, after over two years of construction. The project increased accessibility, adding more bathrooms and multiple meeting areas.

By the time the library closed at 6 p.m. that first day, there had been 103 visitors. They previously, on average, had about 30 visitors each day before the construction, and slightly less during the construction.

Library director Diane Grenkow walked through the stacks, remarking at how large the new children's section, which used to be in the front portion of the library, now is. It holds space for a

children's librarian to lead story-times, as well as three computers for children to use.

Computers in the children's section were of importance for the library because previously, there were no quiet places to work.

Karen Klotz and two other Hardwick residents, all regulars of the library, were excited by its size, air conditioning and quiet spaces.

"I never came here before because I couldn't get my computer work done," said Klotz. "It was so small, everyone was sharing the same room."

She said she will now probably come to work at the library three or more times a week, and looks forward to bringing her granddaughter.

See ADDITION, 3

## EHNO Efforts Bring Village Improvements

by Paul Fixx

EAST HARDWICK – The East Hardwick Neighborhood Organization's (EHNO) efforts in the village have helped bring crosswalks, improvements to Overlook Park, the planting of 300 trees as a buffer along the Lamoille River streambank, prepared the way for the purchase of a radar speed sign and set the stage for VTrans to conduct an evaluation of the intersection of Main St. with Vt. Rte. 16 for traffic safety, according to its Summer newsletter.

The E. Hardwick Children's Parade "was again a successful community event," said the newsletter. Many children participated along with Bread and Puppet Theater, a Human Elephant and parade music, July 7

After the parade, EHNO board members gave away over 80 bags of popcorn on the First Congregational Church of East Hardwick lawn. Church members held the annual tent sale, with the church reporting another good fundraiser, helped by a bicycle raffle, basket raffle, bake sale and hot dog barbecue.

Across the street, at Caledonia Grange No. 9, popsicles were handed out and the Swap Sisters held a plant swap on the lawn. A Rock-Paper-Scissors tournament was officiated by Justin Lander, Mary Whittaker led rock painting and Jeanne Segretto Miller and her sons played music for visitors.

Porch decking at the Grange was recently replaced with rot-resistant wood and the

See IMPROVEMENTS, 4



Dave Gross works at East Hardwick's Overlook Park at the northwest end of Main Street, along Brickhouse Road, Monday, July 7. A State of Vermont historic marker will soon be placed at the site photo by Cheryl Michaels



Tina Daigle

social media photo

## Hardwick Woman Strangled in Suspicious Death

by Paul Fixx

WOODBURY - The Vermont State Police (VSP) reported Monday that the office of the Chief Medical Examiner in Burlington found homicide due to assault by another to be the cause of death for the 38 year-old Hardwick woman whose body was found under suspicious circumstances on the side of Vermont Route 14 the afternoon of July 19.

Following an autopsy completed the next day, she was identified as Tina Daigle of Hardwick, but the VSP reported then that the cause and manner of her death remained

unknown pending further investigation by the medical examiner.

Tina Lynn Daigle is the mother of five children and has three grandchildren. She was born in Morrisville, attended Hardwick Elementary School and graduated from Hazen Union High School. She worked as an LNA in Northeast Kingdom nursing homes, at the Morrisville Resources Thrift Store and operated an online shop, Tina's Boutique. Her parents Marie Katon and Richard Daigle live in Hardwick, according to her obituary.

The latest findings reported to the VSP

See STRANGLED, 4

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**WEATHER WATCH**



Greensboro Community Garden plants are growing in the sun, the heat and the rain. Monday's harvest of radishes, lettuces, spinach, Swiss chard, basil parsley, cilantro, dill, spinach and beet greens from Sara Slater's garden yielded 12 lbs. 6 oz. of produce for the Hardwick Area Food Pantry.

photo by Jenny Bayles

**More Rain in the Forecast, Saturday Looks Sunny**

by Tyler Molleur

EAST HARDWICK – Zero: that's the precipitation amount observed at the East Hardwick rain gauge this weekend, marking an end to the persistently wet weather of several Saturdays and Sundays the past few months.

Weekends recently have still afforded some window of fair weather, but with an interruption for a round of precipitation. The most recent episode of rain held off until late Monday as a cold front sagged south through Vermont, bringing a round of thunderstorms and some slightly cooler and less humid conditions. That front currently is located over southern New England and will remain in that vicinity for a couple of days. A focused area of showers and thunderstorms on Monday did result in a one- to two-inch rainfall swath from east-central Chittenden County into parts of central Lamoille, southern Orleans, and west-central Caledonia counties.

We are also in proximity of an upper-level trough that will provide intermittent chances for showers throughout the forecast period the next three days. The first round will likely arrive by daybreak tomorrow, although a stray thunderstorm with daytime heating is also possible this afternoon. Things will also be a bit more humid as more moisture is pulled in from the south.

A period of steadier rain is possible during the daytime hours primarily from a trough crossing the region, followed by lingering showers. Friday will feature increasing sunshine although the nearby upper-level disturbance means a couple of showers or thunderstorms still cannot be ruled out.

A ridge of high pressure builds in for the first half of the weekend, with progressively moderating highs to seasonal normals. Precip-

itation looks to hold off largely until Sunday afternoon, when more showers and thunderstorms will approach with the passage of a frontal boundary.

This week marks the anniversary of multiple significant flash floods in our region. There is a chance of isolated flash flooding on Thursday, but this is highly unlikely to match the intensity seen in the previous two years. Be sure to have a reliable way to receive real-time alerts from the National Weather Service. Flood watches are issued for a large area when the risk of flooding is increased, although it is unclear exactly when and where the flooding will occur. Flash flood warnings are issued when a specific area is imminently expecting or experiencing rapid rises on waterways. Local ditches and storm drains may also become quickly overwhelmed. If you are in a flood-prone area, this is your cue to move to a safe location on higher ground. Do not cross flooded roads. Less than a foot of water may cause a vehicle to lose traction with the ground. The ground underneath may also be washed out. More information on flood safety and preparedness is available at the following links: [weather.gov/safety/flood](http://weather.gov/safety/flood) or [vem.vermont.gov/](http://vem.vermont.gov/).

**Wednesday:** Partly sunny. Isolated showers and thunderstorms in the afternoon. High: 77. Low: 57. Light and variable winds.

**Thursday:** Mostly cloudy. Periods of rain. High: 78. Low: 59. South wind 5-10 mph.

**Friday:** Partly to mostly sunny. Isolated showers and thunderstorms in the afternoon. High: 81. Low: 57. West wind 5 mph.

**Saturday:** Mostly sunny. High: 85. Low: 61. Southwest wind 5 mph.

**Sunday:** Partly sunny with increasing clouds. Showers and thunderstorms by the afternoon. High: 84. Low: 60. SW wind 5-10 mph.



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# POLICE REPORT

## Cabot Fire Department Area Student Completes Fire Academy

CABOT – River Thibault completed the Vermont State Fire Association Cadet Academy this past weekend. A junior firefighter, Thibault attended an intense five-day course hosted at the Vermont Fire Academy training grounds in Pittsford, which included practical exercises on a simulated fire ground, hose work, and vehicle extrication among other topics. Thibault was one of 39 junior firefighters at the academy.

He was extended the honor of participating in the graduation ceremony color guard based on his performance during the academy. In a statement made via Facebook, the Cabot Volunteer Fire Department wrote “We are proud of his service and commitment to our community! We are also grateful to the Vermont State Fire Association volunteers who put together this impressive program. The academy provides an excellent opportunity for junior members to grow



Junior firefighter River Thibault, from the Cabot Volunteer Fire Department, graduated from the Vermont State Fire Association Cadet Academy following a five-day course this past weekend. He was among 39 other junior firefighters present at Pittsford.

*courtesy photo*

their skill set and interest in the fire service.”

### Hardwick Police

## Domestic Disturbance, Accident

On June 22, at approximately 10:22 p.m., the Hardwick Police were dispatched to a residence within the town for the report of a Domestic Disturbance. Investigation revealed that Shaniyah Bartlett, had committed an assault using a weapon and causing injury to a relative of hers in addition to destroying property that didn't belong to her. She is also being charged with Unlawful Mischief and Disorderly Conduct. She was issued a citation to appear in the Superior Court, Caledonia Division on June 23.

On Wednesday, July 2, at approximately 7:21 a.m., Hardwick Police was dispatched with Hardwick Fire and Hardwick Rescue to a reported two car accident with injuries at the intersection of Rte. 16 and Belfry Road. The accident was caused when Electra Zolnoski, operating a 2020 Chevy Spark,

pulled onto Rte. 16 in front of Eliza Crepeau, operating a 2025 Honda HRV. Crepeau could not stop in time to avoid the collision. Both vehicles were heavily damaged and Hardwick Fire had to extricate Crepeau from her vehicle. Both operators were transported to Copley hospital by Hardwick Rescue.

On Wednesday, July 2, at about 5 p.m., Lawrence Thibault left work at Rite Way Sports in Hardwick enroute to his home in Barton. He was driving his blue 2020 Honda CRV bearing Vermont Registration HXA141. Recently Thibault has experienced memory problems and confusion. He has not made it home and his whereabouts are unknown at this time. Anyone with information is asked to contact the Hardwick Police Department.

Update: Lawrence Thibault has been located safe by the Claremont, N.H., Police Department.



The Jeudevine Library's new addition to the left contrasts with the original library built in 1896. *photo by Alex Strand*

## Addition

### Continued From Page One

The attempts at expansion were not easy, and the town went through plans of moving the library to other destinations before deciding on expansion, said librarian Kevin Hill.

In a 2023 open letter, Jodi Lew-Smith, chair of the Jeudevine Board of Trustees, wrote that “it's a minor miracle that we are still going to be able to build the expanded Jeudevine this year.” They had raised over \$3 million for the library at the time.

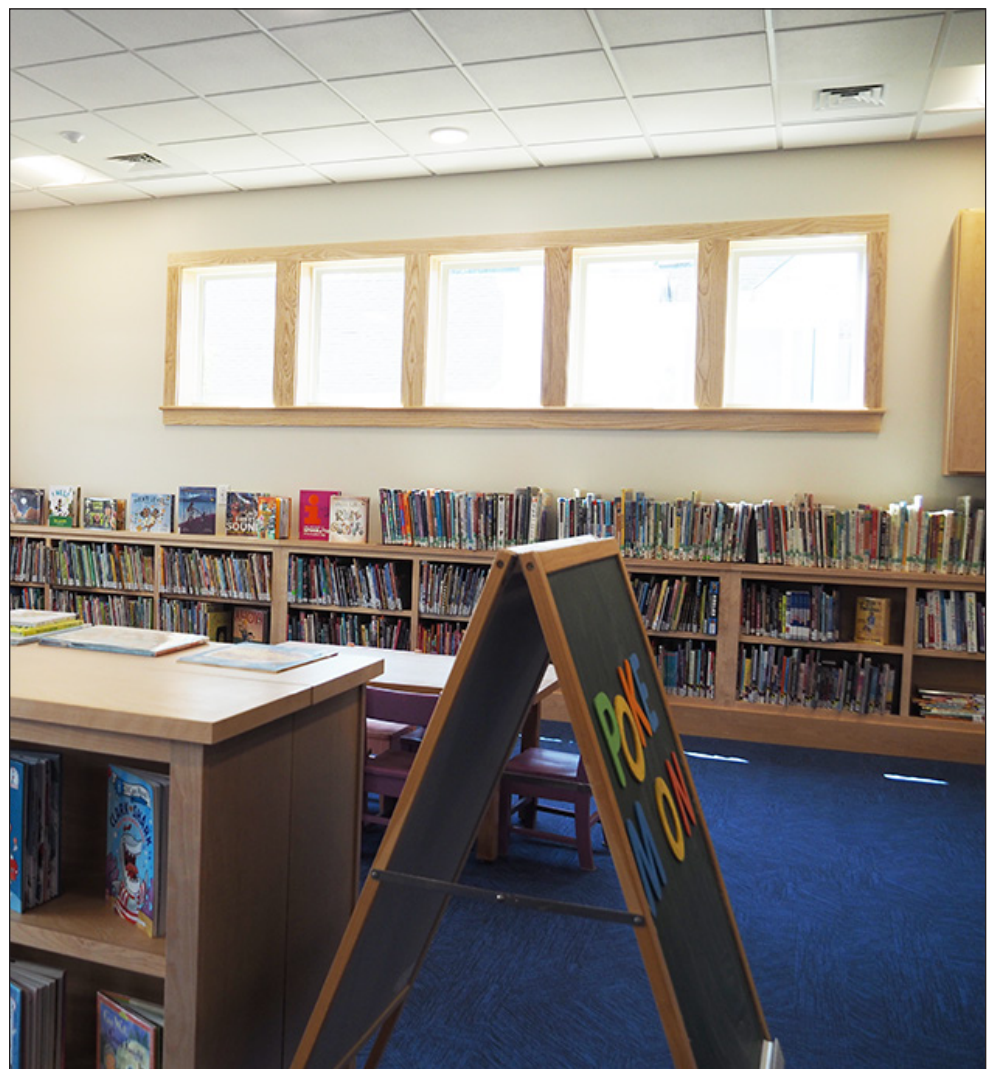
Funds were from private donors as well as public groups like the Vermont Department of Libraries, said the Trustees Chair Daphne Kalmar.

When Parker Ladd, a New York publishing executive who grew up in Hardwick, passed away in 2017, he left almost \$500,000 to the library, assisting heavily in the kick-starting of its expansion project.

Downstairs, in what used to be what Grenkow affectionately called a dungeon, is a well-lit meeting room for 12 people, as well as a larger one that houses 60 and a staff break room.

A meeting area was essential for Hardwick residents. Grenkow says residents have already offered to host winter time movie nights.

Rooms, as of now, are reserved by contacting the library online or over the phone. They are set to launch an updated website in the coming days.



The Jeudevine Library first floor's new children's section includes space for story time. Monday was the first time for the public to see the inside of the new addition. *photo by Alex Strand*

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## CHURCH SERVICES

### Hardwick

**UNITED CHURCH OF HARDWICK.** 216 South Main Street. 802-472-6800 for information. Sunday Service, 10 a.m. In person, Zoom or Livestreaming. Communion Service first Sunday of month. Jean Hackett, Music Director. We are an Open and Affirming Congregation. All are welcome. Masks optional.

**ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.** 39 W. Church St., 802-472-5979. Office hours Wed. 9:30 a.m. - 2 p.m. All invited; all welcome. Sunday 10 a.m. Rite II Service with music. Coffee hour immediately following service.

**ST. NORBERT CHURCH,** a part of Mary Queen of All Saints Parish, Father Raj Madri, S. Main St., PO Box 496, Hardwick, VT 05843; mary\_queenofallsaints@comcast.net; 802-472-5544. Office Hours: Thurs. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday Vigil Mass - 4:00 p.m. and Sunday - 8:30 a.m. Confessions before Masses.

**HARDWICK BIBLE BAPTIST CHURCH,** 296 S. Main St. Sunday Services: 9:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and noon; Thursday 6:30 p.m. For transportation or information call 802-472-5294.

### East Hardwick

**FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH,** (NACCC). Worship led by Jim Casavant, Interim Pastor, 11:00 a.m.

**TOUCH OF GRACE ASSEMBLY OF GOD,** corner of Rts. 15 and 16, E. Hardwick; Sunday a.m. worship, 10 a.m.; 9 a.m. adult Sunday School and Prayer. Thursday Prayer at 5:30 p.m. Information: touchofgraceagvt@gmail.com

### Greensboro

**UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST,** 165 Wilson St. 802-533-2223, (Office hours: Tues. - Thurs. 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.) Weekly 10 a.m. Sunday Services. Also offered online. Communion Service first Sunday of the month. Rev. Dr. Ed Sunday-Winters, Pastor. Hal Parker, Music Director. Coffee hour following service. We are an Open & Affirming Congregation. All are welcome. Website: guccvt.org.

### Greensboro Bend

**ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH,** a part of Mary Queen of All Saints Parish, Father Raj Madri, 802-472-5544. Mass - Sunday 10:30 a.m. Confessions before Mass.

### Craftsbury

**THE UNITED CHURCH OF CRAFTSBURY;** an Open and Affirming Congregation; Affiliated with the United Church of Christ. Sunday services at 10 a.m. Handicap accessible. No matter who you are or where you are on your spiritual journey, you are welcome. Church Phone: 802-586-8028. Information: www.unitedchurchofcraftsbury.com.

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**OUR LADY OF FATIMA ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH,** 21 Creek Road, Craftsbury. No scheduled Masses. Our Lady of Fatima is part of Mary Queen of All Saints Parish in Hardwick. Please call 802-472-5544. mqasvt.org. email: mqas@vermontcatholic.org.

**EAST CRAFTSBURY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.** 1773 East Craftsbury Rd., Craftsbury, VT 05856. Sunday Service, 11 a.m. (Handicapped accessible.) Bible Study at 10 a.m. Masks optional. Worship led by Rev. Joe Welker, Pastor. Tel. 802-586-7707. Email: ecpcvt@gmail.com. Website: www.eastcraftsburypresbyterianchurch.org.

### Albany

**ALBANY METHODIST CHURCH.** Route 14, Albany, Vt. Rev. Nathan Strong 802-754-2790. "Join us in getting to know Jesus and the life He gives." Sunday services: 10 a.m. Worship and Sunday School.

### Calais-Woodbury

**CALAIS-WOODBURY UNITED CHURCH,** Worship and Sunday School, Rt. 14, South Woodbury Church, Sundays, 10:15 a.m. Communion Sunday, the first Sunday of the month. Church Phone: 802-232-1013. Information: 802-456-1557.

### Wolcott

**WOLCOTT UNITED METHODIST CHURCH,** Route 15, will have worship Sunday morning at 11:30 a.m. Information: 802-888-2248.

**THE HEALING STREAM CHURCH OF GOD,** Pastor Peter LaBonnville, Wolcott Town Hall. Fellowship Service, Sunday 11 a.m. Everyone is welcome. Wheelchair accessible. Information: 802-635-9503.

**THE WOLCOTT MENNONITE CHURCH,** Rt. 15 between Morrisville and Wolcott. Services every Sunday morning. Sunday School for all ages 9 a.m. Worship Service, 10 a.m. Evening services held on the second Sunday of each month, 7:30 p.m. Call for more information about other special services. Pastors: Marlin Wadel - 802-888-5277. Stephen Groff - 802-888-9113.

### Marshfield

**UNITED CHURCH OF MARSHFIELD.** Pastor Carlyle Pierce, Tel. 802-684-2114. Sunday, 8:30 a.m. Worship Service and Sunday School.

### Cabot

**UNITED CHURCH OF CABOT.** Tel. 802-563-2278. Sunday Service at 10:00 a.m. Light refreshment and fellowship immediately following service. All welcome.



One of three new crosswalks recently painted in E. Hardwick to improve safety in the village is at the intersection of Main and School Streets, near the little free library where Kris Lance and Joyce Mandeville have planted and been caring for the WCTU water tub, an E. Hardwick icon.

photo by Cheryl Michaels

## Improvements

Continued From Page One

railings have been rebuilt. Plans for painting it are in the works.

The town road crew recently added three E. Hardwick crosswalks that came as recommendations from the Better Connections process. They are at the corner of Main and School Streets near the little free library, on the Main St. hill at Care Bear Day Care Center. and on Main Street near the old McFeeters Store, crossing to the U.S. Post Office.

At Overlook Park, granite boulders purchased by the East Hardwick Neighborhood Organization (EHNO) with funding from the Prevot Family Foundation have been placed by the town road crew to create two short-term public parking spaces and space for a new bike rack. A base has been set for a State of Vermont historic marker to be unveiled in an event this summer.

The park, at the northwest end of Main St. at its intersection with Brickhouse Road and E. Church St., creates a small rest area for viewing the river and learning about East Hardwick's history. David O'Brien and Dave Gross

have helped prepare the area.

Hardwick Town Manager, David Upson, has been in contact with VTrans about cutting the tall grass and trimming trees at the Main Street intersection with Vt. Rte. 14, which will be receiving the traffic safety study. It is hoped better visibility will help improve safety there.

Hardwick Police Chief Michael Henry attended the June meeting of the EHNO board and shared that a new movable radar speed sign for East Hardwick had been ordered and was to be received soon. Its first location will be on East Church Street, he said.

A broken gutter on Main Street near the post office, along with the hole near the Lamoille River bridge have been temporarily repaired.

Gail and David O'Brien helped bring the Streamwise program to E. Hardwick where a crew planted 300 native plants along the Lamoille River this spring. Stream Wise is an organization of volunteers who work with property owners to create vegetated stream buffers, increase flood resilience and benefit water quality and natural habitat throughout the Lake Champlain basin.

## Strangled

Continued From Page One

by the medical examiner's office are that her death was caused by asphyxiation/compression of the neck.

Asphyxiation or death due to neck compression is often referred to as strangulation and occurs when the blood vessels and/or airways in the neck are compressed, restricting oxygen flow to the brain. This can lead to unconsciousness, and in

severe cases, death. The compression can be caused with the hands, using an object like a rope or by hanging.

The VSP has not said whether they have any suspects for the killing, but says they will release additional details as the investigation progresses. They ask anyone with information that could assist with this case to call the Berlin Barracks at (802) 229-9191 or provide an anonymous tip online at vsp.vermont.gov/tipsubmit.



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## HARDWICK GAZETTE

# Gov. Scott Appoints Locals to Boards and Commissions

by Office of Governor Phil Scott

MONTPELIER – Governor Phil Scott’s office recently announced a range of appointments made in the second quarter of 2025.

Area residents appointed include Nuclear Decommissioning Citizens’ Advisory Panel: J. Randall Pratt, Wolcott; State Rehabilitation Council: Helena Kehne, Adamant; and Vermont Commission on Native American Affairs: Linda Savoca, Cabot.

Boards and commissions

serve a role in state government, giving Vermonters opportunities to serve their state and communities. The Governor’s office is currently soliciting applications to fill vacancies and upcoming term expirations. Those interested in serving on a board or commission should visit the Governor’s website at [governor.vermont.gov/boards-commissions](http://governor.vermont.gov/boards-commissions) to apply.

The full press release listing all 83 appointments may be found at [governor.vermont.gov/press-release/governor-phil-scott-appoints-83-boards-and-commissions](http://governor.vermont.gov/press-release/governor-phil-scott-appoints-83-boards-and-commissions)



Elizabeth (Liz) St. Louis retired from her USPS rural mail carrier route the end of June. She worked for the post office for 23 years, 22 of which were in Craftsbury. St. Louis was invited to Craftsbury’s annual Block Party, July 3, so her Craftsbury postal friends could wish her well on her retirement. There was even a special mailbox to leave her cards and notes-without a stamp.

photo by Jeannine A. Young



Over eight percent of Hardwick’s population turned out to protest on June 14, lining both sides of S. Main Street from Mill to Wolcott Streets, during the nationwide event organized by 50501 called No Kings Day.

photo by Paul Fixx

## June 14 Drew over 8% of Population in Protest

by Paul Fixx

HARDWICK – A recent press release from 50501 Vermont stated, “On June 14, we made history: more than six percent of Vermont’s entire population mobilized in the streets.” At the No Kings Day event in Hardwick, more than 250 people lined South Main St. from Mill to Wolcott Streets. With a population of 2,920 in the 2020 census, Hardwick’s turnout was over eight percent.

The 50501 organization estimated over 39,000 people joined in at 51 gatherings throughout Vermont, with over 16,000 at the waterfront event in Burlington.

According to the 50501 press release, “It was the largest percentage of any state’s population to participate in protest in American history. That was not a moment — it was a signal. The world is watching, and we are just getting started.”

## Smith Farm Gleaning Event, Aug. 9

CABOT – Richie and Connie Hourihan, owners of Cabot Smith Farm, will host a gleaning event on Saturday, Aug. 9, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. On that day, Salvation Farms of Morrisville, an organization dedicated to gleaning excess food from local farms and processing it for hungry people to eat, is teaming up with one of its food recipients, Neighbors in Action of Cabot and Lyndonville, to host a gleaning event at the farm.

The purpose of the event in Cabot is to inspire folks of all ages and abilities to become involved and put their muscles behind their love for their neighbors and their farmers, explains Amy Hornblas, executive director of Neighbors in Action. Gleaning is the practice that encourages farmers to share their abundance with those in need.

Over 20 years ago Richie Hourihan volunteered to help Neighbors in Action’s founder, Reverend Bill Cobb, deliver food to elders in the neighborhood. Over 20 years later, Neighbors in Action has grown and continues to grow, with over 50 volunteers who help an increasing number of families through their bi-monthly food share program.

Now a gleaning enthusiast, Richie describes his reluctance about it at first. Years ago, at his

wife’s urging, Richie reluctantly agreed to allow a local schoolteacher to bring her elementary students to the farm to glean what was left in the fields. “I had to leave. I couldn’t watch them tear up my fields and make a mess.”

When Richie returned after the gleaning, he couldn’t believe the work the students had done. He had to agree with his wife. The Hourihans are now regular suppliers of the Salvation Farms gleaning program. Salvation Farms is about to build a new facility in Morrisville that will allow them to process gleaned food into ready-to-eat products for institutions, senior programs and food service organizations.

The gleaning event is an opportunity for people of all ages to learn about the various ways to join the glean team where you live.

There is an attendance fee to cover expenses with scholarships available. Call (802) 563-3322 for more information. Registration and information are available at [NeighborsInActionVT.org](http://NeighborsInActionVT.org). Following the gleaning party at Cabot Smith Farm, participants will gather at Neighbors in Action for lunch and activities led by the youth and adults who volunteer locally.

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# Greensboro's Funky 4th Parade Saturday, July 5



The Greensboro Walking Ladies on Breezy Avenue.  
photo by Ricky Albores



The Greensboro Association, formed in 1934,  
marches in front of a float with a giant loon.  
photo by Ricky Albores



Glover's Bread and Puppet Theater marched with  
giant dove puppets, commenting "Life for Gaza."  
photo by Ricky Albores



John Moffat drives a Greensboro fire engine with  
his grandson.  
photo by Ricky Albores



A Gebbie's Maplehurst Farm combine joins the  
parade.  
photo by Ricky Albores



A John Deere tractor leads a long line of increasing  
larger yard and farm equipment.  
photo by Ricky Albores



The Greensboro Energy and Climate Action Com-  
mittee truck pulls the Honeybee Steelband float.  
photo by Ricky Albores



A Greensboro Association float in the Funky Fourth  
Parade with a giant loon, July 5, highlights another  
successful nesting season in which two loons  
hatched.  
photo by Dawn Gustafson



A young minibiker heads up Craftsbury Road in the  
Greensboro Funky Fourth Parade, July 5.  
photo by Dawn Gustafson



Highland Center for the Arts fairy crew members  
Emily Kimball (left) with her rooster Blessing and  
HCA Chef Anneleise Beach march in the Greens-  
boro Funky Fourth Parade, July 5, calling attention  
to the HCA Fairy Fest coming on July 26.  
photo by Dawn Gustafson

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**HARDWICK GAZETTE**

# Cabot's 4th of July Parade Friday, July 4



Leading the annual Cabot 4th of July parade is the color guard (from left): Patrick Thompson ETC (SS) Ret, Bob Burke CDR Ret, Matt Goodrich, Sgt. USA, and Frank Thompson UTC (SCW) USN Ret.; second row, Jeff Thompson Msgt. USAF Ret. and Glenn Goodrich, drummer.

photo by Vanessa Fournier



Melissa Mulligan pushes a stroller with her children Vincent, 6, and Vanessa, 4, of Danville, dressed as George and Martha Washington for the Lloyd Home Service in the July 4th Cabot parade held Friday.

photo by Vanessa Fournier



Allan Perry drives Cabot's first diesel tractor, his 1949 Farmall MD, during the July 4th parade Friday. His parade entry won most historic award.

photo by Vanessa Fournier



The Hazel Greaves Tax Service float was one of the many participating in this year's annual 4th of July Cabot Parade.

photo by Vanessa Fournier



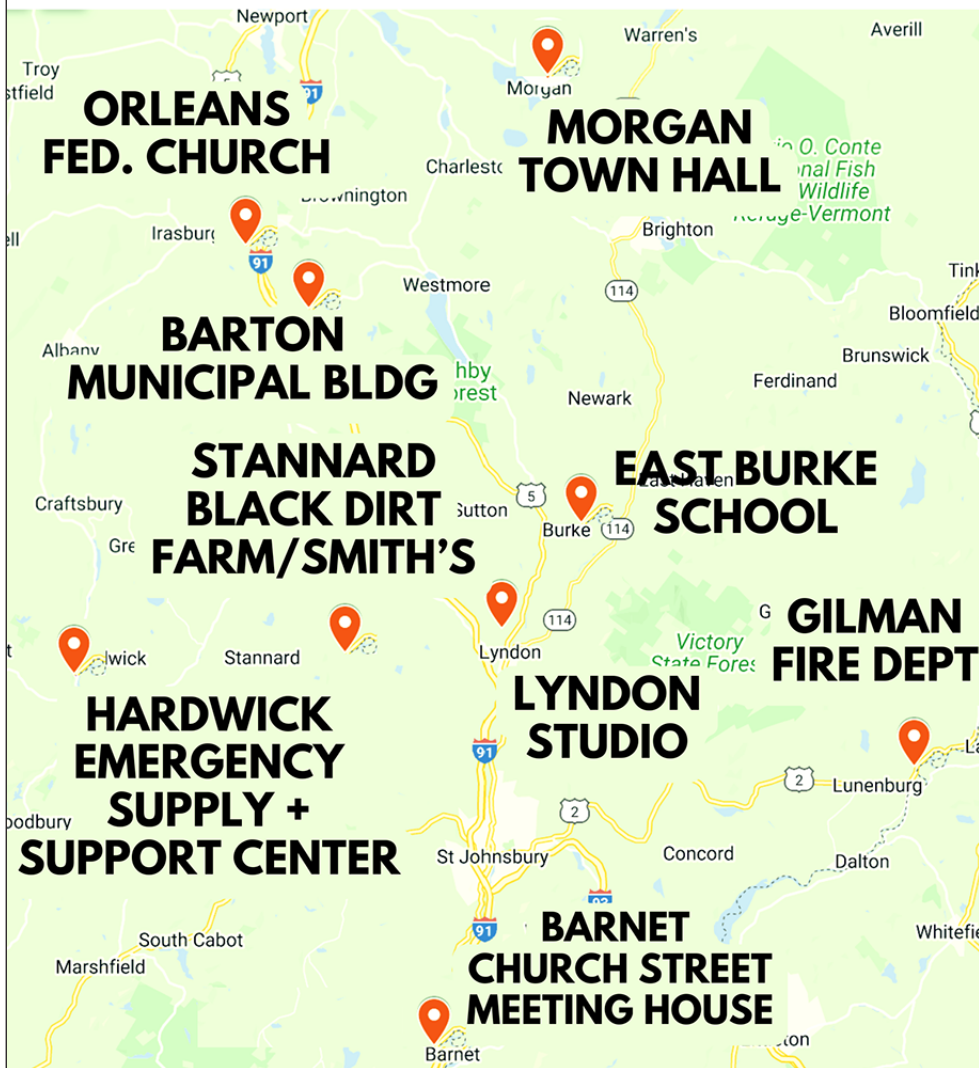
Cabot firefighter Ben "Tug" Moll drives the department's 1,600-gallon water tanker along the July 4th parade route in Cabot.

photo by Vanessa Fournier

**Photos  
by  
Vanessa Fournier**

# NEK DISASTER RESILIENCE HUBS

Turn over for a list of hub addresses, contacts, and available supplies. NEKO's goal is to establish a resilience hub in every town. To set up a resilience hub in your town, contact Meghan Wayland @ 802-321-3317 or meghanekorganizing.org



Resilience Hubs

courtesy Northeast Kingdom Organizing

## NEKO Establishes Resilience Hubs

by Northeast Kingdom Organizing staff

NEWPORT – July 10 is the anniversary of floods across the region. In response to crisis, Northeast Kingdom Organizing (NEKO) built new relationships and systems to be better prepared for the next disaster.

Between 2023 and 2024 NEKO stood up eight disaster resilience hubs, with Hardwick area hubs located at the Hardwick Emergency Supply and Support Center and in Stannard at Black Dirt Farm/Smith's.

NEKO mucked and gutted 430 homes in 31 towns; mobilized 400 volunteers and logged 2,000 volunteer hours.

NEKO co-founded kuRRve, the Kingdom's Long-Term Recovery Group (LTRG) to rebuild homes after disasters, keep NEKers from being displaced from their homes and neighborhoods and preserve the Kingdom's already-scarce housing stock;

NEKO joined coalitions to

create the People's Demand for Just Recovery and the LTRG Legislative Priorities, joining with Community Resilience Organizations and grassroots flood responders throughout the state to create a Hub Toolkit so every community has a roadmap for resilience.

Heading into flood season, NEKO is going on tour to bolster community-led disaster planning so all have the tools, skills and organizations needed to respond to future disasters.

NEKO's goal is to visit 15 towns in the Kingdom and raise \$50,000 to print the Hub Toolkit and resource the resilience hub network with new locations and tools like shovels, generators, and dehumidifiers.

NEKO is raising \$50,000 to support resilience hubs across the Kingdom. Every dollar donated to NEKO is invested back into NEK communities. Learn more and donate at nekorganizing.org

To get involved or arrange a town visit email organizing@nekorganizing.org

# FY25 Tax Rate Set

by Paul Fixx

CRAFTSBURY – At the first of a pair of meetings in the week before Independence Day, the select board set the FY25 tax rate at 0.742, increasing from the FY24 rate of 0.666; continued the eight percent penalty for late homestead declaration filings and approved two fireworks permits at its Friday, June 27 special meeting.

At its regular, July 1 meeting, the board reviewed plans for the town garage bridge; signed two grant agreements totaling \$180,019.40 to cover paving, which will begin soon and a new website provider.

The state set Craftsbury's education property tax rate at 2.0529 for the homestead rate and 1.8926 for the non-homestead rate. The tax rate increase "is a jump, and some people will not be happy with it," said Town Clerk Michelle Warren.

Discussion of setting the tax rate took into account an expected interest rate of 3.65 percent on a planned \$150,000 five-year loan to purchase a new town truck, appropriations approved by voters on town meeting day and the \$40,000 property tax exemption approved for veterans, all of which

resulted in expected town expenses of \$1,090,256.

At the regular meeting, Bruce Urie reviewed preliminary bridge design and draft plans for a single-lane town garage bridge. The proposed bridge will be about 11-feet longer than the existing bridge. It is hoped a bid package is ready to go out by November or December.

In other business, Warren said she prepared a job description for a road foreman and is awaiting a response from the foreman. A new appointment is needed for the Craftsbury Conservation Commission, she said.

Before the special meeting adjourned, fireworks permits were approved for the July 3 block party and at a private residence, as long as the individuals setting off the fireworks adhered to all state regulations and licensing requirements after Allison Blaney raised concerns regarding liability and the need for licensed pyrotechnicians. Both permits required fire department approval as well.

At the regular meeting another fireworks permit was approved for Alan Paquette with Urie making the motion, Jim Jones seconding and the minutes recording two ayes and one nay.



Craftsbury Select Board members Jim Jones (left) and Allison Blaney (right) work with Town Clerk Michelle Warren (center) to set the FY25 tax rate at a June 27 special meeting, photo from town recording

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## HARDWICK GAZETTE

# After Flooding, Vermont Towns Awash in Red Ink

by Kevin O'Connor, VTDigger

VERMONT – “We’ll be wrestling with this for years to come,” said one local leader as the state continues to rebuild nearly \$1 billion in damaged infrastructure after record rainfall in July 2023 and 2024.

Drive through the small Northeast Kingdom town of Newark on this week’s anniversaries of July floods in 2023 and 2024 and you’ll discover highways repaired, 2023 cleanup costs paid and 2024 debts soon to be settled.

“We’re fortunate,” Newark Town Clerk Amber Holden said of damage totaling less than \$300,000.

But surrounding communities, still rebuilding from nearly \$1 billion in estimated destruction statewide, face rockier roads.

The town of Lyndon, for example, has secured a \$18.9 million line of credit, more than double its \$7.4 million annual budget, to repair miles of pavement, the municipal office building, water and sewer plants and a historic covered bridge. While federal and state reimbursements have fully covered the \$500,000 in eligible damage from 2023, the town has received just \$140,000 toward \$14 million in 2024 expenses.

“People see things are back to normal, but they don’t understand how much paperwork remains,” Lyndon Municipal Administrator Justin Smith said. “What’s left is pretty astronomical.”

Neighboring communities are awaiting their own fixes and funds to replace inundated infrastructure, be it Cabot for a new \$8 million public safety building or Marshfield for a \$8.3 million package of four bridges and three culverts.

“We’ll be wrestling with this for years to come,” said Bram Towbin, town clerk for nearby Plainfield, which is working to reopen its Brook Road artery and recoup more than \$8 million in repair costs.

The story’s the same in dozens of cities and towns on the anniversaries of what the National Weather Service calls “The Great Vermont Flood of 2023” and “The Significant Flooding and Severe Weather Event of 2024.”

“We’ve said from the beginning this is a long process,” said Douglas Farnham, the state’s chief recovery officer. “We still have a lot of progress to make.”

Up to 200 of Vermont’s 247 cities and towns reported flooding in the past two years, with a VTDigger survey finding several dozen

still awash in red ink and repairs. Yet amid the slog, local and state leaders see reasons for optimism.

Vermont’s “Great Flood of 1927,” whose destruction would total up to \$4 billion today, required four years of rebuilding, according to historians. Tropical Storm Irene hit so hard in 2011 that the state was finishing a few final projects when the 2023 deluge struck a dozen years later.

“It’s not as quickly as we would like,” Farnham said of the current recovery effort, “but it is consistent with our historical experience.”

Even so, the state has found cleaning up after the 2023 and 2024 storms to be uniquely challenging. The back-to-back floods ravaged freshly rebuilt infrastructure. Then the return of President Donald Trump in January raised concerns about potential cuts to the Federal Emergency Management Agency, which had previously promised to cover 75% to 90% of Vermont’s recovery costs.

The 2024 flooding destroyed pretty much everything we had repaired in 2023,” Michael Webber, Bolton’s town clerk and treasurer, said in February. “In a good year, you never knew how long FEMA would take. Who knows what’s going to happen now?”

But after a pause in federal funding this winter, local leaders reported money flowing again this spring. FEMA, which had reimbursed Vermont about \$110 million for 2023 flooding and \$10 million for 2024 damage just before Trump’s return, has since raised those payments by \$65 million to \$175 million for 2023 and by \$5 million to \$15 million for 2024, according to state figures.

FEMA declined to provide specifics about individual communities “for privacy reasons” and added only that reimbursement timelines “will vary by weeks or months” depending on the complexity of an application, according to an agency statement.

Moretown is wrestling with a collective \$9 million in damage from 2023 and 2024, almost five times its \$1.9 million annual budget. This winter, the town had received about \$750,000 from FEMA. Since then, it has reaped another \$650,000.

“We’re in a waiting game,” Moretown Town Clerk Cheryl Brown said.

Small town leaders blame much of the delay on a lack of enough staff to complete the paperwork required for reimbursements. Moretown, like many neighboring communities, doesn’t have a municipal manager or administrator.



Motorists and pedestrians attempt to pass over high water along Wolcott Street in Hardwick on July 11, 2024.

File photo by Josh Kuckens/VTDigger

Instead, Brown juggles the jobs of town clerk, treasurer and tax collector.

Moretown has secured a \$3 million loan for a year, but its bank recently expressed reluctance to extend any more money unless the municipality can promise that FEMA will pay.

“When Tropical Storm Irene hit, I contacted the bank, said, ‘I need \$1 million and I need it now,’ and it was instantly there,” said Tammy Legacy, the town clerk in nearby Roxbury. “This time, not so much.”

Roxbury, whose 678 residents support an annual budget just under \$1 million, has signed a \$2.5 million contract to replace two bridges.

“The only issue is getting a line of credit,” Legacy said. “Now banks need a guarantee the town will receive funding from FEMA. The difficulty is getting that guarantee. I’m not blaming anyone. We’re all in a tough boat. But one way or the other, we have to find the money.”

“Dotting every i and crossing every t”

Although the 2023 and 2024 storms began on July 10, they ended with different outcomes. The 2023 rains caused more significant damage to state government facilities, according to Farnham, while the 2024 precipitation hit municipalities hardest.

Geographically, many southern Vermont towns battered in 2023 were spared in 2024, while many northern communities were hammered both years. But all continue to swim in paperwork.

In southern Vermont, Cavendish reported \$2 million in road damage in 2023 but didn’t receive the first of its FEMA reimbursements until the end of 2024. Two years later, it’s still seeking the remaining \$500,000.

“People say, ‘Aren’t you glad

the flood’s over?’ but it’s not over in our office,” Cavendish Town Clerk Diane McNamara said. “It has been a budget challenge.”

In central Vermont, Waterbury has wrapped up most of its \$430,000 in federal and state reimbursement requests for 2023 but has yet to close out \$625,000 in claims for 2024. The application process has required the town to document every single expense, employee time card and piece of equipment used.

“You have to make sure you’re dotting every i and crossing every t,” Waterbury Municipal Manager Tom Leitz said.

Leitz estimated he and his staff have invested up to \$50,000 in administrative time on such paperwork, which itself can be reimbursed with more paperwork.

In northern Vermont, Barnet reported \$3 million in 2024 damage but has yet to receive any federal compensation.

“We’re still in the paperwork churn,” said Benjamin Heisholt, Barnet’s town clerk and treasurer. “It’s been a slow bureaucratic process just because it’s a slow bureaucratic process. For a small town like us, the biggest challenge is we don’t have a lot of bandwidth personnel-wise.”

To mark this week’s flood anniversaries, U.S. Sen. Peter Welch, D-Vt., is touring the state to spotlight the need for continued federal help.

“FEMA does lifesaving and important work after a disaster, but we need to find a way to fix the agency so it works better to help communities recover in the weeks, months, and years after a disaster,” Welch said in a statement. “Vermont saw it firsthand: There’s too much red tape, and the long-term recovery process is inefficient.”

Welch is introducing a bill, **See RED, next page**

**Red**

Continued From Page One

the Disaster Assistance Improvement and Decentralization (AID) Act, to streamline and strengthen federal recovery efforts. The proposal is drawing support from local and state officials.

“After facing devastating floods over the last two summers, Vermonters have seen firsthand the value of federal support and assistance from FEMA workers,” Gov. Phil Scott said in a statement. “However, we’ve also experienced gaps between response and

recovery, and we need to make changes that better support responders on the ground and those trying to rebuild.”

Back in the Northeast Kingdom, Holland Town Clerk Diane Judd recalled how stormwater flooded her community’s one paved road for days in 2023, only to return and close it for weeks in 2024.

Judd, president of the Vermont Municipal Clerks’ and Treasurers’ Association, knows she isn’t alone in worrying about funding and the forecast.

“I’m just really hoping there isn’t a third year of rain,” she said.



A torrent of water crosses Route 103 in Ludlow on July 10, 2023. file photo by Glenn Russell, VTDigger



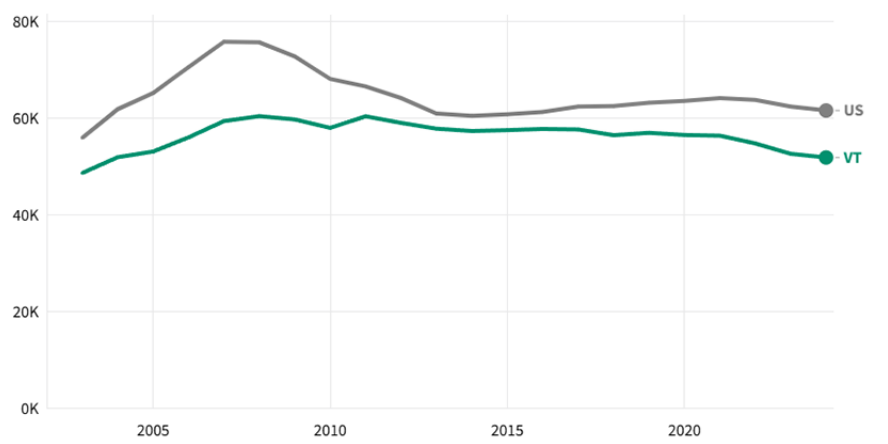
The Christ Covenant Church and school chorus and band floats won the most patriotic in Cabot's 4th of July parade Friday. photo by Vanessa Fournier



Cabot Creamery volunteers pass out cheese along the parade route. Their truck won the cheesiest award. photo by Vanessa Fournier

**The average person in Vermont owed \$9,700 less in debt than the average American in 2024**

Household debt per capita for people with a credit score, adjusted for inflation (2024)



Source: Center for Microeconomic Data

**Washington County Lowest Debt-to-Income Ratio in Vermont**

by Paul Fixx

AREA COUNTIES – Washington County residents averaged about \$1.05 in debt for every \$1 of income, the lowest 2024 debt-to-income ratio of any county in Vermont.

Caledonia County residents had a debt-to-income ratio of 1.13, while Orleans County residents averaged 1.37 and Lamoille County residents 2.39. Grand Isle County had the highest debt-to-income ratio in the state, with \$5.96 in debt for each \$1 of income based on Federal Reserve data.

The debt-to-income ratio compares how much debt a person carries with how much income they earn in a year. If the ratio is greater than 1, it means that, on average, people owe more than they earn annually. This can indicate a heavier financial burden and make it harder to keep up with payments.

Debt-to-income ratios vary from county to county within a state because of differences in income levels, housing costs and borrowing habits.

The average person in Vermont owed around \$51,900 in 2024. That was \$770 less household debt than in 2023, after adjusting for inflation, reflecting slight shifts in household borrowing patterns, according to data from the Center for Microeconomic Data.

Household debt represents the total amount owed by individuals for obligations such as mortgages, student loans, credit cards and auto loans. These figures represent the average debt owed by Vermont residents with a credit score. (Nationally, roughly 80% of

adults have a credit score.) While this gives a general sense of the debt burden for Vermont residents, actual individual debt varies — some may carry much more or less debt than this average.

Household debt levels fluctuate over time, especially during times of economic instability. According to the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, household debt increased in the early 2000s, largely driven by housing debts like mortgages. Following the downturn in home prices and the onset of the Great Recession in late 2007, people began paying off their existing loans while taking out fewer new loans, leading to a decline in overall debt levels.

In 2007, during The Great Recession — a debt peak for the US — Vermont residents owed around \$16,400 less in household debt than the average American. In 2024, they owed around \$9,700 less.

While household debt takes many forms — student loans, auto loans, credit card balances — mortgage debt accounted for around 64.1 percent of all household debt in Vermont in 2024. Mortgages, typically loans taken to purchase homes, are often the largest and longest-term financial commitments for many households. The high cost of housing combined with extended repayment periods (usually five to 30 years) contributes to mortgage debts’ outsized share of overall household debt.

Data in this article was compiled by USAFacts from government sources. USAFacts is a not-for-profit, nonpartisan civic initiative making government data available for all Americans to access and understand.

# EDITORIAL

## Your Generous Contributions will Support The Gazette Well Into the Future

Last week's news brought the announcement of another small New England newspaper suspending operations. The daily Eagle Times of Claremont, N.H., is no more and a visit Tuesday took me to a suspended website, with no access to any of the paper's online content.

That print newspaper circulated in New Hampshire and Vermont towns across the Connecticut River. It has been through mergers and a 2009 bankruptcy during which it stopped publishing for a time.

The Hardwick Gazette has been published continuously for 136 years, since 1889, without interruption, other than our traditional two-week vacation at the end of each year.

The 18 months since we became community-owned as a nonprofit have never been easy, with a steep learning curve. Funding the operation has been a challenge, except in our first six months when start-up funding from two generous donors gave us a bit of time to learn the ropes.

The second half of 2024 was financially difficult, but generous local donors contributed enough at the end of the year to let us catch up and enter 2025 in the black.

Six months into the year, we're again looking for substantial donations of \$30,000 to supplement the \$30,000 in income we expect to receive from donor pledges, recurring monthly contributors and advertisers to meet our \$120,000 annual budget; \$10,000 each month and roughly \$2,500 each week.

Our ability to cover more news and events has increased during these 18 months. Now, a further boost, through generous support from the Leahy Center and UVM, has allowed us to add half-time intern Alex Strand

for the summer. She joins half-time reporter Raymonda Parchment, who started with us just over a year ago and has been on staff since January.

Our opinion pages have been thriving because you, our community, contribute to the open exchange of opinions we encourage.

We all continue doing this work because, like you, we know local news is critical to the health of our communities.

You help us help you by contributing news, events, photos and story leads to help fill The Gazette's pages each week.

When I look back 100 years to find interesting news and ads for our Weeks Gone By section, I see the name of J.E. Appolt, who sat in the editor's chair from 1905 to 1948, and feel a compelling need to continue this work, likely for much the same reason he did.

As The Hardwick Gazette's summer fund drive launches this week, we ask you to make a generous contribution in any amount to see that its mission of being the first draft of history for our communities continues well into the future.

Paul Fixx, editor

## LETTERS FROM READERS

### Bread and Puppet Dishonors July 4 Celebration

To the editor:

The Fourth of July is a wonderful holiday that celebrates the independence of the United States of America. In Greensboro we have a parade that honors this holiday. This parade draws an enormous crowd that includes many children. Why do we have

to endure the Bread and Puppet group dishonoring the remembrance of the birth of our country?

We talked to several people at the parade who were disgusted with having this group in the parade.

John and Connie Robb  
Greensboro

### For the record

The headline of last week's story, "New Commissioner to be Appointed. . .," should have indicated, "Estimation Process Changed." It should also have indicated Lynne Gedanken was leaving the board of commissioners, not Roger Prevot.

## THE Hardwick Gazette Since 1889

The Hardwick Gazette is published every Wednesday except the first week in January by Northeast Kingdom Public Journalism, Inc., 82 Craftsbury Road, Greensboro, VT 05841  
Tel. (802) 472-6521. E-mail: News@HardwickGazette.org  
Web: HardwickGazette.org  
The Hardwick Gazette, P.O. Box 9, Hardwick, VT 05843

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SPORTS - Ken Brown, Eric Hanson

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**Letters to the Editor, Opinions and Editorials:** We believe a newspaper should be a community forum for people to discuss and debate issues of the day and welcome letters from all political points of view as the free expression of reader's opinions. Letters with claims of fact that are false or potentially damaging may be rejected.

Because we believe that accountability makes for responsible debate, we will print signed letters only. We might rarely withhold the writer's name with good cause. Letters are limited to 400 words and must be addressed to the Gazette's readers, not to individuals, public figures or organizations. Opinions longer than 400 words on topics of current and local interest to readers in our 11-town coverage area may be considered for publication. Thank you notes are not considered to be opinions and will not be printed as letters from readers.

Letters to the editor require the writer's name, town of residence and phone number. Letters and opinions may be mailed, e-mailed or brought to our office. Letters and opinions are the opinion of the author. Editorials are the opinion of the editor and not the staff or publisher.

**Submissions of Content and Deadlines:** The Hardwick Gazette is published late on Tuesday each week with Wednesday's date. Submit community event information, announcements, opinions, press releases and business news the Friday before publication by 5 p.m. Local news and sports items, letters to the editor and church submissions are due Monday by noon. Deadlines may be earlier for holidays. Obituaries may be submitted at any time. We make every attempt to confirm receipt of obituaries. Call to confirm receipt of any obituary submitted Tuesday if it is important it appears in that week's edition. Photos capturing news and community events are welcome with details with the full name of each identifiable person, what is happening, when and where the photo was taken and why it is newsworthy. When sending photos, send unedited files in the largest size available to ensure the best page and web presentation.

We make every effort to include all submissions with timely content in the earliest possible edition. Call with requests to include submitted content in specific issues. Submissions may be edited for style and length. We cannot guarantee publication dates.

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# ANOTHER OPINION

## Protect Rural Vermont: Support Rural Schools, Their Communities

by Margaret MacLean

PEACHAM – While it's summer and classrooms are quiet, school board work across Vermont is anything but. With the passage of H.454 and major education transformation on the horizon, school boards from Arlington to Canaan are deep in discussion, preparing for what comes next. Decisions made now will shape the future of public education in rural Vermont and communities are stepping up to make sure their voices are heard.

The Rural School Community

Alliance (RSCA) is a grassroots group representing over 100 of these communities across Vermont. We stand for the values, expectations and hopes rural Vermonters have for their children's educations, their communities' well-being, and the future of rural life in our state. We advocate for strong, community-based public schools and for rural Vermonters to have a democratic voice in decisions about their future.

Vermont is a rural state with the highest percentage of rural students in the nation (54 percent). Over 70 percent of Vermont's

schools are considered rural (Showalter et al., 2019). RSCA was formed in January to bring Vermont-specific data, national research and firsthand rural experience into the Statehouse debate over H.454. We worked in a bipartisan manner to ensure the voices of rural communities were heard. We advocated transparently for small but meaningful changes to the legislation. These changes were adopted in the Senate and for the most part preserved in the final version of the bill.

While H.454 isn't perfect, we believe it includes enough safeguards to allow for our continued engagement in the legislative process. We now turn our attention to the next phase: the appointment of a Redistricting Task Force. This group will shape Vermont's future education system, and its work carries both opportunity and risk.

We are moving forward with good will, knowing that supervisory unions are to be included as part of the charge of the Redistricting Task Force. Supervisory unions (SUs) are made up of multiple school districts working collaboratively to reduce costs, increase efficiency and improve educational opportunities. Each SU shares a superintendent, central office and board with representation from each district in the Union. SUs are vital to the success of rural public education in Vermont. They offer a practical balance: schools keep local decision-making while gaining the financial and operational benefits of shared services. Among governance models, SUs are the most transparent, cost-effective, and educationally sound option Vermont has.

We believe Vermont can thoughtfully create larger SUs to meet the goals of H.454, especially with adjustments for the unique needs of low-population regions and areas with geographic barriers. RSCA sees potential for cost savings and improved quality, but only if SUs remain the core governance model for rural Vermont. Already, school district and SU boards involved with RSCA are debating and considering information for the Task Force that reflects the needs of their regions and will support the task at hand.

Over the last six months, aspects of our work have become clear. In rural Vermont:

Equity matters. Rural families are saying clearly that equity does not mean "newer and fewer." It means strong and local. Young children should be educated close to home in excellent elementary schools of all sizes. Accessible schools are essential to rural families. Research shows that even high-quality educational offerings are of little benefit if children must spend hours on a bus to reach them. Strong, local public schools grounded in their communities are a cornerstone of educational equity for rural children.

Place matters. Young families want to live in close-knit communities with strong local schools: places with childcare, preschool and elementary education at their heart. For rural Vermont communities to thrive, they need young families to stay, return or choose to move there. Educational opportunities centered in place will bring them. Closed schools, depopulation, diminished economic opportunities and declining home values will turn them away.

Democracy matters. People are losing faith in democracy. That's why any new system must strengthen, not weaken, their connection to democratic decision-making. Rural Vermont is skilled in democratic decision-making; it is rooted in our history and practiced regularly as we grapple to solve problems locally. It is a strength, not a flaw, and we must protect it. In rural Vermont we protect democracy by practicing it.

As Vermonters work to build a sustainable, high-quality and cost-effective education system for the future, it must reflect and respect these rural values. That means equity, community-centered and strong local voices in governance. Thriving rural community schools, working together in Supervisory Unions, are at the heart of this vision.

Margaret MacLean is an experienced educator and a steering committee member of the Rural School Community Alliance, [vtruralschools.org](http://vtruralschools.org). She lives in Peacham.

## LETTERS FROM READERS

### The Snap That Could Kill 14 Million

To the editor:

In the Marvel movie "Infinity War," there's a haunting scene where the villain Thanos collects six magical stones, snaps his fingers, and half the population of the universe disappears. Just like that. No warning, no appeal. He calls it mercy.

But that's fiction.

On July 1, The Lancet, one of the world's most respected medical journals, published a sobering report. It estimates that more than 14 million people, many of them children, could die by 2030 as a direct result of the United States slashing global humanitarian aid earlier this year. These aren't abstract numbers. These are real lives, and this policy change could become one of the deadliest decisions of our time.

According to The Lancet, this shock to the global health system will be on par with a major armed conflict or global pandemic.

The abrupt end of U.S. support for programs like malaria prevention, maternal care, HIV treatment, and childhood vaccinations could cause over 4.5 million deaths in children under five.

Why? Because President Trump promised to eliminate what he calls "wasteful" foreign aid. He began that process earlier this year. Programs under USAID, long supported by both Republican and Democratic administrations, were gutted, and their operations shifted under the State Department. The impact is already being felt.

It's hard not to think of that snap again.

Of course, 14 million isn't half the planet's population. But it's still staggering. Fourteen

million people, twice the population of New York City. And unlike Thanos's snap, this isn't random. It's a decision. A policy. One made with detachment, and justified with political rhetoric.

Some will say, "We need to take care of our own first." But here's the thing: foreign aid is less than 1 percent of our national budget. That's about 17 cents a day per American, less than the cost of a postage stamp. And it does enormous good: The Lancet estimates that over the last 30 years, U.S. health aid has helped prevent 90 million deaths around the world.

So why does this matter to people in Hardwick, Walden, Greensboro, Craftsbury or Stannard? Because the kind of country we are matters. Because Vermont has always punched above its weight when it comes to compassion and global responsibility. Because we've seen how interconnected the world really is: how disease, instability, and injustice don't stay in one place. And because if we say we value life, we can't turn our backs on the most vulnerable simply because they live farther away.

We don't need a superhero to fix this. We just need ordinary citizens to speak up. Call your elected officials. Write your letters. Support organizations that still believe in helping people simply because they need help.

Thanos may be fictional. But mass suffering by indifference isn't.

The snap has already happened. What we do next is on us.

**Jeff Pierpont**  
Walden

# THANKS

FOR SAYING YOU SAW IT IN THE HARDWICK GAZETTE

# ANOTHER OPINION

## Is Vermont Dairy Getting all it Could from Grazing?

by **Silene DeCiucies and Geordie Lynd**

HARDWICK – As long as there has been dairy farming in Vermont, harvesting and storing hay in the summer has been how farmers prepared for winter. Traditionally, it was the farmer's job to make hay for the winter and the cow's job to feed herself during the growing season, and so the farmer effectively operated two systems, one pastoral and one where the cows were confined. In the last 75 years, the dairy mainstream has mostly chosen to abandon the pastoral component and operate their winter systems year-round. Consistency in the cows' feed and living environment, increased per-cow milk production, and economies of scale have become the fundamental commandments of the American dairy business.

Vermont's topography, soils and pattern of villages and roads laced through farmland and forests place limits on our farms' ability to stay viable in the scale game while remaining the kind of farming neighbors Vermonters tolerate and value. Despite these handicaps, Vermont farms have adopted similar production models and standards as our midwest counterparts and have been encouraged to do so in order to stay relevant, acquire financing and keep up with increasingly competitive markets.

Vermont dairy farms now make far more milk per cow, per acre, per worker and per farm than the farms of the past, but fewer operating dairies remain every year. As the US milk supply comes increasingly from farms operating at scales not practical in a state with our terrain and patterns of settlement, Vermont dairy edges closer to its limits as a competitive player in the high-production game. The landscape we treasure and the rural culture that makes Vermont unique change and vanish as dairy farming dies. Rather than shrug our shoulders, blame global markets and plant-based milk, and sell out, we still have time to consider adaptations that may offer relief from the cost-of-production squeeze and some hope for Vermont dairy's future.

For some farms, this hope could lie in grazing.

Some in the dairy mainstream may view grazing as returning to the past, letting off on the throttle or a pleasant but risible hobby, but in countries such as New Zealand, Australia and Ireland, modern, intensive grazing has proven itself as the foundation of a prof-

itable and competitive production system. Farms prosper, hired labor is paid well and their products compete well with ours on the global market. In grazing-dairy countries the orthodox belief is that a dairy farm's success correlates closely with the amount of grass they can harvest per hectare with their cows. This concept runs their production systems, and in Ireland, they have built a relatively new industry around it that is keeping small farms viable and attracting young people to the field. In the United States, we have favored a capital-intensive model that requires large fleets of equipment and expensive facilities in addition to the land and herd, and this makes it almost impossible for new farmers to enter the industry. In grazing intensive production systems, farmers' capital is tied up primarily in land and cattle rather than depreciating assets which makes the barrier of entry lower, and the businesses more resilient.

Although there are many differences between our countries, here in Vermont we may be able to learn from countries abroad who have similar climates and have found success in dairy at small and medium scales. A grazing dairy farm is scale-limited by the distance a cow can walk between milkings to harvest her own forage. "Scale-limited" may sound like a handicap in the efficiency game, but only if we measure efficiency in bushels or tons or hundredweights per acre. If we measure it by the number of farmer and farmworker households a landscape can support, it is clear that the best results happen in situations where there is some form of limit on endless farm expansion and consolidation. American farming culture and policy prioritize the freedom to get big over the survival of more numerous, smaller producers and the rural communities they comprise, and more go out of business every year.

In Vermont, our landscape has limited the rapid farm expansion that dominates the U.S. dairy industry. From one perspective, we are hopelessly behind in a race we can't win. From another, the small and medium sized farms still operating here are an exciting opportunity to combine the best of our state's dairy traditions with fresh ideas and methods. Vermont is a hard place to farm, but our soils and our abundant rainfall grow grass well. If we ignore innovations and alternative ways of thinking from the grass-based dairy countries and stay chained to the high-input, high-output, high-capital American



*Cows grazing at Northwind Farm in South Walden*

*photo by Silene DeCiucies*

dairy business model we can expect small- and medium-scale dairy to continue to disappear from our landscape and our communities. If we can understand and disseminate some of the business ideas, production techniques, mindset and culture that the grass countries have developed, we may be able to see hopeful alternatives to the dead-end track we are on and

imagine a brighter, more vibrant dairy future for Vermont.

This opinion piece is part of an educational series that Center for an Agricultural Economy Farm Business Planner, Silene DeCiucies will be writing with her business partner, Geordie Lynd. SileneDeCiucies and Lynd operate an organic dairy farm in South Walden.

## LETTERS FROM READERS

### Not Now

To the editor:

The benefiting billionaires (budget reconciliation) bill was passed last week by both houses of Congress and was signed, ironically, by Donald J. Trump, on July 4, our Independence Day. Ironic because the original "No Kings Day," was July 4, 1776, when settlers pledged through a Declaration of Independence that they would not live under a king — a leader who rules by whim and threat. Revolution and the birth of our Constitution followed. In the years since, our governance had, in fits and starts, grown to a leading democracy.

Not now. Experts on authoritarianism are referring to the United States in 2025 as a period of "authoritarian breakthrough."

Authoritarianism: (Webster): 1. Of, relating to, or favoring blind submission to authority. 2. Of, relating to, or favoring a concentration of power in a leader or an elite not constitutionally responsible to the people.

If the shoe fits, the question becomes, do we wear it or resist?

Rights and freedom are being taken. We will soon see an expansion of a police state and surveillance now fully funded through the bill. This is happening in the United State of America, 2025.

Human suffering will increase exponentially as a result of other

aspects of the bill, soon and now. Here, the closure of rural hospitals; there, the death of someone we knew who can no longer get treatment once covered by Medicaid; near, the disappearance of the immigrant neighbor who milked the cows; far — a concentration camp in Florida with many more to come.

I come from an immigrant family. Most of us do. I imagine my French Canadian ancestors being taken from farms, or houses they cleaned, away from the children they cared for because they were targeted by people in power. No due process. No trial. Today's reality for those in our midst.

Three things to do now: Become (more) involved in non-violent resistance. Join a local Indivisible group, leaders in the movement to resist authoritarianism here. Sign on to One Million Rising work at mobilize.us.

Access an online training to "know our rights." Speak up. Be ready to record arrests by masked ICE police. They will literally be out in force to "meet quota" as a network of concentration camps is built out. Be brave. It takes 3.5 percent of a population alert, involved and active in non-violent resistance to thwart the authoritarians. This is the power we have. It's up to us.

**Anne Hanson  
Craftsbury**

# FAUX GNUS

DAVID K. RODGERS

## Even More Malodorous Executive Odors (sic) from President-for-Life Trump©

by David K. Rodgers

#21,709 Build a wall along the East and West Coasts and around the Gulf of Whatever.

#750,283 Make El Salvador the 52nd state (after Israel, the 51st).

#782,051 All foreigners coming to the United States will have their cell phones and computers researched for negative material about President-for-Life Trump© and denied entry if anything is

found.

#317,925 Take all the Woke words out of the dictionaries and only allow the Trump Fictionary©, any others will be confiscated and destroyed.

#926,975 Anyone who says, publicly or privately, that I am not in perfect mental and physical health and that my doctors are lying will be sent to prison in North Korea.

#481,360 North Korea will become the 53rd state after Israel

(51) and El Salvador (52).

#275,028 And while we're at it, let's make Russia our 54th State!

#613,079 Anyone who makes a donation of a million dollars or more to the Trump Perpetual Presidency Fund© will get to pick any work of art from the National Gallery.

#311,079 Make Qatar our 55th state, after Israel (51), El Salvador (52), North Korea (53) and Russia (54), in appreciation for their generous bribe of my own

personal plane.

Brought to You By: Todders-For-War©, Megalomaniacs-For-Trump(c), Enablers-For-Evil(c), Lust-For-Power©, Voters-For-Evil-Charisma© Get-the-Government-On-Our Backs© Make the World Safe From Democracy©, The Capricious Abuse of Power Foundation©, Robots-For-Trump©, Generals-For-Col-lateral Damage© and Toadies-For-Trump© and Remember: Humor Fighting Insanity with Absurdity.

# VOICES OF SPIRIT

## We Were Not Brought this Far to be Left Behind

by David Schilling

WOODBURY — Last month, the Montpelier Community Gospel Choir filled the Old Meeting House with music, carrying a history of holding up the light in the darkest of times. Music of praising God in times of oppression, over and over again. Their voices sang “I’ve come too far from where I started from. Nobody told me that the road would be easy, I don’t believe God brought me this far to leave me.”

During that time in the Christian liturgical calendar, just before Pentecost, we found the disciples finding their way through the dark, with their faith holding strong. “Stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high,” they were told. They had no road map nor precisely spelled-out calendar. They didn’t see the spirit-filled exuberance of Pentecost just around the door, but they were promised it, and so they stayed close to God in the temple, offering praise, until it was time to go out and spread the good news. Despite being trapped in bad times, they needed time to pause, pray and worship. God didn’t bring them that far to simply leave them.

In my minister preparation class the next day, someone made the statement that a good leader knows how to read the room. The comment was originally misunderstood as “a good leader knows how to leave the room,” and while everyone laughed, Jesus did exactly that. He had to leave, so that the movement he sparked within all the disciples and within all of us would have the room to rise up, in stark contrast to the authoritarian rule of Jerusalem.

Authoritarian leaders do one thing really well, they are excellent authors. They are the very best storytellers of the most

awful stories imaginable, and those stories have one objective: to take away the power of the people. Jesus, in comparison, is the modest author of the greatest story that is, and he gains his power by giving that story back to us, helping us to see our own power. He brought us this far not to abandon us, but to empower us to rise up.

A couple thousand years later, it might feel eerily similar; finding ourselves in a land that feels occupied by a rapidly emerging empire built on human greed. Finding ourselves in a situation where it might feel dangerous to speak the truth: that we must love our neighbors as ourselves, that we must stand up for and elevate those on society’s margins, that love is more important than status, doing the right thing is more important than placing golden eagles within our sacred spaces. The landscape has changed, but the mission is the same. Wait and pray, until spirit calls us to rise up. I don’t believe God brought us this far to leave us.

Later that week, I found myself in a group of aspiring and practicing ministers being asked where we found holy ground. Answers included in the outdoors, with family, sunshine, water, in unanswered questions and unbridled possibility, on tops of mountains, deep in green valleys. Interestingly, nobody’s answer was “in church”. God seems to call us close in many different ways, the physical temple just being one of many. We are called to embrace the beauty that surrounds us, in community with each other, and in community with our planet.

We are waiting in the city, but the instructions are clear. Instead of doom-scrolling, and feeling stuck, we are called to watch, wait and above all, praise. We are called to stay close to God

in whatever way feeds our soul and spirit, because in waiting, we are building the energy we need to go forth and speak truth to power once again in turbulent and hostile times. This story has played out again and again, and the biggest mistake we can make is missing all the beauty that has surrounded humanity, helping to bring us up out of darkness.

Now is the time to find your own holy ground and embrace it exhaustively. Don’t feel guilty about

finding passion and loving life amidst darkness, and stay close to God, because God knows we’ll need all the energy we have to spread the good news to all nations once again. We were not, after all, brought this far just to be left behind.

*David Schilling recently made the transition from school leadership to ministry and serves as the pastor of the Old Meeting House in East Montpelier. He lives in Woodbury with his wife, Marilla and dog Porter.*



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# YANKEE NOTEBOOK

## A Perfect Way to Celebrate our Birthday

by Willem Lange

EAST MONTPELIER – Years ago, the national anti-tobacco campaign slowly and with little apparent effect chipped away at Americans’ deadly addiction. That battle is far from over, but the results have been significant. Now in recent years, we’ve been getting warnings from dermatologists and cancer specialists about exposure to the sun, especially people like me, in Shakespeare’s words, “the fairest creature[s] northward born, where Phoebus’ fire scarce thaws the icicles.” We’ve been educated on the toxic effects of ultraviolet light, see a daily UV prediction in the weather forecast, and can even buy clothing purported to block harmful rays. That’s how I know that on this sunny Fourth of July day I should be wearing a long-sleeved shirt, sunglasses and a broad-brimmed hat. But I’m not wearing any of those, and even though this catamaran ferry between Lynn and Boston is fairly flying (the only time it ever slows down is when the right whales are migrating through Boston Bay and everybody has to slow down), I can tell it isn’t outrunning the sun.

I’m spending a few days at a huge birthday party, perched on a perfect vantage point across a bay from the place where the first birthday party took place 250 years ago. My friend Bea has a house on Nahant, several miles across the water from the towers of Boston and the seaside towns of the so-called North Shore. She likes to say that it’s one of the very few places on the East Coast from which you can watch from the seashore the sun setting over the United States.

Geologists call Nahant and its attached neighbor, Little Nahant, a “tied island,” meaning that it’s attached to the shore by a low sand spit, called a tombolo. In colonial days, farmers drove their stock across the spit at low tide. High tide formed a barrier to keep the critters there till they were driven back at the next low. A bit later, the wealthy of Boston used the island as a summer retreat and built “cottages” there. Their influence lingers today. Finally the state raised the spit several inches and, after much debate, constructed a four-lane divided highway. During storms, the landward end still floods at extreme high tides. Driving here, after I’ve battled increasingly heavy traffic and stoplights on the way, the causeway is an immense relief as long as I remember that at the island end the speed limit drops to 25 miles an hour almost

instantly, and there’s often a welcoming officer.

I had a job to do in eastern New Hampshire Wednesday morning (how I love driving into the rising sun!), and I was coming down here anyway for the weekend, so rather than driving all the way back to Vermont and then to Massachusetts Thursday for the holiday, Kiki and I zoomed down I-95 in surprisingly light traffic and settled in for several evenings of watching fireworks and relaxing on an open porch on Bea’s house that looks out over Broad Sound, the distant towers of Boston, the route of the passing ferryboat, dozens of small boats and the airliners passing by on their way to and from Logan Airport. The porch is whimsically named the Spanish Porch because of its stucco arches, and it’s an ideal place to read, nap, sip a drink, chat or meditate to the sound of the waves on the stony beach below. Kiki has settled into sticking nearby, so she alternately snuffs around the yard or snoozes on my feet.

Thursday we ventured out to the so-called Doggy Beach, where dogs are allowed off-leash year-round. There are three beaches whose various regulations would tax an attorney, but the main thing to remember is that there’s no parking, except by admission fee, for any car from off the island. The lots are full on holiday weekends. That evening we watched fireworks on the mainland from a friend’s porch.

Today, Friday, is the 249th Independence Day, but in Boston the Revolution begins a year earlier with the battles of Lexington, Concord and Bunker Hill. Philadelphia may be considered the cradle of American democracy, but the fight for it began here. Today promised cooler temperatures than we’ve had, so the three of us are on a round-trip ferry ride to Boston.

As we slowed for the entrance to Long Wharf, the captain announced we might be held up by the presence of the USS Constitution, making its annual tug-assisted run out of its berth in the Charlestown Navy Yard. And there she was, her wide decks crammed with happy patriots. We were delighted to be delayed by her. She exuded the somber, but confident aura of a retired old brawler never defeated. Tonight we’ll watch more fireworks on the skyline, marking the finale of the 1812 Overture at the band shell way over on the Charles River. A perfect way to celebrate our birthday.

## Woodsmoke by Julie Atwood



“ARE YOU NOT ENTERTAINED?”

## MEETING MEMO

### Wednesday, July 9

Greensboro Select Board, second Wednesday of month, 6:30 p.m.

### Monday, July 14

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

### Tuesday, July 15

Cabot Select Board, third Tuesday of month, 7 p.m.

Craftsbury Select Board, third Tuesday of month, 7 p.m.

Marshfield Select Board, third Tuesday of month, 5:30 p.m.

Plainfield Select Board, third Tuesday of month, 7 p.m.

### Wednesday, July 16

Wolcott Select Board, third Wednesday of month, 6 p.m.

### Thursday, July 17

Hardwick Select Board, third Thursday of month, 6 p.m.

Town Clerks

Cabot: [cabotvt.us](http://cabotvt.us)

Calais: [calaisvermont.gov](http://calaisvermont.gov)

Craftsbury: [townofcraftsbury.com](http://townofcraftsbury.com)

Greensboro: [greensborovt.gov](http://greensborovt.gov)

Hardwick: [hardwickvt.org](http://hardwickvt.org)

Marshfield: [town.marshfield.vt.us](http://town.marshfield.vt.us)

Plainfield: [plainfieldvt.us](http://plainfieldvt.us)

Stannard: Stannard town clerk: (802) 533-2577, open Wed., 8-noon, [townofstannard@myfairpoint.net](mailto:townofstannard@myfairpoint.net)

Walden: [waldenvt.gov](http://waldenvt.gov)

Wolcott: [wolcottvt.org](http://wolcottvt.org)

Woodbury: [woodburyvt.org](http://woodburyvt.org)

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# IN THE GARDEN

## Saving Seeds from Vegetable Crops

by Amy Simone

SOUTH BURLINGTON – Saving seeds from vegetable crops is a fun and easy way to benefit from nature’s generosity. With a little knowledge and some advanced planning, restocking a seed supply for next years’ planting should have no cost.

When purchasing vegetable seeds this year, recall that some varieties were classified as open-pollinated or heirloom. If there is any of this type of seed, then their fruit can be saved and harvested for seed stock. Hybrid or F1 seeds, however, will not produce seeds that result in true-to-type plants so avoid saving seeds from those plants.

Vegetable plants such as peas, beans, tomatoes and peppers are ideal introductions to seed saving. Their flowers are self-pollinating, so there is less risk of cross breeding.

Keep in mind that the purpose of saving seeds is to propagate more of the fruit that has the best attributes and taste. Therefore, be purposeful about which fruit selected to harvest seed from.

For example, choose the cherry tomato variety with an incredible flavor and fruits that ripened earlier and skins that didn’t crack with too much rain. This may be a better fruit from which to harvest seed than other cherry tomatoes.

On the other hand, the shell



Tomato seeds are harvested using a “wet fermentation” method that separates the seeds from the protective gel. photo by Amy Simone

pea variety that was slow to mature, had lackluster flavor or the plant became diseased or didn’t produce well may not be a good candidate. The less desirable traits will be perpetuated in its seeds.

The following are seed saving steps for these four crop types.

**Tomatoes:** Save seeds from the fruit at the point at which it is fully ripe. Cut a tomato open and scoop the seeds and gel out, placing them in a glass jar and adding some water. Agitate the mixture twice a day for five days, at which point it will ferment, and the seeds will sink to the bottom. Discard any seeds that float on top as these are non-viable. Pour out the liquid and lay the seeds out on newspaper, coffee filters, paper plates or a screen to dry.

**Peppers:** Choose seed pepper from the first few fruits produced by the plant as those seeds may have the highest viability. Allow the pepper to ripen to its final color before harvesting. Cut open the pepper and separate the seeds from the flesh. The use of gloves and goggles will help you avoid direct exposure to the capsaicin contained within hot peppers. Put the seeds in a glass jar with water to test for viability. Scoop off and discard any seeds that float to the top. Rinse the remaining seeds and spread them on drying medium.

**Peas and Beans:** Leave bean and pea pods on the vine until they

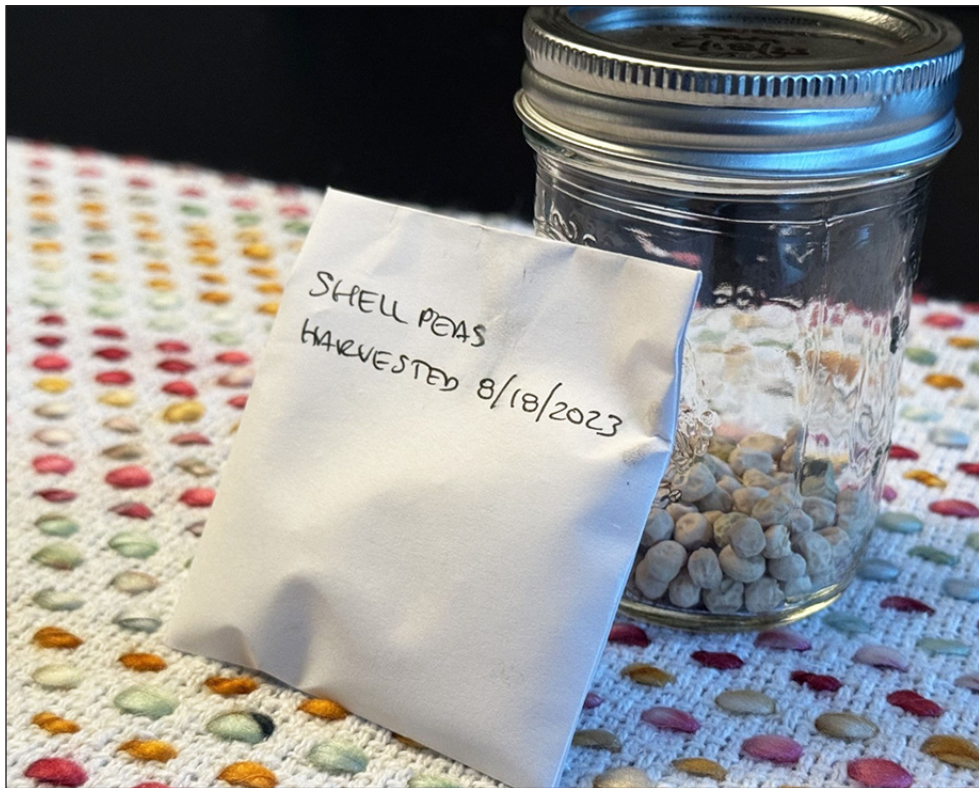
are dry, begin to turn brown and the seeds rattle inside. Pick the pods from the plants, and bring them indoors to continue drying.

Seeds are adequately dry when they cannot be dented with a fingernail, about one to three weeks. Label seeds with the plant name, variety and the date of harvest. Dried seeds can be stored in tightly sealed glass containers, glassine sleeves (translucent seed-saving envelopes), plastic bags or containers or paper packets.

When completely dry, store seeds in a cool, dry, dark place and plant them next season to enjoy.

For more information, check out [go.uvm.edu/saving-seeds](http://go.uvm.edu/saving-seeds) and [seedsavers.org](http://seedsavers.org). In addition, University of Vermont Extension Master Gardener Help-line volunteers can answer questions about saving seeds or other gardening topics. Call (802) 656-5421 (Thursdays, 9 a.m. to noon) or submit questions online anytime at [go.uvm.edu/gardeninghelp](http://go.uvm.edu/gardeninghelp).

Amy Simone is a UVM Extension Master Gardener from South Burlington.



Store harvested seeds in glass, paper, plastic or glassine containers in a cool, dry, dark place. photo by Amy Simone

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**HARDWICK GAZETTE**

# THE OUTSIDE STORY

## Clean Gear to Stop Spread of Forest Pests



Although not yet established in Vermont, the spotted lanternfly has been found in neighboring states and may be brought into the state on vehicles, boots and gear. photo by Edward Sikora

by University of Vermont Extension Service

VERMONT – As hiking season kicks into high gear, officials from Vermont’s Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation; the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets; and the Vermont Trails and Greenways Council are urging outdoor enthusiasts to help safeguard forests by cleaning their boots, clothing and gear before and after hitting the trails.

This simple step plays a critical role in stopping the spread of destructive invasive insects, such as the spotted lanternfly, hemlock woolly adelgid and jumping worms. Although spotted lanternfly has not yet become established in Vermont, it is established in neighboring states and could easily be transported here.

Hemlock woolly adelgid is established in southern Vermont and is already killing hemlock stands there. Identifying new infestations early is key to managing this pest.

Jumping worms and their cocoons and egg cases may spread by a number of ways including through compost, leaf litter, nursery plants, untreated mulch or soil and bait for fishing. To date, they have been found in 12 of Vermont’s 14 counties.



Identifying new infestations of the hemlock woolly adelgid early is key to managing this pest and preventing its spread. photo by Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station

“Forest pests can hitch a ride on muddy boots, backpacks, tent fabric and pet fur,” says Ginger Nickerson, University of Vermont Extension forest pest educator. “By taking a minute to brush off your gear before and after outdoor adventures, you’re helping protect the trees and ecosystems that make our outdoor spaces so special.”

These introduced and destructive insects can harm native trees and ecosystems and cause thousands of dollars in economic damage. Many are small and hard to see. Their eggs can be easily transported unnoticed in dirt in boot treads or in the folds of fabric, infesting previously uninfested areas.

What can help? Check boots, clothing, gear and vehicles before and after outings, remove any insects, egg masses, seeds or plant debris and brush off horses and pets when you leave the trail.

“Your small actions can have a big impact,” Nickerson explains. “Let’s work together to keep our forests healthy for generations to come.”

For more information on invasive species and how to help stop their spread, visit [vtinvasives.org](http://vtinvasives.org).

To request waterproof copies of the poster for local trails, contact [ginger.nickerson@uvm.edu](mailto:ginger.nickerson@uvm.edu).

# WEEKS GONE BY

## The Hardwick Gazette, July 9, 1925 The Fourth in Hardwick

Jupiter Pluvius was the only celebrator of the glorious Fourth of July in Hardwick, and he was in the limelight throughout the day, intermittently, to be sure, but, nevertheless, always on the job to spoil the day’s activities, planned by the Hardwick Camp, No. 7519, M. W. of A. [Modern Woodmen of America]

The St. Johnsbury Center baseball team was ready and willing to come when they received word, but at about 3:00 o’clock it was decided to call all events off, and therefore, the sports scheduled and the ball game between these two teams will be played at a later date. Probably the visiting team will appear here on July 25th, but if a team is secured to play here before that date, then the races and other events, for which the prizes are on display

in the window of W. M. Robb’s, will be contested for on the afternoon of the next home ball game. It was a very discouraging Fourth of July, not only in Hardwick, but generally throughout the State, and more towns than ever before had planned programs for that day.

This was a time when no insurance was carried on the day, because the activities did not warrant taking the chance, but we hope the other towns who were put to large expense in making preparations for a big time, received some compensation in that way.

A few firecrackers and cap pistols were heard at intervals, but it was otherwise unusually quiet throughout the day.

[Editor’s note: When the Romans invoked Jupiter as the god who brought rain, they used the

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Small place of 15 acres, good water, some wood, extra good buildings; well located on state road near store, church, and school; 25 cords dry block wood, sleigh, lumber wagon. PRICE, \$1,400.00.

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Farm of 150 acres, 400,000 ft. hard and softwood lumber; near neighbors, school; R. F. D.

---

Timber Lot of 30 acres, old growth spruce and hemlock, on good road.

**H. A. SHEPARD, Real Estate**  
Hardwick, Vermont

name “Jupiter Pluvius.”]

**Local Lumps:** Light and power users were considerably inconvenienced Tuesday afternoon by both being shut off. The cause was due to the heavy storm and lightning, a transformer on the McLoud corner being burned

out. This had to be replaced and it took some time. These things are bound to occur in the best of electrical plants, and while it does inconvenience nearly everyone, they must be accepted with a spirit of forbearance while repairs are being made.

# OUR COMMUNITIES

## Donation Appointments Critical Keeping Blood Supply Ready

BURLINGTON—The American Red Cross urges all donors to give blood or platelets to keep the blood supply strong this summer. Type O blood products are most needed on hospital shelves, especially in the face of summer challenges that can quickly cause blood and platelet reserves to drop.

Upcoming blood donation opportunities in the area include Hardwick, July 15, 11:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Hazen Union High

School, 126 Hazen Union Drive; Saint Johnsbury, July 24, noon to 5:30 p.m., Saint Johnsbury Moose Lodge, 2388 Portland St. (Rte. 2 E.); Morrisville, July 29, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., VFW, 28 Pleasant Street.

All blood types are needed. Donors who don't know their blood type can learn it after donation. Book a time to give blood or platelets by visiting [RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org), calling 1-800-RED CROSS or by using the Red Cross Blood Donor app.

## World of Butterflies, July 22

HARDWICK – Jerry Schneider will present slides of local butterflies Tuesday at the Jeudevine Memorial Library, July 22, at 11 a.m. Afterward, participants may take part in a butterfly

T-shirt craft. Cotton t-shirts will be available for \$5, or children may bring their own. Ages 5 and up. For more information, contact [jeudevineyouthlibrarian@hardwickvt.gov](mailto:jeudevineyouthlibrarian@hardwickvt.gov) or call (802) 472-5948.

## Pajama Story Time, July 23

HARDWICK – Recommended for ages 5 and under, pajama story time will begin at 5 p.m., Wednesday, July 23. Wear

pajamas and join in for books, songs and more. For more information, contact [jeudevineyouthlibrarian@hardwickvt.gov](mailto:jeudevineyouthlibrarian@hardwickvt.gov) or (802) 472-5948.

## Noah Young Trio, July 24

MARSHFIELD – The Noah Young Trio blends earthy funk music with Young's lofty original compositional style into a sound both familiar and fresh. Noah was born and raised in Marshfield, and has been living and playing music professionally in New Orleans for

the last 14 years. He will be joined by guitarist, Max Bronstein, also from Marshfield (now living in New Orleans) and local drummer Andy Gagnon. There will be a book and bake sale, and food vendors, too. More information at [jaquith-publiclibrary.org](http://jaquith-publiclibrary.org) or (802) 426-3581

## Crops and Soils Field Day, July 24

ALBURGH – In keeping with this year's theme, Growing for Tomorrow, University of Vermont (UVM) Extension's Annual Crops and Soils Field Day, July 24, will showcase innovative research and technology that will advance the future of farming. The event, hosted by UVM Extension's Northwest Crops and Soils Program team, will take place at the Borderview Research Farm (487 Line Rd., Alburgh) from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. It will be held rain or shine.

Certified Crop Adviser, Custom Applicator and Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets' water quality training education credits are available.

The event also features several speakers and opportunities to talk with UVM researchers for updates on research on soil health and fruit, vegetable and other crops. Workshops include an afternoon session on soil profiles and compaction by Odette Menard, an expert in soil and water conservation from Quebec.

For questions about the field day, contact Susan Brouillette at [susan.brouillette@uvm.edu](mailto:susan.brouillette@uvm.edu) or (802) 656-7611. Sponsorship and exhibitor spots are available. If interested, email or call by July 8. To request a disability-related accommodation to participate, please contact UVM Student Accessibility Services at [access@uvm.edu](mailto:access@uvm.edu) or (802) 656-7753 by July 3.

Registration is free for farmers and \$25 for other guests. Lunch, catered by Cold Hollow Catering in Bakersfield, is included. Registration will begin at 9:30 a.m. with a guided farm tour, promptly at 10 a.m., of many of the more than 300 research plots.

To register, visit <https://go.uvm.edu/2025annualfieldday> or call the UVM Non-Credit Registration Office at (802) 656-8407.

## Eating the Rainbow, July 29

HARDWICK – Tuesday, July 29, at 2 p.m., Reeve Bascom will explore colorful, fresh ingredients while preparing simple, delicious

food to eat together. All ages are welcome. For more information, contact [jeudevineyouthlibrarian@hardwickvt.gov](mailto:jeudevineyouthlibrarian@hardwickvt.gov) or (802) 472-5948.



Reed Bahner (left) set up a table to sell lemonade as Squatch Spritzer, and his twin brother Windsor set up a table selling bagged snacks as Yeti Yummies, July 3 outside Riverside Cycles at the Hardwick Inn. Windsor says he does it for the money, planning to save for a mini-drifter ebike. Reed said he likes shucking lemons. Their grandfather Jim Lovinsky looks on from the far right. photo by Paul Fixx

## Nurse Assistant Training Programs Available in Area

NORTHEAST KINGDOM – Nurse Assistant training is available at three area technical centers, beginning August 26. Classes being August 26 in St. Johnsbury, September 15 in Hyde Park and September 29 in Newport. Nurse Assistants work in wide variety of settings, including medical offices, nursing homes, visiting nurse and hospice providers, private duty employment by individuals or families, and virtually every department of hospitals.

licensed by the Vermont Board of Nursing. In order to qualify, individuals must complete an approved Vermont LNA training program of at least 80 hours, including classroom, lab, and clinical instruction, and also pass a licensing exam.

The Vermont Department of Labor lists 66 jobs for LNAs in the last 60 days in every part of the state.

Financial aid is available. Contact St. Johnsbury Academy, the Green Mountain Technology and Career Center or the North Country Career Center.

This patient-care position is

# EDUCATION

## Cioffi Named to Dean's List

LOUDONVILLE, N.Y. – Peter Cioffi has been named to the Siena College Dean's List for the Spring 2025 semester. He is from Calais.

To be named to the Dean's List, a student's grade point average for the semester must be between 3.5 and 3.89.

The Hardwick Gazette ~ Since 1889 ~  
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## Caspian Lake Swim Lessons

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**July 28-August 1**

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# OUR COMMUNITIES

## Antiques & Uniques, July 12

CRAFTSBURY – Antiques & Uniques will be held Saturday, July 12, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., on the Craftsbury Common. The annual sale features antiques and vintage goods, fine art, handcrafted items, local produce, flowers and specialty foods. Tents feature housewares, jewelry, pottery, quilts, wood-working, textiles, baskets, clothing and goods from some of Vermont's

artists, crafters, and small businesses.

There will be live music throughout the day, children's activities and a variety of local food trucks and concessions. Admission is free and all are welcome. Parking fees go to the Craftsbury Volunteer Fire Department. Visit [craftsbury-antiquesanduniques.com](http://craftsbury-antiquesanduniques.com) for more information.

## Retirement Celebration, July 13

E. CALAIS – The Calais Woodbury United Church will celebrate the retirement of Pastor Bill Richardson on July 13. The pastor will give his last

service at 10:15, with a pot luck to follow. On that day, the church welcomes their new pastor, Paul Cerutti, who is also the town fire chief.

## Watercolor Painting, July 13

GREENSBORO – Artist Lynn Holbein will hold a free class in watercolor painting techniques for adults and teens ages 12 and up, Sunday, July 13, from 2 to 4 p.m., at the Greensboro Free Library. The class will take place under the

library's backyard tent.

All supplies will be provided by the library. Pre-register by email to [greensboroassistant@gmail.com](mailto:greensboroassistant@gmail.com) or call (802) 533-2531. This class is limited to 20 participants.

## Thighs & Pies, July 13

by Friends of Calais

CALAIS – The Friends of Calais are holding the second annual Thighs & Pies on Sunday, July 13, in the restored Memorial Hall. Parking opens at 11 a.m. Lunch will be served from noon

to 2 p.m. The chicken barbecue takes place on the shores of No. 10 Pond with wood-fired barbecued chicken, smoked mac and cheese, garden salad and pie. This event is limited by parking and occupancy. Reserve plate(s) at [forms.gle/7DBCCwbBZEz76YYv8](https://forms.gle/7DBCCwbBZEz76YYv8)

## Rock Painting: July 15

HARDWICK – Paint and decorate rocks at the Jeudevine Memorial Library's community garden plot at Hazen Union High School, Tuesday, July 15 at 2 p.m.

Leave the rocks in the garden or take them home. Ages 5 and up. For more information, contact [jeudevineyouthlibrarian@hardwickvt.gov](mailto:jeudevineyouthlibrarian@hardwickvt.gov) or (802) 472-5948.

## Sock Monsters, July 17

HARDWICK – Make sock monsters at the Jeudevine Memorial Library, Thursday, July 17, 11 a.m. All

ages may join. For more information, contact [jeudevineyouthlibrarian@hardwickvt.gov](mailto:jeudevineyouthlibrarian@hardwickvt.gov) or (802) 472-5948.



The Flaky Crust owners Anibal Ortiz (left) and Dawn Philip, from Newport, vend their stuffed curried chicken and vegetable pasties at the first Greensboro Farmers Market at Highland Center for the Arts, July 2. The market will continue there rain or shine, from 3 to 6 p.m. every Wednesday through August. photo by Paul Fixx

## Giving Closet Summer Hours

GREENSBORO – Hours for The Giving Closet, located in the town hall, have changed slightly for the summer. The new hours are Tuesday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., accepting donations until 2:30 p.m.; Wednesday from 9 a.m. to noon, accepting donations on until 11:30 a.m.; Thursday from 9 a.m. to noon, not accepting dona-

tions. An appointment is required for donations by calling the town clerk at (802) 533-2911.

Do not bring in winter or cold weather items during this time. Bring donations in one to two medium to small containers at a time. No items in garbage bags, please.

## PJ Story Time, July 23

HARDWICK – Pajama story time at the Jeudevine Library will begin at 5 p.m., Wednesday, July 23. Wear PJs and join in for books, songs

and more. Recommended for ages 5 and under, For more information, contact [jeudevineyouthlibrarian@hardwickvt.gov](mailto:jeudevineyouthlibrarian@hardwickvt.gov) or (802) 472-5948.

## Glover Day, July 26

GLOVER – Glover Day will be held July 26. The annual tradition includes a foot race commemorating the town's claim to fame, Runaway Pond. Bread and Puppet will perform the famous puppet show "Runaway Pond" and welcome runners as they enter the Glover Green. There will be a food truck, petting zoo, children's games, face painting, live local music including the Dixieland Jazz Band and the Hill Farmstead Brewery beer tent. Eighth-grade students sponsor a duck race on the river to support their class trip and there will be an auction at the Glover Church. A chicken barbecue lunch is hosted by the local fire department who will dedicate a new fire truck.

of the bank was quicksand, and soon after breaking through the bank, and the thin layer of soil that held the water in, the bank gave way emptying the entire lake into the valley. A man by the name of Spencer Chamberlain took off running to warn the miller's wife of the coming water. His race against the water saved lives that day, and the Glover Day foot race follows that historic journey, North on what Rte. 16 is today, and back to Glover Green. The annual Tour de Glover bike ride consists of a 12.6 mile trek across a wide variety of terrain. Runners and walkers, line up for one of the other races offered: a 5K Race (line up at town shed) and a 5.5 mile Run-Chamberlain-Run walk-run option (starting at the Landmark). For children 12 and under there is a 2K Race beginning at 10 a.m. Other races start at 9 a.m. For more on the races, times and registration visit [gloverambulance.org/gloverday](http://gloverambulance.org/gloverday) or sign up on the day of the races from 7 to 8:15 a.m.

Many people know the story of how, in 1810, Glover townspeople were experiencing drought, and so they decided to cut a channel from Long Pond (located between Glover and Greensboro) to the Barton River to bring more water to the mills in Glover. What they didn't know was that most



Friends of Cabot Library put on their annual book sale by donation during Cabot's 4th of July celebration. There was also a face painting tent with proceeds to benefit the library. Other events held around the Common included touch a truck, music and food vendors. Also open for the festivities were village businesses and the Cabot Historical Society. The celebration is made possible with support from the Cabot Community Association, Town of Cabot and the Cabot Fire Department. photo by Vanessa Fournier

# SMfG to Present Four Summer Concerts

GREENSBORO – Summer Music from Greensboro (SMfG) will present four consecutive Tuesday evening concerts in Greensboro this summer.

SMfG’s first concert will be Tuesday, July 15, at 7:30 p.m., at the Greensboro United Church of Christ, and will feature both the concert pianist Frederick Moyer and the Fred Moyer Jazz Trio. Moyer will perform solo classical works by Beethoven, Mozart, Rachmaninoff and other composers, and will provide entertaining and educational commentary. Following Moyer’s solo performance, the Frederick Moyer Jazz Trio will take the stage and perform note-for-note renditions of several of the jazz classics created by some of America’s jazz pianists.

“We have a truly exceptional concert series scheduled this summer,” SMfG’s chairman

and concert programmer Day L. Patterson remarked. “After Frederick Moyer’s classical music and jazz concert on July 15, we’ll present the Grammy-nominated Neave Trio on July 22, and then the Ellington Collective from Boston on July 29, which will perform a tribute concert to Duke Ellington’s music, followed by the Manhattan Chamber Players’ flute quartet on August 5. So this summer SMfG will again be presenting an enticing variety of both music and musicians, all of whom have already achieved notable success and public recognition as performing artists.”

More details about SMfG’s 2025 summer concerts, the respective musicians who will be performing, and the music programs that will be performed are available online at SMfG’s website, SummerMusicFromGreensboro.net.

## Fairs, Festivals Celebrate Summer

by Alex Strand

AREA TOWNS - As the summer heats up, the state is preparing for a season of celebration. Below are affordable, family-friendly and fun events happening across the Northeast Kingdom in the coming months.

The 52nd annual Antiques and Uniques will feature live music, vintage goods, food trucks, childrens’ activities and fine art from local Vermont artists in Craftsbury July 12. Admission is free, with a fee for parking. All proceeds from the parking go to the Craftsbury Volunteer Fire Department.

The 62nd annual Lamoiile County Field Days will take place July 18 to 20 in Johnson, promoting affordable family fun for farmers and visitors.

Cabot residents and visitors will celebrate The Cabot Arts and Music Festival July 28 and 29 on

the village common. There will be 10 bands with genres ranging from West African funk to folk. Children under 16 are free and advance tickets are available.

The One Love Vermont Freedom and Unity Festival will take place at the Pransky Farm in Cabot, August 8 through 10, with vendors and artists celebrating Vermont’s mission of creating community. Tickets are free for children under 16, and prices range depending on days.

Vermont’s oldest fair, the Caledonia County Fair on August 20 to 24 will be celebrating its 179th year with agricultural events, live music, truck pulls and a demolition derby. Tickets prices depend on visiting days and are free for children under 36 inches.

The Orleans County Fair will begin as the fall sets in, September 4 to 7 at the Barton fairgrounds. Advance tickets are available.



These festive 4th of July inflatables were at Cindy and Dale Brown’s on Main Street in Cabot. photo by Vanessa Fournier

## BUSINESS BRIEFS

### NEK Broadband Extends Internet Services

by Paul Fixx

HARDWICK – Areas of town with little or no broadband internet service on some or all of Billings, Bridgeman Hill and West Hill Roads “where NEK Broadband has extended its network” may now have service, wrote NEK Community Broadband Community Relations Manager Kitty Ufford-Chase in a July 4 notice on Front Porch Forum.

“Hardwick is one of many areas where high-speed Vermont-based internet service is now available,” she wrote. A map at [get.nekbroadband.org](http://get.nekbroadband.org) shows where expansion work is currently

being done or funding is being sought.

Customers with underground service or aerial service needs over 500 feet may be eligible for a Vermont Affordable Internet Drop Grant Program being offered by the Vermont Community Broadband Board. The program will prioritize funding for lower-income Vermonters and customers at eligible addresses who have signed up and have picked a package at [get.nekbroadband.org](http://get.nekbroadband.org).

NEK Broadband is a not-for-profit Communications Union District (CUD) offering internet service with speeds of 100 Mbps and higher.

## OUR COMMUNITIES

### Stargazing Party, July 28

by Vermont Public

WARREN – An Eye on the Sky Stargazing Party will be held July 28, at the Sugarbush Resort. Vermont Public Radio will broadcast a tour through the night skies and answer questions about the stars, planets and

constellations led by Planetarium Director Mark Breen of the Fairbanks Museum and Planetarium and Jane Lindholm, live from 9 to 10 p.m. The resort is located at 102 Forest Drive. Learn more at [vermontpublic.org/2025-06-13/jul-28-eye-on-the-sky-stargazing-party-at-sugarbush](http://vermontpublic.org/2025-06-13/jul-28-eye-on-the-sky-stargazing-party-at-sugarbush)

### Eating the Rainbow, July 29

HARDWICK – Tuesday, July 29 at 2 p.m., at the Jeudevine Memorial Library, Reeve Basom will help explore colorful, fresh ingredients while preparing

simple food to eat together. All ages. For more information, contact [jeudevineyouthlibrarian@hardwickvt.gov](mailto:jeudevineyouthlibrarian@hardwickvt.gov) or (802) 472-5948.

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# OBITUARIES

## Sylvia J. Gates

BERLIN – Sylvia Jean Gates, 84, formerly of East Hardwick and Barre, died early Friday, June 20, at Berlin Health & Rehabilitation Center in Berlin. Her loving family was at her side.

She was born May 12, 1941, in Greensboro, the daughter of the late Donald and Ellen Willey. Sylvia attended Greensboro public schools and graduated from Greensboro High School in the class of 1959.

On April 1, 1961, Sylvia married Louis Joseph “Louie” Gates in Morrisville. Together they raised two daughters.

For more than 37 years, Sylvia was employed by Concord Manufacturing, until she retired in 2008. She then worked for Turtle Fur Manufacturing. Both companies were in Morrisville.

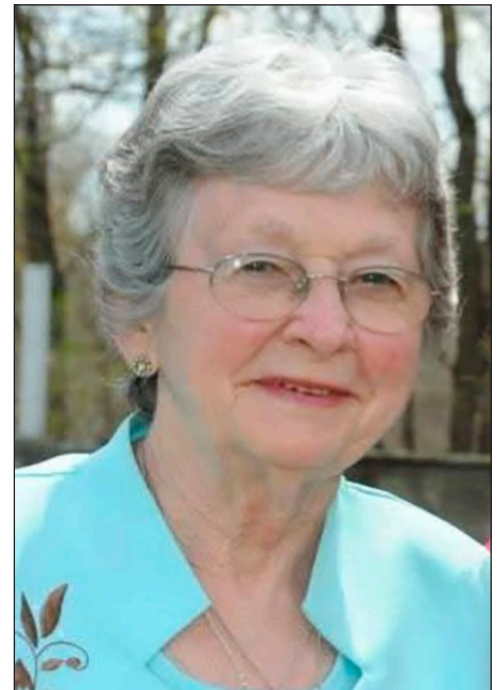
Sylvia was a devoted mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. She made her family her number one priority and loved them all unconditionally. She enjoyed puzzles, bingo and sewing.

Survivors include a daughter, Vicky Lanpher of Barre; two siblings, Linda Smith of Westfield and Jeannette Guyette of Wilder; four grandchildren, Chelsea Gates of Stowe, Dylan Gates and his wife Rachel of Troy, N.Y., Robbie Gates Lanpher, and Bradey Gates Lanpher, both of Barre; a great-grandson, Jaxon Gates of Stowe; a great-granddaughter, Zoe Gates of Troy, N.Y.; many nieces, nephews and cousins.

Sylvia was predeceased by her husband, Louie Gates, in 2007; a daughter, Robin Gates, in 2021; and four siblings, Frank Willey, Evelyn Kellogg, Shirley Pearson and Virginia Richardson.

A Memorial Service will be held at 1 p.m., on August 2, at the United Church of Hardwick. Burial will follow in the Fairview Cemetery in Hardwick.

In lieu of flowers, contributions in her memory may be made



Sylvia J. Gates

to the Lamoille Area Cancer Network, P.O. Box 837, Morrisville, VT 05661.

Arrangements are in the care of Dian R. Holcomb of Northern Vermont Funeral Service, 60 Elm Street, Hardwick. Online condolences are at [northernvermontfuneralservice.com](http://northernvermontfuneralservice.com)

## Martha Niemi



Martha Niemi

GREENSBORO – The family of Martha Niemi, who passed away on May 24, invite friends and loved ones to join in a celebration of her life on Friday, July 18, at 2 p.m., Lincoln-Noyes Cemetery, Greensboro. Martha’s full obituary may be viewed at [dgfunerals.com](http://dgfunerals.com).



Local artist Sterling Trail has installed one of his sculptures in the park between Yummy Wok and Positive Pie. His pieces are not intended to be political or conceptual, but instead are meant to stand autonomous from their creator as pure object. He finds most of his materials in scrapyards or in the trash piles forgotten and scattered in the woods of the U.S.

photo by Claudia Gohl



The Kingdom Crusaders Pipe Band won the Judge’s Choice in Cabot’s 4th of July parade, Friday along Main Street.

photo by Vanessa Fournier

## UNITED CHURCH OF HARDWICK ANNUAL AUCTION

Thursday, July 17, 6 p.m.

at the Parsonage on West Church St. • Rain or Shine - Under the tent  
Bring your Chair and enjoy an evening of fun.  
Lots of antiques, bed frames, box lots, kitchen items  
Pie sale • Bake sale • Hot dogs • Soda

## Northern Vermont Funeral Service

60 Elm St. • Hardwick, VT 05843

802-472-6861

Dian R. Holcomb  
Funeral Director

PRENEED  
PLANNING

# Orchestra Performs Fine Selections on Perfect Day

## REVIEW

by David K. Rodgers

GREENSBORO – A warm summer’s evening in the 70s, clouds clearing and then that “certain slant of light” of the golden setting sun spreading across the green landscape together with a full symphony orchestra performing a fine selection of beautiful melodies: what a perfect end to a day, nature and music combined harmoniously! That’s what the Vermont Philharmonic brought to the Highland Center for the Arts in Greensboro last Saturday in their Family Pops Concert, attracting a huge number of people. The orchestra was inside a tent with open sides, having limited seating, but the majority of the audience was outside on the slight rise to the north, comfortably ensconced in their own folding chairs or on blankets.

Music Director and Conductor Lou Kosma gave brief descriptions of each of the over a dozen

works on the program in his usual informative and humorous way, and thanks to the great generosity of the Greensboro Funky Fourth of July committee and the Highland Center for the Arts, admission to the event was free by donation.

The first number was a familiar energetic march known as the “National Emblem,” written in 1902 by none other than a Vermonter, Eugene Bagley, for a band in Bellows Falls. The next choice was composed by Leroy Anderson, entitled The “Syncopated Clock,” with rhythms that cleverly imitated the ticking of a time piece. For years, Anderson was associated with the Boston Pops Orchestra and was the creator of many popular light tunes. A “Duke Ellington Medley” was a succession of winning melodies, finely orchestrated.

A classic of parade bands for more than a century has been John Phillip Sousa’s “Washington Post March,” with its infectious beat. Joanna Alpizar was the vocalist in “Sabor A Mi” by Alvaro Carrillo, scored by her husband, and sung in Spanish with a

very professional voice.

George Bizet’s “March of the Toreadors” from his opera, “Carmen,” took us right to the excitement of a bull fight in Spain with its engaging rhythms.

“Revelations of a Betrayal” was an original work by Vermont Music-Comp student Alexander Maroney, which showed impressive skill in its instrumental textures and the suggestion of a certain mood implied in the title, but coming to a dreamy ending. “Take Me Out to the Ballgame,” by Nosworth and Tiltner, was pure Americana in its lyrics and upbeat syncopation. Margaret Barsumian was the very talented musician in the “Clarinet Polka,” a lively dance tune.

“Ashoken Farewell” by Jay Ungar utilized the full range of potential orchestral sounds to enrich the initial theme. A

particularly haunting melody was that used by Ken Burns in his Civil War documentary film, somehow saying in music what is beyond words about that tragic event. Selections from Leonard Bernstein’s “West Side Story” evoked that meaningful adaptation of Shakespeare’s “Romeo and Juliet” to a contemporary setting in the gang wars in New York City in the 1950s, with deeply felt music.

The last piece on the program was appropriately for the Fourth of July weekend, “The Stars and Stripes Forever” by John Phillip Sousa, an irresistibly rousing march which the audience joined in by clapping hands in sync to the music.

We hope other outdoor concerts will be held in the future (weather permitting) at this delightful venue.

## Wootton Exhibits at Hardwick Town House

HARDWICK – Lulu Wootton will be the first artist to exhibit in the Hardwick Town House in over 20 years. The Hardwick Town House brings this visual art tradition back to the space in collaboration with the Craftsbury Chamber Players.

Wootton’s striking prints will be on display in the lobby and on the back wall of the theater during Thursday evening concerts. The gallery space will be open Wednesdays and Saturdays from 2 to 6 p.m., July 12 to July 23.

## “White Christmas” Appreciation Performed Through July 20

ADAMANT – “White Christmas: An Appreciation” will be presented Sundays, Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays, 7:30 to 9 p.m., through July 20 at the Quarryworks.

This escape from the summer heat is adapted from the classic Irving Berlin film and the Broadway musical. The production is filled with iconic songs such as “White Christmas,” “Sisters” and “Snow.”

Tickets are free of charge, but due to limited space, must be reserved by emailing quarryworks.boxoffice@gmail.com or calling (802) 229 6978. Show dates and times can be found at fsmac-quarryworks.org/performances. There are matinees as well as evening shows.

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9:00 AM-3:00 PM ON CRAFTSBURY COMMON

# “Gondoliers” an Enjoyment of Words, Beautiful Melodies

## REVIEW

by David K. Rodgers

EAST CALAIS – As usual, the Unadilla Theatre begins its summer season with a Gilbert and Sullivan opera, and this year it is “The Gondoliers,” written in 1889, their twelfth production together.

The setting is Venice in the first act and then the Kingdom of Barataria in the second, a fictitious island country obscurely located across the seas. Like their other operas, the plot revolves around lovers prevented from consummating their relationship by amassing complications, with the ever present mantra of the importance of duty, but here with an exploration of republican (read, egalitarian) political values, a long struggle in England’s own imperfect and social class ridden democracy.

The scene opens in Venice with a beautifully painted background of the central piazzetta with that Ducal Palace and St. Marks. The two heroes of the drama enter, the supposed brothers Marco and Guiseppe Palmieri, who are young, charming gondoliers, play skillfully and sing with strong voices by two real brothers, Charlie and Neil C. Cerutti respectively. They are looking to

find wives among the local farm girls and have chosen Gianetta and Tessa, and act impressively and with excellent vocal talent by Emily Milne and Erin McIntyre respectively.

A dilemma soon arises when they learn that one of the gondolier brothers is actually heir to the throne of Barataria, for both had been whisked away as mere babies from their country of birth by the Spanish Grand Inquisitor, very well performed in his slightly sinister mannerisms by Nial McCallum. He brought to Venice for their upbringing by a local gondolier, but in the process which boy was the true prince became confused. To add to the increasingly absurd entanglements, the Duke of Plaza-Toro, an impoverished grandee of Spain, delightfully portrayed by Victor Caamano, and his wife, the Duchess, whose haughtiness was consistently embodied by Nessa Rabin, as well as their daughter Casilda, played by Emma Cerutti, all arrive and announce that years ago when their daughter was an infant she was pledged in marriage to the same baby heir to the throne of Barataria. To add to the muddle, Casilda, despite her hierarchial arrogance, is in love with the family’s owly attendant Luiz, who Adam Hall plays convincingly.

Of course Gilbert and Sullivan’s

operas are all comedies and have happy if improbable endings, so out of these multiple conundrums it turns out that the babies were originally switched around and substituted by a nurse foster mother and that Luiz is the actual heir apparent and now King of Barataria

In the second act the temporary joint kingship of the two gondoliers in the palace of Barataria takes the form of an experimental republic, where everyone is equal in status in terms of political power. Well-meaning but somewhat difficult in practice, this ideal form of government parallels the very slow evolution of England from an absolute monarchy to a functioning parliamentary democracy.

The “Gondoliers” is very ably directed by Mary Jane Austin and Eric Kroncke. Alison Cerutti is the amazing piano accompanist. Additional supporting actresses and actors are Arthur Anderson, Andrew Hudson-Sabens, Ellen

Blachly, Carrie Youngblood, Yvette Shedrick, Betsy Ainsworth, Barbara Barra, Beth Damon, Claire Dumas, Ellie Geier, Tamara Marteney, Laura Milne, Ekaterina Syncova, Olga Syncova, Sean Cummings, Rich Rayfield and Bruce Westcott.

The “Gondoliers” is rich in Gilbert’s enjoyment of words in the lyrics and Sullivan’s ever-engaging, beautiful melodies, of which the film “Topsey Turvey” gives some deeper insights into their creative working methods. This performance has all the wonderful enthusiasm and positive energy of Unadilla’s Gilbert and Sullivan productions, making for a thoroughly enjoyable evening at the theater. Next weekend, July 11, 12 and 13, will be the final chance to see it on Friday and Saturday at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday matinee at 2 p.m. For more information, call (802) 456-8968 or go online at unadilla.org.

## Chamber Players Begin Season

by Craftsbury Chamber Players

CRAFTSBURY – The Craftsbury Chamber Players’ 59th Season begins July 9 and ends August 14. The Players will perform chamber music by a diverse assortment of composers spanning multiple eras Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m. (July 16, 23, 30, August 6, 13) at Elley-Long Music Center in Colchester and Thursdays at 7:30 p.m. (July 17, 24, 31, August 7, 14) at the Hardwick Town House in Hardwick.

The group will feature works

for voice, clarinet, piano, and strings as well as chamber music composed by two of their regular performers, violinist Kenji Bunch and pianist Inessa Zaretsky.

Free children’s concerts are at 2 p.m. on Thursdays: July 10 and 17 at the Hardwick Town House July 24 and 31 at East Craftsbury Presbyterian Church and August 7 and 14 at the Greensboro United Church of Christ

For more information and complete programs please go to [ccpvt.org](http://ccpvt.org), email [info@ccpvt.org](mailto:info@ccpvt.org) or call (802) 586-0616.

## Community Concert, July 18

GREENSBORO – A community concert, part of the “Play Every Town Series,” will be presented Friday, July 18, 7:30 p.m., at the Greensboro United Church. The concert features featuring pianist David Feurzeig with violinist Laila Kromash.

In 2022 composer-pianist David Feurzeig embarked on “Play Every Town”: 252 free concerts in each of Vermont’s 252 towns to confront climate change through the power of community and music. With this project Feurzeig will become the first musician to perform in every Vermont municipality. He is traveling in his solar-charged electric vehicle throughout the state, offering free concerts to bring attention to the interrelated issues of climate and community, and to call into question the normality of long-distance touring and travel, while bringing the joy of music to his audiences.

“I want to support Vermont’s local communities with live performance in village centers and downtowns, while fulfilling UVM’s mission to serve as a resource for the whole state.”

Feurzeig, a professor of music at UVM, specializes in recitals that

bring together music of a variety of musical styles, from ancient and classical to jazz, avant-garde and popular traditions.

Programs are tailored to each town. The Greensboro concert will include Mozart’s witty variations on “Twinkle Twinkle”, composed in 1781, the year Greensboro was chartered. Chopin’s first nocturne (E minor, op. 72) marks the year the United Church was constructed. 11-year-old Greensboro violinist Laila Kromash will join David for Carl Bohm’s “Perpetuo Mobile” and “Somewhere Over the Rainbow,” composed in 1938, the year of Vermont’s hurricane. In a similar spirit, David will play Debussy’s haunting prelude “The Sunken Cathedral,” written in the aftermath of the Great Flood of Paris, in recognition of Vermont’s most prominent climatic threat. Other solo pieces will round out the program, including Franz Liszt’s ode to democracy and resistance to tyranny, “The Chapel of William Tell,” and a once-only performance of a sonata by Scarlatti, in this case “Sonata no. 84” for this 84th concert in the series.

Admission is free, with voluntary donations benefiting the Greensboro Land Trust.

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**Tuesday, July 15, 7:30 p.m.**

Concert pianist **Frederick Moyer** has performed with most of the major orchestras in the United States and Europe and in such venues as Carnegie Hall, the Kennedy Center, Tanglewood, the Sydney Opera House, Windsor Castle, and Suntory Hall in Tokyo. The Boston Globe described him as “A success on the highest level from first to last... something to write home about.”

For the first part of this evening’s concert, Frederick Moyer will perform solo piano works composed by Beethoven, Rachmaninoff and others, and will also provide entertaining and educational commentary thereon.

For the second part, **The Fred Moyer Jazz Trio** (Moyer on piano, Evan Palmer on bass and Bob Savine on drums) will perform note-for-note renditions of some of the great jazz pianists, such as Oscar Peterson, Bill Evans, Erroll Garner and Ahmad Jamal, introducing the greatest creations of this art form to classical music audiences.

Greensboro United Church of Christ  
165 Wilson Street, Greensboro, Vermont 05841  
Tickets at the door: \$22 • Children under 18: free

[SummerMusicFromGreensboro.net](http://SummerMusicFromGreensboro.net)

# EVENTS

## Wednesday, July 9

**DEATH CAFE**, 6 p.m., Albany Public Library, 830 Main St. Information: (802) 755-6107, albanypubliclibraryvt.org.

## Thursday, July 10

**WRITING WORKSHOPS** for those affected by flooding, 7 p.m., Jeudevine Memorial Library, 93 N. Main St., Hardwick. Information: (802) 472-5948.

**TEEN JEWELRY MAKING**, 11 a.m., for ages 12-18, Jeudevine Memorial Library, Hardwick. Gather to make jewelry to sell at the Hardwick Farmers Market youth market. Information: jeudevineyouthlibrarian@hardwickvt.gov or (802) 472-5948.

## Friday, July 11

**COMMUNITY CONTRA DANCE**, 7 to 9:30 p.m., Willey Building (Cabot Town Hall, 3084 Main St.) All ages and abilities welcome.

**ANTIQUE & UNIQUES**, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., on Craftsbury Common. Featuring antiques and vintage goods, fine art, flowers and specialty foods, jewelry, quilts and more. Parking fees go to the Craftsbury Volunteer Fire Department. Information: craftsburyantiquesanduniques.com

## Saturday, July 12

**THE CALAIS-WOODBURY UNITED CHURCH** will celebrate the retirement of Pastor Bill Richardson on July 13. The pastor will give his last service at 10:15, with a pot luck to follow. On that day, the church welcomes their new pastor, Paul Cerutti, who is also the town fire chief.

## Sunday, July 13

**WATERCOLOR PAINTING CLASS**, with Lynn Holbein, for adults and teens ages 12 and up, 2 to 4 p.m., Greensboro Free Library. Under the backyard tent. Preregister to greensboro-assistant@gmail.com or (802) 533-2531.

**PAINT AND DECORATE ROCKS**, 2 p.m., Jeudevine Memorial Library's community garden plot, Hazen Union School, Hardwick. Ages 5 and up. Information: jeudevineyouthlibrarian@hardwickvt.gov or (802) 472-5948.

**LECTURE ON THE HOLOCAUST**, 6:30 p.m., Highland Center for the Arts, Greensboro. Offered by Jeff Pierpont, interim minister of Greensboro United Church of Christ. Free and open to the public. Information: greensborochurch@gmail.com.

## Tuesday, July 15

**CELEBRATE THE WINOOSKI RIVER** through exploration, games and more, 6:30 p.m., Jaquith Public Library, Marshfield. Information: jaquithpubliclibrary.org or (802) 426-3581.

**DAVE KELLER** and band perform original Soul and Blues-inspired songs, 6:30 p.m., Jaquith Public Library, Marshfield. Book, bake sale and food vendors. Information: jaquithpubliclibrary.org or (802) 426-3581.

**Wednesday, July 16**  
**Thursday, July 17**

**See EVENTS, Next Page**

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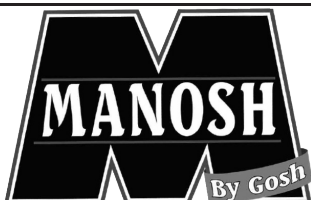
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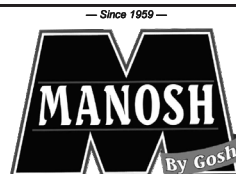


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# EVENTS

**MAKE SOCK MONSTERS**, 11 a.m., Jeudevine Memorial Library, Hardwick. All ages welcome. Information: jeudevineyouthlibrarian@hardwickvt.gov or (802) 472-5948.

**WRITING WORKSHOP** for those affected by flooding, 7 p.m., Jeudevine Memorial Library, 93 N. Main St., Hardwick. Writing prompts, no experience needed. Information: (802) 472-5948.

## Tuesday, July 22

**JERRY SCHNEIDER** presents slides of local butterflies, 11 a.m., Jeudevine Memorial Library, Hardwick. For ages 5 and up. Butterfly t-shirt craft. Information: jeudevineyouthlibrarian@hardwickvt.gov or (802) 472-5948.

## Wednesday, July 23

**PAJAMA STORY TIME**, recommended for ages five and under, 5 p.m., Jeudevine Memorial Library, Hardwick. Information: jeudevineyouthlibrarian@hardwickvt.gov or (802) 472-5948.

**LAWN GAMES**, 6:30 p.m., for all ages, including pickleball, badminton, corn hole, croquet and more, Jaquith Public Library, Marshfield. Information: jaquithpubliclibrary.org or (802) 426-3581.

## Ongoing Events

**PLAINFIELD FARMERS MARKET**, 4 to 7 p.m., Fridays, 13 Mill St. Food and craft vendors, baked goods, fruits and veggies and more.

**HARDWICK PEACE (& Cease-fire) VIGIL**, Thursdays, 4:30 - 5:30 p.m., Hardwick Peace Park, S. Main St., Hardwick. (beside the river).

**MONTPELIER CONTRA DANCE**, 8 - 11 p.m., Capital City Grange. Newcomers lesson at 7:40 p.m. First, third and fifth Saturdays. Information: (802) 225-8921 or cdu.tim@gmail.com

**FRIENDS OF THE JEDEVINE LIBRARY**, meets the third Tuesday of every month, 5:15 p.m., at the library, N. Main St., Hardwick.

**OLD-TIME JAM SESSION**, 6 to 8 p.m., J.W. Simpson Library, 1972 East Craftsbury Road, East Craftsbury. All ages and abilities encouraged to attend. Jam sessions held on the first and third Wednesdays of each month.

**COMMUNITY DINNER**, noon, United Church of Hardwick, S. Main St., Third and Fourth Thursdays of the month. Call Sharyn Salls at (802) 472-6566 to reserve a meal. Take-Out or Eat-In. Donations appreciated.

**DUNGEONS AND DRAGONS** for Young Adventurers, first and third Mondays, Craftsbury Public Library, for children ages 8-13. Reserve a spot to play by contacting director@craftsburypubliclibrary.org.

**EARLY LITERACY STORY-TIME**, Craftsbury Public Library - Tuesdays, 10 a.m. For children ages 0 - 5. Information: childrenslibrarian@craftsburypubliclibrary.org or (802) 586-9683.

**TAI CHI CLASSES**, Tuesdays, Atkins Field, Granite St., Hardwick, 9:30 to 10:15 a.m. Advanced Tai Chi, taught by Norma Spaulding, 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Tai Chi for Fall Prevention, taught by Norma Spaulding. Information: Norma Spaulding, (802) 472-8724, nspauld@gmail.com.

**TAI CHI CLASSES**, Church of Christ, Greensboro. Thursdays, 9:30 - 10:15 a.m. Advanced Tai Chi taught by Norma Spaulding. 10:30 a.m. to 11:30. Tai Chi for Fall Prevention, taught by Norma Spaulding and Paul Fixx. Information: Norma Spaulding, (802) 472-8724, nspauld@gmail.com and Paul Fixx (802) 441-4599, pfixx@pfixx.net.

**CRAFTING GROUP** on Tuesdays, 4:30 to 6 p.m. and the fourth Saturday of each month, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Jaquith Public Library, 122 School St., Marshfield. Information: jaquithpubliclibrary@gmail.com, call (802) 426-3581 or visit jaquithpubliclibrary.org.

**MAGIC ON TUESDAY**. A group of young people get together at The Civic Standard, 42 S. Main St., Hardwick, to play Magic: the Gathering, hosted by Dean Burns. Games gin at 5 p.m. and new players are always welcome.

**PARENTING GROUP**, on Wednesdays, 10:30 to 11:30 a.m., Jaquith Public Library. Caregivers can relax and connect with each others while their babies play. Geared for babies 0-18 months. Siblings invited. 122 School St., Marshfield. Information: jaquithpubliclibrary@gmail.com, call (802) 426-3581 or visit jaquithpubliclibrary.org.

**COMMUNITY SUPPER**, every Wednesday, 5:30 p.m., The Civic Standard, 42 S. Main St., Hardwick.

**COMMUNITY DINNER**, Sterling College, Craftsbury Common, every Friday, 4:30 to 6 p.m. Free and open to anyone in the greater Craftsbury area and neighboring towns. Hosted by students in the Food Harvest and Conservation class. Students will give brief presentations at 5:30 covering a couple components of the menu they create.

**STORYTIME, PLAYGROUP ON FRIDAYS**, 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Jaquith Public Library, 122 School St., Marshfield. Information: jaquithpubliclibrary@gmail.com, call (802) 426-3581 or visit jaquithpubliclibrary.org.

**MENDING CIRCLE MEETS**, every third Sunday, 3 to 5 p.m., the Civic Standard, 42 S. Main St., Hardwick. Bring clothes in need of fixing. Materials, instruction and snacks will be supplied.

**BOOK CLUB** meets the second Thursday of each month, 1:30 p.m., the Flower Basket, Main St. Hardwick. Hosted by the Galaxy Bookshop. Call the Galaxy or stop in to reserve a copy of each month's book at 20% off for book club members. Tea and other drinks and small treats for sale.

**HARDWICK HAIKU CLUB**, every first Thursday, 5:30 - 7 p.m., The Civic Standard, 42 S. Main St., Hardwick. A time to read published haiku, brainstorm some Vermont kigo, or season words, and write your own haiku. No previous writing experi-

ence needed. Hosted by Mark Scott.

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

**MEDITATION** at Craftsbury Community Care Center, the second and fourth Fridays, 3. to 3:45 p.m., 1784 East Craftsbury Road, Craftsbury. Offered by Nancy Milholland. Open to all and sponsored by the Mental Health Resource Group of Craftsbury.

**HANG OUT ON THURSDAYS**, at the Civic Standard, 42 S. Main St., Hardwick, 2:45 p.m. - 6. Relax, make art, play games, get help with homework, or just spend time with friends. Facilitated by Hazen Union's Community School Coordinator Vaiva Velzis, with support from The Civic's staff. Snacks provided. Information: Vvelzis@ossu.org.

**DUNGEONS & DRAGONS**, Tuesdays, 3:30 p.m. - 5. Cabot Public Library. Ages 9 - 13. Mysteries and magic, tails and talons, puzzles

and prophecies.

**OUTDOOR STORY & ACTIVITY TIME**, with the Cabot Public Library, Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m. - 11:30, Cabot Rec Field Pavilion. Join Amanda Otto for stories, songs, snacks, crafts, open play and special programming.

**AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAM**, Every Tuesday, 3 p.m. - 5; Thursday, 10:30 a.m. Preschool Storytime; Friday, 10:30 a.m. Homeschool Program. Greensboro Free Library. Information: (802) 533-2531.

## Exhibits

**WORKS BY KATHY STARK** exhibited at the White Water Gallery, 5 River St., East Hardwick, through July 13. Hours: Sundays 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Information: (802) 563-2037.

**LULU WOOTTON** exhibits her art at the Hardwick Town House, Wednesdays and Saturdays, 2 to 6 p.m. July 12 to July 23 and during Thursday evening concerts.

To have your event listed free in our weekly events calendar, please e-mail: [news@hardwickgazette.com](mailto:news@hardwickgazette.com).

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## KEN BROWN'S BASEBALL ROUNDUP

### Locals Win District Babe Ruth Title

ST. JOHNSBURY – A trio of Hazen Union Wildcats helped the 16U St. Johnsbury Babe Ruth baseball team capture the 2025 Vermont District III Championship late last month.

Hazen's Chayse Newell, Jon Sicard and Will Halperin ended their baseball season in style with a series sweep of Three Corners to claim the 16U District III Babe Ruth title for St. Johnsbury on June 28. Sicard and Halperin cut their teeth in high school varsity baseball with the Wildcats this past spring, with Newell doing the same for head coach Shaun Allen as just a sophomore. Allen's young squad struggled in the rugged Capital League this past season but will return a roster next year that is committed to developing their skills in the off-season. Rising seniors Grayson McNaughten and Owen Skorstad earned Capital League honors for Hazen and are playing 18U Babe Ruth for Lamoille. Craftsbury Academy (CA) freshman Avery Loomis also suited up for Lamoille on their 16U

team this summer. Overall, Allen had 10 players commit to playing summer baseball and hopes to reap the benefits for his Wildcat program next spring.

### North Sweeps South in Softball as Strong hits Ice

BURLINGTON – Rice Memorial's Finley Strong, granddaughter of Hardwick Academy and Hazen Union coaching great Jack Strong, finished off her brilliant high school career on the ice last week at the 2025 Make-A-Wish All-Star Hockey Classic.

Strong made both Vermont senior all-star teams in both softball and ice hockey in 2025, powering her Green Knight softball team to their second consecutive Division II Final Four last month, earning a second straight First Team Lake Division selection in the process. Strong's older brother Jackson was named Vermont's Mr. Hockey as the top defenseman in Division I in 2023 for Rice and now attends North Carolina State.

New Hampshire clipped



Seniors on the Craftsbury Academy softball team this past season were Savannah Boyce (left) and Hazen Union student Libby Bowley.

photo by Vanessa Fournier

Vermont 4-1 at Gutterson Fieldhouse last week, while St. Johnsbury Academy's Cassidy Kittredge, Sophie Vignec and Emersen Mitchell propelled the Vermont softball all-stars to a two-game sweep of New Hampshire at VTSU-Castleton.

Strong will be attending Fairfield University in Connecticut this coming fall and hopes to play club hockey and softball. Former Peoples Academy three-time champ Ben Alekson just finished off a stellar sophomore season on the mound for Fairfield this past

## KEN BROWN'S SPORT NUGGETS

### Molleur Qualifies for Vermont State Amateur

WILLISTON – Hazen Union alum and current assistant coach for the Wildcat golf program Aaron Molleur, qualified for this week's Vermont Amateur.

Molleur carded a 79 last Thursday at Williston Golf Club to secure his spot in the upcoming Vermont-Am, hosted by Manchester Country Club. Jackson King of Barton Golf Club fired a 4-under 67 to claim low medalist honors, four strokes ahead of runner-up Nick Ojala of Proctor-Pittsford. Other local qualifiers included Colton Hudson and Will Eaton of Orleans C.C. and Alex Tilgner, Chris Strazzulla, Luke Russell, and Chris Eaton of Stowe.

In just his fourth year after taking up the game, Molleur medaled twice as a senior for the Hazen golf team in 2019. He is now the three-time defending club champion at Mountain View Country Club in Greensboro.

Molleur and the rest of the field put their games to the test in Manchester on Tuesday in the historical three-day tournament. Former Otter Valley star Lucas Politano (Ralph Myhre Golf Course) is the defending champion.

### Lady Cats Looking for Head Coach this Fall

HARDWICK – The Hazen Union girls soccer program is searching for a new head coach after an impressive season last fall

that saw them lose only four games.

First year head coach Jay Terrien, a former Burlington High School and Bates College soccer standout, took over the reins from Harry Besett last fall after six seasons and led a talented young roster to a 9-3-4 record. Terrien infused the Lady Cat offense with an attacking style but will step away from the program after just one season. Hazen was upset in the quarterfinals by a historic Cinderella run by Richford. The eleventh seeded Lady Rockets took down two of the top three seeds in the tournament to claim the division IV state championship.

Hazen's next coach will inherit a treasure chest of talent, including First Team All-Mtn. League selections Isabelle Gouin, Taylor Thompson, and Kelsie Rivard. Gouin (Team leading 20 goals) and Thompson were also selected to the Vermont All-State team.

### Richards Earns PGA Americas Conditional Status

NEW BRUNSWICK, Canada – Former U-32 and University of Rhode Island (URI) star-studded golfer Bryson Richards, played in his first PGA Americas event last week after earning conditional playing status for the rest of the season.

Despite missing the cut at the New Brunswick Open over the weekend, the arrow is definitely pointing up for Richard's dream of qualifying for the PGA Tour one day. Richards missed securing his PGA Americas card by

just one position late last month in a playoff, but will have ample opportunity to secure his professional status with entry into upcoming events in the PGA's feeder tour. Richards came up short in Korn Ferry Tour Q-School last winter, but strong play in upcoming PGA Americas events could give the smooth lefty an opportunity to bypass Q-School altogether.

Richards is the son of former Craftsbury Academy great Pete Richards and graduated from URI with a program record six collegiate win. He also has two Vermont-Amateur titles as well as a Vermont Open.

Next stop for Richards and the PGA Americas will be Bromont, Quebec, for the Bromont Open, July 10 to 13.

### Caspian Challenge Road Race, July 27

GREENSBORO – The Caspian Challenge and 5K road race will be held on Sunday, July 27, 8:30 a.m., at the ballfield, corner of Lake Shore Road and Breezy Avenue. The race consists of the classic 6.8 mile loop around Caspian Lake as well as an out-and-back 5K race-walk. There are prizes for age group winners, raffle items and ice cream for all. The race is sponsored by the Greensboro Association. All proceeds will go to support the Greensboro Community Meals Program. Register at [greensboroassociation.org/calendar/caspian-challenge/](https://greensboroassociation.org/calendar/caspian-challenge/) through July 26 (\$15) or on race day (\$20), starting at 7:15 a.m.

# KEN BROWN'S SUMMER HOOPS

## Pratt Returning to Hazen to Run Summer Camp

HARDWICK – Former Hazen Union champion head coach Steve Pratt is bringing NBA and WNBA coaching skills and expertise back to the Cat Den next month.

Pratt helped lay the foundation for current Hazen boys varsity head Aaron Hill and the Division III basketball power he has built the last 25 plus years in Hardwick. Hill was a young assistant under Pratt and the 1996 championship team that was fueled by the three headed monster of Jamon Renaud, Chris Davison, and Travis Hill. Coach Hill, now 50, has amassed over 420 career wins at Hazen and hung 6 more championship banners.

Pratt returns to his roots this summer, bringing his NBA/WNBA basketball clinics with him. His skills camp will be held at Hazen gymnasium on August 8 and 9. Pratt founded Full Package Athletics out of

Chicago in the fall of 2000 and has groomed and mentored the likes of current Duke head basketball coach Jon Scheyer, former NBA all-stars Elton Brand and Brad Miller, as well as two-time WNBA champion, scoring champion, and 6-time all-star Jewell Loyd. More than 80 total coaches and players that have come through Pratt's Full Package Athletics system have ascended to the NBA and WNBA.

There will be a Kids camp and Elite camp offered. Future and current Hazen Union players will receive a discount. Interested campers are encouraged to register early, as limited spots are filling up fast. For more information, contact Coach Hill at [ahill@ossu.org](mailto:ahill@ossu.org).

## Trojan Nation Welcomes Bernie Sanders to Free Throw Competition

MARSHFIELD – Longtime VT United

States senator Bernie Sanders will be at Twinfield gymnasium this weekend as a guest for Twinfield-Cabot's annual Youth Free Throw Contest.

Free throw competitors and fans are urged to come join Bernie Sanders for a fun morning of youth basketball on Saturday, July 12, at 10:30 a.m. Interested competitors can RSVP at [act.berniesanders.com/signup/rsvp-basketball-with-bernie-plainfield](http://act.berniesanders.com/signup/rsvp-basketball-with-bernie-plainfield) The free throw competition will be held for boys and girls in elementary, middle, and high school, ages 5 to 18. Every participant will go home with a free basketball.

This is one of many events and fundraisers to help promote youth basketball in the community fueled by the supporters of what Twinfield varsity basketball coaches Kris Bador and Jack Whalen are building in Marshfield. Bador, the reigning VPA Division IV Coach of the Year, guided his Trojan program back to the Barre Auditorium last Winter for the first time in nearly a decade. Bador, Whalen, and their staffs will once again be running their Twinfield-Cabot Basketball Camp from August 4 -7.

# Blake Walks Away with Showdown; Whitcomb Nabs First

BARRE – While Mother Nature gave it her all to wash out the Independence Day Spectacular, the Thunder Road faithful showed up in droves and moved her rain showers to the side with four divisions of racing action and Central Vermont's biggest Northstar Fireworks display on the docket.

The Late Models got feature action started with a Lap 16 bang as a loose Kyle Streeter collected Brandon Lanphear and Marcel Gravel against the turn one wall. Only Gravel was able to return for a few more laps before parking his ride permanently for the evening. Up front it was Cody Blake who fire-stormed from the front and never looked back to take his first win of the season over Bryan Wall Jr. and Brandon Gray.

Rookie Karsen Murphy finally got a good car underneath him to lead the Flying Tiger feature to green but quickly earned an education. Kevin Streeter rode the high-side to the lead and motored

through in the green-to-checkered feature but eyes were what was riding his rear bumper. Robert Gordon stormed through the top 10 to stalk Streeter through the final stages but couldn't pull enough fire out of the fuel cell to take second with Ty Delphia having a top run in third.

Another rookie got his start at the head of the Street Stock feature with Jaiden Del Toro leading Eric MacLaughlin across the line. All-time leader Tommy Smith quickly took over the top spot but flames out the side-pipe with a sputtering engine took him out of contention on lap-seven. Paul Rocheleau inherited the lead and kept his foot to the firewall to take the Preston's Kia trophy dash with Nate Brien and Flyin' Fred Fleury rounding out the podium.

The Road Warriors rounded out the rain-delayed show just prior to the fireworks. Jed Whitcomb took over the story right from the start, taking his machine to the winner's



In Warriors Victory Lane on Preston's Kia Night were (from left) Brandon Premont (3rd), winner Jed Whitcomb and Derrick Mann (2nd).

photo by Alan Ward



Barre's Cody Blake takes his victory lap around Thunder Road International Speedbowl on the Independence Day Spectacular in the Late Models.

photo by Alan Ward

circle for career win number one on the Barre highbanks with Derrick Mann and Brandon Premont rounding out the top three.

Thursday, July 10, for the second round in the Triple Crown, The Flying Tigers go for 75 laps as the Myers Triple Crown heats up alongside the Late Models, Street Stocks and Road Warriors on Vermont Construction Night with a 7 p.m. post time.

### UNOFFICIAL RESULTS

(local competitors)

**Late Models – Feature #1 (50 Laps)**

14. 01VT, Stephen Martin,

Craftsbury Common

21. 86VT, Marcel J. Gravel, Wolcott

**Flying Tigers – Feature #1 (40 Laps)**

9. 15NH, Brendan Moodie, Wolcott

19. 22VT, Travis Patnoe, Wolcott

**Street Stocks – Feature #1 (25 Laps)**

5. 34, Patrick Tibbetts, Plainfield

6. 18x, Walker Fitch, Marshfield

26. 32, Kylee Potter, Marshfield

**Road Warriors – Feature #1 (20 Laps)**

5. 18, Cayden Green, Marshfield

# Goodbout Wows to Take Three-for-Three

N. WOODSTOCK, N.H. – A stellar crowd readied themselves for plenty of fireworks both on and off the track Saturday night at White Mountain Motorsports Park, all in celebration of the July Fourth weekend.

The Kids Division got Saturday's showcase off with a bang as newcomer Henry Martin took a hard lick into the turn four tire barrier and overturned in a rough start to his freshman year. Cooper Benoit took off in the restart lead with a rear-view mirror full of Owen Dupuis before Dupuis took over on lap 11 and never looked back to take his first win of the season followed by Lucas Sidney and Benoit across the line.

After making child's play of Segment No. 1 in the Dwarf Cars, Jason Wyman found himself shotgun on the field and looking to make it a perfect day at the start of Segment No. 2. Daniel Brofman took off with the early lead but Chad Dufour and Wyman found themselves at the front before the halfway point. Under the crossed flags, Wyman's power plant began to sputter, growing into a full cloud of white smoke as he entered the backstretch and left Dufour to battle it out with Dave Gyger at the front. Gyger's eventual segment win would nab him the overall victory with Dufour and Jeff Ainsworth rounding out the podium.

Jason Ball and Aiden Young brought the Strictly Minis to green on the night. Young kept it up front until lap-5 with rookie Jackson Hunt sneaking up the inside groove to steal the lead away. A black and green look-alike contest at the front saw McKenna Merchant sneak up on Hunt with Tyler Thompson right there, waiting in the wings. The two young-guns battled side-by-side with Merchant eventually nabbing the edge and marching all the way to White Mountain victory lane alongside Thompson and Hunt in the end.

Next out of the gate came the Flying Tigers, 14 strong with Todd Derrington and Luke Peters in control at the head of the field. Peters launched into the lead and kept it out front, even as the likes of Logan Powers, Kyle Willis and Matt Potter stalked him from behind. Mechanical woes took

Powers out of contention under the caution for Owen Cheney's turn one spin leaving Peters to take the back-to-back win. After some physicality, Matt Potter would best Willis to second.

Segment racing returned to the Mini Late Models on Saturday with defending champion Nick Miller looking to sweep both 15 lap segments. Rookie Jack Hayes led the field to green but outside polesitter Brett Jackson quickly took over. Before long, Miller overtook both Brett, and son Dustin, to sweep the night with Garrett Labounty and Dustin Jackson flanking the podium.

Thomas Smithers VI and Mike Jurkowski brought the Late Models to green, wrapping up Saturday's feature racing. A heated battle between Smithers and Richie Brown gave the lead to Jurkowski before the halfway point with a big chain-reaction wreck on lap 32 and another big one on lap 38. Jurkowski and Smithers again found themselves side-by-side at the front with Kyle Goodbout joining the mix. The final restart with 11 laps remaining saw Goodbout drive away from the inside of the front row and make it three for three in Late Model competition followed by Jurkowski and Smithers across the stripe to end the night.

White Mountain Motorsports Park is back with the first of two July doubleheader weekends next



In Late Model Victory Lane were (from left) Thomas Smithers VI of Gilmanton (3rd), Lincoln's own three-peat winner Kyle Goodbout and Claremont's Mike Jurkowski (2nd)

photo by Johnny Racer

Saturday and Sunday, July 12 and 13. Saturday brings the inaugural Tiger \$2K for the Flying Tigers with a 100 lap showdown and \$2,000 earmarked for the winner along with the Late Models, Strictly Minis, Mini Late Models and Dwarf Cars with a 6 p.m. post time. Sunday, July 13, will feature the rain-delayed start to the Late Model Series with the Spring Board 100 plus the Pro All Stars Series (PASS) Super Late Model 150, New England Supermodified Series and the PASS Modifieds with a 2 p.m.

## UNOFFICIAL RESULTS (local competitors)

### Late Models – 50 Laps

14 92VT, Jaden Perry, Hardwick, Vt.

### Flying Tigers – (35 Laps)

2 23VT, Matt Potter, Marshfield, Vt.

7 23NC, Chandler Potter, Plainfield, Vt.

### Kids Division – 15 Laps

6. 23, Madison Potter, Marshfield, Vt.



Groton, Vermont's, Luke Peters takes his lap of honor in the Fisher Auto Parts Flying Tigers, his second career win in the division in as many weeks at White Mountain Motorsports Park.

photo by Johnny Racer

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