

OSSU Reaches 17% Local Purchasing, Receives State Grant



OSSU Food Service Director, Valerie Hussey, shows prepared fresh vegetables for school meals. *courtesy photo*

HARDWICK — Orleans Southwest Supervisory Union (OSSU) has increased its local food purchases from 5% in 2021–22 to 17% in 2023–24, according to Green Mountain Farm-to-School, a nonprofit organization based in Newport. As a result, it will receive \$13,097 from the Vermont Agency of Education’s Local Foods Incentive grant program.

Valerie Hussey, food service director for OSSU, explains why local sourcing matters: “We want to serve the freshest foods we can to our students. We also want to support local farmers and businesses as they support our schools. Local foods come with a higher cost, but

the grant helps offset that. It’s good for communities, good for kids — less processed, fewer added ingredients, just fresh local food.”

The grant has allowed OSSU to transform its approach to food purchasing. “We pushed this year to increase [our] local food budgets using previous grant funds,” Hussey said. “Schools aren’t programmed to spend more, but we felt more confident with the promise of the grant. . . . The bottom line is health.”

OSSU reached this percentage by creating a diverse local purchasing plan to meet its menu needs. It sources 80% of its beef from local

See OSSU, 6

Since Floods of 2023, Few Residents Have Buyout Money

by Carly Berlin, VTDigger

PEACHAM – The green clapboard house where Jenny Mackenzie lived for over two decades sits boarded up and ghostly along a narrow gravel road in the Northeast Kingdom. Late one night last July, the brook that once snaked lazily around the property frothed into a raging river, jumping course. Mackenzie’s family of four escaped before their home was inundated. They haven’t lived here since.

On a sunny morning nearly a year after the flood, Mackenzie returned with a shovel and a trunk full of empty flower pots. She was here to salvage some of her once sprawling gardens. Much of what had bloomed here had simply disappeared; the lawn had collapsed into the brook, leaving a gaping hole. Yet Mackenzie was determined. She scaled down the steep

See BUYOUT, 5



Jenny Mackenzie returns to her family’s home in Peacham on July 2. The home flooded in 2024 and the family is awaiting a buyout from the Federal Emergency Management Agency. *photo by Carly Berlin, VTDigger - Vermont Public*

Nine Flooded Owners Have Buyout Money in Hand

by Paul Fixx

HARDWICK – Out of ten total closed FEMA buyouts in the State of Vermont, five are from Hardwick, according to Hardwick Zoning and Floodplain Administrator Kristen Leahy.

Nine Hardwick property owners have money in hand for their damaged and destroyed houses as of today, she said.

“There are two types of flood buyouts,”

See MONEY, 5

Outdoor Center Named to Hall of Fame

by Ski & Snowboard Hall of Fame staff

KILLINGTON – The Craftsbury Outdoor Center will receive the Bill McCollom Community Award as a Ski and Snowboard Hall of Fame inductee October 15 at Killington Resort.

Other inductees include Marty Hall, a trailblazer in North American cross-country skiing; Ned Hamilton, a ski industry retail entrepreneur; Harry “Rebel” Ryan, alpine ski racer and industry advocate and Hannah Teter, snowboard Olympian and philanthropist.

The Paul Robbins Journalism Award will go to Gary Black. The First Tracks Award will go to Noah Dines.

See CENTER, 6



Beginning from left to right, Carol Ray, Mary Gagnon, and Ruth Galliard declare “Good trouble lives on” with their assorted signs. Longtime activist Mary Gagnon said “3.5 percent of us are going to stand up for the constitution.” Gagnon is no stranger to protest movements, having been active during the Iraq war in the wake of the highly debated post 9/11 war on terror. “We’re still here!” Gagnon exclaimed, “and I intend to be here every Thursday that I can.” Gagnon said that since October 7, attendance has waxed and waned, but the No Kings movement helped grow people’s attention. The Thursday rally events are not formally organized, according to Gagnon. “The groups that meet here are citizens, whoever shows up, whenever,” she said. *photo by Raymonda Parchment*

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POLICE REPORT

Hardwick Police

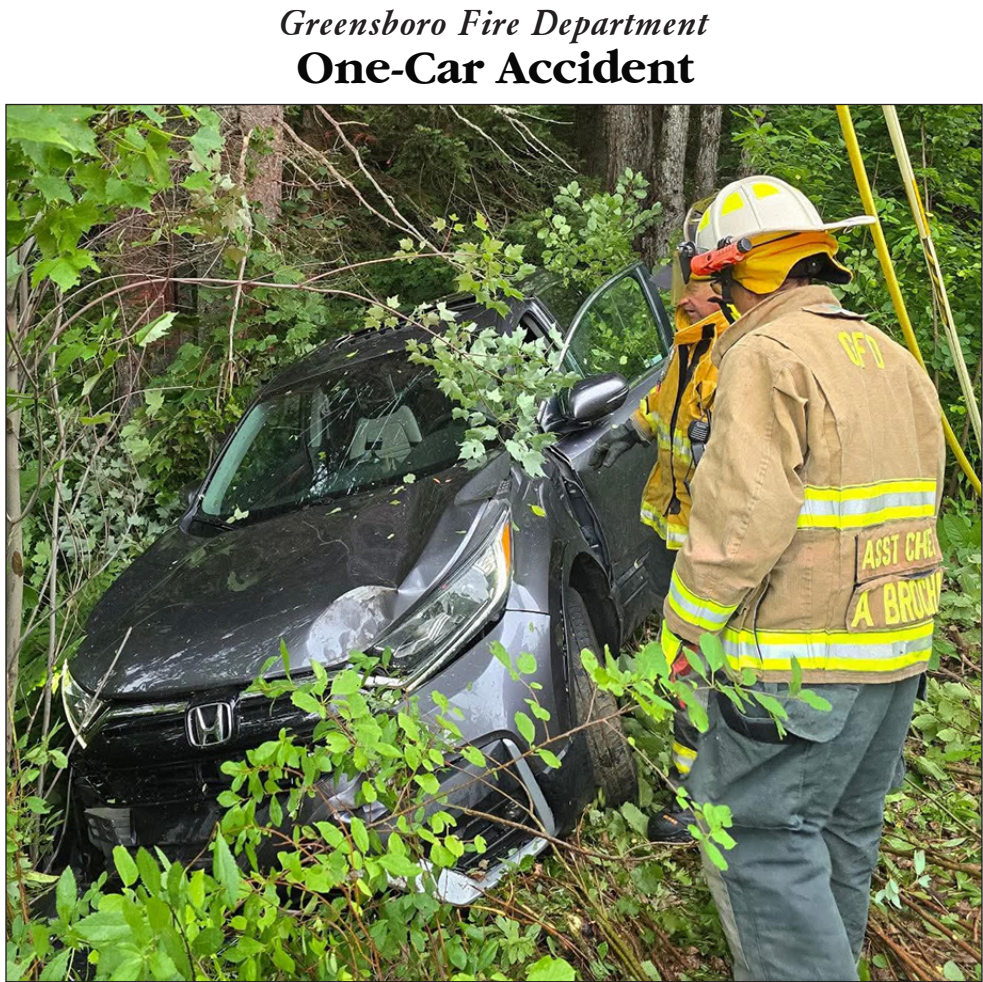
Unlawful Trespass, Criminal Suspension

On July 18, at 3:53 p.m., Daniel Fournier of Hardwick was arrested for Unlawful Trespass at Buffalo Mountain Market on Mill Street in Hardwick. Fournier was cited to appear in Caledonia Court on Monday, August 18, at 8:30 a.m.

On July 19, at approximately 7:51 p.m., Alex Maldonado of Greensboro Bend was arrested for driving under a criminally suspended license. Maldonado was cited to appear in Caledonia County Superior Court Criminal Division on August 18, at 8:30 a.m.

On July 17, at 8:28 p.m., the Hardwick Police Department conducted a motor vehicle stop of a vehicle for defective equipment on Wolcott Street. Investigation revealed the operator of the vehicle, Travis Bombard, of Barre, was under criminal suspension. Bombard was issued a citation to appear in the Superior Court of Vermont, Criminal Division Caledonia Unit to be arraigned on the charge.

The Hardwick Police Report is based on information provided by the police and is not a comprehensive list of police activity. Individuals named in the police report are presumed to be innocent until they plead or are found guilty in court.



A one-car accident on July 20, on Route 16, resulted in non-life threatening injuries. *courtesy photo*

GREENSBORO – The Greensboro Fire Department was dispatched to a one-car motor vehicle accident on Route 16 in the area of Horse Pond, at 6:59 on Sunday, July 20. Crews arrived and located the vehicle off the roadway in heavy brush. Crews used chainsaws to access the vehicle. Once the brush was cut, the door was able to be opened and the patient was transported to the awaiting ambulance. Hardwick Emergency Rescue Squad transported the patient to the hospital with non-life-threatening injuries. Caledonia Wrecker Service was called to remove the vehicle from the roadside. Crews were back in service by 8:30 a.m.



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WEATHER WATCH



Several families of geese navigate across Caspian Lake on Wednesday, July 16.

photo by Dawn Gustafson

Roller Coaster Ride of Temperatures; Seasonable by Weekend

by Tyler Molleur

EAST HARDWICK – Last week’s temperatures peaked in the upper 80s and low 90s on Thursday. The Route 14 weather station just west of Hardwick Lake reported a heat index of 96 degrees by afternoon. This heat occurred ahead of a cold front that brought multiple rounds of thunderstorms with downpours during the afternoon, although we avoided any local reports of severe weather.

That cleared some of the humidity out and was followed by a couple of precipitation-free days. Another blast of rain came with a cold front sagging south through the day on Sunday. In the wake of the front, high pressure moving in from Hudson Bay brought fall-like temperatures on its northwest flow. The temperature in East Hardwick dropped to 41 degrees Tuesday morning, precariously approaching frost thresholds and giving a fall-like feel to the air.

That high-pressure system will slide off the coast in the next 24 hours, turning our flow southwesterly. This will allow the region to tap into the large heat dome building in the south-central United States. Expect a heat and humidity influx for Thursday and the first half of Friday. Temperatures will be in the upper 80s, with perhaps a 90-degree reading here and there on Thursday.

A frontal boundary approaching during the day on Friday will bring

some unsettled weather in the form of showers and thunderstorms. It will be drier for Saturday and most of Sunday with seasonable temperatures and lower humidity. Another disturbance will be in proximity by the end of Sunday, with a few more showers and storms popping up. Things turn cooler again to start out next week. Here are the forecast details:

Wednesday: Mostly sunny. High: 78. Low: 57. Light and variable wind.

Thursday: Mostly sunny in the morning, then becoming partly sunny. Humid. High: 89. Low: 68. Southwest wind 10-15 mph with gusts to 25 mph.

Friday: Mostly cloudy. Scattered showers and thunderstorms. High: 88. Low: 59. Southwest wind 5-10 mph.

Saturday: Sunny. Less humid. High: 83. Low: 58. Northwest wind around 5 mph.

Sunday: Partly sunny. Scattered showers and thunderstorms in the afternoon and evening. High: 84. Low: 56. Southwest wind 5-10 mph.

Tyler Molleur, MSN, RN, CEN, TCRN, CPEN, NRP, is a Clinical Assistant Professor, Department of Nursing, and Lecturer, Initiative for Rural Emergency Medical Services. He has been reporting on local weather conditions since he was in eighth grade at Craftsbury Academy.

POLICE REPORT

Firewood Theft from Income-limited Program

by Kevin Gregoire

CRAFTSBURY – The Craftsbury Energy Committee’s Community Firewood Program for income-limited households reported three cords of split firewood had been taken without permission between 4 and 5 p.m., Friday, July 18. The theft was reported to Vermont State Police Monday.

A red truck and large sided matching red trailer was seen pulling into the firewood area around 4 p.m. It was seen again loading firewood at 4:45 p.m., after which the theft was discovered.

The energy committee says a second truck was likely needed to transport that much firewood.

Anyone with information that might be helpful in learning who might be responsible may contact the Vermont State Police tipline anonymously by texting VTIPS to 274637 (CRIMES) or with the form at cityprotect.com/forms/state.vt.us/anonymous or emailing CraftsburyEnergyCommittee@gmail.com. Anyone providing information will remain anonymous.

For the sixth year the Community Firewood Program offers a cord of firewood to those households who are not able to afford all of their wood heating needs.

Firewood is delivered each year in the spring to an average of 20 households in the Craftsbury and immediate five-town area.

The program had planned on writing a grant this fall for building a secure, dry woodshed for extra firewood that is stored over the winter for emergency purposes. That funding is no longer available due to federal funding cuts, along with funding for emergency fuel assistance in the state.

Anyone wishing to donate towards the construction of a secure firewood storage facility is welcome to contact the Craftsbury Town Clerk’s office, or drop a check off there.

AWARE Report

HARDWICK – Ten people used AWARE services between July 6 and July 13. The AWARE 24-hour hotline is 802-472-6463.

A non-profit established in 1984, AWARE serves Hardwick and the greater Hardwick area in preventing and healing the trauma of domestic and sexual violence. AWARE provides help during immediate crises, as well as advocating for on-going emotional and legal support for people of all ages and gender.

For more information about AWARE, including educational resources, programming and how to get involved as a volunteer visit awarevt.org.

POLICE REPORT

Hardwick Police Media Log

July 13: Alarm, S. Main St.; Trespassing, Vt. Rte. 14 S; Medical, S. Main St.; Assist – Agency, Elmore Pond Road; DLS, Mill St.

July 14: Burglary, Wolcott St.; Burglary, Rochester St.; Assist – Public, Depot St.; 911 Hangup, Montgomery Road; Medical, Center Road; Medical, Maple St.; Traffic Stop, Wolcott St.-Elm St.

July 15: Traffic Stop, Wolcott St.-Elm St.; Traffic Stop, Vt. Rte. 15; Traffic Stop, Rte. 15-Rte. 14; Traffic Stop, Wolcott St.; Traffic Stop, Wolcott St.; Traffic Stop, S. Main St.-Lower Cherry St.; Traffic Stop, Vt. Rte. 15-Vt. Rte. 14; Traffic Stop, Wolcott St.-S. Main St.; Traffic Stop, Wolcott St.-Cottage St.; Traffic Stop, S. Main St.-Wolcott St.; Traffic Stop, S. Main St.-Spring St.; Alcohol Offense, Maple St.

July 16: Animal Problem, Mackville Road; VIN Verification, Craftsbury Road; VIN Verification, Vt. Rte. 15 E; Directed Patrol, Atkins Field, Alarm, S. Main St.; VIN Verification, W. Hill Road; Found Property, S. Main St.; Traffic Stop, S. Main St.; Traffic Stop, Wolcott St.

July 17: Medical, S. Main St.; Traffic Stop, Vt. Rte. 14; Traffic Stop, Vt. Rte. 4 S; Traffic Stop, Wolcott St.; Motor Vehicle Complaint, Vt. Rte. 15; Traffic Stop, Wolcott St.-Granite St.; Traffic Stop, Wolcott St.-Granite St.

July 18: Alarm, Buffalo Mountain Road; Traffic Hazard, Center Road; Suspicious Event, Mackville Road; Medical, Maple St.; Accident - TCNR, Brickhouse Road; Parking Problem, S. Main St.; Traffic Stop, Wolcott St.-Cottage St.; Alarm, Blizzard Way; Trespassing, Mill St.; Mental Health Incident, Center Road; Parking Problem, S. Main St.; Traffic Stop, Vt. Rte. 14; Traffic Stop, Wolcott St.; Traffic Stop, Wolcott St.-Elm St.; Traffic Stop, Wolcott St.; Traffic Stop, Wolcott St.-Elm St.; Traffic Stop, Wolcott St.-Elm St.; Traffic Stop, Wolcott St.; Traffic Stop, Wolcott St.

July 19: Accident - TCNR, Rte. 14; Suspicious Event, Vt. Rte. 15 W; Directed Patrol, Granite St.; Traffic Stop, Wolcott St.; Trespassing, Mill St.; DLS, Mill St.

July 20: Animal Problem, Belfry Road; Medical, High St.; Motor Vehicle Complaint, Vt. Rte. 15; Directed Patrol, Center Road; Traffic Stop, Cottage St.; Traffic Stop, Terrace Hill Road-Main St.; Traffic Stop, Wolcott St.-Elm St.; Traffic Stop, Wolcott St.; Traffic Stop, S. Main St.

Walden Fire Department Car Accident



A vehicle sits next to a utility pole it hit Monday evening in Walden.
photo by Jonathan ‘Porkchop’ Austin-Shortt, owner of Caledonia Wrecker Service

The Walden Fire Department firefighters to a car vs. pole incident responded with apparatus and Monday evening in Walden.



MARSHFIELD – The Vermont State Police is investigating a reported theft from a storage facility located at 8053 U.S. Rte. 2 in the Town of Marshfield. The theft occurred sometime before 2:37 a.m., on June 20. The following items were reported stolen: 2016 Alcom Snowmobile Trailer, 2016 Arctic Cat Bearcat 7000 Groomer Special – (Color: Orange), 2014 Polaris Ranger 800 Mid-Size, 2021 Kawasaki Ninja 400 Motorcycle.

Anyone who has information related to this incident is encouraged to contact Trooper Nozka and the Berlin Barracks at (802) 229-9191. Anonymous tips may be provided online at vsp.vermont.gov/tipssubmit.

CRAFTSBURY – On July 14, at approximately 1:35 p.m., Dylan Kinsey, of West Glover, reported a number of his tools were stolen from a job site on Black River Road in Craftsbury. The tools reported stolen include a Makita air compressor on wheels, Hitachi chop saw, Makita handheld leaf blower and accompanied batteries. It’s believed these were taken between the evening/night of Friday, July 11 and morning of Monday, July 14. Anyone with information is asked to call (802) 334-8881 or leave an anonymous tip online at vsp.vermont.gov/tipssubmit.



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Buyout

Continued From Page One

ledge above the water, hanging onto a root for balance.

“Operation rescue!” she called out, grasping for a piece of a mallow plant. “Just one little piece, but it’ll spread.”

Last summer’s flood wasn’t the first to hit the property. In 2011, Tropical Storm Irene compromised the home’s foundation. So the family poured over \$100,000 into flood-proofing the house, fortifying its base, along with replacing its electric and heating systems and repairing its well. Federal disaster grants and loans helped cover some of the costs, but Mackenzie didn’t recall any officials suggesting her family apply for a buyout. She painstakingly replanted her flower gardens.

This time around, there would be no returning to the house for the Mackenzies, or anyone else. FEMA had recently approved the family’s buyout application, meaning that some day, the government would compensate the Mackenzies for this place, and knock it down.

But as far as Mackenzie knows, that day is still far in the future, another year from now at least. Hands covered in silt and dirt, she paused to consider the long task ahead.

“I guess I get another summer to come dig things out,” she said.

After historic flooding swept through Vermont in 2023 and 2024, hundreds of property owners applied for buyouts to try and get compensated for homes and businesses they would likely struggle to sell.

Vanishingly few have happened yet. State officials are currently overseeing 264 FEMA buyout applications. Of those, only eight property owners have gotten their payouts so far. Zero demolitions have occurred as of mid-July 2025, according to data provided by Vermont Emergency Management.

“It feels like a very low number, two years out,” said Stephanie Smith, the state hazard mitigation officer for Vermont Emergency Management.

FEMA’s buyout process is notoriously slow and arduous, requiring local and state and federal officials to all work together.

But Smith’s team, which manages federal buyout applications on behalf of Vermont cities and towns, had worked hard to speed things up, she said. Streamlining the application process on the state’s end helped cut down FEMA’s review period from a year and a half to about three months, as of this past winter, Smith said.

Soon after President Donald Trump took office, though, roadblocks started to arise. In February, applications that Smith expected FEMA to greenlight relatively

quickly sat idle for months. Meanwhile, the Trump administration began reviewing the efficacy of FEMA programs; more than \$100 billion in FEMA grant payments were frozen, and grant approvals stalled, according to reporting from the New York Times.

This spring, FEMA started sending out approval letters again. But then came the next hurdle: It began quietly changing its rules for authorizing buyout applications, raising the bar on which projects it approves, Smith said. In early April, the agency, at the direction of the Trump administration, altered which projects it views as cost-effective, according to a mid-June press release.

“We were like . . . okay, here’s a giant brick wall. Deep breath, what do we do?” Smith said. “We don’t want to have to tell people that they’re not going to get buyouts. We told them they were going to get buyouts.”

Asked why the agency opted to make this change, FEMA’s press office said in a statement attributed to an unnamed spokesperson that hazard mitigation decisions are “policy informed.”

“To date, we are observing large unobligated balances across the board. We are working with states to assist them in identifying projects and drawing down balances in a way that makes the nation more resilient.”

When state officials learned of the cost rule change in late May prior to its official announcement, they scrambled to rework all the applications they were getting ready to send to FEMA, along with ones currently under the agency’s review, Smith said.

Almost 100 retooled applications later, all are still in the pipeline, for now. But Smith doesn’t feel relieved. If an already-approved application were to need any kind of tweaking, it would suddenly need to comply with different rules. For people still awaiting a decision from FEMA, that lengthy undertaking has slowed down. And given the Trump administration’s calls to eliminate FEMA and devolve its functions to states, everything seems precarious.

Hundreds of Vermonters are caught in that balance. Many are waiting to hear whether FEMA will advance their applications. Many others have cleared that step, but are biding their time before the money finally arrives and navigating tricky financial decisions in the meantime.

Peter Anthony, a former state representative for Barre City, had owned his home on Scampini Square for nearly 50 years. The July 2023 flood totaled it, and more flood



Rep. Peter Anthony looks at his flooded-out garden and home of over 45 years in Barre on Sept. 14, 2023.

file photo by Carly Berlin, Vermont Public-VTDigger

damage came a year later, he said. Anthony and his wife have lived in a small downtown apartment since August 2023, which FEMA rental assistance helped pay for until January.

Two years after applying, Anthony recently received indication that his buyout is finally near the finish line.

Yet he doesn’t expect the payout to solve his financial woes. Anthony wants to buy another home in Barre. But the appraisal he received through the buyout process, which is pegged to the home’s pre-flood value, is \$175,000, Anthony said, an amount that would “maybe buy half a house” in the current market. And he isn’t getting any younger. “How many mortgages can you get when you’re 81 years old for a house that you want to buy?” Anthony said.

To the east in Peacham, Rachael Moragues is also waiting on the money. She lived next door to the Mackenzies with her two sons, and they’ve bunked up at a friend’s house in neighboring Barnet. Each month, Moragues still makes a mortgage payment on a house she’ll never live in again, she said.

She’s keeping an eye on the fate of FEMA. If for any reason her buyout doesn’t go through, she’d need to file for bankruptcy to pay off the house, she said.

Looking at her old, boarded-up home, Mackenzie said she worries about what Trump’s calls to cut FEMA will mean for families like hers across the country. Friends crowdsourced enough money for her family to pay off the mortgage on their Peacham home after the flood, along with the loan they had to pay for the flood-fortification work post-Irene. They had just enough left over to put a down payment on a home in Craftsbury, she said.

The new house is over 30 miles away and their monthly mortgage payment is close to triple what it had been for the old house. They took the leap even before they learned they’d gotten the buyout approved, to ensure their 16-year-old twins would have a place to call home before they move away for college.

“It was a really, really big risk for us to move there,” Mackenzie said. “The buyout is completely necessary in order to refinance, to get our mortgage to a level around where this one was.”

Money

Continued From Page One

Leahy explained. One is funded by the State of Vermont through the Flood Resilient Communities Fund (FRCF) using ARPA dollars. That program is for properties outside of the FEMA-mapped floodplain.”

In 2023, Leahy said she submitted Hardwick’s first five properties without knowing the distinction. Four, including the Inn by the River, were not in the mapped floodplain and were routed to the state program. A property owned by James and Jada Anair was in the mapped floodplain and went through the FEMA process instead. Vermont Emergency Management approved all five requests, she said.

Hardwick was the fourth town accepted into the state program, according to Leahy. “The fund ran out of money after the seventh town was accepted in 2023.

“We became the first town in Vermont to demolish buyout properties through the FRCF program in 2024, just before the second flood. After that, the state added more money to the fund, and we were able to add two more properties from East Hardwick in 2024.”

“Meanwhile, the Anair’s property was joined by five more FEMA-submitted properties in 2023, and eight more in 2024,” said Leahy. “Those are in various stages of the FEMA process. As of this week, we’ve closed on five FEMA-funded buyouts,” including one just last Thursday.

OSSU
Continued From Page One

farms like Andersonville Farm in West Glover. It is using flour from Nitty Gritty Grains of Charlotte to make fresh pizza dough, and ready-to-use fresh produce from Just Cut of Hardwick to cut down on staff labor time. Students are enjoying crisp apples from Sunrise Orchards of Cornwall, even into the spring.

OSSU's partnership with Green Mountain Farm-to-School aided in its success. The nonprofit's food hub program, Green Mountain Farm Direct, facilitates the sale of local food from farms to institutions and businesses. Through Farm Direct, OSSU schools sourced fresh produce from Pete's Greens of Craftsbury, handmade pasta from Trenchers Farmhouse of Lyndonville, and fresh feta cheese from Sweet Rowen of West Glover.

The impact on students has been noticeable. "You cannot replace a fresh local tomato with something that's traveled across the country," Hussey noted. "Kids love having more to choose from: more color, more variety. They're eating roasted sweet potatoes and

kale and making connections to where their food comes from."

Working in the Northeast Kingdom presents challenges, says Hussey. "We don't have the population or as many local resources," she explained. "We're more dependent on [distributors], budgets are tight, and schools are small. But we've had buy-in from our district. It's a team effort. If local businesses aren't supported, we can't survive."

For other schools looking to increase local sourcing, Hussey offers this advice: "Pick a few Vermont staples, maple, beef, apples, and build from there. Find resources through food hubs or local vendors. When things go wrong, lean on the relationships you've built."

OSSU's accomplishment demonstrates how rural school districts can incorporate local foods into their meal programs through strategic partnerships, state support and a commitment to student health and community sustainability. Some initial tallying shows that OSSU's local purchasing surpassed 25% in 2024-25, with no plans of slowing down.

Center
Continued From Page One

The award to the center will read, in part: "The Craftsbury Outdoor Center, located in Vermont's Northeast Kingdom, is a nonprofit dedicated to sustainable outdoor recreation, community engagement and environmental stewardship. Founded in the 1970s and transformed into a nonprofit in 2008 by Olympians Judy Geer and Dick Dreisigacker, the Center offers year-round programs in Nordic skiing, sculling, running, and mountain biking.

"Craftsbury provides free

skiing and programming for local youth, supports athlete development from beginners to elites, and fosters lifelong participation in outdoor sports. It is also home to nationally recognized training programs for competitive skiers and biathletes."

Since 2002, the Vermont Ski and Snowboard Hall of Fame has recognized more than 80 people who have made snowsports history in the state. The purpose of the Hall of Fame is to honor athletes, special contributors and pioneers of Vermont skiing and riding who promoted and/or contributed to their sports in Vermont.

Plainfield Tax Bills Mailed

by Bram Towbin

PLAINFIELD – Town Clerk Bram Towbin said, "Plainfield Municipal tax bills were mailed yesterday," in a social media post on July 17.

"The municipal budget, approved by voters at town meeting, went up by roughly 3%. Given the catastrophic floods of the last two years the select board and other town officials have worked diligently at containing costs. The state mandated property reappraisal increased the value of most properties but the municipal tax rate went down significantly (from 1.0665 to 0.6006) Unfortunately most households will be paying more. The amount varies due to a combination of factors

(homestead declaration, income, veteran status.)

"The bulk of your tax bill (the last 2 of the 3 payments) goes to fund education. Plainfield town officials do not control school spending.

"The state of Vermont determines how the value of your houses are assessed, not the town. Municipal officials do not make the rules. In addition, the state regulates the state payment. If you have concerns about that figure please contact the Vermont Tax Department. Education tax related questions should be directed to either the state delegation or the Twinfield School. Town officials will be happy to answer questions regarding the municipal portion of your bill. Please be respectful. We are all working very hard."

Buffalo Mountain Land Negotiations to Begin

by Raymonda Parchment

HARDWICK – The Thursday, July 10 select board meeting consisted of a slew of appointments and approvals. Most notably, the select board officially began the process to acquire lands for a town forest after much discussion. The Hardwick Conservation Commission stated they are willing to assist with fundraising efforts, with Rachel Kane offering a \$1,000 personal contribution. Other contributions would come from public funds and private fundraising, with the total funds not due until closing. Hannah Redmon of the Trust for Public Lands, stated the board would first need to acquire the land, then there should be a steering committee set up to get public input. There will be an appraisal and title work, followed by an environmental review of the property.

Chair Eric Remick noted the town will lose \$5,000 a year in tax revenue. Board member Ceilidh Galloway Kane expressed support for the plan's flexibility, while Danny Hale expressed hesitation, citing a need for more time to prepare and seek input from the community.

Jack Travelstead of Northern Rivers Land Trust said the town of Wolcott just underwent a similar process, and public engagement was necessary throughout. Wolcott had a public hearing, set up a committee and also sent out surveys.

Ultimately, the board voted four to one to accept the 319 acre Buffalo Mountain property off of Wright Farm Road in order to convert it to a community forest, authorizing the Trust for Public Lands and the Northern Rivers Land Trust to start negotiations with the current landowner.

Hardwick Electric Department's (HED) Roger Prevot was present to provide the department's regular update. In an effort to improve the customer experience, HED has revised their engagement process with potential customers. Staff are now permitted to provide preliminary information and a project "scope," prior to paying a \$250 application fee. This will be an informal, non-binding one time site visit to help customers better assess whether they wish to proceed. This replaces the previous policy that required the application and fee upfront.

Town manager David Upson reported that the hiring committee for the Public Works Director

position had two interviews that week, and he hopes to line up a second round of interviews for the end of the month. Upson is continuing to work with FEMA in the wastewater treatment facility, lift stations, and fire department. Negotiations are currently underway between FEMA, the Town of Hardwick and engineering firm Aldrich & Elliott.

The contract for the pedestrian bridge is still being worked on. CCS Construction has the contract for the retaining wall.

The road foreman's report, delivered by Upson noted the crew has been ditching on Mackville Road with new stone produced from the town gravel pit. They have also been working on sidewalks, the Cottage St. bridge and fixing water lines.

In other business, the board approved several licenses including a second class liquor license for Agri - Mark, Inc., the Yellow Barn, a Manufacturers Tier 3 renewal for Green Mountain Scientific Corp., and a Manufacturers Tier 1 small cultivator renewal for Vitality Cannabis LLC.

Tyler Buswell was reappointed for a two year term to the Hardwick Conservation Commission, as was Kathleen Hemmens for a three year term.

Michael Ambrosino was reappointed to the HED board for a two year term, as was Jake Lester. Lester is an East Hardwick resident, sharing that he has been involved in the community for many years, bringing a background of power and utilities which he hopes will contribute to the board's work.

Larry Fliegelman and David Gross were both reappointed for three year terms to the Hardwick Planning Commission.

The Select Board voted to approve J. Merrill Construction for a total of \$76,900 as the contractor for the Emergency Watershed Protection (EWP) stabilization project in East Hardwick, authorizing the town manager to sign the contract with them. The board approved Horizons Engineering for the EWP 2024 properties for a total of \$96,000.

The board voted to approve the AWARE banner for their fall craft fair in September.

The town received seven coin-drop requests for 2026. To accommodate all interested organizations, and to ensure fairness, the board opted to draw names at random and schedule accordingly. More information can be found at hardwickvt.gov.

Touch Of Grace Holds First Appreciation Dinner



Touch of Grace congregation members serve a meal in honor of the Greensboro and Hardwick Fire Departments and Hardwick Police Department.
photo by Raymonda Parchment

by Raymonda Parchment

EAST HARDWICK – Saturday, July 19, proved to be the perfect afternoon for the first Touch of Grace appreciation dinner for the Hardwick Police and Fire Departments and the Greensboro Fire Department. With the sun shining and a slight breeze, members of the Touch of Grace congregation gathered Saturday afternoon to thank the area’s first responders with a barbecue meal of steak and chicken. A variety of sides and desserts

were available. Town manager David Upson was present, as was Police Chief Mike Henry. Pete Holbrook was manning the grill, with Sheryl McAllister and Melody Gamble taking up the mantle in the kitchen. For attendees, door prizes such as maple syrup and a Rite Way Sports gift certificate were announced during the meal. This is the first year Touch of Grace has held an appreciation dinner, to which the attendees voiced their appreciation.



Pete Holbrook remains steadfast in his grilling duties Saturday afternoon.
photo by Raymonda Parchment

Work Complete on U.S. 2 Resurfacing Project

by Vtrans staff

MONTPELIER – The Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTrans) has finished construction on the Marshfield-Danville NH PS19(1) Resurfacing Project. The Marshfield-Danville Resurfacing Project was located along U.S. Route 2 (U.S. 2) in the Towns of Marshfield, Cabot and Danville. The project consisted of reclaiming

work, milling and filling activities, excavation, paving, and signage and markings installation. VTrans is seeking feedback on the construction and communication throughout the duration of the project. The survey should take no more than five minutes to complete and will provide valuable insight to the project team. Go to [surveymonkey.com/r/PKK9TZR](https://survey.monkey.com/r/PKK9TZR) to access the survey.



Police Chief Mike Henry enjoys the slight breeze during a sunny Saturday afternoon, eating a meal prepared by Touch of Grace congregation members.
photo by Raymonda Parchment

Card of Thanks

The family of Walter Celley would like to express our sincere appreciation to those of you whose words of comfort and many acts of kindness since his death helped to lighten our grief and gave us many good memories to hold onto.

Thank you,
Cyrena Celley and Family

Fairgrounds Hosts State 4-H Horse Show

by Vermont State 4-H staff

ESSEX JUNCTION – The 2025 Vermont State 4-H Horse Show was held at the Champlain Valley Exposition fairgrounds in Essex Junction, July 11 to 13. Horse show participants also took part in quiz bowl and

judging, with the scores from these combined with the fitting and showmanship and 4-H project/suitability class to determine the overall 4-H Division champions. A local winner in the judging contest were: Juniors (8 to 10), Pliny Crafts, Albany (second).

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HARDWICK GAZETTE

Good Trouble Lives On Rally, Thursday, July 17



From left to right, U.S. veteran Louis Pulver and Annie Gillard joined the gathered sign-brandishers with smiles.

photo by Raymonda Parchment



Charity and Amber Carbine March stand in the sunshine, holding a handmade banner at Thursday's Making Good Trouble event.

photo by Raymonda Parchment



At rallies nationwide on July 17, the theme "Good Trouble Lives On" celebrated civil rights activist and U.S. Representative from Georgia, John Lewis on the fifth anniversary of his death at 80. Lewis was first elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1986 and served 17 terms.

photo by Ross Connelly



About 30 people turned out July 17 for a "Good Trouble Live On" rally along S. Main St. in Hardwick on the fifth anniversary of U.S. Rep. John Lewis' passing. Organizers of more than 1000 similar gatherings nationwide throughout the weekend used the opportunity to say "the most brazen rollback of Civil Rights in generations" should not be tolerated.

photo by Ross Connelly



"Good Trouble Lives On" Rallygoers at Hardwick's Peace Park July 17 on the anniversary of U.S. Rep. John Lewis' death include Alana Considine (center) and Louie Pulver (right).

photo by Kathleen Sampson



A range of messages at the Good Trouble Lives On rally last Thursday in Hardwick are carried by (from left) Nancy Oakes, Cathy Volk, Ruth Gallard and Kathleen Sampson as they sit on a bench at the Hardwick Peace Park.

courtesy photo

BBF Announces Local Grant Recipients

by Building Bright Futures

WILLISTON – Building Bright Futures announced the recipients of its Vermont Early Childhood Fund (VECF) awards for 2025 last week. The fund supports creative solutions to improve the well-being of children from the prenatal period through age 8, their families, and the Vermont communities in which they live.

These grants will allow awardees in every region of Vermont to pursue important and innovative projects.

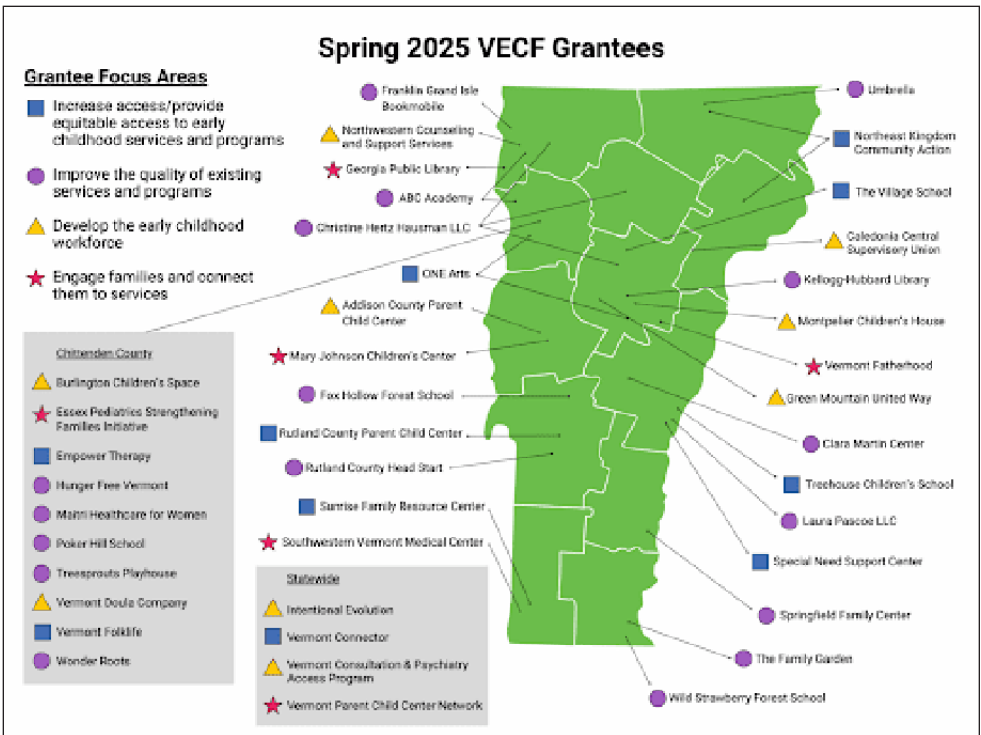
Caledonia Central Supervisory Union (CCSU) received a grant to support improvements to CCSU’s Early Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS), providing students, staff and families with effective strategies to improve both social-emotional and academic child outcomes.

Funding for Christine Hertz Hausman LLC in Franklin, Lamoille, and Washington Counties will support implementation of a professional development Community

of Practice (CoP) that will include 15 public school prekindergarten and kindergarten classrooms from Washington, Lamoille and Franklin counties. Educators in this CoP will enhance the quality of their programs by nurturing positive childhood experiences for all children, using the principles of the Reggio Emilia approach. Areas of inquiry may include play as a powerful learning tool, responsive teaching and building nurturing relationships.

The VECF Opportunity Grant awards to over 40 organizations range from \$10,000 to \$80,000 supporting easy-to-achieve solutions with direct results.

St. Johnsbury’s Umbrella has been elevating the voices of women, families and survivors of interpersonal violence in the Northeast Kingdom since 1976. Funding will support a new monthly meeting series for Specialized Child Care Providers in Orleans and Essex counties, as well as additional professional development opportunities. These meetings will offer support,



map courtesy of Building Bright Futures

State Top-Ranked for Journalists Per Capita

by Alex Strand

VERMONT – Vermont has been ranked first for number of local journalists per population in 2025. The Muck Rack Local Journalist Index Report revealed this data using bylines from across the country to create the “Local Journalist Equivalent,” (LJE) which includes county journalists, freelancers and a metro adjustment for city-based journalists reporting on small towns. Vermont’s statewide average was 27.5 LJEs. (Washington D.C. ranked higher than Vermont, but Vermont was the top-ranked state.)

Lamoille county ranked first in the state, with 54.8 LJEs per 100,000 people, and 59th out of 3,141 counties nationwide. Rutland, with 41.1 LJEs per 100,000

people was second in the state, followed closely by Caledonia and Washington. Essex County, Vermont’s least populous, was rated last, with just 1.1 LJEs per 100,000 people.

Across the country, the number of local journalists per capita has declined by over 75% since 2002 and “more than 1,000 counties, one out of three, do not have the equivalent of even one full-time local journalist,” said the report. This leaves 20.6 million people without a local correspondent.

They found that counties are maintaining journalist shortages regardless of size, with counties of mid-size (5,000 to 500,000 people) having above the national average of 8.2 LJEs per 100,000 people, and small and large counties having less than the average.

curriculum resources and professional development, complementing both the Early Childhood Network Meetings and the work of the CIS Specialized Child Care Coordinator.

The Vermont Consultation & Psychiatry Access Program (VTC-PAP) is a free, statewide initiative designed to support pediatric and perinatal medical providers in delivering high-quality mental health care to their patients. Funding will support free training for therapists in the SPACE therapeutic model, an evidence-based treatment for anxiety, obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD) and related conditions.

The Vermont Parent Child Center Network is the statewide organization that provides collaborative leadership, advocacy and support for Vermont’s 15 designated Parent Child Centers (PCCs), including Northeast Kingdom Community Action (NEKCA) and the Lamoille Family Center, so they are able to achieve the best outcomes for Vermont’s children, youth and families. Funding will support a statewide initiative to

boost family engagement and leadership at all 15 PCCs and enhance PCCs strategies for getting feedback from parents in ways that work with their busy schedules. The goal of the project is to build the systems, protocols and practices to ensure that PCC services are family-driven and responsive to the needs and concerns parents are facing.

VECF was established in 2021 thanks to a grant from a private donor and was able to continue to fund projects in 2022 and 2023 with support from the Sunflower Fund at the Vermont Community Foundation. VECF is currently funded by the Vermont Integration Project: Building Integration in Vermont’s Birth–5 Early Childhood Systems (VIP B–5) Preschool Development Grant. Thanks to this federal grant, VECF expanded its funding substantially this year, from \$105,000 for projects carried out in 2023 to \$8 million in grants awarded between December 2023 and July 2025. This is the fourth and final round of VECF funding under the PDG grant, which ends in December 2025.

Greensboro Development Review Board Warning

The Greensboro Development Review Board and the Greensboro Planning Commission will hold a joint hybrid meeting on Monday, August 11, 2025, 6-8 p.m., at the Greensboro Free Library and via Zoom. The Board and Commission will discuss the Greensboro zoning bylaw and other concerns. The hybrid meeting is open to the public.

The meeting number is 824 558 6005. There is no password. You may phone into the ZOOM meeting at: + 16469313860.

Zoomlink: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8245586005?omn=88054048190>

Additional information is available at www.greensborovt.gov. For further info, please contact Brett Stanciu, at 802-533-2911, or zoning@greensborovt.gov.

Greensboro Development Review Board

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EDITORIAL

Mea Culpa

In this era of technology that makes it almost too easy to create photos and text out of thin air using artificial intelligence tools and photo editing software, it is impossible for us at the Gazette to be too careful as we strive to be scrupulously accurate in our reporting and other coverage of area activities.

A case in point came to my attention almost entirely by accident when I met a former co-worker at a reunion for a company I haven't worked with since 2008. She asked where The Gazette had gotten last week's front page photo of the Woodbury Broad Band. My answer was a convoluted thread, as I'd first seen it on Facebook, then been referred to the supposed photographer, who turned out not to be. That person referred me to another person to identify the people in it and the photographer, who turned out to be that person's boyfriend, or so I've been told. My friend then added a twist when she said the photo in the paper included three people who weren't there when it was taken, but that she's Photoshopped into it later. It dawned on me that the person who identified the people in it when I asked who was in the photo of the Woodbury Broad Band had said, "which photo was it?" asking that I send it to her. Whatever her intent, I now suspect she knew there were two versions, particularly when her response included the comment, "ignore the red arm," which is now clearly an artifact of combining several photos into one.

Our deadline was

approaching by then and we'd already selected that photo for the front page so, despite artifacts in the photo that would likely have raised a red flag under other circumstances, we rushed through the formatting process, short the volunteer who usually does that work with a skeptical eye.

Have a look at the photo of the Woodbury Broad Band and compare it to last week's version on the front page there to see whether the composition is obvious.

While we don't always get things right, I regularly assert that an important mark of our fair and unbiased journalism is that we may not always get everything right the first time, but we don't hesitate to correct ourselves when we're wrong."

In an interesting twist on the use of technology, today as I was contemplating this editorial, I read that the CEO of Europe's largest publisher, and parent of Politico, among many others, is reported to have said, "As for disclosing AI use as a research and writing tool in articles . . . it would not be necessary any more than when one uses Google to look up information."

He did, however, say it was a writer's responsibility to check, double and triple check to be sure what they write is accurate.

Here at the Gazette we use technology to transcribe audio and video recordings, relying on careful reading and editing to weed out errors. But we have only just begun to experiment with artificial intelligence (AI)



The non-Photoshopped version of last week's front page photo shows Woodbury Broad Band members in the front row (from left) Lucinda Rochester, Photoshopper Sandy Reeks, Kathy Volk and Carolyn Stewart. Behind them are Ruth Gaillard, Patti Garbeck, Susan Alexander, Robin Gouin, Cacky Peltz and the deceptively complicit Carol Ray. Not pictured this time are Stephanie Appleton, Joanne Campisi and Lisa Flood.

real photo by Michael Malick

to do the relatively simple task of formatting writing to conform to our style.

The few examples of using AI to write an article or create a photo for The Gazette have appeared in our April Fool's Day issues the last two years. We carefully named that use

each time.

I expect we'll continue to let you know when we intentionally use technology to create new content for the foreseeable future. If that policy changes, we'll make note of that in our editorial box.

Paul Fixx, editor

For the Record

In last week's story, "July 10 Passes Uneventfully, Flood Mitigation Work Continues," Town Manager David Upson should have been quoted to say, "We always have our finger over the red button, but never took the cover off" during this event. The Hardwick Police Chief is Michael Henry and repayment of borrowed town funds makes them available for future emergencies.

The author of last week's story, "Electric Department Customers Qualify for Rebates, Incentives," is Liz Steel.

THE Hardwick Gazette

Since 1889

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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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VOICES OF SPIRIT

The Ripple Effect is Wide

by Deborah McKinley

CRAFTSBURY – I imagine we’re all familiar with the ripple effect. Drop a stone of any size into a pond, and watch the ripples feather out from the point of impact. It doesn’t take a rocket scientist to imagine the many ripples affecting us, emanating from us, moving toward and enveloping us.

I read a Facebook post today from a friend who lives in Atlanta. He and his wife own a home in the mountains of North Carolina. Their property was damaged in last year’s severe flooding. He’s been working tirelessly since that flood to clean up their property and to help in their neighborhood and surrounding towns.

It was devastating for him: the loss of life, the destruction, the horror, the immensity of it all. That Facebook post that I read, written July 5, reveals yet another rippling. When they were pre-teens he and his wife met at a Christian camp that is

nestled along the Guadalupe River. It is the same river that overtook Camp Mystic, killing 27 young girls and camp staff. He knows every inch of the area that has been severely flooded. He watches the video footage and can easily transport himself there. He knows people. He knows landmarks. He knows businesses. The place is in his bones. Just like his property in North Carolina. And just like that, the trauma of last year’s flood returns to him. The ripples from the flooding in Texas have reached him. Drop a stone into a pond; who knows where the ripples will go? We all know they reach far and wide.

As I write this, July 10 is a few days away. Many in Vermont are bracing for that day, a date on which many places in Vermont experienced devastating floods, each of the last two years. Will it happen again? The ripples from those floods continue to envelope us.

Horrific events and actions have ripple effects. No one can gauge

the impact one action or event has on others. The effect is not just local and it’s not only immediate. The ripple effect takes it far beyond the one spot and time of impact.

Isn’t that also true, though, for acts of goodness and kindness? Isn’t that also true for events of joy? I attended a wedding recently, the first one I’ve attended since my husband died. I was overcome with joy for the newly married couple, sad and missing my husband, grateful for our many decades of life together. Others there were also widowed, or divorced, or married or single. I wonder how the ripples from that event of love and joy enveloped them. The wedding was all about the couple getting married. And it was not. That particular couple worked hard so that it wasn’t just about them. Still, well beyond anything they could orchestrate, the ripples traveled far and wide, enveloping many, many people in their myriad of circumstances and places in life.

You and I are encouraged to

perform random acts of kindness. The data reveals that being kind does really good things for the person being kind. I don’t think that’s the only or even the primary reason for being kind. Kindness, love, joy, all the actions stemming from those positive emotions, have a ripple effect. Kindness begets kindness. Joy begets joy. Love begets love. Maybe it’s not direct, or immediate. You and I cannot plan how our kindness will be received, nor the impact it will have. We do know the effect of ripples. They reach far and wide.

Maybe acts of kindness, acts of love, expressions of joy ought not be so random. Maybe they could be a regular part of our lives, something we do each day. And maybe, just maybe, those ripples will reach far enough and wide enough to envelop even the most horrific of circumstances, relieving a bit of the suffering.

Deborah McKinley is a happily retired Presbyterian minister. She lives in Craftsbury and enjoys doing pretty much anything outdoors.

ANOTHER OPINION

Hard Choices, New Opportunities

by Carl Szlachetka

MORRISVILLE – Anyone who reads the news or pays even limited attention to what’s happening in Montpelier knows that Vermont’s education and healthcare systems are nearing a breaking point. Declining birth rates, shrinking student populations and double-digit increases in both property taxes and health insurance premiums are making it difficult, if not impossible, for Vermont families to make ends meet.

According to the Agency of Human Services, our healthcare system is in the midst of an affordability crisis at a time when Vermonters can least afford it. Individuals and businesses alike are watching healthcare costs for themselves and their employees rise beyond what they can reasonably pay. At the same time, healthcare providers and insurers are facing negative operating margins and uncertain financial futures. Something has to change and Vermont’s Act 68, enacted in 2025, is an early step toward that change.

Act 68 directs hospitals to make nearly \$106 million in spending cuts for fiscal year 2026, with further reductions in subsequent years — including an estimated \$135 million in savings from a new cap on provider-administered drug prices (Act 55

of 2025). These cuts will undoubtedly reshape how healthcare is delivered in Vermont, and that leads us to the first hard choice: do we resist change and cling to the status quo, or do we explore solutions that could both lower costs and increase access to primary care and other services?

On the education side, similar challenges are driving big decisions. Act 73, recently passed by the legislature and signed by the governor, will reduce the number of school districts from 185 to, possibly, fewer than 20. It also sets minimum class sizes and aims to eliminate duplicative administrative costs. The upside is that school funding will be less dependent on property taxes. School funding will still be done through property taxes, but it will now fund all schools with a foundation formula based on a base rate per pupil with additional funds for student needs. The downside is that many of the state’s smaller schools may need to merge with larger, nearby ones.

In the coming year, [Act 68] focus groups will identify \$106 million in potential savings, short-term, medium-term, and long-term, by analyzing and rethinking areas such as payer-provider contracting, hospital reserve fund usage, shifting care to non-hospital settings, regionalizing services and administration, and reducing discretionary spending. While the

choices will be difficult, the potential opportunities are significant. Much depends on how open Vermonters are to change.

Let’s break these five areas down:

Payer-Provider Contracting: One group will explore how consumers, providers, and the state can better share healthcare-related costs, ensuring access to high-quality care for all Vermonters.

Hospital Reserve Funds: Another group will assess how much “cash on hand” hospitals truly need, and whether some of those funds can be responsibly redirected.

Non-Hospital Care: Some groups will consider ways to shift appropriate services out of hospitals and into less expensive settings.

Shared Services: By regionalizing services like IT, administration, and purchasing, we can reduce duplication and improve efficiency.

Discretionary Spending: Focus groups will examine which expenses are essential and which can be eliminated without compromising care.

Each group will submit a proposal to the state with specific strategies and estimated cost savings. Some may find immediate opportunities, especially in contracting, reserve fund use, and discretionary spending. Others, such as shifting care and regionalizing services, may yield a mix of short-, medium-, and

long-term solutions.

But the work doesn’t stop there. Over the longer term, focus groups will also develop hospital-specific transformation plans, identify ways to strengthen primary care access and sustainability, and propose regional service delivery models to reduce duplication while preserving access.

With change comes uncertainty, and with uncertainty, resistance. But if we’re willing to think outside the box and move beyond “the way we’ve always done things,” we could not only lower costs but also increase access and quality. If we can reduce duplication and establish regional centers of excellence, where compassionate care is delivered by well-compensated professionals at sustainable costs, we may finally be on the path to solving Vermont’s healthcare crisis. It all starts with a shift in mindset.

Act 68 and Act 73 are here to stay. If we truly want to attract new families and businesses to Vermont, and if we want our young people to stay and become the next generation of doctors, nurses, educators, and tradespeople, we must rethink how we educate and provide care. The time is now. The choices may be hard, but the opportunities to build are stronger.

Carl Szlachetka is a member of the Copley Hospital Board of Trustees.

WEEKS GONE BY

Weeks Gone By The Hardwick Gazette, July 23, 1925

HARDWICK – Local Lumps: During the electrical storm which hit this place about 4:30 last Thursday afternoon, lightning struck the chimney on N. J. Coburn’s house on Wolcott Street and badly damaged it. This was about all the damage that was done in this village, although in the nearby towns considerable damage was done in various forms.

“Fresh Air” Children Will Arrive July 31st

The chairman of the local committee in charge of the entertaining of the Fresh Air Children reports that the number to be entertained remains about as reported last week, and will probably be between 115 and 120. The amount of the money donation remains about the same, around \$128 to \$130.

Aspenhurst

1.
Blessed indeed
Is the water
Of Caspian Lake,
Where the ripples
Blown by a gentle wind
Carry the soft
Fragrance of snow.
2.
On warm summer’s day,
Let us cast off our clothes
And cover our weary skin
In the clear cool wate
Of long melted winter.
3.
On a sunny July evening,
Let us peel potatoes
And shuck ears of corn
In preparation for a picnic
With friends on Barr Hill.
4.
On a windy morning,
Let us all lie in bed
Windows open to the air
Listening to the little
waves apping
Those rocks, these trees,
this shore.
5.
The holiest place
I’ve found up North
Is this water ringed
By green mountains,
Protecting the peace
With line upon line
Of heaven heaving earth.

Jarrold Ingles
Boston

Ingles spent time with his friends Ted and Kaitlin Hasen at their family’s house on Caspian Lake.

The committee states that places have been found for 18, where the committee will pay the board, and they wish very much to raise funds enough now for an additional lot of six children, where board will be paid. It seems as though this could be accomplished between now and next Friday, July 31st.

It is not yet definitely known whether the kiddies will arrive on the regular 1:19 P. M. mixed train, or by a special train, but the time of arrival will be published next week.

In the list of donors list week the name of Mrs. H. W. Powers, \$3.50, was omitted, and the Mrs. Harold Davis mentioned is the South Main Street family of that name. Among the new donations received are those of Mrs. B. O. Johns, \$3.50, and Mrs. E. H. Campbell, \$3.50.

Women Motorists

A professional man made the remark a few days ago that he disliked to meet women automobile drivers on the road. He expressed the feeling that while they “do pretty well” they are not quite so dependable in a crisis, have poorer judgment, lost their nerve and are altogether less capable than are men in the matter of guiding their horseless chariots through the maze of traffic. Is this indictment true? The question is of major importance because of the fact that

Overshadowing All Former Events!

A MERCHANDISING TRIUMPH of great import to the people of Hardwick and vicinity---Values for the second week of this Monster Sale eclipse all precedents in the history of local retailing.

The Intensity of Price Cuts is Startling

Here are a few examples---there are many others of like nature			
Men's Handker- chiefs	Skirts Navy and Black Wool	Men's Suits	Corsets \$1.50 to \$5.00 going at
3c	\$2.98	\$9.75	89c

J. H. McLoud Company

"The Corner Store"

HARDWICK, VERMONT

Merit Is Not Without Reward!
More than 4000 purchases were recorded the three opening days of this sale---More than 4000 people from far and near visited the store---Many came twenty miles or more to attend this Sensational Selling Event.

On Sale
Saturday, 9:00 a. m.
another lot of
SURPRISE BAGS
Many Containing Money
\$1.00

On Sale
FRIDAY ONLY
9:30 a. m.
500 yds.
**LOCKWOOD
A**
11 yds. to a
customer
14c

motor traffic is growing steadily and women are driving cars in increasingly large numbers.

Our police court blotters are crowded with cases against drunken drivers, reckless youths who have run amuck, and the “one-armed” variety against whom a war is being waged in many localities. It is seldom we read of a woman driver having her license revoked for one of these offences.

The motor vehicle commissioner of a neighboring state was asked his opinion regarding the competence of women drivers, generally speaking. While he throws no bouquets at the ladies, his opinion, as expressed, is that it is not a matter of sex, but of temperament and judgment.

“Some women will never make good drivers,” he says, “neither will a certain type of man. I have no means of knowing how many accidents reported to my office in which women drivers are involved, are due to any fault of theirs. The driver of a car is not always responsible for a mix-up. It is quite as likely to be the fault of the driver whom she meets. I have in mind women of sound judgment and a thorough knowledge of handling their cars who are as well able to meet a crisis as any men of my acquaintance. On the other hand there is the woman who ‘talks too much.’ It is useless to expect her to become a proficient driver.”

Doesn’t this size up the situation of woman’s status in the whole field of endeavor? It isn’t so much a matter of sex as of temperament, mentality and individual ability.

OUR COMMUNITIES

Natural Dyes, July 30

by **Craftsbury Community
Care Center staff**

CRAFTSBURY – A presentation on natural dyes will be held Wednesday, July 30, 6 p.m., with Prin van Gulden at the Craftsbury Community Care Center. The event will explore how dying textiles with

plants and minerals through the ages has connected with the natural world. Local fiber artist, van Gulden will present a slide show and host a discussion exploring the context and artistry that surround the craft and will share examples. The Care Center is located at 1784 East Craftsbury Road.

Community Fun Day, Aug. 7

GREENSBORO – A Community Fun Day for all ages will be held at the Greensboro Nursing Home on August 7, 1 to 3:30 p.m.

Circus Smirkus will be

perform, and there will be lawn games, an ice cream truck, face painting and music. There will be tours of the facility. Greensboro Nursing Home is located at 47 Maggies Pond Road.

Faerie Godbrothers Perform August 7

MARSHFIELD – The Faerie Godbrothers will perform at the Jaquith Public Library, Thursday, Aug. 7, at 6 p.m. The duo performs Americana, Roots, Bluegrass, Jazz, Soul,

originals and covers.

There will be a book and bake sale, and food vendors. More info at jaquithpubliclibrary.org or (802) 426-3581



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YANKEE NOTEBOOK

This One Hasn't Been Scripted

by Willem Lange

EAST MONTPELIER – It's been 92 years since the radio show, "Ma Perkins," first aired in the United States. There probably aren't many of us who remember it, which may be a blessing. Its modest daily domestic drama was sponsored by Procter & Gamble's Oxydol laundry detergent, inspiring the term, "soap opera", which attached itself to Ma Perkins and others of its ilk. Soap operas have persisted over the years, they're very big in Mexico, migrating to television and longer slots. They've also metastasized from backyard kerfuffles over unpainted fences and troubled love lives to incredible plots featuring, among other impossibilities, the resurrection of supposedly deceased bad guys. My late wife's favorite was a TV show called "Days of our Lives," which she called, with strong justification, her daily escape from reality. It was the cue for my escape, too, into my shop in the cellar.

Whatever their virtues or vices, soap operas have always caught the imagination of the middle classes. We're suckers for them. And just now, in the middle of one of the most bizarre episodes in recent American history, we've been swept up in another. This one hasn't been scripted, but it's every bit as predictable as if it had been. The characters are well-known and familiar. Even with that, news anchors report every detail with breathless excitement, and we pause opening the snack crackers and pouring a glass of wine in order to catch it all.

It should be embarrassing to us as a "nation of laws" that nothing the current administration has done in its first six months, not the gutting of programs dedicated to the support of our uninsured or underinsured citizens; or the roving squads of unidentified goons in battle costumes snatching people from the streets, farms and processing plants; or the gulag of "detention camps" right out of Solzhenitsyn; or the threats of ruinous tariffs as whimsical as a weathervane; or the assaults on education at all levels or any other administrative outrages perpetrated under clearly false pretenses, is as fascinating to us as the so-called "Epstein files." As a mass of citizenry, we are less interested in bringing justice to the many victims of Epstein's alleged child-trafficking system than finding out what prominent figures may

be implicated in the list of its clients.

The president is ever more obviously opposed to the release of the files. He's been dropping hushpuppies right and left (urging Coca-Cola to use cane sugar in its recipe or, for example, slamming the loss of First Nations names from athletic teams) to quiet down the growing demand for the files' release. The latest ploy, perhaps, is a reference to his clearly oedematous ankles as a benign symptom of advancing age. All to no avail. Heather Cox Richardson quotes one social meme: "Chronic venous deficiency is a condition where the veins in the legs have difficulty drawing attention from the fact that the Epstein files still haven't been released."

We're likely past the stage at which we're still discussing whether they exist, though the president, after claiming they don't, now has attributed their authorship to Barack Obama and Hillary Clinton. Vice-President Vance, before he assumed his office, called loudly for their release. Lately he's been averring that they likely are fictional. Reminds me of Lewis Carroll's line: "When the tide rises, and sharks are around, his voice has a timid and tremulous sound." One person who could shed light on the subject, Ghislaine Maxwell, is in jail, and considering the murky demise of her paramour and business partner, must be in reasonable expectation of a similar end.

So here we are, in what's becoming our usual mess, with the new stories and situations coming at us faster than, as Ms. Richardson points out, faster than reporters and media can keep up with them. The increasingly trivial subjects of the administration's gaslighting suggest increasing desperation to change the subject from the Epstein files; and now that the Clinton-haters have joined the baying pack, it's increasingly unlikely that Attorney General Bondi's probable release of redacted grand jury proceedings will result in anything but more fervor for the complete files.

What concerns me more than the dreary lawsuits, the temporary stays and the multiple ways that this can drag out over many more months is the notion that behind what appears to be a madman with a microphone may be a far more superior mind, someone with nothing to lose from the release of the files and a master of the prestidigitation for which the president is notorious. What's he (or she) distracting us from? Uh-oh. Now they've got me doing it!

Woodsmoke by Julie Atwood



“WHAT AMBER WAVES OF GRAIN?”

MEETING MEMO

Monday, July 28 Calais Select Board, fourth Monday of month, 7 p.m.	Cabot: cabotvt.us Calais: calaisvermont.gov Craftsbury: townofcraftsbury.com
Tuesday, August 5 Cabot Select Board, first Tues- day of month, 7 p.m. Craftsbury Select Board, first Tuesday of month, 7 p.m. Plainfield Select Board, first Tuesday of month, 7 p.m.	Greensboro: greensborovt.gov Hardwick: hardwickvt.org Marshfield: town.marshfield.vt.us Plainfield: plainfieldvt.us Stannard: Stannard town clerk: (802) 533-2577, open Wed., 8-noon, townofstannard@ myfairpoint.net
Wednesday, August 6 Wolcott Select Board, first Wednesday of month, 6 p.m. Town Clerks	Walden: waldenvt.gov Wolcott: wolcottvt.org Woodbury: woodburyvt.org

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IN THE GARDEN

Be Alert for European Cherry fruit Fly

by UVM Extension Service

BURLINGTON – University of Vermont (UVM) Extension and the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets are urging Vermont cherry growers and pick-your-own customers to be on the lookout for the European cherry fruit fly. Although this insect has not yet been detected in Vermont, it has been found in western New York, as well as in Ontario and Quebec, with new infestations detected in 2024.

The European cherry fruit fly (*Rhagoletis cerasi*) is an invasive pest that poses a serious threat to cherry crops. If it becomes established in Vermont, it could have major impacts on both commercial cherry production and backyard trees.

The pest can use both cherry (*Prunus*) species and honeysuckle (*Lonicera*) species as its host. While it prefers sweet cherries and honeysuckle as hosts, it also may be found on tart cherries and wild

cherries such as black cherry. The adult fly is about 4 to 5 millimeters long with a shiny black body and distinctive yellow markings. It lays its eggs inside ripening cherries. The larvae feed on the fruit for up to six weeks, making it unmarketable.

Currently, there is a quarantine in New York covering 7,353 square miles and 1,539 acres of commercial cherry production. It includes all of Cayuga, Erie, Genesee, Monroe, Niagara, Onondaga, Ontario, Orleans, Oswego, Seneca and Wayne Counties.

“We’re asking everyone involved with cherries, whether you grow them, sell them or pick them, to keep an eye out for signs of this pest,” says Ginger Nickerson, the UVM Extension forest pest education coordinator. “Early detection is our best defense.”

What to Look For: Tiny puncture marks on the surface of cherries, which may be exit holes left by mature larvae as they emerge



Soft, wilted or rotting fruit and tiny puncture marks on the surface of cherries may indicate the presence of European cherry fruit fly larvae.

photo by Alison Morris

from the fruit. Soft, wilted or rotting fruit that may contain larvae.

How You Can Help: Inspect cherries carefully during harvest. Report any suspicious fruit or insect sightings to vtinvasives.org. Do not transport fresh cherries or plant material from affected areas.

You can find more information

on the U.S. Department of Agriculture Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service’s European cherry fruit fly page (<https://go.uvm.edu/cherry-fly>).

“By staying alert, Vermonters can help prevent the spread of this pest and protect our fruit farmers,” Nickerson concludes.



The European cherry fruit fly adult is about 4 to 5 millimeters long with a shiny black body and distinctive yellow markings.

photo by Alison Morris



The larvae of the European cherry fruit fly may feed on ripening sweet cherries and the fruit of other host plants for up to six weeks.

photo by Alison Morris



Auctioneer Bill Burnor kept the action moving at the United Church of Hardwick Auction under a tent in the church’s W. Church St. yard last Wednesday evening during downpour

photo by Paul Fixx



Auctiongoers visit the food tent during a break in the action Wednesday, July 16 at the United Church of Hardwick Auction

photo by Paul Fixx

IN THE GARDEN

Blueberries One of Healthiest Foods

by Dr. Vern Grubinger

BURLINGTON – Blueberries, which originated in North America, are one of the healthiest fruits to eat. They have a unique and delicious flavor, are low in calories and are packed with antioxidants. They hold up well in the freezer or fridge, so can be enjoyed long after harvest. This year, the blueberry crop is plentiful on Vermont farms.

For centuries, Native Americans ate wild, or low-bush, blueberries. These grow naturally on acid soils, producing fruit that is rather small on plants that only grow about a foot tall. The domesticated, or highbush blueberry, produces much bigger berries and more of them on a plant that grows many times taller than its wild cousin.

The domestication of the blueberry started in 1908 when a researcher at the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Dr. Frederick Coville, began seeking out superior wild plants for breeding in New Hampshire. In 1911, he lucked out when Elizabeth White, a commercial cranberry grower in New Jersey, learned of his work and perceived its potential. She offered her assistance and for the next two decades enlisted her pickers to search for exceptionally fine bushes in the wilds of the pine barrens.

Dr. Coville developed the first 15 commercial blueberry varieties. In 1937, a Vermonter took over the USDA blueberry breeding program. Dr. George Darrow initiated cooperation with state agricultural experiment stations and private growers so new varieties could be

tested in different growing areas. Between 1946 and 1962, he provided over 200,000 seedling plants to cooperators in 13 states. Two of these cooperators were Green Mountain Orchards and Harlow’s Sugarhouse, both of which had apple orchards in Putney.

Over time, the highbush blueberry crop really took off. The 2022 U.S. Census of Agriculture counted 286 farms with 404 acres of blueberries in Vermont. The typical yield is almost 2,000 pounds per acre, so about 800,000 pounds of Vermont blueberries must be picked, sold and eaten in a relatively short time. Almost all these berries are sold directly to customers or to local stores and distributors.

Nationally, 795 million pounds of blueberries were harvested in 2024. About half the crop comes from Washington and Oregon, which have a combined 32,000 acres in production, mostly on specialized farms that ship to stores and processors.

Blueberries are unusual in that they require an acidic soil to grow well. In many locations, sulfur should be added to lower the soil pH before the crop is planted. Then, the plants must be mulched, pruned and irrigated to produce the highest yields.

Fruit buds form on the second year of cane growth, so removal of old canes is important to allow room for new canes, which maintain production over time. Blueberry bushes, if well-tended, live for many decades.

Eating blueberries can provide a slew of health benefits. They are a good source of vitamins C and K as well as dietary fiber. In addition,



Blueberries are best picked when they are a deep, even blue color, feel plump and come off the stem easily.

photo by Vern Grubinger, UVM Extension

blueberries, like other blue and red-colored fruits and vegetables, are high in antioxidants.

One of the antioxidants in blueberries is anthocyanin, a type of flavonoid responsible for the blue pigment. Antioxidants protect the body from free radicals, which are

unstable molecules that can damage cells and contribute to diseases. Research also suggests that blueberries are beneficial to maintaining memory and cognitive function.

Dr. Vern Grubinger is the University of Vermont Extension vegetable and berry specialist.



Bumblebees are an important pollinator of blueberry flowers in Vermont.

photo by Vern Grubinger, UVM Extension



Highbush blueberries produce large, sweet berries that ripen beginning in early to mid-July with peak season typically occurring in early August.

photo by Vern Grubinger, UVM Extension



Three unscary scarecrows recently appeared in a Greensboro pollinator garden on E. Craftsbury Road, across from the town green.

photo by Paul Fixx

The Outside Story

The Real Story of the Viceroy and the Monarch

by Loren Merrill

MILLBROOK, N.Y. – On a warm summer morning, you’re sitting in your yard enjoying a slow moment, when a flash of color catches your eye. Bright orange and black wings dance through the air before alighting on a purple cone-flower. There’s a good chance your first thought is “monarch butterfly.” After looking at the butterfly more closely, however, you realize it’s not quite right for a monarch. It’s a bit too small, and there’s a black line bisecting the black veins on both hind wings. This is no monarch: this is a viceroy butterfly.

When I first learned about the viceroy, it was presented as a (literal) textbook example of Batesian mimicry. Batesian mimicry is when a harmless species copies the appearance or behavior, or both, of another species that is distasteful or dangerous to predators. The story goes: monarch butterflies are noxious to potential predators because of the cardenolide toxins lacking their body, courtesy of the milkweed plants the larvae fed on. Viceroy butterflies have no such defenses, so they act as a copy-cat, disguising themselves as monarchs.

This often-repeated tale of the viceroy and monarch, made famous in Intro Ecology textbooks, is incorrect. Research conducted in the 1990s indicated that the viceroy is itself distasteful to predators, perhaps even more so than the monarch. The viceroy caterpillar feeds on the leaves of willows and

members of the aspen family, and the leaves of these plants contain salicin, a precursor to salicylic acid which is the active ingredient in aspirin. If you’ve ever mistakenly chewed on an aspirin, you know it is a very bitter pill to swallow. The viceroy caterpillar sequesters the salicylic acid into its tissue, thereby rendering the caterpillar (and butterfly) unappetizing. As a result of this finding, the viceroy and monarch now are considered to be Müllerian mimics: two species that have evolved to look like each other to reinforce the message of unpalatability to predators.

This two-way mimicry is specific to the adult phase of the butterflies’ life cycles; larvae (the caterpillars) and pupae (chrysalises) are quite distinct from each other. The monarch butterfly is boldly colored both as an adult and a caterpillar, using a type of signaling known as aposematism, in which conspicuous colors and patterns warn possible predators that the signaler is toxic. In contrast, the viceroy butterfly employs a more subtle strategy prior to metamorphosis: it mimics plant galls and bird poop.

The eggs, which are deposited on host plants such as willows (favored), poplars, cottonwoods, or aspens, resemble small galls, while the caterpillar and chrysalis stages look a lot like bird droppings. Not many animals have an interest in consuming bird droppings, so this tactic should help reduce rates of predation by visually



Viceroy and Monarch Butterflies

oriented hunters such as birds. The question is: if both species of butterfly consume and sequester noxious chemicals, why does the viceroy caterpillar adopt a strategy of cryptic mimicry while the monarch caterpillar proclaims its presence via aposematic coloration? The answer may come down to host plant specificity. Viceroys prefer to lay their eggs on willows, but can use a variety of other host plants, some of which contain salicin and some that don’t, whereas the monarch uses only species of milkweed (*Asclepias* spp.) as host plants, all of which contain cardenolides (although in differing concentrations). The cryptic mimicry of the viceroy may also protect individual caterpillars from predators who might cause lethal damage to the larva before realizing it is distasteful.

While the eastern and central North American populations of monarchs are famous for their migratory journey to Mexico, the viceroy is non-migratory and instead overwinters as a caterpillar, rolled up tight in a leaf. The caterpillar emerges in the spring and commences foraging on the leaves and catkins of the host plant. Once the caterpillar is ready to metamorphose, it crafts the scatological-themed cocoon and spends the next few weeks transforming into a butterfly. When the butterfly emerges from the silken chrysalis, it unfurls its wet wings, spreads them open to dry, and then launches itself into the air: bright orange and black wings a beacon of beauty and bitter taste.

Loren Merrill is a writer and photographer from Millbrook, N.Y., with a PhD in ecology. Illustration by Adelaide Murphy Tyrol.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

VEC Shares Power Planning Considerations

by Vermont Electric Co-op staff

JOHNSON – Affordability, diversity, and synergy are the principles that guide Vermont Electric Co-op when buying wholesale electricity, VEC Power Planning Analyst Dan Potter said during a recent webinar focusing on VEC’s power supply purchasing strategies. The webinar is available for review at youtu.be/babbxkxzTjE

As VEC considers its purchases of power to supply the utility’s 33,000 members, Potter says the co-op also relies on input from the VEC Board of Directors, an annual member survey, as well as state requirements. When

choosing how much to buy of which source, among them large hydro, wind, solar, biomass and nuclear energy, Potter noted that the cost of power is always the predominant consideration. He also said that diversity of sources reduces financial risk for the co-op and strong synergy among different sources assures that different power supplies are complementary with each other, and also assures power is available when members need it.

Questions from the webinar’s attendees focused on battery storage, how nuclear power fits into the future of VEC’s power supply and VEC’s Co-op Community Solar Program.



A newly paved section of Center Road near Montgomery Road is being rolled Monday afternoon. A flagger said the Pike Industries crew starts work at 6 a.m., ending “when they get done.”

photo by Paul Fixx

OUR E-MAILS

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OUR COMMUNITIES

Kids Move, July 26

by Woodbury Community Library

WOODBURY – Second session of a movement exploration with a focus on fine motor skills for children aged toddler to 10 years,

with physical therapist Sarah Hingston Prentiss, Saturday July 26, 10 a.m., in the Woodbury Community Room.

This is a free event sponsored by the Woodbury Community Library.

Families First! Protest, July 26

by Ellie Hayes

HARDWICK – Indivisible Hardwick will host a Families First protest at the Peace Park on Saturday, July 26, at 10 a.m.

Families First is a nationwide day of action that will be simultaneously occurring in all 50 states on Saturday. The message is: Prioritize our families over billionaires. This mass mobilization is

in response to the federal government’s choice to trade health, safety, and basic needs for tax giveaways.

The park is located between the Civic Standard at 42 S. Main St. and Mike’s Service Center at 22 S Main St. For more information, call (802) 595-9780 or (802) 456-1983. This event is rain or shine.

Ellie Hayes represents Indivisible Hardwick

Colors of the Wild, July 30

by Jaquith Public Library

MARSHFIELD – Colors of the Wild will be presented on Wednesday, July 30, 6:30 p.m., at the Jaquith Public Library. Presented by the Vermont Natural

History Museum, the program will explore some of the differences in animals’ visual experiences and how plants and animals make use of sight and color.

More information at jaquith-publiclibrary.org or (802) 426-3581.

Forest Health Update Online, July 30

VERMONT – Vermont Coverts will present a discussion on Wednesday, July 30, from noon to 1 p.m., on forest, parks and recreation with forest health specialist Josh Halman who will identify key issues and questions

around forest pests and forest health concerns facing Vermont’s forests.

Register at vtcoverts.us to receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

Storytelling Event, July 31

HARDWICK – A storytelling event with Samara Anderson will be presented on July 31, at 6 p.m., at the Jeudevine Memorial Library. Stories can range from 5- to 7 ½ minutes and can be about anything. Interested storytellers can email anderson_samara@yahoo.com or

contact the library for more information. This program is free and open to the public in the Parker Ladd Community Room at 93 N. Main St. The entrance is at the new parking lot on the lower level.

For more information, call the library at (802) 472-5948.

Insulating Window Inserts Sign-up Available

by Window Dressers staff

AREA TOWNS – Energy Committees in towns in northern Vermont have partnered with Maine-based WindowDressers to host community builds in fall 2025 to help neighbors stay warm while lowering energy costs. WindowDressers insulating window inserts are custom fit inside existing windows to let in sunlight and views, while keeping heat inside the home. The inserts are

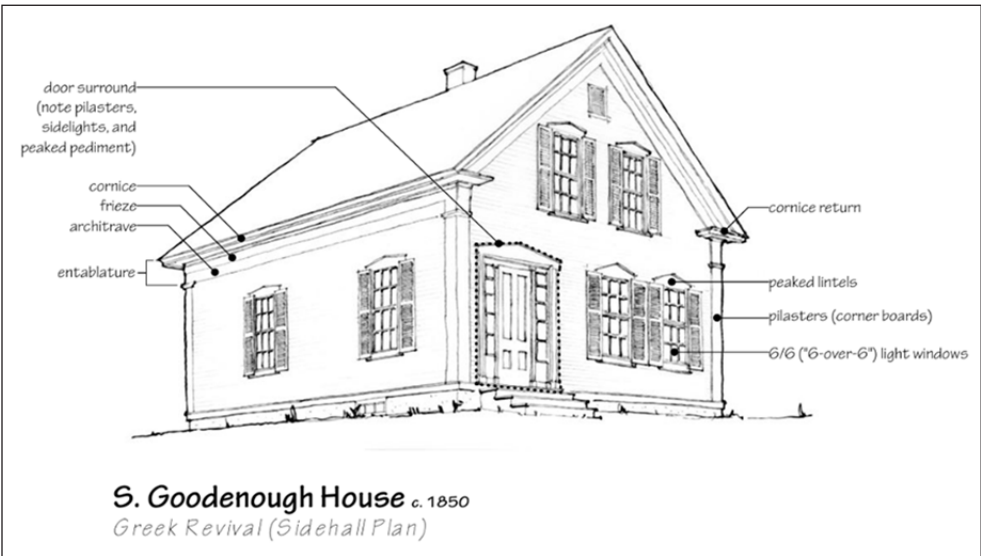
high quality and low cost because they are built at barn-raising-style community builds across Vermont. Because inserts are made to fit specific windows, they are measured by local teams in the summer and early fall. Sign-up is now available for the service. Energy Committee volunteers are measuring windows this summer.

To see the complete list of Vermont towns, learn more and sign up for inserts and to volunteer visit windowdressers.org.

Music, Movement, August 5

HARDWICK – On Tuesday, August 5, at 10:30 a.m., at the Jeudevine Memorial Library, ages 5 and under will use colorful scarves

and other instruments for a music program. For more information, contact jeudevineyouthlibrarian@hardwickvt.gov or (802) 472-5948.



An Architectural Cheat Sheet accompanying The Calais Town History Tour shows various details you’ll find on the older houses around town, with descriptions of how they relate to different periods and styles.

courtesy drawing

Calais Town History Tour now Available

by Paul Fixx

CALAIS – Visitors and town residents now have access to a guided audio tour of Calais history created by the Calais History Preservation Commission. The Calais Town History Tour is presented in twenty-one episodes, each four to five minutes long that can be downloaded to a smartphone. Each segment can then be heard as listeners drive, bike or walk from location to location around Calais stopping at each tour location.

The tour’s stories take the listener through Calais’s history,

from the period when the Abenaki were the only people in the forests of what is now Vermont, to the arrival of the first white settlers in the 1780s, to the growth of young Calais and the foundation of industries and factories.

The struggles of Calais residents in the Civil War and Depression and the forces and factors that led Calais to become the town it is today are highlighted. The tour shows that the history of Calais can be read not just in books, but in its buildings.

Access the tour at kentscorner.org/audio-tour.

Saturday Events on the Trails

HARDWICK – The Hardwick Trails Committee Saturday events include: July 26, Medicinal Plants with Erin Rosenthal; August 2. Art and Nature for Kids (Making walking sticks) with Brittany Lumsden-Berry; August 9, to be announced; August 16, Sketching in the Woods with Susan Sawyer; and August 23, Searching the

Night Woods with Black Light with Joe Nudell. In late September or early October, there will be a geology walk with Dave Mitchell. Find details of these events in later posts in the Hardwick Gazette, Front Porch Forum, hardwick-trails.com and Hardwick Trails on Facebook. All are welcome at these free events.

EDUCATION

Trevits Named to Dean’s List

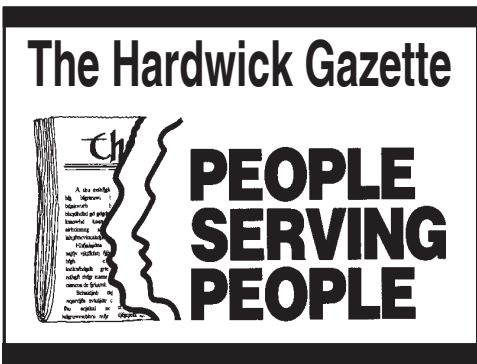
PURCHASE, N.Y. – Nicholas Trevits of Craftsbury Common, Vt. has been named to Purchase College’s Dean’s List for the Spring 2025 semester. Trevits is studying Music: Performance Instrumental. To be eligible for the Dean’s List,

students must carry a semester GPA of 3.5 for Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science programs and 3.75 for Bachelor of Fine Arts and Bachelor of Music Performance programs. They must take a minimum of 12 credits.

BIRTHS

Mila Rose Robarge

A daughter, Mila Rose Robarge, was born to Alexis Tyler and Allen Robarge, of Hardwick, on July 16 at Copley Hospital.



OBITUARIES

Charles Raymond Arnold Sr.

WOLCOTT – It is with profound sadness that we announce the passing of Charles Raymond Arnold, Sr. He passed peacefully at home, surrounded by family on July 12.

Chuck was born on November 4, 1937, in Morrisville, and spent his life dedicated to his homestead and family.

Shortly after graduating high school from Peoples Academy in 1955, he enlisted in the Army where he served as a Specialist 5th Class T as an airplane mechanic. He spoke often and fondly of the time he spent in France from 1958-1960. While reminiscing, he beamed with pride and loved showing us the old 8mm film and photos from his time abroad. He went on to obtain his pilot’s license; one of his proudest achievements.

Following his honorable discharge from the Army, it was of no

great surprise that he would go on to continue his work as an auto mechanic. Chuck spent 25 years at Stowe Auto and then three years at Gillen Ford in Morrisville, only retiring per the doctor’s orders. Easing his way into retirement he spent a few more years at Trapp Family Lodge as a security guard.

Chuck married Myra Peno on January 5, 1970. After spending some time in Athol, Mass., they ultimately settled and built their home together in Wolcott where they raised six children: Melvin Arnold of Wolcott; Linda Cleveland of Pittsfield, Va.; Charles Arnold Jr. (Kerry-Ann) of Wolcott; Shawn Arnold (Shelly) of Morrisville and Joanie Smith (Sean) of East Montpelier. He was predeceased by his daughter, Robin Arnold and his wife, Myra; both of whom he deeply missed.



Charles Raymond Arnold Sr.

Chuck also helped care for his grandchildren Briana, Dylan and Morgan Arnold. He and Morgan shared a strong bond that reflected unconditional love, mutual respect and bridged generations.

When he wasn’t working on a vehicle, Chuck enjoyed building their home, tending to his vegetable garden and flower beds, hunting, fishing and always making sure the lawn was well manicured. He also spent a great many hours each summer planting fruit trees and expanding rock walls throughout their property. Once he was officially retired, he enjoyed spending his days with his grandchildren and going on long car rides with Mom and Joanie. He also enjoyed diving into his ancestry and sharing stories and photos from prior generations that sometimes-spanned multiple centuries.

A stoic man, he faced challenges with remarkable composure. Though emotions were not always openly expressed, actions spoke volumes. Kindness was evident, with a listening ear and practical help offered without being asked. Generosity extended beyond finances, investing time and energy in the

well-being of others, sacrificing his own needs. He possessed unwavering integrity, always doing what was right, and living by the principles instilled. Honesty, hard work and respect for others were core values, leaving a strong moral foundation.

Chuck is survived by his children, brothers Brendan Arnold and Carl Arnold and many beloved grandchildren: Briana, Dylan and Morgan Arnold; Chiara, Catherine, Jacoby and Adeline Smith; Joseph Bowen; Shyanne, Shelby, Ryan and Logan Arnold; Kriston and Natasha, Safiya, Shakira and Charles R. Arnold III, and Kayla Atkinson; and Dakota, Jasmin, Kendra, and Kayla Daigle-Arnold. He was also blessed with many great-grandchildren: Landon, Dylan, Noah and Freya Bowen; Lincoln and Nathan Boynton; Aiden, Isaac and Ethan Arnold; Eli and Owen Reynolds; Hudson Arnold; Cooper Ruetz, Jamie and Callen Morin; Watson Farnham, Raelynn and Ottis Arnold; and Jaxon Teale.

In addition to his wife and daughter, Chuck was also predeceased by his parents Raymond and Grace (Driscoll) Arnold.

We would like to extend our gratitude to Lamoille Home Health and Hospice for their kindness and support over the last several weeks.

Calling hours will be held Thursday, July 24, from 5 to 7 p.m., at des Groseilliers Funeral Home at 97 Church Street, Hardwick. Graveside services are Saturday, July 26, at 10 a.m., at Taylor Cemetery, 1004 Gulf Road, Wolcott.

Arrangements are with the des Groseilliers Funeral Home. Condolences and memories of Charles may be shared with his family at dgfunerals.com.

Sandra Ducharme

CABOT – Sandy Ducharme was born on August 7, in St. Johnsbury. She was the oldest daughter of Ruth Stuart LaPoint and Avery LaPoint, and one of six children. She graduated from Cabot School in 1969. Sandy married her high school sweetheart, Richard Ducharme, also of Cabot, on May 22, 1971. They have resided in Cabot ever since. She is survived by her daughters Christina Ducharme, Cabot and Stephanie Ducharme, Vass, N.C. and her beloved grandson Nathaniel Munro-Ducharme, Montpelier.

Sandy lived a full and varied life. She loved the arts, walking, nature and being of service. She was involved in community arts from the time her daughters were small children through to the end of her life. In the ‘80s you could find her making hats and sculpted dolls. In the ‘90s she made costumes, arranged hair and did makeup for all of the high school musicals. In fact, she began making costumes and clothing for her siblings as a very young girl. As an adult, she expanded into creating and selling floorcloths, and eventually became known for her fabulous hooked rugs. Sandy loved rug hooking. She created several masterpieces that won internationally judged shows, and was regularly featured in rug hooking magazines. Sandy loved to share her joy of art through teaching and her classes were in high demand.

Nature was the inspiration for all of her art. She could be seen walking miles a day in her neighborhood watching for birds, noticing baby foxes and texting photos of each sunrise. She was also an



Sandra Ducharme

avid flower gardener. Richard and Sandy ran Hillcrest Nursery for 10 years and loved the people and the plants.

Sandy fell on July 16, and suffered catastrophic injuries to her spinal cord and was paralyzed from the neck down. Her final days were spent surrounded by loved ones and making us laugh with her facial expressions, which spoke volumes. She made the choice to come off of life support on July 18. Sandy passed in a circle of loved ones sharing stories and favorite moments. She was a gem in our community and will be sorely missed. Memorial services will be held at Richard and Sandy’s home at noon August 9, at 849 Ducharme Road, Cabot. Parking for the memorial service is located in the field behind the house courtesy of Under Orion Farm. Condolences and memories of Sandy may be shared with her family at dgfunerals.com.

OUR COMMUNITIES

Cadow Book Discussion, July 28

by **Craftsbury Community Care Center staff**

CRAFTSBURY – A discussion of Kenneth M. Cadow’s book, “Gather,” will be held Monday, July 28, 6 p.m. at the Craftsbury Community Care Center. The

discussion is facilitated by Rachael Cohen, supported by a grant from Vermont Humanities. Books are available at the Simpson Library, the Albany Library, and the Craftsbury Community Care Center. The Care Center is located at 1784 East Craftsbury Road.

Wood Turtle Ecology, Conservation, July 29

by **Woodbury Community Library and Woodbury Conservation Commission**

WOODBURY - A presentation about Wood Turtles with Kiley Briggs, director of conservation

for The Orianne Society, will take place Thursday, July 29, 6 p.m., in the Woodbury Community Room. This is a free event sponsored by the Woodbury Community Library in collaboration with the Woodbury Conservation Commission.

Josiah Dyer Features Beautiful Voice in Generous Concert

REVIEW

by David K. Rodgers

GREENSBORO – The Josiah Dyer Band came to the Highland Center for the Arts in Greensboro Friday and gave a very generous concert of some 30 songs, many of which were original works. This event was in support of a fund raised for Justice for Dogs, a local all volunteer animal rescue organization dedicated to saving the lives of local animals in need, founded in 2007 and based in Hardwick.

Josiah Dyer comes from Charleston, Maine, north of Bangor, and was accompanied by his father on bass and his brother Simeon on percussion. He began learning to play the guitar when he was 11 years old and has become an accomplished musician already at 19. What is most remarkable about him is his very distinct, beautiful voice, with fine color and warmth, excellent projection and enunciation, combined with expressive phrasing of the lyrics, truly exceptional. To all this should be added his engaging stage presence, moving his body flexibly in syncopation to the music to add visual interest to his performance and projecting a genuine personality with a sense

of humor that connects with any audience. In addition to winning a number of awards in Maine, he has explored the Nashville country music scene and hopes to have a recording of his own compositions out soon.

After two introductory songs, the second about a man and a car, he sang a piece about being on a train, with appropriate rhythms of a locomotive moving down the tracks, his strong, commanding voice immediately impressive. A tune from a film called “Cold Storage” had the repeated line, “You’ve got a friend in me.” Very amusing were the lyrics to a tune about “Some of the things you should never tell your wife.” The classic oldie, “Hey, good lookin’, how about cookin’ somethin’ up with me” was given a lively interpretation. A song about a sweet old man asks the painful question, “You can’t tell me this all ends in a hearse?” had a meaningful message. Another train piece was a real toe tapper, about a long way to go and a short time to do it, east bound.

“Letters from Home” was a moving work, dedicated to veterans, visualizing how much some contact from home means to a soldier in the field. A song about “making our own way, the only way we

know how,” got the audience participating saying “He Haw” at the beginning and end.

Reminiscences of dusty, dirty fields in a place where one grew up, where a young person getting no response from his father. He sees the hopelessness of any future to be had with a certain sadness, was a song with a driving beat characterized a piece about a farmer facing no rain since July and his crops dying, with the phrase “We’ll never win.” “Your Cheatin’ Heart” regretted the unfaithfulness of a lover, but felt some recompense that “the time will come when you’ll be blue.”

In reference to his family and particularly his grandparents was the song with the important exhortation to “spend time with the people you love.” Curious were the lyrics to a song saying, “that’s all right, anything you do,” including leaving the relationship altogether. Another song of parting expressed regrets but hopes that “some day your gonna ask me back.”

“Long Black Train” had that railway track clicking beat again and referred to Christ and God. A piece about a “simple man” frustrated by crime in the streets and other problems seemed to want to take the law into his own hands.

“I’m All Shook Up” was a song made popular by Elvis Presley about the physical effects of a woman. “A Better Class of Losers” was an original composition articulating a decided preference for more down to earth friends than pretentious upper class people. “Lonesome Nights” suggested that “somethings broken... that you can’t see,” and “All I can do is sit there and cry.”

“Heartbreak Hotel” was

another Presley classic, and “How To Steal a Car” was a hilarious do-it-yourself manual of advice for the way someone working at a Cadillac assembly plant, with a “ten finger discount,” could steal the pieces of a car one by one over the years and then put it together at home, getting a free vehicle.

“Wondering Why” was a positive meditation of how a woman “loves me the way I am” and “Keeps on loving,” making a “little piece of heaven.” In the familiar oldie, “You Are My Sunshine,” Dyer impersonated three different singers, including Presley and Willie Nelson.

A piece about an incompatible relationship was followed by “Ring of Fire,” a metaphor for the passion of love. “Falling in Love With You” was another classic, with heartfelt lyrics.

Dyer’s last song was “I Did it My Way,” celebrating a joyful independence, “I’ve loved, I’ve laughed, I’ve cried, and now as the tears subside I find it so amazing the way I sing.” After a standing ovation and urgent calls from avid fans in the audience for one more piece, he gave an encore, singing “The Man Walked,” written this past Memorial Day, about the loss of a loved one, who will never come home again, and how “it will never be the same.”

Many of Dyer’s original songs showed a wider diversity of subjects that he explored than simply dysfunctional relationships, perhaps too typical of country western music. With his beautiful voice, charismatic personality and talent for creating fine melodies and resonating lyrics, he is definitely someone to look out for in the highly competitive world of popular music.

Densmore Poems, New Poems at Trails

by Norma Wiesen

HARDWICK – A new set of poems is posted along the Green Trail including those of Victor Densmore of Hardwick. He has written two of them and wrote the first poem about the Trails for their dedication 22 years ago.

Densmore is a lifelong Vermonter, coming to a small Hardwick farm with his family at age 6. He is still here in his ninth decade. A child-writer of nature stories, “How the Skunk Got Its Stripes,” for one, he did not get interested in poetry until his wife, Cheryl, was writing haiku in a college class. And he has not stopped since.

Densmore said, “Prose writers are more concerned with being clear, informing, somewhat factual. Poets want the reader to see something familiar but think about it differently.” Finding “a novel way to describe a thing by comparing it to something not totally related” is a challenge he enjoys. He characterizes his work as having “shadows or echoes” of Walt Whitman and Robert Frost. “I’m not a ‘beat’ poet,” he says.

Densmore has published two collections of poetry, “Dust of the



Hardwick poet Victor Densmore enjoys pie at the Village Restaurant.

courtesy photo

Road” and “Out of the Hermit’s Meadow and Wood,” and has a third in progress to be titled “East of Sundown.” His books are available locally at the Galaxy Bookshop.

In addition to Densmoe’s poems, the Hardwick Trails features poetry from Hazen Union students and other published and unpublished area poets. A poetry map is available at the Hardwick Trails kiosk behind the Hazen Union parking lot.

Norma Wiesen is a Hardwick Trails Committee member.

Poets Read From Recent Publications

by St. Johnsbury Athenaeum staff

ST. JOHNSBURY – Vermont poets Scudder Parker and Angela Patten will read from their recent books of poetry On Sunday, August 3 at 3 p.m., in the Art Gallery of the St. Johnsbury Athenaeum.

Parker grew up on a family farm in North Danville. He’s been a Protestant minister, state senator, utility regulator, candidate for governor, consultant on energy efficiency and renewable energy, and is now a full-time poet and writer.

Patten’s publications include five poetry collections, most recently “Feeding the Wild Rabbit” and a prose memoir, “High Tea at a Low Table: Stories From



Poets Scudder Parker and Angela Patten will read from their recent books on August 3, at the St. Johnsbury Athenaeum.

An Irish Childhood.” She is a senior lecturer emerita in English at the University of Vermont.

A wine and cheese reception will follow the reading. This event is free, open to the public and ADA accessible. The library is located at 1171 Main St.

Ivakhiv Talks of Undefeated Ukrainian Spirit

REVIEW

by David K. Rodgers with Paul Fixx

GREENSBORO – Adrian Ivakhiv came to the Highland Center for the Arts in Greensboro last Wednesday evening and gave a fascinating talk, “Ukraine the Climate of War and Peace,” setting that tragic conflict in a more global context that has serious consequences for all of us. He holds the J.S. Woodsworth chair in the Humanities at Simon Fraser University in Vancouver, B.C., and was formerly a professor at the University of Vermont. He has long summured in Greensboro with his family, connected by marriage to the Grays. He is the editor of a new book, “Terra Invicta, Ukrainian Wartime Reimaginings for a Habitable Earth,” a collection of different authors on such subjects as history, food, literature, art, poetry, personal experiences and scholarly explorations of Ukraine’s distinct culture. His ancestry is Ukrainian and he has visited the country many times over the past 35 years, most recently at the beginning of this summer.

Russia invaded Ukraine on February 24, 2022, in a blatant violation of the Budapest Memorandum of 1994, which guaranteed respect for Ukraine’s territorial boundaries in exchange for giving up its nuclear arsenal at the time of its independence from Russia with the break-up of the old Soviet Union following 1989.

Expecting an easy blitzkrieg victory, the Russian forces soon became bogged down by fierce Ukrainian resistance. Euphemistically labeled a “special military operation” by Putin, it is now in a stalemate on multiple fronts, with an estimated loss of over a million Russian soldiers, many drafted from ethnic minority groups from the eastern part of the country.

The utter brutality of Russian troops, especially to civilians, quickly made the Ukrainian people aware of how deadly any Russian occupation would be and united the vast majority behind President Zelensky. Attacks by Russian drones and missiles have occurred almost nightly, targeting cities and towns, civilian infrastructure as well as military installations, the latest on July 4, involving some 500 weapons lasting eight hours, said to be Putin’s gift to Trump.

Russia’s vicious war is both ecological and cultural. Among innumerable atrocities was the destruction in 2023 of a large hydro-electric dam on a major river in central Ukraine, causing widespread flooding, while agricultural land near the

war zones have become mine fields. Potential attacks on nuclear power plants near battlefields could prove catastrophic consequences for the spread of radioactive material over large areas of the country and beyond, far worse than Chernobyl.

Ukraine’s extensive wheat production in regions of rich black soil, crucial to many third world countries, is now prevented from being exported through the Black Sea. On the cultural side, the avowed aim of Russia is to destroy the unique monuments and heritage of Ukraine’s past, ban the very language and literature of Ukrainian and impose a ruthless dictatorship over the whole country.

Russia is the last colonial empire in the world. Other European countries gave independence to most of their former colonies within decades of the end of World War II, but until the dissolution of the Soviet Union, Russia maintained control over a vast area of eastern Europe as well as central and northern Asia.

There is a long, horrible history of Russia’s suppression of Ukraine’s cultural identity. The czars forbade the language, which continued in far worse forms under Stalin, who caused the death by starvation of six million Ukrainian farmers who owned their own land in the early 1930s, as well as killed countless numbers of the Ukrainian intelligentsia in the same decades. Putin’s annexation of Crimea should have been opposed at the time, for it set the precedent for the invasion in 2022.

Ivakhiv went into some of the background behind the current crisis of climate change and how that is tied into the war in Ukraine. The present geological period has been labeled the Anthropocene, reflecting the profound effects that human beings have had on the earth in recent centuries. Different vectors enter into this equation: colonialism by Europeans after 1492 in North, Central and South America, Africa and Asia, with the extraction and modification of resources without any accountability for the cost to the natural world and people. Another vector is the plantation system, which meant cutting down trees and introducing single crop agriculture; capitalism combined with unencumbered imperialism; and subsequently the industrial revolution powered by coal and then gas and oil fossil fuels, increasing the proportion of carbon in the atmosphere. Ecocide becomes genocide for those powerless people who are in the way of such developments. The competition for rare metals and access to other resources, is leading to increasing wars. Russia is still a major exporter of gas and oil despite shrinking markets due to solar energy and electric vehicles, and it needs



Adrian Ivakhiv shows a map detailing the growth of the Russian empire over more than 500 years during his talk at Highland Center for the Arts last Wednesday. photo by Paul Fixx

Ukraine for pipelines into western Europe.

How are the Ukrainians surviving after three-and-a-half years of brutal warfare? Ivakhiv characterizes the general attitude as earthy stoicism. There is widespread traumatization with a quarter of the population displaced within Ukraine or to other countries, but also a deep resilience and a new pride in speaking Ukrainian as opposed to Russian.

Kiev remains a vibrant city with many shops, restaurants and bookstores, but one must know where the nearest bomb shelter is located. While Ukrainians have never had a good working government, they have had a taste of democracy and personal freedom so they feel they can make changes now, but the alternative of a Russian occupation is unthinkable.

The spirit of the undefeated land that Ukraine is, informs the title of Ivakhiv’s book, “Terra Invicta.” The Latin phrase terra invicta can be loosely translated as “always invincible” or “always to victory.” Its subtitle “Ukrainian Wartime Reimaginings for a Habitable Earth” points to the connection Ivakhiv made during his talk between the armed conflict and a habitable environment.

Ivakhiv’s book “is a series of critical and creative articulations of pasts, presents and possible futures involving humans and the more than human world,” says the book’s pre-publication notice.

In his talk, Ivakhiv connected the pressures resulting from ecological change due to a changing climate with military aggression resulting as resources and the needs for them change.

He mentioned the book’s wide range of essays by a similarly wide range of authors, many of which bring a humanitarian or artistic perspective to understanding of the connection Ukrainians feel to their

land and the spirit of grassroots engagement that has risen in them as they have prepared to lay down their lives to protect their way of life and land.

With the withdrawal of military aid from the United States under the Trump regime, Ukrainians realize that they can’t rely on other countries, though NATO has a fundamental commitment to defending democracies.

Zelensky continues to have high approval ratings, and a recent successful attack by Ukrainian drones and missiles destroying many planes on bases within Russia has helped to boost national morale. Extensive documentation of the barbarity of Russian forces is being gathered to take to the International Criminal Court in the Hague to show extensive war crimes against humanity have been routine. Questions from the audience ranged over some of the above summarized topics but also raised issues of the effects of war and climate instability on refugees and immigration all over the world. Looking forward to an end to the war in Ukraine is most people’s hope, but with so many unpredictable variables, realistic models of the future are difficult.

The indomitable spirit of Ukrainians came through in all of Ivakhiv’s comments, particularly in comments about his recent visit to a writer’s conference about which he commented, “I was surprised at how spirited people are.” We may think that Ukraine is far away and whatever happens there is not going to affect us personally, but it is a grim warning for what could happen anywhere in the world when demonic aggression by totalitarian countries is not opposed.

For information about the armed Russia-Ukraine conflict, Ivakhiv suggested visiting justsecurity.org

Two-part Moyer Concert Features Classical, Jazz

REVIEW

by David K. Rodgers

GREENSBORO – A quite unusual concert was performed by Frederick Moyer and the Fred Moyer Jazz Trio on Tuesday evening, July 15, as the first in the Summer Music from Greensboro series at the United Church of Christ.

The program was divided into two parts, the first with Moyer playing a set of Beethoven variations followed by two movements from Rachmaninoff’s Third Piano Concerto, where Moyer was accompanied by an orchestra recording from Music Minus One.

After the intermission he was joined by two excellent musicians, Evan Palmer on bass and Bob Savine on drums, in 10 jazz works which had been transcribed note-by-note from the original records of great jazz players and then faithfully followed from the written score by the trio. An interesting innovation was the projection on the inside of the raised piano lid of Moyer’s hands on the keyboard by a video camera.

Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827) wrote a number of variations on a theme for piano, of which the “Diabelli” is the best known. This form is virtually identical with improvisation, which is the essence of jazz, and which Beethoven excelled at during his early concertizing career. Moyer chose Beethoven’s “Thirty-two Variations in C minor, WoO 80,” and played it all from memory without any sheet music

before him. In it we hear the rich musical imagination of Beethoven, starting with his own original theme, then proceeding to change the tempo, rhythms, textures and mood of the melody, often juxtaposing what the right hand was doing to that of the left, with surprising effects.

Serges Rachmaninoff (1873-1943) was one of the last Romantic composers, whose lush chordal harmonies and melodic gift made him very popular in the first half of the Twentieth Century. His “Piano Concerto No. 3 in D minor, Op. 30” is one of the most difficult in the repertoire and again he played it entirely from memory in a true tour de force. He was able somehow to technically make the orchestral recording follow his interpretation of the piece rather than be locked into its tempos and dynamics. The two movements he selected, the second Intermezzo: Adagio and the third Finale: Alla breve, had a sweeping momentum with a grandiose scale and many dramatic passages combined with engaging melodies and deep feelings. Being able to see Moyer’s agile fingers on the keys from any place in the room certainly made one appreciate his remarkable coordination in his performance of this challenging work.

After the intermission, the Moyer Jazz Trio began with a piece with strong initial chords from the piano and then extensive elaborations on the theme in over-the-top sequences involving all three musicians. Two pieces by Oscar Peterson were next, who Moyer described as the “Rachmaninoff of jazz,” “At Long Last Love” and “Tin Tin Deo,” the latter having a cow bell struck



The Fred Moyer Jazz Trio performs Tuesday evening, July 15, for the first in the Summer Music from Greensboro series at the United Church of Christ with (from left) drummer Bob Savine, bassist Evan Palmer and Frederick Moyer on Piano. photo by Paul Fixx

by a drum stick as part of the percussive rhythms. Peterson’s improvisations are always astonishing and take you into the stratosphere of creative imagination.

“My Foolish Heart” by Bill Evans explored another major jazz figure, with a laid back ambience that was peacefully beautiful. Erolle Garner’s “They Long to Be Close to You” had some upbeat rhythms with a very playful contrast between the right and left hands on the keyboard. A piece by Monty Alexander from the Montreux Jazz Festival in the 1980s demonstrated how one could take a simple tune and do impressive variations on it with real emotion, creating superb jazz.

“Kathy’s Waltz,” from Dave Brubeck’s famous Time Out album, had all kinds of musical shenanigans with unpredictable changes in direction and scattered dissonant notes. Ahmad Jamal showed his talents in a humorous adaptation of Rodgers and Hammerstein’s “The Surry With The Fringe on Top” from “Oklahoma.” By speeding up the tempo, the whole character of the tune changed, and the pianist, drummer and bassist all shared in its development. “Let Us Dance” was a well constructed melody with a nice swing to it, embodying a certain joy in life, written by George Kelischek, in which Moyer showed his total mastery of his instrument. The last number on the program was another of Oscar Peterson’s, with a nonstop forward drive having rapid fingering on the piano, entitled “Blues Etude,” a real showpiece. It brought the audience to their feet in a standing ovation for this great evening of classical and jazz music.

The next concert in the Summer Music from Greensboro series will be of the Ellington Collective on Tuesday, July 29, at 7:30 p.m.



Classical jazz at its best!

Summer Music from Greensboro
presents
The Ellington Collective

Tuesday, July 29th, 2025, 7:30 p.m.

The acclaimed Boston-based jazz ensemble The Ellington Collective will perform a tribute to the timeless genius of Duke Ellington and his music, with fresh, soulful and rhythmic renditions of Ellington’s most iconic compositions like Take The “A” Train, Caravan, Jeeps Blues, In A Sentimental Mood, Sophisticated Lady, Prelude To A Kiss, and Don’t Get Around Much Anymore.

Saxophonist Dan Moretti, 2nd saxophonist Greg Abate, trombonist Jeff Galindo, bassist Marty Ballou, pianist Tim Ray, and Marty Richards on drums.

Greensboro United Church of Christ
165 Wilson Street, Greensboro, VT 05841
Tickets at the door: \$22. Children under 18: free
www.SummerMusicFromGreensboro.net



Founded 1952

PRESENTS



Director: Abigail Boudreau - Music Director Kenneth Grenier
Producer: Patricia Jacob - Choreographer: by Kendra Perkins
Songs by Hugh Martin & Ralph Blane - Book by Hugh Wheeler - Based on The Kensington Stories by Sally Benson and the MGM motion picture Meet Me in St. Louis - Songs by Martin & Blane published by EMI Feist Catalog, Inc.

July 24-27 & July 31-Aug.3
At The Historic Hyde Park Opera House
To purchase tickets go to: www.LCPlayers.com
Tickets available at the door (802) 888-4507
\$20 (adults) • \$15 (students & seniors)
Thurs., Friday, Sat. 7pm • Sunday 2pm



scan for tickets

“Best of Beckett” Features Excellent Cast

REVIEW

by David K. Rodgers

EAST CALAIS – The Unadilla Theatre in East Calais began its second offering of the season this past weekend with “The Best of Beckett, An Evening of Short Plays” by Samuel Beckett.

Famous for his well-known dramas such as “Waiting For Godot,” this collection of his much briefer works contains many of the same themes and puzzling sequences that made him one of the most influential playwrights of the second half of the Twentieth Century. An Englishman living most of his life in France, he put on stage many of the acute observations of the existentialists about the human condition, possibly summarized by the phrase, “Absurdity, but with a sense of humor.”

Director Jim Phinney has put together an excellent cast of experienced actors and actresses for these seven short plays. With a minimum of stage props created by Kate Shippee and skilled use of lighting effects managed by Lori Stratton, a series of worlds are assembled for scenes that at first seem strange until we realize that they mirror our own life.

The first play is entitled “Act Without Words 1” and features Case Phinney as a young man, with everything completely silent except for some random strumming on the guitar and an occasional bird call. Dressed very plainly and having his mouth open continuously as if slightly stupefied by all that happens to him, he was repeatedly frustrated attempting to get a pitcher of water suspended by a cord above him, using boxes to stand on and a rope, all in vain. Twice he tried to trim his fingernails with ridiculously large scissors, but then gave up. He ends on the floor staring at his hands with his fingers spread apart. All through these machinations, Phinney carefully maintained the consistently non-plussed look of his character. This play seems very reminiscent of frustration dreams, when we repeatedly seem unable to do the simplest things, but sometimes that occurs in waking life.

“Ohio Interlude” has two men dressed in black robes wearing white wigs seated at a table. One of them, Billy Weaver, reads out loud from a book while the other, Conor Emerson, listens without much response. The story line of the book at first seems to make sense, but it becomes increasingly disjointed

and confusing. This situation raises the question of whether we ever really communicate with others or are we just vibrating molecules of air between us and doomed to an ultimate loneliness.

“Rough for Theatre” juxtaposes two old men with quite opposite personalities: David Klein as a blind violin street player hoping for donations, and Donny Osman as a rather bitter crippled man in a wheelchair. The latter talks about connecting to the other but his aggressive offensiveness is self defeating. Klein was particularly convincing as a rather helpless blind person, staring upwards and quite lost when separated from his stand and violin, not even able to tell if it was day or night. Osman well maintained his loud, difficult character that precluded any empathy for him, fating him to isolation.

After intermission there was a second “Act Without Words.” Two white sacks were on the floor of the stage when the lights came on and to the right was a man with a black cloak holding a long stick. He poked the nearest bag and Billy Weaver slowly emerged with just a shirt and his jocky shorts on. He crossed himself and said a prayer, looking very drowsy and worn out. He put on his pants, coat, shoes and hat, going through his morning routine, all the time appearing totally morose. Then he reversed everything taking off his clothes he just put on and climbing back into his sack bed. The old man next poked the other sack and Chase Phinney crawled out, stood up, brushed his teeth, combed his hair and put on his clothes. After looking at something in his shirt pocket, he, too, took off his clothes, brushed his teeth and got back into his sack. All this could make us at least wonder whether the daily routines of our lives might be similarly meaningless.

“Catastrophe” casts David Klein as a statue, Alana Phinney as an artist and Donny Osman as a critic. While Klein stood perfectly still on a pedestal, Osman made many suggestions about how to improve the statue, such as taking off its hat and coat, whitening the hands and feet, opening up the hands, exposing the chest, raising the angle of the head, all of which Phinney dutifully followed until Osman was satisfied. Perhaps this is a visual metaphor for how some people in the hierarchy of power treat others beneath them.

“What Where” was much more serious than any of the previous plays. Case Phinney plays a kind of secular Grand Inquisitor fond in any totalitarian country,

who is trying to get information from a prisoner off stage. He kept sending his obedient minions Conor Emerson and Billy Weaver to see if torture has forced the victim to confess what he supposedly knows. But then after no results Phinney turns the tables and accuses his accomplices of having found out the information he sought but refusing to relay it to him, condemning them to the same procedure and torture. Throughout this scene a very officious voice is projected over a loud speaker like Big Brother, apologizing whatever Phinney does. All this is a perfect representation of the endless evils of dictatorships.

The final play, “Come and Go,” had three women on a bench, with

Alana Phinney, Donny Osman and Conor Emerson, the last two wearing dowdy women’s coats and hats. They made small talk about how they met long ago, and then one of them whispers a secret in another’s ear, who replies, “Has she not been told?” and that is repeated with the third woman. Their present existence seems summed up by what one of them says; “One sees little in this life,” which somehow mixes with pathos. The ending is somewhat relieved, though, when someone asks, “May we hold hands in the old way?”

The Best of Beckett will continue for the next two weekends on Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30 p.m., and Sundays at 2 p.m., July 25 to 27 and August 1 to 3.



The cast of “Meet Me in St. Louis” portray the Smith family in 1903.
courtesy photo

Lamoille County Players Presents “Meet Me in St. Louis”

HYDE PARK – Lamoille County Players’ 73nd season at the Hyde Park Opera House continues with “Meet Me in St. Louis.” The show runs July 24 to 27 and July 31 to August 3. Shows begin at 7 p.m., on Friday and Saturday nights, with Sunday matinees starting at 2 p.m.

The story starts in the summer of 1903. The Smith family awaits the

arrival of the World’s Fair in their very own St. Louis. Over the course of a year, the family experiences romance, heartache, troubles and opportunity, together. Told through a series of seasonal vignettes, this musical features a multi-generational cast and familiar tunes. Tickets are available online at LCPlayers.com. The Hyde Park Opera House is located at 85 Main St.

Chamber Players Present Varied Program, Skillfully Done

REVIEW

by David K. Rodgers

HARDWICK – The Craftsbury Chamber Players gave their second concert of the season at the Hardwick Town House last Thursday evening with a program of pieces by French, Romanian, Hungarian and American composers.

The first work was by Ernest Chausson (1855-1898), “Chanson perpetuelle,” written in 1899. It is scored for soprano, piano and string guitarist and featured Mary Bonhag as the vocalist, Zenas Hsu and Annie Rabbat on violins, Kenji Bunch on viola, Frances Rowell on cello and Monica Ohuchi on piano.

The lyrics, in French, of the poem by Charles Cros, expressed a woman’s despair at her lover’s unexpected abandonment of her and she contemplates an Ophelia-like suicide by drowning herself in a pond.

Bonhag’s voice is exquisite with purity of tone and fine projection combined with suble phrasing and expressive feeling in her

interpretation. The music had flowing momentum with lyrical power, very much in the French tradition.

Bonhag returned for a second peice, “Excerpts from Kafka’s Fragments” by Gyorgy Kurtag (b. 1926). Written in 1985-87, it was based on scattered texts from Franz Kafka’s notebooks. They are almost like the musical equivalent of haiku, very brief but concentrated vignettes. Selections from the original one-hour work touched upon such subjects as marching, an autumn pathway, hiding places, restlessness, dressing, leaving the cities, being dirty, a miserable life, a closed circle and a moonlit night. The music seems highly influenced by Shoenberg’s twelve-tone system, with discordant sequences, recitative passages and abrupt endings. Mary Rowell skillfully accompanied Bonhag on the violin in this daring excursion into contemporary musical explorations.

The “Viola Burns Longer,” composed just last year by Kenji Bunch (b. 1973) for solo viola, piano and string quartet, had in its title the punchline of an old viola joke: “What’s the difference between a violin and a viola?” Its four movements followed up on the title

image with humorous mutations for each part from Glow to Flicker, Smolder and finally, Blaze.

The first section started slowly with an upward direction for all the instruments, moving to a more pizzicato texture, perhaps suggesting embers, while the second part had faster tempos reaching into the higher ranges of the sake, evoking small sparkling flames. In the third movement, the pace is slower, with the viola highlighted, bringing out its resonating color beautifully.

The last segment morphed into more jazzy rhythms at an accelerated tempo, with the viola and piano echoing each other.

The musicians were Kenji Bunch on viola, Zenas Hsu and Annie Rabbat on violins, Mary Rowell on viola, Frances Rowell on cello and Monica Ohuchi on piano. They played enthusiastically to a fine ensemble effect in their performance of this original work. The appreciative audience game them a standing ovation.

The final number on the program was the “Quintet in G minor, Op. 81,” for violin, viola, cello and piano, composed on 1924 by Vincent d’Indy (1851-1931). It started

with a vigorous first movement, Assez anime, with fine interplay of the piano and the strings, and some dissonant notes amid the harmonies and a certain tension-and-release pattern.

The Scherzo had more jagged, broken rhythms at first, with the theme advanced by degrees in an upbeat, playful way.

The following Adante (lent et expressif) had a more moderate temp, with feeling in the scoring and a peaceful ambiance.

The Finale (*modérément animé*) flowed forcefully along to a well-prepared ending.

Again, the musicians Annie Rabbat and Zenas Hsu on violins, Kenji Bunch on viola, Francis Rowell on cello and Monica Ohuhi, showed splendid coordination to do justice to this engaging lyrical piece.

The next local concert of the Craftsbury Chamber Players will be on July 24, in Hardwick after a July July 23 Burlington performer, and will feature trios by Mozart and Boccherini and the “Kreutzer Sonata” by Beethoven. A pre-concert talk will take place at 6:45 p.m., before the concert begins at 7:30 p.m.



Select performers from Circus Smirkus performers will be on the road throughout the Northeast Kingdom with the Smirkus Camp Road Show. courtesy photo

Free Road Show Performances Throughout N.E. Kingdom

GREENSBORO – The Smirkus Camp Road Show campers will hit the road with their brand-new show, “Order Up!” This free performance will appear across the Northeast Kingdom.

The show is scheduled to appear July 26 at 11 a.m., at the Craftsbury Farmer’s Market; July 29 at 11:30 a.m.; at The Lunchbox Irasburg at Leach Library; July 30 at 11:30 a.m., at The Lunchbox Barton at Barton Library; July 31 at 11:30 a.m., The Lunchbox Newport at Gardner Memorial Park; August 1 at 3 p.m., Hardwick Farmer’s Market at Atkins Field; August 2, three shows, Fools Block

Party, Burlington.

Also August 5, 3 p.m., Lam-oille Family Center at Johnson Legion Field; August 6, 3 p.m., Kellogg-Hubbard Library, Montpelier; August 7, 10 a.m., Greensboro Free Library and August 9, 11:30 a.m., 1:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m., SmirkFest Smirkus Camp, Greensboro.

SmirkFest, an annual event, brings circus and the arts to the Smirkus Camp campus in Greensboro, and will open the big top tents for a day of performances, play, hands-on workshops, demonstrations and food.

The Circus Smirkus Camp is located at 409 Breezy Ave.

Two New Exhibits Open in August

by T.W. Wood Gallery staff

MONTPELIER – The T.W. Wood Gallery will launch two new exhibits opening in August that celebrate the work of New England artists.

On view in the Nuquist Gallery, Little Sculptures is a mixed media installation created by New York sound and visual artist, Bill Brovold. The exhibit features small paintings and sculptures composed of recycled materials, ranging from 36 inches to three inches in length.

Housed in the Contemporary Hall, the Printmaking Invitational 2025 is an open-call exhibition showcasing work by local and regional printmakers. The exhibit opens July 26, with an art walk



“Untitled” by Bill Brovold, mixed media

reception on Friday, Aug. 1, 5 to 7:30 p.m. This exhibition is curated by printmaker Phillip Robertson and Gallery and Adult Education Coordinator Newton Gallegos. This exhibition showcases many printmaking techniques such as lithography and monoprints.

Located at 46 Barre Street (enter on Monsignor Crosby Ave), the gallery is a short walk from downtown Montpelier. For more information visit twwoodgallery.org.



“Decrepitude” by Robert Waldo Brunelle Jr., lino block print

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Wiley’s, Schoolhouses Featured in Hazen Road Dispatch

REVIEW

by David K. Rodgers

GREENSBORO – The yearly edition of The Hazen Road Dispatch, published by the Greensboro Historical Society, is out and available at the museum as well as Willey’s, The Galaxy Bookshop in Hardwick and other locations.

This edition covers such wide-ranging topics as the history of The Willey’s Store and the Buffalo Mountain Co-op and Market, the first part of a series on one-room schoolhouses, canal fever in the Northeast Kingdom, Alfred Hitchcock’s film “The Trouble With Harry,” Greta Garbo’s visits to Caspian Lake and two reviews of recent Vermont-relevant books.

“The Willey’s Store at 125: Change and Continuity” by Kyle Gray starts on the cover of this publication with a very beautiful color photograph of the store in the bright summer sun taken by the author. His article contains many photos of the staff and the building over the years. One of the remarkable aspects about the history of this country store is that it has stayed in the same family since 1900.

Gray does an excellent job in documenting the five generations of the Willey-Hurst lineage of management and especially of interviewing former and present employees. The three main owners for the first hundred years were Burt M. and Hattie P. Willey, Robert H. and Gertrude Willey and then Ernie Hurst and Phyllis Willey. Tom Hurst, his brother Robert and sister Lisa ran the store until 2010 when Robert’s son Robbie took over the present operation.

The buildings themselves have been joined, extended and renovated but still retain some of the charms of time, while the business has survived the historical crises of the Great Depression and more recently the Covid-19 epidemic.

Probably the growth of the summer community around Caspian Lake in the same period helped shelter Greensboro from some of the economic decline in other rural villages and towns of Vermont during the first half of the Twentieth Century. Willey’s remains the go-to place for most items of food, hardware and clothing and is a crucial community builder in contrast to the impersonality of most other commercial stores today. There is continuity in the helpful employees and one almost always meets neighbors while shopping there.

The history of a different but parallel store is that of the 50 years of the Buffalo Mountain market in Hardwick, written by Annie Gailard, a long-term active member.

She recounts its modest start in a house on Wolcott Street as a co-op in 1975. Subsequently the store moved and grew larger in the Jeudevine Mansion in 1979, then to a location on Main Street in 1991 and presently in a very daring and innovative merger, to the site of the Village Market to the east in 2022. The bigger space allows the co-op to continue its basic commitment to local produce with organic options and general health food but keep many conventional choices from the previous store to attract a wider customer base. Like Willey’s, the Buffalo Mountain Market is a very important community builder with personal service and a meeting place for friends, with many things not available elsewhere.

Paul Wood’s contribution is part-one in a fascinating exploration of the “One-Room Schoolhouse in Vermont,” which was the norm in rural areas until the consolidation movement of the 1960s and ‘70s. Apparently Elmore has the only remaining one of such schools in the state. The rule of thumb was that there should be a primary school for grades one through eight, within reasonable walking distance for all children. Public education for everyone was recognized early on, especially in New England, as fundamental to the functioning of a viable democracy and for economic growth.

The buildings themselves were fairly standardized in design, with good natural light from large windows and a central stove for heat, constructed on land set aside by the town or donated. One teacher usually taught all the grades, with older students helping in lower grades. Salaries were low, teachers often boarded with local families, and contributions of firewood and taxes were required from townspeople. Besides some patriotic pictures and maps on the walls, the interiors were quite plain, with only a minimum of books available for reference. Wood includes many informative photos of the schools and their equipment. Part 2 of Wood’s exploration (part 2) will focus on the difficult transition in Walden from dispersed one-room schoolhouses to a central primary school in the 1990s.

A not-very-well-known development in the history of the Northeast Kingdom is outlined by Robert K. Merrill and H. Clay Simpson in a piece on the “Canal Fever” in this part of Vermont in the early Nineteenth Century. Transportation was an important factor in

economic growth in the state and roads were often inadequate to the task of moving agricultural products and building materials like lumber, bricks and stone to larger markets, so that they were serious efforts to see if canals could be constructed, particularly to link the Connecticut River with Lake Champlain through northern Vermont.

The success of the Erie Canal in New York State, completed in 1825, was a compelling model in the way it opened up the state and the Midwest to markets in New York City and beyond. Already a canal linking the southern end of Lake Champlain with the Hudson River in 1823 was making Burlington into a major lumber exporting center.

The map in this article shows proposed routes of canals from the upper Connecticut River both through Island Pond and/or St. Johnsbury to Newport and then along the Black River Valley south to Lake Eligo in Craftsbury and to the Lamoille River in Hardwick, hence west to Lake Champlain. But careful examination of the terrain by engineers to be traversed by such a route found a combination of significant gradients and a high cost caused these projects to be rejected in 1829. As it was, the development of railroads in the decades shortly thereafter supplanted any further interest in canals, by the 1870s giving farmers and the granite industry in the Northeast Kingdom much wider markets for their products.

Don Houghton, in his article “The Trouble With Harry: A Historiographical Note,” gives an entertaining overview of the history of some of the sites around Craftsbury and elsewhere used by Alfred Hitchcock in the filming of his classic movie about a corpse that wouldn’t stay buried.

Last fall, Rick Winston, the founder of the Savoy Theater in Montpelier and an immensely knowledgeable connoisseur of films, gave a delightful talk on this comic masterpiece at the Craftsbury Library and shared a wealth of information about its making.

Photographs and an extensive bibliography give an interested reader additional leads for further exploration. The “Trouble With Harry,” which was shot in 1954 and first came out in 1955, is basically an English comedy set in New England, which one never tires of seeing, with its excellent acting, the dry humor of its plot and the beautiful fall foliage scenery.

Greta Garbo was one of the supreme “femme fatales” of American

films and had an interesting connection to Greensboro as described by Charles T. Morrissey and Dan Penrice. She was very close friends with Jane and John Gunther in New York City and came to visit them several times in the summer in the 1950s at their beautiful cottage at the northwest shore of Caspian Lake. John Gunther was the popular author of a series of “Inside” books on different countries of the world as well as the moving tribute to his son who died young, “Death Be Not Proud.” All three of them were very private persons not given to celebrity worship. The large rounded granite outcrops at that end of the lake may have been a favorite spot for Garbo to swim and sunbathe on her visits to the Gunthers, but there is no certain evidence that she discreetly skinny dipped there. Myths may be entertaining but slippery fish to prove. She preferred to be known as Miss Brown and apparently some local Vermonters said out loud of her that “She must have been a good looker when she was young!”

Two book reviews will interest anyone curious about Vermont history. J. Kevin Graffagnino’s new biography of Ira Allen is assessed by Timothy H. Breen, covering the life of one of the early founders of Vermont who was as complex and contradictory as his legendary brother Ethan Allen.

Even before the outbreak of the American Revolution in the mid 1770s, Ira Allen was deeply involved in land speculation in the Champlain Valley, buying large tracts of undeveloped wilderness cheaply and selling it at substantial profits to would be settlers. This was a widespread practice in the late Eighteenth and early Nineteenth Centuries as the newly-founded country expanded into Native American territories and made fortunes for some. But in the case of Ira Allen, his own chronic dishonesty ultimately caught up with him and he had to flee Vermont, dying penniless. So much for previously glorified heroes with feet of clay.

Morrissey reviewed “Vermontiana: An Annotated Checklist, 1764-1899,” another recently published work by J. Kevin Graffagnio. This is a profusely illustrated compendium of almost 300 pages of Vermont books and printed documents, many from his own extensive collections. Morrissey focuses on materials relevant to Greensboro and Craftsbury and is critical of a few details, but the work should be a treasure trove of primary sources. The author visited the Craftsbury Library this past April and gave an interesting talk about his research.

EVENTS

Saturday, July 26

MOVEMENT EXPLORATION, for toddlers to 10 year olds, with physical therapist Sarah Hingston Prentiss, 10 a.m., Woodbury Community Room. Sponsored by the Woodbury Community Library.
HARDWICK TRAILS event, Medicinal Plants with Erin Rosenthal, 1:30 to 3 p.m. All are welcome.
FAMILIES FIRST! PROTEST, Hardwick Peace Park, 10 a.m. Information: (802) 595-9780 or (802) 456-1983. Rain or shine.

Monday, July 28

BOOK DISCUSSION of “Gather” by Kenneth Cadow,” 6 p.m., Craftsbury Community Care Center. Information: (802) 586-9692, jwsimpsonmemorial.org.

Tuesday, July 29

D. DAVIS and Marc Gwinn, a jazz-folk-pop group performs a free concert, Cabot Village Common, 148 Main St. Food truck is Mahara-ja Spice. Information: cabotarts.org/summer-music-series
REEVE BASOM explores colorful, fresh ingredients while preparing simple, delicious food to eat together, 2 p.m., Jeudevine Memorial Library, Hardwick. All ages welcome. Information: jeudevineyouthlibrarian@hardwickvt.gov or (802) 472-5948.
PRESENTATION ABOUT WOOD TURTLES, 6 p.m., Woodbury Community Room. Sponsored by the Library in collaboration with the Woodbury Conservation Commission.
Wednesday, July 30
NATURAL DYING WITH PLANTS: a talk with Prin VanGulden, 6 - 7:30

p.m., Craftsbury Community Care Center. Information: (802) 586-9692, jwsimpsonmemorial.org.
FOREST HEALTH UPDATE with Vermont Coverts, noon to 1 p.m., on forest, parks and recreation with Josh Halman. Register at vtcoverts.us to join the meeting.
COLORS OF THE WILD, 6:30 p.m., Jaquith Public Library, Marshfield. Explore some of the differences in animals’ visual experiences. Information: jaquithpubliclibrary.org or (802) 426-3581.
Thursday, July 31
MAKE SUMMER SNACKS, like watermelon pizza, s’mores dip and more, 11 a.m., Jeudevine Memorial Library, for ages 12 to 18. Information: jeudevineyouthlibrarian@hardwickvt.gov or (802) 472-5948.
STORYTELLING EVENT with Samara Anderson, 6 p.m., Jeudevine

Memorial Library, Hardwick. Stories can range from 5 to 7 mins. and can be about anything. Information: anderson_samara@yahoo.com or contact the library, (802) 472-5948. Open to the public.

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 (& Ceasefire) 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

See EVENTS, Next Page

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EVENTS

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 STORYTIME, 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 experience 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.

PILATES, at the Barn off the Common, Craftsbury Common. Mondays (level 1), 9 a.m., Wednesdays (Mat Level 2), 9 a.m.; Fridays (level 3), 9 a.m.

MENDING MONDAYS, 3 p.m., Craftsbury Public Library.

DANCE, Mondays and Thursdays, 5:30 p.m., Barn off the Common, Craftsbury Common.

COMMFIT, 6 p.m., Craftsbury Outdoor Center.

QIGONG, Tuesdays, 8:30 a.m., at the Barn off the Common, Craftsbury Common.

CRAFTFIT, Tuesdays, 4:30 p.m., Thursdays, 4:30 p.m. and Saturdays, 2:30 p.m. Craftsbury Outdoor Center.

ALL LEVELS TAIJI, Tuesdays, 6 p.m. Fridays, Intermediate Taiji, 10:15 a.m., Barn off the Common, Craftsbury Common.

CHAIR YOGA, Wednesdays, 9 a.m., Traditional Yoga, 5 p.m., Craftsbury Outdoor Center.

CRAFTSBURY HISTORICAL SOCIETY, open 10 a.m. - noon.

FOOD SHARE, noon to 2 p.m., United Church of Craftsbury.

CRAFTSBURY FARMERS MARKET, Saturdays, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m, on the Common.

LEGOS & LISTENING, 3:30 p.m., Craftsbury Public Library.

TAMING KNOTWEED, Thursdays at 4:30 p.m. and Saturdays, 11 a.m., Town Highway 19 across from Little Hosmer Dam. Offered by the Craftsbury Conservation Commission. Bring water, bug spray, gloves and assorted clippers andshovels.

Exhibits
LULU WOOTTON exhibits her art at

the Hardwick Town House, Wednesdays and Saturdays, 2 to 6 p.m. through July 23 and during Thursday evening concerts.

BEN BARNES, NEK landscape artist, at the Hardwick Inn, 4 S. Main St. on the third floor, through September.

PERENNIAL INSPIRATION: Floral Art from a Mother and Daughter," artwork from Natalya Zahn and Anci Slovák, Woodbury Community Gallery. Exhibit up until the end of August.

ARTWORK BY CHRISTINE FOSTER and Marie LaPre Grabon, on exhibit at White Water Gallery, East Hardwick, through August 3. Features needle-felted paintings and hooked wall hangings. Opening reception: Sunday, July 20, 4 to 7 p.m. Gallery hours: Sundays 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. and by appointment. Information: (802) 563-2037.

PAINTINGS OF THE LANDSCAPE and creatures of the Northeast Kingdom by James Hudson, July 22 to September 2, Parker Pie Art Gallery, 161 County Road, West Glover.

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

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Ken Brown's Summer Hoops

Wildcats Show Out at Castleton Camp

CASTLETON – The Hazen Union boys summer hoop team followed up their triumph in Bethlehem, N.H. last week with more positive results over the weekend at the VTSU-Castleton team camp.

Head coach Aaron Hill tested his Wildcat team out of division in the large school bracket and his squad responded with victories over Mt. Mansfield, St. Johnsbury Academy and Burr & Burton. Hazen advanced to the Final Four before falling to eventual camp champion Hartford. The Wildcats toppled the division II Hurricanes last week at the Profile Summer Showdown, finishing off a perfect 4-0 week. Hartford defeated Rutland by double digits in the finals.

“The Castleton Camp was awesome! We were by far the smallest school in our bracket, and it was just a tremendous showing by our kids to get to the Final Four. We had a hard-fought game against Hartford but ultimately exhaustion and injuries wore us down,” said Hill.

During the week, Hill hosted nearly 100 campers in the 24th edition of the Hazen Hoop Camp. Hill’s camp is statewide renowned and drew kids grades 3-9 from all over Vermont and even as far as California. The co-ed camp ran from Monday to Friday, giving aspiring young hoopers some of the best tutelage in the state from Hill and his coaching staff, along with current and former Wildcat players.

“It was amazing to have so many kids come out to the camp again this year. We were able to navigate some very hot weather and have a great week!” said Hill.

Hazen Boys Summer League continues every Monday and Wednesday night at the Cat Den through the first week of August.

Lady Cats Stay Perfect in Summer League

HYDE PARK – A shorthanded Hazen Union girls summer hoop team easily handled BFA-St. Albans on Monday to stay undefeated in the Lamoille Summer League.

The Lady Cats have been lethal out of their division this summer, posting wins over Enosburg, St. Johnsbury Academy, and Lamoille. With several starters out on Monday, including head coach Randy Lumsden, the Lady Cats rolled to a 58-15 victory. They’ll continue to test themselves next week against a North Country team that has advanced to the Division II state title game three consecutive years, winning it all in 2023.

“We had four girls from varsity and two more from JV. Everyone played really well, and it was a great defensive team effort,” said assistant coach Sue Rivard.

Coach Lumsden finished up a weekend in Virginia with returning Lady Cat starters Kelsie Rivard, Mya Lumsden, Taylor Thompson, and Autumn Dailey, who are competing for Lone Wolf AAU. They will continue down the coast to Orlando, FL for a tournament this coming weekend.

“The growth of the girls throughout the spring has been amazing. They’re maturing, their focus has been very apparent, and we are excited for the upcoming season,” said Lumsden.

Ken Brown's Runners Roundup

Bear Swamp for Second Straight Win

MIDDLESEX – Hazen Union and Craftsbury Academy (CA) teacher-coach Maxfield English, made it two straight wins earlier this month, with a dominant performance at the 5.7-mile Bear Swamp Run at Rumney Memorial School.

English was the first competitor to cross the finish line with a time of 35:33, holding off Montpelier’s Luke Miller (36:30) for the second time in three weeks. The 49-year-old also made the 30-year-old Miller a bridesmaid by over 58 seconds at the Birdland 5K Trail Run in late June.

Hardwick’s Elizabeth McCarthy posted a strong performance in Middlesex, winning her female 70-79 age group with a time of 58:33.

Former Hardwick Gazette contributor Jim Flint claimed a runner-up finish in his 60-69 age group with a time of 42:18, finishing an impressive tenth overall.

“The Bear Swamp course is challenging with 450 feet of elevation gain in the first 2.2 miles. The weather was warm and humid. The field of 60 runners was the largest in many years. No bears were reported!” said Flint.

During the school year,

English is the varsity head coach for the CAcross-country and Hazen Union track and field programs. He has become a juggernaut on the Central Vermont Runners and Onion River Outdoor circuits and will look to defend his Caspian Challenge title this Sunday in Greensboro.

Locals Shine in Youth Championship for St. Johnsbury

ST. JOHNSBURY – Several local competitors were major contributors over the weekend as St. Johnsbury put on a dominant performance to claim the title at the Vermont Recreation and Parks Youth Track and Field State Championships.

The St. Johnsbury team blitzed the field on Saturday, tallying 613 points across all age divisions, with Colchester finishing second with a total of 334.

Danville’s Landon Garrand swept the 100m prelims and final to claim the title for St. Jay, edging Colchester’s Anthony Bissonnette by a little more than a half second in the boys 13-15 age division. Garrand also dominated the 400m final for his second title of the afternoon. Garrand capped off his sensational day with a runner-up finish to Bissonnette in the long jump.

On the girls side, Danville’s Althaea Irwin was even more impressive in her 13-15 age division for St. Jay, claiming three titles on the day. Irwin edged Mount Mansfield’s Fiona Rapp to win the 80m hurdles title, clipped Colchester’s Brynn Barrett to

Gopher Rower Trains at Outdoor Center by University of Minnesota

CRAFTSBURY – Manon Field is taking advantage of the Olympic development program at the Craftsbury Outdoor Center this summer after serving as a team captain for the University of Minnesota Gopher varsity rowing program last year as a junior,

“This summer I have had the amazing opportunity to train with Green Racing Project as a part of their U23 program,” Field said. “This includes a serious practice schedule and the chance at some summer racing, ending with the Canadian Henley. While here this summer, I have been improving my technique and ability in sculling boat, a skill that I don’t get to explore during the collegiate season. Craftsbury takes a unique approach when it comes to athlete development and the summer program gives me a chance to buy into their mission of sustainability in sport but also in life, with a focused mission on the pursuit of excellence in addition to stewardship of surrounding nature!

capture the long jump event, and ran the opening leg in a dominant performance over Montgomery to win the 4x100m relay title.

The host team swept all four boys age divisions and two out of four on the girls side at Raymond Frey Track to run away with the



Manon Field

This distinctive mission carried out in the Green Mountains of rural Vermont has been, literally and figuratively, a breath of fresh air! I think this summer marks a big next step in my rowing journey as I continue to knock on doors and explore new possibilities, and it has given me a new tool in my ‘rowing toolbox’ as I come to the last year of my collegiate rowing career and look to what could be next!”

Corliss Dominates to All-Time Tying Fourth Governor’s Cup 150

BARRE – Another Thursday in Barre meant yet another race day at Thunder Road Speedbowl affected by the rains of Mother Nature. Just ten minutes prior to the special 6:30 p.m., Governor’s Cup Post Time, rains swept in for a half-hour spell with successful track drying getting Thursday’s program underway by 7:30 p.m.

The poor weather necessitated a change in schedule with the Late Models getting feature racing off and running with the 46th running of the Vermont Lottery Governor’s Cup 150. A Plus-Minus handicap draw event as part of the Squier Cup presented by Milton CAT, the Governor’s Cup saw four-time winner Jason Corliss earn an incredible plus-7 in Heat No. 1 with former Milton CAT American-Canadian Tour champion Jimmy Hebert to his outside at the start.

A huge lap three front stretch traffic jam ended the night for Kasey Beattie and Chris Roberts while championship hopefuls

Marcel Gravel, Kaiden Fisher and Chip Grenier were among the several caution cars. Corliss made it look like child’s play from the drop of the green flag, powering away with the lead and motoring his machine through lap traffic again and again. The rest of the top five included a hard-charging Gravel, Hebert, Chris Pelkey and Memorial Day Classic victor Bryan Wall Jr. all putting on a great battle waiting for a slow-down to rebunch the field.

The caution never came in the closing laps, even as four-time winner Scott Dragon held out hope for the same in second-place, he could only watch from afar as Jason Corliss took down his fourth career Governor’s Cup. Corliss would be joined in victory lane by none other than current Vermont Governor Phil Scott after Scott exited his own Late Model with a 21st place finish. Scott Dragon and Chris Pelkey rounded out the top three with Fisher and Gravel coming back from the lap three calamity to round out the top five.



Barre’s Jason Corliss (right) celebrates his all-time tying fourth win in the Vermont Lottery Governor’s Cup 150 with none other than the nation’s only racing Governor, Phil Scott (left). photo by Alan Ward

The Street Stocks saw a similar crisis on lap five of their 25-lap Vermont Lottery trophy dash as the right rear hub of Curtis Franks’ Ford Mustang said “see you later” and created another front stretch traffic jam that also took out Rookie-of-the-Year prospect Keegan Tabor. A restart flub would also see the night ruined for Paul Rocheleau before it was all said and done with Tyler Wheatley in control at the front. Wheatley was on the hunt for his second win of the season but a hard-charging Kyler Davis from 20t on the starting grid took over the lead with less than ten to go and took the win with rookie Hayden Bushey and veteran Fred Fleury rounding out the top three.

Just as the Flying Tigers took the field, so too came the rain to rear its ugly head once again. With heavy rains adding to cooling temperatures and a late night already, Officials opted to end the night there and move the 40-lap feature for the Flying Tigers to Thursday, August 7.

Thunder Road International Speedbowl returns to racing action on Thursday, July 24, for the Midseason Championships with double points, the Double Purse and extra-distance racing on the line. The Late Models, Flying Tigers, Street Stocks and Road Warriors back in action with a 7 p.m. post time.

UNOFFICIAL RESULTS (local competitors)

Late Models – Governor’s Cup 150

- 5. 86VT, Marcel J. Gravel, Wolcott
- 16. 36VT, Joel Hodgdon, Craftsbury Common
- 27. 01VT, Stephen Martin, Craftsbury Common

Street Stocks – (25 Laps)

- 11. 18x, Walker Fitch, Marshfield
- 17. 34, Patrick Tibbetts, Plainfield
- 29. 32, Kylee Potter, Marshfield



The Street Stocks were the final feature event before rains moved in. In victory lane (from left) are third-place runner Fred Fleury, winner Kyler Davis and second-place finisher Hayden Bushey. photo by Alan Ward

KEN BROWN’S SPORT NUGGETS

Walsh Captures Vermont Amateur

MANCHESTER – Burlington’s Michael Walsh shot 5-under in a 36-hole marathon final day earlier this month to run away with the 119th Vermont State Amateur at Manchester Country Club.

The former Rice Memorial state champion and Temple University standout opened Thursday with a tournament low 67 to cruise to a five-shot victory over Williston’s Cody Semmelrock. Walsh erased the heartbreak of back-to-back runner up finishes at the VT-Am the last two years with a four-day total of 280 (8-under) to raise the state’s most prestigious trophy. Barton’s Jackson King finished third with a four-day total of 286, defending champion Lucas Politano finished fourth (287) and Newport’s Austin Giroux (288) rounded out the top five. Stowe’s Luke Russell shot 75-78

on the final day to land him in the top thirty.

Former Hazen Union standout Aaron Molleur qualified for his first VT-Amateur but failed to make the cut after carding back-to-back 81’s in the first two days. Molleur is the three-time defending club champion at Mountain View C.C. in Greensboro.

Riley Richards, son of former Craftsbury Academy multisport star Pete Richards, also qualified but failed to make day three after rounds of 77-80. Richards was a standout at U-32 and played two years for the Franklin Pierce University golf team. He is the younger brother of two-time VT-Amateur champion Bryson Richards.

Over the weekend, Brunswick’s Elliott Spaulding capped off an incredible summer with a two-shot victory over Thorny Lea to capture the New England Amateur at Neshobe Golf Club in Brandon. Spaulding successfully defended his Maine State Amateur title just

a week earlier. Politano represented Vermont with a respectable fourth place finish.

Richards Sets Course Record at Barre

BARRE – Former U-32 and University of Rhode Island (URI) star Bryson Richards, fired a 9-under round of 62 last week at the Country Club of Barre, setting a new course record.

The powerful lefty carded 8 birdies and an eagle on the day to go out in 30 and come home in 32. Richards finished up a stellar career at URI last year with a school record 6 collegiate wins. His dream to make the PGA tour recently gained momentum, securing conditional status on PGA Americas feeder tour. If Richards brings his current form to his remaining tournaments, positive results could possibly gain him status into the PGA’s Korn Ferry Tour. He has missed his first two cuts in Canada but will get back at it in the coming weeks in Ottawa and Ontario.

Cahoon Takes Top Midseason Championship Showdown

N. WOODSTOCK, N.H. – The annual Midseason Championship extravaganza met the fans and teams of White Mountain Motorsports Park on Saturday with all six White Mountain divisions packing in for the double point showdown!

The Kids Division got Midseason Championships underway Saturday with Kiptyn Aldrich and Maddi Potter leading the class to green. Potter quickly took off with the race lead as Gracen Gorham, Owen Dupuis and Lucas Sidney began their climb from the back of the pack. Gorham was quickest to find open air, motoring into the lead by the halfway point and kept his foot to the firewall to beat out Lucas Sidney to the line with Dupuis rounding out the top three.

Polesitter Mike Clark went sour just six laps into the Flying Tiger feature as Logan Powers walked away with the lead under the green flag. Clark’s slow-down was the one and only caution in the 35-lap sprint as Logan Powers took down his first win of the season at White Mountain as a hot and heavy battle between Tyler Pepin and Shane Sicard kept things interesting in the podium fight.

The king of the Mini Late Models, Berlin’s Nick Miller, took down segment one with Garrett Labounty and Dustin Jackson hot on his tail before the inversion for segment two. At lap-14 with Brett Jackson took over the point. Brett Jackson would take the second segment win but Miller motored to second and took the overall win over Labounty and Dustin Jackson.

In identical, twin 20-lap fashion, the Dwarf Cars saw Dave Gyger take the first segment checkers over Jason Wyman and Dennis O’Brien. The second segment was slowed only by a lap two dust-up between a spinning Daniel Brofman into Mitchell O’Brien along the front stretch. Back under green, Chad Dufour launched away with the lead

to take down the win in segment two but it was Dave Gyger in second place who took down the overall with Dennis O’Brien taking his first White Mountain podium in second overall and Jason Wyman taking third.

Jason Goodbout set off like a rocket to lead the Strictly Mini feature, leaving Jason Ball and Rookie Logan Farnsworth to fight for second. The fight for second was quickly taken over by the championship hopefuls with Jacob Roy sneaking past followed by Tyler Thompson and Donnie Baumgardner by the halfway point. The caution-free, green to checkers race took just six and a half minutes to complete with J.J. Goodbout taking the win over Roy and Thompson at the line.

The Late Models rounded out the annual Midseason Championships program with the father-son duo of Tyler and Stacy Cahoon bringing the field to green. Stacy, the elder, powered to the lead as Tyler gave way to Jaden Perry for second. The fight for third saw Tyler fending off Kyle Goodbout and Quinny Welch before a spin in turn one had Brian Whalley pile in and end both of their nights on lap thirty.

Stacy Cahoon continued to lead the pack with Perry and Welch on his tail as Mike Jurkowski and Brandon Gray entered the top-five picture. Kyle Goodbout’s infield spin on lap 39 re-racked the field once more setting up an eleven lap dash between Gray and Cahoon at the point. Coming to the checkered flag, contact between Gray down low and Cahoon up high sent Cahoon spinning and sideways across the line in second behind Gray. Race Control docked Gray, running as a sub driver for Kasey Beattie, one position for the contact that sent Cahoon in a tail spin to finish second with Welch rounding out the top three.

White Mountain Motorsports Park opens for its second double-header weekend Saturday, July 26 and 27. The Late Models headline



In Late Model Midseason Championships victory lane were (from left) Quinny Welch (3rd), winner Stacy Cahoon and Brandon Gray (2nd).
photo by Johnny Racer

Saturday’s showcase with the New Hampshire Governor’s Cup 100 plus Flying Tigers, Strictly Minis, Mini Late Models and Dwarf Cars with a 6 p.m. post time. The Pro All Stars Series Super Late Models return on Sunday, July 27, for the rain-postponed PASS Spectacular along with the New England Supermodified Series and PASS Mods.

UNOFFICIAL RESULTS (local competitors)

- Late Models – (50 Laps)**
4. 92VT, Jaden Perry, Hardwick
- Flying Tigers – (35 Laps)**
8 23NC, Chandler Potter, Plainfield
9 23VT, Matt Potter, Marshfield
- Kids Division – (15 Laps)**
4. 23, Madison Potter, Marshfield

Moose Hunting Permit Local Winners Announced

by Vermont Fish & Wildlife Dept.

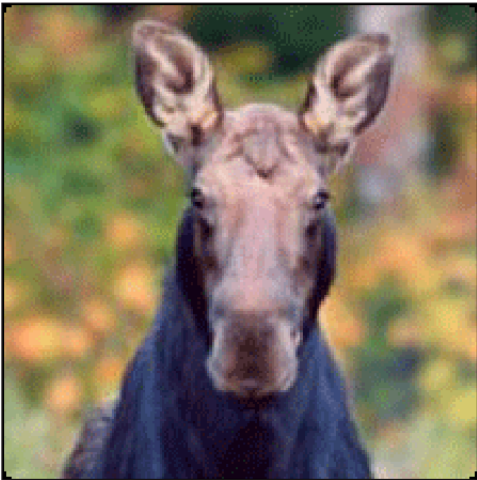
VERMONT – The winners of Vermont’s 2025 moose hunting permits were determined on July 15, at a lottery drawing at the Fish and Wildlife office in Montpelier. The drawing was done by a random sort of applications that were submitted by the June 18 deadline.

Area winners of 2025 moose permits are: Glenn R. Bishop, Craftsbury Common, WMU E2, antlerless only; Peter B. Dailey, E. Calais, WMU E2, antlerless only; Adam L. Darling, Craftsbury, WMU E2, antlerless only; Patrick D. Finnie, Adamant, WMU E2; Casey J. Gullage, Adamant, WMU E2 and Francis J. LaFountain, Wolcott, WMU E2, antlerless only;

All applicants for both drawings who did not receive a permit were awarded a bonus point to improve their chances in future moose permit lotteries.

The department issued 80 either-sex moose hunting permits and 100 antlerless moose hunting permits for a hunt limited to Vermont’s Wildlife Management Unit (WMU) E in the northeastern corner of the state. The science-based hunt is expected to result in a harvest of about 86 moose, or about 10 percent of the current moose population in WMU-E.

Vermont’s auction for three moose hunting permits is open until August 6. Unsuccessful bidders may bid. Sealed bids must be received by Vermont Fish and



Cow Moose

Wildlife by 4:30 p.m., same day. Contact the department to receive a moose permit bid kit. Telephone (802) 828-1190 or email cheri.waters@vermont.gov.

An important goal of the 2025 moose hunt is to improve the health of moose in WMU-E by reducing their number and thereby reducing the abundance and impact of winter ticks.

Ongoing monitoring of moose health in WMU-E shows the population continues to be negatively impacted by winter ticks. Birth rates are low, and many calves do not survive their first winter.

The 2025 Moose Season Recommendation and related information about moose research and management are available on Vermont Fish and Wildlife’s website.

Winner’s packets were to be mailed to all winners by July 16, 2025. The completed forms must then be returned to Fish & Wildlife no later than Thursday, July 31, 2025 by mail, fax or email..



In Flying Tiger Midseason Championship victory lane were (from left) Shane Sicard (3rd), winner Logan Powers and Tyler Pepin (2nd).
photo by Johnny Racer