

THE Hardwick Gazette

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Wednesday, September 17, 2025

hardwickgazette.org

Volume 136 Number 38

Redistricting forum favors supervisory union

by Paul Fixx

GREENSBORO – A hour-long meeting advertised to look at the future of the Mountain View Union Elementary School District (MVU) under Act 73, Sept. 11, focusing on two key questions: Should MVU remain within a Supervisory Union (SU), or would it be better to join a single-district model with one school board overseeing all schools in that district? And, if MVU remains in an SU and that SU is required to expand, which neighboring supervisory unions might be the best fit to partner with? Options include Lamoille North, Lamoille

South, Caledonia North, Caledonia Central and others.

Organizers called the meeting “an important opportunity for the community to share thoughts, ask questions, and help shape the path forward.”

Board members Terri Vest, Sam Friend, Darren Usinowicz, Adam Gann, Meghan Shatney, Kyle Anderson and Heather Meacham were joined by administrators and staff, Principal Bill Deiss, Principal Beth Parker, Heather Freeman, Superintendent David Baker, Lorelei Wheeler, Marie Doane and about 16 community members

Friend opened the meeting explaining its purpose was to hear the public’s preference so the board can discuss the options at tonight’s board meeting and prepare an opinion for the state task force. She said a local preference does not guarantee that it will be what happens and invited input and questions.

Superintendent Baker clarified that the current MVU student population is approximately 1,000, with the Act 73 legislation calling for a minimum of 4,000 and a maximum of 8,000 students for supervisory unions or districts.

Questions arose regarding the task force’s
See FORUM, 5

Co-op celebrates 50 years

by Paul Fixx

HARDWICK – Young and old community members turned out in abundance for the Buffalo Mountain Co-op’s 50th Anniversary Party on a clear and comfortable Saturday, Sept. 13, at Atkins Field.

The Miller Brothers, a local bluegrass duo who bring a contemporary feel to old-time and modern tunes, kicked off the festivities in the afternoon as guests had their choice of foods provided by the co-op, food to purchase from MexiRico Auténtico, Adobo Bowl and Stag and Thistle.



A large crowd attended the 50th anniversary party celebrating the Buffalo Mountain Co-Op at Atkins Field, September 13, in Hardwick.

photo by Vanessa Fournier

A welcoming information booth offered t-shirts for sale and space for those so-inclined to add their co-op memories and well-wishes, plus a chance for members to update their memberships help others join the co-op. A bounce house and other activities were available for younger attendees.

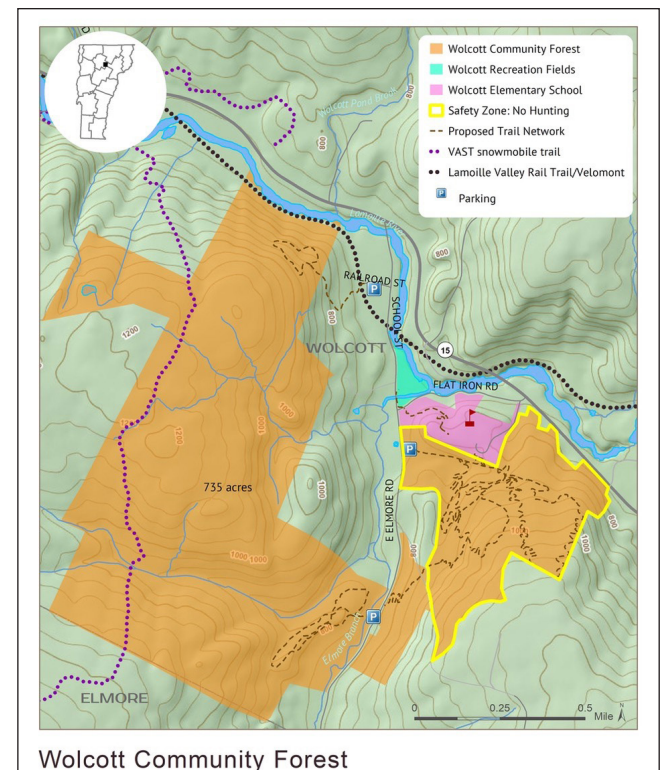
The co-op, now operating on Mill Street as Buffalo Mountain Market, opened its storefront on Wolcott Street in 1975, in a building provided at no charge by four tenants sharing the upstairs space.

Tom Borrup, who traveled from Minneapolis for the event, said he signed the original articles of incorporation near the end of August in 1975, which others confirmed, as the current general manager, Emily Hershberger, said she encounters his name on co-op documents, even 50 years later.

As the Miller Brothers wrapped-up before 6 p.m., current co-op board chair Annie Gaillard shared her experience as an early member of the original co-op, remaining on the staff until her retirement in recent years, when she transitioned to offering leadership on the board.

Gaillard introduced Stuart Weiss, who, along with a partner, purchased that original

See CO-OP, 6



Community forest opens with Habitat for Humanity collaboration

WOLCOTT – After much anticipation, planning and community collaboration, the grand opening of the Wolcott Community Forest took place Saturday, Sept. 13, at Wolcott Elementary School.

Seven-hundred-thirty-five acres of new public land have been acquired within walking distance of the center of Wolcott and directly adjacent to Wolcott Elementary School, the Lamoille Valley Rail Trail and the proposed Velomont Trail.

The project is the culmination of years of planning by the select board and nonprofit organizations, namely the Trust for Public Land (TPL), Northern Rivers Land Trust (NRLT) and Vermont Housing and Conservation Board

See FOREST, 5

Fifty Years of Buffalo Mountain Market

by Annie Gaillard

HARDWICK – The foundation of the current Buffalo Mountain Market was
See FIFTY, 7



Celebrating the Buffalo Mountain Co-Op’s 50th Anniversary at Atkins Field September 13, are present General Manager and President of the Board of Directors Emily Hershberger (left) and longtime-employees Annie Gaillard (40 years), Katharine Arnold (23 years), Beth Cate (17 years), David Allen (21 years) and Valeria Angelo (16 years).

photo by Vanessa Fournier

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POLICE REPORT

Vermont State Police

Domestic assault, criminal threatening

EDEN – September 2, at 8:32 a.m., troopers from the Williston Barracks were notified of an incident on Ober Hill Road in the town of Eden. Members of a lawn care company, Michael R. Shedd and Tyson Lisson of Hardwick, and Dakota Armstrong of Wolcott, arrived at a residence to mow the lawn. John K. Roeseener IV (54) of Eden exited his residence with a baseball bat and threatened the gentlemen who subsequently left the scene. Roessner was issued a citation to appear in Lamoille

County Superior Court - Criminal Division on October 8, at 12:30 p.m. CALAIS – September 5, at 3:05 p.m., the Vermont State Police received a report of a domestic assault in Calais. Investigation revealed Carol Robinson, age 73, caused physical injury to a family member. Robinson was placed under arrest and brought to the Berlin Barracks for processing. Robinson was issued conditions of release and ordered to appear in the Washington County Superior Court - Criminal Division.

Hardwick Police Department

Criminally suspended license

Hardwick Police conducted a traffic stop on Hannah Ainsworth on Vt. Rte. 15 W for a civil traffic violation. Upon running Ainsworth's license through DMV it was learned that Ainsworth's license to operate a motor vehicle was suspended criminally. Ainsworth was arrested, processed at the Hardwick Police Department and released on a

citation to appear in Caledonia District Court on October 6.

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.

AWARE Report

HARDWICK – Fifteen people used AWARE services between September 7 and September 14. 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.

THANKS

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Bove's Pasta Sauce
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Bove's Salad Dressing
\$3.79 12 oz.

Betty Crocker Mashed Potatoes
5/\$5 4 oz.

Ben's Ready Rice
2/\$5 8.8 oz.

Hamburger Helper
2/\$4 5.9-6.9 oz.

Old El Paso Taco Kits
2/\$6 8.8-12.5 oz.

Hunts Tomatoes
2/\$3 14.5 oz.

College Inn Broth
2/\$5 32 oz.

Bumble Bee Solid White Tuna
4/\$5 5 oz.

Food Club Canned Beans
5/\$5 15.5 oz.

Food Club Salad Dressing
2/\$4 16 oz.

Ghirardelli Brownie Mix
2/\$7 18-18.75 oz.

Quaker Chewy Granola Bars
2/\$5 6.5-6.7 oz.

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POLICE REPORT



A boat's owner and her friends pump water out of the swamped boat in Caspian Lake Monday, with help from Hardwick's David Upson and Greensboro's John Schweitzer, while paddleboarders and a kayaker pass by.

photo by Paul Fixx

East Montpelier Fire Department

EAST MONTPELIER – On Plainfield; 8:20 a.m., medical, Calais; 4:39 p.m., medical, Calais; 12:37 p.m., fire, Calais; September 3, 4:39 p.m., medical, Marshfield; 8:13 p.m., Medical, Marshfield; September 4, 11:50 a.m., medical, Plainfield; September 5, 7:38 a.m., medical, Plainfield; 8:20 a.m., medical, Calais; 12:37 p.m., fire, Calais; September 6, 3:11 a.m., medical, Plainfield; September 7, 3:44 a.m., medical, Marshfield; September 8, 6:35 a.m., medical, Plainfield.

Hardwick Police Department Media Log

September 7, Mental Health Incident, Elm St.; Suspicious Event, Elm St.; Welfare Check, Depot St.; TRO/FRO Service, Hay's Drive; Traffic Stop, Wolcott St.; Dead Body, High St.; Citizen Dispute, Dale St.; Motor Vehicle Complaint, Brown Farm Road.; Suspicious Event, Vt. Route 14 S.; Suspicious Event, High St.; Traffic Stop, S. Main St.

September 8: Directed Patrol, S. Main St.; Suspicious Event, Spring St.; School Event, Hazen Union Dr.; Assist-Public, High St.; Accident-LSA, Vt. Route 15 W.; two Traffic Stops, S. Main St.; Assist - Public, Hopkins Hill Road.; Traffic Stop, Main St.; Directed Patrol, Hazen Union Drive.; Traffic Stop, Vt. Route 15; Motor Vehicle Complaint, Vt. Route 14; Bike Patrol, Rail Trail; Traffic Hazard, E. Church St.; Motor Vehicle Complaint, Vt. Route 15; Traffic Stop, Mill St.

September 9: Directed Patrol, S. Main St.; School Event, S. Main St.; Fingerprints, High St.; Directed Patrol, Hazen Union Drive.; five Traffic Stops, Wolcott St.; three Traffic Stops, S. Main St.; Traffic Stop, Granite St.; Citizens Dispute, Maple St.; Traffic Stop, Craftsbury Road; Traffic Stop, Vt. Route 15; Assist-Agency, Hays Drive; Suspicious Event, Pleasant St.

September 10: Directed Patrol, S. Main St.; Parking Problem,

N. Main St.; Suspicious Event, Vt. Route 16; Fingerprints, High St.; Motor Vehicle Complaint, Vt. Route 15; 3 Traffic Stops, Wolcott St.; Assist - Public, Woodbury St.; Traffic Stop, Vt. Route 15.

September 11: Directed Patrol, S. Main St.; Medical, Maple St.; Hazardous Materials, Wolcott St.; Assist - Agency, Wolcott St.; Fingerprints, High St.; Traffic Stop, Vt. Route 15, Accident - LSA, N. Main St.; Fingerprints, High St.; Traffic Stop, Spring St.; 4 Traffic Stops, Wolcott St.; Traffic Stop, Vt. Route 15 W; Suspicious Event, Wolcott St.; Dead Body, Vt. Route 14 S.

September 12: Directed Patrol, S. Main St.; Fingerprints, High St; VIN Verification, Craftsbury Rd.; Medical, Maple St.; three Traffic Stops, S. Main St.; Directed Patrol, Hazen Union Drive; Directed Patrol, Granite St.; Traffic Stop, Hillside St.; Bike Patrol, Rail Trail; Suspicious Events, S. Main St.; Welfare Check, Union St.

September 13: Traffic Stop, Terrace Hill; two Traffic Stops, Vt. Route 14 S.; Directed Patrol, Granite St.; Assist - Motorist, Dusty Swamp Road; Motor Vehicle Complaint, Belfry Road; ATV Incident, Elm St.; Suspicious Event, Vt. Route 15 W.; Traffic Stop, N. Main St.; Assist - Agency, Breezy Ave.; Bike Patrol, Rail Trail; Suspicious Event, W. Hill Road.



First responder John Moffat, with the Greensboro Fire Department, walks to shore after removing the gas tank from a swamped motor boat moored off the Caspian Lake Beach Monday.

photo by Paul Fixx



On Monday, Hardwick's David Upson and Greensboro's John Schweitzer work to raise a swamped boat moored on one of the anchors usually used for buoys marking the Caspian Lake beach swim area, which were recently removed for the season. Though water offshore from the beach is low, the boat was still floating.

photo by Paul Fixx



Assistant State Fire Marshal and Woodbury Fire Chief Paul Cerutti (left) stands behind a gas tank removed from a swamped boat as he speaks with a passerby. VT Hazardous Materials Response Team Chief Patrick McLaughlin's truck is parked to the right as he responds off the Caspian Lake beach Monday.

photo by Paul Fixx

WEATHER WATCH

No substantial precipitation in sight; progressing from mild to cool

by Tyler Molleur

EAST HARDWICK – Remember the days of noting how often it rained during the week-ends as the weather warmed up and spring was underway? Rarely are we complaining that is the case now, but we still see a shower every now and then on a week-end day. That was the case on Saturday, with some lingering clouds and a grand total of 0.02” of rain. That rainfall was also the total for the week.

As it stands right now, we are 0.64” below normal for the month of September at the East Hardwick observing station, with a yearly rainfall amount 6.61” below normal. Moderate to severe drought conditions remain in place over much of Vermont, with some worsening expected as the medium-range situation through the weekend looks to offer little relief.

An upper-level ridge is slowly moving east from the Midwest, where an omega block is

helping to push away precipitation and funneling milder temperatures in. High temperatures in the upper 70s to near 80 degrees are expected in the next couple of days as high pressure slides off the Eastern Seaboard. This leaves us on the southerly flow with partly to mostly sunny conditions.

A cold front dropping south from the St. Lawrence Valley later Thursday will bring some increased clouds as it crosses northern Vermont. In the wake of the front, high pressure returns with noticeably cooler conditions on Friday and Saturday. There is a risk of frost Friday and Saturday night, so plan on covering sensitive outdoor plants.

Highs return to the 70s by Sunday. No rain in the forecast this weekend with mostly sunny conditions expected. The next chance for some precipitation appears to arrive by the start of the work-week. Here are the forecast details:

Wednesday: Partly sunny.



An aurora borealis seen from Cabot, the evening of September 14. photo by Brittany Butler

High: 78. Low: 52. Calm wind.

Thursday: Mostly sunny, with some increasing clouds late. High: 80. Low: 50. Light south wind, becoming northwest around 5 mph late.

Friday: Partly sunny, becoming mostly sunny in the afternoon.

High: 65. Low: 35. Northwest wind 5-10 mph.

Saturday: Sunny. High: 62. Low: 36. Northwest wind around 5 mph.

Sunday: Mostly sunny. High: 71. Low: 46. South wind around 5 mph.

Vermont officials ask residents to report drought impacts

by Alice Finno, VTDigger

VERMONT – As drought conditions worsen in Vermont, state officials are asking residents to report the impacts.

On Thursday, the Agency of Natural Resources encouraged Vermonters to communicate information on dry wells and water supplies, farm losses, crop damage, low water levels in rivers, lakes and recreational areas, and other issues related to water quality or availability.

These reports help the state assess the severity of the drought, identify where and what type of assistance is needed, and make plans to address drought impacts.

The U.S. Drought Monitor shows that almost 60% of Vermont is in severe drought conditions, up from 34% last week. When people report drought impacts to state officials, the data also informs the drought severity to the U.S. Drought Monitor, which can trigger action from the U.S. Department of Agriculture and Internal Revenue Service to support Vermonters who may be significantly affected.

“There are actually six types of droughts, and we’re in all of them right now,” said state climatologist Lesley-Ann

Dupigny-Giroux, a geography professor at the University of Vermont and chair of the Vermont Drought Task Force.

“The one that is particularly concerning right now is the hydrological drought, which is when we look at how dry the lakes, ponds, streams, and wells and groundwater supplies are because that’s the one that had been at these record low levels even going back to last fall,” she said. The state is now experiencing both short- and long-term hydrological drought, she added.

According to the National Integrated Drought Information System, this past August has been the driest on record in Vermont since 1895.

Occasional rains or thunderstorms won’t be sufficient to reverse the current conditions, as some areas of Vermont have seen nearly 8 inches less rain than usual in the past four months, and the soil moisture level is 60% to 80% below average, Thursday’s press release by the Agency of Natural Resources states.

The drought task force, composed of state and federal representatives, continues to meet regularly to monitor the situation and provide new recommendations.

People can consult the agency’s drought resources for a list of

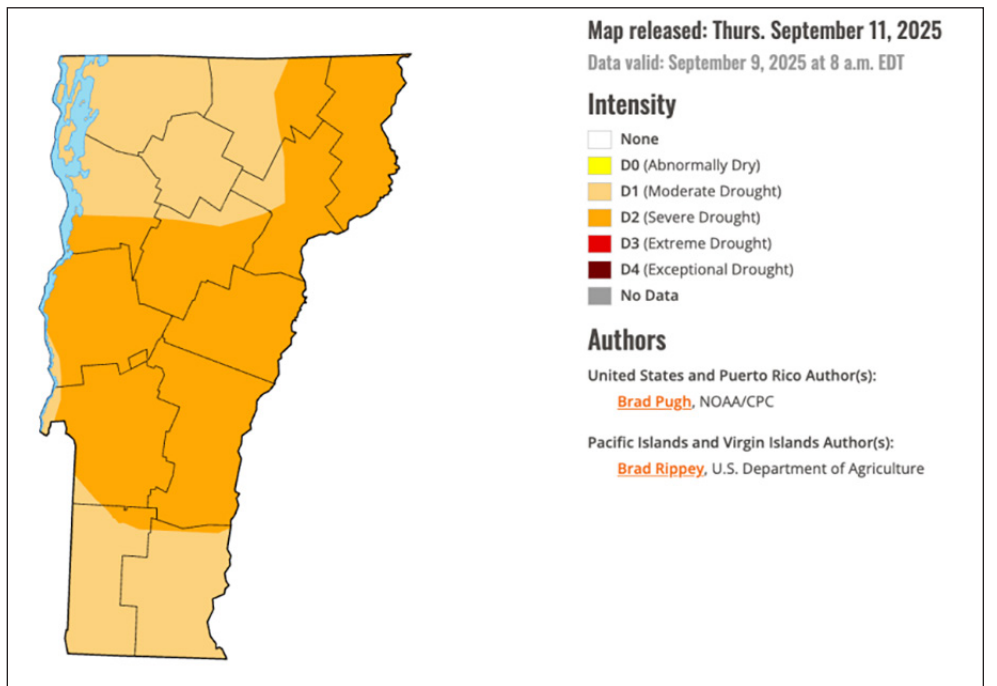


Image courtesy of the U.S. Drought Monitor, which is a partnership between the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, the United States Department of Agriculture and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

contacts to report drought conditions. The task force also recommends reducing water consumption at home.

“Any sort of drought-related

impact, I think it’s important for us to hear about so that we can start deploying the resources that need to be deployed as a response,” Dupigny-Giroux said.



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Forest

Continued From Page One

(VHCB). A special thanks was given to the U.S. Forest Service, who were unable to attend the ceremony, but contributed \$580,000 to the project via a Federal Community Forest Program. The funding was put towards creating a five-mile trail network, accessible from the LVRT and elementary school.

Vice President Shelby Semmes of the Trust for Public Land kicked off the ceremony with some background on TLP. A national nonprofit organization, it has worked to protect 4.5 million acres of land since its founding 50 years ago, creating outdoor spaces at over 5,500 sites like Wolcott across the country.

“You’re never supposed to have a favorite kid and somewhere on that playground, I have two of them out there. But I have to admit that as a public lands advocate, community forests, I think, are my favorite,” Semmes joked. “These are the most intimate forms of public lands. They emerge in the shape of and in service to their community from day one. I know that we will relish that intimacy today, and really every day that you all and your future generations are working to make memories here.”

Semmes turned things over to Conservation Director Kate Waner to introduce the ceremony’s speakers, “First, I’d like to say my share

of appreciation for all the town staff, the planning commission, the select board, with a special shout out to Linda Martin, the chair of the select board and the point person for this project. So, in the past four years, Linda has been both an up-front and behind-the-scenes advocate for the acquisition, and approached every new problem with patience, balance and good cheer. Her assistance with state and federal grants, and thoughtful and steady doggedness, got us to the finish line. I’d like to introduce Linda to speak on behalf of the town.”

“Today’s a day of gratitude, celebration and community pride,” Martin began. “We are gathered here not just to mark the ownership of the Wolcott community forest, but to honor the people and organizations who made this dream a reality. We are deeply grateful to the TPL, and especially Kate Warner and Hayden Smith for your leadership, guidance and tireless efforts in making this project a success. Your support and commitment carry this vision forward every step of the way.”

“To our stewardship committee and volunteers, thank you. You are the part of this project, clearing trails, attending meetings, spreading the word, giving of your time and energy. You went above and beyond, proving that when a community comes together, amazing things can happen.” she continued. “We also want to thank the public

funding organizations, the Federal Community Forest Program; Vermont, Housing and Conservation Board (VHCB); Northern Rivers Land Land Trust and the Vermont Outdoor Recreation Economic Collaborative, whose support gave this project the foundation it needed by supporting the Wolcott Community Forest, you have strengthened our connection to nature, to each other and the generations to come. To our donors, thank you for believing in this vision and stepping forward with generosity. You gave us resources to turn a hope into reality. And it is with deep appreciation we recognize the extraordinary generosity of Rhoda Bedell and the Bourne family. Your commitment to this project has left an enduring legacy because of you and the many people involved, this forest will be a place of peace, recreation, learning and conservation for years to come.”

To conclude her remarks Martin posed a question and answered it: “What does the Wolcott Community Forest mean for our town? It means children growing up with trails to explore. It means neighbors gathering outdoors, finding joy and health and open spaces. It means land preserved for wildlife, protecting waters and open spaces for future generations. It is proof of what we can achieve when we work together. So let us celebrate not only the land we now own, but the unity, vision and hard work

that brought us here on behalf of the town of Wolcott and everyone who walks or bikes these trails and cherishes this place in the years to come.hank you.”

Waner again spoke, revealing an exciting continuation of the collaboration with VHCB, “As some of you know, they are a unique agency that has a dual mission to create permanently affordable housing and conservation to protect Vermont’s most important farms, forests and historic properties. The genius of this cool dual mission is that it recognizes that housing and conservation are both vital to the economic vitality and quality of life in Vermont. So TPL and the town were thrilled to have the opportunity to try to meet both of those goals here in Wolcott. There was a small part of Rhoda Bedell and Leon Whitcomb’s land, right on Route 15 that previously had a home, a well and a driveway. We all worked together to create the opportunity to donate 1.9 acres to Green Mountain Habitat for Humanity to create a new single family home that will be perpetually affordable.”

Waner says unfortunately there were some significant soil contamination issues that needed to be dealt with. However, just two weeks ago, public and private funding was secured to fully clean up the site. Construction will hopefully begin on the property next summer, according to Waner.

Forum

Continued From Page One

authority, the necessity of its creation and the potential consequences of not participating in the process.

Friend responded that the recommendation from the Rural Schools Alliance is that some preference should be shared so that the schools have had some voice in the process.

Concerns were raised about travel distances, local control and the financial implications of building new facilities if schools are centralized.

The audience expressed a strong preference for the supervisory union model in a vote, with 13 in favor of a supervisory union, one for a supervisory district and two abstentions.

Geographic isolation and the impracticality of travel distances

were noted as reasons for the choice.

Terri Vest expressed concern with health insurance expenses, which are now controlled at the state level. From her experience, centralizing health insurance saved money for the first year and after that it did not. She said she is not convinced there will be financial savings.

In response to a question about what neighboring schools are doing, Baker said only one superintendent has gotten back to him at this time.

Several hoped MVU is rural enough that an exception can be made, especially with regard to transportation.

Baker said, it’s his experience that larger districts will likely have the loudest voices. He thinks it will be important to work with legislators as the process moves

forward, particularly to emphasize that rural Vermont is different from other places in Vermont.

Vest said the OSSU Board is talking about holding forums during the fall to discuss these issues further, inviting legislators to them.

The board said they planned to prepare a statement reflecting

the community’s preferences for submission to the task force, but was unable to reach consensus at its meeting following the forum. It chose instead to task Friend and Baker with sending a survey to solicit a wider response before its October meeting, using a template being used in Craftsbury

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Co-op

Continued From Page One

Wolcott Street building in the summer of 1975. Weiss went on to share his recollections of the co-op's early history, which led to an introduction of Hershberger, who has presided over what she called, "one of our most significant changes yet: moving into this new space and expanding what we offer."

She began, remembering

recent losses in the co-op family, with the passing of Regina Troiano, who served as bookkeeper for over 20 years, as "Her sharp, perceptive wit kept the books in line and added some spice to our crew." Then remembering organic farmer Bruce Kaufman, who served on the board and as its treasurer for many years. "His passion for feeding his community led him to be a mentor to

many young organic farmers and people here at the co-op, including me."

Hershberger also noted Barry Baldwin, "who is very much still with us, he just isn't working at the co-op." Baldwin was "our bookkeeper for over 20 years and a superlative collective coordinator. His warm smile and hug graced the co-op for many years, helping to create a loving and welcoming space."

Discussing the recent merger with the Village Market and move into its space on Mill Street, Hershberger said, "What we've found is that this move allowed us to welcome more of our community into the co-op, while still holding true to our values, and we've been thriving ever since."

"The spirit of care is what makes this co-op not just a store, but a community hub," she said.

"Our vision is to keep growing relationships, to keep nourishing our neighbors, and to keep this co-op rooted in the values of community care and connection."

Atom & the Orbits, a musical group assembled by Noah Hahn, who offered danceable rhythms in the form of short, old-school power pop songs in the mold of Chuck Berry.

A birthday cake was cut and served, disappearing into the hands of waiting celebrators quite quickly.

As Hahn's line-up wound down with several slow tunes, allowing for gentler, more intimate dancing by some, a break for quieter conversation ensued during which Backline Collective got set up. Ben Dunham and this group rode a New Orleans flavored groove to close out the event's mini-music fest.

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Event name: Copley Gravel Moxie





People sample the different cheeses offered during the Buffalo Mountain Co-Ops anniversary party, September 13, celebrating its 50 years of service to the community.
photo by Vanessa Fournier



Atom and The Orbits was one of three bands to entertain during the Buffalo Mountain Co-Op's 50th anniversary celebration, September 13, at Atkins Field in Hardwick.
photo by Vanessa Fournier

Fifty

Continued From Page One

in the late '60s and early '70s with the back-to-the-land movement happening across our country.

People dreamed of leaving the rat race behind and returning to a simpler life and home-grown food, without all the chemicals and additives. Most came to Vermont from other places taking many different routes to get to Hardwick.

Vermonters accepted the visitors even as their kids were moving to the city. They taught them drive a tractor, harness a team, plow the land, grow a garden, cut firewood, cook with wood, bake bread and help each other. It was fertile ground for a co-op.

There were already two buying club co-ops in the area: the Northeast Kingdom Food Co-op, which started at the commune Entropy Acres in West Glover, later moving to Barton, and the Plainfield Co-op, begun by Goddard College students and graduates. Each month someone would send a mimeographed order sheet listing bulk foods, cheese, produce and miscellaneous items to all member households. Club members would fill it out, mail it back with a check, and someone would then head to Boston and New York wholesalers in a pickup, VW bus or a rented box truck. Upon their return, member volunteers would meet to divide up the goods for each household.

Things changed when a young couple, recent graduates of Goddard College, moved to Hardwick from Plainfield and bought the old store across from what is now Poulin Lumber. Living upstairs, but not wanting to run a store by themselves, they proposed the idea of forming a storefront co-op to members of the buying clubs.

The cooperative business model began in England in 1844 in response to the inequities of wealth created by the Industrial Revolution and the altering of food (such as mixing chalk into flour) by factory owners in their company stores. Owned and governed by members, co-ops are created for the benefit of the people who use them.

Co-ops are place-based, caring about the communities they operate in and helping to keep money circulating locally, rather than having it siphoned off to distant corporate owners and shareholders.

While profit is essential for staying in business, it is not the sole motivating factor. Today there are over one billion co-op members worldwide (and 2025 has been named the UN International Year of Cooperatives).

Many meetings and much work later, Buffalo Mountain Co-op opened its doors in early November of 1975 as the first storefront among the modern-day natural food co-ops in Vermont.

Buffalo Mountain began on a very modest scale. A day with \$100 in sales was considered wildly successful. Fundraising dinners were held fairly regularly to keep the organization afloat, and while not making much money they served to build community among member-owners.

That first storefront was located in a flood plain, and many winter days the Sam Daniels wood furnace in the cellar would be under water, so that workers needed to keep their coats on. Some of the January thaws created ice dams on the river. There were times when there was a foot of water in the store itself.

When the couple who owned the building split up and moved away, they offered the building to the co-op, but co-op members decided it was instead a great time to move. So, in 1979, Buffalo Mountain moved into what had once been



Buffalo Mountain volunteer Damien Owczarski (left) of Walden shows Crosby Lynd, age 10, of Walden how to make apple cider during the anniversary celebration Sunday. photo by Vanessa Fournier

the barn at the Jeudevine Mansion on N. Main Street, sharing the space with a liquor store and Caspian Arms.

Cal Foster, who owned both Caspian Arms and the building, said he needed the space to expand his business. There were then three options for places to move: Hardwick Knitwear, next to the American Legion; Pete's Family Market, on Mill Street, where the co-op is now and the site of the old IGA at 39 S. Main Street, now owned by The Civic Standard.

With encouragement from Main Street business owners hoping to attract more shoppers, loans from members and a local bank, along with some financing from the owner of the IGA building, that building was purchased and the co-op moved in 1991.

Continued growth at a fairly steady pace created an opportunity in the late 1990s to follow cooperative principle No. 7, "Concern for Community," when it began weekly community dinners at the United Church in Hardwick, which are still happening regularly.

In 2004, finally succumbing to years of requests to serve food, a café opened upstairs. It ran successfully until 2005, the day after Thanksgiving, when one of the neighboring buildings caught fire.

In January, the store closed, while members packed everything up preparing for a move back to the Jeudevine Mansion. It reopened in a week and renovation of the South Main Street store began.

Extensive renovations including leveling floors and insulating the walls and roof. Much of the equipment got upgraded and it became a



Hardwick Gazette Editor Paul Fixx (left) visits with Tom Borrup, during the 50th birthday celebration for the Buffalo Mountain Co-op. Borrup signed the co-op's original articles of incorporation and edited the paper in the early 1970s. photo by Tom Borrup



Backline Collective, the last band of the day at the Buffalo Mountain Co-op's 50th birthday party, plays after sunset under the Atkins Field pavilion in Hardwick. photo by Paul Fixx

more usable space. Insurance covered all of the moving expenses, including rent and most of the renovations, with a bank loan covering the extra improvements.

In early June 2006 the co-op moved back into the renovated building, with the store then known as the Buffalo Mountain Food Cooperative and Cafe.

When the Covid-19 pandemic hit in March 2020, the co-op's response was to shut the store but offer curbside pickup for a few months. It eventually allowed a limited number of masked shoppers in the store.

The pandemic brought home to members the fact that the coop had outgrown its space.

The Hardwick Village Market on Mill Street then became available. After the pandemic, the parties began negotiating after an earlier failed attempt to reach an agreement.

The co-op's board began the process of collecting data and poring over financials, followed by member informational meetings in the fall of 2021. One issue was that the sales price for the market included the conventional grocery line it carried.

The board asked, "could we combine the two product lines, become Hardwick's locally owned grocery store, and serve the needs of our whole community, not just the natural food buying crowd." They found a hopeful sign in data showing only about 10 percent of members bought all their groceries at the co-op. Evolving tastes and changed financial situations meant that it was serving only part of its member-owner's grocery needs.

In the late fall of 2021, following a two-week process of voting on whether to move the co-op, the tally showed 86 percent in favor of moving.

With member loans, donations and grants bringing in almost \$1 million, the co-op became the new owner of its present building on March 15, 2022, to be named Buffalo Mountain Market.

Both stores were operated separately while renovations to the new store began.

Shoppers at the Village Market watched improvements being made, while being greeted by the same staff, most of whom stayed on, and finding the same products on the shelves. Slowly, the fear of the "hippies" taking over their store began to dissipate.

In late June, both stores closed for three days, while the co-op moved into its new home.

Today, the Buffalo Mountain Market has over 4,500 member-owners, annual sales of over \$6 million, a quarter of which are from local suppliers, and employs over 60 people.

This story is excerpted from a longer article published in the 2025 edition of the "Hazen Road Dispatch," a publication of Greensboro Historical Society.

Plainfield Forward to discuss town future

PLAINFIELD – Plainfield community members will participate in the next step of the Plainfield Forward process to review, discuss and prioritize community-led actions that will improve the future of the town. The meeting will take place on Wednesday, Sept. 17, from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m., at the Haybarn Theater at The Creative Campus at Goddard with free pizza and childcare provided.

Participants will review the ideas brainstormed by community members in surveys, at a youth forum and during a July kickoff event. Through discussion and multiple rounds of dot-voting, the community will identify top priorities for action. All members of the Plainfield community may join, including those displaced by the floods, residents, youth, families and those who work in town or who own businesses.

“We were so impressed by how many community members of all ages showed up to share ideas for the future of Plainfield in July, at the youth forum September 5, and through the online survey,” says Vermont Council on Rural Development (VCRD) Climate Economy Director Laura Cavin Bailey.

This event is the second of a three step process, which brings community members together to examine issues and generate

ideas, decide top priorities and develop action plans for the future of the town.

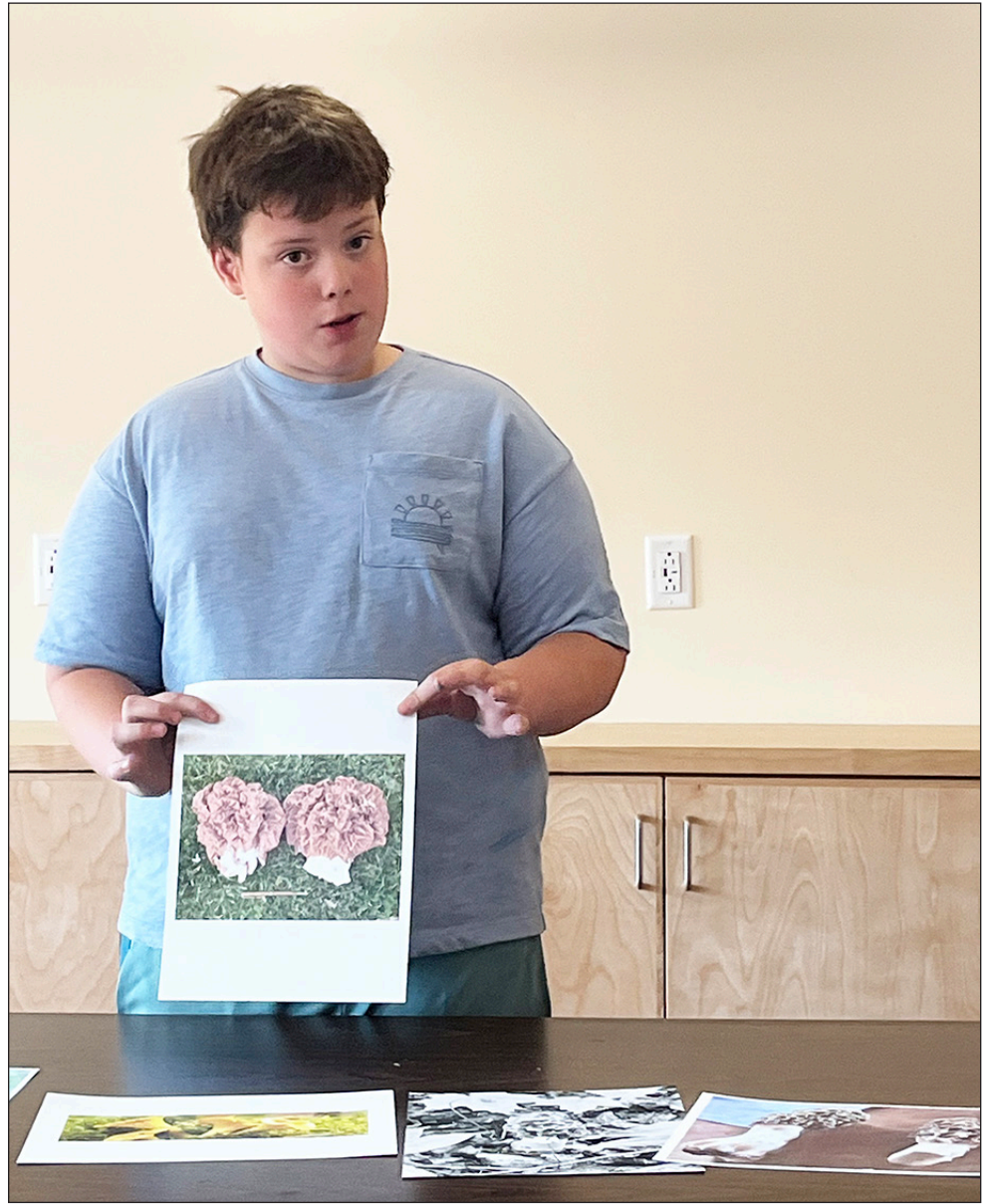
The first step of the process collected input on the opportunities and challenges facing Plainfield from over 230 community members through forums at a community dinner, paper and online surveys and a youth forum. A team of representatives from state and regional organizations joined to listen and will serve as resources to the community as they take action.

The Vermont Council on Rural Development (VCRD) provides the overall structure and neutral facilitation throughout the Plainfield Forward process.

ORCA Media will be live streaming the event.

The third meeting in the process will take place on Thursday, Oct. 16, at the Haybarn Theater at the Creative Campus at Goddard to build action plans around the chosen priorities and connect to technical and financial resources to move the community-determined priorities forward.

For more information, visit bit.ly/PlainfieldForward contact VCRD at (802) 234-1646, or email Laura Cavin Bailey at laura@vtrural.org. For accommodations, email Nick Parker at nick@vtrural.org or call/text (802) 227-4059.



Malaky Downing shows a photo of a false morel mushroom during his talk about mushroom identification and foraging at Jeudevine Memorial Library's Parker Ladd Community Room on September 9. He said the most important thing he'd hoped to convey to those who attended his talk was, "Mushrooms can kill you!" photo by Rachel Funk

Mushrooms can kill you, says forager

by Paul Fixx

HARDWICK – Mushroom identification and foraging was the subject of Malaky Downing's presentation "Foraging for Mushrooms with Malaky" at the Jeudevine Memorial Library last week, on Tuesday. His presentation was one of the September youth events at the library.

Malaky said he's learned what he knows about mushrooms by reading a lot of books and by foraging locally, near his rural, off-grid home in North Walden.

His talk was accompanied by pictures of mushrooms, with common edible local ones being lobsters and chanterelles, he said. He's recently found morels here too, showing pictures of them and poisonous false morels, which they

might be confused with.

Malaky called himself an intermediate forager, saying he's made some mistakes as he's learned about mushrooms.

The most important thing he'd hoped to convey to those who attended his talk was, "Mushrooms can kill you."

Malaky was "knowledgeable, well-prepared and funny," said Norma Spaulding, who attended the talk.

Following a cooking class at the library, during which Malaky shared some of his experience with cooking and eating mushrooms, he said Youth Librarian Rachel Funk suggested he give a talk on the subject. With that encouragement, he set about planning the talk and made an outline.



The first step in the Plainfield Forward process gathered 230 community members to discuss and plan the future of the town. courtesy photo

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Daniel J. Franklin joins Obama Leaders class



Daniel J. Franklin

by **Raymonda Parchment**

CRAFTSBURY – The Obama Foundation welcomed 206 change-makers from Africa, Asia-Pacific, Europe, and the United States into The Obama Foundation’s Leaders program on September 9. Representing 70 nations and territories, these leaders will join four regional programs that showcase the global reach and impact of the foundation’s leadership network. This year’s class brings together 35 leaders from Africa, 35 from the Asia-Pacific region, 35 from Europe and more than 100 from the United States.

Among the 206 is Craftsbury resident, Daniel J. Franklin. Franklin is the executive director of the Vermont Association for Mental Health and Addiction Recovery, a statewide advocacy organization where he leads efforts to

transform systems of care for individuals and communities affected by substance use and mental health challenges.

Franklin focuses on breaking down systemic silos, advancing equity, and building healthier environments to address the root causes of addiction.

Previously serving as the organization’s vice president for advocacy and community relations, he played a key role in securing historic investments in mental health and recovery services and training over 500 recovery coaches statewide. He also helped develop the nationally recognized “recovery village model” at Jenna’s Promise, a holistic approach to care that centers trauma-informed support and community-level change.

Franklin previously served as director of North Central Vermont Recovery Center and as vice president for advocacy and community relations at VAMHAR, where his innovative work and leadership in the field and his communities garnered numerous awards including being named a Vermont Business Magazine Rising Star, a Community Prevention Champion and the Vermont Governor’s Council on Physical Fitness and Sports Business Wellness Leader.

According to the Obama Foundation, Franklin and his fellow chosen leaders’ efforts span government, business and civil society sectors, but all share a common drive to confront the world’s challenges.



Ben & Jerry’s Church Street store in Burlington on Friday, April 28, 2023.

photo by Glenn Russell, VTDigger

Ben & Jerry’s founders launch campaign to ‘free’ ice cream operation

by **Theo Wells-Spackman, VTDigger**

WATERBURY – Ben Cohen and Jerry Greenfield launched a campaign Tuesday to “free” the ice cream company they founded from its current owner Unilever, claiming the larger corporation has stifled the Vermont-based outfit’s political messaging and actions.

The campaign includes two open letters authored by the Ben & Jerry’s founders, which address their concerns to the current owners and prospective investors. The move comes after years of conflict in and out of court between Ben & Jerry’s and the London-based Unilever, and seeks to mobilize public support to pressure the larger company to allow its subsidiary to regain independence.

The letter to current board members is addressed to the Magnum Ice Cream Company, an emerging spin-off entity which will own a number of brands including Ben & Jerry’s, Unilever announced last year. In the statement, the founders argued that since Unilever purchased Ben & Jerry’s in 2000, “the commitments made to us, our employees, and our customers (have been) eroded.”

In particular, the founders wrote, the company’s “freedom to pursue its social mission,” which the founders say was enshrined in the original sale, has been infringed on a number of occasions in relation to “issues such as Gaza, indigenous rights, the Trump administration, and DEI.”

Jerry Greenfield did not immediately respond to a request for

comment.

In a statement to VTDigger on Wednesday, a spokesperson for Unilever said, “Ben & Jerry’s is a proud part of The Magnum Ice Cream Company and is not for sale.” The spokesperson added that Unilever remains “committed to Ben & Jerry’s unique three-part mission — product, economic and social — and look(s) forward to building on its success as an iconic, much-loved business.”

Ben & Jerry’s sued Unilever last year for allegedly trying to block the smaller company’s statements on Gaza, after turmoil over the company’s presence in Israel and the West Bank. Earlier this year, Ben & Jerry’s claimed in court that its parent company ousted longtime CEO David Stever over his support for progressive activism, sparking protests from employees.

“That is not the Ben & Jerry’s that we founded,” Cohen and Greenfield wrote in Tuesday’s open letter. “Ben & Jerry’s has become successful precisely because people know it stands for something deeper than ice cream.”

The pair also addressed prospective investors, urging them to reconsider their involvement with Magnum and advising them that the founders, as well as many employees and customers, no longer support the direction of the company under current management.

“We intend to campaign for an independent Ben and Jerry’s, owned by values-aligned investors,” Cohen and Greenfield said.

Theo Wells-Spackman is a reporter for America corps member who reports for VTDigger.org



At the New England Independent Booksellers (NEIBA) Fall Conference, Sandy Scott (right), co-owner of The Galaxy Bookshop in Hardwick, joined other panelists (from left) Michael Herrmann, owner of Gibson’s Bookstore in Concord, N.H.; Liz Whitlam, NEIBA Board President and owner of Whitlam Books in Reading, Mass. and Anna Geneva Renz, customer orders coordinator at Harvard Bookstore in Cambridge, Mass. for a popular session on “How to Efficiently Manage Wholesale Ordering,” Sept. 9, in Manchester, N.H.

photo by Andrea Jones.

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Swenson applies for expansion, roadwork, roofs planned

by Paul Fixx

WOODBURY – Business was mostly routine at the Woodbury Select Board's September 8 meeting, with the Swenson Quarry planning to expand and the road crew beginning significant repairs on Wilbur Road.

Diana Peduzzi reported that Swenson Quarry has submitted an Act 250 application for a substantial expansion to their operation. This application includes operating a crusher for up to 45 days each year, resulting in 20,000 cubic yards of crushed granite, which will lead to up to 50 loaded trips per day.

The town and residents along Swenson Quarry Road have the right to participate in the Act 250 process, she said. The company is also expected to apply for a zoning permit which will require a local hearing before the Zoning Board of Adjustment.

The road crew has begun work on a major project covered by two grants on Wilbur Road that is intended to relieve flooding and erosion that occurred with the past two summer's flooding and caused damage to camps on Herricks Cove Road and deposition of gravel and dirt into Woodbury Lake, said Road Commissioner Alfie Larabee in his report.

He suggested another project, which has not yet been considered for mitigation work, is on East Hill Road, where the ditch has been severely eroded from flooding. If there is time before winter sets in, he said the road crew hopes to get to that project. Whether it can be funded is still a question.

Following a question by Peduzzi, Larabee agreed to ask the road crew if they are willing to work overtime on Fridays to haul sand and prepare for winter.

Town Clerk Robin Durkee reported an ad for the road commissioner position has been placed in several media outlets and with the Vermont League of Cities and Towns.

The town office and town hall

will get new roofs before winter if all goes to plan following the awarding of a contract to Vermont Construction at \$34,000 for the former and \$36,800 for the later.

Town spending remains on track or below projections in the budget, said Treasurer Lilly Baron. The purchase agreement has been sent to the dealership for a new 10-wheeler truck with payment anticipated November 24.

Larabee hopes the new truck will be ready in time for winter snowplowing and intends to hold on to the old 10-wheeler to use in case of inevitable breakdowns that come with winter plowing.

The board accepted a bid for heating fuels from Gillespie Fuels & Propane that was just \$2.54 per gallon for fuel, \$0.51 below the bid from Suburban Propane, and \$1.51 for propane, \$0.19 below the Suburban bid.

Becky Browning was appointed to fill a position on the Zoning Board of Adjustment from which David Barnowski has resigned, because he will be moving from Woodbury.

The board signed an Emergency Watershed Protection Program grant agreement for stream bank armoring on Buck Lake Brook at Cabot Road. The stream bank has a history of washouts that have compromised Cabot Road in the past. Though a required 25 percent match that could be as high as \$37,500 is a concern, a commitment to USDA needn't be made until the start of construction, so the town can still back out.

The Local Hazard Mitigation Plan was adopted. FEMA must still do a final review and approval, but the town will be in good standing for full funding in the eyes of FEMA with adoption of the plan, explained Michael Gray

Recovery Officer Skip Lindsay updated the board on FEMA reimbursements and pending inspections, announcing he intends to step down from the position on December 29 and saying his work should be completed by then.



A piece of industrial machinery rests in the Swenson Granite Quarry in Woodbury. The quarry is now owned by international mining company, Polycor.

photo by Terry J. Allen

Nate Sicard, the town's engineer, will not be able to complete engineering for culvert projects on County Road. Two of the three planned projects are still waiting for completion of a hydraulic study. Larabee estimated each project may cost about \$50,000 to \$75,000.

There was concern that a new wooden fence by Wheelhouse Motors at 3715 Vt. Rte 14, may be in

the highway right-of-way, creating a hazard and potentially subject to damage during snow plowing. Larabee said he will take a look and measure the right-of-way which is generally 50 feet from the center line.

A 25-minute executive session, that included Durkee, came at the end of the agenda, with no action taken before the two hour and thirty-five minute meeting ended.

Trees for downtown have arrived



Variety of balled and burlaped, nursery stock trees have arrived and are ready for planing in the Hardwick downtown area.

photo by Shari Cornish

HARDWICK – Local contractor, Ecotone Landscapes and Tree Care, will be working

over the next few weeks to plant the 30 trees that have arrived and adopted by private landowners and in public spaces in the designated downtown area. The planting is a collaboration of the Hardwick Downtown Partnership (HDP), the Town of Hardwick's Conservation Commission and tree warden. Funding for the project has been provided through a Community Tree Planting Grant from the Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission and the Vermont Urban and Community Forestry Program.



Work to stabilize the river bank at Gail and David O'Brien's River House on River St. in East Hardwick was one of three Hardwick properties approved for funding from the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service following July 2023 flooding. New England Consulting Engineering in Morrisville developed the project, which was more complicated than the two others that were completed in 2024. A large excavator was used to drop smaller equipment down to the river by lowering it over the bank.

photo by Gail O'Brien



Designer Rodrigue Spinette from Fitzgerald Environmental Associates and Mike Baril from Marshfield Tree Service look at project plans before the berm removal near the Winooski River. photo by Vermont Land Trust



Flooding in 2024 show the Winooski River overflowing into the now-restored riverside land. photo by Marie Maclay

Restored riverside area boosts flood protection

MARSHFIELD – An 800-foot earthen berm along the Winooski River has been removed and trees planted in the area, according to the Vermont Land Trust (VLT). The restored riverside land will allow the Winooski to expand into its surrounding floodplain, thus reducing flood risk, improving watershed health, and keeping phosphorus out of Lake Champlain.

“When heavy rains swell Vermont’s rivers, that extra water needs somewhere to go,” explained VLT’s Ecology & Restoration Program Director Allaire Diamond. “Floodplains hold and absorb flood waters, minimizing damaging impacts downstream. But when artificial barriers like this berm prevent rivers from being able to reach those critical zones, flood damage

and water quality are worse.”

Located near the Martin Covered Bridge and John Fowler Road, the site is visible from Route 2. The berm, a long, narrow pile of earth, had been in place for many decades, to prevent flooding into the adjacent field during minor flood events.

However, historic floods in 2023 and 2024 hit this section of the river especially hard, highlighting the need for restoration.

After prioritizing the riverside area for conservation some years ago, VLT partnered with the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation and protected nearly 20 acres with a River Corridor Easement in 2021. The land along the river is now permanently set aside so a band of forest will

regrow over time, and the river has space to move.

The berm removal this summer was a collaboration between the landowners, Vermont Fish and Wildlife, engineering consultants Fitzgerald Environmental Associates, construction operators Marshfield Tree Service and Logging, and Friends of the

Winooski River.

After the berm was removed, Friends of the Winooski River planted a mix of wetland and floodplain plant seeds in the restoration site to jump-start growth. They then planted 400 trees and shrubs in the one-acre riverside buffer area, which will grow into a forest.



Trees planted in the one-acre floodplain area provide a buffer along the Winooski River in Marshfield. photo by Vermont Land Trust



Workers with J. Merrill Construction of Middlesex complete bank stabilization and foundation work at River House on Main St. in East Hardwick earlier this month. The area was accessed with a steep ladder, with sandbagging used as needed, then a pump truck poured the concrete. The O’Brien’s expect to begin renting the property again after having to close it in 2023 following the July flood due to instability of the bank. photo by Gail O’Brien

Future of Green River Reservoir remains uncertain



The Green River Reservoir.

photo by Julie Moore



Green River Reservoir dam.

photo by DEC Dam Safety Program

by Alice Finno, VTDigger

HYDE PARK – The Green River Reservoir in Hyde Park has long offered a true wilderness experience, with its undeveloped shorelines and remote campsites reachable only by paddling. But after years of back and forth between state officials and the owners of the dam that creates the reservoir, the future of this site still looks uncertain.

Before the state could consider acquiring the facility, it needed a comprehensive picture of the conditions of the Green River Dam and dike and the operational and maintenance costs. A long-awaited study commissioned by lawmakers provided those answers when it was released two weeks ago.

The hydro facility was built in 1947, which raised concerns about whether it would need expensive structural updates. The report finds that the hydro facility is largely safe and performs well and provides estimates for the initial project costs and annual maintenance costs.

But Gov. Phil Scott made clear last week during a press conference that the state doesn't have the resources to take over the dam.

The Green River Reservoir's dam is owned and operated by Morrisville Water and Light, but the utility has been seeking a new owner for the dam, saying they can no longer make a profit operating the facility. The utility argues the state should take it because the state benefits when people visit the Green River Reservoir State Park.

In 2010, Morrisville Water and Light started the process of relicensing the dam with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, a step required every few decades. During that process, the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources issued new water quality regulations, which establish how

the facility can be operated to align with the federal Clean Water Act.

Morrisville Water and Light claimed that operating the facility under the new permit would limit their power generation capabilities, as the water level in the reservoir would need to be roughly stable, impacting the utility's ability to do drawdowns and resulting in financial loss. After years of litigation, a Vermont Supreme Court decision ultimately determined the regulations were necessary to meet Vermont water quality standards.

Scott Johnstone, general manager of Morrisville Water and Light, said the utility would no longer be able to operate the hydro facility if it's not producing revenue through power generation, and it has been exploring options to sell the facility, but no other company has been interested in buying it, for the same reason.

The recent legislative report also states that generating power at the facility with the new water quality permit would result in financial loss.

However, Jon Groveman, policy and water program director of the Vermont Natural Resources Council, took issue with that finding. "There's no analysis that I was able to see," he said. "Maybe that's accurate, maybe it's not."

"But even if that is correct," Groveman added, "it doesn't change what's needed to meet the minimum water quality standards." Groveman emphasized the importance of these standards in maintaining healthy waters and fish habitats.

Julie Moore, secretary of the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources, said some hydropower facilities have experienced a reduction in maximum power production, but not to the extent that they wouldn't be able to generate power without a financial loss.

According to the study, the most cost-effective option would be to maintain the dam and dike to preserve the reservoir but decommission the hydroelectric facility and cease producing power.

"This is the only instance my staff are aware of where our regulatory framework produced a result that effectively would not allow power generation to continue, at least not cost effectively," she said.

But Johnstone said there are two reasons the Green River Dam situation may differ from the others. "The Green River Dam was built to fluctuate and draw down water as all reservoir-based dams do, and essentially the state is no longer supportive of that sort of flow regime even where there's a reservoir," he said.

Johnstone added that there are a few other dams in the state that rely on drawdowns from reservoirs, but most of them have bigger rivers flowing into them, whereas the Green River Dam relies mostly on the reservoir because it doesn't have a significant daily flow.

Secondly, the relicensing process may occur at different times for different facilities, and according to Johnstone, the regulations become stricter as the years pass, and some facilities could have different permits.

According to the study, the most cost-effective option would be to maintain the dam and dike to preserve the reservoir but decommission the hydroelectric facility and cease producing power. In that scenario, the report estimates, the reservoir would generate \$32.7 million in visitor spending and \$1.5 million in state sales tax revenue over the next 20 years.

Yet Moore highlighted that the facility is particularly complex to operate, so taking ownership of

it would be a significant obligation for the state. "We already are responsible for 100 dams; many of which have costly maintenance needs that we are struggling to keep up with," she said.

Gov. Scott said during last week's press conference that he was willing to collaborate with the parties involved to find a solution. But what that solution could look like is still unclear.

"We're not fighting about the permit anymore. We've kind of given up on that," Johnstone said. Morrisville Water & Light is still following the old regulations, but when federal regulators issue a new license, the utility will have to comply with the new water quality permit.

In the meantime, the utility has started the process to receive federal approval to stop producing power at the Green River Dam.

"We're going to take care of the facility during this, what we hope is a transition period, but our view is that if we are not going to generate power at that facility anymore, then the use of the dam that is left is to support the state park," Johnstone said. "So our position is that the state of Vermont should now own that dam because it supports that state park."

The process of transition could take years, so nothing is expected to change at the Green River Reservoir in the immediate future, but now that the legislative report has been released, the ownership of the dam is likely to become a topic of discussion in the next legislative session.

EDITORIAL

One big step for The Gazette

Thanks to all who made The Hardwick Gazette's summer fund drive a great success!

It's another big step on The Gazette's nonprofit journey that's approaching its second anniversary.

We received a total of \$17,425 from 208 readers during the six week campaign and are especially grateful to the 20 of you who became monthly donors. You help create a dependable foundation for our finances. Monthly contributors now pay for almost one full month of our work.

The summer drive put us in a stronger position going forward, but much remains to be done. It costs \$2,500 every week to produce The Gazette. That can't happen without continued support from our community of readers. There are many ways you can help:

Your donations are always greatly appreciated. Go to hardwickgazette.org/donate to give whatever amount you think appropriate.

If you've given one-time donations in the past, please consider becoming a monthly contributor. Think of it as a paid subscription to a news operation you depend on. If you read The Gazette on a regular basis, why not support it the same way? Visit hardwickgazette.org/donate and click the "Check box for monthly recurring."

Become a major donor. If you have the means to help us continue to make The Gazette available free to all readers, consider making a donation of \$500, \$1,000 or more. You can make a gift in any amount at hardwickgazette.org/donate or email editor@hardwickgazette.org for more information on how you can become a core supporter.

Advertise in The Gazette. Do you own a business, provide services or put on events? The Gazette is by far the best way to reach our communities. Our digital edition is distributed to over 1,700 people who live, work and are otherwise engaged in this area. They are your core customers. Contact us at hardwickgazette.org/contact-the-hardwick-gazette for more information.

We appreciate every one of our readers for their trust. We work every day to bring you the news and information that matters to you: the news you won't get anywhere else. The Gazette is a community operation that depends on a mix of revenue: advertising, reader donations, monthly contributions, major gifts and foundation grants.

We need our readers to be active participants in this effort.

Thank you for supporting our work to bring the news to you each week.

John Walters
NEK Public Journalism board
member and fundraising coordinator

For the Record

The photo by Terry J. Allen in last week's story, "Thousands convene for Labor Day solidarity events," shows a scene in City Hall Park, not Battery Park.

Last week's story, "Circus Smirkus, Wonder Arts receive VEC grants," should have been titled, "Circus Smirkus, Rural Arts Collaborative receive VEC grants." Wonder Arts is a branch of Rural Arts Collaborative, the entity that the grant was awarded to, according to its Director Sarah Mutrux.

LETTERS FROM READERS

Our forests need help

To the editor:

Our national forests provide clean drinking water, habitat for fish and wildlife, beautiful places to hike and camp, and some of our nation's last stands of old growth forest. Our community knows this firsthand because we're lucky enough to live near Green Mountain National Forest.

Right now, the U.S. Forest Service is trying to roll back protections for some of our best and last remaining forested areas by getting rid of the "roadless rule". This rule, created in 2001, restricted expensive road-building in these last refuges for water and wildlife.

Is this what we need now: fewer protected forest areas? The forest service already manages a road system that is over seven

times larger than the Interstate Highway System. Should taxpayers be on the hook to build more expensive roads that damage our water, wildlife, and outdoors?

The forest service and our elected officials need to hear that building more roads is the wrong direction. Furthermore, we must let them know that trying to sneak this massive rule change through without public meetings is cowardly and wrong.

We have until September 19 to tell the Forest Service what we think about this wrong-way plan. Our water, wildlife, and health depend on it. Send comments to [regulations.gov/commenton/FS-2025-0001-0001](https://www.regulations.gov/commenton/FS-2025-0001-0001).

Jane Hoffman
Greensboro

THE Hardwick Gazette

Since 1889

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

EDITOR - Paul Fixx

REPORTER - Raymonda Parchment

PRODUCTION - Sandy Atkins,
Dawn Gustafson, David Mitchell

SPORTS - Ken Brown, Eric Hanson

PHOTOGRAPHER - Vanessa Fournier

CARTOONIST - Julie Atwood

WEATHER - Tyler Mollieur

CIRCULATION - Dawn Gustafson

OFFICE HOURS: Monday and Tuesday 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.; Wednesday 9 a.m. to noon; Thursday, closed; Friday 8 a.m. to noon. Phones are usually answered during office hours and other times when possible. Please leave a message if there is no answer, or email the appropriate address.

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ADVERTISING

Sandy Atkins, Paul Fixx, Raymonda Parchment
ads@hardwickgazette.org, sales@hardwickgazette.org

CONTRIBUTORS

Trish Alley, Brendan Buckley
Ken Brown, Elizabeth Dow, Hal Gray,
Abrah Griggs, Henry Homeyer, Willem Lange,
Cheryl Luther Michaels, David Rodgers,
Kay Spaulding, Liz Steel, John Walters;

Alex Strand, interns.

BOARD MEMBERS

Paul Fixx, John Walters,
Stefanie Cravedi, Anita Engel, Betty Jones

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, paid ads 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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YANKEE NOTEBOOK

There's no crying need for anything additional from me

by Willem Lange

EAST MONTPELIER – Saturday morning, in bright sunshine and warming temperatures, a young man sat on the concrete railing of the Rialto bridge in downtown Montpelier. He bore two signs, one in each hand. I confess I can't remember one of them, I think it had something to do with Charlie Kirk's sainthood, but the other one, which I found attractive, claimed that the Democrat party was a cult. "Prove me wrong."

Several arguments sprang to my mind, but on reflection were grounded in the obvious differences in the young man's values and mine, and thus hardly worth pursuing. I think I might have had him by reading the dictionary definition of a cult, which includes its having a strong central authority figure and leader, which the current Democratic party clearly lacks. But I was about to take off on a top-down drive with my sweetheart in my roadster, and was strongly averse to wasting even a minute of her visit haggling with a youngster with an axe to grind. So I ignored his beckoning gestures and putted off into the green fields and forests of Vermont.

To tell you the truth (a constant effort of mine), I'd never heard of Charlie Kirk until a politically deranged sharpshooter murdered him at a rally with one cartridge from two hundred yards. During the next few hours, and still today, it was and is impossible not to know him very well. His organization, Turning Point USA, is sizable and well funded by right-wing supporters. I thought Vermont's atmosphere too rarefied to sustain its life here, but I see now that "vigils" are planned for him in the Green Mountain state. The surprise I feel is probably like that felt by my mother almost eighty years ago when she dumped out the soggy duffel bag I'd brought home from summer camp, and a hundred earwigs scattered across the cellar floor.

Commentary on the subjects, the assassination, the mission and methods of the deceased, the search for the identity of the killer, and now the background and motivation of the killer, seem adequate. There's no crying need for anything additional from me, especially given my ignorance of the subject. But I thought it incumbent upon me to get a look at the man whose murder had stirred up so much emotion. There was no shortage of opportunity to get that look.

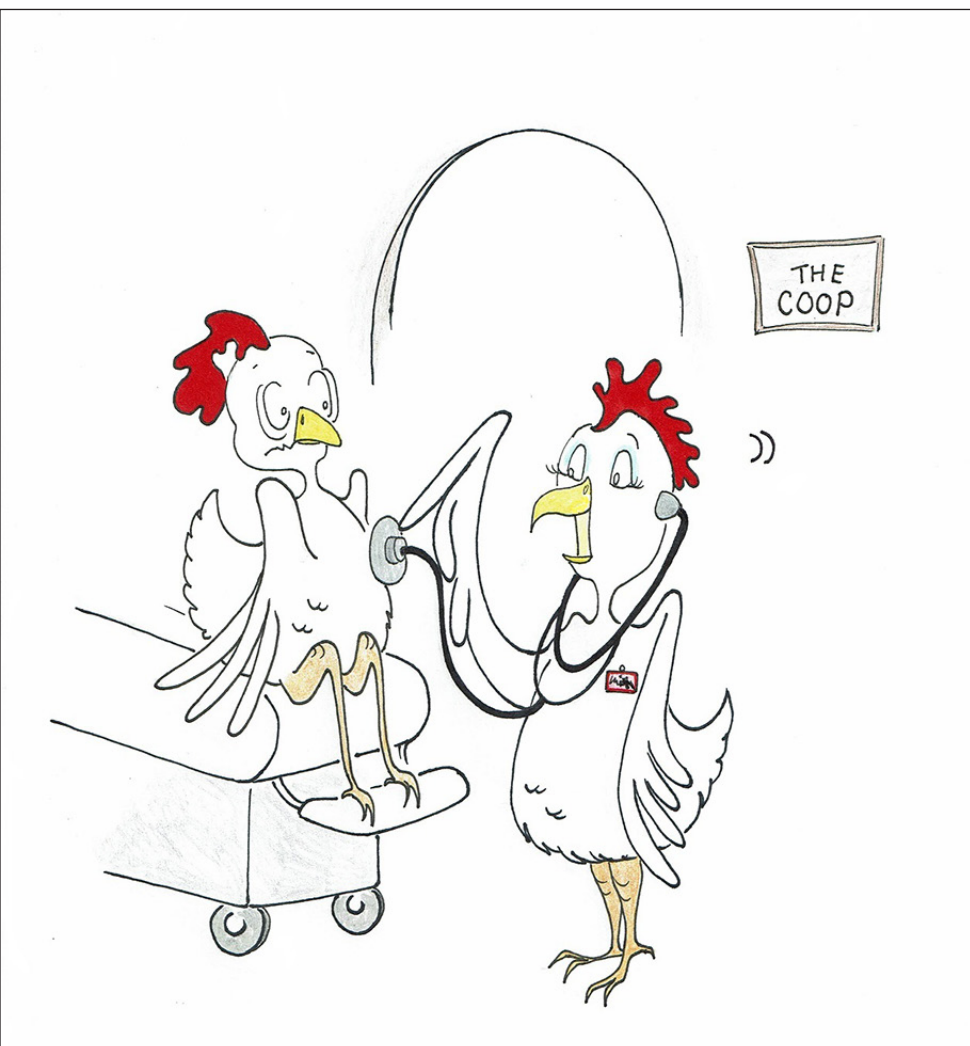
Turns out he was a professional arguer. Not a debater; an

arguer, like the professional boxers who used to travel with itinerant carnivals, challenging all comers. His antagonists, since he traveled largely on the university circuit, were college-age kids, like J. Alfred Prufrock "full of high sentence, but a bit obtuse" who were easily bamboozled, outwitted, and beaten into silence by rapid-fire argument. Kirk was good at what he did. He was a combination of a tobacco auctioneer and the immortal Doctor Johnson, also a famous arguer: "There is no arguing with Johnson," said his acquaintance Oliver Goldsmith; "for when his pistol misses fire, he knocks you down with the butt end of it." Lord Pembroke, another familiar, said, "Dr. Johnson's sayings would not appear so extraordinary, were it not for his bow-wow way." Kirk left most of his student questioners flummoxed, confused, and humiliated. Still, he drew large crowds of undergraduates wherever he appeared, and Turning Point USA was a model of a successful startup organization. Charlie was riding high.

But no matter how high we fly and however popular we appear to be, we can't escape our history as a culture that often, to solve its problems, shoots them and that we have a steady, ready supply of the tools with which to do that. From the simple-minded, cynical bumper sticker proclaiming "This truck insured by Smith & Wesson!" to an ever more-likely lethal result of road rage, to the supermarket shopper with a Glock strapped to his belt for personal protection in the deli aisle, we have reason to fear people we don't know who may be harboring serious grievances.

For some reason beyond easy understanding, the public murder of this professional provocateur has commanded far more attention, emotion, and comment than the private murder, at their home, of a Minnesota state senator, her husband, and their dog. There are almost as many takes on the matter as there are commenters. Charlie was a true patriot who may actually get a bronze statue in the Capitol rotunda; he was a breath of fresh air in our musty political closet; he was an opportunist who, like George Washington Plunkitt, seen his opportunities and took 'em; or he was a bully and far-right radical dedicated to squashing opposition. Wherever you land on this spectrum, there's little you can do in our current climate of civil war but shake your head ruefully and put another X in the appropriate box.

Woodsmoke by Julie Atwood



"YOU HAVEN'T LAID AN EGG FOR MONTHS. I THINK YOU HAVE HENOPAUSE!"

MEETING MEMO

- | | |
|---|--|
| Wednesday, September 17 | Cabot: cabotvt.us |
| Wolcott Select Board, third Wednesday of month, 6 p.m. | Calais: calaisvermont.gov |
| Wolcott Town School Board, third Wednesday, 6 to 8 p.m., Wolcott Elementary School. | Craftsbury: townofcraftsbury.com |
| Thursday, September 18 | Greensboro: greensborovt.gov |
| Hardwick Select Board, third Thursday of month, 6 p.m. | Hardwick: hardwickvt.org |
| Monday, September 22 | Marshfield: town.marshfield.vt.us |
| Calais Select Board, fourth Monday of month, 7 p.m. | Plainfield: plainfieldvt.us |
| Town Clerks | Stannard: Stannard town clerk: (802) 533-2577, open Wed., 8-noon, townofstannard@myfairpoint.net |
| | Walden: waldenvt.gov |
| | Wolcott: wolcottvt.org |
| | Woodbury: woodburyvt.org |

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WEEKS GONE BY

September 17, 1925
South Woodbury

John Bushey, 75, began his 64th year of work with the Winooski woolen mill on August 19th. When he began work at the age of 11 years, the pay was \$7.00 a month and a day consisted of 14 working hours.

Local Lumps

The heavy rain and electrical storm of last Saturday afternoon did considerable damage to electric and telephone lines in this section. The Myron Ashley farm buildings and some livestock at the Nichols Pond location was struck and burned to the ground in very quick time. Sunday afternoon the hard and heavy rains did considerable damage to highways, especially the hill roads. On Saturday afternoon in the vicinity of Valley Lake in Woodbury and in District No. 10 section of this town and in other sections there were terrific hail storms, hail-stones as large as hens' eggs being reported to have fallen. Fred Eastman vouches for the size of these hail-stones, as he was out in the downpour with some friends and had to seek shelter to keep from being struck by them.

Supreme Court Decides Perkins is Walden School Director

In the quo warranto case brought by States Attorney Oscar L. Shepard, at the relation of Harry M. Perkins of Walden, against John Edwards of that town, to determine which of the two is the lawful holder of the office of school director, the supreme court has rendered a decision in favor of the relator, Harry M. Perkins. A special term of supreme court was called to hear the case.

The case arose in consequence of the election of Mrs. Lucy Edwards as school director in town meeting and afterwards found to be disqualified on account of holding the office of postmistress at Noyesville. The selectmen appointed her husband, John Edwards, to the office and the court proceedings followed.

In the meantime work which was begun on the improvement of the school building at Noyesville, is at a standstill in a torn-up condition, a result of the mix-up.

North Walden

The solicitors for the Children's Aid Drive in Walden, met at the home of Mrs. Nicholson Monday evening. The total sum turned in was \$26.73. There are several families not yet visited and it is hoped that each family will endeavor to contribute a little before the drive is over. The Sewing Circle of King's Daughters assumed the work of soliciting funds. Any contributions can be forwarded, or handed to any of the following solicitors, on or before September 30th: Mrs. Edna Laird, Mrs. F. E. Allen, Mrs. Ruth Domey, Mrs. Esther Paronto, Mrs. Will Stevens or Mrs. J. N. Nicholson. This is a most commendable work in our state and Walden has some children who are already in the care of this society. Let us come up to our full measure of responsibility and meet our quota - \$60.00. A little help from each one will do it.

Town Unknown

State's Attorney Oscar Shepard received a tip this morning that a car of liquor was in

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the neighborhood, and with officers he got busy and located it on the river road just above town, where it was stationed, probably awaiting disposal. The driver of the car, a Ford, was arrested and gave his name as William Davio of Newport,

who disclaimed ownership of the Canadian beer found in the car. The State's Attorney is awaiting Municipal Judge Blodgett and Sheriff Flint from the county seat before further disposition of the case.

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\$3.98

AND UP

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TERESA WARD

THE Hardwick Gazette

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We offer generous commissions paid bi-weekly with mileage reimbursement. The position may be full or part-time depending on the candidate's experience and ability to commit time to the position.

The Gazette sales territory is primarily in Hardwick and extends across the eleven towns we cover, then west to Morrisville, Johnson and Stowe; north to Newport and Derby; south to Barre and Montpelier, and east to the Interstate 91 corridor north and south of St. Johnsbury. One or more sales reps may be offered all or part of the territory.

This is an exciting opportunity to use your communication skills getting to know the businesses and civic organizations in our communities while helping to build a solid financial foundation for the community-owned, nonprofit Hardwick Gazette.

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Send letter of interest to ads@hardwickgazette.org

VOICES OF SPIRIT

Is empathy a sin?

by Reverend Rona Kinsley

EAST MONTPELIER – In recent months, I’ve been taken aback by things I’ve seen online that referred to empathy as both a sin and a weakness, an idea that has gained traction in some parts of the church. This is astonishing and deeply disturbing to me, as I have always believed, in the words of the Charter for Compassion, developed by acclaimed religious scholar Karen Armstrong with the contribution of thousands of people worldwide, that “The principle of compassion lies at the heart of all religious, ethical and spiritual traditions, calling us always to treat all others as we wish to be treated ourselves.” I have always believed that compassion and the associated principle of empathy are an essential part of Christianity.

The idea that empathy is either a sin or a weakness, and to proclaim this in a supposedly Christian context, is a terrible distortion of all Jesus was and all he tried to teach us to be. Time and again, Jesus took the time to listen to the stories of people from all walks of society, feeling with them in their pain and suffering. There are more stories in the gospels of Jesus’ acts of healing than of any of his other activities, and you cannot be a healer without first listening to, understanding, and deeply caring about, the plight of someone who has come to be healed. This quality of Jesus, perhaps more than any other, characterized his ministry.

And as for empathy being a weakness, it takes great strength to listen to another’s pain, great strength not to turn away from another’s suffering, great strength to go outside our own tribe and comfort zone to hear things we may not want to hear and see things we may not want to see, in order to be present to people whose lives and experiences may be very different from our own. As far as I can see, the ones who are weak and in sin here are those who don’t want to care about others and who harden their hearts to the pain and suffering happening all around us.

Elon Musk has claimed that empathy is the great weakness of Western Society, but what if empathy is one of its greatest strengths? In the decades

leading up to the American Revolution, printed copies of the Bible had become more widely available. People were now able to read the Bible for themselves, and a faithful reading couldn’t help but reveal God’s call for justice for the poor and the oppressed, Jesus’ concern for the least among us, and the Apostle Paul’s declaration that, in Christ, all are equal, all are free. This led inevitably to values of fairness, equality, and human worth that became foundation stones of our democracy. And while we now realize that these values initially applied only to propertied white men, and while this country still has a long way to go to assure that they apply equally to all, they are still an inextricable part of who we are.

Understanding and believing in these foundational values depends on empathy. Why would you care about justice, or equality or human worth, if you didn’t respond to the reality and pain of others, if you weren’t able to put yourself in another’s place or to see things as they see them, even if your experience is different?

Rather than empathy being the great weakness of Western Society, it is at the very root of the democratic values we hold dear. So hold on to your empathy, care for and about others, because this is what lies at the heart of all religious, ethical and spiritual traditions.

Rev. Rona Kinsley is Pastor Emerita at The Old Meeting House in East Montpelier Center. Previously she was the interim pastor at the Greensboro United Church of Christ.

LETTERS FROM READERS

United States on a precipice

To the editor:

Killing somebody because they disagree with you over politics or religion is not just another crime of passion: it is a sign that our shared civic life is unraveling. When debate becomes dangerous, when disagreement can mean death, a society teeters on the edge of something dark.

We have already seen this darkness creep into our life together. In 2018, a gunman stormed the Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh, killing eleven worshipers because of their faith. In 2022, a man with political grievances attacked Paul Pelosi, the husband of the Speaker of the House, with a hammer in his own home. Just this summer, campaign volunteers and elected officials faced death threats for nothing more than putting up signs, speaking at rallies, or casting votes.

History shows us that once a people fall into this crevasse, it is very hard to climb out undamaged. Democracies that allowed political violence to take root, whether in 1930s Europe or in more recent conflicts in Latin America, did not return to health quickly, if ever. The scars run deep: trust is shattered, neighbors look at one another with suspicion, and fear replaces the possibility of dialogue.

Martin Luther King Jr. warned us decades ago: “Returning violence for violence multiplies violence, adding deeper darkness to a night already devoid of stars . . . Hate cannot drive out hate: only love can do that.” His words are not relics of the Civil Rights era: they are a lifeline for us now.

We like to think “it can’t happen here.” Yet the evidence is already before us. The line between political disagreement and political violence is thinning. What begins as an isolated act becomes a pattern, and what becomes a pattern soon risks becoming a culture. And once violence is normalized, democracy itself becomes fragile, because no election, no sermon, no civic gathering can function under the threat of force.

The precipice we face is not only about bloodshed, it is about the spirit of our country. Will we continue to believe that ideas can be contested without lives being destroyed? Will we value our neighbors enough to protect their right to disagree, even passionately, with us?

The answer will determine not just whether we remain a democracy, but whether we remain a people capable of living together.

Jeff Pierpont
Walden



The annual AWARE Walk was held on September 13, with 26 people participating. They included, front row (all from left) Jeremiah Elkins with dog Meerah Bryant, Natalia Brown, Marsha Kameron, Karen Klotz with her granddaughter Sage Figura and dog Dolly; middle row, David Colburn, Tara Winslow with son Jack, board member Sarah Morgan, Jennifer Fliegelman, Alana Considine, Tonya Maclean, Jennifer Ranz, Bill Chidsey, and Cornelia Deschepper; back row, board member Jerry Schneider, AWARE Advocate Tonda Bryant, Loui Pulver, Board Chair Anne McPherson, Jodi Lew-Smith, Eleanor Guare, Deb McKinley, Ed Sunday-Winters, board member Jenn Maclean, Naomi Ranz and AWARE Director Miranda Elkins. Six thousand dollars has been raised so far, with more donations coming in.
photo by Vanessa Fournier

Heller’s World by Joe Heller



THE OUTSIDE STORY

Turtlehead Tests Bumblebees' Mettle

by Colby Galliher

NEW ENGLAND – Among the blooming perennials of late summer is one that guards its secrets closely. The lockbox blossoms of white turtlehead (*Chelone glabra*), a native plant in the plantain family, are an ideal match for the powerhouses of the pollinator world: *Bombus* (bumblebee) species. Turtlehead is found along waterways and other wet areas.

As the plant's name suggests, turtlehead's flowers resemble the crania of their namesake critter. This resemblance is so strong that the genus name, *Chelone*, comes from the Greek for "tortoise." The oblong flowers, white and lavender-tinged and roughly the size of a thumb, grow in clusters atop stems that can measure up to four feet tall.

The flowers' structure makes turtlehead a bumblebee specialty. Their reproductive organs lie within a restrictive clasp of petals that must be pried open for access to the pollen and nectar inside the flower. Many insects are simply too small to muster the strength to part these petals and venture into the bloom, but some are up to the challenge.

"*Chelone glabra* is an important resource for bumblebees," said Ulrich Lorimer, director of horticulture at the Native Plant Trust. "The shape of the flower, the positioning of the stamens [male reproductive organs] and the pistil [female reproductive organ] make *Bombus* species the most efficient pollinators."

Turtlehead and bumblebees enjoy a symbiotic relationship. The bees benefit from the pollen and nectar turtlehead offers, and the plant relies on the bees to facilitate reproduction. Turtlehead

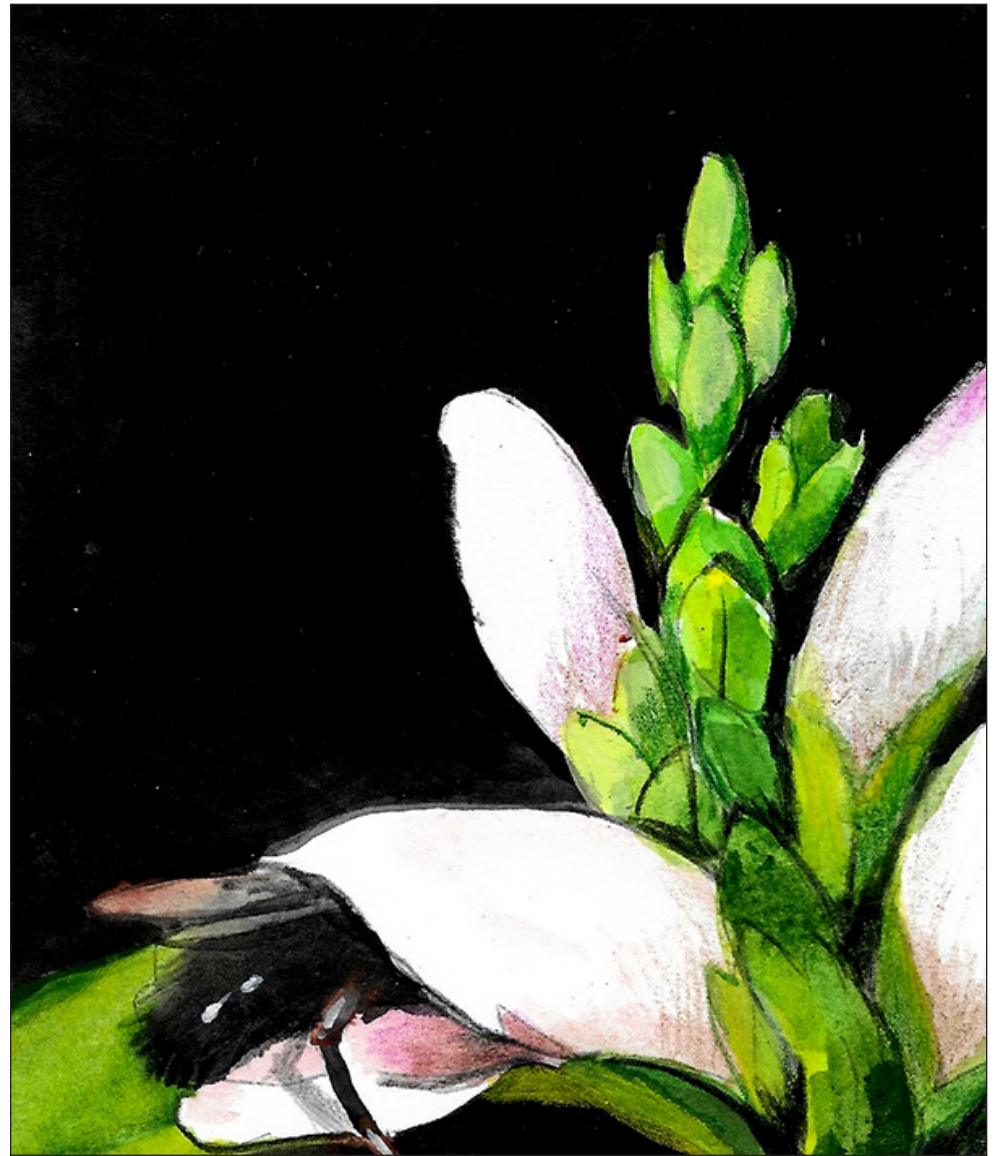
flowers are protandrous, which means that each flower has a separate male and female flowering phase, and the plant is self-compatible, meaning that pollen from the male-phase flowers can pollinate female-phase flowers on the same plant.

When a bumblebee enters a turtlehead flower in its male phase, which comes first, the fine hairs on the bee's body and legs accumulate pollen from that flower's stamens. When the bee, with its stowaway pollen load, buzzes along to other flowers on the same plant, some of which will have advanced to the female phase, the bee moves the plant's reproductive cycle forward.

A 2015 study by Leif Richardson and Rebecca Irwin, published in the *Journal of Pollination Ecology*, indicates that while multiple bumblebee species feed at turtlehead flowers, half-black bumblebee (*Bombus vagans*) workers, thanks to their specific body shape, are best able to squeeze through the flowers' tight architecture to get at the nectar and pollen within.

Other bumblebee and native bee species can gain partial access to turtlehead's floral interiors but cannot crawl in deeply enough to feast on the blossoms' full buffet, which also prevents them from pollinating the plant. Still others, shut out from the flowers' innards, chew their way in from the outside and siphon the nectar with their long tongues, a behavior known as "nectar robbing."

Once a half-black bumblebee worker is inside a flower, it will often "sonicate," latching onto a flower's stamens and vibrating into overdrive. This tactic dislodges more pollen from the flower, boosting the bee's take and



White Turtlehead

the pollen load it will carry to the next flower. The magnified buzzing of this zealous dance is often audible if you listen closely once a bee enters a turtlehead flower.

Turtlehead is vital to more than just bumblebees. The plant is the chief larval host of the Baltimore checkerspot, a striking butterfly that lays its eggs on turtlehead leaves, as well as of at least two species of sawfly. Turtlehead's flat, winged seeds, which form in brown capsules that split open in late fall, are also food for microscopic insects. Opinions on the plant's appeal to deer and other herbivores are mixed, but in my experience, browse isn't much of an issue.

There are no special conservation concerns for turtlehead, which remains common along waterbodies across northern New England. But its pollinator partners are in trouble, which makes the species an attractive, slow-spreading option for gardeners hoping to boost native insect populations. Come late summer, you'll have a front-row seat to a showcase of bumblebee might and a fascinating example of symbiosis.

Colby Galliher writes about conservation, ecology, and environmental policy. To learn more about his work, visit colbygalliher.com. Illustration by Adelaide Murphy Tyrol.

Greensboro Development Review Board Warning

The Greensboro Development Review Board will conduct a hybrid hearing on Thursday, October 2, 2025, at 7 p.m. at the Greensboro Town Office and via ZOOM. The Board will consider a conditional use request by Peter Milliken for a beach repair at the Highland Lodge at 1608 Craftsbury Road. This application will be considered under the following by-laws: 2.7 Shoreland Protection District, 5.4 Conditional Use, and 8.7 New Uses and Encroachments Within the Shoreland Buffer Resource Zone. An in-person site visit for this proposal will be held on Saturday, September 27, 2025, at 11:45 a.m. Both the hybrid hearing and the site visit are open to the public.

The meeting number is 824 558 6005. There is no password. You may phone into the ZOOM meeting at: 646 931 3860.

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

Greensboro Development Review Board

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IN THE GARDEN

Prepare garden beds now for spring

by Deborah J. Benoit

NORTH ADAMS, Mass. – It won't be long before gardening season draws to a close, but fall is a great time to do the prep work.

Select the location now, while trees are still fully leafed out, to judge how much sun the area receives. Be sure to consider the condition of the soil (sandy, loam, clay, drains easily, retains moisture,) as well as convenient access to water for those times when supplemental watering is needed.

One of the best ways to get a garden ready for spring is to do a soil test this fall. It's simple to do, inexpensive, and will provide invaluable information. Obtain a soil test through the University of Vermont Agricultural and Environmental Testing Lab. A soil test can tell about available phosphorus (P), potassium (K), calcium (Ca), magnesium (Mg), micronutrients and more, along with the soil's pH and recommendations for amendments for specific crops. For further information, including detailed instructions on how to take a soil sample and what information to receive concerning the garden's soil, see go.uvm.edu/soiltest.

Once soil test results are received, there is plenty of time to decide how, when, and what amendments and fertilizer to add to a new garden bed. If the planting area is clear, amendments like compost can be applied now. Otherwise wait

until spring to apply amendments and fertilizers.

Save time in the spring by removing weeds and grass now from a new garden bed. There are several options for doing so, though both weeds and grass can be difficult to keep from returning. To clear the area, you can take the direct approach by hand pulling or digging out weeds and grass, or till the area, breaking up weeds or sod. Unfortunately, these methods may leave root fragments and seeds in the soil that in time can provide a fresh crop of unwanted growth.

Perhaps the biggest advantage of preparing a new garden bed in the fall is that there is time to use less labor-intensive methods that will make use of the months between now and when the soil is workable again in the spring. Consider using occultation: placing an opaque tarp over the area for an extended period of time to eliminate grass and weeds.

Begin by trimming growth close to the soil surface. Water well. Cover the area with a black plastic sheet. Weigh down the edges using heavy objects such as boards or bricks to keep light out. Blocking out sunlight will prevent photosynthesis and smother what's growing there. Occultation can also force germination of seeds and kill the roots of perennial weeds. Leave the plastic sheet in place until you're ready to work the soil in spring.

If appearance is a consideration,



Tarping with black plastic can be an effective way to prepare new garden beds by blocking sunlight and smothering grass and weeds.

photo by Debra Heleba

an alternative is to cover the area with wet newspaper or cardboard, adding a layer of mulch on top. This option is more attractive while still smothering weeds or grass over the coming months. In the spring, brush the mulch aside and cut through the paper layer to plant in the soil below.

By preparing a new garden bed now, when spring arrives, planting a garden will be a breeze.

Deborah Benoit is a UVM Extension Master Gardener who volunteers as a garden columnist and for Bennington County Extension Master Gardener Chapter activities.



Walden eighth-grader Ben Bittner (right) tries the "shoot the moon" game as presenter Roderick Owens (left), a racial literacy interventionist of Building Fearless Futures, explains his program. There were 18 presenters at the Caledonia Central Supervisory Union (CCSU) fall wellness fair held at Twinfield Union School, September 12.

photo by Vanessa Fournier



Twinfield Union third graders (from left) Alice Brulé, Edythe Auerbach and Elaina Stoddert make fidget pins with presenter Deneé Woods (right), member support lead of the Girls Scouts of the Green and White Mountains. This was one presenter of 18 who participated in the Caledonia Central Supervisory Union (CCSU) fall wellness fair, September 12, at Twinfield school.

photo by Vanessa Fournier

OUR COMMUNITIES

Help develop NEK regional plan at Farmers Market, Sept. 19

by NVDA

HARDWICK – Northeastern Vermont Development Association (NVDA) is in the process of updating the 2015 regional plan that was amended in 2023.

They will be collecting community input at the Hardwick Farmers Market at Atkins Field on Sept. 19 from 3 to 6 p.m.

The NVDA Regional Plan is a collaborative guide to shape a sustainable, equitable and

community-empowered Northeast Kingdom. Efforts are underway to seek community input on topics like housing, flood resilience, transportation, land use and economic development to inform the region's goals and priorities for the next eight years.

Information on the new plan and an online survey are available at <https://tinyurl.com/2026NEKplan>

The current regional plan is at nvda.net/regional-plan.php

Annual Saplings clothing swap

CRAFTSBURY – Monday, Sept. 22, marks the beginning of the annual children's clothing swap at the East Craftsbury Presbyterian Church. Accepted donations include baby, toddler, and children's clothing from infant to size 7, as well as footwear and soft baby gear in good condition, no stains, no holes, and no toys.

Tables will be outside in

good weather, indoors in the main floor of the church in the event of rain. Clothing can be dropped off anytime from Monday, Sept. 22, to Thursday, Sept. 25. If possible, sort clothing and label bags by size.

Free shopping will take place Thursday, Sept. 25, from 3 to 5 p.m.; Friday, Sept. 26, from 3 to 5 p.m. and Saturday, Sept. 27, from 10 to 12 p.m.

Moss identification walk, Sept. 21

CRAFTSBURY – On September 21 at 4 p.m., ecologist Jeff Parsons will lead a walk through a cedar swamp in Craftsbury. He will identify different types of mosses and help to demystify mosses for the average nature lover.

This event was originally scheduled for July, and was post-

poned due to thunderstorms. Meet at the Craftsbury Academy Woodlot (1880 Wylie Hill Road, Craftsbury Common) at 4 p.m.

Wear sturdy shoes for hiking in places that may be wet, and take insect/tick precautions. For more information, contact the library at (802) 586-9683.

Lean Left presentation, Sept. 27

HARDWICK – Saturday, Sept. 27, from 3 to 4:30 p.m., in the Jeudevine Memorial Library, Eve Jacobs-Carnahan, a Lean Left Vermont organizer and an assistant attorney general for the State of Vermont from 1990 to 2018, will share a slideshow on empowering citizen activism, and working at the state level in swing states. Janet Savage, a Lean Left

Vermont organizer and a public health professional in government and academia for 30 years, will show the tools Lean Left Vermont uses to support local activism at the state level.

For more information or to RSVP contact: bob.hawk350@gmail.com. The Jeudevine Memorial Library is located at 93 N. Main St.

Life Chain, Oct. 5

NEWPORT – The annual Orleans County "Life Chain" will take place Sunday, October 5, from 2 to 3 p.m., at 100 Main Street, next to the Emory Hebard State Office

Building. For more information, reach out to lifechain4Newport@gmtmom.com or phone (802) 586-2899. More information is also available at www.LifeChain.org

Rocktoberfest returns for annual festival, Sept. 27

MORRISVILLE – Saturday, Sept. 27, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Morrisville's fall festival returns as Rocktoberfest takes over Portland Street. The festival will feature food, vendors, games, activities, the Anirondack chair auction at 10:45 a.m., and a full day of live music and entertainment. Entertainment begins at 10 a.m., with Morrystown Elementary and Middle School Chorus; at 11 a.m. and 2:30 p.m., No Strings Marionettes performs at River Arts; at 11:15 a.m., The Detonators, a Vermont band blending rock, country and blues play; at 1

p.m., Lamoille Valley Dance Academy performs (LVDA) at the its Studio; a 1:45 p.m. pie eating contest needs contestants for this community tradition; then at 2:15 p.m., Rhythm on 90, a Stowe High School band brings takes on funk, pop, reggae, and soul.

The event is free and open to the public. A limited number of vendor spaces remain and volunteers are needed for set-up and breakdown shifts. For details, visit morristownvt.gov. For more information, contact the Town of Morrystown at (802) 888-6375 or email community@morristownvt.gov.

Harvest Festival, Sept. 28

MARSHFIELD – Sunday, September 28, the Marshfield Harvest Festival will take place from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., with free family friendly activities: cider pressing, face painting, arts and crafts, field games, music, a petting zoo, 4H demonstrations, chicken races and more. There will be a book sale, bake sale, horse and wagon rides, craft sale, flea market and farmers market.

The VT Steam & Gas Engine Association will exhibit antique engines, farm, and industrial equipment.

Live demonstrations include a unique walking beam gasoline

engine; an antique gear-driven wood splitter powered by a hit and miss Jumbo three horsepower engine; a home-made cement mixer powered by a three horsepower Galloway; and the Association's own James Leffel Steam Engine driven by a throttle governed 1928 three horsepower Fairbanks Morse engine on moving display.

The food tent will be open from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., with soups, rolls and lots of different sweet and savory pies, including pizza. 1:30 p.m. to 3 p.m., music will be provided by The Bluegrass Pioneers.

Special worship service, Sept. 28

HARDWICK – The United Church of Hardwick will hold a special worship service, Sunday, Sept. 28, at 10 a.m., to welcome Rev. Avril Cochran as the church's new pastor and to welcome new members to the church.

The service will be led by Rev. Alyssa May from the Orleans Federated Church UCC and the Rev. Dr. Ed Sunday-Winters from the Greensboro United Church of Christ, both representing the

Vermont UCC Conference.

Mavis MacNeil will be leading the choir that morning with members of the United Church of Hardwick choir, other church choirs and anyone else who would like to join in the singing. Rehearsal will be held at 9 a.m.

Everyone from the local community and area churches are welcome to join in this celebration.

AWARE craft fair, Oct. 4

HARDWICK – Saturday, October 4, AWARE's fall foliage craft fair will take place at Hazen Union in Hardwick. The fair will feature more than 50 vendors, door prizes, refreshments, and food provided by the American Legion Post #7 Auxiliary.

Hardwick

Enjoy furnished third-floor bedroom in spacious in-town home shared with welcoming family. Shared bath, no smoking, hypoallergenic dog considered, no other pets. \$600 plus utilities. (802) 863-5625 or HomeShareVermont.org for application. Interview, references, background checks required. EHO

The Hardwick Gazette



RUMMAGE



MOST ITEMS 50¢*

Thur., Oct. 2, 9-4; Fri., Oct. 3, noon - 7; Sat., Oct. 4, 9-4; Thur., Oct. 9, 9-4; Fri., Oct. 10, noon - 7; Sat., Oct. 11, 9-4

Clothing for all seasons

***Everything else priced as marked**

Angel Outfitters Thrift Shop

Upstairs and down at
United Church of Hardwick
South Main Street
Hardwick • (802) 472-6800
Hours: Thurs., 11-2; Sat., 9-2

EDUCATION

Marcus named to President's List

MANCHESTER, N.H. – Chelsea Marcus of Wolcott, Vt., has been named to Southern New Hampshire University's (SNHU) Summer 2025 President's List. The summer terms run from May to August. Full-time undergraduate students who have earned a minimum grade-point average of 3.700 and above for the reporting term are named to the President's List. Full-time status is achieved by earning 12 credits over each 16-week term or paired 8-week terms grouped in fall, winter/spring, and summer.

CCSU implements device-free policy

by **Raymonda Parchment**

AREA TOWNS – Like many Vermont schools this year, the Caledonia Central Supervisory Union (CCSU) has adopted a device free plan and procedures in the wake of Act 72, which requires Vermont schools to adopt policies by the 2026-27 school year to prohibit students from using cellphones and other personal devices like smartwatches from arrival to dismissal.

CCSU encompasses Cabot School, Twinfield School, Danville School District, Peacham School District, as well as Barnet, Walden and Waterford schools in the Caledonia Cooperative School District.

The CCSU plan includes a swath of devices; cell phones, both phones that connect to the internet and non-internet connected phones that send and receive text messages and make phone calls; personal electronic devices such as electronic tablets and video game consoles; airpods, earbuds, and Bluetooth-connected headphones; smartwatches, fitness trackers, and other accessories that connect to the internet.

For students with medical accommodations, exceptions may be made for students to use a personal electronic device. The student will be allowed to keep the device in a manila envelope within their backpack if deemed necessary. The exception is specific to the need only and still prohibits cell phone and headphone/earbud use for any other purposes. Students caught utilizing a personal device or cell

phone are subject to penalties, beginning with a verbal warning.

A licensed physician or licensed advanced practice registered nurse must determine that it is necessary to monitor a medical condition, for example diabetes or epilepsy. Documentation from the medical provider will be necessary, and the exception must be outlined in an IEP or 504 plan.

Athletic teams will be required to ParentSquare, SportsYou or Email to communicate. Social Media apps and texting will not be allowed. After 3 p.m. students will be able to access their phones, or when their school day ends.

Many concerned parents have wondered about the event of a crisis or lockdown. These concerns were readily addressed in CCSU's published plan, "On a practical level, the adults in the building need every ounce of attention from students during an emergency. Students are less safe when they are paying attention to their phones instead of following instructions provided by the adults who are trying to help them. Additionally, heavy use of cell phones during an emergency can clog communications bandwidth, making it more difficult for first responders to do their jobs. Regular communication between caregivers and students is always available by calling your child's school or reaching your child directly via their school-issued email address. In case of emergency, the school will reach out via phone and email to families via mass communication systems and social media."

Cabot

Enjoy upstairs bedroom-half bath in rural home surrounded by rolling fields. Host seeking guest with some daytime availability to accompany her outdoors as safety presence, lift-carry items, run occasional errands, provide occasional transportation. Rent-free with utility share. No smoking, no pets. Nut-free household. (802) 863-5625 or HomeShareVermont.org for application. Interview, references, background checks required. EHO

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Vittles closes for good, Friday, Sept. 12

by **Paul Fixx**

HARDWICK – In a social media post on Tuesday last week, Karen Whitcomb, the owner of Vittles in the Hardwick Inn, announced she would be closing the establishment that had been serving breakfast and lunch since Memorial Day 2024.

"It's with a heavy heart that I share with you that I have decided that Vittles will be closing Friday. This has been a very hard decision. I want you to know how deeply grateful for the love, encouragement, and support so many of you have given me this past year.

"My hope was to serve my community and feed my other hard working friends for a long time. I tried to keep the prices low, and have quality food but behind the smiles, it's been tough, so tough!"

Whitcomb told customers she'd seen two price increases

since the beginning of 2025 and the loss of business from Canadian customers wasn't made up for by rail trail traffic.

"I will forever treasure every kind word, every post shared, my wonderful reviews and every person who came through the door," she wrote.

One-hundred-forty visitors added sad and care emojis to the Vittles Facebook page. Among the comments left there, her customers said, "Your hard work and amazing food didn't go unnoticed," "Your sandwiches are so good," "Your wraps are incredible! You will be sorely missed in Hardwick," and "Oh no! We just found you and loved your food!"

Whitcomb said she expected to be working some at the nearby Cork and Fork.

"Carol's Kitchen will still be going strong and you can call (802) 472-6607 for donuts and special orders," she said.

Thanks
for saying
you saw it in the
Hardwick Gazette
hardwickgazette.org



Proposals to Amend the Constitution of the State of Vermont

The Vermont General Assembly is proposing voters amend the Constitution of the State of Vermont. Proposal 3 has passed two successive legislative sessions and will appear on the November 2026 ballot for voter approval. Proposal 4 is pending legislative approval in the second year of the biennium. If approved, Proposal 4 will also appear on the November 2026 ballot.

See proposals below:

Proposal 3: This proposal would amend the Constitution of the State of Vermont to provide that the citizens of the State have a right to collectively bargain.

Article 2* of Chapter I of the Vermont Constitution is added to read:

Article 2*. [Right to collectively bargain]

That employees have a right to organize or join a labor organization for the purpose of collectively bargaining with their employer through an exclusive representative of their choosing for the purpose of negotiating wages, hours, and working conditions and to protect their economic welfare and safety in the workplace. Therefore, no law shall be adopted that interferes with, negates, or diminishes the right of employees to collectively bargain with respect to wages, hours, and other terms and conditions of employment and workplace safety, or that prohibits the application or execution of an agreement between an employer and a labor organization representing the employer's employees that requires membership in the labor organization as a condition of employment.

Proposal 4: This proposal would amend the Constitution of the State of Vermont to specify that the government must not deny equal treatment and respect under the law on account of a person's race, ethnicity, sex, religion, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, or national origin.

Article 2* of Chapter I of the Vermont Constitution is added to read:

Article 2*. [Equality of rights]

That the people are guaranteed equal protection under the law. The State shall not deny equal treatment under the law on account of a person's race, ethnicity, sex, religion, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, or national origin. Nothing in this Article shall be interpreted or applied to prevent the adoption or implementation of measures intended to provide equality of treatment and opportunity for members of groups that have historically been subject to discrimination.

OUR COMMUNITIES

Harvest festival, Sept. 28

MARSHFIELD – Sunday, September 28, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., the Marshfield harvest festival will take place at Old Schoolhouse Common. Family friendly activities are free, including music, food, cider pressing, games, flea market, farmers market, horse-drawn wagon rides, face painting, petting zoo, children’s art tent, with antique engines and more.

More info: www.jaquithpubliclibrary.org or (802) 426-3581.

OBITUARIES

Margaret Dexter Armstrong Igleheart

BLOOMFIELD, Conn. – It is with heavy hearts that we announce that Margaret Dexter Armstrong Igleheart passed away peacefully, aged 99 on Tuesday, Sept. 2, at Seabury in Bloomfield. “Peggy” to her friends; Mom, Grandma and Great Grandma “GG” to her children, grandchildren and great grandchildren, she will always be remembered for her love of family, music and her generous support of the library and her beloved home town of Greensboro, Vt.

Born on June 19, 1926, in Rahway, N.J., to Cora Dexter and Roy Stewart Armstrong, she grew up with her parents and two older siblings, Stewart and Ruth, in Nutley, N.J. After graduation from the Nutley High School she attended Middlebury College where she graduated with a B.A. in American Literature and Political Science in 1947. Following her graduation, Peggy worked for the Girl Scouts in Morristown, N.J.

In early 1951 she met the love of her life, Kimball “Kim” Igleheart, and they were married later the same year on October 13, 1951. They settled in Greensboro, Vt., where her husband and brother-in-law had established a dairy farm. They shared a loving marriage for more than 55 years that yielded three children, six

grandchildren and nine great grandchildren.

A passionate lover of classical music, Peggy was an accomplished pianist and a founding trustee of the Craftsbury Chamber Players. She was also an avid reader and she promoted her love of the literary arts as the first librarian of the Hazen Union High School in Hardwick, Vt., in 1970 and after her retirement in 1988, as a regular volunteer at the Greensboro Free Public Library.

Peggy was pre-deceased by her loving husband Kim in 2006. She is survived by her three children: Kimball, Katherine and William; her six grandchildren: Alexandra and Robert Igleheart, William and Thomas Wood, and Alexandra and Austin Igleheart; and her nine great grandchildren: Marwan and Iona Kawas; Mila and Rory Igleheart; Liam and Seamus Wood; Logan and Addison Wood; and Emiko Igleheart.

A celebration of Peggy’s life will be conducted in Greensboro, around the July 4 holidays. This will be followed by her internment next to the remains of her beloved Kim. The family plans to establish a memorial fund supporting the Greensboro Free Public Library in Peggy’s and Kim’s honor. Full details will be available at a later date.

Card of Thanks

We would like to thank each and every one that helped to make the Celebration of Life for John Montgomery such a memorable one.

Special thanks to Ron and Leigh Dufresne for letting us come home again. To Jim Casavant and the East Hardwick First Congregational Church for the tent and your thoughtful words. To Bill Carroll for sharing the songs. To John Laggis for corn and parking. To Nate Luther and Teddie Foster for cooking. And to all those that contributed in one way or another (setting up, taking down, cleanup, food, etc.) to make this so special.

To the East Hardwick community for honoring John with your presence and kind words. They were so greatly appreciated.

Thank You.

The family of John Montgomery

The Hardwick Gazette ~ Since 1889 ~
News, Opinion, Entertainment, Sports & More!



Episcopal Bishop of Vermont, the Rt. Rev. Shannon MacVean-Brown, who will be leading the Sunday service at Saint John the Baptist Church in Hardwick, September 28 at 11 a.m. All those interested are invited to attend.

courtesy photo

Benefit honors local heroes, Sept. 27

IRASBURG – The Jesse Strong Patriots Day Benefit will be held on Saturday, Sept. 27, 3 to 9 p.m. at the Creek Hill Barn. The day will honor Marine Sgt. Jesse Strong of East Albany, who was killed in action in Iraq, and David “Chris” Maland, the US Customs and Border Patrol Agent, who was killed on January 20, in Coventry while on duty, and all local police, fire fighters, EMTs and U.S. Customs and Border Patrol personnel.

There will be musical entertainment by the Vermont’s Jaime Lee Thurston, country artist coming from Nashville, plus Raized On Radio as the opening performers. There will be multiple food vendors, a gun raffle, 50-50 drawing, silent auction and free camping on-site.

Proceeds will help the Jesse Strong Memorial Scholarship Fund, which provides grants to college attendees.

Further information is available from Ryan Dufresne, (802) 262-5307 or ryanjdufresne@gmail.com. Creek Hill Barn is located at 2527 Creek Road, Irasburg.



**Bev’s 95 1/2
 Birthday**

Open House
 Sunday September 28th
 1:00 - 5:00
 708 Bridgman Hill Road

No Gifts - Come visit with
 Bev Shepard
 Enjoy the View
 Cell 863.444.4798
 No Text Please

Drury paintings exhibited through September

REVIEW

by David K. Rodgers

GREENSBORO – An exhibition of paintings by Harold Arthur Drury is currently being held at the Lauredon Place Gallery on 545 Lauredon Avenue, through the end of September.

Harold Arthur Drury was born in Seattle, Wash., in 1926 but spent much of his youth in Australia and New Zealand, where he studied art in Auckland and was much influenced by Maori Museums there. He went to London after World War II where he showed at the Redfern and Tate Galleries and was patronized by Sir Edward Marsh, the private secretary to Winston Churchill.

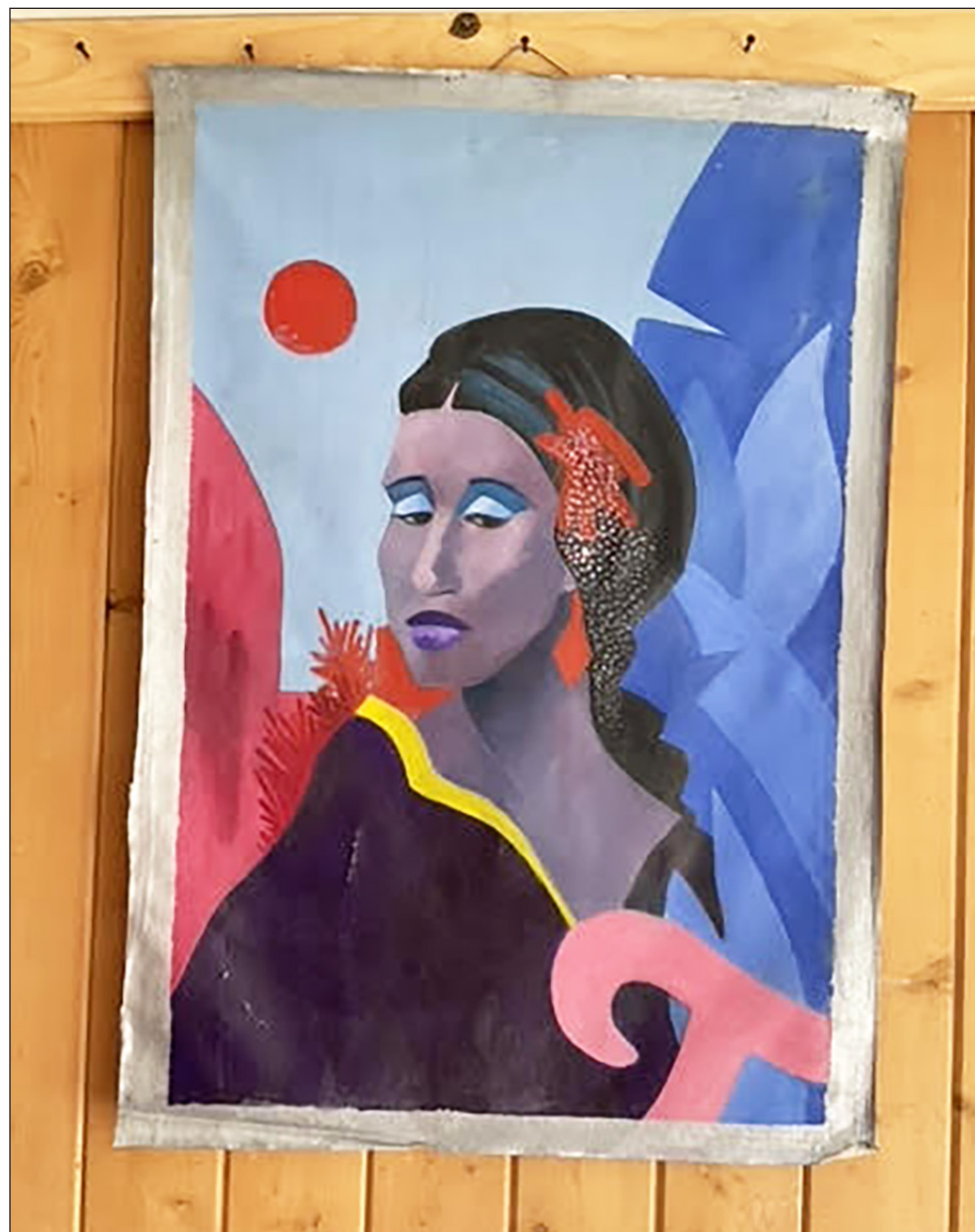
Receiving grants from the New Zealand Arts Council to study in Paris; he spent the next sixteen years of his life there with his family, at a time when Paris was the center of the art world with a number of exhibitions. Due to the political turmoil in France in 1968, he had to move back to London to further his artistic career while his wife and children went to the United States and settled in Stowe. He rejoined them in 1975 and continued in Stowe until his death in 2003. He showed his work regularly at the Helen Day Arts Center, the Dibden Gallery in Johnson, the Individuals Gallery in New York City and other venues. He tutored private students from his Pond Street studio.

His oeuvre went through six

overlapping periods of about ten years each, beginning with his early work of the 1940s, characterized by monster heads, of which few pieces remain. In the 1950s his paintings had banner motifs like in heraldry, systemically structured, while the 1960s could be described as a galactic phase, with speckled textures. A major development in the 1960s and 70s, was works of nude women combined with more abstract shapes. Entirely non-figurative pictures marked the 1980s, while his “Warrior” series joining human and animal heads was typical of the 1990s.

This exhibition gives a sampling of the spectrum of his life’s work, but there are many other of his paintings at Carol Drury’s home (and at her brother’s) in which the canvases, not on stretchers and unframed, are like Chinese vertical scrolls, with only a stick at the top for hanging. One complication is that he never gave titles or dates to his works and he did not like to talk about the world he had created, so one has to refer to the subject matter of each one and try to intuit the meanings he intended to communicate.

The gallery is on the south side of Carol Drury’s home, on the back wall upon entering, is a large abstract picture that is predominately blue but has areas of light and dark yellows, orange and black, of curving forms on top of an area of darker blue, all floating in space. There is a sense of depth with the receding blues and everything has the most carefully considered proportions so as to give an overall balance to the



composition. Eyes are drawn to the yellow area first but then explore the rest of the painting. As Paul Klee observes, “we take a journey through the work,” also feeling the different rhythms of repeated short black lines in the middle right. The curving forms themselves almost suggest some kind of mysterious calligraphy.

A woman, her eyes closed, with red lipstick, but an eerie green color to her skin, lies with plant leaves to the right, but more abstract colors frame the left. It’s hard to tell whether she is meditating or dreaming.

Five separate abstract forms, one on top of another, on a purple-ish background, again are like arabesque letters in their elegant curving forms that almost touch each other with a certain tension, all very carefully laid out on the canvas with an exacting sense of proportion. An “updated Odaleague” brings to mind Titian (the Venus of Urbino) and Manet (Olympia). Here an entirely nude woman lounges on a bed (somewhat inexplicably) with a rooster over her head, all with a pervasive sensuousness. It also evokes Rodin’s poetic description of the Venus de Milo where he compares the female body to the flow of a natural landscape. There is a strong underlying veneration of women here, through the almost Fauve-like free use of color lends mystery to everything.

A smaller scale abstract work has a bold pink script form with

intertwining form with intertwining curves and dynamic advancing and receding areas, juxtaposed with scattered black fragments in the upper right, all in a tight composition, where all the different visual energies are held in balance.

The portrait of a woman combines abstract elements with figurative ones, as she looks very tentatively out at the viewer. Her emotions seem ambiguous.

Another abstract work has self-contained forms, quite colorful compared to the rather subdued palette of the other similar works. The strong sense of spatial depth gives a floating quality to the elements, as if disregarding gravity, all consciously conceived.

The last painting viewed in the gallery has particularly broad, calligraphic shapes, flowing strongly, rich in texture and rhythms.

Not shown but worth seeing upstairs in Carol Drury’s studio are fifteen paintings from Harold Drury’s last series, “Warriors.” They integrate animal and human figures dramatically, with dynamic diagonals, often having multiple applications of layers of paint for their effect, all working in some mythical, archetypal world of the imagination.

The gallery is the home and studio of Carol Drury, his daughter, and is open on Tuesday through Saturday from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. For more information, call (802) 533-2163 or go online at carolrosalind-drury@gmail.com



Medical event alters Birdhouse Band performance

PLAINFIELD – Birdhouse Band has canceled their performance for Saturday, Sept. 20, at the Plainfield Opera House due to an unexpected medical event impacting one of the band members. The group will not perform “Abbey Road.” As planned, there will be

an opening set by Plainfield’s Jess O’Brien. Birdhouse Band’s “Abbey Road” performance at Plainfield Opera House will be rescheduled for a later date. For those who have already purchased tickets, an email will arrive soon regarding re-fund-hold options.

Stamey at HCA celebrates horses, American West



Dave Stamey

GREENSBORO – Saturday, Sept. 27, the Highland Center for the Arts in Greensboro will present Dave Stamey. Stamey is a Western entertainer who has received multiple awards from the Western Music Association, including entertainer of the year (seven times), male performer of the year (seven times) and songwriter of the year (five times) and in 2016, was inducted into the International Western Music Hall of Fame.

Stamey says his life’s work is to celebrate the rural American West and the horses that have played such an enormous role in shaping its culture and history. In the past two decades he has recorded eleven albums of original music, traveled hundreds of thousands of miles and performed thousands of shows doing just that.

Known for his true-to-life visions of the West, Stamey’s songs come from experience with romance and humor added.

“This music,” Stamey says, “is a celebration of our shared heritage, an appreciation of the West as both a place and a state of mind. It helps bring the audience together, whether they know which end of the cow gets up first or not.”

“It doesn’t matter if you are a farmer, an electrician, deputy sheriff, horse shoer, own a tire dealership, or are an English major at Stanford, Davey will touch your heart through laughter and song,” says

Baxter Black, author, poet, humorist and radio commentator.

Local musicians Alice Perron, Randy Bulpin and Jess O’Brien will be opening for Dave Stamey.

Tickets available at highland-artsvt.org



David Karl Roberts performs at the Hardwick Farmers Market Friday, Sept. 12, under the Atkins Field pavilion.

photo by Paul Fixx

WGDR 91.1 FM
WGDH 91.7 FM
CENTRAL VERMONT COMMUNITY RADIO

Current 2025 Schedule

as of June 2025

Talk/Interview Music

	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	
12 AM	Moist Fluids	Deep Threes	Dancehall/Reggae	Indigenous Music	Full Moon Hacksaw	Metal Radio DJ Eben Flow	And You Don't Stop	12 AM
1 AM		BantuNauts RAYdio		Latin Explosion	Baroque and Beyond	Adagio	Timeless Oldies Radio Hour	1 AM
2 AM	Cafe Chill		Oldies Time Machine					2 AM
3 AM	WGDR New Music Mix <i>Music Directors</i>							3 AM
4 AM								4 AM
5 AM	Counterspin Grassroots	Thom Hartmann Program					What's the Frequency, Kenneth?	5 AM
6 AM	Big Picture Science Show	Background Briefing w/ Ian Masters	Background Briefing w/ Ian Masters	Project Censored	Background Briefing w/ Ian Masters	Background Briefing w/ Ian Masters	Prison Pipeline Food Sleuth	6 AM
7 AM	Curse of the Golden Turnip <i>Alan LePage & Steven Farnham</i>	Maggie in the Morning <i>Delia Gillen</i>	Eastern Dawn <i>Luke Lampugnale</i>	First Voices Radio	Writer's Voice	Economic Update Rumble Strip	The Children's Hour	7 AM
8 AM	Democracy Now!						Bike Talk	8 AM
9 AM	Trance-Formational Listening <i>Dennis Darrah</i>	Eggs on Toast <i>Kelly</i>	ROTATING SLOT #6 <i>(see below)</i>	The Quilting Hour <i>Maura Quinn or Sasha Thayer</i>	Relocalizing Vermont <i>Carl Etnier</i>	The Magical Mystery Tour <i>Tonio Epstein</i>	ROTATING SLOT #9 <i>(see below)</i>	9 AM
10 AM	ROTATING SLOT #1 <i>(see below)</i>	Peace Talk Radio Sprouts	New Dimensions	Wings	This Way Out	TUC Radio	ROTATING SLOT #10 <i>(see below)</i>	10 AM
11 AM		ROTATING SLOT #4 <i>(see below)</i>	Rising Up w/ Sonali	Spawning Stones <i>Ben Bashore</i>	Night Train Cocktail	¿Where Do We Go From Here? <i>Caleb</i>		11 AM
12 PM	Thought Pasture <i>Maura Quinn</i>	Personal and Political <i>Stephanie Fraser</i>	That Driving Beat		Unshelved <i>J Kramer</i>		The Metal Edge <i>Willis Pratt</i>	12 PM
1 PM				The Rubber Room <i>Dan Townner</i>		Techtonic		1 PM
2 PM	Spanning the Chasm <i>Peter Goreau</i>	The Monday Drive at 2 <i>Corey Flynn</i>	Straight Up Soul		UpFront Soul	Modern Jet Set	Boxful of Blues <i>John Foster</i>	2 PM
3 PM			Listen Up! <i>Bill Nowlan</i>	Adiagio		Hittin' the Note <i>Bill Hahn</i>		3 PM
4 PM	ROTATING SLOT #2 <i>(see below)</i>	Trailing Edge <i>David Ferland</i>		Country & Western Sounds in Modern Music <i>Barry Matthews</i>	Law and Disorder		Acoustic Harmony <i>Mark Michaelis</i>	4 PM
5 PM	Bon Mot <i>Rick Agran</i>	Letters and Politics					Geezer Rock <i>Jeff Lindholm</i>	5 PM
6 PM	Good Ways Reggae <i>Kind</i>	Democracy Now! (rerun)		Stranger & Deinger	ROTATING SLOT #8 <i>(see below)</i>			6 PM
7 PM	The Revel Level <i>DJ EhMmAhH</i>	ROTATING SLOT #5 <i>(see below)</i>	ROTATING SLOT #7 <i>(see below)</i>	Woodwarbler's JazzGrass <i>Brian Aust</i>	Xav Wax <i>Xav Jimenez</i>	Spiral Galaxy <i>Tom McMurdo</i>	Jagler Katz Worm Hole <i>Jason Hagler</i>	7 PM
8 PM								8 PM
9 PM	ROTATING SLOT #3 <i>(see below)</i>	Deep Blues <i>Les Mawson</i>	Swivel Radio <i>DJ Effery</i>	Music as Art <i>Uku Meri</i>	DJ Eben Flow Eclectic <i>DJ Eben Flow</i>	The Meltdown <i>KingTone</i>	First Wave	9 PM
10 PM		Blues Edge <i>Les Mawson</i>					The Beatdown <i>Z-Point</i>	10 PM
11 PM	Deep Threes	Train to Skaville	Indigenous Music	Full Moon Hacksaw	Metal Radio <i>DJ Eben Flow</i>	And You Don't Stop		11 PM

Rotating Slots

#1: Sun 10 am-12 pm
1st & 3rd Sun: Audio Ergo Sum
Darien & Ruby McElwain
2nd & 4th Sun: The Immanent Grove
Conni Mags

#2: Sun 4-5 pm
1st & 3rd Sun: Afrosonic Taxi
2nd & 4th Sun: Discoverances
DJ Savannah

#3: Sun 9-11 pm
1st & 3rd Sun: Walkin' Will: Show of Live
2nd & 4th Sun: All Mixed Up

#4: Mon 11 am-12 pm
1st Mon: Blluminations
Stefanie Lingenfelter
2nd & 4th Mon: Cuneiform Radio
Kyle Schlesinger
3rd Mon: Project Censored

#5: Mon 7-9 pm
1st Mon: Future Reflections
DJ Syd
2nd Mon: In Common Sounds
Brother B
3rd Mon: Gilded Splinters
Kevin Titterton
4th Mon: Borderlands
DJ Tenderman

#6: Tue 9-10 am
1st & 3rd Tue: Alternative Radio
2nd & 4th Tue: Structurally Unsound
Yardain Amron

#7: Tue 7-9 pm
Biweekly rotation:
Still Life with Club Soda
Serena Matt
Still Life with Orange Peel
Ada Bowman

#8: Thu 6-7 pm
1st Thu: The Broken Bois Collective Presents...
2nd & 4th Thu: Into the Issues
Steve Pappas
3rd Thu: Radio RoundUp
CVCR hosts

#9: Sat 9-10 am
1st Sat: Gathering Peace
Joseph Gainza
2nd Sat: Civic Radio Project
3rd Sat: Pollinator Report
Emily Lanxner
4th Sat: Kitchen Permaculture
Rebecca Beidler

#10: Sat 10-11 am
1st Sat: Sex Fly Bengie
2nd Sat: Pitter Patter Radio
Pat Kantner
3rd Sat: Under the Covers
DJ Rhizosphere
4th Sat: Indigenous Music

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Exhibition of painting, drawings, sculpture feature Hellers' works

REVIEWS

by David K. Rodgers

STOWE – The Front Gallery in Stowe is having a significant exhibition entitled Inner Landscapes: Discovering the Lifework of Peter Heller (1927 - 2002) which is a retrospective of over thirty of his paintings and drawings, along with intriguing sculptures by his wife Alexandra Noble Heller (1932-2024). Peter taught art at the University of Vermont and then at Johnson State College from 1961 until his retirement while Alexandra sculpted and ran the Brick House Bookshop in Morristown Corners.

Peter Heller was born in Berlin, Germany, the only child of composer Hans Heller (b. 1898) and Ingrid Heller (b.1906), a concert pianist. The family was forced to move to France in 1931 due to the rise of Nazi facism, as his father was Jewish. They lived in Paris until the Nazi invasion and occupation of France, when Hans was arrested and sent to a forced labor/concentration camp. Ingrid and Peter went to a Protestant village in the Massif Centrale of France where they were protected by the villagers. Hans escaped twice, only by sheer chance, avoiding being sent to a death camp. Their stories of this period are harrowing and haunting.

The family migrated to the United States in 1946, thanks to a relative, Richard Goetz (1874-1954), who had an important art gallery in New York City, as well as a letter of recommendation from none other than Albert Einstein. Peter went to the Columbia School of Painting and Sculpture where he met Alexandra Noble, and they married upon graduating in 1957. They moved to the Burlington area in the early 1960s and then bought the Brick House in Morrisville in 1967.

The paintings and drawings in this exhibition are untitled but are differentiated by numbers, in consistency with their general abstractedness but also encouraging viewers to go beyond words to a more intense level of seeing.

One could argue that all painting of whatever era is abstract, in that no matter what the nameable subject, they are all ultimately paint on a flat surface, and that what is really important are the dynamics of the composition, the harmony of colors, an exacting sense of proportion, the rhythm of the forms, the balance of light and

dark areas. In fact, Heller's work has the suggestion of recognizable objects with some frequency, but they are often camouflaged by surrounding details.

No. 919 of c. 1972 is a sizable oil on panel divided into two sections by a rough diagonal from the lower left connects to the upper right, and what emerges from the predominately dark background is a horizontal body in the lower half, hands clutching the chest and legs spread apart, to which each person might give a different interpretation. The receding blue-greens of the upper half, with some floating objects, almost make the scene look underwater. There is clearly delight in Heller's handling of the details of the body, the way the various patches of color touch each other.

No. 417 of April 2002 is some thirty years later, juxtaposing linear forms with more solid matter in a strong sense of space in the overlapping planes. A ladder-like central vertical plays with a background diagonal swath of light blue that could be seen as flowing water. An orange circle to the left of center helps anchor the whole composition.

No. 875 (July, 1998) has a certain symmetry in the lower portion, with two very sharp toothed jaws facing away from each other, all quite menacing. Are these like the creations of the fertile imagination of our dreams that come up with images we would never invent consciously?

Quite impressive are the scale of two large drawings of ink on paper, which cover whole wall areas of the gallery. One consists of six panels from September, 1986, built up of innumerable short strokes with small areas of light colors, but nevertheless it appears to have overall coherence. A figure lies horizontally across the lower half, while vertical shapes in red may or may not be blades. Considerably larger is a drawing of ink on 12 panels of paper from September, 1982, which gives many rhythms and textures for our eyes to explore, with round and spiky forms interacting. There are a number of much smaller ink drawings, which by their short marks could almost be taken for etching on engraving prints. #PP9 (July, 1967) has a small yellow area amid black vibrating surroundings, while another one of the same date has a similar circle but in red and a richness of graphic forms below, all well held together.

Probably inspired by a medieval altar piece, No. 4408 is a pentaptych of oils on panel that take the shape of two side folding doors

over the main center piece. There is a lot of active visual movement in the main section, with bright colors dramatically popping out from the darker blues behind, a startling composition.

A number of paintings, such as No. 871 of 1988 have a distinct floating quality, where organic forms seem to defy gravity much like Tieplo's gods and goddesses in their ethereal realms. Detached from the edges of the paintings, against a moving neutral background, they are like drifting fragments that could bring to mind disintegration and death on the possible generation of new life. Whatever, these paintings are replete with beautiful details and some positions full of movement that are richly rewarding when seen both from a distance and close up.

This is necessarily a brief sampling of the some three hundred works that Heller produced over a period of thirty years, an amazing legacy, and barely half of the pieces are on display in the gallery.

Alexandra Noble Heller's sculptures are a marvel of welding technique and original, imaginative conceptions. "Dragonflies Mating" has two forms on top of each other, each with spinal eyes,

connected by long legs, very elegant in its archetypal dance of life. "Elephant Eye" combines effectively two basic traits of the animal, the recessed eyes (with a round stone encased by the steel) and the trunk, embodying the very meaning of the word abstract, which is to take out what is most essential.

"Mangrove Woman" depicts a human face with long tapering legs below, like the nests of those plants on the oceans edge, all with smoothly flowing forms having a fine polished patina. Somewhat similar are two mask-like faces looking in opposite directions but connected by long filaments of metal, which could be interpreted variously.

This exhibition at the Front Four Gallery on 349 Mountain Road in Stowe will continue for the next two weeks. During this busy leaf-peeping season it will probably be open every day, but should check by phone at (802) 279 - 8240 or online at Jack@FrontFourGallery.com. The pamphlet put together by Gallery Director and Artiste Estate Manager Jack Morris and others on Peter Heller is excellent and shows deep insight into the artists mind and work and its continuing relevance for our time.



Greensboro Community Garden volunteers harvested and delivered 25.8 pounds of fresh produce to the Hardwick Area Food Pantry, Monday, September 8. Yellow tomatoes were among the harvest of beans, carrots, squash, cabbage, cucumbers, turnips, Swiss chard and lettuce. photo by Jenny Bayles

EVENTS

Wednesday, Sept. 17

COMMUNITY FORUM, 5:30 to 8:30 p.m., Haybarn Theatre, Plainfield. Childcare provided.

BELLS ACROSS AMERICA DAY. Bells are run at 4 p.m. for one minute to celebrate the signing of the Constitution in 1787. The Hardwick Academy Bell in Memorial park will be one of the bells rung.

Saturday, Sept. 20

FARMERS MARKET, Marshfield, Jaquith Public Library, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., gifts from the garden, music by Leland Swift, drawing and painting supplies resource swap.

JESS O'BRIEN CONCERT, Plainfield Opera House, Plainfield, 7 p.m.

ALBANY LIBRARY WRITING GROUP, 2 - 4 p.m., with Krista Mayer. Teens and adults both welcome. Writing prompts provided. Information: Albany Public Library, 830 Main St., Albany. Information: (802) 755-6107, albanypubliclibraryvt.org.

CRIBBAGE TOURNAMENT, 10 a.m., Twinfield Valley Senior Center, 4583 Rte. 2, East Montpelier. Information: (802) 379-7706, (802) 223-3081 or email ltmcgibney@yahoo.com.

Sunday, Sept. 21

WORDS OUT LOUD, 3 p.m., Old West Church, Calais. Readings by Diana Whitney and L.N. Bethea. Bring layer for warmth, leave pets at home.

Monday, Sept. 22

BENEFIT BINGO, 7 p.m., Hardwick American Legion No. 7, donations of school supplies for Hardwick area schools, 25% of monthly bingo profits to a nonprofit organization.

Tuesday, Sept. 23

LIVING SYSTEMS AUTHOR SERIES, with author Zoe Schlanger, 6 p.m., Plainfield Town Hall and Opera House. Hosted by Cutler Memorial Library. Information: (802) 454-8504 or email angela.m.ogle@cutlerlibrary.org.

Wednesday, Sept. 24

RIPPLE EFFECTS: Watershed Forum, Dam Removal & Rivers, 6 to 7:30 p.m., Jeudevine Memorial Library, Hardwick. All welcome. Information: (802) 472-1686 or zoning.administrator@hardwickvt.gov.

Saturday, Sept. 27

LEAN LEFT VERMONT teach-in, 3 - 4:30 p.m., Jeudevine Library community room, Hardwick. Information and RSVP contact bob.hawk350@gmail.com.

SEASONAL SING, 3 p.m., J.W. Simpson Memorial Library, East Craftsbury.

Sunday, Sept. 28

WORDS OUT LOUD, 3 p.m., Old West Church, Calais. Readings by Harmony Belle Devoe and Carlene Kucharczyk. Bring layer for warmth, leave pets at home.

MARSHFIELD HARVEST FESTIVAL, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., free family friendly activities, food tent, music,

Vt. Steam & Gas Engine Assoc. exhibit and more.

Monday, Sept. 29

BENEFIT BINGO, 7 p.m., Hardwick American Legion No. 7, donations of school supplies for Hardwick area schools, 25% of monthly bingo profits to a nonprofit organization.

Ongoing Events

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

HARDWICK PEACE (& Cease-fire) VIGIL, Thursdays, 2 - 3 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

AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE practice group, every Thursday, 2 p.m., John Woodruff Simpson Memorial Library, 1972 East Craftsbury Road, Craftsbury. Information: (802) 586-9692, jw-simpsonmemorial.org.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

MAGIC ON TUESDAY. A group of youngpeoplegettogetheratTheCivic Standard, 42 S. Main St.,

See EVENTS, Next Page

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EVENTS

Hardwick, to play Magic: the Gathering, hosted by Dean Burns, Games begin 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.

ALL HANDS TOGETHER, Community Crafting Group, Tuesdays, 4:30 to 6 p.m., Jaquith Public Library, 122 School St., Marshfield. Information: jaquithpubliclibrary@gmail.com, call (802) 426-3581, or jaquithpubliclibrary.org.

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 Com-

munity 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 and shovels.

STORY TIME, Thursdays, 10:30 a.m. Books, songs, art activities and more for ages 5 and under, Jeudevine Memorial Library, 93 N. Main St. Information: jeudevineyouthlibrarian@hardwickvt.gov, (802) 472-5948.

CHAPTERS IN HISTORY BOOK GROUP, second Saturday of the month, 2 p.m., Sept. 13 through Dec. 13, Jaquith Public Library, 122 School St., Marshfield. Information: jaquithpubliclibrary@gmail.com, call (802) 426-3581 or visit jaquithpubliclibrary.org.

ADAPTIVE BIKING MONDAYS on the Lamoille Valley Rail Trail, 2 to 3 p.m. and 3:30 to 4:30 p.m., beginning at the trailhead parking lot on Creamery Rd. in Hardwick. Sponsored by Adaptive Sports Partners. Reservations or information: kerry@adaptivesportspartners.org or call

(802) 427-4116.

Exhibits

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

VASILIOS GLETSOS: New Work. Using common materials: cardboard, paper, staples and wire, the art of Vasilios Gletsos references objects of rural culture and playful

expressions, Parker Pie Art Gallery, 161 County Road, West Glover, through October 7.

RANDEE LEIGHTCAP EXHIBITION, Athenaeum Hall Gallery, 1171 Main St. Through September. Information: (802) 748-8291.

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



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Town of Woodbury Hiring Road Commissioner

The Town of Woodbury is seeking a highly skilled and experienced road commissioner to manage the daily operations of our highway dept. and to assist in the daily tasks that the road crew is responsible for.

Duties will include: daily work scheduling, purchasing of equipment and supplies, project planning, administration of grants, general road work, plowing and sanding, equipment operation and equipment maintenance. Other duties include communicating with the select board, the public and with state agencies.

Necessary skills and qualifications include: a Class A CDL, substantial knowledge of road construction and maintenance, the ability to manage highway department staff, mechanical knowledge, the ability to operate heavy equipment and knowledge of state environmental rules as well as best practices.

This is a full-time, 40-hour week position with overtime required as needed to keep roads passable. The expected pay range is \$30-\$40 per hour with benefits. Pay will be determined based upon experience and qualifications. Applications and a job description can be found on the town website at woodburyvt.org or by calling the town office at (802) 456-7051.



Hazen Union junior Wildcat Kobe Smith traps the ball during action, September 10, on Hudson Field. Behind him (center) is Lucas San Martin of Lyndon Institute with (right) Seville Murphy. photo by Vanessa Fournier



Wildcat Lincoln Hill turns with the ball as does Lyndon Institute's Matej Dusek on Hudson Field, September 10. The Wildcats won in overtime 1-0. photo by Vanessa Fournier

Hot start continues for Wildcats soccer

by Ken Brown

NEWPORT – The defense took it to another level last week for the Hazen Union boys soccer team, pitching a pair of shutouts against Division I North Country and Division II Lyndon Institute to improve to 3-0-1.

Kobe Smith, Morgan Michaud, and Jeter Demers each found the back of the net for the Wildcats last Monday in a resounding 3-0 road win over North Country. Smith gave Hazen a 1-0 lead heading into the break, beating Falcons keeper Gus Comtois with a low-driving shot that grazed the inside of the left post from the top of the box. Michaud and Demers kept the pressure on with timely counterattacks to end the scoring in the second half to seal one of the biggest wins for the Wildcat

program in years. Grayson McNaughten made 11 saves, many of the spectacular variety to post the second straight shutout for the Hazen defense. Comtois stopped three shots in the loss as the Falcons fell to 1-3.

“We had a competitive match with them last year and we were optimistic going in. North Country dominated the first 20 minutes, but Grayson was outstanding back there to keep the score level at 0-0. After we got the lead, we tried to slow the game down, keep the ball in front of us, and successfully stop any potential attacks. We did a good job absorbing their pressure and keeping play on the wings to find counterattacks. Grayson played well above a typical high school goalkeeper, making multiple diving saves, being aggressive coming off his line, and communicating with his

defense. His 11 saves does not account for the dozen times he ran to the edges off the box to clear out through balls or crosses,” said head coach Harry Besett.

Ari Jurkiewicz provided the game winner and McNaughten was a brick wall for a third straight match on Wednesday as the Wildcats outlasted the Vikings at home 1-0 in overtime. Nineteen seconds into overtime, Jurkiewicz caught Lyndon keeper Colin Gray off guard with a perfectly placed chip shot from the right side of the box for the walk off win. McNaughten made 8 more stops for his third straight shutout. The only goal McNaughten and the Wildcat defense have conceded this season was on a penalty shot in their season opener against Lamoille. Gray made 12 stops for Lyndon as they fell to 0-4.

“Lyndon is significantly improved from last year and played a very strong match. Both teams created scoring chances that narrowly missed the back of the net in regulation. We did a good job executing a combination of quick passes on the right wing to start the overtime and Ari’s lofted shot seemed to drift almost in slow motion perfectly tucked inside the top corner. We came out determined to put pressure on their defense to start the extra period,” said Besett.

The Wildcats travelled to perennial powerhouse Stowe on Tuesday and will welcome Spaulding to Hudson Fields on Friday. They are scheduled to hit the road once again for a match-up against Lake Region next Monday.

All home games can be streamed on Hardwick Community Television (hctv.us).

Lady Cats roll to third straight win over BFA-Fairfax

by Ken Brown

FAIRFAX – The Hazen Union girls soccer team rolled to a pair of road wins over BFA-Fairfax and Winooski last week to improve to 3-1 on the season.

Senior Isabelle Gouin scored three goals and assisted on another to power Hazen to a 4-0 road win over the Lady Bullets last Tuesday. Gouin buried a rebound off a Mya Lumsden shot to give the Lady Cats a 1-0 advantage 25 minutes into the match and made it 2-0 twelve minutes into the second half, finishing a perfect through ball from Ella Renaud. A pair of 2024 Vermont All-State selections hooked up to make it 3-0 Hazen eight minutes later as Taylor

Thompson finished a feed from Gouin. A converted penalty kick from Gouin ended the scoring on the day after younger sister Kennidee drew a foul in the box from the Lady Bullet defense. Kelsie Rivard was brilliant in net, recording 25 saves to earn the shutout. Heather Love and Alaina Geremski combined to make 13 stops for Fairfax as they fell to 0-5. Since giving up five goals in a season opening loss to Lake Region, first year head coach Megan Mercier has steadied the ship for her defense with a combination of Rivard and Renaud in net and in the field.

“It really is a match-up situation for us in goal. Both Ella and Kelsie have been phenomenal for us in net and in the field. Kelsie gives us strength and ability to

counterattack offensively from the center-mid against more physical teams and Ella’s speed and hustle as a playmaker on the field can really change the pace of the game. I’m liking what I’m seeing from both and as the season progresses, we’ll see how things go down the stretch as we get closer to the playoffs,” said Mercier.

Hazen used a balanced scoring attack on Friday to hand Winooski their first loss of the season, 3-1 on the road. Prisca Niyorukundo gave Winooski a 1-0 lead midway through the first half, finishing off a pinball scrum off multiple Lady Cat defenders in the penalty box. Gouin finally found the equalizer with 24 minutes to play in regulation, capitalizing on a through ball from Rivard for her eighth

goal of the season. Thompson made it 2-1 Hazen after rocketing a free kick just outside the eighteen-yard line with just under 10 minutes left to play. Ella Luther added insurance minutes later with her first ever varsity goal, cleaning up a rebound from another Gouin shot. Renaud continued her outstanding play, making 16 stops to secure the win and Moo Thay Htoo turned away 8 shots for Winooski as they fell to 3-1.

The Lady Cats carry momentum into a home match-up with Blue Mountain on Wednesday at Hudson Fields and will get a stiff road test against a 4-0 Vergennes team on Saturday.

All home games can be streamed live on Hardwick Community Television (hctv.us).

Cal United girls suffer first loss of season

by Ken Brown

DANVILLE – Enosburg became the first team to solve a stingy Caledonia United defense last week, handing them their first loss of the season.

Enosburg came off the bus with a lot of first half energy and their defense made it hold up to spoil Cal United's home opener last Friday with a 3-0 win. Eliza-Louise Pratt stuffed home a feed from Mya Renaudette 17 minutes into the match to give the Lady Hornets a 1-0 lead. It was the first goal given up by goalkeeper Eliska Siebenbrunner and the Cal United defense this season. Vienna Wilde fed Ava Wedin ten minutes later to give the visitors a two-goal advantage heading into the break. Cassidy Blaney added an insurance goal late unassisted to end the scoring on the day. Jorja Kinney made four saves to secure her second straight shutout for the Enosburg defense. Enosburg won nine games in Division II last season and have

outscored their last two opponents 5-0 since dropping their first two matches of the season.

Siebenbrunner stepped into the goalkeeper position for the first time this fall for head coach Spencer Morse, starting her career with an unprecedented three straight shutouts. Pratt's score in the first half ended the junior's streak of 287 consecutive minutes without allowing a goal to start her career.

Morse graduated five seniors from a Cal United team that won 14 games in their first two seasons in Division III. The three-school cooperative (Twinfield-Cabot-Danville) won the program's first ever Division III playoff game in their first season and hosted their first home playoff match last fall. Morse has just two seniors on his roster this season in Phoebe Crocker and Lauren Pecor and will benefit from dropping back down to Division IV this year. Sophomores Jaidyn Carson and Peyton Winn have infused the Cal United



Spencer Morse is the head varsity girls soccer coach for Caledonia United. He coached Danville girls for nine years and the newly merged teams of Danville, Twinfield and Cabot for three years. photo by Vanessa Fournier

offense early on along with juniors Cora Abetti and Chloe North. At 3-1, Morse's young team is off to a promising start in a wide-open division where Richford is the defending state champs, running the table as an eleventh seed a season ago.

Cal United ventured back

out of division to take on Burke Mountain Academy on Monday and is scheduled to host Division II Missisquoi Valley Union on Wednesday. They wrap up a busy week on the road against a stout Division III Winooski team on Friday before welcoming Hazen Union to town next Monday.



Twinfield player Sarah Austin (right) of Caledonia United turns to attack the ball as Enosburg's Kira Chagnon (left) looks to steal in Danville, Friday. Enosburg prevailed 3-0. photo by Vanessa Fournier



Caledonia United's Peyton Winn, no. 20, of Danville chases down the ball ahead of Cassidy Blaney of Enosburg during play in Danville, September 12. At right is goalie Jorja Kinney of the Hornets. photo by Vanessa Fournier

Caledonia United boys rock BFA Fairfax

by Ken Brown

FAIRFAX – The first road test of the season didn't turn out to be a test at all for the Caledonia United boys soccer team last week as they steamrolled Mountain League foe BFA-Fairfax to improve to 3-0.

Senior Eli Russell recorded his second hat trick in as many weeks to power Cal United to an 8-0 road win over the Bullets last Monday. The 2024 Vermont All-State selection also tacked on a pair of assists to his impressive stat line as the visitors took a commanding 4-0 lead into the break.

"It was a decisive victory for

us on the road. Fairfax graduated a lot of seniors from last year and is rebuilding. Their young players worked hard and didn't give up," said head coach Peter Stratman.

Fellow senior Sam McLane continued his hot start to the young season, finding the back of net for Cal. United for the fifth time in three matches. Jola Otten also continued to contribute heavily to Stratman's offense in his senior campaign with another goal and Alijah Andrews finished off the scoring barrage with a rare goal from his center back position. Josh Petersen made two stops on the day to record his first shutout of the season. Mason Sanders recorded 20 saves for BFA as

they suffered their first loss of the season. The Bullets came into the matchup with an impressive draw against Lake Region and a pair of wins over Lyndon Institute and Oxbow. Their defense had only surrendered two goals on the season.

"Eli, Sam, and Jola continued their prolific scoring run for us, and it was great to see Alijah get a goal, putting himself on the end of a great cross, volleying the ball into the back of the net. Josh and the defense did a good job locking them down to secure the shutout. We controlled the match and generated lots of different scoring opportunities. It's still early in the season, but I'm pleased with our

progress so far," said Stratman.

Stratman's veteran club is coming off a 10-win season last fall in a highly competitive Division III. They moved back down a division this season and look poised to be a contender to make a third trip to the Division IV Final Four in Stratman's seventh season at the helm. Cal. United has outscored their opponents 19-2 in their first three matches.

Caledonia United looked to keep it rolling with a road matchup against Burke Mountain Academy on Tuesday before welcoming Blue Mountain to town on Friday. They are scheduled to travel to Oxbow next Monday.

Cabot's ride the ridges, Sept. 14



Ry Hoffman, a Cabot Ride the Ridges volunteer coordinator speaks to the 30km (20.5 miles) bikers before the start of their ride. Forty-nine participated in this event. Funds from the event fully support the Cabot Mentoring Program.
photo by Vanessa Fournier



Thirty-six participated in the Cabot Ride the Ridges 10km (6.3 miles) event. Walkers and bikers from left include Sam Nadon-Nichols, no. 180, of Ann Arbor, Michigan; Lynn Rockwell, no.198, of Cabot; Kassidy Watkins, no. 200, of Woodbury; William Ciermiekci, no. 361, of Cabot; Indrim Ciermiekci, no. 363, of Cabot and Blair Ciermiekci, no. 360, of Cabot.
photo by Vanessa Fournier



Volunteer Ry Hoffman (left) registers Meghan Poperowitz (center) of Middlesex before the ride she participated in at the Cabot Ride the Rides event held Sunday, September 14. At right is Mark Russell of Sugar Hill, N.H.
photo by Vanessa Fournier



There were 81 riders who participated in the annual Cabot Ride the Ridges 60 km cycling event, on September 14. They are Linda Markin, no. 76, of Hardwick; David Olsen, no. 154, of Glover; Heather Alger, no. 16, of St. Johnsbury and Scott Beede, no.74. People came from North Carolina, Maryland, Washington, Michigan, Virginia, Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Maine.
photo by Vanessa Fournier



Chuck Oliver (left) from Newfields, N.H., Stephen Taylor (center) of Bristol and David Olsen (right) of Glover wait for the start of the 60 km (35.6 miles) ride Sunday at the annual Cabot Ride the Ridges event, September 14.
photo by Vanessa Fournier



Debi LeBlanc, of Keene, N.H., rides with her Lagatto dog Suzette, 5, rides in a pet trailer while wearing Rex Spec goggles. They are ready to Ride the Ridges, September 14, in Cabot.
photo by Vanessa Fournier



In Strictly Mini Feature No. 1 victory lane were (from left) Jackson Hunt (3rd), first-time winner Logan Farnsworth, JJ Goodbout (2nd).

photos by Johnny Racer



In Fall Foliage 200 victory lane for the American-Canadian Tour were (from left) D.J. Shaw (3rd), winner Gabe Brown, Raphael Lessard (2nd).

photos by Johnny Racer

Gabe Brown goes back-to-back in Fall Foliage 200

N. WOODSTOCK, N.H. The American-Canadian Tour returned to White Mountain Motorsports Park for the final time in 2025 with thirty-seven teams vying for one of thirty starting spots in the Fall Foliage 200.

Young star Kaiden Fisher took the pole position in ACT Plus/Minus qualifying with longtime White Mountain runner Jesse Switser lined-up alongside. Fisher showed the early way but Switser battled back to take control through lap 37 where mechanical woes took over under Fisher's hood and knocked him out of contention for the night. On the restart, Raphael Lessard got back into his usual White Mountain form back in the lead of the American-Canadian Tour and standing in good position to take over the Triple Crown.

Lessard led until just after the fuel-only competition caution on lap 55 when defending Fall Foliage champion Gabe Brown took control and never relinquished it. The Center Conway driver lambasted the field, lapping all the way back to fifth on the grid and took down his second consecutive Fall Foliage 200 win with Lessard and D.J. Shaw in tow. What initially looked like a Shaw championship for the Triple Crown, Derek Gluchacki's fourth place finish netted a tie between the two! Gluchacki's win at Seekonk Speedway back in June became the tie-breaker with the former champion taking the laurels after a hard-fought top-five finish on the night.

The Kids Division got Saturday's feature racing under way with Makenzi Sicard and Kiptyn Aldrich leading the show before Chloe Doyle and Madison Potter ended up in the mix for all lady top

three. After a stretch of caution flags, Owen Dupuis entered the picture on lap eight and had the lead by lap 11 over Sicard before a big turn two pileup claimed several cars. Dupuis kept his nose clean out front followed across the line by Bella Hamel and Chloe Doyle.

The sophomore Austin Sicard took off like a rocket to lead the way for the Flying Tigers before Logan Powers pounced underneath to lead lap nine over Austin and uncle, Shane Sicard. The elder Sicard made his way under Powers to lead lap sixteen but Powers remained in the hunt as they ran door to door. Shane Sicard finally got the edge and took off for his first win of the 2025 season with Luke Peters getting by Powers for second in the final laps.

Twin 20-lap segments for the Late Models saw Dustin Jackson go lights out to take the first segment win over Cody LeBlanc sub driving for Nick Miller on Saturday night. The same could be said in segment two with Chris Moulton shining bright out front. In the end, Dustin Jackson's third-place run in segment two cemented his win with four points to Kodi Sabin's five point finale with Moulton taking third in the overall.

With double features on the line for the Fall Foliage Strictly Stock Minis, the rookies showed up in spades. Feature No. 1 saw St. Johnsbury's Logan Farnsworth run away with the green-to-checkers win, career win No. 1 for the rookie point leader over J.J. Goodbout and fellow rookie Jackson Hunt. With the handicap refigured for the second feature, Hunt and Jason Ball led the field to green. Big trouble struck championship hopefuls Donnie Baumgardner and Jacob Roy on lap 4 but once again it was a rookie



In the Strictly Mini Feature No. 2 victory lane were (from left) Jason Ball (3rd), first-time photos by winner Jackson Hunt, JJ Goodbout (2nd).

photo by Johnny Racer

out front. Jackson Hunt kept his Cavalier pointed ahead and never slowed to take his first career win in the Strictly Mini ranks with Goodbout again taking second and Jason Ball rounding out the second podium.

UNOFFICIAL RESULTS

(local competitors)

Flying Tigers – (35 Laps)

7. 23VT, Matt Potter, Marshfield, Vt.

Kids Division – (15 Laps)

6. 23, Madison Potter, Marshfield, Vt.



Gabe Brown celebrates his second consecutive Foliage 200 win with the American-Canadian Tour, Saturday night, at White Mountain Motorsports Park.

photo by Johnny Racer



After 100 hard-fought laps, Hinesburg's Derrick Calkins cashed in the \$2,000 winner's share on Vermont Agency of Transportation Night at Thunder Road, Thursday. photo by Alan Ward



The Late Models were a highlight of Thursday's racing action with Wolcott's Marcel Gravel (86VT) eventually taking the win over Dragon (0VT) and Fisher (18VT). photo by Alan Ward

Gravel takes Thursday Late Model win

BARRE – The inaugural \$2,000-to-win, 100 lap special for the Flying Tigers certainly did not disappoint on Vermont Agency of Transportation night. Thirty teams entered the event with only Ty Delphia unable to take the green after fighting mechanical woes all afternoon. It was a spirited side-by-side race at the front of the field starting with Rich Lowrey and Mike Martin at the onset.

Martin led the first nine laps before Lowrey powered by to lead lap ten on the outside groove. The biggest calamity of the race came on lap 40 as championship hopeful Sam Caron came into three-wide contact with the backstretch wall, counting both himself and Brendan Moodie among the damaged as he was towed pitside for repairs. The team worked feverishly to get him back on track just in time for the drop of the green flag as Lowrey and Martin again went to work for the lead.

Martin eventually fell out of favor just after the halfway point with a slippery ride, allowing Derrick Calkins to move in and stalk Lowrey for the lead. With ten to go Calkins motored his way into the lead as Lowrey fell back and eventually pitted with issues under the hood. Calkins, a mighty driver in part-time competition this season found his way back in the winner's circle for the \$2,000 win over Logan Powers and Cooper French in the end. Point leader Cameron Ouelette kept his head above water with a hard-fought fourth-place run followed by an incredible rebound for Sam Caron rounding out the top five.

It was calamity in the Street Stocks for top runner and defending track champion Dean Switser Jr. in a lap-two melee motoring into turn one. Switser was forced hard into the turn one wall with seven other casualties piling in. Righted again at the front, Tommy Smith quickly made his way around rookies Jason

Kirby and T.J. Haggett and never looked back to claim the 25-lap trophy dash over rookie Hayden Bushey and Jamie Davis.

If the side-by-side battle for the Flying Tigers wasn't enough, the Late Models certainly did their fair share of hard-nosed Thursday night racing. While Bryan Wall Jr. took off with an early lead, the battle for second between Scott Dragon and Taylor Hoar was one for the ages before Marcel Gravel and Kaiden Fisher entered the picture at the halfway mark. A restart following Mike Rubalcaba's backstretch spin saw Dragon, Fisher and Gravel take off with the lead, all three fighting tooth and nail for the top spot. Eventually, Gravel used the high line to march around the two, take the lead and seal the deal to take his first win of the 2025 season. Dragon and Fisher rounded out the fan-favorite podium.

The road Warriors rounded out the evening's racing card with

Mason Frazier taking off from the front row and never looking back. 'The Chick-let' led wire to wire to take his first career Thunder Road victory over hardchargers Mike Slingerland and Derrick Mann in their 20-lap main event.

UNOFFICIAL RESULTS (local contestants)

Flying Tigers – \$2,000-to-Win
16. 22VT, Travis Patnoe, Wolcott
19., 01VT, Michael Martin, Craftsbury, Common
26., 15NH, Brendan Moodie, Wolcott
28., 30VT, Joel Hodgdon, Craftsbury Common

Late Models – (50 Laps)
1., 86VT, Marcel J. Gravel, Wolcott
7., 01VT, Stephen Martin, Craftsbury Common
22., 92VT, Jaden Perry, Hardwick

Street Stocks – (25 Laps)
19., 18x, Walker Fitch, Marshfield
25., 32, Kylee Potter, Marshfield
27., 34, Patrick Tibbetts, Plainfield

Road Warriors – (20 Laps)
15. 18, Cayden Green, Marshfield

Brown Dominates Fall Foliage 200, Gluchacki Earns Triple Crown

N. WOODSTOCK, N.H. – Thirty-seven American-Canadian Tour teams made the trek to New Hampshire's White Mountain Motorsports Park to contest both the Fall Foliage 200 and crown the Triple Crown champion.

The pit area was packed Saturday afternoon with thirty-seven teams, all vying for one of thirty starting positions through three rounds of qualifying action. Multi-time White Mountain Motorsports Park track champion Quinny Welch, Canadian invader William Larue, Lancaster, N.H.'s Jamie Swallow Jr. and Shelburne, Vt.'s Kaiden Fisher all took heat race qualifying wins with Fisher being the biggest winner of the bunch. Fisher earned a plus-five in the Plus/Minus handicap pool to rocket to the top with the pole position in the Fall Foliage 200 with former Midsummer Classic 250 winner Jesse Switser starting to his outside.

Both drivers were looking for redemption after tough luck in



Dartmouth, Mass., driver Derek Gluchacki has been the bridesmaid in Triple Crown competition every year since it's inception in 2022 but finally put it all together for the championship in 2025. photo by Mark A. Cote

the closing laps of August's 250 with Fisher showing the early way before Switser took over the top spot on lap five. A pair of single car spins for Jaime Swallow Jr. and Stephen Martin slowed the pace early just before Fisher's poor

luck at White Mountain continued on lap 37 with steam billowing from under the hood, sending him pitside for lengthy repairs before returning later in the race.

Two-time White Mountain winner Raphael Lessard made his case for three-in-a-row on lap 38 by motoring by Switser for the lead and getting the extra points in the Triple Crown. Lessard was on top but faced a rearview mirror full of Gabe Brown leading into the competition caution for fuel only on lap 55. Brown charged to the front on lap 58 and started the most dominant run of the season to lap back to fifth on the grid en-route to his second consecutive Fall Foliage 200, adding the icing to the cake on a happy twenty-third birthday for the Center Conway, N.H., driver.

After losing the lead, Lessard also fell back in the Triple Crown leaving it to D.J. Shaw at the halfway point but as the laps wound down the Triple Crown came to light. Shaw's third-place

finish netted him 210 points on the leaderboard but a fourth-place run for Massachusetts hot-shoe Derek Gluchacki also earned the Bay Stater 210 points. Down to the three Triple Crown finishes to decide the tie-breaker, Gluchacki's win in the 50th Spring Green held at Seekonk Speedway back in June earned him the Triple Crown Championship after three years of top-three overall finishes.

Jesse Switser held on to round out the top five with Erick Sands taking sixth and invader Joey Doiron took seventh in the Gabe Brown Racing backup car. William Larue took eighth followed by fellow Quebecker Alexandre Tardif and Justin Prescott to round out the top-ten.

UNOFFICIAL RESULTS (local competitors)

American-Canadian Tour – Fall Foliage 200
12. 45NH, Stephen Martin, Craftsbury Common

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