



## Special Town Meeting set for town forest contribution, holding future town meetings by Australian Ballot



An overflow crowd attends the April 2 Hardwick Select Board meeting, upstairs in the Memorial Building, during which a special town meeting was set for May 19, at 6:30 p.m., in the Hardwick Town House for a revote on committing \$25,000 to the Hardwick Town Forest project and to consider a petitioned item to have all future public questions, town budget and appropriations at town meeting voted on by Australian ballot. photo by Paul Fixx

by Paul Fixx

HARDWICK – A well-attended select board meeting with an overflow crowd upstairs in the Hardwick Memorial Building last Thursday began with an announcement by the Trust for Public Lands' (TPL) Hannah Redmon announcing that a \$465,000 grant had been awarded by the Vermont Housing and Conservation Board (VHCB) for the Buffalo Mountain Town Forest purchase.

The board quickly moved through the town manager's and police department reports, approving liquor license renewals for the Agri-Mark/Yellow Barn Cabot store and the House of Pizza.

Almost 15 minutes early, Select Board

Chair Ceilidh Galloway-Kane took up a petition many of those in attendance were there for, calling for a revote on an article approved at town meeting to contribute \$25,000 toward the town forest purchase. Town Clerk Tonia Chase presented the valid petition signed by 5% of Hardwick's 2,333 voters. After almost 45 minutes of discussion the reconsideration vote was set for May 19, at 6:30 p.m., with the board voting unanimously for the motion.

After that, Chase presented two other valid petitions she'd received. The first called for Australian ballot votes to be held on all town meeting questions beginning with the March 2027 meeting. The second petition was for all reconsideration votes to be voted by Australian ballot.

See **FUTURE, 6**

## Common parking safety a concern

by Raymonda Parchment

CRAFTSBURY – The last meeting, March 17, saw the select board finalize a number of ongoing projects, discuss safety issues on the Common, as well as review municipal finances.

According to minutes, whether for public or school use, parking is an issue. This past weekend, vehicles parked in the road created basically one-lane traffic flow. This makes access difficult in an emergency. The board considered if the town needs to create some sort of parking system. Another safety concern that arose was speeding. The school board seems to be unaware of this issue based on initial discussions.

Planning commission members Reed Holden and Dave Rowell were present, to discuss updates to the building notification form. Questions were brought to the board, with minutes highlighting three main themes: the fee (\$25), the necessity of the form and its contents.

The board said the purpose of the form is to collect the information that's important for the town to obtain: to ensure anyone new to the area understands requirements related to wastewater compliance, 911 addresses, road safety, emergency vehicle access, etc. The form is intended to assist with the checks and balances required to ensure compliance. The planning

See **PARKING, 5**



Some of the 32 students from Craftsbury Academy and Hazen Union School who walked out of class early Tuesday, March 31 to protest ICE activity in the U.S. stand on the corner of Wolcott and S. Main Sts. in Hardwick.

photo by Claudia Gohl

## Student protest ICE activity with walk-out

by Will Helms

HARDWICK – Nineteen Hazen Union students joined 13 Craftsbury Academy students who walked out of school to shout chants, wave signs and rattle noisemakers at the intersection on South Main Street to protest ICE activity in the U.S. from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., Tuesday, March 31.

An adult at the protest provided an improvised drum made out of wood and packing tape. A student banged a pot with a spoon at passing cars, prompting many honks, a few gestures and at least one shout of retaliation.

Craftsbury student Nora van Golden was

See **WALK-OUT, 4**

## Wastewater committee proposes shift to modular systems

by Raymonda Parchment

GREENSBORO – According to minutes from March 23, the Greensboro Wastewater Advisory Committee has shifted its focus from a town-wide wastewater system, instead proposing to find options for smaller modular wastewater systems that can be of service to a handful of businesses and residences.

This comes in the wake of nearly five years and \$450K in grant funding, with engineering firm Hoyle Tanner failing to locate a suitable site capable of handling 30,000 to 40,000 gallons a day.

See **WASTEWATER, 6**



Michael Cloutier (left) and Clarence Wheeler mark their ballots in a slow start to voting on the second Mountain View Union School budget, Tuesday, April 7. All four towns in the district are voting on a budget that's identical to the one rejected by voters on Town Meeting Day. photo by Paul Fixx

Croissants  
HOUSE MADE BAKED GOODS  
SANDWICHES



COFFEE SHOP  
AND BAKERY  
SUPPORTING LOCAL & SMALL SCALE FARMERS, PRODUCERS, AND ARTISTS.

7AM-3PM  
SEVEN DAYS/WEEK  
FREE WIFI

# PUBLIC SERVICES

## Hardwick Police Department Fender Bender, DUI

HARDWICK – On March 20, at 4:08 p.m., Hardwick Police were notified of a two-car accident located at the intersection of Route 15 and Route 14 N. A 2015 Subaru CrossTrek operated by Richard Jones of McAdam, New Brunswick, Canada, pulled out in front of a 2005 Buick Park Avenue operated by Isahia Martinez of Hartford, Conn.. The roads were covered and slippery and Martinez could not stop before impacting the Subaru. There were no injuries and both cars received moderate damage.

On Tuesday, March 31, at 1:30

p.m., Hardwick Police responded to a single vehicle crash on Route 15, approximately .5 miles west of Route 14. The operator was identified as Peter Cook of Johnson. Cook advised he was not paying attention to the roadway and steered off the right side of the roadway into the ditch. Cook was uninjured in the crash. He was subsequently arrested and processed for DUI at the Hardwick Police Department. He was released on a citation to appear in Caledonia Superior Court; Criminal Division, on April 13.

## AWARE Report

HARDWICK – Twenty-two people used AWARE services between March 29 and April 5. 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](http://awarevt.org).

## Orleans County Sheriff's Department

### Aggravated domestic assault, active warrant

GREENSBORO – On February 1, at 11:38 p.m., Deputy Battista responded to a 911 call of a possible vehicle crash with an active assault taking place, on Main Street in Greensboro. Deputy Battista arrived and conducted an investigation with the individuals involved.

After investigation, Deputy Battista placed Steven Mossey under arrest for 2nd degree aggravated domestic assault and

active warrant confined for Mossey through Lamoille County Sheriff's Department.

Mossey was transported and processed at the Orleans County Sheriff's Department and lodged at Northern State Correctional Facility on \$1,000 bail. The vehicle involved was towed. Mossey was cited to appear at Vermont Orleans Criminal Court on March 2 to answer the above charges.

**The Hardwick Gazette**



**PEOPLE SERVING PEOPLE**



April 8 - April 14

**Men's Carhartt Clothing**  
Back in Stock

**Jelly Bean Rugs**  
\$20.00

**Wide Awake Coffee**  
\$4.79 10-12 oz. or 10 ct. Kcup

**Kellogg's Assorted Cereals**  
2/\$6 8.8-12 oz.

**Kellogg's Mini Wheat Cereal**  
\$3.99 13.3-16 oz.

**Kellogg's Pop Tarts**  
2/\$5 13.5 oz.

**Ben's Ready Rice**  
2/\$5 8.5-8.8 oz.

**Kraft Mac & Cheese Dinner**  
4/\$5 7.25 oz.

**Chi-Chi's Salsa**  
\$2.29 16 oz.

**Progresso Vegetable Classic Soups**  
2/\$5 19 oz.

**Bumble Bee 4 Pk. Solid White Tuna**  
\$7.99 20 oz.

**Wishbone Salad Dressing**  
2/\$3 8 oz.

**Filippo Berio Olive Oil**  
\$8.99 16.9 oz.

**Skippy Peanut Butter**  
2/\$5 15-16.3 oz.

**Betty Crocker Cake Mix or Frosting**  
2/\$3 12-16 oz.

**Betty Crocker Brownie Mix**  
2/\$4 16.3 oz.

**Nabisco Belvita Biscuits**  
\$3.99 8.8 oz.

**Bear Naked Granola**  
\$3.99 11-12 oz.

**Stonyfield Organic Yogurt**  
\$4.79 32 oz.

**Stonyfield Organic 1/2 + 1/2**  
\$4.99 32 oz.

**Stonyfield Organic Milk**  
\$4.49 64 oz.

**Cascadian Frozen Vegetables**  
\$3.49 10-16 oz.

**Newman's Thin Crust Pizza**  
\$6.49 15.1-16 oz.

**The Willey's Store** Since 1900 Greensboro

Hours: Mon. - Fri. 8 a.m. - 6 p.m. Sat. & Sun. 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.  
802-533-2621 • toll-free 855-533-2621



• Full-service Grocery & Hardware • Clothing  
• Footwear • Housewares • Hunting & Fishing  
• Coffee Bar • Beer & Wine • Toys • Gifts

"If we don't have it, then you probably don't need it."

## Contents

Public Services.....	2, 3, 4
Weather Watch .....	3
Headwaters, Sterling College discuss future .....	7
Act 181 debate pokes at the heart of rural-urban dynamics .....	8
Krowinski says she hears Vermonters.....	8
Editorial: Help build the foundation of a vital community resource .....	9
Letters from Readers: Hanson, Larsen, Shields.....	9, 13,14
Yankee Notebook: Joining the human race .....	10
Woodsmoke (cartoon).....	10
Another Opinion: 2026 State of the Union contest winning essay .....	11
Ada Allen's State of the Union essay receives award.....	11
Another Opinion: Butler.....	12
Legislative Report: Southworth, Yacavone, Harple.....	12, 13,14
Heller's World (cartoon) .....	14, 17, 18
Weeks Gone By .....	15
Monthly Musings: Billy's birthday.....	17
Voices of Spirit: The lost art of getting lost .....	17
Our Neighborhood: Barred Wood Maple.....	18
In the Garden: Getting ready for spring.....	20
The Outside Story: Hummingbird migration map available .....	20
The Outside Story: Why did the frog cross the road?.....	21
Our Communities .....	22, 23, 24
Education.....	24
Obituaries: Coolbeth, Albright Jr.....	24
"Three Tables" performed April 8.....	26
Great American Crooners on April 9.....	26
Concert series presents dance company .....	26
LCP opens 74th season with "Pippin" .....	26
Events .....	27-32
Ken Brown's College Roundup .....	33
Lamarre leads boys Capital League Honors for Hazen .....	33
Ken Brown's College Roundup .....	34

# WEATHER WATCH

## Cooler temperatures briefly return; moderating temperatures on the horizon

by Tyler Molleur

EAST HARDWICK – A couple of steady rain events brought new precipitation amounts of around an inch region-wide in the past week. Additional snowmelt occurred as temperatures reached the low-to-mid 60s by Saturday, which also featured some sunshine and a warm breeze. The precipitation amounts have us at 140 percent of normal for the month so far, with medium-range forecasts from the Climate Prediction Center showing a persistent trend in above-normal precipitation for the next several weeks. Our drought status is likely to be removed should trends continue this way for the rest of April. Temperatures are also likely to be above normal during this time.

The past several days featured different conditions from our forecasted trends. Snow showers returned overnight on Sunday, resulting in an inch or two of snow accumulation. Snow showers persisted into Tuesday morning with a colder air mass in place.

Cooler air lingers through today as a high-pressure system slides east over the next 36 hours with sunshine. Temperatures moderate somewhat tomorrow and winds pick up from the south. The combination of a dry airmass and a strong

breeze will increase the fire danger concerns and any fire that starts on Thursday will have the potential to quickly become uncontrolled.

An approaching frontal boundary slows over the northeast Thursday night and a wave of low pressure travels along the front on Friday. Some light rain is expected on Friday, especially in the afternoon and evening. Highs start out approaching 50 on Saturday after that front passes, but they will quickly warm with ample sunshine through most of the weekend, with highs reaching 60 by Sunday. A storm system approaching Sunday night looks to bring another chance of rain as we head into the work week. Here are the forecast details:

**Wednesday:** Sunny. High: 44. Low: 24. Calm wind.

**Thursday:** Mostly sunny. High: 57. Low: 33. South wind 10-15 mph with gusts to 30 mph.

**Friday:** Mostly cloudy. Rain likely; especially in the afternoon. High: 58. Low: 34. Southwest wind 5-10 mph, becoming northwest.

**Saturday:** Partly sunny. High: 52. Low: 29. Northwest wind around 5 mph, becoming light.

**Sunday:** Mostly sunny, with increasing clouds in the afternoon. A chance of rain by evening. High: 61. Low: 43. South wind around 5 mph.



Filling sap buckets, March 27, on Montgomery Road in East Hardwick, are a sure sign of spring in the Northeast Kingdom.

photo by Dawn Gustafson

# PUBLIC SERVICES

## Hardwick Police Report Media Log

HARDWICK – March 29: Trespassing, Vt. Route 14 S.; Motor Vehicle Complaint, Center Road; Traffic Stop, Vt. Route 15; Traffic Stop, Wolcott St.; Traffic Stop, Vt. Route 15; Traffic Stop, Vt. Route 15 E.; Traffic Stop, Vt. Route 15 E.; Traffic Stop, Vt. Route 15; Motor Vehicle Complaint, Vt. Route 15.

March 30: Directed Patrol, S. Main St.; Trespassing, Vt. Route 15 W.; Motor Vehicle Complaint, Spring St.; Citizen Dispute, Vt. Route 14 S.

March 31: Medical, W. Hill Road; Assist - Public, Granite St.; VIN verification, Wolcott St.; Accident-Property Damage Only, Vt. Route 15 W.; Threats/Harassment, Vt. Route 14 S.; Motor Vehicle Complaint, Vt. Route 15; Traffic Stop, Wolcott St.; Information, Vt. Route 14; Traffic Stop, Mill St.

April 1: Overdose, W. Church St.; Directed Patrol, S. Main St.; Traffic Stop, Wolcott St.; Accident-LSA, Pine Drive; Directed Patrol, Hazen Union Dr.; Finger-

prints, High St.; Traffic Stop, Mill St.; Traffic Stop, Wolcott St.

April 2: Motor Vehicle Complaint, Elm St.; School Event, Hazen Union Drive; Welfare Check, Hazen Union Drive; Directed Patrol, Hazen Union Drive; Traffic Stop, Vt. Route 15; Motor Vehicle Complaint, Vt. Route 15; Traffic Stop, Vt. Route 15; Traffic Stop, Vt. Route 14; Suspicious Event, S. Main St.

April 3: Directed Patrol, S. Main St.; VIN verification, High St.; Fingerprints, High St.; VIN verification, Craftsbury Road.; Motor Vehicle Complaint, S. Main St.

April 4: Suspicious Event, Maple St.; Directed Patrol, Hazen Union Drive.; Traffic Stop, Wolcott St.; Suspicious Event, S. Main St.

April 5: Medical, Winter St.; Animal Problem, Benway Drive; Medical, Bridgman Hill Road; VIN verification, Craftsbury Road; DLS, Vt. Route 14; Suspicious Event, Prospect St.; Transport, High St.

## Lamoille County Sheriff's Department Drowning death

WOLCOTT – On April 4, at approximately 1:39 p.m., the Lamoille County Sheriff's Department Communications Center received a 911 call reporting an individual floating face down in the Lamoille River in the area of Flat Iron Road in Wolcott, Vermont. First responders located and removed the individual from the river.

The individual was identified as Sarah Goldberg, age 34, of Morrisville. Goldberg was kayaking on the Lamoille River at the time of the incident.

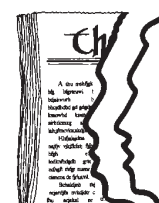
In an interview with WCAX, LCSD Sheriff Roger Marcoux said, "What it looks like is got into some turbulent water and ended

up out of her kayak upside down and wasn't able to swim out of it," Marcoux said, "It sounds like a pretty horrific scene where they were trying to get to her as she was floating down the river unconscious, and finally her partner was able to get hold of her."

Goldberg was transported to Copley Hospital by Hardwick Rescue, where she was later pronounced deceased. The incident remains under investigation.

Responding agencies included the Lamoille County Sheriff's Department, Wolcott Fire Department, Elmore Fire Department, Hardwick Rescue and Johnson Fire Department Water Rescue Team.

The Hardwick Gazette



PEOPLE SERVING PEOPLE

# PUBLIC SERVICES

## Orleans County Sheriff's Department

### Aggravated domestic assault, active warrant

GREENSBORO – On February 1, at 11:38 p.m., Deputy Battista responded to a 911 call of a possible vehicle crash with an active assault taking place, on Main Street in Greensboro. Deputy Battista arrived and conducted an investigation with the individuals involved.

After investigation, Deputy Battista placed Steven Mossey under arrest for 2nd degree aggravated domestic assault and

active warrant confined for Mossey through Lamoille County Sheriff's Department.

Mossey was transported and processed at the Orleans County Sheriff's Department and lodged at Northern State Correctional Facility on \$1,000 bail. The vehicle involved was towed. Mossey was cited to appear at Vermont Orleans Criminal Court on March 2 to answer the above charges.

## Vermont State Police

### Car crashes, DUI

MARSHFIELD – On March 30, at 6:13 p.m., troopers with the Vermont State Police responded to Troy Street near the intersection of Liberty Street in Richford following a report of a motorcycle that had crashed into a tractor trailer unit. Initial reports indicated the motorcycle operator, later identified as Adam Blodgett of Fairfax, was pinned underneath the truck. Fire and rescue personnel were able to free Blodgett and transport him, where his condition was reported to be critical but stable.

Initial investigation indicates that Blodgett was operating the motorcycle east on Troy Street when he crossed the left center and collided with the truck, which was traveling west. The operator of the truck, Mark McNally of Woodbury, was not injured.

The cause of this crash remains under investigation. Anyone with information that may assist investigators is asked to contact state police in St. Albans at (802) 524 - 5993 or leave an anonymous tip online via [vsp.vermont.gov/tipsubmit](http://vsp.vermont.gov/tipsubmit).

The Vermont State Police were assisted on scene by the Richford Fire Department, Richford Ambulance, Enosburg Ambulance



Robert Whalen

and the Vermont Department of Motor Vehicles.

On March 31, at 8:19 p.m., the Vermont State Police received a report of a single vehicle crash on U. S. Route 2 in Marshfield. Troopers responded and identified the operator as Robert Whalen. While speaking with troopers, Whalen displayed signs of impairment. Whalen was taken into custody for suspicion of DUI and was transported to the Berlin Barracks for processing. Whalen was released with citation to appear in Washington Superior Court - Criminal Division to answer the above charge.



Students protesting ICE activity in the U.S. stand in front of Positive Pie and Front Seat Coffee in Hardwick, March 31. They walked out of Hazen Union School and Craftsbury Academy to attend the event.

photo by Rachel Cole

## Walk-out

Continued From Page One

the transportation coordinator for Craftsbury Academy. She and the other Craftsbury students worked with students at Hazen to organize the protest. "Nobody is too small to make a difference," said van Golden on why she thought it was important to be out protesting.

"We've got to keep ICE out of America," another Hazen student commented. "Nobody is illegal on stolen indigenous land."

Other students added, "Standing up to tyranny makes me remember who really has power;" "I think it's great to see the new generation here, and to see that they care;" "Families shouldn't be separated just because the government says so" and "People that kill other people kind of suck."

Several other students had comments on the quality of the protest itself. "Protesters should be more angry. This is not a time to be happy. It's time to be p\*\*\*\*\*," said a student. "We should've had more songs and chants prepared. We should've been better rehearsed," said another.

The event was attended by several older community

members. "This is a lot more representative of who will actually be affected," said Annie Gaillard, of the youth at the protest. "At first it seems scary to start a chant, but right now it seems so solid."

"The next generation is paying attention and I am really proud of these kids for exercising their first amendment rights," said teacher Kelly Robinson. "Many protests I go to are people my age and older. I'm so proud of them for being engaged, courageous and willing to exercise their first amendment rights."

The walk-out had been advertised at Hazen via posters in the hallways, however the posters had not been approved by the school administration and had to be removed.

Due to a Facebook post alleging that the walkout had been organized by the school, the administration put out a statement correcting the misinformation. Part of the statement read "If students choose to leave class or the building, we treat that as we would any situation where a student departs without authorization."

No punishments had been given to student participants as of Friday, April 3.



The Walden Fire Department's tracked Utility Task Vehicle helps bring a lost hiker on the Cheever Falls Trail back to Noystar Road early Sunday morning. photo from social media

## Walden Volunteer Fire Department

### Lost hiker located with drone

WALDEN – On April 5, at 1:30 p.m., the Walden Volunteer Fire Department was dispatched to assist Vermont State Police (VSP) with a lost hiker at the Cheever Falls trail in the Steam Mill Brook Wildlife

Management Area. VSP located the hiker with a drone and were able to get them back to the trailhead where firefighters picked them up with a utility task vehicle to transport back to Noystar Road.



Avery Keough, 3, of Wolcott finds one of the many plastic eggs hidden in the Wolcott Town Garden Depot Park and throughout the library during an egg hunt held at the Wolcott Public Library, April 4. Twenty-four children accompanied by 20 adults attended. photo by Vanessa Fournier

### Parking

Continued From Page One  
 commission will continue to review and provide feedback to the board, who thanked them for their efforts.

The town clerk's report saw finances take precedence. The board approved borrowing \$100,000 from the preservation fund to be moved to the general fund for operating expenses for an interim period. The town has made payments related to MERP (Municipal Energy Resilience Program) and awaits reimbursement.

The board approved closing the ARPA checking account with the remaining balance of \$600 moved to the operating account. A new checking account was opened for the energy committee, which

will make reconciling books easier; high dollar grant proceeds will remain in the main town account but smaller grants can go in to easily manage balances.

In other business, interim financing for the town garage was discussed. The town needs \$750K for up-front payment, to be later reimbursed. Requests will be sent to three banks to obtain quotes.

The board signed the following weight permits: CAMP Precast Concrete Products Inc; Packard Fuels LLC; Blanchard Oil; EC Morrison Trucking & Excavation; Vaillancourt Transport LLC; S.D. Ireland Concrete Construction Corp.; Irving Energy; Barrett Trucking Co. Inc.; Scott Brown Trucking.



TOWN OF GREENSBORO,  
 82 CRAFTSBURY ROAD, GREENSBORO, VERMONT 05841

### PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

Pursuant to 24 V.S.A. §4441(d) and §4444, the Greensboro Planning Commission has scheduled a public hearing at 6:30 pm on April 28, 2026 in the Meeting Room at our Town Hall, 82 Craftsbury Road, or online via Zoom, using the following link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87957096874>.

ID: 879 5709 6874; +13052241968,,87957096874# US.

The purpose of the meeting is to solicit public input on proposed amendments, dated March 31, 2026, to the 2024 Greensboro Zoning Bylaws.

**AMENDMENTS:** These amendments have been prepared to clarify the bylaw's language and definitions; to correct errors; to comply with updates to Vermont Statutes from 2025 and earlier; to comply with the Town's Delegation Agreement with VT DEC for permitting within 250' of lake.

**GEOGRAPHIC AREA AFFECTED:** The entire Town of Greensboro.

**LISTING OF SECTION HEADINGS:** Includes changes to Article 1. Authority and Purpose; Article 2. Zoning Districts; Article 3. General Regulations; Article 4. Specific Use Provisions; Article 5. Administration and Enforcement; Article 8. Lake Shoreland Protection District Regulations; Article 9. Definitions.

**A FULL TEXT OF THE PROPOSALS:**

Copies of the proposed changes to the Greensboro Zoning Bylaws are available at the Town of Greensboro's official website: <https://greensborovt.gov/greensboro-planning-commission>; in the municipal building located at 82 Craftsbury Road; at the Greensboro Bend Post Office at 975 Main Street; at the Greensboro Village Post Office at 12 Cemetery Ridge, in Greensboro, Vermont.

Written comment on the proposed changes should be directed to the Planning Commission via the Planning Commission Clerk, at [gpc-clerk@greensborovt.gov](mailto:gpc-clerk@greensborovt.gov) or by mail to GPC Clerk, Greensboro Planning Commission, Box 119, Greensboro, VT 05841.

Dated at Greensboro, Vermont, this 6th day of April, 2026.

Greensboro Planning Commission

Prices shown valid 04/10-04/16  
 Member-owner deals valid 04/01-04/30  
 While supplies last

**BUFFALO MOUNTAIN MARKET**  
 COOPERATIVELY OWNED SINCE 1975  
 Weekly Highlights

Just a taste of the deals this week. Stop in for hundreds of local items, cafe food, and more!

\$4.69 Alexandre Eco Dairy, 25.3 oz	2/\$5 C20, 17.5 oz	2/\$6 Annie's Homegrown, 6 oz	\$4.49 Bob's Red Mill, 18 oz
\$4.99 DeLallo, 12 oz	\$4.99 Spindrift, varieties, 8 ct	\$5.99 Earth Balance, 13 oz	\$2.39 Edward & Sons, varieties, 2.9 oz
\$3.99 Green Valley Creamery, 8 oz	2/\$6 Cabot, varieties, 6-8 oz	\$4.99 Kettle & Fire, varieties, 16.9 oz	\$2.99 Lay's, varieties, 4.75 - 8 oz
2/\$7 Muir Glen, varieties, 26 oz	\$3.49 Native Forest, varieties, 14 oz	\$7.99 Organic Valley, 7.5 oz	2/\$7 Pacific Foods, 32 oz

Some of our Member-owner Deals This Week ...

15% off Fody, varieties, 19.4 oz	15% off GoodSam, varieties, 4 oz	17% off My Mochi, 91 oz	10% off Green Mountain, varieties, 16 oz
-------------------------------------	-------------------------------------	----------------------------	---

75 Mill Street Hardwick, VT 05843 • 802 472 6020 • [www.buffalomountainmarket.com](http://www.buffalomountainmarket.com)

**You're no fool: you're informed, you understand.**  
 Extend your right to be curious with a  
 sustaining monthly contribution to The Hardwick Gazette  
[news@hardwickgazette/donate](mailto:news@hardwickgazette/donate)

## Future

Continued From Page One

The second was quickly dismissed as irrelevant because state law requires revotes to be held in the same manner as the original vote, which was interpreted to mean either by an in-person meeting (where the vote could be taken by voice, hand or paper ballot as those assembled properly decided), or by Australian ballot.

The board voted to add the first question to the May 19 meeting agenda; "Shall the Town of Hardwick vote to require that all public questions, town budget and appropriations currently voted from the floor at Town Meeting be voted by Australian ballot beginning with the next Annual Town Meeting."

Three board members voted in favor, with Shari Cornish voting nay and Tim Ricciardello absent.

In considering the petition, Cornish said that voting everything by Australian ballot would essentially be doing away with town meetings; elected officials would be the only thing voted on from the floor.

Adding votes for elected officials to the motion was considered after it was suggested by Town Manager David Upson, but the idea was abandoned.

Orise Ainsworth said Fairfax has a Saturday town meeting to educate the voters about all of the items on the warning and then have voting on Town Meeting Day.

In other comments, Hardwick resident Paul Fixx suggested an informational meeting be held before the May 19 vote.

Former Select Board Chair Eric Remick said he thinks a special meeting would have less turnout than a typical town meeting. He suggested waiting until the 2027 town meeting for the item to be voted on.

Chase advised that the select board is required to act on the petitions received within 60 days, waiting is not an option.

Responding to a question from Joe Nudell, Chase said 505 Australian ballots had been cast on Town Meeting Day compared to about 300 attending the meeting. Resident Rachel Kane commented that doing

away with town meeting floor votes is a pretty serious decision.

Galloway-Kane said options can be discussed at a future select board meeting before the vote and moved on to the remainder of the town's business.

During discussion of the town forest petition Orise Ainsworth and Roberta Foster shared their concerns about how the original town meeting vote had been conducted, but neither ended up being germane because of the reconsideration now scheduled May 19.

It was confirmed that reconsideration of the town forest vote would only be in the question of whether the town contributes \$25,000. Redmond noted that a lack of town contribution would require other funds to be found and could affect funders' willingness to support the project.

Sue Rivard expressed concern that the town had agreed to take ownership of the property at its December 18 meeting without any public discussion and questioned voting to allocate funds before residents fully understood potential uses of the property.

Later Redmon confirmed that and said the select board had been asked to make the decision because the property was actively listed for sale and entering into an agreement with landowners Ken and Chris Davis was important to prevent it from being sold elsewhere. Redmon later confirmed the town plan specifically mentioned the importance of Buffalo Mountain to the town, leading members of the Hardwick Conservation Commission to recommend that the opportunity not be missed.

Claire Hill asked how those that voted at town meeting were known to be registered voters for the hand count since they weren't checked in the way they were with a paper ballot for the budget vote before it. Chase responded to that, saying, because of that same concern shared by others, she will be implementing a new procedure for future town meetings. Those arriving for town meeting will be checked in against the voter checklist, which is maintained by the town's Justices of

the Peace, then given a colored index card that will be selected that day so no one can bring their own. Those index cards must then be raised when a show of hands is called for by the moderator.

In awarding its grant for the Buffalo Mountain Town Forest to the TPL, Town of Hardwick and Northern Rivers Land Trust (NRLT), the VHCB said "Buffalo Mountain is a backdrop to Hardwick's village and a defining feature of the community's identity, ecology and recreational life." The addition of 329 acres will "nearly quadruple Hardwick's town forest holdings" and "include the summit of Buffalo Mountain, 1.1 miles of Lamoille River frontage and 15 distinct natural community types.

"The property is within walking distance of downtown, local schools, and the Lamoille Valley Rail Trail. It supports rare species including the globally vulnerable Wright's spike-rush and hosts the largest known population of grove hawthorn in New England.

"Located within a Highest Priority Interior Forest Block per Vermont Conservation Design, the land will be owned by the Town of Hardwick with a conservation easement co-held by VHCB and NRLT, and open for hiking, hunting, wildlife viewing, crosscountry skiing and snowmobiling." The VHCB further noted, the "total project cost is \$785,197, with \$316,250 in leverage from foundations, The Nature Conservancy's Vermont Biodiversity Protection Fund, the Town of Hardwick general fund and individual gifts."

Phil Mercier asked whether the land will be tax exempt and what will happen with recreational activities such as hunting and riding ATVs. Galloway-Kane said the town does not tax itself, so there will be no tax on the property if it becomes a town forest.

She added that trails and public access can generate tourism dollars for the community as a whole.

A steering committee will make proposals about the use and collaborate with the select board to create a management plan.

Rachel Kane said turning the property into a town forest will be an estimated \$5,000 tax loss to the town. A comment was made that it is actually \$6,300 according to the most recent tax bill.

Later Redmon said, "It's really exciting to see how many people are interested in the future of their community and I'm looking forward to getting more input through the steering committee."

After the meeting, Redmon shared a copy of the easement for the Wolcott Town Forest, which she said will be similar to the one for Hardwick. That document clearly allows current uses and must include opportunities for public input as it is developed, with terms that say it shall: Provide for the use and management of the Protected Property in a fashion which is consistent with and advances the Purposes of this Grant; and . . . provide for public access and meaningful recreational links to private and public lands . . . provide for the sustainable use of fish and wildlife resources . . . and provide for use by educational programs.

Creation of the plan must include "appropriate public input from the general public," and approval, which "shall not be unreasonably withheld" by NRLT and VHCB.

The select board did not take action on a request that the select board send a letter to support the non-binding apartheid-free community pledge approved by town meeting voters.

They quickly moved through the remainder of the town's business for the evening, including comments from Upson about the importance of obtaining public input before the town makes big decisions and how well projects have gone when that's happened.

To end the meeting, a new Assistant Town Clerk and Treasurer Kendra Parks was to be starting work on Monday, April 6, said Chase. Galloway-Kane mentioned the recent joint meeting of the select board and Hardwick Electric Department's commissioners during which reports on Jackson Dam and the Caspian Lake beach were given and discussed.

## Wastewater

Continued From Page One

According to the minutes, "Greensboro's land in both the village and the Bend does not have the capabilities for a town-wide wastewater system."

Requests for Qualifications (RFQ) to be sent to wastewater engineering firms will be presented at the next regular select board meeting.

Greensboro Bend resident Dusty Board responded to the

Front Porch Forum announcement of the meeting, saying The Bend needs a wastewater and water system.

Chair Davis Barnett responded, saying "This committee understands the need exists in both the village and The Bend, and that the current focus is on the village to keep the village viable."

His response indicated the committee is not considering the whole town of Greensboro.

# Calderwood

## INSURANCE AGENCY

Offering you *outstanding* service and protection since 1979

**132 South Main St.**  
Hardwick, VT  
802-472-5517  
[www.calderwoodins.com](http://www.calderwoodins.com)



**Mike Gauthier, CIC**  
mikeg@calderwoodins.com





# Headwaters and Sterling College discuss future



The Sterling College campus bordering the Craftsbury Common, includes land elsewhere in the village that includes Dustan Field and parking areas.

courtesy photo

by Paul Fixx

CRAFTSBURY – Headwaters Community Trust and Sterling College are working to find a path forward for the Craftsbury campus that will fit the requirements of both organizations and the wider community.

An April 1 Headwaters update said an offer had been made to take on the Sterling College Campus. “In mid-March, Headwaters Community Trust presented the Sterling College trustees with a draft offer to acquire the Sterling campus. We took care to present terms that are within Headwaters’ reach, and also respectful of Sterling’s needs as we understand them.”

The Headwaters update noted, “Sterling’s response made clear that there is still some distance between us, so we are fully engaged in finding a path forward to achieve the best outcome.”

Sterling College President Scott Thomas agreed that the exploration of a potential sale is ongoing: “We continue to work with

Headwaters Community Trust to reach an agreement that will satisfy the College’s commitments and serve a larger community need.”

He added, “The Sterling Board remains very receptive to their interest and is appreciative of the efforts they are making to help us reach an agreement on a sale.”

Headwaters offered an optimistic comment, “We are giving it our all. Stay tuned!”

In November 2025 Sterling College announced it would end degree programs following this spring semester, holding its last commencement this May. The board’s decision was made “in the face of persistent financial and enrollment challenges,” notes the college website.

While staff reductions have been made, fewer than 100 students continue to pursue two- and four-year environmental studies degrees using local farms, forests, rivers and wetlands as their classrooms.

Meanwhile Headwaters says its board “is taking concrete steps to fulfill the trust’s organizational

development goals.” They are in a “ten-week sprint to create a comprehensive business plan and key organizational documents.”

That work is intended to create the necessary framework for the organization to be in a position to “secure project funding and act on development opportunities as they arise.” At the same time the board is “embarking on organizational development work . . . to further clarify board roles and responsibilities as well as internal decision-making structures.”

Sterling College intends to remain fully accredited through the summer of 2026 so students can complete degrees on an accelerated schedule, it reports.

“While Sterling’s chapter as an institution of higher learning draws to a close, its spirit and legacy lives on through the hundreds of alumni, faculty, staff and partners who carry forward its mission and values in their work and

communities. The legacy of Sterling’s commitment to sustainability, community, and hands-on learning will continue to inspire generations to come.

“As we focus on the weeks and months ahead, our highest priority is to support every member of the Sterling community. We are dedicated to ensuring a smooth and thoughtful transition for our students, faculty, staff, and alumni.”

Since a February transition information session during which a Don & Allison Hooper \$100,000 Challenge Match was announced to support the campus into whatever its future may bring, “additional conversations with local community partners have taken place, with support from the Preservation Trust of Vermont, to identify a successor entity or entities. We will continue to share updates on the Sterling Transition Information page” at [sterlingcollege.edu/transition-plan](http://sterlingcollege.edu/transition-plan).



Kate Taylor (left) with the Vermont Disaster Animal Response Team (VDART) led regional Emergency Animal Sheltering Training for area residents and Hardwick Neighbor to Neighbor volunteers at the Jeudevine Memorial Library, March 11. With the training, Hardwick’s Town Manager David “Opie” Upson (right) receives supplies and equipment in the Memorial Building provided to the town with funding by the Irving and Phyllis Millstein Foundation, to support a new Emergency Pet Sheltering Team that Hardwick Neighbor to Neighbor (NtN) volunteers will be helping to recruit members for.

photo by Kristen Leahy

Get the free newsletter featuring notable news, arts, sports and opinion. Sit back, relax and catch up.  
[hardwickgazette.org](http://hardwickgazette.org)



or help at [hardwickgazette.org/donate](http://hardwickgazette.org/donate)



**Since 1975**  
 Celebrating 50 Years – Thank You!

**Fresh Local Produce, Café,  
 Organic & Natural Foods and more!**

Visit [www.buffalomountainmarket.com/sales/](http://www.buffalomountainmarket.com/sales/)

Open 7 Days a week | 802.472.6020 | [info@bmfc.coop](mailto:info@bmfc.coop)  
 Mill Street, Hardwick VT

COOPERATIVELY OWNED

# Act 181 debate pokes at the heart of Vermont's rural-urban dynamics

by Carly Berlin, VTDigger

MONTPELIER – The Vermont Senate passed a bill Thursday, March 26, that will delay the implementation of Act 181, a contentious 2024 law that overhauled the state's land use permitting system.

But that vote followed several rounds of heated debate over rolling back or further postponing land conservation measures, fueled by a Tuesday protest attended by hundreds of rural landowners who called on lawmakers to repeal the law altogether.

The sparring over Act 181 has surfaced a rural-urban divide at the Statehouse. Rural conservatives argue that the law's benefits flow only to Vermont's larger cities and towns, and that its conservation rules place an undue burden on private property owners. Democrats have defended the law's goals to both boost housing in downtowns and villages and increase environmental protections elsewhere, though they've heeded calls to pump the brakes.

On the Senate floor, Republicans contended that new development regulations set forth in Act 181, which bolster protections over sensitive ecosystems, effectively undermine personal property rights. Sen. Steve Heffernan, R-Addison, framed the issue around affordability; wealthy second home-owners can afford more land-use permits, he said, but regular Vermonters can't.

"We must ask ourselves...are we protecting Vermont's lands, or pricing Vermonters out of it?" Heffernan said.

Democrats, who control the chamber, countered that the new rules are critical for preserving Vermont's landscape for the good of the broader community.

"Future generations may not have the same ecosystems that we have access to because of development," said Sen. Becca White, D-Windsor.

The bill in question, S.325, is a set of tweaks to Act 181, which the Legislature passed over Republican Gov. Phil Scott's objections two years ago.

Act 181 aimed to encourage more homebuilding in already-developed areas of Vermont by removing state level review under Act 250, Vermont's signature land use law. At the same time, the law beefed up protections for to-be-determined critical natural resources.

The 2024 law mandated a first-of-its-kind mapping effort that will essentially dictate where future development will be subject

to Act 250 scrutiny, and where it won't be, through a tiered land-use classification system.

That mapping process is still underway, and the board overseeing it has asked for more time to complete its work, in part because of feedback from municipal officials and rural residents who objected to early drafts.

S.325 would postpone the implementation of many pieces of Act 181. It would extend temporary housing exemptions, delay the start of a new "road rule" that would require a permit for private road construction over a certain length in much of the state until 2030 and pushes out the beginning of new "Tier 3" rules. These rules would heighten scrutiny over building near headwater streams, habitat connectors and rare natural communities.

The fate of Tier 3 garnered the most attention on the Senate floor. Republicans backed an amendment on Wednesday to scrap the tier entirely.

Sen. Russ Ingalls, R-Essex, a cosponsor of the amendment and an organizer of Tuesday's rally, argued that the entirety of his Northeast Kingdom district would fall into the tier and suggested that a majority of Vermonters currently live in Tier 3 areas.

"We should be able to live like the rest of Vermont does, and not be restricted," Ingalls said.

Yet the bounds of Tier 3 have not yet been set, and the Land Use Review Board, which is creating its boundaries, has said the tier will only make up a small portion of land in Vermont. The board is also looking to limit what kinds of construction would trigger the need for an Act 250 permit in these zones.

"It may be that a single house, for instance, depending on where it is, doesn't even matter. It won't be counted," said Sen. Seth Bongartz, D-Bennington, one of the architects of Act 181 when he served in the House.

The amendment to roll back Tier 3 ultimately failed in a party-line vote on Wednesday. A separate amendment to further delay its implementation failed on Thursday. Another Republican-backed amendment that was adopted eases state regulations for housing in rural areas that lack local zoning.

Scott, Act 181's longest-standing detractor, vetoed the legislation in 2024, arguing that it was a "conservation bill" that did little to boost housing growth in rural areas. The governor said at a Thursday press conference that he thinks the bill to



Several hundred demonstrators gather to protest Act 181 at the Statehouse in Montpelier on Tuesday, March 24, 2026. The law seeks to modernize Act 250, the land use law. photo by Glenn Russell, VTDigger

delay its implementation is "moving in the right direction, but we need more."

Scott was pleased to see protesters this week heeding his message.

"I've said this before: this hurts rural Vermont. And now they're just waking up to the fact that, yes, indeed, it will," Scott said.

The bill now heads to the House. House Speaker Jill Krowinski, D-Burlington, said she sees the need to delay Act 181 and that she hears the upswell of pushback against the law from beyond the Statehouse.

"We absolutely hear the concerns from different corners of the state of Vermont and we take those seriously," Krowinski said.

S.325 will land in the House Environment committee, helmed

by Rep. Amy Sheldon, D-Middlebury, one of Act 181's initial drafters. Sheldon understands the rationale to postpone pieces of its implementation, she said in a Wednesday interview. But she is not open to rolling back elements of the 2024 law.

Sheldon believes that some of the arguments raised by opponents of the law are overstated and misguided. She still stands by the core aims of the law, she said, gesturing toward Vermont's state motto.

"We're balancing freedom and unity, right? That's what we do," Sheldon said.

This story, by Report for America corps member Carly Berlin, was produced through a partnership between VTDigger and Vermont Public and published by VTDigger March 27.

## Krowinski says she hears Vermonters by the office of Speaker Jill Krowinski

MONTPELIER – Speaker Jill Krowinski made the following statement on Act 181 and pending legislation in the House on April 3.

"In 2024, we passed Act 181 which seeks to reform our decades old Act 250 land use policy and make it easier to develop housing while also making our communities more resilient in the face of rising climate disasters. Vermont's housing crisis and the devastating flooding that impacted communities reinforced the need to reimagine how development happens in Vermont: the costs, the time it takes to go through the development process and where development is happening.

"It's clear that many aspects of the law are working well, and we are seeing new housing coming online across the state. It's also clear that parts of the law, particularly the sections impacting rural Vermont, are problematic and need to be addressed. Vermonters have made it clear that they have not felt heard or a part of the process, especially in rulemaking for the road rule and Tier 3, and that has led to fear and frustration on how this could impact their lives.

"While this has caused fear and anxiety, we are going to make this an opportunity to engage deeply with Vermonters and work together to listen, learn and find solutions together. Vermonters are concerned about the restrictions and cost this will have on their land and the impact it will have on their families and future generations. I am putting out this statement as a first step in saying: I hear you and we will work together to get this right."

# EDITORIAL

## Help build the foundation of a vital community resource

Thanks to the support of hundreds of readers, The Hardwick Gazette is in a much stronger position than it was at this time last year. The Gazette's end-of-year fundraising campaign was an overwhelming success, allowing us to make good on all past obligations and enter 2026 with a healthy bank balance.

It was a big step, but only the first step toward a strong, independent local news operation. The Gazette needs more sustaining members who make a monthly commitment to the effort. If you have made one-time contributions in the past, The Gazette is truly grateful. And now, in the month of April, we're asking you to become a sustaining member.

If you receive The Gazette's weekly newsletter, if you click on at least one article every week, if you depend on The Gazette to connect you to your community, please consider a sustaining contribution of at least \$5 a month. That's \$60 a year for news and information you can't get anywhere else.

Those who give \$10 or more can receive a very special thank-you gift: an attractive, practical Hardwick Gazette ceramic mug. You may have seen these mugs at The Village Restaurant in downtown Hardwick. They've



been a big hit. And now you can have one of your very own for an annual commitment of \$120 or more.

The Gazette is a locally-governed nonprofit, a community enterprise dedicated to serving a region with no other reliable sources for local news. You can step forward right now and help build a firm foundation for this vital resource. Please visit our "Donate" page and commit to a sustaining contribution.

Think of it as the Digital Age version of an old-fashioned barn-raising. We can all join together to build something that will benefit the entire community. It all begins with your generous monthly support. Please make your contribution today.

**John Walters,**  
board member

# LETTERS FROM READERS

## Nonviolent protest against unconstitutional actions

To the editor:

If you participated in the March 2026 No Kings Day event, thank you. It was the largest day of protest in American history.

We are building to the 3.5% of our nation's population actively engaged in nonviolent protest against the unconstitutional actions of the Trump administration. Research by political scientists Erica Chenoweth and Maria Stephan shows that 3.5% of a nation's population, actively engaged in nonviolent protest, resistance and non-cooperation has the best record for defeating authoritarian regimes.

The U.S. Constitution designed checks and balances to ensure we would not be ruled by a king; that our government would serve its people. The second Trump administration is ruling by executive order and working to disrupt the midterm elections so Republicans retain their majorities in the House and Senate. The current Congress' Republican majority is too scared or too corrupt to serve as the check on a rogue executive. The Supreme Court majority has been hand-picked by theocrats to do their bidding. We do not currently have a functional system of checks and balances. It's now up to us to ensure that our democracy continues and that our government serves "We, the people..." for ourselves today and the future our children will inherit.

You are needed!

Opportunity 1: Northeast

Kingdom Indivisible facilitates a "What's Next" meeting Monday, April 13, from 4:30 to 5:45 p.m., Goodrich Memorial Library, Main Street, Newport. Focus on building power locally, protecting our neighbors, and defending our elections from sabotage. Questions to hansonanne136@gmail.com.

Opportunity 2: Friday, April 24, 5 to 8 p.m., Indivisible Hardwick hosts a postcards/potluck gathering, Jeudevine Library on North Main Street in Hardwick, Parker Ladd community room. Visit [indivisible.org/events/thursday-get-togethers-indivisible-hardwick/](http://indivisible.org/events/thursday-get-togethers-indivisible-hardwick/) (then search "Hardwick").

Both of these events are sponsored by local Indivisible groups, not by the libraries where the events take place.

Opportunity 3: Friday, May 1, "Workers Over Billionaires" National Day of Resistance through non cooperation. See [Maydaystrong.org](http://Maydaystrong.org) for details.

Opportunity 4: Friday, May 8, statewide "ICE Out Vermont" rally and actions at Taylor Park, St. Albans. For more info visit [iceoutvt.org/](http://iceoutvt.org/).

If you've been waiting for a course correction in the system of governance that has served us for 250 years but which is now truly under threat-please recognize that you must be a player in the course correction. Lend your hands, heart and mind. We can do this.

**Anne Hanson**  
Craftsbury

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

# 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](mailto:News@HardwickGazette.org). Web: [HardwickGazette.org](http://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

CARTOONISTS - Julie Atwood, Abrah Griggs,

Joe Heller, Kay Spaulding

WEATHER - Tyler Molleur

CIRCULATION - Dawn Gustafson

OFFICE HOURS: Monday and Tuesday 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.; Wednesday 9 a.m. to noon; Thursday and Friday closed. 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.

The Hardwick Gazette assumes no financial responsibility for typographical errors or omissions in advertisements but will reprint that part of the advertisement in which the error appeared. Advertisers must notify the Gazette within five days of any error that occurred. Copyright 2026 by Northeast Kingdom Public Journalism, Inc. All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced in whole or in part without written permission from Northeast Kingdom Public Journalism, Inc.

### ADVERTISING

Sandy Atkins, Paul Fixx, Raymonda Parchment  
[ads@hardwickgazette.org](mailto:ads@hardwickgazette.org), [sales@hardwickgazette.org](mailto:sales@hardwickgazette.org)

### CONTRIBUTORS

Trish Alley, Brendan Buckley  
Ken Brown, Hal Gray,  
Henry Homeyer, Willem Lange,  
Cheryl Luther Michaels, David Rodgers,  
Liz Steel, John Walters; Will Helms, intern.

### 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.

E-mail addresses to send us messages: [ads@hardwickgazette.org](mailto:ads@hardwickgazette.org) for advertising inquiries including display ads and business directory submissions; [editor@hardwickgazette.org](mailto:editor@hardwickgazette.org) for corrections, letters to the editor, story ideas, website or newsletter questions and comments; [news@hardwickgazette.org](mailto:news@hardwickgazette.org) for all submissions of calendar of events, news stories, obituaries, births, press releases and everything else.

# YANKEE NOTEBOOK

## Joining the human race

by Willem Lange

EAST MONTPELIER – Summer, 1958. I was in temporary remission from higher education and looking for work. I possessed a copy of “On the Road” that I read rather as a bible. I still have it; it’s about eight feet behind me on the bookshelf. I was driving a 1946 Plymouth sedan with no upholstery inside, no carpets, and no seats, except for a single salvaged from a delivery van.

I was perpetually searching. Gas didn’t cost much, but jobs didn’t pay much. After stints as a receptionist/pay clerk/telephone operator at a job on 43rd Street and a copy boy at the old Syracuse Post-Standard, I decided to try my luck in a small village in the high peaks of the Adirondacks. My prep school roommate had come from there, and introduced me to it. To my romantic eyes it was beautiful beyond belief, with the mountains climbing steeply from the valley floor and a pristine little river flowing swiftly through the village.

It’s also in many ways a very small town, especially after Labor Day, when the summer residents leave their cottages and return to their cities. So you can imagine the stir caused by a genuine beatnik in an old car,

wearing a thin, scraggly first beard and with no visible means of support, showing up suddenly looking for work, haunting the coffee shop (where Jeanie occasionally slipped me something a day old), and sleeping here and there in his car (remember the missing seats? Lots of room there for a mattress and sleeping bag). It was clean living on short commons.

Jeanie one day gave me the name of a local contractor whom, she said, she’d go see about work if she needed it. I did, I did, and I got it. \$1.35 an hour, 45 hours a week; on Saturday noon I got, after taxes, just about \$45, which was about enough to live on, if I dined cautiously and did my own car repairs. The local garage owner let me use his back bay and tools and sold me parts at just about his cost.

I still needed a place to call home, as it were. When I was working in the woods, I could sleep in the camp bunkhouse and wash my duds in the lake, but between stints I was back in the car. Then somebody suggested a lean-to (a three-sided shelter with a fireplace in front, sometimes called, by the uninitiated, an Adirondack shelter) about a mile and a half up a side brook valley, unmarked and unadvertised and thus likely little

used. “Just beyond the Deer Brook crossing,” he said, if you look left, you’ll see a very faint trail heading down toward the brook.” I slept there that night, and the next evening brought my gear up with me.

Life there could hardly have been simpler. Balsam bough floor, fireplace (never used; too wasteful), a narrow shelf on one log wall about shoulder-high used only to keep things up out of the way; it was readily accessible to mice, raccoons, porcupines, and bears. Comestibles in a metal container; a two-burner Coleman stove, a one-gallon white gas can. For sleeping, an Ensolite pad and a war surplus sleeping bag; clothes in a stuff sack for a pillow. Flashlight for checking out nighttime sounds.

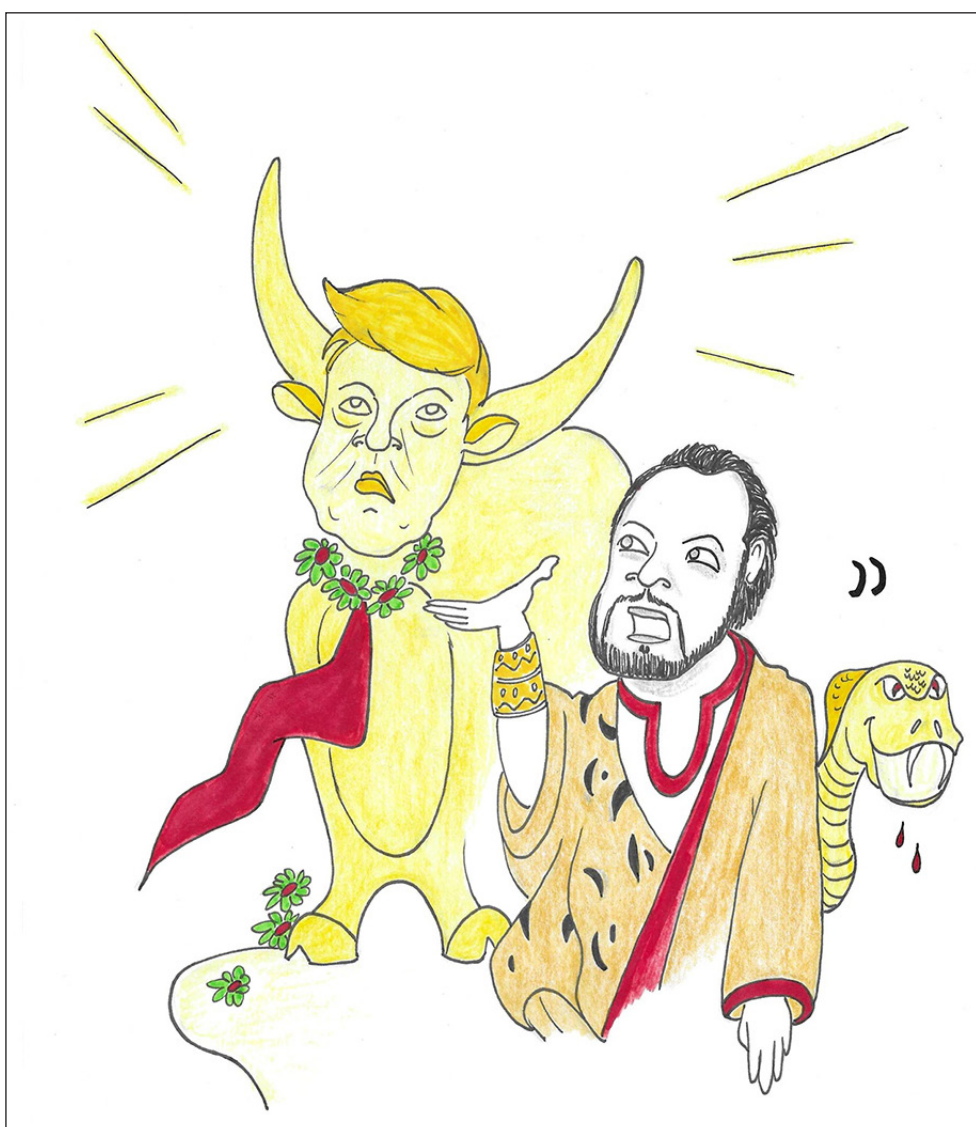
The brook was icy, good for keeping my milk and bacon cold, but almost insufferable for bathing. The stove worked beautifully. Oatmeal or Cream of Wheat for breakfast with chunks of crisp bacon, and hamburger, a vegetable, and instant potatoes for supper, with lots of cold water (readily available).

I generally read till it was too dark, but was far too frugal (a child of World War II) to read by flashlight. Dickens, mostly, and Twain. Thoreau, too, inspired by his “I went to the woods because . . .” essay, but found him too preachy. Having just come off 23 years of preaching and rectitude, I found him a poor companion, and guiltily took him back out to the library in the car.

The car was parked in a lot a mile and a half from the lean-to, and about that same distance to the village. Eventually, old George Lamb lent me the use of a free-standing screen porch, sort of a gazebo, out behind his house, which had the luxury of a cot and a hanging light bulb. One weekend I actually entertained two Bennington coeds and Phil Everly there, but that’s another story.

I bathed daily in the river, which was a damn sight warmer than the brook, but by November it was getting a bit too brisk even for me. So I found a truly basic apartment for \$10 a month with a water heater and began to join the human race.

## Woodsmoke by Julie Atwood



“BEHOLD, THE FATTED CALF!”

## Talk with Ray and Paul, Fridays



Come in to Front Seat Coffee in Hardwick at 10 a.m., Friday, and chat with reporter Raymonda Parchment and editor Paul Fixx from the Hardwick Gazette. Talk about issues, Gazette coverage or just chat about happenings in the area.

THE Hardwick Gazette  
INDEPENDENT LOCAL NEWS SINCE 1889

hardwickgazette.com

# ANOTHER OPINION

## 2026 State of the Union essay contest winning essay



Ada Allen displays a copy of her essay for Bernie Sanders' State of the Union Essay Contest that has been entered in the Congressional Record.

*courtesy photo*

### by Ada Allen, third place Craftsbury Academy, sophomore

CRAFTSBURY – In a time when America faces political polarization, economic instability, national security threats, as well as social and environmental issues, our citizens are feeling vast pessimism. The nation's future is uncertain, but that doesn't mean it is negative. If we start investing in today's youth, we will foster the future of America.

A meaningful education is the most integral step in students progressing into capable adults. Our youth are detached from their education, as they feel it is irrelevant to them. Standardized test scores provide one snapshot of an educational system failing its youth. According to a 2024 study from the Nation's Report Card on mathematics, 45% of high school seniors received scores below basic, and 33% were at the basic level. For reading, 32% of students were below basic, and 33% were at the basic level.

Another disturbing trend is rising truancy rates, with many

students not attending class. Additionally, in one 2024 National Education Association survey, it was cited that "74 percent of members said students are acting out and misbehaving," another telling sign that students need stronger educational support.

A key missing piece of the American education system is after-school programs. While some programming is available in U.S. schools, the quality and overall abundance is lacking, leaving students adrift. According to a 2024 survey from the Afterschool Alliance, only 37% of public schools offering any afterschool programming reported that they can accommodate all students who want to participate because of a lack of funding and staff; further, only 28% of schools reported offering any academic enrichment after-school programs. Rather than enriching their school day with meaningful opportunities, students are left isolated.

While these bleak facts may seem insurmountable, schools, communities and students can work together to create a different

world, and I believe our shared American future depends on it. I propose that our government invest in a transformational change, the American Student Community Corps (ASCC). Similar to our investment in the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) in the 1930s, this investment in America's youth and communities would help foster students' intellectual and social growth, while uplifting and building communities.

ASCC would be a nationwide afterschool program available to all students in grades kindergarten through twelfth, serving as a community-centered educational resource. Students would participate in various activities tailored to

their age level. Children in grades kindergarten to fifth would focus on building relationships with their community and peers that help to connect them to their education. Children in grades sixth through twelfth would take part in internships of their chosen focus with support from ASCC, becoming active in their community through place-based work and learning. ASCC is a solution for not only students' well-being and intellectual expansion, but also a community capacity-building organization. In a time when we are focused on battling the here and now, choose the future, because there will be a time when the youth of today lead the America of tomorrow, and this matters for all of us.

### Ada Allen's State of the Union essay receives award

by Paul Fixx

CRAFTSBURY – Craftsbury Academy Sophomore Ada Allen was awarded third place in Bernie Sanders' 16th Annual State of the Union Essay contest. Her essay proposing a community capacity-building after school program was one of only 15 essays chosen from 418 entries statewide.

She and 13 other high school student finalists participated in a roundtable discussion with Bernie Sanders at the Vermont State House, Saturday, March 21, noted an OSSU social media post. "Ada and the other finalists received framed copies of their essays, which Senator Sanders placed in the Congressional Record, the official archive of the United States Congress."

Allen said she did a lot of research for the essay which proposes creation of an American Student Community Corps (ASCC). Modeled on the Civilian Conservation Corps, it would support student interns, connecting them with their communities and promoting well-being.

Her essay was written as an assignment for her AP United States Government and Politics course. Entering it in the contest was an optional, extra-credit option.

Allen learned about receiving the award when a random number rang her phone. She answered it anyway and learned of her selection. "I was surprised, then they sent an email" to confirm it, she said.

"Senator Sanders knows that real change and new ideas can come from everyone, not just those in power, which is why he invites Vermont high school students to write a 250-500 word essay focusing on what they believe is a major challenge facing our country, and how they would solve it," says the contest web portal

"I like thinking of a problem and thinking of a solution to it," she said about the original idea that earned her award. "I like reading and reading policy too, and learning about the foundations of government." She's also taking AP English, which probably helped with writing the essay, she said.

The judges are teachers and said her essay was well-formulated, Allen said. "Bernie didn't read the essays, but I think he would support the idea I proposed."

Her "inspiration for the topic was her interest in education," she said, adding she'd like to be a teacher, though she has plenty of time to decide since she's now a sophomore.

Each year, the President of the United States delivers a "State of the Union" speech to Congress, to report on the state of our country and outline priorities for the coming year.

Senator Bernie Sanders' annual State of the Union Essay Contest is designed to engage Vermont's high school students on the major issues facing the country. Over the past fifteen years, over 6,600 students throughout Vermont have written essays about critically important issues, including climate change, racial justice, access to mental health care, the state of our democracy and much, much more.

# ANOTHER OPINION

## Act 181 is not the answer

by **Brittany Butler**

CABOT – Act 181 and pending legislation in the House affects every facet of my work life. While not the opinion of the town as a whole, this is my experience. While understanding the need for Act 250 reform, Act 181 is not the answer. I keep hearing historic legislation: this is historic, yes, it is historic because at no other time has the state of Vermont applied a location based, not project based, system for Act 250.

What does this mean? In my town it currently means 25% of land in Cabot will be required to go through the entire Act 250 process to build anything bigger than 200 square feet, even a single-family home.

This will create an additional cost for Vermonters that live here and want to continue living here, with an already high cost of living. Any parcel that is not developed

should have the ability to build a single-family home without having to go through Act 250.

Tier 3 is only supposed to encompass 6 to 7% of land in Vermont, while in Cabot it is 25%. This is disproportionate across municipalities, especially since many towns will not have the ability to opt in to Tier 1a or b. The maps being used were also never intended for regulatory purposes.

The impact on municipalities will be felt as well, municipalities that can opt in to Tier 1a or b will have many changes that need to be made to their zoning regulations, districts will need to grow and expand thoughtfully, as the exemption area in many cases does not have the infrastructure necessary once you leave Chittenden County.

Towns that don't have the ability to opt in get nothing, except Tier 3 and the Road Rule, effectively slowing down any

potential development.

Only 42 towns in Vermont can opt in to tier 1a and 1b currently, out of 252 municipalities.

Cabot is choosing to opt in, but I don't believe it will help us at all. Existing parcels with an Act 250 permit will still have to go through Act 250 for any new development, even in an exempt area. In Cabot, once you get out of the village, there are very few parcels that are 10 acres or smaller so they will still have to go through the Act 250 process as well.

The road rule, while not a new implementation, will also do more harm than good to small municipalities. If you are looking at areas of Chittenden County and areas of Washington county that the Road Rule will encompass, then add Tier 3; small municipalities are left with next to nothing that could be built upon without triggering Act 250.

In closing Act 181 does nothing for small municipalities but gives

every opportunity to large cities and towns. It feels like we are forfeiting the green space left in Chittenden County and the few larger cities, not in Chittenden, but placing extreme measures on the small municipalities when many are having a hard time growing already.

Those of us that are waiting on the new Tier 3 maps feel like we are playing a game of Russian roulette, and in this instance the ball landing on your spot is not a good thing.

*Cabot resident, Town Clerk, Lister, Zoning Administrator and Planning Clerk Brittany Butler first submitted this for testimony to the House Environment Committee and the Senate Natural Resources Committee in February where it wasn't heard. On March 25 it was sent to the Rural Caucus for an April 1 listening session where she was given two minutes to testify. That testimony and other Rural Caucus resources can be found at [vtruralcaucus.com/resources](http://vtruralcaucus.com/resources)*

## LEGISLATIVE REPORT

### Statehouse has been active

by **Rep. Michael Southworth**

MONTPELIER – The past couple of weeks have been quite active in the House. Many bills have passed out of the House and have gone to the Senate for consideration. Some of the bills do not do much other than correct language in current laws which was identified as needing the updates by Legislative attorneys. I will highlight some bills which are either passed by the House or currently in consideration in the House.

H.932 was passed by the House. This bill clarifies Act 250 jurisdiction over property primarily used for forestry. It ensures Act 250 jurisdiction only attaches to the part of the property that is used for development.

H.577 was passed by the House. This bill establishes a Vermont Prescription Drug Discount Card

Program. It will pool purchasing power with the state, other states and territories to lower the cost of prescription drugs.

H.949 was passed by the House. This bill sets the education property tax rate for the year. The proposal from the governor was to use \$105 million to buy down property tax rates for this year. The estimated tax increase was to be around 12%. Using this money to buy down taxes would have brought the proposed tax increase down to 3 to 4%, which is still too much in my opinion. The committee and some members of the House had a different idea. To only use half of the money for buy down this year and the other half next year. This would mean a 7% tax increase for this year. The rationale was if this wasn't done, it would create a large tax increase for next year. If we were to freeze tuition and start the

foundation formula now, this would not happen. There are bills which have been introduced that would do this. However, it seems no one is willing to address the issues with increasing taxes. I did not support this bill.

H.951 was passed by the House. This is what is referred to as the "Big Bill" or, State FY27 budget. It is a lot of money. What passed the house is a \$1.46 million increase over the governors' proposed budget. I felt the proposed budget was too much money based on what we are seeing day-to-day in the economic world. I certainly did not agree with the increase and did not support this.

H.941 was passed by the House. This bill would prohibit municipal regulation of agriculture activities in areas other than what are known as Tier 1A areas (densely populated, urban areas). Farming is to include

the growing of plants for personal use, donation or sale, orchard crops, maple sugaring and the raising livestock.

H.955 is still in the House. This bill is the newest version of the education bill. I have read the bill a couple of times. It creates study committees, the hiring of contractors for making recommendations, hiring of many facilitators but fails to make any substantive changes which will address statewide, equal, student success or the looming cost of the way education is financed. As with last year's Act 73, which nothing came from, this continues to kick the can down the road. The balance within all of this has yet to be determined.

*Michael Southworth represents the Caledonia-2 House District (Hardwick, Stannard and Walden) in the Vermont Legislature. He can be reached via email at [msouthworth@leg.state.vt.us](mailto:msouthworth@leg.state.vt.us)*

**You do NOT live in a news desert, thanks to The Hardwick Gazette**

No one else is covering your town, your sports teams, your events, your town government. Democracy needs news. We need you. We exist because of your support

Keep local news alive.

**DONATE NOW**

at

[hardwickgazette.org/donate](http://hardwickgazette.org/donate)



# LEGISLATIVE REPORT

## Good land use policy requires balance

by Dave Yacavone

MONTPELIER – A long time ago, when I was just a 22-year-old untested college student, the select board in Morristown appointed me chair of the town planning commission. It was the mid-1970s, and land use planning and zoning were still in their infancy.

I quickly realized I had been thrown into the deep end of the pool.

Some insisted zoning should require a minimum of 25 acres per house. Others argued for one acre so that working families could afford to build a home. And many wanted nothing to do with zoning at all. The argument, “It’s my land: you have no right to tell me what to do,” was not just common; it was loud.

I had never had adults hollering at me before. It was a baptism by fire. What I learned, though, was invaluable: if you listen closely enough, you begin to understand what is behind the anger. Often, it is the fear of the unknown.

Fast forward to today, and I am reminded of those same emotions.

In 2024, the Legislature passed Act 181, a law that represents one of the most significant shifts in Vermont’s land use policy in decades. Traditionally, Act 250 applied based largely on the size of a development. Act 181 changes that framework. Going forward, the key question becomes

not how big a project is, but where it is located.

In simple terms, location, not size, will determine when Act 250 applies.

Supporters argue this is a necessary step. The law is designed to encourage housing development in village centers and areas with existing infrastructure, while protecting forests, farmland and environmentally sensitive land. At a time when Vermont faces a real housing shortage, that goal is understandable.

But for many Vermonters, particularly those in rural areas, the change feels like a heavy burden, and once again, the reaction has been strong.

One concern that resonates deeply with me is something very fundamental: the ability of parents to give a piece of their land to their children so they can build a home. This has long been part of rural life in Vermont. It is about family, continuity and putting down roots.

Act 181 does not prohibit this. But in many cases, it will now require Act 250 review, bringing added cost, delay, uncertainty and stress to what was once a straightforward and deeply personal decision.

Farmers, who are among the very best stewards of our land, have voiced particular concern. Many of them simply want the ability to pass land along to the next generation without navigating

a complicated and expensive state permitting process.

To me, this is where the law needs work.

There is no question that Act 181 has positive elements. Making it easier to build housing in our downtowns and village centers is a step in the right direction. Encouraging smart growth and limiting sprawl are worthy goals.

But we must also recognize that the current approach places a disproportionate burden on rural Vermonters. The balance is not yet right.

The Vermont Senate has proposed delaying implementation of Act 181 to allow time to address these concerns. That is a prudent step. As many of you know, I did not

vote in favor of Act 181. However, I remain committed to working constructively to fix it.

Good policy requires balance. We can support housing development and environmental protection without undermining the traditions and practical realities of rural life.

Just as I learned back in the 1970s, when people raise their voices, it is worth listening carefully. Behind the frustration we are hearing about today are legitimate concerns and it is our responsibility to address them.

*David Yacavone represents Lamoille-Washington in the Vermont Legislature, including Elmore, Morristown, Woodbury, Worcester and Stowe.*

## FAUX GNUS

### The latest executive odors (sic.) by President-for-Life Trumpf

by David K. Rodgers

#110,983 The new billion-dollar bill will have my portrait on the front of it and pictures of Mar-a-Lago on the reverse.

#795,024 There will be an automatic Presidential Pardon for any ICE officer who is seriously injured or kills a protester.

#371,967 Make Venezuela the 61st State.

#905,283 Statistics on inflation will no longer be released by the Federal Government.

#630,725 Girls and women raped by guards at ICE detention centers will not be allowed to have abortions.

#319,570 Make Iran the 62nd State.

#279,013 Facebook and other online sites will be forced to reveal the names of all those who have posted anything critical of ICE.

#825,407 Christians who follow the role model of Christ rather than Trumpf will be deported to prisons in North Korea.

#597,265 Attack Cuba and make it the 63rd State.

#128,593 The signs over the entrances to ICE detention centers

will read, Work Makes Free and Abandon All Hope Ye Who Enter Here.

#319,085 Only people who voted for me in the 2024 election will be allowed to vote in the 2026 mid-term elections in November.

#207,963 Presidential Pardons are available for anyone making a substantial contribution to my third term election campaign (2028).

#173,090 All copies of the popular children’s book “Watch Out for Donny the Molester Monster” will be confiscated and burnt, and the author, illustrator and publisher sent to a prison in Russian Siberia.

#301, 927 Killing children in foreign countries is not a crime. They are just going to grow up and become terrorists.

Brought to you by: Hate-mongers for Trumpf, Insecure Men Against Women Society, Unembarrassed Racists for Trumpf, Billionaires for Autocracy, Descendants of Slave Owners for Trumpf, There is No Limit to Evil Foundation and the We Have All the Power Federation.

And always remember: satire is absurdity fighting insanity.

## LETTERS FROM READERS

### With no hint of irony

To the editor:

Town meeting can be described in many ways, most of them positive. But don’t call it a representational democracy. In Paul Fixx’s editorial in last week’s Hardwick Gazette, he describes Hardwick’s town meeting as a “spirited example of representational democracy,” and with no hint of irony, in the following sentence he declares that only 11% of Hardwick’s voters were in attendance. In his final sentence, he chalks up the lack of attendance to apathy, which I personally find insulting.

Here’s who was not represented at town meeting: People who are immobile (I was in this category due to a surgery), people who live paycheck-to-paycheck and can’t afford to take a day off, people who have a job that does not provide paid leave, people who have paid leave but would prefer to use

it in another way, people who travel for work or are on vacation, people with no mode of transportation, people who don’t have the capacity to sit in a meeting of indeterminate length (this is not apathy!). The voting venue itself only holds 15% of Hardwick’s voters. Presumably if more than 15% showed up they would have been turned away.

Those lucky enough to be in attendance voted for a budget that included funding an equity committee. If we are genuinely interested in equity, the top priority for this committee should be working with the secretary of state to figure out how to get a ballot in the hand of every registered voter in Hardwick, including those who have been disenfranchised due to an antiquated (obsolete?) mode of casting a vote.

**Patrick Larsen**  
East Hardwick

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



# LEGISLATIVE REPORT

## Education bill builds on months of hard work

by Rep. Leanne Harple

MONTPELIER – I want to share an update on the education bill that the House Education Committee advanced.

At its core, this proposal is about finding long-term, sustainable ways to support our schools while recognizing Vermont’s rural reality and strong sense of local identity. This work builds on months of research and input from across the state, including thousands of Vermonters who contacted us to emphasize the importance of local voice in deciding the future of our state’s educational landscape. Just as important, the committee kept front-and-center what works in more populated areas doesn’t always work in small towns like ours.

First, the bill creates regional Cooperative Education Service Areas (CESAs). These are not school mergers. They’re regional partnerships designed to help districts share services, coordinate resources and reduce costs in areas such as transportation, technology and cyber security services, professional development, special education support, and administrative coordination just to name a few examples. The idea behind CESAs is to help school districts work together to save money while keeping local identity intact.

Second, and this is the most important part to understand, any

school district mergers discussed in this bill are strictly voluntary. There are no forced mergers in this proposal. Communities would only move forward if local districts see clear educational benefits in consolidation and choose to explore strategic mergers of their own design. These mergers do not have to follow the lines provided by the sample map that is included in the bill. That map is just provided as an example. It is also important to note that even if a district does decide to explore a merger, the final decision would come back to the voters. That means any merger would ultimately require a community vote. Local residents will have the final say, not the Statehouse.

The goal is to give communities tools and options instead of mandates. In some places, strategic mergers could bring schools up to scale and help expand opportunities for students, such as through better access to advanced classes, technical programs, mental health supports and extracurriculars that are hard to sustain in very small schools. But again, I really want to emphasize that those decisions would be made locally and only move forward if voters agree. Nothing in this bill requires a community to merge, and nothing happens without local approval at the end of the process.

The bill now heads to the House Ways and Means

Committee, where the focus will shift to education funding, which is another big piece of this conversation.

As always, I’ll continue sharing updates, including at my monthly coffee hour this Saturday from 10 until noon at the Highland Center for the Arts. Please reach out if you have questions. These decisions should be guided by informed discussion and local voices and ultimately, by the people who live here.

I will end by saying that a year ago, when Act 73 first passed,

I never would have believed that we could be here a year later embedding local decision-making into the process, and getting this bill out of the committee and onto the House Floor has been the culmination of months of hard work and difficult debate, culminating in a huge and unexpected win for small towns and rural communities.

It continues to be an honor to serve our community.

*Leanne Harple represents Orleans-4, including the towns of Albany, Craftsbury, Glover and Greensboro.*

## LETTERS FROM READERS

### Why does Vermont make it difficult to keep strangers off our land?

To the editor:

There’s a lot of talk right now about landowner rights being violated and government overreach, but there’s a bill, H.723, now before the Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Energy that would update Vermont’s land posting laws, the rules governing how landowners notify the public that their property is off-limits to hunting, fishing or trapping.

As the law currently stands, landowners must physically post and date signs every year, no farther than 400 feet apart, and annually record their property with the town clerk for a small fee if they want to keep strangers from hunting, hounding or trapping on their land without their knowledge. Hunters, including those using packs of hounds, may be on your property, even at night, to hunt certain species such as raccoons and coyotes. If even one sign is missing or improperly dated, your property is no longer legally posted. People, including hunters themselves, post their land for different reasons, and it is not the government’s place to put such an unreasonable burden on landowners.

During a February 18 House Committee on Environment hearing, Jason Batchelder, the Vermont Fish and Wildlife commissioner, didn’t try to hide his bias. He said, “As a person who’s got 80,000 hunters, or 70,000 hunters, depending on the year, that need open, private land, I don’t want to make the path too easy for folks to slam the door on all these hunters. . . . I need to look out for the hunters because I am one and because I am protective of them.”

Why isn’t the commissioner protective of the elderly, those with disabilities and others who

are being forced to allow activities on their land because they cannot meet these strict land posting requirements? Does the commissioner pay our property taxes? Maintain our land? Does he deal with the consequences when your property rights are ignored? No, he does not. So why is he telling us what to do on our land?

The Legislature has heard from hundreds of Vermonters who want to reclaim their property rights from what they feel is a very clear act of government overreach. The original version of H.723 included a purple paint provision which allows landowners to mark trees or fence posts with purple paint stripes as a legally recognized substitute for posted signs, which around 20 other states, including Maine, have adopted. That would have greatly eased the posting burden and made enforcement easier for wardens. However, the commissioner opposed that, because it seems to me he doesn’t want to ease the landowner’s burden.

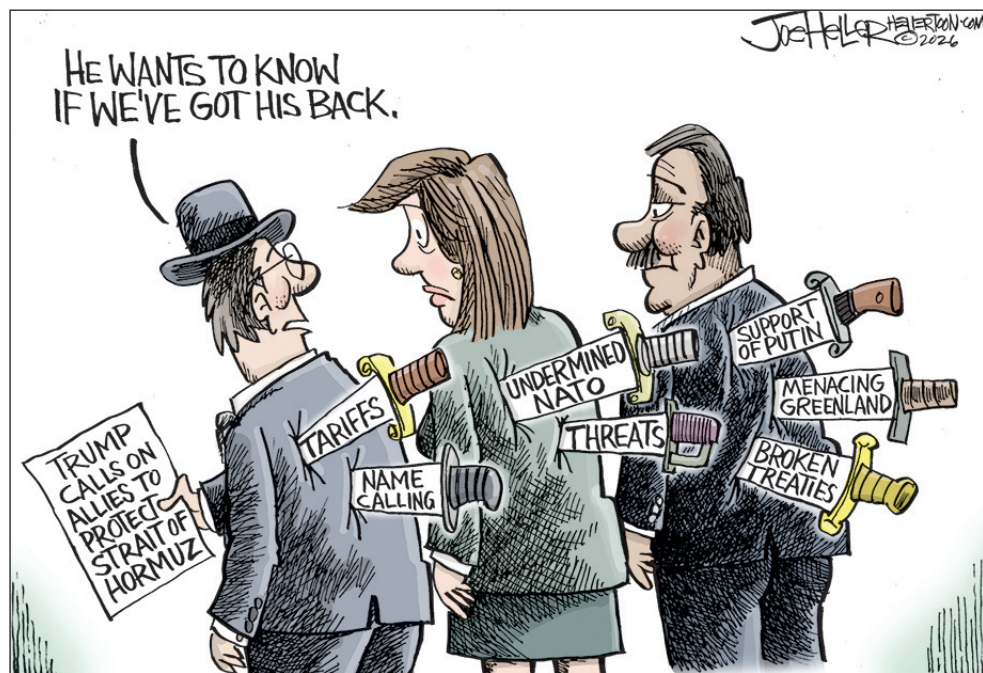
The current version of the bill is still worth supporting, as it removes the requirement to date the posted signs. As long as your signs are legible, hunters, hounders and trappers are required to keep off. It also protects landowners in case a sign blows away or is torn down.

Vermont has one of the oldest populations in the U.S., with close to a quarter of our population 65 years or older. This bill provides Vermonters like me with a more practical solution to exercising my property rights.

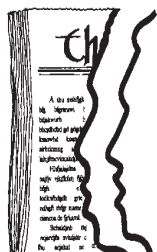
**Lark Shields**  
Craftsbury

*This letter first appeared in VT Digger.*

## Heller’s World by Joe Heller



The  
Hardwick  
Gazette



PEOPLE  
SERVING  
PEOPLE

# WEEKS GONE BY

## 100 Years ago in The Hardwick Gazette, April 8, 1926 Schools in Town Open April 12th

The schools throughout town will open on Monday, April 12th, except the Center, which opens the 19th. The per cent of attendance for the Winter term is as follows: Jackson Bridge, 84; Mackville, 95; Center, 95; Cobb, 96; Haynes, 93; Hancock, 86; East Hardwick Grammar, 93; Primary, 90. Thirty-five pupils have had perfect attendance. The total enrollment is 153.

### South Woodbury

Florence J. Rutledge, the six-year old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Perley Rutledge of Danville, was instantly killed Wednesday when kicked by a horse. The animal was at the watering trough and the child's mother was holding the halter when the horse in his fright kicked the child in the head and crushed her skull. The father was working in Glover and Mrs. Rutledge was alone on the farm with her five young children.

### 75 years ago in The Hardwick Gazette, April 5, 1951

#### FESTIVAL CHAIRMAN MEET WITH KIWANIS CLUB

Committee chairman of the Vermont Tulip Festival, which takes place here, May 25, 26, 27 met at the regular weekly Kiwanis meeting at the Hardwick Inn Monday.

Following the dinner with Sawyer G. Lee in charge, the several committee chairman were called on. Reports were given and discussion was had on each of the several projects, which are lining up for another gala affair this year.

Miss Flora Coutts of Lyndonville, executive secretary of the Northeastern Vermont Development Association was also a guest. After listening to the several reports Miss Coutts praised the Kiwanis Club for such a fine program which is being lined up and offered some very fine suggestions to help complete plans.

Some interesting features which were also brought out during the evening showed that Governor Lee E. Emerson of Vermont and the New England District Governor of Kiwanis, Frederick Briscoe have already accepted invitations to attend the Festival and preceding the Tulip Ball Saturday, May 26, the Old Timers Square Dance Team of Chelsea, Vt., will put on some real exhibitions in costume with their own music.

Past Lt. Gov. Gerald Ladd in appropriate words presented Past Pres. Earle Williams with his seven year tab, which shows

perfect attendance for that period of time.

### PRICE CONTROL SYSTEM FOR STATE GROCERY STORES

A system of Price Control for the State's Grocery Stores, which controls percentage margins that Wholesalers and Retailers will use in pricing market basket foods will go into effect on Thursday, April 5. The basis of pricing will be percentage over cost instead of percentage over sales, and it is expected that the new system will result in a great many price changes, with decreases considerably exceeding increases. In making the announcement, James J. Carney, Acting District Director, pointed out that the regulations establish the highest price that can [be] charged. All Wholesalers and Retailers are free to sell below the established ceiling prices.

Among major foods covered in the new regulations are butter, packaged cheese, baby foods, cocoa, breakfast cereals, coffee and tea, flour, flour mixes, canned and frozen fruits and vegetables, jams and jellies, lard, mayonnaise and salad dressings, shortenings, canned meats and canned fish. More than half the food purchases in Vermont's retail food stores are covered. Carney explained that the new regulations take these foods from under the general "freeze" order and put them under a system of Price Control which was proven effective during the war period. Major grocery items not covered are fresh milk and cream, fresh meats, bread, fresh fruits and vegetables, sugar, ice cream, soft drinks and candy. Except for fresh fruits and vegetables, prices of all grocery items not covered remain frozen under the General Ceiling Price Regulation.

### 50 years ago in The Hardwickian, April 8, 1976

#### Greensboro Topics With Bea White

GREENSBORO - Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Silver and daughter, Amy Beth, of Springfield, Mass. spent several days at the Gebbie farm last week. Roscoe Allen and family of New Hampshire called on Mrs. Bernard Withers on Saturday.

Mrs. Marjorie Lapierre and Mrs. Madeline Gebbie were in Morrisville Tuesday to do some shopping and they were dinner guests of Mrs. Hilda Demars.

Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Hill displayed a nursery exhibit at the flower show in Barre last week.

Jane Greaves and friend from Morrisville spent Sunday afternoon in the Gebbie sugar house, watching Donald boil sap into syrup. Schools were closed



*Hundreds of seedlings soak up the spring time warmth at Amanda's Greenhouse in Cabot last week. Many of the plants were started from seed, while others, protected under patent laws, arrived as cuttings. Either way, the rich earthen aroma of the greenhouse is a sure sign of warmer times to come, even if the snow won't leave.*  
(photo by Chris Dodge)

The Hardwick Gazette, April 11, 2011

last Friday because of teachers convention.

Mr. and Mrs. Irwin White along with Mrs. Leona Collier and Mrs. Doris Hall were in Coventry Thursday to attend Eureka Grange. The three ladies were judges for the cooking contest.

Peter Gebbie and two friends of Richmond are spending two weeks in Florida.

Several from town visited the open house for Mrs. Vera Hutchins in Stannard last Saturday afternoon. It was her 80th birthday.

On Thursday, Mrs. Mary Merrill was at school and showed her slides of Guatemala and told of her experiences there during the earthquake.

On Monday night, Donald Drown, Irwin White, Fred Ling and William Massey attended a meeting to plan the annual Inter-Faith Banquet.

**25 years ago in The Hardwick  
Gazette, April 11, 2001  
Area Libraries Receive  
Gates' Computer Grants  
by Jo Gilder**

Area library systems lack the financial resources to provide wide-

spread public access to technology. The Bill and Melinda Gates' Foundation is coming to the rescue with grants for new computers through a program it created called the Library Program. The libraries are also being given some much needed funds by the Freeman Foundation. Bill Gates, the founder of Microsoft, and his wife, Melinda, are dedicated to reversing the digital divide. The nearly 16,000 public libraries in the United States were offered access to computers and digital information through their foundation.. Linda Wells, librarian for the Craftsbury Public Library, confirmed Friday that library will receive two computers from the Gates Foundation along with money from the Vermont Public Library Foundation. Librarian Jennette Abbot, of the Cabot Public Library, said her library will also receive both foundation grants and two computers.

Greensboro Free Library, the Jeudevine Memorial Library, and the Walden Community Library are other local grant recipients.

Jeudevine Memorial Library's Lisa Sammet completed both grant  
See WEEKS, Next Page

**Weeks**

Continued From Previous Page

applications for both libraries while Wells and Abbott stated their grant applications were still being worked on by their trustees.

**10 years ago in The Hardwick Gazette, April 6, 2016  
Budget Heading  
Toward A Surplus  
by Will Walters**

**CABOT** – With the budget entering the home stretch to the end of the fiscal year May 30, business manager Christina Kimball said as of Feb. 29 the school may end the year with a surplus of \$38,000. Currently, expenses are running within 1 percent of the budget.

Kimball said all purchases are on hold except for necessary items that cannot be pushed forward. She said there is a big savings in psychological services because not as many contracts as expected were needed.

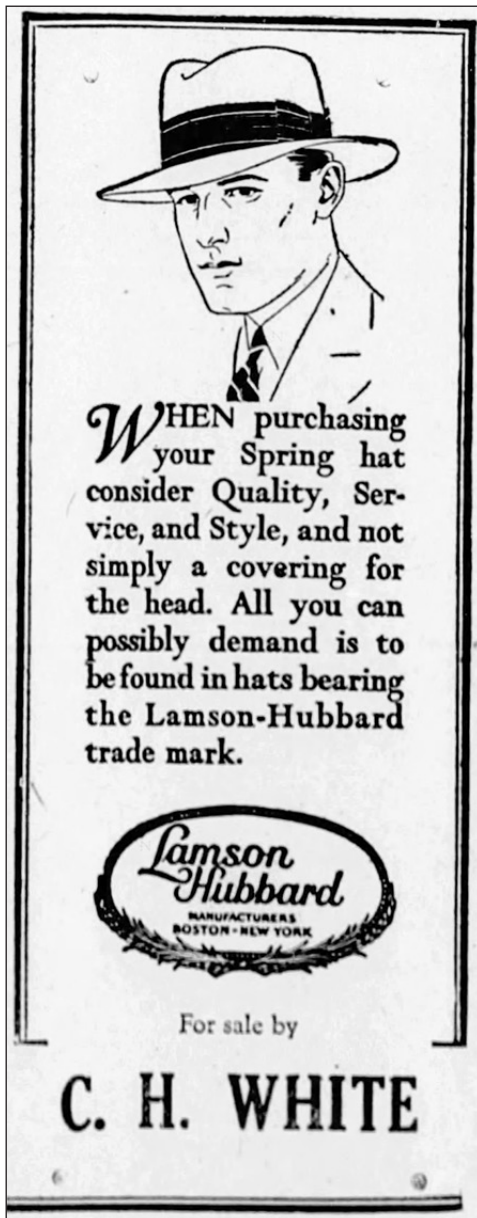
An expense that is higher is staff taking benefits above the number that was estimated. There is also an unanticipated contract position for pre-k that is not reimbursable.

Kimball said fiscal operations will be higher because of a higher interest rate on the tax anticipation note. She said two tuition students have not returned to the school, which reduces revenues. The Capital Reserve Fund has a balance of \$63,625.

Cabot student and School Board representative Megan



The Hardwick Gazette, April 5, 1951



The Hardwick Gazette, April 8, 1926

Walker directed "The Importance of Being Ernest," which opened March 18 for a two day run at the Cabot School Performing [sic] Arts Center. Nine Cabot Community Theater actors were cast for the play.

Walker reported to the School Board on the production. She and fellow representative Alisha Celley also said students of grades nine-11 visited Champlain College where they engaged in a question and answer session with a panel of the colleges [sic] students.


Principal Dave Schilling said bicycle skills and safety will be incorporated into physical education for the next month in cooperation with Localmotion. He said there is an anticipated opening posted for a high school science educator.

Superintendent Nancy Thomas announced she will retire in 15 months.



Calais resident Fletcher Dean sits on the statehouse steps at a Montpelier rally attended by thousands of Vermonters last Saturday. The No Kings Day 3 event organized by Indivisible featured speakers, music and a commitment to nonviolent action. photo by Ross Connelly

**STOWE FIRE RESCUE**



**Now hiring  
Firefighter/EMTs**

Stowe Fire Rescue is building a modern, disciplined Fire & EMS department, and we're looking for people who want more than just a paycheck. We want motivated professionals ready to work, improve, and be part of a team that shows up. Stop sitting on the sidelines. If you want a job that matters, this is it.

**WHAT YOU GET**

- 42-hour work week • 12 and 24-hour shifts • 5 day stretches off every month • Competitive pay (and may be more based on qualifications and experience) Firefighter/EMT \$25.39-\$27.48, Firefighter/AEMT \$26.49-\$28.67, Firefighter/Paramedic \$28.00-\$30.31 • Overtime opportunities • Robust benefits including health and dental, paid leave, VMERS D pension and more

**WHAT YOU'LL DO**

- Fire suppression • EMS response and patient care • Rescue operations • Train hard and operate as part of a professional team

**MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS**

- Firefighter Level I • NREMT\* (Paramedic certification desired) • Valid driver's license

**CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT**

- CPAT certification within 6 months of hire • \*AEMT certification within 2 years of hire (department support available)

**WHY STOWE FIRE RESCUE**

- We are building for the future • Strong leadership, clear expectations, and high standards • A department that invests in its people and training • Work that matters every shift

**THIS JOB IS FOR YOU IF** • You are motivated • You want to be part of something bigger • You are ready to work and be part of a dependable team

More information can be found at [stowevt.gov/jobs](http://stowevt.gov/jobs). Submit cover letter and resume to [recruit@stowevt.gov](mailto:recruit@stowevt.gov). Application deadline is May 1, 2026. The Town of Stowe is an equal opportunity employer.



**Woodbury:** Enjoy private lakefront apartment with two bedrooms, living space, bathroom, private laundry in popular summer vacation spot. \$850 plus \$300 utilities. (802) 863-5625 or [HomeShareVermont.org](http://HomeShareVermont.org) for application. Interview, references, background checks required. EHO.

# MONTHLY MUSINGS

TRISH PASSMORE ALLEY

## Billy's birthday

SHELBURNE – My dear husband, Bill Alley, will be 90 years old on April 20. He asked me the other day, “How can this be?” I told him he’s been working on it for 90 years. We laughed about being a piece of work! Laughter is a gift at 90.

Bill is the oldest of four children, Billy, Nancy, Jimmy and Timmy. Whenever Bill called home when he was young, the first question his father asked was, “Anyone get killed?” No one ever did. When Bill was in his 50s, his mother still warned, “Billy Alley, I will not bring you peanut butter and jelly in jail!” To my knowledge, the only night Billy spent in jail was voluntary. I still tease him that he had to outgrow some bad habits before we met in 1985 as Vermont delegates to the White House Conference on Small Business. He has always been creative. It’s not everyone who joins the circus in his 70s.

An Olympian, Bill set the world record in the javelin. Pursuing his love of sports, Bill’s most fun invention was the Silly Putter. It allowed you to putt a golf ball around a tree. It began, of course, with a mistake. His best-known invention is a carbon fiber fly rod. The butt was borrowed from his golf club shaft. The tip was a straight catheter tube. Fascinated by medicine, Bill says his most prized patent is for the blood pump on the kidney dialysis machine. It saved many lives of people he never met.

Bill is known by many names: Bill, Billy, Willie, Dad, Pop Pop, Uncle Willie and Mr. Bill, all with affection.

Here is a poem to celebrate Billy’s Birthday.

## Billy's Birthday

Billy was a surprise on April 20, 1936 to a teenage girl and the boy next door. He has surprised us ever since. Billy had a rocky start. As a child, he took everything apart. Blowing the porch off the house wasn’t smart. He channeled his energy into sports and earned far better, even glowing reports: All-American in track and on basketball courts. Bill’s inventions are too many to mention. He’s worn them all without pretension. Self-employed, he has no pension. The people he’s helped are his biggest rewards. They mean more to him than his many awards. Ninety now, he’s still looking forward. His only competitor now is time. There are days when not everything rhymes. I wish him a future to savor the sublime. My husband of almost thirty-eight years, in my life he has no peers. Our daily “I love you” calls bring us both to tears. In the spirit of April showers, if you know him, send Billy a birthday card.

# VOICES OF SPIRIT

## The lost art of getting lost

by Reverend Sarah Lammert

GREENSBORO – It has become rare to get lost while navigating unfamiliar places with GPS on our phones.

Early in my driving days I relied on maps and the kindness of strangers to keep me on course, but getting lost was my way to learn my way around. Getting lost helped me discover new neighborhoods and places, sometimes to great delight. Getting lost could be humbling. It forced me to become self-reliant on the one hand, while learning when to ask for help.

Getting lost can be scary. A friend went for a run in the woods

in Maine, only to find that the blue trail markers she was following started to thin out just as the light was beginning to dim on an early summer evening. She became frightened when she realized she hadn’t seen a marker in quite a while just as it was starting to get chilly and truly dark. Thankfully she managed to find her way back to her car safely, but the experience stuck with her and gave her greater respect for the woods.

Just as the literal experience of getting lost becomes less common, it feels like collectively we are all feeling a little lost these days. Many of the bedrock ideals of democracy are being threatened; people are feeling

anxious and worried about jobs and affordability; we are at war for reasons unclear at best; and life and liberty are no longer guaranteed for many.

Ironically, some of the skills we learn when we get literally lost might serve us well in these confusing and tumultuous days: Learning what tools we need to survive, figuring out how to navigate unfamiliar spaces, growing our willingness to ask for help and building the personal grit required to persevere in the face of uncertainty and fear.

A friend of my daughter’s who recently became ordained as a minister likes to say she has one message to share: “Another world is possible, and the only way to get

there is collectively.”

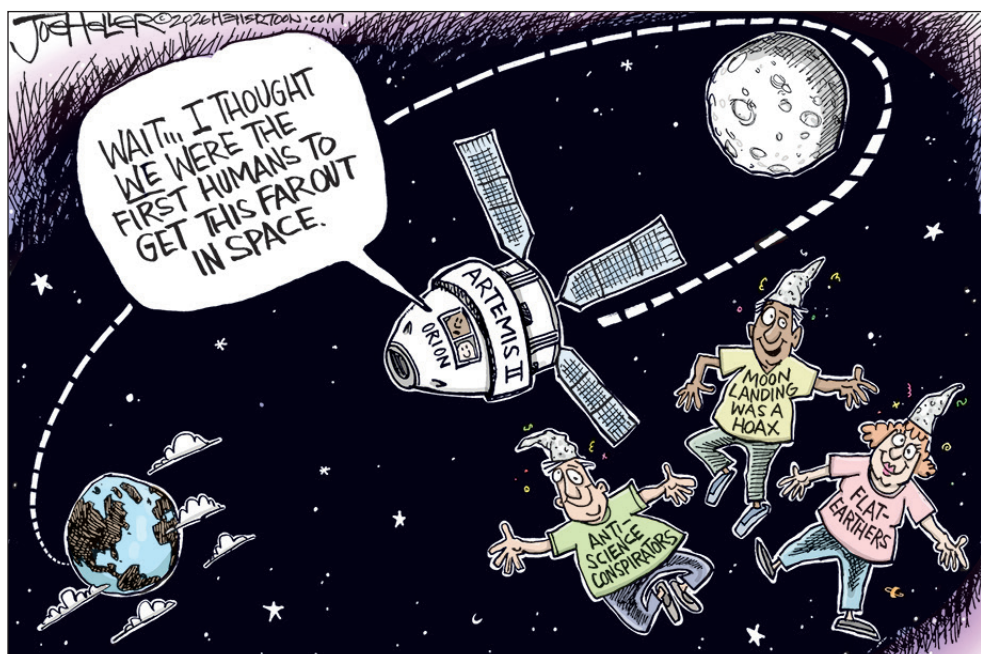
I think about this often. No one person can save us; no one individual can lead us out of the current climate of fear and division.

Yet, If we can admit that we are lost, perhaps we can begin to build a new path together. It will require persistence, living with uncertainty and being willing to ask for help.

Let’s work to clear paths toward new destinations.

Reverend Sarah Lammert is the founder of Shared Vision Consulting in Vermont and works as the Federal Chaplaincies Endorser for the Unitarian Universalist Association.

## Heller's World by Joe Heller

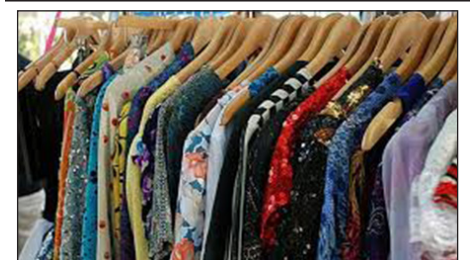




**Just say,  
“Charge it!”**

VISA and MasterCard  
accepted for subscriptions  
and advertising.  
Display advertisers with  
current accounts  
eligible for 5% discount.

**THE HARDWICK  
GAZETTE  
(802) 472-6521**



**Great quality  
clothing**

(Now taking donations of  
new and like-new spring and  
summer clothing.)

**Angel Outfitters  
Thrift Shop**

United Church of Hardwick  
South Main Street, Hardwick  
(802) 472-6800

Hours: Thurs. 11-2; Sat. 9-2

# OUR NEIGHBORHOOD

## Barred Woods Maple, from taps to bottle

by Kelly Bogel Stokes

HARDWICK – Barred Woods Maple is an organic and ecologically conscious maple sugaring business located in northern Vermont. They produce maple syrup from their 300 acre sugarbush, which is part of a much larger parcel of land conserved through the Vermont Land Trust. They also use their syrup to create value-added products including maple sugar and granola at CAE’s Vermont Food Venture Center (VFVC) in Hardwick.

Their big red sugarhouse, built in 2021, sits on an eastern slope of Cold Hollow Mountain in the town of Belvidere. Barred Woods is a collaborative partnership among four owners that began in 2017 as a way to conserve land and work within their rural community to help employ people. Their love for the land, ecology, and habitat, and their intent for a working landscape that fosters the economy and community led to a sugaring operation that now employs around 10 people year-round, making Barred Woods one of the largest employers in their small rural town. In 2025, Barred Woods ran 27,000 taps from their 300 acre sugarbush.

The highest elevation on their parcel reaches over 3,000 feet in elevation, near the summit of Cold Hollow Mountain. With the sugarhouse at around 1,100 feet in elevation, gravity helps the sap flow downslope, and they also have a vacuum releaser system to pull the sap into the sugarhouse.

“This year, we tapped about 34,000 trees. It was another big year for snow, so we did have to spend some time digging out our sap lines, despite them hanging at around five or six feet above the ground. The sugaring season is off to a good start. The weather has been a little inconsistent, with longer stretches of below-freezing temperatures where the sap does not run, but it looks like we have some good looking sugar days ahead,” said Daniel Paggi.

On a tour of the sugarhouse, co-owner, Matt Paggi, explains how the eastern slopes of their sugarbush, and the mountainous ecology of Vermont generally, is an optimal habitat for sugar maples, which favor moist, but well-drained soils. Though it’s a challenge to navigate on the mountainous ridges in winter, when snow is often at least five feet deep, they use ATVs, snow shoes, and often end up wading through deep snow to tap the trees from the end of December through February.

The sugarhouse, which also houses their packaging and labeling warehouse is the most active when the sap is flowing during March and April. A cycle of nighttime freezing and daytime thawing temperatures creates negative nighttime and positive daytime pressures in the maple tree. When a maple is tapped, the sap will flow through the hole in the trunk because positive daytime pressures inside the tree are greater than the outside air pressure. On average, maple sap is roughly 98% water and 2% sugar. Barred Woods uses reverse osmosis to concentrate the sugar content before boiling, significantly reducing the evaporation time and saving energy: Matt explains if the sap coming in is at 2% sugar, the reverse osmosis system brings it to roughly 20% sugar, effectively reducing the amount of time for evaporation by ten times.

Another benefit is that they are able to recycle all of the byproduct water from the reverse osmosis to clean their equipment systems. After reverse osmosis, the concentrated sap is refrigerated at about 34 to 35 degrees Fahrenheit, and is held at that temperature until it goes into the evaporator. For boiling, the evaporator is brought up to temperature, to about 217 degrees Fahrenheit, which is maintained and monitored during the boil. The buoyancy of the syrup is also closely monitored with a hydrometer to ensure that the density, and thereby the sugar concentration, is correct and consistent. As it finishes boiling, the syrup moves from the evaporator pans through a final filtration process and finally into storage barrels, which are sealed at a high temperature.

Barred Woods’ record for syrup production in 2025 was 25 barrels, or 1,000 gallons of syrup in one day. On average, they are able to process about 400 gallons of syrup per day during the sugaring season.

In Hardwick, there is a wonderful maple smell in the air at the VFVC when Barred Woods Maple uses the kitchen to turn their syrup into sugar for bulk sale, spices, and granola products. They started working at VFVC in 2017 when their sales were increasing but they didn’t have a full kitchen that was inspected for food safety,” said Barred Woods Maple co-owner Barb Paggi.

“The VFVC is great. The people are really friendly and very helpful. We use equipment and the storage facility for products. It works great for us because we



Some of the Barred Woods Maple team at the sugarhouse in Belvidere, Spring 2025, are front, (from left) Brian Kohr with co-owners Matt and Barb Paggi; rear Lily Langlois, Lucy Worthington, Lozen Worthington, co-owner Harvey Chaffee, Ezra Worthington and Brian KOhr’s dogs Samara and Porter. Not pictured are co-owners Dawn Hall, Char Reed and Lisa Chaffee

photo by Kelly Bogel Stokes

don’t have the space to do this at our facility. As we’ve grown, we’ve been able to get more kitchen time.”

Barred Woods typically uses VFVC kitchens three times per week, using about one barrel (or 40 gallons) of syrup each visit to produce about 250 pounds of sugar and 100 bags of maple granola products. Back in Belvidere, they bottle syrup for retail and package and label nearly 250 pounds of maple sugar each day for sale and to mix into other products.

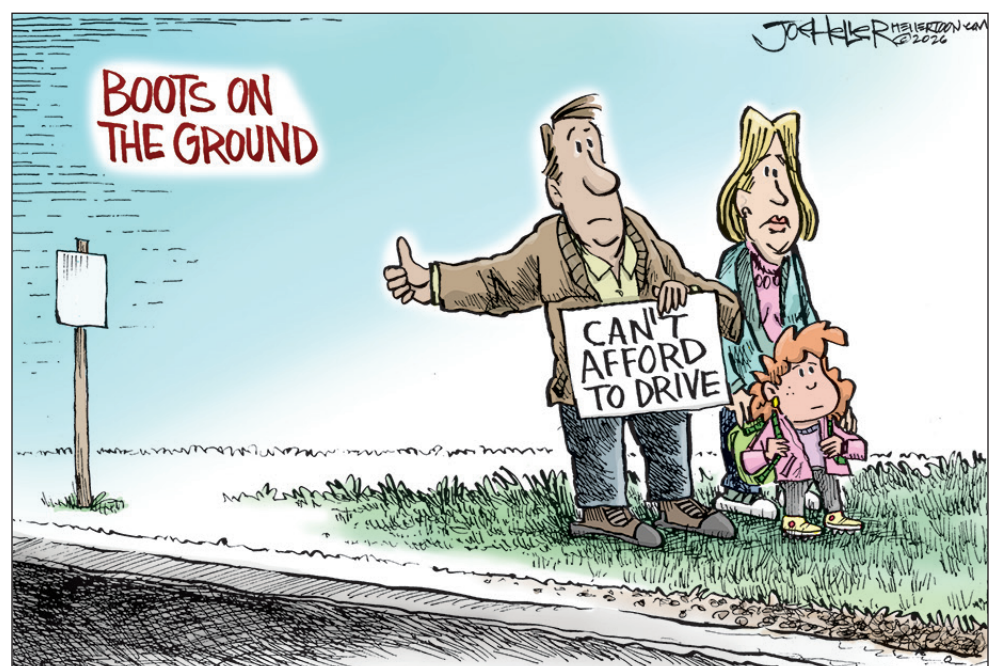
Because Vermont is the highest-producing state for maple syrup, Barred Woods has diversified their market with value-added products. Although the whole team brainstorms new products together, Barb takes the lead on creating new recipes for value-added products. For each barrel of syrup in storage, the team measures the sugar content with a glucometer,

and makes notes on which barrels will be best suited for each product. They have found that the lighter, amber syrup is best for their sugar and maple cream.

This spring 2026, Barred Woods will be breaking ground on another facility at the sugarhouse site in Belvidere that will hold a commercial kitchen to replace the work they currently do at the VFVC. They received a grant for middle-of-the-supply-chain producers through the Inflation Reduction Act, which will help fund the new facility and expand their level of production, which in turn will increase their bulk purchasing from smaller scale maple syrup producers who often have a hard time finding buyers.

Learn more about Barred Woods Maple and purchase their delicious maple syrup and other products online at [barredwoods-maple.com/](http://barredwoods-maple.com/).

## Heller’s World by Joe Heller



99-

# Ensure your right to be curious



## The most important news is close to home.

Over 15,000 people saw our Farout Gazette, April 1. It's easy to make up fake news, but we do that just one day a year. We know it's important you have straight-up facts without spin. We're careful to do that.

Our staff live in the communities we serve, so we know the governments and businesses in your area.

Just for fun, some readers share what our April Fools issue of the Farout Gazette meant for them.

Nice job, you all!!! - D.B., Glover

{The} April Fools issue :) brought a smile to my face, most welcome in these challenging days. Thanks for putting so much into it. BTW: you can thank {board members} John Walters specifically: he's how I came to donate and subscribe and I'm glad for it. You folks do a great job. - M.R., Burlington

Nicely done. Journalism at its finest . . . or at least most creative. - J.H., Hardwick

 - P.H., Barnet

Just read your April issue. Excellent work! - S.B., St. Johnsbury

You're not a fool, you're interested, you understand. Keep valued local news coming by making a monthly donation at [donate/hardwickgazette.org](https://donate/hardwickgazette.org)



April 9 is Local News Day, a national day of action connecting communities like ours with trusted local news and celebrating news that brings us together at

[news@hardwickgazette.org](mailto:news@hardwickgazette.org)

# IN THE GARDEN

## Getting ready for spring in the garden

by Deborah J. Benoit

NORTH ADAMS, Mass. – Spring is in the air. While it's still too soon to plant, there's plenty to do, even before the snow has entirely cleared, to get ready for the upcoming growing season.

Before setting foot in the garden, sort through garden tools and other equipment. Make a list of items that need replacement (such as broken tools) or need more of (like plant supports or tomato cages). Clean and sharpen tools so that they're ready to use when needed.

Take a walk around the yard and garden to check for surprises winter may have left behind. Gather up fallen limbs, along with litter or debris that may have blown in during winter storms, to tidy things up. Broken, damaged,

or diseased branches on trees or shrubs should be removed before they cause further damage.

This is a great time to start a compost pile. Whether it is a simple pile in a corner of the yard for vegetative waste from spring cleanup or something tidier like compost bins, select and define an area for composting. Spring cleanup of the remains of last year's garden, fallen leaves and early sprouting weeds will likely generate plenty of material to compost over the coming weeks. Never add diseased plant material or seed heads from weeds to your compost pile.

After the ground thaws, collect a soil sample and send it for a professional soil test. It's easy and inexpensive to do. The results will provide valuable information regarding a garden's soil, including

available nutrients and recommendations for soil amendments and fertilizers. See [go.uvm.edu/soiltest](http://go.uvm.edu/soiltest) for more information on obtaining a soil test.

Once the results of a soil test are in hand, obtain any recommended soil amendments. Wait to apply them until excess water in the garden has drained or dried up before digging or turning the soil. Working soil that's too wet can compact the soil and destroy its structure, making it difficult for plants to grow.

If starting new beds or reclaim an area overrun by weeds, consider smothering weeds using solarization or occultation to make the job easier. This involves trimming back grass or weeds close to the soil surface, then covering the area with a secured tarp.

Refreshing mulch in perennial beds can help reduce germination of weed seeds. It also makes pulling any weeds that do appear easier.

Consider starting a journal to keep track of important dates and observations in the garden, and supplies ordered, as well as planting and harvest information. Details that seem memorable now will fade as the season progresses.

The arrival of spring brings with it all the possibilities of a new year in the garden. Get these tasks done early, to have more time to enjoy the garden.

*Deborah Benoit is a UVM Extension Master Gardener from North Adams, Mass., who volunteers as a garden columnist and participates in Bennington County Extension Master Gardener Chapter activities.*

# THE OUTSIDE STORY

## Hummingbird migration map available now

by Paul Fixx

U.S. – Hummingbird Central offers crowd-sourced interactive maps tracking the northward migration of hummingbirds each spring. They had been sighted as far north as south-eastern Pennsylvania on April 4.

Tracking of the annual spring hummingbird migration is done with the help of viewers as they submit their first hummingbird sightings from their locales. Each species on the map is shown in a different color with the ruby-throated most common in the east. Access the latest maps and learn more at [hummingbirdcentral.com](http://hummingbirdcentral.com).

Many hummingbirds spend the winter in Central America or Mexico, and migrate north to their breeding grounds in the southern United States and western states as early as February, and to areas further north into Canada later in the spring.

Some, however, do not migrate, in areas like California and the upper Pacific coast, and the countries of Central America and South America.

Although there are differing views in the birding community as to what triggers the start of migration, it is generally thought that hummingbirds sense changes in daylight duration, and changes in the abundance of flowers, nectar and insects. Instinct also plays a role in making the decision to migrate.

During migration, a hummingbird's heart beats up to 1,260 times a minute, and its wings flap 15 to 80 times a second.

To support this high energy level, a hummingbird will typically gain 25 to 40% of their body weight before they start migration in order to make the long trek over land and water.

They fly alone, often on the same path they have flown earlier in their life, and fly low, just above tree tops or water. Young hummingbirds must navigate without parental guidance.

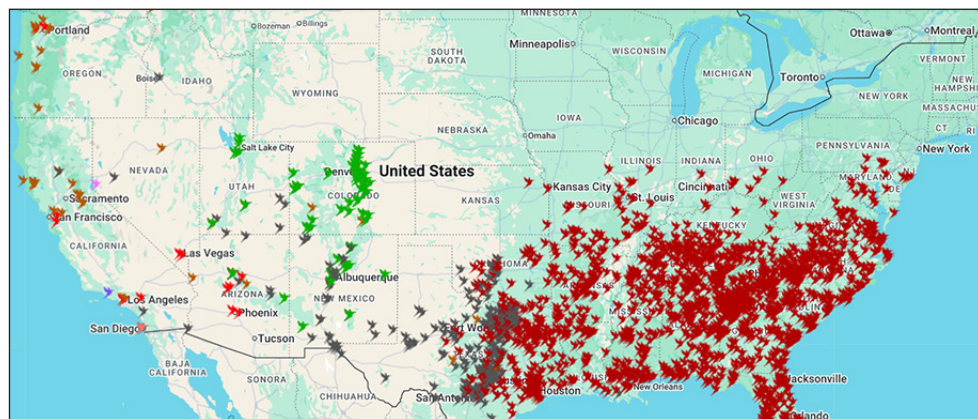
Hummingbirds fly by day when nectar sources such as flowers are more abundant. Flying low allows the birds to see, and stop at, food supplies along the way. They are also experts at using tail winds to help reach their destination faster, consuming less energy and body fat.

Research indicates a hummingbird can travel as much as 23 miles in one day. However, during migration they may cover up to 500 miles at a time. Their average speed in direct flight is in the range of 20 to 30 mph, and up to three times that fast during courtship dives.

The spring migration can be hard on the hummingbird population as they move north from their winter homes.

Stops along the way may be for a few minutes, or a few days at more favorable locations with abundant food supplies.

Strong cold fronts moving south over the Gulf make flying difficult as the birds deal with headwinds and heavy rain, over long distances with no shelter. Food is non-existent over the open waters.



Hummingbird Central's migration map shows the northward advance of hummingbirds this spring as of April 4, with red showing the ruby-throated most prevalent in the eastern U.S. Map courtesy Google

First arrivals in the spring, usually males, can be seen in Texas, Louisiana and other sites along the Gulf Coast in late January to mid-March.

As the spring progresses, sightings are reported further north, even into Canada.

Hummingbird Central typically tracks the spring hummingbird migration from late-January into May of each year, with the help of viewers as they submit their first hummingbird sightings in their areas. Sightings are also tracked in the summer and fall.

Hummingbirds are found only in the Western Hemisphere,

with almost half the species living in the "equatorial belt" between 10 degrees north and south of the equator. The hummingbird family has 366 species and 112 genera, mostly south of the United States. Hummingbirds comprise the family Trochilidae, among the smallest of birds, with most species measuring in the 3 inch to 5 inch range.

Learn more about the Hummingbirds of the World, and how many species there are in North America, Central America, South America and in the islands of the Caribbean Sea at [hummingbirdcentral.com/hummingbirds-of-the-world.htm](http://hummingbirdcentral.com/hummingbirds-of-the-world.htm).

### **NOTICE TOWN OF HARDWICK HYDRANT FLUSHING**

The Town of Hardwick Public Works Department will be conducting hydrant flushing during the week of April 20-24. Flushing will begin at North Main Street. All hydrants in the Village will be flushed. If you experience dirty water, please let your faucets run until the water clears. If you have any concerns, please contact the Town Manager's office at 472-6120.

# THE OUTSIDE STORY

## Why did the frog cross the road?

by Julia Janson

NORWICH – In spring, when temperatures rise above 40 degrees Fahrenheit and usher in gentle rains, a plethora of life emerges from the forest. Last year, I went out on such a night to catch the spring migration of amphibians. I could feel the rain coming before it hit the ground. Cold damp air sank through my rain gear as I donned my reflective vest and walked the length of North Lincoln Street in Keene, N.H. My headlamp was the only source of light on the dark, empty street.

Normally, these conditions would have kept me indoors, where it was warm and dry, but not on this night. This night was supposed to be a big night, with amphibians moving en masse from their hibernation grounds to bodies of water to begin mating.

I paused as soon as I heard a faint but high-pitched call coming from the trees. It was a spring peeper. I was not the only one

who could feel the rain coming; the frogs could feel it too.

The timing and presence of rainfall have a powerful effect on frogs. Researchers at University of North Carolina have found that, when frogs hear thunder, even if it is not yet raining, it stimulates males to croak, and both sexes to begin migration. Frogs are ectothermic, or cold-blooded; they sense environmental changes, such as temperature, humidity, and sound, through their skin. During late fall, when the air is cold and dry, frogs release sugars to protect their organs from freezing and hormones to induce sleep. When conditions become warm and wet in early spring, it serves as a biological alarm clock, rousing frogs from their winter beds.

As the frogs dig their way out of the dirt and take in the nighttime air, the high moisture content also triggers hormones that urge them to mate. This prompts them to begin their annual migration to the nearest bodies of water. Unfortunately, many get run over by vehicles as they try to cross busy roads. This is why I was out in the rain, volunteering as a brigadier: someone who helps frogs safely cross roadways.

The frog calls grew louder as the mist surrounding me turned into a soft drizzle. Squinting, I pulled up my hood and continued down the street. Rain water shimmered in the light of my headlamp. Frogs squatted in puddles beneath dripping ferns, and others leapt out in front of me.

I scooped up a wood frog no bigger than my thumb. Its smooth skin shined with a reddish luster. The sheen was mucus, a slimy coating, which helps keep frogs cool and moist.



Wood Frog

As frogs absorb moist air and water through their skin on wet nights, their skin secretes more mucus and their lungs expand. This allows them to project their calls over long distances. Some calls can be heard from over a mile away. For females, these calls serve as beacons guiding them along the forest floor as they travel to their breeding grounds.

The wood frog croaked as I placed it in my bucket. Its call resembled the quack of a duck. As I carried it across the street, I picked up another frog. By the end of the night, I had helped more than 80 frogs cross the street.

According to the International Union for the Conservation of Nature, habitat loss and road mortality are two of the greatest threats to global frog populations. Climate change, and the presence and timing of rainfall, can also

impact frogs' survival and reproduction. Some studies suggest that climate change will rouse frogs from hibernation earlier in the year, leading to premature migrations and breeding. These early warm spells, known as false springs, put frogs at risk of starvation, dehydration, and freezing if temperatures drop again. Other studies suggest a dry spring could delay these behaviors, leading to a shortened breeding season.

If you go outside on a rainy night this spring, be on the lookout for amphibians. You may hear frogs calling or see them on the move. They are embarking on the most dangerous journey of their lives, and we can help them reach their destinations safely.

*Julia Janson is a writer and former naturalist living in Norwich. Illustration by Adelaide Murphy Tyrol.*



Crocuses appear in a Hardwick yard, last week, on Saturday, April 4.

photo by Paul Fixx

**Hardwick:** Large furnished bedroom and shared half-bath in spacious 1800s farmhouse. Plant enthusiast seeking housemate interested in sharing occasional company and shared meals. \$500/mo. plus \$50 utilities. No smoking. Pets considered. (802) 863-5625 or [HomeShareVermont.org](http://HomeShareVermont.org) for application. Interview, references, background checks required. EHO.

TOWN OF GREENSBORO  
PO BOX 119  
GREENSBORO, VT 05841 802-533-2911  
townclerk@greensborovt.gov

**ACCEPTING SUMMER ROAD BIDS**

The Town of Greensboro is accepting bids for the following:  
Paving  
Roadside Mowing  
Winter Sand Screening at Greensboro's Gravel Pit in Glover  
Gravel Crushing at Greensboro's Gravel Pit in Glover  
Please contact the Town of Greensboro, PO Box 119, Greensboro, VT 05841, or 802-533-2911 or at townclerk@greensborovt.gov for more details. All bids must be in the Town Clerk's office by noon on Wednesday May 20th, 2026. Bids will be opened at the May 27, 2026 Selectboard meeting.  
The Selectboard reserves the right to accept or reject any and all bids.

**Greensboro Development Review Board Warning**

The Greensboro Development Review Board will conduct a hybrid hearing on Monday, May 4, 2026, at the Town Office and via Zoom. The Board will consider a Conditional Use request by Eric Hostetter and David Lublin with architect Michael Perpall for Conditional Use permit for a cottage modification at 66 Barre Boulevard. The application will be considered under the following bylaws: 2.7 Shoreland Protection District, 5.4 Conditional Use, and 8.8 Nonconforming Uses and Structures Within the Shoreland Resource Zone. A site visit is scheduled for Saturday, May 2, 2026, at 11:30 a.m. The site visit and hybrid hearing are open to the public.

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

The materials under review are available at the Greensboro Town Hall or at the Greensboro Town website, [www.greensborovt.gov](http://www.greensborovt.gov). For further info, please contact Brett Stanciu, Zoning Administrator, at 802-533-2911, or [zoning@greensborovt.gov](mailto:zoning@greensborovt.gov).

– Greensboro Development Review Board

## OUR COMMUNITIES

### Musical exploration, Wednesdays

HARDWICK – April 8, 15, 22, 29 at 11 a.m., at the Jeudevine Library, ages 7 to 11 can explore music. Activities include song-writing, vocal exercises and group singing, musical games, rhythm instrument activities, basic music theory and more. For information, contact jeudevineyouthlibrarian@hardwickvt.gov or (802) 472-5948.

### Future film series continues, April 9

MARSHFIELD – The film series continues Thursday, April 9, 6:30 p.m. This 2006 film involves a modern state that demonizes and blames its problems on immigrants. For information call (802) 426-3581 or go to jaquithpubliclibrary.org

### MacHarg, Gauthier play bagpipes, April 12

MARSHFIELD – On Sunday, April 12, from 2 to 4 p.m., Iain MacHarg and Ian Gauthier will play bagpipe tunes at the Jaquith Public Library.

MacHarg is a piper who is a teacher and performer and a founder of the Celtic rock bands, Whiskey Before Breakfast and Prydein and the Catamount Pipe Band, four-time finalists at the World Pipe Band Championships, and current Northeastern Pipe Band Champions.

Gauthier is a member of Catamount Pipe Band, and the Children's Librarian at Aldrich Library in Barre.

This is a fundraiser and the proceeds will go toward youth services. Donations suggested for adults, children are free. More information is available at (802) 426-3581 or jaquithpubliclibrary.org

### Hills of home lecture, April 16

MARSHFIELD – On Thursday, April 16, 6:30 p.m., a lecture by cultural historian Jill Mudgett offers tools to understand the origins and meaning of the Vermont identity and residents' attachment to the landscape. Mudgett is a cultural historian with an interest in the connection between the people and the environment of northern New England. She holds a Ph.D. in American history and is interested in public history outreach.

The lecture is presented by the Marshfield Historical Society in collaboration with the Jaquith Public Library, and is free and open to the public.

More information is available at (802) 454-1680.

### Zen doodles skill-share, April 18

MARSHFIELD – Local artist Nancy Chapman leads for a meditative afternoon at the Jaquith Public Library on Saturday, April 18, from noon to 2 p.m., to learn the art of Zen doodling; a simple drawing method that uses repetitive patterns to create designs while promoting mindfulness and focus. The focus of the class is relaxation, self-expression and creative exploration with no prior experience required. The events is co-sponsored by the Marshfield Resilience Hub and the Jaquith Public Library.

For more information, call (802) 426-3581 or go to jaquithpubliclibrary.org

### Art and author event, April 19

MARSHFIELD – On Sunday, April 19, from 2 to 4 p.m., the Jaquith Public Library will host an art and author event. This includes a retrospective of artist Joy Spontak's work from her teen years to the present day. She studied art from high school through graduate school and has explored numerous ideas, mediums and subjects informed by her intention, feelings, and her wish to stir emotion in the viewer.

Poet Bob Messing has been writing for about 50 years. He self-published about 100 poems and has written many more since then. This is a selection from those poems.

Poet Tim Mayo's third collection "Thesaurus of

Separation" was a finalist for the Eric Hoffer Award and the Montaigne Medal. His book "Muscle Memories of Love and Disaster" is forthcoming in April, 2026.

Kim Ward is a poet, playwright, dancer, theater producer and visual artist from Montpelier. Her first book of poetry, "Fire on a Circle," was released from Rootstock Press in April 2023.

Hosts for the Sunday afternoon poetry readings will be Poetry Society Of Vermont board members, David Hartnett and Elizabeth McCarthy as well as Jaquith staff. Refreshments will be served.

For more information call (802) 426-3581 or go to jaquithpubliclibrary.org



Woodbury firefighter Taylor Dudley (left), East Montpelier firefighter Darryl Garland, Greensboro firefighter Alec Larrabee and Woodbury firefighter Jacob Cerutti (right) head for their ice water rescue training wearing Mustang rescue insulated dry suits on Woodbury Lake, March 28. Three departments, including 24 firefighters and EMTs, participated in the training hosted by the Woodbury Fire Department. photo by Vanessa Fournier

### Beavers presentation, April 29

by **Northeastern Vermont Development Association**

HARDWICK – A public conversation will take place at the Jeudevine Library, Wednesday, April 29, from 5 to 6:30 p.m., to learn about beavers, a topic that connects across watershed health, habitat, and flood resilience. The presentation by Patti Smith, naturalist from Bonnyvale Environmental Center, and Skip Lisle, beaver expert and inventor of the patented Beaver Deceiver, is free. Light refreshments will be served.

### Greensboro Adopt-a-culvert program has new partner

GREENSBORO – The stewards of the Greensboro Watersheds of the Greensboro Association and the Greensboro Conservation Commission have partnered with the national Adopt-a-drain program to host their adopt-a-culvert program.

The pilot project, begun in 2025 with fifteen volunteers, have adopted 70 culverts on the web site (vt.adopt-a-drain.org). With over 700 culverts and potentially over a 100 users, it became evident that managing the program with simple spreadsheets would become untenable. The new web interface allows the user to create an account and view on a map the culverts that are available for adoption in their neighborhood. Volunteers that previously adopted culverts may use the new web site.

The importance of culvert and ditch monitoring and cleaning became evident during the floods of

2023 and 2024. Undersized and blocked culverts led to road washouts and also resulted in major sediment deposits in town waters. The goal of the adopt-a-culvert program is to ensure that ditches and culverts are maintained by cleaning on a biannual basis or as needed.

Volunteers are asked to remove debris from ditches and check culverts once in the spring and early summer and again in the fall.

The organization is seeking volunteers to monitor ditches and culverts on Greensboro's Town Roads and clear them of debris. This maintenance task will prevent culvert blockage and significantly reduce road damage. Neighborhood culverts or in other areas in Greensboro may be adopted at vt.adopt-a-drain.org. For more information, contact joannhanowski@gmail.com.

# OUR COMMUNITIES

## Magic the Gathering, Tuesdays

**HARDWICK** – Tuesdays; the youth room. April 7, 14, 21, and 28 at 3 p.m., ages 12 to 18 meet for Magic the Gathering. Bring a deck if possible, but it's not necessary. Meet in the youth room. For information, please contact [jeudevinyouthlibrarian@hardwickvt.gov](mailto:jeudevinyouthlibrarian@hardwickvt.gov) or (802) 472-5948.

## Host plants and caterpillars, April 8

**by Vermont Center for Ecostudies**  
**ONLINE** – Wednesday, April 8, from noon to 12:45, join Vermont Center for Ecostudies staff biologist Amber Jones to learn about the Vermont Butterfly Atlas, butterfly host plants, and how to find caterpillars in the field. All butterfly experience and skill levels welcome. Register at [vtecostudies.org/get-involved/events](http://vtecostudies.org/get-involved/events).

## Help needed, Mondays

**HARDWICK** – Monday, April 13, and 27 at 3 p.m., help out behind the scenes for an upcoming production for the Jeudvine Players. For ages 6 and up. (No players April 20). For more information, contact [jeudevinyouthlibrarian@hardwickvt.gov](mailto:jeudevinyouthlibrarian@hardwickvt.gov) or (802) 472-5948.

## Old-time jam sessions, Wednesdays

**EAST CRAFTSBURY** – April 15, an old-time jam session will take place at the J. W. Simpson Memorial Library from 6 to 8 p.m., with more jamming and jiving on May 6 as well as May 20.

## Lake shores, gravel roads and clean water webinar

**ONLINE** – Thursday, April 16, from noon to 1 p.m., via Zoom, in this webinar, staff from the Memphremagog Watershed Association (MWA) will discuss recent efforts to identify, prioritize, design, and implement Clean Water Projects along the gravel roads that surround lakes. Their talk will address common gravel road management issues, culvert upgrades, potential funding programs, permitting & design constraints, and more. The free webinar series on clean water projects for Vermont lakes and ponds is a virtual event open to the public but participants must register to receive the link. Registration information can be found on the FOVLAP website here: <https://vermontlakes.org/event/lake-shores-gravel-roads-and-clean-water-projects/>

## Knitting Saturdays

**by Simpson Library**  
**EAST CRAFTSBURY** – Knitting class with Lise Roussel returns on Saturdays from 10 to noon, beginning April 11. All levels are welcome on April 11, 18, 25, and continuing May 9, 16, 23.

## Spanish club, Sundays

**CRAFTSBURY** – Sundays, April 12, and 26, the J.W. Simpson Library will host a Spanish conversation group.

## Bilingual playgroup, April 12

**EAST CRAFTSBURY** – On Sunday, April 12 and 26, beginning at 2 p.m., the J. W. Simpson Memorial Library will host a bilingual (Spanish/English) playgroup for parents and children.

## Tea party and board games, April 22

**EAST CRAFTSBURY** – On Wednesday, April 22, beginning at 3 p.m., the J.W. Simpson Memorial Library will host a tea party and board games at the Craftsbury Community Care Center.

## “Glimpses of a Maybe Future” continues, April 23

**MARSHFIELD** – Thursday, April 23, 6:30 p.m., film series continues. The film concerns a universally-connected internet world of avatars. More information at (802) 426-3581 or [jaquithpubliclibrary.org](http://jaquithpubliclibrary.org)



Woodbury Assistant Fire Chief Tim Neill, third year, (left) and Woodbury Fire Chief Paul Cerutti, 16th year, (right) answer questions from the 24 participants after ice water rescue training on Woodbury Lake, Saturday, March 28. photo by Vanessa Fournier

## Status of emerald ash borer, ash trees in Vermont, April 15

**by Vermont Urban and Community Forestry Program**  
**ONLINE** - The status of the emerald ash borer in the state will be presented April 15, at 7 p.m. Noah Hoffman will explain how emerald ash borer is affecting ash trees statewide and how Forest, Parks and Recreation responds on state lands. He will also highlight the department's work to protect black ash, a species with special ecological and cultural importance. Noah Hoffman is the Invasive Species Coordinator for the Vermont Department of Forests, Parks, and Recreation. His role involves facilitation and implementation of invasive species management projects on state lands, bridging gaps between personnel and resources, and serving as a communication hub for statewide invasive species information. Meeting Link: <https://uvm-edu.zoom.us/j/87253905168?pwd=MXM1Tm1HLL3ZhaUw5NVFES2xraUdNUT09> Meeting ID: 872 5390 5168 Passcode: 120095

## Cooking camp, April 23

**HARDWICK** – Thursday, April 23, junior chefs ages 10 and up may gather in the Parker Ladd room at the Jeudvine Memorial Library for a cooking camp and fundraiser. Beginning at 1 p.m., join in the library kitchen to prepare a meal to serve to the community. Find out more at [jeudevine-memoriallibrary.org](http://jeudevine-memoriallibrary.org).

## Documentary screening, April 24

**MARSHFIELD** – Friday, April 24, 6:30 p.m., the Jaquith Public Library will screen the documentary movie, “The Librarians.” In the film, when Texas lawmakers sought to review a list of books, librarians found themselves on the frontlines of a national battle. Drawing on historical context, “The Librarians” explores the broader implications for education and public life. A discussion will follow the film. For more information, call (802) 426-3581 or go to [jaquithpubliclibrary.org](http://jaquithpubliclibrary.org)

## Night sky watch, April 25

**MARSHFIELD** – George Springston will host a night sky watch on Saturday, April 25, at 7 p.m., cloud date Sunday, April 26, to look up at the night sky from the Stranahan Town forest Moon Field. Springston will have a telescope to look at planets and stars. Dress warmly, wear sturdy shoes and bring a head lamp. The trail is about a 10 to 15 minute walk uphill to get to the viewing spot. For more information, call at (802) 426-3581 or go to [jaquithpubliclibrary.org](http://jaquithpubliclibrary.org)

## Art talk, April 29

**EAST CRAFTSBURY** – On Wednesday, April 29, the J.W. Simpson Memorial Library will host an art talk, “Andrew Wyeth: Beyond Realism”, with Pippa Drew on at the Craftsbury Community Care Center, beginning at 2 p.m.

# EDUCATION

## Supervisory union news recounts events

by Paul Fixx

HARDWICK – In the April edition of “News from the office of Superintendent Dr. David Baker,” the retiring Orleans Southwest Supervisory Union (OSSU) superintendent said he’s been meeting weekly with incoming Superintendent Becca Tatistscheff.

“We are working on the transition as she is brought up to speed. She will be attending our board meetings in April.

“Our Director of Finance, Annie Houston, is moving to the Agency of Education (AOE),” Dr. Baker also announced. “Annie has served us well over the years. She has brought a common-sense approach to budgeting and made clear what is often very confusing in the Vermont world of school budgets.”

He added, “Thank you, Annie, for all your years of service both as grants manager and finance director.”

“It has been an honor and a privilege to serve OSSU and its communities for the past six years, including my alma mater Craftsbury,” said Houston.

“I have learned an incredible amount during my time here and gained invaluable insight as to the many wonderful things happening in our schools.

“I look forward to taking this knowledge and experience to the state level to uplift what’s working really well for our kids as well as contribute to the conversation around how we can grow and address some of the many

challenges we face.”

Dr. Baker shared the names of all OSSU school board members, adding, “It can be a thankless job, but it certainly is the fiber of what we do in local decision-making. It is also so good that everyone returned. That is not always the case. But it does show commitment to our little piece of Vermont.”

Craftsbury School Board members are Kasey Allen (Chair), Cedar Hannan, Isaac Jacobs, Michelle Menard and Anna Schulz.

Hazen Union School Board members are Margaret Bledsoe (chair), Steven Freihofner, Christian Holland, Patrick Kane, Sabrina Morrison, Laura Murphy, Jan Terwiesch, Terri Vest.

Mountain View Union School Board members are Kyle Anderson, Laura Cannon, Simon Cohen, Samatha Friend (chair), Adam Gann, Heather Meacham, Meghan Shatney Juliana Swank, Darren Usinowicz and Terri Vest.

Stannard School Board members are Simon Cohen (chair), Diane Janukajtis and Chris Kurdek.

Wolcott School Board members are Sheena Davey, Laura Kaiser, Roger LaChance, Melissa Morin and Elliot Waring (chair).

And members of the OSSU Board are Margaret Bledsoe. Steven Freihofner (vice chair), Samantha Friend, Cedar Hannan (chair), Isaac Jacobs, Roger LaChance, Melissa Morin

Sabrina Morrison, Anna Schulz, Darren Usinowicz and Terri Vest.



Students (from left) Kingsley Canfield, Malakai Bigelow-Talbert received their meals from Village Restaurant staff member Victoria Atwood, during a learning experience for their Life Skills class. photo by Lisa Stinson

## Hazen students take learning to lunch

by Lisa Stinson

HARDWICK – Students from Cynthia Osgood’s Life Skills classes at Hazen Union brought their classroom into the real world, March 24, with a special outing to The Village Restaurant.

The trip was part of an ongoing financial literacy unit in which students have been building practical skills such as calculating prices, applying discounts and determining taxes and tips.

Throughout the school year, students have also been running a weekly Friday meal program, preparing and delivering meals to

teachers and staff. Through this effort, they earned money that ultimately funded their recent outing.

Before heading to the restaurant, students independently reviewed the menu and selected their meals. As a group, they calculated the total cost of their meals, including tax and gratuity.

The class expressed gratitude to Lynn DeLaricheliere and the staff at The Village Restaurant for their Welcome. In a gesture that underscored the community’s support, DeLaricheliere offered to close the dining room early to ensure the students could comfortably enjoy their experience together.



Eric Cookson (left), Izzy Grant (by window) and Kolbey Rich (to right), with staff member Wanda Darrah, behavioral interventionist with The Redwood Program and Julia desGroseilliers (serving) experienced a learning lunch, March 24, at the Village Restaurant. photo by Lisa Stinson

# OUR COMMUNITIES

## “Bringing up Beaver,” April 30

MARSHFIELD – Thursday, April 30, 6:30 p.m., John Aberth, a licensed volunteer wildlife rehabilitator, will present his book, “Bringing Up Beaver,” about raising and releasing an orphaned beaver kit, BK.

BK was found in St. Albans, Vermont and handed over to John Aberth, a rehabilitator

who specializes in beaver. Over the next two years, Aberth raised BK and prepared him for release back into the wild. This presentation will use both video and photos to augment and flesh out BK’s story.

For more information call (802) 426-3581 or go to [jaquith-publiclibrary.org](http://jaquith-publiclibrary.org)

## Cooper Brook clean up day, May 1

HARDWICK – Volunteers are needed to help clean up Cooper Brook. On Friday, May 1, from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., the town of Hardwick, Hazen Union Hatchery Club, and Center for an Agricultural Economy will remove tires

and trash from the brook. Wear boots or waders and clothes that are ready to get dirty. Pizza will be served. Meet at the Atkins Field parking lot, 140 Granite St. For information contact the town manager’s office at (802) 472 - 6120.

# OBITUARIES

## Barbara L. Coolbeth

HARDWICK – Barbara Lucille Coolbeth, 89, of Hardwick died peacefully, Sunday evening, April 5, at UVM Medical Center in Burlington. Her loving family was at her side.

A complete obituary will follow

in a later edition.

Pending arrangements are in the care of Northern Vermont Funeral Service, 60 Elm Street, Hardwick. Online condolences are welcomed at northernvermontfuneralservice.com

## Earl M. Albright, Jr.

WOLCOTT – Spring Memorial Services with Military Honors for Earl Marion Albright Jr., who died January 15, will be held at 1 p.m., Saturday, April 11, at the Northern Vermont Funeral Home, 60 Elm Street, Hardwick with Rev.

Avril Cochran officiating.

Arrangements are in the care of Northern Vermont Funeral Service, 60 Elm Street, Hardwick. Online condolences are welcomed at northernvermontfuneralservice.com



This banner at the Greensboro United Church of Christ (GUCC) celebrates Women's History Month, March 1 to 31, and coincides with International Women's Day, March 8. The banner recognizes every woman who tried to tell her truth and was not believed by a male-dominated society. Shelly Jungwirth, GUCC deacon chair, stands with the banner on March 18.

photo by Hal Gray



The winners of the three handmade crafted bunnies (Pierre, GiGi and Made-moiselle Bunnet), given away during a free raffle held at the Wolcott Public Library, April 4, are (from left) Sam Lloyd, Cindy Lacoss and Angelina Leriche-Forkey, all of Wolcott. The bunnies were made by Kim Green of Wolcott.

photo by Vanessa Fournier

**OUR E-MAILS**  
ads@hardwickgazette.org  
news@hardwickgazette.org

## Northern Vermont Funeral Service

60 Elm St. • Hardwick, VT 05843  
802-472-6861

Dian R. Holcomb  
Funeral Director

PRENEED  
PLANNING



Please join us for a  
CELEBRATION OF LIFE

# Ellen Bryant Voigt

SATURDAY, APRIL 11<sup>TH</sup>, 2026  
1:00 PM

ALUMNI HALL, 45 COLLEGE ST.,  
MONTPELIER, VT 05602

Reception to follow

**Lamoille County Players**  
Founded 1952

PRESENTS

# PIPPIN

Director: Shannon Sanborn - Music Director: Isaac Besso  
Choreographer: Taryn Noelle - Producers: Holly Biracree and Gene Heinrich

Book by Roger O. Hirson - Music & Lyrics by Stephen Schwartz  
Originally produced on the Broadway stage by Stuart Ostrow and directed by Bob Fosse.  
Pippin is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI).

## April 17-19 and 24-26

At The Historic Hyde Park Opera House

To purchase tickets go to: [www.LCPlayers.com](http://www.LCPlayers.com)

Tickets available at the door (802) 888-4507

\$20 (adults) • \$15 (students, seniors & military)

Friday, Saturday 7pm • Sunday 2pm



scan for tickets

## “Three Tables” performed April 8

HARDWICK – The Hazen Union Drama Club will give a performance of the play, “Three Tables,” Wednesday, April 8, at 7 p.m., in the Hazen Union Auditorium. The play’s subject is three couples eating dinner at a restaurant: One is celebrating an anniversary, one is finalizing a

divorce and a third is on a blind date. By dinner’s end, all six lives have changed.

After their performance at the regional festival, the drama club was selected to perform this one-act play at the State Drama Festival in St. Albans on April 10-11.



The Mountain House Dance Company will perform at the Vermont State House on April 8. *courtesy photo*



Robbie Lee, Shenel Johns and Benny Benack III croon classic tunes at the Highland Center for the Arts, April 9.

## Great American Crooners on April 9

GREENSBORO – Jazz at Lincoln Center’s Great American Crooners will perform at the Highland Center for the Arts, April 9, at 7 p.m. Featuring a program of hits sung by the greatest contemporary voices in jazz, Great American Crooners is the final show of the 2025-26 KCP Presents season.

Great American Crooners focuses on crooners such as Frank Sinatra, Tony Bennett and Bobby Darin, whose voices and serenades made them superstars on stage and screen. The show features

Robbie Lee and Shenel Johns with Benny Benack III backed by the Jazz at Lincoln Center band. The audience will relive classics like “I’ve Got You Under My Skin,” “Misty,” “I Only Have Eyes for You” and “Moon River,” and hear true stories about these legends.

To buy tickets for the show learn more about the series and additional arts programming in Vermont’s Northeast Kingdom, visit [catamountarts.org](http://catamountarts.org) or [kcppresents.org](http://kcppresents.org), or call (802) 748-2600 or visit the Catamount Arts box office at 115 Eastern Avenue, St. Johnsbury.

## Concert series presents dance company

MONTPELIER – The Farmers Night concert series concludes its season on April 8, 7:30 p.m., with Tunbridge-based Mountain House Dance Company, directed by Emily Howe. The program brings together community-based dancers of all ages throughout the region to present many styles of dance from around the globe.

The Farmers Night Concert Series is a longstanding State House tradition which goes back

over 100 years to a time when lawmakers entertained themselves in the House Chamber mid-week while away from home. Artists from around the state, in genres ranging from classical music to bluegrass to spoken word, perform in the well of the House Chamber each Wednesday night at 7:30 during the legislative session. Doors open at 7 p.m. All concerts are free and open to the public.



The musical, “Pippin,” includes, front, (all from left) C. Duncan of Hardwick as Pippin; Ben Irish of Hyde Park as King Charles; Michelle Sawyer of Fairfax as Fastrada; C J Levine of Morrisville as Lewis; and, back, Carrie Phillips of Waterbury as Berthe. Performances are scheduled for April 17 through April 26. *courtesy photo*

## LCP opens 74th season with “Pippin”

HYDE PARK – The Lamoille County Players opens their 74th season at the Hyde Park Opera House with the musical, “Pippin.” Performances run April 17 to 19 and April 24 to 26. Evening shows are at 7 p.m., Fridays and Saturdays, and matinees are Sundays at 2 p.m.

“Pippin” is a musical following

a young man’s search for meaning and purpose. Shannon Sanborn directs this steampunk-inspired production.

Tickets for “Pippin” can be reserved at [LCPLayers.com](http://LCPLayers.com) or purchased at the door on show nights. More information is at [tickets@lcplayers.com](mailto:tickets@lcplayers.com). The Opera House is located at 85 Main Street.

**JAZZ AT LINCOLN CENTER**  
**GREAT AMERICAN “DAZZLING!”**  
**CROONERS**

A live world-class tribute to Frank Sinatra, Tony Bennett, Bobby Darin and more

**7PM, THURS APRIL 9** HIGHLAND CENTER FOR THE ARTS GREENSBORO

TICKETS AT 80-748-2600 OR [KCPPRESENTS.ORG](http://KCPPRESENTS.ORG)

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

# BUSINESS DIRECTORY

## Flooring



**Country Floors**  
est. 1979  
Plainfield, VT

Mon. - Fri., 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.  
Sat., 9 a.m. - noon  
"Quality You Can Stand On"  
454-7301, Hollister Hill,  
Plainfield

## Laundry



**Hardwick VILLAGE LAUNDROMAT**

Self-serve • Open daily 6 a.m. - 11 p.m.  
Drop-off service available, call Derek, (802) 793-7388

## Martial Arts



**Offering**  
Jiu Jitsu to kids ages 4-15 and Karate for ages 4 to Adult. First class is free to try!

802-282-8215 (Adam)  
adambeckley87@gmail.com  
martialartsinhardwickvt.com

## Moving



**PENSKE**  
Truck Rental  
**RELOCATING?**  
• household • commercial  
CALL KASEY  
(802) 223-5434  
LOCAL PENSKE AGENT  
55 YEARS MOVING EXPERIENCE

## Plumbing




LICENSED & INSURED  
**HOLMES PLUMBING**  
Glenside St., RFD 1, Hardwick, VT  
05843  
Josh Holmes • 472-6228

## Restaurants



**The Village Restaurant**  
Home Cooking at Its Best  
74 South Main St., Hardwick  
(802) 472-5701  
OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK  
Daily, 6 a.m. to 3 p.m.

## Tree Work



**Peregrine Tree Work**

(802) 595-1448  
Pruning • Removals  
Danger trees  
Cabeling  
Firewood • Logging  
View enhancement  
Free estimates  
Fully insured

jacob.clark@peregrinetreework.com  
Peregrinetreework.com

## Services



**MANOSH**  
By Gosh

Septic Tank Pumping • Line Jetting & Thawing  
Water Treatment • Pump Sales & Service  
Aggregate- Gravel & Stone Products  
Pond Aeration  
24/7 Emergency Service

120 NORTHGATE PLAZA, SUITE 2 MORRISVILLE  
802.888.5722 | MANOSH.COM

## Services



**MANOSH**  
By Gosh

Septic Tank Pumping • Line Jetting & Thawing  
Camera Inspection • Hydro-Vac Services  
Catch Basin Cleaning • Lift Station Maintenance  
24/7 Emergency Service

120 NORTHGATE PLAZA, SUITE 2 MORRISVILLE  
802.888.5722 | MANOSH.COM

## Services



**DR PROPERTY MAINTENANCE & LAWN CARE**  
802.793.7388  
HARDWICK • VERMONT

- Dumpster rental
- Excavation
- Landscaping
- Stump Grinding

dwrichardson1999@gmail.com

# EVENTS

### Wednesday, April 8

"Three Tables" performed by the Hazen Union Drama Club, 7 p.m., Hazen Union Auditorium.

### Thursday, April 9

Reading with Rudy, 3:30 to 4:30 p.m., Cabot Public Library. a therapy dog program, for ages 5 and up. Bring a book or borrow one at the library. Space is limited. To sign up for a 10 minute slot, email: [amandaotto.cabotlibrary@gmail.com](mailto:amandaotto.cabotlibrary@gmail.com).

Future film series continues, 6:30 p.m., Jaquith Public Library, Marshfield. Information: (802) 426-3581 or go to [jaquithpubliclibrary.org](http://jaquithpubliclibrary.org).

### Friday, April 10

Film, 7 p.m., Parker Ladd Community Room, Jeudevine Memorial Library, a murder mystery, free, including popcorn.

### Saturday, April 11

Poetry walk, 2 p.m. Meet in front of the Hardwick Elementary School and then walk with Janet Slayton and others for a live reading of VerseVillage poems and learn about Hardwick history.

Book collection, 4 p.m., Crafts-bury Public Library, preview of collection of artist book editions produced by Claire Van Vliet. Information, [director@craftsburypubliclibrary.org](mailto:director@craftsburypubliclibrary.org).

### Sunday, April 12

Spanish club, 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. J.W. Simpson Library, East Craftsbury, hosts a Spanish conversation group.

Iain MacHarg and Ian Gauthier play bagpipes, 2 to 4 p.m., Jaquith Public Library, Marshfield. Proceeds go toward youth services. Information: (802) 426-3581 or [jaquithpubliclibrary.org](http://jaquithpubliclibrary.org).

Bilingual playgroup, 2 p.m., J.W. Simpson Memorial Library, East Craftsbury. A bilingual (Spanish/English) playgroup for parents and children.

### Monday, April 13

Caledonia Cooperative School Board regular board meeting, 6 p.m., Waterford School Room 13.

### Tuesday, April 14

Weekly HONK & WAVE, with Indivisible Hardwick, noon, corner of S. Main St. and Upper Cherry St., Hardwick. Information: [IndivisibleHardwick@pm.me](mailto:IndivisibleHardwick@pm.me).

AWARE book group, discussions, 5:30 to 7 p.m., Jeudevine Memorial Library. Register by emailing [awareyouth@vmlink.net](mailto:awareyouth@vmlink.net). The book is "Nobody's Girl: A Memoir of Surviving Abuse and Fighting for Justice," by Virginia Roberts Giuffre. Also meeting April 21 and April 28.

Twinfield School Board regular

meeting, 6 to 8 p.m., Twinfield Union School Library.

### Wednesday, April 15

Japanese fish printing, with the Lake Champlain Basin Project to learn about Gyotaku, 2:30 to 4 p.m., Cabot Public Library, Willey Building, Main St. For ages 5 and up.

### Thursday, April 16

Hills of home lecture, 6:30 p.m., by cultural historian Jill Mudgett, Jaquith Public Library, Marshfield. Presented by the library and the Marshfield Historical Society. Information: (802) 454-1680.

### Friday, April 17

Lamoille County Players open the season with "Pippin," April 17 to 19 and April 24 to 26. Evening shows are at 7 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays. Matinees are Sundays at 2 p.m.

Kathy Mattea performs, 8 p.m., Barre Opera House, 6 N. Main St.. Tickets online at [barreopera-house.org](http://barreopera-house.org) or call (802) 476-8188.

### Saturday, April 18

Zen doodles skill-share, with local artist Nancy Chapman, noon to 2 p.m., Jaquith Public Library, Marshfield. Co-sponsored by the Marshfield Resilience Hub and the Library. Information: (802) 426-3581 or [jaquithpubliclibrary.org](http://jaquithpubliclibrary.org).

### Sunday, April 19

Poetry Readings, third Sundays, 2 to 4 p.m., Jaquith Public Library, Marshfield. Hosted by the library and the Poetry Society of Vermont. Information: [jaquithpubliclibrary.org](http://jaquithpubliclibrary.org) or call (802) 426-3581.

### Tuesday, April 21

Tech Literacy series, third and final session, 10:30 a.m. to noon, Cabot Public Library. Concerns avoiding scams and online safety. Bring digital devices. Information: [cabotlibrary.com](http://cabotlibrary.com).

### Tuesday, April 21

Tea party and board games, 3 p.m., Craftsbury Community Care Center, East Craftsbury. Hosted by the J.W. Simpson Memorial Library.

### Thursday, April 23

Cooking Camp and fundraiser, 1 p.m., Parker Ladd Room, Jeudevine Memorial Library, Hardwick. Information: [jeudevine-memoriamallibrary.org](http://jeudevine-memoriamallibrary.org).

Glimpses of a Maybe Future film series continues, 6:30 p.m., Jaquith Public Library, Marshfield. Information: (802) 426-3581.

### Friday, April 24

Documentary screening of "The Librarians," 6:30 p.m., Jaquith Public Library, Marshfield.

See EVENTS, Next Page

# EVENTS

**CONTINUED from previous page**  
Information, (802) 426-3581 or go to [jaquithpubliclibrary.org](http://jaquithpubliclibrary.org).

## Saturday, April 25

**Night sky watch**, hosted by George Springston, 7 p.m., Stranahan Town Forest Moon Field, Marshfield. Cloud date will be Sunday, April 26. Information: (802) 426-3581 or go to [jaquithpubliclibrary.org](http://jaquithpubliclibrary.org).

## Ongoing Wednesdays

**Pilates**, 9 a.m., mat level 2, at the Barn off the Common, Craftsbury Common.

**Chair Yoga**, 9 a.m., Craftsbury Outdoor Center.

**Office hours**, 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., St. John The Baptist Episcopal Church, 39 W. Church St., Hardwick. Information, (802) 472-5979.

**Historical Society**, 10 a.m. – noon, Craftsbury.

**Parents of Challenging Children**, 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., first Wednesday of month, support group for adoptive parents of children presenting serious emotional and behavioral challenges, Easter Seals Vermont, 641 Comstock Road, Berlin. Information, (802) 223-4744.

**Outdoor Story**, Activity, 10:30 – 11:30 a.m., Cabot Recreation Field Pavilion with the Cabot Public Library's Amanda Otto for stories, songs, snacks, crafts, open play and special programming.

**Parenting Group**, 10:30 - 11:30 a.m., Jaquith Public Library, 122 School St., Marshfield. Caregivers can relax and connect with each others while their babies play. Geared toward babies to 18 months. Siblings invited. Information at [jaquithpubliclibrary@gmail.com](mailto:jaquithpubliclibrary@gmail.com), (802) 426-3581, [jaquithpubliclibrary.org](http://jaquithpubliclibrary.org).

**Social**, every first Wednesday morning, from 10:30 a.m. to noon, at the Craftsbury Public Library, for book-lovers. Sharing books, authors or books new to the library collection, no assigned reading. ea and coffee, handwork projects welcome.

**Brain Injury support group**, 1 to 2:30 p.m., second Wednesday of month, Vermont Department of Health, 107 Eastern Ave., Suite 9, St. Johnsbury, hosted by The Vermont Center for Independent Living. Information, (800) 639-1522 or [tyoungman@vcil.org](mailto:tyoungman@vcil.org).

**Quilters**, 1-4 p.m, Jeudevine Memorial Library, the second and fourth Wednesday of the month. All levels welcome.

**TOPS** (Take Off Pounds Sensibly), 3:30 - 6:30 p.m. Weigh-in at 5:15 p.m. United Church dining room, Hardwick.

**Acudetox**, 4 p.m., ear Acupunc-

ture, good for anxiety, depression, various organ supports, North Central Vermont Recovery Center, 275 Brooklyn Street, Morrisville. Information, 802-851-8120.

**Food Shelf**, 5 to 6:30 p.m, fourth Wednesday, , 49 Valley Lake Road, South Woodbury. Information, (802) 472-6292.

**Community Supper**, 5:30 p.m., The Civic Standard, S. Main St., Hardwick.

**Al-Anon**, 5:30 p.m., North Central Vermont Recovery Center, 275 Brooklyn Street, Morrisville. Information, (802) 851-8120.

**Meeting**, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m., Stannard Town School Board, first Wednesdays of month, Stannard Town Hall.

**Death Cafe**, 6 p.m., second Wednesday of month, Albany Public Library, 830 Main St. Information: (802) 755-6107, [albanypubliclibraryvt.org](http://albanypubliclibraryvt.org).

**Meeting**, 6 p.m., first Wednesdays of month, Wolcott Select Board.

**Meeting**, 6 to 8 p.m., second Wednesday of month, Craftsbury Town School Board, Commons Room, Craftsbury Academy.

**Jam Session**, 6 to 8 p.m., J.W. Simpson Library, 1972 East Craftsbury Road, East Craftsbury. All ages and abilities. Old-time jam sessions held on the first and third Wednesdays of each month.

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

**Alcoholics Anonymous**, 7 p.m., The Church in Cabot, 2 Common Road. Beginners' and open meeting.

## Ongoing Thursdays

**Alcoholics Anonymous**, 8 - 9 a.m., St. John the Baptist Episcopal Church, West Church St., Hardwick. Literature and open meeting.

**Tai Chi**, 9:30 – 10:15 a.m., Church of Christ, Greensboro. Advanced Tai Chi taught by Norma Spaulding. Information, (802) 472-8724, [nspauld@gmail.com](mailto:nspauld@gmail.com)

**Arthritis Relief**, 10 a.m., Community Center, Hardwick. Exercise class sponsored by the NEK Council on Aging. Information at Sara, [Shbeharsing@gmail.com](mailto:Shbeharsing@gmail.com).

**Office hours**, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., St. Norbert Church, a part of Mary Queen of All Saints Parish, 193 S. Main St., Hardwick, Father Raj Madri. Information, [mary\\_queenofallsaints@comcast.net](mailto:mary_queenofallsaints@comcast.net) (802) 472-5544.

**Tai Chi**, 10:30 a.m. to 11:30, Church of Christ, Greensboro. Qigong and Tai Chi, taught by Norma Spaulding and Paul Fixx. Information at (802) 472-8724, [nspauld@gmail.com](mailto:nspauld@gmail.com) and (802)

441-4599, [pfixx@pfixx.net](mailto:pfixx@pfixx.net).

**Story Time**, 10:30 a.m. preschool, Greensboro Free Library. Information, (802) 533-2531.

**Story Time**, 10:30 a.m. Jeudevine Memorial Library, 93 N. Main St., Hardwick. Books, songs, art activities and more for ages 5 and under. Information, [jeudevineyouthlibrarian@hardwickvt.gov](mailto:jeudevineyouthlibrarian@hardwickvt.gov), (802) 472-5948.

**Community Dinner**, noon, United Church of Hardwick, S. Main St., Third and Fourth Thursdays of the month. Call Denise Carr at (802) 472-3134 to reserve a meal. Take-out or eat-in. Donations appreciated.

**Diabetes support group**, 1:30 p.m., The Health Center, Plainfield. third Thursday each month. Information, (802) 322-6600 or [dgrabowski@The-Health-Center.org](mailto:dgrabowski@The-Health-Center.org).

**Sign Language**, 2 p.m., practice group, John Woodruff Simpson Memorial Library, 1972 East Craftsbury Road, Craftsbury. Information at (802) 586-9692 or [jwsimpson-memorial.org](http://jwsimpson-memorial.org).

**Hang Out**, 2:45-6 p.m., The Civic Standard, S. Main St., Hardwick. Relax, make art, play games, get help with homework, spend time with friends. Facilitated by Hazen Union's Community School Coordinator Vaiva Velzis, with support from The Civic's staff. Snacks provided. Information, [Vvelzis@ossu.org](mailto:Vvelzis@ossu.org).

**Refuge Recovery**, 3 p.m. Thursdays, North Central Vermont Recovery Center, 275 Brooklyn St., Morrisville. Information, (802) 851-8120.

**All Recovery**, 4 p.m., North Central Vermont Recovery Center, 275 Brooklyn Street, Morrisville. Information, (802) 851-8120.

**Craftfit**, 4:30 p.m., Craftsbury Outdoor Center.

**Taming Knotweed**, 4:30 p.m., Town Highway 19 across from Little Hosmer Dam. Bring water, bug spray, gloves, assorted clippers, shovels. Craftsbury Conservation Commission.

**Dance**, 5:30 p.m., Barn off the Common, Craftsbury Common.

**Prayer Service**, 5:30 p.m., Touch

of Grace Assembly of God, corner of Rtes. 15 and 16, E. Hardwick. Information, [touchofgraceagvt@gmail.com](mailto:touchofgraceagvt@gmail.com)

**Writing Circle** with novelist Brett Stanciu, 5 to 6:30 p.m., the second and fourth Thursdays of each month, at the Civic Standard, Main St., Hardwick.

**Grief Support**, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m., first and third Tuesday of each month, a safe, confidential space to can share a story or be surrounded by those who understand and care, Lamoille Home Health & Hospice Building, 54 Farr Avenue, Morrisville. Information, Oona Lee at (802) 888-4651 or [olee@lhha.org](mailto:olee@lhha.org).

**Trivia**, 6 - 8 p.m., Village Restaurant, S. Main St., Hardwick, unless there is a home basketball game. Limited menu of burgers and appetizers. Hosted by Annie Houston. First come, first serve event, with room for about 10 teams.

**Al-Anon**, 6 p.m., Church on the Common, Craftsbury Common.

**Meeting**, 6 p.m., first Thursdays of month, Hardwick Select Board.

**Services**, 6:30 p.m., Hardwick Bible Baptist Church, 296 S. Main St. For transportation or information, (802) 472-5294.

**Meeting**, 6 to 8 p.m., second Thursdays of month, Mountain View Union Elementary School Board, alternating among three campuses.

**Narcotics Anonymous**, 7 p.m., North Central Vermont Recovery Center, 275 Brooklyn St., Morrisville. Information, (802) 851-8120.

**Films**, 6:30 p.m., Jaquith Public Library, Marshfield, "Glimpses of a Maybe Future," second and fourth Thursdays of the month. Information, (802) 426-3581, [jaquithpubliclibrary@gmail.com](mailto:jaquithpubliclibrary@gmail.com) or [jaquithpubliclibrary.org](http://jaquithpubliclibrary.org).

## Ongoing Fridays

**Pilates**, 9 a.m., level 3, at the Barn off the Common, Craftsbury Common.

**Taiji**, 10:15 a.m., intermediate, Barn off the Common, Craftsbury Common.

**Storytime**, 10:30 a.m. - 12:30

**See EVENTS, Next Page**



*Delivering On A Promise*  
**Dead River**  
Company

**Propane • Heating Oil • Diesel**  
**Heating Equipment Installations**  
189 Railroad St., St. Johnsbury, VT  
(802) 748-8934 or (800) 222-9276

# EVENTS

**CONTINUED from previous page**  
p.m., Jaquith Public Library, 122 School St., Marshfield, playgroup.. Information at [jaquithpubliclibrary@gmail.com](mailto:jaquithpubliclibrary@gmail.com), (802) 426-3581, [jaquithpubliclibrary.org](http://jaquithpubliclibrary.org).

**Homeschool Program**, 10:30 a.m., Friday, Greensboro Free Library. Information, (802) 533-2531.

**Meditation**, 3-3:45 p.m., Craftsbury Community Care Center, 784 East Craftsbury Road, Craftsbury, the second and fourth Fridays, with Nancy Milholland. Open to all, sponsored by the Mental Health Resource Group of Craftsbury.

**Farmers Market**, 4 to 7 p.m., 13 Mill St., Plainfield. Food and craft vendors, baked goods, fruits and veggies and more.

**Haiku Club**, 5:30 - 7 p.m., The Civic Standard, S. Main St., Hardwick, every first Thursday, Read published haiku, brainstorm Vermont kigo, or season words, write a haiku. No previous writing experience needed. Hosted by Mark Scott.

**Contra Dance**, 7-9:30 p.m., Cabot Town Hall, 3084 Main St., Cabot, second Fridays, through June 7. All dances taught, no partner needed, all welcome. Information, [cabotdance@around-vt.org](mailto:cabotdance@around-vt.org).

**Alcoholics Anonymous**, 7 p.m., for women only, North Central Vermont Recovery Center, 275 Brooklyn Street, Morrisville. Information, (802) 851-8120.

**News Discussion**, 10 a.m., Front Seat Coffee, Visit with Hardwick Gazette staff.

## Ongoing Saturdays

**Alcoholics Anonymous**, 8:30 a.m., step meeting, North Central Vermont Recovery Center, 275 Brooklyn Street, Morrisville. Information, (802) 851-8120.

**History book group**, second Saturdays of the month, 2 p.m., Jaquith Public Library, Marshfield. Information: (802) 426-3581, [jaquithpubliclibrary@gmail.com](mailto:jaquithpubliclibrary@gmail.com) or [jaquithpubliclibrary.org](http://jaquithpubliclibrary.org).

**Food Shelf**, 9 to noon, third Saturday of each month from 9 to noon, 49 Valley Lake Road, South Woodbury. Information, (802) 472-6292.

**Fiber Arts**, 10- 11 a.m., Woodbury Community Library, meets the third Saturday of the month.

**Historical Society**, 10 a.m. – noon, Craftsbury.

**Al-Anon**, 10 a.m., Community Justice Center, St. Johnsbury, information, (802) 626-5355.

**Overeaters Anonymous**, 10 a.m., Zoom meeting, North Central Vermont Recovery Center,

275 Brooklyn Street, Morrisville. Information, (802) 851-8120.

**Knitting Class** with Lise Roussel, 10 a.m. to noon, John W. Simpson Memorial Library, East Craftsbury. All levels welcome on April 11, 18, 25 and May 9, 16, 23.

**Acudetox**, 11 a.m., every fourth Saturday, ear acupuncture, good for anxiety, depression, various organ supports, North Central Vermont Recovery Center, 275 Brooklyn Street, Morrisville. Information: (802) 851-8120.

**Taming Knotweed**, 11 a.m., Town Highway 19 across from Little Hosmer Dam. Bring water, bug spray, gloves, assorted clippers, shovels. Craftsbury Conservation Commission

**Spanish Club**, 11:30 a.m., Woodbury Community Library,

meets the second Saturday of each month.

**Osteoporosis Education** and support group, 1 p.m., first Saturday of month, Better Bones of the Northeast Kingdom, Community Room at Community National Bank, Derby. Information, [BetterBonesNEK.org](http://BetterBonesNEK.org) or Mary King at [Mary@BetterBonesNEK.org](mailto:Mary@BetterBonesNEK.org), or (802) 535-2011.

**Craftfit**, 2:30 p.m. Craftsbury Outdoor Center.

**Vigil Mass**, 4 p.m., St. Norbert Church, a part of Mary Queen of All Saints Parish, 193 S. Main St., Hardwick, Father Raj Madri. Confessions before Mass, Information, [mary\\_queenofallsaints@comcast.net](mailto:mary_queenofallsaints@comcast.net) (802) 472-5544.

**Contra Dance**, 8 - 11 p.m., Capital City Grange, Montpelier. Newcomers lesson at 7:40

p.m. First, third and fifth Saturdays. Information at (802) 225-8921 or [cdu.tim@gmail.com](mailto:cdu.tim@gmail.com)

**Writing Group**, 2 to 4 p.m., Albany Public Library, 830 Main St., first and third Saturdays, (802) 755-6107, [albanypubliclibraryvt.org](http://albanypubliclibraryvt.org).

## Ongoing Sundays

**Service**, 8:30 a.m., United Church of Marshfield, U.S. Rte. 2, worship service and Sunday school, Pastor Carlyle Pierce. Information, (802) 684-2114.

**Mass**, 8:30 a.m., St. Norbert Church, a part of Mary Queen of All Saints Parish, 193 S. Main St., Hardwick, Father Raj Madri. Confessions before Mass, Information, [mary\\_queenofallsaints@comcast.net](mailto:mary_queenofallsaints@comcast.net) (802) 472-5544.

See EVENTS, Next Page

**WGDR 91.1 FM**  
**WGDH 91.7 FM**  
CENTRAL VERMONT COMMUNITY RADIO

# Current 2025 Schedule

as of Nov 2025

Talk/Interview Music

	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT		
<b>12 AM</b>	Moist Fluids	Deep Threes	Dancehall/Reggae	Julian Taylor's Jukebox	Full Moon Hacksaw	Metal Radio DJ Eben Flow	And You Don't Stop	<b>12 AM</b>	
<b>1 AM</b>		BantuNauts RAYdio		Latin Explosion	Baroque and Beyond	The Kinetic Playground	Timeless Oldies Radio Hour	<b>1 AM</b>	
<b>2 AM</b>	Cafe Chill		Oldies Time Machine			The Sonic Cafe		<b>2 AM</b>	
<b>3 AM</b>	WGDR New Music Mix <i>Music Directors</i>							<b>3 AM</b>	
<b>4 AM</b>	Thom Hartmann Program							<b>4 AM</b>	
<b>5 AM</b>	Softpower/Fulstories Prison Pipeline	Background Briefing w/ Ian Masters					Oldies Time Machine	<b>5 AM</b>	
<b>6 AM</b>	Counterspin Green St. News	Background Briefing w/ Ian Masters	Background Briefing w/ Ian Masters	Project Censored	Background Briefing w/ Ian Masters	Background Briefing w/ Ian Masters	Woodsongs Radio Hour	<b>6 AM</b>	
<b>7 AM</b>	Curse of the Golden Turnip <i>Alan LePage &amp; Steven Farnham</i>	Magpie in the Morning <i>Della Gillen</i>	Eastern Dawn <i>Luke Lampugnale</i>	Portal Levi	Writer's Voice	Bike Talk	The Secret Sisters	<b>7 AM</b>	
<b>8 AM</b>	Democracy Now!							<b>8 AM</b>	
<b>9 AM</b>	Trance-Formational Listening <i>Dennis Darrah</i>	Eggs on Toast <i>Kelly</i>	Alternative Radio	The Quilting Hour <i>Maura Quinn or Sasha Thayer</i>	Relocalizing Vermont <i>Carl Ethier</i>	The Magical Mystery Tour <i>Tonio Epstein</i>	ROTATING SLOT #8 <i>(see below)</i>	<b>9 AM</b>	
<b>10 AM</b>	ROTATING SLOT #1 <i>(see below)</i>	Peace Talk Radio Sprouts	New Dimensions	Wings	This Way Out	TUC Radio	ROTATING SLOT #9 <i>(see below)</i>	<b>10 AM</b>	
<b>11 AM</b>		ROTATING SLOT #4 <i>(see below)</i>	Rising Up w/ Sonali	Spawning Stones <i>Ben Bashore</i>	What's the Frequency, Kenneth?	Shortwave Report & Food Sleuth		<b>11 AM</b>	
<b>12 PM</b>	Thought Pasture <i>Maura Quinn</i>	Personal and Political <i>Stephanie Fraser</i>	That Driving Beat	The Rubber Room <i>Dan Towner</i>	Unshelved <i>J Kramer</i>	Modern Jet Set	The Metal Edge <i>Willis Pratt</i>	<b>12 PM</b>	
<b>1 PM</b>						Now Playing <i>DJ Liu</i>		<b>1 PM</b>	
<b>2 PM</b>	Swivel Radio <i>DJ Effery</i>	David Rogers Music Mix Hour	Straight Up Soul	Adiago	UpFront Soul	Hittin' the Note <i>Bill Hahn</i>	Boxful of Blues <i>John Foster</i>	<b>2 PM</b>	
<b>3 PM</b>			Listen Up! <i>Bill Nowlan</i>	Country & Western Sounds in Modern Music <i>Barry Matthews</i>	Law and Disorder			<b>3 PM</b>	
<b>4 PM</b>	ROTATING SLOT #2 <i>(see below)</i>	Trailing Edge <i>David Ferland</i>	Economic Update Rumble Strip	Techtonic	Big Picture Science	The Friday Drive at 5 <i>Corey Flynn</i>	Acoustic Harmony <i>Mark Michaelis</i>	<b>4 PM</b>	
<b>5 PM</b>	Bon Mot <i>Rick Agran</i>	Project Censored		Stranger Deinger	ROTATING SLOT #7 <i>(see below)</i>			<b>5 PM</b>	
<b>6 PM</b>	The Good Ways Reggae <i>Kind</i>	Democracy Now! (rerun)							<b>6 PM</b>
<b>7 PM</b>	The Revel Level <i>DJ EhMmAh</i>	ROTATING SLOT #5 <i>(see below)</i>	ROTATING SLOT #6 <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>	<b>7 PM</b>	
<b>8 PM</b>		Deep Blues <i>Les Mawson</i>	Kozie Korner	Music as Art <i>Uku Meri</i>	DJ Eben Flow Eclectic <i>DJ Eben Flow</i>	The Meltdown <i>KingTone</i>	First Wave	<b>8 PM</b>	
<b>9 PM</b>	ROTATING SLOT #3 <i>(see below)</i>	Blues Edge <i>Les Mawson</i>		Full Moon Hacksaw	Metal Radio <i>DJ Eben Flow</i>	And You Don't Stop	The Beatdown <i>Z-Point</i>	<b>9 PM</b>	
<b>10 PM</b>			Julian Taylor's Jukebox					<b>10 PM</b>	
<b>11 PM</b>	Deep Threes	Train to Skaville						<b>11 PM</b>	

**Rotating Slots**

**#1: Sun 10 am-12 pm**  
1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sun: Indigenous Music   
2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sun: The Immanent Grove *Conni Mags*

**#2: Sun 4-5 pm**  
1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sun: Afrosonic Taxi   
2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sun: Discoverances with Savannah

**#3: Sun 9-11 pm**  
1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sun: Walkin' Will: The Show of Life   
2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sun: All Mixed Up

**#4: Mon 11 am-12 pm**  
1<sup>st</sup> Mon: Blluminations   
*Stefanie Lingenfelter*  
2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Mon: Cuneiform Radio   
*Kyle Schlesinger*  
3<sup>rd</sup> Mon: Biketalk

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

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

**#7: Thu 6-7 pm**  
1<sup>st</sup> Thu: The Broken Bois Collective Presents... *Khonsu X and Titan*   
2<sup>nd</sup> Thu: The Hyper Local Dispatch   
*Natascha and DJ Syd*  
3<sup>rd</sup> Thu: Democracy Now   
4<sup>th</sup> Thu: Into the Issues *Steve Pappas*

**#8: Sat 9-10 am**  
1<sup>st</sup> Sat: Gathering Peace *Joseph Gainza*   
2<sup>nd</sup> Sat: Projected Censored   
3<sup>rd</sup> Sat: Pollinator Report *Emily Lanxner*   
4<sup>th</sup> Sat: Kitchen Permaculture   
*Rebecca Beidler*

**#9: Sat 10-11 am**  
1<sup>st</sup> Sat: Sex Fly *Benge*   
2<sup>nd</sup> Sat: Pitter Patter Radio *Pat Kantner*   
3<sup>rd</sup> Sat: Under the Covers   
*DJ Rhizosphere*  
4<sup>th</sup> Sat: Full Moon Hacksaw

Support, stream live or listen to archives at [WGDR.org](http://WGDR.org)

@WGDRWGDHVT

# EVENTS

**CONTINUED from previous page**  
**Service**, 9 a.m., Danville United Methodist Church, Danville Green, Rev. Henry Cheney. Information, (802) 684-3389.

**Sunday School**, and prayer, 9 a.m., adults, Touch of Grace Assembly of God, corner of Rtes. 15 and 16, E. Hardwick. Information: [touchofgraceagvt@gmail.com](mailto:touchofgraceagvt@gmail.com)

**Sunday School**, 9 a.m., The Wolcott Mennonite Church, Rte. 15 between Morrisville and Wolcott, for all ages. Information, (802) 888-5277, (802) 888-9113.

**Sacrament Meeting**, 9 a.m., The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, Rte. 15 W, Johnson. Bishop Erik Worthington, (802) 326-3035, [mormon.org](http://mormon.org).

**Story time**, 9:30 a.m., The Christian Community, Heartbeat Lifesharing, 218 Town Farm Road, Hardwick, for children. [thechristiancommunityvt@gmail.com](mailto:thechristiancommunityvt@gmail.com).

**Service**, 9:30 a.m., West Danville United Methodist Church, Vt. Rte. 15, across from Joe's Pond, Pastor Pam Smith. Information, (802) 684-1201.

**Service**, 9:30 a.m., Hardwick Bible Baptist Church, 296 S. Main St. For transportation or information. (802) 472-5294.

**Bible study**, 10 a.m., East Craftsbury Presbyterian Church, 1773 East Craftsbury Road, Craftsbury, VT 05856. Information, (802) 586-7707, [ecpcvt@gmail.com](mailto:ecpcvt@gmail.com), [eastcraftsburypresbyterian.com](http://eastcraftsburypresbyterian.com).

**Worship**, 10 a.m., and Sunday School, Albany Methodist Church, Route 14,.

**Service**, 10 a.m., United Church of Hardwick, 216 South Main Street. In person, Zoom or livestreaming. Communion Service, first Sunday of month. Rev. Avril Cochran, Pastor. Jean Hackett, music director, an Open and Affirming Congregation. Information, (802) 472-6800 for information.

**Service**, 10 a.m., United Church of Cabot, 2 Common Way, refreshments following. Information, (802) 563-2278.

**Service**, 10 a.m., Touch of Grace Assembly of God, corner of Rtes. 15 and 16, E. Hardwick. Information, [touchofgraceagvt@gmail.com](mailto:touchofgraceagvt@gmail.com)

**Children's service**, 10 a.m., The Christian Community, Heartbeat Lifesharing, 218 Town Farm Road, Hardwick. Information, [thechristiancommunityvt@gmail.com](mailto:thechristiancommunityvt@gmail.com).

**Service**, 10 a.m., St. John The Baptist Episcopal Church, 39 W. Church St., Hardwick. Rite II Service with music and coffee hour following service. Information, (802) 472-5979.

**Service**, 10 a.m., the United Church of Craftsbury, an Open

and Affirming Congregation; Affiliated with the United Church of Christ. Handicap accessible, (802) 586-8028, [unitedchurchofcraftsbury.com](http://unitedchurchofcraftsbury.com), [unitedchurchcraftsbury@gmail.com](mailto:unitedchurchcraftsbury@gmail.com).

**Service**, 10 a.m., the Wolcott Mennonite Church, Rte. 15 between Morrisville and Wolcott, Pastors, : Marlin Wadel and Stephen Groff. Information, (802) 888-9113, (802) 888-5277.

**Service**, Sunday School, 10:15 a.m., Calais-Woodbury United Church, Rte. 14, South Woodbury. Communion, first Sunday of month. Church phone, (802) 232-1013, information, (802) 456-1557.

**Service**, 10 a.m., First Univer-

salist Parish of Derby Line, P.O. Box 454, Derby Line, VT 05830, (802) 873-3563, [derbylineuu.org](http://derbylineuu.org), Zoom service.

**Service**, 10 a.m., United Church of Christ, 165 Wilson St., Greensboro, (802) 533-2223, also online. Communion Service first Sunday of the month. Rev. Dr. Ed Sunday-Winters. Coffee hour following service. An Open & Affirming Congregation. [gucvvt.org](http://gucvvt.org).

**Mass**, 10:30 a.m., St. Michael's Church, 270 Bend Road, Greensboro Bend, a part of Mary Queen of All Saints Parish, confessions before Mass, Father Raj Madri. Information, (802) 472-5544.

**Service**, 10:30 a.m., The Act of Consecration of the Human Be-

ing, The Christian Community, Heartbeat Lifesharing, 218 Town Farm Road, Hardwick. Information, [thechristiancommunityvt@gmail.com](mailto:thechristiancommunityvt@gmail.com).

**Service**, 10:30 a.m., Hardwick Bible Baptist Church, 296 S. Main St. For transportation or information, (802) 472-5294.

**Service**, 11 a.m., East Craftsbury Presbyterian Church, 1773 East Craftsbury Road, Craftsbury, VT 05856. Sunday Service, 11 a.m., handicapped accessible. Rev. Joe Welker, Pastor. Information, (802) 586-7707, [ecpcvt@gmail.com](mailto:ecpcvt@gmail.com), [eastcraftsburypresbyterian.com](http://eastcraftsburypresbyterian.com).

**Service**, 11 a.m., First Congregational Church (NACCC), 123  
**See EVENTS, Next Page**

## Navigating the mid-April Night Sky 2026

For observers in the middle northern latitudes, this chart is suitable for mid April at 10:00 p.m. Daylight Time.

The stars plotted represent those which can be seen from areas suffering from moderate light pollution. In larger cities, less than 100 stars are visible, while from dark, rural areas well over ten times that amount are found.

Relative sizes and distances in the sky can be deceiving. For instance, 360 "full moons" can be placed side by side, extending from horizon to horizon.

→ • Relative size of the full moon.

**Navigating the April night sky: Simply start with what you know or with what you can easily find.**


- 1 Extend an imaginary line north from the two stars at the tip of the Big Dipper's bowl. It passes Polaris, the North Star.
- 2 Draw another imaginary line west across the top two stars of the Dipper's bowl. It strikes Capella low in the northwest.
- 3 Through the two diagonal stars of the Dipper's bowl, draw a line pointing to the twin stars of Castor and Pollux in Gemini.
- 4 Look in the west-southwest for the bright Winter Triangle stars of Sirius, Procyon, and Betelgeuse.
- 5 Directly below the Dipper's bowl reclines the constellation Leo with its primary star, Regulus.
- 6 Follow the arc of the Dipper's handle. It first intersects Arcturus, then continues to Spica.
- 7 Arcturus, Spica, and Denebola form the Spring Triangle, a large equilateral triangle.

**Binocular Highlights**

A: M44, a star cluster barely visible to the naked eye, lies to the southeast of Pollux.

B: Look nearly overhead for the loose star cluster of Coma Berenices.

C: In the Big Dipper's handle shines Mizar next to a dimmer star, Alcor.



Astronomical League  
[www.astroleague.org](http://www.astroleague.org)

Duplication allowed and encouraged for all free distribution.

# EVENTS

**CONTINUED from previous page**  
E. Church St., East Hardwick, worship led by Jim Casavant, interim Pastor. Closed in winter. Information, (414) 856-1620.

**Pickleball**, 11 a.m., Hardwick Elementary School gym. Beginners group. Information, Sara at Shbeharsing@gmail.com.

**Service**, 11 a.m., Trinity Assembly of God, Rte. 15 East, Hyde Park. Pastor Ron Doyle. (802) 888-7326.

**Fellowship Service**, 11 a.m., The Healing Stream Church of God, Wolcott Town Hall, Pastor Peter LaBonville, Wheelchair accessible.

**Worship**, 11:30 a.m., Wolcott United Methodist Church, Route 15

**Pickleball**, noon, Hardwick Elementary School gym. Intermediate and above, noon to 2 p.m. Information, Sara at Shbeharsing@gmail.com.

**Service**, noon, Hardwick Bible Baptist Church, 296 S. Main St. For transportation or information, (802) 472-5294.

**Poetry readings**, third Sundays, beginning March 15, 2 to 4 p.m., hosted by the Poetry Society of Vermont and the Jaquith Public Library. This month features Buffy Aakaash and Bethany Ann Barrett Bohall. Information: jaquithpubliclibrary.org or call (802) 426-3581.

**Mending Circle**, 3 to 5 p.m., every third Sunday, The Civic Standard, S. Main St., Hardwick. Bring clothes in need of fixing. Materials, instruction, snacks supplied.

**Poetry Readings**, third Sunday of each month, 2 to 4 p.m., Jaquith Public Library. Each reading will feature two Poetry Society of Vermont poets. Information: (802) 426-3581, [jaquithpubliclibrary@gmail.com](mailto:jaquithpubliclibrary@gmail.com), [jaquithpubliclibrary.org](http://jaquithpubliclibrary.org).

**Alcoholics Anonymous**, 6 p.m., North Central Vermont Recovery Center, 275 Brooklyn Street, Morrisville. Information, (802) 851-8120.

**Evening Service**, 7:30 p.m., The Wolcott Mennonite Church, Rte. 15 between Morrisville and Wolcott. Information, (802) 888-5277, (802) 888-9113.

## Ongoing Mondays

**Pilates**, 9 a.m., level 1, at the Barn off the Common, Craftsbury Common.

**Adaptive Biking**, 2 - 3 p.m., the Lamoille Valley Rail Trail, beginning at the trailhead parking lot on Creamery Road in Hardwick. Reservations or information, [kerry@adaptivesportspartners.org](mailto:kerry@adaptivesportspartners.org), call (802) 427-4116.

**Chess Club**, 2:45 - 4 p.m.,

Craftsbury School, Minden Art Room. Join advisor Andras Hadik-Barkoczy on select Mondays preparing for the Vermont State Chess Tournament, March 28.

**Mending**, 3 p.m., Craftsbury Public Library.

**Quit Tobacco**, support group, 3 p.m., North Central Vermont Recovery Center, 275 Brooklyn St., Morrisville. Information, (802) 851-8120.

**Adaptive Biking**, 3:30 - 4:30 p.m., on the Lamoille Valley Rail Trail, beginning at the trailhead parking lot on Creamery Road in Hardwick. Reservations or information, [kerry@adaptivesportspartners.org](mailto:kerry@adaptivesportspartners.org), (802) 427-4116.

**Dads' Group**, 5 - 6 p.m., at the Oxbow in Morrisville. Connect with other dads. Information, Rob at [rcary@LRCVT.org](mailto:rcary@LRCVT.org) or (802) 730-3000.

**Dance**, 5:30 p.m., Barn off the Common, Craftsbury Common.

**Service**, 6 p.m. Walden United Methodist Church, 109 Noyestar Road, handicap accessible, (802) 684-1201.

**Families Anonymous**, 6 p.m., North Central Vermont Recovery Center, 275 Brooklyn St., Morrisville. Information, (802) 851-8120.

**Alcoholics Anonmous**, 7 p.m., United Church of Hardwick, 216 S. Main St. Open discussion. Information, (802) 748-3708, local AA (802) 334-1213 or toll-free (877) - 334-1213.

## Ongoing Tuesdays

**Qigong**, 8:30 a.m., the Barn off the Common, Craftsbury Common.

**Tai Chi**, 9:30 to 10:15 a.m., Jeudevine Memorial Library Parker Ladd Community Room, Hardwick. Advanced Tai Chi, taught by Norma Spaulding, Information at (802) 472-8724, [nspauld@gmail.com](mailto:nspauld@gmail.com).

**Tai Chi**, 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Jeudevine Memorial Library Parker Ladd Community Room, Hardwick. Tai Chi for Fall Prevention, taught by Norma Spaulding. Information at (802) 472-8724, [nspauld@gmail.com](mailto:nspauld@gmail.com).

**Storytime**, 10 a.m., Craftsbury Public Library, early literacy for children ages 0 - 5. Information at [childrenslibrarian@craftsburypubliclibrary.org](mailto:childrenslibrarian@craftsburypubliclibrary.org) or (802) 586-9683.

**Exercise**, 11 a.m., Highland Center for the Arts, 2875 Hardwick St., Greensboro, lead by certified AFE [crystal.morrissey@ncvrc.com](mailto:crystal.morrissey@ncvrc.com) P instructor Alice Perron. Information [esanderson@nekcouncil.org](mailto:esanderson@nekcouncil.org), (802) 751-0431.

**Moms in Recovery**, support

program, 1 - 2 p.m., tailored to support pregnant and parenting mothers and their families. In person, North Central Vermont Recovery Center, 275 Brooklyn St., Suite 2, Morrisville. Information, (802) 635-0084.

**Kids' Chorus**, 3 p.m., Jeudevine Library, Hardwick. For ages 8 and up. Vocal warm-ups, musical games and group singing. Information at [jeudevineyouthlibrarian@hardwickvt.gov](mailto:jeudevineyouthlibrarian@hardwickvt.gov) or (802) 472-5948.

**After School**, 3 - 5 p.m., Greensboro Free Library. Information, (802) 533-2531.

**Dungeons & Dragons**, 3:30 - 5 p.m., Cabot Public Library, ages 11 and up. Learn how to build a character and then embark on an adventure.

**Smart Recovery**, 4 p.m., North Central Vermont Recovery Center, 275 Brooklyn St., Morrisville. Information, (802) 851-8120.

**Craftfit**, 4:30 p.m., Craftsbury Outdoor Center.

**Crafting Group**, 4:30 - 6 p.m., Jaquith Public Library, 122 School St., Marshfield. Information, [jaquithpubliclibrary@gmail.com](mailto:jaquithpubliclibrary@gmail.com), (802) 426-3581, [jaquithpubliclibrary.org](http://jaquithpubliclibrary.org).

**Magic**, 5 p.m., The Civic Standard, S. Main St., Hardwick, A group of young people get together at to play Magic: the Gathering, hosted by Dean Burns. New players are welcome.

**Friends of Jeudevine Library**, 5:15 p.m., third Tuesday of every month at the library, N. Main St., Hardwick.

**Greensboro Community Meal**, every Tuesday, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m., Greensboro United Church of Christ, East Craftsbury Road. Meal is free and all are welcome. Information: [GreensboroCommunityMeal@gmail.com](mailto:GreensboroCommunityMeal@gmail.com).

**Meeting**, 5:30 p.m., first Tuesday of month, Marshfield Select Board.

**As Bill Sees It**, AA Meeting, 6 p.m., North Central Vermont Recovery Center, 275 Brooklyn St., Morrisville. Information, (802) 851-8120.

Hardwick Energy Committee Meeting, second Tuesday of the month, 6 p.m., Hardwick Memorial Building, 20 Church St., first floor. Information: Call Bill Chidsey, Hardwick Energy Coordinator, (802) 249-6004. [Energy.Coordinator@HardwickVT.org](mailto:Energy.Coordinator@HardwickVT.org).

**Meeting**, 6 to 8 p.m., Orleans Southeast Supervisory Union Board, first Tuesday of month, OSSU Central Office, Hardwick.

**Taiji**, 6 p.m. Barn off the Common, Craftsbury Common.

**Alcoholics Anonymous**, 6

p.m., meditation meeting, United Church, 6 Church Lane (next to library), Craftsbury Common. Open meeting.

**Meeting**, 7 p.m., first Tuesday of month, Cabot Select Board.

**Meeting**, 7 p.m., first Tuesday of month, Craftsbury Select Board.

**Meeting**, 7 p.m., first Tuesday of month, Plainfield Select Board.

## Exhibits

**Mary Young's** "Notions and Nature," Greensboro Free Library, on view through April.

**Kim Darling's** "People and Things," Back Room Gallery, at NEK Artisans Guild, 430 Railroad St., #2, St. Johnsbury. Oil paintings on view through April 17.

**Ice Shanties:** Fishing, People and Culture, through April, courtesy the Vermont Folklife Center, at the Athenaeum Hall Art Gallery, 1171 Main Street. St. Johnsbury, (802) 748-8291, [stjathenaeum.org](http://stjathenaeum.org). [inform@stjathenaeum.org](mailto:inform@stjathenaeum.org)

## Community Services

**Aging assistance**, Northeast Kingdom Council on Aging, St. Johnsbury, (800) 642-5119.

**Aging assistance**, Central Vermont Council on Aging, Montpelier, (802) 479-0531.

**Community dinners**, United Church of Hardwick, noon, third and fourth Thursdays, eat-in or take out. (802) 472-6566 to reserve meal.

**Crisis line**, 24 hours, involuntary custody screening, Lamoille County Mental Health, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m., (802) 888-5026; nights and weekends, (802) 888-8888.

**Food pantry**, Woodbury-Calais Food Shelf, serving Calais, Woodbury, Cabot, (802) 472-6292..

**Food pantry**, Hardwick Area Food Pantry, 36 W. Church St., Mon., noon - 2 p.m.; Thurs. and Sat., 9 a.m. - 11 a.m. (802) 472-5940.

**Food shelf**, [vtfoodbank.org/nutrition-people/3squaresvt](http://vtfoodbank.org/nutrition-people/3squaresvt), (802) 855-6181.

**Human services**, Northeast Kingdom Human Services, 181 Crawford Road, Derby, (802) 334-6744.

**Human services**, Northeast Kingdom Human Services, 2225 Portland St., St. Johnsbury, (802) 748-3181, [nkhs.org](http://nkhs.org)

**Online safety**, cyber tipline, reporting online exploitation, [missingkids.org/gethelpnow/cybertipline?gad\\_source=1](http://missingkids.org/gethelpnow/cybertipline?gad_source=1)

**Online safety**, Take it Down, support for removing and reducing spread of explicit images, [takeitdown.ncmec.org/](http://takeitdown.ncmec.org/)

**Meals on Wheels**, Greensboro Nursing Home through Northeast  
**See EVENTS, Next Page**

# EVENTS

**CONTINUED from previous page**  
Kingdom Council on Aging, (800) 642-5119.

**Meals on Wheels**, Vermont Center for Independent Living, Montpelier, (802) 224-1825, [melissa@vcil.org](mailto:melissa@vcil.org).

**Mental health**, Lamoille County Mental Health Services, 72 Harrel St., Morrisville, (802) 888-5026, (802) 228-0591, [lamoille.org](http://lamoille.org).

**Mental health**, Washington County Mental Health Services, 9 Heaton St., Montpelier, (802) 223-6328, [wcmhs.org](http://wcmhs.org)

**Recovery center**, St. Johnsbury Recovery Center, 297 Summer St., (802) 751-8520, [recoveryinfo@stjkrcc.org](mailto:recoveryinfo@stjkrcc.org), [kingdom-recovery-center.com](http://kingdom-recovery-center.com)

**Thrift store**, Angel Outfitters Thrift Store, United Church of Christ, 216 S. Main St., Hardwick, Thurs., 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.; Sat., 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.; (802) 472-6800.

**Veterans' services**, Caledonia County, (802) 338-4324.

**Veterans' services**, Lamoille County, (802) 338-3411.

**Veterans' services**, Orleans County, (802) 338-4325.

**Veterans' services**, Washington County, (802) 338-4318.

## Libraries

**Albany Public Library**, 530 Main St., Albany, (802) 755-6107, [albanypubliclibraryvt.org](http://albanypubliclibraryvt.org). Mon. 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Wed. 2 to 6 p.m.; Sat. 1 to 5 p.m. Story time for all ages: Mon., 10 a.m. and Sat., 4 p.m.

**Brown Library**, Sterling College, Craftsbury Common (802) 586-7711, [sterlingcollege.edu/academics/brown-library](http://sterlingcollege.edu/academics/brown-library), Mon. to Fri., 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Open to the public.

**Cabot Public Library**, 3084 Main St, (802) 563-2721, [cabotlibrary.com](http://cabotlibrary.com), Mon., 3 to 6 p.m.; Tues., noon to 6 p.m., Wed., 2 to 6 p.m.; Thurs., 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Sat. 9 a.m. to noon.

**Craftsbury Public Library**, 149 Common Loop, Craftsbury Common (802) 586-9683, [craftsburypubliclibrary.org](http://craftsburypubliclibrary.org), Mon. and Thurs., 2 - 6 p.m., Tues., Wed. and Fri. 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.; Sat. 10 a.m. - 1 p.m., Story time, Fri., 10 a.m.

**Cutler Memorial Public Library**, 151 High St, Plainfield (802) 454-8504, [cutlerlibrary.org](http://cutlerlibrary.org), Tues., 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.; Wed., 3 - 6 p.m.; Thurs., 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.; Sat. 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

**Glee Merritt Kelley Community Library**, 320 School Hill Drive, Wolcott, (802) 472-6551, Mon. - Thurs., 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.; Fri. closed; Sat., 9 a.m. - 11 a.m.

**Greensboro Free Library**, 53 Wilson St., Greensboro, (802) 533-2531, [greensborofreelibrary.org](http://greensborofreelibrary.org), Mon. and Wed. closed; Tues., 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.; Thur. and Fri., 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.; Sat., 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.; Sun., noon - 2 p.m.

**Hazen Union School Library**, 126 Hazen Union Drive, Hardwick, (802) 472-6511, [hazenlibrary@ossu.org](mailto:hazenlibrary@ossu.org), 7:30 a.m. - 3 p.m., Mon. to Fri. while school is in session. Open to the public.

**Jaquith Public Library**, Old Schoolhouse Common, 122 School St., Marshfield, (802) 426-3581, [jaquithpubliclibrary.org](http://jaquithpubliclibrary.org), Tues. to Fri., 9 a.m. - noon and 3 - 6 p.m., Sat. and Mon. 9 a.m. - noon, closed Sundays. Winter story time and playgroup, Fri., 10:30 a.m., outdoors, dress for weather.

**Jeudevine Memorial Library**, 93 N Main St., Hardwick, (802) 472-5948, [jeudevinememoriallibrary.org](http://jeudevinememoriallibrary.org), Mon. and Wed. 1 - 6 p.m., Tues., Thurs. and Fri. 10 a.m. - 5 p.m., Sat. 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

**John W. Simpson Memorial Library**, 1972 E. Craftsbury Road, East Craftsbury, (802) 586-9692, [jwsimpsonmemorial.org](http://jwsimpsonmemorial.org). Wed., 9 a.m. - noon and 6 - 8 p.m.; Thurs. 9 a.m. - noon and 2 - 6 p.m.; Sat. 9 a.m. - noon; Sun. noon - 2 p.m.

**Morristown Centennial Library**, 7 Richmond St., Morrisville, (802) 888-3853, [centenniallibrary.org](http://centenniallibrary.org), Tues. and Wed., 10 a.m. - 7:30 p.m.; Thurs. and Fri., 10 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.; Sat. 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

**Walden Community Library**, Walden Elementary School, 135 Cahoon Farm Road, (802) 563-2195, [walden.mimas.opalsinfo.net/bin/home](http://walden.mimas.opalsinfo.net/bin/home), Tues., 6 - 8 p.m.

**Woodbury Community Library**, Woodbury School, 69 Valley Lake Road, (802) 472-5710, [library@woodburyvt.org](mailto:library@woodburyvt.org), Wed., 1 - 5 p.m.; Thurs., 2 - 6 p.m.; Sat., 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

## Town Clerks

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



Tim Carpenter (front) shows the firefighter helmet he created in class while visiting Senior Greensboro Firefighter Marcie Larabee helps him try on gear he has room to grow into, March 24, at Lakeview School.

photo by Lisa Stinson



At a visit by the Greensboro Fire Department to Lakeview Early Education Center (left) Senior Firefighter Marcy Larrabee shares her helmet with Asher Benjamin (center right), Miles Lasher (front right) and Lakeview instructional assistant Jessica Boyd (right rear). March 24.

photo by Lisa Stinson

# Lamarre leads boys Capital League Honors for Hazen

by Ken Brown

HARDWICK – Hazen Union’s Jameson Lamarre capped off his breakout junior campaign for the Wildcats last week by earning a First Team selection in the rugged Capital League.

Lamarre embraced his role as Hazen’s top scorer this past winter, punishing opposing teams in the Capital at nearly 20 points per game. He also quickly grew into the role as the primary ball handler for Hazen after the graduation loss of senior point guard Brendan Moodie, using his height and athleticism to crash the boards on a regular basis. The Wildcats rode his versatility all the way to a 20-win season and the 2026 Division III Championship. Although the Capital is loaded with talent up and down the league, there were very few nights where Lamarre wasn’t the best player on the floor. Joining him as First Team selections were Peoples Academy’s (PA) Jack Lafayette, Montpelier’s Stone Poor, Randolph’s Eli Messier and Steele Nelson of Harwood.

Lamoille dominated the Second Team selections after a truly dream season that culminated in their first Division II State Championship in 63 years. James Wallace, Jacson Hoag and Colby Hall all earned selections for



Hazen Union junior Jameson Lamarre (No. 11) looks to pass during play in Hardwick January 22. Lamarre scored 22 points and Lincoln Hill (No. 22) (in back) scored 14 points. Hazen won 59-37.

photo by Vanessa Fournier

their outstanding seasons for the Lancers, along with Thetford Academy’s Xander Oshoyini and U-32’s Jackson Lamere.

Hazen’s Lincoln Hill, Sully Laflam and Morgan Michaud were



Lincoln Hill of Hazen Union sidesteps Lake Region’s Jackson Hunt as he readies to shoot during play in the Wildcat den February 19. Hill scored 16 points which included four 3’s. Hazen won 63-39.

photo by Vanessa Fournier

all selected as Capital League Honorable Mentions. Hill had his best season in a Wildcat uniform, averaging just under 15 points per game, while developing into Hazen’s long-range sniper by midseason. Hill and Lamarre were also Vermont Principals’ Association

(VPA) Outstanding Underclassmen selections and should be a handful for opposing defenses next season.

Hazen did not cut down the nets last month at the Barre Auditorium without Michaud and Laflam. Michaud was a monster in the semifinal round against Hazen’s arch nemesis, Thetford, posting a career-high 26 points, while crashing the boards and playing relentless defense. Laflam had his best game of the season in the Finals, pouring in 22 points on top-seeded Randolph, while making life hard for their star sophomore big man, Messier, the entire evening. The duo’s selfless senior leadership will be tough to replace next season for the Wildcats.

Lafayette earned Capital League Player of the Year honors for PA after a scorching senior campaign that saw him break the 40-point barrier three different times for the Wolves. The Burlington transfer helped turn PA’s program around in his second season there, leading them to 12-wins and a quarterfinal run through the Division III tournament. Lamoille’s

Hosea Crittenden was named Capital League Coach of the Year after guiding the Lancers to a 19-4 record and their first state title since 1963.

## KEN BROWN’S COLLEGE ROUNDUP

### Fielder reaches new heights for Norwich

NORTHFIELD – East Calais native and former U-32 multi-sport standout Caitylyn Fielder and her 2026 Norwich University women’s lacrosse team has picked up right where they left off after a record-breaking season last spring.

Fielder scored 47 goals last season, leading the Lady Cadets to the Great Northeast Athletic Conference (GNAC) semifinals and a program-record 15 wins. The senior midfielder has already found the back of the net 35 times this season in just 10 games. She has also assisted on 18 other tallies for Norwich, leading them to a torrid 9-1 start. They currently sit in second place in the GNAC standings with a 6-1 conference record, and Fielder already earning a place on the GNAC Honor Roll four times this season. Norwich exploded for a season-high 22 goals in a lopsided win over Albertus Magnus over the weekend, with Fielder scoring four of them. She already has notched 120 career goals at Norwich in just 42 games, while adding 42 assists.



Caitylyn Fielder

social media

Fielder and the Lady Cadets hosted Colby-Sawyer College on Tuesday and will hit the road for a pivotal match-up with Saint Joseph’s (Maine), who lead the GNAC standings with a 6-0 record.

### Fairfield and Alekson stay hot

FAIRFIELD, Conn. – Former Peoples Academy (PA) star Ben Alekson and his Fairfield University baseball team won three of four games last week to push their Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC) record to 9-3 on the season.

The Stags only loss of the week came with Alekson on the mound (a 4-1 loss to Merrimack), despite the big right hander allowing just one earned run over six and two-thirds innings of work. Alekson struck out five and saw his record fall to 2-3 on the season, while lowering his ERA to a team best 1.85. The six-foot-two junior right hander has already earned two MAAC Pitcher of the Week honors this spring and has been added to the College Baseball Foundation National Pitcher of the Year watchlist. Alekson has a 17-6 career record at Fairfield in 36 starts. The former Vermont

Gatorade Baseball Player of the Year led Peoples Academy to three state championships.

After dropping nine of their first 10 games to start the season, Fairfield has gone 13-3 over the last five weeks. Alekson and the Stags will look to keep it rolling this week with a three game series at home against Rider starting Friday night.

**swish.**

**WE’VE GOT YOUR TEAMS COVERED.**  
 THE HARDWICK GAZETTE  
INDEPENDENT LOCAL NEWS SINCE 1889  
 news@hardwickgazette.org

The  
Hardwick Gazette

is

Wednesdays

THE  
NEWSROOM  
ISN'T\*

\* OUR STAFF IS LOOKING FOR NEWS 7 DAYS A WEEK

Support us at  
[hardwickgazette.org/donate](https://hardwickgazette.org/donate)