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Wednesday, April 22, 2026

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Volume 137 Number 15

MVU budget to be voted May 20 holds increase to 1%

by Paul Fixx

GREENSBORO – The Mountain View Union (MVU) Elementary School Board approved a third budget at its April 16 meeting that cuts \$113,088 from the budget now twice rejected by voters.

The total expenditure budget was approved for \$9,065,204.25, with Education Fund spending of \$8,956,803.

The board and administrators meeting in the Lakeview Early Education Center gym did not indicate details of the cuts, though \$15,000 will come from revised estimates for PCB testing at the MVU Hardwick campus, said Director of Operations and Interim

Finance Director Joe Houston.

Orleans Southwest Supervisory Union (OSSU) Superintendent David Baker said the board has been making its best faith effort to put forth a budget that the community can support and which provides what our students need.

The approved budget holds the increase to approximately 1% from last year, he said, and later added, “. . . it’s safe to say that the \$113,000 reduction last night does not affect instruction.”

The board received four letters prior to the meeting. One from Jennifer Laundry expressed concern about the process at the April 2 meeting, saying “It was troubling

See INCREASE, 4



The Mountain View Union Elementary School District administrators and board (from left) incoming Superintendent Becca Tatistcheff, Simon Cohen, Superintendent David Baker, Kyle Anderson, Meghan Shatney, Adam Gann, Juliana Swank, Heather Meacham, Darren Usinowicz, Terri Vest, Woodbury Elementary School Principal and Lakeview Early Education Center Principal/Director and Hardwick Elementary School Principal Bill Deiss, listen to public comments by Hardwick Elementary School Art Teacher Beth LeCours (standing) at the district’s regular meeting, April 16. photo by Paul Fixx

Board weighs FEMA options, approves special town meeting warning

by Raymonda Parchment

HARDWICK – The April 13 special select board meeting primarily concerned FEMA funding, specifically for the wastewater treatment plant. A date and warning was also approved for a special town meeting, May 19.

The board discussed offers from FEMA for the wastewater plant, with the types of offers differing in critical ways; The Section 428 option would provide a fixed \$8.2 million with greater flexibility but would cap funding and shift the risk of cost overruns to the Town. The Section 406 option would reimburse up to 90% of eligible costs, offering greater financial protection but less flexibility and more administrative requirements. Discussion ensued.

Mark Johnson of Vermont Emergency Management, who was present via zoom, noted the Section 428 option could be combined with USDA funding, however, those funds are nationally competitive rather than designated for Vermont specifically.

Thad Leugemors of the Vermont State Flood Recovery Team noted that a long-term solution had been to relocate the facility out of the flood zone. He also expressed concern about the age of the existing cost estimate and noted that if the Town accepts the 428 offer, it would not be able to request additional FEMA funding if costs exceed the fixed amount.

See OPTIONS, 3



The Lamoille River work area where a new retaining wall will be built along S. Main St. to the right, with a pedestrian bridge is scheduled for installation across the river, August 7. courtesy photo

Business as usual as pedestrian bridge, wall projects underway

by Paul Fixx

HARDWICK — Town staff and Hardwick Downtown Partnership (HDP) staff have been working with area businesses to help employees, customers and travelers adjust to the construction happening along S. Main St. in Hardwick’s downtown.

At a meeting March 25, Hardwick Town Manager David Upson shared plans for the pedestrian bridge and retaining wall project. HDP President Shari Cornish, Administrative Coordinator Heidi Krantz and board members Nancy Durand, Tracy Martin and Ella Price brainstormed parking options with business

See BRIDGE, 4

Residents concerned by \$65k school budget cut

by Raymonda Parchment

WOLCOTT – The April 15 school board meeting in Wolcott saw residents and board members each expressing their concerns and frustrations with the current state of the budget.

According to minutes, at the start of public comment Keith Cochran expressed his displeasure and disgust with the board going into executive session. Board member Melissa Morin responded, explaining when going into executive session the board is discussing cutting personnel.

See CUT, 3



Shannara Smith, of Hardwick (third from left), wearing a chainmail circlet, teaches (from left) Amy Crank, her daughter Amelia Crank, Jolene Shepard and seven others chainmailing. The class, an introduction to the European four-in-one weave using aluminum rings, April 18, was part of the free town-wide, weekend-long pop-up university, organized and hosted by The Civic Standard.

photo by Vanessa Fournier

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PUBLIC SERVICES

AWARE Report

HARDWICK – Twelve people used AWARE services between April 12 and April 19. 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.

Orleans County Sheriff

Conditions of release violation

IRASBURG – On April 20 at 5:36 p.m., while on duty for the Orleans County Sheriff's Department, Deputy Battista conducted a traffic stop for a motor vehicle violation in Irasburg. One of the passengers in the vehicle was identified as Travis Ward.

During the traffic stop, Travis was found to be in violation of his court issued Conditions of Release. Travis was placed under arrest and transported to the Orleans County Sheriff's Department where he was processed and lodged at Northern State Correction Facility.

Hardwick Police Department

Suspended license, Failure to appear

HARDWICK – On April 16 at 11:24 a.m., the Hardwick Police Department conducted a traffic stop on Wolcott Street in the town of Hardwick for a motor vehicle violation that had occurred on West Church Street. The operator, identified as Alton J. Daniels of Craftsbury, was operating with a criminally suspended license. Daniels has been cited into the Caledonia Unit of the Superior Court, Criminal Division, to be arraigned on the charge.

On April 14 at 12:38 p.m., Hardwick Police conducted a traffic stop, and it was determined that the passenger was Travis Ward of

Albany. Ward had a warrant for failure to appear on April 13. Ward was taken to Caledonia County Court. He was then lodged at Northeast Regional Correctional Facility.

On April 17 at approximately 8:48 a.m., Hardwick Police conducted a traffic stop on Hillside St. in Hardwick. The operator was Lucas Molleur. Hardwick Police were notified that there was an active warrant for Molleur from Orleans County. Molleur was taken into custody without incident and was cited to appear in Orleans County Court on April 17 at 12:30 p.m.

Vermont State Police

Single-vehicle crash

The Vermont State Police responded to a single vehicle crash located on Willoughby Lake Road in the town of Brownington. Troopers observed a vehicle had crashed into a utility pole and were able to identify the operator as Jacob Phelps, of Craftsbury. After further investigation, State Police

observed signs of impairment from Phelps and he was subsequently arrested and transported to the Derby Barracks for further processing. Phelps was later released on a citation to appear in Orleans Superior Court, Criminal Division, on July 28 at 8 a.m. for DUI Drugs.



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Contents

Public Services.....	2
Weather Watch	3
Prospect bleak for oldest building on S. Main Street.....	5
Hardwick State, April 17-19 (photos)	6
Proposal for Town hall third floor condition assessment requested	7
American Legion presents Quilt of Valor	8
Editorial: Sustaining members vital to future of local news	9
Letters from Readers: Karp	9
Yankee Notebook: Locals taking potshots at you	10
Woodsmoke (cartoon).....	10
Our Neighborhood: Billingsley stepping back.....	11
Heller's World (cartoon)	11, 14, 18
Legislative Report: Harple, Yacavone.....	12
Weeks Gone By	13
Another Opinion: Jones, Brown.....	14, 15
The Outside Story: Spring ephemerals.....	16
In My Nature (cartoon)	16
In the Garden: Plant spring bulbs, garden plant supports.....	17, 18
Our Communities	19, 20
Education.....	21
Obituaries: Hopkins, LaClair.....	21, 22
Review: O'Brien's debut album	23
Robinson presents album release concert, May 1.....	23
Review: "Pippin" fast-moving, great stage presence	24
Events.....	25-29
Hazen Union championship teams become part of Vermont history.....	30
Ken Brown's College Roundup.....	31
Ken Brown's Track & Field Roundup	31



Daylilies on Montgomery Road promise summer blooms through new snow on Sunday. photo by Dawn Gustafson

WEATHER WATCH

Uneventful and cooler forecast for this week

by Tyler Molleur

EAST HARDWICK – Our forecast period last week included a dramatic shift in temperatures. Highs in the upper-60s on Saturday under full sunshine and a south breeze changed to a cloudy Sunday, with temperatures falling to the 30s and accumulating snow across the region. 2.5 inches of new snow fell in East Hardwick, with Craftsbury, Woodbury and Plainfield reporting between one and two inches of new snow. The higher elevations of Greensboro received 4.3 inches from the storm.

Thunderstorms on Thursday evening packed a bit of a punch, locally with some gusty winds and heavy rain. About 30 miles south of our area in Williamstown, the first April tornado ever recorded in Vermont touched down with a path length of just under half a mile and maximum winds of 90 mph, which makes it an EF1 tornado after damage was evaluated by the National Weather Service. From the thunderstorm downpours, Stannard reported 1.4 inches of rain.

2.62 inches of rain fell between Monday, April 13, and Monday, April 20, at the East Hardwick station, which puts us over an inch above normal for the month and near normal for the year in terms of precipitation amounts. The

drought monitor shows parts of eastern Vermont have been downgraded from a moderate drought to abnormally dry.

An upper-level low remains over the Canadian Maritimes for most of the forecast period, with the jet stream mostly deflecting south of New England. This means we will have slightly below, but consistent temperatures through most of the forecast period, with some clouds mixed with sun as a rule. A weak disturbance will make its way into Vermont later today into tomorrow morning with a chance of some light rain and snow showers. After that, conditions tend to be sunnier. Low relative humidity combined with breezy conditions Thursday may elevate the fire danger. The weather conditions otherwise remain consistent all the way through Sunday. Here are the forecast details:

Wednesday: Mostly cloudy. A chance of rain or snow showers. High: 44. Low: 31. South wind around 5 mph.

Thursday: Partly sunny. High: 48. Low: 26. Northwest wind 5 to 10 mph with gusts to 20 mph.

Friday: Mostly sunny. High: 50. Low: 27. Calm wind.

Saturday: Mostly sunny. High: 55. Low: 32. Calm wind.

Sunday: Partly sunny. High: 56. Low: 35. Calm wind.

Options

Continued From Page One

After discussing which option better suits the town's needs, the board authorized the town office to move forward with the Section 406 Standard Public Assistance option.

Chair Ceilidh Galloway Kane inquired about the timeline under the chosen 406 option. Johnson stated that July 14, 2027, is the estimated completion date. He noted that FEMA may grant extensions if the project is actively progressing. He also emphasized the importance of moving forward with repairs and noted that, as a large project, the town may request quarterly

reimbursement through the Vermont Department of Public Safety.

A warning published last week in The Hardwick Gazette calls for a special town meeting, May 19 at 6:30 p.m. to take up two articles at an in-person meeting.

Hardwick Town Clerk Tonia Chase will be implementing a new procedure at the meeting to ensure only registered Hardwick voters can be counted when there are votes; She recommends voters arrive by 6 p.m. to be verified against the voter checklist. Each voter will be given a colored card, which voters will be asked to raise when votes either for or against an issue are called for. Chase said she'd be at the Town House to check people in beginning at 5 p.m. and there will be two lines, one for each half of the alphabet, to help the process move along more quickly.

The first article covered by the warning was approved on Town Meeting Day in March, then petitioned to be reconsidered. It asks if the town shall contribute

\$25,000 toward the purchase of approximately 329 acres of land that includes the top of Buffalo Mountain. The town's contribution will be matched by more than \$700,000 in other funds to create a town forest. The property will be given to the town along with a fund of \$25,000 to go toward maintaining the property.

The warning notes benefits of the acquisition as protecting recreational access, fish and wildlife habitat, forestry, Lamoille River water quality and providing outdoor educational opportunities for children.

Hardwick Conservation Commission members have indicated the town's support would help show the town's support and leverage other funding.

Opponents of donating the \$25,000 have expressed concern over the loss of tax revenue amounting to roughly \$5,000 annually. In addition, it was pointed out during the previous select board meeting that the board has already voted to accept the property, so voting against the \$25,000 donation only means those funds will need to come from elsewhere.

The second question to be considered is "Shall the Town vote to require all future voting at Annual and Special Town Meetings be conducted exclusively by Australian ballot?"

An informational meeting to discuss the Special Town Meeting questions and their implications is planned for 5:30 p.m. on May 7, before the regular select board meeting, said Select Board Chair Ceilidh Galloway-Kane, who added a warning for that meeting will be posted soon.

Cut

Continued From Page One

Resident Marquise Houle said the special education budget is being "double dipped" with tuition students, asking how they can put a stop to this. Bill Cotton suggested they consider making Wolcott a kindergarten through eighth grade school.

Morin made a motion to approve the FY27 budget amounting to \$6,298,447.05, with a savings of \$65,883.00 from budget voted down twice, and dropping the tax rate by \$0.02. Board member Roger LaChance seconded the motion. The motion

passed, with one nay vote and four yea.

LaChance stated he wants the town to understand that the school is already working with a skeleton crew, and this is a devastating blow. "We need a functioning school for our students," he said.

Board member Laura Kaiser felt that there is a lot of misunderstanding.

"This vote is hurting our students, we are at a place where we are no longer doing what is best for the children," said Kaiser.

The school board will need to set a date and approve a warning at a future meeting.

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Increase

Continued From Page One

that, for a board presenting the same budget again, many questions from attendees were met with responses such as ‘I don’t know,’ or ‘we don’t have that information.’ These are not reassuring answers.” She wrote that one of her most significant concerns was about a board member’s statement that the preschool program was making money, then requested clear documentation in support of the claim with a detailed breakdown of the program’s costs and revenue it generates.

The writers of the other three letters attended the meeting and spoke during the public comment period, with Harold McCoy of Hardwick leading off to say the state seems to be pitting towns against each other when it’s important to advocate for students.

He asked the board if it would advocate for consolidating the Greensboro and Woodbury campuses into the one in Hardwick and asked for more dialogue about maintenance issues at the Greensboro and Woodbury campuses.

In opening the public comment period, the night’s Acting Chair Terri Vest said the board would listen to comments and take them into account, but not respond directly.

In her letter Hillary Seel of Hardwick asked what a timeline would look like to merge all three

“At some point, continuing to do the same thing while expecting a different result is no longer a viable option. Voters have now rejected the current approach twice.”

schools for the next school year and whether a comment Annie Houston made at the informational meeting about Woodbury being a rural school implied retaining it would reduce the homestead tax rate in all four MVU towns. At the meeting she asked for peaceful and respectful conversation.

“At some point, continuing to do the same thing while expecting a different result is no longer a viable option. Voters have now rejected the current approach twice,” wrote Hardwick’s Doreen Cota.

“If we are serious about maintaining a strong education system while respecting taxpayers, then difficult but necessary conversations (including consolidation and restructuring) can no longer be avoided.”

At the meeting she said, “cutting staff is not in the best interest of any students,” asking why cuts fall on teachers and saying she’s “seen biased voting.”

Roberta Foster, who said, “Why have a vote when nothing has changed” and she’d be upset “if she had a child based in Greensboro.”

Bridge

Continued From Page One

owners Claudia Gohl, Naomi Ranz-Schleifer, Nikki Phelps Robarge and Sandy Scott.

Those attending the meeting were interested in the construction timeline. Cornish, who also serves on the select board said downtown businesses were open for business as usual.

She later worked with Upson to create a construction timeline with public posts on social media and a sign for the work area.

“Big things are taking shape in downtown Hardwick,” wrote HDP in a Facebook post.

“We’re sharing a timeline for the retaining wall and pedestrian bridge construction so you can stay in the loop every step of the way.”

For the remainder of April concrete footings will be poured, followed by additional excavation and the installation of shoring. During May steel and cement supports for the bridge abutments will be installed, followed by excavation, installation of supports and prep for more footings, In

June and July more footings will be poured and work will begin to form and pour concrete for walls and abutments. Late July will bring backfilling and the installation of stone fill.

If all goes well, and construction stays on schedule, the new bridge will be assembled beginning August 3 and installed August 7. Remaining backfilling and stone fill will continue through September 18 along with electrical work for the lighted bridge and completion of landscaping.

The timeline calls for the last of the work on the retaining wall and pedestrian bridge projects to be completed October 14.

“We know projects like this take patience, but they’re all about building a stronger, safer, and more connected downtown for everyone,” said HDP. “Thanks for sticking with us!”

Visit hardwickdowntown.org and click the Facebook link for more detail about the construction project. Businesses may contact HDP to learn about parking options.

Stephen Murphy of Woodbury asked that the board focus on this year’s budget because consolidation is a separate topic for another time.

Later in the meeting Baker made clear that the board has discussed consolidating the three campuses and decided not to consider that option for the coming school year. Other mentioned constraints on the planning and notification processes that are required, which make it too late to consider that option.

East Hardwick’s Nancy Nottermann said she understands the board is constrained by rising health care costs and had voted for the budget both times. She wants her grandchild to have the education they deserve and said the school system has to function well if we want young people to stay in our towns.

Laura Murphy of Woodbury said all children are equal when it comes to busing. Her children currently ride for 50 minutes to get to the Woodbury school and going to Hardwick would add still more time.

Art Teacher Beth LeCours of Hardwick said she’s been frustrated asking for a breakdown of costs for each campus and supports educating all students together.

Woodbury’s Patrick Flood said it’s unfortunate the taxpayers and the board are in a position to try to solve a problem that is not fixable. He believes there is a benefit to having the school in Woodbury and any decisions about any school closure should take a good deal of time for consideration and study.

Suzanne Gann said she thinks the board is considering

making cuts from places where it shouldn’t, in order to maintain, for example, the Lakeview building.

Hardwick’s Ben Patoine said the board needs to come up with a better option after the budget has been voted down twice.

Further comments and suggestions included that the board forego its salary and return to volunteer board positions. Many said there are real opportunities for better communication from the board to the community, which could help clear up misconceptions in the community.

Head Start Center Manager at the Lakeview Early Education Center Lee Ann Lee of Wolcott said the Head Start program pays for the cook in Greensboro, co-teacher positions and she fills classroom positions as needed, adding capacity without an expense to the district.

A straw poll by Vest drew support for creating a committee to research the topic of retaining a financial consultant to bring more clarity to the district’s current costs and possible future costs of pursuing other school configuration options.

In taking a step toward better communication between the board and the community, Kyle Anderson presented an outline of work that might be done by a Community Communications Committee he proposed. The committee is intended to provide improved communication from and to the board and a motion to create it was approved with a plan for it to come back to the board with suggestions.

Incoming Superintendent Becca Tatistcheff attended the meeting to observe.

Some discussion followed around the transportation contract.


A warning for the third budget vote was signed by board members with plans for the vote on Wednesday, May 20 and an Informational Meeting, Thursday, May 14, the same night as the regular school board meeting.

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Prospects bleak for oldest building on S. Main Street

by Paul Fixx

HARDWICK – Prospects of finding a path forward for efforts to save the former Civic Standard building at 42 S. Main St. in Hardwick were dampened last week when a proposal to take on renovations was rejected by the building’s owner.

A note sent Friday by Shari Cornish to members of the FOCUS 42 Restoration Team said a response from The Civic Standard’s board “does not offer a path forward for our effort to restore and preserve the former Gazette Building.”

FOCUS 42, named for the address of the 42 S. Main Street building that is in a FEMA buyout program and now sits empty, across from The Civic Standard, is an ad hoc group formed under the Hardwick Downtown Partnership (HDP) Economic Vitality Committee. A proposal it submitted April 1 included a \$44,000 proposed contract from Engineering Ventures, P.C., saying, “Our work will include design of foundation replacement and slope stabilization of the river side of the building and associated permitting.”

The timeline provided by HDP offered pre-development planning and fundraising this spring, finalizing a design and putting the project out to bid this summer and implementing foundation work in the fall.

Following the foundation stabilization, a second phase was proposed during the 2026-2027 winter and spring to address the rest of the building’s needs that include exterior painting and roof leaks with community engagement and additional fundraising.

The Civic Standard’s response noted the lack of a realistic timeline for the necessary permitting.

It then added, “Our RFP had a submission deadline of December 2025. We made an exception to accept your proposal in April given our respect for the effort and our shared concern for the building’s future.”

Further, The Civic Standard indicated they expect FEMA could be ready to demolish the building this summer and their decision to move forward would then have to be made without delay. Throughout this process The Civic’s Rose Friedman has been clear they would reject the buyout only if they were certain the building had the appropriate stewards.

“As this process has unfolded, it has become clear that the building presents significant challenges, and that any path forward will need to carefully account for those realities,” said The Civic’s Board Chair Lauren Antler.



The home of the Civic Standard from May 2022 to late 2025, at 42 S. Main St. in Hardwick now stands empty, with only a FEMA buyout, demolition and becoming green space as an option for its future. It was the home of The Hardwick Gazette for more than 100 years before The Gazette moved to Greensboro in 2021.

Referring to the RFP deadline, The Civic response indicated, “That deadline existed for important reasons — to align with the FEMA buyout timeline, which we now anticipate could take place as early as this summer, and to ensure the building doesn’t continue to deteriorate in a way that creates broader consequences for the town.”

Cornish said, “I am disappointed. I perhaps was overly optimistic that they would respond with a counter proposal rather than simply rejecting our proposal entirely. I couldn’t imagine that they wouldn’t allow volunteers to step in to provide the capacity that they cannot offer to save the building that was given to their organization. This may ultimately mean the loss of a building now, but it could mean a bigger loss in the long run for the physical well being of our downtown.”

Antler said, “Our primary goal has been to identify a steward who could demonstrate — before any transfer of ownership — the operational and financial capacity

to take on a project of this complexity. 42 S. Main Street is a historic building in a floodway with significant unresolved structural needs.”

Though several others who expressed interest in the building stepped back after the complexity and expense of the project in the Lamoille River floodway became clear, Antler left a path open to save the building, saying, “If there are organizations or interested parties who can take on the

significant foundation work to stabilize the building, assume the carrying costs, keep it in compliance with insurance requirements and realistically assess the risks, we welcome full and complete proposals that would be able to move forward prior to the FEMA deadline.”

“Hopefully this isn’t the end of the story and there can still be a path forward with keeping this building a part of our community,” said Cornish.

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Second Annual Hardwick State April 17 - 19



Justin Lander (left) shows Eric Remick, Sarah Morgan, Grace Johnstone and five others attending his workshop, "How to make Chicken Galentine," held at The Civic Standard Saturday during Hardwick State.



Author Dede Slayton Avery (right) shows a book to (from left) Val Hussey, Bryan DeLaney and Louella Andrus, who are attending her Hardwick State course, "Wrangling Words: Rope Your Writing in 99 Words," Saturday.



Sarah Mutrux (center), Rural Arts Collaborative Executive Director, watches as Amy Crank (left) helps her daughter Madeline Crank (right) of Hardwick silkscreen at a workshop in the GRACE building during Hardwick State, Saturday.



Fashion historian Audrey Grant, of East Hardwick, wears colonial working attire from the 1770-1900 era she hand-sewed herself, during her presentation, "Introduction to Reenactment," held at the American Legion Post #7, April 18. Her course was one of 51 held during the second annual Hardwick State, a weekend-long community pop-up free university organized and hosted by The Civic Standard and supported by many sponsors.



Left: Storyteller and puppeteer, Cheryl Ives (center) of North Wolcott, performs "Goldenrod," an original puppet show, at Hazen Union School, Sunday, during The Civic Standard's Hardwick State weekend. After the show volunteers Stacy Wein (left) of Hardwick and Barb Mutrux (right) of Craftsbury tried their skill at puppetry.

**Photos
by
Vanessa Fournier**



Greensboro Fire Department Captain Andrew Casavant demonstrates what a side curtain air bag looks like when it is deployed as part of the 45-hour basic firefighters class on vehicle extrication at the Hardwick Fire Station, April 11. *photo by Vanessa Fournier*



Hardwick Fire Department 2nd Assistant Chief Lindsay O'Steen (left) and a Greensboro firefighter watch as Hardwick firefighter Newt Brown (center) removes a windshield during the 45-hour basic firefighter class portion on vehicle extrication held April 11 at the Hardwick Fire Station. *photo by Vanessa Fournier*

Proposal for Town Hall third floor condition assessment requested

by **Raymonda Parchment**

GREENSBORO – The third floor of the Greensboro Town Hall again took the attention of the select board at its April 8 meeting, as well as town meeting day rules and procedures.

Public comment began with resident Gary Circosta submitting a petition to the select board, signed by over a hundred residents, asking; “Shall the Town of Greensboro adopt all budget articles by Australian ballot?” and “Shall the Town of Greensboro vote on all public questions by Australian ballot?”

Circosta also read a statement explaining the rationale behind the petition, saying “I’m submitting a petition with two articles about switching how Greensboro votes on “all budget articles” and on “all public questions” at Town Meeting. If these articles pass at a Special Town Meeting, we would simply separate the discussion of town issues from the voting, and we would vote in private.” He noted not everyone who signed this petition may ultimately vote to switch to Australian ballots, but every signer wants to have a Special Town Meeting to discuss these articles.

Resident and architect Jay Barrett was asked by town health officer Karl Stein if Barrett would be qualified and interested in performing a code assessment of the town hall’s third floor.

Barrett conducted a study in 2021 of a historic town hall in Wentworth, N.H., that included building code, structural and historical analysis. On that project, he worked with engineer Tim Schall, who did the structural analysis. Barrett said he would charge \$1500 for the building code analysis, with no historical assessment. According to Barrett, Schall said he’d be willing to do the structural analysis for \$3,500. Barrett says there are many opinions about the building’s condition and the state of the third-floor space.

Architectural and structural reports will definitively state what the issues are. Barret says Schall will need a carpenter to carefully open up small sections of the building so he can complete his assessment. Barret informed the board he would be assessing any codes that would apply to a municipal building, including accessibility issues, fire ratings and egress.

The history of the building’s third floor was discussed. Board member Mike Metcalf recollected that at the 1983 town meeting under Other Business, a discussion arose of whether the town should either tear down the town hall building, or come up with a renovation plan.

Afterwards, using grant funding and donations, significant portions of the tin walls and ceilings were removed and fire-rated sheetrock installed behind the tin

as well as a roof replacement.

According to Stein, at the time local fire chiefs were empowered by the state to be local fire marshals and had the authority to close buildings. Fire Chief Dave Brochu Sr., using a checklist from the state, made the judgement call that the town hall’s third floor occupancy should be limited to 50 persons. Around 2005, after an event was held with about 100 people, Chief Brochu ordered the third floor to be closed writ large.

Treasurer Brett Stanciu said there is \$24k in the capital budget for use on any town building in this fiscal year. Barrett agreed to write up a cost proposal for the board to review, prior to approving the investigative work.

In other business, Stanciu reported Collector of Delinquent Taxes Michael Cloutier has scheduled a tax sale for June 2, at 9:30 a.m., at the town offices. One property is involved. She informed the board that one member must be appointed to attend and be prepared to bid on the property.

On the proposed Breezy Avenue sidewalk improvements, scribe Josh Karp says the “local concerns meeting” will be held on

Tuesday, May 5, at 6:30 p.m., at the Fellowship Hall directly after the regular community supper. The goal is to get as much public input as possible.

The board adopted the Vermont League of Cities and Towns (VLCT) model fund balance policy.

Corrections to the 2026 town meeting warning were approved unanimously.

The board appointed Stew Arnold, John Schweizer, Chris Steel, Naomi Ranz-Schleifer, Chris Phillips and Paul Brierre to the Caspian Lake dam task force.

Chair Kent Hansen of the Greensboro Planning Commission (GPC) said the commission has approved updates to the flood bylaw and shoreline protection district, as well as miscellaneous updates throughout the bylaw.

The GPC is hoping to hold a public hearing on the revised town plan in August. He recommended that the board appoint Bob Youngman to the GPC. MacNeil said prior to an appointment, the board would like a letter from Mr. Youngman expressing his interest along with some background information.

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for saying you saw it in the
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Hardwick American Legion Post #7 awarded its first Quilts of Valor, April 11 to (from left) front row: Sgt. Roger "Red" Goodrich and 2nd Lt. John J. Quinn; back row: Sgt. Matthew J. Greaves, Sgt. David A. Colburn, Sgt. 1st Class Ivan S. Menard (serving in his 40th year), Sgt. Edward I. Slayton and Spec. Isaac O. Marsh. All are Army National Guard veterans, except Slayton, who served in the Marine Corps. photo courtesy American Legion Post #7

American Legion presents Quilts of Valor

by Paul Fixx

HARDWICK—Seven members of the Hardwick American Legion Post #7 received Quilts of Valor (QoV) at the post's first ceremony awarding them, April 11.

The annual birthday supper included a celebration of America's 250th birthday and membership recognition presentations along with the QoV ceremony.

American Legion Family Department Leadership joined for the free meal.

Seven service members receiving QoV were Army National Guard veterans Sgt. Roger "Red" Goodrich, 2nd Lt. John J. Quinn, Sgt. Matthew J. Greaves, Sgt. David A. Colburn, Spec. Isaac O. Marsh, Sgt. 1st Class Ivan S. Menard (serving in his 40th year), and Marine Corps veteran Sgt. Edward I. Slayton.

A Quilt of Valor® (QOV) is a

handmade quilt that is machine or hand quilted. It is awarded to a service member or veteran who has been touched by war. The quilt is awarded by the post to say, "Thank you for your service and sacrifice in serving our nation."

The Quilts of Valor Foundation began in 2003 with a dream when founder Catherine Roberts' son Nat was deployed in Iraq.

According to Roberts, "the dream was as vivid as real life. I saw a young man sitting on the side of his bed in the middle of the night, hunched over. The permeating feeling was one of utter despair. I could see his war demons clustered around, dragging him down into an emotional gutter. Then, as if viewing a movie, I saw him in the next scene wrapped in a quilt. His whole demeanor changed from one of despair to one of hope and well-being. The quilt had made this dramatic change."



Jeanne Segretto (left) of East Hardwick, teaches "Fiddle 101" to Krista Licata (center) of Walden and Jolene Shepard (right) of Hardwick during the Hardwick State weekend of free courses. photo by Vanessa Fournier

Buffalo Mountain Co-op 2026 Annual Meeting



Sunday, April 26th

Hardwick American Legion

Doors open at 4 p.m.

Meeting begins at 4:30

Dinner will be served

All are welcome

TOWN OF GREENSBORO
82 CRAFTSBURY ROAD, GREENSBORO, VERMONT 05841

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

Pursuant to 24 V.S.A. §4442 and §4444, the Greensboro Selectboard has scheduled a hybrid public hearing at 6:30 pm on May 18, 2026 in the Greensboro Town Hall at 82 Craftsbury Road, Greensboro VT, or online via Zoom, using the following link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8245586005?omn=89757342137>. ID: 824 558 6005; 16469313860# US.

The purpose of the meeting is to solicit public input regarding proposed amendments to the Greensboro Zoning Bylaw, dated October 9, 2024.

AMENDMENTS TO FLOOD HAZARD REGULATIONS PURPOSES: To maintain the eligibility of the Town of Greensboro, its landowners, residents, citizens and businesses for federal flood insurance, federal disaster recovery funds, and hazard mitigation funds when new Flood Insurance Rate Maps go into effect; to make the Town eligible for enhanced state cost sharing under the Emergency Relief and Assistance Fund, as may be available; to provide additional protection for the community from flood related hazards; to affect the purposes of 10 V.S.A. Chapter 32, and in accordance with 24 V.S.A. Chapter 117, §§ 4424 and 4414.

GEOGRAPHIC AREA AFFECTED: Areas of high risk of flood damage in the Town of Greensboro.

LISTING OF SECTION HEADINGS: Article 6 Flood Hazard Overlay Regulations; plus related Zoning Bylaws: Article 1 Authority and Purpose; §3.9 Protection of Water Resources; Article 5 Administrative and Enforcement; and Article 9 Definitions.

A FULL TEXT OF THE PROPOSALS AND/OR MAP: Copies of the proposed changes to the Greensboro Zoning Bylaws are available at the Town of Greensboro's official website: <https://greensborovt.gov/>; 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 Selectboard via the Selectboard Clerk, at jkarp@greensborovt.gov or by mail to Selectboard Clerk, Josh Karp, Town of Greensboro, Box 119, Greensboro, VT 05841.

Dated at Greensboro, Vermont, this 8th day of April, 2026.

Greensboro Selectboard
MacNeil, Chair, Tim Brennan, Vice Chair,
Judy Carpenter, Ellen Celnik, Michael Metcalf

EDITORIAL

Sustaining members vital to future of local news

During the month of April, The Hardwick Gazette is asking readers to step forward and make a monthly commitment. The reason for this is rooted in the unbalanced finances of nonprofit news.

The Gazette publishes once a week, and the bills come due like clockwork. But revenues are heavily weighted toward the last few months of the year.

Advertising sales are strongest from October through December. And reader support, our single biggest source of funds, is at its highest during our end-of-year fundraising campaign in November and December.

Readers who donate consistently throughout the year are the best way to reduce the imbalance.

You rely on The Gazette for dependable coverage of the news that matters. Can The Gazette rely on you for the same kind of support?

Monthly contributions of \$5 or more make a big difference. And we have a special thank-you gift for those who give \$10 a month or more: a handsome Hardwick Gazette ceramic mug. The Gazette's 2025



end-of-year campaign was an overwhelming success but by itself, it's not enough to keep things going through all of 2026. Please help build on the momentum of that campaign by becoming a sustaining member now.

Visit our "Donate" page at givebutter.com/Hardwick-Gazette and make a monthly commitment at a level that's comfortable for you. Thank you for your trust, and thank you for your support.

John Walters
Northeast Kingdom
Public Journalism
board member

LETTERS FROM READERS

Archive easily accessible

To the editor:

I was desperately looking for a photo of a 2019 washout on Old Schoolhouse Rd. in Greensboro Bend, and I just found one in the Gazette archives!! So thanks for

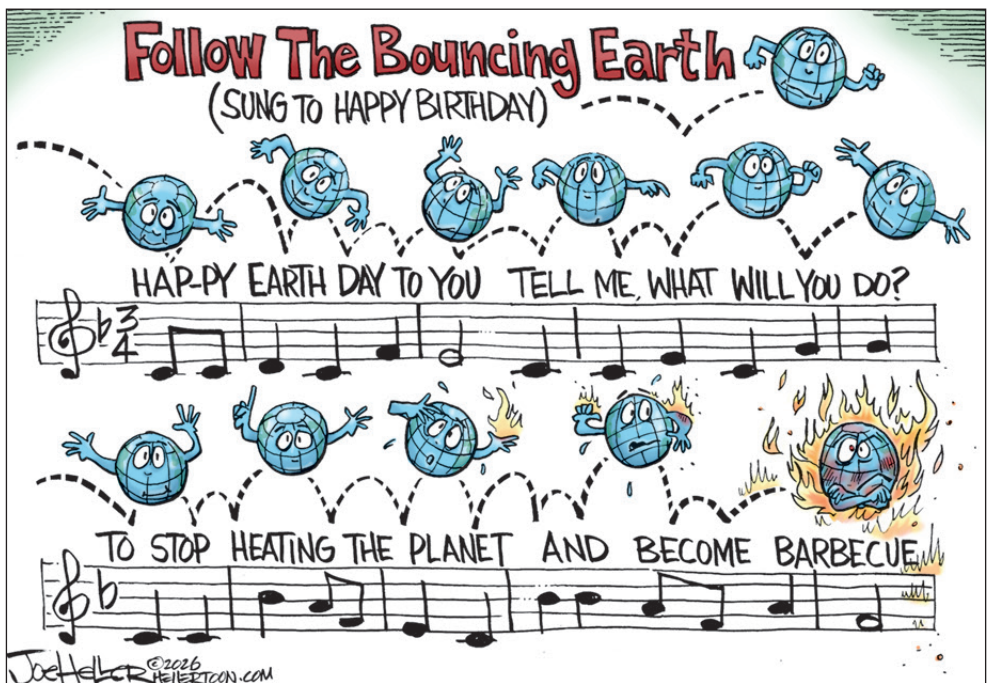
making that archive easily accessible, it's a great resource..

Josh Karp
Selectboard clerk,
FEMA coordinator
Town of Greensboro

For the record

HARDWICK – A file photo from October 25 accompanying last week's article "SVAM reaffirms commitment to survivors, advocates," included a former member of the AWARE staff who is no longer with the organization.

Heller's World by Joe Heller



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THE Hardwick Gazette

Since 1889

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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.

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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 for advertising inquiries including display ads and business directory submissions; editor@hardwickgazette.org for corrections, letters to the editor, story ideas, website or newsletter questions and comments; news@hardwickgazette.org for all submissions of calendar of events, news stories, obituaries, births, press releases and everything else.

YANKEE NOTEBOOK

Locals taking potshots at you

by Willem Lange

EAST MONTPELIER – One of the most New England of poems was published by James Russell Lowell in 1864. “The Courtin” became popular enough to be published subsequently as a separate volume, with period-type illustrations by none other than Winslow Homer. A charming story, it depicts perfectly the knots that Yankees often tie themselves into before finally (if ever) expressing themselves.

But for all that, the verses I like best are the ones that describe the homely everyday tasks of a farmhouse (this one in the dead of winter) and the objects that we identify with that life and that remind us of its history:

Agin the chimibly crook-necks hung.

An’ in amongst ‘em rusted
The ole queen’s arm thet
gran’ther Young

Fetcht back from Concord
busted.

The house had likely been built and lived in before the Revolution, and Grandfather Young had been at the first battle of that war, and returned with a broken

Brown Bess musket that American militia, like the Minutemen, frequently used. If you look at your own walls, you’ll probably see artifacts that point backward at the history of your family or your own life. The Youngs were sons of the Revolution.

Just south and east of us, Massachusetts and Maine have just celebrated a state holiday, Patriots Day, honoring the Sons of Liberty. On this day they stood fast on the town green in Concord and drove a British expeditionary force of four hundred back to their main body at Lexington, whence they began a disastrous retreat to Boston. In the words of Longfellow, “. . . The British Regulars fired and fled, . . . the farmers gave them ball for ball, from behind each fence and farm-yard wall.”

It’s difficult today, navigating the traffic-choked highways from Concord to Boston, to imagine walking that distance, let alone doing it with the locals taking potshots at you with 75-caliber smoothbores. It must have been one hell of a day for the regulars. They probably reached the city limits with much greater enthusiasm than I usually do 251 years

later.

But it was no less onerous for the militiamen who came home wounded or not at all. When they mustered with their weapons on the green, they knew they were going up against the world’s most powerful army. But over the years, as they’d experienced ever heavier outrages from a distant, imperious government, and shared their resentments with their fellows, they’d weighed the odds of doing nothing against the risk of losing everything. It’s what creates a revolution.

In his book, “The Crucible of War,” author Fred Anderson describes beautifully the way the Seven Years’ War prepared the way for the American Revolution. The colonies, which had begun as sort of microcosms of British culture, had evolved, pretty much of necessity, into meritocracies, with a much more powerful middle class. Clashes were inevitable between British officers, who came exclusively from the gentle class, and colonial officers, who often were elected by their men.

Instituted in 1894 as a substitute for Fast Day, a poorly observed holiday, Patriots Day

has grown in popularity. In 1897 the Boston Marathon was added. Naturally, the Red Sox play a home game, with a gigantic American flag hanging over the scoreboard and colonial militia re-enactors marching around the outfield.

My dear friend Bea is a Massachusetts resident, so the recognition affords us a three-day weekend, a wonderfully relaxing break in routine. The 19th of April in 1775 was apparently cool and clear in the morning, with cumulus building in the afternoon and a lovely sunset. This year, here, it snowed hard much of the day. But we weren’t marching anywhere, trying frantically to keep our powder dry; we drove a hybrid vehicle to a lovely performance of “Our Town” at Lost Nation Theater. It was interesting to wonder, however, as our own current revolutionary spirit is increasingly matched by similar feelings in growing numbers of our countrymen and -women, how long it will be, the recent disruptions in Minneapolis were most troubling, before we reassert the rights that the patriots of Lexington and Concord deemed worth dying for, if necessary.

Woodsmoke by Julie Atwood



“IT MAY BE SPRING,
BUT WE WON’T FEEL IT UNTIL SUMMER!”

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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.

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OUR NEIGHBORHOOD

Billingsley stepping back after seeing town through flood recovery

by Eisha Qureshi

PLAINFIELD – Michael Billingsley may be stepping down as the town’s emergency management director, but he’s not retiring just yet.

Because the incoming emergency management director cannot always be in Plainfield, Billingsley views a gradual succession plan as the most practical path forward.

“I volunteered myself to be the eyes and ears,” Billingsley said.

He will take a back seat on the emergency management team by becoming the Plainfield Hazard Mitigation Specialist.

Billingsley first served as the town’s emergency management director from 2015 to 2019 before stepping away. When Plainfield again needed a director, he returned one month before the major floods of 2023.

While every Vermont town is required to have the position, Billingsley distinguished himself by working not just for Plainfield residents, but also for other communities. His efforts earned him Vermont’s Emergency Management Director of the Year award in 2024.

Billingsley is “an unsung hero,” said Emily Harris, engagement section chief at Vermont Emergency Management. “Michael puts Plainfield first and goes above and beyond to try and pull resources to respond and recover from a disaster.”

Billingsley knows firsthand how disasters can alter lives. His home flooded in 2023. Repairs to his basement and furnace cost more than \$10,000. Repairing damage to the house siding cost nearly \$30,000.

With the recent influx of environmental disasters, Billingsley

believes looking out for neighbors is the best approach to navigating difficult times.

“All I’m doing is emphasizing something that helps any strong community and provides ways in which people can be aware of each other’s needs,” he said. “Which is to say to be curious about each other and to be aware of who your neighbors are, what their names are, what their various issues might be or their strengths. And be prepared to join together.”

Emergency management is a proactive approach to preparing for future disasters. Officials identify vulnerable areas where residents might be affected, such as steep valleys and changing floodplains. They prepare plans and organize resources for those in need.

After disasters occur, Billingsley uses satellite and aerial imagery to estimate the extent of the damage. Through word of mouth, he coordinates where volunteers go first.

Billingsley has a background in hazard mitigation. It helps him and his team analyze how Vermont’s weather and topography are affected by changing climate patterns. Vermont’s mountainous terrain includes significant sediment and lake deposits, which are unstable. At the same time, climate change is increasing evaporation, leading to more intense rainstorms.

Instead of rainfall flowing safely into rivers and larger watersheds, landslides are eroding riverbanks, causing collapses. The erosion carries silt to the surface, uproots trees, clogs bridges and backs up water systems.

Some bridges and roads cannot be rebuilt because rivers continue to erode and destroy them. Multiple researchers are



Michael Billingsley (left) receiving the Vermont Emergency Management Director of the Year award in 2024.

photo courtesy Vermont Emergency Management website

collecting data to help communities avoid rebuilding in areas likely to be repeatedly damaged.

One day etched in Billingsley’s memory is July 10, 2024. Great Brook swelled into a destructive river that uprooted houses, roads and bridges and swept them downstream. The next morning, residents walked through a devastated downtown.

Hundreds of volunteers arrived to assist with repairs and recovery. Volunteers provided shelter for displaced residents, and churches opened a commercial kitchen for those unable to prepare food.

AmeriCorps members are also assisting with flood recovery and prevention efforts, he said, and are actively seeking recruits. Additional positions are expected to be posted in the coming weeks.

Initially, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) provided boots-on-the-ground support, with agents going

door-to-door to assist Plainfield residents with submitting federal claims.

Billingsley said that since the beginning of the second Trump administration, FEMA’s funding and ability to respond to emergencies have become increasingly strained.

An effective emergency management director must project confidence, ensure continuity and lead with compassion, he said. Caring for the entire community is essential, but prioritizing the safety of residents with disabilities is critical.

“We’ll have to set aside our divisions, both political and spiritual, class differences, and move more effectively as a community with open hearts and clear thinking,” Billingsley said.

Eisha Qureshi writes for the Community News Service, a University of Vermont journalism internship for the Hardwick Gazette.

Heller’s World by Joe Heller



A dusting of snow covers the hillside next to Sumner St. in Hardwick Sunday, April 19, just a day after the temperature rose above 60 degrees, enticing area residents to shed their coats. photo by Paul Fixx

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

School consolidation through voluntary process

by Rep. Leanne Hasrple

MONTPELIER – I need to take a moment to update you all on some very important legislation that was passed out of the Vermont House and is now headed toward the Senate. H. 955, a bill detailing the next steps in Act 73, sets Vermont on the path towards school district consolidation through a voluntary democratic process that will be guided by local communities and culminate in a vote of the electorate to decide the ultimate fates of our schools. This legislation was developed through many months of long hours, hard work, and intense discussions in the House Education Committee.

We received feedback from over 5,000 Vermonters who overwhelmingly rejected the idea of forced mergers, but remain open to the possibility of transformative change if it is to include the voices of our local communities. H. 955 is the compromise that now allows Act 73 to actually move forward and begin saving our taxpayers their hard-earned dollars.

Without this legislation, our state would likely have been fighting an uphill battle against the

will of the majority of Vermonters for many decades to come, forcing the education system that we currently have in place to remain unchanged. Neither the House nor the Senate had enough votes to force mergers, which created a political impasse and an inability to move forward with the Act 73 legislation that we enacted last spring.

You may hear some messaging being repeated that the legislature is merely “kicking the can down the road” with just another study committee, and it is really important to understand why this is not true. This is the first, and so far only, legislation that has been passed in the House which actually gives Act 73 a viable path to move towards mergers. The phrase “study committee” has some very negative connotations politically, and it would be more accurate to describe these committees as a “work group” that will hash out the details of new mergers on a very specific timeline with an end result that is now within sight. Here are some of those details:

The bill makes education more affordable for Vermonters and lowers costs for homeowners by

establishing a new tax framework which includes a tax on second homes, which will over time reduce taxes on primary residences. The bill also restarts Vermont’s school construction program with up to \$50 million annually in bonding capacity and full coverage of districts’ existing construction debt so that new regional high schools and middle schools can now actually be built.

Additionally, it creates seven regional Cooperative Educational Service Areas (CESAs) to deliver services more efficiently, expand access to specialized programs, coordinate transportation and back-office support, especially for small and rural schools.

Most importantly, any merger of school districts is entirely voluntary, decided locally, and must be approved by voters. The bill does not force top-down mergers from the state.

The bill will now move through the Senate, and may face a Committee of Conference later in the session as we move towards its passage. I am glad that we took the time to implement Act 73 the right way. Through H. 955, we have finally found a way to put kids

first, keep costs under control and listen to local voices.

On one final note, for those of you who have been closely monitoring the progress of Act 181 legislation, I would like you to know that both the Road Rule and Tier 3 designations are being removed from this bill. The House Environment Committee has yet to release the bill to the House floor for a vote, but our Speaker of the House has confirmed that these changes are being made.

What H. 955 and Act 181 both have in common is that they encapsulate issues of local control and rural values, and their evolution is a result of everyday Vermonters organizing and communicating what kind of legislation we want in our state.

I am glad that I can now sincerely say that Vermont House of Representatives is listening. Thank you to everyone who has weighed in over the past four months on either of these topics. Your advocacy is what is making the difference for our future.

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

Education reform front-and-center

by Rep. David Yacavone

MONTPELIER – Education reform is once again front and center at the statehouse. Behind closed doors, as well as in public hearings, there is significant debate about what path Vermont should take.

I voted against the House reform bill. Why? The bill, H 955, would not reduce property taxes until 2030. We cannot wait that long for tax relief. The bill ultimately passed the House, and I expect to vote on a new proposal in the weeks ahead.

Additionally, at the heart of the conversation is a fundamental disagreement over how to control costs while preserving strong local schools.

On one side, Governor Phil Scott has made it clear he is prepared to veto the state budget if the legislature does not adopt a system of forced school district mergers. The administration argues that larger districts will produce efficiencies through economies of scale: fewer adminis-

trators, streamlined services, and ultimately lower costs for taxpayers. While such warnings underscore the seriousness of the problem, they also reflect the high stakes and tension surrounding this debate.

On the other side, the House has taken a different approach. Their proposal focuses on voluntary mergers, paired with the creation of regional cooperative structures, sometimes referred to as “educational service areas,” designed to encourage shared services and cost savings without mandating consolidation. Meanwhile, the Senate appears to be moving in a similar direction, favoring voluntary mergers over mandates.

This debate is not happening in a vacuum. Vermont has already been down this road once before with Act 46. That law required many districts to merge, with the promise that doing so would reduce costs. While it reshaped the governance of our school system, it did not deliver the amount of savings hoped for.

That experience is weighing heavily on many legislators as we consider whether to repeat a similar approach.

Adding to the complexity is the fact that, so far, neither the administration nor the Vermont Agency of Education has provided detailed data demonstrating that forced mergers, on their own, will produce meaningful savings.

At the same time, this debate over governance is intersecting with another major policy shift: changes to the education funding system itself. Much of the discussion centers on the education foundation’s formula method for determining the funding schools receive and how that funding is shared statewide.

Moving toward a more state-controlled formula would represent a significant shift away from Vermont’s current system, which is heavily influenced by local spending decisions. While a foundation formula could bring more predictability and equity, there is still no clear consensus on who will benefit, who may lose,

or how it will reshape educational opportunities across the state.

What is clear is this: the decisions made in the coming weeks will have long-lasting impacts on our schools, our communities, and our property taxes.

As legislators, we are working to balance competing goals: cost containment, educational quality, and local control. Those goals do not always align neatly, and that is why the debate has been both challenging and, at times, contentious.

These are not easy decisions, and they will shape Vermont’s education system for years to come. I will continue to keep you informed as these proposals evolve, and I encourage you to share your thoughts as we work toward the best path forward for our students and taxpayers.

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

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WEEKS GONE BY

100 years ago in The Hardwick Gazette, April 22, 1926

CHURCH NOTES

Congregational Church

Rev. L. H. Stoughton, Pastor

10:45 A. M., Morning Worship.

Sermon theme, "The Great Sin."

11:55 A. m., Sunday School.

7:00 P. M., Community Service in Congregational Church. Mr. Stoughton will speak on "Better Homes." Better Homes Week will be extensively observed. Hardwick people should be in it. All interested are especially invited to attend the service Sunday evening.

The Good-Hearted Class of this church will hold their usual monthly meeting in the church parlors next Monday evening April 26.

NEW AUTOMOBILE HEAD-LIGHT REGULATIONS

All the people of Vermont very much desire improved conditions relative to motor vehicle headlights. The glaring headlight and the one-eyed are not only troublesome to all drivers but are exceedingly dangerous. The Motor Vehicle Bureau will make a strenuous effort by correction and instruction to substantially reduce the menace from improperly focused and adjusted headlights and will not in all probability resort to prosecutions to this end provided the motorists and garages of Vermont cooperate in the plan herein stated.

50 years ago in The Hardwickian, April 20, 1976

Talk of the Town

The misses Gale and Karen Bessette, daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Dona Bessette, Andrea Hussey, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Hussey, Pauline

LaCasse, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Albert LaCasse and Jessica Woods of Fair Haven left Wednesday for Daytona Beach, Florida to spend a week's vacation.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Evans have returned to their home in Newington, Conn. after spending a couple of weeks at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Freeman Houghton while Freeman was in the Mary Fletcher Hospital in Burlington.

Mr. and Mrs. Phillip Renaud and son, Ricky were in Morrisville on Sunday where they had Easter Dinner with her mother, Mrs. Hazel Demars.

Ricky Renaud has returned to Castleton State College after spending a week's vacation at his home.

Mr. and Mrs. Ludger Lemay and family of East Hardwick were in Lurel, Maryland, this past weekend visiting their son, Mr. and Mrs. Norman Lemay.

Mr. and Mrs. Roger LeCours and children spent Easter Sunday with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Tucker in Barre.

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Roy of Cottage St. left Saturday for Yellow Springs, Ohio where they will spend the Easter holiday with Mrs. Roy's daughter and family, Dr. and Mrs. H.E. Curley. They were accompanied by Mrs. Louise Gallant and her daughter, Susan, of Vermont Ave. who will visit Col. and Mrs. William Robb at Wright Patterson AFB, Wairborn [Fairborn], Ohio.

Mr. and Mrs. Howard Merrill spent the Easter weekend with their daughter's family, Mr. and Mrs. Donald Gaskell in West Milford, New Jersey.

Daniel LeCours of Church Street and Robert Goudreau of Burlington left Thursday for Daytona Beach, Florida.

Mr. and Mrs. Roger Guillette and family spent the weekend of April 10 in Hardwick visiting Mr. and Mrs. Davila Brochu and Mr. and Mrs. Richard Hooper.

Mr. and Mrs. David LeBlanc of Elm Street, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Hooper of Brush Street and Mr. and Mrs. Richard Baker of East Hardwick were in Williston on Sunday where they had Easter Dinner with Mr. and Mrs. Manuel Leblanc and family.

25 years ago in The Hardwick Gazette, April 25, 2001

The Morse Code

by Dave Morse

One Last Go Around For Jan

During the heyday of Jan Howard's powerhouse softball and basketball teams at Hazen Union School, the present-day Wildcats were not even born. That dates back to the early Eighties.

MATHEW'S GARAGE

On account of the tardy spring very few housewives have completed that regular renovation which is commonly known the world over as "Spring House-Cleaning."

For the same reason few motorists have given their automobiles the intensive checkup that they deserve and require at this time of the year.

It is getting late.

SPRING will be here soon.

Bring your car in for that check-up by thorough and competent mechanics.

"Home of the Ford and Genuine Ford Parts"

E. J. Mathews, Prop., Hardwick, Vt.

Tel. 115-3. Nights 115-4.

The Hardwick Gazette, April 22, 1926

Howard, one of two founding teachers remaining at Hazen since its inception in '71, is now returning to the varsity level for one season. This could be her legacy.

Led by the legendary Penny Libercent, those early Wildcats ran roughshod over the opposition, both basketball and softball, going undefeated in one combined season with a pair of state championships.

The previous season they lost to class L Brattleboro Union by one run in a rain delayed invitational at Essex Junction. The next year it was the Penny and Paula (Pecor) show.

Howard considered Kathy Corrow another key at second base, because when the opposition connected against Libercent — which wasn't often — it most often was of the check swing variety to the other side against the righthanded thrower.

"Nobody could get around," said Howard, who still marvels at Libercent to this day. "Our third baseman was never tested."

Howard has been in on the development of Jack Strong's resurging soccer program, and was assisted in those glory years by Jean Hackett, another institution at Hazen.

(Strong is the other faculty member remaining at the school since its inception.)

Howard expects the game to be played right, and that was apparent at the first outdoor workout of the spring Monday on Hudson Fields, which the Wildcats

will be able to call "home" for the first time in three seasons.

"You try to treat players who they are (as individuals)," said Howard on her return to the varsity diamond. "You run with the good things, and work on the others."

"I don't like to lose, especially at this game (softball)."

Of course, the down side to all this is Howard has announced her retirement at the end of the school year next month after 30 years on staff.

There are only two senior Wildcats, and Howard believes they bring the motivation to start a new day on the diamond. That will leave a foundation of at least 15 players for next season.

After the season you certainly can catch Howard at the Babe Ruth League baseball games of son Spencer, who was following in Mom's footsteps by helping with practice Monday by hitting fly balls.

10 years ago in The Hardwick Gazette, April 20, 2016
Chili Tasting Raises Money for Education
by Will Walters

CABOT — The turnout for the chili tasting festival Saturday might have been low from the good warm weather and that there was a basketball championship going on. Despite that, people came in steadily to taste the famous Cabot chilies at the Willey Building.


See WEEKS, Next Page

EVIE'S CHICKEN COOP
OPENING
FRIDAY APRIL 23

HOURS:
FRIDAY 4-12
SATURDAY 11-12
SUNDAY 11-10



Democratic Caucus
Thursday, April 22
7:30 P.M.
Hardwick Inn



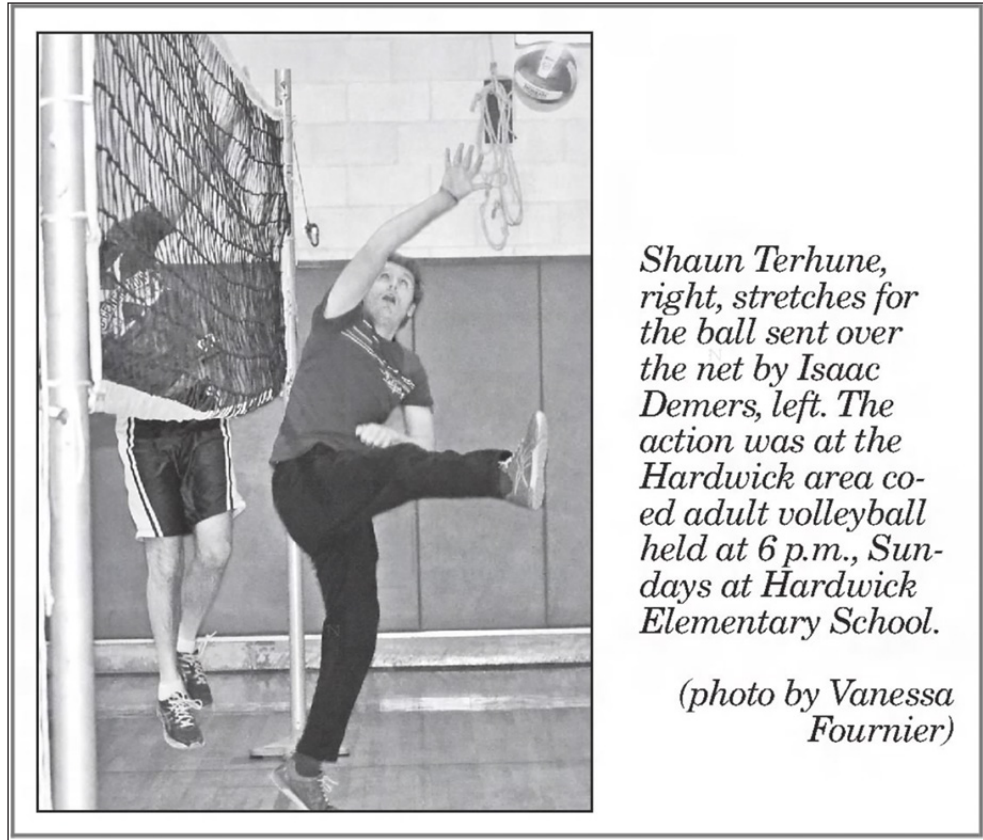
CONSTRUCTION BULLDOZING
SAND - GRAVEL - PEA STONE
LG BELLAVANCE & SONS
472-6317



The Hardwickian, April 20, 1976

Weeks

Continued From Previous Page



Shaun Terhune, right, stretches for the ball sent over the net by Isaac Demers, left. The action was at the Hardwick area co-ed adult volleyball held at 6 p.m., Sundays at Hardwick Elementary School.

(photo by Vanessa Fournier)

The Hardwick Gazette, April 20, 2016

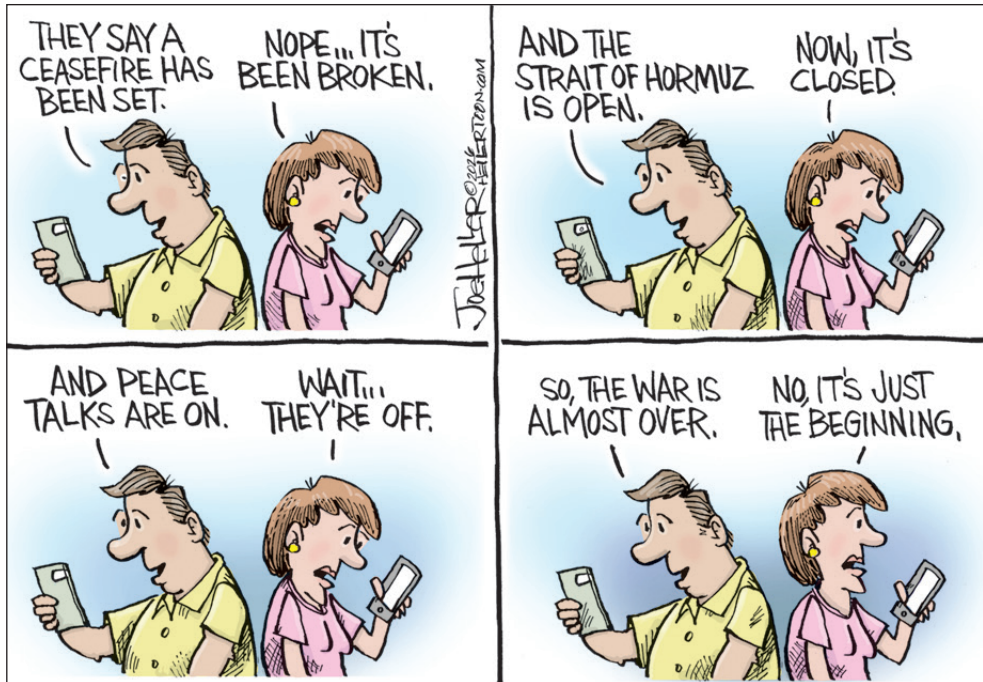
“Chili needs cold or bad weather,” said one visitor.

Last year’s festival was held Feb. 1 and had more tasters along with more chilies to test. The original event was an open air festival held in late fall on the common.

The chili tasting is a fundraiser sponsored by the Cabot

Partners in Education. This year, \$50 was raised from people buying a cup of their favorite to take home at \$2 a cup. Chilies included ones that were mild, vegetarian, a little spicy and one called “The Punisher,” which heated up taste buds very effectively, among other culinary offerings.

Heller’s World by Joe Heller



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Interview, references, background checks required.

ANOTHER OPINION

The business of division

by Suzanna Jones

WALDEN – A recent Vermont Digger piece “Vermont House poised to roll back portions of Act 181” included a quote from House Energy and Environment Committee Chair, Amy Sheldon: “We don’t need our shared interest in protecting our environment to divide Vermont.”

There’s certainly plenty of division in Vermont, but I don’t agree that the root cause is our desire to protect the environment. Instead the division originates with profit-seeking entities that see environmental protection as an obstacle to their development dreams.

Whether it’s cell towers, Amazon distribution centers, wind projects on ridgelines or massive solar projects on what was once forest, these kinds of projects divide and fracture communities, often irreparably. The best way to heal these divisions is not to scale back our concern for the natural world, but to recognize the role of developers in influencing policy for their own selfish ends.

In recent years, those developers have tried to paint environmental regulation, especially Act 250, as the primary obstacle to building the 40,000 new homes that Vermont supposedly needs.

The number is a mirage as researcher Alexsys Thompson meticulously documents in her essay “Vermont’s 40,000 Home Problem”. It stems from flawed projections of future population growth using a short-term and temporary surge during the COVID years as a baseline. Developers don’t care that the 40,000 number is fake because it’s a convenient way to instill a panicked “build baby build” ethos on the state.

As Thompson points out, solutions to the housing shortfall “do not require a land use framework built on a pandemic-era projection

that the demographic data has since contradicted.”

Many of the sources of division in Vermont originate outside the state. Amazon is the most obvious example of that, but even seemingly home-grown entities have deep connections beyond Vermont.

For example, Let’s Build Homes, the pro-development organization headed by Miro Weinberger, is largely funded by Arnold Ventures, a national philanthropic LLC founded by hedge fund billionaire and former Enron Executive John Arnold. Among other activities, the company funded a spy plane to surveil the citizens of Baltimore (a project abandoned when it was ruled unconstitutional), and a \$100 million project to encourage think tanks and academics “to drive a wedge between different hospitals to advance their policy agenda,” according to the American Hospital Association. Its many critics argue that the group gives money behind the scenes to bypass traditional lobbying transparency.

Vermont’s real need for affordable housing will not be met by scrapping environmental protections so that developers can build unaffordable homes for the affluent.

As Alexsys Thompson argues, we instead need “investment in rehabilitation of existing stock, replacement of flood-damaged homes, and targeted production of affordable units in communities that need them.”

None of this is contradictory to our shared interest in protecting the environment, nor should it be cause for division. The legislature is obligated to represent the citizenry, not profit-seeking exploiters who are willing to sacrifice the natural world for their own selfish ends.

Suzanna Jones lives in Walden.

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ANOTHER OPINION

This isn't the time to throw people onto the street

by Jax Brown

PLAINFIELD – I didn't mean to become a landlord. My husband and I simply had extra rooms in our old farmhouse. As we began spending part of the year away, and with Vermont in the midst of a housing crisis, we chose to rent those rooms to four individuals.

We charge an affordable rate, cover utilities and try to work with tenants who cannot afford a security deposit up front. Most cannot. It is a vulnerable position for us.

Taking in tenants also meant pushing past a certain social stigma. For all we were taught in kindergarten about sharing, we seem to forget those lessons as adults. More than once, people who care about me have discouraged this choice.

When someone can't pay on time or at all, or breaks house rules, we bear real financial risk. Landlords, especially small in-home ones like us, need workable systems when tenants are unable to pay.

At the same time, living alongside my tenants has exposed me to vulnerabilities far greater than my own. I've come to see myself, whether I like it or not, as a kind of weathervane for broader social conditions. One tenant survives on less than \$1,000 a month. Another is navigating separation from their child tied to health and housing instability. A third recently attempted suicide in their room. Two tenants had their food assistance cut last year, even though their income did not change.

These are not isolated stories. In my own home, I see the consequences of these gaps every day.

Rehabilitation facilities lack available beds. Drug recovery programs remain limited and difficult to access, even as the opioid crisis has worsened over the past decade. The hotel program for unhoused Vermonters is insufficient and often administered in ways that fall short of basic standards of dignity. Our property tax structure makes it increasingly difficult for people to remain in their homes, while our health care system continues to shrink, especially for those who need it most.

And yet, this is still our home, and our costs are rising. After two months of nonpayment from one tenant last year, I began the eviction process. It was convoluted and slow, involving a maze of paperwork, court delays and unavailable lawyers, many of whom told me they were... over-

loaded with eviction cases.

Over time, I found myself unexpectedly relieved by those delays. The process can place landlords in a position that feels deeply at odds with basic human dignity: pursuing the removal of a mentally vulnerable, soon-to-be unhoused person.

H.772, which has passed the House and is now before the Senate Judiciary Committee, would make evictions easier. Vermont Legal Aid has warned that, "as written, this bill guts tenants' procedural due process rights in a variety of ways."

This is not the time to weaken tenant protections.

But the answer is not simply to preserve a slow system either. What I have come to understand is that we are asking the wrong question entirely.

Right now, the system offers two blunt options: eviction, or asking untrained landlords to navigate complex mental health, financial and interpersonal crises alone. In practice, this means that small landlords are already functioning as an informal extension of the social safety net: absorbing risk, improvising care and, at times, becoming de facto providers without recognition or support.

Importantly, I am speaking here about small, in-home landlords: individuals quietly absorbing risk to house people who might otherwise have nowhere to go.

A small, targeted intervention could change this dynamic entirely.

In many cases, only a narrow margin separates stability from crisis. A modest, state-supported system for example, a rotating housing counselor with access to flexible funds, could bridge the gap between small landlords and tenants falling through our fragmented safety nets.

Such a role would not require a vast new bureaucracy. It could work through existing, under-resourced organizations, stepping in early to assess situations, mediate conflict and connect tenants to support while they are still housed. In some cases, temporary rental assistance would stabilize a tenancy at a fraction of the public cost of homelessness. In others, small, practical interventions like addressing health-related housing needs or basic household requirements, could prevent situations from escalating at all.

But there is something deeper at stake here that we rarely allow ourselves to consider.

We tend to frame vulnerable people only in terms of need as burdens to be managed somewhere else, by someone else, someday. But

vulnerability exists on a spectrum that includes all of us. We are living in a society that is, in many ways, hardened and strained, one that drives the nervous system of us all into a kind of constant overdrive. Those who break first are not separate from us; they are often simply further along that same continuum.

Their needs are not random. They are signals.

In that sense, they are not just recipients of care, but sources of information, even insight, about what is not working and what must change. If we continue to cast them out, we are not only failing them. We are discarding something we may, in fact, urgently need.

Without support, the burden of responding to that reality falls unevenly and often invisibly. As landlords, we are left choosing between eviction or entering, unguided, into situations that demand skills far beyond what we were ever meant to provide.

In effect, tenants become our dependents for stretches of time: not by design, but by default. This reality is quietly embedded in our current system, yet unacknowledged in policy. Accelerating evictions does not resolve that tension; it simply displaces it.

And increasingly, displacement is becoming formalized. In parts of this country, homelessness itself is being criminalized, with enforcement mechanisms that funnel people into carceral systems

or state-contracted facilities rather than stable housing. When we fail to invest in keeping people housed, we are not avoiding cost: we are choosing a more punitive and often more expensive path.

Vermont's state budget has grown dramatically in recent years from roughly \$1.6 billion to \$2.4 billion in about seven years. And yet, the kinds of small, precise interventions that could prevent human and financial crises remain largely out of reach.

Vermont now faces a clear choice about the kind of future it is building. We are not addressing the root causes like poverty, hunger, chronic illness, addiction, mental health challenges and housing instability, and how deeply they intersect.

It requires courageous leadership at the Statehouse. We need the political will to build systems that uphold human dignity, not just in principle, but in practice.

We do not necessarily need to spend more. We need to spend earlier, more precisely and with a clearer recognition of shared responsibility and shared value.

Because the question remains: where, exactly, are people supposed to go?

Jax Brown is a writer who splits time between Florida and Plainfield, where she rents rooms in her home and has firsthand experience navigating the state's housing challenges. Brown has been previously published as Jaquelyn Rieke.



Hardwick Electric Department (HED) recognized its crew (from left) 3rd Class Lineman Gabriel Tatro, 2nd Class Lineman Cole Leroux, Utility Person Glenn Holderby, Foreman Ryan Hall, Utility Person Trevar Molleur, Head Lineman Justin Johnson, Head Lineman Patrick Morrissey, 3rd Class Lineman Cody Trudeau and Operations Manager Brian Forant, with a Facebook post for Lineman Appreciation Day, April 18, offering "a big thank you to our amazing crew for their hard work, dedication and the sacrifices they make daily to 'keep the lights on!'"

courtesy photo

THE OUTSIDE STORY

Spring ephemerals and the forest

by Rachel Sargent Mirus

Every year I know that spring has arrived when it's time for my family to forage for ramps on a two-acre patch on the hill above my house. We have just a few weeks to enjoy their spiciness before they disappear from the landscape, along with other spring ephemerals. While we prize many spring ephemerals for their fleeting beauty, flourishing before the overstory trees leaf out, then dying back as the shade season begins, they also are important to nutrient cycling in woodlands.

Ecologists Robert Muller and F. Herbert Bormann first suggested that spring ephemerals contributed to nutrient storage and release while conducting forestry research in the Hubbard Brook Experimental Forest in the 1970s. Muller and Bormann observed that American trout-lily (*Erythronium americanum*), a common spring ephemeral, grew the fastest when nitrogen and potassium losses from the soil were at their highest (during the spring melt). While trees are still dormant and unable to use these nutrients, melting snow and spring rains wash these nutrients out of forest soils. Muller and Bormann proposed that spring ephemerals could capture critical nutrients when they might otherwise wash away and then return those nutrients to the soil when they died back during the summer shade. They called this the "vernal dam" hypothesis, because the ephemerals act as a dam, retaining the flow of nutrients before releasing them back into the soil.

In the 1980s, further studies by Muller and other ecologists showed that spring ephemerals could efficiently take up nitrogen and potassium. For example, by

tracking the life history, biomass, and nutrient levels of trout-lilies in the Hubbard Brook forest, Muller showed that these spring ephemerals can triple or quadruple their biomass during their brief growing season, and their shoots contained higher levels of nitrogen compared to summertime plants. These numbers supported the idea that even small, ephemeral plants like trout-lilies could impact nutrient levels enough to act as a vernal dam.

However, other studies show that the relationships between plants and nutrients are complex. Plants take in fewer nutrients when they aren't photosynthesizing, so plants in areas with more cloudy days will use less from the soil than plants in sunnier locations. Some early spring bloomers, such as Virginia spring beauty (*Claytonia virginica*), are efficient at storing nutrients in their below-ground tissues, which do not die back over the summer. Plants investing in underground storage retain nutrients in the spring and don't return them to the forest in the summer. Also, late spring freezes, which are more likely in more northern forests, disrupt the vernal dam effect by damaging or killing new plant tissues, hampering their ability to retain nutrients.

Working in Michigan in the late 1990s, ecologist David Rothstein set out to test two foundational assumptions of the vernal dam hypothesis: first, do growing spring ephemerals take up nutrients that would otherwise be lost to spring thaw water runoff, and second, does their subsequent decomposition increase nutrient uptake for summertime plants? He focused on the nutrient nitrate, since it's an important source of nitrogen for plants that also easily leaches out



Trout Lily

of soil. The dominant ephemerals in his test area were those same spicy ramps that I like to forage.

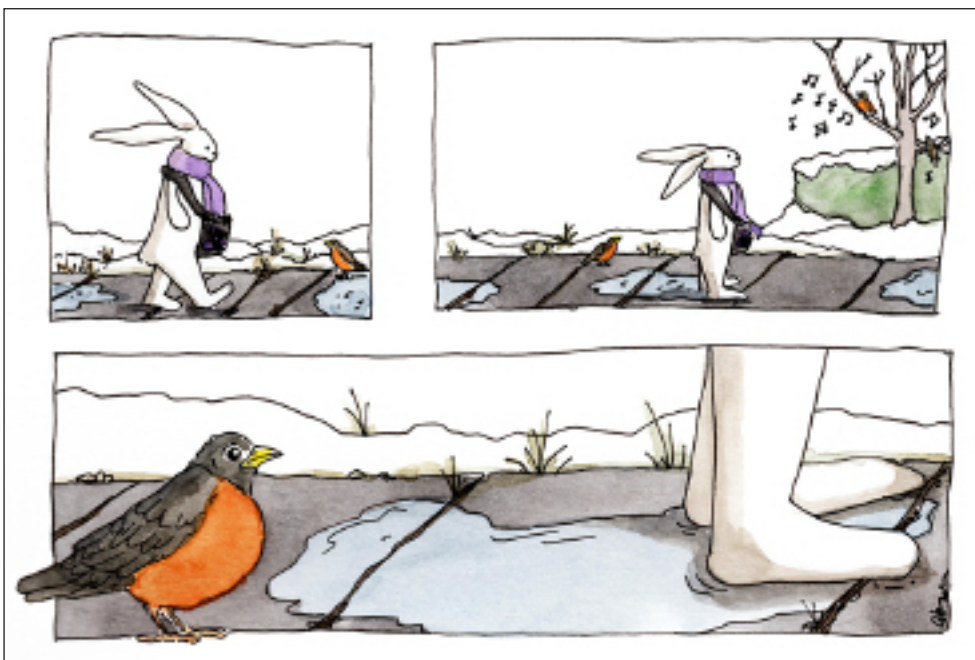
Rothstein did not observe that the presence of ramps prevented nitrate leaching, nor did they act as a nitrogen source for other plants in summer. Instead, he found that the decomposing action of soil microorganisms was most important for making nitrogen available to growing plants. Similar evidence from forest disturbance studies also supports the possibility that soil microbes might be equal to, or sometimes more important than, ephemeral plants for forest nitrogen retention.

While everyone agrees that northern forests lose more nutrients

during the spring thaw than at any other time, there remain many open questions about how, when, and where spring ephemerals create a vernal dam for forest nutrients. It's an intricate picture arising from the varying abilities of different spring ephemerals to hold onto different nutrients under diverse conditions across varied habitats. While spring ephemerals appear delicate and fleeting, they, like all the members of a forest community, play a role in forested ecosystems that can be felt across the seasons.

Rachel Sargent Mirus is a teaching artist and writer living in Duxbury. Illustration by Adelaide Murphy Tyrol.

In My Nature by Abrah Griggs



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IN THE GARDEN

Plant Spring bulbs for Summer flowers

by **Deborah J. Benoit**

NORTH ADAMS, Mass. – Spring isn't the only season where bulbs can produce an array of flowers to enjoy.

Spring bulbs planted in the coming weeks will produce flowers this summer.

Bulbs are easy to obtain, easy to plant and offer a wide variety of options. Consider such familiar choices as gladioli (*Gladiolus*), begonias (*Begonia*) and dahlias (*Dahlia*), or opt for something a little different like peacock orchids (*Gladiolus murielae*), rain lilies (*Zephyranthes*) or tiger flowers (*Tigridia pavonia*).

Whatever you decide to plant, first consider getting a soil test. It's easy and inexpensive. The results can provide information on your soil type, available nutrients and make recommendations for soil amendments and fertilizers.

Check go.uvm.edu/soiltest for more information on obtaining a soil test.

Plant summer blooming bulbs in mid-spring when the soil has warmed to around 55°F. Select a location with appropriate light and soil that drains well. Check for specific planting instructions on the bulbs' packet.

If you're planting a large number of bulbs, it's more efficient to dig a hole or trench to the needed depth and add bulbs (pointed end up). Cover with soil and water well.

Install plant supports at the time of planting or soon after growth has emerged for any flowers that tend to be top heavy.

If a yard is host to squirrels, chipmunks or other wildlife that

might dine on or relocate the bulbs, consider ways to deter them. The scent of bulbs or even the disturbed soil can attract squirrels. A layer of mulch may help disguise the scent (and can help keep soil moisture and temperature more even). Another alternative is to camouflage bulbs by planting near or among spring blooming bulbs that squirrels find less attractive, such as daffodils. For smaller plantings, a wire cloche placed over the area can be useful. The easiest alternative may be to plant bulbs that wildlife will likely find unappetizing, such as allium (*Allium*).

Bulb baskets and cages are available commercially and can help prevent nibblers from gaining access to bulbs. You can also construct your own customized protection using woven wire such as chicken wire or hardware cloth. Simply plant bulbs as usual, covering them with soil, then lay a piece of woven wire larger than the planting area over them and finish covering with soil. This can help stop squirrels and the like from digging out bulbs from above. For more security, form a box of woven wire, plant the bulbs inside, and secure another piece as a lid, enclosing the bulbs on all sides. As long as the space between the wire is large enough to accommodate emerging leaves and stems, the bulbs will not be obstructed by the woven wire.

After planting, water as needed but be sure the soil isn't overly wet. Too much water can result in rotted bulbs.

Throughout the season, deadhead faded flowers but wait to trim foliage until it turns yellow and dies back naturally, allowing



Dahlias are among the spring bulbs that can be planted in coming weeks and will bloom in summertime.
photo by Debra Heleba

energy and nutrients to be stored in the bulb for next season.

Some tender perennials, such as canna lilies and dahlias, don't overwinter well in our area. In the fall, dig them up before the ground freezes. Discard any that are damaged or diseased. Clean and allow to dry. Store in peat or paper bags in a dark, cool

(not freezing) location until the following spring when they can be planted again.

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.



Saturday, April 4, Steam pours out of Top Of The Heights sugarhouse that Anthony Nadeau and his husband Brian Greaves bought from Butch Greaves last year. Contact them at topoftheheights@yahoo.com

photo by Paul Fixx



At Top Of The Heights sugarhouse (from left) co-owner Brian Greaves checks the boiling sap while Molly Larrabee and Nathan Curschmann look on, Saturday, April 4. Co-owner Anthony Nadeau said they'd boiled about 500 gallons from 2,800 taps so far this year.

photo by Paul Fixx

IN THE GARDEN



Tripod trellises made from wood and vines provide plant support and are handsome additions to the garden. photo by Deborah J. Benoit



A woven wire trellis can be used with vining plants like cucumber to support their vertical growth. photo by Deborah J. Benoit

Garden plant supports are hidden garden heroes

by Deborah J. Benoit

NORTH ADAMS, Mass. – In springtime, a gardener’s thoughts turn to planting and all that goes along with it. Plant supports might come as an afterthought, but they’re often the hidden heroes in the garden.

While many plants have strong stems and can stand up on their own, others, particularly those that are vining or which produce fruits and vegetables, do better with a little help.

Metal or wooden supports can guide plants such as passionflower (*Passiflora incarnata*) to create visual impact without becoming unruly. In the vegetable garden, plant supports keep enthusiastic growers like tomatoes (*Solanum lycopersicum*) contained. They can help keep fruit off the ground and heavy flowerheads from breaking their stems.

Arbors and trellises add

structure and are decorative elements. They can also add valuable planting space and increase garden yields by training plants to grow up rather than across the soil. Keeping foliage and fruit off the ground can result in healthier plants by improving air circulation and reducing contact with soil-borne pathogens.

Plant supports can be purchased or homemade. They can be as simple as tying a plant to a wooden stake driven into the ground or as elaborate as a cage constructed out of woven wire.

Consider what type of plant support will function best for the plant you’re growing. A support that’s too small can easily be broken or tipped over as a large plant matures or produces a plentiful crop.

A simple stake might be best for crops with a central stem, while others can be better served by a small cage-type enclosure. For example, for indeterminate tomato plants, with

their vining habit and long-term production of fruit, consider a larger, sturdier support. Be sure it will allow sufficient air circulation and that you can easily reach inside to harvest as fruit ripens.

Large supports, such as arbors or trellises, should be installed before planting to avoid damage to roots, stems and foliage. Install smaller supports at the time of planting or as soon afterward as possible. Putting the support in place while the plant is still small allows it to grow into the structure and avoids the risk of breaking stems, foliage, and flowers while attempting to gather wandering plant parts into its framework later.

Be sure the support is placed firmly in the ground to avoid being blown over or pulled down by a plant’s weight. Long garden staples or a stake driven into the ground and attached to its legs can help to secure a plant support in place, if needed.

Plants like cucumbers (*Cucumis sativus*) have tendrils which can attach to the support.

Tie other plants in place loosely to avoid damaging growing stems.

When using plant supports in containers, be sure the pot is heavy enough to not topple over and deep enough to sink the legs of the support fully into the soil. In elevated beds, embrace vertical gardening with plants that hang over the edge or climb up supports. Again, be sure the soil is deep enough to cover the plant support’s legs for stability. Woven wire fencing can be bent into an arch and secured to opposite sides of wooden raised beds, allowing vining crops to grow over the arch and fruit to dangle inside for easy harvesting.

Consider using plant supports in your garden this year for healthier plants, increased harvest, and a more decorative garden.

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



This garden includes woven wire bent into arches to support vegetable plants as well as wooden ladder-like trellis structures used as plant supports. photo by Deborah J. Benoit

Heller’s World by Joe Heller



OUR COMMUNITIES



Alia Thabit of Hardwick, a creative wellness practitioner, held a Social Belly Dance class, April 19, during Hardwick State. photo by Vanessa Fournier

Planning commission seeks community input

HARDWICK – The Town of Hardwick has started work on the 2027 update to its municipal plan, and the planning commission is asking for community input to help guide the process.

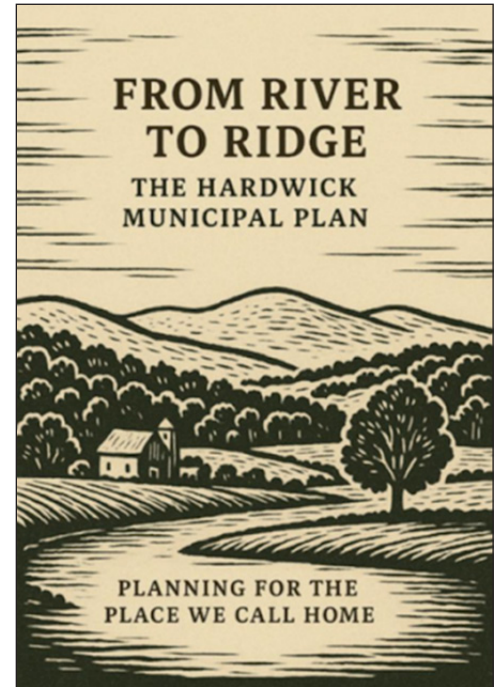
The updated municipal plan will help shape local decisions about things like housing, infrastructure, flood resilience, food systems and other community priorities into the future.

Input from community members will help identify what people value most about Hardwick and what may need attention moving forward.

The planning commission has created a short community survey to gather information from anyone connected to Hardwick, including residents, workers, business owners and any occasional visitor.

It will take about 5 to 8 minutes to fill out the survey through June 5, at forms.gle/qDag6yeE487iTjQf6. Responses are anonymous and any question may be skipped.

Survey results will be summarized to help inform the next municipal plan update and will be shared publicly.



The Hardwick Planning Commission is collecting community input to inform work on the 2027 Municipal Plan update, with a survey at forms.gle/qDag6yeE487iTjQf6

courtesy image

A paper copy of the survey or help completing it is available through the Hardwick Zoning Office at (802) 472-1686 or the Hardwick Town Manager's office at (802) 472-6120.

Advanced directives presentation, April 23

WOODBURY – An Advanced Directives presentation will be held on April 23, at the Woodbury Community Library from 4 to 6 p.m.; get help completing the forms and have witnesses present for the completion of documents.

Art show, April 24

WOODBURY – An art opening, entitled “The Warp and Weft of Life,” featuring textiles by artist Elisha Renne. will be held April 24, from 5:30 to 7 p.m. at the Woodbury Community Library.

Spinning workshop, April 25

WOODBURY – A spinning workshop will take place at the Woodbury Community Library on April 25. Learn how to use a drop spindle to make yarn. Artist Elisha Renee will teach this workshop at the Sheep Shop from 10 a.m. to noon. Space is limited.

Film screening and discussion, April 25

WOODBURY – A screening of the film “The Librarians” will take place at the Woodbury Community Library, Saturday, April 25, at 6 p.m., with a discussion after the film. The event is free of charge.

Spring wildflower walk, May 2

MARSHFIELD – Botanist Bob Popp will lead a wildflower walk in Marshfield's Stranahan Town Forest Saturday, May 2, beginning at 9 a.m. Meet at the Thompson Road parking lot right off of Hollister Hill Road. For information call (802) 426-3581 or visit jaquithpubliclibrary.org

Green-Up Day, May 2

MARSHFIELD – Green-Up Day at the Old Schoolhouse Common will take place Saturday, May 2, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., to help clean up the grounds around the Old Schoolhouse Common. Information (802) 426-3581 or jaquithpubliclibrary.org.

Bird walk, May 3

CRAFTSBURY – Dave Brown will host a bird walk, May 3, at 7:30 a.m. Meet at Stoner's woodlot on Hanks Hill Road. Bring binoculars if possible, or borrow some from the Craftsbury Library. Terrain can be uneven and muddy, prepare accordingly.

Prices shown valid 04/24-04/28
Member-owner deals valid 04/01-04/30

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\$4.49 USDA ORGANIC Amy's, varieties, 14.7 oz	\$1.69 USDA ORGANIC Simply Organic, varieties, 1 oz	\$6.99 USDA ORGANIC Applegate, 8 oz	\$3.79 7th Generation, varieties, 19 oz
\$4.99 USDA ORGANIC Annie's, 9 oz	\$3.99 Blue Diamond, varieties, 4.25 oz	\$3.99 Lifeway, varieties, 32 oz	2/\$3 Clif Bar, varieties, 16 oz
\$10.99 USDA ORGANIC Equal Exchange, varieties, 12 oz	\$4.29 Jovial, 9 oz	\$3.99 USDA ORGANIC Kitchen Basics, 32 oz	\$6.49 USDA ORGANIC Lakewood, 32 oz
\$2.99 7th Generation, 64.3 sq ft	\$4.39 Lightlife, 6 oz	2/\$8 USDA ORGANIC Muir Glen, varieties, 16 oz	\$4.49 Mrs. Meyer's Clean Day, 12.5 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, 9.1 oz	10% off Green Mountain, varieties, 16 oz
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OUR COMMUNITIES

Volunteers needed to plant trees, April 23, 25, 29 by Vermont River Conservancy

WOLCOTT – Each year, Vermont River Conservancy organizes volunteer planting events at riverfront sites conserved across Vermont. With the arrival of April, Vermont River Conservancy is kicking off the tree planting season. Community members are needed to help restore vital riparian habitat along the Lamoille River. The upcoming event will take place on Thursday, April 23, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in Wolcott.

This will be followed by two more plantings, at a different

location in Wolcott on Saturday, April 25, and Wednesday, April 29 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Participants are asked to park at the Wolcott Recreational Field. Arrive by 10 a.m. so volunteers and event organizers can walk to the planting site together. Volunteers will learn how to plant trees to ensure long-term survival, while contributing directly to the restoration of riparian forests. All are welcome, and no prior experience is necessary. There will be limited gloves available, bring your own if possible. To learn more, visit vermontriverconservancy.org.

Death cafe, fourth Mondays

HARDWICK – The Let's Talk About Death cafe meets on the fourth Monday of each month at the Hardwick Community Center, 58 High St., from 1:30 to 3 p.m. The April free community meeting

will be Monday, April 27. Conversations about planning end of life journeys for oneself, families and friends will take place.

Tea and baked goods will be served.



A check for \$1,610 raised in donations at the fourth annual Puzzling for the Pantry event, March 21, in Fellowship Hall, is presented to (from left) Stella James, director of the Hardwick Area Food Pantry, by Penny Bretschneider chair and Rosann Hickey vice chair of the Greensboro United Church of Christ Puzzling for the Pantry committee, April 9. photo by Vanessa Fournier

May Day community celebration, trunk sale, May 2

MARSHFIELD – Friends of the Jaquith Library will hold a May Day celebration with live music, Saturday, May 2, from 1 to 4 p.m, with maypole dancing, children's crafts, bake and book sale. To participate in the trunk

sale, contact the library at (802) 426-3581 or jaquithpubliclibrary@gmail.com.

The event will be held rain or shine with all proceeds to benefit the Friends of the Jaquith's support of library events, including summer concerts.



Judy Breitmeyer (left) and Jennifer Ranz work in Greensboro's Fellowship Hall kitchen to prepare the Tuesday community meal of baked ziti, pesto penne, turkey potato casserole with salad, garlic bread and brownies with mint ice cream or Rev. Ed's apple turnovers to finish it off, April 14,

photo by Paul Fixx

NOTICE OF SALE

The resident and nonresident owners, lien holders and mortgagees of lands in the Town of Greensboro in the County of Orleans are hereby notified that the taxes assessed by such Town for the year 2024 and 2025 remain, either in whole or in part on the following described lands in such Town, to wit:

1. REAL ESTATE OF MICHAEL AND SANDY THOMPSON
Parcel #018-1023

Being a parcel of land consisting of 12.48 acres, more or less, together with a mobile home affixed thereon and any other improvements located thereon at 1023 Salls Road in Greensboro, Vermont, and being all and the same lands and premises conveyed to Michael Thompson and Sandy Thompson by warranty deed from Leo J. Shatney, Steve R. Shatney and Christine R. Shatney dated July 23, 2008 and recorded in Book 43 at Page 183 of the Greensboro land records

and so much of such lands will be sold a public auction at the Greensboro Town Hall, a public place in such Town, on the 2nd day of June, 2026 at 9:30 in the forenoon, as shall be requisite to discharge such taxes with costs, unless previously paid.

Dated at Greensboro, Vermont this 1st day of April, 2026.

TOWN OF GREENSBORO

By Michael Cloutier, Delinquent Tax Collector

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

FRIDAY & SATURDAY MAY 22ND & 23RD

SPRINGFEST

Sponsor Springfest  **Join the Parade**

Become a Vendor **Volunteer to Help**

JOIN THE FUN!
hardwickdowntown.org/springfest

EDUCATION



Hazen Union Students Kingsley Canfield (right), Ryan Holbrook (middle) Marshall Klemens (left) held a bake sale this past Friday, April 17, between Yummy Wok and Positive Pie, led by instructor Greg Hennamouth for the school wide Do Day event. photo by Raymonda Parchment

Do-Day sees good acts around town

by Will Helms, Hazen Union Intern

HARDWICK –Friday, April 17, Hazen Union students participated in Do-Day, an event in which each Teacher-Student Advisory (TSA/homeroom) spends the day doing a variety of community service acts.

In town, Evan Chartier’s group scraped graffiti off the mural that lines the road leading up to the school. Chartier emphasized that it was especially important to get the graffiti off now, because Step Up Day, a day when sixth graders come

and shadow the seventh graders at the high school building.

Other TSA activities in town included Greg Hennamouth’s group, who ran a bake sale on Main Street to benefit the Hardwick Food Shelf. Marc Conside’s group, worked with the Hardwick Downtown Partnership to clear sidewalks and driveways around town of dirt and overgrowth. Shannon Kitle’s group, cleared trash out of a closed-off alleyway between the Galaxy bookshop and the Civic standard and Joel Heller’s group, who helped clean up the Hazen trails.

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

Request for Proposals

The Woodbury Cemetery Commission has issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) for the construction of a road into the green burial section of the South Woodbury Cemetery. Bids are due May 20. The RFP can be found at the Town of Woodbury website under Posts. woodburyvt.org To receive a hard copy of the RFP, please contact Susan Stitely, Woodbury Cemetery Commission Chair, (802) 456-8917. Please leave a phone number an email address.

OBITUARIES

Roy K. Hopkins

HARDWICK – Roy Kenneth Hopkins, a beloved father, grandfather, great-grandfather, and friend, passed away on April 11, at the age of 87, surrounded by loved ones.

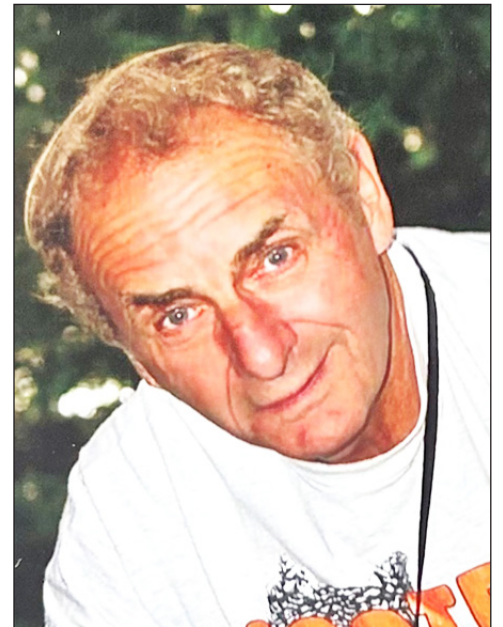
Born on September 4, 1938, in Hardwick, to Reed and Glena Hopkins, Roy was raised on the family farm alongside his sisters, Ruby and Rhoda. He graduated from Hardwick Academy in 1956, where he earned the nickname “Hoppi.” He later was known as “Roy the Boy” by his community friends.

In 1958, Roy married Rocky Dawn Preva, and together they raised four children: Randy, Kelly, Kevin, and Rhoda. He later had two children, Angel and Eric, with Sherry Moffat.

Roy was known for his routines and strong work ethic. He worked in the Barre stone sheds, hauled sawdust and loaded pulp trucks before becoming a first-class lineman across Vermont, Maine, and Ohio. He helped restore power following the Ice Storm of 1998. After retiring in 2001, he continued working for the town of Walden, caring for local cemeteries.

In 2003, Roy began traveling across the country, eventually visiting most of the national parks in the United States and parts of Canada with his companion and traveling buddy, Talaia Thomas.

Above all, Roy loved his family. He found joy in holidays, cookouts, Christmas shopping with Robbin, target shooting with family and time spent with his children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren.



Roy K. Hopkins

He showed his love through his presence, quiet strength, and unwavering dedication.

He is survived by his children: Kelly Hopkins (Earlene); Kevin Hopkins; Rhonda Hopkins; Angel Dunkovich; and Eric Hopkins (Samantha); along with 15 grandchildren, 15 great-grandchildren, and his companion Talaia.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his sisters; his son, Randy Hopkins; and his daughter-in-law, Robbin Hopkins.

To honor his request, all services will be private at the convenience of his family.

In lieu of flowers, contributions in Roy’s memory may be made to: Caledonia Home Health Care & Hospice, 161 Sherman Drive, St. Johnsbury, VT 05819.

Roy will be deeply missed and forever remembered.

Online condolences are welcomed at northernvermontfuneral-service.com

Vermont Agency of Transportation Public Notice Herbicide Spraying

The Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTrans) has requested from the Secretary of Agriculture, Food and Markets, a permit to apply the following herbicides: Garlon 4 ULTRA, Garlon 3A, Oust Extra, Escort, Krenite S, Polaris, Roundup Custom and AquaMaster to control unwanted vegetation along all state highways. Operations are authorized to start approximately May 15, 2026, but will not begin until the appropriate notification requirements are completed. The application will be made by certified pesticide applicator using mechanically controlled equipment and hand controlled methods. The methods employed are intended to avoid or eliminate drift. Resident along the rights-of-way (ROW) are encouraged to protect sensitive environments or water supplies within 100 feet of the ROW limits, and to avoid entering the ROW as spray trucks pass and until products dry. Residents should notify VTrans of the existence any water supplies within 100 feet of the State’s ROW. Citizens wishing to inform VTrans are urged to contact the nearest District Transportation Administrator as follows: District 1 - Bennington - (802) 447-2790, District 2 - Dummerston - (802) 254-5011, District 3 - Mendon - (802) 786-5826. District 4 - White River Junction - (802) 295-8888, District 5 - Colchester - (802) 655-1580, District 6 - Berlin - (802) 917-2879, District 7 - St. Johnsbury - (802) 748-6670, District 8 - St. Albans - (802) 524-5926, District 9 - Derby - (802) 334-7934. The contact person at the State Highway Department Headquarters is Brandon Garretto, Vegetation Management Admin., 2178 Airport Road, Dill Bldg. Unit A, Barre, VT 05641 or brandon.garretto@vermont.gov. Contact can also be made using the VTrans Internet Web page at <https://vtrans.vermont.gov/operations>.

The appropriate place to contact with comments other than VTrans is the Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets, Plant Industry, 116 State Street, Montpelier, VT 05602, (802) 828-1732. The link to their web page that would describe VTrans herbicide application permit request can be found at <https://agriculture.vermont.gov/>

OBITUARIES

Deanette Mae LaClair

AKRON, N.Y. – Deanette Mae LaClair (Eastman), devoted wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, sister and aunt, passed away Thursday, April 16, surrounded by the love of her family and friends.

Deanie, as known by family and friends, was born August 12, 1947, to the late Bernard and Catherine Eastman in East Hardwick, Vt. Raised on the family farm she was an avid horsewoman and big sister. Deanie graduated from Hardwick Academy and the University of Vermont.

She held management positions in municipal and industrial waste treatment in Kentucky and New York. She also worked in Vermont state dairy regulatory services as well as in the quality control lab at Perry's Ice Cream.

Deanie was quietly active in the community, supporting local school sports to watch her grandchildren play and was a long time member of the Akron-Newstead Senior Center and parishioner of St. Teresa of Avila Catholic Church.

While she held many jobs over the years, her number-one vocation was as a wife and mother of five children. Being a mother, grandmother and great-grandmother gave her so much joy, and you could find her knitting or crocheting something for them almost every day of the week.

Deanette is survived by her husband of 56 years, Francis LaClair; daughter, Catherine (Michael) Mohart of Silver Creek; daughter, Denise (Joseph) Hawes of Akron; son, Bernard (Eden) LaClair of Yuma, Ariz.; son, Lawrence (D.J.) LaClair of Tonawanda; brother, Kenneth (Patricia) Eastman of East Hardwick, Vt.; brothers- and sisters-in-law, Donald (Joan) LaClair of Summerfield, Fla; Edna (Gary) Petit of Newport,



Deanette Mae LaClair

Vt.; Maurice (Marci) LaClair of Rutland, Vt.; Michael (Wendy) LaClair of Georgia, Vt.; and Mary (Raymond) Perkins of Derby, Vt. Grandchildren include grandson, Joseph (Shanna) Gilvin; granddaughter, Cassiah (Kevin Lidlow) Gilvin; grandson, Aidan Mohart; grandson, Brock (Carlie Warner) Hawes; granddaughter, Emma Hawes; grandson, Mark (Yolanda) Bell; granddaughter, Samantha (Justin) Cardoza; great-grandchildren: Eliza, Peter, Mark, Eli, Noah, Tommy, Anastasia, and Jacob. She is also survived by her devoted canine companion, Mandy, as well dozens of nieces and nephews.

Deanie was predeceased by her parents; her son, Phillip LaClair; mother- and father-in-law Jeanne and Maurice LaClair; and brother-in-law, Brian LaClair.

Visitation will be Tuesday, April 21, from 4 to 7 p.m., at Ross Funeral Home in Akron. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at St. Teresa of Avila Church, 5771 Buell St., Akron, on Wednesday, April 22, at 10 a.m. Memorials may be made in her memory to Hospice Foundation of Buffalo. Go to rossakron.com

Barbara L. Coolbeth

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

Barbara was born December 30, 1936, in Busch, Mo.; the daughter of the late Paul R. and Dorothy (Wheeler) Mundle. She attended Busch, Mo., public schools.

She was very proud of being raised on the family farm working alongside her siblings after which she worked at St. Elizabeth Hospital in Hannibal, Mo.

On May 6, 1955, she married Earl W. Coolbeth in Hannibal, Mo. They started their married life in Greenville, Miss. They moved to Hardwick in 1957, where they lived and raised their six children.

Barbara was active in the Hardwick community. She was a member of the United Church of Hardwick and Circle No. 1 of that church, and the women's auxiliary of the American Legion Post No. 7 of Hardwick. Barbara was very devoted to her family. She loved time with her children and grandchildren. She enjoyed gardening, cooking, playing cards, traveling and camping at the family camp on East Long Pond. Barbara will be remembered for her kindness and her gentle smile. If you were lucky enough to know her you became family and always were greeted with a big hug.

Survivors include six children: Richard Coolbeth and partner Brenda Bonner; Vanessa and Jim Davison, all of Hardwick; Bonnie and Jerry Pittman of Marion, Pa.; David Coolbeth of Wolcott; Sherman and Terry Coolbeth of Hardwick; and Warren and Laurie Coolbeth of Cabot; her siblings, Albert and Sandra Mundle, Eugene and Lois Mundle, David and



Barbara L. Coolbeth

Sue Mundle all of Hannibal, Mo., and sisters-in-law Donna Mundle and Linda Mundle of New London, Mo., and Beverly Barnes of Chambersburg, Pa.; 10 grandchildren; 13 great-grandchildren and one great- great grandson along with many nieces, nephews and cousins.

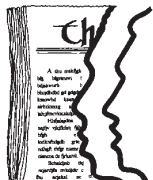
In addition to her parents, Barbara was predeceased by her loving husband of 66 years, Earl, in 2022, five siblings, Ernest, William and Richard Mundle, Freda Muller and Anna Mundle.

To honor her request, all services will be private at the convenience of her family.

In lieu of flowers, contributions in her memory may be made to Hardwick Rescue Squad, P.O. Box 837, Hardwick, VT 05843 or to the Lamoille Area Cancer Network, P.O. Box 828, Morrisville, VT 05661.

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

The Hardwick Gazette



PEOPLE SERVING PEOPLE

Northern Vermont Funeral Service

60 Elm St. • Hardwick, VT 05843

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Dian R. Holcomb
Funeral Director

PRENEED PLANNING



ROAD FOREMAN The Town of Walden, is seeking a qualified individual for their Road Foreman Position. This is a full-time 40 hour week position, with overtime requirement during winter months. The position involves maintaining and repairing town roads, culverts, ditches, equipment and other projects as needed. The Town of Walden offers a competitive wage, to be based on experience and a generous benefit package. For a complete job description, visit our website at waldenvt.gov, email tc@waldenvt.gov or call (802) 563-2220. For consideration, please submit a cover letter, resume, and three professional references to Town of Walden, 12 Vt. Rte 215, West Danville, VT 05873.

O'Brien's debut album inspired by social work and nature

REVIEWS

by **Claire Charlow**

PLAINFIELD – As a social worker and singer-songwriter, Jess O'Brien draws inspiration from her community, emphasizing the importance of shared human experience.

"The work of serving others in this time of great need feels very much in alignment with where I am as an artist right now," O'Brien said.

In May 2025, O'Brien released her debut album, "These Days." It's a project shaped by personal growth and healing, she said.

O'Brien grew up in a small town in northern Michigan, singing from an early age. When she was 12, she saved up to buy her own guitar.

"I didn't grow up in a musical family. I just kind of had to seek it out myself," she said.

O'Brien began writing and performing her own music more actively after moving to Plainfield in 2017, when her sister-in-law and her family offered to share their land.

"I feel like there's something mystical there in terms of how I've just connected to this place," she said.

O'Brien said she senses a strong connection to small rural communities and draws inspiration from nature.

"It feels like the best of both worlds, because there are so many opportunities to play music and connect with musicians. But at the same time, I get to live that close to natural life that I like," she said.

When she's not playing at the Plainfield Opera House or recording a song, O'Brien works in social services with the Central Vermont Council on Aging. She also offers private meditation instruction and

spiritual mentorship.

O'Brien said her music is inspired by the universal experience of suffering that comes with being human, which she sees in her work with clients.

She gathers ideas from her surrounding environment. Before the eight-month span of recording, mixing and mastering, O'Brien spent extensive time in and around her property.

"I mean, there's so much just metaphor and gardening and nature that is absolutely part of fueling me creatively," she said. "I find long walks, or even going for a run: there's this kind of rhythm that you can create with your body that occupies a certain part of the mind, so that you can tap into a more creative place."

"For me, it involves going deep inside and kind of touching into something really fundamental within yourself, be it a feeling or something that you've witnessed," O'Brien said. "But ultimately, I really enjoy going inward to find that spark, and then the process of making that into a real, tangible song is its own thing."

O'Brien collaborated with Vermont musician Paul Miller and award-winning producer and instrumentalist Colin McCaffery on the album. Though she was a novice in the studio, McCaffery and Miller said they were impressed with her storytelling and ability to collaborate while preserving her sound.

"When people have that caliber, that level of talent, it's almost effortless," McCaffery said. "My work is almost like not working. It really becomes play. I love the term 'play music,' because that's what we kind of ended up doing."

"With her, it was really fun to get a flow going, and really to have her produce, because it's really empowering for the artist to have that control of the wheel," he said.

Miller said he was moved by



Cover photo from O'Brien's debut album, "These Days," inspired by human connection and nature around Plainfield. *courtesy photo*

working with her.

"The first time she tracked 'These Days,' I remember crying because it was so beautiful. I was emotionally overwhelmed by her sound," he said.

"There's something about the sound of her voice that always made me feel good. It was just one of those things. If I was having a tough day or if I was pissed off about the world or whatever, something about the way she sang always made me feel better. I always felt it to be kind of a therapeutic experience for myself," Miller said.

Miller said.

The album is available on major streaming platforms.

To celebrate its release, O'Brien, McCaffery and Miller performed the album in full at the Plainfield Opera House in October.

When asked about the performance, Miller said, "Jess was in her element."

Claire Charlow writes for the Community News Service, a University of Vermont journalism internship for the Hardwick Gazette

Robinson presents album release concert, May 1

PLAINFIELD – Cabot songwriter, Dana Robinson, will highlight the release of his new album, "The Sound of the Word," at the Plainfield Town Hall Opera House, Friday, May 1, at 7 p.m.

Robinson's sound embodies the spirit of places that he has lived: the western states, New England, Great Britain's and southern Appalachia. He incorporates elements of oldtime and country blues with rock and folk sensibilities.

This year marks the release of Robinson's 14th full-length studio recording, "The Sound of the Word." Six years in the making, "The Sound of the Word" merges



Dana Robinson

contemporary songwriting and Southern old-time music with influences by bands such as The Horse Flies, Wilco, and Shooglenifty.

The Opera House is located at 18 High St. For more information, go to plainfieldartsvt.org



Jess O'Brien (center), Paul Miller (left) and Colin McCaffery perform "These Days" at the Plainfield Opera House in October. *courtesy photo*

**The
Hardwick
Gazette**

**PEOPLE
SERVING
PEOPLE**

“Pippin” fast-moving, great stage presence

REVIEWS

by David K. Rodgers

HYDE PARK – The current spring production of the Lamoille County Players at the Hyde Park Opera House is the steam punk musical, “Pippin,” in a fast-moving performance with spectacular group dancing and great stage presence in their singing and acting by the two principal characters, Pippin and the Leading Player. The cast is huge with some twenty-five members, eight in the major roles and seventeen in the ensemble of chorus and dancers, along with an orchestra of ten musicians.

The original musical was a smash hit on Broadway in the 1970s, with music and lyrics by Stephen Schwartz, a video was made of the stage version in 1981, starring Ben Vereen, William Katt and Martha Raye.

The plot is based on the real (or imagined) Prince Pippin, the first son of Charlamagne (742-814), King of the Franks, who ruled all of present-day France. He expanded his kingdom to include most of Germany, Austria, Switzerland and Italy and was crowned Emperor of the Holy Roman Empire in 800. His reputation was of a pious ruler and a patron of the arts, and he was committed to converting the pagans east of the Rhine to Christianity.

In this musical, presented in the steam punk style of the 1970s, the setting and the colorful costumes are contemporary and the choreography involves remarkably well-coordinated dancing by the whole cast, with considerable frequency.

In the production, Prince Pippin has come of age, is next in succession to be king and now seeks a meaningful and fulfilling life. In his journey he tries a variety of possibilities.

The director is Shannon

Sandborn, who did a superb job in casting C. Duncan as Pippin and Jack Wildwood as the Leading Player. The former had a particularly beautiful tenor voice, was an agile dancer and was thoroughly professional in his acting. Wildwood was immediately commanding and skillful in character, in body language and with a fine expressive voice as Pippin’s guide, through his journey to find his highest aspirations.

Supporting players who showed their dramatic talents Ben Irish as Charlamagne, Carrie Philips as Pippin’s grandmother, Michelle Sawyer as Frastrada, the ambitious stepmother, CeeJay Levine as her son Lewis, Kiley Currier as Catherine, whom Pippin comes to love, and Hollis Sawyer-Houle as her son, Theo.

The excellent choreography was by Taryn Noelle. Participating in the ensemble were Kim Anetsberger, Arlo Bickford, Quincy Boardman, Gwen Campus, Lee Chasen, Mariana Considine, Natalie Dunn, Ashley Hall, Cassandra Machia-Cibra, Kimmy Rose, Danny Miller, Danielle Peveril, Jupiter Rae, Bre Valdez, Eyanna Victoria, Anah Witt and Madison Yasner.

The orchestra was ably conducted by Issac Besso, and consisted of Carol Spradling and Patricia Jacob on keyboards, Joe Surkiewicz on bass, Jane Lambert and Joni McCraw on woodwinds, Dave Pacheco on drums and percussion, Bob Berger on guitar, Holden Freizel on trumpet and Kenneth Grenier on trombone.

Co-Producers were Holly Biracree and Gene Heinrich, not to mention the very numerous technical staff.

The Lamoille County Players are a genuine community theater at its best and is now in its seventy-fourth season.

“Pippin” will continue next weekend, April 24 to 26, on Friday and Saturday at 7 p.m., and Sunday at 2 p.m.. For information, call (802) 888 - 4507 or go online at LCPlayers.com.



In the Lamoille County Players production of “Pippin,” Leading Player (Dr. Jack Wildwood) reassures Pippin (Connor Duncan) that he is “On The Right Track” in his journey to find fulfillment, in the Lamoille County Players production of “Pippin.” photo by Natalie Dunn



The company summarizes Pippin’s so-far fruitless search for meaning with an extended dance break, in the Lamoille County Players production at the Hyde Park Opera House. photo by Natalie Dunn



Leading Player (Dr. Jack Wildwood) and featured dancers “the Manson trio” (from left) Gwen Campus, Cassandra Mashia-Cibra, and Mariana Considine, lead the disquietingly chipper dance breaks during “battles, barbarous and bloody.” photo by Natalie Dunn

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

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\$20 (adults) • \$15 (students, seniors & military)
Friday, Saturday 7pm • Sunday 2pm


scan for tickets

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dwrichardson1999@gmail.com

EVENTS

Wednesday, April 22

Circus Sampler class, 1 to 2 p.m., offered by the New England Center for Circus Arts, for youth ages 7 through 16, at the Highland Center for the Arts. Register by emailing greensborokids@gmail.com.

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

Thursday, April 23

Cooking Camp, 1 p.m., and fundraiser, Parker Ladd Room, Jeudevine Memorial Library, Hardwick. Information, jeudevinememoriallibrary.org.

Hazen Union Softball, 4:30 p.m., scrimmage vs. Caldonia United, at Hazen Union.

Mycology talk, 5 to 7 p.m., Greensboro Free Library upstairs meeting room, with Annabelle Langlois, M.Sc. an ER nurse and a biologist.

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

Friday, April 24

Circus show, 2 p.m., Highland Center for the Arts, Greensboro, with soon-to-be graduates of the New England Center for Circus Arts three-year full-time program. Tickets at highlandartsvt.org.

Postcards & Potluck, to increase voter turnout and break bread together, hosted by Indivisible Hardwick. Held at Jeudevine Memorial Library, 93 N. Main St., Hardwick. Information: IndivisibleHardwick@pm.me

Stories, photos, 6 p.m., Craftsbury Public Library, Olympian Susan Dunklee and biathlon coach Audrey Mangan share stories from the 2026 Paralympics in Italy. Information at (802) 586-9683.

Documentary, 6:30 p.m., Jaquith Public Library, Marshfield, screening of "The Librarians." Information, (802) 426-3581 or go to jaquithpubliclibrary.org.

Saturday, April 25

Poetry slam, 6:30 p.m., Parker Ladd Community Room, Jeudevine Memorial Library, Hardwick. All ages. Information, (802) 472-5948.

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

Sunday, April 26

Spanish club, 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., J.W. Simpson Library, East Craftsbury. The library will host a

Spanish conversation group.

Concert, 3 p.m., South Church Hall, St. Johnsbury. Pianist Chad Bowles performs, Part of the Northeast Kingdom Classical Series. Tickets at the door or online. Information: nekclassicalseries.org or (802) 748-9309 or (802) 274-5322.

Monday, April 27

Legislative breakfast, presented by the Northeast Kingdom Chamber of Commerce in St. Johnsbury, 8 a.m., St. Johnsbury Athenaeum, 1171 Main St., St. Johnsbury. Coffee and refreshments available. All welcome. Information: nekchamber.com/monthly-legislative-breakfast.

Tuesday, April 28

Weekly Honk & Wave, noon, corner of S. Main Street and Upper Cherry Street Information IndivisibleHardwick@pm.me

Craftsbury Academy Track & Field, 3:30 p.m., at Colchester.

Hazen Union Softball, 4:30 p.m., vs. Blue Mountain, at Hazen Union.

Wednesday, April 29

Beavers presentation, 5 to 6:30 p.m., Jeudevine Memorial Library, Hardwick. Learn about beavers with Patti Smith, naturalist from Bonnyvale Environmental Center and Skip Lisle, beaver expert and inventor of the patented Beaver Deceiver. Light refreshments served.

Thursday, April 30

Teen clay workshop, 4:30 p.m., with Cal Spinelli at Deep Woods Pottery Studio, 1665 Town Hill Road, Wolcott. No experience necessary.

Hazen Union Softball, 3 p.m. and 5:30 p.m., vs. Winooski, at Hazen Union.

"Bringing up Beaver," by John Abberth, presentation, 6:30 p.m., Jaquith Public Library, Marshfield. Information: (802) 426-3581 or go to jaquithpubliclibrary.org.

Deadline, to submit public comment on guidelines for road construction under Act 250/181 for the Land Use Review Board. Draft Road Construction Jurisdiction Guidance is available at act250.vermont.gov/document/road-construction-jurisdiction-guidance-draft-3-25-26.

Friday, May 1

Concert, 7 p.m., Plainfield Town Hall Opera House, 18 High St., Dana Robinson presents album release, Information: plainfieldartsvt.org.

Saturday, May 2

Convention, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Sacred harp, all-day sing, Glover Town Hall, 3018 Glover St. Potluck lunch

See EVENTS, Next Page

EVENTS

CONTINUED from previous page

at noon. No experience necessary and open to all. Information, ziggybrd@gmail.com.

Hazen Union Softball, 11 a.m., vs. Paine Mountain, at Hazen Union.

Craftsbury Academy Track & Field, 1 p.m., at South Burlington (Twilight Meet).

Sunday, May 3

Concert, 2 p.m., Barre Opera House, the Vermont Philharmonic celebrates spring, featuring violinist Arturo Delmoni. Information, vermontphilharmonic.com

Saturday, May 16

Barn dance, 6 to 10 p.m., Brassnocker Farm Barn, 2000 East Craftsbury Road, East Craftsbury, Dave Rowell hosts benefit and silent auction, with the Radio Rangers.

Sunday, May 17

Poetry reading, 2 to 4 p.m., Jaquith Public Library, Marshfield. Hosted by the Poetry Society of Vermont and the library. Information: jaquithpubliclibrary.org or (802) 426-3581.

Monday, May 25

Legislative breakfast, presented by the Northeast Kingdom Chamber of Commerce, 8 a.m., St. Johnsbury Athenaeum, 1171 Main St. All are welcome. Information: nekchamber.com/monthly-legislative-breakfast.

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 Com-

stock Road, Berlin. Information, (802) 223-4744.

Outdoor Story, activity, 10:30 to 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 to 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, (802) 426-3581, 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.

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 Acupuncture, 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.

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

Arthritis Relief, 10 a.m., Community Center, Hardwick. Exercise class sponsored by the NEK Council on Aging. Information at Sara, 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, maryqueenofallsaints@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 and (802) 441-4599, 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, jeudevineyouthlibrary@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.

Sign Language, 2 p.m., practice group, John Woodruff Simpson Memorial Library, 1972 East Craftsbury Road, Craftsbury. Information at (802) 586-9692 or jwsimpsonmemorial.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.

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.

See EVENTS, Next Page

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.



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

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

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.

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 or jaquithpubliclibrary.org.

Ongoing Fridays

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

Rail Trail walks, 9:30 a.m., every Friday, with the East Hardwick Walkers. Meet at Steven's Lane intersection near 123 East Church St.

Everyone invited. Information: Gail at gob7878@gmail.com.

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

Storytime, 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m., Jaquith Public Library, 122 School St., Marshfield, playgroup.. Information at jaquithpubliclibrary@gmail.com, (802) 426-3581, 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@aroundvt.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 or jaquithpubliclibrary.org.

Food Shelf, 9 to noon, third Saturday of each month from 9 to noon, 49 Valley Lake Road, South Woodbury.

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	
12 AM	Moist Fluids	Deep Threes	Dancehall/Reggae	Julian Taylor's Jukebox	Full Moon Hacksaw	Metal Radio DJ Eben Flow	And You Don't Stop	12 AM
1 AM		BantuNauts RAYdio		Latin Explosion	Baroque and Beyond	The Kinetic Playground	Timeless Oldies Radio Hour	1 AM
2 AM	Cafe Chill		Oldies Time Machine			The Sonic Cafe		2 AM
3 AM	WGDR New Music Mix <i>Music Directors</i>							3 AM
4 AM								4 AM
5 AM	Softpower/Fulstories Prison Pipeline	Thom Hartmann Program					Oldies Time Machine	5 AM
6 AM	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	6 AM
7 AM	Curse of the Golden Turnip <i>Alan LePage & Steven Farnham</i>	Maggie in the Morning <i>Delia Gillen</i>	Eastern Dawn <i>Luke Lampugnale</i>	Portal <i>Levi</i>	Writer's Voice	Bike Talk	The Secret Sisters	7 AM
8 AM	Democracy Now!						The Country Jamboree	8 AM
9 AM	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>	9 AM
10 AM	ROTATING SLOT #1 <i>(see below)</i>	Peace Talk Radio Sprouts	New Dimensions	Wings	This Way Out	TUC Radio	ROTATING SLOT #9 <i>(see below)</i>	10 AM
11 AM		ROTATING SLOT #4 <i>(see below)</i>	Rising Up w/ Sonali	Spawning Stones <i>Ben Bashore</i>	What's the Frequency, Kenneth?	Shortwave Report & Food Sleuth		11 AM
12 PM	Thought Pasture <i>Maura Quinn</i>	Personal and Political <i>Stephanie Fraser</i>	That Driving Beat		Unshelved <i>J Kramer</i>	Modern Jet Set	The Metal Edge <i>Willis Pratt</i>	12 PM
1 PM				The Rubber Room <i>Dan Towner</i>		Now Playing <i>DJ Llu</i>		1 PM
2 PM	Swivel Radio <i>DJ Effery</i>	David Rogers Music Mix Hour	Straight Up Soul		UpFront Soul		Boxful of Blues <i>John Foster</i>	2 PM
3 PM				Adiago		Hittin' the Note <i>Bill Hahn</i>		3 PM
4 PM	ROTATING SLOT #2 <i>(see below)</i>	Trailing Edge <i>David Ferland</i>	Listen Up! <i>Bill Nowlan</i>	Country & Western Sounds in Modern Music <i>Barry Matthews</i>	Law and Disorder			4 PM
5 PM	Bon Mot <i>Rick Agran</i>	Project Censored	Economic Update Rumble Strip	Techtonic	Big Picture Science	The Friday Drive at 5 <i>Corey Flynn</i>	Acoustic Harmony <i>Mark Michaelis</i>	5 PM
6 PM	The Good Ways Reggae Kind	Democracy Now! (rerun)		Stranger Deinger	ROTATING SLOT #7 <i>(see below)</i>			6 PM
7 PM	The Revel Level <i>DJ EhmMahn</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>	7 PM
8 PM								8 PM
9 PM	ROTATING SLOT #3 <i>(see below)</i>	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	9 PM
10 PM		Blues Edge <i>Les Mawson</i>					The Beatdown <i>Z-Point</i>	10 PM
11 PM	Deep Threes	Train to Skaville	Julian Taylor's Jukebox	Full Moon Hacksaw	Metal Radio <i>DJ Eben Flow</i>	And You Don't Stop		11 PM

Rotating Slots

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Support, stream live or listen to archives at WGDR.org

@WGDRWGDHVT

EVENTS

CONTINUED from previous page
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 or MaryKingatMary@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 (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

Writing Group, 2 to 4 p.m., Albany Public Library, 830 Main St., first and third Saturdays, (802) 755-6107, 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 (802) 472-5544.

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

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.

Story time, 9:30 a.m., The Christian Community, Heartbeat Lifesharing, 218 Town Farm Road, Hardwick, for children. 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, eastcraftsburypresbyterian.

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

Children's service, 10 a.m., The Christian Community, Heartbeat Lifesharing, 218 Town Farm

Road, Hardwick. Information, 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, 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 Universalist Parish of Derby Line, P.O. Box 454, Derby Line, VT 05830, (802) 873-3563, 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. guccvt.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 Being, The Christian Community, Heartbeat Lifesharing, 218 Town Farm Road, Hardwick. Information, 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, eastcraftsburypresbyterian.

Service, 11 a.m., First Congregational Church (NACCC), 123 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 Shbehrsing@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 LaBonnville, 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 Shbehrsing@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

See EVENTS, Next Page

HIGHWAY MAINTENANCE WORKER

The Town of Woodbury is accepting applications for a highway maintenance worker to join our road crew. This is a full-time position that requires a CDL (min Class "B") and the ability to work outside of regular working hours as necessary. Work takes place outdoors, in the equipment, or in the shop. The ideal candidate will have at least one year of experience in highway maintenance, including operation and maintenance of highway equipment.

The starting hourly wage (\$25-27) will depend on experience and qualifications. Woodbury offers excellent benefits, including health and dental insurance, paid time off, and an optional retirement plan. Candidates must be able to pass a physical as well as a drug test.

Contact the Town Office for a job application and job description (clerk@woodburyvt.org) or 802-456-7051 to receive a paper copy in the mail or stop at the Town Office at 1672 VT RT 14 in Woodbury. A job description and application can also be found on the Town web site www.woodburyvt.org.

The position will be open until filled.

EVENTS

CONTINUED from previous page
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, 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.

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.

Hardwick Conservation Commission meetings, second Monday of the month, 5 p.m., Hardwick Memorial Building, third floor. Public invited. Information: Rachel Kane, Co-chair, (802) 472-5512.

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

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.

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.

Storytime, 10 a.m., Craftsbury Public Library, early literacy for children ages 0 - 5. Information at childrenslibrarian@craftsburypubliclibrary.org or (802) 586-9683.

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 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, (802) 426-3581, 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.

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.

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.

Meeting, 6 to 8 p.m., Orleans Southeast Supervisory Union Board, first Tuesday of month, OSSU Central Office, Hardwick.

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 Tuesay 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 . inform@stjathenaeum.org

Community Services

Aging assistance, Northeast Kingdom Council on Aging, St. Johnsbury, (800) 642-5119.

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.

Online safety, cyber tipline, reporting online exploitation, missingkids.org/gethelpnow/cybertipline?gad_source=1

Online safety, Take it Down, support for removing and reducing spread of explicit images, takeitdown.ncmec.org/

Meals on Wheels, Greensboro Nursing Home through Northeast Kingdom Council on Aging, (800) 642-5119.

Mental health, Lamoille County Mental Health Services, 72 Harrel St., Morrisville, (802) 888-5026, (802) 228-0591, lamoille.org.

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.

Libraries

Albany Public Library, 530 Main St., Albany, (802) 755-6107, 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, Mon. to Fril, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Open to the public.

Cabot Public Library, 3084 Main St, (802) 563-2721, 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, 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, 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, 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, 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, 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.

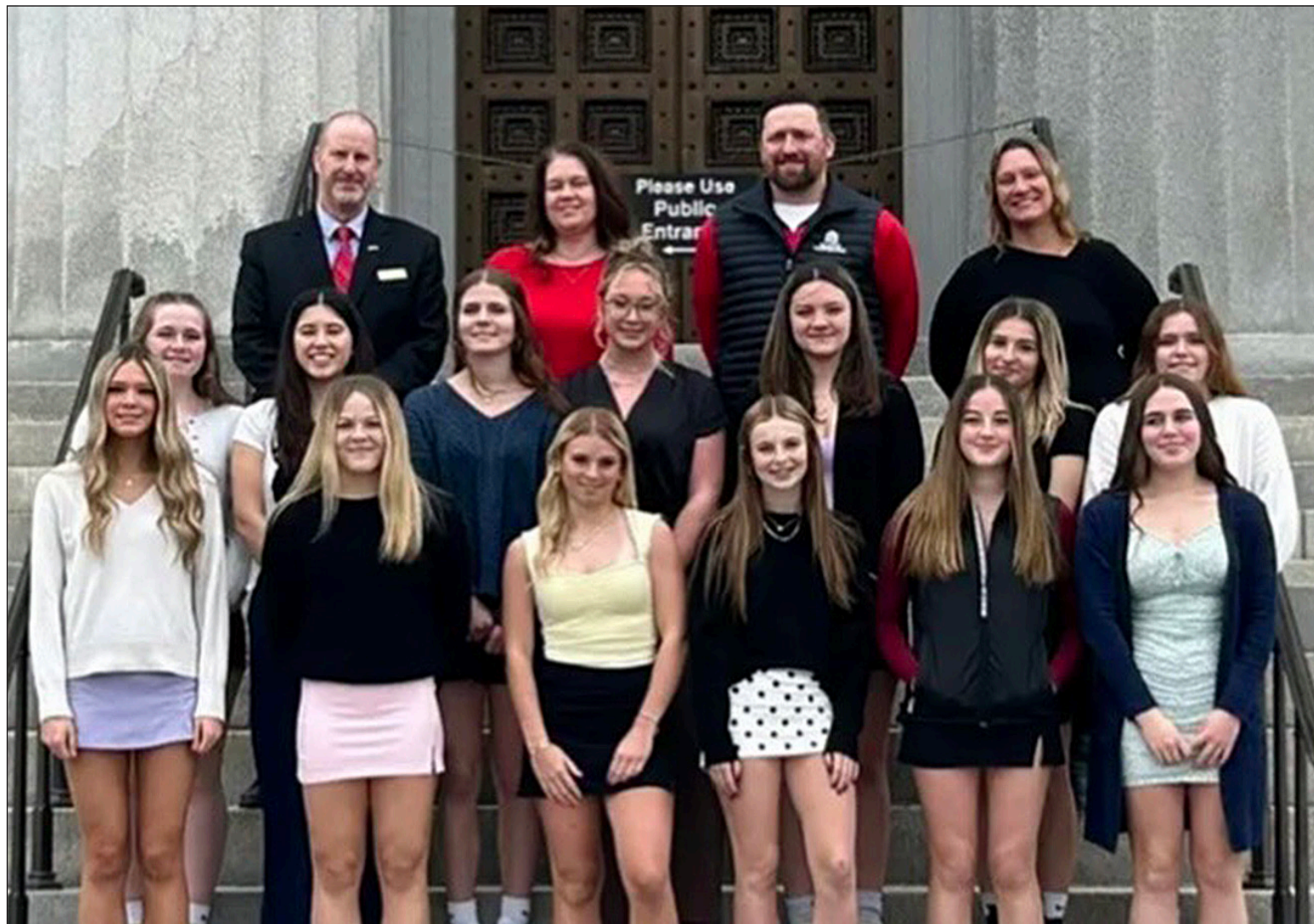
Jeudevine Memorial Library, 93 N Main St., Hardwick, (802) 472-5948, jeudevinememoriallibrary.org, Mon. and Wed. 1 - 6 p.m., Tues., Thurs. and Fri. 10 a.m. - 5 p.m., Sat. 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

John W. Simpson Memorial Library, 1972 E. Craftsbury Road, East Craftsbury, (802) 586-9692, jwsimpsonmemorial.org. 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, 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, Tues., 6 - 8 p.m.

Woodbury Community Library, Woodbury School, 69 Valley Lake Road, (802) 472-5710, library@woodburyvt.org, Wed., 1 - 5 p.m.;



Lady Cats at Capitol

The Hazen Union Lady Cats honored by the Vermont House of Representatives included (from left) Rep. Mike Southworth, Alison Blaney, Randy Lumsden, Sue Rivard, Sadie Gann, Ella Renaud, Autumn Dailey, Julia des Groseilliers, Kelsie Rivard, Ari Nichols, Cassidy Gann, Mya Lumsden, Taylor Thompson, Isabelle Gouin, Kennedee Gouin, Marina Smith and Eloise Foster. *courtesy photo*

Wildcats at Capitol

The Hazen Union Wildcats honored by the Vermont House of Representatives included (from left) Rep. Mike Southworth, Letty Hill, Evans Bouchard, Aaron Hill, Kevin Doyon, Adam Gann, Travis Hill, Jeter Demers, Ethan Gann, Jameson Lamarre, Morgan Michaud, Sully Laflam, Lucian Jurkiewicz, Dawson Michaud, Lincoln Hill, Kobe Smith, Talon Michaud and Chayse Newell. *courtesy photo*



Hazen Union championship teams become part of Vermont history

by Ken Brown

MONTPELIER – Last month, the Hazen Union girls and boys basketball teams were both crowned Division III State Champions in the same season for the first time in school history. Last week, they became a permanent part of Vermont history at the State Capitol.

Vermont House Representative for Caledonia 2-District Mike Southworth submitted House Resolutions on behalf of Hazen Union's Girls and Boys Basketball Championship Teams last Friday in Montpelier. Both Wildcat and Lady Cat teams, coaching staffs and contributors were congratulated by Governor Phil Scott and the General Assembly. The resolution was resolved by the Vermont Senate

and House. Copies of the Congratulatory Resolutions (HCR248 and HCR249) will be sent to Hazen Union High School by the Vermont Secretary of State.

Head coach Randy Lumsden led the Lady Cats to their second state title in the last three seasons with a 55-53 overtime thriller over Windsor on March 7. Junior Kelsie Rivard (30 points, 24 rebounds) sent the game into overtime with a clutch free throw at the end of regulation before draining two more at the end of overtime to seal the game. Head coach Aaron Hill's Wildcats claimed their second state title in five seasons with an emphatic 66-49 victory over top-seeded Randolph on March 14. Senior Sully Laflam saved his best game for last, pouring in a

season high 22 points in the win.

Rep. Southworth, a Walden resident for nearly 30 years, is the father of the late Tristan Southworth. The former Hazen Union multi-sport star gave his life for his country in 2010 serving for the Vermont National Guard in Afghanistan. The Bronze Star and Purple Heart recipient was known for his character, leadership and selflessness. The Tristan Southworth Memorial Scholarship is given out at the end of every season by the Vermont Basketball Coaches Association. Lamoille's Alana Crittenden received the honor this past season.

Watch the House Session from April 17 on the Vermont House of Representatives YouTube channel, @VTHouseOfReps.

KEN BROWN'S COLLEGE ROUNDUP

Big week for Fielder, honored on Norwich Senior Day

NORTHFIELD – East Calais native and former U-32 standout Caitlyn Fielder capped off another big week for her Norwich University women's lacrosse team, improving to 12-3 with another flurry of goals.

Fielder and the Lady Cadets sandwiched a loss to the University of Saint Joseph around a pair of wins over New England College and Dean College. The senior midfielder continued to lead the offense with 11 more goals last week, while adding a pair of assists. Fielder has now equaled her goal total (47) from a season ago and has now found the back of the net 132 times in her three years with Norwich. Fielder, along with teammates Athena Merck, Abigail Kirrane and Bailey Ingala were all honored at halftime on Saturday for their outstanding collegiate careers.

The Lady Cadets wrap up their regular season on the road against Mitchell College on Wednesday. They are still in play for one of the top seeds in the upcoming Great Northeast

Athletic Conference Tournament, which tips off Saturday.

Collier stays hot for struggling Lady Hornets

LYNDONVILLE – Hazen Union alum Sarah Collier continued to swing a hot bat last week despite her VTSU-Lyndon softball team dropping four games to fall to 2-8 on the season.

The Lady Hornets were on the wrong end of a home-and-home doubleheader against VTSU-Johnson last week, running their losing streak to eight straight games. Collier was a bright spot for VTSU-Lyndon, recording 3 hits, 3 RBI and 3 runs on the week. The junior utility player has gone 7-21 at the plate this season for the Lady Hornets. Collier also has driven in 8 runs, scored 10, while belting a triple and a home run.

VTSU-Lyndon and Collier are scheduled to host Norwich University on Wednesday, Fisher College on Friday, University of Maine Farmington on Saturday and Thomas College on Sunday.

Alekson continues to deal for Stags

FAIRFIELD, Conn. – Former Vermont Gatorade Player of the Year and Peoples Academy (PA) standout Ben Alekson put together two more outstanding starts in April for the Fairfield University baseball team.

The big right-hander earned the win against Mount St. Mary's on Friday, scattering five hits over seven innings of work, while striking out five. Alekson also earned the win against Rider on April 10, holding the Broncs to two hits, while fanning five more. The junior ace improved to 4-3 on the season, improving his team best ERA to 2.03. Alekson is 19-6 in 38 starts for Fairfield in his career. He has already earned a pair of Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC) Pitcher of the Week awards this spring and has been added to the College Baseball Foundation National Pitcher of the Year Watchlist.

Alekson and the Stags (18-15) have won three straight and will be back in action against Iona for a three-game series at home starting Friday night.

KEN BROWN'S TRACK & FIELD ROUNDUP

ST. ALBANS – Both the Hazen Union and Craftsbury Academy (CA) track and field teams kicked off their seasons last week at the BFA St. Albans' Collins-Perley Sports Complex.

The Chargers put a good first step forward towards qualifying several of their young athletes for States for a second straight year last Friday. Freshman Aemilia Terrone posted impressive 3rd-place finishes in the 800m, with a time of 2:47.53, and in the 400m, with a time of 1:09.88. Lamoille's Hailey Porter bested the field at 800m by nearly five seconds. Freshman Farrah Pepin of North Country took home the hardware in the 400m. Terrone capped off her first-ever varsity meet with a 5th-place finish in the 1500m for the Chargers. Sophomore teammate Linsey Allen finished 4th overall in the shot put behind event winner Morgan Shaffer of North Country. Fellow sophomore Nora Van Gulden had a strong opener for CA, securing a 5th-place finish in the 800m.

On the boys side, junior Kosmos Gletsos finished 3rd in the javelin with a throw of 28.06m and recorded a personal best for the Chargers in the shot put event. BFA's Sam Hurteau conquered the javelin event and

“Nevertheless, it was a great kick-off for those who competed, and we had some great performances and solid efforts all around.”

North Country's Cullin Ward bested the field in the shot put.

Incoming Charger freshmen Jade Griggs, Ora Nobel and Eden Boggs all recorded personal bests in their high school track and field debuts.

“Our meet was pushed back a few days due to the weather. It was the first day before break, leaving us with only a handful of participants. Most of our throwers focus on the discus event, but it was canceled due to a flooded field. We'll use the break to continue to improve,” said CA head coach Kyle Anderson.

Hazen Union junior Daniel Pougner had the best local finish of the day, a 28.94m personal best throw in the javelin, earning him runner-up honors. Freshman teammate Chris Tongolei posted a personal best throw in the shot put event in what was his first

taste of high school competition.

Peoples Academy kicked off its season last Tuesday at CVU in midseason form. Senior Sophie Beck edged teammate Ellia Speers to win the 200m and blitzed the field in the 300m Hurdles event by nearly three seconds. Fellow

senior Joseph Ellner edged U-32's Evan Coates to take home the title in the shot put.

The Chargers are scheduled to be back in action next Tuesday in Colchester. Hazen is scheduled to travel to Lyndon Institute next Wednesday.



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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

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