



Hardwick • Cabot • Calais • Craftsbury • Greensboro • Marshfield • Plainfield • Stannard • Walden • Wolcott • Woodbury

Wednesday, May 20, 2026

\$5 in-store, free online at hardwickgazette.org

Volume 137 Number 19

Springfest weekend activities on tap for everyone



Hardwick's Springfest street fair, May 23, in the American Legion parking lot and on Brush Street behind it, will host exhibitor and activity tables. Three music stages are planned.

map courtesy Hardwick Kiwanis Club

by Paul Fixx

HARDWICK, WALDEN – Memorial Day weekend is upon us and Hardwick's Springfest is on tap for area residents, but not before the Walden School Carnival, which overlaps with the first Hardwick Farmers Market of the season Friday.

Saturday's parade will follow its traditional route despite downtown construction, with a new location for the street fair in and around the American Legion parking lot.

Hardwick Gazette Weatherman Tyler Moleur predicts a 60 degree afternoon Friday with a chilly evening into the low 40s, then a partly sunny Saturday with a high near 60 and calm winds.

The Friday carnival at Walden School runs from 3 to 6 p.m., with food, games and other activities at the school, 135 Cahoon Farm Road, West Danville. Organizers promise a barbecue dinner and games following school release with a bouncy house, inflatable ax throwing, face painting, cotton candy, raffle prizes and police, fire and EMS on hand. The free community event hosted by the Walden PTA welcomes all families for an afternoon of activities for children and adults alike. Visit the Walden PTA Facebook page for more information.

Hardwick's Friday events begin with the Farmers Market opening day from 3 to 6 p.m. at Atkins Field, off Granite St.; a 6 p.m. Parade Marshal Reception at the Hardwick Village **See SPRINGFEST, 5**

Breezy Avenue study group gathers public input

by Raymonda Parchment

GREENSBORO – A Breezy Avenue scoping study informational meeting took place at the Fellowship Hall, May 5, with town staffer Joshua Karp emphasizing the importance of public input for the project.

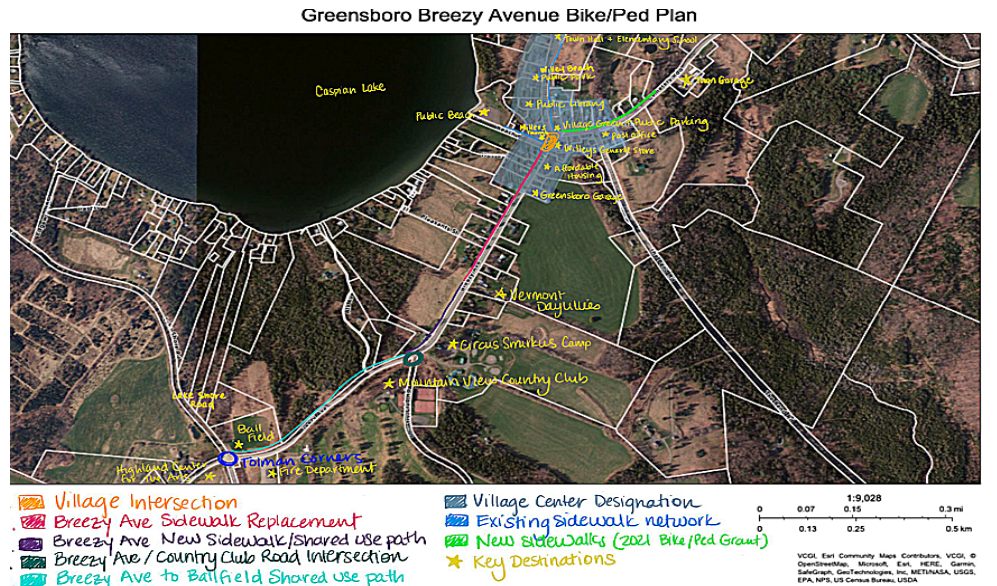
The meeting included consultants from BHP, Evan Haugh and Brandon Roberts, who will guide the scoping study.

Haugh began with an introduction for both himself and the project, "I work with VHB on road and sidewalk design, and scoping

studies. The purpose of Greensboro's scoping study is to rule out what is not feasible, explore a few project alternatives that are feasible and develop cost estimates. This will prepare the town to apply for a future construction grant."

The focus of the meeting was primarily on creating options for Breezy Avenue, considering a sidewalk or a wider shared-use path for bikes. The consultants shared they aim to provide cost estimates, timelines and assessments for the proposed options.

Following community input, **See INPUT, 3**



map courtesy Naomi Ranz-Schleiffer

MVU moves to create school consolidation study subcommittee

by Paul Fixx

HARDWICK – Once again voters pressed Mountain View Union Elementary School (MVU) District board members on plans for Woodbury School at a May 14 public informational meeting at Hardwick Elementary School (HES) about the May 20 ballot vote on the FY27 school budget.

Community concerns included where funds will come from to meet fire safety concerns and calling for a public vote to close the Woodbury school, moving those students to HES.

The board later voted to create a school consolidation subcommittee.

May 20 brings the third vote on the FY27 budget, which the board has revised following

failed votes. On April 7, the budget failed in a close 315-282 vote. Prior to that, on Town Meeting Day, March 3, the budget failed in a closer 389-377 vote. The board did not revise the budget between those votes, instead relying on possible tax reductions resulting from a possible state investment to buy down FY27 tax rates.

The third budget being presented to voters on May 20 was adopted at the district's Thursday, April 16 board meeting. "The total FY27 expenditure budget of \$9,065,204.25 is a 1.02% increase over FY26 adding \$91,604 to the budget," said the board in the information provided in advance of the vote.

The budget being voted on this third time is \$113,088 lower than for the two previous votes **See SUBCOMMITTEE, 4**



Hardwick Trails users have raised concerns about the removal of white pines for a stormwater project in an area dubbed "The Cathedral" along the trail passing the Green Mountain Tech Center off N. Main St. in Hardwick. There is an opportunity for public input on the agenda for 6:30 p.m. at the regular Hazen Union School board meeting, Wednesday, May 20. *courtesy photo*



You're no fool: you're informed, you understand.
Extend your right to be curious with a sustaining monthly contribution to The Hardwick Gazette

news@hardwickgazette/donate

PUBLIC SERVICES

Town of Hardwick

Property Transfers Jan., Feb., 2025

Cecile and Jasmine Leriche to Cecile Marie Leriche, trustee, 2317 Vt. Rte. 15 W., 2 acres, valued at \$102,400, January 8.
 Kristina Michelsen to Kristina Michelsen, trustee, 223 Center Road., 5.8 acres, valued at \$153,500, January 14.
 Frank Sauer to Nina Sauer Tondu, 1189 Hopkins Hill, 20 acres valued at \$196,300, January 17.
 Andrew Meyer to Stephen B. and Andrew Meyer, Morin Lane, 37 acres valued at \$71,200, January 21.
 David Ewing to Thomas Bellavance, 1398 West Hill Road., 2 acres valued at \$91,500, February 3.
 Joel and Sara Behrsing to Joel Behrsing, 223 Brown Farm Road., 11.1 acres, February 4.

Vermont State Police

Abuse Prevention Order violation

CRAFTSBURY – On May 14 at approximately 6:59 p.m., the Vermont State Police Derby barracks was executing a search warrant for an unrelated case at a residence on Wild Branch Road in the Town of Craftsbury. While conducting the search, Troopers located a firearm in the residence which was occupied by Robert Witham, who was found to have an active abuse prevention order which prevented him from possessing firearms. Witham was arrested and transported to the Derby barracks without incident and released with a citation to appear in Orleans Superior Court on May 15 at 12:30 p.m., to answer to the above charge.

AWARE Report

HARDWICK – Seven people used AWARE services between May 10 and May 17. 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.


Hardwick Police Department Resisting arrest

HARDWICK – On April 29 at approximately 3:57 p.m., officers from the Hardwick Police Department (HPD) attempted to take Casandra Rich into custody on an outstanding warrant. Rich would run from officers and avoid detention on this occasion. She would be apprehended by HPD six days later on this warrant. As a result of her flight, Rich is being charged with Resisting Arrest.

She has been issued a citation to appear in the Superior Court of Vermont, Criminal Division - Caledonia Unit, to be arranged on the above charge.

Contents

Public Services.....	2, 3
Weather Watch	3
Town asks residents to weigh in on School Street closure	7
Northern Counties Health Care celebrates 50 years of caring	7
Vermonters will vote on equal protection amendment.....	8
Area legislators support equal protection amendment	8
AG Clark takes enforcement action against contractor	9
Fairbanks offers educational camps, playgroups	9
Editorial: We make facts easier to find.....	10
Letters from Readers: Gray, Steel, McCoy.....	10, 12
Yankee Notebook: I've run out of elders	11
Woodsmoke (cartoon).....	11
Poem: Sandoval	12
Heller's World (cartoon)	13, 14, 18
Weeks Gone By	13
From the Watershed: Sediment story, Jackson Dam	15
I Heard it Through the Jeudevine: Human Library lends people	15
Our Neighborhood: Walden Home Dem.....	16
Voices of Spirit: From an Earth dweller	16
In the Garden: Planting under trees	17
The Outside Story: Songbirds	18
Our Communities	19
Business Briefs	20
Education.....	20
Obituaries: Sholan, Hill, Gray, Pasette	21
New exhibits open at museum's gallery	22
LCP holds auditions for "California Suite".....	22
Pointe Noir performs May 22 at Atkins Field	22
Shakespeare season begins June 18.....	22
Moody brings her band to BOH	22
Review: Drama club gives enthusiastic "Peter Pan" performance	23
Opera Vermont performs "La Cenerentola" at BOH	24
Events	25-29
Wildcats scratch out another win	30
Ken Brown's Track & Field Roundup	31
Ken Brown's Sport Nuggets	31
The Conifer Clash 2026 (photos).....	32



May 20- May 26

Big Memorial Day Sale. 5/23-5/24. Vender Samples, Raffles and more.		Summer Footwear Sale, 20% Off. All Clothing 20% Off.	
Ocean Spray Cranberry Drinks 2/\$5 64 oz.	Spindrift 8 Pk. Sparkling Water \$5.99 96 oz.	Starbucks Ground Coffee \$9.99 12 oz.	
Ragu Pasta Sauce 2/\$5 23.9-24 oz.	Prince Pasta 4/\$5 12-16 oz.	Suddenly Salad Pasta Mixes 2/\$4 7.25-7.75 oz.	
Annie's Mac & Cheese Dinners 2/\$4 6 oz.	Starkist Solid White Tuna \$1.79 5 oz.	B & M Baked Beans 4/\$5 16 oz.	
Hellmann's Mayonnaise \$5.49 15-30 oz.	Sweet Baby Ray's BBQ Sauce 2/\$4 18 oz.	French's Mustard \$2.29 18-20 oz.	
Skippy Peanut Butter 2/\$5 16.3 oz.	Jet Puffed Marshmallows 2/\$3 12 oz.	Hershey's 6 Pk. Milk Choc. Bars \$6.99 9.3 oz.	
Nabisco Graham Crackers \$3.99 14 oz.	Smucker's Toppings \$2.99 11-12.25 oz.	Nabisco Snack Crackers 2/\$5 7.5-13.7 oz.	
Cabot Bars or Shredded Cheese 2/\$5 6-8 oz.	Ben & Jerry's Ice Cream \$4.49 16 oz.	Klondike 6 Ct. Bars \$3.99 27 oz.	

The Willey's Store

Since 1900 Greensboro

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

• Full-service Grocery & Hardware • Clothing

• Footwear • Housewares • Hunting & Fishing

• Coffee Bar • Beer & Wine • Toys • Gifts

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

WEATHER WATCH

Cooler weather for forecast period; showers again by late weekend

by Tyler Molleur

EAST HARDWICK – We continue to outpace the rainfall norms for this month after a week featuring showers and several hours of heavy downpours Wednesday into Thursday. Most rainfall amounts for this storm ranged from an inch and a half to two inches, with Woodbury reporting 2.19 inches and Cabot reporting 2.06 inches. Nearby Wheelock came in with 2.22 inches.

From Friday on, sporadic showers mixed with breaks of sunshine, with just another two tenths of an inch of rain reported over the subsequent five days. Our total rainfall for the month is now 3.84 inches, which is 1.49 inches above normal. Temperatures also moderated during the forecast period, with highs both Monday and Tuesday easily reaching 80 degrees region-wide. Normal high temperatures for this time of year should be in the upper-60s, with lows in the mid-40s.

Thunderstorms associated with a cold front will be well south and east of the area today, with just a few lingering showers in the morning. From there, high pressure builds in, with cooler and drier conditions through Friday. Some clouds

from a low-pressure system to our south will mix in with the sunshine for the weekend. There may be an isolated shower on Saturday afternoon. Temperatures remain on the cool side, with highs in the upper-50s to low-60s, and lows on either side of 40 degrees.

An approaching storm system from the Ohio Valley arrives later Sunday, bringing us our next chance for showers and thunderstorms. Precipitation amounts this week will generally be lighter than in week's past. Here are the forecast details:

Wednesday: Mostly sunny. Isolated showers in the morning. High: 74. Low: 38. Northwest wind around 5 mph.

Thursday: Sunny. High: 57. Low: 36. Northwest wind around 5 mph.

Friday: Mostly sunny. High: 62. Low: 42. Northwest wind around 5 mph.

Saturday: Partly sunny, becoming mostly cloudy in the afternoon. High: 60. Low: 40. Calm wind.

Sunday: Partly sunny. A chance of showers by evening. High: 60. Low: 43. Calm wind.

Memorial Day: Mostly cloudy. A chance of showers. High: 65. Low: 44. South wind around 5 mph.



Hummingbirds are back and hungry, Sunday, on Montgomery Road, East Hardwick. photo by Dawn Gustafson

Input

Continued From Page One
the town expects to choose the preferred option, which will facilitate grant applications for construction.

Haugh clarified the grant that the town has is to look at the area encompassing Willey's Store, over to Tolman's Corner, the intersections and the sidewalk between them. Some areas would require sidewalk replacement, some could have new sidewalks.

The consultants affirmed that the conditions of the sidewalk on Breezy Avenue have been deteriorating for some time, with areas having sunken lower than the road, pooling water. Reviewing the crash history of the area, they reported 17 crashes going back fifteen years, with Haugh saying more minor crashes often don't get reported and filed.

Attendees ranged from residents to committee representatives, with public comments placing emphasis on pedestrian safety and accessibility, as well as potential uses. Some residents voiced concern over skate-skiers, who roll without brakes, coming down the hill towards Willey's. Others noted specific areas that are in need of repairs, like the Lakeshore Road.

Haugh outlined the different types of sidewalk construction and widths, "The most basic ones are that you've just got your asphalt for the road, and you make it a little wider, and you paint some-

thing, but usually people want a little more protection than that. So usually, like, a default minimum would be you do a curb and a five-foot concrete sidewalk; the five feet being sized for a wheelchair to pass . . . You're allowed to go down to four to get through a narrow spot, but really, five feet is the minimum. And it goes up from there, there has to be maybe just a six-foot sidewalk, maybe it's an eight-foot path, which is the minimum where you can have bikes and pedestrians."

Residents asked about the costs between a gravel sidewalk and a cement sidewalk, with Roberts responding, "I don't think gravel is going to work on Breezy Avenue, because every time it rains they're going to lose some of that gravel."

Haugh elaborated, "When people do a path that isn't paved, it's usually either a crushed limestone instead of a true big rock gravel, or sometimes it's a grass path. It is not a big savings to do crushed limestone, and even on permitting, it still counts as an impervious surface."

Discussions continued, with the consultants taking down residents' suggestions and observations.

Before the end of the year, VHB is scheduled to come up with a final report. Sometime in the next few months, Haugh says, they will return and present a list of alternatives, including potential costs and the requisite permits.

PUBLIC SERVICES

Hardwick Police Report Media Log

HARDWICK – May 10: Assist - Agency, Spring St.; Parking Problem, S. Main St.; Threats/Harassment, Vt. Route 14 S.; Traffic Stop, S. Main St.

May 11: Directed Patrol, S. Main St.; Wanted Person, High St.; Accident - TCNR, Vt. Route 15 W.; Suspicious Event, S. Main St.; Assist - Agency, Bridgman Hill Road; Welfare Check, Granite St.; Mental Health Incident, Highland Ave.; Information, Elm St.

May 12: Directed Patrol, S. Main St.; Information, Spring St.; Assist - Agency, Spring St.

May 13: Directed Patrol, Spring St.; Directed Patrol, W. Church St.; Traffic Stop, Wolcott St.; Trespassing, Dale St.; Traffic Stop, W. Church St.; Traffic Stop, Cottage St.; Fingerprints, High St.; Traffic Stop, Granite St.; Fingerprints, High St.; Traffic Stop, Wolcott St.; Traffic Stop, Wolcott

St.; Medical, S. Main St.; Traffic Stop, N. Main St.

May 14: Directed Patrol, S. Main St.; Public Speaking, N. Main St.; Phone Problem, High St.; Traffic Hazard, Vt. Route 15 E.

May 15: Traffic Stop, Vt. Route 15 E.; Traffic Stop, Wolcott St.; Traffic Stop, Vt. Route 14; Traffic Stop, Vt. Route 15; Traffic Stop, Wolcott St.; Directed Patrol, S. Main St.; Traffic Stop, Lower Cherry St.; Traffic Stop, Wolcott St.; Traffic Stop, Wolcott St.; Directed Patrol, W. Church St.

May 16: Assist - Public, Highland Ave.; Motor Vehicle Complaint, S. Main St.

May 17: Motor Vehicle Complaint, Vt. Route 14 S.; Overdose, Spring St.; Suspicious Event, School Circle; Citizen Dispute, S. Main St.; Theft, S. Main St.; Noise Disturbance, S. Main St.

Subcommittee

Continued From Page One

with reductions due to the elimination of one teaching position and for PCB testing.

One full time pre-K teaching position will not be filled after it “is being vacated at the end of this year . . .”

The remainder of the reduction comes from a lower anticipated cost for HES PCB testing to confirm the effectiveness of PCB remediation efforts last summer.

The expense increase for this MVU budget is lower than the state average increase of 3.59%, they said.

Orleans Southwest Supervisory Union (OSSU) Superintendent Dr. David Baker concluded the informational meeting by reminding those gathered that the district will be required to set a budget at 87% of the current year’s budget if this vote does not pass the budget.

“It would impact the district if this budget vote fails,” he said. I “hope we can get our budget this time around.”

The MVU board responded to the recurring community concerns, and similar concerns expressed by some of its own members, at its regularly scheduled meeting after the informational meeting, May 14, by voting to form a subcommittee to examine possible school consolidation.

A short-term planning committee is being created to provide a report by October of this year “that will investigate the advantages and disadvantages to further consolidation of buildings in the district.”

That report is to be “based on evaluation of data, including financial, access to educational opportunities, community impact and organizational needs.

Baker said he is “Glad to see a study committee being formed,” and offered “Support for the work this board has done.”

The subcommittee will include one board member from each town, two administrators and one community member from each of the MVU member towns of Greensboro, Hardwick/East Hardwick, Stannard and Woodbury.

Those interested in joining the subcommittee are to fill out the a form by May 20 at docs.google.com/forms/u/1/d/e/1FAIpQLSdqg-obj_Qr8ICTBGpyEQtp_NbC7tAZbtPlnsq3PQ98oz-zMl...lorm

Community members speaking at the informational meeting made comments noting a lack of direction from the board on the possibility of consolidating schools.

Several suggested asking

voters to weigh in on the possibility of closing Woodbury, as they have at previous meetings and regularly in Front Porch Forum and on social media..

Harold McCoy expressed concerns about hiring a financial consultant and its necessity, given the district is the source of all of available data on the current operation of schools in the district..

Another commenter suggested evaluating all possibilities, including closing each of the schools or breaking up MVU.

Orise Ainsworth commented on Woodbury’s lease of the building to MVU and requirements for MVU to maintain it, including that it could be immediately returned to the Town of Woodbury if MVU chose to vacate it, meaning there would no further cost to the district to close or maintain the building.

During the discussion the board said they cannot speak about the specific scenarios they considered when setting the budget because they include staff attrition.

The FY27 proposed budget for this vote requires \$8,956,803 from the state Education Fund, an increase 5.89% over FY26.

The FY27 state average Education Fund spending increase across districts is 4.15%, said district information. “The increased demand on the Ed Fund is primarily due to the loss of offsetting revenues.”

“FY27 Education Spending per weighted pupil is \$16,328.74. FY26’s Education Spending per weighted pupil expense was: \$15,582.40. The loss of offsetting revenues is increasing the demand on the Ed Fund and, in turn, drives up the Ed Fund per weighted pupil cost,” said the district.

The District’s Equalized Homestead Tax Rate is decreasing \$0.08 from \$1.8219 in FY26 to \$1.7421 in FY27.

Areas tax rates are affected by the Common Level of Appraisal, a property value adjustment calculated by the state. State legislators are considering several proposals to use state funds that will further lower tax rates. The district offered two possible scenarios, either, or neither of which may come to pass.

If the legislature uses half of Governor’s proposed buydown, the Yield will be \$9,170 and the projected FY27 Tax Rate in MVU towns after factoring in the Common Level of Appraisal, will be:

Greensboro: \$0.90, an increase of \$0.1429 or \$142.88 on a home valued at \$100,000

Hardwick: \$0.6575, an increase of \$.05297 or \$52.97 on a home valued at \$100,000

Stannard: \$0.7996, an increase of \$.0673 or \$67.31 on a home valued at \$100,000

Woodbury: \$1.2293, an increase of \$0.0779 or \$77.87 on a home valued at \$100,000

Those rates will be lower with a Yield of \$9373 if the buydown is the larger amount passed out of the Senate Finance Committee, which is more consistent with the Governor’s proposal:

Greensboro: \$0.881, an increase of \$0.1234 or \$123.38 on a home valued at \$100,000

Hardwick: \$0.6432, an increase of \$.0387 or \$38.73 on a home valued at \$100,000

Stannard: \$0.7823, an increase of \$.05 or \$50.00 on a home valued at \$100,000

Woodbury: \$1.2027, an increase of \$0.0513 or \$51.25 on a

home valued at \$100,000

The MVU budget revote on Wednesday, May 20 2026 is being held at polling places in the four member towns, with Hardwick from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. at the Hardwick Town House, 127 Church Street.

Greensboro votes from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. in the Greensboro Town Hall, 81 Lauredon Ave, Stannard votes weigh in from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. at the Stannard Town Hall, 615 Stannard Mtn. Rd.


And Woodbury holds its vote from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. in the Woodbury Town Hall, 3675 VT-14.

“This is your opportunity to have a direct impact on the future of our schools and community. Every vote counts,” wrote the school district in its announcement of the vote.



Hardwick Police Department Sergeant Daniel Brunelle (center) reads “Police Officers on Patrol” to the ten children and ten adults who attended storytime, May 14, at the Jeudevine Memorial Library in Hardwick. At left is Rachel Funk, youth librarian. After reading the book and answering questions Brunelle showed his police cruiser to those attending.

photo by Vanessa Fournier



Your Voice, Your Community News

Becoming a supporter of the Hardwick Gazette will help us continue delivering local news and information. Our success depend on you, as readers, as donors and as advertisers with your businesses and civic organizations. A generous donor will match the first \$12,000 in contributions. All Gazette content is now available at no charge. We ask that you subscribe and share your address to help us understand where our readers live. The Hardwick Gazette isn’t just your local community news, it’s a powerful platform that amplifies the diverse voices and stories that make our communities unique. Your donation makes possible the trustworthy, fact-driven news, thoughtful columns and opinions and stories you rely on.

Donate online
hardwickgazette.org



A field of dandelions on Montgomery Road, East Hardwick, blossom in the warmer weather, Sunday.

photo by Dawn Gustafson



A pile of bottles and cans was collected by the Friends of Hardwick Elementary School at the fire station during the bottle drive, Saturday, May 9, from 9 to noon.

social media photo

Springfest

Continued From Page One

Restaurant; then a free evening concert and street dance by Point Noire from 7 to 10 p.m. at Atkins Field hosted by the Civic Standard.

Farmers Market Manager Hayley Williams said to expect more than 20 farmers market vendors, a Farm and Garden Expo with tool sharpening and soil blocking demos, plant sales and the opportunity to connect with Extension Master Gardeners.

Food trucks will be on hand and cocktails will be available to purchase from St. Johnsbury Distillery.

Yard games (corn hole, yard Yahtzee and jumbo Jenga with children's activities that will include face painting and live music by Michael Perry. Karen Brown will be leading folks in the how-to's of soil blocking and seed snailing, from 3:30 p.m. She will teach visitors how to mix the right blocking medium, press and form sturdy blocks, choose appropriate seeds, timing and create seed-snail rolls that maintain moisture while reducing plastic waste and improving home germination success. No registration is needed.

Indivisible Hardwick reports that Democratic gubernatorial candidate Amanda Janoo will visit the Farmer's Market from 4 to 6 p.m.

The Civic Standard's Rose Friedman said, "Kick off Springfest weekend at Atkins Field with Vermont's premier Cajun band, Pointe Noir. Food trucks will be there with tasty treats and fancy drinks and the band will be serving up spicy cajun rhythms. The concert is free to all so come on down and dance the night away!"

Saturday's events begin at 7 a.m., with a bird walk beginning at the Hardwick Trails kiosk behind Hazen Union School.

At 8 a.m. a 5K Fun Run leaves from the Lamoille Valley Rail Trail (LVRT) near the Hardwick Area Health Center parking lot.

At 9:45 a.m., a Memorial Service hosted by the American Legion at the Memorial Park on Church St., across from the Hardwick Memorial Building, kicks off the parade, which begins at 10 a.m.

Those wanting to be in the parade should gather by 9:30 a.m. in the Hazen Union High School parking lot.

Despite construction downtown, the parade will follow its usual path down North Main Street, turn right on South Main Street at the Hardwick Inn, where an announcer will be on hand as floats and marchers pass by.

The parade will continue, passing downtown construction and Wolcott Street, turning right on Spring Street and winding up at Atkins Field, where there will be no events this year.

The Catholic Daughters of America, Court St. Veronica will hold their annual bake sale in front of St. Norbert's Church during the parade until 11 a.m.

The Knights of Columbus will be dishing out its annual "Mario Fradette and Ryan Brown's famous Chicken Barbecue" beginning at 11:45 a.m. in front of the church, where they hoped to have tickets sold by May 15.

This year, the Hardwick United Church will be offering free ice cream and cookies before, during and after the parade passes by the corner of Lower Cherry Street, along with a sale table of selected items from Angel Outfitters.

Spring Street will be closed immediately after the parade for Cubmobile Races on Spring Street (not Lower Cherry). All are welcome to race or just watch, cubmobiles will be available to borrow.

This year's Street Fair moves

to the Legion parking lot at the intersection of Highland Avenue and Brush Street, which will both be closed to through traffic from 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.. Vendors, food trucks and community organizations will be set up with tables and tents. A tent with the Kiwanis Club and Downtown Partnership, will offer information.

The Jeudevine Library premieres its Human Library of Books to sign up for at 12:30 p.m., which runs for two hours, through 2:30 p.m. Visitors can meet for about twenty minutes, one-on-one, with the book (a person) of their choice. Space is limited; signing up ahead of time is a good idea by calling, emailing, or coming into the library.

Events on tap are a 1 p.m. human truck pull on Brush Street, Edie Menard and the Crazy Kountry Band from 2 until 3:30 p.m., followed by a Duck Dive at 3:30.

At 1:45 p.m. Saturday, Hardwick Area Little League will hold the opening ceremony of its 11th Annual Tristan Southworth Memorial Day Classic game at the Little League field behind the Hardwick Elementary School. The game will follow at 2 p.m.

Sunday at 11 a.m. Riverside Cycles hosts an LVRT trail ride leaving from the store at the Hardwick Inn, where N. and S. Main intersect.

Memorial Day will be observed at 10 a.m., Monday at the Memorial Park and area cemeteries.

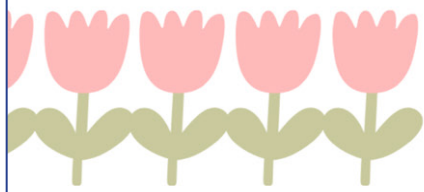
Since 1950, the Spring Festival, known as Springfest, has been Hardwick's biggest annual community celebration. Originally started as the renowned Tulip Festival (the Dutch ambassador once attended), Springfest has evolved over its long history. It's been part old-time country fair with horse pulls and square dancing, part carnival with rides and fried dough and part home-grown festival with homemade games and attractions. The constant centerpiece has been a parade, with spectators lining the streets of Hardwick along the route.

The Hardwick Kiwanis Club has spearheaded Springfest since its inception; however, it has always been a community effort involving local businesses, organizations, vendors, artists, schools and residents.

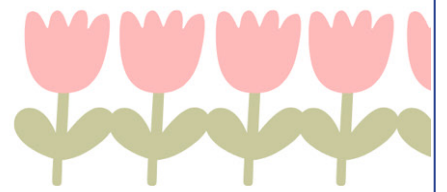
The Hardwick Downtown Partnership, The Civic Standard, Center for an Agricultural Economy, Hardwick Farmers Market, American Legion, Hardwick Trails, Hardwick Recreation Committee, Hardwick Area Little League, Jeudevine Memorial Library, The Hardwick Gazette and the Town of Hardwick now co-host the event with the Kiwanis Club.



HARDWICK SPRINGFEST



FRI - SAT, MAY 22 - 23



**Fri. May 22,
Atkins Field**

**Sat. May 23,
Downtown**

3 - 6pm

**FARMERS MARKET
& FOOD TRUCKS**

9:45am

MEMORIAL SERVICE

7 - 10pm

**FREE CONCERT &
STREET DANCE WITH
POINTE NOIR**

10am

PARADE

11:30 - 3:30

STREET FAIR

**FUN RUN • FOOD TRUCKS • FACE PAINTING •
VENDORS • HUMAN TRUCK PULL • KIDS GAMES •
BIRD WALK • ICE CREAM • HUMAN LIBRARY •
CUBMOBILE RACES • MEMORIAL BASEBALL
GAME • DUCK DIVE • BIRDHOUSE BAND • EDIE
MENARD AND THE KRAZY KOUNTRY BAND**



hardwickdowntown.org/springfest

Town asks residents to weigh in on School Street closure

by Paul Fixx

EAST HARDWICK – The Town of Hardwick recently sent a letter and email to East Hardwick residents advising them of its interest in learning what the impacts are of the School Street closure between Vt. Rt. 16 and the Mini Mart Drive at D&L Beverage.

In a process similar to the one that preceded Hardwick’s contract with Verdantas for engineering reviews of Bridge 31 across the Lamoille River on East Main Street, before Greensboro Bend, the town has created a survey and is asking area residents who used that closed segment of the road to fill out a survey.

“Because this decision has long-term implications for the village, we are conducting a survey to better understand how the closure has affected travel, safety, accessibility, and movement within East Hardwick,” wrote the town.

Erosion along the Northwest edge of School Street following

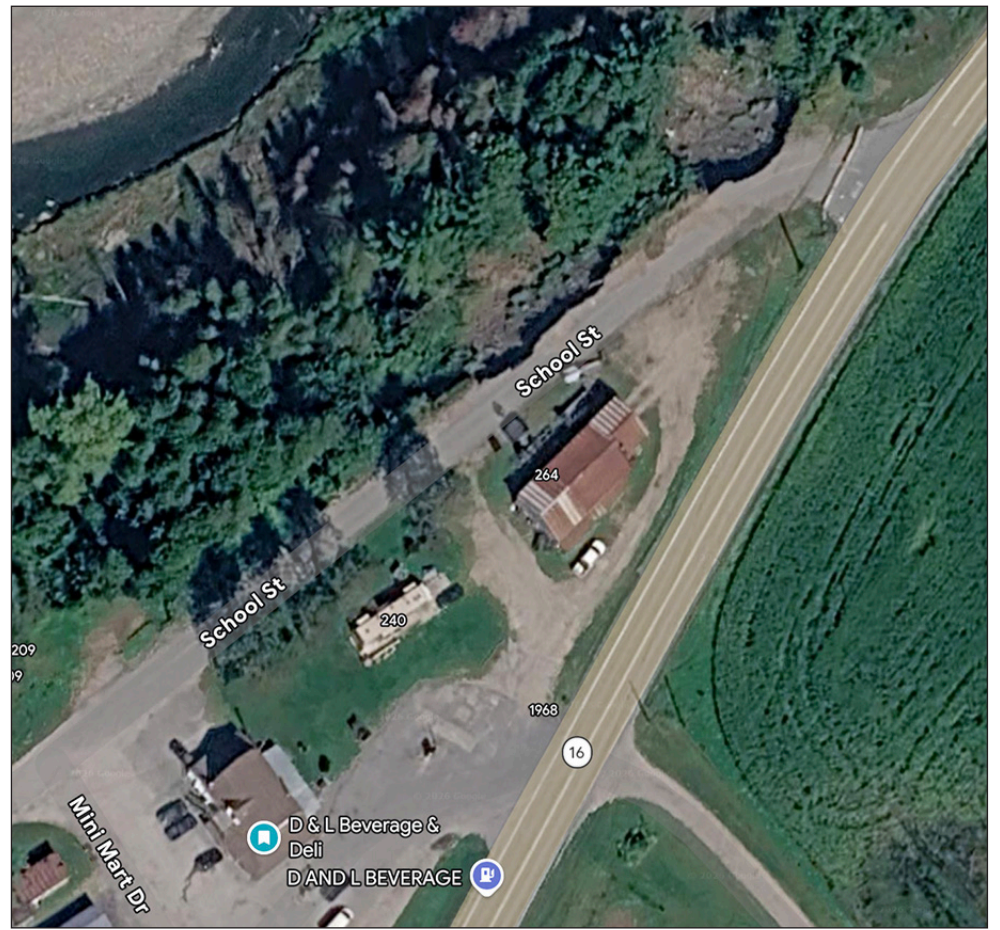
flooding of the Lamoille River in July 2023 took away half of the lane heading to the southwest in places, causing a safety issue that required closure, which will have continued for three years this July.

“We recognize that this change has affected daily routines, access, and travel patterns, and we appreciate the patience shown over the past three years,” said the letter and email from the town zoning office to residents.

It said, “No decision has been made.” As was the case with Bridge 31, the survey is the town’s first step in planning what steps to take next to evaluate long-term options.

Questions asked in the survey include how often the road was used before it was closed, what purposes it was used for, how often the detour affects travel and how much extra time it adds. Additional questions ask about positive and negative effects of the current road closure and whether the detour is more or less safe than before the closure.

Those filling out the survey can



Erosion along the northwest edge of School Street in East Hardwick shows along the top edge of the road in this photo, to the left of its intersection with Vt. Rte. 16 in the upper right. The road has been closed from that intersection to near Mini Mart Drive, in the lower left, since July 2023 flooding of the Lamoille River, seen in the upper left. image courtesy of Google Maps

Northern Counties Health Care celebrates 50 years caring for the Kingdom

ST. JOHNSBURY – Northern Counties Health Care (NCHC) is celebrating 50 years of service to the communities of Vermont’s Northeast Kingdom this year, marking five decades of community-based care for individuals and families across Caledonia, Orleans and Essex Counties.

Founded in 1976 as Vermont’s first Community Health Center, NCHC was established in response to a critical need for accessible primary care in the region. At the time, much of the Northeast Kingdom was classified as medically underserved, with limited access to healthcare services in many rural communities. Working alongside local community members, NCHC secured one of the state’s first federal health center grants to establish health centers that would serve all patients regardless of their ability to pay.

Its founding executive director, David Reynolds, recently reflected on those early days. “We had no idea if it would succeed, since we had no facilities, no staff, no equipment, no administrative systems,” Reynolds said. “Yet within a year, we opened two physician-staffed health centers in Greensboro and Island Pond, and amazingly a dental clinic in Island Pond as well, one of the first health centers in the nation to include dental care.”

Today, Northern Counties Health Care provides services, including primary care, dental care, home health and hospice, behavioral health and recovery support services. With community health centers in Concord, Danville, Hardwick, Island Pond and St. Johnsbury; dental sites in Hardwick, Island Pond, and Orleans; and Northern Express Care locations in St. Johnsbury and Newport, NCHC provides care close to home.

As Reynolds reflected, “The organization began with a two-member staff, myself and an administrative assistant, and has grown to employ



Founding Executive Director David Reynolds (left) stands with NCHC CEO Chris Towne.

courtesy photo

over 300 staff members. It truly is a case of neighbors serving neighbors.”

At the heart of this work are NCHC’s compassionate and dedicated employees. Their commitment, expertise, and deep connection to the communities they serve define who we are as an organization.

“As we celebrate this milestone, we honor the vision and dedication of those who built this organization, and especially the extraordinary employees who bring our mission to life each and every day,” said Chris Towne, CEO of Northern Counties Health Care. “We are grateful for the trust our communities have placed in us for 50 years, and we look forward to continuing to serve the Northeast Kingdom for generations to come.”

Northern Counties Health Care is a nonprofit rural health network providing primary care, dental care, home health and hospice, behavioral health, and recovery services throughout Vermont’s Northeast Kingdom.

include an email address and phone number to be notified with updates. The survey may be completed online at forms.gle/oQ6E2iT9trzMaAHk9, or paper copies can be picked up at the town office. Responses will be accepted until Friday, June 19, said the notice.

Questions and additional written comments may be directed to Hardwick Zoning and Floodplain Administrator / Resilience and Adaptation Coordinator Kristen Leahy via email to zoning.administrator@hardwickvt.gov or by phone to (802) 472-1686.

Prices shown valid 05/22-05/28
Member-owner deals valid 05/01-05/31

While supplies last






BUFFALO MOUNTAIN MARKET



COOPERATIVELY OWNED SINCE 1975

Weekly Highlights

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

 2/\$7 Pretzel Sticks <small>Quinn, 5.6 oz</small>	 \$7.49 Pomegranate Juice <small>RW Knudsen, 32 oz</small>	 \$4.29 Gluten Free Tamari <small>Sen-J, 10 oz</small>	 2/\$5 Organic Lemonade <small>Santa Cruz, varieties, 32 oz</small>
 \$5.99 Sparkling Water Flavors <small>Spindrift, varieties, 8 pack</small>	 \$5.69 Gluten Free Bagels <small>Udi's, 14 oz</small>	 \$3.29 Multigrain Crisp Bread <small>Wasa, 9.7 oz</small>	 \$6.39 Frozen Wild Blueberries <small>Woodstock, 10 oz</small>
 \$4.99 Organic Sweet Relish <small>Woodstock, 16 oz</small>	 \$2.39 Compostable Bowls <small>World Centric, 20 count</small>	 \$4.99 Bread & Butter Pickles <small>Woodstock, 16 oz</small>	 \$6.49 Gluten Free Rolls <small>Against the Grain, 12.5 oz</small>
 \$9.49 Organic Ice Cream <small>Alden's Organic, varieties, 48 oz</small>	 \$8.99 Stain & Odor Remover <small>Bicklen, 32 oz</small>	 \$5.39 Frozen Raspberries <small>Woodstock, 10 oz</small>	 \$3.69 Greek Peperoncini <small>Jeff's Garden, 12 oz</small>

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

 35% off Poop Bag Dispenser <small>Beco</small>	 20% off Flavored Nut Varieties <small>Orin, varieties, various sizes</small>	 17% off Organic Mints <small>VerMints, varieties, 1.41 oz</small>	 21% off Organic Taco Seasoning <small>Riega, 9 oz</small>
--	--	---	---

75 Mill Street Hardwick, VT 05843 • 802 472 6020 • www.buffalomountainmarket.com

Vermonters will vote on equal protection amendment to state constitution this fall

by Shaun Robinson

MONTPELIER – Vermont voters will have the chance to weigh in on another amendment to the state’s constitution this fall.

The proposal, which got a final sign-off from the House on Wednesday, is aimed at ensuring all people are treated equally under the law regardless of their race, ethnicity, sex, religion, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression or nationality.

A statewide vote is the last step in the yearslong process that PR.4, or any other proposed change to Vermont’s founding document, must follow. The Senate, where the measure was first proposed nearly a decade ago, gave its final sign-off to the amendment in March.

Supporters say the proposal builds on the equal protection clause in the 14th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, in part by explicitly identifying groups of people who have historically faced discrimination in Vermont and around the country.

If approved, the measure, a similar version of which exists in a majority of other state constitutions, could form the basis of future Vermont Supreme Court decisions, supporters have said. It would become the 23rd article of Vermont’s founding document.

“The federal Constitution represents a floor, not a ceiling, of rights. It shows us the minimum we can do, not the maximum,” said Rep. Barbara Rachelson, D/P-Burlington, presenting PR.4 on the House floor Wednesday. “Therefore, it’s important that Vermont develop its own jurisprudence regarding equal protection, and not simply rely on the one found in our federal Constitution.”

The proposal got near-unanimous support on the House and Senate floors, though it faced more opposition this year than when it got initial approval from both chambers in 2024. In Vermont, proposed constitutional amendments need to win support from back-to-back legislatures before going to voters.

In the House recently, the proposal passed 128-14. Two years ago, it passed the chamber with just four votes against. All but one of the House members who voted against PR.4 this year are Republicans. There are more GOP members in the House today than there were two years ago.

The “no” votes Wednesday included the vice chair of the House Judiciary Committee, Rep. Tom Burditt, R-West Rutland, whose committee reviewed the proposal before advancing it to the floor. Also voting against were Rep. Mark Higley, R-Lowell, who is the House’s assistant minority leader, and Rep. Zak Harvey, R-Castleton, who is the vice chair of the state Republican Party.

Just one GOP member offered an explanation on the floor while voting no: Val Taylor of Mendon, who framed her opposition to the proposal in religious terms.

“I believe in my heart and, I’m sorry, the only words that are going to change Vermont and change this world, I believe, come from the Bible, and I think that is what’s lacking in the world,” said Taylor, who is the top Republican on the House Health Care Committee. “True love, peace, how I raise my girls, comes from the Bible.”

No senators voted against PR.4 in March, nor did any vote against it in 2024.

One senator, however, was not in the chamber for the vote this year. That was Sen. Steve Heffernan, R-Addison, who got up from his seat right before the roll call vote was taken.

Heffernan told VTDigger at the time that he left because his stomach was feeling “agitated” and he needed to use the restroom. He said he had not made up his mind on how to vote on the amendment, largely because he’d heard from constituents urging him both to vote for and against it.

“My pizza hit at the right time, I guess,” he said, calling the timing “convenient.”

Voters will be able to weigh in on PR.4 during this fall’s general



Protesters outside the Essex Police Department in July 2021.

file photo by Glenn Russell, VTDigger

election, which is Nov. 3. The proposal needs a majority vote to pass.

If approved, it would be the third change to the state constitution in the past four years. In 2022,

voters passed amendments explicitly prohibiting slavery and indentured servitude under the state constitution and, broadly, preventing the state from interfering in reproductive health care decisions.

Area legislators unanimously support equal protection amendment

by Paul Fixx

AREA TOWNS – Voters will have a chance to weigh in on a proposed 23rd amendment to the Vermont Constitution guaranteeing equal protection under the law, Tuesday, November 23.

An amendment was first proposed in 2019 by Sen. Ginny Lyons (D-Chittendon Southeast), but did not advance according to a 2024 VTDigger story.

The amendment, Proposal 4 (PR.4), received unanimous approval during a roll call vote in the Senate, March 11 of this year. All area senators were present for that vote and concurred: Sen. Scott Beck (R-Cal.), Sen. Ann Cummings (D-Wash.), Sen. John Morley III (R-Orl.), Sen. Andrew Perchlik (D/P-Wash.), Sen. Anne Watson (D/P-Wash.), Sen. Richard Westman (R-Lam.)

PR.4 passed the House on May 13, with 107 of 128 reps. voting in favor of it. The 14 representatives voting no and seven absentees were sprinkled throughout the state. In our area all representatives were present and supported it: Rep. Richard Bailey (R-Lam.-2), Rep. Greg Burt (R-Cal-Wash.), Rep. Marc Mihaly (D-Wash.-6), Rep. David Yacovone (D-Lam.-Wash.), Rep. Mike Southworth (R-Cal.-2), Rep. Daniel Noyes (D-Lam.-2).

What will become Article 23 of the Vermont Constitution if ratified by voters in November reads in full: “Article 23. [Equality of rights] That the people are guaranteed equal protection under the law. The State shall not deny equal treatment under the law on account of a person’s race, ethnicity, sex, religion, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, or national origin. Nothing in this Article shall be interpreted or applied to prevent the adoption or implementation of measures intended to provide equality of treatment and opportunity for members of groups that have historically been subject to discrimination.”

The Hardwick Gazette

PEOPLE SERVING PEOPLE

Since 1975
Celebrating 50 Years – Thank You!

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

Visit www.buffalomountainmarket.com/sales/

Open 7 Days a week | 802.472.6020 | info@bmfc.coop
Mill Street, Hardwick VT

COOPERATIVELY OWNED

Calderwood

INSURANCE AGENCY

Offering you *outstanding* service and protection since 1979

132 South Main St.
Hardwick, VT
802-472-5517
www.calderwoodins.com

Mike Gauthier, CIC
mikeg@calderwoodins.com

AG Clark takes enforcement action against unregistered residential contractor

by Paul Fixx

MONTPELIER – Attorney General Charity Clark announced her office filed a lawsuit against residential contractor Jesse Reeder of Montpelier based on a complaint involving a homeowner in Hardwick, for failure to register under Vermont’s Residential Contractor law.

Since 2023, residential contractors have been required to register with the Secretary of State’s Office of Professional Regulation when they engage in contracts of \$10,000 or more. In addition, contracts of more than \$10,000 must be in writing, and contractors must carry insurance.

The Attorney General’s Office’s lawsuit, filed in Vermont Superior Court in Washington asserts Reeder failed to register after he was notified by the state that failure to do so is a violation of law:

Reeder of Montpelier “is subject to a default order and fine in the amount of \$500 for failure to register in 2025, issued by the Office of Professional Regulation, based on a complaint involving a homeowner in Hardwick. Mr. Reeder has failed to register since then, continues to hold himself out as a residential contractor,

and is also the subject of multiple consumer complaints,” noted the Attorney General’s announcement.

The lawsuit names Reeder as owner of All Around Construction, LLC since 2025 and the former owner of R&J Skilled Labor, LLC, since 2023. Both companies are based in Montpelier.

“Defendants have engaged in persistent unregistered residential contracting activity and advertising of the same,” states the lawsuit.

Reeder has performed contracts and/or accepted payments in excess of \$10,000 and been the subject of “at least six complaints . . . since 2023.” according to Home Improvement Specialist Gabriel Taylor-Marsh with the Office of the Vermont Attorney General’s Consumer Assistance Program, in an affidavit accompanying the lawsuit.

While information on the Hardwick complaint was not available, The Hardwick Gazette reported in January, on November 30, 2025, Vermont State Police “received a report of a possible home improvement fraud in Plainfield. Subsequent investigation indicated Melina Vieux paid Jesse Reeder approximately \$9,000 for a home renovation project. The project was started, but Reeder

failed to finish the project or refund Melinda’s money.” Following the police investigation, “On January 3, Reeder was issued a citation to appear in the Washington County Superior Court; Criminal Division for the above charge.”

The lawsuit further states that the defendant’s “conduct is unfair and deceptive for advertising residential contractor services when it is unregistered, and specifically that it references terms that would lead a reasonable consumer to believe that it operates lawfully with all appropriate registration credentials, such as offering to the public:

“Your property deserves a masterful touch; allow our experienced professionals to upgrade it with unparalleled skill and finesse.”

The lawsuit asserts such “misrepresentations constitute unfair and/or deceptive advertising from an unregistered party engaged in ‘unauthorized practice’ which is also defined in statute as ‘unprofessional conduct.’”

Further, the lawsuit asserts Reeder’s “conduct violates the policy behind Vermont’s registration requirements for all residential contractors which purpose is ‘to protect against fraud, deception, breach of contract, and violations of law . . .’”

The Attorney General is asking the court to order the defendant to stop the unlawful activity and comply with Vermont

law, in addition to paying penalties to the State of Vermont.

The lawsuit asks the court to find Reeder has violated the Vermont Consumer Protection Act, and the Act governing Residential Contractor, and prohibit him from engaging in unfair acts.

It asks for civil penalties of \$10,000 and \$5,000, plus the cost of litigation and other relief the court may find appropriate.

“Residential contractors provide a crucial service to our state by helping Vermonters repair or improve their homes,” said Attorney General Clark. “Registration is essential for a secure marketplace and to reassure Vermonters that businesses are operating legitimately. Residential contractors who fail to comply with the law, or rip people off, could be subject to enforcement actions.”

The Attorney General urged contractors who may not be aware of the law to contact the Office of Professional Regulation to register and get into compliance. More information is available on the Secretary of State’s Residential Contractors page at sos.vermont.gov/residential-contractors.

Vermont consumers with complaints about residential contractors may call the Attorney General’s Consumer Assistance Program at (800) 649-2424 or fill out the online complaint form at ago.vermont.gov/consumer-assistance-program-complaint-form.

Fairbanks offers educational camps, playgroups

ST. JOHNSBURY – The Fairbanks Museum summer offerings range from playgroup series to week-long themed discovery camps.

The Nature Buddies playgroup series will focus on summer topics: animals, insects, plants, gardening, fruits and vegetables. With eight gatherings, registration is required, as space is limited to 10 children in each playgroup.

Parents or guardians attend each hour-long playgroup gathering with their children. There is a small fee. This playgroup is for children ages 2 to 5 and their caregivers. Nature Buddies Playgroup meets from 10 to 11 a.m., at the Fairbanks Museum on June 21 and 28; July 12, 19 and 26 then August 2, 9 and 16.

From June through August, Discovery camps will take place from 9 a.m. to noon, with all camps taking place at the Fairbanks Museum. Limited extended day options are available until 3 p.m. Admission costs may be found at fairbanksmuseum.org. Register one child at a time. Registration is complete and a place is reserved

when payment has been received.

Discovery themes include Northern Forests Revealed. Attendees will explore the conditions and characteristics that make a temperate forest. Rooted in Adventure Camp, campers will investigate the diversity of moss, fungi, wildflowers and trees that grow in northern forests. Days will be full of crafts, storytime and hands-on activities all about plants found in Vermont.

The Woodland Wildlife session will explore the animals of the northern forests through games, art projects and stories that focus on these creatures.

Each theme is repeated to welcome more campers. Campers should register for a theme only once.

Sessions for 4- and 5-year-olds run concurrently with those for 6- and 7-year-olds, sessions include Woodland Wildlife, June 15 through 19 or June 22 through 26; Rooted in Adventure: July 6 through 10 or July 13 through 17; Northern Forests Revealed: July 27 through 31 or August 3 through 7.



Volunteers (from left) Maddison LaPoint, Mallory Howard and Nora Paquette advertise a bottle drive at the Hardwick Fire Station Saturday morning, May 9, to raise funds for the Friends of Hardwick Elementary School. A coin drop behind them did the same for the Kiwanis Club. *social media photo*



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

EDITORIAL

In a world of misinformation, we make facts easier to find

I recently encountered an article aimed at journalists by Mollie Muchna, Trusting News project manager. Her experience mirrored mine so I've shamelessly shared her outline and suggestions today.

A friend of mine who rarely tunes in to the news shared unfounded theories about the Artemis II mission around the Moon: "You know that's all done on a movie set. And the Moon landings were faked the same way too."

Naturally, my first instinct was to fact-check them. But as I went to collect links, I actually had a really difficult time finding any news source of record outright explaining that this was one of many unfounded theories that have been spreading for years, much less any information about where the rumor originated from and why it was spreading. It took me more than 30 minutes of Googling and piecing together bits of information from different podcasts and news sources to compile what I felt like was a compelling fact-check.

The experience left me wishing more journalists were covering misinformation like this head-on in their local communities. The average person likely isn't fact-checking information at all, much less going to great lengths to do so. Where does that leave people who are perhaps just misguided or confused about what's true?

Journalists are rightfully wary of covering misinformation for fear of repeating and platforming false information. But with 70% of Americans seeing misinformation as a major threat, our role as journalists must not be just sharing facts but being sense makers for our communities.

See Willem Lange's column this week for a brief mention of his having the same problem.

Sometimes, addressing misinformation can be as simple as pointing people to a fact-check on a site like PolitiFact or Snopes. But information from our own team, about issues in our own community, are important as well.

As false information has grown with the advent of social media, the monetization of which exacerbates it, our mission has grown to include bringing you accurate information to help you make decisions for you and your family. We're committed to showing you the facts and we'll aim to bring you along for the process of how we find out what's true.

Locally, we find a common way misinformation begins, is with a question. That might be something like, "Has the school board considered subject X?" That might then be shared by someone else on social media as, "The school board hasn't considered subject X."

Sometimes it exhibits as, "The town didn't add issue Y to the meeting warning." The subject may not have come up while the warning was being developed, thus it may be correct, but inaccurate by suggesting negligence.

Recent questions locally about consolidation and closure of Woodbury Elementary School have included examples of both inaccuracies. It's a complicated subject because the Mountain View Union Elementary School District (MVU) board, thus all school district voters, are responsible for budgets, but the town where the school is located must vote to approve a school's closure.

Suggesting that the budget reflect closure without a vote of the town isn't enough to close a school. It would seem imprudent to propose a budget dependent upon closure of a school, when it's not possible without a subsequent affirmative vote.

What's happening now in the MVU district seems to be holding the district's FY27 budget hostage over something that it will not change.

While it's easy to say the board has not considered the issue, it seems more appropriate to say they have not thoroughly considered it, which seems to be the case given the recent formation of a subcommittee to study the issue and before that the suggestion that a consultant be hired to help evaluate financial impacts of closing schools.

In Greensboro, moving fifth and sixth graders to other schools was budgeted for, as was subsequently moving others to leave only Pre-K students, but that town has never been asked to close Lakeview school there.

There are times when we will not cover misinformation.

We've shared this list from First Draft before in Trust Tips, but it's a good one when deciding when to address misinformation,

or when discussing it might bring more unwarranted attention to unverified claims.

We ask ourselves, How much engagement has the rumor received, and how does that compare to similar issues we've covered?

Is the discussion around the rumor limited to one community online?

Has the rumor jumped platforms?

Did an influencer or verified account share the rumor?

Have large media outlets covered the rumor?

When seeing information from unknown or unchecked sources, you can ask yourself, Are they citing sources?

Are they corroborating information from multiple credible sources?

Are they publicly correcting mistakes?

Are they clear about their funding and how they make money?

Is it clear their goal is to inform?

It's not always possible for us or you to be certain any particular statement is true or false, in which case we should all be careful not to share it.

Paul Fixx, editor

LETTERS FROM READERS

Excellent photography

To the editor:

Cudos to Vanessa Fournier for her excellent photography of sports events. Never tire of the action,

clarity and angles she achieves even though I don't follow the sports scene.

**B.J. Gray
Greensboro**

Issue about agenda item

To the editor:

Following the May 13 Greensboro Select Board meeting, I need to raise an issue regarding the discussion of the Special Town Meeting agenda item. The way it was handled by the Select Board was neither transparent nor equitable.

On the warned agenda for the meeting, the Special Town Meeting agenda item was listed as "Petition for special town meeting: select possible dates/venues for the meeting." What actually took place was a far more detailed discussion regarding the articles to be included on the warning.

The warning was to include the two articles that had been requested by way of a signed petition from voting residents. However, the select board chair said that he had requested a third article be drafted and added to the warning at the suggestion of a resident.

The third article was worded to rescind the article to elect town officers by Australian Ballot, which was approved by a majority of the voting residents at the 2025 Town Meeting. Not only had the wording of this article not been shared with the public ahead of the select board meeting, it would appear it had not been shared with all the members of the select board either.

There was a lot of confusion

among the select board about this third article, as shown in the meeting recording. Further, one select board member commented that there was no petition supporting the request. Normally, for an article to be added to a special town meeting warning the resident making the request must deliver a petition supported by the signatures of 5% of the voting residents. The select board can choose to include an article without a petition if they consider the article non-controversial.

Members of the select board are elected by the voting residents to represent the interests of the whole community. Surely a select board acting in the best interests of the community, would want to warn any discussion to rescind an approved article that had been included on the 2025 Town Meeting Warning as a result of a resident petition? In addition, shouldn't a resident requesting to rescind an approved article, be subject to the same, transparent process that the residents who proposed the original Article were required to follow?

I am hopeful that the select board will reflect on the way this issue was handled and remove Article 3 from the proposed special town meeting warning scheduled for 6:30 p.m., on June 18.

**Liz Steel
Greensboro**

YANKEE NOTEBOOK

I've run out of elders

by Willem Lange

EAST MONTPELIER – Most of us have always been told, and believe it, too, that for wisdom we should look to our elders. At my age, however, I've about run out of elders, and I don't feel particularly wise, myself. But I've discovered something that's changing my attitude: my kids are much better equipped to handle modern life than am I, and that if I'm feeling perplexed or frustrated about anything, I have but to mention it to find that they don't even consider it a problem to be solved, except in my case.

I happened to mention in one of our twice-weekly phone calls (unimaginable in my day, when the limit was six minutes and the price noticeable) that my cable hookup, for internet and television, was now almost three hundred bucks. We know you are lively on the internet, they said, but how much TV do you watch? Very little; I watch the news when I'm cooking and eating on the little TV in the kitchen, which I really can't see; I just listen and shout back at the over-and-over commercials for reverse mortgages, life insurance buyouts, car insurance, car repair insurance (why a millionaire like

Ice-T is driving such a junker is beyond me) and my personal bête noire, Medicare Plus.

Besides the small set tucked away up in a kitchen cabinet, there are large sets in the bedroom, over the mantel, and in the rental downstairs, but I haven't turned one on in I don't know how long. The renter watches her choices of TV on her laptop, so all I need is a set (they call it a "smart set") in the kitchen. The last weekend of the month they're zooming in to wean me of my ruinously expensive habit, and I can afford cigars again (which I gave up over forty years ago).

All I have to do now, besides being eternally grateful for the improvements to my life wrought by my kids, is learn to move the hot spot around the crowded screen of the new TV in the kitchen to get the station I want. The greatest improvements already are that some channels go quiet (unsettling at first) when a commercial comes on, and that Wolf Blitzer rarely pops up thanking his guests very, very much. I'll tell you: if God had lent Moses old Wolf during the parade of pestilences, the Hebrew children would have been set free much sooner.

So life gets simpler (and more affordable) item by item. Trouble

is, life is a moving target, especially in senescence. Conveniences I'll need in a very few years (an outdoor walker, for example) are solutions to problems that I can perceive on the horizon now, but there are others coming that I can't (or refuse to) think about now.

Meanwhile, life beyond my yard seems to be getting more complicated, especially now that I can see the faces answering questions on the television. Lying has become so normal that I flat don't believe anything I hear until I've checked it out with a credible source or two. The greatest growth business in America seems to be the legal profession. The president is currently in effect suing himself for millions of dollars. No one offers any help in understanding who's paying more millions for all that counsel. But I have a sneaking suspicion who is.

Is it any wonder I retreat to my yard, where Nature seems unaware of the turmoil in the capital city, where men and women in air-conditioned living quarters, offices, meeting halls, automobiles, terminals, and trains and planes act as if they have some idea of the lives of the people they represent. Consider what we have to deal with: child care, because

one income is no longer adequate; health care insurance, which folks are abandoning after a loss of subsidy; fuel prices, both heating oil and gasoline (a thousand-dollar heating oil delivery kind of gets your attention, and for people with a considerable commute, alternatives may become essential). It's hard to believe that congresspersons, at \$174,000 base pay, are as troubled as we by the cost of necessities. If the report can be credited, House Speaker Johnson just suggested that insider trading can help lawmakers struggling on that meager salary.

In the yard around the house, the deer visit as they have as long as I've been here, even with Kiki running at them fiercely, but stopping short of the tall grass. I hope that's a conscious act; the grass is full of ticks. The brook below the kitchen bubbles cheerfully toward the Strait of Belle Isle. The little oaks are budding slowly, a bright cocoa. Somewhere beyond here, some chumps are working to impose our imperial strength on the world. The foot of the yard, by my old dog's grave beneath the budding tamaracks, is about as important a place to me as any gold-decked ballroom.

Woodsmoke by Julie Atwood



"MAD MEN DON'T GET BETTER. THEY ONLY GET WORSE!"

Talk with Ray and Paul, Fridays



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

THE
Hardwick Gazette
INDEPENDENT LOCAL NEWS SINCE 1889

hardwickgazette.org

The Mountains Remember Me

(A love letter to Vermont, from a Hardwick girl holding still for a moment before the world pulls again.)

My life has never followed a straight line.
It bent.
It wandered.

Still, it brought me back.

Not by accident.

Vermont called me home.

In the Northeast Kingdom, the land does not rush.
Elevation holds its shape.
Weather takes its time. The mountains are rugged,
but they are gentle with those who learn their pace.
Here, quiet is not empty. It is full of wind,
water moving over stone, long mornings and early dark.
Even when I left,
this place did not loosen its grip.

It waited. I grew up in these hills; mud season,
wood smoke
cold mornings that wake the body.

A child of slow change and honest weather.
The mountains knew my name before I understood it.
Vermont did not forget me.

It waited for me
to remember myself.

Now, at the edge of evening, light settles into the fields.
For a moment, I am relieved.

Grateful to avoid the world still out there,
finding new names for old places, moving closer, learning the
roads.

But here, for now, the land holds me
the way it always has.

Gina M. Sandoval
Saratoga Springs, NY

Gina M. Sandoval grew up in Hardwick and went through Hardwick Elementary School, though she didn't graduate from Hazen Union High School.

For the record:

The caption with last week's front page photo by Vanessa Fournier, of the new Circus Smirkus tent being raised was cut for space. The full caption was: "The new 35-foot high and 80-foot inch diameter Circus Smirkus Big Top is nearly set up and almost stretched tight at the Circus Barn headquarters in Greensboro. The Big Top was designed in 2018, then ordered and purchased after a successful capital campaign in 2019. Fabrication and arrival of the Big Top was delayed due to COVID-19 and was finally delivered in May 2025. May 7, this year, was the first time the new tent was set up. Circus Smirkus has made an intentional decision to pause the tour this summer while it refocuses the direction of the Big Top Tour program. The tent will be used as a practice space for campers this summer."

Clive Gray's obituary in last week's issue should have indicated he met Ethne Bertram when he was 19 years old.

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



LETTERS FROM READERS

MVU Revote No. 3

To the editor:

I attended the MVU [Mountainview Union Elementary School District] informational meeting on May 14.

The OSSU [Orleans Southwest Supervisory Union] building operations manager, Joe Houston, explained the timeline for the repairs on the [Wolcott Elementary School] fire escape. The repairs are to be completed by August 14. However, we are still waiting for the structural engineer report that should be back to the board sometime in June. The report will give the board details of repairs to be done to satisfy the Fire Marshall's list of concerns. The board said they have no money budgeted in the proposed budget to pay for repairs to the fire escape. They didn't explain where the money would come from however. One would assume that they will have to use money from the capital fund to fix whatever repairs are necessary. The cost is still a big unknown.

The board voted to form a sub-committee to study pros and cons of school consolidation. Committee members will include one community member from each of the four towns, plus four board members and administration. There was lots of discussion and a plea from a board member to add a directive for a vote on consolidation on election day, November 3. The board decided they couldn't take the step of committing to a vote until they reviewed the work that the subcommittee will complete by October 1. The request to have a vote on the findings by the four towns, the most important part

of the proposal, did not get the board's approval.

The proposed sub-committee's findings should shed light on many consolidation questions if the study is done without bias. However, I believe if we pass the budget without a commitment from the board to move forward with a vote on consolidation of K-6, the board will not agree to initiate the vote after the study is complete.

Consolidation may not save us lots of money in taxes. However there is clear evidence that by combining the financial resources of both schools we could provide equitable opportunities for all of our MVU students. In the proposed '26-'27 budget we have unmet needs at HES [Hardwick Elementary School].

Board members are quick to tell you they represent all the students in the MVU district. If so, they could have met those needs in the '26-'27 budget had they been willing to consolidate. We need a path forward where we will be meeting student needs with an educationally and fiscally sound budget. The current budget fails on both accounts.

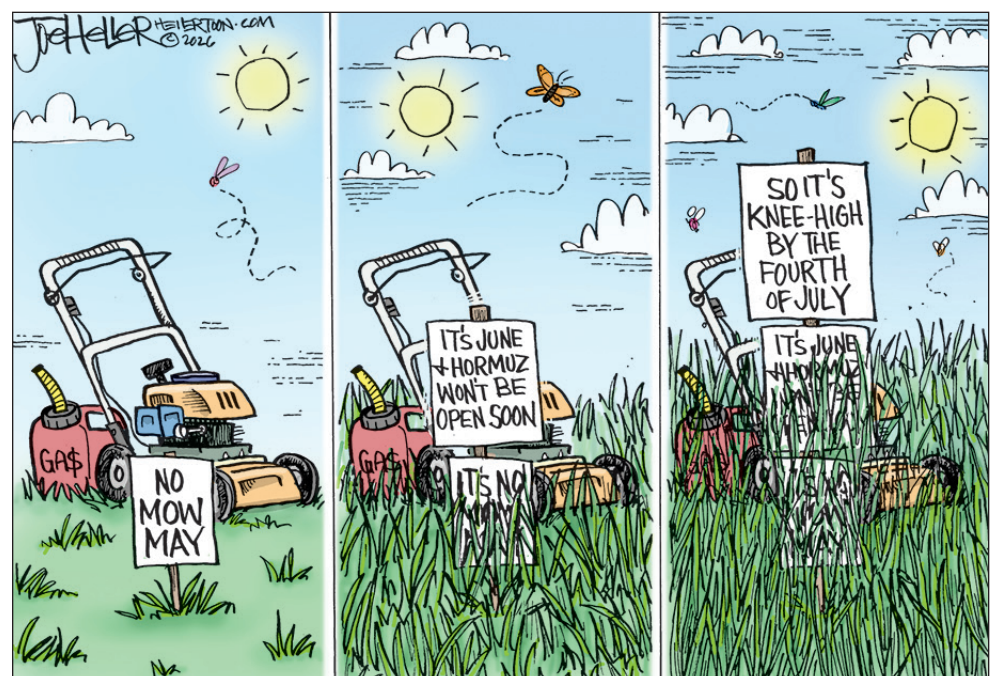
I will vote "no" on May 20.

Perhaps a fourth vote in June will bring about agreements from the board to let the voters weigh in on consolidation. Then the board can create in November-December a '27-'28 budget that does meet the needs of all of our students.

We have a unified school district. It is time we have a unified school with stability and certainty.

Harold McCoy
Hardwick

Heller's World by Joe Heller



WEEKS GONE BY

One-hundred years ago in The Hardwick Gazette, May 20, 1926 WILBER FISK MEMORIAL, M. E. CHURCH Craftsbury, Vermont

Last Thursday morning Mr. LeBaron of Morrisville, head carpenter (sic), appeared on the church lot with two helpers, and began to erect forms for the concrete wall. About ten o'clock Mr. Debrune of Greensboro, appeared with two helpers, and straightaway with (sic) wall began to rise. Saturday afternoon the wall was about half done. Everything seems to hamlve (sic) about like clockwork, and no little creidt si (sic) due to Mr. Allen, representative of the Building Committee, who watches every motion.

All the musical young people are requested to meet for rehearsal at the home of Mrs. Kemp Saturday evenings until further notice. We need some more male voices.

The topic for Sunday next is "The Business of Living." The Church Sejhool (sic) will be rearranged so that Mrs. Kemp may

have her Primary Division down staris (sic) The Men's and Ladie's (sic) classes may meet upstairs and the Young Menas uual (sic).

Dr. A. W. Hewitt of Plainfield, will be the speaker at Baccalaureate service, May 23, at the Congregational Church on the Common.

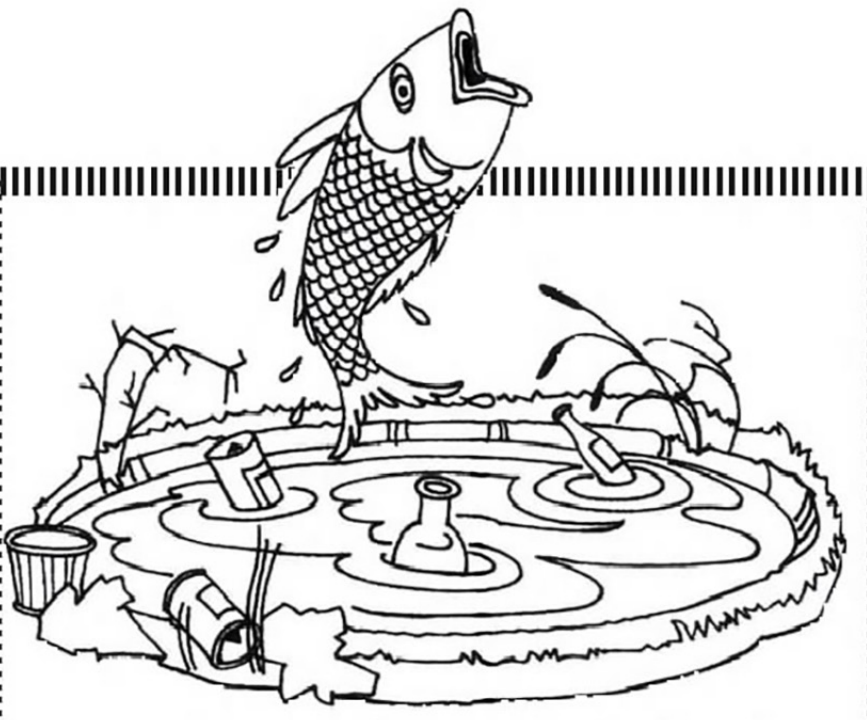
Seventy-five years ago in The Hardwick Gazette, May 17, 1951 BARBER SHOP SINGERS FOR TULIP FESTIVAL

At the Town Hall, Friday May 25, at 8:15 P. M. the Barber Shop Singers, of the Montpelier Chapter of the S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A. will present a program of harmony, which is the first night of the Vermont Tulip Festival, here next week-end, May 25-26-27.

Translated, the above initials are The Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America, Inc., which aspires to preserve for its members and for all future generations of prospective members the sacred right of men to seek haven from the burden of their daily cares through indulgences in old-fashioned vocal quarter (sic) harmony.

A very entertaining evening is in store. The following was taken from a recent issue of the Montpelier Evening Argus: "Close harmony fans, and there are hundreds, will delight in the program and the quartets will enjoy themselves too. They sing because they like to and this adds spontaneity and sparkle to any Barbershop singing, which is often lacking when paid performers make an appearance.

"Almost every man gets the urge to sing at some time or other. His voice may be such that, for the sake of his family and peace in his neighborhood, he should confine it to a barrel at the bottom of a deep well, but the urge is still there. There are also countless males from 18 to 81, who can sing



Animals and fish need clean homes too

Don't be a litterbug.

The Hardwick Gazette

42 South Main St., Hardwick
(802) 472-6521

Animals and fish, The Hardwick Gazette, May 25, 2016 from the Hardwick Gazette, May 25, 2016

acceptably, want to sing but have no opportunity. The Barbershop society provides them with the desired outlet."

Other plans are fast developing to completion for the Festival. The preliminaries of the horseshoe pitching will be held Friday afternoon with the finals on Saturday afternoon. Entrants are expected from Craftsbury, Danville, St. Johnsbury as well

as locally.

Reservations for the buffet style supper, which will be held at the school auditorium at 5:30 P. M. Saturday, May 26, should be made to Dr. A. B. Warren, not later than May 24.

Word was received from Dr. W. Hugh Riddell of Burlington this morning that he had received the official certificate and picture of the tulip bloom, which will be known as the Warren Austin Tulip. The presentation of which will be made to the U. S. Representative to the United Nations at the Tulip Festival Ball Saturday night. Three of the blooms are to be flown here from Holland especially for this presentation, which will be made by Dr. W. Cnoop Koopmans, Consul General of the Netherlands to the United States.

Gerald M. Ladd, Festival publicity chairman, was in Burlington Tuesday evening where he discussed the coming Tulip Festival at a meeting of the Burlington Garden Club at the home of Mrs. Fannie Shaw. He also showed slides of last year's Festival. A group from this Club are planning to attend the Festival.

Grange Supper

GRANGE HALL
WEDNESDAY, MAY 23
7:30 P. M. until all are served
Adults 60c.
Children under 12, 30c

Chop Suey	Escalloped Potatoes
Baked Beans	Cabbage Salad
Rolls — Butter — Pickles	
Apple Pie and Cheese	
Doughnuts	
Coffee or Milk	

Grange Supper, The Hardwick Gazette, May 17, 1951 from the Hardwick Gazette, May 15, 1951

ANNOUNCEMENT !

To the Voters of Hardwick :

I am a candidate for the Republican nomination for Town Representative.

John E. Hancock.

John Hancock, The Hardwick Gazette, May 20, 1926 from the Hardwick Gazette, May 20, 1926

Heller's World by Joe Heller

The debt we owe -



PERSONAL NATIONAL ETERNAL

Joe Heller © 2026 HELLER.COM

Weeks

Continued From Previous Page

Fifty years ago in The Hardwickian, May 18, 1976 MOTHER-DAUGHTER BANQUET

A large gathering of mothers and daughters turned out for the annual Mother and Daughter Banquet held last Tuesday night at the United Church.

A turkey supper was prepared and served by the Men's Fellowship.

Mrs. David Johnson was Toastmistress for the evening and led the group in singing grace.

Recognition was given to Connie Ainsworth, 11 months, youngest daughter; Minnie Riach, oldest mother; Cynthia Colburn and Susan Limoge, youngest mothers; Mrs. Ann Ainsworth and Mrs. Martha Calcagni, mothers with the most daughters; Mrs. Earline Atkins, oldest daughter present with mother, Mrs. Eleanor Scott; Renee Limoge, daughter in one to one and one half age group and Wendy Holcomb, two and one half to three age group.

There were four families with four generations present:

Mrs. Minnie Riach and her daughter, Mrs. Eleanor Perry, and her daughter and granddaughter, Valerie Putvain and Jennifer Perry.

Mrs. Martha Calcagni and her daughters, Mrs. Shirley Moffett, Mrs. Frances Houston and Mrs. Dorothy Goodwin; their daughters, Mrs. Janet Slayton, Mrs. Sybil Messier, Mrs. Marijane Weglarz and Debi Goodwin; and their daughters, Deana Slayton, Maria Messier and Heidi Weglarz.

Mrs. Eleanor Scott and her daughter, Mrs. Earline Atkins; her daughter Arlene Robinson and her daughter Lori.

Mrs. Glenna Hovey and, her daughter, Mrs. Ruby Perry; her daughters Mrs. Susan Limoge and Mrs. Diane Molleur and Mrs. Limoge's daughter, Renee.

Miss Betsy Behrens and Miss Marion Whitcomb, students from

Johnson State College, entertained the group with religious and folk songs, some of which were written by them and other Vermonters.

Ten years ago in The Hardwick Gazette, May 25, 2016

Voters Saddle Up For Budget Ride Of Unknown Distance by Will Walters

WALDEN — Voters turned down the Walden School budget last week 87-131. Of the 673 voters on the checklist, less than one-third cast ballots on the budget May 17.

Last week's vote was requested by the School Board at Town Meeting. The board wanted to develop a better budget knowing what changes the Legislature enacted concerning education financing after Town Meeting Day. The effort went for naught.

When the next vote will be held is unknown. How many votes will be needed before a school budget is approved is unknown.

The defeated budget of \$2,580,369 is an increase from the current year of .19 cents per \$100 of assessment. The current year tax rate was lower as a result of applying an unreserved fund balance, or surplus, to the budget to reduce the tax rate needed to support the budget. The local homestead tax rate is .05 cents less per \$100 assessment than two years ago.

Town Clerk Lina Smith said six votes were needed in 2013 to pass a budget. One was lower in turnout than this year's but the others had a greater number of people voting.

On Town Meeting Day 2013, the checklist had 668 voters and the vote was 84-80, in favor with 25 percent of the voters casting ballots. A reconsideration vote on May 7, 2013 had 655 on the checklist and the budget failed 66-197. The percentage was 40 percent.

On June 5, 2013, with 660 voters on the checklist, the budget

HARRY & WENDY BESETT VERMONT GLASS WORKSHOP

WE WILL AGAIN BE PARTICIPATING IN THE VERMONT OPEN STUDIO WEEKEND THIS MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND. (THE 9TH YEAR FOR THIS EVENT)

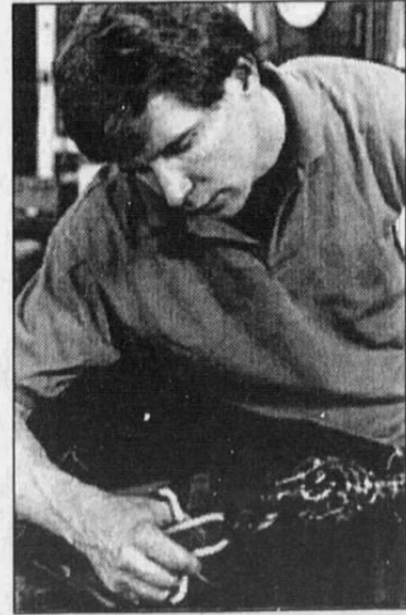


photo by Maggie Kane

AS ALWAYS THERE WILL BE GLASS BLOWING DEMONSTRATIONS AND GLASS FOR SALE ... COME BY AFTER THE PARADE AND CHICKEN BARBECUE. OPEN SATURDAY AND SUNDAY 10 - 5.

482 MACKVILLE ROAD • 1/2 MILE OFF S. MAIN STREET ON RIGHT • HARDWICK, VT • 802-472-5733

Harry & Wendy Besett, The Hardwick Gazette, May 23, 2001 from the Hardwick Gazette, May 23, 2001

failed 115-213 with 50 percent of voters casting ballots.

An election on the budget on July 23, 2013 with 50 percent of votes (sic) participating, the budget failed 112-221. Again on Oct. 22, 2013, with 665 voters on the checklist and 53 percent casting ballots, the budget failed 149-200. The final vote on Dec. 17, 2013 saw 47 percent of the 657 voters cast ballots and the budget passed 176-131.

No one knows how many votes will be needed this year before a

budget is approved.

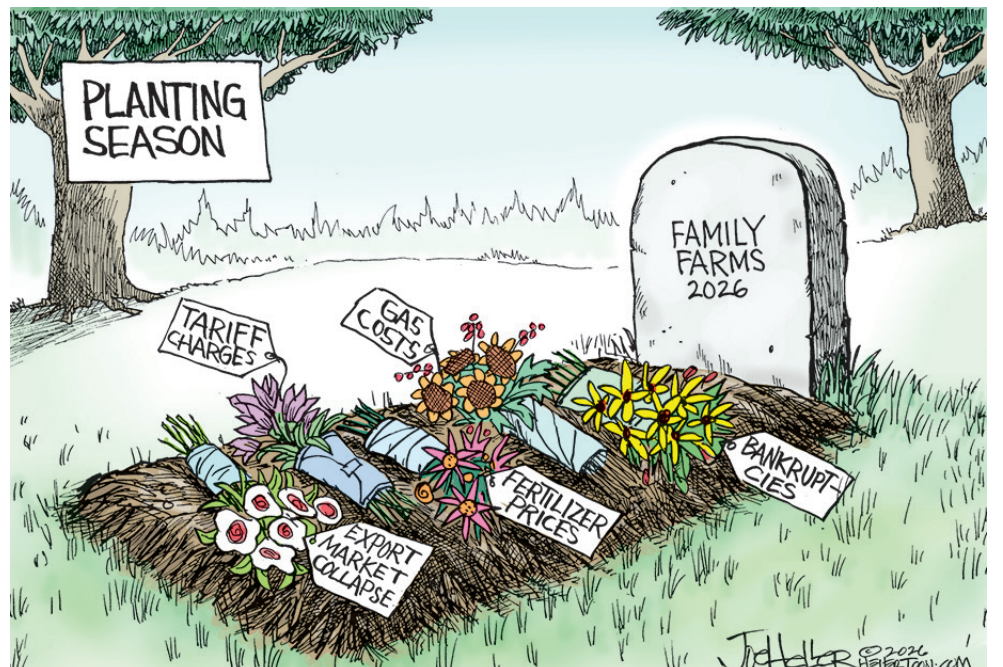
Superintendent Mathew Forest indicated the School Board will try to schedule a meeting this week to address the budget issue but a date had not been set by press time.

"The failure to pass the school budget is very concerning," he said. "Any further cuts to the budget will significantly impact the educational programming at the Walden School. The board will be reconvening this week to regroup and move forward."



Hardwick resident, Mary Piper stands next to Buffalo Mountain Commuter's vehicle. She was the last original member when she retired on April 30. She helped organize the program in 1979 and kept roughly 300,000 miles off her personal vehicle. (photo by Vanessa Fournier)

Heller's World by Joe Heller



FROM THE WATERSHED

The sediment story above and below Jackson Dam

by **Kristen Leahy**

HARDWICK – Last week’s discussion looked at what the recent study found at Jackson Dam. This week, it’s worth stepping back and looking more closely at how rivers move sediment and why that matters.

When people think about a dam, they usually think about water.

But an important part of the story behind Jackson Dam is the sediment.

Rivers carry more than water downhill. They also carry sand, gravel, silt, ice and organic material eroded from hillsides and riverbanks across the watershed. Over time, that material moves downstream and settles out wherever the current slows.

Dams are one of the places where that slowing happens.

For more than a century, sediment from the Lamoille River and Alder Brook has been settling behind Jackson Dam. The recent study of the site found that large volumes of material have accumulated in the impoundment area, in some places far deeper than investigators initially expected.

That accumulation is not unusual. Around the world, reser-

voirs behind dams gradually fill with sediment. The process is slow enough that people often do not notice it happening.

But over decades, the landscape changes.

As sediment builds up behind a dam, the river channel upstream begins to behave differently. The river may become wider and split into multiple channels around forming islands. Flood flows can spread across newly formed deposits. What once looked like open water may slowly become mudflat, wetland or vegetated ground.

In other words, the river is gradually burying its old channel and rebuilding the valley floor at a higher elevation behind the dam.

That process has been underway for many years at Jackson Dam.

This matters because sediment affects how rivers behave during storms. A reservoir filled with sediment cannot store as much floodwater as it once could. Instead of acting like a deep basin, the area behind the dam becomes more like a broad, slow-moving reach of the river.

During large storms water moves through that reach differently than it did decades ago.

Sediment also shapes what happens downstream. Rivers depend on the movement of sand and gravel to maintain stable channels and healthy habitat. When that material is trapped behind a dam for long periods of time, downstream reaches can become more erosive as the river adjusts.

River scientists sometimes describe this as “hungry water.” The river below the dam carries a high amount of energy but less sediment than it would naturally, so it begins eroding the bed and banks in search of material to carry downstream.

A similar process can often be seen below undersized culverts acting like small dams, where scour holes or sharp drops form below the outlet.

For communities along the river, these changes are not always obvious from year to year. They become visible over longer stretches of time, especially when large storms reveal how the system now behaves differently.

SLR’s consultants spent considerable effort examining sediment when they conducted the Jackson Dam study because it plays such a central role in determining what options are

possible in the future. Managing a structure like this is not simply about the dam, it involves understanding the material the river has left behind and concerns about dealing with it.

If future decisions involve changes to the dam, sediment will be one of the most important factors in how they are carried out. Stabilizing deposits, allowing vegetation to establish and managing how material moves downstream are all part of responsible river management.

Projects involving dams often take time because of that. Rivers operate on longer timelines than construction projects, and careful sequencing is often necessary to allow the landscape to adjust.

The story of Jackson Dam is therefore not just about a structure built in the early twentieth century. It is also about a river system that has continued to move sediment and reshape its valley for more than a hundred years.

Understanding that process is the first step toward deciding what should happen next.

Kristen Leahy serves as the zoning and floodplain administrator and the resilience and adaptation coordinator for the Town of Hardwick.

I HEARD IT THROUGH THE JEDEVINE

Human Library lends people

by **Brendan Buckley**

HARDWICK – Last month I wrote about April’s poetry slam at the Jeudevine. Poetry slams have been around for a while, but this was a first for the Jeudevine, and perhaps for Hardwick as well.

This month, as a participant in our town’s signature annual event, the Hardwick Spring Festival, the Jeudevine is presenting another first: the Human Library. When I heard the term I imagined a group of people, in costumes resembling books, marching in our parade. The costumes would feature a cover with book title and appropriate art: Huckleberry Finn, Black Beauty, The Red Badge of Courage. Perhaps the marchers would recite passages to onlookers. But no, strike that image: I was completely off base.

The Human Library is an international movement that began in Denmark. It is literally a library of people. Its aim is to fight prejudice and preconceived impres-

sions by lending people, not books. On its website it describes itself as a “worldwide movement for social change.” Its hope is that participants come away from the interaction with a different perspective on the stereotypes they might have held previously. It allows readers to borrow a person they might not otherwise meet or speak with, and listen to that person’s story, and even engage in dialogue. Each human book is experienced in their titular topic.

The Jeudevine version of the Human Library will take place this Saturday, May 23, at the Jeudevine from 12:30 until 2:30 p.m. Each book (person) will be available for four 30-minute sessions. The names of the people serving as books will not be shared in advance so as to prevent readers from developing preconceptions. Each of the participating books live in our community. You may sign up for our version of the Human Library at the Jeudevine this week.

At present the event is

offering eleven human books. The book titles and blurbs include:

“Your Heart Knows the Way Home: Is compassion teachable?” Let’s explore everyday life through lens switching and framing. You don’t know who you are until you’re tested.

Finding Our Way: Bouncing through jobs and adventures after high school and college until chance and diligence favored a focused career. Personal success is

often just a well-told story.

“How Not to Write an Autobiography: Is it the pen or the mind?” Attempting to write your own story and how your mind can be a deterrent.

“The Whitest State: Growing Up Brown in God’s Country.”

“Junction Road Horses: Life with Drs. Brick and Maizie.” Horses as therapists.

And “Vietnam Elegy: You can’t play Centerfield in the Mekong.”

TOWN OF GREENSBORO

PO BOX 119

GREENSBORO, VT 05841

802-533-2911 OR FAX 802-533-2191

The Town of Greensboro is seeking bids on a new door replacement with frame and hardware with push button locks in the Greensboro Town Hall at 82 Craftsbury Road, Greensboro, Vermont.

Please contact Kim Greaves, Town Clerk, for details on the location of the door to be replaced at townclerk@greensborovt.gov or (802) 533-2911. Bids are due in by Wednesday, May 27, at 3:30 p.m.

The select board reserves the right to accept or reject any and all bids.

OUR NEIGHBORHOOD

Walden Home Dem celebrates 80th anniversary

by Mary Wheeler

WALDEN – The Walden Home Dem group (home demonstrators) is celebrating its 80th anniversary this year. The first week in May is “National Home Demonstration Week.” The Walden Home Dem group held its first meeting on January 14, 1946, at the home of Betty Hatch, who was then elected their first president.

Home demonstration clubs, also known as home bureaus, homemaker clubs and home advisor groups started as early as 1820, and were nationalized in 1914 by the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Cooperative Extension Service. They hoped to teach women in rural areas across the nation better methods for gardening, canning, nutrition and sewing. Home demonstration agents would bring knowledge that was available in an educational setting or college to rural communities that would not have normally had access to current best practices.

In 1914 the Smith-Lever Act provided funds for home economics and home demonstration agents. During World War I, home dem clubs supported food conservation programs. Then during World War II clubs became active in creating victory gardens and victory canning. These programs were particularly helpful in the eastern and southern regions of the United States.

Home Dem groups in Vermont provided women with the opportunity to learn, but also provided them with the opportunity for service to the community and established bonds and friendships that would last lifetimes.

At this month’s meeting of the Walden Home Dem group, the five members in attendance



The Walden Home Dem members who met at the May meeting were, back, (from left) Chrystal Fox, Blanche Strong, Ann Cochran and Diane Cochran (seated). courtesy photo

reflected 160 years of service and commitment to the Walden area. They are: Ann Cochran, 65 years; Diane Cochran, 45 years; Chrystal Fox, 20 years; Blanche Strong and Marsha Amsden, 15 years each. Ann Cochran is currently the longest-living member of the group. The group averages approximately 12 active members on a regular basis.

Diane Cochran described their group as primarily a “women’s service group.” Though originally open only to women, the Walden Home Dem is now open to anyone in the Walden area who is interested in supporting the community and getting to know each other. They hold meetings the second Wednesday of each month. Next month will be at the sugar house owned by Chrystal Fox in Walden. The following meeting includes current plans, community events and fundraising.

At each meeting a door prize is raffled and the member who wins provides the door prize for the next month’s meeting. Each meeting begins with a potluck meal. Each member brings a donation to support local food pantries. At each meeting they send greeting cards to members of the community, including get well, birthday and holiday cards.

The Walden Home Dem group has provided funds and furnished food for many local groups: the Walden Library, Hardwick and Danville Food Pantries, turkey drives and local hospitals. They are sponsors for the Lamoille Area Cancer Network. In the past they worked with local schools to fund scholarships to Buck Lake Conservation Camp.

At this month’s meeting there was brief discussion of disbanding the group, but very quickly they decided to continue. They say they hope through promotion and advocacy the group will rejuvenate and spark interest in their service mission and connection to the community.

Anyone interested in additional information or questions should call Diane Cochran, president, at (802) 563-2392.

VOICES OF SPIRIT

From an Earth dweller to a freedom flier

by Reverend Avril Cochran

HARDWICK – One of my favorite books to help small children understand death and renewal is based on the life cycle of a dragonfly.

Dragonfly eggs are laid in or near water and that is where they are born and live most of their lives. Aquatic nymphs, or baby dragonflies, live at the bottom of ponds and streams, using gills in their abdomen to extract oxygen from water. They grow by molting, shedding their exoskeleton many times.

Then something unthinkable happens to this water-breathing gilled creature who has only seen the surface of their pond looking from the bottom side up. This stage is called transition, emergence or transformation. When a nymph is ready to become an adult, it climbs out of the water to shed its skin and develop wings, changing from a water-breathing organism to an air-breathing one.

Adult dragonflies breathe air and can no longer survive underwater. They can hold their breath for a limited time but are not aquatic.

The nymph can no more imagine being a flying, air-breathing creature than we can imagine becoming new or resurrected. The freed dragonfly can never again operate under water. The change is an explosion of renewal, much like the resurrection of Jesus celebrated during Easter.

Many of us have experienced the sense of

trying to breath under water, enslaved by our own faults, addictions and imperfections. We become freed only by trusting the unimaginable life God has in store for us.

We can have an Exodus out of slavery just like the people of God in Moses’ time. God brings us from exile to renewal, from exodus to resurrection, from underwater to flight. Our borders are widened. We are freed to pursue a promised land of peace, love, joy, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. It isn’t always easy and sometimes it takes years of wandering to get there but Christ offers Himself, the Holy Spirit, to see us through, to comfort and guide us; filling us with a power that we can never create on our own.

How then do we live our lives with this explosion of change? How do we move from exile to renewal? How do we move from exodus to resurrection? How do we come up out of the water and breathe air on gossamer wings? A verse from Colossians gives us a hint: “Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things.” (Colossians 3)

The verse is about our faith and our focus. If we have been raised with Christ resurrected, out of our exile and fault, we seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God.

Renewed, we set our minds on the things that are above, not on earthly things, because

our old lives have died and our new life is hidden in freedom to breathe and to fly.

There’s hope and power and love beyond explanation available right now as we understand death no longer has dominion over us. We are free to live a glorious new way of being, much like the dragonfly or the caterpillar, freed to be a butterfly.

From an earth dweller to a freedom flier. From one hidden away in a cocoon of its own making to a transformed thing of beauty floating on the wind. And that beauty can transform other people’s lives even if only for a moment.

Set your minds on things above and not on earthly things. That focus helps us keep things, and people that annoy us, or whom we overlook here on earth in perspective.

That focus helps us concentrate on loving and serving others as our spiritual mandate.

That focus forms us into an inexpressibly free people of God; free to love, free to worship, free to start anew; free to allow God to use us, even in simple ways to impact those around us for the good; free to be a people of hope knowing that no human being has the final word but a love beyond imagination works for us and in us.

That’s worth setting our minds on things above and not on earthly things.

May your Springtime be filled with renewal and transformation.

Rev. Avril Cochran is currently the pastor at The United Church of Hardwick.

IN THE GARDEN



A garden established under a mature tree can create interest to a home landscape. photo by Amy Simone



Tulips have been planted under a crabapple in this garden on the UVM campus. photo by Debra Heleba

Planting under trees presents challenges

by Deborah J. Benoit

NORTH ADAMS, Mass. – If planting something beneath a tree, or growing grass there, it's possible to grow successfully in a shady, full-of-roots location.

While it's true that planting under a tree does present challenges, that doesn't mean it's more trouble than it's worth.

Any plants sharing soil will compete with one another for resources, whether that's water, nutrients or even a place to spread their roots. Since trees are just very big plants, they're likely going to win that competition compared with those of much

smaller size growing beneath them. The trick is to provide enough of what they need for both a tree and its companions to share and grow successfully.

Sometimes, the problem isn't just competition for resources. Some trees are allelopathic, meaning that they produce a substance that actively discourages the growth of other plants. Black walnut trees (*Juglans nigra*) roots, leaves and nut hulls secrete a toxin called juglone which does just that. Even so, plants such as wild ginger (*Asarum canadense*), ostrich fern (*Matteuccia struthiopteris*) and serviceberry (*Amelanchier* spp.) are suitable to grow beneath black

walnut trees.

Of course, if the tree is not among those that are allelopathic, there will be more options in choosing shrubs, perennials and groundcovers that are shade-tolerant, drought-tolerant and have shallow root systems.

Consider small spring-blooming bulbs such as snowdrops (*Galanthus*), grape hyacinth (*Muscari armeniacum*) and squill (*Scilla siberica*) for flowers and color in early spring before trees are fully leafed out. Small bulbs, planted individually, can be easily nestled among tree roots with little disruption.

Shade tolerant perennials such as hosta (*Hosta*), lady's mantle (*Alchemilla mollis*), fringed bleeding heart (*Dicentra eximia*), foamflower (*Tiarella*) or coral bells (*Heuchera*) can produce attractive displays as a mass planting or as part of a mixed group with a variety of color, leaf shape and texture. Selecting perennials, rather than annuals, can avoid the need to repeatedly disturb roots by replanting each year.

Hand-pull any weeds and use a hand trowel to remove grass from beneath the tree.

Keep in mind that the planting area may be congested with roots of various sizes and that

the health of the tree depends on them. Avoid using spades, shovels or other large digging instruments that could cut, nick, or otherwise damage those roots. Don't cut or remove larger roots. While thin, fibrous roots can regrow, damage to larger roots takes much longer and risks the health of the tree through disease or insect infestation.

For best results, select starter-sized plants and dig a hole just large enough to accommodate the root ball. If the tree's roots present a barrier to digging, try another area nearby. Plant, then fill the hole with soil and water well.

After planting beneath the tree, apply a thin layer of mulch to help retain moisture. Be sure to avoid covering any above-ground roots and leave an area at least three inches (or more) from the trunk free from mulch to protect the root flare.

During the hot summer months, a weekly, deep watering will help ensure there will be enough water to satisfy thirsty young plants and the tree, too.

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 Eastern Kingbird, recently returned from wintering in South America, watches over its nest on Montgomery Road in East Hardwick. Kingbirds winter primarily within the western Amazon basin, covering regions of Peru, Ecuador, Colombia, and western Brazil. photo by Dawn Gustafson

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

THE OUTSIDE STORY

Holding space for songbirds

by Jack Beaudoin

DEER ISLE, Me. – One of the great joys of early May in the Northeast is the dawn-break aubade of songbirds returning to summer habitats or passing through to their nesting grounds in higher latitudes. Mornings that only a month ago were silent, save the croaking crows and shrieking blue jays, are now filled with a polyphonic chorus of trills, chirrs, and fluted arias that quicken both body and soul.

This delight, however, can obscure the fact that birds are not only producers of sound but well-honed and astute listeners as well. While we only hear morning melodies, for the birds, these vocalizations and songs constitute serious life-or-death communications: the competitive labor of defending territories, wooing mates, raising their young, and sounding alarms. And as ecologists are discovering, these crucial conversations are struggling to be heard above the din of our modern, mechanized world.

“It’s easy to underappreciate how important it is for these organisms to communicate by sound,” said Jason Hill, a quantitative ecologist with the Vermont Center for Ecostudies. “That’s advertising their availability as potential mates, defending their territories from neighboring males, warning members of their own species and other species about nearby predators, such as outdoor house cats, and finding their young after they leave the nest.”

Given the almost unimaginable loss of roughly three-billion birds in North America over the last 50 years, a decline that continues to accelerate across nearly half of the species scientists have studied,

quantifying the impacts of noise pollution may help preserve our avian populations.

Natalie Madden and four colleagues recently completed a meta-analysis of 160 studies measuring the impacts of noise pollution on birds globally between 1990 and 2025. While the scientific literature had previously documented the harms of climate change, the introduction of invasive species, habitat loss, chemical pollutants, and overexploitation, Madden’s high-level assessment, published in the Proceedings of the Royal Society B, is among the first to demonstrate the many impacts of human-produced noise on birds across a range of traits, habitats, and species.

“We think of noise as an annoyance or a nuisance, but what we’re seeing here is that it’s actually a real hazard to them,” says Madden, a conservation science and policy analyst with Defenders of Wildlife. “It’s not just masking their communication or altering their risk aversion. It’s affecting all of these different types of behaviors.”

In addition to standardizing data from those 160 studies, which were often focused on particular species, habitats, or geographies, Madden’s research sought to discover differences in the ways that anthropogenic, or human-related, noise was mediated by specific traits and characteristics. It also tracked and measured how birds responded to noise pollution, for example, which species might change their song length, frequency, or timing.

Among Madden’s key findings: noise significantly reduces reproductive success across many species, impacting everything from the initial pairing to the survival



Hermit thrush singing

of fledglings, and it also acts as a stressor that changes hormone levels (like corticosterone). It forces birds to alter critical survival behaviors like foraging and risk assessment. Crucially, traits such as preferred habitat and nesting style can determine a species’ vulnerability; high noise levels impacted reproductive success, growth rates, and other physiological markers more negatively for birds that nest closer to the ground or in the open compared to tree dwellers.

Madden said the meta-analysis overturned one of her main assumptions about noise pollution. “Regardless of how loud the noise was, it was still having an impact on them, whereas I think we expected obviously louder noises to have more of an impact,” Madden said. “And then similarly, the source of the noise didn’t have much of an impact either.”

Hill believes a range of actions

is needed to reduce the negative impacts of noise pollution: establishing wilderness preserves, using vegetation thoughtfully to dampen the impacts of development and infrastructure, and reducing one’s own contributions to the soundscape by using gasoline-powered equipment like lawnmowers and leaf-blowers less frequently, or switching to electric-powered tools.

“They’re not probably huge effects in and of themselves, but if we all stopped and listened around our houses, I’m sure we could find ways to reduce the amount of noise pollution that we’re generating at a household level,” Hill said.

And on fresh spring mornings like these, who wouldn’t prefer the song of a hermit thrush over the buzz of a lawnmower?

Jack Beaudoin is a frequent contributor to Northern Woodlands and a Maine Master Naturalist. Illustration by Adelaide Murphy Tyrol.

Heller’s World by Joe Heller



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

OUR COMMUNITIES



Sojourn Gudorf Johnston and Masanao Ito perform in the 2026 Ballet Frontier production of "Coppelia." photo by Colin Woolums

Summer dance workshops scheduled

WOLCOTT – Summer programming with workshops for all ages are scheduled by Ballet Wolcott at the Wolcott Town Hall.

Vermont native Sojourn Gudorf Johnston is guest instructor for a week-long dance intensive, July 13-17.

She grew up in Craftsbury and began her dance training in Stowe at the age of five, studying ballet, tap, jazz, modern and hip-hop. From the ages of 12 to 16, she trained under Boston Ballet principal dancers and earned top awards at Youth America Grand Prix competitions, advancing to finals in New York and Paris.

Sojourn expanded her training on summer merit scholarships with Bolshoi Ballet, Boston Ballet, Dutch National Ballet, Joffrey Musical Theater, Paris Opera Ballet and American Ballet Theatre New York. She graduated from English National Ballet School's three-year Trainee Program with a diploma in Professional Dance. As a professional ballerina with Ballet Frontier of Texas for five years, she performs leading roles in both classical ballets and contemporary works.

From 9 a.m. to noon during the week, students ages 6 to 9 will be immersed in movement, exploring various dance styles, as well as arts and crafts, circus skills and

more. Students will learn about the stories of the classic ballets and then explore how ballet uses technique, choreography and physical expression to tell the story.

From 1 to 5 a.m., during the week, intermediate students ages 10 to 16 will dive deeper into ballet technique and artistry, exploring the stories and history of ballet, as well as special workshops in various dance styles.

Shidaa Projects presents a West African Dance Workshop with live drumming on Friday, July 10, 6 to 7 p.m. Award-winning Samuel Marquaye from Ghana, and Shidaa Projects founder Jordan Mensah will take participants through easy dance repertoires originating from Ghana. No previous dance experience is needed and the workshop is open to all ages.

On Saturday, July 18, from 10 to 11:00 a.m., Ballet Wolcott founder, Helene Nilsen, brings storytelling and movement to participants ages 3 to 6. Nilsen has been dancing, teaching, and ensuring the continuation of ballet at the Wolcott Town Hall since the founding of Wolcott Children's Ballet in 1976.

There is a tuition charge with financial aid available. Registration is now open and can be found at balletwolcott.com

Education reform program, May 27

MARSHFIELD – Wednesday, May 27 6:30 p.m., an education reform program will be presented by Public Assets at the Jaquith Public Library. Join Steph Yu of Public Assets to talk about the latest proposed changes and when they might happen. While this conversation is focused on how taxpayers pay for schools, it's in service of ensuring all kids have access to the best education possible.

Public Assets is a non-profit,

non-partisan research organization based in Montpelier. Their mission is to improve the well-being of all Vermonters and advance racial, social, and economic justice through research, fiscal analysis, public engagement and empowerment, and by developing and promoting policies that state government can enact.

More information at (802) 426-3581 or jaquithpubliclibrary@gmail.com

Author reading, May 31

CRAFTSBURY – The Craftsbury Public Library presents local author Jim Ryan, May 31, at 4 p.m., with readings from his book "Whistling Up in Ghostland: Essays and Songs of Adventure, Awakening and Intuition."

In the story-behind-the songs format, Ryan will read book essays followed by a performance of

the songs related to each experience by Lizzy Mandell. Mandell is a Tammie award winner for best Vermont album and singer-songwriter of the year for her debut album "Made for Flying. Books." CDs will be available for sale. This is a free event. For more information contact the library at (802) 586-9683.

ACT 250 NOTICE

APPLICATION 5W0838-6 AND HEARING
10 V.S.A. §§ 6000 - 6111

On August 28, 2025, Application 5W0838-6 was filed by Swenson Granite Company, LLC, Attn: Michael Sylvester, 369 North State Street, Concord, NH 03301 for the expansion of the quarry's existing extraction footprint northward. (Extraction will continue from south to north) Proposed operational changes include establishment of a new waste stockpile (grout) storage area on the hillside to the north. A mobile on-site crusher (with an air permit) will be brought onsite for a maximum of 45 days per year to process the grout (20,000 cubic yards annually) into a saleable product. Three additional stormwater detention ponds will be constructed downhill of the existing pond. There are no changes proposed to the previously approved 750,000 cubic yards of annual saleable extraction volume. The project is located at 1127 Cabot Road in Woodbury, Vermont.

The Commission issued a minor notice for the project on February 20, 2026. Pursuant to that notice, a timely request for a hearing was filed by the Town of Woodbury, raising issues under Criteria 5 and 7. The Commission hereby grants the hearing request, and will narrow the scope of the hearing to Criteria 5 and 7. To facilitate an orderly and efficient hearing, the Commission will require the submittal of pre-filed testimony from both Parties. The Town shall file the information described in paragraphs three and four of the town counsel's April 20, 2026, letter on or before **June 3, 2026**. The Applicant shall file a response on or before **June 18, 2026**.

The District 5 Environmental Commission will hold a hearing on Friday, June 26, 2026, at 1:00 PM to 3:30 PM in the Woodbury Town Hall, located at 3675, Vermont Route 14, Woodbury, Vermont. The Commission will not conduct a site visit. This hearing will be conducted both in-person and via **Microsoft Teams video conferencing software (Teams)**. **To access the Teams meeting, click on the following link, or enter the meeting ID and passcode by clicking on the button in the upper right corner of your Teams calendar window that says "# Join with an ID."**

- **Teams Meeting Link:** <https://teams.microsoft.com/meet/26735032940724?p=Ao8aub4XUal8UP9sEQ>
- **Meeting ID:** 267 350 329 407 24
- **Passcode:** TF9Hf3eb

The public hearing will be held at Woodbury Town Hall, located at 3675, Vermont Route 14, Woodbury, Vermont.

If you are unable to participate in person or by using Teams, you may still call in to the hearing:

- **Dial:** 802-828-7667
- **Enter Conference ID:** 501 552 682#
- **To raise hand:** Press *5
- **To mute and un-mute:** Press *6

The application may be viewed on the Land Use Review Board's website: <https://act250.vermont.gov>. Click on "Act 250 Database" and enter project number 5W0838-6. To request party status, fill out the Party Status Petition Form on the Board's website: <https://act250.vermont.gov/documents/party-status-petition-form>, and email it to the District 5 Office at: Act250.Montpelier@vermont.gov.

If you have a disability for which you need accommodation in order to participate in the public hearing, please notify us as soon as possible, so we may timely accommodate your needs. For more information, contact the District Coordinator listed below.

Dated May 14, 2026

By: /s/ Susan Baird
Susan Baird, District Coordinator
District 5 Environmental Commission
802-522-6428
Susan.Baird@vermont.gov

BUSINESS BRIEFS



VEC Board president Rich Goggin makes a presentation at the 2026 annual meeting. *courtesy photo*

DPS Commissioner Johnson keynote speaker at VEC's annual meeting

JEFFERSONVILLE – Vermont Electric Co-op members engaged with speakers at the co-op's annual meeting held at Smugglers' Notch Resort, Saturday.

Keynote speaker Kerrick Johnson, commissioner of the Vermont Department of Public Service, offered an overview of the power sector regionally and in Vermont and offered a glimpse at what we can expect in the future. He touched on reliability, the risks posed by climate change and the work his department is doing to address energy affordability.

His presentation prompted a range of questions from the audience focusing on the sources of power needed for the future, among other topics.

Commissioner Johnson ended his presentation with an invitation

to VEC members to ensure their voice is heard by filling out the surveys and participating in the upcoming engagements that are a part of developing the state's next Comprehensive Energy Plan that will help shape Vermont's energy future.

At the meeting VEC announced the results of elections in three board of directors districts. Incumbents Mark Woodward and Charlie Van Winkle were re-elected to Districts 4 and 5 respectively, and Brian Cook was the successful candidate in District 3.

One of VEC's new hybrid bucket trucks was on display. The trucks use battery power to run the boom, allowing crews to shut off the engine at job sites, cutting diesel use by about one-third and reducing noise.

EDUCATION

Local students named to SNHU President's List

MANCHESTER, N.H. – Jasmine Leriche of Hardwick and Trystine Brennan-Hess of Greensboro Bend have been named to the Spring 2026 President's List at Southern New Hampshire University. The spring terms run from January to May.

Full-time undergraduate

students who have earned a minimum grade-point average of 3.7 and above for the reporting term are named to the President's List. Full-time status is achieved by earning 12 credits over each 16-week term or paired 8-week terms grouped in fall, winter-spring and summer.

EDUCATION

Students earn recognition in Vermont Student Wildlife Art Contest

HARDWICK – Three Hazen Union art honors students have received awards in the 2026 Vermont Student Wildlife Art Contest, an annual exhibition celebrating student creativity, wildlife education and Vermont's natural heritage.

The honored students are Danica Patridge, who received the Judge's Award of Merit for her artwork "Coyote" and an additional Honorable Mention and a \$150 monetary award; Karli Patridge, who received Honorable Mention for her artwork "A Vermont Winter" and a \$100 monetary award; and Ella Renaud who received the Show Director's Award of Merit for her artwork "Summer Slumber" and a \$50 monetary award.

The contest is organized by the Vermont Wildlife Education Fund, a 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to encouraging awareness, thought, and discussion of



"Summer Slumber" by Ella Renaud, Show Director's Award of Merit

Vermont's native wildlife and the challenges facing native fauna.

This year marks the fifth annual exhibition, with the theme, "Connections." The exhibition is sponsored by the Churchill Family Charitable Fund, the Vermont Wildlife Education Fund, Sugar Maple Veterinary Center, the Vermont Youth Conservation Corps, the Society of Animal Artists, and the Monument Arts and Cultural Center.



"Coyote" by Danica Patridge, Judge's Award of Merit



"A Vermont Winter" by Karli Patridge, Honorable Mention

Early Childhood educators visual art workshop

ST. JOHNSBURY – Cata-mountain Arts will host a workshop at 115 Eastern Avenue for early childhood educators on Thursday, May 21, from 6 to 8 p.m.. "Move, Sweep, Splash! Big Body Visual Art for Young Children" invites early childhood educators to rethink what art instruction and creation can look like when children are free to move, experiment, and create on a bigger campus. Space is limited, so secure a spot by registering in advance at cata-mountainarts.org, or by calling (802) 748-2600.

In this workshop, early childhood educators will explore how to design visual art experiences that invite children to use their whole bodies as creative tools.

Educators will earn professional development credit and documentation for attending this free workshop. By the end of this workshop, participants will be able to do describe the developmental benefits of large-scale visual art experiences that engage children's bodies; design and facilitate developmentally appropriate "big body"

art invitations; and create supportive environments for large-scale art experiences, both indoors and outdoors, using accessible materials while prioritizing process, creativity, and collaboration.

Facilitator April Zajko, M.Ed., is an early childhood educator, teacher educator, and founder of Nature Inspired Teacher, with more than 25 years of classroom experience supporting young children. She designs professional development and community-based learning experiences that help integrate nature and art into the lives of children. Through college courses, workshops, and collaborative projects, April supports adults in creating accessible, meaningful, and place-based experiences for children and families. April is also the founder and moderator of the Nature Inspired Teacher Facebook group, an engaged community of over 21,000 educators. Learn more at natureinspiredteacher.com

This workshop is made possible with funding from the Vermont Arts Council's Early Childhood Arts Partnership program.

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



OBITUARIES

Marie A. Curschmann Sholan

HARDWICK – A Graveside Service for Marie A. Curschmann Sholan, who passed away on March 4, will be held on Friday, June 5, at 2 p.m., in Fairview Cemetery. Friends and loved ones are

invited to join her family for a Celebration of Life immediately following at the Hardwick American Legion Post No. 7.

Marie's full obituary may be viewed at dgfunerals.com.

Lorraine T. Hill

HARDWICK – A Mass of Christian Burial for Lorraine T. Hill, who died December 4, 2025, at The Villages in Florida, will be celebrated at 1:30 p.m., on Friday, June 5, at Mary Queen of all Saints Parish (St. Norbert's Catholic Church), South Main Street, Hardwick. A reception will follow in the Julian Room.

In lieu of flowers, contributions in her memory may be made to Mary Queen of all Saints Parish, P.O. Box 496, Hardwick, VT 05843.

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

Arline R. Pasette

HARDWICK – A Mass of Christian Burial for Arline Rita Pasette who died October 31, 2025, in Bennington, will be held at 11 a.m., on Saturday, June 13, at Mary Queen of all Saints Parish (St. Norbert's Catholic Church), South Main Street, Hardwick. Burial will follow in the family plot in Fairview Cemetery in Hardwick.

In lieu of flowers, contributions in her memory may be made to: Lamoille County Mental Health Services, Attn: Rita, 72 Harrell Street, Morrisville, VT 05661.

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

Donald Charles Gray

MORRISVILLE – Donald Charles Gray passed away peacefully on Sunday, May 3, at Copley Hospital in Morrisville, just two days shy of his 93rd birthday.

Don was the son of Earnest Gray and Martha (White, Beede, Gray, Calcagni) Barcomb. He was a lifelong Vermonter who grew up in Hardwick and East Calais (escaping Vermont winters in Arizona after retirement.)

Beloved son, husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather, Don was predeceased by his wife of 63 years, Harriet Doane Gray; a daughter-in-law, Phyllis Nelson Gray; and a grandchild, Andrew Gray.

Don is survived by his sister, Dorothy (Gray) Goodwin, his three sons and their families, Michael Gray (Ellie Hayes) of Woodbury; John Gray (Samantha Ridge) of Brooklyn, N.Y.; Peter Gray (Pam Blake) Essex; his grandchildren Kristen Jaffin and Ethan Jacobs, spouse of Andrew Gray (deceased); and three great grandchildren,



Donald Charles Gray

Lucas and Lily Jaffin and Martin Jacobs Gray.

The family is grateful to the staff of Craftsbury Community Care Center for the caring home they provided our father in his final years. We also wish to thank Copley Hospital for the compassionate end-of-life care they provided Don.



Volunteers (from left) Liz Steel, Cathy Hansen and Beth Meachem assemble a new trellis for sweet peas at the Greensboro Community Garden, Saturday May 16. Funds for the trellis were provided by the Greensboro Association. photo by Jenny Bayles



STATE OF VERMONT
SUPERIOR COURT PROBATE DIVISION
Windham Unit Docket No.: 26-PR-02208
In re Estate of: Nicholaos Vasiliadis
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
To the Creditors of: Nicholaos Vasiliadis, late of Hardwick, Vermont.
I have been appointed to administer this estate. All creditors having claims against the decedent or the estate must present their claims in writing within four (4) months of the first publication of this notice. The claim must be presented to me at the address listed below with a copy sent to the Court. The claim may be barred forever if it is not presented within the four (4) month period.
Dated: May 13, 2026
Signature of Fiduciary: /s/ Artemis Vasiliadis
Executor/Administrator: Artemis Vasiliadis, Admin. c/o Amelia W.L. Darrow, Esq., Secrest & Darrow, PLC 28 Vernon Street, Suite 500, Brattleboro, VT 05301 (802) 251-6598, email: adarrow@secrestdarrow.com
Name of Publication: The Hardwick Gazette
Publication Date: Wednesday, May 20, 2026
Name of Probate Court: Vermont Superior Court, Caledonia Probate
Address of Probate Court: 1126 Main Street, Suite 1 St. Johnsbury, VT 05819

Northern Vermont Funeral Service

60 Elm St. • Hardwick, VT 05843

802-472-6861

Dian R. Holcomb
Funeral Director
PRENEED
PLANNING

PUBLIC NOTICE OF INTENT TO APPLY HERBICIDE

Vermont Electric Power Company, Inc. (VELCO) has applied for a right-of-way pesticide application permit through the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets for the purpose of making selective ground base applications of herbicides. These herbicides include: Aquamaster (Glyphosate), Escort XP (Metasulfuron Methyl), Garion 4 Ultra (Triclopyr), Kronite S (Fosamine Ammonium) and Polaris (Isopropylamine salt of Imazapyr). Applications will be made on VELCO's 480 DC transmission line right-of-way located in the following county and town:

Caledonia County
Waterford

Herbicide application will start on Monday June 15, 2026.

Landowners adjacent to the areas in which will be treated should contact VELCO if private water supplies or other environmentally sensitive areas are located within 200 feet of the right-of-way edge. For further information please contact:

Colby Marshall
VELCO Utility Arborist
366 Pinnacle Ridge Road
Rutland, VT 05701
(802) 778-7185
cmarshall@velco.com

Please contact the state agency with any other questions, comments or concerns:

Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets
Plant Industry
118 State Street
Montpelier, VT 05620
(802) 828-1732
AGR.PlantIndustry@vermont.gov
www.agriculture.vermont.gov



“Seahorse” by Carolyn Shapiro
(textile collage)



“Onward” Sarah Munro
(acrylic)

New exhibits open at museum’s galleries

MONTPELIER – “Sea Wonders” by Carolyn Shapiro and Deb Fleischman and “Art Resource Association Members Exhibit” by the Art Resource Association will be on exhibit May 28 through July 24 at the T.W. Wood Gallery. An Art Walk reception will be held June 6, 5 to 7:30 p.m., with an artist talk at 6 p.m.

On view in the Nuquist Gallery, “Sea Wonders” is a joint installation by Vermont-based artists Carolyn Shapiro and Deb Fleischman, celebrating a deep connection to the ocean. Sixteen textile collages, created by Shapiro, feature the diverse inhabitants of the ocean. “Kelpy,” an immersive ribbon display created by Fleischman simulates, a kelp forest guests can walk through.

Housed in the Contemporary Hall, the T. W. Wood Museum displays the work by the members of the Art Resource Association (ARA) which has been supporting the arts community for over fifty years.

The T.W. Wood Museum’s permanent collection consists of works by T.W. Wood and his contemporaries and artworks from the Works Progress Administration (WPA) era. The museum also has two contemporary exhibit spaces, The Nuquist Gallery and the Contemporary Hall. Located at 46 Barre Street (enter on Monsignor Crosby Avenue), the museum is a short walk from the shops and galleries in downtown Montpelier. For more information see twwood-museum.org/.

Moody, lead singer of the Wailin’ Jennys, brings her band to BOH

BARRE – Ruth Moody, lead singer of The Wailin’ Jennys and frontwoman for her own band, stops at the Barre Opera House for a show on Friday, May 29, at 8 p.m.

Moody is a singer-songwriter and multi-instrumentalist hailing from Winnipeg, Manitoba. As a solo artist and a founding and current member of The Wailin’ Jennys, she has garnered two JUNO Awards and performed to audiences in venues around the globe.

A first-generation Canadian immigrant, her early years were spent on a goat farm in rural Manitoba, where she grew up singing in harmony with her brother and sisters and was raised by a musician mother and an English-teaching father. By age twenty, she was traversing the continent in an old brown van with the roots band, Scrüj MacDuck, and went on to co-found The Wailin’ Jennys in 2002, and began her own solo career in 2010.

Moodsy splits her time between Vancouver Island and



Ruth Moody

Nashville, and when she is not on the road with her band or The Wailin’ Jennys, she spends her time writing, hiking and keeping up with her eight-year-old son.

Tickets may be ordered online at barreoperahouse.org or call the Barre Opera House at (802) 476-8188. The Opera House, at 6 North Main Street in Barre, is handicapped accessible and equipped for the hearing impaired.

LCP hold auditions for “California Suite”

HYDE PARK – The Lamoille County Players will hold auditions for “California Suite: on June 6 and June 7 at the Hyde Park Opera House.

A play comprising four vignettes, “California Suite” follows four groups as they each visit suite 203-204 of the Beverly Hills Hotel. Each act is its own vignette, directed by a different

LCP director.

Auditions begin at 1 p.m., each day. Participants may attend either day. No appointment is necessary. Details and audition reading are online at LCPlayers.com/california-suite.

All parts have a stage age of at least 18. Due to this, and some moderate adult content, auditioners must be 18 or older.



The Pointe Noir Cajun band, (from left) Chris Hollis, Michael Bradshaw, Katie Trautz, Noah Hahn and Cannon Labrie, play at Atkins Field in Hardwick, May 22. *courtesy photo*

Pointe Noir performs May 22 at the Atkins Field

HARDWICK – The Cajun band, Pointe Noir, will perform May 22, at Atkins Field, for listening and dancing beginning at 7 p.m.

The band finds its rhythm deeply rooted in Southwest Louisiana. Cannon Labrie (accordion) is a long-time Cajun and Zydeco player who also plays with Yankee Chank and Planet Zydeco. Katie Trautz (fiddle) and Chris Hollis (guitar) are old-time players who drifted south to learn the musical traditions there.

Jay Ekis (guitar) plays everything from Cajun music, to indie folk and heavy metal. Noah Hahn (bass) has played all over Vermont and beyond in Cajun and honky-tonk bands. He currently plays with Ernest James Zydeco. Michael Bradshaw (drums) can be heard behind the Zydeco sound of Mango Jam, Vermont surf rockers Barbacoa, and many more.

Admission is free or by donation. Food and drink may be purchased on site.

Shakespeare season begins June 18

PLAINFIELD – The Green Mountain Shakespeare Festival kicks off its second season with a production of “Hamlet,” by William Shakespeare, directed by Tom Blachly. Fergus Ryan will star in the production at the Plainfield

Town Hall Opera House, 18 High Street, Plainfield, June 18, 19, 20, 25, 26 and 27 at 7 p.m. and June 21 and 28 at 2 p.m.

Tickets are available at sites.google.com/view/green-mountain-shakespeare-fes.

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

Drama club gives enthusiastic “Peter Pan” performance

REVIEWS

by David K. Rodgers

GREENSBORO, CRAFTSBURY – The Craftsbury Academy Drama Club gave a very enthusiastic performance of “Peter Pan, A New Musical Adaptation,” created, directed and choreographed by Taryn Noelle, at the Highland Center for the Arts, Thursday, May 7, and Friday, May 8, to near-capacity audiences.

This play was first performed in London in 1904, written by Sir James Matthew Barrie (1860 - 1937), a Scottish novelist and playwright, becoming an instant classic and traditionally staged at Christmas in England ever since. Barrie was deeply traumatized by the death of a brother when he was six, leading to a lifelong glorification of childhood and a corresponding disenchantment with adult life. In Peter Pan he brought to life new characters for English mythology, full of imagination and magic, especially in Peter, the adventurous boy who refused to grow up.

The first film of the play was made in 1924, the famous Disney version was produced in 1953 with terrific animation, and in 1954 a Broadway musical with memorable melodies starring Mary Martin premiered, remembered especially for her flights suspended by thin cables. It was made into a television video in 1960.

The play began with a prologue by Chase Davey, who explained Peter Pan’s characteristics, as the boy wanting to be young forever, getting his magical

powers of eternal youth and being able to fly from drinking the waters in the fantasy world of Neverland.

The first scene was in the nursery of the Darling family in their London townhouse. Mary Darling (Josephine Pare) and George Darling (Poppy Gletsos) came in to see their children before they went to bed, who are John (Jaden Maclay), Wendy (Lilly Cookson) and Michael (Willa Nunnery), all looked after by Nana the Nursemaid Dog (Alice LaChance).

They begged to have their parents read them the story, and Nana’s ten puppies joined them playfully on their beds, (Faewynn Samadhi, Thaya Rodriguez-Diaz, Calven Ciecierski, Joseph Ciecierski, Joseph Maclay, Wyatt Sims, Abi League, Maisie Stout, Scarlett Pelland and Winter Pelland). There were several songs and carefully coordinated dancing and they talked about the imagination and what the world could be.

Their parents left and suddenly the wind grew louder as Peter Pan (Edie Wells) flew into their room through an open window. He introduced himself and invited them to go with him to Neverland, a place where everything you may have imagined is real. The three Darling children agreed and with special dust from the fairy Tinkerbell (Zariah Decherd), Peter Pan’s companion, they all flew off to Neverland.

The second scene was in the Lost Kids Hideout on a tropical island. It was populated by abandoned children that Peter Pan had rescued, such as Slightly (Hyla Thompson), Toodles (August Valcour-Greenia), Nibs (Posey Hannan), Curly (Maleigha Sarget),



Edie Wells (left) as Peter Pan and Lilly Cookson as Wendy share one last secret handshake before the Darling children leave Neverland. Seated (from left) are Faewynn Samadhi, Scarlett Pelland, Winter Pelland, Angel Rodriguez Diaz and Hyla Thompson. The Craftsbury Academy Drama Club performed “Peter Pan” at the Highland Center for the Arts in Greensboro, May 7 and 8.

photo by Vanessa Fournier

Lost Kid Twin One, (Chase Davey), Lost Kid Twin Two (Katherin Limlaw) and other Lost children, (Alice Lachance, Iris Jacobs, Abi League, Maisie Stout, Scarlett Pelland, Winter Pelland, Lytle Reynolds, Faewynn Samadhi, Thayra Rodriguez-Diaz, Joseph Maclay and Wyatt Sims). They sized up the newcomers, sang and did some choreographed numbers together. The boom of a cannon warned them that the Pirates were in the area.

In scene three Peter Pan took John, Wendy and Michael to the Mermaid Lagoon, where they met the lovely mermaids who all had flowers in their hats: Calypso (Allie Lachance), Nessa (Hyla Thompson), Marina (Posey Hannan), Opal (Iris Jacobs), Jade (Abi League), Lizzie (Maisie Stout), Ondine (Scarlett Pelland), Eira (Winter Pelland), Sabina (Lytle Reynolds) and another mermaid (Faewynn Samadhi). They were introduced to Lily, the Spirit of the Island (Josephine Pare), who showed Peter Pan how the water could sustain his youth. Another boom from a second cannon shot ended this dreamy paradise, indicating the Pirates were getting closer.

Scene four was aboard the Jolly Roger, the pirate ship of Captain Hook (Poppy Gletsos), Peter Pan’s arch enemy, who lost his right hand and had only a hook in its place. In conversa-

tions with his fellow pirates Hook seemed a strange mixture of a bully, yet subject to attacks of fear and emotional collapse. The crew consisted of Cecco (Iris Jacobs), Cookson (Angel Rodriguez-Diaz), Starky (Maleigha Sargent), Wyatt (Wyatt Sims) and others who are unnamed (August Valcour-Greenia, Posey Hannan, Calven Cierteriski, Joseph Ciecierski and Joseph Maclay). They sang a boisterous song, “Yo Ho, Yo Ho, A Pirate’s Life for Me” and danced together, a tick-tock tick-tock sound indicating a crocodile (Chase Davey) was nearby and terrified Captain Hook, who had almost been devoured by one before. In the meantime he was conspiring with Smee (Katherin Limlaw) to kill Peter Pan by substituting a poison bottle for the usual bedtime medicines that Wendy gave her siblings and the Lost Kids.

Scene five was back at the Lost Kids Hideout, where Wendy was reading the Lost Kids some stories before they went to sleep. After an argument about what story to hear next and friendly brawl, they sang a song (from Hamilton) and danced. They took their medicines and Peter Pan was about to take his, but the pirate Smee snuck up and put a bottle containing poison in his hand. Fortunately, Tinkerbell saw this, warned him and swept down taking the bottle and drinking it herself, crumpling to the ground.

See PETER, Next Page



Poppy Gletsos as Captain Hook performs during “Peter Pan,” a Craftsbury Academy Drama Club production held at the Highland Center for the Arts in Greensboro May 7 and 8.

photo by Vanessa Fournier

Peter

Continued From Previous Page

When Peter Pan realized what happened, he was shocked, but she whispered if people would only clap, she would recover. The Lost Kids and even the audience joined in clapping and singing and she revived, saving herself from death. They then danced in a circle and paired off as they rotated.

In scene six, aboard the Jolly Roger, the Lost Kids and Peter Pan had been kidnapped and brought to the ship. Captain Hook threatened Peter but Lily and Tinkerbell untied the hostages and armed them with somewhat useless everyday utensils. Peter Pan and Captain Hook then fought an uneven match (with Queen's "Another One Bites the Dust" in the background). Suddenly the crocodile came back and Hook fled, with the other pirates after him.

The seventh scene was back at the Lost Kids Hideout. They celebrated their victory over the pirates but the three Darling children regrettably said they had to return home now. The Lost Kids urged them to stay, giving them a storybook about their adventures in Neverland. Wendy said to Peter Pan, "Everyone grows up, but that doesn't mean you have to lose the magic." With Tinkerbell's fairy dust they then flew back to London.

In scene eight they are in the nursery again and their parents were welcoming. In a subsequent flash forward in twenty years, Peter Pan returns to the Darling

home and talks to Wendy and her daughter Moira (Zariah Descherd). She had heard about Neverland from her mother and wanted to go there. The story ends with Peter Pan and Moira flying away for new adventures of their own and the fantasy continues for another generation.

An Epilogue contains some moving sentiments about identifying with the Lost Kids in Peter Pan, yet how we can go from loneliness into the world of imagination like Neverland and become free.

Taryn Noelle has done an impressive job as author of the adapted script, the director and imaginative choreographer, coordinating a remarkable number of people from the community to make this production of Peter Pan possible. Tara Goreau deserves mention for her excellent backdrop paintings for the different scenes, as well as illustrations for the program and especially the large cover for the printed version of this play.

The opportunity for so many local children to be involved in live theater is a great blessing, encouraging the growth of dramatic talent and being an invaluable community builder.

On a personal level, there are many positive messages in Peter Pan that can give people a foundation of life-long wisdom, which is one reason why the play remains popular over a hundred years after it was written.

Thanks to Rosann Hickey for making this review possible by lending the script.

Opera Vermont performs "La Cenerentola" at BOH

BARRE – Opera Vermont performs Gioachino Rossini's "La Cenerentola," Saturday, May 23, at 7:30 p.m. This take on the Cinderella story has been designed for opera aficionados, as well as families and first-time opera-goers.

Opera Vermont Artistic Director Joshua Collier sets the production of "La Cenerentola" in a bright, "Seussian-esque" universe of bold color, playful shapes and crazy costumes that amplifies the opera's wit and comedy.

"There is a concern today that opera is only for adults, and must be tragic and serious in order to be honest to the art form," Collier often says. "But the truth is that we must have the young people get involved to show them first-hand the value of the art form."

The production leans into physical comedy, clear storytelling and vibrant stage pictures so that

there is no comprehension barrier for younger audiences. There will be supertitles for the Saturday evening, orchestral performance, for those who prefer to understand every word of the performance.

For the production, a group of youngsters will be selected at random to sit on stage during the performance, right alongside the artists and participate in the action of the theater.

A 50-minute school matinee of "La Cenerentola" will be offered on Thursday, May 21, at 10 a.m., to local schools, homeschoolers and seniors.

Tickets for "La Cenerentola" may be ordered online at barre-operahouse.org or call the Barre Opera House at (802) 476-8188. The Opera House, at 6 North Main Street in Barre, is handicapped accessible and equipped for the hearing impaired.



Craftsbury Academy Drama Club performers in the Peter Pan musical at the Highland Center for the Arts in Greensboro, playing Mermaids of Neverland Lagoon include (front) Scarlett Pelland and Alice LaChance, (middle) Hyla Thompson and Faewyn Samadhi, May 7 and 8. In back is Iris Jacobs.

photo by Vanessa Fournier



The Craftsbury Academy Drama Club presented Peter Pan at the Highland Center for the Arts in Greensboro, May 7 and 8. Performing a scene are (standing from left) Zariah Decherd, Hyla Thompson, Edie Wells. Standing (at right) are Jayden Maclay, Lilly Cookson and Willa Nunery. In the back (from left) are Joseph Maclay, Mia Sargent and Chase Davey.

photo by Vanessa Fournier



Jayden Maclay, Thayra Rodriguez, Abbie League and Willa Nunery of the Craftsbury Academy Drama Club perform in Peter Pan at the Highland Center for the Arts in Greensboro, May 7 and 8.

photo by Vanessa Fournier

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

Flooring



Country Floors
est. 1979
Plainfield, VT

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

Laundry



Hardwick VILLAGE LAUNDROMAT

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

Martial Arts



MARTIAL ARTS IN HARDWICK

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

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

Moving



PENSKE Truck Rental

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

Plumbing



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

Restaurants



The Village Restaurant
Home Cooking at Its Best
74 South Main St., Hardwick
(802) 472-5701

Advertising

Advertise with the trusted source!

The Hardwick Gazette
ads@thehardwickgazette.org
(802) 472-6501

Services



MANOSH By Gosh

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

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

Services



MANOSH By Gosh

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

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

Services



DR PROPERTY MAINTENANCE
LAWN CARE
802.793.7388
HARDWICK • VERMONT

- Dumpster rental
- Excavation
- Landscaping
- Stump Grinding

dwrichardson1999@gmail.com

EVENTS

Thursday, May 21

River memories: exploring settlement patterns, 6:30 p.m., Jaquith Public Library, Marshfield, with historian Alan Berolzheimer. Information: (802) 426-3581 or jaquithpubliclibrary.org.

Friday, May 22

Pointe Noir Cajun band, 7 p.m., Atkins Field, Hardwick. For listening and dancing. Food and drink may be purchased on site.

Saturday, May 23

Chicken barbecue, held by The Knights of Columbus, 11:45 a.m. to 1 p.m., St. Norbert Church parking lot. To pre-buy, contact any member of the Knights of Columbus or email Mario at fradettesmaplesyrup@gmail.com or call (802) 793-4764.

Opera Vermont performs "La Cenerentola," 7:30 p.m., Barre Opera House, 6 North Main St., Barre. Tickets online at barreoperahouse.org or call (802) 476-8188.

Sunday, May 24

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.

Friday, May 29

Ruth Moody, lead singer of the Wailin' Jennys, brings her band to the Barre Opera House, 8 p.m., 6 North Main St. Tickets online at barreoperahouse.org or call (802) 476-8188.

Saturday, May 30

Open house to view sign, 1 to 3 p.m., Grange Hall, East Hardwick. Preview the new Historic Interpretive Panel that will be placed in the trailhead near Stevens Lane. Refreshments provided.

Saturday, June 6

Lamoille County Players holds auditions for "California Suite" on June 6 and 7, Hyde Park Opera House. Auditions begin at 1 p.m. each day. No appointment necessary. Information: LCPlayers.com/california-suite. Auditioners must be 18 or older.

Thursday, June 18

Shakespeare season begins,

with the production of "Hamlet," performed by the Green Mountain Shakespeare Festival, directed by Tom Blachly, Plainfield Town Hall Opera House, 18 High St., 7 p.m. Tickets available at sites. google.com/view/green-mountain-shakespeare-fes.

Friday, June 19

Shakespeare season begins, with the production of "Hamlet," performed by the Green Mountain Shakespeare Festival, directed by Tom Blachly, Plainfield Town Hall Opera House, 18 High St., 7 p.m. Tickets available at sites. google.com/view/green-mountain-shakespeare-fes

Saturday, June 20

Shakespeare season begins, with the production of "Hamlet," performed by the Green Mountain Shakespeare Festival, directed by Tom Blachly, Plainfield Town Hall Opera House, 18 High St., 7 p.m. Tickets available at sites. google.com/view/green-mountain-shakespeare-fes

Sunday, June 21

Shakespeare season begins, with the production of "Hamlet," performed by the Green Mountain Shakespeare Festival, directed by Tom Blachly, Plainfield Town Hall Opera House, 18 High St., 2 p.m. Tickets available at sites. google.com/view/green-mountain-shakespeare-fes

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. to noon, Craftsbury.

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

Outdoor Story, activity, 10:30 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

See EVENTS, Next Page

EVENTS

CONTINUED from previous page

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 to 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, albany-publiclibraryvt.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 Crafts-

bury. 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 to 9 a.m., St. John the Baptist Episcopal Church, West Church St., Hardwick. Literature and open meeting.

Tai Chi, 9:30 to 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, mary_queenofallsaints@comcast.net (802) 472-5544.

Tai Chi, 10:30 a.m. to 11:30, Church of Christ, Greensboro. Qigong and Tai Chi, taught by Norma Spaulding and Paul Fixx. Information at (802) 472-8724, nspauld@gmail.com and (802) 441-4599, prefix@prefix.net.

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

Story Time, 10:30 a.m. Jeudevine Memorial Library, 93 N. Main St., Hardwick. Books, songs, art activities and more for ages 5 and under. Information, jeudevineyouthlibrarian@hardwickvt.gov, (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 jwsimpson-memorial.org.

Hang Out, 2:45 to 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.

Figure drawing studio, Thursdays through September 24, 4 to 6 p.m., Catamount Arts, St. Johnsbury. Hosted by artists Larry Golden and son Ricky. Information: catamountarts.org.

Pilates class by Kris Coville, 4 to 5 p.m., Thursdays, United Church of Christ, Greensboro.

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

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

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

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

Prayer Service, 5:30 p.m., Touch of Grace Assembly of God, corner of Rtes. 15 and 16, E. Hardwick. Information, touchofgraceagvt@gmail.com

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 to 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. to 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

See EVENTS, Next Page



Delivering On A Promise
Dead River
Company

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

EVENTS

CONTINUED from previous page
a.m., Friday, Greensboro Free Library. Information, (802) 533-2531.

Meditation, 3 to 3:45 p.m., Craftsbury Community Care Center, 784 East Craftsbury Road, Craftsbury, the second and fourth Fridays, with Nancy Millholland. 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 to 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 to 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. Information, (802) 472-6292.

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

Historical Society, 10 a.m. to noon, Craftsbury.

AI-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 Rousell, 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 Mary King at Mary@BetterBonesNEK.org, or (802) 535-2011.

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

Vigil Mass, 4 p.m., St. Norbert Church, a part of Mary Queen of All Saints Parish, 193 S. Main

St., Hardwick, Father Raj Madri. Confessions before Mass, Information, mary_queenofallsaints@comcast.net (802) 472-5544.

Contra Dance, 8 to 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

See EVENTS, Next Page

WGDR 91.1 FM
WGDRH 91.7 FM
CENTRAL VERMONT COMMUNITY RADIO

Current Schedule

as of April 2026

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	RNB Love Train	12 AM	
1 AM		BantuNauts RAYdio		Donne Del Mondo		The Kinetic Playground	Timeless Oldies Radio Hour	1 AM	
2 AM	Cafe Chill		Oldies Time Machine	Open All Hours DJ Citrus Heights	Baroque and Beyond	The Sonic Cafe			2 AM
3 AM	WGDR New Music Mix Music Directors								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	Podcast Steven and Walt	Background Briefing w/ Ian Masters	Woodsongs Radio Hour	6 AM	
7 AM	Curse of the Golden Turnip Alan LePage, Steven Farnham & Ethan O'Hara	Magpie in the Morning Delia Gillen	Bike Talk	Portal Levi		Eastern Dawn Luke Lampugnale	Ozark Highlands Radio	7 AM	
8 AM	Democracy Now!							The Country Jamboree	8 AM
9 AM	Trance-Formational Listening Dennis Darrah	Eggs on Toast Kelly	Alternative Radio	The Quilting Hour Maura Quinn or Sasha Thayer	Relocalizing Vermont Carl Etnier	The Magical Mystery Tour Tonio Epstein	ROTATING SLOT #12 (see reverse)	9 AM	
10 AM	ROTATING SLOT #1 (see reverse)	Peace Talk Radio	New Dimensions	Wings	This Way Out	TUC Radio	ROTATING SLOT #13 (see reverse)	10 AM	
11 AM		ROTATING SLOT #3 (see reverse)	Rising Up w/ Sonali	Spawning Stones Ben Bashore	What's the Frequency, Kenneth?	Writers' Voice		11 AM	
12 PM	Thought Pasture Maura Quinn	Personal and Political Stephanie Fraser	That Driving Beat		Unshelved J Kramer	Modern Jet Set	The Metal Edge Willis Pratt	12 PM	
1 PM				The Rubber Room Dan Towner		Now Playing DJ Liu		1 PM	
2 PM	Swivel Radio DJ Effery	Upfront Soul	Straight Up Soul		David Rogers Music Mix		Boxful of Blues John Foster	2 PM	
3 PM			Econ. Update Rumble Strip	ROTATING SLOT #8 (see reverse)		Hittin' the Note Bill Hahn		3 PM	
4 PM	Afrosonic Taxi	Trailing Edge David Ferland	Listen Up! Bill Nowlan	Country & Western Sounds in Modern Music Barry Matthews	Law and Disorder		Acoustic Harmony Mark Michaelis	4 PM	
5 PM	Bon Mot Rick Agran	Shortwave Rpt. Food Sleuth		ROTATING SLOT #9 (see reverse)	Big Picture Science	Found Sound Corey Flynn		5 PM	
6 PM	The Good Ways Reggae Kind	Democracy Now! (rerun)		ROTATING SLOT #10 (see reverse)	ROTATING SLOT #11 (see reverse)			6 PM	
7 PM	The Revel Level DJ EHMmAhH	ROTATING SLOT #4 (see reverse)	ROTATING SLOT #6 (see reverse)	Woodwarbler's JazzGrass Brian Aust	Xav Wax Xav Jimenez	Spiral Galaxy Tom McMurdo	Jagler Katz Worm Hole Jason Hagler	7 PM	
8 PM								8 PM	
9 PM	ROTATING SLOT #2 (see reverse)	Deep Blues Les Mawson	ROTATING SLOT #7 (see reverse)	Music as Art Uku Meri	DJ Eben Flow Eclectic DJ Eben Flow	The Meltdown KingTone	First Wave	9 PM	
10 PM		Blues Edge Les Mawson					The Beatdown Z-Point	10 PM	
11 PM	Deep Threes	Train to Skaville	Julian Taylor's Jukebox	Full Moon Hacksaw	Metal Radio DJ Eben Flow	RNB Love Train		11 PM	

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

@WGDRWGDHVT

EVENTS

CONTINUED from previous page

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.com.

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

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

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

Service, 10 a.m., Touch of Grace

Assembly of God, corner of Rtes. 15 and 16, E. Hardwick. Information, touchofgraceagvt@gmail.com

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, unitedchurchof-craftsbury.com, unitedchurch-craftsbury@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.com.

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 Shbeharsing@gmail.com.

Service, 11 a.m., Trinity Assembly of God, Rte. 15 East, Hyde Park. Pastor Ron Doyle. (802) 888-7326.

Fellowship Service, 11 a.m., The Healing Stream Church of God, Wolcott Town Hall, Pastor Peter 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 Shbeharsing@gmail.com.

Service, noon, Hardwick Bible Baptist Church, 296 S. Main St. For transportation or information, (802) 472-5294.

Mending Circle, 3 to 5 p.m., every third Sunday, The Civic Standard, S. Main St., Hardwick. Bring clothes in need of fixing. Materials, instruction, snacks supplied.

Poetry Readings, third Sunday of each month, 2 to 4 p.m., Jaquith Public Library. Each reading will feature two Poetry Society of Vermont poets. Information: (802) 426-3581, jaquithpubliclibrary@gmail.com, 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.

Death cafe, fourth Mondays, 1:30 to 3 p.m., Hardwick Community Center, 58 High St. Tea and baked goods served.

Adaptive Biking, 2 to 3 p.m., the

Lamoille Valley Rail Trail, beginning at the trailhead parking lot on Creamery Road in Hardwick. Reservations or information, kerry@adaptivesportspartners.org, call (802) 427-4116.

Mending, 3 p.m., Craftsbury Public Library.

Quit Tobacco, support group, 3 p.m., North Central Vermont Recovery Center, 275 Brooklyn St., Morrisville. Information, (802) 851-8120.

Adaptive Biking, 3:30 to 4:30 p.m., on the Lamoille Valley Rail Trail, beginning at the trailhead parking lot on Creamery Road in Hardwick. Reservations or information, kerry@adaptivesportspartners.org, (802) 427-4116.

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.

Dads' Group, 5 to 6 p.m., at the Oxbow in Morrisville. Connect with other dads. Information, Rob at rcary@LRCVT.org or (802) 730-3000.

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

Service, 6 p.m. Walden United Methodist Church, 109 Noyestar Road, handicap accessible, (802) 684-1201.

Families Anonymous, 6 p.m., North Central Vermont Recovery Center, 275 Brooklyn St., Morrisville. Information, (802) 851-8120.

Alcoholics Anonmous, 7 p.m., United Church of Hardwick, 216 S. Main St. Open discussion. Information, (802) 748-3708, local AA (802) 334-1213 or toll-free (877) - 334-1213.

Ongoing Tuesdays

Qigong, 8:30 a.m., the Barn off the Common, Craftsbury Common.

Tai Chi, 9:30 to 10:15 a.m., Jeudevine Memorial Library Parker Ladd Community Room, Hardwick. Advanced Tai Chi, taught by Norma Spaulding, Information at (802) 472-8724, nspauld@gmail.com.

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

EVENTS

CONTINUED from previous page
Public Library, early literacy for children ages 0 to 5. Information at childrenslibrarian@craftsbury-publiclibrary.org or (802) 586-9683.

Exercise, 11 a.m., Highland Center for the Arts, 2875 Hardwick St., Greensboro, lead by certified AFE_instructor Alice Perron. Information esanderson@nekouncil.org, (802) 751-0431.

Moms in Recovery, support program, 1 to 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 to 5 p.m., Cabot Public Library, ages 11 and up. Learn how to build a character and then embark on an adventure.

Pilates class by Kris Coville, 4 to 5 p.m., Tuesdays, United Church of Christ, Greensboro.

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, 6 to 7:30 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.

Friends of Jeudevine Library, 5:15 p.m., third Tuesday of every month at the library, N. Main St., Hardwick.

Greensboro Community Meal, every Tuesday, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m., Greensboro United Church of Christ, East Craftsbury Road. Meal is free and all are welcome. Information: GreensboroCommunityMeal@gmail.com.

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

As Bill Sees It, AA Meeting, 6 p.m., North Central Vermont Recovery Center, 275 Brooklyn St., Morrisville. Information, (802) 851-8120.

Hardwick Energy Committee Meeting, second Tuesday of the month, 6 p.m., Hardwick Memorial Building, 20 Church St., first floor. Information: Call Bill Chidsey, Hardwick Energy Coordinator, (802) 249-6004. Energy.Coordinator@HardwickVT.org.

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

Taiji, 6 p.m. Barn off the Common, Craftsbury Common.

Alcoholics Anonymous, 6 p.m., meditation meeting, United Church, 6 Church Lane (next to library), Craftsbury Common. Open meeting.

Exhibits

Elisha Renne's "The Warp and Weft of Life" will be on display through June at the Woodbury Community Library, 69 Valley Lake Road. For more information, call (802) 472-5701 or email library@woodburyvt.org.

New exhibit at the T.W. Wood Gallery, Contemporary Hall, 46 Barre St., Montpelier. May 28 through July 24. Art Walk reception will be held June 6, 5 to 7:30 p.m., with an artist talk at 6 p.m. Information: twoodmuseum.org/

Community Services

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

Aging assistance, Central Vermont Council on Aging, Montpelier, (802) 479-0531.

Community dinners, United Church of Hardwick, noon, third and fourth Thursdays, eat-in or take out. (802) 472-6566 to reserve meal.

Crisis line, 24 hours, involuntary custody screening, Lamoille County Mental Health, 8 a.m. – 4 p.m., (802) 888-5026; nights and weekends, (802) 888-8888.

Food pantry, Woodbury-Calais Food Shelf, serving Calais, Woodbury, Cabot, (802) 472-6292..

Food pantry, Hardwick Area Food Pantry, 36 W. Church St., Mon., noon – 2 p.m.; Thurs. and Sat., 9 a.m. – 11 a.m. (802) 472-5940.

Food shelf, vtfoodbank.org/nature-people/3squaresvt, (802) 855-6181.

Human services, Northeast

Kingdom Human Services, 181 Crawford Road, Derby, (802) 334-6744.

Human services, Northeast Kingdom Human Services, 2225 Portland St., St. Johnsbury, (802) 748-3181, nkhs.org

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.

Meals on Wheels, Vermont Center for Independent Living, Montpelier, (802) 224-1825, melissa@vcil.org.

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

Mental health, Washington County Mental Health Services, 9 Heaton St., Montpelier, (802) 223-6328, wcmhs.org

Recovery center, St. Johnsbury Recovery Center, 297 Summer St., (802) 751-8520, recoveryinfo@stjkrcc.org, kingdom-recovery-center.com

Thrift store, Angel Outfitters Thrift Store, United Church of Christ, 216 S. Main St., Hardwick, Thurs., 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.; Sat., 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.; (802) 472-6800.

Veterans' services, Caledonia County, (802) 338-4324.

Veterans' services, Lamoille County, (802) 338-3411.

Veterans' services, Orleans County, (802) 338-4325.

Veterans' services, Washington County, (802) 338-4318.

Libraries

Albany Public Library, 530 Main St., Albany, (802) 755-6107, albanypubliclibraryvt.org. 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 Fri., 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 to 6 p.m.; Tues., Wed. and Fri. 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Sat. 10 a.m. to 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 to 6 p.m.; Thurs., 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Sat. 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Glee Merritt Kelley Community Library, 320 School Hill Drive, Wolcott, (802) 472-6551, Mon. - Thurs., 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Fri. closed; Sat., 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Greensboro Free Library, 53 Wilson St., Greensboro, (802) 533-2531, greensborofreelibrary.org, Mon. and Wed. closed; Tues., 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Thur. and Fri., 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sat., 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.; Sun., noon to 2 p.m.

Hazen Union School Library, 126 Hazen Union Drive, Hardwick, (802) 472-6511, hazenlibrary@ossu.org, 7:30 a.m. to 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 to 6 p.m., Sat. and Mon. 9 a.m. to 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 to 6 p.m., Tues., Thurs. and Fri. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sat. 10 a.m. to 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 to 6 p.m.; Sat. 9 a.m. to noon; Sun. noon to 2 p.m.

Morristown Centennial Library, 7 Richmond St., Morrisville, (802) 888-3853, centenniallibrary.org, Tues. and Wed., 10 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.; Thurs. and Fri., 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.; Sat. 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Walden Community Library, Walden Elementary School, 135 Cahoon Farm Road, (802) 563-2195, walden.mimas.opalsinfo.net/bin/home, Tues., 6 to 8 p.m.

Woodbury Community Library, Woodbury School, 69 Valley Lake Road, (802) 472-5710, library@woodburyvt.org, Wed., 1 to 5 p.m.; Thurs., 2 to 6 p.m.; Sat., 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Wildcats scratch out another win in challenging week



Hazen Union coach Shaun Allen (front left) and assistant coach Jason Smith (right) rake home plate after a brief downpour in the sixth inning. At left is Maddox Robinson and Athletic Director Aaron Hill (back right). After umpires decided the game could continue, the seventh inning ended with Randolph winning 4-2.

photo by Vanessa Fournier

by Ken Brown

HARDWICK – The Hazen Union boys baseball team battled a jam-packed Capital League schedule last week, highlighted by a comeback win against Oxbow on the road to improve to 3-7.

The Wildcats had a tough start to the week, falling to undefeated Thetford Academy, 17-2, at home on Monday. Hazen stayed within striking distance of Thetford for much of the game before an 11-run sixth inning blew the game wide open. Sam Parkman earned the win for the Panthers, striking out eight. Miles Lawrence and Xander Oshoniyi combined for five hits and seven RBI in the win. Thetford (8-0) continues to pace a top-heavy Division III bracket.

Hazen scraped out a pair of runs in the top of the sixth inning and four more in the seventh to stun Oxbow 13-8 on the road on Tuesday. Jon Sicard (2-5), Kiah Cloutier (3-5) and Avery Loomis (3-4) capped off the rally in the seventh with consecutive hits. Sicard finished on the mound to earn the win for the Wildcats. Owen Skorstad and Chayse Newell combined for four more hits for Hazen. Justin Montgomery added a hit and three runs in the win. Brogdan Grey and Parker Calley each had two hits and

a double for the Olympians. Griffin Pike took the loss as Oxbow dropped to 2-4 on the season.

Hazen nearly made it two in a row on Friday but couldn't find any offense late in a 4-2 home loss to Randolph. Dylan Delaney had two hits and struck out four to earn the win for the Galloping Ghosts. Jackson Bascom struck out three to earn the save as Randolph (5-4) broke a 2-2 tie in the fifth inning with a run and added insurance in the sixth. Grayson McNaughten took another hard-luck loss on the hill for Hazen, scattering four hits and striking out four. Montgomery had two more hits, including a double. Skorstad and McNaughten had a hit and scored a run apiece in the loss.

"The Oxbow and Randolph games are examples of what this team can do when we stay in the fight. Our next game against Spaulding is an example of what happens when we get fatigued and let our emotions get the best of us after a long, hard week," said head coach Shaun Allen.

Matt Fecteau struck out five over five innings of work and helped his own cause at the plate with a pair of hits to lead Spaulding to a 13-3 home win over Hazen on Saturday. Tanner Arsenault



Hazen Union first baseman, Jon Sicard (No. 20), waits for a throw as Randolph's Drew Langlois safely hustles back to first base during action, May 15, on Hudson Field. At left is Kiah Cloutier. Randolph won 4-2.

photo by Vanessa Fournier



Hazen Union players (from left) Avery Boyce, Trevor Smith, Jonah Wahlburg, Avery Loomis and Grayson McNaughten watch as their teammates are at bat, May 15, against Randolph. Randolph took the victory 4-2.

photo by Vanessa Fournier

(two Doubles) and Tent Loftus (three RBI) powered the Crimson Tide offense as they improved to 5-3 in the Division II standings. Skorstad took the loss on the mound for Hazen, Montgomery kept a hot bat with two more hits and freshman Trevor Smith added a hit and a run.

"The rain delay Friday night made it tough on the boys to get back on the bus Saturday morning, 13 hours later. Spaulding can no doubt hit the ball. We did a good job of limiting our errors in

this game, just didn't throw enough strikes and weren't able to match our opponents' intensity," said Allen.

The Wildcats were scheduled to host U-32 at Hudson Fields on Tuesday, celebrating McNaughten, Montgomery and Skorstad on Senior Night. They wrap up their week with a trip to North Country and will make the short trip to Peoples Academy next Tuesday. All home games can be live-streamed on Hardwick Community Television (hctv.us).

KEN BROWN'S TRACK & FIELD ROUNDUP



HINESBURG – Both the Craftsbury Academy (CA) and Hazen Union high school track and field teams were back in action last week for their third meets of the season.

The Chargers' meet at CVU on Tuesday was pushed to Friday due to inclement weather. Head coach Kyle Anderson's young and talented squad held its own against some heavy hitters in the upper divisions. Junior Kosmos Gletsos continued to be a leader in the field events on Friday, highlighted by a personal record (9.43m) and a fourth-place finish in the shot put. South Burlington sophomore Landon Myers bested the field with a toss that traveled

11.63m. Gletsos also placed fifth in the discus, sixth in the javelin, and posted a personal best in the long jump event.

"The shot put had one of the more crowded fields of the day. Kosmos takes on four events at every meet and is consistently competitive and focused on improvement," said Anderson.

On the girls' side, sophomore Linsey Allen's throw of 18.56m in the javelin was her personal best and good enough for an impressive runner-up finish. South Burlington sophomore Josie Stude bested Allen by just .24m to claim first-place honors. Allen capped off her stellar day with a personal record in the discus and a top-five finish. Freshman teammate Eliza Bunten finished seventh in the 1500m for the Chargers, destroying her personal best time in the event by 22 seconds.

CVU multi-sport star senior Zoey McNabb bested the field by nearly three seconds to win the event. Bunten was also nine seconds faster in the 800m event, finishing sixth. Senior Audrey Neilson claimed first-place honors for CVU. Bunten is now a state qualifier in both events.

"Linsey continues to show progress in all her events and is proving she can be competitive in each one. Eliza was focused and smart with her race strategies, while showing that she's willing to take some risks and push herself. She had impressive performances in both races, especially for a runner new to high school competition. Jade Griggs also ran her best time in the 200m and is closing in on the state qualifying time, and Ora Nobel continues to improve and ran her best 100m today," said Anderson.



Hazen Union traveled to North Country on Thursday to compete. Senior Chloe Dyer posted personal bests in the 100m, 200m and 400m events. Freshman teammates Alden Pougner and Owen Welch also continued to show progress with personal records in the 800m, 1500m, 100m and 200 events.

Both CA and Hazen are scheduled to be at Lyndon Institute on Wednesday before wrapping up a busy week for qualifiers at the Burlington Invitational on Saturday.

KEN BROWN'S SPORT NUGGETS

Fielder earns top conference honors for Norwich lacrosse

NORTHFIELD – East Calais native Caitlyn Fielder put a bow on a sensational senior season with her Norwich University women's lacrosse team by earning her second straight Great Northeast Athletic Conference (GNAC) First Team selection.

The former U-32 multi-sport star made the Lady Cadets (14-4) a GNAC contender once again this past spring, making it to the Final Four for a second consecutive season. Fielder scored a career-high 49 goals this past season and ranked tenth in the GNAC in total points (76). She was also ranked in the top ten in the conference in assists (27), shots on goal (84), ground balls (56) and draw controls (84). The dynamic midfielder led Norwich in nearly every offensive category, earning GNAC Honor Roll recognition five times. She finished the season with nine outings of at least five points, six games with at least four goals and four with at least three assists. Fielder has found the back of the net 134 times her three years at Norwich.

Sophomore teammate Kaitlyn Eisentraut earned Second Team GNAC honors, seniors Athena Merck and Abigail Kirrane were selected to the Third Team and



Caitlyn Fielder

Social media photo

senior goalkeeper Bailey Ingala made the All-Sportsmanship Team.

Softball Update

DANVILLE – The Caledonia United (Twinfield-Cabot-Danville) softball team had its momentum stalled by Richford last week, falling to 2-4 on the season.

The 2024 Division IV champs flexed their offensive muscles last Friday, cruising past Cal United 15-3 on the road. Katelyn Doe (three hits) belted a grand slam and drove in a team-high five runs to lead the Richford offense. Sophia Derby struck out eight and allowed just one free pass on the day to earn the win in the circle. Adi Chagnon and Jazzy

Cunningham amassed four more hits and six RBI in the win. The Lady Rockets improved to 5-2 on the season. Austin Roos led Cal United with a pair of hits, including a double and Peyton Winn added a 2-3 performance at the plate. Alaina Robbins took the loss in the circle. Head coach Jennie Moore's young squad continued to make strides in their development, turning a pair of double plays defensively. Richford broke open the game in the fifth inning, pushing across six runs on just two hits. Richford defeated Cal United 21-2 earlier this season.

Craftsbury Academy's (CA) search for its first win of the season continued last week as they dropped a 27-2 home decision to BFA-Fairfax.

Cal United traveled to Blue Mountain on Monday and BFA-Fairfax on Tuesday. They wrap up a busy week with home tilts against Winooski on Thursday and Paine Mountain on Saturday. CA traveled to Paine Mountain on Tuesday and Peoples Academy on Thursday. They are scheduled to host Richford on Friday before traveling to Blue Mountain on Saturday.

swish.
WE'VE GOT YOUR TEAMS COVERED.

THE HARDWICK GAZETTE
INDEPENDENT LOCAL NEWS SINCE 1889

hardwickgazette.org

The Conifer Clash 2026



Michael Marro (left) of the Vermont Martial Arts Academy in Rutland and Manchester, competes in a fusion fighting match against David Butterfield (right) of Dasilva's Karate in Rutland during the Conifer Clash Tournament held in the Hardwick Elementary school gym, May 16.

photo by Vanessa Fournier



Madeline Grant (left), 10, spars with her sister Izabella Grant (right), 12, both from Villari's Martial Arts in Barre during the Second Annual Conifer Clash held at the Hardwick Elementary School gym, May 16.

photo by Vanessa Fournier



James Curtis (left), 6, of the Vermont Martial Arts Academy in Rutland spars with Jackson Wong (right), 5, of Marshfield, who attends Martial Arts in Hardwick. Refereeing the match is Michael Marro. The Conifer Clash was held May 16 in the Hardwick Elementary School gymnasium.

photo by Vanessa Fournier



Mariya Arustamova, 8, of House of the Samurai in Londonderry, N.H., is performing a weapons form with a staff in the 10 and under Novice-Advanced division at the Conifer Clash Tournament, May 16, in the Hardwick Elementary School gymnasium.

photo by Vanessa Fournier



Jensen Franklin, 9, of Tinmouth, from the Vermont Martial Arts Academy in Rutland, performs a weapons form for children 10 and under in weapons division Novice-Advanced at the second annual Conifer Clash held, May 16, in Hardwick.

photo by Vanessa Fournier



The second annual Conifer Clash tournament promoter Adam Beckley of Martial Arts in Hardwick, Kingdom Jiu Jitsu and Vermont Martial Arts Academy welcomes the 17 schools with 96 competitors who ranging in age from 4 to 57.

photo by Vanessa Fournier



Local reporting empowers communities

From voting to attending town meetings, local news delivers the vital information you need to make important decisions in your everyday life.

We can all support essential local journalism by

subscribing, donating, sharing stories, encouraging young reporters, and educating the next generation about media literacy and the importance of a free press.

Your community-owned, nonprofit news source

THE Hardwick Gazette Since 1889

hardwickgazette.org/donate