## **Edgar May Announces Decontamination of** Foundry, Next Phases

The next phase of the Edgar May Health and Recreation Center expansion will answer an identified need in the community - childcare.

Edgar May Executive Director Christian Craig last week presented to Selectmen his organization's plans going forward. The next phase will connect the existing center with the old Foundry building with a two-story structure providing space for daycare and other facilities. The project, expected to be started in 2026, will cost an estimated \$5.9 million.

The old Foundry building was donated to the Southern Vermont Recreation Foundation in 2000 by Charlestown resident Stanley Patch. At that time, Phase One was to be renovation of the Foundry, with the facility housing the pool coming later. But concerns over contaminants beneath the old structure delayed its reuse, moving the pool facility to the front. That facility opened in 2007.

As the Foundry was in use for several decades, work including grinding of parts for the town's machine tool businesses, it was assumed that contaminants existed beneath the Foundry's cement pad floor. Tests confirmed that PCBs exist across the floor and "Annex", removing lead paint, removing the existing underneath; in addition, there is asbestos and lead paint concrete slab and the contaminated soil beneath, and exercise programs now housed downtown in the old on the structure's brick walls.

EPA grants funded some remediation projects accomplished from 2014 to 2016, Craig said. The problems, as well as the COVID pandemic, helped decontamination, with a cost of \$2.24 million, is bring into focus a need in the community that the next estimated to cost \$9 million. The current vision for the scheduled to be accomplished this year and is funded by EPA Brownfield and Agency of Commerce Community identified as a problem - the connector will have space soccer playing field, a basketball half-court, pickleball Development Brownfield Revitalization Fund grants.



Rendition created by the Bread Loaf Corporation of Middlebury

The work will include demolishing the existing infant and pre-k children. pouring a new slab.

Craig said the delays in tackling the Foundry's for teens, Craig said. for a childcare facility serving between 35 and 40

Other space in the connector will be used for various Masonic Temple. There also could be "hang out" space

The final phase, the redevelopment of the Foundry, is phase could relieve. The shortage of childcare has been 18,000 square foot structure is for the creation of a

## Final Town Budget - 5.75% Increase

The Springfield Selectboard last week finalized their 2025-26 proposed budget after a short public hearing that generated little discussion.

The budget figure that will be placed before citizens at the March Town Meeting is \$15,872,049, an increase of 5.75 percent over the current year expenditures. Because of an expected increase in non-tax revenues, the total expected to be raised from property taxes is \$12,307,313, and increase of 5.34 percent.

The Board also voted to add an article to the Town Meeting Warrant asking voters to approve a one-cent local option tax on rooms and meals. The local tax is expected to generate some \$120,000 in revenue, which will further offset the local property

Finally, the Board voted to add one more request for a special appropriation -\$5,000 from the Springfield Area Parent Child Center. In total, Springfield voters will be asked to approved \$233,000 in appropriations for various non-governmental

### **School Budget Discussions Continue**

The Springfield School Board will continue working on their 2025-26 budget proposal when they meet tonight, a day later than usual due to Monday The Board will meet at 6:30 p.m. at the Springfield High School Library.

The Board will be reviewing version three of the administration's budget proposal, which is a reduction from the plan discussed last week with the Budget Committee. The new proposal calls for a voted appropriation of \$40,842,326, which will result in a per pupil cost of \$13,962, an increase of 4.31 percent over the current

Including the District's obligation to the River Valley Technical Center, the total expenditure comes to \$41,945,326, an increase of 3.62 percent. The actual tax rate impact will not be known for some time as it depends on various state computations.

Major additions from version two of the budget include: \$217,205 for two full time equivalent teaching positions in the elementary schools; and \$81,077 for one FTE instructional assistant at the elementary level.

## **New Committee Seeks to Increase Development of Affordable Housing**

Springfield currently has a shortage of affordable housing, and it's projected the community will need over 500 new homes by 2030 to meet the economic development goals as outlined in the Town's Master Plan.

Rather than trusting to luck that that housing stock will magically appear, the Selectboard last week approved the creation of an ad hoc committee that will review the community's housing needs and research ways to meet that need.

Making the request for the committee were Selectboard members Michael Martin, Heather Frahm and Michael Schmitt, who have already compiled much information concerning Springfield's housing needs.

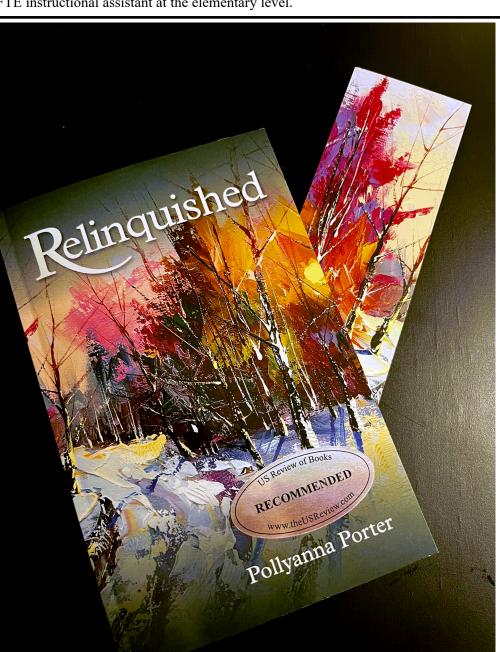
According to the report submitted to the full Board last week, "According to the Mount Ascutney Regional Commission (MARC), Springfield will require 513 new owner-occupied homes by 2030. With just five years to meet this target, immediate action is essential.

"The committee's primary objective is to develop a comprehensive plan to address Springfield's middle-income housing needs and align efforts with long-term economic growth goals.

"The committee will meet monthly to strategize and develop the comprehensive plan, using these sessions to evaluate successful initiatives from other towns and determine best practices. Members will work collaboratively to analyze housing gaps, identify potential solutions, and outline actionable steps to meet the projected need for middle-income housing.

"The committee should include local and regional developers, the Executive Director of BRIC, a member of the Long-Term Capital Planning Committee (LTCPC), Town Planning and Zoning Officer and other relevant stakeholders to ensure diverse perspectives and expertise inform the process."

Martin added the committee will be open to any interested member of the **Continued to Page 5** 





## Pollyanna Bladyka Releases Third (And Last?) Vermont-Based Novel

By Suzanne Stern

In December, Springfield author Pollyanna Bladyka released Relinquished, the third in a series of novels set in the fictitious Langdon, Vermont.

Published under her pen name, Pollyanna Porter, Relinquished compassionately taps into complex issues of trauma and resiliency. It was chosen as an Editor's Pick in Booklife, who lauded the work for "its portrayal of quiet bravery," and received a recommendation from the US Review of Books.

**Continued to Page 2** 

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## That's One for the History Books: Hinge Moments in American History

History enthusiasts and book lovers have reason to welcome the release of That's One for the History *Books*, according to co-authors Springfield resident Marty Cohn (right) and Hugh Ryan of Westerly, Rhode Island. The authors say that their book, published by Amazon, explores pivotal moments in American history. Many of these inventions, innovations, and political and social

actions had implications that rippled worldwide, the authors say.

In That's One for the *History Books*, Cohn and Ryan attempt to take readers on a journey across centuries, weaving together compelling narratives of historical events, unsung heroes, and critical turning points that forever altered the course of American history. The authors say their book provides fresh perspectives on the stories

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we thought we knew. "If this book reads like a series of scripts for oral delivery, that's exactly what it is," Cohn explained, "Our book presents the first year's worth of scripts from our weekly podcast, "That's One for the History Books" that are available on Spotify and the other major podcast platforms."

Cohn added, "The book and podcast are designed to shine a spotlight on Americans who have made important contributions to our country, but who have not been given the credit we think they deserve."

Ryan added, "Many are the answers to a question that occurs to one of us, "I wonder who invented (or originated)...", or "I wonder how... came about." Still others receive incidental reference in a history book, and then we discover upon further research that they deserve, in our opinion, more that incidental mention. Some were suggested by podcast listeners and friends."

Profiles include inventors, warriors, lawyers, journalists,



entrepreneurs, politicians, spies, medical researchers and practitioners, and social and civil rights advocates.

That's One for the History Books (ISBN: 9798329011395) is available in paperback and digital from Amazon, \$7.50 for the paperback edition, \$5.00 on Kindle. Search on the Amazon site under "That's One for the History Books by Cohn and Ryan." Episodes of the podcast drop every Wednesday morning on Spotify or wherever you listen to podcasts.



## Relinquished Continued from Page 1

In addition to being available online, Pollyanna's delay. novels can be found at local retailers such as The Book Nook in Ludlow—an apt location, as the town of stated. "Jot down your thoughts, fill those notebooks, area, where Pollyanna lived for over a decade.

her work as Peddan, Vt.

"The Springfield community is very dear to me," said Pollyanna, who was an educator in the Springfield industry and its many pitfalls is more cautious: School District for three decades. "This writing bit is a privilege for me to have been able to travel those authors should be leery of." 'middle school angst-filled years' with them.

their families faced-including poverty, child-parent Joe Citro, who both voiced its merits. As a estrangement, abuse, and other trauma—provided self-published author, Pollyanna has the freedom to sign inspiration for her characters' obstacles and how they off on every aspect of her books, including artwork, work to overcome them.

events, provide fodder for her writing as well, which work with the same editor, book designer and she said generally happens during the colder months. proofreader through the duration of her literary journey. When an idea for a character trait or plot twist pops up, she will jot it down, amassing a collection of "messy, "retirement bucket list," she said she had no plans to hand written notes" that she sorts through until a write a second—or third. However, because her books narrative is unveiled

"When the story starts to take shape, I've discovered, continued writing. the story writes itself...possibly going in directions I love about the writing process: it has a life and flow of and improving her golf game.

and published in the short time since her 2020 down a thought...so who knows? retirement.

Despite her decision to conclude her professional to develop and grow."

career before embarking on a literary one, Pollyanna advises aspiring authors to put pen to paper without

"It took me fifty years to write that first novel," she Langdon is based on the Ludlow/Plymouth/Mt. Holly clear the kitchen table and begin. This is your work—your labor of love. The process to create, no Springfield appears in her novels, too, fictionalized in matter the medium, is rewarding when you devote the time and space."

Her advice on navigating the complex literary

"The market—that of literary agents and big house new gig for me but it can never top the years I spent publishers—is extremely difficult to break into as an walking the halls of Riverside [Middle School], unknown author," she acknowledged, adding, "There scouting out the kids who needed more support. It was a are a lot of dubious book services out there that new

She explained that she came to the self-publishing She said observing the challenges her students and route after consulting veteran authors Jodi Picoult and fonts, and final edits. She is also able to choose her Pollyanna's own life, as well as historical and current production team, and said that she has been fortunate to

> While writing a novel was on the top of Pollyanna's were well-received, and she enjoyed the process, she

With Relinquished now on bookshelves, Pollyanna hadn't initially planned," she mused. "This is what I plans to focus on two other bucket list items: traveling

"I've told most everyone who has asked that Along with her newest offering, Relinquished, Relinquished is my last novel," she said. "Just yesterday Pollyanna's Langdon trilogy include the novels I scurried in from walking the dog in the cold, harsh Rectified and Redeemed. All three works were written wind [and] I couldn't find a pencil quick enough to jot

"Like real life, people and places in fiction take time

funding might be available. what people want, which

#### Edgar May **Continued from Page 1** court and a mezzanine walking track. Craig said

final plans are subject to community discussions of will determine what grant

**SCHOLAR NOTES** 

## Cathryn Feickert, Hayley Russell on SNHU Fall President's List

It is with great pleasure that Southern New Hampshire University (Manchester, NH) congratulates the following students on being named to the Fall 2024 President's List: Cathryn Feickert of Springfield; Hayley Russell of Springfield. Full-time undergraduate students who have earned a minimum grade-point average of 3.700 and above for the reporting term are named to the President's List.

#### Noah Vittum, Eva Gagnon on SNHU Fall Dean's List

It is with great pleasure that Southern New Hampshire University (Manchester, NH) congratulates the following students on being named to the Fall 2024 Dean's List: Noah Vittum of Springfield; Eva Gagnon of Springfield. Full-time undergraduate students who have earned a minimum grade-point average of 3.500 to 3.699 for the reporting term are named to the Dean's List.

#### Lily Farnsworth, Kaelie Peoples, Carson Williams on Roger Williams Dean's List

The following students have been named to the Fall 2024 Dean's List at Roger Williams University in Bristol, R.I.: Lily Farnsworth of Springfield; Kaelie Peoples of Springfield; Carson Williams of Perkinsville. Full-time students who complete 12 or more credits per semester and earn a GPA of 3.4 or higher are placed on the Dean's List that semester.



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## North Star Health Announces Walk-In Changes

North Star Health announces changes to walk-in care services at Springfield Health Center, located at 100 River Street, that will enhance patient access and strengthen continuity of care for the community. Starting February 3, walk-in hours will shift to Monday-Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m

In addition, Lauren Lavoie, PA and Shannon Ormsbee, NP will join the walk-in care team starting March 3. Both providers are dedicated to offering healthcare access for patients whose primary care providers or care teams are unavailable at the time of

Lavoie comes to the Springfield Health Center from Rockingham Health Center where she provided care in our walk-in clinic. Ormsbee grew up in Springfield and joined North Star in 2023. She has been providing care to our community at Springfield Health Center since then. You may have seen her at the primary care office on floor 2.

Patients with acute, non-life-threatening needs can visit the walk-in clinic on the first floor of Springfield Health Center, Charlestown Health Center, or Ludlow Health Center. Our Medical Office Coordinators will check patients in and gather the necessary information.

For patients with a Primary Care Provider: Whenever possible, patients will be seen by their PCP or another member of their care team.

For new or unassigned patients: Patients without a primary care provider will be seen by the next available provider. Patients will also be encouraged to establish ongoing care with North Star Health to support their long-term health and wellness.

North Star Health remains committed to providing affordable, high-quality care. Walk-in visits will continue to be billed as they were previously, and patients who may benefit from financial assistance are encouraged to apply for our sliding scale program. For more information, visit our website or contact Patient Business Services at 802-886-8950.

These updates reflect North Star Health's ongoing mission to connect with and care for the community so all may enjoy health and wellness. By integrating walk-in patients into primary care workflows, we aim to improve the quality of care, enhance provider-patient relationships, and ensure prompt access for acute needs. For questions or more information, please contact Springfield Health Center 802-886-8900 or email patientrelations@northstarfqhc.org.

## New Chapter, Inc. Supports Kindle Farm School

announced that New Chapter, Inc., a certified organic counseling, and various homebuyer education audits. WWHT's mission is to strengthen the vitamin and supplement company headquartered in workshops. Following this latest Performance Review, communities of southeast Vermont through the Brattleboro, awarded their Kindle Farm School \$9,500 the auditors found the quality of the program and its development and stewardship of permanently affordable in 2024 towards their innovative food program. This HUD certified counselors to be excellent. latest donation brings the total of this 13-year percent of the school's overall food budget.

those who struggle in mainstream educational settings so that they can communicate, problem-solve, and learn more effectively. One hundred percent of Kindle Farm's student body is comprised of students who qualify for Special Education within the state of Vermont and thus 1907, is pleased to announce the creation of a new success." have a diagnosed disability that can prevent them from Executive Vice President role within the institution. The Farm's students qualify for free and reduced lunch.

thriving community vibe, lots of movement, and newly formed role. The newly established EVP position Chief Lending Officer (EVP); Paul Yang, Chief hands-on activities to engage their students and help comes as part of Claremont Savings Bank's ongoing Financial Officer (EVP). These promotions reflect the them create positive change. Kindle Farm's food commitment to enhancing leadership capabilities and Bank's ongoing commitment to recognizing and program is a huge part of creating this fun and ensuring operational excellence across all departments. nurturing talent from within. Each individual has supportive community-based milieu. Kindle Farm This new role represents enhanced authority, strategic demonstrated exceptional leadership, vision, and a leverages over 100 acres and two greenhouses to and tactical influence, and a commitment to strong strong commitment to our core values. provide this robust program.

Nutritionally, the food program feeds all students universal benefit for all enrolled students. In addition to fellow team members, and community," said David ever-evolving financial landscape." the meals provided during the day, Kindle Farm Finnerty, CEO of Claremont Savings Bank. "This new provides monthly Foodbank distribution bags and position will strengthen our leadership team as we Claremont, Charlestown and West Lebanon, New summer C.S.A. bags of school-raised vegetables and continue to expand our offerings and deliver Hampshire, and Springfield, Vermont. produce that go home to the students' families.

Drew Gradinger, Director of Kindle Farm School, states, "Not only does the campus feel therapeutic and healthy due to the extensive vegetable gardens, fruit trees, and edible landscaping, but a recent extensive Center, previously known as KJ's Banquet Hall, is schedule a tour, contact Springfield Area Parent Child overhaul of our kitchen, thanks to the support of excited to announce that its versatile event space is now Center at 802-886-5242 or email sapcc@sapcc-vt.org. generous donors like New Chapter, makes it easier to available for rent to local organizations and the general create the 200-plus meals we serve each week day and public. With a capacity to host over 100 guests, the engage the students in critical skill development.

When it comes to their curriculum, the Kindle Farm events and family-oriented celebrations. School utilizes their two-acre garden as a cornerstone opportunity to study biology, botany, health, community North Springfield, the training center features a modern development, stewardship, and workforce development. and adaptable layout designed to meet the needs of a The gardens and land are worked by both students and variety of events. Whether planning a workshop, staff, providing a rich living laboratory to study the seminar, networking event, or children's birthday party, many meaningful connections between humans, plants, renters will find the space accommodating and

According to Gradinger, "We are so lucky to have a longstanding and great relationship with New Chapter. community," said Angela Kelley, Coordinator of The student body has visited their Brattleboro facility, Workforce Development. "Our goal has always been to New Chapter employees have volunteered at the school, support personal and professional growth. By making and their CEO has even tapped maple trees in our sugar our venue available for public use, we're expanding bush. We are so thankful for their support over the last that mission to bring people together in meaningful 11 years, and we hope to achieve even more through our ways."

collaboration in the years to come." "Kindle Farm is a one-of-a-kind program that available; Convenient parking; Competitive rental rates. successfully educates boys and young men who were unsuccessful in the traditional classroom setting. The attendees, and type of event. More information can be donations that have been provided to the school by New found on the Training Center Usage Inquiry Form Chapter, Inc. over the past 11 years have had a major located impact in the lives of these students. We can't thank you sapec-vt.org/services/workforce-development-and-traini

#### BUSINESS NEWS



#### **HCRS** New Staff

Health Care and Rehabilitation Services, southeastern Vermont's community mental-health agency, is pleased to announce the appointment of 11 new professionals during the month of December, whose talents will augment HCRS' services across Windham and Windsor counties. HCRS welcomes the following new employees: (Top photo – from left) – Ashlee Kelley – Office Generalist in Hartford, Anne-Marie Toussaint – DSP Employment Float in Brattleboro and Bellows Falls. (Right photo – from left) Abigail Mudano – Residential Specialist in Bellows Falls, Samantha Derosia – YSP Program Coordinator in Brattleboro, Monika Costello - School Based Behavioral Interventionist in Brattleboro, Elysabeth Ray – Clinical Intern in Hartford, Heather Mason – Vocational Educator at Kindle Farm, Alaina Millard – Peer Support Advocate in Brattleboro. (Not pictured) – Courtney (Stebbins) Emerson – CYF Respite Provider



in Hartford, Jesse Baughman – Billing Specialist in Springfield, Tamara Kinsman – CYF Respite Provider in Hartford.

These new hires will support the non-profit agency's team of more than 550 staff providing comprehensive mental health, substance use, and developmental disability programs, which serve more than 4,000 people annually across southeastern Vermont.

## WWHT Receives High Scores Following Audits

completed two extensive third party audits of their rating, indicating the strongest possible performance operations and in both instances achieved the highest and risk management practices. possible scores. This exceptional accomplishment underscores WWHT's steadfast commitment to exemplary performance of our Homeownership Center excellence in all areas of compliance, accountability in both of these reviews," says Bruce Whitney, Director and fiscal responsibility.

services. As a participant of the HUD Housing responsibility and accountability. It's a powerful vote of Counseling Program, WWHT offers a range of services, confidence for the homebuyers and homeowners we including management/budget counseling, mortgage delinquency of integrity and excellence." Health Care and Rehabilitation Services has and default resolution counseling, rental housing WWHT has consistently received high scores on both

philanthropic relationship to over \$120,000. Each year, compliance with Vermont's lending statutes and region's housing challenges, and provides better New Chapter has generously contributed nearly 20 financial regulations as well as to assess the agency's housing opportunities to more than 1,500 Southeastern financial stability. WWHT is a licensed lender under the Vermonters each year. Kindle Farm School is a therapeutic day school Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System, providing serving 50 students, in grades 3-12. Kindle creates an affordable home repair loans to homeowners in Homeownership emotionally and physically safe environment to help Southeast Vermont in order to address critical health and www.homemattershere.org.

safety issues. As a licensed lender, the agency is required to undergo periodic reviews by the State of Vermont. At the conclusion of this latest examination, WWHT and its administration of the Green Mountain Windham & Windsor Housing Trust recently Home Repair Program received the highest available

"We are extremely pleased, and proud of the of Homeownership for WWHT. "These achievements The first audit evaluated WWHT's counseling reaffirm our unwavering commitment to fiscal pre-purchase counseling, financial serve, that their needs will be met with the highest level

housing and through ongoing support and advocacy for The focus of the second audit was to determine its residents. WWHT builds concrete solutions to the

> For more information about WWHT's Center,

#### **CSB Announces Promotions**

leadership within the Bank and our Community.

exceptional service to our clients. We are confident that the addition of this role will drive innovation, enhance Claremont Savings Bank, a locally-owned bank since operational efficiency, and position the bank for future

In conjunction with the creation of the EVP position, accessing their education; over 75 percent of Kindle Bank also celebrates the promotion of three the Bank is proud to announce the promotion of three distinguished leaders who will help guide the key individuals within the organization: Carol Vivian, The therapeutic school utilizes strong relationships, a organization's growth and strategic direction in this Chief Customer Experience Officer (EVP); Jim Lynch,

"We are proud to promote these individuals who have "These achievements are a testament to their consistently exemplified excellence in their respective three daily meals, free of charge, by bringing in food leadership, vision, and unwavering commitment to roles," said Finnerty. "Their leadership will be from their land and local farms. The meal program is a excellence to Claremont Savings Bank, our customers, invaluable as we continue to innovate and grow in an

Claremont Savings Bank has branches located in

## SAPCC Space Available

venue is ideal for trainings, meetings, community

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"We're thrilled to share our space with the

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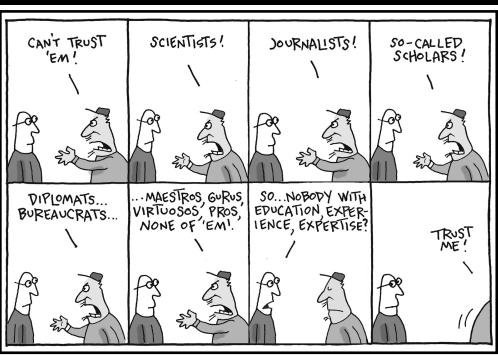
Prices vary depending on needs, number of

ng-center.

The Training Center is committed to providing a safe, clean, and accessible environment for all events. For SAPCC's Workforce Development and Training additional questions about availability, rental rates, or to



#### THE EDITORIAL PAGE





## Vermont's Population Growth: Why It Matters

**By Art Woolf** 

A thriving, prosperous state is a goal that all Vermonters can agree to. That goal is easier to achieve with a growing population.

More people means a larger selection of workers for businesses, government, and non-profits. It means more people earning incomes, supporting local businesses, and paying taxes to support government programs—many of which serve the neediest of our citizens. A growing economy means more opportunities for us and our children.

It is important, therefore, to know whether, and by how much, our population is growing. In the first two decades of the 21st century, Vermont's population has been growing at less than half the national rate and we were in the bottom ten states in terms of population growth. That's very different from Vermont's experience at the end of the 20th century, when Vermont's growth was in step with the national experience.

What about now? The U.S. Census counts the nation's population every 10 years, and in the intervening years we have only population estimates, and those are problematic. A recent study by the Vermont Treasurer's office reports that 7,500 more people moved into Vermont than out in 2023. But that estimate, based on U.S. Census data, relies on a sample of only about 7,200 households out of 340,000 total households in the state.

A more recent Census estimate based on more comprehensive data, found that 511 more people moved out of Vermont than moved in during 2024. And that Census estimate found that since 2020 only 6,160 more people moved into Vermont than left the state—less than the total number the Treasurer's office reports moving here in just one year.

Given Vermont's total population is just under 650,000, that's a drop in the bucket. And the larger picture is even more problematic. Over the past ten years, Vermont has experienced more deaths than births each year. Since 2020 death have outnumbered births by 6,800, erasing any population gain from people moving here from other states.

As the baby boom generation ages, the number of deaths will continue to increase. At the same time, the number of women in their prime childbearing years will fall, which means the number of births will also continue to decline. That will be a source of population decline.

A healthy economy means people want to live here and can afford to live here. A growing population is both a reflection of that and a source of our prosperity. One only has to look at towns and cities across the country to see the effects of a **Continued to Page 5** 

## Why the Senate Holds Confirmation Hearings

By Lee Hamilton

President-elect Donald Trump is an impatient man. That's why, shortly after the elections, he floated a plan to skip centuries of precedent and just appoint his cabinet nominees without going through confirmation hearings in the Senate. Never mind that the Constitution specifically says nominations come with the "Advice and Consent" of the Senate.

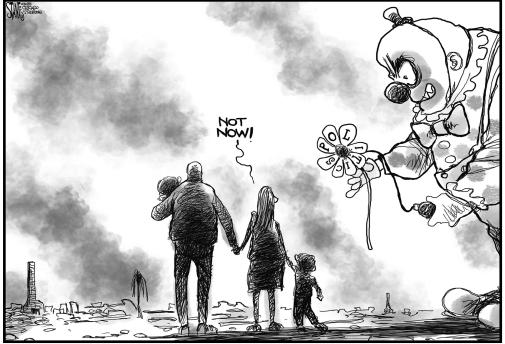
To be sure, the Constitution also allows what are called "recess appointments" - that is, the president can appoint cabinet member temporarily, while Congress isn't in session. And for a time, the prospect of recess appointments was the talk of Washington.

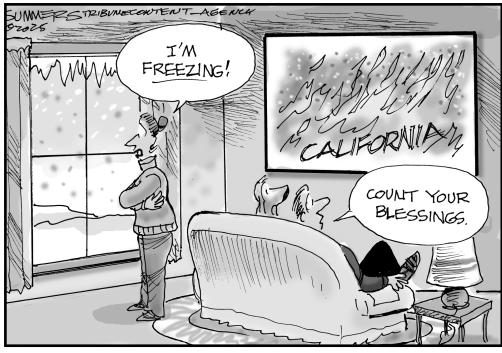
Fortunately, a number of Republican senators - though they declare themselves favorable to Trump's picks - also want to see them vetted. "My attitude about the nominations is that that's why God made confirmation hearings," GOP Sen. John Kennedy of Louisiana said at the beginning of December. And so, for the moment, it seems like the Senate will take up the various cabinet nominees.

This is a good thing, both as a matter of the moment and as a matter of good governance. The immediate issue is that, while several appointees - Florida Sen. Marco Rubio, for instance - will sail through the Senate easily, others are controversial and would, if confirmed, most likely try to take the federal government into new and divisive territory. I'm thinking, of course, of the prospect of Robert F. Kennedy Jr. as health secretary, despite his outspoken opposition to vaccines and idiosyncratic views on other health matters; Kash Patel as FBI director, with his calls for radical change at the bureau and vows to punish Trump's opponents; Pete Hegseth as defense secretary, despite questions about his drinking and personal behavior; and Tulsi Gabbard for director of national intelligence, despite the fact that intelligence experts on both sides of the aisle have labeled her as too sympathetic to US adversaries.

Presidents should be able to name people to run federal departments and agencies who reflect their priorities and who will do the job asked of them. But it is also true that these aren't a president's agencies - they're the American people's, and they're supposed to work on behalf of and in the name of everyone who lives in this country (and Americans abroad). It is the Senate's job to make sure appointees will discharge those responsibilities honorably, effectively, and in the best interests of the United States as a whole - and, through confirmation hearings, to give Americans a thorough chance to understand what's at stake.

While it appears that hearings lie ahead, it's also clear that President-elect Trump and his team intend to play serious hardball with the confirmation **Continued to Page 5** 





## **The View From Faraway Farm**

By Arlo Mudgett



## Trading stories

I love a good story, and I like to share stories. I recently ran across an item online about neurodiverse individuals. I am talking about folks with ADD, ADHD, that sort of thing. Our brains are wired a little differently and some of us are considered to be a bit quirky. One thing that happens with neurodiverse people is their use of stories to let the person you are

## The Springfield Reporter

A Hometown Tradition for Over 100 Years

Editor/Publisher Rod Arnold

Founder

G.L. Maidrand

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talking with know that you are trying to relate to them. I am not talking about tall tales or things that are made up. These stories are real experiences. Sadly, many times we are labeled as "know-it-alls" who are attempting to one-up the other person. That is not the case at all. We are simply trying to fit in, which many find challenging.

My neighbor Boston Brian and I were talking recently when we both related stories about inadvertently bumping into famous people. Having grown up in Boston, my neighbor has been exposed to for me to hear about his experiences.

In this particular discourse, I mentioned two clumsy encounters on my part. While attending an event at the Bayside Expo Center in Boston I once backed into Hollywood actor Ron Perlman. He had security with him, but those guys were nonplussed by my Mr. Magoo-like clumsiness. They saw it for what it was. wandering near the stage at the end of a B.B. King concert at Dartmouth's Leverone Field House when I backed into legendary bluesman Muddy Waters.

Boston Brian had one of those tales, and it was the mother of all celebrity run-in stories to my mind. Brian and a couple of his high school buddies got a last-minute nugget of cool info that The Who were playing at what is known today as the Wang Center in Boston's theater district. Brian and his buddies didn't have tickets but in their youthful innocence figured that there must be at least a few empty seats to fill so they

made their way downtown from Savin Hill in

Dorchester.

Sure enough, when Boston Brian and his buddies got to Tremont Street, the show was sold out and security was tight. Undeterred, they made their way into the adjacent Wilbur Theater's basement, unguarded at the time. One of the group was certain that the two venues were connected underground, so they stumbled their way along, heading up some stairs and directly onto the stage where they crashed a live stage production. Amidst exclamations of shock from the audience, they far more persons of note than I have, so it is always fun hurried all the way across the stage into the wings and down to the basement on the other side. They followed a few dark corridors and stumbled onto some lone hippie smoking a joint. A brief conversation ensued and they learned that the guy was The Who's drummer, and he invited them to join him backstage before the concert began. They could not believe their luck.

The best part of the story? Boston Brian stepped onto The same thing happened when I was sixteen years old, the stage before the show began to have a look and was immediately recognized by a classmate in the audience. It was a young lady whom he had made an unsuccessful attempt at dating. She was waving at him with a look of incredulity on her face.

> It doesn't get any better than that. Not only did Boston Brian and his buddies get to see The Who that evening, but they met Keith Moon and Boston Brian made a big impression on a young lady that he knew. I looked it up, and sure enough, The Who played the Music Hall in Boston on August 4, 5, and 6, 1971. Thanks for the story trade, Brian.

The Daily Almanac with Arlo Mudgett is heard Monday through Friday afternoons on radio station "Chill Hits PENGUIN FM" 106.7, 96.3, and 106.5.

#### LEGISLATIVE REPORTS



## Disinfo May Scuttle CHS

By Representative Kristi C. Morris Democrat - Windsor 3-2

With the opening events of last week behind us, the legislature is settling into our normal business and learning about our committee assignments. Bills are being drafted in response to constituent concerns or individual legislator preferences. You may have heard the Clean Heat Standard report came back from the PUC and efforts are underway to understand our school educational policies and funding.

The PUC's report on the Clean Heat Standard was reported out to the committees of jurisdiction.

Testimony is being received and the "what to do" will be explored for possible action. It should be noted that the massive media attempts to discredit this program, and the potential of a huge price per gallon, were not substantiated. Even with this news, the committees will have the chore of moving the plan forward, modifying it, or scrapping it all together. One of the main goals of the program is to provide alternatives of using fossil fuels, which remain at the mercy of delivery agents for pricing. A few years ago, that price was upward of \$4.00 per gallon. The price per gallon scare tactic appears to be false, but that is behind us now. What was intended as a helpful program, to those most impacted by fuel prices, appears to be headed for the trash. I didn't support the bill last year because of the unknown costs or program initiatives. Even with the PUC's report delivery, I believe that public sentiment has killed this plan before it could gain any momentum. How people can believe misinformation, and pass it along as the truth without knowing the facts, baffles me.

The House Education and Ways & Means Committees are meeting with Senate Education and Finance Committees jointly to take testimony on the status of our educational system and funding. The AOE and Administration will unveil a significant proposal to overhaul the governance and funding of Vermont's public education system. The Governor will present his budget to the joint bodies next week. Some of these committee meetings happened last week and more will be conducted over the next week or two. If we heard one thing this past fall during the election cycle, it is that our education property taxes are out of control. As a reminder, school budgets are set at the local level and the legislature must provide the funding to support them by setting the tax rate. The tax department reports a preliminary tax increase in December, school budgets are set in January, adopted by the voters in March and the legislature provides the funding in May. This gives the appearance that the funding system is backwards, or broken. The expectations this session are that the legislature and the administration will need to come together to solve this issue. It is way too early in our session to provide any factual data at this point in time. I expect when new changes are delivered, they will be met with heartburn by many and discredited. We must change for the sake of taxpayers, but that change may not be necessarily widely accepted. Time

The Appropriations Committee is reviewing the Budget Adjustment Act, as we are halfway through the fiscal year. Typically, adjustments are made to the states budget and funds can get re-appropriated depending on expenditures, revenues and emphasis on areas of need. I continue to hear from members of both sides for collaboration on potential legislation. Some of which includes, phasing out taxes on social security, protection of veterans benefits and rules pertaining to environmental issues. For example, delaying the Global Warming Solutions Act, or relaxing its goals. I would like to remind the readers, that the process is in the early stages for any action. Much, much more will be heard via testimony or proposals for each and any changes could be amended before finality.

My Environment Committee continues to take testimony on environmental issues relative to the GWSA, the clean water act, land conservation acts for protecting our resources and the new land use review board (LURB). We have heard from regional planning commissions on the efforts for mapping our lands and other services they provide to towns and cities relative to planning and grant opportunities. As I continue to report on legislative activities, please be reminded that it is very early in the process and very little has been set in stone. Our various committees are taking testimony on the many issues.

If you have any questions, comments, concerns or need further information, please contact me. I can be reached at home by calling 802-885-2949. My legislative email is <a href="mailto:kmorris2@leg.state.vt.us">kmorris2@leg.state.vt.us</a> or my personal email is <a href="mailto:k.morris51@outlook.com">k.morris51@outlook.com</a>.



## Helping New Reps

Alice Emmons Democrat - Windsor 3-2

The second week of this new session saw all the standing committees in both the House and Senate settle down and begin their work. With about 50 new members in the House, out of 150, attention is being paid to bringing new members up to speed on the legislative process as well as background information on issues. It is a steep learning curve for those new members. In my committee, House Corrections and Institutions, there are 11 members, four of which are newly elected legislators and two members are new

to the committee. So as Chair of a committee that is both a budget writing committee as well as a policy committee, I am working with these six members to help them understand committee work as well as helping them understand how the state will be developing a state bonding budget and understanding the policy within the Department of Corrections. Many members are feeling they are drinking from a fire hose so to speak. It takes time to understand the legislative process and all the nuances to developing policy and enacting laws.

The overriding issue and theme of this session is affordability. So how do we define this term? One area in defining this term is how do we pay for our public education system as well as providing essential services to Vermonters without tax increases that people cannot afford. The House Education Committee and the House Ways and Means Committee have been holding meetings on reforming our public education finance system. The Governor will be unfolding over the next few weeks his proposal to overhaul the governance and funding of Vermont's public education system. The legislature is looking at and emphasizing student-centered changes to improve educational opportunities statewide. These will be very difficult conversations as I'm sure they will be looking at school consolidations, mostly between districts that are geographically close to each other. Another piece to this reform is how do we fund public education that meets the Constitutional requirement of one penny on the tax rate for school budgets raises the same amount of money in every town in the state. This needs to be done at the same time that makes it affordable for Vermonters to pay their property taxes. The plan is to create a fair and equitable funding system that supports all of our students and communities. This will take a few years to achieve and will not be an overnight solution.

So you can see, this session there will be a lot of work and discussions to find consensus. In the end all parties will have to compromise to do what is best for Vermont taxpayers. As always, please feel free to contact me with your thoughts and concerns. Over the weekends I can be reached by email at <a href="mailto:aemmons@leg.state.vt.us">aemmons@leg.state.vt.us</a> or by phone at 802-885-5893.

## Population Continued from Page 4

stagnant population, and contrast that to the dynamism in areas that are growing.

We should not be complacent about our current lack of growth, and we should not

We should not be complacent about our current lack of growth, and we should not base policies on a misinterpretation of what the actual population numbers are or what they are telling us.

Art Woolf is associate professor emeritus at UVM where he taught economics for 39 years. He served as the state economist for Governor Madeleine Kunin from 1988 to 1991.



# SPD Launches Challenge Coin Program to Promote Community Positivity

**Submitted by the Springfield Police Department** 

The Springfield Police Department is proud to announce the arrival of its newly designed challenge coins, part of an exciting initiative to recognize and celebrate individuals making a positive impact in our community. The program empowers department members to identify and honor people in Springfield who are contributing to making our city a better place. The definition and application of "making Springfield a better place" are intentionally broad, allowing officers to use their discretion to recognize a wide range of positive actions.

When a coin is awarded, the issuing department member will submit a note to police administration detailing the circumstances. This process allows us to highlight these acts of community kindness and foster a culture of positivity and mutual respect.

The challenge coins are distinctive in design, featuring the Springfield Police Department badge on one side and a playful nod to our city's identity on the other—a Simpson's-style doughnut with the department patch inside. The coins are substantial in size and weight, making them not only a meaningful token of recognition but also a coveted item in the community.

Program Goals: Encourage positive interactions between the Springfield Police Department and community members; Promote awareness of the good happening in Springfield by sharing inspiring stories on our social media platforms; Foster a sense of pride and friendly competition within the department to recognize acts of kindness and service.

While we encourage community members to strive for excellence and engage positively, we ask that the public refrain from directly requesting coins. The spirit of the program lies in genuine recognition of unprompted good deeds.

Chief Jeffrey Burnham expressed his enthusiasm for the initiative: "It is our hope that these coins become a symbol of positivity, fostering fun and pride while highlighting the amazing things happening in Springfield. We are excited to see how this program evolves and to share these stories with our community."

#### Confirmation Continued from Page 4

process. For one thing, GOP senators are already girding for potential primary challenges if they vote against or throw obstacles in the way of Trump's nominees - a threat Trump himself echoed recently when he told reporters that if Republican senators are "unreasonable, if they're opposing somebody for political reasons or stupid reasons," then he'd want to see them challenged. The incoming administration is also brandishing the prospect of defamation lawsuits against news outlets that report news or revelations it deems unfavorable to Trump's picks.

So, one of the big questions for the first few months of this year is whether the Senate can hold true to its traditions, vet the nominees, and - if needed - vote them down. There are certainly signs that individual Republican senators have questions that they want answered: outgoing GOP leader Mitch McConnell, a polio victim as a child, has indicated he would have no patience for attempts by Kennedy to undo FDA approval of the polio vaccine; GOP Sen. Joni Ernst, a combat veteran and sexual assault survivor, has said she wants to hear more from Hegseth on those issues; other Republican senators have also indicated they intend to weigh in.

The dynamic was best summed up recently by Republican Sen. Thom Tillis of North Carolina. "You just can't be 'no' because you want to be 'no'," he told Semafor. "You have to be 'no' because these questions do not satisfy in my own mind, that this is the right pick. The last time I thumbed through the Constitution, I heard it say 'advise and consent,' not 'bludgeon and confirm."

Lee Hamilton is a Senior Advisor for the Indiana University Center on Representative Government; a Distinguished Scholar at the IU Hamilton Lugar School of Global and International Studies; and a Professor of Practice at the IU O'Neill School of Public and Environmental Affairs. He was a member of the U.S. House of Representatives for 34 years.

#### Housing Committee Continued from Page 1

community. The Town will advertise for nominations.

"The goal is to create housing for individuals earning \$50K-\$200K to grow the Grand List, help local and regional employers attract and retain employees, increase the population and stimulate economic growth," the report continued. "Springfield offers several competitive advantages that make it well-positioned to address this challenge. Its proximity to Dartmouth, which has publicly expressed a need for additional employee housing, positions it as an ideal bedroom community for the Upper Valley. Additionally, Springfield benefits from its strategic location along the I-91 corridor, convenient access to an airport, cutting-edge 10G infrastructure, and ample water and sewer capacity. These assets make Springfield uniquely suited to meet regional housing demands while supporting economic development and strengthening the community."

"Springfield is envisioned as a vibrant community within the Upper Valley, defined by a revitalized downtown, expanding MIH options, and an entrepreneurial hub centered around BRIC," the report added. "Attracting a new population will not only stimulate economic growth but also strengthen local school systems, as engaged parents advocate for and enhance the quality of education for their children."

Martin noted the community's economic development efforts - attracting new businesses - cannot succeed if there is not a sufficient workforce to fill newly-created jobs, and there will not be a workforce here if there is not enough affordable housing.

New housing could also make Springfield residents of those who currently commute to Springfield from outside. jobs According to statistics provided by the regional planning commission, "Springfield has 2,167 individuals who work here live elsewhere, presenting a valuable opportunity to increase the town's population attracting these workers to become residents."

become residents."

Frahm added that the committee will be open to not just Springfield residents, but residents of the area. The housing issue is not specific to Springfield but is a regional problem, she said, requiring a regional

solution.

Housing Authority
Director Outlines
Proposed
Small-Home
Project: Laura Ryan,
executive director of the
Springfield Housing
Authority, talked about
plans to build 18
affordable homes on 3.5
acres in Springfield at th

Authority, talked about plans to build 18 affordable homes on 3.5 acres in Springfield at the Springfield Rotary Club meeting last Tuesday. SHA currently serves 323 housing units. For more information, visit <a href="https://springfieldhousing authorityvt.org/">https://springfieldhousing authorityvt.org/</a>. The Sprigfield Rotary Club meets at the SAPCC Workforce Development & Training Center in North Springfield Tuesdays at noon.



## SENIOR CITIZEN NEWS



## Picture of the Week

Springfield Art and Historical Society



Photo #582 - The Springfield Stage Coach: If you traveled over the holidays, imagine traveling like this! Think dusty, bumpy, and crowded. Because there are three passengers (two women and a young boy) on top, one can probably assume there are at least four passengers in the coach. To further enhance the comfort of the trip, there are eight trunks attached to the carriage—four on the top and four on the back. It makes one wonder how the seating plan was made—probably first come, first serve—otherwise you might expect the ladies would be riding inside. The top would not be pleasant in the rain or cold weather. This picture would have been taken before 1897 when stage coach service to Charlestown was replaced by the

#### Senior Citizens Center News By Lori Johnson, Director

Jan. 29 at 1:00 p.m.

AARP will be starting taxes here on Mon., Feb. 3.

We will be having Rust & Ruin duo for our Valentine Birthdays will be on Fri., Feb. 7 at 1:00 p.m. Drop-In party on Wed., Feb. 12 at 1:00 p.m.

Game Day will be on Fri., Jan. 17 at 1:00 p.m. The Senior Center annual meeting will be on Wed., Knitting will meet on Thurs., Jan. 23 at 1:00 p.m. Wizard card games will be on Fri., Jan. 24 at 1:00 p.m. can call the center to schedule one. The price is \$25. Hand & Foot card games will be on Fri., Jan. 31 at 1:00 On Wed., Feb. 5, we will be making Valentine cards. p.m. and Fri., Feb. 14 at 1:00 p.m. Nickel Bingo with 802-885-3933 or lorijohnsonssc@gmail.com.

Medicare **Insurance Information** By Peter Andrews

## Medicare Part D Prescription Drug Plan-LEP (Late Enrollment Penalty)

How soon will I get a reconsideration decision? In general, Medicare's contractors make reconsideration decisions within 90 days. The contractor will try to make a decision as quickly as possible. However, you may request an extension. Or, for good cause, Medicare's contractor may take an additional 14 days to resolve your case.

What happens if Medicare's contractor decides the penalty is wrong?

If Medicare's contractor decides that all or part of your late enrollment penalty is wrong, the Medicare contractor will send you and your drug plan a letter explaining its decision. Your Medicare drug plan will remove or reduce your late enrollment penalty. The plan will send you a letter that shows the correct premium amount and explains whether you'll get a refund.

What happens if Medicare's contractor decides the penalty is correct?

If Medicare's contractor decides that your late enrollment penalty is correct, the Medicare contractor will send you a letter explaining the decision, and you must pay the penalty. More on LEP next week

Many of the topics of this column are based on questions asked by clients that have common interest to many individuals on Medicare. If you have questions feel free to email them to pnauhc@gmail.com or call Peter Andrews 802-885-3638

We are still collecting items for the food shelves.

## Attorney General Clark Releases Top 10 Scams of 2024

Attorney General's Consumer Assistance Program General's Office permission to manage a contact list 126; 10 Bank-related Phishing - 112. (CAP) in 2024. Leading the list was the "Computer and issue alerts utilizing limited features of the Vermont Tech Support" scam, totaling almost 30 percent of the Alert system. VT-ALERT is the state's notification top scams reported. This scam tricks people with system for emergencies, severe weather, roadway sudden alerts about alleged computer issues, such as interruptions and hazards, environmental hazards, and expiring antivirus software or malware infections. more. This year, the Attorney General's Office and Variations also include fake messages to the consumer's VT-ALERT are strengthening this partnership by phone or email about packages or unauthorized orders. merging the existing VT Scam Alert System with the Noticeably, this marks the fourth consecutive year this well-established VT-ALERT system. scam has ranked as the most reported.

a four-year hiatus. These troubling emails threaten to notices, and countless other issues that impact their release personally compromising photos and lives," Vermont Emergency Management Director Eric information. A new and disturbing twist on this scam is Forand said. "Scam alerts will add a layer of protection the emails include screen-captured images of the of Vermonters' financial security for those who choose recipient's home from online map services to further to receive them." Attorney General Clark thanked unsettle recipients and pressure them into complying Vermont Emergency Management for their partnership. with the scammers' demands.

Vermonters from scams," said Attorney General Clark. receive notifications about scams among the list of "With most scams originating overseas, they are options. VT-ALERT's 72,000 existing users can also incredibly difficult to shut down. These are the top update their preferences to add scam alerts. scams to look out for."

and other resources can be found on the CAP to a scam by contacting her Consumer Assistance Connection blog, at Attorney General Clark's social Program. media sites, and by signing up for VT Scam Alert AGO.CAP@vermont.gov. System scam alerts. To sign up, visit CAP's scam prevention website. Roughly 9,000 Vermonters have - 645; 2 Identity Theft - 324; 3 Law Enforcement signed up to receive alerts.

established through a partnership with Vermont Listing - 142; 7 Email Extortion - 141; 8

Thanks to You, Rotary's

**Plastic Waste Collection** 

Program is Making a

**Difference** 

Join the Springfield Rotary in their project to

remove plastic bags from the waste stream,

and at the same time earn benches for the

community. The club is working with Trex, a

company that makes outdoor items from

recycled materials. Thanks to you, Rotary has

collected enough waste plastic to earn

multiple benches from Trex, which are being

placed throughout the community, while

Vermonters made a total of 3,533 scam reports to the Emergency Management that granted the Attorney Sweepstakes/Lottery - 128; 9 Deceitful Solicitation -

"Vermonters have long relied on Vermont Alert to The email extortion scam has returned to the list after notify them of floods, hazardous travel, local boil water

In the future, whenever someone signs up for "Educating consumers is the best way to protect VT-ALERT, they will have the option to choose to

Attorney General Clark reminds Vermonters to report More information about scam prevention strategies scams and get support if you or a loved one falls victim 800-649-2424 Call

The Top 10 Scams of 2024: 1 Computer Tech Support Imposter - 276; 4 Medicare Card Phishing - 184; 5 The VT Scam Alert System was previously Relationship Imposter - 145; 6 Fake Websites/Online

Corn Hole will be every Tues. at 1:00 p.m.

Appointments will be needed for the foot clinics. You

Questions: Lori Johnson, Executive Director, at either

## **SAPA TV Schedule**

January 22 - 28, 2025

Phone: 802-885-6248 • Email: info@sapatv.org

Public (Comcast 1077, VTel 160)

Wednesday, January 22

7:00 PM Presentation on Russell Porter - 1/20/24

8:00 PM Eastern Coyotes, Predation and Landscapes 10:00 PM Silver City Password - S4E15

Thursday, January 23

7:00 PM Marita's Travelogue - Paris Adventures, 2/14/24 8:30 PM OLLI - Raptors

10:00 PM St. J Academy 2024 Winter Concert

Friday, January 24 7:00 PM Presentation on Russell Porter - 1/20/24

8:00 PM Heart Connection Matters 10:00 PM Silver City Password - S4E15

Saturday, January 25

1:00 PM SAPA Archive 2:30 PM Beethoven's Ninth Symphony - 1/1/24

4:00 PM Landscapes, Connectivity, and Climate Change

Anonymous Coffeehouse - Music Trifolium, 4/16/24 6:15 PM Marita's Travelogue - Paris Adventures, 2/14/24

7:00 PM OLLI - Raptors 8:30 PM

10:00 PM St. J Academy 2024 Winter Concert Sunday, January 26

2:00 PM Springfield Assembly of God

3:00 PM Music and the Spoken Word Sunday Mass 3:30 PM

4:00 PM Living Hope Fellowship 5:00 PM Beavers Shape Vermont - 11/11/24

6:15 PM Anonymous Coffeehouse - Moonfruits Presentation on Russell Porter - 1/20/24

8:00 PM Eastern Coyotes, Predation and Landscapes

10:00 PM Silver City Password - S4E16 Monday, January 27

6:30 PM Springfield Select Board Meeting - 1/27/25 (LIVE) 9:00 PM Discovering Vt. Covered Bridge Society

10:00 PM St. J Academy 2024 Winter Concert

Tuesday, January 28

7:00 PM Presentation on Russell Porter - 1/20/24 8:00 PM Heart Connection Matters

## Gov & Ed (Comcast 1087, VTel 161)

Wednesday, January 22

7:00 PM Springfield Select Board Meeting - 1/13/25 9:30 PM Reading Select Board Meeting - 1/13/25

Thursday, January 23 7:00 PM Reading Select Board Public Hearing - 1/13/25

8:30 PM Springfield School Board Meeting - 1/21/25

Friday, January 24 7:00 PM Springfield Select Board Meeting - 1/13/25

9:30 PM Reading Select Board Meeting - 1/13/25

Saturday, January 25

2:00 PM Yestermorrow - The Velomont

3:00 PM Discovering Vt. Covered Bridge Society 4:00 PM EAHEP - Preservation of the Homestead Vt. State House - Education Finance System, 1/10/25

Green Mountain Donkey - #1, 12/30/24

7:00 PM Reading Select Board Public Hearing - 1/13/25 8:30 PM Springfield School Board Meeting - 1/21/25

Sunday, January 26

3:00 PM EEE - The Railroad in American Art

4:00 PM Energy Week - 1/9/25 5:00 PM All Things LGBTQ - 1/7/25

6:15 PM Here We Are - Ken Lockie, Musician Springfield Select Board Meeting - 1/13/25 7:00 PM

9:30 PM Reading Select Board Meeting - 1/13/25 Monday, January 27

6:30 PM Weathersfield Select Board Meeting - 1/27/25 (LIVE) 9:00 PM Springfield School Board Meeting - 1/21/25

Tuesday, January 28 7:00 PM GMUSD Board Meeting - 1/16/25

9:00 PM Springfield School Board Meeting - 1/21/25 Be sure to check listings on air and online for any changes to these schedules at www.sapatv.org

BEYOND THE Recycle your household bags & wrap into Trex's Earth-friendly composite decking and railing! ✓ Produce ✓ Store bags bags Ziploc® & other reclosable bags box overwrap Newspaper ✓ Bubble ✓ Plastic sleeves cleaning wrap

protecting the environment. Residents can help by bringing eligible plastic to the community collection site inside the Springfield Town Library.

Businesses: If you have larger volumes of eligible plastics, the Rotary Club can arrange for periodic pick-up, possibly saving you a lot of money in disposal fees. For further information, contact Rotarian Marty Cohn at www.cohnpr.com.



## Thought for Food

By Kathi Byam

## Spicy Foods for Winter

I am slow to put away all of the cozy Christmas decorations, but I know that if the tree is left up too long, the superstition is that we will have bad luck coming our

One year I left a real tree up until sometime after Valentine's Day. I had laid several paper hearts over the branches. The tree was intact until I moved it outdoors, when the process caused it to shed all of its needles. That year, a (different) tree fell down in our front yard, David got

flu, I contracted mononucleosis, and our dishwasher quit--so I was having to wash dishes in water with Clorox added so that David wouldn't also come down with my disease. I realize that was twenty years ago! Now I put away our tree much earlier--since it is an artificial yet realistic rustic tree, nicely slender, I unplug it and carry it upstairs to a hidden corner, and that's the job done. Other things remain out for awhile, to help make winter more agreeable.

To save money, I have been keeping the house thermostat quite low. But I don't do well with this--my "inner furnace" doesn't get started easily. I know that certain activities are warming: Washing dishes by hand, vacuuming, doing any exercise that involves the abdominals. I did a little research to find out which foods are warming.

Vegetables that are good in winter include: sweet potatoes/yams, winter squash, and carrots; root vegetables, especially those that are richly colored (such as beets). Also beneficial are nuts, seeds, nut butters, arugula, turnips, onions, kelp. Spices and spicy items that are good in winter include horseradish (with antiseptic and decongestant properties), ginger (antiseptic), garlic (improves circulation), cinnamon (antiseptic, warming, aids digestion), cayenne pepper (relieves chills, coughs, and congestion), cardamom (expectorant), black pepper (antiseptic,

antioxidant).

Let's focus on garlic.

Fresh garlic has these benefits, according to Dr. Andrew Weil, an authority on healthy eating: It lowers cholesterol; increases the body's ability to dissolve clots, therefore benefitting the heart and circulatory systems; is an antifungal and antibiotic agent; and it helps to lower high blood pressure. It also fills your kitchen with a delectible aroma as it cooks.

Dr. Weil says that there are greater health benefits obtained if the garlic is eaten raw. Here are two ways to do that. The first one will definitely give you garlic breath for about 24 hours, but it is one of my favorite appetizers, and most effective in treating colds or flu: Slice some French bread in slices that will fit into the toaster, and toast them lightly till the outsides are crispy but the inside is still soft. Rub a garlic clove over the top surface--the bread will act as a grater and the clove will gradually disappear into it. Then brush on some extra virgin olive oil. So simple, so healthy, but most of all (my opinion), it's better than any other garlic bread recipe.

The second way is in a salad dressing--we notice no bad breath aftereffects from this: Smash a clove of garlic (or part of one, if it is huge) on a cutting board. The peel will be easy to pull off. I hold the flat blade of a knife on it and pound on the flat blade with my fist. Then you may chop it finely, if necessary, and scrape it into a small

Add a little salt--about a quarter to a half teaspoon, a dash of pepper and a teaspoon or so of sugar or honey. Now choose a dried herb you like and sprinkle it in--I like basil or dill. Add 1 teaspoon of mustard, then some wine vinegar; only enough to moisten the ingredients well. A few drops of balsamic vinegar will be great here, but is not necessary. Get a small whisk and whisk all these together, gradually adding olive oil until the mixture emulsifies and thickens slightly. This can sit awhile and be whisked again just before adding it to your salad.

Variations can be made in the herb or vinegar you use, or the kind of mustard or oil. Walnut oil is great, and I want to try using avocado oil. Lemon or lime juice can be used instead of wine vinegar.

Honestly, this is very easy, and no bottled dressing is this good!

Questions? Comments? Email me at kkbyam@vermontel.net

## Using Seed and Plant Catalogs

By Deborah J. Benoit

**University of Vermont Extension Master Gardener** 

It begins in December. By January, seed and plant catalogs arrive at your mailbox (or email) almost daily. Browsing through their pages provides a welcome escape from the garden-deprived days of winter.

These catalogs contain a wealth of information to help grow a successful garden. The trick is having some basic knowledge about your location to help you choose the best plants.

First, determine your United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Plant Hardiness Zone. You'll want to choose perennial plants that are labeled for your

You can find your USDA Hardiness Zone here: https://planthardiness.ars.usda.gov.

You'll also want to know your anticipated last frost date in the spring (when the danger of frost has likely passed) and first anticipated frost date in the fall. The autumn date is useful to estimate how long your garden likely will last before a killing frost puts an end to its productivity.

You can find the average last and first frost dates for  $your\ location\ here:\ \underline{https://garden.org/apps/frost-dates}.$ 

The number of days between the last frost date (spring) and the first frost date (fall) is the length of your growing season. Keep that in mind when selecting vegetable crops. If the "days to maturity" is longer than your growing season, cold weather could put an end to your garden before it's ready to harvest.

A catalog listing will tell you the plant's name and the William'), the plant's size at maturity (important when Domain Pictures planning the number of plants you'll need), light garden. requirements, what you'll receive (i.e., seeds or a plant) and the price.

approximate number of seeds in a packet.

botanical name. A plant may be known by different refer to entirely different plants. The botanical name those symbols mean in the general information section spring. identifies a specific plant.

It also lets you go beyond the catalog description and other specifics before you decide to add it to your deciding which plants to select for your garden. A on the gardening season.



For more than a century, seed and plant catalogs have provided gardeners with information on plant varieties, growing requirements and other useful details, allowing them to purchase the vegetables, fruits and flowers that variety being offered (e.g., Cornflower 'Emperor will do the best for their plant hardiness zone and growing conditions. - Photo by Claudette Gallant/Public

whether it will attract pollinators such as bees, approaching freezing.

The description should also provide the plant's hummingbirds and butterflies or if it's deer resistant. of the catalog or as a footnote at the bottom of the page.

'hardy annual" would likely resist a light frost without In addition, listings may include whether a plant is an damage, lasting until a hard freeze. A "half-hardy heirloom variety or a native, if it's drought tolerant, annual" would likely sustain damage from a frost and a If ordering seeds, the listing will often state the scented or suitable for cut flowers. You may also learn "tender annual" would succumb to temperatures

Plants labeled "tender perennial" aren't frost tolerant Catalogs often use symbols to indicate useful and are often treated as annuals in colder climates. common names (e.g., Cornflower is also known as information such as appropriate growing conditions They'd need to be overwintered indoors and moved bachelor's button.), or the same common name may (full sun, part shade, full shade). Look for a key to what back outside after danger of frost has passed in the

Whether you're planning to start seeds this spring or You may find additional information regarding the are patiently awaiting delivery of plants once spring research plant care, potential pests and diseases and hardiness of annuals and perennials helpful when arrives, catalogs can be a great way to get a head start

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# Out & About





## The Landmark Trust USA's Snow Golf Fundraiser is Back for Another Round on Sun. Feb. 23

On Sun., Feb. 23, from 12:00 to 3:00 p.m., The Landmark Trust USA (LTUSA) invites the public to its 3rd Annual Snow Golf: Chip, Drive, & Putt for Preservation. The event will once again be held at Scott Farm, 707 Kipling Rd., Dummerston. Tickets for this fundraising event are \$35 per person or \$125 for afoursome, and advance registration is strongly suggested.

LTUSA is a nonprofit historic preservation organization that has restored Naulakha, the 1892 Dummerston home of author Rudyard Kipling, and four other Southern Vermont properties, which it owns and operates as overnight vacation rentals. According to the U.S. Golf Association, Kipling invented Snow Golf at Naulakha following his introduction to the game by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle of Sherlock Holmes fame.

This year's event will also serve as the public kickoff for the Naulakha Campaign, a \$1.25 million investment in a climate resilient future for Kipling's historic estate which will replace the main house's aging cedar roof in kind, develop a comprehensive drainage solution for the property, and rehabilitate the Naulakha Stable into a new overnight rental. Symbolic "shingles" will be available for purchase at the event in support of the Campaign.

This year's course will once again be designed in partnership with the Brattleboro Country Club and feature six skills challenges - including Chipping Skeeball, Tic-Tac-Toe, and Blindfolded Pick-A-Club - as well as one hole and a bonus "closest to the pin" shot. Players may register individually or as a foursome, and prizes will be awarded. All tickets include an exclusive cocktail or cider drink from the Scott Farm pop up bar, light snacks, and drinks. The "kid-driven" food cart Newton's Curveball Concessions will be present as well, with all proceeds supporting the local community.

"We're thrilled that Snow Golf has quickly become an annual tradition and 'must do' event on the winter calendar," says Executive Director Susan McMahon. "It's a great afternoon for golfers or anyone who just wants to stay active this winter, and this year is better than ever as we publicly launch our Naulakha Campaign to ensure the place where snow golf was invented has a long and vibrant future"

For more information and registration, visit <a href="https://landmarktrustusa.org/snow-golf">https://landmarktrustusa.org/snow-golf</a>. The public is welcome throughout the event to eat, drink, provide rousing golf claps, and enjoy the Naulakha Campaign kickoff. All proceeds from the event support the historic preservation work of The Landmark Trust USA, helping maintain the nonprofit's historic properties, produce place-based educational programs, and save additional historic buildings.

#### SPECIAL EVENTS

Free Community Lunch

Wed., Jan. 22 - 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. - First Congregational Church, 77 Main Street, Springfield.

Continued to Page 9

# **Springfield Family Center, Inc. Buy a Day, Make a Difference!**

Purchase a calendar day in honor of yourself or someone special and gift enough ingredients to make meals for up to 30 food insecure neighbors.

The honoree will be publicly recognized on their chosen day as a partner of the Springfield Family Center's efforts to help reduce hunger in their community!

What a unique way to help someone celebrate a birthday, anniversary, or other special occasion by giving this gift of hope.

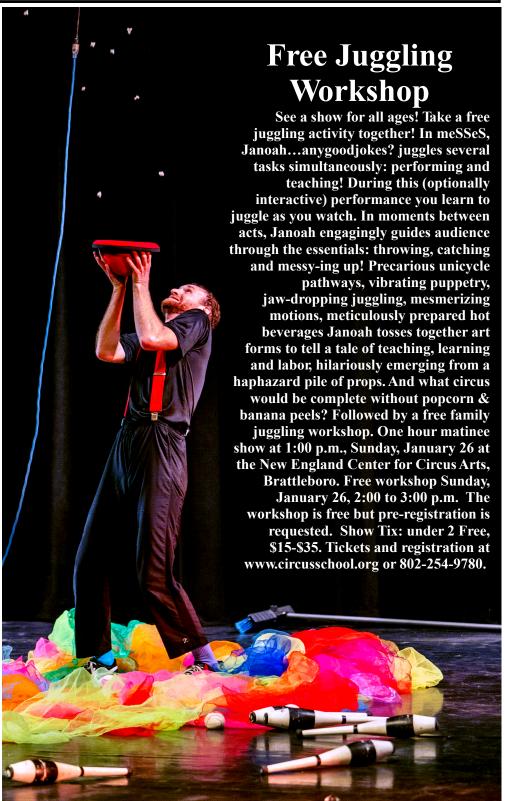
Lead the way by buying a day! Spread the word about your special day to friends and family and any donation made on your day will be matched up to \$100.

To secure your day, make a one-time gift to the Springfield Family Center in the amount of \$100 or become a sustaining donor throughout the calendar year \$10/month.

For more information or to purchase your day please email us at <a href="mailto:SFCbuyaday@gmail.com">SFCbuyaday@gmail.com</a>







## Groundbreaking Documentary Series *Freedom* & *Unity: The Vermont Movie* in BF

Since declaring its own independence in 1777, Vermont has been a beacon, a haven, a refuge, an idea, a symbol, a state shaped by independent and courageous decision-makers, thinkers, political leaders, workers, artists, immigrants and innovators. It was the first state to outlaw slavery, to allow same sex civil unions, to call for the impeachment of President Nixon, and to protect the environment with Act 250.

As the Bellows Falls Opera House in downtown Bellows Falls, Vermont celebrates its 100-year anniversary in 2025, the time is right to recapture the story of Vermont and its citizens with the 2013 Off the Grid Productions' collaborative documentary series, "Freedom & Unity: The Vermont Movie."

Off the Grid Productions was founded by Nora Jacobson, an award-winning independent filmmaker who writes and directs narrative films as well as documentaries. In 2013, she and Executive Producer Nat Winthrop released her ambitious, six-part documentary series to tell the story, past and present, of Vermont. The film asks the pivotal question: Does yesterday predict tomorrow? Twelve years later, this epic journey" serves as an extraordinary benchmark about the culture and history of the individualistic state of Vermont as the country moves into a volatile and uncertain political landscape in 2025.

The deep roots of Vermont's fabled history demonstrate that citizens and lawmakers alike have believed in unfettered free speech for hundreds of years. This commitment to democracy has shaped the possibilities not only for the Green Mountain State, but led the way for the country to follow. Pushing boundaries in civil rights, education, progressive movements and politics, Vermont stands as a symbol of safety and courage in order to lead the way for others who seek historic change.

The six-part series will be screened as a mini-festival at the Opera House. Two parts will be shown on each of three consecutive Sundays: January 26, February 2 and February 9. Each documentary is titled as follows: Part One, A Very New Idea; Part Two, Under the Surface; Part Three, Refuge, Reinvention and Revolution; Part Four, Doers and Shapers; Part Five, Ceres' Children; and Part Six, People's Power.

Jacobson is pleased to provide audiences with another opportunity to view her documentary. "I was delighted when the Bellows Falls Opera House approached me to screen all six parts of *Freedom & Unity: The Vermont Movie*. It's been over a decade since we finished the series, and my dream has always been that we would do a sequel. Maybe now is the time with all the new filmmakers in Vermont! Join us at the Opera House to share your ideas of what a Vermont Movie sequel would look like 15 years later!"

Special guests involved in the original series include Directors Dorothy Tod, Eleanor Lanahan, Robin Lloyd, Kate Cone, Jesse Larocque, Alan Dater and Lisa Merton, Verandah Porche Nora Jacobson, Emma Schlenoff, Deb Ellis, Sue Rees,

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Dina Janis, Megan O'Rourke, Kate Purdie, Tyler Gibbons, Andy Reichman, George Woodard, Dan Butler and Richard Waterhouse.

Visit the Opera House website to find details about all six films at <a href="https://www.bellowsfallsoperahouse.com/">https://www.bellowsfallsoperahouse.com/</a>. Tickets available through the Bellows Falls Opera House website or cash/credit at the door. Visit Off the Grid Productions' website at <a href="https://www.offthegridproductions.com/">https://www.offthegridproductions.com/</a>.

Send Events releases and Calendar listings to reporter@vermontel.net by Friday noon.



# Out & About



## 18th Annual Northern **Roots Festival Returns** January 24-26

The 18th annual Northern Roots Traditional Music Festival, directed by Keith Murphy, returns the weekend of January 24-26 to the Brattleboro Music Center.

The Festival opens Friday, January 24, with a special Friday Evening French Canadian Soirée, sponsored in part by Délégation du Québec à Boston. This concert, set for 7:30 p.m., will feature some of the best-known names in the French-Canadian music world, including accordionist Sabin Jacques, pianist Rachel Aucoin, fiddler Pascal Gemme, guitarist and singer Yann Falquet, and Brattleboro's own Keith Murphy.

The rest of the weekend unfolds with the familiar Saturday festival schedule of workshops and evening concert. The Saturday workshop schedule includes a range of topics - from work songs of Northern New England to Bal Folk dance, from ergonomics for fiddlers to Irish tunes from County Mayo. While most workshops are designed to be participatory, all are welcome to attend. A complete list of events and workshop leaders can be found bmcvt.org/northern-roots.

The Northern Roots Saturday Evening Concert, set for Saturday, January 25, at 7:30 p.m. at the BMC, will 1:00 p.m. Pub Sing, a 2:30 p.m. Irish tune session, and music calendar. revisit the French-Canadian repertoire, but will also a French-Canadian session from 4:00 to 5:30 p.m. feature Paul McDonnell, Irish accordion; Bennett These will be held at the American Legion Hall, 32 admission. Saturday Festival tickets are \$35 Adult Day, Konesni, guitar and voice; Benjamin Foss, New Linden Street, Brattleboro - musicians and audience \$25 Adult Evening, and \$50 Adult Combo (for day England fiddle; Deirdre and Sean Murtha, traditional are all welcome. song; and Traddleboro 2025. This year's Traddleboro, which highlights a different local ensemble each year, Music Festival explores the traditions that have sessions are by donation. Concert seats are limited, and will consist of members of the young musician group contributed to this region's rich musical heritage: Irish, advance purchase is strongly advised. Fiddleheads Brattleboro, a program of Vermont English, Scottish, French Canadian, Scandinavian, and Folklife, led by Laurel Swift and hosted at the BMC.



New England roots share the spotlight at this annual BMC at 802-257-4523 or email info@bmcvt.org.

The Festival wraps up on Sunday, January 26, with a gathering, a cornerstone of the region's traditional

Tickets for the Friday concert are \$25 general workshops and Saturday evening concert). Youth tickets First held in 2007, the Northern Roots Traditional are \$10 Day, \$10 Evening, and \$15 Combo. Sunday

To reserve your tickets, visit bmcvt.org, call the

## Town Library's First Tuesdays Prevention Partners' Series Starts February 4

By Tracey Craft, Springfield Town Library

Beginning Tuesday, February 4, at 5:30 p.m. join us at the Springfield Town Library for "First Tuesdays" - a 10-Month Prevention Partners' Series! This series aims to bring together community members to discuss and learn about various prevention strategies. Each month, we will focus on a different topic related to health and well-being. Don't miss out on this opportunity to connect with like-minded individuals and make a positive impact in our community. Mark your calendars for the first Tuesday of every month and be part of this exciting series!

Feb. 4: Overview - Prevention Upstream March 4: Nicotine/Vape education & cessation

April 1: Alcohol Awareness Month

May 6: Youth Mental Health First Aid

June 3: Stigma-Free Language and LGBTQ+

July 1: Cannabis Caution

Aug. 5: Recovery friendly workplaces Sept. 2: Gay-Straight Alliance & resilience

Oct. 7: Opioids - safe use, storage, disposal

Nov. 4: Community and Youth Risk Behavior Survey

For more information about the Springfield Town Library series, contact: Tracey Craft, Adult Services Coordinator, 802-885-3108, stlvtprograms@gmail.com.

To sign up for reminder follow link https://www.springfieldtownlibrary.org/calendar.

All our regular vendors will be there, offering your favorite natural meats, artisan breads, fabric and yarn creations, honey, old-fashioned homemade doughnuts, Springfield Farmers' Market invites you to stop in and stock up at our first Winter authentic designer batik clothing and accessories, hand-crafted gifts, eggs, jams, Market, to be held on Saturday, January 25 from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the jellies, pickles, relishes, and a full range local maple products. For more information,

## Springfield Farmers' Winter Market Saturday

United Methodist Church in Downtown Springfield.

contact <u>sfog@vermontel.net</u>.

#### **Special Events Continued from Page 8**

**Gaslight Tinkers at Next Stage** 

Fri., Jan. 24 - 7:30 p.m. - Next Stage Arts and Twilight Music present a dance party with roots and world music quintet The Gaslight Tinkers. Next Stage, 15 Kimball Hill, Putney. Tickets: \$20 Advance; \$25 At the Door; nextstagearts.org.

#### Concert of Arabic Magam

Sat., Jan. 25 - 7:30 p.m. - Next Stage Arts presents a concert of original compositions in the Arabic Maqam tradition, featuring Kanun player Firas Zreik. Next Stage, 15 Kimball Hill, Putney. Tickets: \$22 Advance; \$25 At the Door; \$10 livestream; nextstagearts.org.

#### Tom Pirozzoli at Stage 33

Sun., Jan. 26 - 3:00 p.m. - Pirozzoli celebrates his new album "21," along with Carl Beverly and Rich Ewald, at Stage 33 Live, 33 Bridge Street, Bellows Falls. Tickets: \$10 in advance through stage33live.com; \$15 at the door.

## Palaver Strings' "Rise and Shine" Concert

Fri., Jan. 31 - 7:00 p.m. - Palaver Strings celebrates the versatility and power of the viola. Held at Brattleboro Music Center. Tickets: \$20 Advance; \$25 At the Door; bmcvt.org; 802-257-4523; or info@bmcvt.org.

## Calligraphy with Love Workshop at the VAULT By Marilyn Miller, **VAULT**

With love in the air and Valentine's around the corner, come learn basic calligraphy pen through techniques writing "Love" in three different scripts: Italic,



Gothic, and Uncial with Jorika Stockwell at Gallery at the VAULT on Saturday, February 8 from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

If you already know calligraphy, advanced techniques can be covered. We will briefly review the history of the scripts and calligraphy through the ages. At the end, you will have a Valentine card to gift your loved one.

All supplies are provided. If you wish to continue practicing calligraphy at home, Pilot parallel 2.4 mm pens will be available for purchase at cost. You can also bring your own nibs/pens/ink if desired.

Jorika is a wonderful teacher. Student comments about her previous classes include: "Lots of fun and good feedback and support, Great, Very enjoyable"!

Cost: \$35 members, \$40 non-members. Register by Wednesday, February 5. For more information please call or come in to Gallery at the VAULT, 68 Main Street, Springfield. We are open Wednesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays from 11:00 to 5:00 and Fridays 11:00 to 7:00. Contact: 802-885-7111, galleryvault@vermontel.net visit Facebook, or Instagram, www.galleryvault.org. Accessible.

#### Rani Arbo & Daisy Mayhem at Next Stage

Sat., Feb. 1 - 7:30 p.m. - Next Stage Arts and Twilight Music present New England's acclaimed folk/roots quartet Rani Arbo & Daisy Mayhem at Next Stage, 15 Kimball Hill, Putney. Tickets: \$24 Advance; \$28 At the Door; \$15 Livestream; nextstagearts.org.

#### Juno Orchestra at BMC

Sun., Feb. 2 - 2:30 p.m. - Juno Orchestra presents "Context: Six Centuries," featuringe works from six centuries that may share similar formal structures. Held at Brattleboro Music Center. Tickets: \$20 Advance; \$25 At the Door; \$10 Youth; Free 12 and under; bmcvt.org; 802-257-4523; or info@bmcvt.org.

## **Prevention Partners' Series First Tuesdays**

February - November 2025, 5:30 - 6:30 pm

In person at the Springfield Town Library, 43 Main St, Springfield, VT 05156

#### What is Prevention?

Providing people, businesses, schools, municipalities, and organizations with the tools, spaces, partnerships, and education to make the healthy choice the easy choice and reduce the risks and consequences of substances.

2/4/25 **Prevention Upstream** 7/1/25 **Cannabis Caution** Presenter: Maryann Morris, Executive Presenters: Alice Abraham, Liaison at Green Peak Alliance and Director at The Collaborative Victoria Silsby, Prevention Specialist, at The Collaborative 3/4/25 Nicotine/Vape Education & 8/5/25 **Recovery Friendly Workplaces** Presenter: Jessica Getty, Recovery Cessation Coach & Group Facilitator at Turning Presenters: Natalie Philpot, Programs Point Recovery Center, Springfield coordinator and Jacob Dombroski, Programs Assistant, both at The 4/1/25 **Alcohol Awareness Month** 9/2/25 **Gay-Straight Alliance & Resilience** Presenter: Ginger Driscoll, Director at Presenter: Amanda Rohdenbu Associate Director at Outright VT 5/6/25 **Youth Mental Health First Aid** 10/7/25 Opioids - Safe Use, Storage, and **Disposal Presenter:** Samantha Pearce **Presenter:** Sunny Naughton, Consultant/Owner at Sunshine Silver Community Epidemiologist at The

**Presenter:** Thomas West, Project Manager at The Collaborative.

Coordinator at Black River Area Community Coalition and Sally Hespe, ations and Developmen Director at The Collaborative For more information

Presenters: Lauren Ingersoll, Projects

**Community and Youth Risk** 

Behavior Survey



Stigma-Free Language & LGBTQ+

6/3/25

about the Springfield Town Library series, contact: **Tracey Craft, Adult Services Coordinator** 802-885-3108 stlvtprograms@gmail.com All presentations in person at STL, 43 Main St, Springfield, VT 05156

11/4/25

## **SPORTS**



Oliver Kelley puts up a contested shot in the win over Leland & Gray.

## **Cosmos Boys Beat** Rebels, Fall to Terriers, Stand at 3-5



JP Stagner takes a short jumper in the lane.

The Springfield Cosmos boys basketball team finished the week at 3-5, beating Bellows Falls Terriers. They got off to a slow start and never recovered, falling Leland and Gray and falling to Bellows Falls.

Last Wednesday, the Cosmos defended their home court against the visiting Rebels, posting a 59-45 win. The Cosmos pretty much led from start to finish, and were up by 15 at 32-17. The Cosmos played the Terriers more evenly through the because of their balanced scoring attack, boasting four players scoring in double third but could not make up any ground. figures, the Rebels could do little to shut them down.

Bradley Gallant led the Cosmos with 14 points. Nick Wiese was close behind with 12; Oliver Kelley added 11 and John Paul Stagner 10.

On Saturday, the Cosmos traveled a short distance down I-91 to take on the



Bradley Gallant led the Cosmos in scoring in the win over the Rebels.

The Terriers lead by 10, 19-9, after the first quarter. By the intermission, the hosts

Wiese led the Cosmos with 15 points and Gallant added 10.



Nick Wiese cuts between two Rebel defenders on his way to the hoop.

SHS Boys Cosmos Basketball Photos by Bob Fischer



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## **Cosmos Wrestlers Second in Vergennes Tourney**

The Springfield wrestling team finished tied for second in a multi-team Commodore Invitational at Vergennes Saturday.

Essex won the event, but Springfield was close behind.

The Cosmos were paced by a few champions and supporting cast. Finishing as tourney champions were: Dillan Lacasse at 150 pounds; Dmitri Jasinski at 165 pounds; and Hunter Ferland at 285 pounds.

Other top finishers for the Cosmos were: Jonathan Lake, second at 215 pounds; Mitchell Shaw, third at 144 pounds; Seth Markwell, fourth at 106 pounds; and Brockton Lovell, fourth at 285 pounds.

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## **COSMOS ATHLETICS FOR THE WEEK AHEAD**

### Tuesday, January 21

4:00 pm Boys 8th Basketball vs Claremont 4:00 pm Girls 7th Basketball at Hartford 5:00 pm Boys 7th Basketball at Hartford

5:00 pm Girls 8th Basketball vs Claremont

#### Wednesday, January 22

5:30 pm Boys JV Basketball vs White River Valley 7:00 pm Boys Varsity Basketball vs White River

#### Thursday, January 23

4:00 pm Boys 8th Basketball vs Bellows Falls 4:00 pm Girls 7th Basketball at Bellows Falls 5:00 pm Boys 7th Basketball at Bellows Falls

#### 5:00 pm Girls 8th Basketball vs Bellows Falls Friday, January 24

5:30 pm Boys JV Basketball at Green Mountain 5:30 pm Girls JV Basketball vs Brattleboro

7:00 pm Boys Varsity Basketball at Green Mountain 7:00 pm Varsity Competitive Cheer

7:00 pm Girls Varsity Basketball vs Brattleboro

## Monday, January 27

4:00 pm Girls 7th Basketball at Unity 4:30 pm Boys 7th Basketball vs Long Trail School 5:30 pm Boys 8th Basketball vs Long Trail School

Girls Varsity Basketball at Hartford

#### Tuesday, January 28

7:00 pm

5:30 pm Boys JV Basketball vs Rivendell Girls JV Basketball at Hartford

7:00 pm Boys Varsity Basketballvs Rivendell

## **SPORTS**

## Girls Even Record at 5-5 With Wins Over Woodstock, Mt. Anthony

By Joel Gomez



Cosmos' top scorer Macie Stagner, here shown in earlier action, scored a total of 73 points in last week's two wins. Photo by Bob Fischer

games on the schedule. With some recent offensive woes it would be a necessity for The Lady Cosmopolitans came into this past week at 3-5 with two winnable the squad to figure out their best options to be competitive on both ends of the ball. To this juncture of the season the defense has been able to hold their opponents to an average of 43 points, which most coaches would find acceptable. With defenses focusing on scorer supreme, Macie Stagner, the rest of the team has yet to find consistent footing to alleviate her workload.

Traveling to Woodstock (2-5) on Monday would not be much of a challenge for the Cosmos, but it would allow the team to work on some offensive concepts. Better ball movement and more looks from others helped to build some confidence on this night. Springfield would win 61-23. Stagner led the team with 35 and Taylor Tomberg added 11. Khloi Bruso provided much of Woodstock's offense.

Woodstock does not offer a JV team.

On Thursday night the girls made the dreadful trip over Bromley and into Bennington to face D1 Mount Anthony (1-6). Always a tough gym to play in as an opponent, the Cosmos had their hands full with a fast-paced game and raucous home student section.

The host Patriots controlled much of the first quarter as they jumped out to a 16-11 lead, with Stagner accounting for nine. As we have seen, the defense makes their adjustments, clamping down on Stagner. Although she only managed one bucket and three free throws in the second frame, it was her senior teammate Amelia Murchie who carried the workload. On two consecutive possessions Murchie converted offensive rebounds into buckets and later in the quarter she hit a top of the key three. The Cosmos would even the score at 26-all going into the half.

The two teams slugged it out in the third trying to survive some sloppy basketball. MAU had success getting the ball to the elbow and post to extend their lead to 39-34 at the end of the period.

With the lead and momentum MAU looked to close out the game in the final eight minutes. But what happened in the last quarter was probably not in the Patriots' gameplan. Springfield's defense kicked into high gear, not allowing MAU to set up their half-court offense with any success. On the other side of the ball Stagner took over. She scored 16 of the team's 18 in the quarter (24 of 26 in second half) along with a Payton Austin baseline jumper. The Cosmos only gave up eight points to seal the win 52-47 and move to 5-5. A great road win against a D1 program to boost their ranking to 11th in D2.

Stagner tallied 38 followed by seven from Murchie's big night.

With a less than ideal number of players in the Springfield program (16), some of the JV players must be available for the varsity game. With only five quarters available to players per night, that leaves the JV team on the short end of womanpower. With a thin bench the junior Cosmos hung around with their opposition, 18-17 at the half. The third proved to be the difference maker as Tomberg and Addelyn Snide combined for 14 points, mostly off backcourt turnovers. The Cosmos took a 35-26 lead into the final period and clung to that lead for a 44-40 victory. That puts the team at 5-2 on the season.

The Cosmos have a long layoff but will host another D1 team in Brattleboro on Friday and then will travel to Hartford on the 28th.

## Track & Field Cosmos Wrap Up Regular Season with Some Strong Performances



Junior Ryan Gould hands off to sophomore Cole junior Ryan Gould jumped Tomberg in the 4x200m relay, which placed 7th 4.05m.



Junior Ella Salisbury passes the baton to junior more trip to the University Adrienne George in the 4x200m relay, which placed 6th of Vermont on Sunday, in D2 (2:07.10), garnering three points for the Lady

States This Sunday By Coach Jim Fog Photos Provided by the **Cosmos Track & Field Program** 

On Sunday, Jan. 12, 20 members of the SHS Varsity Indoor Track & Field team and their coach left Springfield at 5:30 a.m., bound for their final meet of the regular season at UVM. At 8:00 a.m., competition began, with juniors Will Emerson (7.10m), and Luke Foley (7.45m), soon throwing Shotput, while junior Gage Quimby led off in Long Jump, hitting a mark of

Captains Tristin Stagner and Cooper Palmer hit the ack first in the 55m high hurdles, where Stagner placed 5th in D2 (10.60), and Palmer ran a PR of 11.99 seconds. Stagner then threw 9.02m in Shotput, while Quimby ran the 55m dash (8.01), followed by junior Carter Tanner (7.18), who finished 11th among D2 varsity runners. Sophomore Quinn Jasinski led our girls in 55m dash (8.68), followed by junior Ryleigh Thayer (9.26), and 9th-grader Camryn Jarvis-Thayer (9.76).

In the boys' 1600m, Brady Noyes achieved an indoor PR of 6:21.57. For the girls', Erica Knudsen ran a 7:12.69, while sophomore Millie Allen finished in 8:10.41. Both later ran the 1000m, Knudsen in 4:11.59, Allen in 4:51.31.

Junior Luke Foley clocked a PR of 1:52.66 in 600m, while in LJ, Cole Tomberg jumped 4.87m (15'11.75")

to lead our boys, and

In girls' LJ, Adrienne George led the team with a best of 3.79m (12'5.25"), senior Ella Salisbury close behind at 3.60 (11'9"), and Arielle Pianka landed a jump of 2.48m (8'2"). Pianka had just run a PR of 58.39 in 300m dash before jumping.

Senior Captain Ella Donahue, after throwing a PR of 6.69m in Shotput, also achieved a PR of 49.08 in the girls' 300m. In the next heat of 300, Salisbury did likewise, running a 48.93.

Junior Carter Tanner ran the boys' 300m in 39.87 (just shy of his PR), placing 5th among varsity D2 athletes.

To round out the day, the girls' 4x200m relay of George, Donahue, Salisbury, and Jasinski ran a season's-best 2:07.10 to place 6th in D2 varsity. The boys' 4x200m team of Stagner, Gould, Tomberg, and Tanner placed 7th (1:47.63).

The team makes one January 26 for the Vermont State Meet.



Junior Captain Ella Donahue threw a PR of 6.69m in Shot, ran a PR of 49.09 in 300m dash, and led off for



## You Don't Need To Donate A Kidney To Save A Life

Donate your vehicle, real estate, boat, or other item in any condition (visit our website for the full list of what you can donate) and 100% of the proceeds save the lives of patients needing an organ donor. We make the process easy: Go online to **MatchingDonorsDonations.com** or call us at 1-800-385-0422 ext 7. We will pick up the donation at your earliest convenience, and complete all of the paperwork for you to receive the maximum possible tax write off.

#### SPRINGFIELD POLICE REPORTS

**Operation, Criminal DLS, Excessive Speed** 

Date/Time of Incident: Dec. 4 at 3:06 hours a.m. Date/Time of Arrest: Dec. 7

Defendant: Pamela Runnells, 40, Springfield

for her arrest. The vehicle then sped off at a high rate of investigation. speed heading down Missing Link Road toward Offenses: Unlawful Trespass, Retail Theft Rockingham. The officer pursued the vehicle but had to Date/Time of Incident: Dec. 24 at 12:53 p.m. disengage due to unsafe conditions per department Date/Time of Arrest: Jan. 5 at 1:44 p.m. policy. The officer followed up with a witness who was Defendant: Nicholas Ragucci, 33, Springfield traveling with Runnells at the time who was also able to On Dec. 24 at 12:53 p.m., officers were dispatched to identify Runnells as the operator of the vehicle. On the Shaw's Supermarket, located at 82 Springfield Plaza Dec. 7 Runnells was located at a residence in Bellows Road, for the report that Nicholas Ragucci had stolen arrest of Pedro Rodriguez of Claremont at Southern State Correctional Facility. Runnells was After an investigation, Ragucci was positively Correctional Facility for lack of \$500 bail. also issued a citation to appear in Vermont Superior identified as the subject who had allegedly trespassed Offenses: Aggravated Assault, Criminal Threatening, Court, Criminal Division, Windsor Unit, on Dec. 7 to onto the property of the Shaw's Supermarket and stolen Reckless Endangerment answer for the charges of Attempting to Elude, Grossly items. Ragucci was later located and issued a criminal Date/Time: Jan. 8 at 9:10 p.m. Negligent Operation, Criminal DLS, and Excessive citation to appear in Windsor County Criminal Court on Defendant: Michelle Pollard, 55, Springfield Speed.

Offenses: Domestic Assault, Interference with and Retail Theft. Emergency Services, Possession of Cocaine, Heroin Offenses: Possession of Cocaine, Violation of Investigation revealed that the defendant had been in **Trafficking, Cocaine Trafficking** 

Date/Time: Dec. 13 at 7:13 a.m

Candice L. Cenate Candice Leary Cenate,

66, of Springfield, passed

peacefully on January 6 at

Claremont, NH. She was

born March 4, 1958 in

Springfield, the daughter

of Robert and Patricia

Mountain High School

Leary.

from

She

Fall

step-grandchildren Greyson, Holden, and Leighton; one

Friends may call at Davis Memorial Chapel in

Center

Elmwood

(Wilkins)

graduated

class of 1976.

many years.

grandchildren.

Spaulding.

Defendant: Pedro Rodriguez, 43, Claremont, NH

On Dec. 13 at 7:13 a.m, officers were dispatched to a On Jan. 1 officers were performing a patrol in the Division, Windsor Unit on Jan. 9. Rodriguez fled the scene in a silver Ford Expedition. Myers, was observed leaving the residence on foot. The Date/Time: Jan. 8 at 9:57 p.m. pending the investigation. Two officers arrived at the of Conditions of Release. Valley Street address to aid in the detention leading to Offense: Aggravated Assault the discovery of Rodriguez being in possession of Date/Time of Incident: Jan. 5 at 6:07 p.m. suspected cocaine. Rodriguez was taken into custody Date/Time of Arrest: Jan. 5 at 10:37 p.m. based upon the investigation, and was searched incident Defendant: Jathniel Weiss, 35, Springfield to arrest revealing a large sum of money on Rodriguez's On Jan. 5 at 6:07 p.m., the Springfield Police Facility in Lieu of \$200 cash or surety bail. person, which was seized. A consent search of the Ford Department responded to School Street in North Offense: Arrest on In-State Warrant Expedition was denied resulting in it being seized Springfield for a report of a 911 Hangup Call. Upon Date/Time: Jan. 9 at 1:09 p.m. pending the application of a search warrant. Rodriguez arrival, officers determined that an assault may have Defendant: Benjiman Runnells, 37, Springfield, was transported to the Springfield Police Department occurred. Further investigation led to officers On Jan. 9 at 1:09 p.m. Benjiman Runnells was

Offenses: Attempting to Elude, Grossly Negligent Police Department later responded and performed a drug sniff around the Ford Expedition. The K9 alerted on the vehicle, indicating that the odor of narcotics were present. A search warrant for the Ford Expedition was drafted and subsequently granted. The search On Dec. 4 at 3:06 hours a.m. an officer was patrolling yielded an excess of 250 grams of cocaine, more than the area of 14 Missing Link Road when he located a 1500 bags of suspected heroin, and various vehicle at the Springfield Circle K that matched the paraphernalia. Rodriguez was later charged with Heroin description of a vehicle that had previously eluded other Trafficking and Cocaine Trafficking. The Springfield officers/police agencies within the past few weeks. The Police Department would like to thank the officer approached the vehicle and was able to identify Weathersfield Police Department and the Manchester the operator as Pamela Runnells, who had a warrant out Police Department for their respective roles within this

March 11 to answer to the charges of Unlawful Trespass

**Condition of Release** 

Date/Time: Jan. 1 at 12:55 p.m.

Defendant: Michael Myers, 33, Springfield

residence in Springfield for a reported domestic assault. area of Spring Street near a known drug residence. A Offenses: Violation of Conditions of Release, While en-route officers were updated that Pedro male subject, who was later identified as Michael Disorderly Conduct Upon arrival an officer spoke with the alleged victim officer conducted a consensual encounter resulting in Defendant: Jathniel M. Weiss, 35, Springfield who reported to have been assaulted by Rodriguez the discovery of suspected cocaine in Myers's On Jan. 8 at 9:57 p.m. an officer responded to School



The cache of drugs seized during the December 14

Falls, where she was subsequently arrested and lodged items from the store and violated a no trespass order. conditions of release, and lodged at the Southern State

Officers responded to a citizen dispute in which Michelle Pollard allegedly brandished a gun. possession of a realistic looking BB-gun and allegedly made threats to the victim. The defendant was cited to appear at the Vermont Superior Court, Criminal

because she owed him money. During the assault the possession. Myers was arrested and transported to the Street in North Springfield, with assistance from the victim alleged that Rodriguez attempted to take her cell Springfield Police Department for processing. It was Chester Police Department, for a disturbance. The caller phone, restricting her from calling 911. The later discovered that he had an active set of conditions reported an active fight between neighbors. After an investigation revealed that Rodriguez and the victim of release that prohibited him from being in possession investigation, it was found that Jathniel M. Weiss had were in relationship. While an officer was responding to of any controlled substances. He was issued a citation allegedly violated her conditions of release. Weiss was assist, he met the Ford Expedition, which then pulled to appear in the Vermont Superior Court, Criminal taken into custody without incident and transported to into the driveway of 78 Valley Street. Rodriguez was Division, Windsor Unit, on Jan. 2 to answer for the the Springfield Police Department for processing. Weiss seen exiting the vehicle in which he was detained alleged crimes of Possession of Cocaine and Violation was fingerprinted, photographed, and issued conditions of release and a criminal citation to appear at the Vermont Superior Court, Criminal Division, Windsor Unit on Jan. 9 to answer to the charge of Violation of Conditions of Release and Disorderly Conduct. Weiss was ultimately transported to Southern State Correction

for processing. He was issued a flash citation to appear developing probable cause to arrest Jathniel Weiss for located walking on Spring Street. Runnells was found to in the Vermont Superior Court, Criminal Division, assaulting another individual, who required medical have an active in-state arrest warrant. Runnells was Windsor Unit on Dec. 16 to answer for the crimes of care. Weiss was ultimately taken into custody and taken into custody without incident. He was transported Domestic Assault, Interference with Emergency transported to the Springfield Police Department for to the Springfield Police Department for processing. Services, and Possession of Cocaine. Rodriguez was processing. At the conclusion of processing, the Runnells was subsequently transported to the Windsor lodged at Southern State Correctional Facility in lieu of defendant was issued a citation to appear in Windsor County Criminal Court to answer to the charge of Arrest \$10,000 bail. An officer and K9 of the Manchester County Superior Court, Criminal Division on Jan. 6, on an In-State Warrant.

## **OBITUARIES**

Memorial Fund, by sending checks to 799 Mattson books and ideas with friends and family.

Harry A. Moore

Harry A. Moore, 74, passed away peacefully on January 9 in Sarasota, Florida, surrounded by his family.

Born on January 14, 1950, in Springfield, to Clarke and Evelyn (Emerson) Moore, Harry Candy was Nurse/Secretary at Elm Hill Elementary was deeply connected to School and Riverside Middle School in Springfield for his Vermont roots. After many years. She loved working with children and they graduating

loved her. She also volunteered at Summer Camp for Springfield High School, Harry settled in western Massachusetts, where he his innovative spirit,

Harry embraced life with passion and curiosity. A Tyrrell, niece, Ashley; one aunt, Cecile; several cousins; and her lover of art and music, his eclectic tastes reflected his unexpectedly at his home beloved little dog, Sophie. She was predeceased by her vibrant personality. He was a devoted Cleveland sports in Springfield on Saturday, mother, Patricia Rheaume (Roger); and three special fan and an avid golfer and skier, known for his fearless January 11. He was born ladies, Rose Leary, Eleanor Emery, and Aunt Ruth approach to the slopes. His legendary ski trips were a December 18, 1938 in

Road Chester, VT 05143, a fund created to continue her Harry's life was defined by meaningful relationships, passion of supporting children and young adults. laughter, and optimism. Known for his mischievous Cheshire cat grin, he brought light and joy to all who crossed his path. He found his greatest happiness in the company of loved ones.

> He is survived by his beloved wife, Margaret; his son, Clarke Moore, and daughter-in-law, Jessica Moore (Harris); his daughter, Brooke Moore, and son-in-law, Jericho Hendricks; his stepdaughter, Freda Peters (Stebbins), and son-in-law, Kamil Peters; and his stepdaughter, Molly Stebbins. Harry was the proud grandfather of Marissa, Gavin, Aidan, Riley, Julian, and Namiko. He is also survived by his sisters, Paula Moore, Lorrie Iantaffi (Moore), and Jo Anne Copeland (Moore). He was predeceased by his parents; and his sister, Carol Ring.

Harry's legacy lives on in the hearts of all who knew Her children and grandchildren were her world; her attended Northampton Commercial College, raised a him, a testament to a life lived with courage, kindness,

A celebration of Harry's life will be held in June. She is survived by her father, Robert Leary (Tracey); MBS, he embarked on various business ventures that Memorial donations may be made to Mote Marine including Laboratory and Aquarium Development Office, 1600 executive Ken Thompson Pkwy, Sarasota FL 34236.

Llewellyn Tyrrell

Llewellyn "Butch" Bellows Falls, the son of

He served in the United

shops in the area, and was later a truck driver in the construction/ excavation industry.

He enjoyed hunting, fishing, horses and showing horses.

He is survived by his beloved daughter, Samantha Tyrrell; son Patrick Tyrrell; brother Arthur Tyrrell; sister Toni Kendall (Bruce); grandsons Dakota Tyrrell, and Ty Albert; and many nieces, nephews, and cousins. He was predeceased by his parents; one sister, Janet Kimmons (Roger); son Shawn Tyrrell; daughter Alicia Tyrrell; daughter Bobbi Rae, and her children Andrew, Michael, Jennifer and Dameon.

At his request there will be no services. Davis Memorial Chapel is assisting with arrangements.

loving spirit will be carried on by her sons and family, and engaged his entrepreneurial spirit in his and an unyielding zest for discovery. company, Moore Business Systems (MBS). After selling sons Christopher Cenate (Meghan) and Corey Cenate reflected (Alli); step-daughter Melissa (Jared); sisters Laura telecommunications, real estate and Rheaume, Bonny Jo Wood, and Patti Jo Bushway; consulting. He split his time between homes in western grandchildren Hadley, Easton, Eloise, and Adelaide; MA and Sarasota, FL.

testament to his adventurous spirit.

A dedicated traveler, Harry enjoyed active vacations, Harry and Dorris (Parker) Springfield, on Friday, January 31, from 5:00 to 7:00 experiencing different cultures, connecting with people Tyrrell. p.m. A memorial service will be held at 7:00 p.m., and embracing life's diversity wherever he went. His officiated by Reverend Gerry Piper. In lieu of flowers, generosity touched countless lives through charitable States Army in Korea. donations can be made to The Candice Cenate efforts and quiet acts of kindness. A voracious reader, Butch worked in the Harry found joy in literature and delighted in sharing woolen mills, and machine

MEMORIAL CHAPEL Family Owned Funeral Home

## Funeral and **Cremation Services**

99 Summer Street, Springfield, VT 05156 802-885-3322 \* www.davismemorialchapel.net

Owners: Scott and Angela Page



We take cars, boats, planes, RVs, and real estate in any condition, with fast, free pickup.

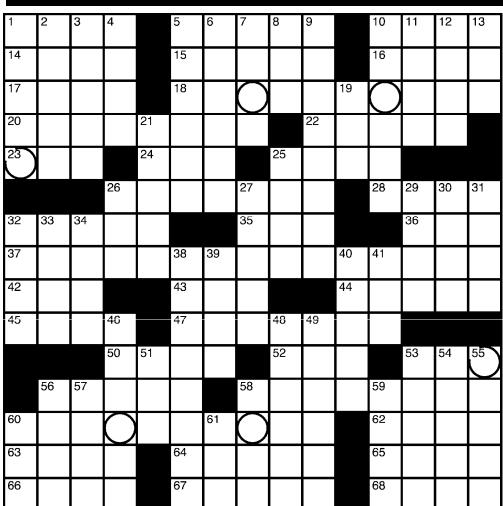
Cars4Kidneys.com 1-800-385-0422 ext. 7

100% of proceeds support transplantation.



Send Obituaries to reporter@vermontel.net by Monday 5:00 p.m. to appear in Tuesday's Reporter. Please send photos as JPG attachments.

# Fun Page



## **CROSSWORD PUZZLE**

Across 1 Stylish eatery word 5 Irish icon, informally 10 Many moons

14 "Buenos d'as" 15 Google

16 Bit of thunder 17 Roguish 18 Uncomplicated 20 Shower unit?

22 Litmus reddeners 23 T-shirt size: Abbr. 24 Kylo \_\_: Ben Solo's chosen name

25 Before thou know'st 26 Unexpected blessing 28 Places to get in

shape

35 Half of deux 36 Small battery 37 Places with guards, and what can be found six times in this

32 Corp. shuffle

42 Old tape type

43 "Shine a Little Love" band, familiarly 44 Joplin's "Me and Bobby \_\_\_

45 "Hunny" bear 47 Flub, as an easy grounder

50 Kitchen initialism popularized by Rachael Ray 52 West Coast NFL team, on scoreboards 53 "How Great Thou

56 Plane area 58 Big blow 60 "Literature in a hurry," per Matthew Arnold

62 Layered mineral 63 Gala 64 Doctrine

65 Egg on

66 Don't have to assume 67 \_\_ Allen furniture 68 Levelheaded

Down

1 Captivate 2 Goddesses of the seasons

3 Iberian folk hero 4 Journalist Paula

5 Get sore 6 Claws 7 Sous-chef's work

8 NCR device 9 Highest mountain range outside of Asia

10 Not permanent 11 Pleased 12 Hearing things

13 View 19 Sgt. or cpl. 21 Khal \_\_ of "Game

of Thrones" 25 Dating profile word? 26 Miracle-\_

27 Continental capital 29 "Fire Island" actor Bowen 30 World of Warcraft

class 31 Enc. for a 32-Down 61 Auction unit

32 Invitation letters 33 Zoom meeting annoyance 34 Extremely 38 BeyoncŽ album and film of 2016

39 Award named for a Muse 40 Insincere flattery

41 Less than friendly 46 Dead Sea Scrolls language

48 Red Cross supply 49 Nonprofessional 51 "The Voice of the

Dodgers" Scully 53 Director Kurosawa 54 Intel mission

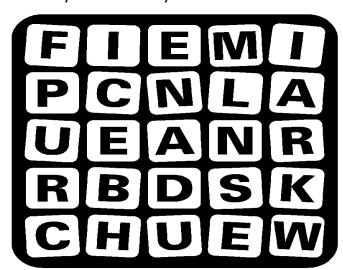
55 Swap 56 Last name of both "The Ballad of Buster Scruggs" filmmakers

57 Wheels 58 Air conditioner setting

59 Concert gear 60 NYC hub



By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek



INSTRUCTIONS: Find as many words as you can by linking letters up, down, side-to-side and diagonally, writing words on a blank sheet of paper. You may only use each letter box once within a single word. Play with a friend and compare word finds, crossing out common words.

puzzle

BOGGLE<sup>°</sup> POINT SCALE 3 letters = 1 point
4 letters = 2 points 5 letters = 3 points 6 letters = 4 points 7 letters = 6 points 8 letters = 10 points 9+ letters = 15 points

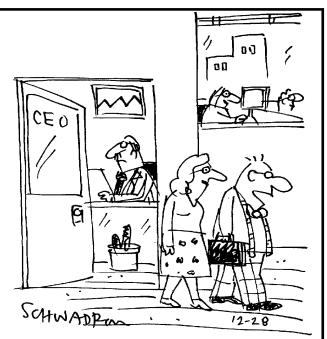
YOUR BOGGLE<sup>®</sup> RATING 151+ = Champ 101-150 = Expert 61-100 = Pro 31 - 60 = Gamer 21 - 30 = Rookie

11 - 20 = Amateur 0 - 10 = Try again

Boggle BrainBusters Bonus

We put special brain-busting words into the puzzle grid. Can you find them? Find AT LEAST EIGHT TWO-SYLLABLE COUNTRIES in the grid of letters.

Boggle Answers: PERU CUBA MALI SUDAN SWEDEN ICELAND FINLAND DEUMARK



"The boss noticed me today. He said I should start wearing deodorant."

## BROOM-HILDA by Russell Myers







## GASOLINE ALLEY by Jim Scancarelli



never occured in all my years playing boogie!

Ah! An interesting Would it happen if your and esoteric SOCK was another color?



## ANIMAL CRACKERS by Fred Wagner







## THE MIDDLETONS by Dana Summers



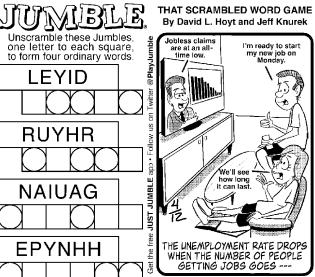




## **SUDOKU**

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2		3			7	4		
				1		6	8	
8			7	6	3			
	7	4		2				
		9	1			8		2
			8					
	3			9			4	

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9.



to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon. ©2022 Tribune Content Agency, LLC All Rights Reserved.

CROSSWORD											SUDOKU												
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drops when the number of people getting jobs goes - "HIRE" AND "HIRE" JUMBLES ANSWER: YIELD HURRY IGUANA HYPHEN - The unemployment rate