

the HINESBURG Record

JULY 2020

2020 Hinesburg Community School Graduation

BY MARY JO BRACE

An awesome, cheerful, heart-warming and loud receiving of diploma celebration for the 2020 eighth grade graduating class of Hinesburg Community School was held on Thursday, June 11.

One at a time, cars, trucks and Jeeps, some decorated with balloons and signs, pulled up to the front of the school. Each graduate exited amid music, bubbles, enthusiastic shouting, clapping and dancing from the school's faculty. The graduates ascended a few

steps to a decorated raised platform surrounded by flowers, removed their mask and posed for photos taken by family members from inside their vehicles. As each student descended the steps, firemen in four fire trucks across the road beeped their horns, rang sirens and flashed lights. All graduates received a gift bag and a bouquet of flowers donated by local community members from their gardens.



One of 60 HCS graduates celebrating a memorable finale!

To further enhance the celebration, each graduate's name was chalked on the side of the school. The road was lined with green and white balloons and ribbons along with signs with all

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Evening Front Porch Noise Connects Hinesburg Neighbors

BY JAMIE CUDNEY

Porch Pictures have become popular during the COVID-19 pandemic and, as a pediatric nurse myself at the University of Vermont Medical Center, I was interested in exploring how to capture this moment in time for my neighborhood in Hinesburg. On Friday, April 3, we began our nightly ritual of Front Porch Noise after my neighbor Frank Twarog sent out this group text:

"Please join us for some front porch noise making at 7 p.m. to show appreciation for our health care neighbors, friends and families who are on the front line — and who need to know how thankful we are, even in the quiet of our homes!"

The rest is history and every night since, our neighbors are out in unity as we are physically isolated from each

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Hinesburg Observes Brief Memorial Day Service

BY PEGGY CIOFFI



Veterans Doug Mead, Matt Titus and Rocky Harlow stand in front of the monuments on Memorial Day.

A small group of citizens gathered at the veterans' monuments at 10 a.m. on May 25 to observe Memorial Day. The annual Memorial Day service had been canceled because of COVID-19. Organized by Rocky Harlow and the Hinesburg Fire Department, a short, patriotic ceremony was conducted with everyone wearing masks and observing social distancing.

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Hinesburg's
independent,
nonprofit
community
newspaper

INSIDE...

American Stories

Page 19: New online exhibits at the Shelburne Museum.



VSAC Awards \$1.4 Million in Scholarships

Page 13: Seven CVU students receive scholarships.

Service Directory & Calendar of Events

Page 16-17: At-a-glance view of community services and events.

BACK STORIES

of Hinesburg

Local Golf Course is a Family Affair

Page 24: A tradition of family business breathes an unmatched energy and togetherness into the golf community.

PRESORT STD
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Town News

Town Clerk and Treasurer

BY MISSY ROSS

As we are all aware, the impacts of the global pandemic continue to influence the way we conduct our daily lives, and the activity here at Town Hall has been similarly changed to reflect safe operations for community members and staff. We have begun to allow lawyers and paralegals back in to access the land records by appointment. I am now doing notarizations outside, and similarly, we can often help you with other things like dog licenses, marriage licenses, tax payments, and water and sewer bills while you wait. Please feel free to stop by to transact any business with the clerk treasurer's office that you might need. I am staffing the office Monday-Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. We ask that you knock on the clerk's office door and we will be right with you!

Heather Roberts was hired as the new assistant town clerk and treasurer, and began working full-time in June. She has been a wonderful addition to our Town Hall staff. Heather has been involved in many community organizations and is currently a member of the Carpenter-Carse Library board. Welcome Heather!

Elections

It is important to check that your voter registration is up to date with your correct town of residence and current mailing address. You can check your voter registration by visiting My Voter Page at mvp.vermont.gov. You can access your information through your Vermont driver's license information. If you need further assistance, you can contact me via email at mross@hinesburg.org. Additionally, if you have

not yet registered to vote and you are a current resident of Hinesburg, you can do so at olvr.vermont.gov. Your registration will be uploaded to the Hinesburg voter checklist and I will mail you a copy of your Voter Registration Certificate.

We anticipate that every voter will receive a postcard prior to the August primary that they can tear off and return to the clerk's office to request that ballots be mailed to them. Though this is not yet definitive, it is the likely scenario. The primary is scheduled for Aug. 11, and we have four candidates for the office of Hinesburg's representative for Chittenden 4-2 vying for a spot on the November ballot. Bill Lippert will face off against Christina Deeley for the Democratic nomination, while Sarah Toscano will face Dean Rolland for the Republican spot on the ballot. The polling place will still be open for those people who have issues with registering to vote beforehand or who never received their ballots as their addresses were outdated or for some other reason. Obviously, we strongly encourage people to use the websites above prior to the election in order to assure their vote-by-mail option is available to them in order to minimize in-person interaction at the polling place.

The November election will be extremely busy as it is a presidential election year! Huge numbers of people who only vote every four years will be expected to turn out to vote, and as we may well have a second surge of coronavirus cases in the fall, the secretary of state's office is making adjustments and will hopefully be mailing ballots to all registered voters in the state. This will help to greatly reduce the numbers at the polling place and should help promote voter and election worker safety as well as increase turnout. There will be a secure drop box location at the town clerk's office. More details on this will be forthcoming after the August primary. The polling location at Hinesburg

Town Hall will also be open, though our intention is to minimize in-person voting.

Dog Licenses

Dog licenses are still due and they are \$10 per dog. There will be no late fees for 2020. You can now come to our door to get your license rather than obtaining it by mail. If receiving your license by mail is still the most convenient for you, we do ask that you include a stamped, self-addressed envelope so that we can send the license and tag back to you. Thank you for taking care of this annual responsibility. We appreciate your cooperation and are here to make it as easy as possible for you.

Property Tax Bills

Property tax bills will be mailed out in mid-August as the state is planning to download the property tax adjustment amounts into our grand list on or about Aug. 1. If you have not filed your Homestead Declaration, it is not too late to do so. You can do it online through the state tax department or with your income tax return. If you don't receive a property tax bill, please contact me at mross@hinesburg.org for assistance. Thank you and have a wonderful summer!

Selectboard Meeting

MERRILY LOVELL,
SELECTBOARD MEMBER

The selectboard held a special meeting on June 10 to respond to current racist activities in our town.

Two statements were decided on:

The value statement is intended to go on our town website for the foreseeable future:

I. Value Statement: The town of Hinesburg welcomes people of all races, ethnicities and sexual preferences

and does not tolerate discrimination of any kind. We, as a town, are committed to social justice.

The second statement is the selectboard's response to the hateful stickers that have been found in our town. This statement will be posted on the town's website:

II. Response to white supremacy stickers: In response to the recent posting of racist, white supremacy propaganda on public and private property in our community, we, the selectboard, as the governing body of the town of Hinesburg, Vermont, denounce all messages of hate and intolerance. We stand with black and brown people in our community and across our country fighting for racial justice. We hear you. We see you. Black lives matter. Those individuals found to have violated laws of defacing public or private property and or committing hate crimes will be subject to state and federal penalties.

The third part of our selectboard initiative needs to be formulated in cooperation with others who have been impacted by racism and also those who have expertise in diversity issues. A smaller group including two selectboard members will begin the work on this part. If you have input you would like to contribute, please feel free to email Mike Loner, mloner@hinesburg.org, or Jeff Tobroke, jtobrocke@hinesburg.org.

III. Long-term action plan

A. Listen to the concerns and challenges of the community.

B. Coordinate with schools, housing programs, businesses and residents to begin discussion of a long-term action plan.

1. What are the issues that people are faced with?

2. What supports are in place and what is still needed?

3. How can we ensure all stakeholders are invested?

4. How do we measure or determine we are on the right track?

LEGISLATIVE

Protecting Vermonters: Vote by Mail & Racial Justice

BY REP. BILL LIPPERT, HINESBURG
STATE REPRESENTATIVE

Vote by Mail

Thank you to everyone who has reached out to share feedback on vote-by-mail initiatives. The House and Senate have passed a bill to ensure Vermonters will be able to safely cast their ballot by mail for the November general election.

Voting by mail is the safest way to conduct elections in this time of pandemic.

By taking this step, we protect the health and safety of Vermont voters and those on the frontlines of counting the votes.

Secretary of State Jim Condos has worked hard with his staff to prepare for this election. Once the governor signs the bill, we expect the state elections division will move rapidly to implement the program so a system is online and ready this fall. This is a critically important step as we move through COVID-19 disruptions, and a possible resurgence of cases in the fall. If you have questions, please reach out. You can always reach me at wlippert@leg.state.vt.us.

Racial Justice and the Legislature

The Vermont Legislature, as well as our

communities throughout Vermont, must face the challenges of confronting systemic racism not only by our attitudes and intentions but through our actions.

As white legislators, we must be both listeners and learners — listening to those Vermonters whose lives have been targeted by systemic racism, and learners as we take actions as allies to our affected fellow Vermonters.

During this legislative session, we listened and began some of our work to dismantle systemic racism with:

- The passage of Act 1, establishing a task force to address social equity in our statewide academic standards. This bill works to ensure our next generation of leaders have a strong foundation and are learning from a more accurate curriculum that reflects the history, contributions and perspectives of all ethnic groups and social groups.

- PR.2, a proposal of amendment to the Vermont Constitution removes references to slavery and indentured servitude and clarifies that these acts are prohibited. This action was both symbolic and practical — removing some of the structural language of racism that has remained within our state constitution. The amendment was approved by the 2019-2020 Legislature, and will require its passage in 2021 when we must vote on it again. In order to finally amend our state constitution, this amendment must then pass a referendum vote by Vermonters.
- Creating a statewide standard and model of a fair and impartial policing policy within Act 41 that (1) protects Vermonters from discrimination at the hands of police departments and (2) limits the sharing of information about a person's immigration status

between law enforcement and federal authorities.

- Establishing a Social Equity Caucus, with the mission to focus deliberately on eliminating systemic racism, improving outcomes for marginalized people and creating a vehicle for Vermonters to access their representation, leadership and community. I am proud to be a founding member of the Social Equity Caucus.

We are currently working in these areas:

- S.338, Justice Reinvestment II, which continues reform of our criminal justice system by implementing new policies around furlough, probation and parole. It invests savings in evidence-based programming and community supports to ensure successful reentries to communities for Vermonters.
- Examining the use of deadly force by law enforcement, and creating a consistent policy to limit its use to only the defense of human life, and establishing oversight, education and evaluation of any force used.
- A shared commitment to prioritize racial and ethnic minorities and vulnerable, marginalized communities as we appropriate federal stimulus money in this moment of crisis. It is essential

that we reduce, rather than widen, the well-documented and institutionalized gaps in access to health care, financial and educational opportunities, justice and security.

As we respond to public demonstrations of support for institutional change, for the recognition and dismantling of systemic racism, the Legislature must continue to listen to our communities of color and racial justice coalitions as we prioritize these critical efforts. Our work to eliminate systemic racism also requires that we reflect on and examine the ways that white privilege has permeated both our personal and institutional lives.

Our work to eliminate systemic racism will not be completed by passing any one piece of legislation in this single legislative session. We will move forward together, however, by starting now, not waiting for the "right time" sometime in the future. And as we begin to take action, we must understand that this commitment demands our intentional involvement over the long haul.

As always, I welcome you to contact me, Rep. Bill Lippert, at wlippert@leg.state.vt.us or at home: 802-734-0593.

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an adult team.

Rowing has no impact on the environment. To the contrary, it is a unique sport that combines power, quiet, grace, community and a holistic experience with the water and the outdoors.

To date our club has secured the equipment, coaching and organization required to begin rowing this year. We anticipated starting in the spring of 2020 but were unable to because of the COVID-19 crisis. Our goal is now to start this fall.

It is clear from my research and communications with others that the milfoil infestation will be a tremendous hindrance to our use of Lake Iroquois during the fall training season. This invasive species will make much of the lake impossible or dangerous for the athletes, as well as other recreational boaters, to use.

As a scientist and lifelong environmentalist, I have reviewed and understand the risk of invasive species and the risks of the use of herbicides. My extended family has been in agriculture for over a century, and as a veterinarian I am fully aware of the effects of chemicals on livestock. It is clear from the scientific literature that ProcellaCOR has minimal risk to the lake and its native species. This foreign invasive species, if unmitigated, will continue to pose a safety risk for recreation on Lake Iroquois and ultimately eliminate its use for recreational, educational and athletic programs such as ours.

Invasive species are not a part of our natural environment. I strongly support the proposed ProcellaCOR milfoil mitigation program for the sake of the lake, its ecosystem and those who enjoy it.

Kurt S Schulz, DVM, MS, DACVS

We Hold These Truths

The death of George Floyd ignited a fire for change in our country. There is a wave of acknowledgment of the 400-year tower of systemic racism. While excessive force may not be a pattern in our town, the student-led march displayed an act of unifying the people of Hinesburg with the greater call to action of our country.

The reevaluations of the police and criminal justice system are only pieces of the necessary path toward addressing the greater system of racism that is in place in our country. Many who live in towns sheltered from the direct personal experiences of racism are either in disbelief of the inequalities, or are wondering what they can do. Here are a few questions that can be asked in your home to get conversations started and to be followed up with collaborative family research:

Why isn't Hinesburg diverse?

Which activities do you engage in that lack diversity more so than others?

Why do you think that is — What is the relevant history or resource availability in other areas for that activity? (For example: the creation of Yosemite National Park for hiking relevance.)

Is everyone in your family registered to vote?

Which organizations do your family members donate to or volunteer with? Who runs them?

Does your family understand what a wage gap is? What are the effects resulting from this?

Do your children understand the full extent of segregation and how recent in history it was legally still allowed?

Is diversity being represented in the movies, magazines and books that your family enjoys? Who made them?

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Systemic racism can't be disassembled with one tool in one day. It is compiled by both physical and mental trauma which has been accumulating between generations within a family or lack of family members. It's not that Black lives matter more than anyone else, it's that our country has consistently failed to uphold its end of the bargain of providing/supporting the bare minimum of rights which allow Black Lives to Matter. I am not a writer. However, as a minority born in this country who has lived outside of this state, my intention is just to convey that racial inequalities are very real on varying degrees, sometimes not seen directly with your eyes but still existing around you nonetheless.

Please continue to do something on any scale against racial inequalities. It will be an uncomfortable journey. Don't be silent.

Laura Saul

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► Legislative

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Leahy, Sanders and Welch Push IRS to Ensure All Eligible Vermonters Receive Stimulus Checks

FROM PRESS RELEASE

Senator Patrick Leahy (D), Senator Bernie Sanders (I) and Representative Peter Welch (D) on Friday sent a letter to Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin and IRS Commissioner Charles Rettig demanding improvements to the Economic Impact Payment program. Delegation offices have heard from many Vermonters who are frustrated

that they still have not received their payments and about the IRS's poor communication.

The delegation letter asks the IRS to address late or incomplete payments, confusion around payments delivered as prepaid debit cards, and the lack of clear communication from the IRS that has made recipients susceptible to fraud.

In the letter, Leahy, Sanders and Welch said: "We are writing today because of the significant delays and confusion during the processing and receipt of the EIPs. We continue to receive reports from Vermonters who have yet to receive their EIPS after months of waiting, including Social Security beneficiaries. In addition, EIPs delivered via prepaid debit cards are causing confusion for recipients and financial institutions tasked with processing withdrawals from the debit cards. Adding to the delays and confusion is the lack of clear and timely guidance to the public and Congressional offices who assist constituents with obtaining their EIPs."

In addition, Vermonters who received

incorrect payments have been told that they will not receive the additional money they are owed until next year, despite the immediate economic crisis many are facing. The letter urges the IRS to immediately begin payments to Vermonters who are owed money.

The letter demands answers to these and other questions, and can be found at tinyurl.com/EIP-Letter.

Molly Gray Candidate for Lt. Governor Holds Socially Distant Neighborhood Conversation

Candidates Utilize Unique, Socially Distant Opportunities to Connect With Voters

FROM PRESS RELEASE

On Sunday, May 31 Assistant Attorney General Molly Gray, candidate for lieutenant governor, joined candidates Gabrielle Stebbins and Tiffany Blueemle for a Mobile Meet and Greet. The candidates walked the Five Sisters neighborhood for three hours, with masks on and standing at a safe distance, to introduce themselves to residents. They were accompanied by a bell ringer, three sign holders and several children on scooters and — for a portion of the route — a small dog.

The tour was organized by supporters and Five Sisters residents Trine Bech, Dawn Moskowitz and Jessica Nordhaus who are committed to helping Democratic women get elected to office. "We agreed that we were all equally tired of virtual meetings and passionate about the candidacy of our neighbors Molly Gray for Lt. Governor, as well as Tiff Blueemle and Gabrielle Stebbins for House Chittenden 6-5. We love our neighborhood; it's filled with involved and community-oriented people. We wanted to offer a safe way for our friends to meet the candidates and hear a little bit about what they stand for."

Molly Gray said, "Every day I speak with Vermonters about the issues most important to them, hear their stories



Molly Gray (right), candidate for lieutenant governor.

and talk about the future we want for each other. I am appreciative of the hard work and creative thinking of the volunteers who found a way for us to connect with their friends and neighbors face to face to have these important conversations. It's more important than ever that we find ways to connect and work together."

The hosts met several times in Nordhaus's back yard with members of each campaign team to plan the event. Front Porch Forum was an important organizing tool — the announcement was shared on the Five Sisters neighborhood forum leading up to the event, and the route was planned based on the FPF area map. "We walked the route beforehand to get the timing down and count the number of households we could reach," Nordhaus said. "We wanted to be able to give our neighbors some advance notice of when the candidates would be coming by." An online form allowed neighbors to preregister in order to ensure a visit from the candidates and receive more information about each of their priorities and positions.

"We need to develop new ways of doing so many things," Nordhaus said. "Door-knocking and house parties just aren't safe right now. We were looking for a creative way to create safe, human connections with these amazing candidates. I'd say we succeeded."

Candidates walked a preplanned route, beginning at Catherine Street and ending at Caroline Street, through Burlington's Five Sisters neighborhood, where they met and spoke with residents at about 30 households who came out to their porches, lawns and driveways to greet the candidates. Organizers requested that everyone wear facial coverings and keep a six-foot distance from candidates, volunteers and neighbors. The candidates safely handed out campaign literature and each walked with a campaign volunteer who carried the candidate's sign.

FIRE

Congratulations Graduates

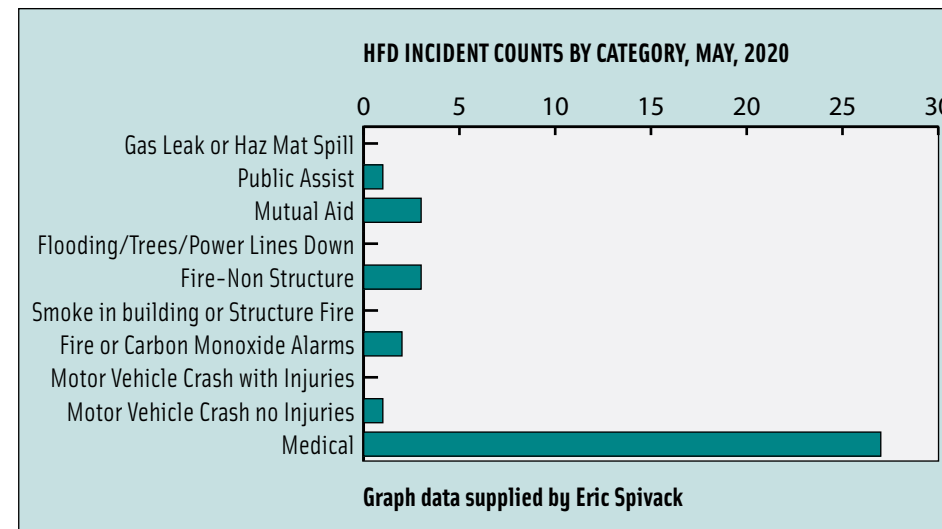
The Hinesburg Fire Department would like to congratulate the Hinesburg Community School's eighth grade class, the CVU Class of 2020, and our member Scott Loftus on their graduation.

Good luck to all in your next adventure.

July 4th

HFD would like to wish everyone a happy 4th of July. Enjoy the day. Have fun. And be safe. We want to remind everyone that while fireworks may be fun, it is illegal in the state of Vermont to privately set off fireworks.

Follow us on Facebook at [HinesburgFireDepartment](https://www.facebook.com/HinesburgFireDepartment) and be sure to visit our website [hinesburgfd.org](https://www.hinesburgfd.org).



HFD responded to 37 calls in May.

*an example of a non-structure fire would be a telephone pole, car, or grass/brush fire.

POLICE

Incidents

June 1

3:40 p.m. Officers responded to a residence on Route 116 for a family fight. It was later determined to be a verbal argument only.

June 2

1:50 p.m. Property stolen from a parked vehicle on Route 116 was reported.

5 p.m. An officer investigated vandalism to a motor vehicle on Green Street.

June 4

11:15 p.m. Officers conducted a welfare check on Pine Shore Drive.

June 5

12:07 p.m. An officer conducted a traf-

fic stop on Route 116. The operator was issued a ticket for cell phone use and was cited for driving with a criminally suspended license.

June 6

12:05 a.m. An officer responded to Magee Hill Road for a noise complaint involving possible gun shots. Fireworks were later determined to be source of the noise.

9:05 p.m. Officers responded to North Road for a noise complaint involving possible gun shots.

June 8

9:40 a.m. An officer responded to the Mobile station on Commerce Street where an individual was trespassed from that location for improperly using the gas pumps.

12:25 p.m. Officers assisted Hinesburg Fire Department with a car fire on Route 116.

June 9

12:25 p.m. A be on the lookout for erratic operation was reported. An officer located and stopped the vehicle on Shelburne Falls Road. No action was taken.

6:10 p.m. Officers responded to a burglary alarm activation on Commerce Street.

June 10

9:30 p.m. Officers responded to Silver

BUSINESS

The Aubuchon Foundation Donates to COVID-19 Relief Funds Throughout the Northeast

FROM PRESS RELEASE

The Aubuchon Foundation, is donating over \$100,000 to COVID-19 relief funds throughout the various communities they serve within the Northeast.

The donations are being distributed to the following COVID-19 relief funds: the Massachusetts COVID-19 Relief Fund, the Maine Community Foundation COVID-19 Emergency Response Fund, the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation Community Crisis Action Fund, the Adirondack Foundation Special Urgent Needs Fund and the Vermont Community Foundation COVID-19 Response Fund.

"It's a privilege to provide much-needed assistance to those individuals most affected by the COVID-19 pandemic," said Will Aubuchon, president & CEO

of W.E. Aubuchon Co., Inc. "I'm especially thankful for our fantastic vendor partners, who graciously donated their sponsorship commitments to our annual Aubuchon Foundation golf tournament, even though we were forced to cancel the event this year. With their added support we were able to make more meaningful donations to all of these relief funds."

As an essential retailer, all W.E. Aubuchon Company store locations have remained open with adjusted hours and intensive COVID-19 related safety and sanitizing protocols. For maximum safety and convenience, all locations offer buy online, pick up in-store with optional curbside pickup. Customers can also save \$5 off their first \$30+ order.

W.E. Aubuchon Co., Inc. was founded in 1908 by William E. Aubuchon, Sr. (1885-1971). Over the last 112 years, each generation has maintained the family business with the same core philosophy of the company's founder: "To serve those who depend on us and build on our heritage with passion and humility."

The company owns and operates 102 Aubuchon Hardware locations throughout New England and upstate New York. For more information regarding the company's history, products and services, please visit [HardwareStore.com](https://www.HardwareStore.com).

Community Bank N.A. Supports Pathways Vermont

FROM PRESS RELEASE

Community Bank N.A. recently presented Pathways Vermont with a \$5,000 donation to support its annual Community Breakfast, which was to be held in May. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, this year's breakfast went virtual and evolved into a Housing is Healthcare fundraising campaign, and Community Bank was again honored to sponsor the nonprofit.

Pathways Vermont helps people live and thrive in the community at times in their lives when they are most distressed: when they are struggling with thoughts of suicide, or are experiencing homelessness, incarceration, institutionalization, mental health struggles or substance abuse challenges. Pathways Vermont is the first and largest Housing First organization in Vermont, providing permanent housing without requirements or barriers.

"We are thrilled that Pathways Vermont was able to ensure its annual fundraiser still took place and evolve into an online fundraising campaign," Community

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RECREATION

Fourth of July Home Float Celebration and Awards

BY JENNIFER MCCUIN

The Hinesburg Recreation Commission is excited to announce that although we are unable to sponsor the traditional parade and fireworks, we have a plan for the next best thing: a Home Float Celebration! Show your July 4th spirit by decorating a float or yard — or even make it a neighborhood effort! One tradition that we'll be able to keep is awarding prizes to the best themes (see below for details). In the past, our local businesses have generously donated gift certificates — but this year, thanks to sponsorship by Wahl Landscaping and Waitsfield Champlain Valley Telecom, our local businesses will be treated to something different, too. A reverse-gift certificate, if you will! Spend your \$50 gift certificate at your favorite local shop, service station or restaurant. We are so appreciative of the support by the businesses in this community over the years and they deserve our recognition!

Sign up for Hinesburg's July 4th Home Float competition at hinesburgrec.com

Please email a photograph or video to hinesburgrec@gmavt.net by midnight on July 5 for your chance to win a prize! Judging will take place first thing on July 6, with awards going to:

Best of Parade — \$50 gift certificate to Lantman's

Best Theme-Related — “We Are in This

Together!” \$50 gift certificate to Papa Nick's

Best Business Float — \$50 gift certificate to Jiffy Mart

Best Float — \$50 gift certificate to Good Times Café

Best Antique — Classic Vehicle — \$50 gift certificate to Automotion

Best Pet — \$50 gift certificate to Grateful Dog Grooming

Best Tractor — \$50 gift certificate to Aubuchon Hardware

Best Costume — \$50 gift certificate to Hinesburgh Public House

Best Horse and Rider — \$50 gift certificate to Paisley Hippo

Best Decorated Bike — \$50 gift certificate to Hart & Mead

Want to share your address so that people can cruise by in a vehicle to check out your home float on July 4? (being social, but distant, of course)? Email it to hinesburgrec@gmavt.net by midnight on July 1 so that we can include you on a list of sites on the town website and Front Porch Forum.

Happy Fourth of July, Hinesburg — We ARE in this, together!

Concerts in the Park Canceled

Sadly, our beloved Hinesburg Concerts in the Park sponsored by WCVT and Wahl Landscaping have been canceled for the 2020 summer season. We remain committed and hopeful for their return in the summer of 2021! Many thanks to our sponsors for shifting gears and supporting our Fourth of July Home Float Celebration this year!

lessness in Vermont while also providing assistance and guidance to those in need.”

“Pathways Vermont is providing vital housing, care and supplies to its service recipients, many of whom are particularly vulnerable to this new dis-



Pictured from left to right: Branch Manager Jon Roddy, Trust Market Manager Sean Houghton and Teller Sarah Robert.

LIBRARY

Library Hours:

Please check the website for updates on opening, and see below regarding appointments.

Phone: 802-482-2878

Address: 69 Ballard's Corner Road, Hinesburg 05461

Website: carpentercarse.org

Email: library@carpentercarse.org

Library News

We reopened our doors on June 15 by appointment, and hope to continue to offer very individualized, boutique library services to a small number of visitors at a time. Let us know when you want to visit and we will make an appointment for you. Depending on the way the case numbers go, we may open more fully or go back to curbside delivery only. We want everyone to have things to read, yet we also don't want people to congregate in large groups until a vaccine is found. If you want a new books dispatch, we plan to start that this month, so shoot us an email at library@carpentercarse.org and we will get you on the list.

Thanks, and stay safe and be excellent to each other, your friends at Carpenter-Carse Library.

Library Calendar

Youngster Virtual Storytime

Tuesdays 9:30-10 a.m.

Join us every Tuesday morning via Zoom for a virtual storytime! Virtual storytimes are geared toward children ages infancy-6 and their caregiv-

ease — therefore our work has taken on even greater importance,” Pathways Vermont Development Director Pat Gallagher said. “Remarkably, during this crisis, our team has housed 41 households and counting, and now, more than ever, it's clear that housing is health care. Having access to housing and support will help those we serve weather this storm with a roof over their head and food in their fridge.”

While many businesses have temporarily closed, Pathways Vermont has continued to provide vital care and supplies to its recipients, many of whom are particularly vulnerable to COVID-19. During this crisis, Pathways to Vermont's Housing First team has tirelessly worked to ensure Vermonters who once experienced homelessness now have a safe place to call home.

For more information on Pathways Vermont, or to donate, please visit pathwaysvermont.org.

Community Bank N.A. is a Member FDIC and Equal Housing Lender.

ers. Join Ms. Jen for stories, songs and games that are designed to promote early literacy skills in a fun environment. Please email jen@carpentercarse.org to be added to our email list (Zoom invitations will be emailed weekly). You can also check out our prerecorded video storytimes on the Carpenter-Carse Library website.

Summer Reading Program 2020

Our Summer Reading Program theme this year is “Imagine Your Story!”

Imagine Your Story reading logs and sign-up forms are available on the library patio, and while you're here, check out Jack's Magical Book Beanstalk where you can add titles you've completed all summer as well as check out what your friends are reading. You can also plant your own bean stalk in the library garden and make a tag to label your plant. Throughout the summer, stop in to water and weed your plant, and in August we will harvest these magical beans for the Hinesburg Food Shelf!

Summer 2020 is going to be different in many ways and this will be true for this year's Summer Reading Club events. Right now, it looks like we might be able to hold some of our events outdoors at the library, though changing guidelines from our health officials may indicate a switch to online/virtual programming. Visit carpentercarse.org to read full descriptions of all our events and to register online. Once you are signed up, we will keep all participants informed of any necessary changes. Email jen@carpentercarse.org with any questions or call us at 802-482-2878.

July 1, 10-11:30 a.m. Vermont Institute of Natural Sciences presents “Animal Myths and Legends”

July 8, 10-11:30 a.m. Fairy Tales and Fairy Houses!

July 15, 10-11:30 a.m. Dance with Ashley!

July 22, 10-11:30 a.m. Quest to find the Dragon Eggs!

July 29, 10-11:30 a.m. A Hero's Tale

StoryWalks

When your family is out for a walk this summer, keep an eye out for StoryWalks! Carpenter-Carse Library will install children's stories (laminated cards mounted on wooden stakes) along a path or trail that you can read while taking a walk and enjoying the great summer weather! Check carpentercarse.org for specific locations and stories throughout the summer.

Adult Programming

Adults: we haven't forgotten you, but with the nice weather and the inabil-

continued on page 9

Library

continued from page 8

ity to do in-person programming, we haven't scheduled anything. I don't know about you, but I don't want to spend MORE TIME on a computer than

COMMENTARY

Vermont's Mixed History on Race

BY BILL SCHUBART

Like many Vermonters, I've been watching with pain and empathy the protests unfolding in countless cities and towns across the country. Watching the murder of George Floyd has called on me to explore my own white privilege and intersectional perspective.

Last week, some 200 Hinesburg young people, families, and other citizens walked Route 116 between Lantman's Market and NRG Systems in peaceful protest both of the murder of George Floyd and the deep and residual culture of racism in America.

In Vermont, we like to imagine ourselves a welcoming community, and for much of our history we have been and are. But as we congratulate ourselves on our professed belief in racial equality and our historical abolitionist efforts, honesty calls us to remember the dark underbelly of racism and economic privilege that persists even today in Vermont.

My French-Canadian grandmother, Elise Couture — the moral beacon in our family for 101 years — recalled for us the Klan's activities in her hometown of Morrisville. “It was so silly, really,” she would chuckle, “those grown men riding around town dressed in sheets. We all knew who they were. Morrisville didn't have any black people or Jews, so they rode around the homes of Quebecois, Italian and Irish — most of us, in fact. And when the sheets came off, we all were their customers, employees, and friends ... so silly.” In 1916, D.W. Griffith's silent film “Birth of a Nation” played in theaters across the country, including Morrisville's Bijou Theater.

The hugely successful film is often credited with the genesis of the Ku Klux Klan.

In 1968, when I was 23, I followed the Irasburg incident. Just three months after Martin Luther King's assassination, a Glover man, Larry Conley, fired shots into the living room of The Rev. David Lee Johnson, his partner and her daughters. Conley was charged with breach of the peace and was fined \$500. But the interracial couple was fined \$125 for adultery and they left the state soon after the incident. The story was

I already do. We are sharing relevant adult online programming from other sources on our Facebook page and we think our mystery book club may be soon meeting outside AT A SAFE DISTANCE from one another, so visit our website for more information about how to join them.

the basis of Howard Frank Mosher's 1989 “A Stranger in the Kingdom.”

The 1931 Vermont “eugenics law” targeted “idiots,” “imbeciles,” and “feeble-minded” and “insane” persons, permitting the state to castrate or sterilize people deemed as such. UVM formally apologized for its leadership position in the racist “science” and promotion of eugenics which went well beyond the intellectually challenged. It was also the well-documented subtext for excluding blacks and other people of color. Vermont's own Calvin Coolidge embraced the popular science when in 1924 he declared, “America must be kept American. Biological laws show ... that Nordics deteriorate when mixed with other races,” and, as president, he supported the Immigration Act of 1924 that restricted immigration from certain areas. Any of this sound familiar?

Growing up in the '50s and going to Morrisville's Peoples Academy, our spring event was a “Cake Walk,” a parody of a racist and humiliating amusement staged by slaves for their owners. The “owners,” the king and queen of Cake Walk, sat in large chairs and watched as students dressed in black-face and tuxedos — their slaves — high-stepped toward them in pairs with their arms pitched up and way back. The grand prize for the highest stepers was a “plantation cake.” As a middle-school student I remember sneaking into the auditorium and watching seniors audition for the spectacle. Hence the name Cake Walk which persisted in Vermont in my childhood and at UVM until 1969.

More recently, Vermonters remem-

continued on page 10

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I am ready to join a generation of young women working for better representation in this state and country. As a mother and an educator, I see the opportunity gaps that exist for

many Vermonters, and I know that now is the time to work with and for Hinesburgers to make a difference.

I would appreciate your vote in the Democratic Primary for Vermont House on August 11th. Please visit deeleyforvt.com for more information about me, my viewpoints, and what we can achieve together. Reach out at any time with questions or ask for more information at 802-799-2051 or christina@deeleyforvt.com.



Paid for by Deeley for Vermont.

▶ Commentary

continued from page 9

ber the Kiah Morris case in which Vermont's lone black female legislator was harassed by a Bennington white supremacist, Max Misch, to the point where, fearing for her safety, she resigned her seat. To date, little of what made Misch's racist intrusion in Morris's life entirely legal has changed in Vermont, despite outcries.

In a 2017 study of police stops conducted by UVM Professor Stephanie Seguino, black drivers were four times more likely than white drivers to be stopped and searched by Vermont police. The study also found that 56% of black drivers searched were found with contraband, compared to 67% of white drivers searched. Progress has been made according to a 2018 study by the

Vermont Partnership for Fairness and Diversity. This study, however, unlike Seguino's more comprehensive earlier one, assessed only Vermont State Police stops and not those by all our many local departments, sheriffs and deputies.

Vermont's Fair and Impartial Policing Policy, focused largely on cooperative immigration enforcement, has wobbled through several iterations but provides some legal basis for racial equity in policing.

In 2018, the Legislature passed Act 9 establishing a Racial Equity Advisory Panel "to advise the governor on strategies for remediating systemic racial disparities in statewide systems of government and report progress to the legislature."

The latest effort is a Racial Equity Task

Force brought into being last week by executive order and led by Executive Director of Racial Equity Xusana Davis.

Admirably, Vermont businesses, organizations and agencies have been, for the last few years, issuing and publishing statements on inclusion and diversity. Governing boards are scrambling to include more diverse trustees.

The hard questions Vermonters will have to ask themselves and their leaders now are:

Will this flurry of racial equity appointments, commissions, and studies amount to more than just lip gloss and will it succeed in changing Vermonters' mixed feelings on racial equality in the Green Mountain State?

How do our mixed feelings on race compare as a problem to our equally mixed feelings on ensuring equal economic opportunity at the expense of our own privilege and our lack of progress in equalizing opportunity for Vermonters of all colors by addressing expanding poverty (68K), hunger (70K), homelessness (11K) and the medically uninsured (20K)?

All progress is incremental. But between the racial implications of the pandemic and George Floyd's televised death at the hands of a racist police team, the power of the present is directly in front of us. Let's hope it will propel us and our leaders into turning the corner on racial equality and creating a level economic playing field for the benefit of all Vermonters.

Huzzah! USS Vermont

BY ROGER DONEGAN

If 2020 was a poker game, COVID-19 bluffed at first, but by June it held a straight flush to wipe everything off the calendar to date. The cancellation of Hinesburg's Fourth of July Parade and fireworks really takes the cake. As COVID-19 became more of a reality, some held out cautious optimism for normalcy to return by Independence Day. As the holiday comes and goes

without the flourishing of the flags, fire truck sirens, flatbed-riding band music, tractors, candy-tossing volunteer firefighters, and enthusiastic spectators mobbing the roadside, we're resigned to appreciate that at least Old Glory still waves and ships still sail. Absent the parade and the flash-bang of the fireworks at night, the flags displayed along the parade's route when driving through town is the next best thing.

No doubt everyone will love Hinesburg's Fourth of July parade and fireworks next year; however, it's obvious everybody's 2020 personal plans were impacted differently as events were canceled across the board due to social distancing requirements, including those reserved summertime events such as graduations, reunions and weddings, and those individual dates set aside for vacation or a short trip.

As far back as Sept. 18, 2014, I had set aside a notion of attending the commissioning of the USS Vermont. That was the day the secretary of the Navy announced the next submarine to be built would be the USS Vermont (with the classification of SSN 792) in a naming ceremony at the Lake Champlain Navy Memorial, next door to the ECHO Lake Aquarium and Science Center. Several years later, it's commissioning got closer to gaining a spot on the calendar following the submarine's christening in New London, Connecticut, in October of 2018. Governor Phil Scott attended. Besides the breaking of a bottle of sparkling wine against the bow, 14 gallons of Lake Champlain water were shipped down and poured over the hull to commemorate Vermont being the 14th state of the union. At that time the commissioning ceremony was tentatively set for the spring or summer of 2020.

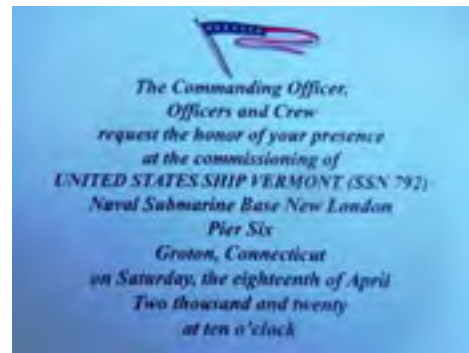
Post-christening, while the infinite details of fitting out the USS Vermont continued, from assigning a submarine crew to conducting sea trials, Vermont Teddy Bear produced the Classic SSN-792 Dewey Bear. The limited-edition collectible was in need of a marketable name to compliment the USS Vermont emblem proudly embossed on the front of the teddy bear's T-shirt. The name "Dewey" links a noteworthy Vermont

episode in U.S. naval history to the third USS Vermont vessel by intoning the legacy of Admiral George Dewey, a Montpelier native. The battleship USS Vermont (BB-20) was the second U.S. Navy ship named USS Vermont, and was part of Teddy Roosevelt's Great White Fleet that followed in the aftermath of Admiral Dewey's historic role in the Spanish-American War. BB-20 was decommissioned in 1920.

Pre-COVID-19, I assumed, as everyone did, a steady-as-you-go attitude to personal plans in the beginning of 2020, and was more than encouraged by an advertisement incorporating a photo of an anonymous looking Virginia-class submarine coursing over the surface of the sea in the Jan. 22-29 issue of Seven Days.

"USS Vermont Commissioning Events Announced!" the headline read.

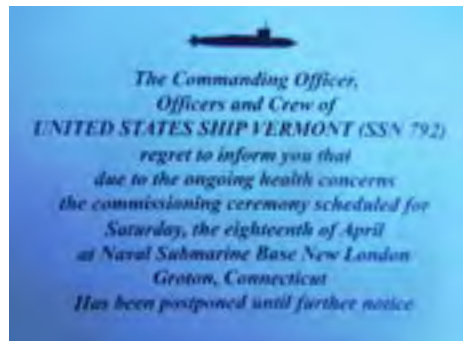
The commissioning ceremony was set for Saturday, April 18, at the Naval Submarine Base New London, in Groton, Connecticut. All Vermonters were welcome, although attendees had to RSVP. I requested tickets on Feb. 2, timely enough as WCAX posted a news



Invitation to commissioning.

release Feb. 20 declaring "Reservations Closed for USS Vermont Commissioning Ceremony" due to an overwhelming public response.

I received a 4 inch by 5 inch invitation to the commissioning ceremony in the mail on Feb. 27 with instructions to obtain tickets. The invitation was an act of simplicity and a formality. The stiff paper stock displayed an economy-sized color image of an unfurled commissioning pennant, a thin whip of a red, white and blue flag with seven white stars. In the ceremony, as the commissioning pennant is released atop a ship or submarine's surface mast, the vessel formally becomes a U.S. Navy ship of the fleet.



Postponement of commissioning.

Remarkably, that invitation, but for the ship name, date and event location, is identical to the one I kept from the commissioning of the USS Lake Champlain (CG 57) in July 1988 in the Port of New York, an Aegis guided missile cruiser home ported in San Diego today. The previous USS Lake Champlain (CV 39), an Essex-class aircraft carrier, was the recovery ship for this country's first manned space flight lifting Alan Shepard and the Mercury spacecraft from the Atlantic in May, 1961.

I held the prospect of taking several grandchildren with us to the USS Vermont commissioning close to my chest. I hadn't gone so far as to mention the idea to their parents. As fasci-

nating as attending the commissioning of a submarine named the USS Vermont could be, all the pomp and circumstance might have also anchored a memory of Vermont history in the making. Besides, an added attraction was the public Submarine Force Library and Museum outside the main gate of the New London submarine base on the Thames River. COVID-19 was declared a national emergency on March 13. On March 17, much like the invitation to the commissioning ceremony, I received an equally brief and efficient postponement notice in the mail. All bets of our attending the commissioning ceremony were off. The USS Vermont was administratively, and so officially, commissioned the weekend of April 18, 2020 as scheduled.

In the case of the commissioning ceremony for the USS Montpelier (SSN 765) in 1993, an LA-class submarine, the ceremony show did go on. Confronted with severe local weather instead of a nationwide emergency, the location of the ceremony was moved from a pier to an aircraft hangar in Norfolk, Virginia, where 1,800 guests, including Vermont Senator Patrick Leahy, attended ("New Submarine Joins Fleet from a Hangar," The Flagship, April 1, 1993).

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▶ HCS Graduation 2020

continued from page 1

of the graduate's names. Many big trucks and other motorists driving by joined in the festivities by honking horns, helping give the 60 graduates a memorable finale to their Hinesburg Community School experience that had such an unexpected ending due to COVID-19.

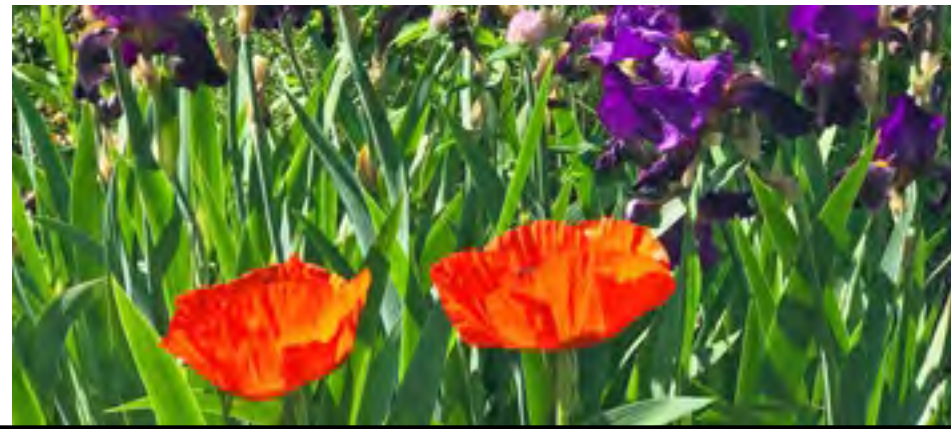
Prior to this celebration, a virtual 45-minute graduation ceremony was available to be watched from their homes. Speakers from the eighth grade class were Jack St. Peter and Nisha Hickok. Co-principals John Pontius and Suzan Locke spoke about their futures and special guest speakers included Chris Tebbetts, Peter Welch and Patrick Leahy.

This fantastic celebration was made possible by HCS faculty, staff and parents — you should all be applauded for this wonderful send-off. We salute you the Class of 2020!



Best Kept Secret on Falls Road

About 2 miles toward Shelburne on Falls Road you will find one of Vermont's finest perennial and annual gardens at Fox Run Flowers at 2041 Shelburne Falls Road. This spring over 2,000 daffodil bouquets were free for the taking at the self-service roadside stand. Right now the peonies are in full bloom. Don't miss 'em!



► Front Porch Noise

continued from page 1

other. The Front Porch Noise or Porch Music at 7 p.m. took on more meaning when Frank Twarog lost his mom to COVID-19 on the morning of April 13 at her home in Massachusetts, while Frank's dad was in the hospital fighting COVID-19 himself and unable to be at the side of his wife of 57 years. Now our nightly tradition represents appreciation, unity and remembrance.

Porch Pictures are trending during the

COVID-19 pandemic and I wanted to capture this moment in time for my neighbors and offered up my services with one rule: come as you are. I wanted to capture our neighborhood ritual in a candid way ... sweats, flannels, jeans, yoga pants and slippers, a true reflection of a moment of time with each family at 7 p.m.

Despite the stress and fear of the circumstances of living during a pandemic, each family has found so much joy in these moments together each evening, and neighbors are connected even when we are physically apart.



► Memorial Day Service

continued from page 1

ing. Six fire trucks were parked across the highway from the monuments while department members lined up in front of the trucks standing six feet apart. Scout Master Norman Smith of Troop 690 carried the national flag and Scout Jackson Tellstone held the troop flag. Scout Master Ed Mathews also attended. The three veterans present represented various conflicts. Rocky Harlow served in Iraq, Africa and Kuwait; Matt Titus was in Iraq; and Doug Mead represented Vietnam veterans. They all gathered to honor veterans living and dead and the veterans named on the two monuments.

Standing in front of the monuments, Mr. Harlow, a retired member of the United States Air Force and a member of the Vermont Air National Guard, called the group to attention and to present arms, a.k.a. to salute. At that point 17 members of the fire department stood at attention and saluted. Doug Olufsen played taps. There were no formal speeches, but the brief ceremony was solemn and moving.

Afterward, the three veterans remained together in front of the monuments. A young family placed a vase of lilacs at the center of the monuments in observance of the occasion. The red, white and blue wreath was in place and red geraniums that were donated by Aubuchon Hardware decorated the flower bed. The monument at the left honors WWI and WWII veterans and was dedicated on Memorial



Scout Master Norman Smith, Scout Jackson Tellstone and Scout Master Ed Mathews stand with the colors at the Memorial Day ceremony.

Day in 1950. The monument on the right pays tribute to veterans of the Korean War, Vietnam War and Desert Storm and was dedicated on the Fourth of July in 2003.

It was significant to have concerned citizens of Hinesburg recognize Memorial Day in a way that honored the day while still observing all recommended health guidelines. The organizers and participants are to be commended for their initiative and patriotism.

It was disappointing to have the usual service canceled because of the pandemic. It would have been nice to honor our veterans and police and fire and rescue departments as we have done in the past. Also, it would have been an opportune time to show our gratitude to all our local essential workers who have worked courageously to supply us with food and other necessary needs and services during this national emergency. It is hoped that we will be able to resume our traditional Memorial Day service in 2021.



Members of the fire department stand at attention and salute during the call to arms at the Memorial Day ceremony.

EDUCATION

VSAC Awards \$1.4 Million in Scholarships to High School Seniors

Seven CVU Students Receive Scholarships

FROM PRESS RELEASE

Vermont Student Assistance Corp. has announced it has awarded over \$1.4 million in scholarships to graduating high school seniors to continue their education after high school.

In addition to the scholarships for high school seniors, VSAC has also awarded over \$4.6 million in scholarships to college students returning to school this fall.

VSAC administers 150 scholarships on behalf of state organizations, the federal government, civic groups and individuals. Scholarships range from \$500 to \$12,500 and many are renewable for up to four years.

Scholarships — like grants — are financial aid that don't need to be paid back; however, scholarships, unlike grants, are competitive, meaning that eligible applicants vie for a limited number of awards. Scholarships are typically based on factors unique to each scholarship, including residency, degree program or major, academic achievement, extracurricular activities, and in some cases, financial need.

VSAC awarded 800 scholarships to 583 graduating seniors:

Seven seniors at Champlain Valley Union High School will receive a total of \$21,400: Noah Allen, Dominic Begue, Matisse Begue, Lily Michalak, Mykala O'Farrell, Akylai Orozbekova and Jake Twarog.

For more information, visit VSAC's scholarship page at vsac.org/pay/student-aid-options/scholarships.

Vermont Student Assistance Corporation is a public, nonprofit agency established by the Vermont Legislature in 1965 to help Vermonters achieve their education and training goals after high school. VSAC serves students and their families in grades 7-12, as well as adults returning to school, by providing education and career planning services, need-based grants, scholarships and education loans. VSAC has awarded more than \$600 million in grants and scholarships for Vermont students, and also administers Vermont's 529 college savings plan. Share your VSAC story by email to myVSAC-story@vsac.org or submit a video to YouTube. Find us at vsac.org or check in on Facebook and Twitter #changinglives.

As school districts across the state say goodbye to the Vermont high school Class of 2020, the McClure Foundation today announced a graduation gift for every member of that class. Every graduating senior, no matter their circumstances, will be eligible for a free course of their choosing at the Community College of Vermont this fall.

"Congratulations, Vermont high school class of 2020 — despite all the uncertainties these past months, you've completed senior year," says Barbara Benedict, president of the McClure Foundation. "Celebrate this moment. We want continuing your learning and exploring your interests to be as easy as possible. You deserve something you can count on."

The foundation's gift will cover tuition and fees associated with any course students choose to take, including courses that are part of shorter-term certificate programs that prepare students for skilled jobs. Becoming a student at CCV is simple. CCV requires no application fees, no essays, no reference letters and no standardized test scores. Students will be able to enroll until Sept. 4 and can visit ccv.edu/2020gradgift to learn more about the opportunity.

"I want to thank the McClure Foundation for this generous gift to the Class of 2020," said Governor Phil Scott. "The uncertainty caused by COVID-19 has undoubtedly made this pivotal time in their lives more challenging to

navigate. But having an opportunity to take at least one course for free at the Community College of Vermont — and access CCV's college and career resources — can help this class who has endured a lot in their senior year."

Any student who registers for a course at CCV is assigned an academic advisor who can help them identify goals, choose the right class and connect to support resources. At a time when their access to high school-based counselors and advisors is ending under unanticipated conditions, this opportunity will connect students to supportive advisors who can help chart next steps in the context of today's economic realities.

"As Vermonters, we should collectively find hope in the talent and potential of the Class of 2020," says Carolyn Weir, executive director of the McClure Foundation. "We are eager to see them grow and for them to help us build the just, sustainable Vermont we all dream of. This gift to the Class of 2020 is a concrete way of saying: we are invested in you. You make Vermont better, and we want to make Vermont better with you."

The McClure Foundation is proud to partner with CCV in making its commitment to the Class of 2020. CCV has the capacity to serve every graduating senior with robust online course offerings and locations within 25 miles of

95% of Vermonters. It currently offers 600 courses each semester in subject areas that include allied health, computer information systems, art and design, biology and a wide variety of courses in the humanities and social sciences. And, as part of the Vermont State Colleges, CCV students and their coursework can transfer to the VSC, the University of Vermont, Champlain College and other colleges and universities outside of Vermont.

"In every corner of the state, in every graduating class, there are young people wrestling with the question of what comes next," says Dan Smith, president & CEO of the Vermont Community Foundation, of which the McClure Foundation is an affiliate. "That is truer this year than any other. Our message to them is that when it comes to learning, you're not done yet. There is hope for the future if you take this simple step. The state of Vermont can't absorb one more year where the talent of young Vermonters is left on the table. I encourage us all to join hands around that message."

The McClure Foundation envisions a Vermont where no job goes unfilled for lack of a qualified applicant and where college and career training contributes to greater equity and resilience. This gift builds on the \$400,000 it has

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► McClure Foundation

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already granted so far in 2020 to help make the education and training pathways to Vermont's most promising jobs more visible, more accessible and more affordable. It also builds on the foundation's partnership with the Vermont Department of Labor to promote the many dozens of high-paying occupations that will be in demand in Vermont in the coming decades.

To help spread the word about the McClure Foundation's 2020 gift, visit mcclurevt.org/gradgift.

The Vermont Community Foundation inspires giving and brings people and resources together to make a difference in Vermont. This includes helping to coordinate philanthropic response in times of crisis and challenge. The foundation is committed to helping Vermont communities that are impacted by COVID-19 by responding to immediate needs and long-term recovery efforts. Visit VTCOVID19Response.org to learn more.

Have an ad? 482-7227 or
ads@hinesburgrecord.org.

ORGANIZATIONS

Hinesburg Scout Troop 690 to Hold Bottle Drive This Saturday

BY ERIC SPIVACK

Hinesburg Scout Troop 690 will be holding a bottle drive this Saturday, June 27, 9 a.m. to noon. Scouts will be going through Hinesburg neighborhoods during the morning for contactless pickup. Neighborhoods will include Creekside, Thistle Hill, Lyman Meadows, Mountainview Trailer Park, Sunset Trailer Park, Triple L and Birchwood Drive.

If you have bottles/cans which you would like to donate, please place them in plastic bags near the road with the note: Scout Troop 690.

Bottles may also be dropped off on the south side of the fire station.

Troop 690 thanks you for your support.

SCHIP Summer Grant Awards

FROM PRESS RELEASE

Shelburne, Charlotte, Hinesburg Interfaith Project has announced its Summer 2020 grant awards. Recent monies of over \$12,000 were awarded to seven nonprofits in our towns that met the criteria of serving the people of our communities in a variety of ways. The recipients for this cycle included: Age Well, Charlotte Congregational Church, Joseph's House, Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Stern Center, Shelburne Craft School, Shelburne Nursery School and Saint Jude the Apostle Church.

These awards are made possible as a result of SCHIP's mission to raise funds through the sale of donated, gently used clothing, household items, accessories, art and collectibles at its resale shop in the distinctive yellow building on Route 7, next to the town offices. Since the first grants were given in April 2005, more than \$727,000 has been distributed.

SCHIP accepts grant applications twice a year. The deadlines are April 15 and Oct. 15 of each year. The maximum grant size is \$3,000. Application forms are available on the Contacts page at schipstreasure.org.

As a member of our communities, you too are an integral part of our mission. Come shop, donate, volunteer and help us continue to meet our objectives for the future. For more information on grant recipients or the organization, please visit our website or our Facebook page (SCHIP's Treasure

Resale Shop) or call the shop for volunteer or donation inquiries at 802-985-3595.

Our participating faith communities are: All Souls Interfaith Gathering, Shelburne; Ascension Lutheran Church, South Burlington; Charlotte Congregational Church; Hinesburg United Church; Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Church, Charlotte; Shelburne United Methodist Church; St. Catherine of Siena Catholic Church, Shelburne; St. Jude's Catholic Church, Hinesburg; Trinity Episcopal Church, Shelburne; Vermont Zen Center, Shelburne.



Floodplain Restoration Completed to Help Improve LaPlatte River Water Quality

BY KATE KELLY, LEWIS CREEK ASSOCIATION

Did you know that the LaPlatte River (which passes through Hinesburg, Charlotte and Shelburne, emptying into Lake Champlain at Shelburne Bay) has fair or poor water quality (consistently surpassing the state's allowed levels for phosphorus) and that the lower portions are impaired with E. coli bacteria? One of the reasons for this poor water quality is historic activities, such as the straightening of channels, creating



The completed floodplain restoration project, looking upstream.

berms next to streams and building or filling in next to streams. This caused water in streams to move faster, which in turn caused down-cutting, which is when the stream's channel becomes deeper due to the removal of material from the stream's bed. Erosion then occurs along stream banks, which adds sediment to the stream (and eventually, downstream sites like Lake Champlain). Erosion often continues working its way upstream. When the stream channel is deepened like this (and berms are created to keep the water in), water from flood events can't spread out onto the natural floodplain, which would naturally allow the water to drop the sediment before carrying it downstream.

So, what does all this have to do with water quality?

Our area of the Champlain Valley was once part of the old Lake Vermont and Champlain Sea, which had clay soils deposited post-glaciation. Clay soils limit infiltration and increase runoff. Past agricultural practices added phosphorus (fertilizers to help plants grow) to the soil. Phosphorus never "disappears" out of the water or ground. It can be taken up by plants, but eventually returns to the soil or water. It can bind to soil and sediment particles. When flooding or erosion takes these sediments (with phosphorus attached) downstream, they may end up in Lake Champlain, which can contribute to toxic blue-green algae blooms and fish die-offs. If the LaPlatte River is further degraded and classified as "impaired" for phosphorus by the state, it will put town taxpayers on the hook for costly mitigation efforts.

The Vermont Ecosystem Restoration Program funded studies in 2007 and 2008 that showed Beecher Hill Brook (which drains into the LaPlatte River in Hinesburg) as incised and disconnected from its historic floodplain due to berming, nearby buildings and fill, channel straightening, and subsequent down-cutting and river bank erosion. In particular, studies supported by ERP and the Lewis Creek Association identified the Hinesburg Town Garage site (adjacent to Beecher Hill Brook) as an area that could be restored through berm removal and floodplain reconnection, in order to improve water qual-

ity in the LaPlatte. This site contained impervious surfaces, buildings, heavy equipment activity, berms, fuels and open gravel pits right next to the brook. The brook was down-cutting, causing erosion of stream banks, and if it continued, it could have destabilized the North Road culvert (just upstream). Thanks to a 2018 grant award from the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources to Lewis Creek Association, a final floodplain restoration design was prepared by Milone & MacBroom in cooperation with the town of Hinesburg. A 2019 ERP grant has now allowed this floodplain restoration to be constructed! This will help reduce sediment inputs to Beecher Hill Brook, the LaPlatte River and eventually Lake Champlain, thereby improving water quality.

In 2018, the town of Hinesburg passed a bond vote for redevelopment of the site, and town garage buildings were removed from near the brook area in the fall of 2018. In 2019 and 2020, LCA worked with the town of Hinesburg, engineers from Milone & MacBroom, and contractors from Dale E. Percy, Inc. to excavate earth fill and haul it to an upland location onsite, install heavy stone fill, install channel bed raising features (rocks and logs), plant over 400 trees, and restore the site. Tree planting began this spring after a slight delay due to coronavirus, and is now completed!

The improved connection between the channel and floodplain will provide an area for water to slow, sediment to be deposited, and nutrients to be taken up by vegetation. The removal of fill will reduce future down-cutting and erosion and avoid destabilizing the North Road culvert that's just upstream.

The Beecher Hill Brook floodplain restoration project is part of LCA's Ahead of the Storm program, which aims to showcase a range of landscapes and land uses and a variety of optimal conservation practices that mitigate stormwater flows, and to be more flood resilient in an effort to improve water quality in an ever-changing climate. For more information on the Ahead of the Storm program, visit lewisecreek.org/ahead-of-the-storm. LCA looks forward to seeing this site grow up to a beautiful forested floodplain over time, thereby helping protect downstream water quality in Lake Champlain!

Strong Leadership is Critical — Apply to the VT Leadership Institute

Deadline July 1

FROM PRESS RELEASE

Never before has strong and innovative leadership been more important for Vermont's health and prosperity. The COVID-19 pandemic has affected every aspect of life, creating unprecedented disruption across all sectors. Yet alongside the intense challenges are opportunities for complex system change and visionary leadership. The Vermont Leadership Institute is a civic leadership development program through which the Snelling Center for Government offers the necessary support and resources for Vermont to emerge from this crisis as strong as ever. Applications for the Vermont Leadership Institute Class of 2021 are currently being accepted through July 1, 2020.

The Vermont Leadership Institute has been offering intensive programs for leaders in Vermont's most active private, public and nonprofit sectors since 1995. The VLI Class of 2021 will begin its journey in September as associates delve into topics such as personal leadership adaptation; complex systems thinking and innovation; and leadership paradigms that support diversity, equity and inclusion for all Vermonters. In addition, participants build meaningful networks and relationships and join a community of more than 570 VLI graduates who are making a difference in Vermont: leading innovative businesses, creating award-winning nonprofits, serving in the Legislature and state government, and volunteering in their communities.

You are strongly encouraged to apply if you are:

- Committed to Vermont
- Curious about the issues facing Vermont
- Devoted to learning and growing
- Open to values inquiry and dialogue

To learn more about the Vermont Leadership Institute, including the program schedule and application process, please visit snellingcenter.org/leadership/vermont-leadership-institute or contact Jody Fried, VLI director, at jody@snellingcenter.org or 802-274-4774.

The Snelling Center for Government is a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization committed to fostering responsible and ethical civic leadership, encouraging public service by private citizens, and promoting informed citizen participation in shaping public policy in Vermont.

Birds of Vermont Museum Open for 2020

BY ERIN TALMAGE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

As you likely know, the museum had to remain closed recently due to COVID-19. This was the first spring in 32 years where we didn't open our doors on May 1. This was the first time since we started early Birder Morning Walks (more than a decade ago!) that we couldn't gather to walk and watch spring migration together.

We have missed you! Although we were saddened to hear of people who were ill or lost their lives; we also are hugely grateful that, by all of us working together, we kept the numbers lower than they could have been. As the number of Vermont cases continues to be encouragingly small, the state is allowing some businesses to reopen (with restrictions in place).

We are happy to tell you that the museum opened on Wednesday, June 3! Things look different than in previous years. For now, the museum building will be open Wednesday through Sunday. Our hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. We are limiting the number of people in the building to 12, and we are requiring masks that cover noses and mouths.

We have put away some of our touchable and interactive items for the present.

Even with this, we are thrilled to present our 2020 art show, "Borders: Illusions That Constrain Us," to complement our permanent exhibits. We hope you will come see the pieces that make up this visually stimulating and very thought-provoking exhibit. We are sharing work from new and returning artists, from lifetime professionals to curious beginners, in poems, graphic design and visual arts.

Of course, our trails, treehouse and pollinator sanctuaries remain open! Bring a picnic (and good shoes and bug repellent) and spend time listening to the green frogs at the pond or the Louisiana waterthrush from the treehouse. Trails are open sunup to sundown.

We hope to see you this summer! Feel free to call in the morning to see what's going on: our new schedule is how we are starting this summer and of course it is subject to change. We prioritize the safety of our guests, volunteers and staff! We will also try to keep everyone posted on changes via emails and our social media, and we look forward to hearing from you.

Borders: Illusions That Constrain Us — 2020 Community Art Show

"Borders: Illusions That Constrain Us"

continued on page 16



Zippy Guttdogg and Oren Guttman enjoying the trails.

OUTDOORS

Happy T(r)ails!

BY ZIPPY GUTTDOGG, WITH
HELP FROM OREN GUTTMANN,
HINESBURG TRAILS COMMITTEE

Hi! My name is Zippy Guttdogg. I'm 8 years old and I live in Hinesburg with the rest of the Guttamm, which includes humans and chickens. No other dogs, though! I'm a



solo-dog kind of lady. I don't mean to be a jerk to other doggos, but sometimes I just don't know how to feel my feelings or make good life decisions.

Luckily, my hoomans have worked with me and our awesome dog trainer, so I get to lead a pretty happy life, although the stress of my new human sibling and all this COVID-19-forced-togetherness is

making me go gray faster than Obama in his first term.

Other things that stress me out include UPS, FedEx, smoke alarms and dogs off leash. I'm going to be friendly to you and your kids, and your dog might be friendly. But if you let your dog run up to me, then things might end poorly for all of us, and I really don't want that. I love getting out into the woods and my hoomans take good care to make sure that we give enough space to other doggos. Sometimes there ends up being more doggos than expected though, and I get to wear my face hat. We also don't bother going to places like Geprag's or Mount Philo anymore as it just ends up being way too stressful for all of us and takes the fun out of what should be a stress-free experience.

So please, for the sake of everyone — kiddos who are scared of dogs, flocks of chickens free-ranging in yards, jerk dogs like me who can't feel our feelings in a socially acceptable way, not to mention your own three- and four-legged family members — please keep your dogs on leashes or have a reliable recall when you recreate on the Hinesburg Area Recreational Trails. Also, if someone asks you to call back or leash your dog, assume that they are doing it for a good reason and not just to make your life more difficult.

Bonus points if you:

- Respect land owners, especially since the HART trails wouldn't exist without them;
- Scoop da poop;
- Register your dog, it's the law and provides needed funding for Vermont Spay Neuter Incentive program;
- Check for ticks;
- Are kind to your fellow trail users/give a wide passing berth to allow for social distancing; and
- Follow posted signs, especially pertaining to trail closures, reroutes and locations where dogs need to be on leash.

I hope to see all of you out on the trails! I'll be the overly enthusiastic brown dog possibly wearing a face hat!

Happy t(r)ails,

Minding Our Own Business(es)

Hinesburg Business & Professional Association (HBPA) hopes to help you **mind your business** too!

Register now at hbpaVT.com.
Membership includes:

- Networking
- Service directory
- Trade show display
- Web medallion
- Door sticker
- And much more!

When you join the non-profit HBPA your tax-deductible \$45 membership fee supports community- and commerce- building endeavors such as the fireworks fund, the food shelf, and acquisition of an AED (defibrillator) for public access.



PO BOX 77 HINESBURG VT 05461
INFO@HBPAVT.COM • 802-777-0369

Keystone Species

ETHAN TAPPER, CHITTENDEN
COUNTY FORESTER

A “keystone species” is a species, usually of wildlife, which has a disproportionate effect on its environment. In our region, the classic example of this is the beaver. Beavers dam and flood fields and forests, essentially creating, or “driving,” their own natural disturbance events. Besides making a great habitat for themselves, they support a whole ecosystem, providing homes to many reptiles, amphibians, birds, mammals, plants and more. Even once abandoned and drained, beaver meadows provide unique habitats across our landscape. While they sometimes cause problems for us, the work of beavers has human benefits, like improving water quality and lessening the effects of flood events on our infrastructure.

We have long known that forests influence wildlife, but beavers are an example of how wildlife influence forest development. We increasingly understand these connections, from the blue jays that transport and plant acorns, to the rodents which help expand forests' critical mycorrhizal fungal networks, to the woodpeckers that control populations of wood-boring insects.

Beavers are also an example of how, while it may seem counterintuitive, some “disturbances” — the events that kill trees — are actually good for forests. They, and the natural regeneration that follows them, help make forests diverse and resilient while providing great wildlife habitat. While the gnawing and flooding of beavers kills trees, it creates broader ecosystem benefits that ultimately make forests healthier.

In this vein, a less well-known historic example of a keystone species is the passenger pigeon, which once populated our region in mega-flocks of billions of birds. John James Audubon described a forest following a visit from such a flock as looking like a “tornado” had hit it, breaking off trees “two feet in diameter.” While a mega-flock visit to your neighborhood would have been startling, to say the least, the early successional or young forest habitat that regenerated in their aftermath would have provided unique habitat for a huge number of wildlife species, including several bird species whose populations are now declining in Vermont. As with the beaver, the passenger pigeon created habitat for many other species and thus may be called a keystone species. Its extinction in the early 1900s represented a loss for our wildlife and ultimately for our forests as well.

The recent resurgence of gray wolves, grizzly bears and mountain lions on our western landscapes illustrates how predators can also act as keystone species. They do so by influencing herbivory pressure, which in turn impacts reforestation and thus ecosystems and their natural processes. In Vermont, predator-prey dynamics

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CALENDAR

THURSDAY, JUNE 25

7:00-9:00 p.m. Hinesburg Historical Society Meeting. Remote Meeting-online Meeting platform.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 1

9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. HFOF Play Group. Main Room at Town Hall.

7:00-9:00 p.m. Affordable Housing Committee. Remote Meeting-online Meeting platform.

7:00-8:30 p.m. Fire and Rescue/Medical Training. Hinesburg Fire Department, 10340 VT-116, Hinesburg.

7:00-9:00 p.m. Hinesburg Land Trust Meeting. Carpenter-Carse Library, 69 Ballard's Corner Rd., Hinesburg.

7:00-10:00 p.m. Select Board Meeting. Ground Level Conference Room, Town Hall.

SATURDAY, JULY 4

Independence Day.

MONDAY, JULY 6

4:30-5:30 p.m. Lake Iroquois Recreation District Meeting. Williston Town Hall. Public invited.

7:00-9:00 p.m. Select Board Meeting. Town Hall.

7:30-8:30 p.m. Vermont Astronomical Society Meeting. University of Vermont, Burlington.

TUESDAY, JULY 7

7:00-8:30 p.m. Community Writers' Group. Carpenter-Carse Library, 69 Ballards Corner Rd., Hinesburg. Calling all local writers! Join us for our monthly Community Writers Group! All genres are welcome. Snacks will be provided. To submit a piece of writing for others to review and enjoy before the group meets, email Laura Wisniewski at bhy@beecherhillyoga.com.

7:00-9:00 p.m. Energy Committee. Remote Meeting-online Meeting platform.

7:00-8:30 p.m. Recreation Commission Meeting. Main Room at Town Hall.

7:30-9:30 p.m. Development Review Board Meeting. Remote Meeting via Zoom instead of Town Office.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 8

9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. HFOF Play Group. Main Room at Town Hall.

7:00-9:00 p.m. Planning Commission Meeting. Remote Meeting via Zoom instead of Town Office.

7:30-8:30 p.m. Fire and Rescue/Heavy Rescue Training. Hinesburg Fire Station.

THURSDAY, JULY 9

Advertising and News deadline for The Hinesburg Record.

THURSDAY, JULY 9

6:30-8:30 p.m. Lewis Creek Association Board Meeting. Carpenter-Carse Library, 69 Ballard's Corner Rd., Hinesburg.

7:00-9:00 p.m. Town Forest Committee. Ground Level Conference Room, Hinesburg Town Hall.

TUESDAY, JULY 14

7:00-9:00 p.m. Conservation Commission Meeting. Zoom Meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85303058417?pwd=RURUTkZkV3E0YndmZkZEYzFec3JkQT09> Meeting ID: 853 0305 8417 Password: 321494 Dial +1 929205 6099 US

Meeting ID: 853 0305 8417 Password: 321494.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 15

9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. HFOF Play Group. Main Room at Town Hall.

7:00-8:00 p.m. Fire and Rescue/Business Meeting. Hinesburg Fire Station.

7:00-10:00 p.m. Select Board Meeting. Remote Meeting-online Meeting platform.

7:00-9:00 p.m. Trails Committee. Remote Meeting-online Meeting platform.

MONDAY, JULY 20

7:00-9:00 p.m. Select Board Meeting. Town Hall.

TUESDAY, JULY 21

5:00-6:30 p.m. CVSD School Board Meeting. CVU room 160.

5:30-7:00 p.m. Hinesburg Business and Professional Association Meeting. Papa Nick's, 10997 VT-116, Hinesburg. New members welcome! Contact HBPA President Laura Gurdak at 802-482-2877 or hinesburghair@gmail.com.

7:30-9:30 p.m. Development Review Board Meeting. Remote Meeting via Zoom instead of Town Office.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 22

9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. HFOF Play Group. Main Room at Town Hall.

7:00-8:00 p.m. Carpenter-Carse Library Trustees Meeting. Carpenter-Carse Library, 69 Ballard's Corner Rd., Hinesburg, VT 05461.

7:00-8:30 p.m. Fire and Rescue/Fire Training. Hinesburg Fire Station.

7:00-9:00 p.m. Planning Commission Meeting. Ground Level Conference Room, Town Hall.

THURSDAY, JULY 23

7:00-9:00 p.m. Hinesburg Historical Society Meeting. Remote Meeting-online Meeting platform.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 29

9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. HFOF Play Group. Main Room at Town Hall.

THURSDAY, JULY 30

Publication date for The Hinesburg Record.

MONDAY, AUGUST 3

4:30-5:30 p.m. Lake Iroquois Recreation District Meeting. Williston Town Hall. Public invited.

7:00-9:00 p.m. Select Board Meeting. Town Hall.

7:30-8:30 p.m. Vermont Astronomical Society Meeting. University of Vermont, Burlington.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 4

7:00-8:30 p.m. Community Writers' Group. Carpenter-Carse Library, 69 Ballards Corner Rd., Hinesburg. See entry for Tuesday, July 7.

7:00-9:00 p.m. Energy Committee. Remote Meeting-online Meeting platform.

7:00-8:30 p.m. Recreation Commission Meeting. Main Room at Town Hall.

7:30-9:30 p.m. Development Review Board Meeting. Remote Meeting via Zoom instead of Town Office.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 5

9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. HFOF Play Group. Main Room at Town Hall.

7:00-9:00 p.m. Affordable Housing Committee. Remote Meeting-online Meeting platform.

7:00-8:30 p.m. Fire and Rescue/Medical Training. Hinesburg Fire Department, 10340 VT-116, Hinesburg.

7:00-9:00 p.m. Hinesburg Land Trust Meeting. Carpenter-Carse Library, 69 Ballard's Corner Rd., Hinesburg.

7:00-10:00 p.m. Select Board Meeting. Ground Level Conference Room, Town Hall.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 11

7:00-9:00 p.m. Conservation Commission Meeting. See entry for Tuesday, July 14.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 12

9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. HFOF Play Group. Main Room at Town Hall.

7:00-9:00 p.m. Planning Commission Meeting. Remote Meeting via Zoom instead of Town Office.

7:30-8:30 p.m. Fire and Rescue/Heavy Rescue Training. Hinesburg Fire Station.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 13

Advertising and News deadline for The Hinesburg Record.

6:30-8:30 p.m. Lewis Creek Association Board Meeting. Carpenter-Carse Library, 69 Ballard's Corner Rd., Hinesburg.

7:00-9:00 p.m. Town Forest Committee. Ground Level Conference Room, Hinesburg Town Hall.

MONDAY, AUGUST 17

7:00-9:00 p.m. Select Board Meeting. Town Hall.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 18

5:00-6:30 p.m. CVSD School Board Meeting. CVU room 160.

5:30-7:00 p.m. Hinesburg Business and Professional Association Meeting. Papa Nick's, 10997 VT-116, Hinesburg. New members welcome! Contact HBPA President Laura Gurdak at 802-482-2877 or hinesburghair@gmail.com.

7:30-9:30 p.m. Development Review Board Meeting. Remote Meeting via Zoom instead of Town Office.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 19

9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. HFOF Play Group. Main Room at Town Hall.

7:00-8:00 p.m. Fire and Rescue/Business Meeting. Hinesburg Fire Station.

7:00-10:00 p.m. Select Board Meeting. Remote Meeting-online Meeting platform.

7:00-9:00 p.m. Trails Committee. Remote Meeting-online Meeting platform.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 26

9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. HFOF Play Group. Main Room at Town Hall.

7:00-8:00 p.m. Carpenter-Carse Library Trustees Meeting. Carpenter-Carse Library, 69 Ballard's Corner Rd., Hinesburg, VT 05461.

7:00-8:30 p.m. Fire and Rescue/Fire Training. Hinesburg Fire Station.

7:00-9:00 p.m. Planning Commission Meeting. Ground Level Conference Room, Town Hall.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 27

Publication date for The Hinesburg Record.

7:00-9:00 p.m. Hinesburg Historical Society Meeting. Remote Meeting-online Meeting platform.

► Borders

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is our 2020 art show, where we invite creators and viewers to ask (and even answer) “What do borders mean for birds and which of these are constructs of our imagination?”

A total of 36 artists, photographers and poets had their work selected for this year's show. Creators include beginners and established professionals of all ages. Visitors are invited to explore the visual and written art at their own pace, to be inspired, to ask questions

SERVICE DIRECTORY

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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► **Keystone Species**
continued from page 17

have changed drastically over the last 300 years. Prior to the 1800s the dominant herbivores on Vermont’s landscape were caribou, moose and the eastern elk, with small populations of white-tailed deer; the apex predators were wolves and catamounts. Elk and caribou disappeared from Vermont by the late 1700s (eastern elk is now extinct), deer hunting was closed in 1865 due to low populations, and wolves and catamounts were driven out by the late 1800s (the “catamount,” or eastern cougar, was declared extinct in 2018). Reintroduced to Vermont in 1878, deer have become overpopulated in much of New England, with dramatic negative impacts to forest health, diversity and wildlife habitat. In addition to the loss of predators, deer overpopulations in Vermont can be attributed largely to the diminishing influence of deer’s current apex predator — humans — due to crashing hunter numbers and increases in inaccessible, posted land.

Beavers are a success story — while extirpated from Vermont in the 1800s, they were reintroduced in 1932, and

their populations are now healthy and growing — but catamounts, elk and passenger pigeons are never returning to Vermont’s landscape. What does the loss of a species like this mean for us and for our forests? At the same time that we look back at what we’ve lost, we continue to create new challenges for our forests. Our climate is changing; invasive, exotic species threaten our biodiversity; over 2,000 acres of Vermont’s forestland is lost each year (and is being fragmented much more quickly).

Humans have power like no other species to degrade our environment but also to shape it in a positive way. By acting to manage our forests responsibly, actively addressing the threats of invasive species, deer overabundance, climate change and more, we have the opportunity to become a keystone species; using this power to help our forests become healthier, more diverse, more resilient and to provide rich, abundant habitat for all of our wildlife.

Ethan Tapper is the Chittenden County forester. He can be reached at ethan.tapper@vermont.gov or at 802-585-9099.

Local Motion Moves Bike Ferry to Fall Schedule

September Causeway Reopening Projected

FROM PRESS RELEASE

The Bike Ferry will open the 2020 season to celebrate the return of riders and walkers to the new and improved Colchester Causeway in early September. The town of Colchester has informed us that the massive causeway reconstruction project is back on after a pandemic-related interruption. They project a Sept. 8 reopening.

Local Motion will announce the details of its fall ferry schedule as well as the protocols that will be in place to assure passengers of compliance with state and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines. “We’re not giving up on the season,” offered Tom Clark, director of services at Local Motion. “Even if we only run a few weeks, we believe this will resonate with many as

a welcome return to something familiar ... to something that people love.”

For more information, go to localmotion.org.

Living Among Snakes

FROM VERMONT FISH & WILDLIFE PRESS RELEASE

As spring continues to unfurl in our region, biological cues are sending snakes across roadways and hiking trails and into the lawns and backyards of many Vermonters, according to the Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department.

With the onset of longer days and warmer temperatures, many snakes have emerged from their winter dens to bask in the sun, find food and reproduce. And while a chance encounter with a snake may be frightening to some individuals, snakes provide many essential ecological services and are an integral part of the natural world. In an effort to keep both snakes and humans safe, Vermont Fish & Wildlife has a few simple tricks to encourage snakes to move away from your living and working spaces.

“Vermont is home to 11 species of snakes with our two most common species, and the ones you’re most likely to encounter, being the common garter snake and eastern milksnake. Both are nonvenomous and provide important pest management services. Common garter snakes will reduce your earthworm and slug populations, while eastern milksnakes manage your vole, mouse and rat residents,” says Vermont Fish & Wildlife herpetologist Luke Groff.

“Vermont is home to one venomous snake species, the timber rattlesnake. This species is restricted to only a few towns in western Rutland County and is rarely encountered away from its dens. Be alert and know your snake species before approaching, moving or handling a snake in this region of the state.”

Snakes can be encountered anywhere on your property, but certain areas are more attractive to them than others. Being coldblooded, snakes depend on the heat of the sun to maintain their body temperature and will make use of areas that provide both solar exposure and cover from predators, such as rock walls or woodpiles. Habitat edges between forests and pastures or wetlands and uplands, and other brushy areas, like fence rows, provide cover for snakes and the animals they feed on.

Compost bins and bird feeders may draw in rodents and other small mammals looking for an easy meal, which in turn may attract snakes. Gardens and leaf piles abound with snails, slugs, earthworms and other invertebrates that some snakes are particularly fond of.

“If you encounter an uninvited snake in your yard,” added Groff, “you can usually encourage it to move along without picking it up. Your presence alone may cause the snake to scurry, but if not, you can spray it with a squirt bottle or gently guide it away with a garden hose. Try rustling the leaves or very carefully prod the snake with a broom or a stick to encourage it to leave.”

It is best not to move wildlife unless there is imminent danger. If you do need to move a snake, be sure to relocate it no further than is necessary. When picking up a snake, do so slowly, carefully and confidently, using both hands to support its entire body weight while you move it from harm’s way.

For help identifying snakes, go to vtherpatlas.org/herp-species-in-vermont. Please report all snake observations to the Vermont Reptile and Amphibian Atlas at vtherpatlas.org/sighting-submission-form. Of particular interest, are our rare, threatened and endangered snakes, which include the eastern ratsnake, eastern ribbon snake, North American racer and timber rattlesnake.

For more information on Vermont’s snake species, visit vtfishandwildlife.com. You can also contact Vermont Fish & Wildlife herpetologist, Luke Groff (luke.groff@vermont.gov) with snake-related questions.



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CROSSWORD

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8		9	10	11	12	
13						14				15				
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THEME: COCKTAILS AND MOCKTAILS

ACROSS

1. Angelou and Rudolph
6. Mason's load
9. Bobby Pickett's "Monster ____"
13. Infection from contaminated water or food
14. Formerly Cassius Clay
15. Slow, musically speaking
16. ____ Ste. Marie, Ontario
17. Bonding words
18. Like draft beer
19. *Cognac, orange liqueur, lemon juice
21. *Tropical cocktail favorite
23. Motion of approval
24. *Home of pisco sour
25. Smoker's residue
28. Big butte
30. *It has both white and dark rum
35. Popular BBQ side
37. Pea houses
39. *Hold your drink aloft in honor
40. "Downton Abbey" countess
41. Subject of 17th century Dutch mania
43. Cote d'Azur locale
44. Teatro alla Scala offering
46. Sushi selection
47. Kind of jeans fit
48. *She famously disliked the eponymous drink
50. Chesterfield or ulster
52. Bro's sib
53. Long and lean
55. Petting spot
57. *Negroni and boulevardier ingredient
61. Time for the big bowl games
65. Unethical loaner's practice
66. Designed to guarantee equal rights
68. Cooler manufacturer
69. #38 Down, pl.
70. Atlantic catch
71. Musical ensemble
72. Rodeo Drive tree
73. It's of the beholder
74. Rosetta Stone, e.g.

DOWN

1. Difficult situation
2. Antioxidant-rich berry
3. Common contraction
4. Kind of wrench
5. TV's popular portmanteau
6. Let it down to relax?
7. * ____ fashioned
8. D in LED
9. Take-out handout
10. Nay sayer
11. Sun, e.g.
12. Indigenous people of northeast Arizona
15. *Nespolino fruit
20. Highly skilled
22. Elbow rest
24. Portable lock
25. Fancy tie
26. Ski run
27. Sheik's bevy
29. *Whiskey ____
31. Charged particles
32. Flip side, pl.
33. Binary digits code
34. Things on a list
36. "Star Trek" speed
38. Fodder holder
42. Eloise's residence
45. Quiets
49. Otitis organ
51. *Popular mixer, pl.
54. Brother's daughter
56. Should
57. Turning point
58. World's largest continent
59. *To warm wine or cider and add spices
60. Junior ball
61. Green gemstone
62. Burn-soothing plant
63. Agitate
64. Yesteryear
67. *First name in cola and grenadine

ANSWERS are on inside of back page

ARTS & LEISURE

New Shelburne Museum Online Exhibits

FROM PRESS RELEASE

See the online exhibits at shelburnemuseum.org/online-exhibitions. Coloring pages for some of the exhibit items are available for download.

Color, Pattern, Whimsy and Scale

Part Four: Scale

Electra Havemeyer Webb possessed a keen sense of scale, collecting objects large, small and in prodigious quantity. Her aspirational spirit, witnessed by such heroic feats as moving historic houses, a covered bridge, a lighthouse and the steamboat Ticonderoga to create Shelburne Museum in the decade after World War II, balanced deeply held interests in the details and nuance



Unidentified makers. Assortment of Toy Boats, ca. 1904. Polychromed tin and iron, between 2 x 2 x 4 9/16 in. and 12 5/16 x 9 3/8 x 30 3/8 in. Museum purchase, 1952. 22.5-1 Group.

of collecting.

Coloring pages of some of the exhibit items are available for download.

The previous three parts of this exhibit focused on color, pattern and whimsy.

American Stories

Part Three: Travel

Shelburne Museum's roots are steeped in the material culture of travel. In 1947, as Electra Havemeyer Webb was lay-
continued on page 20

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HEALTH & SAFETY

Take Steps to Prevent the Spread of Rabies in Pets and Wildlife

Recent Incident a Reminder to Take Care With Wild Animals

FROM VERMONT HEALTH DEPARTMENT PRESS RELEASE

As we all spend more time outdoors and encounter wildlife, health officials are reminding Vermonters to take precautions against rabies.

Both people and pets may come into more contact with wild animals this time of year as days get longer and warmer — including baby animals. The best thing to do is leave wildlife alone

and enjoy them from a distance.

Pets should be vaccinated for rabies. State law requires dogs and cats to be vaccinated — even barn cats.

Health officials noted a recent case of rabies in a barn cat from the town of Addison, which likely became infected from contact with local rabid wildlife.

Rabies is a deadly viral disease of the brain that infects mammals and is fatal to both humans and animals. In Vermont, rabies is most commonly found in wild animals such as raccoons, skunks, foxes, bats and woodchucks. Cats, dogs and livestock can also get rabies if they have not been vaccinated for rabies.

“When cats are allowed to roam, they can become infected, and then have the potential to transmit rabies to other domestic animals and people off the property,” said State Public Health Veterinarian Natalie Kwit. “By vaccinating these cats, we can prevent this spread.”

The rabid cat from Addison was eutha-

nized, which is required to test for rabies. A person identified through a risk assessment is being treated to prevent rabies.

If you are bitten by an animal: wash the wound thoroughly with soap and water and contact your health care provider. Follow all their instructions.

If your pet or farm animal was exposed to a potentially rabid wild or stray animal: contact your veterinarian.

If you see a wild or stray animal acting strangely, or are concerned about a rabies exposure, call the Rabies Hotline (1-800-4-RABIES) or report it to your town’s animal control officer.

Do not touch or pick up wild or stray animals — even baby animals — or try to make them into pets. Doing so can put yourself or your family at risk of exposure through a bite or a scratch. You can’t tell if an animal has rabies just by looking at it. Interacting with young wildlife may result in them being orphaned or, if tested for rabies, requires humanely euthanizing the animal. So, for their own sake, leave wildlife in the wild.

The rabies virus is spread through the bite of an infected animal. Rabies is transmitted only when the virus is

Have an ad? 482-7227 or
ads@hinesburgrecord.org.

introduced into a bite wound, open cuts on the skin, or onto mucous membranes like the mouth or eyes.

People cannot get rabies from simply petting or touching animals, or from contact with the animal’s urine, blood or feces. When caring for pets, always feed them inside the house and keep them indoors at night. If they are outdoors during the day, keep them on a leash or in an enclosed space. Pets that roam free are more likely to be exposed to rabies.

Learn more about rabies in Vermont: healthvermont.gov/rabies.

About the Department of Health

We have been the state’s public health agency for more than 130 years, working every day to protect and promote the health of Vermonters. Visit healthvermont.gov, join us on Facebook or follow us on Twitter at twitter.com/healthvermont.

Shelburne Museum, \$20,000

Stowe Story Labs, \$20,000

Dorset Theatre Festival, Dorset, \$15,000

New Music on the Point, NMOP, Brandon, \$10,000

Opera Company of Middlebury, \$10,000

The Vermont Folklife Center in Middlebury received an NEA partnership award of \$40,000.

About the National Endowment for the Arts

Established by Congress in 1965, the NEA is the independent federal agency whose funding and support gives Americans the opportunity to participate in the arts, exercise their imaginations and develop their creative capacities. Through partnerships with state arts agencies, local leaders, other federal agencies and the philanthropic sector, the NEA supports arts learning, affirms and celebrates America’s rich and diverse cultural heritage, and extends its work to promote equal access to the arts in every community across America. For more information, visit www.arts.gov.

About the Vermont Arts Council

The Vermont Arts Council envisions a Vermont where all people have access to the arts and creativity in their lives, education and communities. Engagement with the arts transforms individuals, connects us more deeply to each other, energizes the economy and sustains the vibrant cultural landscape that makes Vermont a great place to live. Since 1965, the council has been the state’s primary provider of funding, advocacy and information for the arts in Vermont. Learn more at vermontartscouncil.org

Community Engagement Lab, Montpelier, \$55,000

Flynn Center for the Performing Arts (on behalf of Burlington Discover Jazz Festival), \$37,500

PEOPLE

Recent Graduates

Daniel W. Ashe, Lillian M. Cartularo, Paden S. Fortier and Phillip Vickers, all of Hinesburg, recently graduated from the Community College of Vermont.

Heidi Dessert and Eileen Needham, both of Hinesburg, recently graduated from Vermont Technical College.

Michael French of Hinesburg graduated with a Bachelor of Science in sports administration from Castleton University on Saturday, May 16.

Melissa Miller of Hinesburg recently graduated from Iowa State University. Miller received a Bachelor of Architecture Degree and an Architecture-Professional Degree.

Jed Morris graduated Magna Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Science degree in athletic training from the University of Pittsburgh. Jed earned a place on the dean’s list all eight semesters as an undergrad while doing clinical rotations with the University of Pittsburgh baseball, softball and track teams as well as the Carnegie Mellon football team. Jed plans to pursue a master’s degree in physician assistant studies

Trent Smith of Hinesburg is one of 449 seniors to earn their degree from Grove City College, Pennsylvania, on May 16. Smith earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in political science.

University of Vermont Graduates

The following students were awarded degrees during the University of Vermont’s 220th commencement ceremonies on May 17. The class’s academic achievement was saluted online with remarks from UVM President Suresh

Garimella, Vermont Governor Phil Scott and university and state leaders.

**Hunter Billen
Eliot Heinrich
Peter Hobbeler
Will LaCroix
Joshua Prue
Peter Silverman
Sophia Webb**

Sophia Webb also won the annual Peter Seybolt Award. This award was initiated after the Department of Asian Languages and Literatures was founded in 2007 and was named for the founder of the department, Professor Peter Seybolt, to commemorate his dedication and contribution to Asian language education. It is given to the top graduating senior who majors in an Asian language based on their academic performances.

Higher Education Honors

Joshua Ashley and Stephen Harlow, both of Hinesburg, were named to the Castleton University dean’s list for the spring semester of the 2019-20 academic year. To qualify for this academic honor, the student must maintain full-time status and a semester GPA of 3.5.

Ann Howard and Mary Titus, both of Hinesburg, were named to the Castleton University president’s list for the spring semester of the 2019-2020 academic year. To qualify for this highest academic honor, the student must maintain full-time status and a semester GPA of 4.0.

Eileen Needham and Phillip Vickers, both of Hinesburg, achieved dean’s list honors for the spring semester of 2020 at Vermont Technical College. These are degree students carrying 12 or more letter-graded credit hours who achieve a GPA of 3.5 or higher

Olivia Kinsel of Hinesburg was named to the College of Charleston, SC, Spring 2020 Dean’s List. To qualify for Dean’s

List, students must earn a GPA of 3.600 or higher and complete a minimum of 14 semester hours.

Ben Turner of Hinesburg has been named to Southern New Hampshire University’s (SNHU) Winter 2020 President’s List. The winter term runs from January to May. Eligibility for the President’s List requires that a student accumulate an academic grade point average (GPA) of 3.7-4.0 and earn 12 credits for the semester.

University of Vermont Dean’s List

The following Hinesburg students were named to the University of Vermont dean’s list. To be named to the dean’s list, students must have a GPA of 3.0 or better and rank in the top 20% of their class in their respective college or school.

**Marc Hoeppner
Katherine Gingras
Will LaCroix
Savannah Zigic
Lena Heinrich
Eliot Heinrich
James Raymond**

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A Hinesburg Community
Resource Center Program

Arts & Leisure

continued from page 19

ing the foundation for the museum, she was offered a remarkable collection of historic horse-drawn vehicles collected by the Webb family. Mrs. Webb jumped at the chance, purchasing acreage along Route 7 in Shelburne and setting to work on the construction of the Horseshoe Barn for the storage and display of these objects. Before the end of the year, the carriages were moved from Shelburne Farms to their new home on the museum grounds where they remain for visitors today.

“American Stories: Travel” features highlights from the museum’s holdings that relate to the variety of modes of transportation over land and water that have defined the American experience.

Other parts of this exhibit focus on community, home and people.

National Endowment for the Arts Announces Grants Vermont Organizations to Receive Nearly \$1 Million

FROM PRESS RELEASE

Nine Vermont organizations will receive grants totaling \$972,800 from the National Endowment for the Arts through its second round of funding announced Wednesday for FY2020

“We are proud that the NEA awards recognize Vermont’s outstanding and diverse arts landscape,” said Vermont Arts Council Executive Director Karen



James Bard (American, 1815-97), *Paddle Steamboat Kaaterskill, 1882*. Watercolor, gouache, and graphite on wove paper, 27 ½ x 51 in. Museum purchase. 1951-391.35.

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Pastor: Rev. Jared Hamilton

Office Hours: Monday to Thursday 8:30-11:30 a.m.

Location: 10580 Route 116

Phone: 482-3352

Email: unitedchurch@gmavt.net

Address: P.O. Box 39

Website: ucofh.org

Sunday Worship Service: 10:00 a.m.

Choir practice: 9:00 a.m. Sunday

Sunday School: Nursery and story time; Christian Education Kindergarten through 8th grade during academic p.m.

Senior Meal Site: Every Friday 11:00 a.m.- 1 p.m. (except first Friday) Osborne Parish House

AA Gratitude Group: every Monday 7:00 p.m., Osborne Parish House.

Lighthouse Baptist Church

Pastor: Reverend Ed Hart

Church Phone: 482-2588

Home Phone: 482-2588

Email: lighthousevt@aim.com.

Website: LBCvt.homestead.com

Location: Hinesburg Village Center, 90 Mechanicsville Road

Address: P.O. Box 288

Regular Services: Sunday Morning Worship: 10:30 a.m., Nursery provided.

Sunday Evening Service: 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday: 7:00 p.m. Bible Study and Prayer Meeting; Nursery provided.

Saint Jude the Apostle Catholic Church

Pastor: Reverend David Cray, SSE

Pastor's Residence: 425-2253, dgcray@gmail.com

Mailing Address: 2894 Spear Street/P. O. Box 158, Charlotte, VT 05445

Hinesburg Rectory: 482-2290, Stjude@gmavt.net, P. O. Box 69, Hinesburg 05461, (10759 Route 116)

Parish Secretary: Marie Cookson, 434-4782, Rectory, 482-2290, marietcookson@aol.com

Office Hours: Mondays and Thursdays, 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m..

Parish Council Chair: Allan Monniere 578-8572

Finance Council Chair: Doug Taff: 482-3066

Buildings and Grounds Supervisor: Buildings and Grounds Supervisor: Henry Moreno, 802-777-4169.

Weekend Masses: Saturday, 4:30 p.m.; Sunday: 9:30 a.m., St. Jude Church, Hinesburg

Sunday: 8:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m., Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church, Charlotte

Weekday Masses: Monday and Friday, 8:00 a.m., St. Jude Church

Tuesday, Thursday: 5:15 p.m. Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church

Sacrament of Baptism: Call the Pastor for appointment

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturdays at 4:00 p.m. at St. Jude Church and by appointment.

Sacrament of Marriage: Contact the Pastor at least six months in advance

Communism at Home: Call Parish Office, 482-2290

Confirmation Coordinators: Dan &



Roxanne Smith, 453-3522

Religious Education Coordinator: Marie Cookson, 434-4782

Religious Education (CCD): Monday evenings from 6:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m. for grades K-8. Registration is required.

The 9th and 10th grades (Confirmation Years) meet once a month. This is a two-year program. Watch Sunday bulletins for dates and times.

Please call Marie at 482-2290 (Parish Office) or 434-4782 (home) for more information.

Eucharistic Adoration: Eucharistic Adoration is held the first Friday of each month following the 8:00 a.m. Mass at St. Jude.

Food Shelf Weekend: Every third Saturday and Sunday. Parishioners are asked to make an extra effort to bring non-perishable canned and dried food in weekly for the Hinesburg Food Shelf. Food Collection baskets are in the entry for your convenience.

Senior Meals: Will be served from noon to 2:00 p.m. on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month unless otherwise noted. Food will be prepared by Meals on Wheels. There will be cards, board games and door prizes. Cost is \$4.00 donation. Please call in advance so we have plenty of food on hand. For reservations call Ted Barrett at 453-3087 or Marie Cookson at 482-2290 (parish office) or 434-4782 (home). Caretakers are welcome. Hinesburg Rides will pick you up and bring you home at no charge. For more information, call the parish office at 482-2290.

Community Alliance Church

Pastor: Scott Mansfield

Phone: 482-2132

Email: info@hinesburgcma.org

Web: hinesburgcma.org

Address: 190 Pond Road, Hinesburg (overlooking CVUHS soccer fields)

Sunday Services: 10:30 a.m. Children's programs, for nursery through elementary school ages.

Middle School and High School Youth Group: Meets from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Sundays. This is a great time to meet new friends, hang out and talk

real life.

Weekday Life Groups: Various times, days, and locations throughout the week.

For more information, please contact the church at 482-2132 or visit hinesburgcma.org.

Williston Federated Church

United Church of Christ and United Methodist Church

An Open and Affirming Reconciling Congregation

Address: 44 North Williston Road, Williston VT 05495

Phone: 878-5792.

Website: steeple.org

Minister: Rev. Paul Eyer

Activities: Junior and Senior High Youth Groups; Men's Bible Study; Women's Book Group; Junior, Senior and Contemporary Music Choirs; Friendship Suppers; opportunities for mission and outreach in the community, country, and world.

Service: Sundays 9:30 a.m., Nursery/Child care provided; Sunday School during the service for pre-K through high school; Coffee/Fellowship after service in Fellowship Hall.

Trinity Episcopal Church

Address: 5171 Shelburne Rd., Shelburne, VT 05482

Church phone: 985-2269

Church email: info@trinityshelburne.org

Website: trinityshelburne.org

Worship service: Sunday morning at 8:00 a.m.

Worship service and Sunday School: Sunday morning at 10:30 a.m.

Space for Grace program: Sunday mornings 9:15 a.m.

All Souls Interfaith Gathering Non-Denominational Service

Pastor: Rev. Don Chatfield

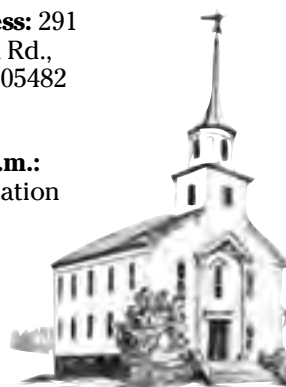
Phone: 985-3819

Mailing Address: 291 Bostwick Farm Rd., Shelburne, VT 05482

Services:

Sunday 9:00 a.m.: Morning Meditation

Sunday 5:00 p.m.: Music & Spirit Service



Cedar Knoll CC

continued from page 24

come out and if there's somebody out here who you kind of know and you say, 'Hey, do you want to play?' People are willing to go out and play with you even if they have no idea who you are or just might be," Jordan said.

Bruce Aiken, a member since Cedar Knoll Country Club opened, often shares a beer with his fellow members at the bar and restaurant. He says he enjoys getting out-

side. "We just have a good time golfing," Aiken said. Cedar Knoll has members faithfully returning year after year.

The Ayer family continues to build its community by extending their restaurant and banquet facilities. They offer events, including weddings and rehearsal dinners. They are installing a pergola over the deck so members have a better outdoor dining experience.

"More people are enjoying our deck and the restaurant. Even if they don't



View of the club house from near the 11th.

Speaking Out in Hinesburg

As Black Lives Matter protests sweep across the nation, Hinesburg hosted a number of related events, including a kids led march attended by almost 300 people On Wed June 3. Peaceful protestors donned masks, painted signs an joined a parade along town sidewalks ending at NRG. Winooski High School student Evelyn Monje told the crowd that it was her hope they would use their positions of privilege to raise all voices. And that Vermonters should look at themselves and their dinner tables and think about who is missing.

See also the WCAX story, here [wcax.com/video?vid=570999532](https://www.wcax.com/video?vid=570999532)



Crossword Answers

M	A	Y	A	S		H	O	D		M	A	S	H	
E	C	O	L	I		A	L	I		L	E	N	T	O
S	A	U	L	T		I	D	O		O	N	T	A	P
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C	O	R	A		T	U	L	I	P		N	I	C	E
O	P	E	R	A		R	O	L	L		S	L	I	M
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U	S	I	R		E	R	A		I	G	L	O	O	
S	I	L	O	S		C	O	D		C	H	O	I	R
P	A	L	M		E	Y	E		S	T	E	L	E	

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golf, they come up more now than ever," Tom said.

Cedar Knoll expanded their instruction options to include youth golf programs and lessons from professional Ryan Taraskiewicz. A lot of kids are taking advantage of the golf course and its opportunities, said Tom.

Springing from rolling fields and knee-deep pastures, Cedar Knoll is now the largest golf course in Chittenden county with 27 holes. Four generations of golfers have now kept the course running.

"Huge golf course, practice facility, restaurant. We really do have it all. And it's a very affordable price that we charge" Tom said.

While COVID-19 restrictions interfered with many of the planned events, the Ayer family initiated proper precautions such as changing tee times to keep their members safe.

As always, they ensure that everyone can enjoy their facilities, get outside and keep on golfing.

"That's what I enjoy, seeing it look beautiful and seeing people out here having a good time," Tom said.

Cedar Knoll Country Club is located at 13020 Route 116 in Hinesburg and can be reached at cedarknollgolf@gmail.com or 482-3186. cedarknollgolf.com is the website.

Community News Service is a collaboration with the University of Vermont's Reporting & Documentary Storytelling program.

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BACK STORIES of Hinesburg

Family Ties Cultivate a Strong Community at Cedar Knoll Country Club

BY OLIVIA NYE, COMMUNITY NEWS SERVICE

"It was about more than the cows," said Tom Ayer, superintendent of Cedar Knoll Country Club, as he looked out at where it all started — hole 10.

Every day, the cows had to be milked, the fields worked and the animals fed, but each summer evening, the whip of a golf club whistled against the fresh air. The image of Tom's brother, Tim, against an empty pasture was all it took to get the ball rolling.

As Raymond and Ruth Ayer saw their son out hitting golf balls, they envisioned lush grassy hills and the various shades of green that would accompany a golf course. At hole 10 they tested out the possibility of a new future by experimenting with new grass. In one tireless year of reworking the fields and toiling over ideas, Cedar Knoll Country Club was born. And 25 years later, Cedar Knoll is a centerpiece of the Hinesburg community and a place of employment for many Ayers and Bissonettes.

Tom's grandfather slowly pieced together the property, stitching the land together under his family name as farmers retired and others sold out. Ruth, the current owner, inherited the prop-



Tom, Ruth and Tim Ayer.

erty. She and her husband, recognizing they were the only ones who wanted to continue farming, looked forward to the country club as a way of conserving the land, keeping it open and productive.

The tradition of family business breathes an unmatched energy and togetherness into the country club's community.

The members are friendly and the community is welcoming.

Tom's son, Jordan said, "I think it [working with family] helps foster a sense of community here that's different than you'll find at a lot other courses. You come here and it's more of a family even with the members who



The green at the 10th.

aren't related to us and have just joined and become part of the family throughout the years. I think ... being family-run really helps foster that kind of atmosphere that we have."

Jordan works in the kitchen, but when he has the time, he can be found playing golf and engaged in long conversations with the members. "I know what's going on in their life. They have an inkling of what's going on up here in mine," he said.

Tom finds himself similarly engaged with the Cedar Knoll members.

"We've made a lot of friends here on the golf course. Most of our friends are related to the golf course now," Tom said.

"You just talk with anybody, you can

continued on page 23



COVID19-safe patio with food and beverage service. A new pergola is being constructed!

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VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Make a Difference

Do you need volunteers for a Hinesburg event or non-profit organization? Send the information to news@hinesburgrecord.org and we'll publish it here. Use "volunteer need" as a subject line.

Mentoring

Make a difference in the life of a child. Become a mentor at HCS. No tutoring involved, just being a buddy to a child who would benefit from adult friendship. And only one hour a week during the school year. Contact Ginny Roberts at groberts@cvsdvt.org or 482-8248 for more information.

Hinesburg Trails

Help maintain public trails. All skill levels from none (just enthusiasm) to experienced chainsaw operators, and trail designers are needed. For more information contact Jane Sheldon at elcabi2@gmavt.net.

Meals on Wheels

Help out local area residents who cannot easily get out of their homes. Become a Meals on Wheels driver. Routes take anywhere from an hour to an hour-and-a-half depending on the day. You need not commit to a weekly schedule. Call Jane Gage at 482-6096 for more information.

Visit a Senior

Hinesburg seniors need your help. Some seniors live alone with limited social contact and would love to share their gift of gab with you. Just an hour of your time can make a big difference in the life of one of the seniors in our town. If you would be willing to help contact Bev at 800-642-5119 for more information.

Town Committees

Frequently there are openings on town committees. Here are some of the recent ones.

- Affordable Housing Committee
- Agency Request Review Committee
- Conservation Commission
- Recreation Commission
- Revolving Loan Fund Committee
- Town Forest Committee
- Trails Committee
- Village Steering Committee

Check town web site www.hinesburg.org/vacancies.html for the most current committee openings, descriptions and instructions on how to apply. For more information contact Renae Marshall 482-2281 x227 or rmarshall@hinesburg.org.

The Hinesburg Record

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If you are interested contact us at news@hinesburgrecord.org.

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