

the HINESBURG Record

NOVEMBER 2020

*Hinesburg's
independent,
nonprofit
community
newspaper*

Access CVU Fall Updates – Many Classes Still to Go!

FROM PRESS RELEASE

The fall semester of Access CVU, your destination for community education based out of CVU High School, is well underway! Since our opening in mid-September, we've held a combination of outdoor and online classes that last from 1-12 sessions. On Oct. 1, we hosted our first Dinner Series, an Ethiopian injera take-out night with Alganesh Michael, a favorite Access cooking instructor, to a sold-out crowd.

As of the date of this newspaper's publication, there are still over 60 classes left for you to register for! Outdoor classes are now over for the season, so the remainder of our classes will be online with the user-friendly Zoom platform. Online classes provide the opportunity to take a class with the friends and family members

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you can't see easily in person right now — how about a one-night class on chakras or cocktails with your col-



Outdoor classes are over for the season, so the remainder of the Access CVU classes will be held via Zoom.

CVU Works to Protect Lake Champlain Water Quality

BY KATE KELLY, LEWIS CREEK ASSOCIATION

Champlain Valley Union High School partnered with Lewis Creek Association through its Ahead of the Storm program, to actively improve water quality of stormwater running off the school property and flowing to Lake Champlain. This marks the fifth year of a partnership between Champlain Valley School District and LCA to prepare school campuses as LCA's AOTS stormwater resilience demonstration sites. Just before school began this fall, the swale off the north parking lot was improved. The bioretention ("rain garden") areas in this swale will help clean water running from 4.9

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Business Revitalization Grant Update

\$10,000 of Burg Bucks Begin Circulation on November 1

BY TYLER LEDERER, THE COMMUNITY NEWS SERVICE

The town of Hinesburg has received a \$10,000 grant to promote spending at town businesses with the "Burg Buck," a coupon which can be used to make purchases in

participating downtown locations.

The "Restart Vermont Regional Marketing and Stimulus Grant Program," which is designed to revitalize local businesses impacted by COVID-19 restrictions, was provided by the Vermont Agency of Commerce and Community Development.

Burg Bucks will be handed out to Hinesburg residents in the form of a coupon worth \$10 toward a purchase at participating Hinesburg merchants.

Volunteers from the community, under Town supervision, will hand out the Burg Bucks on Sunday, November 1, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Town Hall parking lot.

Burg Bucks will be val-

id until November 15, 2020 and are not valid toward tobacco or alcohol purchases.

The project is a collaboration between the town of Hinesburg, the HBPA, the Hinesburg Record and the University of Vermont. The HBPA will work with local businesses to explain and recruit for the program.

The Record will be in charge of design and distribution of the Bucks. UVM students enrolled in the Community News Service internship, which distributes student-produced stories to Chittenden County papers, will create written and visual profiles of participating businesses. These profiles will then be distributed by the Record.

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

INSIDE...

HRD Youth Soccer

Page 10: Another Hinesburg Recreation Department Youth Soccer season comes to a successful close.



Trail Adventures

Page 16: Jacob Royer hiked the length of Vermont on the nation's oldest long-distance hiking trail.

Service Directory & Calendar of Events

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

BACK STORIES

of Hinesburg

Family Sanctuary

Page 24: Eleven years ago, the Brathwaites made this community their home.



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Deadline for our next Issue: November 13, 2020

Send articles to: news@hinesburgrecord.org. Or call us at 999-2410.

You may also use the drop box at the Giroux home at 327 Charlotte Road to drop off hard copy articles and photographs.

Contact us at ads@hinesburgrecord.org for ads or call us at 482-7227.

Deadlines for 2020

Advertisement/News	Publication Date
November 13.....	November 27
January 14, 2021.....	January 28, 2021

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Letters and articles printed in The Hinesburg Record do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the staff. The staff reserves the right to reject copy or letters that are unsuitable for readers from a general audience. The staff will not accept Letters to the Editor that are unsigned.

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LETTERS

Letter Policy

The Hinesburg Record welcomes letters from local residents and from others who are involved in issues that effect our town. The opinions expressed in the Letters to the Editor are those of the writers.

All letters must be signed. Addresses and phone numbers must also be provided for verification purposes. Addresses and phone numbers will not be published.

Letters should be brief. We do not have precise guidelines for length but reserve the right to edit based on available space. To the extent possible, letters should focus on local issues. Other forums exist for discussions of statewide, national, and international issues.

With these cautions, please keep those letters rolling in. Send them via email to news@hinesburgrecord.org, mail them to The Hinesburg Record, P.O. Box 304 or to 327 Charlotte Road, Hinesburg, VT 05461, or deliver them to the Record drop box on Charlotte Road.

Now Is Not the Right Time for New Ambulance Service

I support the Hinesburg Fire Department, however, now is not the time for a new ambulance service for the following reasons:

- Pandemic has affected ability to pay taxes as well as call volumes, volunteerism and revenues.

- We pay close to \$1 million in debt annually for other town needs.

- A sewer upgrade, new police officer/vehicles, dump truck, fire station and ladder truck have been identified as needed.

- Growth projections are in question given pandemic, economy and permitting process.

- Charlotte and Richmond ambulance services are underutilized and have offered to provide us with full-time service at less cost.

- A more cost-efficient sharing of services with adjoining towns has not been explored.

- There is not adequate or safe FT staffing proposed.

- Low call volumes and small staff (average of 150 calls are transported to hospital) will make it a challenge to attract and retain professional staff.

- A new service will cause additional

workload and liability exposure for the town administration.

- HFD will require more accountability and professional oversight.

A “no” vote should not be construed as a lack of support for HFD and its dedicated members. We are in challenging economic times and need to seek more creative and affordable solutions.

Dawn Francis

Appreciation for Lake Iroquois Association Letter

I want to express my appreciation for the excellent letter from Lake Iroquois Association President Chris Conant, which was published in the September issue of the Record. There have been many opinions expressed about how our community should control the massive Eurasian water-milfoil (or not) and Chris’ letter really provided us a good outline about the problem, measures taken to achieve control over the years, and why a measured use of ProcellaCor is now appropriate. The LIA has worked with the state of Vermont on this plan, gaining the benefit of our state environmental experts. Judging from what I have been able to read from how other states have dealt with this problem, I consider our plan very conservative and safe, while at the same time it should be effective so that we can better enjoy the use of the Lake. I do not share the opinion of those who would do nothing, because this invasive weed, with no effective natural predators, is certain to get worse with time. Over the years I have participated in many non-herbicide projects to control weeds in the lake (mechanical harvesting, scuba diving, beetle seeding, etc.) and watched in frustration as the milfoil proliferated so fast as to make our efforts seem useless. LIA has done its homework on this difficult problem and deserves the support of our community.

John Wilson



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TOWN NEWS

Town Clerk & Treasurer

BY MISSY ROSS

Election Day

Election Day 2020 is almost here! This is the one we have all been anticipating for many months. Thank you to all of the voters who have already returned their early ballots. This is very helpful as it reduces the workload on the day of the election itself. We have been checking them in as we receive them. You can check the status of your ballot by visiting your voter page at mvp.vermont.gov. We will be closing at noon on Monday, Nov. 2 in order to prepare for the election. You can still drop your ballots off in the drop box on the sidewalk outside of the town clerk’s office even after we have closed for the day. We will gather the ballots and store them in the vault overnight. Remember that it is very helpful to us if you return your ballot before Election Day in order to reduce the workload on the day itself.

The polls will be open as usual on Election Day from 7 a.m. until 7 p.m. We are limited in our capacity in terms of the number of voters who can be in the main hall at a time, so you should anticipate waiting in line if you do plan to vote in person. Masks will be required at the polls. Please bring your early mailed ballot with you if possible. That way you can simply use that ballot to vote in person. If you don’t bring your ballot with you, you will be asked to fill out an affidavit swearing that you have not voted on any other ballot and once completed, you can receive another ballot. You can also register to vote on Election Day if needed. Voters can also register ahead of time by going to olvr.vermont.gov and registering online. There has been a lot of media attention given to the possibility of disruptions at various polling places around the country. I am grateful that we live in a community where we all know each other and can treat each other with respect and cooperation despite whether or not our political views align. I have been asked whether this is something I am concerned about, and I have been able to truthfully answer no. Thank you, Hinesburg, for being such a wonderful place to live.

cerned about, and I have been able to truthfully answer no. Thank you, Hinesburg, for being such a wonderful place to live.

Property Taxes Due Nov. 15

Property taxes are always due on Nov. 15. This year that date falls on a Sunday, so taxes will be considered timely through the day on Monday, Nov. 16. Please don’t wait until the last day to pay so you don’t risk forgetting. Hinesburg does not impose the 8% penalty that almost all other communities do, so the cost of forgetting is not as severe as it is in most places. You would still be liable for the 1% monthly interest charge. If you need another copy of your bill, please let us know by emailing mross@hinesburg.org or hroberts@hinesburg.org and we can email you another copy. Town Hall is still not open to the public. We have a secure drop box for payments. We will be asking people to deposit their payments into the drop box and we will mail you a receipt. DO NOT DEPOSIT CASH in the drop box. If you have any questions about your bill, please call 802-482-2281 ext. 1. Thank you!

Hinesburg Poll Workers Prepare for November Election

BY ERIN GALLAGHER,
COMMUNITY NEWS SERVICE

As the election in November nears, Hinesburg poll workers — veterans and relative newcomers alike — reflect on their years working at the polls, and discuss what the upcoming election will look like.

Hinesburg has one polling location: Town Hall. Typically, there are about four or five poll workers working at a time, said Gill Coates, a longtime justice of the peace and poll worker interviewed for this article.

Because of COVID-19, not all those that have previously worked Election Day in Hinesburg will be doing the job this year, said town clerk Missy Ross. Vermont, like many states, is facing shortages of people to work at the polls — many workers are older and are worried about contracting the virus.

Each poll worker brings to the job their own unique experience and reasons for doing the work.



Gill Coates

Gill Coates has lived on Texas Hill in Hinesburg his entire life. He has seen Hinesburg grow and change, he said. He is a CVU graduate,

and spent over 35 years working at General Electric in Burlington.

Coates was elected as a justice of the peace in 1972, and has served on the Board of Civil Authority ever since. He is also the president of the Monkton Historical Society, and is a member of several other historical and genealogical societies.

“Growing up, I was always interested in politics. And what started me was the Kennedy election in 1960. I was in the fifth grade when that election was going on,” Coates said.

Coates has had many roles at the polls. He said he has participated in reviewing the voter checklist as part of the Board of Civil Authority, he has been a poll clerk, and he has counted votes.

Counting votes has changed significantly over the years, he said. Before machines, “The latest that I recall staying was until 3:30 in the morning,” Coates said.

Still, though, poll workers must count the write-in votes and those rejected by the machines, he said.

Because of COVID-19, Coates isn’t physically working the polls this year. He said that this year the Board of Civil Authority has decided that some workers can count the mail-in votes early, on Monday afternoon.

Coates said that he has been feeling that it’s almost time to move on from this work. “I’ll do another term, at least,” he said.



Andrea Morgante

Andrea Morgante has lived in Hinesburg since 1978. She is the owner of a landscaping company,

Andrea Morgante Landscape Service. She was on the selectboard for 27 years, and has worked at the polls for about 35 years, she said, though not in elections where she was up for election or reelection.

“I’m very interested in democracy and peoples’ ability to access their rights as voters and as citizens,”

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► Access CVU

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lege roommate? Or knitting or batik with your sister? Here is a selection of upcoming classes that you won’t want to miss:

Monday, Nov. 2:

Realistic Self-Portraits for Kids With Brigid Vorce. A five-session class for kids, with the final project being a portrait using colored pencils, scheduled for a season when we could all use a little more color and creativity. Includes all materials.

Next Steps in Knitting — Knit a Hat With Kelly Otty. Kelly, part owner of Must Love Yarn and a sheep farmer, wants to help you learn knitting basics as you knit a simple hat over the course of three evenings.

Shaken & Stirred: A History of Cocktails, Part 3 With Adam Krakowski. This is the last in a three-part series on the history of all our favorite spirits; this evening focuses on World War II till the present.

Wednesday, Nov. 4:

Dog Body Language: What Is Your Dog Saying? With Alana Stevenson. Do you wish you could understand what your dog’s bark really means? Learn how dogs communicate with each other and with people.

Tarot Card Adventure, Part 1 With Lydia Solini. Join Lydia for a night of tarot cards. They offer adventure into the future, understanding the past and lots of wonderful symbolism filled with wisdom!

Thursday, Nov. 5:

Tarot Card Adventure, Part 2 With Lydia Solini

Join Lydia for a second night and take a deeper dive into the world of tarot cards.

Wednesday, Nov. 11:

Baseball Scouting 101 With Erick Dalton. Have you ever wondered what it is a professional baseball scout really does? This is your chance to ask away.

Monday, Nov. 16:

The Thanksgiving Plate: Why We Eat What We Eat at Thanksgiving With Susan Evans McClure. Susan, a food historian, will serve up the story of the Thanksgiving foods we eat, the holiday we share and how that helps us understand American identity over time.

Tuesday, Nov. 17:

Working Though Wishes With Francesca Arnoldy. Francesca, an end-of-life doula, will teach you doula support skills to assist friends, family members and clients as they consider preferences for living fully and dying well.

Bats, Bugs, Fungus, COVID-19: What’s the Connection? With Barry Genzlinger. Barry, president of the

Hinesburg Record Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting of the Hinesburg Record will be held via Zoom on Thursday, November 12 starting at 5 p.m. All are welcome! Please go to hinesburgrecord.org/calendar for details. The Hinesburg Record Board will meet at the conclusion of the Annual Meeting.

Vermont Bat Center, will cover the importance of this strange and misunderstood flying mammal and its connection to our current pandemic.

Wednesday, Nov. 18:

Cat Behavior: What Is Your Cat Saying? With Alana Stevenson

Alana, a professional animal behavior specialist, will walk you through the subtleties of cat communications and how to best “read cat.”

Thursday, Nov. 19:

Quiet Waters: Paddling in Northern Vermont With Maeve Kim. Maeve, a birding expert, will share her favorite canoeing and kayaking spots in the state, and share some of her favorite wildlife photos from past adventures.

Monday, Nov. 30:

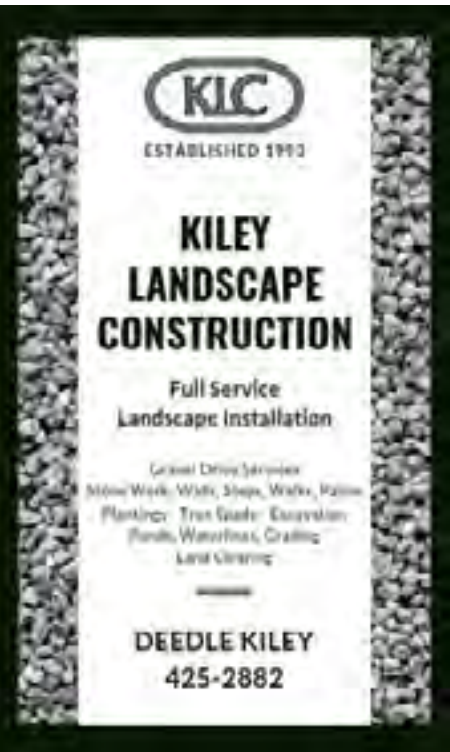
Intro to Realistic Self-Portraits With Brigid Vorce. A six-session class studying the human face, with the final project being a creative self-portrait using acrylic paints. Includes all materials.

Tuesday, Dec. 1:

Batik and Silk Painting With Jen Labie. In this six-week class you’ll learn the fundamentals of batik and silk painting. Includes all materials.

Check out our website, cvsdvt.ce.eleyo.com, for the full class list, or Google “Access CVU.” As a reminder, early signups help us plan — for popular classes it ensures you a spot in the class, and for other classes that have lower enrollment, we make a decision a week ahead on whether to go forward with a class. And if there’s a waitlist for a class you’re interested in, we encourage you to add your name since we will open up an extra section of a class if we get enough interest.

Need help getting signed up for a class, or getting setup for online learning? Have a question about a current class or a suggestion for a future class? Want to teach with us? We want to hear from you! Call 802-482-7194 or email access@cvsdvt.org. We offer senior discounts for our community over 65. We provide enrichment and learning opportunities for anyone, anywhere and anytime! Come explore new passions, ignite your imagination, learn a new skill and connect with lifelong learners.



► Town News

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Morgante said. This is why, she said, she does the job.

She, too, has worked as a ballot clerk. It is crucial, she said, that the voters say their names out loud in order to verify that they are the right person. She worked the primary in August, and this is something that COVID-19 has made even more critical.

“It’s a little difficult wearing a mask, and you know, letting people know that you were happy to see them,” she said of the primary.

She said the primary had, “A very kind of consistent flow of people, but no long lines the way that there have been in the past.” She believes this is because of mail-in ballots and people coming during the day who would have typically come after or before work.

Morgante has also counted votes.

“There’s an excitement. I would say, you know, no matter how it turns out, you know, there’s always something on the ballot, some race or some issue that you’re glad to see people participating in.” Though, she said, the poll workers strive to remain unbiased when working the polls.

“It’s just great to see people participating in the democratic process of being able to come and vote,” Morgante said.



Dorothy “Dotty” Schnure

Dotty Schnure has lived in Vermont since 1980, and in Hinesburg since 1986. She worked for many years at Green Mountain Power in corporate communications, until retiring two years ago. For the past two years, she has worked the polls.

“For years, when I go in and vote, many of the poll workers are people I know, and it always struck me that it’s an important thing that they’re doing, and would be kind of interesting and fun to do,” Schnure said.

She has worked as a ballot clerk the

past few years, checking in voters and ensuring they are on the list of registered voters.

“It’s a job that has to be done carefully and accurately,” she said.

Schnure said that she particularly likes the community aspect of poll work, and being able to see members of the Hinesburg community on voting day.

“It just feels like an important thing to do,” Schnure said.

She is not, however, working at the polls this year, due to COVID-19.

“It was a very visceral sense of doing your duty. But now, going in would not have that same sense, because I would feel that I was putting other people at risk,” Schnure said.

“I’m hopeful that the vast majority of people will use [mail-in voting],” Schnure said.

She believes this to be likely because, unlike the primary, ballots were mailed to everyone in September and October, even if they didn’t request it.

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



Hinesburg has one polling location: Town Hall.

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LEGISLATIVE

Vote! Vote! Vote!

BY HINESBURG STATE REPRESENTATIVE BILL LIPPERT

By the time this issue of the Hinesburg Record is published on Oct. 29, there will only be five more days until the 2020 general election on Tuesday, Nov. 3. I think it is fair to say that everyone, regardless of their political point of view, will be glad to get this election season behind us. I also think that most folks would agree that the 2020 election will be one of the most important in many a generation. I want to make sure that you have information, even at this late date, about how you can still cast your votes and stay safe from COVID-19.

Legislature Promotes Safe Voting

In this extraordinary year of the COVID-19 pandemic, for the first time ever, each of you in “active” status on the Hinesburg voter checklist will have already received a mail-in ballot at your home address. The decision by the Legislature to mail ballots to all Vermonters was to make voting easily accessible, and to make voting in this COVID-19 year as safe as possible by reducing the number of individuals coming in person to the polls — here in Hinesburg at the Town Hall. This is to protect the safety of those casting their ballots from being exposed to COVID-19 while casting their votes, AND to protect our town clerk, election staff and those Hinesburg volunteers at the polls from possible COVID-19 exposure.

Information About Voting

If you have not yet registered to vote, you will not have received a mail-

in ballot. However, Vermont allows same-day voter registration, meaning eligible voters can sign up at their polling place up to and including on Election Day — in Hinesburg at the Town Hall. Voters can check their registration status using the Secretary of State’s My Voter Page tool at mvp.vermont.gov. If you have already mailed in your ballot, you can track your mail-in ballot using the same Secretary of State’s My Voter Page tool: mvp.vermont.gov.

If, by the time you are reading this before the election, you have not yet mailed in your ballot, please do not drop it into the mail, instead see your options below. Secretary of State Jim Condos had advised that ballots should have been mailed by Saturday, Oct. 24 to ensure that they are received in time for the Nov. 3 election.

If you have not voted yet by the time you read this, you can either: 1) drop off your completed ballot in person at the Town Hall any time before 7 p.m. on Election Day, or, 2) show up in person to vote on Tuesday, Nov. 3 at the Hinesburg Town Hall, 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Record Turnout Expected in 2020

The record for turnout in a Vermont election was in 2008 with 328,000 votes being cast across Vermont. Barring any unexpected setback, we will most certainly blow that number out of the water this year. Vermonters are voting early in numbers we have never seen before.

As of Oct. 16, 135,000 Vermonters had already voted. On average 10,000-12,000 ballots are being received each day from across the state. At this pace, well over 50% of the 2016 presidential turnout will have been reached several weeks before Election Day.

scrap drop-off. We expect this change to be in place through 2021.

GMC will continue to accept leaves, grass and garden trimmings from all customers.

To ease the transition for our loyal GMC residential drop-off customers, we will temporarily discontinue the fee for residential food scraps brought to the drop-off center located just down the road from GMC at 1492 Redmond Road in Williston. The Williston location is open Monday through Saturday, 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Vermont Election Laws Encourage Voting

In Vermont, we are fortunate to have election laws which make voting as accessible as possible for all Vermonters — now including same-day voter registration — and early voting which no longer requires “a reason” to apply for what was once called an “absentee ballot.” Vermonters can vote up to 45 days prior to a primary or general election, and 20 days prior to a municipal election that includes the Australian ballot.

Unlike many other states, we also do not take away the right to vote from convicted felons, or those serving time in prison. In many states this has the effect of disenfranchising many minority citizens who have been disproportionately impacted by the criminal justice system.

Feel Free to Be in Touch

With Election Day finally approaching on Tuesday, Nov. 3, please do not hesitate to be in touch with questions about voting, or about current or upcoming issues in the Legislature:

Hinesburg State Representative Bill Lippert wlippert@leg.state.vt.us
802-734-0593.

Welch Hails Passage of USCIS Funding Included in Government Spending Bill to Prevent Furloughs

FROM PRESS RELEASE

Rep. Peter Welch (D) applauded the inclusion of additional United States Citizenship and Immigration Services funding in the stopgap government funding bill (H.R. 8337) that passed

the U.S. House of Representatives on Tuesday, Sept. 22. The additional funds, long championed by Welch and Senators Patrick Leahy (D) and Bernie Sanders (I), will prevent the furloughs of agency staff in Vermont, and across the nation.

“I am pleased that this bill not only prevents a disastrous government shutdown, but also includes measures to prevent the unnecessary furlough of Vermont workers,” said Welch. “Over 1,100 USCIS workers in Franklin County do important work every day to help immigrants and new Americans as they go through the naturalization, asylum or visa process. This provision gives USCIS the funds that it needs to prevent any furloughs and ensures that these Vermonters can continue to do their work.”

The provision was included as part of an agreement between House Democrats and the White House to prevent a government shutdown by funding the federal government through Dec. 11, 2020. It allows USCIS to charge \$1,500-\$2,000 for premium services often used by companies seeking to bring skilled workers into the U.S. The boosted premium fees will allow the agency to avert layoffs.

Throughout the summer, Welch, Leahy and Sanders have worked to avert the planned furloughs at USCIS, originally scheduled for Aug. 30. Welch co-sponsored two different bipartisan bills in July and August to prevent USCIS furloughs.

The funding bill also includes important provisions to bolster federal nutrition programs, including extending the Pandemic-EBT program through September 2021. This extension, championed by Welch, will allow Vermont to provide additional 3SquaresVT aid to households with children eligible for free or reduced-price lunches.

The bill is expected to be passed by the Senate and signed into law by the president.

Fall Leaf Collection & Drop Off

It’s officially fall, and leaves are in full gear launching themselves from the treetops and into your yard. And those once-glorious gardens — they’re starting to look a little scraggly, right?

CSWD has scheduled special Sunday drop-off dates at our drop-off centers in Essex, Green Mountain Compost and South Burlington. Green Mountain Compost is also open on Saturdays until Nov. 21.

Essex and South Burlington Drop-Off Centers

Special hours for leaf drop-off only: Sundays, Nov. 8 and 15: 8 a.m. to 4

p.m.

(also open regular Saturday hours 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.)

Green Mountain Compost (Williston)

Special hours for leaf drop-off only: 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on the following days:

Saturday, Oct. 31

Saturday, Nov. 7 and Sunday, Nov. 8

Saturday, Nov. 14 and Sunday, Nov. 15

Acceptable items: Non-woody leaves, garden and yard debris only. No plastic bags, branches, rocks, sod, trash or pumpkins.

For information on leaf drop off, visit our leaves page at cswd.net/community-announcements/leaves.

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Have news? 482-2350 or news@hinesburgrecord.org.

FlooringAmerica.

**We're
FLOORING AMERICA
and we
approve this
message.**

► CSWD

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Environmental Depot Open for Drop-Offs by Appointment Only

Bring your hazardous household chemicals to the Environmental Depot in South Burlington for safe disposal. Residential drop-offs are by appointment only. This appointment system will ensure our staff can maintain a safe work environment and provide adequate physical distancing for our customers and staff.

Business and institution appointments are available by calling 802-865-4663 instead of using the online appointment system.

Go to [cswd.net/environmental-depot-drop-off-scheduling](https://www.cswd.net/environmental-depot-drop-off-scheduling) to make an appointment, or [cswd.net/chittenden-county-solid-waste-facilities/environmental-depot](https://www.cswd.net/chittenden-county-solid-waste-facilities/environmental-depot) for more information.

The Joy of Winter Composting

BY GORDON CLARK, EXTENSION MASTER GARDENER, UVM

While gardening comes to a stop in the winter, its companion activity, composting, doesn't have to.

While you might think that cold temperatures keep a compost pile from composting, that is not the case. In my winter compost pile, I regularly achieve temperatures in excess of 130 degrees F even when it's in the low teens or single digits at night.

I simply charge (or fill) it when temperatures go above freezing, which happens increasingly often in our changing winter climate. According to a study from Climate Central, since 1970 northern New England winters have warmed at an average rate of more than 1 degree F per decade. Burlington, Vermont, has seen the greatest warming of any city in North America with average winter temperatures 7 degrees F higher now than five decades ago.

For winter composting, the major issue is usually the supply of materials, what composters refer to as "browns" (carbon heavy) and "greens" (nitrogen rich). However, there are some uniquely Vermont ways to keep your

compost pile charged in the colder months.

GREENS: Since we still eat fresh food in the winter, you will probably always have your own supply of greens in the form of fruit and vegetable scraps for your compost. Don't have enough? You can save up until you do. These food scraps will just freeze harmlessly on your back porch or in your freezer until you're ready to add to the compost pile.

Better yet, ask your neighbors to help, and give them a five-gallon bucket to fill. Local grocery stores may let you take fruit and vegetables they discard, and coffee grounds from the local coffeehouse are another nitrogen-rich "green" to add.

My fun, new find for winter composting greens, though, is spent beer mash. With a carbon to nitrogen (C:N) ratio of about 15:1, depending on the brewing process, spent beer mash is even richer in nitrogen than leafy vegetable wastes, which have a 25:1 C:N ratio. And what does Vermont have if not lots of breweries? Most are happy to give you a few buckets of their spent mash.

BROWNS: If you've already blown through your stored leaf pile, you may be able to purchase straw bales at a local farm or nursery. I have been using sawdust and woodchips, available at local lumber mills and wood shops, for brown matter and have also found these to be superior insulation in cold weather.

I put a nice 6- to 12-inch ring of these around the interior of my compost bin, and then do my actual composting in the center. This insulation allows me to maintain the pile's temperature even when it gets cold and even when the pile is considerably smaller than the generally recommended five-by-five-by-five foot pile. (My bin is about 4.5 feet in diameter, and the pile has never been higher than 3 feet this winter.)

Take note that sawdust and woodchips are extremely high in carbon, having C:N ratios of up to 400:1. You'll want to use them more sparingly in the composting core, mixing them with other browns or using extra greens to compensate.

In a nutshell, that's it! Just bear in mind that this is not a method to produce a finished load of fine compost by the first day of spring. What it will do is allow you to keep your microbes alive and healthy during the winter, continue to compost your own food waste, and provide you with a fantastic base for when you build the larger pile as the weather warms.

And it allows you to make new friends as you go to your local grocery store, farm or brewery and local mill, lumberyard or wood shop. And what could be more Vermont than that?

POLICE

Incidents

Sept. 7: 9 p.m. Officers responded to Jourdan Street for a custodial dispute.

Sept. 8: 3:30 p.m. An individual was trespassed from a residence at Lyman Meadows.

5:35 p.m. Officers conducted a welfare check on Route 116.

Sept. 9: 5:40 p.m. Officers responded to the intersection of CVU Road and Mechanicsville Road for a two-car motor vehicle crash. Both vehicles were damaged and minor injuries were reported.

Sept. 10: 11:30 a.m. An officer responded to a two-car motor vehicle crash at the intersection of Route 116 and Charlotte Road. No injuries were reported.

6:42 p.m. Officers responded to Lantman's Market on Route 116 for the report of an intoxicated male. The individual was trespassed from the premises and transported to his residence.

Sept. 11: 4 p.m. A citizen dispute was reported on Farmall Drive. Officers determined the dispute was verbal in nature and the parties were separated.

Sept. 12: 11:20 a.m. Officers responded to Jourdan Street for a citizen dispute. Parties were separated.

Sept. 14: 7:38 p.m. A traffic stop was initiated on Pond Road for speeding. The operator was cited for operating a motor vehicle with a criminally suspended license.

Sept. 15: 1:50 p.m. An officer responded to Green Street for an intoxicated female. The individual was transported to ACT 1 in Burlington.

2:00 p.m. A theft was reported at Kinney Drugs on Route 116.

Sept. 16: 7:25 p.m. Officers assisted the Hinesburg Fire Department and state police with a traffic crash in St. George.

Sept. 17: 10:38 a.m. A fraud case was reported and investigated.

10:50 a.m. An individual was trespassed from a property on Birchwood Drive.

Sept. 19: 11:45 p.m. An officer responded to Green Street for the report of an intoxicated male. The individual was transported to the UVM Medical Center.

Sept. 20: 7:15 p.m. A relief from abuse order was issued to an individual on Jourdan Street.

Sept. 22: 12:08 p.m. An officer assisted the Hinesburg Fire Department with a vehicle leaking gas on North Road.

Sept. 23: 12:09 p.m. Officers responded to North Road for a single-car motor vehicle crash.

2:30 p.m. An individual was trespassed from the Jiffy Mart on Shelburne Falls Road.

Sept. 24: 7:38 a.m. Officers responded to a family fight on Jourdan Street.

9 p.m. Officers received a report of erratic operation on Pond Road. A traffic stop was made on Mechanicsville Road with the suspected vehicle. A traffic citation for failure to stop at a stop sign was issued.

Sept. 25: 12:05 a.m. A single car crash on Richmond Road was reported. Damage and minor injuries were reported.

Sept. 26: 3:30 p.m. Officers responded to Hillview Terrace for a two-house active structure fire. There they assisted Hinesburg Fire Department and other responding agencies.

6:30 p.m. Illegal burning was reported on Sunset Lane West. Upon arrival officers located a large unattended bonfire on private property. The fire was extinguished.

Sept. 29: 12:15 a.m. An officer responded to Shelburne Falls Road for the report of a motor vehicle crash involving a deer. No injuries were reported.

Sept. 30: 12:30 p.m. A theft was reported at Kinney Drugs on Route 116.

2:30 p.m. Officers responded to the Community Bank on Ballard's Corner Road for a panic alarm. Investigation showed it was a false alarm.

Oct. 2: 10:30 a.m. A car was reported stolen on Shelburne Falls Road. That case is under investigation.

12:30 p.m. A traffic stop was conducted on Route 116. The operator was taken into custody for driving with a criminally suspended driver's license.

Oct. 3: 8:30 p.m. A traffic stop was conducted on Shelburne Falls Road. The operator was cited for operating a motor vehicle without an ignition interlock device when required to have one.

Oct. 4: 8 p.m. An officer investigated the report of livestock killed by a domestic dog.

Oct. 5: Theft of equipment from a business on Route 116 was reported and is under investigation.

Oct. 11: 4 p.m. An officer assisted the Hinesburg Fire Department and Vermont State Police with a two-car motor vehicle crash in St. George.

9:20 p.m. Officers responded to Bear Lane for a citizen dispute.

FIRE

Change the Clocks, Change the Batteries

Please remember to change the batteries in your fire/smoke and carbon monoxide detectors. After changing the batteries, be sure to test the detectors. While the detector is down, look at the date on the label. Any detector over 10 years old, a manufacture date prior to January 2011, should be replaced.

Annual Food Drive

Our annual food drive to benefit the Hinesburg Community Resource Center will be held Sunday, Nov. 8, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Contactless collections will be at the Fire Station and Lantman's Market.

Emergency Medical Technician Course

Are you interested in learning emergency medical service and becoming certified as an emergency medical technician?

An EMT course will be starting in December. The course will be a combined online classroom with in-person practical labs. Hinesburg Fire will be a host site for the labs. For more information, including how to sign up for the course, please email info@hinesburgfd.org or stop by the fire station on a Wednesday night.

Another Busy Month for HFD

September was another busy month with HFD responding to over 40 calls:

Sept. 1: Medical Hinesburg transport.

Sept. 2: Fire alarm CVU. Nothing found.

Sept. 3: Medical Hinesburg no transport.

Medical Hinesburg transported.

Medical Hinesburg patient transported.

Sept. 6: Medical Hinesburg transport.

Sept. 8: Medical Hinesburg transport.

Medical St. George transported.

Sept. 9: Motor vehicle crash on CVU and Richmond Road. There were no injuries. Both vehicles were towed from the scene.

Sept. 10: Medical fall off of a bicycle. Patient was transported.

Sept. 11: Medical St. George patient transport.

Sept. 12: Illegal burn. Resident was given a verbal warning about burning trash.

Sept. 14: Medical Hinesburg no transport.

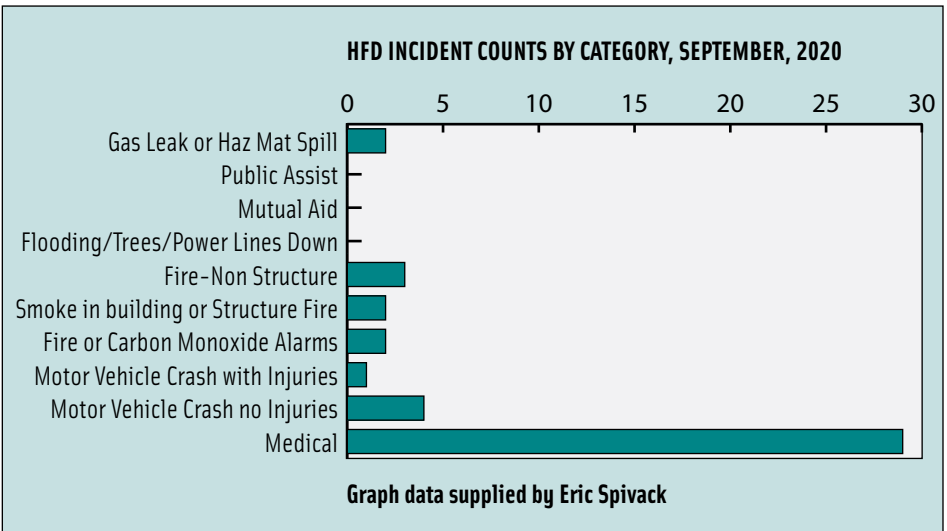
Report of a fire in the back of a barn. Engines 1 and 3, Tanker and Med 100 responded with 10 members. On arrival, bales of hay were found smoldering behind a barn. The hay bales were broken down and the fire extinguished. Responders were on scene for about 45 minutes.

Sept. 15: Medical Hinesburg transport.

Medical Hinesburg no transport.

Sept. 16: Medical Hinesburg patient transported.

Two-car motor vehicle crash at



*HFD responded to 43 calls in September. *an example of a non-structure fire would be a telephone pole, car, or grass/brush fire.*

Routes 2A and 116. There were no injuries. One vehicle was towed from the scene. The second vehicle was able to be driven to their nearby residence.

Sept. 17: Medical St. George patient transported.

Medical St. George patient transported. Medical Hinesburg patient transported.

Medical St. George patient transported.

Sept. 19: Medical St. George no transport.

Medical Hinesburg transport.

Medical Hinesburg transport.

Sept. 26: Medical Hinesburg patient transported.

Sept. 22: Report of something smoldering at the intersection of North and Richmond Road. The first arriving responder reported a blanket in the triangle which was smoldering. It was extinguished using a fire extinguisher.

Dispatch to North Road and Lincoln

continued on page 8

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Sat 7am-noon

► Fire Department

continued from page 7

Hill for a report of a pickup truck leaking fuel. The fuel was contained, and spill cleaned up.

Medical St. George no transport.

Sept. 23: Medical Hinesburg patient transported.

Report of a motor vehicle crash on North Road. The vehicle went off the road, hitting a tree. The operator was treated by Hinesburg EMTs and transported by ambulance to the UVM Medical Center.

Sept. 24: Medical Hinesburg patient transported. Route 116 and Silver Street for a report of a fuel spill. The spill was contained and cleaned.

Sept. 25: Report of a motor vehicle crash, car into the guard-rail, Richmond Road near Iroquois Manufacturing. The operator was not injured. The vehicle was towed from the scene.

Medical Hinesburg no transport.

Fire alarm sounding at Lyman Meadows. Nothing found. Possible faulty detector.

Sept. 26: Structure fire at 62 Hillview Terrace.

Possible motor vehicle crash on Hinesburg Hollow Road. There was no crash. Someone has stopped to contain a wandering family animal.

Medical St. George patient transported. Dispatch received reports of a possible rekindling at the second

home, which had sustained damage earlier. Engine 3 responded with four members to investigate.

Sept. 28: Medical Hinesburg no transport.

Medical St. George no transport.

Sept. 29: Medical Hinesburg patient transported.

Structure Fire on Hillview Terrace

At 3:35pm Saturday, Sept. 26, Hinesburg Fire was dispatched to a reported structure fire on Hillview Terrace. The caller was not sure of the exact number of the home and stated it was fully involved.

Chief Barber could see the column of black smoke as he was leaving his home, about ¼ mile away. He requested his gear be brought from the station on a responding engine and went directly to the scene to determine the location and to size up the scene. He requested a working incident for Hinesburg and mutual aid from Richmond and Starksboro Fire Departments. Charlotte Fire

was called later on for additional manpower.

On arrival, Chief Barber reported the front half of a trailer fully involved, with fire starting to spread to the trailer to the west.

As apparatus was responding, ammunition inside the home started to go off. Chief Barber, along with another member and Hinesburg Police, ducked for cover behind a vehicle. As he was doing so, Chief Barber felt something hit his left forearm. He had been injured by one of the bullets. Fortunately, it was a minor injury which was treated at the scene.

Hinesburg apparatus arrived and commenced fire attack using our compressed air foam system to smother and put out the fire. A second attack line was used on the exposure to prevent further fire extension. The fire was declared under control at 4:15 p.m. Once under control, firefighters began checking both trailers for fire extension.

One resident was treated for lacerations by Hinesburg EMTs and transported to UVM Medical Center by Saint Michaels. Richmond Rescue was called to the scene for standby. Chief Barber and a second firefighter, who sustained a laceration to his arm, were treated at the scene by Hinesburg EMTs.

Mutual aid companies were re-

leased between 5:30 and 5:45 p.m. Hinesburg cleared the scene at 6:15 p.m. Approximately 25-30 firefighters and EMS members responded with 10 pieces of apparatus. We greatly appreciate the assistance from our mutual aid departments.

It was determined by the fire marshal that the cause of the fire was improperly disposed of smoking materials.

Hinesburg Emergency Medical Service

Hinesburg Fire Department took over EMS first response in Hinesburg and St. George in July 2000 when Iroquois First Response disbanded because Williston's call volume had exceeded IRF's ability to cover all three towns. Saint Michael's Rescue Service was the first due ambulance for IFR. Hinesburg and SMRS reached an agreement, which has continued to this day, for SMRS to be the primary ambulance service for Hinesburg and St. George.

When Hinesburg started our First Response, emergency medical technicians would sign up for overnight shifts, carrying jump kits, an automatic electronic defibrillator and IV bag with them. At the end of a shift, the member would drop the AED and IV equipment at the station to be picked up by the next shift. In 2001, the Firemen's Association purchased a 2000 Dodge Durango with association funds and donated the vehicle to the fire department. This became Med 100, our emergency medical response vehicle. The Durango was replaced in 2012 with our current vehicle.

Hinesburg was awarded the First Response Squad of the year in 2003 and again in 2019. Hinesburg has also been awarded the Vermont Star of Life Award and the Zoll EMS PULSE Award.

The goal of Hinesburg Fire Department is to improve on the level of service that we provide the residents of Hinesburg and St. George. The way to improve on the level of care is to provide a continuity of care from the time we arrive on scene to the hospital and faster transport to the hospital. The way to achieve this is with a Hinesburg-operated ambulance service.

Ambulance Information

As we approach Nov. 3, we would like to provide answers to some frequently asked questions about starting an ambulance service in Hinesburg.

Q) Will we need a new building if we get an ambulance? A) No. A new fire station is NOT being driven by the addition of an ambulance. A new fire station will be driven by the increased development in town. **Q) If we do not build a new station, what**

will be do for overnight accommodations at the current station?

A) The department realizes that bunk rooms will be needed — regardless of the outcome of the ambulance vote — to attract more members. We have met with a contractor and the Department of Fire Safety to start the process of converting the area where our 1945 engine is on display to two bunkrooms and a day room. This renovation should be completed in two to three months. **Q: What will be the cost to equip the ambulance?**

A: The cost of the equipment will be minimal. We have reviewed the list of equipment which is required for an ambulance. Except for a few small items, all the equipment is currently in use on Med 100. **Q: What will happen with Med 100?**

A: Engine 3 is currently equipped as our backup medical response vehicle for when there is a second call or when Med 100 was out of service. The medical equipment on Engine 3 would be moved to Med 100, which will become our backup medical response vehicle.

Q) We know that we have a benefactor who is purchasing the town's first ambulance. What is the cost of a second ambulance and when will it be needed?

A) A second ambulance will be needed at some point. Will it be immediately? No. Again, a second ambulance, as well as the third full-time person, will be driven by development and call volume. The second ambulance is merely a backup truck for when the frontline truck is out of service for maintenance. Once we are in service, other services will often loan out their spare if someone is in need, mutual aid in action!

We were notified recently by our benefactor that enough funds have been set aside to not only purchase our first ambulance, but to also purchase a second used ambulance for Hinesburg when we are ready. This does NOT mean we are going to go out right away and purchase two ambulances. There is no timeline as to when a second ambulance will be purchased.

When the second ambulance is needed, we would look for the best deal and newest used ambulance available so we can get the most time for our purchase, and not have to replace two ambulances at the same time. This would defeat the purpose of having two. We would want to be sure we could extend the life of one of the ambulances, so we are replacing one every five years or so.

Q) Where will the second ambulance be housed?

A) If the time arrives where the second ambulance is needed and a new station is not planned, the backup ambulance would take the place of Med 100 at the station at the corner of Route 116 and Mechanicsville. Med 100

would most likely be sold at that time.

Q) What are the replacement costs for an ambulance? A) This varies on the method of replacement. The town could decide to purchase a new ambulance at an estimated cost of \$250,000. Another option is to purchase a new cab and chassis and move the box from the old chassis to the new one. This option costs approximately \$75,000. This is a decision that does not have to be made at this time and will be discussed in 5 to 10 years when we approach replacement. **Q) How would the replacement ambulance be paid for?**

A) There will be \$25,000 in capital funding annually to plan for replacement costs. At the end of 10 years, we would have \$250,000 in capital. This does not mean that the entire \$250,000 would be spent as there are options when it comes to replacement — a new ambulance and box or a new chassis and move the box to the new chassis. By just purchasing a chassis — a much lower cost option — Hinesburg would have that much more set aside in capital for if/when the entire ambulance — chassis and box — would need to be replaced. Many local agencies use the chassis replacement method. Also, as the impact fee structure is revised, we anticipate apparatus and/or ambulance replacement may be one of the new categories. Again, the replacement options and costs would be discussed and reviewed when the time comes.

Q) What are the tax implications of an ambulance?

A) The property tax impact of an ambulance service will be \$59.40 for a \$200,000 home, \$89.10 on a \$300,000 home and \$118.80 on a \$400,000 home.

Q) What about contracting with other services? We understand that the two services who have placed bids state they are underutilized.

A) A one-year contract with Charlotte and Richmond, the two services who provided bids, will be \$94,700 for the first year. Charlotte is not interested in anything other than a short-term contract until Hinesburg has its own ambulance, much like St. Mike's did this year. In addition, Hinesburg will still be operating First Response at a cost of \$66,700. With this option, Hinesburg would not see any of the estimated \$85,000 in revenues as the transporting service will be billing the insurance companies and collecting these dollars.

Q) What are the response times for Hinesburg?

A) Hinesburg's average response time is seven minutes from time of dispatch to on scene. **Q) What are an ambulance service's response time?**

A) An ambulance service response is an average of 15 minutes from dispatch. Road and weather conditions will affect everyone's response.

Q) What is Hinesburg doing about recruitment of new members?

A) Hinesburg is, as are all fire departments except for full-time departments, always recruiting for new members. Recruitment is by word of mouth and articles. Hinesburg will be taking part in the EMT class which is starting in December. The classroom will be online with the practice and labs being hands-on. The Hinesburg station will be one of the practice/test sites, making it convenient for residents who wish to take part in the course. We have received interest in the course from five or six residents and current members.

Q) How does Hinesburg retain current members?

A) We work to keep members engaged in the workings of the department. Some things members are encouraged to do are submit ideas for and plan trainings; be responsible for maintaining adequate levels of EMS supplies; assist with training of new members.

The department is in the process of converting the space where our 1945 engine is on display to a day room and two bunk rooms. This will provide a space for members who live further out in town to stay overnight during an EMS shift, as well as provide a place for per diem persons to cover an overnight shift and weekends.

A "yes" vote for the ambulance only authorizes the town of Hinesburg to continue to work toward starting a town-operated ambulance service. The department and Selectboard would use the amounts from the Five-Year Projected Profit and Loss to come up with a fiscal year 2022 budget. This budget will be presented to taxpayers for a vote at Town Meeting Day in March.

A "no" vote for the ambulance advises the Selectboard that they will have to research other options for an ambulance to respond to Hinesburg and St. George.

The members and officers of the Hinesburg Fire Department realize that not everyone agrees on this issue. We are providing information based on facts that have been reviewed, checked and rechecked. We understand that just because someone does not agree with the need for an ambulance at this time, it does not mean they do not support the fire department. We appreciate everything the residents of Hinesburg have done in support of the fire department over the years and hope for your continued support.

Regardless of the outcome of the vote, the members of HFD will be there for the town and its residents when we are called upon.

Follow us on Facebook at HinesburgFireDepartment and be sure to visit our website hinesburgfd.org.



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★★

GENERAL ELECTION

NOV. 3

PLEASE VOTE

BUSINESS



Cool Motion Outdoor Sports is now open in Bristol.

New Bristol Bike/Ski/Board Shop is Open for Business

FROM PRESS RELEASE

Cool Motion Outdoor Sports has opened its doors at 400 Rockydale Road in Bristol. A long-needed location for a bike/ski shop, Bristol is now the place to bring your bike and ski or board for a tuneup — no more long trips to Burlington or Rutland! With 30-plies years of experience in the bike and ski industry, owner Chris Morrissey has long dreamed of opening his own shop, and the day has come.

Cool Motion Outdoor Sports offers the most competitive pricing of all area shops, specializing in tuning and overall service. CMOS has an inventory of new and consigned bike and ski gear, and will special order items not sold instore. Get that old bike out and up and running for this fall's epic riding, or give your bike a solid tuneup or overhaul to ride out the season and have it ready to go in the spring. Before we know it, the snow will be flying — get your skis and snowboards out and tuned up now so they're ready to go! Be sure your bindings are safe and adjusted properly for your boots. Spread the word, tell your friends and neighbors! CMOS is open Tuesday through Thursday 9 a.m.-6 p.m. and Friday through Saturday 8 a.m.-6 p.m. For more information, check out coolmotionoutdoorsports.com. 802-453-4584. Come on in and support your local shop!

Financial Focus: Vote for a Solid Investment Strategy

FROM EDWARD JONES INVESTING

Election Day is less than a week away. As a citizen, you may feel the results will affect many aspects of life in this country. But as an investor, your situation probably won't change after the votes are counted.

No matter who wins, the financial markets may well show some politically driven volatility, but that often happens around elections, and it typically doesn't last long. But what about the longer term? How might changes in policy and new legislation affect your investment outlook?

To begin, keep in mind that many campaign promises remain just that — promises. And even when some of them are enacted, any ultimate legislation may be quite different from what was proposed on the campaign trail.

Still, sometime in the future, we could see election-related changes that could affect your investment strategy. For example, over the years, we've seen many adjustments in the tax rates of capital gains and stock dividends, and it's likely these rates will change again one day. When that happens, you may need to look at the equities portion of your portfolio to see if you want to make some adjustments.

Many other changes, though, are hard to predict. It's possible that future legislation could affect specific industries, either positively or negatively. Such moves could also influence the way you look at certain investments, but if you have a diversified portfolio that contains a broad mix of stocks, bonds and other securities, any actions affecting one particular industry probably won't cause you to significantly adjust holdings invested in other sectors.

In any case, while it may be a good idea to keep an eye open for things like tax rate changes or how new policies may affect different market segments, your main emphasis, in terms of your investment decisions, should remain on your goals and what you need to do to achieve them.

fortable retirement). Periodically, depending on what's happening in your life and the progress of your investment portfolio, you may need to evaluate your goals to ensure they're prioritized appropriately to help keep you on track toward achieving what's most important to you.

Over time, your goals may change, too. Perhaps you've decided that instead of retiring early and traveling around the world, you now want to turn your hobby into a business. Changing this goal may require a different investment strategy. Or you might change your mind about where you want to live — instead of staying

RECREATION

BY JENNIFER MCCUIN

By the time you read this, our HRD youth soccer season will be winding down. When I look back at how much time I spent wondering "How am I going to offer soccer during a pandemic?!" I smile. All of my worrying and planning seems like a distant memory, but it's only been over a month. Here's a recap and glimpse of what a Hinesburg Youth Soccer season looked like! Our coaches meeting on Sept. 9 was at Millie's field and we stood in a huge circle, physically distanced! It has been at least since March since I'd seen most of the coaches. Can they hear me through my mask? Is there any food in my teeth? Wait, I have a mask on, so who cares! After weeks of stressing out, I was looking at all these masked volunteer coaches and it was awesome! We were going to make this season happen together.

Every player, parent and fan checked in at the rec. table for a temperature scan, health questions, hand sanitizing and everyone wore a mask — yes, the kids wore them even while playing soccer — and people physically distanced on the sidelines. We scheduled practices and games on a "every 30-minute basis" so that there were fewer people at check-ins and in the parking lot. None of the coaches carried equipment bags, all the kids were responsible for their own soccer ball, we supplied game balls and

in your home, as originally planned, you might downsize and move to a different area. Your goals may change in many ways, all of which may warrant updating your investment strategies.

Here's the key point: *You're* the one electing to make these changes. No matter what happens in this or any other election, be sure to "vote" for the strategies that have the potential for a winning outcome.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor. Edward Jones, Member SIPC.

cones, and pinnies were disinfected or washed after every single use. We didn't do any high-fives and there was no little bear cub option for the high school players and kindergartners, but we were playing soccer!

Here's what didn't look different and maybe seemed like a silver lining. The kids were so happy to be at practice and together, they listened to the coaches, played their hearts out, and never complained about the masks — OK, maybe one or two had a tough time with the masks, especially if they wore glasses, and on the hotter days, we did need to offer more breaks and waters — but the kids were unbelievably enduring. I got to interact with every single player, their families and fans for each practice and game. I did not come across one disgruntled person. People were incredibly grateful to see their children play and to be outside on our new, beautiful playing fields. Once it started to get darker, the kids hardly wanted practice to end, despite the darkness. After a week or so into the season, I felt lighter, my head wasn't spinning, my heart felt full watching the kids on the fields, the parents on the sidelines, connecting, laughing, with some walking the field perimeters or playing with their younger children, with some friends and grandparents coming by to see the games. Everyone was wearing a mask, but it felt so normal. I realized that we'd turned a corner. Yup, we've got this.

A huge shout-out to our amazing HRD



Team 1 — Big Green, Soccer 1-2, coach Sam Fox.



Team 2 — Blue Bombers, Soccer 1-2, coach Matt Mason.



Team 3 - Hot Lava, Soccer 1-2, coaches Tracy Iandolli and Cassandra Townshend.

soccer coaches this season! These people jumped in and made this crazy, unprecedented season possible! THANK YOU — Sam Fox; Matt Mason; Tracy Iandolli; Cassandra Townsend; Deb Nison; Emily Raymond; Travis Hart; Erin O'Neal; Ryan Gardner; Brogan Morton; Roxanne Gignoux; CVU Boys varsity coach Rob Cole and his players; and Rob, Joy, Cody and Maeve O'Neil. Thank you, parents, for trusting, supporting and making the most out of this situation — your children are lucky and so am I. We've got this, Hinesburg!



Team 4 - Dragons, Soccer 1-2, coaches Deb Nison and Emily Raymond.

Programs

For all programs, register at hinesburgrec.com

Horseback Riding

Enjoy horseback riding lessons and so much more with Kim Johansen at Livery Stables. Lessons are for beginning to early intermediate riders. All COVID-19 protocols must be adhered to all times. Riders shall wear a mask or face covering if a six-foot minimum is not possible. Riders must comply with all rules and be able to understand the protocol or may be asked to leave to maintain the safety of the space. At the time of print and until otherwise announced, students will take the bus from Hinesburg Community School to Livery Stables, located at 601 Lavigne Hill Road right after school. Please be sure to send a permission note with your child to ride the bus, pack a snack for your hungry rider, and send boots and barn clothes. Any updates or changes will be communicated as needed. Thanks for being flexible during these ever-changing times!

Who: Ages 8 to 14. **When:** Tuesdays, Session 3: Nov. 3 through 24. Fridays, Session 3: Oct. 30 through Nov. 20. **Where:** Livery Stables, 601 Lavigne Hill Road, Hinesburg. **Time:** 3-5 p.m. **Cost:** \$160. More information can be found at liveryhorsefarm.com. Maximum: 5 participants.

Remote Piano Lessons

These 20-minute private Zoom lessons are taught by Andrea Haulenbeek or Mary Beth Bowman for beginner to advanced interme-

diates students. Participants must have a piano or keyboard along with a Zoom option. Beginner students would need an adult to assist with the lessons. Classes follow school year calendar, broken into first semester (September through December) and second semester (January through May). Students retain their lesson day and time for the entire school year and subsequent years, unless they choose not to continue. Enrollment is based on availability. If there are no openings, you are placed on a wait list and offered a date and time as available. A spring recital via Zoom celebrates a year-long commitment by students and instructor. **Who:** Grades 2-8. **When:** First semester lessons begin week of Sept. 8 through week of Dec. 14. **Where:** Remote learning via Zoom. **Cost:** \$22 per lesson and billed per semester.

Online registration is not available for this program. Please contact HRD at hinesburgrec@gmavt.net to inquire about opening or to be placed on the

wait list. Thanks!

Driver Education With Kevin Browne

Kevin Browne offers this class for those pursuing their driver's license. Students must have a valid Vermont learner's permit. Classes will utilize remote learning with Google Meet and online assignments. Students must be available on weekends to complete in-person driving. All students must wear a face covering/mask while in the car with the instructor. All driving will meet and end at Jiffy Mart in Hinesburg.

When: Sundays, Feb. 28, March 7, 14, 21 and 28 from 7:30-9:30 p.m. and Tuesdays & Wednesdays March 2, 3, 9, 10, 16, 17, 23, 24, 30 and 31 from 7-9 p.m. **Where:** Remote learning with Google Meet. **Cost:** \$700. Register at hinesburgrec.com and checks are payable to Kevin Browne and due to HRD by Feb. 11, 2021.

LIBRARY

Library Hours:

Please check the website for updates, 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

As the weather cools, we remain open by appointment. Browsing appointments are 30 minutes long; if you need to use a computer, appointments are one hour. We ask you to call us at 802-482-2878 to make an appointment or email us if you are shy at library@carpentercarse.org. You can always call us from the parking lot if you want to come in. Sometime

this month, we will celebrate the end of the road construction and culvert replacement that has made visiting the library an adventure (and very exciting for fans of heavy equipment!).

Antiracist Reading Club

We are partnering with Charlotte Library in December for a discussion of "How to Be an Antiracist" by Ibram X. Kendi. The discussion group will meet beginning in early December. Get in touch for copies of the book.

New Adult Books

New books by Alice Hoffman, David Attenborough, Jodi Picoult, Caitlin Moran, John Grisham, Debbie Macomber, and Tana French are among the fresh literature inside our doors. Cartoonist Allie Brosh,

continued on page 12



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► Library

continued from page 11

whose popular webcomic “Hyperbole and a Half” has a new book of cartoons called “Solutions and Other Problems.” New kids’ books illustrated by Sophie Blackall & Carson Ellis have also joined the collection.

Monthly Book Group**Wednesday, Nov. 11, 10:30 a.m.**

This informal group meets in the library garden on the second Wednesday of each month to chat about the current book. You can reserve a copy of the latest book at the front desk or by calling us.

Color Your Way to Calm: Adult Coloring

Can anyone truly color their way to calm in this moment? Let me know if it’s working for you. We have photocopies of some kid’s coloring pages in our foyer which you are welcome to take. Adults, if you need other resources let us know and we can set you up with a coloring kit curbside.

Paint Night Nov. 11 (Veteran’s Day)

Join us on Zoom for a paint night at 7 p.m. We will hang out and paint something together, pick up supplies at the library earlier in the month of November.

Video Storytime

Join us for a video storytime! New videos are added to the Carpenter-Carse Library website weekly. Video storytimes are geared toward children ages infancy-six and their caregivers. Join Ms. Jen for stories, songs and rhymes that are designed to promote early literacy skills in a fun environment. Please email jen@carpenter-carse.org with any questions.

Craft and Activity Packs

If you’re looking for something fun to do, stop by the library foyer and take some coloring pages, origami kits, craft packs or a scavenger hunt. We will rotate through available and seasonal materials, so check in every once in a while for something new!

StoryWalks

Weather permitting, we will install a special Thanksgiving/harvest-themed StoryWalk on the library grounds. It’s such a great way to spend time out-

► CVU Works

continued from page 1

acres of CVU’s campus, including 1.4 acres of impervious surface. As water runs off the parking lot and from the track/hill area, it enters a sediment forebay area that helps remove sediment. Then, it flows down the swale, where it is caught in bioretention areas, which include soil and a native grass and wildflower mix, to help remove phosphorus from the water, before it filters down into the underdrain pipe in the ground under the swale, removing nutrients. An overflow culvert was resized to meet resiliency goals for safe passage of large storms. Water then enters the stream, which flows into CVU’s fire/stormwater pond. This pond’s outlet then flows under Route 116, between the Carpenter-Carse Library and Jiffy Mart gas station, under the road and beside the Bissonette Fields, then into Patrick Brook, which then empties into the LaPlatte River.

Students at the school worked with the LCA, water resource engineers and school staff to help identify areas where stormwater improvements could be made. The eroding swale off of the north parking lot was identified as an important location to treat dirty water running off of paved surfaces, as well as to fix erosion that was taking place in the swale, carrying phosphorus with it. Several students last year received a lesson on water quality through another LCA grant, and met with LCA staff and Jessica Louisos (a water resources engineer at Milone & MacBroom) to develop project ideas for this swale improvement. This type of fix helps improve water quality in Patrick Brook and the LaPlatte River by slowing water down, spreading it out, and sinking it into the ground (the three S’s that are central to LCA’s AOTS program), as well as carrying more water than is expected with larger rainstorms due to climate change. You can learn more about the AOTS program at lewisecreek.org/ahead-of-the-storm.

All of the stormwater runoff from the

CVU property flows into the LaPlatte River via one of two routes, then into Lake Champlain at Shelburne Bay. The LaPlatte River is impaired with bacteria (E. coli) from its mouth up to Hinesburg, and we hope to keep it from being classified as impaired for phosphorus. Nutrients like phosphorus can cause algal blooms (including harmful blue-green algae) in the lake, and can lead to fish die-offs. Chloride (which is in road salt as sodium chloride) is also bad for the environment, and can kill off plants. At some campus locations, runoff from the CVU roof, parking lots, driveways and playing fields travel directly from an impervious surface to an aging pipe network with little to no treatment. Action on a community scale is critical to reduce the amount of nutrient-rich stormwater directly entering the LaPlatte River, then Lake Champlain. You can learn more about the problem and what landowners can do to improve water quality in a brief 17-minute presentation on LCA’s website at lewisecreek.org/water-quality-videos. Ahead of the Storm education materials can be found at lewisecreek.org/library. It is crucial that we all do our part to improve water quality in small ways, in order to improve Lake Champlain’s water quality and beauty, and to protect the animals and plants that live in our rivers and streams.

If you have any questions about the project, please reach out to Kate Kelly, program manager for Lewis Creek Association, at lewisecreekorg@gmail.com or 802-488-5203.

This project was funded by an agreement awarded by the Environmental Protection Agency and by the Great Lakes Fishery Commission to the New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission in partnership with the Lake Champlain Basin Program. NEIWPCC manages LCBP’s personnel, contract, grant, and budget tasks and provides input on the program’s activities through a partnership with the LCBP Steering Committee. The viewpoints expressed here do not necessarily represent those of NEIWPCC, the LCBP Steering Committee or GLFC, nor does mention of trade names, commercial products or causes constitute endorsement or recommendation for use.

EDUCATION

Superintendent Update**Oct. 16****BY CVSD SUPERINTENDENT
ELAINE PINCKNEY**

We have just completed our first experience with a positive COVID-19 case in our schools. While we would have wished not to have any cases — ever — I am so proud to let you know how smoothly it all went. Every part of our plan went as imagined. Kudos to the Williston administration for having their systems in place and being able to provide all of the information requested by the Vermont Department of Health team. This went a long way toward narrowing the scope of the impact. I’d also like to give a shout-out to the CVSD Reopening Team that mobilized at a moment’s notice on a Sunday afternoon. It feels very reassuring to be part of a team that works well together, and more importantly, is committed to doing whatever it takes to ensure the best possible results for our students, their families and our faculty and staff.

For those of you who read the Williston Observer, I want to point out that the letter we sent to you on Sunday night was written by us. A sub-group of the team spent over an hour considering every line in that letter. We knew how important this first communication was and we wanted to make sure we got it as exactly right as possible. If others used portions of our letter to express the same sentiment, we are fine with that, but we want you all to know how seriously we took the messaging of this information. For those of you who don’t receive the Williston Observer — there was a sentence at the end of a very good report that indicated our letter may have been a form letter that we downloaded. It was not.

We are continuing the process of bringing more students back for in-person instruction.

Our kindergarten students have been in for two weeks and everyone involved is thrilled to have them back. I heard from every single K-4 principal about the energy and excitement their presence generated. It has gone very smoothly. On Monday, Oct. 19, we will welcome our grades one and two students for four days of in-person instruction per week. We’ve been planning for this transition for several weeks and are confident that it will also go very smoothly, I can’t underscore enough how vigilant our teachers and administrators have

been around making sure that we are able to follow all of the health and safety guidance. We have full confidence in the practices we have put in place. The following week, if all goes as well as we anticipate, we will be bringing in our grades three and four students. Again, our plan could be adjusted based on our experiences, our community context and the greater Vermont context. We will always consider the health and safety of our students first.

Please note the republishing of our school year calendar. I say republishing because there will be no additional changes to the calendar that was distributed last spring. In the recent legislative session, the Legislature set the number of student days required to 170. Our calendar, as adopted last spring, has 172 student days for our K-8 students and 173 student days for our high school students.

The latest superintendent updates can be found at
sites.google.com/cvsdvt.org/cvsdreopening/home.

CVSD’s Diversity/Equity/Inclusion Team

CVSD is thrilled to announce the creation of a district-wide Diversity/Equity/Inclusion Team. The team is a combination of local coaches and district leaders. The Diversity & Equity coaching model will promote, support and strengthen the knowledge and expertise of multiculturalism and equity within the CVSD community.

Our appointed coaches will work to harness education and resources that will encourage all community members to think critically, realize and challenge their assumptions, and collaborate to forge a greater understanding of our society. We will work to develop a shift toward diversity of thought, perspective and experience. We will strive to cultivate the empathy, understanding and respect necessary to open all minds to perspectives and experiences other than our own, and embed this within the culture of our schools.

The Team:

Yasmin Gordon — CVSD lead co-coach

Vicki M. Nelson — CVSD lead co-coach
Meagan Roy — CVSD Central Office

Katie Bedell — CCS coach

Cara Clopton — ABS/WCS (pre-K-4 coach)

Ryan Batche — WCS (5-8 coach)

Ainaka Luna — HCS coach

Robyn Suarez — SCS coach

Christina Deeley — CVU co-coach
Bagashree Blasius — CVU co-coach

Bushey Receives Literacy Award**FROM CVSD PRESS RELEASE**

We are thrilled to share that CVSD’s district literacy leader, Jensa Bushey, is the recipient of the Vermont Council on Reading’s 2020 John T. Poeton Award. This award is usually presented at the Vermont Council on Reading’s conference, but that event didn’t take place this year.

As stated on the VCR website (ti-nnyurl.com/busheyaward), “The John T. Poeton Award is presented annually by the Executive Board of the Vermont Council on Reading at the Conference. A plaque shall be presented by the President or his or her designee at the Annual Fall Conference to an outstanding educator working in a Vermont school setting fostering literacy development with students and colleagues.” Jensa exemplifies this to the greatest degree. She is an inspiring leader and advocate for literacy with teachers and students alike. In addition to her valued literacy role in CVSD, Jensa stepped up this year and is also teaching kindergarten in our Virtual Learning Academy. This only illustrates how dedicated Jensa is to her work, our district and student learning. Jensa is a former Shelburne Community School teacher and literacy coordinator.



Jensa Bushey, recipient of the Vermont Council on Reading's 2020 John T. Poeton Award

CVSD Community Participation Welcomed

The CVSD School Board encourages you to get involved and share what’s on your mind as we begin the budget process for the 2021-2022 school year. This budget will be presented to voters before and on Town Meeting Day, March 2, 2021.

While this has been quite the unusual year, the board and administration are planning around a return to normalcy for the 2021-2022 school year. Are there parts of our current experience that we should continue? Thanks to federal and state funding, we are optimistic we will be starting next year on sound financial footing. Should this change, what areas of the budget do you believe are important to protect? We invite you to partici-

pate in the process.

You are invited to attend all future budget meetings. The full schedule of meetings can be found on the district’s website: cvsdvt.org/budget.

Feel free to get in touch with the School Board at any time: cvsd-board@cvsdvt.org.

CVSD (Charlotte, Hinesburg, Shelburne, St. George and Williston) Child Find Notice

Champlain Valley School District is required by federal law to locate, identify and evaluate all children with disabilities. The process of locating, identifying and evaluating children with disabilities is known as child find.

Champlain Valley School District schools conduct kindergarten screenings each spring, but parents may call to make an appointment to discuss their concerns at any time. As the school district of residence, CVSD has the responsibility to identify and provide services to any child with special needs who may require special education and related services in order to access and benefit from public education.

If you have, or know of any CVSD resident who has a child with a disability under the age of 21 or a child who attends a private school located in Charlotte, Hinesburg, Shelburne, St. George or Williston, Vermont, we would like to hear from you. Sometimes parents are unaware that special education services are available to their children.

Please contact the school principal (Charlotte Central School — 802-425-2771, Hinesburg Community School — 802-482-2106, Shelburne Community School — 802-985-3331, Williston Central/Allen Brook Schools — 802-878-2762) or the director of student support services, Meagan Roy at 802-383-1234 or mroy@cvsdvt.org.

Foodservice Reminder

A reminder: The U.S. Department of Agriculture has announced it is allowing schools to continue to provide free breakfast and lunch meals to all children 18 years old and younger. CVSD will be offering in-school meals, pickup and delivery. To read about our program, see our menu and place your order, go to our district website at cvsdvt.org and scroll down to “Foodservice.” Our amazing food service team is excited to continue to serve the children of our community meals that are safe, nutritious and delicious!

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Champlain Valley SCHOOL DISTRICT
 Budget Season Gets Underway!
 Vote on Town Meeting Day, March 2, 2021
 We invite all members of the CVSD community to join us for the budget process.
 Mark Your Calendar for these School Board Budget Meetings

December 1, 2020 Topic: Special Education
December 15, 2020 Topic: Instructional Program
January 5, 2021 Topic: Operations and Maintenance
January 19, 2021 Topic: Summary & Tax Implications

To best understand the process, try to attend all meetings, which will take place online.
 The information shared builds across the sequence of meetings.
 Contact us: cvsdboard@cvsvt.org www.cvsdvt.org/budget

ORGANIZATIONS

United Church of Hinesburg Annual Bazaar Goes Online

FROM PRESS RELEASE

The United Church of Hinesburg will be transitioning our annual holiday bazaar to an online store. A tradition for over 60 years, this year the bazaar is going virtual! We will be selling Brown Bobbies, tourtiere pies, Thanksgiving pies, takeout lunch (soup, sandwich and dessert), crafts, jewelry and holiday wreaths.

Watch for announcements on our website (ucfh.org) Front Porch Forum and Facebook — we anticipate being online from Nov. 1 to Nov. 19 and all orders will be available for pick up on Saturday, Nov. 21 at the United Church of Hinesburg and delivered safely to your car.

If you have any questions, please contact Mary Eddy Stewart at maryed-dystewart@gmavt.net.

Audubon Vermont Thanks Governor and Legislators for New Migratory Bird Law

Governor Scott's Signature on H.683 Restores Important Protections for Vermont's Migratory Birds

FROM PRESS RELEASE

On Oct., 8, Vermont's Governor Phil Scott signed H.683 relating to the protection of migratory birds, filling the gap for Vermont left by federal efforts to roll back bird protections in the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, one of our nation's oldest wildlife laws. In response to this change in federal law, and in light of recent reports demonstrating that North American bird populations are facing significant declines and are also at risk from the impacts of the climate crisis, the Vermont General Assembly passed H.683 nearly unanimously. This legislation prohibits actions where the death or harm of birds is a "direct and foreseeable result" and where the action causes at least local population impacts.

"On behalf of the birds of Vermont, Audubon's members and bird-lov-

ers everywhere, I want to thank Governor Scott and Fish and Wildlife Commissioner Porter for working with the General Assembly to pass this important law," said David Mears, Audubon Vermont's executive director. He continued, "In a state with an abundance and diversity of amazing birds, and with a record number of birdwatchers, this law reflects an important investment in a future in which our birds, and our communities, can thrive."

The bill advanced in the House thanks to the leadership of the key co-sponsors, Representative Amy Sheldon, chair of the House Natural Resources, Fish and Wildlife Committee, and Representative Kari Dolan of Waitsfield. The bill received a critical boost from leadership in the Senate including Senator Chris Bray, chair of the Senate Natural Resources Committee, and Senate President Pro Tempore Tim Ashe. Most importantly, Audubon Vermont members across our Green Mountain state made their voices heard in support of the passage of this new law to ensure that Vermont will continue to provide critical protections to our migratory birds, regardless of what happens in Washington, DC.

Events at the Birds of Vermont Museum

FROM PRESS RELEASE

The Birds of Vermont Museum is located at 900 Sherman Hollow Road Huntington. Trails are open dawn to dusk (no dogs) and the museum is open Wednesday through Sunday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. through the end of October. For more information, call (802) 434-2167, go to birdsofvermont.org/events or email museum@birdsofvermont.org.

"Borders: Illusions That Constrain Us" Art Show

Final weekend! October, Wednesdays through Sundays, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Included with admission.

Creators and viewers ask (and even answer) "What do borders mean for birds and which of these are constructs of our imagination?" Thirty-six Vermont 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 and to browse through the book of artists' statements.

Some originals are for sale, and some artists have prints, cards and other items for sale in our gift shop as well.

Race Around Birds (Virtual Trail Race)

Through Nov. 1

The Birds of Vermont Museum, will be holding a month-long, self-timed, self-scheduled trail race on our trail system here at the museum on Sherman Hollow Road in Huntington. Run or walk, one lap or two. It's a hard (but beautiful) forest course. Birding while running is optional! Details at birdsofvermont.org/event/race-around-birds.

Entry form, donation box and course map are at the museum's front door.

October Bird Monitoring Walk

Saturday, Oct. 31, 8 to 9 a.m.

Birders — current, experienced, newbie and would-be — welcome! Attend our monthly monitoring walk outdoors on the museum's trails in the forest and meadow. Please bring your own binoculars and dress for the weather. Face masks are required when we are within six feet of each other.

Free (suggested donation \$5). Maximum: 5 people. Masks: bring them; required when within six feet of each other. MUST preregister. Call 802-434-2167 or email museum@birdsofvermont.org

November Bird Monitoring Walk

Nov. 28, 8 to 9 a.m.

Birders — current, experienced, newbie and would-be — welcome! Attend our monthly monitoring walk outdoors on the museum's trails in the forest and meadow. Please bring your own binoculars and dress for the weather. Face masks are required when we are within six feet of each other. Do register in advance and get a confirmation from us. Email museum@birdsofvermont.org, or call 802-434-2167. Maximum: 5 people. Free, suggested donation \$5.

If this walk fills, but there's enough interest, we can schedule more walks. Please call or email us to work something out.

Bristol Pond Boat Launch Steward Program a Success

BY KATE KELLY, LEWIS CREEK ASSOCIATION PROGRAM MANAGER, AND MATT GORTON, CONTRACT BIOLOGIST

Lewis Creek Association recently
continued on page 16

Spooked in Hinesburg

A haunting scene that would make you shriek in the night has been spotted in Hinesburg. The pirates have landed with the captain at the helm while his skeletal followers, including a mermaid, rest upon their rum barrels. Nearby in the graveyard stands the grave digger watching over the dead as they ascend the earth and the skeletal horse pulls the hearse. A huge scary spider sits upon his massive web keeping an eye on the creatures climbing over the rail while

mummies hang below.

Beware of the ghosts and goblins that will roam the night this Halloween.



► Bristol Pond Program

continued from page 15

wrapped up its first ever boat launch steward program season at Bristol Pond. LCA chose Bristol Pond due to its popularity with anglers, recreational boaters, wildlife enthusiasts and for the rare natural communities that are present at the pond. As of 2020, there are two known aquatic invasive species in Bristol Pond: European frogbit (*Hydrocharis morsus-ranae*) and Eurasian watermilfoil (*Myriophyllum spicatum*). Therefore, Bristol Pond could function as a point of introduction for the spread of AIS in the Lewis Creek watershed and throughout the state. The goal of LCA's program was to prevent the spread of AIS by inspecting watercraft for AIS and biological materials, identifying and removing suspicious specimens, collecting data and educating the public about AIS spread prevention.

Over the course of the summer, LCA's boat launch steward inspected 570 watercrafts launching into and retrieving from Bristol Pond. Only three visitors to Bristol Pond refused to have their watercraft inspected for AIS. Some of these visitors came as far as Texas to utilize Bristol Pond! LCA found that 77% of visitors had had prior contact with a boat launch steward before arriving at Bristol Pond. However, around 38% of visitors did not take any AIS spread prevention measures. Approximately 11% of the watercraft that were in-

spected at Bristol Pond had aquatic plants on them. If the boat launch steward hadn't intercepted the vegetation on the watercrafts launching into and retrieving from Bristol Pond, the watercraft could have served as vectors of infestation to 63 different bodies of water. LCA found that most visitors are doing their part in keeping our waterbodies healthy by cleaning, draining and drying their boats and other equipment.

The Bristol Pond Boat Launch Steward Program's first year was successful in intercepting AIS and educating the public on the issues surrounding AIS. The vast majority of visitors to Bristol Pond seemed excited to have the program there and many people from the community went to the pond to see LCA's boat launch steward in action. Research has shown that visual inspections and hand removal of aquatic vegetation is extremely effective at preventing AIS from spreading to other bodies of water. LCA's boat launch steward program could potentially prevent, both directly and indirectly, AIS from spreading to other noninfested waterbodies.

This project has been funded by an agreement awarded by the Great Lakes Fishery Commission to New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission in partnership with the Lake Champlain Basin Program.

OUTDOORS

Pandemic Trail Adventures With Jacob Royer

BY OREN GUTTMANN, HINESBURG TRAILS COMMITTEE MEMBER

This summer, Hinesburg resident Jacob Royer hiked the length of Vermont on the nation's oldest long-distance hiking trail. The Long Trail follows the spine of the Green Mountains for about 272 miles, over countless peaks with spectacular views. Some people hike it in one shot and are called thru-hikers, like Jacob, while others hike it piece-by-piece over one season or many and are called section hikers.

Jacob, in his mid-30s, lives with his partner Laura Sau and two pups, Malua and Loloma, across from Lantman's in the old town library. Jacob's a man with big ideas and the know-how to tackle them (he made his own alcohol stove out of two soda cans and a penny the night before heading out), and sometimes just a little too much time on his hands.

Here's some of our conversation about his hike, with a decent amount of editing to make our rambling conversation somewhat coherent.

So, you recently hiked the Long Trail. When did you start?

I did. Well, geez, I can tell you if I look at my phone because, you know how it is when you hike, it's just all one blur of trees and rocks and moss and moose poop. It was the 21st of July when I started.

And it took you roughly three weeks?

Yeah, I set aside three weeks. It was basically 14 days of actual hiking.

Have you always wanted to hike the Long Trail? What made you want to hike it?

When I was really young, I guess I mean like 15, I really wanted to hike the AT [Appalachian Trail] because I had done some sections in the northwest corner of Connecticut and Massachusetts and New York. That little corner.

But then, when I moved to Vermont, after a couple of years here, I was kind of like well, you know, Vermont's got the oldest trail and it's the granddaddy of 'em all. I should probably, if I'm going to make Vermont my home, I should probably hike the Long Trail.

So, I guess I really wanted to do it for, I don't know, the last three or four years, something like that. That a long enough answer?

And why hike it now?

This ended up being a good year for me because this year I had the time

at work and you know, it wasn't really in the cards to take a vacation and travel across the country or to a foreign country due to obvious circumstances; so I was like, well, could be a good time to do the Long Trail since I'm more or less stuck here.

Did you hike it northbound or southbound?

Northbounded it. I'm one of those north bounders.

Were there a lot of other hikers out there? Did you stay in any lodges or did you try to avoid everybody else?



Jacob (green jacket) meeting up with some friends on the top of Mount Mansfield.

There were a lot of people on the trail for the first hundred miles because of the time of year that I was leaving and there were a lot of Southbound AT hikers.

I basically hammock camped probably 75% of the journey. I did stay in the lodge, the ski patrol lodge on top of Bromley, which is actually pretty nice. You know, after four or five days of pitching a hammock or a tent or whatever it's nice to just open a door, walk in, put out your sleeping bag and conk out. So, I took advantage of that one for sure.

I tried to avoid spend-

CALENDAR

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 29

Publication date for The Hinesburg Record.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31

Halloween.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1

Daylight Savings Time ends.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 2

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

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

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3

Election Day.

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, NOVEMBER 4

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, NOVEMBER 10

7:00-9:00 p.m. Conservation Commission Meeting. Zoom Meeting. Join Zoom Meetinghttps://us02web.zoom.us/j/85303058417?pwd=RURUTkZkV3E0YndmZkZEYzFec3lkQT09Meeting ID: 853 0305 8417 Password: 321494 Dial by your location +1 929205 6099 US (New York) Meeting ID: 853 0305 8417 Password: 321494.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11

Veterans Day.

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, NOVEMBER 12

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.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 17

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

5:30-7:00 p.m. Hinesburg Business and

ing too much time in close proximity with people, but after Killington that really wasn't a problem until I got to about Mansfield.

How many people was a lot of people? Did you come upon a campsite or a lean-to with 10 or more people there?

Yeah, probably the most crowded shelter I saw, and I can't remember the name of the shelter but it's south of Killington, there were probably eight people in the lean-to and then there were half a dozen tents set up around the shelter. Luckily, I had spent a really long day hiking. I came from Bromley that morning so it was

almost dark by the time I got to camp, set up my hammock and my rainfly, made a little fire to dry out my socks. I didn't really interact with anyone, and then I was up around sunrise to keep going.

Tell us about this stove you made.

It's called a penny stove and basically, it's an alcohol can stove. You make it out of two Coke cans you pretty much smush together. The penny sits over the holes you poke in the can and it has just enough weight to make the stove work right and not turn into a bomb.

A good friend of mine who does a bunch of long-distance hiking swears by this stove and it's not a real adventure unless there's at least one thing you're doing at the eleventh hour.

What's the most ridiculous thing that happened to you on the trail?

The most ridiculous thing was that the hiking shorts I had just ripped in half, just literally sliced in half. The shorts I had been hiking in for like two weeks straight or whatever just tore right up the seam and my butt was hanging in the breeze. It was the

continued on page 18

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► Pandemic Trail

continued from page 17

day before going up Camel's Hump, and so the only other pair of lower coverings I had were some long johns that were way, way, way too warm to be hiking in, or I also had this Speedo with kittens on them. So, I wore the kitty Speedo and I got up before sunrise to get to the top of Camel's Hump, and I was pretty sure I was the only one up there because it was so early, but then as I got to the summit, I noticed somebody's bag sitting there but I didn't see anyone. I shouted out, "Hey is anybody here?" And then what were likely some younger college students, like in their early 20s, poked their head from around the rock and said, "Yeah, we're here" and then they look at me and they're just totally dumbfounded as to why I'm wearing a kitten Speedo.

I explained to them that my shorts had ripped, and I thought they'd have a lot more questions for me about the Speedo and what was on them, but they seemed as if they didn't want to get into it that early. But the bright side is because the summit was soaked in that morning, I gave them a summit to remember. Even though there wasn't a view, they'll always be able to say, "Hey, remember that time we went up Camel's Hump at the crack of dawn, but we couldn't see anything and that guy showed up in a kitty Speedo?"

Did you find any trail angels out there? Anybody in person or just secret trail angels?

I didn't see anybody in person, but there was a cooler just south of, I can't remember the stream now, south of Killington, it's like Coldspring Brook or something. There was a cooler right before you cross the road as you pop out of the woods that was full of generic Mountain Dew and there was also a bunch of cold generic cola, but people had drunk all the cola because they wanted the caffeine fix but hadn't had soda in a while. I was wanting some really quick sugar, and I think that's the fastest I drank a soda in my life probably.

Just one?

Yeah, just one. Because you know, you want to leave some for the next guy.

How do you think COVID-19 affected your thru-hike?

Well, it definitely made it more of a solo hike. There probably would have been a lot more socializing with other hikers and sharing food and that kind of thing. Hitchhiking, that was a big thing actually, because I had all my food drops planned out in advance because I knew that hitchhiking was going to be potentially problematic.

And that made it a lot different, and just in general I think there were generally fewer people in shelters because people didn't want to risk it. So, that

did change things too. So it's probably different than your typical Long Trail experience, but how would I know?

I assume you enjoyed it anyway.

Yeah, it was great. I met several people on the trail who were very much there for the whole social experience. I said to one of them, civilization's a social experience like why would you come here to be so social, I come here to escape everyone, so they were a little confused by that. But you know, they accepted it ultimately.

Would you do it again in a non-pandemic year to find out what it's like?

Yeah, definitely. I would definitely do it again. Having done it end to end, I think if I did it again I would really maximize the time and the places that I stay at. There're a few places that I wanted to spend more time at, but either there were so many people there or I was just wanting to push through.

Also, because I had some deadlines for my sister's wedding and other stuff like that. So yeah, doing it again would definitely be a different experience, but I'd absolutely go for it.

It's a beautiful state, you know.

Did you notice people practicing social distancing while you're hiking, like putting on a mask or giving extra space, and did that change in highly touristy areas or different parts of the state?

Outside of the heavily touristy areas people were very respectful and they either put on a mask or if they didn't have a mask they'd move off the trail, and I did the same thing. Especially if it was an older person coming up the trail I'd move like 10 feet off the trail for them if there was room. For the most part, people were really respectful about that kind of stuff. But I will say, until I got north of Killington there were some crowded areas and then also on Mansfield there were some crowded areas.

Any flat-out jerks?

You know, I'm sure that there were, but I'm not gonna let them ruin my lunch.

What was the highlight of the trail?

For me, actually the last day was really the highlight of it. I didn't have an alarm set but I happened to wake up at 3 a.m. There was a really bright moon and I left Jay Camp and when I woke up and saw the moon I was like, all right, I guess I'm hiking up to the summit for sunrise. I had the whole summit to myself for the sunrise and it was absolutely gorgeous. It was one of the best sunrises I've caught on all of the Long Trail.

Sau and I actually went back there this weekend, and it was funny because it was totally soaked in when we woke up but we're like well, you know, I guess we'll go up there and see what we see and then it was an amazing view.

Any advice for any potential thru-

hikers or section hikers?

Pack less stuff. A lot of people on the trail are carrying a lot of stuff and looking really miserable, and you know, there's so many places to resupply on the trail. It's really an ideal trail to only carry four- or five-days' worth of food and that way you can go faster and not be as miserable.

Town Trail Closures Reminder

The Hinesburg Town Forest and LaPlatte Headwaters Town Forest (LHTF) are available exclusively to hunting for specified periods of the 2020 deer hunting season. In order to promote the effectiveness of the hunt, the HTF and LHTF are closed to all nonhunting activity during these dates.

Oct. 23 to Nov. 1 (archery and muzzleloader season for antlerless deer)

Nov. 14 to 20 (first week of rifle season)

Dec. 5 to 13 (muzzleloader season includes antlerless deer)

For more information, see hinesburgrecord.org/past-issues Aug. 27 issue, page 16.

Eastern Hemlock: A Profile

BY ETHAN TAPPER, CHITTENDEN COUNTY FORESTER

Many of us have had the experience of walking through the woods, when suddenly the raucous sounds and green-tinted light of a deciduous forest becomes dark and quiet. If this has happened to you, you have already had the unique experience of entering a hemlock forest.

Eastern hemlock (*Tsuga canadensis*) forests appeal to our intuitive sense of aesthetics, with a tight-knit canopy and a park-like, open understory. The reasons for the unique "feel" of hemlock (no relation to the Socrates-killing poison) forests, and the keys to hemlock's survival strategy, are tolerance and persistence. Hemlock is Vermont's most shade-tolerant tree species, capable of surviving with little to no direct sunlight. Like many of our shade-tolerant tree species, hemlock is also long-lived, capable of living 300 years and occasionally up to 600. Most shade-tolerant trees have a simple strategy: they play a centuries-long version of the tortoise versus the hare. Slowly and persistently they establish in the forest's understory, waiting for an opportunity to grow upwards. Outpaced by faster-growing, shorter-lived tree species, hemlocks persist in the shade as other trees decline and die over the course of decades. When they finally reach the canopy, hemlocks create dense stands where very little light



Eastern hemlock trees.

reaches the forest floor, making conditions where few trees but hemlocks can survive.

Because of this strategy, in stable forests where large-scale disturbances occur infrequently, shade-tolerant, long-lived tree species like hemlock are often the most common. Prior to European settlement, eastern hemlock and American beech (another long-lived, shade-tolerant tree species) were by far Vermont's most common tree species.

Eastern hemlock's range extends from Minnesota to Prince Edward Island and from southern Ontario and Quebec down to northern Alabama and Georgia, growing largely at higher elevations in the southern portion of its range. In Vermont, one often finds hemlock on sandy or gravelly soils, growing with red spruce and white pine, or on swampy soils with a high-water table, alongside red maple and yellow birch. Their ability to grow on the steep slopes of river-side ravines, where they stabilize soil and shade streams, make them an invaluable species for protecting water quality and aquatic habitat.

Hemlock stands provide important habitat for some of our wildlife, most notably white-tailed deer.

Because of their tight-knit canopies, hemlock stands tend to be warmer and have less snow than other forest types. For this reason, hemlock forests often function as "deer wintering areas" or "deer yards," areas where deer congregate in the winter and which are critical to their survival.

Growing and regenerating hemlock is notoriously difficult. Like yellow birch, their seeds struggle to germinate except where soil has been scarified — where the top few inches have been scuffed up — or on rotting wood. For this reason (also like yellow birch), managing for hemlock in the summertime, and allowing some scarification to occur, can improve their chances of regenerating. Hemlocks are slow-growing and outcompeted by other species

in the open, so creating tiny gaps in the canopy, from a single tree to 1/8 of an acre, will also encourage them. Leaving lots of dead wood on the forest floor following forest management can also provide seedbeds for future generations of hemlock.

Hemlock wood is notoriously fickle, heavy and hard to work, and is less valuable than other softwoods like white pine and spruce. However, it is increasingly being utilized as lower-cost building material. While it is stronger and harder than these other softwoods, it isn't truly rot-resistant — although many have touted it as such. Historically, hemlock bark, with its high tannic acid content, was the most valuable product that the species provided, used in the leather-making process by tanneries.

Like our ash trees, hemlock is under threat from an introduced (exotic) forest pest. The hemlock woolly adelgid, has wiped out hemlock forests throughout the Appalachians. This pest is in Vermont, established in Windham and southern Windsor Counties, and presents an existential threat to our hemlock forests. While populations of this pest seem limited by Vermont's winters, we expect HWA to spread as our climate changes. It could also be easily introduced to other parts of the state by the transportation of hemlock, so consult with state guidelines before moving hemlock material anywhere. The loss of Vermont's hemlock forests would be devastating not just to this species, but to all the other species that rely on this unique tree species.

You can learn more about HWA, and how to manage in light of it, here: vtinvasives.org/invasive/hemlock-woolly-adelgid.

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

Record Lake Champlain Lake Trout a Testament to Successful Sea Lamprey Control Efforts

FROM VERMONT FISH & WILDLIFE PRESS RELEASE

The Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department recently certified a record fish entry for a 19.36-pound lake trout caught in Lake Champlain in August. Department officials say this demonstrates the positive impact long-term sea lamprey control efforts are having on the lake's quality fishing opportunities.

Angler Jeffery Sanford, of South Burlington was fishing alone the day he jigged up the 36.5-inch lake trout from over 100-feet of water.



Angler Jeffrey Sanford with his 19.36-lb. lake trout that measured 36 1/2 inches long.

"I just got my first boat this year, and it was my first time out alone," recounted Sanford. "It hit on my first cast of the day. Once I netted it and got it in the boat, I was astounded at its size and lack of any lamprey scars or wounds."

Sanford said he wanted to release the lake trout alive but was unable to revive the fish, so he brought it in to be weighed officially as part of Lake Champlain International's Basin Derby, and he also entered it into the Fish and Wildlife Department's Record Fish Program. The fish currently sits in first place for the derby's lake trout category.

According to the department's Fisheries Biologist Shawn Good, who oversees the Vermont State Record Fish Program, Sanford's catch is a reason for celebration.

"Jeff's fish is the largest lake trout from Lake Champlain entered in the Record Fish Program since the department started keeping fish records in 1969," said Good. "There have been much larger lake trout caught in other Vermont waters, but this Champlain fish is a big deal."

According to Good, it is a direct result of good lake trout habitat in Lake Champlain and ongoing sea lamprey control efforts.

In Lake Champlain, nuisance sea lamprey prey on lake trout, landlocked Atlantic salmon, brown trout, steelhead, walleye, lake sturgeon and other fish species. High attack rates and sea lamprey wounds can result in lower growth, smaller size, shortened life expectancy and decreased fishing opportunities.

To counter this, the Lake Champlain Fish and Wildlife Management Cooperative, comprised of the

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Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department, the New York Department of Environmental Conservation and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, initiated an experimental sea lamprey control program in 1990. A long-term control program that began in 2002 continues today.

Sanford's observation of no sea lamprey wounds on his record catch is significant, says Good.

"We're seeing lower overall wounding rates on many of these fish, and the fact that anglers are catching older, larger lake trout, salmon, and other fish species is proof that continued long-term sea lamprey control is working, and resulting in improved fishing opportunities on Champlain."

Elizabeth Ehlers, tournament director of the Lake Champlain International Fishing Derbies, says the annual Father's Day Derby and year-long Basin Derby have been bigger and bigger fish in recent years. "There's been an upward trend in size for many of the species entered in our derbies. Over the past 10 years, we have seen several record-breaking fish in cold, cool and warm water species divisions."

"While our anglers are incredibly dedicated and skilled, these catches are not just by chance or luck. The Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department has worked tirelessly to protect and restore the Lake *continued on page 20*

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► Lamprey Control

continued from page 19

Champlain fishery. Their management efforts — including lamprey treatment, control of invasive species, and fish stocking — have benefited all who enjoy this resource. The impact of their efforts extends far beyond the angling community, as Lake Champlain anglers contribute over \$200 million dollars annually to local economies.”

Jeff Sanford says he’s grateful for the fishery that continues to improve on Lake Champlain.

“It was an amazing fish and quite the battle. I’m extremely excited for next season! We have such an incredible fishery here.”



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Sanford says he credits the openness of other anglers in the lake’s fishing community with helping him catch the lake trout and becoming a better angler.

“I just learned how to jig for lake trout this year from friends like Will Nolan, Ryan Carpentier and Jamie Shiekone. They provided the mentorship and tutelage I needed to learn a new technique. Everyone’s so open and friendly, and willing to help you learn something new.”

Good says that is heartening to hear.

“To maintain and grow participation in the sport we all love, it takes a village. I’ve always encouraged avid anglers to take newcomers out and show them the ropes. It can be challenging for a new angler to learn techniques that will help them be successful. I hope more anglers step up and become mentors to friends, family, even strangers.”

This fall, the Lake Champlain Fish and Wildlife Management Cooperative conducted sea lamprey control treatments on four Vermont rivers containing spawning populations of sea lamprey, including the Winooski, LaPlatte, Lamoille and Missisquoi rivers.

To learn more about Lake Champlain’s sea lamprey control program, visit: fws.gov/champlainlamprey.

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COMMENTARY

Criminal Justice Reform in Vermont: Real Progress

To build or not to build... (a new state prison) that is the question.

BY BILL SCHUBART

Under the leadership of Jim Baker, interim commissioner of Corrections (DOC), along with a plurality of Vermonters committed to a more humane and restorative criminal justice system, we’re seeing significant progress toward reform of Vermont’s criminal justice system.

Governmental change is, by its nature, bumpy and imperfect, a process of learning, making — and correcting — mistakes. Driven by committed leadership, it persists against resistance from those whose privilege may be threatened by change. Progress is strengthened by incremental improvements and the passage of time that lets citizens recognize that the changes made are creating better outcomes.

There are many gravitational influences in the planetary system of criminal justice reform here in Vermont: ACLU of Vermont; the Women’s Justice

and Freedom Initiative; Community Justice Network of Vermont; Kathryn Fox Ph.D.; Vermonters for Criminal Justice Reform; Attorney General of Vermont, T. J. Donovan; Chittenden County State’s Attorney, Sarah George; Office of the Vermont Defender General, and more.

The newest player on the block is the Women’s Justice & Freedom Initiative founded and headed by Ashley Messier, formerly incarcerated at the Chittenden Regional Correctional Facility, and then a lead organizer for ACLU of Vermont’s Smart Justice Campaign, as well as the Vermont Organizer for the National Council of Incarcerated and Formerly Incarcerated Women and Girls, and a newly appointed commissioner on the Vermont Commission on Women. As head of WJFI, Messier is committed to the transformation of the criminal legal system and fundamental change in how communities respond to harm, leading to the end of incarceration, initially for women and LGBTQ+ people.

The “criminal justice system” is a broad spillway into prison, starting with the Legislature’s often reactive creation of laws and statute, police, prosecutors, judges, and us... the jurors and voters whose values elect community leaders, lawmakers and prosecutors. Corrections doesn’t put people in prison — the spillway does — Corrections is responsible for ensuring prisoner safety and secure confinement, and, in their own words, “the placement of offenders in the least restrictive environment consistent with public safety and offense severity.”

The value conflict between an Old Testament belief in punishment and the emerging belief in restorative justice roils the politics of reform. The law and order crowd wants offenders isolated from society and punished for their misdeeds. The prevailing restorative justice movement wants to segregate only as a last resort in order to protect society and develop a well-resourced path for prisoners to return to family, community and the economy.

Under interim Commissioner Baker’s leadership, Vermont’s prison population has dropped from some 1,750 to

about 1,400 prisoners. Some of this has been driven by the exigencies of COVID-19 and the need to protect prisoners, some by release of those incarcerated for technical violations, and still others through a system of vetted community release.

Of the 1,400 prisoners in the system, 200 (down from 268) are housed in Mississippi at Tallahatchie County Correctional Facility, a Core Civic for-profit prison. Of those prisoners, 85% acquired COVID-19 and are in treatment there. Most have recovered and none currently need symptomatic treatment.

Corrections officials recently visited Tallahatchie to check on the care of Vermont prisoners and, with the addition of direct remote-camera access, felt better about their ability to monitor the care of the prisoners. But the commissioner still believes that the \$6M cost would be better spent on mental health, trauma-informed counseling and substance-abuse treatment for his wards.

Recently, the expiring Core Civic contract was extended for a year, as no other DOC-approved options existed with the onset of COVID-19. The extension also gives Corrections and the Legislature a window to assess and possibly re-engineer facilities to house all or more Vermont prisoners in-state and better accommodate disability and health care needs with or without a pandemic.

Meanwhile, the Department of Buildings and General Services has issued a request-for-proposal to assess the feasibility of building a new prison. This apparently comes from the executive or legislative branch, as no such plans are in the works at Corrections, according to Baker, nor has he yet asked for a proposal to build a new prison in Vermont.

Rep. Alice Emmons (D) Windsor, chair of the House Committee on Corrections and Institutions, is keeping an open mind about whether or not to build a new prison. Her expressed concerns are the age and deferred maintenance costs of Corrections’ current facilities; the lack of land around them for workforce training, exercise, gardening and other rehabilitative activities; their inaccessibility for the increasing population of aged and disabled prisoners; and the lack of adequate hygiene facilities during a pandemic.

The cost to modernize any of the current facilities might well exceed the cost to build a new one designed for today’s lower prison population and rehabilitative programming. Vermont’s current facilities were built when the prevailing public view was “lock ‘em up.” Rep. Emmons feels strongly that policy changes alone are inadequate without facilities designed to enable their deployment.

WJFI’s Messier is currently targeting the closure of the CRCF women’s facility and interim Commissioner Baker is

on record agreeing with her. WJFI also opposes new prison construction, believing strongly that prisons offer no benefit to either society or the offender, and that funds proposed for prison construction should instead be invested upstream in communities, ensuring access to housing, mental and physical health services, education, nutrition and living-wage employment.

Messier goes on to say, “In 2020, there’s solid evidence that incarceration doesn’t enhance community ‘safety.’ In fact, trauma inflicted during incarceration adds to the trauma already carried by those in the system. When some 90% of the women in CRCF are victims of abuse, trauma, trafficking and substance-use disorder, a better solution would be to address the root causes of their behaviors, not locking them in cages and hoping for successful outcomes. We should be investing in our communities to respond to harm with structures and services that meet the needs of those neighbors, friends and families who live here.”

As former Corrections Commissioner John Gorczyk often noted, criminal behavior originates in communities where support services are inadequate. If we reinvest our criminal justice expenditures upstream in the well-being of our citizens, we will not have to spend \$50,000 a year incarcerating a Vermonter.

There’s a pervasive new criminal justice vision in Vermont and nationally. And, while there are disagreements on policy and pace as we try to envisage this new system, we’re buoyed by our common cause and the significant progress made under a new generation of leadership.

But it’s not enough to leave reform to criminal justice professionals. We must look to the causes of crime in our own communities, flaws in the criminal justice feeder system, and then continue working together to diminish the need for spending \$180M a year keeping Vermonters behind bars instead of investing that money in community-support systems that reduce criminal behavior.

Brown Bobby Nation

BY ROGER DONEGAN

Fans of local weekly and monthly newspapers know that the round robin of chicken pie suppers and church bazaars held each fall has begun. It’s a wonder an entrepreneur or nonprofit organization hasn’t dabbled in selling a season pass to them, or to the alternative takeouts this year, as some people like to make the rounds. If Hinesburg ever sponsored a ball team, one team name to suggest might be the “Brown Bobbies.” After all, there’s a high probability this name could pass all the natty tests, even the gluten intol-

erance one as a Brown Bobby team wouldn’t be for consumption.

Contemplating Brown Bobby Nation is one thing, but mentioning Brown Bobbies in Hinesburg this time of year is actually the code word for the Hinesburg United Church’s bazaar bake sale, almost an institution in itself. I’ve had close encounters with racks and stacks of Brown Bobbies destined for the bazaar through the years. Triangular in shape they are handier than doughnuts and tastier than cakes. They’re offered with several proven combinations of frosting and toppings such as shredded coconut or crushed walnut. The church bazaar is a 62-year-old annual tradition usually hosted in the parish hall the weekend before Thanksgiving. With 2020 being the year of mandated takeout versus in-person events, the parish hall might be relegated to acting like a dugout this year with runners handling the orders for pickups.

Where Brown Bobbies come from is a reasonable question. No one has said exactly when this tradition got started but it’s safe to say that Hinesburg’s Brown Bobbies came from Phyllis Russell’s kitchen for generations. Phyllis is the one and the same person as in the town’s Phyllis and Howard Russell Memorial (perimeter) Trail. However, Phyllis was actually named Ruberta Phyllis Eddy (not Edie) Russell. Phyllis was a most kindly woman of no opinions; however, once I did hear her say she wouldn’t want to see any of the long-ago proposed cheese factory silos in the village rise higher than the church. Phyllis passed away on Dec. 1, 2010, a date many people remember as the day an incredible windstorm roared in and pummeled against western facing woodland slopes in the region. If you didn’t lose trees, your neighbor did. The Town Forest suffered damage to 45 continuous acres with a core blowdown of flattened trees forming a 32-acre circle. Many households were without power that night and longer due to power lines compromised by fallen trees.

Then there’s the Brown Bobby machine itself. Although always remarkable, I hardly expect the internet to answer every inquiry credibly. Yet, a Brown Bobby search produced a surprising yield of nameplate worthy details and photos identical to Phyllis’s machine, plus a handful of grandmother Brown Bobby legacy stories out of the heartland. The 1920s vintage electric power heated-element machines were painted a serious green but have no moving parts except for the hinged top plate. The oversized handle to the top plate has that familiar look of handles of yore. When plugged in and opened, the solid aluminum cast impresses one with its set of two perfectly forged die plates forming a batch mold of six empty triangular doughnut shapes meshed side by side, each waiting for that scoop of homemade batter. Batter up.



Brown Bobbies.



Brown Bobby machine.



The Phyllis and Howard Russell Trailhead sign.

PEOPLE

Higher Education Honors

The following Hinesburg students at Northern Vermont University were named to the dean’s list for the Spring 2020 semester. Students who achieve between a 3.50 and 3.99 semester average are placed on the dean’s list. **Fadhili Achinda, Fahari Achinda, Faibe Achinda and James Mcallister** all made the dean’s list.

Jack Dugan of Hinesburg has been named to the Spring 2020 semester dean’s list at Ohio Wesleyan University. To earn dean’s list recognition, Ohio Wesleyan students must achieve a GPA of 3.5 or better on a 4.0 scale in all applicable classes.

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RELIGION

United Church of Hinesburg

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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. Sunday Worship is now livestreaming.

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.





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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, mariet-cookson@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

Communion 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.



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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

▶ A Sactuary

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thank God we did. We missed it by a few months. We hit right at the right time and we feel blessed that it happened. The move to Vermont has literally been a lifesaver."

For Christa, the transition came with a powerful silver lining: the opportunity to reunite with her daughter and watch her grandchildren grow up. "When Becky left for college at NYU, I knew she wasn't coming back and would root herself in New York and there was no possibility for me [to be] in New York," said Christa.

"So for us coming back together is like a dream come true."

This story is courtesy of the Vermont Futures Project.



Christa and her grandkids, Sion, 11, Sonnet, 8, and Lilla, 3.



Sonnet and Sion chat with their grandmother in the small cottage that the Alford-Brathwaite family built on their property. The kitchen area has a play area, kids' books, and seats at the counter for each grandchild.

CONSIDERING A MOVE?

"Susan was fabulous. She was very helpful walking us through the process of putting in an offer and negotiating the price. She was kind and thorough. Loved her."

—Margaret Hinesburg



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BACK STORIES of Hinesburg

A Sanctuary for the Whole Family

BY ANNA WATTS

Jonathan Brathwaite and his wife Becky Alford started coming to Vermont each summer through a home swap program nine years ago. Each visit, they would stay longer. Each departure, it got harder to leave. With a growing family confined to the cramped space of a Manhattan apartment, they began to think more seriously about giving their kids the opportunity to grow up outdoors with a slower pace of life far away from the noisy and crowded bars, streets, and subways of the city.

In July 2017, the couple and their three children —Sion, Sonnet, and Lilla— officially moved from New York City to their new home in a woodsy, rural corner of Hinesburg, Vermont. Yet Becky and Jonathan knew the biggest move was still ahead of them: Becky's mother, Christa, was now even further away, and living alone with serious health issues. They knew they needed to bring the family together.



Lilla shows her grandmother, Christa, a frog she caught in the yard between their two homes. "In New York, you're running all over to get your kids involved and it's so expensive and stressful," says Jonathan. "Here we can give the kids the opportunity to be outdoors at all times."



From left to right: Becky, Lilla, Sion, Sonnet, Jonathan, Christa and their dog Windsor (named after the Vermont town where Becky and Jonathan were married) outside their home in Hinesburg, Vermont. All photos by Anna Watts.

Eleven years ago, when Becky's father passed away, he had told her to take care of her mom who had been diagnosed with chronic fatigue syndrome, which meant she was also highly immunocompromised. "I didn't know how to do this when we lived in New York," said Becky, "But arriving in Vermont, we finally had the space to do this!"

"We knew sooner or later, it was going to have to happen," says Jonathan, of Christa's move to join her daughter and grandchildren in Vermont. "And we didn't want to have to do it during an emergency, during a crisis." They were not a moment too late. Exactly a year before the COVID-19 pandemic, Becky and Jonathan moved Christa to their home in Vermont and began construction on a small cottage less than a hundred feet from their home where Christa could have her

own small kitchen, bedroom, and a play area for the grandchildren. A few weeks before the pandemic hit Vermont, Christa moved in.

"The pandemic is the exact scenario of a panic situation we were trying to avoid. We missed it by a few months. The move to Vermont has literally been a lifesaver."
— Jonathan

"The emergency that we were foreseeing is now upon us," said Jonathan, in August at his home, six months into the pandemic and Christa's move into her adjacent house. "This was the crisis that we were trying to avoid and

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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
- Economic Development Committee
- Recreation Commission

Check town web site 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

Help publish your community newspaper which is produced by volunteers who write, edit, and lay it out each month. The Record needs people to write and edit copy, take photos, and help with distribution and mailing. One-time or occasional submission of articles is more than welcome.

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



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