

the HINESBURG Record

MAY 2023

Everything Grows

Amazing things pop out of the ground locally

BY KEVIN LEWIS

This report began as a small testament to the local growers of flowers and produce.

It quickly became a wonderful journey of discovery, uncovering agricultural and horticultural delights that are surprisingly abundant for a small town – and the earth-loving people who make it all happen.

Discovered along the way were, just to mention a few strange and wonderful things, wild bergamot, claytonia, spotted bee balm, asian greens, heliobores, white pumpkins, the occasional angora rabbit and even a bearded dragon lizard! Read on for details.

A note about photos: the collage of photos printed here represent but a fraction of all the things that grow at the establishments mentioned and are shown without specific caption or attribution intentionally. You want to find out more? Go explore!

What follows is this author's summary of local "growing" establishments. Every attempt was made to avoid leaving anyone out, however, should that have occurred, please contact The Hinesburg Record. We'd love to hear about you!

Needham Family Farm – 186 Boutin Rd., Hinesburg, 802-777-4439. Offering a variety of local organic foods via a unique farm share system that lets you choose what you want. Options include organically grown veggies, fruits, pastured eggs, chicken and lamb, honey, maple, preserves, cut flowers and prepared foods, and maybe even a bearded dragon lizard (not for sale)! More at [facebook.com/needhamfamilyfarm](https://www.facebook.com/needhamfamilyfarm).

Trillium Hill Farm – 10643 Route 116, Hinesburg, 802-473-259. James, Sara, and daughter Ruby are the farmer-owners. They

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Vroom, Vroom! Beep, Beep! Big Truck Day is back!

BY ALEXIS LICURSI

**May 13, 10 a.m. to
2 p.m.**

Vehicles of all kinds will roll into town for the Hinesburg Nursery School's 23rd Annual Big Truck Day.

This year the lot behind the Hinesburg Community School will be packed with construction and utility vehicles, tractors, firetrucks and other rescue vehicles for families to see, touch and explore.

Also enjoy entertainment by Mike & The Big Blue Trunk and fill up on tasty BBQ lunch and goodies from the bake sale. Have sensitive ears?

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Hinesburg Artist Series Mother's Day Concert

BY RUFUS PATRICK

Come join us for The Hinesburg Artist Series Spring Concert on Sunday, May 14, at 4:30 p.m. in the CVU auditorium. The concert will feature the Hinesburg Community Band, and South County Chorus under the direction of Rufus Patrick.

The Hinesburg Community Band will present selections by Robert Sheldon, Brant Karrick, Steven Reineke, and a great arrangement of Copland's "Appalachian Spring." The South County Chorus will sing selections by Joseph Martin, Eric Whitaker, Mark Hayes, David Lantz, Jacob Naverud, Mac Huff, and highlights from "Porgy and Bess" by George and Ira Gershwin.



Rufus Patrick, center, with purple cucumberbund, and other members of the Hinesburg Orchestra.

Shostakovich waltzes will be performed by Brooke Carleton, flute; Margaret Roddy, clarinet; and Evan Allen, piano.

We hope that you, your friends, your family, your neighbors and neighbor's friends will join us on Sunday, May 14, at 4:30 p.m. and "Come to the Music." The concert is free, with donations gratefully accepted.

Hinesburg's
independent,
nonprofit,
community
newspaper

INSIDE...

E-Lawn Care

Page 14: Reasons why so many people are switching to E-lawn equipment



E-Bikes at the Library

Page 11: Available to borrow from the library for May and part of June.

Service Directory & Calendar

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

BACK STORIES

of Hinesburg

100 Years of Welding!

Page 24: The Giroux Body Shop family business.

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TOWN NEWS

Deadline for our next Issue: May 11, 2023

Send articles to: news@hinesburgrecord.org.

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 802-999-2410.

Contact us at informaion@hinesburgrecord.org for general information.

Deadlines for 2023

Advertisement/News	Publication Date
May 11	May 25
June 15	June 29
There is no publication date in July	
August 17	August 31
September 14.....	September 28
October 12.....	October 26
November 9.....	November 24
There is no publication date in December	
January 11, 2024.....	January 25, 2024

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The Hinesburg Record is not responsible beyond the printing of corrections for errors in submitted material.

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Laurie Wedge: Copy Editor/Proofreader

Town Clerk & Treasurer

BY HEATHER J. ROBERTS

First, I would like to introduce myself. For those who don't know me, I am Hinesburg's new Town Clerk and Treasurer, elected at Town Meeting on March 7, 2023. I have lived in Hinesburg for 18 years with my husband, Keith, and have three children ranging in age from 12 to 18. I am a graduate of Williams College, have a Master's in Library Science and spent 17 years working for two large financial institutions in New York and Boston before moving to Vermont.

I have replaced Missy Ross in the roles of town clerk and treasurer as Missy begins a well-deserved retirement after 25 years with the Town of Hinesburg. I wish her well as she begins this new phase of life and thank her for her guidance and support during my three years as her assistant and in the transition to my new positions as town clerk and treasurer.

Speaking of support, I would like to thank all those who expressed their confidence in me at the informational meeting and who cast votes for me to take on these important roles for our town. I pledge to do my very best to serve the people of Hinesburg well.

Green Mountain Passports

The Green Mountain Passport continues to be popular. This pass gives those 62 years of age and older, as well as military veterans, free entry to all of the Vermont State parks. The pass costs \$2 and is good for life. It does not include overnight use. Simply stop by the clerk's office during our regular hours to pick one up. The application form is available on the town clerk page of the town website or at the town clerk's office.

Dog Licenses Still Due

The State of Vermont requires that all dogs or wolf-dog hybrids six months of age or older be licensed with the town clerk by April 1 of each year. A current rabies certificate must be presented – if one is not already on file in the clerk's office – before a new annual license can be issued. The license fee of \$10 will increase to \$15 per dog on May 1. We appreciate your cooperation in this matter and look forward to seeing you soon.

Assistant Clerk/ Treasurer

I would like to welcome Kitty Frazier to the town clerk's office as my Assistant Clerk and Assistant Treasurer. Kitty, a long-time resident of Hinesburg, started in the office in late March and is already a great help to me in the day-to-day operations of our office. Stop by to say hello.

As always, please call the town clerk's office with any questions or concerns you might have. We are happy to be of assistance. You can also stop by during our regular hours of Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., or email Heather (hroberts@hinesburg.org) or Kitty (kfrazier@hinesburg.org). Have a safe, active and healthy spring!

Selectboard Forms New Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging (DEIB) Committee

BY THE DEIB COMMITTEE

Hinesburg's Selectboard recently formed a new committee, the Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging (DEIB) Committee. The DEIB Committee is charged with developing tools, frameworks, and recommendations to the selectboard and town manager to use as Hinesburg seeks to establish a culture of diversity, equity, inclusion and belonging across all aspects of town governance and policies.

The DEIB Committee works to assist the town in evaluating its operations for inequities and areas in need of a diversity lens. It serves as a resource to provide guidance for town management, including, but not limited to, town committees, the selectboard etc. For example, the DEIB Committee recently made recommendations to the selectboard for amending the application to serve on a town committee, commission or board so that the application was more accessible to the diverse citizens of Hinesburg.

The DEIB Committee's work specifically focuses on policies and practices within the town's formal structure. The committee was not established to plan cultural events or provide comment on current events. The DEIB Committee does, however, seek input from people who live, go to school and/or own a business in Hinesburg specific to town policies and their implementation across town departments. The DEIB Committee is planning an open house for late July to introduce the committee and its work, to answer questions, and to gather information.

The DEIB Committee meets on the first and third

Tuesday evening of the month at the Town Hall. Currently there are six members who have been seated for two-or three-year terms by the Selectboard. There are an additional three, one-year terms which are open to persons who:

- Demonstrate a commitment to equity among all persons, regardless of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, gender identity, or expression, age, or disability and socioeconomic status.
- Will actively and respectfully participate in the mission of the committee.

More information about the committee can be found at: hinesburg.org/diversity-equity-inclusion-and-belonging-committee

The members of the DEIB Committee are:

Joy Dubin Grossman, Assistant Town Manager

Miles Hickok

Mike Loner, Selectboard member

Enrique Peredo

Karen Tronsgard-Scott

Kate Webster

Mud Season is Here... Can Building Season Be Far Behind?

BY JIM JARVIS, HINESBURG ZONING ADMINISTRATOR

If you've driven any of Hinesburg's hill roads in the last week or so, you know. April is upon us, spring showers are playing with us, ground water upwelling has made mud roads treacherous in spots, and the sports fields are still too wet to play on.

If you're contemplating a building project, whether it's a backyard shed, accessory dwelling unit, an addition or a new home, you may need a zoning permit. Even if you won't need a permit, you do need to worry about stormwater runoff.

Here are some common questions:

When do I need a Zoning Permit?

Zoning permits are required for all land development if the total added square footage is 100 sq. ft. or more. This includes houses, finished basements, sheds, decks, garages, barns, swimming pools and ponds. Buildings under 100 sq. ft. must still meet setback requirements for front, side and back property lines, even though they don't require a permit. We can help you with those measurements, using state aerial photography and town parcel line data.

When can I start building?

Plan on three to four weeks from the time we get your completed application. This includes a mandatory two-week appeal period, from the time the permit is issued. Technically we have 30 days to review a complete application, but as a practical matter, I try to process them in less than a week.

Here's the typical process: You fill out a permit application, which you can download from the town website (hinesburg.org/planning-zoning), or we can email you one. Submit it along with a dimensioned sketch, or architect's drawings of the proposed structure, along with a site plan showing the location of the structure on your property. We'll calculate the necessary fees and let you know. Once we have your check, the application is complete, and you should typically have the permit within a week.

Are there other requirements?

It depends. If you want to add a new bedroom to your home, you might require a VT Water & Wastewater Permit and/or water allocation from the town. If you want to expand a house or camp that doesn't conform to present regulations, you might need a Conditional Use Approval from the Development Review Board.

Got questions?

Contact me at 802-482-4213, or via email at jjarvis@hinesburg.org. I'm usually in the office Monday through Friday, noon-4 p.m. You can also look at the zoning regulations and applications on the town website: hinesburg.org/planning-zoning.

Once you've gotten your permit, give thought to the environment...

April showers... bring us mud roads, construction projects, and stormwater runoff.

The spring building season means working on the land to prepare building sites. The state has regulations regarding the management of site stormwater control, in order to keep erosion to a minimum and

continued on page 4

GOVERNMENT CONTACTS

US Senators

Peter Welch, D
802-652-2450 welch.senate.gov

Bernie Sanders
802-862-0697 sanders.senate.gov

US Congressman

Becca Balint, D
202-225-4115 balint.house.gov

VT Senate

Chittenden District
Philip Baruth, P/D - Burlington
802-503-5266 pbaruth@leg.state.vt.us

Virginia "Ginny" Lyons, D - Williston
802-863-6129 vlyons@leg.state.vt.us

Christopher A. Pearson, P/D - Burlington
802-860-3933,
CPearson@leg.state.vt.us

Michael Sirotkin, D - South Burlington
802-999-4360 msirotkin@leg.state.vt.us

Kesha Ram, D - Burlington (Senator-elect)
802-324-5608
kesha@kesharam.com

Thomas Chittenden, D - South Burlington (Senator-elect)
802-233-1913
thomas@thomaschittenden.com

Thomas Chittenden, D - South Burlington (Senator-elect)
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Vermont House

Phil Pouech, D - Hinesburg
ppouech@leg.state.vt.us

Chelsea Water Evans, D - Hinesburg/Charlotte
cevans@leg.state.vt.us

Hinesburg Selectboard

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mlovell@hinesburg.org

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Mike Loner 802-309-5032
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Dennis Place 802-482-2271
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Paul Lamberson 802-578-1105
plamberson@hinesburg.org

Town Hall Information

Heather Roberts, Clerk Treasurer
hroberts@hinesburg.org

CVSD School Board

Ray Mainer, Director 802-482-3134

Colleen MacKinnon, Vice Chair
802-482-3266

TOWN HALL INFORMATION

HINESBURG.ORG

Town Clerk Office: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 a.m. -4:00 p.m. Heather Roberts, Clerk/Treasurer, hroberts@hinesburg.org 802-482-2281 ext. 1.

Town Manager's Office: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Todd Odit, Town Manager, Todit@hinesburg.org 802-482-4206. Joy Dubin Grossman, Assistant Town Manager, jdubingrossman@hinesburg.org 802-482-4207.

Town Planner Office: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Alex Weinhagen, Planner, aweinhagen@hinesburg.org 802-482-2281 ext. 225.

Zoning Administrator Office: Mon.-Fri. 12:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m. and by appointment. Jim Jarvis, Zoning Administrator, jjarvis@hinesburg.org 802-482-4213.

Assessor's Office Hours: Mon. 8:30 a.m. -11:30 a.m., other hours by appointment. Lisa Truchon, VMPA - NEMRC/Assessor, assessor@hinesburg.org, 802-482-2281 ext. 228.

Hinesburg Recreation Office: Mon.-Thurs. 8:30 a.m. -4:00 p.m. Jennifer McQuin, Recreation Coordinator, hinesburgrec@gmavt.net, 802-482-2281 ext. 230.

OTHER INFORMATION

Recycling & Trash Drop-Off Centers: Hinesburg, 907 Beecher Hill Rd., Sat. 8 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Williston, Redmond Road; Mon.-Sat. 8:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m. CSWD.NET.

Environmental Depot: 1011 Airport Parkway, South Burlington. Weds., Th., Fri., 8:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.; Sat. 8:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m. 863-0480.

Hinesburg Community Resource Center: 51 Ballards Corner Road. Shannon Wheeler, Executive Director, wheeler@hinesburgresource.org, 802-482-4946. Alex Koncewicz is the contact for Friends of Families, and she can be reached at the same number or at koncewicz@hinesburgresource.org.

Hinesburg Food Shelf hours are Fri. 10:00 a.m. -12:00 noon. Tues. 5:30-7:30 p.m. HINESBURGRESOURCE.ORG

United States Post Office Hours: Window: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Sat. 8:00 a.m.-12:00 noon. Lobby & Box Access: 24/7. 802-482-2292.

Hinesburg Community School: 10888 Route 116, 802-482-2106, CVSDVT.ORG/DOMAIN/9 for cafeteria menu, staff directory, department and team info, calendar, etc.

Champlain Valley Union High School: 369 CVU Road, 802-482-7100, CVSDVT.ORG/DOMAIN/12 for calendar, staff directory, student portal, etc.

Carpenter-Carse Library: 69 Ballards Corner, 802-482-2878, CARPENTERCARSE.ORG for library hours, services, and online resources.

Connecting Youth: Chittenden South community-based organization dedicated to creating a safe and healthy environment for young people. SEEWHY.INFO

Have an ad? email ads@hinesburgrecord.org or call 802-999-2410.

Town News

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reduce the impact on our lakes and surrounding streams.

So where do those showers go?

With many of our building projects, some form of site preparation or excavation is required. The State of Vermont gets involved in its efforts to protect our waterways from runoff that impacts wildlife and water quality. Sediment washdown chokes out foliage and kills aquatic life.

The state has a guide to its requirements for erosion control. Following the principles laid out in the handbook not only protects your surroundings, it can make your worksite more comfortable when things are wet.

The Vermont Low Risk Site Handbook for Erosion Prevention and Sediment control can be found at tiny.one/VTRunoffControl.

Hinesburg Zoning Regulations (section 5.27.1) require that you follow the erosion protection measures outlined in the Vermont Low Risk Site Handbook. The handbook outlines required practices and options for containing sediment and preventing erosion. It also requires that disturbed land be stabilized within 14 days. A more detailed erosion control plan must be submitted with a zoning permit application if any of the following apply:

- Disturbance on slopes of 15 percent or steeper.
- Disturbance within town-designated stream setback and/or buffer areas.
- Disturbance to a channel, ditch, or other concentrated stormwater conveyance.

- Total area of disturbance is 10,000 square feet or greater.

We are here to advise and to help. If you're unsure about what erosion control practices are required, give us a call.

Selectboard Highlights

BY MERRILY LOVELL, SELECTBOARD CHAIRPERSON

March 29

The Selectboard held a hearing on a vicious dog on Baldwin Road.

The Selectboard and members of the public viewed a presentation from Steve Roy of Wiemann Lamphere Architects on the plans and costs for a renovation of the town hall and for a new fire station. The presentation was very informative. Many good questions were asked. The presentation can be viewed on the town website at: hinesburg.org/selectboard/pages/buildings-study or by viewing the Hinesburg Selectboard meeting on the Media Factory website at mediafactory.org.

The board approved taking a five-year loan from Union Bank for \$42,400 to pay for the purchase of a police cruiser. This purchase had been planned and budgeted for.

The board approved the reappointment of James Mangrum to the trails committee for a term ending March 31, 2026.

The board approved awarding the bid for the Village South Sidewalk Project to Don Weston. His was the lowest bid, at \$366,281. This bid was approved on the condition that the town receive a pending Downtown Transportation Fund grant for at least \$105,600 to go toward the project. The proposed sidewalk, which has long been planned, will go from Meadow Mist to the Hinesburg Community School. The money the town will pay for the sidewalk will come out of ARPA funds. The Selectboard has made some preliminary decisions about how the ARPA funds will be used.

The list, along with the results of the town-wide ARPA survey, can be found at hinesburg.org/selectboard/pages/arpa-funds.

April 12

The Selectboard is going to be reaching out to townspeople for help in forming a town charter. Hinesburg does not currently have a town charter, although most of our neighboring towns do. We need to create a town charter and have it approved by the state Legislature in order to see if voters will approve a local option tax. Such a tax was approved by vot-

ers in Shelburne last month. The Selectboard wants to explore this idea because it would add revenue to the town and lighten the tax burden for residents.

The Selectboard approved the adoption of the Fair Housing Proclamation. April is Fair Housing Month. We approved this proclamation last year. This year's proclamation is worded a little differently from consultation with our new Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging Committee. The proclamation can be found on the Hinesburg town website on the Affordable Housing Committee's page, or by following this link: tinyurl.com/HBFairHousing.

The Selectboard had a discussion of how the ARPA funds will be used. We have designated several areas and general amounts where the ARPA funds will be used, following the priorities received from the ARPA funds survey. We discussed voting to put money toward the town common, but realized that we need more specific details about the amount of money needed before we can make any definite decisions. The ARPA fund document can be found by going to the selectboard page on the town website, clicking on the April 12 agenda, then clicking on the Meeting Documents. It is #9 in the list of documents.

The Selectboard received an update on the vicious dog incident, and agreed to send a letter to the owners requiring further actions.

The Selectboard discussed and approved an intermunicipal agreement for police services with Richmond. This agreement is the result of a request from Richmond. It is not an effort to revive talks about a Union Municipal District that we were exploring with Richmond last year. It is an agreement to temporarily help Richmond while they are low in officers. Any more extensive agreements about policing will not happen until we have the results of our Public Safety Survey.

Town Manager Report

The Village South Sidewalk was awarded grant money that, thanks to last minute requests, is for more than what was originally asked for. These funds will enable the project to move forward this year.

The Lantman's Sidewalk project has also received grant funds that put it in good shape to start soon.

Interviews are ongoing for the highway department.

A fifth police officer has been hired, bringing our police department to full capacity.

The Public Safety Survey group, CGR, is planning to come back for the next phase during the second week in May.

CSWD

Cha-cha-chaannnges!

ALISE CERTA, MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER

Take a deep breath! Spring is officially here. The change of the season also means lots of change for CSWD.

Our administrative staff moved to South Burlington on Monday, April 3. After 30 years we outgrew and just plain wore out our repurposed split-level house in Williston. We're looking forward to space for meetings and reliable wifi.

You might also have some changes going on due to the new season. Is a basement or garage clean-out on your spring-to-do list? We can take it! Please visit our A-Z list at cswd.net/a-z to find out what we accept, where to bring it and how much it may cost you.

I also found this great article on environmentally friendly clean-out tips: tinyurl.com/GreenCleanTips. The number one tip of airing out your house naturally is one of my favorites. I can't wait until it warms up a little, then all my windows are definitely going up!

We Can Take It: Hazardous Waste

2023 Rover Schedule Announced

The Rover, CSWD's mobile household hazardous waste collection unit, accepts a wide variety of household hazardous waste at no charge from Chittenden County residents – business waste is not accepted. See cswd.net/hazardous-waste for more information on hazardous waste disposal.

View the Rover schedule at cswd.net/hazardous-waste/rover

If you don't need the convenience of the Rover, we recommend you avoid the lines and take advantage of year 'round time slots available at the Environmental Depot.

The Depot accepts more materials than the Rover, and is always the best place to take your hazardous waste. Reserving a time slot is easy – just visit our Depot page at tinyurl.com/CSWDdepot to see all the convenient options and book your slot.

Have news? email news@hinesburgrecord.org.

LEGISLATIVE

Governor Phil Scott Appoints Two Superior Court Judges

Robert Katims of Hinesburg and H. Dickson Corbett of East Thetford

On April 14, Governor Phil Scott announced his appointment of two Vermont Superior Court judges: Robert Katims of Hinesburg and H. Dickson Corbett of East Thetford.

"As I have often said, appointed judges is one of the most important responsibilities for any governor, and it's critical to identify individuals who are fair, impartial, experienced and committed to the important role they play in our system," said Governor Scott. "I'm confident Bob and Dickson possess these qualities and more and will serve Vermonters well on the Superior Court bench."



Robert Katims of Hinesburg has been appointed as a Vermont Superior Court judge.

Court bench."

About Robert Katims

"I am honored and humbled that the Governor has placed trust in me," said Katims. "I approach this judgeship with a deep commitment to promote justice and fairness to all Vermonters. I have always loved the law and look forward to this new professional endeavor, and to joining the esteemed colleagues on the bench."

Bob Katims has over thirty years of experience practicing law with a background in criminal and family law. Katims has worked at Hoff Curtis, P.C., since 1992, where he served as a partner and managing partner.

Katims has been defense counsel in many high-profile cases in Vermont, and has practiced in every county in the state and in federal court. Katims is a member of the National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, a founding member and past-president of the Vermont Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, and a past member of the Vermont Association for Justice.

Katims graduated from Vermont Law School. He graduated from the University of Vermont after moving to Vermont from New Jersey. Katims and his wife live in Hinesburg, with their four children.

About H. Dickson Corbett

"I'm very grateful to have served Orange County alongside many talented and dedicated colleagues and community partners," said Corbett. "I am humbled by the appointment and will strive to honor Governor Scott's faith in me by serving the public with kindness, fairness, and a commitment to the rule of law."

H. Dickson Corbett has been a

prosecutor in Orange County since 2013 and was appointed by Governor Scott as Orange County State's Attorney in April 2021. He was elected to the role as an independent in 2022. Prior to that, he served as a law clerk and staff attorney with the Vermont Judiciary.

He is the chair of the Vermont Advisory Committee on the Rules of Evidence and has served as a member of the Vermont Advisory Committee on the Rules of Criminal Procedure, the Vermont Advisory Committee on the Rules of Family Procedure, and the Vermont Model Criminal Jury Instruction Committee.

Corbett received a B.A. in English at the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill and a J.D. and M.S.E.L. from Vermont Law School.

The two Superior Court Judge Designates will be sworn in in the coming weeks.

Rep. Becca Balint Introduces Youth Mental Health Legislation

The PEER Mental Health Act Will Fund Program for Peer Response Training

FROM BALINT PRESS RELEASE

On April 17, Rep. Becca Balint introduced the Peer Education and Emergency Response (PEER) for

Mental Health Act. This legislation would establish a grant program that supports training for teachers, school personnel, parents, caregivers, and students in mental health first aid.

Increased isolation following the pandemic, greater academic and social pressures, and social media have all contributed to a significant mental health crisis among school aged children and adolescents. Forty-two percent of high school students report persistent feelings of sadness or hopelessness, and twenty-two percent say they seriously considered attempting suicide in 2021, according to the CDC's Youth Risk Behavior Survey.

The grants established by this bill would be used to train teachers, school personnel, parents/caregivers and students in mental health first aid to:

- Recognize symptoms of mental health disorders in children and adolescents.
- Refer participants to necessary mental health treatment.
- Identify signs of immediate mental distress (such as panic attacks) and, upon recognizing such signs, apply mental health first aid tactics.
- Educate participants on the resources that are available in the community for individuals with a mental illness.

"Vermonters are struggling and feel ill-equipped to support one another through the mental health crisis we are facing as a nation. I'm proud to introduce legislation

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POLICE

Incidents

March 14: 10:06 a.m. Officers responded to a two-car motor vehicle crash on Pond Road.

11:30 a.m. Officers responded to a single car motor vehicle crash on Route 116.

12:45 p.m. The report of a car off the road on Route 116 was investigated.

March 15: 8:42 a.m. Officers responded to Texas Hill Road for a six-car motor vehicle crash.

10:56 a.m. Officers responded to a two-car motor vehicle crash on Sugar House Lane.

March 16: 12:04 p.m. A temporary Relief From Abuse order was served on Route 116.

1:10 p.m. Officers investigated the report of threatening behavior at CVU.

5:40 p.m. A traffic stop was conducted on Route 2A in St. George. The operator, Jason McCann, 41 of Essex, was cited with driving with a criminally suspended driver's license.

Legislative

continued from page 5

that alleviates the burden on our youth and gives them the tools they need to support one another," said Rep. Balint. "Mental health first aid training won't and shouldn't take the place of training, recruiting, and hiring more counselors, psychologists and psychiatrists. We must also invest in resources for professional intervention, but our kids want and need to be equipped with the knowledge to uplift and support their friends and classmates."

The bill streamlines the application process so that public schools and state and local education agencies with limited personnel and resources can easily apply. This bill authorizes \$24,963,000 for each of fiscal years 2024 through 2028, which complements the current Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration Mental Health First Aid grant program.

The bill is endorsed by the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI), the National Education Association (NEA), and the National Council on Mental Wellbeing.

More information on the bill can be found at tinyurl.com/BalintBillOnePage. For the text of the bill, go to tinyurl.com/BalintMentalHealthBill.

sist Richmond P.D. with a domestic dispute.

March 25: 2:12 p.m. Officers responded to Silver Street to investigate a reported assault.

March 28: 9:45 a.m. A traffic stop was conducted on Route 116. The operator, Kelly Husk, 40, of Starksboro was arrested for DUI.

12:45 p.m. A citizen was assisted with a VIN verification.

6:35 p.m. A late reported motor vehicle crash was reported and investigated.

March 29: 1:45 p.m. Officers responded to Ballard's Corner Road where an individual was issued a trespass notice for a business.

5:35 p.m. A traffic stop was conducted on North Road. The operator, Pamela Fuller, 56, of Starksboro was cited for driving with a criminally suspended license.

8:40 p.m. An officer investigated the report of harassment by electronic means.

March 30: 10:30 a.m. The report of suspicious circumstances on Hillview Terrace was reported and investigated.

3:40 p.m. A citizen was assisted with fingerprinting for employment purposes.

3:50 p.m. A citizen was assisted with fingerprinting for employment purposes.

5:45 p.m. Officers investigated a two-car motor vehicle crash on Pond Road.

March 31: 8:30 a.m. An internet fraud was reported and investigated.

2:30 p.m. A welfare check on Patricia's Place was conducted.

3:50 p.m. Officers responded to a residence on Route 116 to assist the Hinesburg Fire Department with the report of a structure fire.

6 p.m. Officers assisted another agency by serving paperwork to an individual on Commerce Street.

8:12 p.m. An officer investigated the report of harassment by electronic means.

April 1: 7 a.m. A welfare check on Route 116 was conducted.

8:25 a.m. A parking issue on Route 116 was investigated.

8:45 a.m. Officers served court paperwork to a resident on Green Street.

April 3: 9:55 a.m. A citizen on Shadow Lane was assisted with a lockout.

4:53 p.m. Officers investigated a motor vehicle complaint on Richmond Road.

April 4: 9:10 a.m. A fraud was re-

ported and investigated.

5:25 p.m. Officers responded to Silver Street to assist First Responders with a medical emergency.

6:15 p.m. Officers responded to suspicious circumstances on Southwest Shore Road. A two-car motor vehicle crash, a single car motor vehicle crash and a medical emergency were investigated upon arrival.

8:30 p.m. Officers investigated the reports of a suspicious vehicle on Richmond Road.

9 p.m. Officers responded to Commerce Street for an individual having a mental health issue.

April 5: 12:05 p.m. A two-car motor vehicle crash was reported on Hollow Road. Devin Leblanc, 24, of Starksboro was later arrested and charged with attempting to elude, and leaving the scene of a crash.

3:40 p.m. Officers investigated a reported assault on Piette Road. A juvenile involved in that case was cited for domestic assault.

April 6: 9:50 a.m. A loose dog on Magee Hill was turned in and returned to its owner.

10:15 a.m. An officer assisted the FBI with a records check.

10:55 a.m. A theft on Route 116 was reported and investigated.

4:10 p.m. A welfare check on Green Street was conducted.

5:30 p.m. Found property was turned in to the P.D.

April 7: 8:21 a.m. Officers investigated the report of a vehicle causing a traffic hazard on Route 116.

12:05 p.m. Officers investigated the report of a possible assault at the Hinesburg Community School.

12:56 p.m. Found property was turned in to the P.D.

2:50 p.m. Officers responded to the Mobile station on Commerce Street for the report of erratic operation. Neil Freeman, 50, of Hinesburg was arrested for DUI.

April 8: 2:20 p.m. A traffic stop was conducted on Route 116. Noah Lincoln, 33, of Burlington was arrested for driving with a criminally suspended license.

April 10: 2:10 p.m. Officers assisted a U.S. Postal Inspector with an investigation at Lyman Meadows.

2:40 p.m. Court paperwork was served to a resident on North Road.

4:20 p.m. Officers responded to a residence on Burritt Road to assist with a custody issue.

4:50 p.m. An officer responded to the intersection of North Road and Route 116 for a two-car motor vehicle crash.

FIRE

HFD Recognizes Busier Family

Throughout the years, the Busier family and Lantman's Market have been, and continue to be, generous supporters of the Hinesburg



The Hinesburg Fire Department recognized the Busier family

Fire Department and Hinesburg Firefighters Association.

On Saturday, April 1, the members presented the Busier family with a plaque thanking the family, Lantman's and the employees for their support.

Spring Craft Fair

Join the Hinesburg Firefighters Association for their Spring Craft Fair, Saturday, May 20, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Hinesburg Fire Station.

We are hosting a craft fair that will give our sellers the opportunity to share their crafts and wares. The event will include local crafters as well as outside business consultants and many home craft businesses.

Proceeds from the event will benefit The Hinesburg Firefighters Association.

Burning Brush/Leaves?

Are you planning to burn brush or leaves? Please remember to call Shelburne Dispatch, 802-985-8051, for a burn permit. Please be courteous to the call taker as dispatch is providing a service for Hinesburg and are required to obtain certain information.

Burn permits are issued at the discretion of the town fire warden and are based upon the weather, as well as Flag Warnings from the State of Vermont.

The State of Vermont allows burning of any natural vegetation i.e., tree branches/limbs, brush, and grass. You may also burn untreated

wood products, which is wood that has no paint and is not pressure treated. Burning of household trash is not permitted under the State of Vermont Clean Air Act (Sec. 1. 24 V.S.A. § 2201)

Burn piles are to be placed away from roadways, buildings, trees, and low hanging branches. An adult must be in the area of the burn pile at all times.

Burning in trailer parks is only permitted in a contained outdoor fireplace or covered burn pit.

Anyone caught burning without a permit will be asked to extinguish the burn. Refusal to do so will result in the fire department responding with an engine to extinguish the pile and may result in future permits being denied.

If your burn gets out of control, please call 911 immediately.

continued on page 8

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BUSINESS

Pleasant Mount Farm: Three Decades of Locally Growing Plants for Gardeners

BY ELEANOR GLENN

On a small hill in the heart of the Huntington River valley, a family greenhouse is up and running in anticipation of the gardening season to come. Seedlings have been pushing through the surface of the soil for two months. Peppers, artichokes, fennel, onions and much more have been growing quickly toward the arrival of gardeners who will lovingly plant them in their gardens and raised beds.

The longer, sun-filled days have been a busy time for the Racht/Campbell family, owners of Pleasant Mount Farm organic greenhouse in Huntington Center. This is the 32nd season that greenhouse has been in operation and owner Heidi Racht enthused, "I am happy to say how much we are enjoying our time getting ready to open in early May." In addition to three Racht/Campbell family members, the business has three talented and knowledgeable staff

members, working in the greenhouse. Racht noted that two new employees, Autumn and Tobi, are graduates of UVM's Plant and Soil Science program. "It is certainly a bonus for us to have good people, who have a soils and plant culture background, sharing their knowledge as well as their passion for plants," Racht said.

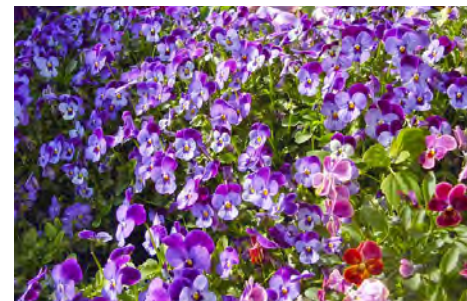
The seasonal business specializes in affordable bedding and accent plants and is known for its interesting and unusual varieties of vegetables – last season, gardeners chose from over 135 varieties of tomatoes, over 100 varieties of peppers, and many choices of eggplant, basil, cabbages and greens. Pleasant Mount Farm sells vegetables in packs and individual pots – and customers are welcome to mix and match in the packs to meet their gardening needs.

All the plants are grown in Certified Organic potting soil. Organic materials and practices have been in place since the first season. All the vegetable and herb starts are Certified Organic by NOFA-Vermont.

Coming out of COVID, Alan Campbell, greenhouse owner/partner, said, "We were lucky being a small operation that we could remain open through the pandemic



An assortment of colors and textures.



Pansies like cooler weather and can be planted out

with proper precautions."

Pleasant Mount Farm, like many small greenhouses, saw an increase in business as people, who were dealing with shortages of food and other essentials in addition to being forced to stay home, flocked to gardening, buying plants and seeds.

Pleasant Mount Farm is small by design. Racht said the main reason for staying small is to allow them to get their hands dirty and actively work with plants and the people who work for them. She stated emphatically, "I did not want to spend my days at the computer doing paperwork instead of being out in the greenhouse." She said they also wanted to employ a few local people rather than having a large payroll. "Our employees are like family," Racht declared. The crew is in and out of the house while dogs and cats wander through the greenhouse. She remarked, "We drink a lot of ice water on a sunny day. And always have a bottle of sunscreen



onion and leeks packs

handy."

The team at Pleasant Mount Farm has a steady work ethic. On a recent sunny afternoon, the break included ice cream bars in addition to ice water – and, on a cooler day, a tray of tea with homemade cookies in the late afternoon. Jody,

Fire

continued from page 7

Call Log

There were 39 medical calls and 27 patients transported.

Mar. 2: 2:45 p.m. Mutual aid to Richmond for a structure fire. HFD responded with an engine and tanker. On arrival, HFD members were assigned to standby as the Rapid Intervention Team (R.I.T.). A R.I.T team is interior-certified firefighters, who are prepared to enter a building in the event a firefighter becomes injured or trapped. We were pleased that our R.I.T was not needed during this fire.

Mar. 5: 3:41 p.m. Baldwin Road near the Monkton town line for a report of a car vs. tree. On arrival we located a vehicle which had gone off the road into the ditch, coming to a stop when it hit a tree. The operator was out of the vehicle and refused EMS treatment.

Mar. 8: 8:24 p.m. Intersection of Charlotte and Baldwin roads for a report of a vehicle into the barn at the corner. HFD arrived to find the vehicle had gone front end into the ditch but did not go into the barn. The operator self-extricated, was treated by Hinesburg EMTs

and transported to UVMHC by Richmond Rescue.

Mar. 11: 5:40 a.m. Hollow Road for a reported motor vehicle crash. The vehicle was located off the west side of the road, over the embankment, being held over the stream by trees. The operator had left the scene.

Mar. 13: 6:47 a.m. Route 2A and Chestnut Street for a motor vehicle crash. Both vehicles were off the side of the road. There were no injuries.

Mar. 15: 9:40 a.m. Removed tree from across Ledger Road.

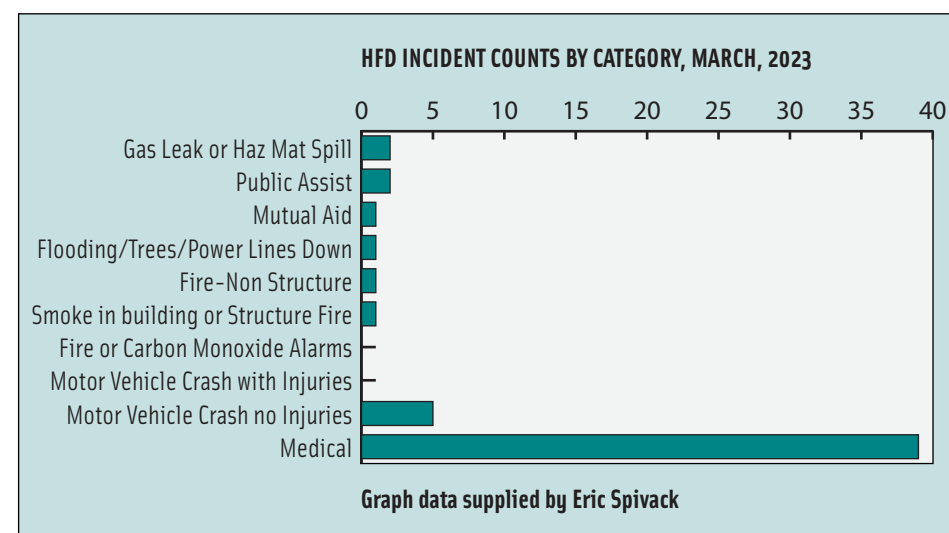
10:49 a.m. Hinesburg police requested HFD place barriers across Texas Hill Road at North Road to close the road. Huntington Fire Department was also requested to close Texas Hill from their side.

3:05 p.m. Texas Hill Road was reopened.

Mar. 21: 12:08 p.m. One-vehicle crash on Richmond Road. There were no injuries.

Mar. 23: 9:27 a.m. Wild Rose Lane to check on a possible unpermitted burn.

Mar. 27: 7:54 a.m. Hinesburg Nursery School for a report of a smell of gas. The building was



HFD responded to 52 calls in March. *an example of a non-structure fire would be a telephone pole, car, or grass/brush fire.

checked with our gas meter. There were no readings on the meter. No cause was found.

Mar. 28: 8:26 a.m. Richmond Road for an odor investigation. A homeowner called to state they smelled a strange odor in their garage. The cause of the odor was found to be trash and hay stored in the garage. While checking the garage, our gas meter alarmed showing 15 ppm of CO. The cause of the CO was determined to have been from boiling sap in the front of the garage the night before.

Mar. 31: 3:52 p.m. Report of a structure fire on Route 116 near Charlotte Road. Dispatch reported to have received a call stating a barn was on fire, with flames coming from the windows. Engine 1 arrived to locate a controlled brush fire in the back of a residence. No structure was involved.

Follow us on Facebook at HinesburgFireDepartment

Be sure to visit our website hinesburgfd.org.

the other family member, loves to bake (she also puts together all the hanging baskets). Racht noted that their local business supports other local businesses, too. "We put a good-sized order together and then someone runs down to the Lantman's deli on a busy weekend. Sometimes, more than once!"

Said Racht, "Having a small community business had always allowed us to focus on our plants and our customers. We welcome the opportunity to work with new gardeners. It's a lot of fun to help someone get started with the basics of gardening." They gave out a lot of tips on setting up asparagus beds and thinning carrots during COVID as many came back to gardening or had a first garden during the pandemic. She reflected, "I hope that those who tried gardening for economic reasons found a love of tending plants and got enough satisfaction from their results to make it part of their summer now."

Gardeners are invited to check the website for information about plants and details about the season: pleasantmountfarm.com.

TaeKwonDo KICKS Holds Tournament

BY KELLIE THOMAS

On Saturday, March 25, students of all ages participated in TaeKwonDo KICKS Bi-



Students participating in the TaeKwonDo KICKS Bi-annual Learning Tournament



annual Learning Tournament from the Vergennes, Hinesburg, Orwell and Middlebury schools. This event is designed to give students who are uncomfortable with competition a chance to experience and learn in a tournament setting or give students a chance to practice doing a tournament before moving up to a competitive one. KICKS students have the option of participating in four competitive tournaments throughout the state this spring. A hundred students demonstrated their skills in forms, board breaking and sparring – and everyone earned a medal for participating. This event helps increase self-confidence, which is the main focus of KICKS, and improve their ability to perform in front of crowds.

Financial Focus: Some "Did-You-Knows" About Estate Plans

FROM PRESS RELEASE

If you've done any estate planning, or even if you're just familiar with it, you probably know the basics – that is, a comprehensive estate plan can help you pass on assets to your family while also achieving other goals, such as designating someone to take care of your affairs if you become unable to do so. But you may not know about some other estate-planning issues that could prove important in your life:

- Power of attorney for students – Children heading off to college may be considered legal adults in many states. Consequently, you, as a parent, may not have any control over medical treatment if your child faces a sudden, serious illness or is involved in an accident. Instead, a doctor who doesn't

know your child or your family may decide on a course of action of which you might not approve. To help prevent this, you may want to have your college student sign a medical power of attorney form, which will allow you to make decisions on your child's behalf if doctors don't think your child can make those choices. You might also want to combine the medical power of attorney with an advance health care directive or living will, which lets you specify actions you do or don't want to happen. In any case, consult with your legal advisor before taking any of these steps.

- Community property versus common law – Not all states treat married couples' possessions equally. If you live in a community property state, the property you acquire during your marriage is generally considered to be owned in equal halves by each spouse, with some exceptions. But if you live in a common law state, the property you obtain while you're married is not automatically owned by both spouses. In these states, if you buy some property, you own it, unless you decide to put it in the name of yourself and your spouse.

This doesn't necessarily mean, however, that your spouse has no rights, because common law states typically have rules that guard surviving spouses from being disinherited. But here's the key point: If you move from a community property state to a common law state, or vice versa, you might not want to assume that your and

your spouse's property ownership situations will remain the same. Consequently, if you do move, you may want to consult an estate-planning attorney in your new state to determine where you stand.

- Pet trusts – You always strive to take good care of your pets. But what might happen to them if you become incapacitated in some way? Unless you have a close family member or friend who's willing to take over care for your pet, you might want to consider setting up a pet trust, which can take effect either during your lifetime or after you pass away. A trustee typically will make payments to the caregiver you've designated for your pet, with payments continuing for the pet's lifetime or a set number of years. Again, an estate-planning attorney can help you with this arrangement.

Estate planning certainly involves the big-picture issue of leaving a legacy to the next generation. But the issues we've discussed can also be meaningful to you, so you'll want to address them properly.

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

To register for HRD programs go to hinesburgrec.com



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RECREATION

Youth Recreation

Co Ed K-1-2 Lacrosse

Sundays, May 7 – June 11. Millie's Field, Bissonette Rec. Area. 11 a.m.-noon. Cost: \$50. Registration deadline April 30.

After-School Horseback Riding

Enjoy horseback riding lessons and so much more with Kim Johansen at Livery Stables. Lessons are for beginning to early intermediate riders. In addition, Kim and staff will instruct children on basic horse care, tacking, feeding, watering, and all that happens in the horse barn. Take the bus from HCS to Livery Stables, located at 601 Lavigne Hill Rd., 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.

Grades K-8. Tuesdays, May 2 – June 6 and/or Fridays, May 5 – June 9. Livery Stables, located at 601 Lavigne Hill Rd., Hinesburg. 3-5 p.m. Cost: \$285. More information can be found at liveryhorse.com.

farm.com.

After-School Junior Golf Program

Cedar Knoll Golf Course Pro Mike Slayton has a non-technical teaching philosophy but stresses the fundamentals of grip, stance, posture, balance and tempo. Although understanding that variations in swing techniques can all work, golf ball flight comes down to five basic laws. These laws include club head path, angle of attack, centeredness of contact, club face angle and speed. "The golf swing is a series of movements that must be executed in the proper sequence for optimal results."

Grades K-8. Cost: \$160. Cedar Knoll Golf Course, located at 13460 Route 116, Hinesburg.

Session 1 Tuesday/Thursday: May 16 – May 25. 3:30-5 p.m.

Session 2 Tuesday/Thursday: May 30 – June 8. 3:30-5 p.m.

Session 1 Wednesday/Friday: May 17 – May 26. Wednesday, 2:30-4 p.m., and Friday, 3:30-5 p.m.

Session 2 Wednesday/Friday: May 31 – June 9. Wednesday, 2:30-4 p.m., and Friday, 3:30-5 p.m.

Golf Camp with Mike Slayton

Tuesday through Friday.

June 20–23, July 18–21, Aug 15–18.

9 a.m.–noon. Cost is \$320.

Boater Safety Course

Boating safety education is required for any motor boat operator, 12 years of age or older, born after January 1, 1974. The Boat Vermont, eight-hour classroom course will enable you to get the certification that you need. The course is offered over four days. Participants must be present at all classes to be eligible for certification. Instructor is Jon Fick.

12 years and older. Monday and Wednesdays, May 1, 3, 8, and 10; 6-8:30 p.m. R.E.I. Store in Williston. Cost: \$20 resident and \$30 non-residents

Recreational Track and Field

Participants will learn the basics of running, jumping, throwing, and relays. There will be meets with other area recreation departments. Athletes aged 7-14 are eligible to participate, unless they are a high school freshman in the 2022-23 school year. Aging date is December 31, 2023. VRPA State Meet is Saturday, July 22.

Instructors are program director and CVU athletes. Ages 6-14 years. Mondays and Wednesdays, June 14 – July 22, 6:15-7:45 p.m. CVU track. Cost: \$50 resident, \$60 non-resident

Horse Camp at Livery Stables

Join Kim Johansen and staff at Livery Stables for a week-long horse camp. Enjoy riding lessons, grooming, tacking, and general horse duties in the relaxed atmosphere of the barn. There are horse crafts, kittens to play with and an equestrian camaraderie that can't

be beat. Please note below there are two options for camp times.

6-12 years. Livery Stables, 601 Lavigne Hill Rd., Hinesburg.

Camp Week 1: Monday–Friday, June 19–June 23

Time: 8 a.m.–noon or 8 a.m.–4 p.m. Cost: \$365 for four-hour session and \$495 for eight-hour session. Be sure to pack a lunch, water bottle, snacks, and send boots.

CVU Boys Lacrosse Camp

Run by CVU Varsity Boys Coach Tom Garvey and his players. June 26–29 (M–Th), 9 a.m. to noon. For students entering fourth through tenth grade. CVU Field C: Upper Lot on Pond Road. Cost is \$125. Register at cvuboysslax.com/camp.

CVU Girls Lacrosse Camp

Run by CVU Varsity Coach Tucker Pierson and players. June 26–29 (M–Th) from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Grades 5-10. Cost: \$135. Information and registration found at cvugirlsslax.weebly.com.

Adult Recreation

Dog Obedience with Jim Warden

Join experienced dog trainer Jim Warden for this informative and beneficial dog training experience. This class is designed to provide enjoyment and interaction for both you and your pet. Jim makes it look easy, even with the most challenging dogs. Watch and see someone who truly "talks to the animals." Please note – leave your dog at home for the first class.

Dog and owner(s). Town Hall Field. Thursdays, May 11–June 15. 6-7 p.m. Cost: \$75 resident and \$85 non-residents.

Youth/Adult Recreation

David Mitiguy's Summer Driver Ed

Virtual classes and in-person driving.

June 19–22, 28–30; July 5–6, 11–13, 18–20. Class time: 5:30-7 p.m. Cost: \$850 resident and \$900 non-residents.

LIBRARY

Library Hours Year Round

Monday and Saturday: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Tuesday through Friday: 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Phone: 482-2878

Address: 69 Ballards Corner Road, Hinesburg 05461

Web Site: carpentercarse.org

Email: library@carpentercarse.org

May at the Library

All things being equal, the month of May is the best month to watch our world turn green again. May at the library promises many seasonal delights. We have some gardening programming on tap, and we will be hosting e-bikes from the lending library that Local Motion owns in the month of May and a bit of June. We always have regular bikes you can borrow but we'll be delighted to lend these e-bikes out to encourage folks in our community to try this transportation alternative that can infuse your life's errands with joy. Stroll over to our webpage, carpentercarse.org/ebikes for more information (and to make reservations, once those go live).

For young folks, we've got storytimes, a book discussion group and Pokemon Club, and for the area's gardening enthusiasts, we have a composting program and local garden guru Charlie Nardozi visiting to talk No-Dig Gardening.

New books arriving this month include new titles by Emma Klein, Sam Irby, Christina Lauren, Abraham Verghese and Megan Abbott. Finally, on Saturday, June 3, we'll be hosting the Baby Brunch with HCRC to celebrate all the babies born in Hinesburg in 2022-2023. This event is an opportunity to meet other new little humans in town, their caregivers, and to learn about the larger community resources Hinesburg has to help encourage literacy and healthy development. It will again take place in the yard at the library. Read on for more information about everything

happening in May.

Youth Programs

For more information about any of these programs contact jen@carpentercarse.org

Weekly Storytime: Tuesdays, May 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30 at 9:30 a.m.

Join us for picture books, songs, movement, and rhymes that are designed to promote early language, fine motor, and pre-literacy skills in a friendly environment. Each week we will finish up Storytime with snacks, coffee for the adults, a simple craft or sensory activity, and book browsing. Storytime is designed for babies, toddlers, and preschool/kindergarten aged children and their caregivers, and no registration is required.

Pokemon Club: Wednesdays, May 3, 10 and 17 at 2:15-3:15 p.m.

For students in grades K-4. Students can sign up to join us for this after school club where they will learn to play different versions of the Pokemon Trading Game and participate in hands-on activities like Pokemon arts and craft challenges, group guessing and memory games, making Pokemon-themed snacks, and other activities. Students do not have to own Pokemon cards to participate in this club. Registration is required, so contact jen@carpentercarse.org

Mid-Grade Book Club: Thursday, May 25, 5:30-6:30 p.m.

Mid-grade Book Club is a club for students who would like an opportunity to read and talk about books that are past or current Golden Dome Book Award nominees or winners. This group is for anyone reading mid-grade books, which is generally students who are in the nine- to twelve-year-old age range. Each month we will have a fun ice-breaker activity, eat pizza, talk about the book we read, and discuss what to read next. To sign up and receive a copy of this month's book, contact jen@carpentercarse.org.

Welcome Baby Brunch: Saturday, June 3, 11-12:30 p.m.

If you welcomed a baby to your family in the last couple of years, please come and fill out a bookplate for your



E-bikes will be available to borrow from the library for May and part of June.

new human. We will have a selection of new books from the picture book collection. This is an opportunity to meet other new parents in the community and to celebrate literacy. There will be snacks and entertainment. If the weather is amenable, we will meet outside the library in the yard.

Chess Club: Saturdays through May 20, 1-3 p.m.

Players of any age or experience may drop in for a weekly game of skill and wits. Children under 10 must be accompanied by an adult.

Adult Programs

For more information about any of these programs contact Rachel@carpentercarse.org

Hands and Needles: Mondays, 10 a.m.–noon.

Bring whatever project you're working on (quilting, knitting, embroidery, etc.) to this weekly adult program for a morning of creativity and conversation.

Songfarmers of Hinesburg: Thursday, May 4, 6-8 p.m.

Whether you play an acoustic instrument or enjoy listening, join this monthly gathering to experience the joy of live music at the library.

Mystery Book Group: Wednesday, May 10, 10:30-11:30 a.m.

We'll be meeting at the library to talk about *The Widows of Malabar Hill* by Sujata Massey (copies available for request). Email to receive the link to join the conversation.

Creative Cafe: Saturday May 27, 10 a.m.–noon.

Adults and teens can drop by for snacks, drinks, and artistic community. Bring your own writing/art/craft project, find inspiration in our creative prompts, or unwind with our adult coloring books. No registration required.

Composting Workshop: Wednesday, May 17, 5:30-6:30 p.m.

Kat Moody from Chittenden Solid Waste District will talk about the importance of composting, the components of a compost pile, the composting process (backyard vs. industrial), and what materials are accepted at Green Mountain Compost. You'll also have a chance to learn about why we no longer accept compostable foodware. Finally, we will have a question portion at the end. Sign up at the circulation desk or email rachel@carpentercarse.org.

No-Dig Gardening with Charlie Nardozi: Thursday, May 18, 6-7:30 p.m.

Learn the benefits and techniques of no-dig gardening from expert gardener Charlie Nardozi. The talk will last about an hour, with time for Q&A afterward. Charlie's books will be available for purchase. Sign up at the circulation desk or email rachel@carpentercarse.org.

Evening Book Group (Zoom): Tuesday, May 30, 7-8 p.m.

We'll discuss *Station Eleven* by Emily St. John Mandel (copies available for request). Email to receive the link to join the conversation.



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► **Everything Grows**
continued from page 11

have a small but mighty farm crew of wonderful people who are invested in the work. The land has been in James' family since 1801. They are honored and proud to be farming this land and growing food for our community. They consider themselves a community farm, and invite your ideas and input, and encourage you to come take a walk on their beautiful land. More at trilliumhill-farm.com.

Full Moon Farm – 2083 Gilman Rd., Hinesburg, 802-482-2199. Everything grown at Full Moon Farm is certified organic. You never have to worry that your fruits or vegetables have been treated with toxic herbicides, pesticides, or fungicides. It was grown in such a manner as to protect the earth we walk on, the water we drink and the critters we share the planet with. Also, English angora rabbits (not for sale or eating!) abound at Full Moon Farm. More at fullmoon-farminc.com.

Red Wagon Plants – 2408 Shelburne Falls Rd., 802-482-4060. An integral part of growing the healthiest, happiest plants possible for Vermonters' kitchen gardens is growing healthy and happy human members of Team Red Wagon. For all of its fifteen years, Red Wagon Plants has worked hard to create a workplace that is full of vibrant energy. The plants absorb the love and positivity that the staff brings to them and to each other every season. Respect for and cultivation of Team Red

Wagon is an inextricable and beautiful part of the growing process and of the business itself. More at redwagonplants.com.

Fox Run Flowers – 2041 Shelburne Falls Rd., Hinesburg, 802-482-2698. Fresh flowers brighten most everyone's day. That's why Fox Run Flowers was started many years ago and continues today. Freshly made bouquets are available at the self-service table on Fridays from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. or by chance or appointment. Many bouquets feature hellebores, peonies, hydrangeas, snapdragons, dahlias, zinnias, and beautiful, unusual greens.

Bird and Bee Native Plants – 415 Brown's Trace Road, Jericho, 802-355-2879 Obviously, we are not in Hinesburg here anymore, Toto! But nursery owner Tobi Schulman grew up in Hinesburg and is well connected to the local "growing" community. Her new nursery in Jericho will be offering hard to find native

wildflowers to the public beginning on Saturday, May 27. Says Tobi, "I want to offer a wide range of native flowers that will be beautiful in the garden and also serve a critical ecological function. There are many bird and pollinator insect species which rely on native plants to thrive, and we as gardeners need to help them." Tobi is a Certified Horticulturist and studied plant and soil science at UVM. To learn more and see the varieties that she will be offering, check out Bird and Bee Native Plants at www.birdandbeeplants.com.

Pleasant Mount Farm – 4501 Main Rd., Huntington, 802-434-2690. This article would not be complete without mention of Pleasant Mount Farm, a long-time advertiser for and supporter of The Hinesburg Record. Northern Vermont's first retail greenhouse (since 1992) using Certified Organic potting soil, and all manage-

ment practices that meet organic standards, Pleasant Mount Farm is committed to providing safe (chemical-free), beautiful plants to local gardeners. Pleasant Mount Farm has an unsurpassed variety of vegetable plants. Many are heirloom varieties – old favorites like Early Jersey Wakefield, Ruby Giant, Rutgers, Italian Flat Leaf ... And many are new strains with disease-resistance (Late Blight Resistant!) or characteristics that keep them from bolting or developing a bitter taste – the Mountain series, Calypso cilantro. More at pleasantmountfarm.com.

Rock Meadow Farm – Hinesburg and Huntington, 802-482-2247. Rock Meadow Farm is owned and operated by Betsy Orvis, a native Vermonter whose roots run deep in the hills of South Starksboro. Since its inception, Rock Meadow Farm has outgrown the Hinesburg gardens and greenhouse space and in 2018 began growing flowers in the dreamiest river bottom soil at Jubilee Farm, located in Huntington Center. Rock Meadow Farm grows the freshest and finest blooms of the season, with a casual, fresh from the garden flair, from bouquets to boutonnieres, to DIY buckets of mixed flowers and foliage for your arranging pleasure. More at rockmeadowvt.com.

Rounding out our collection of amazing growers are those "just over the line" in surrounding communities. These include Isham Family Farm in Richmond, Cobble Creek Nursery in Lincoln, and Full Belly Farm in Monkton.

EDUCATION

Hinesburg Night at the Vermont Lake Monsters

BY JAMIE CUDNEY



June 4 is Hinesburg Night at the Vermont Lake Monsters, to benefit HCS's PiE.

From the depths of Lake Champlain, it's Champ and he's looking for Hinesburg to cheer on the Vermont Lake Monsters while raising money for PiE (Partnership in Education) at Hinesburg Community School.

Sunday, June 4, at Centennial Field

Gates open at 4 p.m.

First Pitch at 5:05 p.m.

You all are welcome to cheer on the Vermont Lake Monsters while supporting PiE at HCS and make some new connections with other folks in our Hinesburg community.

HCS band will be performing the national anthem, great food and drinks, kid fun zone, free face painting, have a catch in the field/kids run the bases post-game and more! Call the ticket office at 802-655-6611 and say "Hinesburg" to purchase your tickets and invite family, friends, neighbors for a fun night at Centennial Field while supporting a great cause.

Access CVU Spring Semester Comes to an End

FROM PRESS RELEASE

The Winter/Spring semester of Access CVU, your destination for community education based out of CVU high school, is nearing the end. With more than 35 classes scheduled to start during the month of May, there is something for everyone from an Alfresco Dining Series and Dim Sum to making cutting boards and a modern Adirondack chair (and table).

Planning for the fall semester is starting. Let us know what classes you wish we offered, and what we should keep. And if you know of a great instructor we should add, please send them our way.

Below is a list of classes scheduled for May, organized by category. All classes meet in-person at CVU, with the exception of a handful of online classes (identified with an "o") which will meet over Zoom or Google Meet.

Cooking & Cuisine

Wednesday, May 3: Alfresco Dining Series: Sfogliatella

Thursday, May 4: Indian Cooking: Chicken Chettinad Curry

Monday, May 8: French Crepes

Wednesday, May 10: Alfresco Dining Series: Arancini

Thursday, May 11: Poke Bowls at Home

Monday, May 15: Baking 101: Rhubarb Shortcakes

Wednesday, May 17: Alfresco Dining Series: Piadini

Wednesday, May 24: Alfresco Dining Series: Panella

Thursday, May 25: Dim Sum

Fine Arts & Crafts

Tuesday, May 2: Carving in Wood: The Wizard Hiking Stick

Tuesday, May 2: Ceramics: Hand-Building Terracotta Planters

Tuesday, May 2: Drawing: Portraits

Thursday, May 4: Mala Bead Necklace Workshop

Monday, May 8: Fused Glass Wind



Build a Modern Adirondack Chair and Table starts on May 17



Flower Arranging: Spring Table on May 10

Chime

Tuesday, May 9: Learn How to Turn a Wooden Bowl!

Wednesday, May 10: Make Your Own Cutting Boards

Thursday, May 11: Traditional Intermediate Rug Hooking

Wednesday, May 17: Build a Modern Adirondack Chair and Table

Wednesday, May 17: Fused Glass Wind Chime

Monday, May 22: Fused Glass Wind Chime

Tuesday, May 23: Learn How to Turn a Wooden Bowl!

Fitness, Dance, Yoga & Mindful Movement

Tuesday, May 2: Kundalini Yoga: The Yoga of Radiance

Thursday, May 4: Happy Thursday Yoga Flow

Thursday, May 4: Yoga Thursday with Ellen!

Health & Nutrition, New Age & Holistic Wellbeing

Monday, May 1: Chakra Workshop

Tuesday, May 2: Introduction to Buddhism, Meditation & Mindfulness

Tuesday, May 9: Gem and Crystal Workshop

Wednesday, May 10: Gluten Free Baking Discussion

Thursday, May 25: Wild Edible &

Medicinal Herb Walk

Home & Garden, Nature & Animals

Wednesday, May 10: Flower Arranging: Spring Table

Tuesday, May 16: Beekeeping Basics

Thursday, June 1: Home Repair Series: Decks

Kids, Teens, & Parenting

Tuesday, May 16: A Kids Tea Party – From Kitchen to Parlor

continued on page 14

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ORGANIZATIONS

Plants and Pies!

FROM PRESS RELEASE

The United Church of Hinesburg's Plant Sale tradition continues with our in-person sale on Saturday, May 13, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Brighten up your gardens with annuals. Old and new favorites in 4-inch pots and 6-packs in a variety of colors will be for sale at competitive prices. The annuals are sourced from Paquette Full of Posies Nursery in Williston.

If you missed our online sale of locally-grown perennials last month (or if you want more!), a selection of perennial plants will also be available.

New this year and just in time for Mother's Day, are homemade pies. Buy a special pie and a colorful plant for a special person in your life.

Contact the United Church at 802-482-3352 or unitedchurch@gmavt.net with questions.

Education

continued from page 13

Music & Languages

Saturday, May 6: *Paris je t'aime* (Paris I love you)*

One Night University

Tuesday, May 2: Understanding Emotions: An Owner's Manual for Your Emotions

Photography, Computers, & Automotive

Wednesday, May 10: Getting to Know Your Car Workshop

Professional Development & Writing Workshops

Thursday, May 4: Job Search Series – The Interview

Monday, May 8: So You Want to Write a Memoir? With author Bill Mares

Switching to E-Lawn Care Equipment is Easier and More Important Than Ever

STEVEN WISBAUM, MOW ELECTRIC! CAMPAIGN

While the annoying wail of conventional lawn mowers has long been associated with summer, that sound is thankfully becoming less common with the growing popularity of battery electric lawn equipment.

There's lots of reasons why so many people are switching to E-lawn equipment. Due to advancements in lithium ion battery technology, there's now more than 25 manufacturers, including at least

Check out our website, cvsdvt.ce.eleyo.com (or Google "Access CVU"), for more information, and to register for a class. As a reminder, early signups help us plan for popular classes, ensure you a spot in the class, and avoid classes being canceled due to low enrollment. 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 registered, or have a question about a class? 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.



nine offering residential riding mowers. And in Vermont, almost all the electric utilities offer rebates, which makes E-lawn equipment (purchased or picked-up in Vermont!) even more affordable.

Operating cost savings and convenience is also a huge motivating factor. E-lawn equipment eliminates the need to buy, transport, and handle gasoline, doesn't require oil changes and tune-ups, and should run for many years without needing any repairs. And without any oil or gas to spill out, most walk-behind E-mowers are designed to stand upright for easy storage. Equally important, E-lawn equipment is quiet and emission-free.

With ever-mounting evidence of the existential impacts of human-caused climate change, many people are trying to shrink their personal carbon footprint, either by driving electric cars, weatherizing their homes, flying less, installing solar PV systems and/or heat pumps, and switching to E-lawn equipment.

And while a single residential conventional mower or "chore tool" doesn't burn nearly as much fuel as a car or home furnace, the collective impact of all this lawn equipment is huge. In fact, a recent DOT-Federal Highway Administration analysis estimated that in Vermont alone, over 5 million gallons of gasoline are burned annually by lawn care equipment, which generates over 5,000 tons of CO₂. And this doesn't even include the millions of gallons of diesel fuel consumed by diesel-powered lawn mowers operated by contractors, local and state public works departments, golf courses, schools, etc.

So, if your gas-powered lawn equipment is at or nearing retirement, and you're considering making the switch, here's some things to keep in mind:

How to choose: Since there's lots of manufacturers, and quality is relatively consistent, choice will largely depend on the different features available. Ask your friends and neighbors about their equipment, and try it out. The *Mow Electric* website at mowelectric.org also has links to some of the popular video product reviews and websites.

Stick with one manufacturer: If you're buying multiple items (e.g.

mower and chore tools), stick with one manufacturer since batteries and chargers are NOT interchangeable between manufacturers.

Battery capacity/run-time: For larger yards, it's a good idea to buy the higher capacity/longer run-time battery options.

Buy local: Lastly, while E-lawn equipment can be purchased online and at "big-box" stores, most hardware, building supply, and lawn equipment stores now sell E-lawn equipment.

Steven Wisbaum is the founder of the Mow Electric! Campaign and website at mowelectric.org that contains a list of available equipment, links to equipment reviews and comparison videos, a directory for contractors in Vermont offering E-mowing services, and links to utility rebates.

Lake Iroquois Association News

FROM PRESS RELEASE

Hooray! We Have 8 Ice-Out Winners!

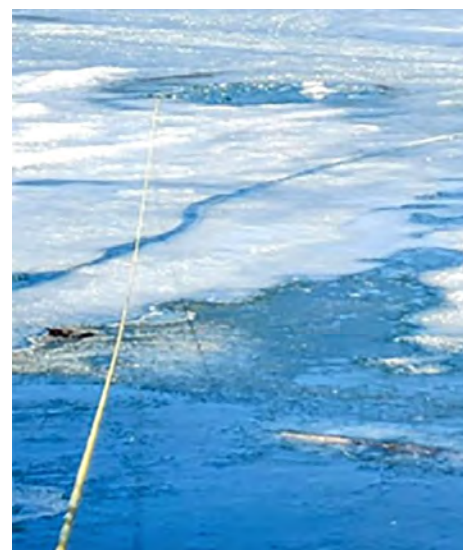
The Lake Iroquois Association (LIA) wishes to congratulate the eight winning ticket holders in the 2023 Ice-Out Challenge. The eight winners who selected the identical date and time will equally share 50 percent of the Ice-Out proceeds after expenses. The other 50 percent goes to improve the water quality of the lake, and to protect the lake from invasive aquatic plant species.

Lily Brennan, Jane Geider, Kimberly Hopwood, Robert Kenny, and Brian Washburn of Hinesburg, Sandra Labounty of Huntington, and Austin Savage of Essex Junction are among the 2023 Ice-Out winners. One additional winner is from Williston.

This year's Ice-Out Challenge came to an end on April 7, 2023, at 1:58 p.m. when the pallet on the ice of Lake Iroquois flipped, the concrete block went into the cold lake water, and stopped the clock. This year's Ice-Out date of April 7 is five days later than last year's Ice-Out date of April 2, 2022.

Participants in the Lake Iroquois Ice-Out Challenge paid \$1 per ticket to guess the date and time a concrete block mounted on a pallet would break through the ice on Lake Iroquois. The Lake Iroquois Association would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to all contest participants. We look forward to next year's Ice-Out Challenge, and hope you plan to participate again.

The Lake Iroquois Association is a volunteer organization whose "sole purpose is to maintain and enhance healthy ecosystems and



The pallet is under the ice on April 7, 2023. The rope leads to the clock on shore.

appropriate public uses of Lake Iroquois and those aspects of its watershed which impact on the health and well-being of the lake." (LIA Bylaws)

If you are interested in learning more about the Lake Iroquois Association's efforts, or would like to get involved with any of LIA's projects, please visit our website at lakeiroquois.org or send an e-mail to lakeiroquoisassociation@gmail.com. You can also find historical ice-out dates on Lake Iroquois on our website at: lakeiroquois.org/enjoying/ice-out-dates.

Watershed Partners Unite to Develop Watershed Action Plan

The Winooski Natural Resources Conservation District (WNRCD) has been awarded funds through the Lake Champlain Basin Program to develop a Watershed Action Plan for Lake Iroquois and the Patrick Brook watershed. WNRCD has partnered with Lake Iroquois Association (LIA), Lewis Creek Association (LCA) and water resources engineers from SLR to identify and address areas where stormwater runoff and phosphorus pollution could be improved to benefit water quality, wildlife habitat, and climate change resilience.

Throughout spring and summer 2023, partners will be conducting road and stream assessments to identify projects. The goal of these assessments is to identify areas where erosion, limited trees

next to streams, or road runoff/culverts could be contributing pollutants like phosphorus to our streams and lakes, which then flow on to the LaPlatte River and Lake Champlain. Pollutants like phosphorus can contribute to algal and cyanobacteria blooms, impacting aquatic life and human health.

In addition to these road and stream assessments, WNRCD has a goal to complete Lake Wise (lakefront) or Storm Smart (riparian or upland) assessments on at least ten private properties. Staff visit a property and generate a collection of clean water best management practice recommendations (such as rain gardens, buffer plantings, and driveway water bars) that keep water on site, spread it out, and sink it into the ground. These assessments are entirely voluntary.

If you own property on a lakefront and wish to sign up for a free Lake Wise assessment, sign up at bit.ly/lake-wise. If you own upland property in the Lake Iroquois or Patrick Brook watershed, sign up for a free Storm Smart assessment at bit.ly/storm-smart.

Lake Iroquois Organizations Receive Grant to Improve Water Quality and Access to Recreation

The Lake Iroquois Association (LIA), a nonprofit organization focused on the health and well-being of Lake Iroquois, and the Lake Iroquois Recreation District (LIRD), a union municipal district comprised of the four towns of Williston, Hinesburg, Richmond, and St. George, have received a \$320,000 federal grant as part of fiscal year 2023 Congressionally Directed Spending. This grant will allow remediation of a road that has been a major contributor of polluted runoff into the lake. Implementation of this plan will install stormwater best management practices on Beebe Lane, which will prevent flooding and road washouts, reduce pollutants from entering the lake, and improve water quality. The project will also enhance public access to recreational opportunities. Beebe Lane serves as the access road to the 157-acre LIRD property at the north end of

Lake Iroquois and provides access to the Vermont Fish and Wildlife boat launch, LIRD public access beach, and a nearly two-mile loop of walking trails.

Shelburne Age Well Grab and Go Meal – May 9

FROM PRESS RELEASE

Age Well and St. Catherine of Siena Parish in Shelburne are teaming up to provide a meal to go for anyone age 60 and older on Tuesday, May 9. The meal will be available for pick up in the parking lot at 72 Church St., Shelburne, from 11 a.m. until noon. These meals are available for all 60 or older. These meals are nutritious and delicious.

The menu is lasagna roll-up with tomato marinara meat sauce, vege-

table blend, wheat bread, strawberry cake, and milk.

To order a meal: please contact Kathleen by Wednesday, May 3. Email: (preferred) agewellsteath@gmail.com, Phone: 802-503-1107

If this is a first-time order, please provide: name, address, phone number, and date of birth.

If you haven't yet filled out a 2022 Congregate Meal Registration, please bring a completed registration form with you or send one to: Age Well; 875 Roosevelt Highway, Ste. 210; Colchester, VT 05446. We will have forms on hand for you to fill out at meal pick-up.

An Age Well representative will be available to obtain the suggested \$5 donation restaurant tickets to dine at one of the participating restaurants. More information on this program can be located on the Age Well site at agewellvt.org.



Planning any spring planting or other digging projects?

If you plan to do any type of digging on your property, **you or your contractor must contact Dig Safe™ at 811** at least 48 hours prior to digging.

Before the work begins, Dig Safe will notify member utilities, who will then ensure the locations of buried facilities they own are clearly marked. Please insist that any work within 18 inches of the marked lines be done by hand.

How to Detect a Gas Leak

Smell: Natural gas is normally odorless. A distinctive, pungent odor, similar to rotten eggs, is added so that you will recognize it quickly.

Sight: You may see a white cloud, mist, fog, bubbles in standing water, or blowing dust. You may also see vegetation that appears to be dead or dying.

Sound: You may hear an unusual noise like a roaring, hissing, or whistling.

If you suspect a leak:

Move immediately to a safe location. Call VGS at 800-639-8081 or call 911 with the exact location. Do not smoke or operate electrical switches or appliances. These items may produce a spark that might result in a dangerous condition.

Do not assume someone else will report the condition.



Beekeeping Basics starts on May 16

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OUTDOORS

Hinesburg Conservation Commission Nature Walks

BY THE HINESBURG CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Spring Ephemerals Walk with Botanist and Ecologist Liz Thompson

Saturday, April 29, 10 a.m.-noon at LaPlatte Headwaters Town Forest. Parking at Gilman Road parking lot.

Join Liz Thompson and Hinesburg Conservation Commission for a morning walk through LaPlatte Headwaters Town Forest where we will appreciate and identify spring's first wildflowers. Please dress for the weather. Parking at Gilman Road lot. Event is free but donations to Hinesburg Land Trust are welcome.

Liz Thompson is a conservation

ecologist and botanist living in Jericho, Vermont. She co-authored *Wetland, Woodland, Wildland, A Guide to the Natural Communities of Vermont*. For 20 years she taught field botany and ecology at the University of Vermont. Liz's current favorite pastime is walking in nature with a camera, finding the beauty in small and ordinary things.

Birding at Geprags Park with Audubon Wildlife Biologist Mark LaBarr

Saturday, May 20, 9-11 a.m. Geprags Park

Come spend a morning with the Hinesburg Conservation Commission and Mark LaBarr of Audubon Vermont. Mark will teach us how to spot and identify important shrubland birds including golden-winged and blue-winged warbler. We will also learn about the work done in Geprags Park to restore habitat for these amazing birds and what you can do on your own property to create better



Nature walk Saturday, April 29

habitat for these important species. This event is free but donations to Audubon Vermont are welcome.

What is Succession?

BY ETHAN TAPPER, CHITTENDEN COUNTY FORESTER

Forests are dynamic communities, defined and enriched by change. As forests change, they tend to follow a pattern called succession: a series of developmental stages, each of which follows, or succeeds, the last.

Succession begins following a large-scale – or catastrophic – disturbance. As the forest regenerates, it enters a stage known as stand initiation, becoming an early-successional forest. Early-successional forests are defined by an incredible diversity of trees as well as a variety of shrubs and plants which provide habitat for wildlife species from pollinators to birds, bats and black bears.

After 20-30 years, trees rise above the shrubs and the plants of the early-successional forest. As these trees grow, their crowns knit together and the canopy closes, casting the understory in deep shade. The forest enters stem exclusion, a stage of succession characterized by a single generation of trees engaged in intense competition with one another.

Depending on the species that comprise this initial generation of trees, stem exclusion can last anywhere from around twenty years to well over a century. As the trees in the forest's overstory get older and taller, and as they begin to decline and die, light is finally allowed to reach the forest floor again. A new generation of trees, usually of more shade-tolerant species, establishes in the understory, marking the be-



"Forests are dynamic communities, defined and enriched by change"

ginning of the understory re-initiation stage.

Following understory re-initiation, the forest slowly and inevitably goes haywire. Through tree mortality and natural disturbances, generations of trees establish and grow, and the forest reshapes itself again and again. Over time, the forest becomes diverse and complex, with many different sizes and ages of trees, some large, old trees and a patchy, irregular canopy. Over decades – but more commonly centuries – the forest passes into late-succession, a stage of forest development which is sometimes called old growth.

In truth, succession is not a straight line – it is a cycle that forests pass through again and again, with many detours and false-starts along the way. While it is tempting to think of late-successional forests as the endpoint, pinnacle or climax of forest development, each stage of succession is normal and natural. Over millennia, the tens of thousands of species that comprise our forest communities have adapted to every stage of forest development, from early-succession to late-succession. A vibrant and resilient landscape is not a monolith, but rather a diverse mosaic of forests of all different ages and types and expressions. Each stage of succession is vital, and none is a means to an end.

As a result of Vermont's land use history, nearly all our forests are just 60-100 years old, still at the early stages of succession. As they try to move forward, and to regain the diversity and complexity that once defined them, forests are confronted with an array of threats and stressors – including non-native invasive plants, pests and pathogens, the loss or functional-loss of native species, altered disturbance regimes, and a climate which is changing in unpredictable ways – all of which threaten forests' vitality, their biodiversity, and their resilience. As comforting as it would be to believe that forests will naturally proceed down the road of succession, it is increasingly clear

that we will not protect our forests and our biodiversity solely through inaction. We cannot afford to do nothing.

So, what can we do? There is no single solution. Protecting existing old growth forests and allowing some forests to be relatively unmanaged are important tools in our tool kit, but will not address all of these issues. We must take radical action, both within individual forests and across our landscape, to simultaneously address the legacies of the past, the realities of the present and the uncertainty of the future. Forest management can help forests build diversity, complexity and resilience and create habitats – like early-successional forests – for wildlife species of concern. None of these strategies will be effective unless we also act to control threats and stressors like climate change, non-native invasive plants, deer overabundance, deforestation and forest fragmentation.

As always, forests challenge us to embrace nuance and complexity, to form a more expansive vision of what a forest is and what it means to care for it. As forest stewards, our job is not just to protect the trees in our forests but to protect and to celebrate how they change.

Ethan Tapper is the Chittenden County Forester for the Vermont Dept. of Forests, Parks and Recreation. See what he's been up to, check out his YouTube channel, sign up for his eNews and read articles he's written at linktr.ee/ChittendenCountyForester.

Vermonters Invited to Help Search for Butterflies

FROM THE VERMONT CENTER FOR ECOSTUDIES PRESS RELEASE

Vermonters now have another excuse to get outside on sunny days: to join a statewide survey of the most angelic insects – butterflies. The Vermont Center for Ecostudies (VCE) is recruiting volunteers to help search fields and fens, mountains and meadows, and even their own backyards to help document the status of Vermont's butterflies.

Butterflies were largely a mystery in Vermont before hundreds of volunteer community scientists helped complete the first Vermont Butterfly Atlas (2002-2007), heralding a new era for their conservation. Twenty years later, the second atlas is poised to detect changes in butterfly populations and provide essential information for environmental management and policy.

"The 2nd Vermont Butterfly Atlas **continued on page 18**

SERVICE DIRECTORY

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► **Outdoors**

continued from page 17

is a rare opportunity for us to understand long-term trends in butterfly populations and prescribe conservation actions to both keep common species common and reverse the trends for those in trouble,” said Kent McFarland, VCE biologist and director of the atlas.

The Vermont Butterfly Atlas is a five-year survey completed every 20 years to document the abundance, distribution, and conservation status of butterflies across Vermont with the help of volunteer community scientists. It is part of a network of atlases across the Northeast, spanning from Connecticut through the Canadian Maritimes, and gives a landscape view of the butterfly fauna invaluable for conservation and a priceless snapshot for future comparisons. Vermont is poised to be the first state or province in the region to repeat a butterfly atlas 20 years later.

Most anyone with a sharp eye can contribute. Everyone knows what a butterfly looks like, and many carry a digital camera at all times—their

smartphones. With a bit of training, it's easy to watch butterflies and report results to the Vermont Butterfly Atlas at e-Butterfly.org, a worldwide butterfly reporting system built by VCE, the Montreal Space for Life, and other partners. There is even a built-in computer vision system to help users identify the butterflies in their images.

“We're excited to offer training sessions for new participants at butterfly hotspots across the state as well as online workshops on butterfly atlasing,” said Nathaniel Sharp, VCE biologist and atlas coordinator. “While there are tons of great field guides and online resources listed on our website, getting outside searching for butterflies is the best way to meet other butterfly lovers, learn how to identify our local species, and get motivated to document the butterflies in your neighborhood and beyond.”

Vermont is home to more than 100 butterfly species, with several new species discovered by butterfly watchers since the last butterfly atlas, including North America's largest butterfly, the Eastern Giant Swallowtail.

“Name a color, and you'll find it on a butterfly's wing,” McFarland said. “Yet butterflies can also tell us a lot about the state of Vermont's environment under the forces of changing land use practices, climate change, and other human-induced pressures.”

Financial support for the atlas is provided by the Vermont Department of Fish & Wildlife – State Wildlife Grant, Charles E. & Edna T. Brundage Foundation, Davis Conservation Foundation, the Park Foundation, and individual supporters and donors of the Vermont Center for Ecostudies.

To learn more and join the survey, visit tinyurl.com/VTButterfly.

ARTS & LEISURE

Vermont Humanities – Events and Recordings

FROM PRESS RELEASE

First Wednesdays events are free talks held at public libraries around Vermont on the first Wednesday of the month, October through May. A listing of upcoming events can be found at vermonthumanities.org/programs/attend/first-wednesdays.

Events are video recorded for viewing by people who are unable to attend in person. Recordings can be seen at vermonthumanities.org/programs/watch.

Upcoming First Wednesdays Events

If you are unable to attend in person, check the website for videos. Note that it can sometimes take several weeks for a recorded talk to be made available for viewing after the event.

May 3 – Birding Her-story: The Lost Legacy of Women in Ornithology
7 p.m. **Hsley Public Library, Middlebury**

“Bird Diva” Bridget Butler believes that there's a bit of bias in the birding world when it comes to females. In this presentation, she examines new scientific studies on female birds, shares stories of the “Mothers of Ornithology,” and reflects on current research about gender and birding.

May 3 – Civil War, Emancipation, Reconstruction and America's National Parks
7 p.m. **Brownell Library, Essex Junction**

Central Park and Yosemite Valley became public parks during the tumultuous years before and during the Civil War. UVM historian and former National Park Service superintendent Rolf Diamant explains how anti-slavery activism, war, and the remaking of the federal government gave rise to the American public park and the very concept of national parks.

May 3 – We Are All Fast-Food Workers Now
7 p.m. **Brooks Memorial Library, Brattleboro**

Labor historian Annelise Orleck provides a close look at globalization and its costs from the perspective of low-wage workers themselves—berry pickers, fast-food servers, garment workers, cashiers, hotel housekeepers, home health care aides, and even adjunct professors—who are fighting for respect, safety, and a living wage.

May 3 – When the Bicycle Came to Vermont
7 p.m. **Manchester Community Library**

UVM professor Luis Vivanco explores the fascinating early history of the bicycle in Vermont, an invention that generated widespread curiosity when it arrived here in the 1880s. Over the next decade, enthusiasm exploded statewide as bicycles became safer, women took to the wheel, roads improved, and retailers developed novel advertising techniques to draw in buyers.

About Vermont Humanities:

A statewide nonprofit organization founded in 1974, Vermont Humanities seeks to engage all Vermonters in the world of ideas, foster a culture of thoughtfulness, and inspire a lifelong love of reading and learning.

A state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities, Vermont Humanities believes that engagement with the world of ideas, in interaction with others, contributes uniquely to richer lives, stronger communities, a more humane society, and a better world.

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WHAT THE HECK?

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Mona Lisad



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Take a guess at hinesburgrecord.org/what-the-heck/ and have a chance to WIN A \$25 PRIZE!

PEOPLE



Scout Troop 690, adult leaders, and friends with the completed benches.

Eagle Project – Dugout Benches

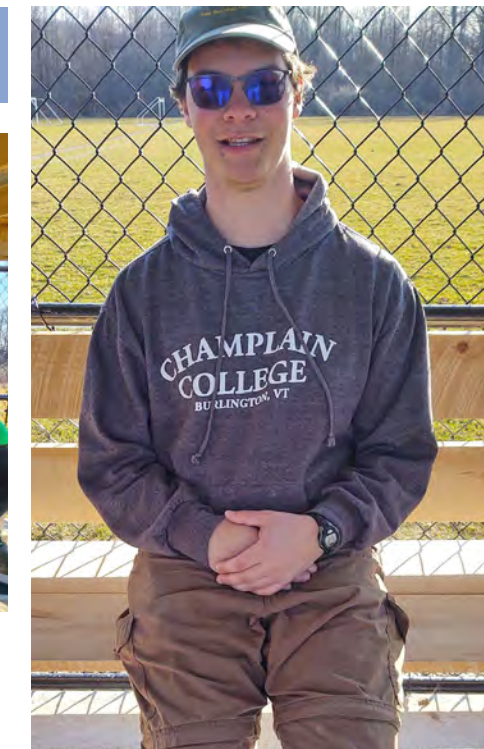
BY ERIC SPIVAK

During the winter, Ronald Spivak, a Scout with Hinesburg Troop 690, started work on his Eagle project. He saw a need for benches for the Bissonette Field dugouts and went to work to fulfill the need.

Over the next two months, Ronald worked on blueprints for a bench that would be sturdy and easy to build. Once he was pleased with his design, he completed the Eagle project proposal paperwork and presented it to the Troop Committee and Hinesburg Recreation Department, both of which approved the project. The proposal was then submitted to Green Mountain Council for approval.

On Saturday, April 8, members of Scout Troop 690, adult leaders, and friends gathered for construction. By late afternoon, the lumber had been cut, sanded, and six benches had been built, waterproofed, and moved to the Bissonette Field dugouts.

Ronald would like to thank Lantman's Market, Good Times



Hinesburg Boy Scout Ronald Spivak

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OBITUARIES

Charles G. “Chip” Foutz Jr.

Charles “Chip” G. Foutz Jr., 68, of Williston died on March 29, 2023, from complications of a 10-year battle with alcoholism. He was a great man, with a terrible disease.

Chip was born on Dec. 27, 1954, to Charles Sr. and Jean (Robertson) Foutz in Attleboro, Massachusetts.

He graduated from Westfield State College (MA) with a degree in music education – always a passion – and went on to a short career in restaurant management, and a very long career in construction management. He had moved his family to Vermont in 1986 and loved his adopted state. He was a steadfast supervisor with Homestead Design Inc., and later his own small construction business. Chip was always a very hard worker.

Chip raised his family in Hinesburg, where he thrived as a youth sports coach and a Boy Scout leader. He supported a number of nonprofit building organizations, and was particularly passionate about his work with Green Mountain. He loved the mountains, spending several years in Vail, Colorado, in his 20s and meeting Cathy there. But his happiest days were with his sons, watching his beloved Boston sports teams, playing seemingly every sport, going fishing, playing music, and helping neighbors from his garage workshop. He loved using his knowledge for projects like set-building for the Hinesburg Community School plays and the press box for the Champlain Valley Union High School football field – and he was a special grill-master at early games. Chip truly was a “do anything for anyone” person, took pride in helping others, and being a great example for his sons.

He is survived by three sons whom he loved dearly and was



Charles G. “Chip” Foutz Jr.

extremely proud of: Zachary of South Burlington; Peter, his wife Ashley, and their daughters Hallie and Natalie of Williston, and Sam and his girlfriend Cami Drouin-Allaire of Raleigh, North Carolina. He also leaves his sister Robin and her husband Skip Lagerquist of Bethlehem, New Hampshire, his brother Randy of Hanksville, Utah, and a number of cousins, nieces, nephews, great-nephews, and former in-laws. He was long-married to and later divorced from Cathy (Chamberlin) Foutz of South Burlington, who continued to help support him in his later years of illness. He was predeceased by his parents, a young sister Jill, and his brother Keith “Kit” Foutz.

A memorial service was held at the United Church of Hinesburg on Saturday, April 15.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to Green Mountain Habitat for Humanity, 400 Cornerstone Dr. Suite 315, Williston, VT 05495.

COMMENTARY

The Three-Legged Frog False Alarm

BY ROGER DONEGAN

By March we're sure spring is coming however excruciatingly slow. Sugar makers like it that way. In the warmer days of April we hear peepers and anticipate one or hopefully several rainy spring nights when legions of frogs and toads cross roadways en masse. Reasonably, drivers on black top roads can avoid them as the scattered points of light from their little iridescent under bellies shine in the headlights like tiny traffic cones.

But once upon a time the sky was falling.

The reemergence of the amphibians causes me to ponder what ever happened to three-legged frogs. From 1996 into the early years of the new millennium, media firestorms of graphic images, symposiums held, and near panic by nature lovers was the norm. Environmental groups put out clarion calls, rallied their troops, and membership surged. It was almost “call your representative while there's still time” sort of period. Media coverage beat the issue to death for years which eventually dwindled to nothing followed by dead silence. I always thought the silence left the public hanging. Was one supposed to assume no more news meant good news?

My search for answers went high and low.

Three-legged frogs are still with us. The cause of frog “malformations,” or frogs with deformed or truncated limbs, was determined by one adept scientist who ultimately attributed the abnormalities to “selective predation” of tadpoles by dragonfly nymphs in the aquatic phase of their own life cycle. A predator and denizen of lakes and ponds, dragonfly nymphs will seize the body of a tadpole then roll it until it can manage to surgically snip off a tender hind limb with its mandibles. The hypothesis still stands, no one refuted this finding, however no signs of relief appeared in the press, no “all clear” sign given, and that's been the last word on the issue since 2009. Long furrows of multi-disciplinary research were hoed to this point plowed with millions of dollars of research money.

The December 1998 “Frogs in a Fix: Frog Malformities in Vermont,” as an example, by the NE Natural Resource Center, intoned the often misused one liner

that frogs were the “canary in the coal-mine.” The expression becomes meaningless when the long list of suspected factors of amphibian malformities is given to include retinoids, toxic contamination, UV radiation, naturally occurring parasites and plant toxins, increased frog survey documentation, and misidentified malformities caused by predation. Frogs in general are not good indicator species unless test specificity applies. In addition, frogs are organisms that metamorphose several times under variable conditions in water on the way to adulthood. Where should a researcher begin? The caged “canary in the coal-mine” analogy simply does not work.

If the 1998 “Frogs in a Fix: Frog Malformities in Vermont” was meant to be prospective or a road map, it prematurely referred to “hot spots” in the lowland areas of the state within the Lake Champlain Basin which did not include immediate waters of Lake Champlain. Also, the “Malformed Frogs in Vermont” (in late summer 1996/1997) were flat-out stated not to be caused by viruses, bacteria, or parasites, and skeletal examinations ruled out trauma or disease. But FETAX, a development toxicity screening test, pointed to “something in the water,” maybe inhibiting thyroid activity in the frogs. Also, natural estrogenic substances (plant materials) were found in sediment samples. It's Appendix A – Methodology, recommended collecting 50 frogs or more as one sample size to survey per site.

A June 19, 2003, article in the *New York Times* reported “EPA Finds Link Between Herbicide, Frog Deformities.” The herbicide of focus was atrazine, the most widely used herbicide in the U.S., but in typical EPA double-speak fashion the article stated “scientists cautioned that the results from studies of atrazine had not been consistent and that it was not clear at what levels it had reproducible effects.”

A July 2, 2007, article, “Study Adds Twist to Deformity Mystery” in the *Boston Globe*, carried the subtitle Parasites Not to Blame. This article reported on a paper in the *Journal of EcoHealth* which argued a parasitic invasion can't explain the plague that had hit ponds in Vermont's Lake Champlain Basin. The paper was said to be part of a growing consensus among amphibian biologists that the mutant frog conundrum is too complex to be pegged to a single cause. A prelude to his 2009 work defining the selective predation of tadpoles by dragonfly nymphs, the paper quoted Professor Stanley Sessions

at Hartwick College, “frogs, like people, become stressed in overcrowded conditions.” He and student researchers had “thousands of tadpoles in tanks and watched as they began attacking each other and biting one another's limbs.” “We have met the enemy and it is us,” he said.

The executive summary of Amphibian Malformations in Lake Champlain Basin found online states 10,000 leopard frogs (*Rana pipiens*) were collected, examined and found to have hind limb truncations in more than 20 sites in the Lake Champlain Basin, meaning in ponds, bogs, and one river in the watershed. Two back-to-back statements hinge on water level. “Perhaps one of the most significant variables of the breeding success and development of leopard frogs in the Lake Champlain lowlands is the fluctuating water levels...” and “the annual variability in abnormalities we have observed may very well be connected to these fluctuating water levels.”

Near the end of this summary, “Malformation vs. Deformation,” is the admission “even within the volume of this report we recognize that there are many biotic factors such as high water temperatures or deficient ionic concentrations that can play a role in malformations.”

Professor Sessions studied amphibians for more than 20 years leading up to the article “Prof Finds New Cause for Warped Frogs,” July 6, 2009, *The Daily Star* (Oneonta, N.Y.), updated July 30, 2014. In earlier studies Sessions determined frog deformities with extra limbs were caused by parasitic flatworms. It was the more recent study, in conjunction with British collaborator Ballengee, that revealed dragonfly nymph taking bites of tadpoles. Sheared of one or two hind limbs a tadpole can still metamorphose into an adult frog sustained in part by the assimilation of the shrinking tail into the body.



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RELIGION

Community Alliance Church

Pastor: Scott Mansfield
802-482-2132 • hinesburgema.org
info@hinesburgema.org

Location and Mailing Address:

190 Pond Road, Hinesburg (overlooking CVUHS soccer fields)

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

Middle School and High School Youth Group: Meets most Sundays for breakfast at 9 a.m. before the morning service plus lots of special events and outings. This is a great time to meet new friends, hang out and talk about real life and our place in this world. Contact Brandon and Mary Kate at **info@hinesburgema.org** for more information.

Weekday Life Groups and Bible Studies:

Various times, days, and locations throughout the week.

For more information, please contact the church at 802-482-2132 or visit **hinesburgema.org**.

Lighthouse Baptist Church

Pastor: Reverend Ed Hart
802-482-2588 • LBCvt.homestead.com
lighthousevt@aim.com

Location: Hinesburg Village Center, 90 Mechanicsville Road

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 288

Regular Services:
Sunday Worship Service: 10:30 a.m. Lunchtime 11:40-12:20 p.m. Bible Study until 1:00 p.m. No evening service

Wednesday: 7 p.m. Bible Study and Prayer Meeting

All services live-streamed on Facebook Live (Lighthouse Baptist homepage)



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Saint Jude the Apostle Catholic Church

Pastor: Fr. James Zuccaro
802-425-2253 • stjudevt.org
stjude@gmavt.net

Location: 10759 Route 116, Hinesburg

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 69, Hinesburg, VT 05461

Pastor's Mailing Address:

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

Hinesburg Rectory: 802-482-2290,
stjude@vermontcatholic.org

P. O. Box 69, Hinesburg 05461 (10759 Route 116)

Parish Secretary: Marie Cookson, Rectory, 802-482-2290,
mcookson@vermontcatholic.org

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

Parish Council Chair: Dennis Casey, 802-453-4054

Finance Council Chair: William Bessette, 678-878-5910

Buildings and Grounds

Supervisor: Contact parish office.

Weekend Masses:

Saturday, 4:30 p.m.; Sunday: 9:30 a.m., St. Jude Church, Hinesburg; Sunday: 8 a.m. and 11 a.m., Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church, Charlotte

Weekday Masses:

Monday & Friday at 8:30 a.m. at St. Jude's; Wednesday at 8:30 a.m. at Our Lady of Mount Carmel.

Sacrament of Baptism: Call the Pastor for appointment

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Tuesday following the 5:15 p.m. Mass at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church; Saturday at 4 p.m. and Friday following the 8 a.m. Mass 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, 802-482-2290

Religious Education Coordinator: Marie Cookson, 802-482-2290

Religious Education (CCD): The first Sunday of each month following the 9:30 a.m. Mass. Students and parents meet each month.

Please call Marie at 802-482-2290 (Parish Office).

Eucharistic Adoration: Eucharistic Adoration is held the first Friday of each month following the 8:30 a.m. Mass at St. Jude's and every Tuesday following the 5:15 p.m. Mass at Our Lady of Mount Carmel.

Food Shelf Weekend: Every first Saturday and Sunday of the month. 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 Bingo. Seniors, you are invited to a morning of free bingo at St. Jude's from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m. on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of every month. Reservations are required by the Wednesday before. **Due to the increased numbers of COVID 19 in our area, we ask that everyone again wear a mask while at Senior Bingo. Free masks will be available if you need one. If you have symptoms, have been recently exposed and/or are feeling ill, please stay home. Thank you!!** If you are a newcomer to our event, please call the week before that you are attending, so that enough Grab and Go Meals can be ordered. You will be given a packaged complete meal to take home, provided by Age Well. **The suggested donation is \$5.00 per meal due to pandemic funding coming to an end.** Bingo prizes will be provided by St. Jude's. Contact Kathy and Ted Barrett at 453-3087 (leave a message) or email to **tedbarrett79@gmail.com** for reservations.

United Church of Hinesburg

An Open, Welcoming, Affirming and Reconciling Church

Pastor: Rev. Jared Hamilton
802-482-3352 • ueofh.org
unitedchurch@gmavt.net

Location: 10580 Route 116

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 39

Office Hours: Monday and Wednesday, 9 a.m. to noon, and by appointment.

appointment.

Sunday Worship Service: 10 a.m.

Senior Meals: Second Friday of the month; cost \$5. Contact Judy Clark, 802-453-2121.

Sunday School: Nursery; children's programs for ages Kindergarten through 5th grade.

Williston Federated Church

United Church of Christ and United Methodist Church

An Open and Affirming Reconciling Congregation

Minister: Rev. Paul Eyer
802-878-5792 • steeple.org
WillistonFederatedChurch@gmail.com

Location and Mailing Address:

44 North Williston Road, Williston VT 05495

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

Rector: Rev. Dr. Fred Moser

802-985-2269 • trinityshelburne.org
office@trinityshelburne.org

Location and Mailing Address:

5171 Shelburne Rd., Shelburne, VT 05482

Worship service and Sunday School:

Sunday mornings at 9:30 a.m. – hybrid service, in person and online (go to **trinityshelburne.org** for instructions on accessing Zoom link for online attendance).

All Souls Interfaith Gathering

Pastor: Rev. Don Chatfield

802-985-3819 • allsoulsinterfaith.org

dchatfield@allsoulsinterfaith.org

Location: 291 Bostwick Farm Rd., Shelburne, VT 05482

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 1124, Shelburne, Vermont 05482

Services:

Sunday 9 a.m.: Morning Meditation

Sunday 5 p.m.: Music & Spirit Service

Family Business Turns 100

continued from page 24

tinual projects for several commercial businesses; and even making snowboard jumps and ramps for the World Cup in Killington for several years. During a recent visit, they were working on shade structures for cows and sheep. Any custom metal fabrication you can come up with, they can build. Today the tools are welders, shears, hydraulic brakes, lathes, milling machines and a paint room.

The second generation, like their parents, continued to live in town and raise their families here. Bernard died in 2004 and Victor in 2014, ending another era at the body shop.

The shop is now owned and operated by some of the third generation



Giroux Body Shop circ. 1970

– Bob, Steve and David – and they all have sons working beside them, continuing the tradition and family business as it enters its second millennium.

After 100 years of growing and adapting to contemporary community needs from horseshoes and wagon wheels to sophisticated modern vehicles and equipment, Giroux Body Shop is still the place to get stuff made and fixed.



J.P., center, and Vic, left, repairing wagon wheel 1939

Ad and news deadline is May 11 for the next issue. Publication date is May 25. Go to **hinesburgrecord.org** or call **802-999-2410** for more information.

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Big Truck Day

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Don't worry – the event will be horn-free from 10 a.m. until 1 p.m.

Cost: \$5 per person, under 12 months free, special \$20 household rate.

Proceeds from the event benefit the Hinesburg Nursery School, a non-profit state-licensed cooperative preschool for children ages 3-5.



Big Truck Day is May 13

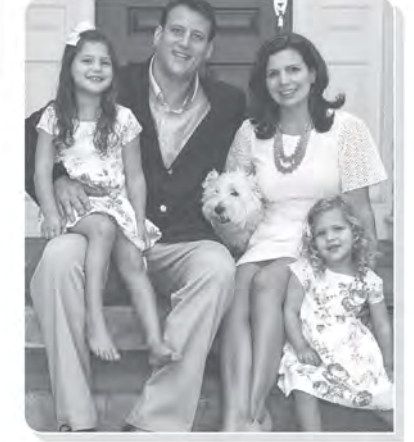
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BACK STORIES

of Hinesburg

Giroux Body Shop Family Business Turns 100

1923-2023

BY MARY JO BRACE

From a blacksmith shop in the 1920s to a metal fabrication shop today, Giroux Body Shop has gone through many changes over the last 100 years – including the building, the tools, the projects and which generation is in charge.

Joseph Paul (J.P.) Giroux was born in 1896 in Ontario, Canada. He came to the U.S. around 1919 and began working as a blacksmith in Shelburne; that building was later moved to the Shelburne Museum.

Hermina Gervais was born in Quebec, Canada, in 1899. Her family moved to Vermont in 1916. She moved to Burlington around 1920, met and married J.P. After their marriage in 1922, J.P. began working at the Hinesburg blacksmith shop and the new couple moved here. According to his son Vic, J.P. had no interest in staying in Hinesburg, but when he had the opportunity to purchase the blacksmith shop and a house, he and Hermina chose to spend the rest of their lives here.

The Giroux's purchased the blacksmith shop in May of 1923 from J.N. and Fred S. Morrill, and renamed it J.P. Giroux. Their house, almost next door, was purchased later that year from Edson A. and Irene Owen and was where J.P. and

Hermina raised three sons: Victor, Ernest and Bernard.

In the early days using fire, hammers, tongs and anvils, the shop made and repaired wagon wheels, rims and other metal parts for wagons and carriages. Also built were sickles, plowshares, axes, horse-shoes and other agricultural implements. They would sharpen farm equipment as well as shoe horses and oxen. As motorized vehicles and farm equipment increased, demand for the blacksmith trade diminished and they had to adjust with the times.

The boys grew up working for their father; Victor went to Connecticut to attend machining school before he enlisted in the Army and Ernie the Navy. After the war, Victor and Bernard continued working with their dad while Ernie pursued other ventures. Bernard's wife June was entrusted with all the office work as soon as they were married. In 1956, Victor and Bernard were added as partners with their parents in what became known as J.P. Giroux Body Shop. In 1960, after J.P. suffered a stroke, he and Hermina sold their portion of the body shop to Victor and Bernard, who renamed Giroux Body Shop. J.P. died in September of 1961.

The original 2-story wooden structure, built in the early 1800s, was only a few cars-width off Route 116, even before the road was widened. Around 1970, the right-most side of what you see today was built and the original was taken



J.P. and Hermina on right 1920s



Third and fourth generations today

down. Over the years, there have been three additions and a recent remodel of the front.

By the 1950s the work they performed involved welding, vehicle body repair, and farm equipment repair, among other things. At this period in Hinesburg, there were around 50 working farms in Hinesburg alone. Vic and Bernard's sons all remember their first jobs at the shop making wooden hay wagons for all farmers in and around Hinesburg, with hardwood from Clifford Lumber. The last wagon ad in the *Burlington Free Press* was dated 1986.

For years now, their work has included any metal fabrication projects that can be dreamt up. These include car, trailer, and truck body repairs; working on firetrucks; con-

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Bernard and son Peter welding a sled

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

Hinesburg Community School is looking for Mentors! Mentors are distinct members of a team of caring adults who show up to spend an hour a week with a 5-8th grader during the school year.

Mentors bring with them a sense of shared fun, new experiences and great listening skills. Mentors bring encouragement and options for expanding a young person's regard for themselves and their world. By sharing yourself with your mentee you can inspire them to create a richer future for themselves. Contact Program Coordinator Livy Bulger at lbulger@cvsdvt.org or **802-482-6248** 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 **802-482-6096** 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 **802-642-5119** 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
- Planning Commission
- Recreation Commission
- Village Steering Committee

Check town web site hinesburg.org for the most current committee openings, descriptions and instructions on how to apply. For more information contact Joy Dubin Grossman (Assistant Town Manager) at **802-482-4207** or jdubingrossman@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.

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