

the HINESBURG Record

Hinesburg's
independent,
nonprofit,
community
newspaper

DECEMBER 2023

Hinesburg Fifth Grader Honored as Good Citizen

BY EMILY MARS RAYMOND,
TOTALLY BIASED
MOTHER OF OLIVER

This summer, 10-year-old **Oliver Raymond** completed the *Seven Days VT* Good Citizen Challenge. It involved 25 activities that helped him learn about and improve his community. Raymond finished the activities before the end of the summer and was honored on Nov. 2 at a reception at the Vermont Statehouse.

Eighty-six school-aged children in Vermont completed at least five of the Good Citizen Challenge tasks.

Raymond was one of three children in the state who completed all 25 tasks and was honored as a "Distinguished Citizen" at the reception. Raymond received a certificate and a gift card to Phoenix Books.

"Good citizens get involved, they pitch in, and they care," said Cathy Resmer, deputy editor of *Seven Days*, which sponsored the Good Citizen Challenge. Speakers at the Statehouse event included Resmer, Statehouse Curator David Schutz, Secretary of State Sarah Copeland Hanzas, and Vermont Public podcaster Jane Lindholm. "If you know what's happening in your community, you can be informed and make better decisions," Lindholm said.

Raymond's challenges included visiting a public memorial and finding out who it honors and why. He visited the Hinesburg Veterans Memorial and read the names of those who lost their lives fighting for our country.

Another challenge was to meet with an elected official. Raymond met with Hinesburg's State Representative Phil Pouech and

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Oliver Raymond with bag of trash he picked up at the Hinesburg Recreation Fields.

Chasing Water: Watercolor Abstracts

**Art Show Opening at
Carpenter Carse
Library December 2**

BY JOHN PENOYAR

On Saturday afternoon, Dec. 2, from 2-4 p.m., John Penoyar and Brad Stetler will host an opening for their joint art exhibition at the Carpenter Carse

Library in Hinesburg. Both came to painting, and watercolor in particular, later in life and have cultivated styles that are both abstract and loosely representational.

Hinesburg resident Brad Stetler paints watercolor landscapes, mostly abstract, partly imagination, with a dose of Vermont. What makes watercolor both fun and challenging for him is that it is a lot like corralling his 4-year-old grandsons: have a working idea about what you will do, then just go with the flow. He came to watercolor recently after leaving his left brain intensive law practice after 40

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Watercolors by John Penoyar and Brad Stetler

Hinesburg Artist Series Annual Holiday Concert December 10

BY DOTTY SCHNURE, HAS
BOARD MEMBER

One of the most popular events in the local community is coming Sunday, Dec. 10. The Hinesburg Artist Series will present its annual holiday concert, with performances at 2 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. at St. Jude Catholic Church in Hinesburg. The concert will feature the South County Chorus, and the Hinesburg Artist Series Orchestra under the direction of Rufus C. Patrick. The featured guest artist will be cellist

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**HS State
Soccer
Champs!**

Page 14:
Hinesburg
Players Shine
in CVU Boys'
Soccer Success



Food Shelf Donation

Page 15: \$2,000 donated by
Responsible Growth Hinesburg

Service Directory & Calendar

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

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BACK STORIES

of Hinesburg

Slow News is Good News!

Page 24: Why local news matters.

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TOWN NEWS

Deadline for our next Issue: January 11

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.

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Deadlines for 2024 & 2025

Advertisement/News	Publication Date
There is no publication date in December	
January 11, 2024.....	January 25, 2024
February 15.....	February 29
March 14.....	March 28
April 11.....	April 25
May 16.....	May 30
June 13.....	June 27
There is no publication date in July	
August 15.....	August 29
September 12.....	September 26
October 17.....	October 31
November 14.....	November 29
There is no publication date in December	
January 16, 2025.....	January 30, 2025

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Town Manager Update

BY TODD ODIT

Over the past two months the draft FY25 budget has been refined by staff. In December, the selectboard will take time to review it and seek public input. In its current form, it is estimated that the budget could result in a 4.5 - 5.5 percent increase in the town tax rate. The actual tax rate impact will depend on the final budget as well as the growth in the grand list. Please watch for communications from the selectboard and staff on how to provide input on the FY25 budget. The draft budget materials can be found on the town's website [hinesburg.org](https://www.hinesburg.org).

For the first time in many years the Highway Department is heading into the winter plow season fully staffed. This means we will have four plow trucks covering the town's 54.5 miles of road as opposed to the two plow trucks we have had in the recent past. Please have patience as drivers learn their routes. Similarly, a vacancy in the Water & Sewer/Buildings & Facilities Department has been filled, which means we will have a new employee plowing the sidewalks. They too will need time to learn their route. With these changes in staffing has come collaboration between the two departments that has had, and will continue to have, a positive impact on how we are able to serve the community.

LETTERS

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

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

Letters should be 500 words or less, and we reserve the right to edit based on available space. When possible, letters should focus on local issues. Other forums exist for statewide, national, and international issues.

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

The Wastewater Treatment Facility project continues to move forward. Following the rejection of all the construction bids last spring, we evaluated other solutions and have chosen to proceed with a revised version of the original project that will hopefully result in lower construction bids than last time. During that time, we also worked with the State to secure more funding. With the revised design and additional funding, the current estimate is that we will end up borrowing a total of \$8.1 million, which is a little more than \$1 million less than was estimated before the design changes and funding increase. Just recently, the Town was notified that the first loan for the project of \$2.4 million will be forgiven in its entirety. We were expecting a loan balance of at least \$275,000.

Work to stabilize the Town Hall roof is scheduled to begin in early December. The estimated total project cost, including the construction bid, contingency and project management, is \$375,000. The selectboard approved the use of ARPA funds for this project. Once complete, the large meeting room will be available for use. However, this project is not a long-term solution, since the rafters and roof do need to be replaced. Depending on the timing of the project, Town Meeting voting may be able to be held in this room.

As always, feel free to stop in the Town Hall to chat or call or email me at 802-482-4206 or todit@hinesburg.org.

Hinesburg Forum Encourages Mother-in-Law Apartments

BY EMILY MARS RAYMOND,
HINESBURG AFFORDABLE
HOUSING COMMITTEE

Twenty people packed into the United Church Parish Hall to attend a forum about accessory dwelling units on Oct. 26. Hinesburg Affordable Housing Committee member Rocky Martin started off the night by introducing the crowd to the concept of accessory dwelling units, also called ADUs or mother-in-law apartments. Martin built a 900-square-foot ADU on his property in 2017 so he could age in place while his son's family took over the larger primary residence.

Martin is not the only one interested in ADUs as a space to age at home. "It's my insurance policy so I can stay in my house for the entirety of

my life," said Hinesburg resident and selectboard member Merrily Lovell, who attended the forum.

An ADU is a small separate residence that provides for independent living and has facilities for eating, sleeping and bathing, Martin said. It can be a converted basement, a converted garage, an addition to a primary residence or a separate building on the property like Martin's. The smaller residence can provide rental income, house family members or a caregiver, and increase the housing supply.

The Hinesburg Affordable Housing Committee hosted the event in part to encourage increasing the town's housing supply, a need that was made apparent in Hinesburg's Housing Needs Assessment that was prepared by the Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission in June 2023. The report stated that "providing more housing supply overall will help balance increased demand and reduce costs (or prevent them from rising further)." The report also pointed out the decreasing household size in Hinesburg and stated the town could do better "by encouraging creation of smaller units to fill this gap in the housing stock." According to the report, the average household size in the town was 2.3 persons in 2021 while most of the town's homes are single family units with multiple bedrooms.

Hinesburg Zoning Administrator Jim Jarvis went over the town's regulations at the forum and said he permitted between 20-30 accessory dwelling units in the past year.

"If you have a great idea, run it by us," Jarvis said. "Maybe we can come up with a solution. We will walk you through the regulations and guide you through the process."

Jason Barnard, environmental consultant at Barnard and Gervais, tackled what is often the biggest hurdle for developers of accessory dwelling units: water and wastewater permitting. He said this process can be complicated by site factors such as soil type but is often easier if the site is connected to the town sewer.

"Town water and sewer is a piece of cake; It's sometimes as easy as signing a letter," Barnard said. Even for those who have their own septic systems and need to expand in order to build an ADU, the permitting process is necessary.

"You don't want your neighbor beating on the walls waiting for a shower," Barnard said.

Hinesburg builder Chuck Reiss of Reiss Building & Renovation shared examples of ADUs he has built in the past few years and some of the costs associated with them. Reiss advocated for environmentally friendly building structures that

have long-term cost savings.

"The state is moving us toward building homes that are more sustainable," he said. Reiss pointed out the state's incentives for heat pumps and solar and said that, combined with grant programs that encourage ADUs, building an efficient unit makes more sense than ever.

The Vermont Housing Improvement Program (VHIP) provides grants up to \$50,000 to encourage homeowners to increase the housing supply. The grant stipulates that the ADU must be rented for at least five years at the Fair Market Rent for Chittenden County which is currently \$1,238 for a one-bedroom unit, according to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

"There's been a lot of interest in ADUs in Hinesburg and the Affordable Housing Committee thought that it would be beneficial for residents to get their questions answered by the experts," said Carl Bohlen, chair of the Hinesburg Affordable Housing Committee. The forum was recorded and will soon be available on the committee's page on the town website.

"It was a great meeting, very informative and helpful to hear the various perspectives," said Michael Zebrowski, forum attendee and founder of Up End This, a company that designs and builds modular buildings in Johnson.

Selectboard Highlights

BY MERRILY LOVELL,
SELECTBOARD CHAIRPERSON

October 18

The selectboard expressed appreciation for the Groundbreaking Ceremony for Kelley's Field 2 that had been held earlier that day.

The selectboard agreed to execute a quit claim deed to give up the Town's option to purchase the pumphouse lot from James and Sara Donegan, previously owned by the Russell Farm Trust. The Town built a well and a pumphouse there in the 1950s, but the well is contaminated and has not been used by the Town in some time.

The selectboard heard an overview of the Fire Department budget from Chief Baker.

Wastewater Treatment Facility – Our engineers, Aldrich and Elliott, have been working for the past several months on ways to reduce the overall cost of the upgrade to our facility. They have revised plans that have reduced the cost by about \$1.5 million. Although Aldrich and Elliott has not charged the town for their work on the re-design, their subcontractors have

to be paid. For these costs, the selectboard approved the engineering amendment to cover expenses in the amount of \$124,000.

The selectboard approved the application for the State's Municipal Planning Grant, to be used to model future flooding and stormwater impacts from existing base data, higher rainfall estimates based on climate change projections, and the four large planned village area developments.

The selectboard agreed to designate \$32,000 from AARPA funds for site work engineering to begin developing the Town Common.

The selectboard approved a lease for the highway truck we had agreed to purchase at an earlier meeting.

The selectboard confirmed their support of the Transportation Alternatives Grants Application. If the grant money is received, it will be used for sidewalk repairs in the village area.

Town manager report:

The Solar Array on the landfill has been completed.

The Public Safety Survey group has submitted initial information and will meet with staff on Friday. Soon there will be an opportunity for public comment on the draft.

The Water and Sewer position has been filled. The only remaining vacancy is for the newly formed Director of Public Works position.

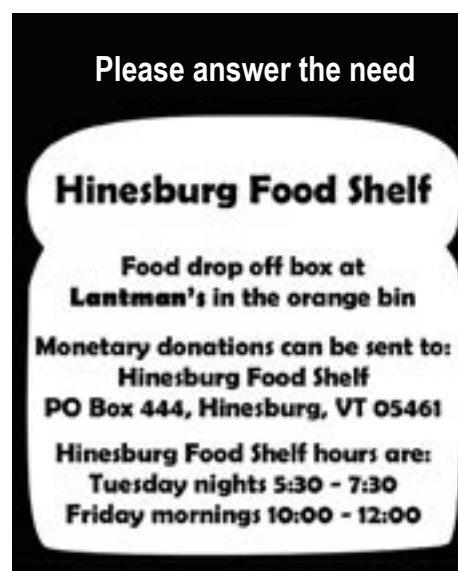
November 8

The selectboard approved liquor licenses for Dumb Luck Pub.

The selectboard met with town committees in our budget process of reviewing town expenses. At this meeting we met with the Town Forest Committee, the Trails Committee, the Town Common Committee, and the Cemetery Commission.

The selectboard discussed ways to get community input on our budget. More information will be forthcoming as ideas are developed.

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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
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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. and Weds. 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

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or call 802-999-2410.

► Town News

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November 15

The following department budgets were presented: Recreation, Highway, Police, Town Clerk/Elections, Planning and Zoning, Town Manager, and Buildings & Facilities. This was followed by a review and discussion of the FY25 budget. As the budget currently stands, there would be a 4.6 percent increase in the tax rate for FY25 which would equate to an increase of \$27.80 per \$100,000 of assessed value. Work will continue on the budget and further changes are likely before it is finalized in January.

The board discussed options for input from the community on budget issues. Dates for Q&A sessions at local restaurants will be posted on Front Porch Forum.

The board approved a 5-year loan from the Community Bank for the fire department mini-pumper that will be delivered in early 2024.

The board approved an amendment to the police chief contract with Richmond. Richmond will pay a flat monthly rate amounting to essentially 50 percent of the chief's salary and benefits.

The next selectboard meeting is at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, Dec. 6.

Meeting documents can be found here: hinesburg.org/selectboard/agenda/agenda-62.

LEGISLATIVE

Sanders Announces Fourteenth Annual State of the Union Essay Contest

FROM PRESS RELEASE

Sen. Bernie Sanders (I-Vt.), Chairman of the Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions (HELP) Committee, has launched his fourteenth annual State of the Union Essay Contest for Vermont students.

Each year, the President of the United States delivers the "State of the Union" address to a joint ses-

sion of Congress, which outlines priorities for the coming year. Sanders knows that great ideas can come from everyone – not just those in power – which is why he created the State of the Union Essay Contest to encourage young people to engage in the political process. The contest is an opportunity for Vermont high school students to describe a major issue facing our country and propose what they would do to solve it.

"The purpose of this contest is to get young people to start thinking about the many important issues that we deal with every day," said Sanders. "We are living in very tough times. There is no doubt about it. All people have the right to express their views and help shape

the direction in which our country goes – and that includes young people. I want to see our students be actively engaged, no matter where they stand on the issues."

The 250-500 word essay can be on any issue of national importance. A volunteer panel of Vermont educators will judge the essays on the students' ability to articulate an issue and propose a solution, without regard to the students' political views. Following the contest, Sanders will enter the essays of the finalists into the Congressional Record – the official archive of the U.S. Congress.

Over 5,700 students from high schools across Vermont have written essays in the past thirteen years about critically important issues, including climate change, racial justice, access to mental health care, immigration reform, the state of our democracy, and much, much more. Last year, August Howe from Twinfield Union School was selected as the winner from 382 submissions for their essay on misinformation.

The deadline for student essay submission is Jan. 9, 2024. More information can be found on Sanders' Senate website at sanders.senate.gov/stateoftheunion or by calling (800) 339-9834.

Welch, Sanders and Balint Introduce Bill to Support EMS Providers in Rural Vermont

FROM PRESS RELEASE

Bill Aligns Medicare Payments for EMS Providers with Community Needs, Ensures EMS Can Provide Essential Medical Care to Rural Communities

On November 8, Sen. Peter Welch (D-Vt.) and Sen. Bernie Sanders (I-Vt.) introduced the Emergency Medical Services Reimbursement for On-scene Care and Support (EMS ROCS) Act. Representative Becca Balint (VT-AL) introduced companion legislation in the House.

Currently, Medicare does not reimburse Emergency Medical Services (EMS) providers unless the patient is transported to a hospital.

However, EMS providers regularly deliver vital services on-scene when responding to 911 calls. In rural communities, the demand for EMS services for medical emergencies continues to increase—especially for Medicare beneficiaries, who make up about 40 percent of patients treated by EMS. This bill would provide Medicare reimbursement for care provided by EMS on-scene, when transportation to the hospital is not needed.

"Vermont's EMS providers are on the frontlines of medical emergencies. They should get reimbursed for that work. The EMS ROCS Act is a commonsense bill that requires our government to pay for vital EMS services, regardless of whether a person needs an ambulance ride to the hospital," said Sen. Welch. "This bill works to modernize Medicare to ensure that EMS are paid for their lifesaving work and can continue to provide essential medical services in Vermont and across rural America."

"Simply put, EMS are the first responders to some of people's most difficult moments, and often are the difference between life and death," said Sen. Sanders. "We must do everything we can to ensure they receive the support and resources they need and deserve, and that includes reimbursement for all the care they provide. Rural communities in Vermont and across the country depend on their essential services and this bill is a right step forward in helping EMS agencies get fairly compensated for these services—even when transportation to the hospital is not needed."

"EMS workers shoulder incredible responsibility on the front lines of Vermont's overdose crisis and in our pandemic recovery. Rural communities depend on these critical services to close care gaps. This bill will mean commonsense change to ensure EMS get properly reimbursed for their lifesaving work," said Rep. Becca Balint. "I'm proud to stand united with Senators Welch and Sanders to support our health care workers and

ensure access to high quality EMS care in every community."

"Ambulance services across Vermont and the country are stressed by workforce shortages, high inflation, and increased labor and fuel costs. On top of this, our EMS staff respond to calls that do not require transport to the hospital and receive no payment from Medicare," said James Finger, President of the Vermont Ambulance Association. "The Vermont Congressional Delegation's EMS ROCS Act would help recover costs during these hard times. We hope for quick passage, and greatly appreciate Senator Welch and the Delegation's support and introduction of this bill because EMS does indeed 'Rock!'"

Inflationary pressures, coupled with the increasing volume of services that are ineligible for reimbursement, pose a serious threat to EMS providers, particularly those serving rural and older communities. These challenges are forcing EMS providers to curtail service and, in some areas, shut down services entirely. In recent years, several EMS providers in rural Vermont have closed their doors due to mounting expenses, leaving local residents with fewer options for emergency services.

Read more on the EMS ROCS Act at tinyurl.com/EMSROCS.

POLICE

October 10: 11 a.m. A reported motor vehicle complaint involving aggressive driving on Shelburne Falls Road was investigated.

11:40 a.m. Found property was turned into the P.D. and later returned to the owner.

12:28 p.m. Officers took the report of a missing dog on Lewis Creek Road.

1:56 p.m. An officer assisted first responders with a medical emergency on Birchwood Drive.

October 11: 10:12 a.m. An officer responded to a two-car motor vehicle crash on Richmond Road.

October 12: 8:08 a.m. Officers responded to a single car motor vehicle crash on North Road.

8:33 a.m. Loose dogs were found and later returned to their owner.

12:53 p.m. Found property was turned into the P.D. and later returned to the owner.

1:11 p.m. Officers took the report of lewd and lascivious activity. This incident is still under investigation.

7:11 p.m. An officer responded to a citizen dispute on Birchwood Drive.

10:25 p.m. An officer assisted South

Burlington Police with retrieving stolen property on Hillview Terrace.

October 13: 8:30 a.m. Officers investigated an abandoned vehicle found on Hayden Hill Road.

2:55 p.m. Officers assisted a citizen with a custody issue.

October 15: 3:32 p.m. A welfare check on Aube Ridge Road was conducted.

October 16: 9:37 a.m. An officer assisted first responders with a medical emergency on Walts Way.

11:06 a.m. A citizen was assisted with a lock out.

2:20 p.m. A relief from abuse order was served on Bear Lane.

3:15 p.m. An officer assisted a member of the Community Justice Center with an investigation.

October 17: 2:30 p.m. An officer investigated the report of a violation of a relief from abuse order.

3:45 p.m. Suspicious activity on Ballard's Corner Road was investigated.

8:35 p.m. An abandoned vehicle on Gilman Road was investigated.

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the HINESBURG Record

Tune into our Holiday Waste Webinar

On Dec. 6 at 6 p.m., we will be hosting the second webinar in our Winter Webinar series: Zero Waste Holiday Hacks.

Tune in to learn about the environmental impact of holiday waste, how to dispose of holiday items (like wrapping paper and Christmas trees), and our tips for celebrating sustainably.

To register for our December webinar, go to tinyurl.com/HolidayWasteWebinar.

Holidays Usually Mean More Waste

BY KAT MOODY, CSWD COMMUNITY OUTREACH COORDINATOR

It's officially stick season out there, Vermonters. And just like that, the holiday season is upon us! For us at CSWD, the holidays mean more waste.

The average American produces 25 percent more waste from Thanksgiving to New Year's. To put that number in perspective, that means each person is throwing away 14 more pounds of waste per week. Gift wrapping, shipping packaging, holiday feasts, and Black Friday deals encouraging consumerism are some of the major contributors to the increase in waste that takes place this time of year.

Another contributor to increased waste this time of year? Holiday

shopping returns. So, that's why the article that I'm recommending this month is an NPR piece discussing the potential fate of your holiday shopping returns: tinyurl.com>ReturnsFate. After we make a return, it is often "out of sight, out of mind." But in reality, retailers throw away about a quarter of the returns they receive.

After reading this article, I know that I will be approaching this holiday season more thoughtfully as a consumer, and I hope you are inspired to do the same.

Recycling Wrapping Paper

Regular, uncoated wrapping paper (including tissue paper) is accepted in recycling.

- No glitter
- No foil
- No metallic paper or paper with metallic print
- No mylar
- No cellophane
- No coated paper*
- No ribbons or bows

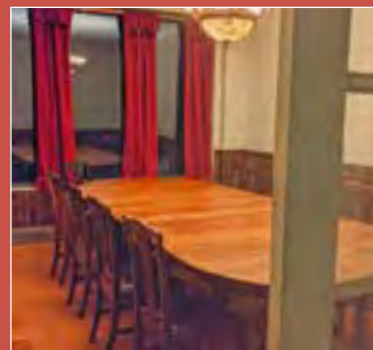
If wrapping paper has any of the above, it belongs in the trash. If you can't determine the material, dispose of it with household trash.

Tape can be left on. Remove ribbons and bows for reuse.

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Police*continued from page 5*

9:21 p.m. Officers assisted Hinesburg Fire with a fire alarm activation on North Road.

October 19: 10:05 a.m. Suspicious activity on Pond Road was investigated.

5:56 p.m. A citizen was assisted with applying for a restraining order.

7:17 p.m. A domestic assault on Bear Lane was investigated.

8:50 p.m. Officers served court paperwork to a resident on Hillview Terrace.

October 20: 7:38 a.m. Larceny from a vehicle on Lilac Lane was investigated.

12:18 p.m. A loose dog was found on North Road and returned to its owner.

6:29 p.m. A citizen was assisted on Ballard's Corner Road with a lockout.

October 21: 7:01 a.m. Larceny from a vehicle on Mill Road was investigated.

7:41 a.m. Larceny from a vehicle on Pond Road was investigated.

8:36 a.m. Larceny from a vehicle on Pond Road was investigated.

12:30 p.m. Vandalism to a vehicle on Mechanicsville Road was investigated.

October 22: 3:47 p.m. An officer investigated the report of suspicious activity on Rocky Mountain Lane.

October 23: 11:15 a.m. An officer assisted another agency by serving a subpoena to a citizen in Monkton.

11:58 a.m. Fraudulent activity on Ballard's Corner Road was reported and investigated.

October 24: 3:30 p.m. Found property was turned into the Hinesburg P.D.

October 25

9:24 a.m. Officers conducted a welfare check on North Road.

10 a.m. A neighboring agency was assisted with a records check.

3 p.m. Officers served a subpoena on behalf of another agency.

4:30 p.m. A dog was turned into the police department and later returned to its owner.

October 26: 12:19 p.m. Late reported motor vehicle damage was investigated.

1:37 p.m. A citizen was assisted with fingerprinting for employment purposes.

3:15 p.m. An officer assisted with a traffic hazard on CVU Road.

3:38 p.m. A citizen was assisted with fingerprinting for employment purposes.

8:10 p.m. An alarm activation on Commerce Street was investigated.

October 27: 7:40 a.m. Officers investigated a burglary on Gilman Road.

10:52 a.m. Officers responded to CVU for an unruly parent causing a disturbance.

10:03 p.m. Suspicious activity on Route 116 was investigated.

October 28: 11:22 a.m. An officer assisted first responders with a medical emergency at Kelley's Field.

3:48 p.m. A 911 hang up on Pine Shore Drive was investigated.

October 29: 6 a.m. Officers investigated the report of a stolen car on Route 116.

7:30 a.m. Larceny from a motor vehicle on Lilac Lane was investigated.

October 30: 8 a.m. An officer served a Relief from Abuse order to a citizen on Village Heights Road.

10 a.m. A trespass order was served to a citizen on Village Heights Road.

10:20 a.m. An officer assisted first responders with a medical emergency on Richmond Road.

3:35 p.m. Officers responded to a two-car motor vehicle crash on Shelburne Falls Road.

6:20 p.m. Found property was turned into the Hinesburg P.D. and returned to the owner.

7:34 p.m. An officer investigated a noise complaint on Sherman Hollow Road.

October 31: 10 a.m. A late reported crash on Route 116 was investigated.

11:15 a.m. Officers investigated the report of threatening behavior by a student at CVU.

10:45 p.m. An officer responded to Hollow Road for a juvenile issue.

November 1: 6:07 p.m. An officer responded to a single car motor vehicle crash on Route 116.

November 2: 8:55 a.m. Officers assisted a disabled motorist on Route 116.

10:10 a.m. An officer responded to a parking issue on Partridge Hill Road.

7:30 p.m. Officers responded to two separate single car motor vehicle crashes on Silver Street.

November 4: 10:45 a.m. Suspicious activity on North Road was investigated.

12:15 p.m. Officers responded to a citizen dispute on Jourdan Street.

November 5: 8 a.m. Officers responded to a single car crash on Route 116.

9 a.m. Officers assisted another agency with a death notification.

11:05 a.m. Officers responded to a citizen dispute on Jourdan Street.

1:20 p.m. Offices responded to a two-car motor vehicle crash on Richmond Road.

2:42 p.m. Suspicious activity on Hillview Terrace was investigated.

4:25 p.m. Officers investigated the report of a domestic dispute on Buck Hill East.

November 7: 1:22 p.m. Officers investigated a motor vehicle complaint on Commerce Street.

5:44 p.m. Officers assisted EMS with a medical emergency on Hillview Terrace.

November 8: 9:28 a.m. An alarm activation on Partridge Hill Road was investigated.

11 a.m. Officers assisted another agency with a death notification.

11:35 a.m. A citizen was assisted with a VIN verification.

2:21 p.m. An alarm activation on Burritt Road was investigated.

4:32 p.m. Officers responded to a domestic dispute on Buck Hill Road East.

10:30 p.m. Officers served court paperwork to a resident on Buck Hill Road East.

November 9: 7:20 a.m. Officers assisted a motorist with a disabled vehicle on Route 116.

3:08 p.m. Officers responded to a citizen dispute on Ballard's Corner Road.

November 10: 2:50 p.m. A welfare check on North Road was conducted.

3:35 p.m. A citizen was assisted with a lockout.

4 p.m. Officers responded to a citizen dispute on Route 116.

5:35 p.m. Suspicious activity on Black Dog Lane was investigated.

6:06 p.m. Officers responded to a two-vehicle crash on Route 116.

November 11: 9:35 a.m. Officers responded to a citizen dispute on North Road.

4:54 p.m. Suspicious activity on Silver Street was investigated.

5:11 p.m. Suspicious activity on Ballard's Corner Road was investigated.

November 12: 10:35 a.m. Vandalism to property on Mountain Spring Court was reported and investigated.

November 13: 9:45 a.m. Officers investigated a motor vehicle complaint on Route 116.

11:51 a.m. An alarm activation on Baldwin Road was investigated.

2:07 p.m. Officers responded to a citizen dispute on Route 116.

6:58 p.m. Officers responded to a domestic dispute on Hollow Road.

7:15 p.m. Officers responded to a citizen dispute on Buck Hill East.

11:05 p.m. A resident on Hollow Road was served a Relief from Abuse Order.

November 14: 9:55 a.m. The report of loose dogs chasing wildlife on Silver Street was investigated.

1 p.m. Found property was turned in and returned to its owner.

1:40 p.m. Officers responded to a citizen dispute on Hines Road.

4:55 p.m. An officer assisted a motorist with a disabled vehicle on Richmond Road.

6:12 p.m. An alarm activation on Partridge Hill Road was investigated.

November 15: 2:48 p.m. An officer investigated the report of property damage at Kelley's Field.

November 16: 1:35 p.m. An officer responded to Hayden Hill West for the report of loose dogs attacking livestock.

3:53 p.m. An officer served paperwork to a citizen on North Road.

4:33 p.m. An officer responded to North Road for the report of loose dogs attacking livestock.

November 17: 7:40 a.m. Larceny from a motor vehicle on Village Heights was investigated.

7:54 a.m. An officer responded to a three-car motor vehicle crash on Route 116.

8:08 a.m. Larceny from a motor vehicle on Village Heights was investigated.

2 p.m. A late reported motor vehicle crash was reported and investigated.

3:50 p.m. Larceny from a motor vehicle on Village Heights was investigated.

November 18: 9:21 a.m. An officer responded to a car vs. deer crash on North Road.

4:28 p.m. Suspicious activity on Commerce Street was investigated.

November 19: 8:06 a.m. An officer assisted a citizen with locating three lost donkeys on Gilman Road.

3:51 p.m. An alarm activation at CVU was investigated.

6:50 p.m. Officers responded to a citizen dispute on North Road.

BUSINESS**Financial Focus: Can You Make Charitable Giving Less “Taxing”?**

FROM PRESS RELEASE

Once again, it's the season of generosity. In addition to considering gifts for your loved ones, you might want to think about charitable gifts as well. But what should you know before making gifts to charities? And what impact might these gifts have on your financial and tax situation?

First, you may want to create a gift budget by deciding just how much you will give to charitable organizations over the rest of the year.

Next, look closely at the groups to whom you wish to contribute. You can find many reputable charities, but some others may be less worthy of your support. One of the red flags of a questionable organization is the amount of money it spends on administrative costs versus the amount that goes to its stated purpose. You can check on the spending patterns of charitable groups, and find other valuable information about them, on the well-regarded Charity Navigator website (charitynavigator.org).

Once you've established a gift budget and are comfortable with the groups you choose to support, you might turn your thoughts to another key issue connected with charitable giving: tax benefits. A few years ago, changes in the tax laws resulted in a large increase in the standard deduction, which meant that many taxpayers found it more favorable not to itemize — and lost the ability to take charitable deductions. But if you still do itemize, your charitable gifts or contributions to tax-exempt groups — those that qualify as 501(c)(3) organizations — can generally be deducted, up to 60 percent of your adjusted gross income, although lower limits may apply, depending on the nature of your gift and the organization to which you're contributing.

Other, more long-term avenues also

exist that combine charitable giving with potential tax benefits. One such possibility is a donor-advised fund, which allows you to make an irrevocable charitable contribution and receive an immediate tax deduction. You can give cash, but if you donate appreciated assets, such as stocks, your tax deduction would be the fair market value of the assets, up to 30 percent of your adjusted gross income. Plus, you would not incur the capital gains tax that would otherwise be due upon the sale of these assets. Once you establish a donor-advised fund, you have the flexibility to make charitable gifts over time, and you can contribute to the fund as often as you like.

Another possible tax benefit from making charitable contributions could arrive when you start taking required minimum distributions, or RMDs, from some of your retirement accounts, such as your traditional IRA and 401(k). These RMDs could be sizable — and distributions are counted as taxable income. But by taking what's called a qualified charitable distribution (QCD), you can move money from a traditional or Roth IRA to a qualified charitable organization, possibly satisfying your RMD, which then may be excluded from your taxable income. You must start taking RMDs at 73 but you can begin making QCDs of up to \$100,000 per year as early as age 70½. (This amount will be indexed for inflation after 2023.)

Establishing a donor-advised fund and making qualified charitable distributions are significant moves, so you'll need to consult with your tax advisor first. But if they're appropriate for your situation, they may help you expand your ability to support the charitable groups whose work you admire.

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

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Place Road, Hinesburg**RECREATION****Youth Recreation Hinesburg Recreation Youth Basketball**

The HRD youth basketball program is for children in kindergarten through sixth grade and is held at the Hinesburg Community School (HCS) gym. Kindergarten, 1st- and 2nd-grade players are introduced to the basics of ball handling and movement on the court with age-appropriate games and support. Grades 3-6 have one mid-week practice and one game each Saturday.

Note: Non-residents within CVU district, please register with your respective town FIRST – Charlotte, Shelburne, or Williston. At the close of registration, our local Rec. Depts. are committed to work together, when feasible, to ensure each child has an opportunity to

play. Thanks for your support.

Dec. 2 - Feb. 10 (Kindergarten, 1st & 2nd grades)

Dec. 2 - Feb. 17 (3-6 grades)

Kindergarten & 1st Grade Coed: Sat. 8-9 a.m.

Grade 2 Co-ed: Sat. 9:10-10:10 a.m.

Grade 3-4 Boys: Sat. 10:20-11:20 a.m. and Wed. 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Grade 3-4 Girls: Sat. 11:30 a.m. -12:30 p.m. and Tues. 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Grade 5-6 Boys: Sat. 12:40-1:40 p.m. and Thurs. 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Grades 5-6 Girls: Sat. 1:50-2:50 p.m. and Mon. 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Please contact HRD if you're interested in coaching or assisting. A Volunteer Form must be completed. Please note that practice times

continued on page 8

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

▶ Recreation

continued from page 7

are proposed and subject to change due to coaches' availability. If there are changes, you will be notified via email. No practices/games are available when HCS is not in session, unless otherwise stated.

Cost: \$65. Deadline is Nov. 30.

Hinesburg Children's Choir Performance

Join co-directors Jenny Cianciola and Andrea Haulenbeek for the Hinesburg Children's Choir's end of the semester performance.

Wednesday, Dec. 6, at 6 p.m. at the United Church of Hinesburg

Safe Sitter Courses

Safe Sitter® prepares students in grades 6-8 to be safe when they're home alone, watching siblings or babysitting. The course offers four main content areas: Safety Skills, Child Care Skills, First Aid & Rescue Skills and Life & Business Skills. Lessons are filled with fun activities and role-playing exercises. Teens will practice choking rescue and diapering. Register for one date that works best for your child. Register with the town offering the program. Instructor: Rec. Staff

Grades 6-8. Classes are 9 a.m.-3 p.m. in each location.

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willistonrec.org.

Charlotte: Wed., April 24.
charlotterec.com

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Literature & Arts with Susan Lepple

Join Susan for a creative approach to exploring children's literature. Through the use of fine art, movement, assemblage, drama, and music, students will experience and explore quality children's literature that is silly, thought-provoking, creative, and caring.

Tuesdays, 2:45-4:30 p.m. HCS Art Room. Grades 2-5. Cost: \$150

Session 2: Jan 9-Feb. 6

Session 3: Feb 20-March 26

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

Library News

We have a storm of great new books arriving this month: *Iron Flame* by Rebecca Yarros, Ariel Lawhon's *The Frozen River*, Carissa Broadbent's *The Serpent & the Wings of Night*, Nita Prose's *The Mystery Guest*, Keigo Higashino's *The Final Curtain*, *Lonely Planet Caribbean Islands*, *Lonely Planet Portugal*, *Lonely Planet Morocco*, and *How Not to Age* by Michael Gregar. We are also expecting the fifth book in the *Heartstopper* graphic novel series for young adults.

Please note, the library is closing at 5 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 8, for a staff

gathering. CCL will also be closed on Monday, Dec. 25, and Tuesday, Dec. 26. Happy Holidays!

In December, we have a variety of program offerings for you, including music, crafts, a book sale, and more. Read on to learn about all we have on offer this month.

December 2023 Youth Happenings at Carpenter-Carse Library

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

Weekly Storytime: Tuesdays, Dec. 5, 12, and 19 at 9:30 a.m.

Join the fun and learning with 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.

Holiday Sing-and-Play-Along with

the SongFarmers: Thursday, Dec. 7, 6-7:30 p.m.

Community members of all ages are invited to join this monthly meeting of the Hinesburg SongFarmers for a special holiday sing and play-along. If you are just starting out in learning to play a string instrument or you're a seasoned musician, feel free to join in the jam or just bring your singing voice and your holiday spirit.

Saturday Holiday Story and Craft Time: Saturday, Dec. 9, 10-11 a.m.

Children of all ages and their caregivers are invited to join us for holiday stories, crafts, and gingerbread cookie decorating. Stick around for library book browsing and shopping at our Holiday Youth Book Sale. Registration for this special holiday Saturday storytime is required.

Holiday Book Sale: Saturday, Dec. 9, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Come visit the library for a selection of great quality books for children and young adults. Our fabulous new tote bags will also be for sale. Get some of your holiday shopping done while supporting the library!

LEGO® Club Holiday Party: Wednesday, Dec. 13, 2:15 - 3:30 p.m.

Students in grades K-5 can sign up for holiday LEGO® fun and creativity at this after-school event. We'll start with holiday treats and a read-aloud story before starting on some winter and holiday themed builds. Even if you have never participated in our library's LEGO® Club, you are welcome to sign up for the holiday party and try out

COMMENTARY

Freedom of Expression and Our Universities

BY BILL SCHUBART

UVM's recent decision to cancel an appearance by Palestinian poet and journalist Mohammed El-Kurd from Israel was a poor choice. It was reportedly based on the assumption that the educational mission of a college or university and the safety of its students can be at odds. One can adhere to mission and use their best efforts to ensure safety, even as we know that absolute safety is impossible in our fractious world.

We know, for example, from our failure to regulate firearms that school safety is relative. Were we to lock down schools entirely, how would they deliver on educational mission while wholly isolated from the cultural and intellectual communities they serve? Is "safety" about preventing potential violence at the expense of students' intellectual and emotional growth?

The mission of education is not only to train learners in the basic skills they need to learn and communicate, like reading, writing, scientific inquiry, debate, and physical education; it's also to expose them to the expanding world of ideas, cultures, and ethics, and to stimulate new emotions.

This can only be done in a school or campus where all ideas are welcome all the time.

I went from a solid educational foundation in the Morrisville public schools to Phillips Exeter

Academy, not because I was an exceptional student but because I was a "legacy." Attending an all-male boarding school established to educate but also to sustain class privilege far away from family and friends was a painful transition.

There was very little racial or economic diversity. But having said that, I was exposed to a diversity of ideas, experiences, and people I might never have met at home. There were no limits on our exposure to art, the humanities, or science. We read "dangerous" books like Huxley's "Brave New World," Orwell's "1984," Salinger's "Catcher in the Rye," Dostoevski's "The Idiot," Golding's "Lord of the Flies," Eliot's "The Wasteland," Camus' "The Stranger," Dante's "Inferno," and other books I'd never have come across. ("Moms for Liberty" was not yet rampaging through our libraries or reading lists removing books.) We were encouraged to read and absorb a world of new, alien and often scary ideas.

Every Saturday night, the school gym was converted to a movie theater. After the ever-popular Roadrunner cartoon, we watched movies we would never have seen in our local Bijou theater in Morrisville. The foreign films that have stayed with me forever were often terrifying: Alain Resnais' "Night and Fog," and "Hiroshima, Mon Amour," Marcel Carne's "Children of Paradise," Bergman's "The Seventh Seal," Fellini's "La Strada," De Sica's "The Bicycle Thief," Frank Perry's "David and Lisa," and many others. I had no idea this world existed. This was the value of an uncompromising education and, later, of my time at Kenyon and UVM.

The mission of higher education must be sacrosanct. If we try to

this popular after school program. Please register.

Holiday Card Making Workshop: Saturday, Dec. 16, 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

The library's community room will be transformed into a holiday maker-space for drawing, cutting, and pasting in the creation of festive holiday cards and gift tags. Patrons of all ages, including families and children, are invited to drop in and enjoy some creative down-time at the library.

CCL Adult Programs December 2023

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

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

protect children from a world they've already begun to experience, we do so at our peril and theirs.

Exactly a century ago, in 1923, when a young mother with a newborn baby at her breast asks Kahlil Gibran for his advice on parenting, he answers in his masterpiece "The Prophet":

Your children are not your children.

They are the sons and daughters of Life's longing for itself.

They come through you but not from you,

And though they are with you yet they belong not to you.

You may give them your love but not your thoughts,

For they have their own thoughts.

You may house their bodies but not their souls,

For their souls dwell in the house of tomorrow, which you cannot visit, not even in your dreams.

You may strive to be like them, but seek not to make them like you.

For life goes not backward nor tarries with yesterday.

You are the bows from which your children as living arrows are sent forth.

The archer sees the mark upon the path of the infinite, and He bends you with His might that His arrows may go swift and far.

Let your bending in the archer's hand be for gladness;

For even as He loves the arrow that flies, so He loves also the bow that is stable.

The very idea of a university was to bring together learners and the learned to inspire our rational faculties. Having been both, I valued my time as a teacher largely be-

cause I learned that learning was reciprocal.

SongFarmers of Hinesburg: Thursday, Dec. 7, 6-7:30 p.m.

Please see the description in Youth Happenings section.

Mystery Book Club: Wednesday, Dec. 13, 10:30 - 11:30 a.m.

We meet at the library (outdoors when weather permits) to discuss a mystery book—ranging from cozy to gritty. Please register to receive a copy of the book and to let us know you will attend.

December: *Raspberry Danish Murder* by Joanne Fluke.

cause I learned that learning was reciprocal.

In the marketplace of ideas, the freedom to learn, articulate, discuss, and validate (or not) the great spectrum of ideas is necessary to succeed. When we restrict, censor or bowdlerize ideas and opinions, we compromise the mission of a university. This is happening more and more in our public schools, colleges and universities to their detriment. There is such a thing as age-appropriate learning, but we do not want to dumb-down teaching. Young people today are not as naïve as adults seem to think they are.

Having said this, any threatening or violent racist, gender-specific, or anti-religious intimidation, harassment, hate speech, or activity must result in a due-process expulsion of that student, teacher, or administrator. I say "due process" only because, on rare occasions, such discussions can be nuanced.

A friend, an observant Jew, was rhapsodizing about Netanyahu and the State of Israel and, sensing my doubt, asked my thoughts. I explained that although I had great reverence for the Jewish people (my father's family were non-observant German Jews), I did not believe that the political strategies of the current Israeli government under Netanyahu an opinion then held by a majority of Israelis were in their best interests or the interests of others in the region. She responded, "So, you're an anti-semite."

Although I tried to explain that expressing doubts about the political strategy of Netanyahu did not in any way compromise my respect for the Jewish people, the conversation was over.

In learning institutions, the three vital channels of communication are essay, story, and data. Higher

continued on page 10

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▶ **Commentary**

continued from page 9

ed is about all of them.

To write the classic essay, one posits a statement, supports it with facts, and then rationalizes the conclusion based on the facts presented. The visual form of essay is documentary film, increasingly taught in this digital age.

STEM education derives from proven scientific, technical knowledge, and lab work which then yields proven data.

Story and the arts evoke emotion and sometimes empathy and have the capacity to change opinions and minds. Examples are Picasso's Guernica, and The Diary of Anne Frank, both of which radically altered the public's perception of war.

Institutions of higher ed are under serious threat today as evidenced by UVM's decision.

The conflict in the Middle East has polarized what should be open and rational debate at our universities. On the night of the Hamas attack, a coalition of some 30 student groups at Harvard posted an open letter blaming Israel for the violence that killed some 1400 people. The students were broadly doxxed and attacked online and at home in an effort by a conservative media watchdog group called Accuracy

in Media to punish their beliefs by buying domain names for signatories and setting up websites in their names calling for Harvard to punish them.

In 1967, universities and colleges adopted the Kalven principles, which states: "The University is the home and sponsor of critics; it is not itself the critic... It is not a club, it is not a trade association, it is not a lobby."

In essence, the Kalven Report endorsed the idea of free speech but said that the colleges and universities themselves should not take political positions on matters of current interest as it inhibits free speech itself by declaring the "right position" to take. The violation of this principle has led to many campus riots and rebellions by students, administrators and alumni.

Which relates to another destructive aspect of today's universities... major donors at the University of Pennsylvania are pushing for the resignation of its president and board chair after Penn hosted a Palestinian writer's conference.

The haunting specter of agenda-philanthropy is not new to universities. "Let us be clear: academic freedom is an essential component of a world class university and is not a commodity that can be bought and sold by those who seek to use their pocketbooks to shape our mission,"

UPenn's Faculty Senate Tri-Chairs said in a recent statement.

In 1980, U.S. colleges and universities received \$4.2 billion in donations. Last year that amount rose to just shy of \$60 billion, and more of these donations are coming with strings attached.

"George Mason University in 2019 tightened donor rules after disclosures came to light that the conservative Koch Foundation received a say in the hiring and firing of some professors under agreements that provided millions of dollars to the school.

"A prominent Yale University historian in 2021 resigned from a prestigious program at the university, citing pressure from donors, and a leading donor to the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill helped block a proposed appointment of journalist Nikole Hannah-Jones to the school."

If we are to maintain the integrity of our colleges and universities, we must insist on open and free expression, and transparency of sources, given the capacity of flamethrowers to hide in social media. What's more, we must insist that donors donate only to mission and not to further their agenda.

I do hope UVM learns from their recent misadventure. Allowing the campus appearance of a Palestinian poet and journalist from Israel while allowing peaceful demonstration by those who strongly support Israel's self-defense should be a manageable security challenge. Citing "security" is an easy out.

Beaver Tales of Pond Brook Road

BY ROGER DONEGAN

The inactive beaver lodge that caught people's eye for so long while coming down Pond Brook Road no longer stands out. Long abandoned, an experienced outdoorsman once ventured there and said it had been disheveled by mischievous otters. Two beaver dams still impound Lake Iroquois' outflow before it reaches lower Lake Sunset. Beavers seem to shy away from the pond confined by a busier road today but they're still here. As one of a succession of people living in the house next to the pond last owned by Walter and Muriel Kinkel, I recall their tales of earlier encounters years before both died in 2010.

In the beginning the house needed tons of work. Short of calling it a "fixer upper," Walter said a friend who physically couldn't talk motioned with hands to push the house over upon seeing the new acquisition. Walter and Muriel rebuilt the house, hands on with the help of skilled neighbors. Taking pains to restore every part they eventually added a small apartment, into which we moved in 1981. Walter and Muriel enjoyed the hubbub of public activities at the Hinesburg Community Church. They are still missed. In their minds beavers were here first and were revered by them as part of the landscape.

Their big tale left a lasting impression. Walter served three years in the 603rd Camouflage Battalion in Europe in WWII. The soldier-turned-art teacher retired, following a full career. One has to expect WWII soldiers handled dynamite often to clear battlefield obstructions. Unlikely today, dynamite was once a routine tool and par for the course for people who served in WWII. In 1966 they needed to dynamite the beaver dam closest to the house, the location of a would-be shallow well, and the road. Young Muriel had taken lessons



Pond Brook Beaver Dam and Muriel Kinkel October 1967.

at Fred Astaire Dance Studios in Manhattan as an aspiring debutante, but was known to get down in crawl spaces busying her hands rebuilding the house in later life. Muriel loved owning up to pushing down the T-handle on the detonator box wired to the string of dynamite set in the beaver dam; and recalled the fallout of mud and sticks raining down on the roof.

When we moved in, Pond Brook was much more of a dirt road than today.

Before the installation of the precast concrete box culvert in 2005, the pair of large diameter culverts that carried water under the road were easy for beavers to block. A fast-rising water level on the upstream side after a downpour often threatened the road. The road crew straight out elsewhere about town couldn't be on the spot every time to uncork the bottleneck. Once water started over the dirt road, it quickly washed out. On several occasions I'd enter the water on the upstream side to undo the latest beaver jam by hand. Eventually I thought it too reckless to flirt with the chance of being flushed into a pipe by a sudden surge of the water backed up behind me. Actually, I was more afraid of the headline "Brooklyn Man Drowns Stuck in Hinesburg Culvert." I didn't want this as an epitaph.

Living with beavers has ups and downs. They have an amazing capacity to work nonstop when no one is watching. Overnight a popular tree would disappear only to find a scattering of bite sized wood chips at the base of a pointy stump. Beavers effortlessly lopped off bushes at ground level and girdled trees by chewing off a ring of bark knee high around trees too big for them to fell. In the fall they feasted on apple drops. One of our beaver tales got personal.

In 2008 CVU offered an adult evening shop class on how to make a "rustic chair." The objective was to



Pond Brook Rustic Chair back chewed on

hand-make an outdoor chair like an Adirondack chair. Only Adirondack chairs are made with rough cut seasoned board wood, while the word "rustic" was a euphemism for a chair fashioned from fresh cut birch tree limbs as is. Attendees stored their in-progress work at home between classes. Anne's storage was just inside the open barn near the pond. On the last night of class, once brought back to CVU for finishing touches, Anne saw that a beaver had forayed into the barn, sniffed out the chair, and left marks of tacit approval by chewing strips of bark off the back and side rungs of her chair.

The beaver thrived to a point one could count on hearing the warning slap of a beaver tail on any given night walking out back. I would describe that sound more as a willful cannon ball-like dive than a slap on water. In time we wound the trunks of "ornamental" trees with wire fence or chicken wire to protect them. In the fall we'd install a temporary fence around the well to preserve a bit of landscape containing shrubbery then remove it in the spring. Eventually beavers demonstrated another skill. Beavers emerge from the water to take trees but they work in the water to excavate mud from a single location of their choosing which then develops into an open water channel.

History informs us heavy trapping in the mid-1800s annihilated nearly all of Vermont's indigenous beavers. "VT Fish & Wildlife Department introduced Maine and New York beavers in the 1920s and 1930s," Town on Hunt for Culvert-Clogging Beavers, by Matt Ryan, Burlington Free Press, Nov. 28, 2008. The VT Fish & Wildlife Department today provides Best Management Practices for Resolving Human Beaver Conflicts. Catching and relocating beavers is no longer done in Vermont. The department's web page includes the link "The Massachusetts Experience of Banning Beaver Trapping," a story of how a trapping ban resulted in the killing and waste of beaver, the destruction of wetland habitat and increased costs for towns around that state.

In 2009 avid outdoorsman, hunter, veteran and lifelong Hinesburg Fire Department Volunteer John Hunter (also now deceased), trapped 10 bea-

vers at this location. Beaver trapping season begins on the fourth Saturday of October and runs to the end of March. In late August of 2020, I toured the Plimoth (sic) Plantation and indigenous Patuxet home site in Plymouth, Mass., with two young grandsons. Upon entering the Wampanoag bark-covered lodge, Franklin, a budding outdoorsman keen to the scene of randomly strewn fur skins about, immediately asked the Wampanoag descendant acting as docent who was wearing skins herself, "Where did you get the skins?" She responded: "donated by Massachusetts hunters."

In October 2021, I chaperoned

Franklin at the Fur Trapper Weekend sponsored by VT Fish & Wildlife at Buck Lake. Franklin might have been one of the youngest persons going for a trapping license. Trapping is cold, hard work and takes know-how. Sleeping accommodations were in the VT Conservation Camp's unheated barracks-like cabins less facilities. I learned a lot attending the presentations. Much of the instruction was given by Vermont game wardens. While I understood the value and worth of fur skins led to opening frontiers in North America, I didn't know, but learned, trapping seasons and fur skin values relate to the animal's seasonal winter coat.

▶ **Watercolor Abstracts** *continued from p. 1*

years. His right brain needed some exercise. His paintings can be found on Instagram @ Tally_vt.

John Penoyar is a Hinesburg resident. He is a musician, psychologist, and photographer who dove headfirst into painting six years ago. Starting with acrylics and soon moving to watercolors he has been developing a language that points to landscape, both urban and natural. The work suggests more than it spells out. The effect is to let the eye resolve what it will. His work can be found on Instagram @ johnpenoyar.



Artwork by Brad Stetler.



Artwork by John Penoyar.

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Good Citizen
continued from page 1

learned about how hard it was to make everyone happy when there are many parties to appease.

Another challenge was to go to the local fire station and find out how it was funded.

Raymond went to the fire station and received a fabulous tour and found that it was the town's tax-

payers that pay for their equipment and training.

One of the more difficult challenges was to find out who brought electricity to Hinesburg. After visits to the library, emails to the historical society, and calls to Green Mountain Power, Raymond discovered that an electric company in Richmond was the first to turn on the lights in Hinesburg in 1903.

One of Raymond's favorite challenges was to write a thank you

note to someone who put on a public event. He wrote a thank you note to Hinesburg Recreation Director Jen McQuin, who organized the town's Fourth of July Parade. McQuin reached out to say how much the note meant to her, as the cancellation of fireworks because of swampy field conditions meant that not everyone in town was thanking her for her efforts.

Other challenges included picking up litter at the Hinesburg

Recreation Fields, drawing a picture of Vermont's state motto "Freedom and Unity," visiting the Carpenter Carse Library, looking up property deeds at Town Hall, and listening to a podcast about the harmful effects of social media.

"Everyone can be a good citizen, only if they want to and are willing to try," Raymond said. "Being a good citizen shouldn't be an amazing thing. Everyone should be a good citizen."



Good Citizen Challenge participants at the Statehouse. Photo by Jeb Wallace-Brodeur



Oliver with a chart showing the first company to bring electricity to Hinesburg was from Richmond.



One of the challenges was to find the room where the selectboard meets and think about why it is set up the way that it is.



Oliver Raymond looking up property deeds at the Hinesburg Town Hall.



Distinguished Citizen Oliver Raymond with Katie DeSanto of Phoenix Books. Photo by Jeb Wallace-Brodeur



Oliver Raymond is a regular at the Carpenter Carse Library. The Good Citizen Challenge scorecards were available at the library this summer.

EDUCATION

Environmental Scholarship Announced

BY JEAN KIEDAISCH

In keeping with its commitment to protecting Hinesburg's working landscape, recreational lands, and natural systems, Responsible Growth Hinesburg is offering a one-time \$1,000 scholarship to a Hinesburg graduating senior who has demonstrated commitment to these same values.

The scholarship will support the student's further education at a college or university, technical program, or vocational training program. The focus might be studying environmental science or a related field or pursuing environmental journalism.

The deadline for applying for this scholarship is April 1, 2024. To be considered, the student must submit an essay describing:

- why it is important for citizens to engage in local activities that improve or conserve the important qualities of Hinesburg;
- how their own involvement has benefited them so far and affected their enjoyment of Hinesburg and its surroundings;
- how they plan to continue that involvement in the future.

More details will be shared on Front Porch Forum. Questions? Email Natacha Liuzzi at nml1961@gmail.com.

Two Champlain Valley School District Educators Presented with Awards

FROM CVSD PRESS RELEASE

Tim O'Leary, currently serving as the Instructional Coach and Curriculum Leader at Shelburne Community School, was recently honored with the Frank Watson Award by Vita-Learn. Tim



Tim O'Leary, honored with the Frank Watson Award.

consistently demonstrates a remarkable dedication to his profession, approaching his work with unwavering professionalism and enthusiasm. His tireless efforts are aimed at enhancing student outcomes through information technology, and he fearlessly engages in initiatives that promote enhanced learning experiences.

As a 2020 Rowland Fellow, Tim, alongside Charlie MacFadyen from CVU, worked on developing an equitable K-12 computer science program across CVSD. Tim is a fervent advocate for educational equity and improved access to technology and computer science. He played a pivotal role in implementing First Lego League groups in all K-8 schools within our district.

In addition to his advocacy and active involvement, Tim is a dedicated member of the Computer Science Teachers Association and serves as a board member for the Vermont chapter. He has been instrumental in advocating for Vermont students' access to the Congressional App Challenge.

Charlie MacFadyen was honored with the CS Teaching Excellence Award at the recent New England regional Computer Science Teachers Association (CSTA) meeting. His recognition stems from his exceptional leadership in computer science (CS) both at CVU and district-wide over the past few years.



Charlie MacFadyen, honored with the CS Teaching Excellence Award

Charlie holds the role of digital learning leader at CVU and actively instructs computer science classes, contributing to the expansion of CS offerings at the school. Moreover, he dedicates his time to coaching the cyber patriot team and the math league, while also assisting in the coordination of various events for these groups. His leadership style is characterized by thoughtfulness, creativity, and dedication to staff and students.

fyng and evaluating children with disabilities is known as child find.

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

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

Please contact the school principal (Charlotte Central School: 802-425-2771, Hinesburg Community School: 802-482-2106, Shelburne Community School: 802-985-3331, Williston Central/Allen Brook schools: 802-878-2762) or Director of Student Support Services Anna Couperthwait at 802-383-1234.

Champlain Valley School District Child Find Notice

Champlain Valley School District (including the towns of Charlotte, Hinesburg, Shelburne, St. George, and Williston, Vermont) is required by federal law to locate, identify and evaluate all children with disabilities. The process of locating, identi-

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

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SPORTS

CVU Girls' Soccer

BY TOM GIROUX

The Redhawk girls' soccer team lost in a heartbreaker at home in the quarterfinals. It was a disappointing end to a very successful season. The Redhawk squad was the only undefeated girls' team in the whole state at 14-0, and should be extremely proud of their success, even though it didn't end the way we all wanted it to.

Soccer can be an unfair game, when the better team doesn't always win, no matter how well the players play and the coaches coach (and the fans cheer). They all should keep their heads held high, because they played a marvelous season of soccer, and were fun to watch.

The CVU program has been to eleven of the last thirteen State Championship title matches. This year's squad at one point, was ranked fourth in the nation, by the US Coaches poll, and the graduating senior class only lost one regular season match in four years of hard work and dedication. Four players from the squad were selected to the All-State team. They are: Ava Barron and Zoe Klein, two



CVU's girls' varsity soccer team.

mid-fielders, who helped glue and shape the CVU offense and defense together as one; Stella Dooley, the skilled back that her teammates could always depend on to hold the opponents from gaining any offensive chances; and Chloe Pecor, the only female All American player selected from Vermont last season, and the one player that all the vis-

iting teams planned their practices around, to find ways to stop her from putting the ball in the back of the net. She fought off all this attention and scored 32 goals this season, a single-season CVU record, and 82 in her career as a Redhawk.

All four of these players, along with Hinesburg's very own Alex Loner, a fierce back, were selected and took part in the Senior Classic, which recognizes the best senior soccer players in the whole state, and gives them the opportunity to "show their stuff" one final time against their cohorts. These matches also give the Twin State coaching staff time to see them perform, to earn a spot on the team, for the match against the best from New Hampshire, next July.

Other Hinesburg residents who contributed to the success of this year's team are seniors Natalie Webster and Maevae O'Neil; and juniors - who will earn another shot next year - Ezra Dziurzynski, Rienna Murray, and Kate Roberts.

Head Coach Stan Williams commented, "A wonderful group of 23 girls, who, yes, are talented soccer players; but, even more importantly, are great people and representatives of our school." Stan was assisted by Emily Milbank and Chris Smith.

Congratulations to all for a fantastic season!

Hinesburg Players Shine in CVU Boys' Soccer Success

BY TOM GIROUX

The CVU boys' soccer team lost their first match, but at days end, were never again on the wrong side of the scoreboard for the remainder of the 2023 season. Top-seeded CVU finished it off with a thrilling night-time win over South Burlington in the finals on penalty kicks. They ended the year at 16-1.

In the match played at UVM, the South Burlington Wolves scored first, five minutes into the second half. CVU's Nic Menard answered three minutes later with a tally on a feed from Charlie Jennings. With a tad over fifteen minutes left to play, Caleb Greenslit carried the ball down the right flank, crossed it to Julian Sicotte, who one-touched it to George Charlson, who struck the ball into the back of the net. The 2-1 Redhawk lead wouldn't stand as the Wolves tied it up with less than three minutes left in the contest.

The two squads battled through the 30 minutes of extra time, with neither team able to find a way to finish. It came down to a penalty kick shootout and CVU was

continued on page 15

ORGANIZATIONS

SCHIP Grant Awards Announced

BY ALI GATELY

SCHIP (Shelburne, Charlotte, Hinesburg Interfaith Project) has announced its Autumn 2023 grant awards. Recent monies in the amount of \$39,188 were awarded to 16 nonprofits in our towns that met the criteria of serving the people of our communities in a variety of ways. The recipients for this cycle included: Age Well, Carpenter-Carse Library, Champlain Housing Trust, Community Cares for CVUHS, CVU Mongolia Educational, Hinesburg Community Resource Center, Hinesburg Community School, Hyperbaric Vermont, Joint Urban Ministry Project (JUMP), New Village, Prevent Child Abuse, ReSOURCE, Shelburne Community School PTO, Shelburne Rescue, Sustainable Charlotte, and Vermont Association for the Blind.

The award to Shelburne Rescue was the first in the newly established Major Grants category. Grants funded in this category can range up to \$15,000 and are designed to fund the necessary seed money to be used for future self-sustaining projects.

These awards are made possible as a result of SCHIP's mission to raise funds through the sale of donated, gently used clothing, household items, accessories, art, and collectibles at its resale shop in the distinctive yellow building on Route 7, next to the town offices. Since the first grants given in April 2005, more than \$867,600 has been distributed.

SCHIP accepts grant applications twice a year. The deadlines are March 15 and Sept. 15 of each year. The maximum grant size is \$3,000 for Routine Grants and \$15,000 for Major Grants. Application forms are available on the "Grants" link at: TheSCHIP.org.

As a member of our communities,

contributed 7 goals and 8 assists at key points in matches; Nicolas Menard, who had a team-high 12 goals and passed for 3 more; and Ziggy Babbott, the outstanding goalie from Hinesburg, who made crucial saves down the stretch run, to enable his fellow Redhawks to pull off close wins.

Hinesburg's Jacob Lepple and William Wallace also played key roles in the successful Championship Season for CVU.

Coach Rob Cole said, "Winning the first state championship title hosted at Virtue Field at UVM" was a highlight and "the goal for next season will be to defend our title by building on the experience our 14 sophomores and juniors built up this year."

Congratulations to all the Redhawks on a job well done!

► Sports

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more than ready. Luke Sampson, and Hinesburg's duo Chandler Turner and Henry Frost, were each successful on their attempts, as were their opponents. While South Burlington's fourth attempt clanged off the top post, Nick Menard calmly served his past the Wolves keeper, and senior captain Charlie Jennings' shot rang true for the match and title winner.

This championship marks the 20th state title in the program's history, tying them with the CVU girls for the most championships by a high school team in Vermont. Named to the All-State team were: Luke Sampson, who scored 10 goals and had 4 assists this season; Hinesburg's Chandler Turner, who



Left to right: Danny Goldsmith, Henry Frost, Chandler Turner, Ziggy Babbott, Jacob Lepple, William Wallace. Danny Goldsmith was not on the team this year but has been in the past and is very good friends with the soccer team and was the number one cheerleader this year. He didn't miss a single game so he was included in the picture.

you too are an important part of our mission. Come shop, donate, volunteer, and help us continue to meet our objectives for the future. For more information on grant recipients or the organization, please visit our website (TheSCHIP.org) or our Facebook page (SCHIP's Treasure Resale Shop) or call the shop for volunteer or donation inquiries at 985-3595.

Our participating faith communities are: All Souls Interfaith Gathering, Shelburne; Charlotte Congregational Church; Hinesburg United Church; Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Catholic Church, Charlotte; Shelburne United Methodist Church; St. Catherine of Siena Catholic Church, Shelburne; St. Jude's Catholic Church, Hinesburg; Trinity Episcopal Church, Shelburne.

Responsible Growth Hinesburg donates \$2,000 to Hinesburg Food Shelf

BY NATACHA LIUZZI

At the group's annual meeting, Responsible Growth Hinesburg's Co-Presidents, Catherine Goldsmith and Natacha Liuzzi presented a check for \$2,000 to Laura Hoopes and Melissa Levy from the Hinesburg Community Resource Center.

The funds are from the RGH Annual Tiny Art Auction which was held in July. This is the second year the net proceeds have gone to the Hinesburg Food Shelf.



RGH presenting a check to HCRC

Senior Meals

Shelburne Age Well December 12 Grab and Go Meal

Age Well and St. Catherine's of Siena Parish in Shelburne are teaming up to provide a meal to go for anyone age 60 and older on Tuesday, Dec. 12. The meal will be available for pick up in the parking lot at 72 Church St. from 11 a.m. until noon. These meals are available for all 60 or older. These meals are nutritious and delicious.

The menu is: stuffed chicken breast

with apple cranberry stuffing, gravy, mashed potatoes, carrots, cranberry sauce, wheat roll, pumpkin bar with white chips and craisins, and milk.

A \$5 donation is suggested, but not required.

To order a meal: please contact Kathleen by Thursday, Dec. 7. Email: (preferred) agewellstcath@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 2024 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: agewellvt.org.

Huntington Senior Meal

There is a meal for seniors on Tuesday, Dec. 12, at the Community Church of Huntington, 4019 Main Road, Huntington.

The menu is baked ham, sweet potatoes, green bean casserole, cranberry sauce, rolls and butter, and cake for dessert.

Suggested \$5 meal donation. Serves at noon. Small Gift exchange \$5 max. For more information, contact Ellie Lawyer at ellielawyer93@gmail.com or 802-398-5320.

Be a Santa to a Senior® Program Celebrates 20 Years of Brightening Holidays for Older Adults

FROM PRESS RELEASE

This year, Home Instead® celebrates 20 years of bringing joy to the community with Be a Santa to a Senior, a gift-giving program for older adults who may be overlooked, isolated or alone during the holiday season.

Since the program's nationwide inception in 2003, Be a Santa to a Senior has engaged more than 65,000 volunteers, provided more than 2.2 million gifts, and shared the holiday spirit with about 800,000 older adults.

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Organizations

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“The holidays can be hard for many older adults, especially those who may not have a companion to share them with and it’s incredibly rewarding to see the impact that Be a Santa to a Senior has had over the past 20 years,” said Tim LaBeau, owner of the Shelburne Home Instead office. “Gifts aside, the true value is the connection Be a Santa to a Senior makes between the community and our older neighbors.”

This year program coordinators hope to collect 500 gifts for local older adults.

To participate, shoppers can look for Be a Santa to a Senior trees or displays at locations around the area. Ornaments featuring the name and desired gift of an older adult will be on display, and shoppers can buy the requested gift and return it unwrapped or in a

gift bag to the location with the ornament attached. Ornaments will be available through Dec. 10. The gifts will be delivered to local older adults in time for the holidays.

Be a Santa to a Senior trees can be found at:

- many Kinney Drug store locations, including 84 Executive Drive in Shelburne and 10212 Route 116 in Hinesburg.
- PT 360 locations at 426 Industrial Dr. in Williston and 6221 Shelburne Road in Shelburne.

Be a Santa to a Senior brings together the entire community, with support from local businesses, non-profit organizations, retailers, volunteers, and countless other community members. The Shelburne Home Instead office has partnered with Shred Ex to assist with gift collection and distribution.

For more information visit BeaSantatoaSenior.com or call (802) 231-1917.

OUTDOORS

Third Summer of Lewis Creek Association’s Boat Launch Steward Program at Bristol and Monkton Ponds Concludes

BY PORTIA BUTRYM AND KATE KELLY

September 24 marked the end of Lewis Creek Association’s (LCA) boat launch steward program at Bristol and Monkton ponds. The two ponds see many visitors throughout the sum-

mer months, from anglers to recreational boaters to wildlife enthusiasts, making them ideal locations to educate the public about aquatic invasive species (AIS). As of 2023, there are three known aquatic invasive species (AIS) in Bristol Pond: European Frogbit (*Hydrocharis morsus-ranae*), Eurasian Watermilfoil (*Myriophyllum spicatum*), and Brittle Naiad (*Najas minor*) (discovered by the boat launch stewards in 2021 at Bristol Pond); and there are two known AIS in Monkton Pond: Eurasian Watermilfoil and Curlyleaf Pondweed (*Potamogeton crispus*). Presence of these AIS in these popular ponds means that they could function as points of introduction for the spread of AIS in the Lewis Creek watershed and throughout the state. The goal of LCA’s boat launch steward program is to prevent the spread of AIS by inspecting watercraft for AIS and other biological materials, identifying and removing suspicious specimens, collecting data, and educating the public about AIS spread prevention.

Though the exceptional amount of rain during the summer of 2023 may have prevented a few people from visiting Bristol and Monkton ponds, many were still undeterred. LCA’s boat launch stewards interacted with a total of 230 watercraft at Bristol Pond and 79 watercraft at Monkton Pond. The vast majority of visitors were already familiar with AIS, likely due to the longevity of the LCA boat steward program and repeated instances of boat stewards across the state educating the public about AIS concerns. However, boat stewards intercepted 35 watercraft with AIS on them before and after entering Bristol and Monkton ponds. If the AIS were not removed by the boat stewards, these watercraft could have introduced AIS to new waterbodies throughout the state and possibly further. The boat stewards also helped remove brittle naiad near the dock at Bristol Pond during the free time between greeting visitors. Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation sent a small team to help the stewards remove brittle naiad on July 8, though further work will be required to eradicate the plant from Bristol Pond.

For the third summer, LCA’s boat launch steward program was successful in intercepting AIS and educating the public on the issues surrounding AIS. The vast majority of visitors to Bristol Pond and Monkton Pond seemed genuinely excited to have the program at the ponds and many people from the community went to the ponds to see LCA’s boat launch stewards in ac-



Portia Butrym, one of the boat launch stewards for summer 2023, waits for visitors at Bristol Pond on an overcast July morning.



A boat steward removed Canadian waterweed (*Elodea canadensis*), a native plant, from a boat and takes a photo for identification.

tion. Research has shown that visual inspection and hand removal of aquatic vegetation is extremely effective at preventing AIS from spreading to other bodies of water, making LCA’s boat launch steward program integral to maintaining the health of waterbodies within the Lewis Creek watershed. The program could potentially prevent, both directly and indirectly, AIS from spreading to other uninfested waterbodies.

This project has been funded wholly or in part by the United States Environmental Protection Agency under assistance agreement (LC 00A00981-0) to NEIWPCC in partnership with the Lake Champlain Basin Program (LCBP).

We Can be Thankful for Vermont’s Wild Turkeys

FROM VT FISH & WILDLIFE PRESS RELEASE

One of our native wild-life species historically played an important role on Thanksgiving Day. North America’s native wild turkeys were the ancestors of the Thanksgiving turkey on our dinner table.

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CALENDAR

PLEASE GO TO HINESBURGRECORD.ORG/CALENDAR FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 30

Publication date for The Hinesburg Record. 3:30pm-4:30 p.m. Chess Club. Carpenter-Carse Library, 69 Ballard’s Corner Rd.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2

10:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Italian Genealogy Through Church Records. Remote Presentation.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 4

7:30-9:00 p.m. Vermont Astronomical Society Meeting. Zoom Meeting.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5

6:00-7:30 p.m. CVSD Board Committee Meetings. CVU High School, Hinesburg.

7:00-8:30 p.m. Community Writers’ Group. Carpenter-Carse Library, 69 Ballards Corner Rd.

7:00-9:00 p.m. Development Review Board Meeting. <https://meet.google.com/eub-awgw-prt>. Town Hall.

7:00-9:00 p.m. Energy Committee. Remote meeting.

7:00-9:00 p.m. Trivia Night in Hinesburg! The Dumb Luck Pub & Grill, 104 Ballard’s Corner Rd.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7

3:30pm-4:30 p.m. Chess Club. Carpenter-Carse Library, 69 Ballard’s Corner Rd.

6:00-8:00 p.m. Folk Jam with SongFarmers. Carpenter-Carse Library, 69 Ballard’s Corner Rd.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 11

5:30-7:30 p.m. Economic Development. Hinesburg Town Hall, 10632 Rte 116

7:00-8:30 p.m. Village Steering Committee Meeting. Hinesburg Town Hall.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12

7:00-9:00 p.m. Hinesburg Conservation Commission Meeting. <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82438637932?pwd=MTZqRwRPMVZkZjM0b3FWb3p1Y2dVdz09>.

7:00-8:00 p.m. Recreation Commission Meeting. Hinesburg Town Hall.

7:00-9:00 p.m. Trivia Night in Hinesburg! The Dumb Luck Pub & Grill, 104 Ballard’s Corner Rd.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13

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

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14

3:30pm-4:30 p.m. Chess Club. Carpenter-Carse Library, 69 Ballard’s Corner Rd.

6:30-8:30 p.m. Lewis Creek Association Board Meeting. <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83093064817?pwd=eUVRT1MxazhvcjktMHN3YkF1ZUktZz09>.

7:00-8:30 p.m. Town Forest Committee Meeting. <https://meet.google.com/kks-okby-ejy>.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17

1:00-3:00 p.m. Cookie Walk. <https://meet.google.com/obj-jkfp-xqb>. United Church of Hinesburg, 10570 Rte 116, Hinesburg.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19

6:00-9:00 p.m. Rm 160 & 162, CVSD School Board Meeting. Champlain Valley Union High School, 369 CVU Rd., Hinesburg, VT.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19

7:00-9:00 p.m. Development Review Board Meeting. <https://meet.google.com/eub-awgw-prt>. Town Hall.

7:00-9:00 p.m. Trivia Night in Hinesburg! The Dumb Luck Pub & Grill, 104 Ballard’s Corner Rd.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20

7:00-9:00 p.m. Trails Committee. Remote meeting.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21

First day of winter.

3:30pm-4:30 p.m. Chess Club. Carpenter-Carse Library, 69 Ballard’s Corner Rd.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24

Christmas Eve.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 25

Christmas Day.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 26

7:00-9:00 p.m. Trivia Night in Hinesburg! The Dumb Luck Pub & Grill, 104 Ballard’s Corner Rd.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 27

7:00-7:00 p.m. Affordable Housing Committee Meeting. Remotely and in person at Town Hall.

7:00-8:30 p.m. Carpenter-Carse Library Trustees Meeting.

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

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 28

3:30pm-4:30 p.m. Chess Club. Carpenter-Carse Library, 69 Ballard’s Corner Rd.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31

New Year’s Eve.

MONDAY, JANUARY 1

New Year’s Day.

MONDAY, JANUARY 1

7:30-9:00 p.m. Vermont Astronomical Society Meeting. Zoom Meeting.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 2

6:00-7:30 p.m. CVSD Board Committee Meetings. CVU High School, Hinesburg.

7:00-8:30 p.m. Community Writers’ Group. Carpenter-Carse Library, 69 Ballards Corner Rd., Hinesburg.

7:00-9:00 p.m. Development Review Board Meeting. <https://meet.google.com/eub-awgw-prt>. Town Hall.

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

7:00-9:00 p.m. Trivia Night in Hinesburg! The Dumb Luck Pub & Grill, 104 Ballard’s Corner Rd.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 4

3:30pm-4:30 p.m. Chess Club. Carpenter-Carse Library, 69 Ballard’s Corner Rd.

6:00-8:00 p.m. Folk Jam with SongFarmers. Carpenter-Carse Library, 69 Ballard’s Corner Rd.

MONDAY, JANUARY 8

5:30-7:30 p.m. Economic Development. Hinesburg Town Hall, 10632 Rte 116.

7:00-8:30 p.m. Village Steering Committee Meeting. Hinesburg Town Hall.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 9

7:00-9:00 p.m. Hinesburg Conservation Commission Meeting. <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82438637932?pwd=MTZqRwRPMVZkZjM0b3FWb3p1Y2dVdz09>.

7:00-8:00 p.m. Recreation Commission Meeting. Hinesburg Town Hall.

7:00-9:00 p.m. Trivia Night in Hinesburg! The Dumb Luck Pub & Grill, 104 Ballard’s Corner Rd.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 10

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

THURSDAY, JANUARY 11

Ad & news deadline for The Hinesburg Record.

3:30pm-4:30 p.m. Chess Club. Carpenter-Carse Library, 69 Ballard’s Corner Rd.

6:30-8:30 p.m. Lewis Creek Association Board Meeting. <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83093064817?pwd=eUVRT1MxazhvcjktMHN3YkF1ZUktZz09>.

7:00-8:30 p.m. Town Forest Committee Meeting. <https://meet.google.com/kks-okby-ejy>.

MONDAY, JANUARY 15

Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 16

6:00-9:00 p.m. Rm 160 & 162, CVSD School Board Meeting. Champlain Valley Union High School, 369 CVU Rd., Hinesburg, VT.

7:00-10:00 p.m. Development Review Board Meeting. Town Office, Lower Level Conference Room.

7:00-9:00 p.m. Trivia Night in Hinesburg! The Dumb Luck Pub & Grill, 104 Ballard’s Corner Rd.

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

THURSDAY, JANUARY 18

3:30pm-4:30 p.m. Chess Club. Carpenter-Carse Library, 69 Ballard’s Corner Rd.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 23

7:00-9:00 p.m. Trivia Night in Hinesburg! The Dumb Luck Pub & Grill, 104 Ballard’s Corner Rd.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 24

7:00-7:00 p.m. Affordable Housing Committee Meeting. Remotely and in person at Town Hall.

7:00-8:30 p.m. Carpenter-Carse Library Trustees Meeting.

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

THURSDAY, JANUARY 25

Publication date for The Hinesburg Record. 3:30pm-4:30 p.m. Chess Club. Carpenter-Carse Library, 69 Ballard’s Corner Rd.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 30

7:00-9:00 p.m. Trivia Night in Hinesburg! The Dumb Luck Pub & Grill, 104 Ballard’s Corner Rd.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 1

First Day of Black History Month.

3:30pm-4:30 p.m. Chess Club. Carpenter-Carse Library, 69 Ballard’s Corner Rd.

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▶ **Outdoors**

continued from page 17

Originally found only in the wild, turkeys now exist as meat-producing domesticated derivatives – the broad breasted white, broad breasted bronze, white Holland, bourbon red, and a host of other breeds – all of them descended from our native wild turkey.

More than 140,000 servings of Vermont wild turkeys are harvested each year – that’s 140,000 servings of free-ranging, wild and sustainably harvested protein.

Wild turkeys exist throughout Vermont today, but that was not always the case. Wild turkeys disappeared from Vermont in the mid-to-late 1800s due to habitat destruction when land was cleared for farming and only 25 percent of the state was covered by forest.

The wild turkeys we see in Vermont today originated from just 31 wild turkeys stocked in Southwestern Vermont by the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department in 1969 and 1970. Vermont’s forest habitat was once again capable of supporting turkeys. State wildlife biologists moved groups of these birds northward, and today Vermont’s population of turkeys is estimated at close to 50,000.

This is just one of many wildlife restoration success stories we can



Turkey populations have been restored across much of North America, thanks to scientific wildlife management by state fish and wildlife agencies. Photo by John Hall

be thankful for in 2023. Funding for Vermont’s wild turkey restoration was derived from the sale of hunting licenses and a federal tax on hunting equipment.

What Are Forest Carbon Markets?

BY ETHAN TAPPER, CHITTENDEN COUNTY FORESTER

If you’re tuned into what’s happening with forests in our region, you may have heard that we can manage forests for carbon and be paid for it. But what are carbon markets, and what do they mean for the way we manage our forests?

The idea of carbon markets is to create a marketplace where carbon emitters pay for practices that sequester and store carbon somewhere else, thus balancing their emissions of carbon or other greenhouse gases. The units of carbon that emitters purchase through carbon mar-

kets are called carbon offsets.

There are two types of carbon markets: regulatory (compliance) markets and voluntary markets. In regulatory markets, such as in California and in Europe, greenhouse gas emitters are issued “allowances” – essentially permits to produce a certain amount of emissions – which can be sold or traded. If they produce greenhouse gas emissions beyond their allowances, emitters are allowed to purchase some carbon offsets to lower their net emissions and bring them into compliance. In regulatory markets, greenhouse gas allowances are gradually reduced, thus lowering overall emissions over time.

By contrast, voluntary carbon markets sell offsets to emitters that wish to voluntarily balance their carbon emissions. By purchasing voluntary carbon offsets, a carbon emitter like a person, a government agency or a corporation can claim to have reduced their net greenhouse gas emissions, or even to be “carbon neutral.”

Forests naturally sequester and store carbon, and so both voluntary and regulatory carbon markets have looked to forests as places to generate carbon offsets. While producing carbon offsets for regulatory markets is more lucrative, it generally isn’t feasible for forests in our region – the forest carbon markets that you’re likely hearing about in Vermont are producing offsets for the voluntary carbon market.

In essence, forest carbon markets pay for forest landowners to do, or not do, practices that lead to a higher-than-normal amount of carbon being stored in their forest. Practices may include planting trees (afforestation), reducing deforestation, and improved forest management practices like letting trees grow bigger and older before harvesting them. The higher amount of carbon stored in the forest after the landowners do (or don’t do) these practices, as compared to forests engaged in “business as usual,” is called additional carbon – that’s the amount of carbon that can be sold to someone else as a carbon offset. The trickiest part of these carbon markets is proving this additionality: that the carbon offset being sold to an emitter represents real, additional carbon stored in a forest that wouldn’t have existed without the

carbon market.

For instance, if “Bob” doesn’t manage his forest for the next twenty years, he can say that the greater amount of carbon in his forest (as compared to other forests in his area, managed under “business as usual” practices) is additional and can be sold as an offset. Unfortunately, forest carbon markets can’t judge Bob’s intent. If Bob wasn’t going to manage his forest for the next twenty years anyway, the carbon market hasn’t changed his behavior or led to any more carbon being stored in Bob’s forest. In this case, one could argue that Bob has actually made things a little worse: after twenty years the same amount of carbon dioxide will be in the atmosphere as would have been there anyway – the only difference that the carbon market made is allowing an emitter to claim to have lower net carbon emissions.

Another concern to be aware of is leakage: storing carbon in one place and emitting carbon somewhere else. If Bob starts heating his house with fuel oil instead of firewood from his land – or buying lumber from forests somewhere else instead of engaging in responsible forest management on his own land – his entry into a carbon program has actually caused more carbon to be emitted.

Carbon markets may also be a force for good – promoting more carbon-friendly practices in the woods, providing an economic incentive to keep forests as forests and giving landowners money that can be reinvested in the responsible stewardship of their forest. But, like timber markets, they aren’t inherently good or bad – the benefits of forest carbon markets will depend on the nuances of how they are applied in our forests.

For more information about forest carbon and carbon markets, check out articles by Ali Kosiba in *Northern Woodlands* magazine at northernwoodlands.org/series/e/forest-carbon.

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.

ARTS

Art Contest: Federal Junior Duck Stamp Program in Vermont

FROM U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE PRESS RELEASE

The annual state-wide Junior Duck Stamp Conservation and Design Program is underway in Vermont. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service invites students from pre-K to 12th grade to create designs featuring ducks, swans, or geese in their natural habitats. Designs are judged in four age categories, with awards for first, second, and third places and honorable mentions. Entries must be received by March 15, 2024. The judging of the artwork will occur on March 28, 2024, at the Vermont Institute of Natural Science in Quechee, Vermont.

The Vermont Best of Show entry will compete with contest winners from other states in a national competition in Washington, D.C. The first-place national winning design is used to create the Federal Junior Duck Stamp. Proceeds from the sale of Junior Duck Stamps support conservation education by providing awards and scholarships for students, teachers, and schools.

Modeled after the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service’s annual Federal Duck Stamp competition, the Junior Duck Stamp contest is part of an educational curriculum that teaches students about waterfowl, the importance of wetlands, and habitat conservation. Proceeds from the sale of Federal Duck Stamps protect wetlands through land acquisition by the National Wildlife Refuge System.

Contest rules and entry forms are currently available for download at tinyurl.com/DuckStampJr. For more information on the contest call the Silvio O. Conte National Fish & Wildlife Refuge at (802) 962-5240, ext. 112. Businesses or organizations who would like to sponsor this program are encouraged to contact the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

HEALTH & SAFETY

Free Lockable Storage Bags Will Help Keep Children from Accessing Cannabis Products

Accidental ingestion of substances among children is on the rise

FROM VT DEPT OF HEALTH PRESS RELEASE

To help reduce the risk of children accessing cannabis products and other substances, the Department of Health and Cannabis Control Board have launched a pilot project to offer free, lockable storage bags at select cannabis stores in Vermont.

The Healthy at Home bags can be used by anyone to store cannabis products safely, but they are especially important for people with young children in the home to prevent them from accidentally eating edibles and other products.

A new Health Department report shows a rise in accidental ingestion of substances among children since 2018, based on emergency department data. Cannabis was among the three most common substances involved in unintentional, nonfatal overdoses in 2022 for children under age 9. Other top substances of concern in Vermont’s youngest children include prescription and over-the-counter medicine and stimulants.

“It’s critical that we safely store all potentially harmful substances, but especially edibles that could appeal to children, like gummies or chocolates,” said Health Commissioner Mark Levine, MD. “These lockable bags make it harder for children to access and consume these products, potentially preventing a trip to the emergency room.”

Cannabis products are required to be in child-resistant packaging when they are sold. The Cannabis Control Board recommends that products stay in their original packaging even after the consumer brings them home, but both the board and the health department support using ex-



Lockable bags for cannabis products are available.

tra layers of security.

“As a board, our goal is to develop a regulatory program that aims to prevent cannabis use among youth and educates consumers about the importance of safe storage,” said Cannabis Control Board Commissioner Julie Hulburd. “Alongside other fundamental safety measures, these locking bags provide an excellent solution for enhancing security when storing potentially harmful substances at home, keeping them out of reach of children and pets.”

The pilot project includes distribution of 3,000 lockable storage bags to stores identified by the Cannabis Control Board. No purchase is necessary to receive a bag. Each bag includes a pamphlet that directs people to a satisfaction survey. The information collected will help guide decisions about expansion of the program to more sites.

The free storage bags will be available at:

- Capital Cannabis Company – Berlin
- Vermont Bud Barn – Brattleboro
- Euphoria Cannabis Products – Burlington
- The High Country – Derby
- Magic Mann – Essex
- FLORA – Middlebury
- Mountain Girl Cannabis – Rutland
- MothaPlant – St. Albans
- Northeast Cannabis – St. Johnsbury
- The Tea House – White River Junction

Even without a lockable bag, you can take steps to keep your home healthy by keeping potentially harmful substances out of sight and out of reach for children and pets. Place harmful substances on high shelves, behind closed doors, install child-proof latches, lock medicine cabinet. For more information visit HealthVermont.gov/HealthyAtHome.

Get more tips on safe storage and disposal of prescription and over-the-counter medications by visiting HealthVermont.gov/DoYourPart.

If you suspect poisoning, dial 9-1-1 or call the Poison Control Center immediately at 1-800-222-1222.

PEOPLE

AARP Vermont Announces 2023 Walking College Graduates and Walk Action Plans

FROM PRESS RELEASE

AARP Vermont is pleased to announce that 13 local advocates, who have completed 6-month fellowships with the 2023 Vermont State Walking College, have announced their Walk Action Plans for their communities. The fellows were recognized in a graduation ceremony in early November.

The Vermont State Walking College program is presented in partnership with America Walks, a national education and advocacy organization which works to advance safe, equitable, accessible, and enjoyable places to walk and move by giving people and communities the resources to effectively advocate for change.

“We are delighted to welcome this group of passionate local leaders who are working to improve walkability and livability in communities throughout the state,” said Kelly Stoddard-Poor, Associate State Director with AARP Vermont. “We are looking forward to supporting their efforts as they start to implement their action plans in communities throughout the state.”

The 13 Vermont State Walking College graduates have developed personal Walk Action Plans, laying out goals and strategies which will guide their advocacy in the coming months and years. Additionally, AARP Vermont has provided grant funding to the nine graduates who applied for it to help enact their plans.

Local graduates:

Beth Anne Royer plans to work with various local committees and the zoning department to expand and highlight Hinesburg’s opportunities to get outside and connect with the landscape on foot, and to connect the trails with the village center.

Deirdre Holmes is working with the Town of Charlotte and local community partners to support walkability town-wide by supporting existing non-vehicular pathways, a trial bus stop, new crosswalks and more.

Barbara Johnson’s plan is to work with local organizations and planning commissions in Shelburne to establish the “Main Street” area

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Carnucopia or Cornucoprius



What the heck is this (below)?



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

People

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of Falls Road as a pedestrian hub through the use of traffic calming, wayfinding signs, and parking studies.

The Walking College Graduates received coaching throughout the Fellowship from the following Mentors:

- Jon Kaplan, retired Bicycle and Pedestrian Program Manager with the Vermont Agency of Transportation.
- Laural Ruggles, co-chair of the Lamoille Valley Rail Trail Regional Council.
- Karen Yacos, urban planner and former Executive Director of Local Motion.

To read each graduates' full Walk Action Plan and to learn more about them, visit aarp.org/vt.

About The Walking College: The Walking College was developed in 2014 by America Walks, with funding support from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The goal of the national program is to build the capacity of local walkability and pedestrian safety advocates to improve their communities. In 2021, AARP Livable Communities partnered with America Walks to develop and implement a series of State Walking Colleges. More info. at americawalks.org/walkingcollege.

About America Walks: America Walks is a national education and advocacy organization devoted to increasing walking and expanding walkable communities throughout the U.S. With a network of more than 30,000 individuals and 700 partner organizations, America Walks' programs include webinar broadcasts, federal advocacy initiatives, online technical assistance, community-based workshops, the National Walking Summit, and the Walking College. More info. at americawalks.org.

CCV and McClure Foundation Celebrate Free Degree Promise on National First-Generation Student Day

FROM PRESS RELEASE

Now in its second year, the McClure Foundation's promise to all Vermont high school students in the classes of 2023-2026 of a free degree through the state's Early College program is reinforcing that when college is af-

fordable, young people enroll.

More than 235 high school seniors from 90 percent of Vermont's high schools and tech centers enrolled in Early College at the Community College of Vermont (CCV) this fall knowing they are eligible for a free degree. That number marks a 70 percent increase in CCV's Early College enrollment since the Free Degree Promise was announced in April 2022 and includes nearly double the number of first-generation college students as well as increased participation among low-income students and students of color.

"The promise of a free, fast-tracked associate degree is a game changer for Vermont youth," says CCV President Joyce Judy, speaking on National First-Generation Student Day. "It's making college the easy choice for students, especially those who didn't see themselves going to college before now."

Hinesburg Student Speaks at Event

Aiden Robertson of Hinesburg is a student at the Community College of Vermont. On Nov. 8, he shared his story of participating in the McClure Free Degree Promise. Aiden spoke about how his guidance counselor told him about the opportunity to start college early, debt-free, and he said, "Sign me up!" He particularly appreciates the multiple pathways of degree and certificate programs available, from Leadership Skills certificate to a degree in business, as well as the resources for academic support offered by CCV.



CCV Student Aiden Robertson.

What is the Free Degree Promise?

The Free Degree Promise is an accelerated pathway to a free CCV degree. The Promise builds on the state's existing Early College program, which allows Vermont high school seniors to complete their last year of high school and their first year of college at the same time, earning free college credits that also count toward graduation from high school.

Students who complete the Early College program receive a second year of free college at CCV, giving them the chance to earn an associate degree of their choosing the year after high school graduation. The Promise covers tuition and fees after federal and state financial aid and offers a living stipend and enhanced advising. Students can choose from CCV's 11 associate degree programs, earning credits that transfer easily to four-year programs at Vermont State University as well as UVM, Champlain and other colleges and universities in Vermont and beyond. "I was ready to push myself, to take my learning to the next level," said Blake Clark, who is among the first graduates of the Free Degree Promise. He plans on using his degree to open his own business once he becomes a certified electrician.

Good for Vermonters, Good for Vermont

McClure Foundation Executive Director Carolyn Weir says that a primary goal of the Promise is raising aspirations. "Conversations about life after high school should be focused on what youth want rather than what families can afford," she said. "When young people know a degree is within reach, they can imagine a life full of opportunity. We're hearing of young people staying in Vermont because of the Free Degree Promise."

Weir says CCV is the right partner for the Promise because community colleges are engines of economic mobility and because most Early College students in the state enroll at CCV. With locations within 25 miles of 95 percent of Vermonters, CCV serves the greatest number of Vermonters of any college in the state.

"Education after high school is an investment in a thriving future for Vermonters and for Vermont," said Dan Smith, President and CEO of the Vermont Community Foundation, which is the parent organization of the McClure Foundation and a partner in the Free Degree Promise initiative. "No matter the path, education opens doors and gives people flexibility and control over their future."

Employers are taking note. "Programs like these enable Vermonters to reach their full potential by supporting them in taking an important step toward advancing their education and embracing lifelong careers in fields like healthcare," says Anna Noonan, President and COO, Central Vermont Medical Center. "We at CVMC know firsthand that CCV is an innovative partner in supporting career development. This opportunity is a game chang-

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OBITUARIES

George Eugene Bedard

George Eugene Bedard, of Hinesburg, died after a long battle with cancer and Parkinson's disease on Sunday, Nov. 5, 2023, at the age of 79. George was born in Saint Johnsbury in 1944 to Robert W. and Yvonne L. Bedard and was the eldest of six children.

He first attended Saint Johnsbury Academy, graduating from there in 1962 and then enrolled at Saint Michael's College where he started to pursue a degree in medicine. George put his studies on pause when he enlisted with the Army in the First Cavalry, Armored Division, Artillery Survey, and served in Vietnam. He returned home after an honorable discharge and completed his higher education with a B.S. in Business Administration at the University of Vermont. It was there that he met his future wife, Janis Peplau.

George was self-employed as a land surveyor and a realtor for decades



George Eugene Bedard

and was very active in lending his expertise in any scenario where it could help people with questions they had about their land. He served on the local planning commission for over 20 years as an advocate for the community and its citizens, particularly farmers.

Family meant the world to George, and he took great pride in his children and his grandchildren. Across multiple states (and occasionally the International Date Line), he and his siblings maintained close and supportive relationships, in recent years through a weekly Zoom call that he looked forward to all week. He could often be found manning the grill of any cookout, even if it wasn't his own. George was al-

People

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er for first-generation students and for employers alike."

Even beyond Vermont, the program is getting attention. Promise partners were recently invited to join Accelerate ED, a movement that brings together teams from across the country committed to providing debt-free college and career pathways to their state or region's high school students.

While it's exciting to think about scaling the program, says Weir, McClure and CCV also remain focused on supporting current students, especially those who stand to benefit the most from a degree.

"To get those two years, and not be in debt, and get farther...it opens a lot of doors and opportunities," said OJ Daring, a former Winooski High School and CCV Early College student.

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ways happy to flip burgers and spin a tale or two to those who would pass by.

George passed peacefully at the McClure Miller Respite House in a sun-warmed room surrounded by his children and his wife of 52 years. George was preceded in death by his parents. George is survived by his wife Janis; their four children Melanie, Joseph (Margaret), Benjamin (Megan), and Christiana; four grandchildren Lucian, Addison, Renee, and Orion; and his five siblings, Joann Jurentkuff (Darwin), Marie Hagan, Rachel Perry (Carl), Elizabeth and John. He is also loved and remembered fondly by his international "kids": Magnus Halberg (Sweden), Tobias Toyberg-Franzen (Sweden), Martin Wesley-Holand (Norway), Josua Burkhart (Switzerland), Nik Weigelt (Switzerland) and Natascha Oberli (Switzerland) as well as many other shorter term exchange students over the last 30-plus years.

His family would like to thank the

wonderful people at UVM Home Health & Hospice, especially case-manager-turned-friend Judy Johnson. George had an incredible team providing for his care over the last seven months, and his family expresses their heartfelt gratitude to the LNAs, nurses, Dr. Nancy Long, as well as the staff and volunteers at the McClure Miller Respite House.

Visiting hours were held on Tuesday, Nov. 7, 2023, at A. W. Rich Funeral Home - Essex Chapel. A graveside service was held on Wednesday, Nov. 8, 2023, at the family lot in Bissonette Cemetery on Gilman Road, Hinesburg, where full military honors were accorded this Vietnam veteran. His family asks that anyone wishing to make a donation in his memory please consider UVM Home Health & Hospice or the Vermont Food Bank or a charity of your choice, in lieu of flowers.

Memories can be shared at tinyurl.com/GeorgeBedard.

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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

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 Church Hinesburg page)



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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



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Email: Tim@jackmansinc.com
Mary@jackmansinc.com
64 Jackman Drive, Bristol, Vermont 05443

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 • ucfih.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.

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

Hinesburg Artist Series

continued from page 1

Jiwon Lee.

"So many people have told me that this is their favorite event of the year," said Rufus Patrick, HAS Music Director. "We will have holiday favorites and other inspiring selections. Sharing this great music performed by our talented musicians is such a joyful experience."

The featured works this year are David Lovrien's compositions featuring traditional holiday music with minor alterations. The combined chorus and orchestra will also perform *Gloria in Excelsis Deo* and *Masters in This Hall* by Mark Hayes as well as *Merry Christmas, Merry Christmas* from Home Alone 2 and a wonderful Camp Kirkland arrangement of *Ding Dong Merrily on High*.

This is a wonderful tradition dating back over 25 years, that will also include a sing-along and maybe the appearance of a special guest. Whether you come at 2 or 4:30, the concerts will be the same and will definitely give your holiday/Christmas spirits a boost.

The concert is free, but donations to HAS are welcome and the audience is also encouraged to bring something for the food shelf.

Please go to the HAS website, hinesburgartistsseries.org for more information.



Cellist Jiwon Lee



Music director Rufus Patrick rehearses the South County Chorus for the holiday concert

Slow News

continued from page 24

Want to help keep the slow, hyper-local news coming in Hinesburg? For example, (This is one of my pet peeves with *The Record*) as of early November no one has been reporting on the Champlain Valley School Board meetings. I know firsthand (because I covered the HCS board for years) that it isn't a bad job. You can even view the recordings of the meetings from the comfort of your home. Townspeople ought to know the decision-making processes that determine our tax bills and the learning opportunities our children have. Maybe you could share the job with a friend. Or not.

Or, if technology is your thing, you could help improve *The Record's* online presence. Or report on local sports. Or help put copies of *The Hinesburg Record* in newsstands. There are countless volunteer positions unfilled and so many not yet even thought of.

The Hinesburg Record is slow news, but it will be fast to find you something to do regardless of what your inclinations and capacities are.

And, of course, donations are always appreciated.

So, whether you have only \$1 to give, or only 15 minutes per month to volunteer, please consider helping *The Hinesburg Record* keep our slow, hyper-local, community building news coming.

It's a fact that you always, in unexpected ways, gain more than you give when you volunteer.

To volunteer, simply contact Kevin Lewis at 802-999-2410 or information@hinesburgrecord.org. He will be happy to hear from you.

To donate, just go to hinesburgrecord.org/donate. From now to the end of the year, your donation will be matched dollar-for-dollar. And, don't forget, your donation is tax-deductible!

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BACK STORIES

of Hinesburg

Slow, Hyper-local News!

Volunteers Building Community One Issue at a Time

BY PAT MAINER

Hello *Hinesburg Record* readers!

Recently I was asked to join *The Hinesburg Record's* Board of Directors. It wasn't a surprising request given that I'd volunteered in various ways for *The Record* much of the time since the 1980s. But, nonetheless, I had to ponder, "Is *The Hinesburg Record* still relevant in the 21st century? Is it still worth donating my time?" I'll share my thinking with you.

Most of us rush to look at Front Porch Forum daily and scan *The Citizen* for the relevant articles weekly. I also zoom through *VT Digger* and the *New York Times* on-line to keep up with news and commentary. For me, that's fast news and important news for being an informed citizen.

For others, fast news comes with the nightly news on TV, cable broadcasting, Instagram,

X (formerly Twitter), radio and any number of other sources of "information" on screens.

Now, when *The Hinesburg Record* arrives via snail mail or when I pick it up at a local newsstand, it can sit around for a few days, maybe more, before I find time to sit down, maybe with a beverage, to read and peruse it. I look at the photos and note people I know and people who are doing good work in town. I even quickly scan the ads, for no particular reason, other than curiosity about who is doing what. It doesn't take all that long, but it's a very different experience, with a less frenzied pace than fast news. Slow news!

I can't be the only person in Hinesburg who still likes to spend 15 or 20 minutes, sometimes more, sometimes less, maybe 10 times a year on that way of connecting with other people and issues in town. There's something soothing about reading about the school play, looking at photos of first graders playing soccer, or seeing the turnout for the parade. It's nice to read statements from people running for town offices and learn about town issues without the

social media tones that sometimes arise elsewhere.

Even if I don't personally know every person who contributes articles, I know that they bothered to submit the article because they care about our community.

The slow news is also hyper-local.

I can picture the places the news is occurring and perhaps even participate in it. I've never been to the Middle East, and fortunately can't picture the atrocities there nor can I directly do much about them. But I have been, for example, to selectboard meetings or walked on local trails that need work, and can show up for selectboard meetings or trail work days if I feel the need to try to make a difference. It's hyper-local news on which I can act (or not).

So, having thought and thought...I decided that the slow, hyper-local news in *The Hinesburg Record* is relevant. It makes us a community, not just a town on a map.

But *The Record* needs work and it definitely needs many more volunteers! And of course it needs money.

continued on page 23

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 Community Resource Center

Volunteer to help run our benefit thrift shop, Twice is Nice, in daily shifts. Or help stock shelves and offer assistance to families visiting the Food Shelf. Volunteers are needed to help with clothing and book swaps in April and October. Contact Anna Main at 802-482-4946 or at main@hinesburgresource.org 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 Ray Mainer at rmainer@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.

Town Committees

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

- 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 Katharina Frazier (Assistant Town Manager) at 802-482-2281 ext. 1 or kfrazier@hinesburg.org.

The Hinesburg Record

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

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

PHOTO OF THE MONTH



View southeast from Shelburne Falls Road just west of Route 116, 170 MM. Photo courtesy of John Steen.