Pthe HINESBURG TO THE COLOR

Hinesburg's independent, nonprofit, community newspaper

MARCH 2024

Hinesburg Artist Series to Present Annual Spring Concert

Sunday, March 17

BY DOTTY SCHNURE, HAS BOARD MEMBER

s a celebration of bringing joy and music to the community, the Hinesburg Artist Series will present its 25th Anniversary St. Patrick's Day concert. This performance will feature the beautiful Requiem for the Living, by Dan Forrest. The South County Chorus and Hinesburg Artist Series Orchestra will perform with guest artists soprano Cristina Escobedo, tenor Cameron Brownell, baritone Gary Moreau and cellist Jiwon Lee under the direction of Rufus Patrick. Performances will be at 2 p.m. and again at 4:30 p.m. on Sunday, March 17, at St. Jude Catholic Church in Hinesburg.

"This concert promises to be one of our most inspiring performances," said Rufus Patrick, HAS Music Director and founder of the organization.

"The Requiem is incredibly moving, and we are very excited to share the joy of this spectacular music."

The chorus and orchestra will also present A Song of Peace, May the Road Rise to Meet You, and Spirit Suite II, arranged by Mark Hayes. The HAS Orchestra will play Irish Suite, Part 2, and the HAS ensembles will perform a group of Irish music including Kesh Jig, Star of the County Down, and Coleraine Jigs.

"We are so fortunate to have this opportunity to come together to make music like this in Hinesburg," said soprano Karen Farnsworth, who has been singing with the Hinesburg Artist Series for all of its 26 years. "We really feel a special connection with so many loyal audience members, and are al-



Soprano Cristina Escobedo

ways excited to see others discover the high quality we bring to a local performance."

The Hinesburg Artist Series welcomes guest artist soprano Cristina Escobedo. She will be singing with the chorus and performing *Te quiero digiste* by

continued on page 23

CVSD Students Participate in Statehouse Rally

BY JESSICA PHELAN, CONNECTING YOUTH COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR, CVSD

n Tuesday, Feb. 13, students from Williston Central and Hinesburg Community schools joined more than 160 young Vermonters in The Annual OVX/VKAT (Our Voices Exposed/Vermont Kids Against Tobacco) Youth Statehouse Rally in Montpelier. The event provides youth from around the state a platform to educate and inform key decision-makers and fellow Vermonters about tobacco and nicotine-related issues, as seen and experienced firsthand. Specifically, their call to action was in support

of S.18 – Vermont's bill to ban flavored tobacco products. Our students bravely shared their stories on the capitol steps, spoke to legislators caucusing on the floor, and generally had an unmissable presence in the Statehouse all morning.

These advocates didn't just stand up, they spoke up, inspiring all with their passion and conviction. CVSD Connecting Youth is proud to amplify their voices, and we encourage you to join them in advocating for a healthier future.



Hinesburg students reading their stories on the state steps to the rally.

Is Eurasian Watermilfoil Just Another Weed?

BY PAT SUOZZI, PRESIDENT, FEDERATION OF VERMONT LAKES AND PONDS

hat is Eurasian watermilfoil? Is it just a weed that might be a nuisance but isn't harmful to lakes and ponds? After all, it has been found in many lakes around the country and has been in some of Vermont's lakes for decades. Maybe it should be considered native now that it has been here for a while. But is it really just another weed that has now naturalized? The answer is no, and here's why:

According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Eurasian water-

continued on page 12

INSIDE...

Access CVU

Page 14: Almost 100 classes that have yet to start, and more being added monthly, there's something for everyone.



Vermont Senate Targets Ghost Guns

Page 4: Bill being considered prohibits possession, transfer or manufacture of firearms without serial numbers.

Service Directory & Calendar

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

BACK STORIES

of Hinesburg

Wetlands Being Restored

Page 24: UVM students are working to restore the landscape by testing methods of invasive species removal.

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HINESBURG RECORD • FEBRUARY 29, 2024 • HINESBURGRECORD.ORG • PAGE 3

Deadline for our next Issue: March 14

Send articles to: news@hinesburgrecord.org.

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

Contact us at ads@hinesburgrecord.org for ads or call us at 802-999-2410.

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

Deadlines for 2024 & 2025

Advertisement/News	Publication Dat
March 14	March 28
April 11	April 25
May 16	
June 13	~
There is no publication date	in July
August 15	August 29
September 12	September 26
October 17	•
November 14	November 29
There is no publication date	
January 16, 2025	
J ,	30,

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Town News

Town Clerk & Treasurer

BY HEATHER ROBERTS

Town Meeting Updates

Town Meeting Day is only a few days away. The informational meeting will be held on Monday, March 4. at 7 p.m. at the CVU high school auditorium and via Zoom. Please visit the town website at **hinesburg.org** for the Zoom link. At the informational meeting, townspeople will have the opportunity to ask the selectboard questions about the proposed town budget and other articles. All articles will be voted on by Australian ballot on Tuesday, March 5, at Town Hall along with the CVSD budget/ articles and the presidential primary. The polls will be open from 7 a.m. until 7 p.m. and our plan is to be in the main hall now that repairs to the Town Hall roof have been completed.

You can request that early ballots be mailed to you or a family member by calling the Town Clerk's office or emailing hroberts@hines-

LETTERS

Letter Policy

are those of the writers

be published.

he Hinesburg Record wel-

who are involved in issues that

affect our town. The opinions ex-

pressed in the Letters to the Editor

All letters must be signed. Addresses

Addresses and phone numbers will not

Letters should be 500 words or less.

and we reserve the right to edit based

on available space. When possible, let-

forums exist for statewide, national.

and international issues.

drop box on Charlotte Road.

The Rights of

Minors

ters should focus on local issues. Other

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.

In the state of Vermont, children

can be charged as adults. In fact,

minors as young as 14 must be

Box 304 or deliver them to the Record

and phone numbers must also be

provided for verification purposes.

comes letters from Hinesburg

residents and from others

burg.org or kfrazier@hinesburg. org. You may also stop by our office during our regular hours of 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday through Friday to pick up your ballot or request ballots for a family member. Voters can also request early ballots and monitor the status of their ballot requests on their My Voter page at mvp.vermont.gov.

You can vote early at the Town Clerk's office up until noon on Monday, March 4, after which time we will be closing the office to process early ballots and prepare for voting on Tuesday. Early ballots can be returned in person to the Town Clerk's office, dropped in the secure drop box on the sidewalk outside our office (between the parking lot and the side entrance to the clerk's office), or handed in at the check-in desk at the polling place up until the close of the polls on March 5.

If you wish to participate in the Presidential Primary, please be sure to indicate whether you would like the Republican party or Democratic party ballot.

Vermont now has same day voter registration, so if for some reason

grief and warrant serious conse-

mand harsh punishment in their

wake is defensible, however puni-

tive interpretations of justice give

me pause, especially when they im-

I am a middle school teacher, so I

deeply about my students, and I

know they struggle with self-reg-

ulation. Contemporary psycholo-

gists maintain that "risk-taking

peaks during adolescence...at a

time when a still immature cog-

nitive control system is not yet

strong enough to consistently re-

strain potentially hazardous im-

pulses." If adults make decisions

system and young people cannot,

are they equally responsible for

For years, public interest lawyer

attention to problematic contra-

Bryan Stevenson has been calling

dictions in our legal system. We do

not allow children to smoke, drink,

vote or drive without restrictions

aided by a mature cognitive control

spend my days surrounded by ado-

lescents; they are not adults. I care

quences. The inclination to de-

pact minors.

their choices?

prosecuted in criminal court if they because of their well-recognized

you have moved and forgotten to change your registration, you can register in Hinesburg at the polls. You may also make the change online by visiting olvr.vermont.gov. We strongly encourage you to do it ahead of time, if possible.

Dog Licenses Due by April 1

Dog licenses are here and it is time to register your pet for 2024. Please be sure to bring a valid rabies certificate when you come in to obtain a license - unless we already have one on file from last year. A bill showing that your dog got a rabies shot does not qualify as a rabies certificate. The fee remains \$10/dog. If you would prefer to obtain the license via mail. you can send a check for \$10/dog, a copy of any updated rabies certificates, and a self-addressed stamped envelope to the Town Clerk's office.

Green Mountain **Passports**

Spring will be here soon and we continue to offer the Green Mountain Passport to those community members who are 62 or older or veterans of the uniformed services. For a nominal fee of \$2, the passport entitles the carrier to free admittance to the Vermont State

on our state and serious crimes

are being committed too fre-

lack of maturity and judgment. So why are we treating them like fullgrown adults in our courtrooms? Our culture has conditioned us to are accused of committing one of act with a sense of urgency, espethe egregious offenses current legcially when the stakes are high. islation designates as "the Big 12." Social issues are bearing down Violent crimes cause devastating

quently. We fear a society bereft of accountability. We don't have to prosecute children as adults to hold them accountable. The family division of the superior court exists for a reason. It ought to maintain exclusive jurisdiction over delinquency proceedings involving individuals who have not yet reached the age of 18. This would afford juvenile offenders private proceedings and

I do not believe our state will be safer if we continue to subject children to adult criminal hearings and sentences. Furthermore, I feel morally obligated to suggest that continuing this practice will disproportionately harm some of the most disenfranchised, vulnerable members of our population.

a better chance at rehabilitation.

It would not excuse them from

consequences.

If any of the concerns raised in this piece resonate with you, I encourage you to express your perspective to your local legislators.

-Cara Gallagher

Parks (day use only) for life. What a great program! Get out and enjoy the wonderful resources that our state has to offer.

Planning for **Additional** Housing and Diversified **Housing Stock**

BY CARL BOHLEN AND DALE WERNHOFF, HINESBURG AFFORDABLE HOUSING **COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

This is the second article in a series from the Hinesburg Affordable Housing Committee (HAHC). Our first article referenced recommendations made in the 2023 update of Hinesburg's Housing Needs Assessment. This article focuses on the recommendation to plan for additional housing and a more diversified housing stock, with a focus on smaller homes.

As our community grows, so does the demand for housing that is both affordable and diverse. Hinesburg's demographic landscape reflects broader societal shifts. Even though young adults are declining in numbers, due to aging residents choosing to stay in their single-unit homes, the need for housing for young families remains urgent, as it does for seniors.

Despite increased demand, new home construction has been slow. The pandemic exacerbated existing challenges, including a mismatch between household size and available one- and two-bedroom homes. The homeownership market squeeze forces potential buyers into renting, further limiting rental options. Due to the housing shortage, the Vermont Housing Finance Agency has assigned approximate yearly new housing targets for Hinesburg ranging from 140 units in 2025 up to 293 units in 2029, with approximately 25 percent of these units being perpetually affordable. The HAHC continues its effort to bring these needed homes to reality, especially those that are affordable.

There are currently plans in various stages of development to add 502 new units over the next decade (or longer). Notably, these include 112 perpetually affordable units, a significant step toward easing the burden on cost-burdened households. These units will be at Kelley's Field Expansion (between Lantman's Market and Mechanicsville Road), Haystack Crossing (from the north side of Patrick Brook to Shelburne Falls Road), Hinesburg Center II (south of Patrick Brook and west of

Kinney Drugs), Laster Subdivision (east of Mechanicsville Road), and Windy Ridge (between NRG and CVU Road). This new housing stock should make efficient use of the available land and will include a mix of single-family homes, townhouses, apartments and a 50-unit congregate senior housing building. Bear in mind, though, that there is no guarantee that all these units will be built as planned.

Hinesburg's commitment to affordable and diversified housing is commendable. By implementing the recommendations in the Housing Needs Assessment, the town can create a more vibrant community where everyone has a place to call home.

For more details, refer to the Hinesburg Housing Needs Assessment which is available on the HAHC page on the town

Spring is Almost Here... Can **Building Season** Be Far Behind?

BY JIM JARVIS. TOWN OF HINESBURG ZONING **ADMINISTRATOR**

Do I need a Zoning Permit?

It may not look like building season is here, but it's right around the corner. Eventually, the snow will melt and projects will be upon us. In the time of Covid, contractors have been stressed getting materials and labor to attack projects; so planning early is critically important now.

Zoning permits are required for all land development if the total added square footage is 100 sq. ft. or more. This includes houses, finished basements, sheds, decks, garages, barns, swimming pools and ponds. Buildings under 100 sq. ft. must still meet setback requirements from front, side and back property lines, even though they don't require a permit.

When can I start building?

Plan on three to four weeks from the time we get your completed application. This includes a mandatory two-week appeal period, from the time the permit is issued. In addition, state law requires that I issue a decision on an application within 30 days, but this office tries to get them issued within two weeks. Once we get into late spring and the flood of applications hits, we may need every bit of that two weeks.

continued on page 4

GOVERNMENT CONTACTS

US Senators

Peter Welch, D 802-652-2450 welch.senate.gov **Bernie Sanders** 802-862-0697 sanders.senate.gov

US Congressman

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

VT Senate Chittenden District

Philip Baruth, P/D - Burlington 802-503-5266 pbaruth@leg.state.vt.us **Virginia "Ginny" Lyons**, D - Williston

802-863-6129 vlyons@leg.state.vt.us **Christopher A. Pearson**. P/D -Burlington 802-860-3933, CPearson@leg.state.vt.us

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Kesha Ram, D - Burlington 802-324-5608 kesha@kesharam.com

Thomas Chittenden, D - South Burlington 802-233-1913

Vermont House

Phil Pouech. D - Hinesburg ppouech@leq.state.vt.us

Chea Waters Evans, D- Hinesburg/ Charlotte cevans@leg.state.vt.us

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Town Hall Information Heather Roberts. Clerk Treasurer

hroberts@hinesburg.org

CVSD School Board

Keith Roberts, Director 802-482-3134 Colleen MacKinnon, Vice Chair 802-482-3266

TOWN HALL INFORMATION HINESRIERG 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-

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, ijarvis@ 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 McCuin, 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,

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

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

Have an ad? email ads@hinesburgrecord.org

or call 802-999-2410.

▶ Town News continued from page 3

What are the permit fees?

The total permit fee varies by the type of construction. You'll need to submit a dimensioned sketch or drawing of the project with your application. Once I review the drawing, I can determine what the required fee will be. An application is considered complete once the check arrives.

Are there other requirements?

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

Got questions?

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

Selectboard **Highlights**

BY MERRILY LOVELL, SELECTBOARD CHAIRPERSON

January 17

The selectboard heard a clear and helpful presentation from Clayton Clark, General Manager of Green Mountain Transit. A good discussion with selectboard members and members of the public followed. This presentation was for information only. No decisions were expected or made.

The selectboard received a request for additional drinking water testing from a group of homeowners who live near the closed landfill. Many members of this group, and others, gave impassioned, detailed and knowledgeable statements supporting the need for more testing, in light of the Town's hired experts, Stone Environmental's, recommendation of reducing the number of wells tested based on recent results. Selectboard members listened and took in the information but no decisions were made at this

Have news? email news@hinesburgrecord.org. time. The selectboard had already increased the landfill budget by \$27,500 for FY25.

The selectboard had a discussion on draft FY25 operating and capital budgets. The selectboard will approve the budget and the warning for the March 4, 2024, Town Meeting at its next meeting on

The selectboard had a brief discussion on the draft Public Safety Plan, which became available to us recently. A public hearing for this plan will be held on Feb. 7, when all members of the public will be invited to give input on the results found in this plan.

January 25

The selectboard met briefly at 4 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 25. We voted unanimously to approve the FY 25 Operating Budget and the FY 25 Capital Budget that will be presented to voters at our Town Meeting on Monday night at 7 p.m., March 4, 2024, in the CVU auditorium.

The last item on our short agenda was to approve the warning for the Town Meeting. The Town Meeting Warning, showing all the items that will be discussed Monday night and voted on Tuesday, March 5, can be found on the Town's website, as well as the budget documents: hinesburg.org/selectboard/pages/ town-meeting-2024.

The next selectboard meeting will be on Feb. 7. The meeting will start with a public hearing on the draft Public Safety Strategic Plan. This plan can be found on the Town website at hinesburg.org/home/news/ public-safety-strategic-plan.

February 7

The main item for our meeting was a presentation by Paul Bishop, MPA, from CGR, of the Public Safety Strategic Plan and a public hearing with the opportunity for the public to ask questions. Future steps to take in relation to this plan will be discussed at future selectboard meetings.

The Town Common Committee received a grant in the amount of \$30,000 for planting trees. Planting will start in late summer. The grant also includes the pruning of all street trees in Creekside.

A meeting is being scheduled for the joint Richmond and Hinesburg Police Governance Committee to continue to discuss our contractual relationship.

The Town Manager announced that the Town Hall roof repair was almost completed. The first public use of the Town Hall will likely be the Town Meeting Day election on Tuesday, March 5.

LEGISLATIVE

Ghost Guns the Target of New Bill in Vermont Senate

BY NORAH WHITE, COMMUNITY NEWS SERVICE

egislators are considering a bill that would largely prohibit the possession, transfer or manufacture of firearms without serial numbers, including what are known as ghost guns, which supporters of the proposal say are an increasing issue in Vermont.

Ghost guns are firearms built at home using kits that come with all the parts needed for a gun. The unassembled parts aren't considered guns by federal law, aren't subject to the same regulations and therefore have no serial number.

Vermont has no law regulating such ready-made kits. However, as gun violence gains increasing attention in the state, gun control advocates believe passing the bill will help lower violence rates, said Conor Casey, the director of Gun

Sense Vermont, one of the organizations backing the bill.

"If you're able to sort of order the parts piece by piece, certainly it's not going to have a serial number, and if those firearms get in the wrong hands, it could make it very difficult for law enforcement to track who committed the crime," Casey said.

Sen. Phil Baruth, D/P-Chittenden Central, one of the bill's lead sponsors, said the proposal aims to prevent people from easily distributing untraceable guns to bad actors. "All of these things have – at root - the desire to prevent mass shootings and prevent the normal kinds of deaths by guns like homicide and suicide," said Baruth, who also serves as president pro tempore.

But some gun rights advocates aren't convinced the bill would change much about gun crime in Vermont.

"I don't care what law you pass. Criminals will always be able to get guns if they can 3D print them," said Chris Bradley, director of the Vermont Federation of Sportsmen Clubs, who agreed the use of ghost

School Spotlight: CSWD's Annual Recycle Rally Results

his year's Recycle Rally Challenge was a huge success. The CSWD Recycle Rally challenges teams of students and teachers to raise awareness about proper management of their resources. Each participating school made tremendous strides when it comes to the three R's: Reducing, Reusing, and Recycling.

Brewster Pierce Memorial School (BPMS) took home the coveted Recycle Rally trophy. The 'little school that could' ended up with a 96 percent accuracy rate when it comes to sorting their waste into the correct bins. The school also took several steps to increase their overall sustainability, including using a bulk milk machine, which eliminates landfill-bound milk cartons and reduces the amount of wasted milk. They also created a student-led recycling collection team and offer annual trainings for each classroom on what goes where.

Our Changemaker Award, which is given to the school which makes the biggest overall improvement. went to Underhill Central School

(UCS). Students at UCS increased their sorting skills by 18 percent over a four-week period.

The next Recycle Rally Challenge begins in October.

Zero Waste Challenge

BY KAT MOODY, COMMUNITY OUTREACH COORDINATOR

ebruary marks the second month of our month. month of our monthly "zero waste" challenges to help get us all closer to a life of less waste.

February's challenge: pick one wasteful item to reduce. This might be the one item that is always filling up your trash or the item that gives you a twinge of guilt to use.

For me, that's plant-based milk cartons. These cartons are not recyclable and have to be thrown in the trash (cswd.net/a-to-z/milkjuice-cartons). This month I am going to learn how to make plantbased milk so that I can stop filling my trash can with those pesky milk cartons. Read more at ambitiouskitchen.com/how-to-makehomemade-nut-milk. Feel free to join in on the challenge and email me pictures of your completed challenges to be featured on our social media: kmoody@cswd.net.

guns in crimes is a problem. "So where exactly in the course of events are you going to catch somebody with one of these things?'

The bill, S.209, would require all firearms to have serial numbers and impose penalties for any person carrying a firearm without a serial number, outside of several exceptions.

A first-time violator would face at

most a year's imprisonment and up to a \$500 fine; a second offense raises the prison time to up to two years and the fine to up to \$1,000. Three or more offenses could lead to a sentence of up to 19 years and a fine of up to \$2,000. The bill additionally would require proceedings against people ages 14 to 21 who are charged with human trafficking, trafficking regulated drugs, carrying a firearm during a felony or aggravated stalking be placed in the criminal court system.

The bill would also create a process for federally licensed firearms dealers to print serial numbers on firearms, frames and receivers without them.

Vermont saw a record number of gunshot fatalities in 2022, according to a story published this past December by Vermont Public. The public media outlet has analyzed gunshot deaths in the state since 2011 and seen a general rise since that time. In 2022, the most recent year of data analyzed, homicides made up a larger portion of the total than suicides for the first time since 2019. Seventy-three percent of gun deaths in Vermont in 2022 were ruled suicides, while 41 percent were labeled homicides, according to federal data the news outlet analyzed.

Casey's group, Gun Sense Vermont, says Vermont has the highest rate of gun deaths in New England.

"Burlington went from probably about two firearm incidents a year to I think 30-plus the last year there," Casey said. "So you need to give law enforcement all the tools they can to prosecute these crimes and make sure people are held accountable. So this (bill) is just one more tool in the box in that case."

But Bradley said the bill puts unnecessary rules in place that only law-abiding citizens will follow. Groups like his also say law enforcement would be unable to see whether a gun has a serial number unless it was involved in a crime, he said, because the numbers are so small.

The Community News Service is a program in which University of Vermont students work with professional editors to provide content for local news outlets at no cost.

Police January 9: 1:11 p.m. An officer assisted with a disabled tractor trail-

er truck on Route 116. 5:34 p.m. Suspicious activity on Route 116 was investigated.

8:25 p.m. Suspicious activity on North Road was investigated

Lane was conducted

9:57 p.m. An officer assisted a motorist who had gone off the roadway on Silver Street.

January 10: 7 a.m. An alarm activation on Ballard's Corner Road was investigated.

7:05 a.m. An officer responded to a single car motor vehicle crash on Pond Road.

7:25 a.m. An officer assisted with a traffic hazard on Hollow Road.

7:31 a.m. An officer responded to a single car motor vehicle crash on Route 116.

8:37 a.m. An officer assisted with a traffic hazard on North Road

9:53 a.m. A welfare check was conducted on Patricia's Place

January 11: 10:45 a.m. A welfare check was conducted on Hillview Terrace.

with a lockout.

5:40 p.m. Suspicious activity on Hillview Terrace was investigated.

4:10 p.m. A citizen was assisted

January 12: 7:45 a.m. An officer responded to a single car motor vehi-

cle crash on Sherman Hollow Road.

8:56 p.m. A welfare check on Clover 8:03 a.m. An officer was called to a single car motor vehicle crash on Pond Road.

> January 14: 7 a.m. Suspicious activity on Gilman Road was investigated.

8:25 a.m. Suspicious activity on Ballard's Corner Road was investigated.

2:21 p.m. Officers responded to a single car motor vehicle crash on Silver Street.

5:35 p.m. A citizen was assisted with a civil matter stemming from a custody issue.

erty was turned into the Hinesburg

January 15: 8:37 a.m. Found prop-

9:33 a.m. A welfare check was conducted on Lewis Creek Road.

10:55 a.m. A motor vehicle complaint on Route 116 was investigated.

continued on page 6

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continued from page 5

▶ Police

12:11 p.m. Suspicious activity on North Road was investigated.

3:25 p.m. An officer responded to Pine Shore Drive for a citizen dispute stemming from a custody issue.

8:45 p.m. A welfare check was conducted on Route 116.

January 16: 10:08 a.m. A fraud was reported and investigated.

4:15 p.m. An officer assisted state police with a traffic crash in Charlotte

January 17: 7:42 a.m. Suspicious activity on Route 116 was investigated.

9:43 a.m. Suspicious activity on Commerce Street was investigated.

3:12 p.m. Officers investigated suspicious circumstances on Hawk Lane.

January 18: 12:30 p.m. Officers responded to a two-car motor vehicle crash on Route 116.

2:30 p.m. A citizen was assisted with fingerprinting for employment purposes.

3:45 p.m. A citizen was assisted with fingerprinting for employment purposes.

3:50 p.m. An officer investigated the report of harassment.

9:08 p.m. Court paperwork was served to a citizen on Hidden Pasture Road.

January 19: 12:30 p.m. A citizen was assisted with a lockout.

1:48 p.m. A citizen was assisted with a lockout.

3:25 p.m. A stolen motor vehicle out of South Burlington was recovered on Baldwin Road.

6:35 p.m. Court paperwork was served to a citizen on Hillview Terrace.

January 20: 12:45 p.m. Officers assisted first responders with a medical emergency on Route 116.

6 p.m. An officer responded to a single car motor vehicle crash on Charlotte Road.

January 21: 9:35 a.m. An officer responded to a 911 hang up on Shadow Lane.

9:56 a.m. A welfare check was conducted on Birchwood Drive.

1:45 p.m. A loose dog on North Road was turned in. The owner was later located.

1:57 p.m. Officers responded to a 911 hang up on Cattail Lane.

January 22: 11 a.m. Officers assisted a citizen with a civil issue stemming from a motor vehicle complaint.

12:45 p.m. Suspicious activity on Route 116 was investigated.

8:41 p.m. A welfare check was conducted on Clover Lane.

January 24: 6:58 p.m. Officers investigated the report of a vehicle off the roadway on Pond Brook Road.

January 25: 2:11 p.m. A citizen was assisted with fingerprinting for employment purposes.

January 26: 8 a.m. A citizen on Waltz Way was assisted with an animal issue.

6:15 p.m. Officers assisted first responders with a medical emergency on Old Route 116.

January 27: 12:07 p.m. Suspicious activity on North Road was investigated.

January 28: 1:15 p.m. Found property was turned into the Hinesburg P.D.

January 30: 7:36 a.m. An officer investigated damage to a motor vehicle on Walts Way.

7:57 a.m. A motor vehicle complaint on Texas Hill Road was investigated.

12:07 p.m. A citizen on CVU Road was assisted with a lockout.

3:07 p.m. Officers investigated a burglary on North Road.

5:32 p.m. Officers responded to a citizen dispute on Farmall Drive.

8 p.m. An officer assisted another agency with service of a subpoena

8:25 p.m. Officers responded to a medical emergency on Shadow Lane. Jana Avram, 54, of Hinesburg was pronounced dead at the scene of suspected natural causes.

9:35 p.m. An officer assisted another agency with service of a subpoena.

January 31: 12:25 p.m. Suspicious activity on Walts Way was investigated.

2:01 p.m. Officers responded to

CVU to assist staff with a juvenile issue.

4:41 p.m. A motor vehicle complaint on Texas Hill Road was investigated.

8:37 p.m. Officers responded to a domestic dispute on Thunder Drive. Stan Christman, 81, of Hinesburg was arrested for domestic assault and interference with access to emergency services.

February 1: 7:37 a.m. A welfare check on Jourdan Street was conducted

8:20 p.m. An alarm activation on Friendship Lane was investigated.

February 2: 8:52 a.m. Theft of property on Catchapaw Road was investigated.

12:13 p.m. A citizen was assisted with a VIN verification.

1:11 p.m. An officer responded to Commerce Street to investigate the report of a stolen credit card used for retail purchases.

February 3: 4:24 p.m. A welfare check on Silver Street was conducted.

February 4: 11:54 a.m. An officer responded to a citizen dispute on Walts Way.

 $1\!:\!50$ p.m. A motor vehicle complaint on Route 116 was investigated.

February 5: 7:55 a.m. A burglary on Mechanicsville Road was investigated.

10:11 a.m. An officer investigated the theft of an automobile on Mechanicsville Road.

11:45 a.m. Officers assisted first responders with a medical emergency on Hawk Lane.

3 p.m. A fraud was reported and investigated.

3:52 p.m. Officers assisted first responders with a medical emergency on Oscar's Lane.

sponded to a two-car motor vehicle crash on Route 116. 10:15 a.m. An officer assisted first

February 6: 7:38 a.m. An officer re-

responders with a medical emergency on Hawk Lane. 3:58 p.m. A welfare check was con-

ducted on Silver Street.
5:52 p.m. Officers recovered a stolen vehicle out of Hinesburg from a

residence on Hillview Terrace.

February 7: 12:41 p.m. A citizen on Hawk Lane was assisted with a civil issue

1:40 p.m. An officer assisted state troopers with a traffic stop on Silver Street in Monkton.

7:08 p.m. Officers assisted first responders with a medical emergency on Hawk Lane.

February 8: 12:04 p.m. An officer recovered a stolen vehicle out of Williston at a residence on North Road.

1:07 p.m. A loose dog was turned into the P.D. The owner was later located

2:45 p.m. A citizen was assisted with fingerprinting for employment purposes.

February 9: 6:46 a.m. Officers responded to Walts Way for the report of suspicious activity.

7:55 a.m. A motor vehicle causing a traffic hazard on Mechanicsville Road was investigated.

9:36 a.m. Officers responded to CVU to investigate the report of threats to the school.

9:40 a.m. A welfare check on Hillview Terrace was conducted.

11:51 a.m. Officers responded to a business on Route 116 for the report of suspicious activity.

February 10: 11:17 a.m. An officer investigated the theft of an automobile on Route 116.

2:58 p.m. A fraud was reported and investigated.

4:02 p.m. An officer assisted another agency by delivering a death notification.

5:48 p.m. Officers assisted first responders with a medical emergency on Hawk Lane.

11:33 p.m. An officer was called to Walts Way to investigate suspicious activity.

February 11: 3:25 p.m. An officer investigated an animal complaint on Pond Road.

5:15 p.m. Officers assisted first responders with a medical emergency on Hawk Lane.

February 12: 7 a.m. An officer investigated the theft of a motor vehicle on Upper Access Road.

5:40 p.m. An officer investigated a juvenile issue on Green Street.

Business

News from Red Wagon Plants

BY JULIE RUBAUD

2408 Shelburne Falls Road, Hinesburg redwagonplants.com

Greenhouse Season is Here

We have started greenhouse work during the last week of February, and we are so excited to start seeds for you all. Onions, leeks and shallots are the first seeds to hit the soil, followed by peppers and eggplants.



Our brand new spacious space.



Some see what we have.

If you are starting seeds at home, we recommend that you only start with the onion family that early. Most other types of plants will just get too big and won't thrive outside of a greenhouse setting if you start them too soon. The temptation is great, we know. But we recommend that you wait to sow your heat loving crops such as eggplants, peppers and tomatoes until the end of March or even early April. Big, leggy, light-starved plants do not make the healthiest garden plants.

Space Rental

Our new building has been a real pleasure to work in each day. We are happy to share the bounty and are renting out our beautiful indoor space for private events, business meetings, nonprofit retreats and more. We have seating for 20 people or so, but

room for additional chairs and tables to accommodate up to 32 people. If you are interested in using our space with your group, please get in touch and we can discuss the details. Contact us at info@redwagon-plants.com.

Upcoming Events Sneak Peek Open House: March 30, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

We want to give you a sneak peek into our greenhouses! You are invited to our annual Open House on March 30 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. We will have seeds, soil, cold hardy plants, houseplants, tools and more for sale. Julie will be giving a tour behind the scenes at noon, and we will give you highlights of what is new this year.

SEASON OPENING: April 12, 8 a.m. opening, 6 p.m. Party!

Mark your calendars for our opening day on April 12 at 8 a.m. Starting then, we will be open every day from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

In addition, we will happily kick off the season by bringing back our opening day party in the evening at 6 p.m. We especially look forward to celebrating with you this year. Farmers and Foragers food truck and bar, Las Hermosas tacos, and Caledonia Spirits' cocktails will be on hand as well as live music from the Thaya Zalewski Jazz Quartet.

Financial Focus: How Can Women Bridge the Retirement Gap?

FROM PRESS RELEASE

March 8 is International Women's Day, a day for celebrating all the accomplishments of women around the globe. But many women still need to make up ground in one key area: retirement security.

Women's challenges in achieving a secure retirement are due to several factors, including these:

- Pay gap It's smaller than it once was, but a wage gap still exists between men and women. In fact, women earn, on average, about 82 cents for every dollar that men earn, according to the Census Bureau. And even though this gap narrows considerably at higher educational levels, it's still a source of concern. Women who earn less than men will likely contribute less to 401(k) plans and will ultimately see smaller Social Security checks.
- Longer lives At age 65, women live, on average, about 20 more years, compared to almost 17 for men, according to the Social Security Administration. Those extra years mean extra expenses.
- · Caregiving responsibilities -Traditionally, women have done much of the caregiving for young children and older parents. And while this caregiving is done with love, it also comes with financial sacrifice. Consider this: The average employment-related costs for mothers providing unpaid care is nearly \$300,000 over a lifetime, according to the U.S. Department of Labor – which translates to a reduction of 15 percent of lifetime earnings. Furthermore, time away from the workforce results in fewer contributions to 401(k) and other employer-sponsored retirement

Ultimately, these issues can leave women with a retirement security deficit. Here are some moves that can help close this gap:

· Contribute as much as possible

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- to retirement plans. Try to contribute as much as you can afford to your 401(k) or similar employer-sponsored retirement plan. Your earnings can grow tax-deferred and your contributions can lower your taxable income. (With a Roth 401(k), contributions aren't deductible, but earnings and withdrawals are tax free, provided you meet certain conditions.) At a minimum, contribute enough to earn your employer's matching contribution, if one is offered, and try to boost your contributions whenever your salary goes up. If you don't have access to a 401(k), but you have earned income, you can contribute to an IRA. Even if you don't have earned income, but you have a spouse who does, you might be eligible to contribute to a spousal
- Maximize Social Security benefits. You can start taking Social Security at 62, but your monthly checks will be much bigger if you can afford to wait until your full retirement age, which will be around 66½. If you are married, you may want to coordinate your benefits with those of your spouse in some cases, it makes sense for the spouse with the lower benefits to claim first, based on their earnings record, and apply for spousal benefits later, when the spouse with higher benefits begins to collect.
- Build an emergency fund. Try to build an emergency fund containing up to six months' worth of living expenses, with the money kept in a liquid account. Having this fund available will help protect you from having to dip into your retirement accounts for large, unexpected costs, such as a major home or car repair.

It's unfortunate, but women still must travel a more difficult road than men to reach retirement security. But making the right moves can help ease the journey.

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



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RECREATION

To register for HRD programs go to hinesburgrec.com.

Champlain Valley Little League (CVLL)

Registration is open for the 2024 Champlain Valley Little League baseball/softball season. Deadline is March 1. To register, please visit champlainvalleylittleleague.org.

2024 Spring Divisions:

Baseball

Pee Wee - Age 4 years (FREE) T-Ball - Age 5 years (\$70)

Single A - Ages 6-7 years (\$95)

Double A – Ages 8 years (\$95) Triple A – Ages 9–10 years (\$110)

Majors – Ages 11–12 (\$110)

Softball:

Softball Minis - Ages 5-7 (\$95)

Minors Softball - Ages 8-9 (\$95)

Majors Softball - Ages 10-12 (\$110)

To determine what "Little League age" please visit: tinyurl.com/ LeagueAge.

Co Ed K-1-2 Lacrosse

Sundays, May 5-June 9. Millie's Field, Bissonette Rec. Area. 11 a.m.-noon. Cost: \$50. Registration deadline May 1.

Boys and Girls Youth Lacrosse

Boys 3rd & 4th grades, 5th & 6th grades and 7th & 8th grades.

Girls 3rd & 4th grades, 5th & 6th grades and 7th & 8th grades.

Indoor time will begin in March. Outdoor practices can begin as early as mid-April, depending on weather. Please plan on two midweek practices and two games on Saturdays (boys) and Sundays (girls) from May 4 through June 8. A (\$30) U.S. Lacrosse membership found at uslacrosse.org is mandatory to register for this program. Practices may be in Hinesburg, Williston, or Charlotte. Dates and times are contingent on coaches and field space.

Note: All CVSD district players must register in their respective town: Charlotte, Hinesburg, Shelburne or Williston. Sorry, no non-resident registrations. At the close of registration, town recreation departments are committed to work together to ensure each child has an opportunity to play.

Cost: \$70 until March 3. \$80 afterward. Registration deadline is March 10 at 11:59 p.m.

Horseback Riding April Vacation

Looking for something during April vacation? Enjoy a horseback riding lesson, learn basic horse care and grooming. Braid a mane, feed, brush, water, and groom along with learning the full routine of a horse barn. Wear boots with a heel, clothes you don't mind getting dirty and bring your lunch and water bottle. Masks are required.

Grades K-8. Monday-Friday, April 22-26. Livery Stables, 601 Lavigne Hill Road, Hinesburg.

Half day 8 a.m.-noon or full day 8 a.m.-4 p.m. option. Cost: Weekly: half-day \$365 or full day \$495. More information can be found at liveryhorsefarm.com.

After-School Horseback Riding

Enjoy horseback riding lessons and so much more with Kim Johansen at Livery Stables. Lessons are for beginning to early intermediate riders. In addition. Kim and staff will instruct children on basic horse care, tacking, feeding, watering, and all that happens in the horse barn. Take the bus from HCS to Livery Stables, located at 601 Lavigne Hill Road right after school. Please be sure to send a permission note with your child to ride the bus, pack a snack for your hungry rider, and send boots and barn clothes.

Grades K-8. Tuesdays, April 30-June 4, and/or Fridays, May 3-June 7. Livery Stables, located at 601 Lavigne Hill Road, Hinesburg. 3-5 p.m. Cost: \$285. More information

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AARP Safe Driver Course

Wednesday, April 3. 9 a.m.-2 p.m. First floor conference room at Town Hall. AARP members \$20, non-members \$25. Please bring a lunch and water bottle.

Dog Obedience with Jim Warden

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

Dog and owner(s). Town Hall Field. Thursdays, May 9-June 13. 6-7 p.m. Cost: \$75 resident and \$85 non-residents.

Boater Safety

Boating safety education is required for any motorboat operator, 12 years of age or older, born after Jan. 1, 1974. The Boat Vermont classroom course will enable you to get the certification that you need. The course is eight hours and is offered over four days. Participants must be present at all classes to be eligible for certification

Instructor – Jon Fick

Note: Title 23 VSA 3305a. Privilege to operate a vessel: suspension of privilege; minimum age for operation of a motorboat. (c) An individual under 12 years of age shall not operate a motorboat powered by more than six horsepower on the public waters of this State. Note: "The Vermont Agency of Natural Resources (ANR) operates its programs, services, and activities without discriminating on the basis of race, religion, creed, color, national origin (including limited English proficiency), ancestry, place of birth, disability, age, marital status, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, or breastfeeding (mother and child). Reasonable accommodations are available on request at no cost to the student. Please include a description of the accommodation you will need. Individuals making such requests

must include their contact information. Requests should be made as early as possible, for example an interpreter must be requested at least two weeks in advance. Please send an e-mail to: Jenna.Reed@ vermont.gov or call 802-279-9058.

Monday, April 29; Wednesday, May 1; Monday, May 6; and Wednesday, May 8. 6 - 8:30 p.m. Vermont State Police Building, 3294 St. George Road, Williston, Vermont. Cost: \$10.

Recreational Track and Field

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

Ages 6-14 years. Mondays and Wednesdays, June 17 - July 20. 6-7:30 p.m. CVU track. Cost: \$50 resident /\$60 non-resident.

Kevin Browne's Summer Driver Ed

Virtual classes and in-person driving. June 18-20, 24-26; July 1-3, 8-10, and 15-17. Class time: 7-8:30 p.m. Driving time: June 15-July 19, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. in two-hour increments. Cost: Residents \$850 and Non-residents

Other information: Students must have a learner's permit before signing up. Students should enroll in the course where they are available to do the driving time. Students are expected to have cameras on during class. Students should have reasonable availability to drive during dates of class. Driving is done on weekdays between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. in two-hour time slots (8-10 a.m., 10 a.m.-noon, noon-2 p.m., and 2-4 p.m.) Two students will be in the car during driving – one to drive and the other to observe. Payment is due upon registration. Register online at **hinesburgrec**. com but checks are payable to Kevin Browne and due to HRD, 10632 Rte. 116, Hinesburg, Vt.

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LIBRARY

Library Hours Year Round

Monday and Saturday: 10 a.m. to 3

Tuesday through Friday: 10 a.m. to

Phone: 482-2878

Address: 69 Ballards Corner Road, Hinesburg 05461

Web Site: carpentercarse.org

Email: library@carpentercarse.

Library News

New novels hitting the shelves in March include Wandering Stars by Tommy Orange, The Princess of Las Vegas by Chris Bohjalian, The Morningside by Téa Obreht, James by Percival Everett, and The Hunter by Tana French. New nonfiction includes Grief is for People by Sloane Crosley and Otter Country: An Unexpected Adventure in the Natural World by Miriam Darlington. Call us to place a hold on any of these titles or visit our website to log into your library account.

March Youth Happenings at Carpenter-Carse Library

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

Weekly Storytime: Tuesdays, March 5, 12, 19, and 26 at 9:30

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

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browsing. Storytime is designed for babies, toddlers, and preschool/ kindergarten aged children and their caregivers, and no registration is required.

Monthly Fiber Arts Club: Friday, March 8, 3:15–4:30 p.m.

Each month we will focus on a different handwork skill and complete a simple project. This club is for you if you have ever wanted to learn how to knit, crochet, needle felt, embroider, and sew, or you want to share your skills with others. This club is for youth in grades 3-7. Please register.

Pokémon Club - Session 2: Wednesdays, March 6-April 3, 2:15-3:30 p.m.

This after school club continues for students in grades K-4. Pokémon Club is currently full, but you can join a waitlist

Saturday Storytime: Saturday, March 9, 10 a.m.

Children of all ages and their caregivers are invited to join youth librarian Jen for stories, songs, and rhymes in the library community room. Stick around for snacks, a simple craft activity, and book

Family Movie Friday: Friday, March 15, at 3:30 p.m.

The entire family is invited to join us after school for a family-friendly film that should appeal to all ages. We will provide popcorn and juice boxes, and families are welcome to bring candy and their favorite snacks. Check the library website for more movie information.

Read-To-A-Dog: Saturday, March 16, 10:30-11:30 a.m.

If you have been wanting to practice your reading skills, Taffy, the very huggable cockapoo, is ready to snuggle up and listen! Please register for a 10-minute slot.

Mid-Grade Book Club: Thursday,



March 28, 5:30-6:30 p.m.

This is a book club for students who would like an opportunity to read and discuss books that are past or current Golden Dome Book Award nominees or winners. This group meets at the library once a month and will vote on which Golden Dome book to read next. Book Club is for anyone who is reading mid-grade books, which is generally students who are in the 9- to 12-year-old age range. Please

CCL Adult Programs in March

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

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

Bring whatever project you're working on (quilting, knitting, embroidery, etc.) to this weekly program for a morning of creativity and conversation. No registration required.

No Commitment Book Club: Thursday, March 7, 11 a.m.-noon

Join like-minded readers on the first Thursday of the month to chat about books you've enjoyed, been frustrated by, or have lingering questions about. Bring your love of learning and an interest in conversation. No monthly commitment required to participate.

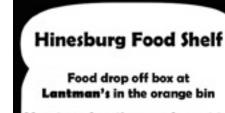
SongFarmers of Hinesburg: Thursday, March 7, 6-8 p.m.

Do you play an acoustic instrument or just love to sing along to old time, blues, country, and folk music? Come join the SongFarmers during their monthly gathering and participate in this wonderful live music offering. Free and open to the public.

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

Meet with other readers at the library to discuss a mystery bookranging from cozy to gritty. Please register to receive a copy of the book and to let us know you will attend.

Please answer the need



Monetary donations can be sent to Hinesburg Food Shelf PO Box 444, Hinesburg, VT 05461

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COMMENTARY

Frozen in Time Set in Place

BY ROGER DONEGAN

ruch of winter remained on the day in mid-February when I once ventured out onto thick ice in Burlington Harbor to lay gloved hands on the long disused oil dolphin standing like a lone pillar of ancient ruins off Perkins Pier. The cold air was still, and strong sun light warmed my face. Scores of people fanned out from shore on their own quests such as ice skating or to explore open space on ice and enjoy the day's reprieve from brute winter.

"Dolphin" as a descriptor is anomaly as the only thing in common with a live creature is water. In contrast to a school of fish or a mammal, it is meant to be immobile, stuck up from the bottom of a body of water for mooring a boat. Examples of manmade dolphins abound, i.e., the sets of pilings warped together as one by steel cable that bumper ferries coming into dock. The Perkins Pier oil dolphins, sometimes called bollards, were built as permanently as possible as hitching posts for large barges. As pumps steadily unloaded fuel the size of the rectangular shaped hull rose slowly from the water to reveal sides 8 to 10 feet high. Lacking an oil dolphin tie-up, a full barge would touch the sloped bottom way before making a usable landing and is why oil bollards are set offshore, out of reach except by boat.

Winter periods aside, fuel oil barges towed or pushed up Lake Champlain by tugboat carried economy size volumes of kerosene, jet fuel, gasoline, and heating oil for some 60 years in the last century. Barge operators delivered their petroleum derived cargoes to a facility given that other curious term - tank farm. Late in the barge-totank-farm era, Yankee Magazine ran "Bound for Burlington" by Lionel Atwill (Yankee Magazine, June 1982). The tug and barge combo in the article made 40 trips a year from Rensselaer, N.Y. In that specific trip the barge carried 600,000 gallons of oil, pumping half of that load off to a shore tank while tied up at Perkins Pier at a rate of 1890 gallons per minute.

Orphaned by Burlington's vanquished industries and abandoned in place by owners, eight or nine dolphins in Burlington Harbor were left behind. Five remain today. The barges tying up to the oil dolphin off Perkins Pier, originally called the "Old Salt Dock," mated their 6-inch diameter fuel delivery

lines to fixed valves and underwater pipelines connected to the Elias Lyman tank farm, four tanks each with a 0.5 million gallon capacity. "Cutting up Tanks to Put Down Roots" by R. Donegan (City Limits, a voluntary city employee newsletter, Jan-Feb 1986) described the multiple city department project as the 3.4-acre tank farm was in a state of reverting back to open space and green grass.

Removal of Burlington Harbor oil bollards was earmarked in the federal FY2004 budget.

The Army Corp of Engineers (ACE) completed a Phase 1 Archaeological Report in July of 2008. Six ensuing years later the removal contractor and ACE set up their office trailers in the Perkins Pier parking lot to coordinate the three-month-long demolition. Three oil bollards determined to be hazards to navigation were removed in 2014; one off the Harbor Watch Road Development, one off Round House Point, and the one immediately offshore at Perkins Pier. Clearly the latter represented what an ACE Fact Sheet termed mid-twentieth century caisson-type structures consisting of timber cribbing and circular sheet steel formed into a column filled with gravel and concrete.

The ACE Draft Environmental

Assessment for Oil Bollard Removal in Burlington (June 2012) gave the gritty wherefore of Burlington's pod of oil dolphins. Tank farms began to spring up on the waterfront in the 1930s. By 1972 (nine) oil tank farms covered 40 percent of the waterfront with a total of 90 standalone oil storage tanks. The who is who list of oil companies represented included Gulf, Getty, Mobil, Exon, Shell. Northern Oil Corporation. and Green Mountain Petroleum with the vertical sides of some tanks emblazoned with huge trademark names or symbols such as the "Flying A" for Standard Oil and "Pegasus the Flying Horse' for Mobil. Catalogued in UVM Libraries Center for Digital Initiatives is a collection of photographs by professional photographer Louis McAllister showing expanses of flat scoured land followed by construction of oil tanks on the waterfront.

The last fuel oil tank removed from Burlington's North Forty or Burlington's Waterfront Area North (WAN) was in 1994. Some Burlington residents still call this part of the waterfront "Texaco Beach." The middle oil dolphin



Perkins Pier Oil Dolphin, Removed in 2014.

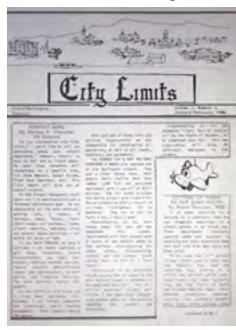
there props up a token set of valves bolted to pipelines coursing down the land side of the dolphin that then make a straight underwater run to the beach. SCUBA divers are known to submerge to the base of the dolphin to follow the pipe runs along the sandy bottom to shore as a diving exercise. Originally installed offshore in 1958, the Texaco Beach oil dolphin was equipped by a rock and soil jetty as a land bridge at some later date.

In the South End, at Oakledge Park, the two remaining dolphins offshore there, in odd proximity to each other, are front and center distractions at both Blanchard Beach and the Cove. One dolphin imitates the lean of the 12th century Leaning Tower of Pisa, Italy, in perpetuity. Among the great panorama the park offers a stunning shining city on the hill-like view of Burlington's downtown waterfront in one direction. Looking west over water is Shelburne Point, Rock Dunder, and Juniper Island. What lurks below the surface of the lake but much closer is Proctor Shoal, which today warrants the placement of a U.S. Coast Guard navigational marker most of the year. The buoy also provides a waypoint for recreational divers intent on making a descent to the sunken wreck of the A.R. Noyes Coal Barge (1884), listed on the state's Historic Underwater Preserve.

Out of sight and mind, the ledges at Proctor Shoal seriously hamstrung the northerly procession of oil barges rounding Shelburne Point on two identified occasions.



Two Texaco Beach Oil Dolphins and Underwater Lines Reaching Shore.



City Limits Newsletter 1986 Page 1.

A federal U.S. District Court for the District of Vermont (July 27, 1972) decision required barge owners to better operate their vessels in ways to reduce the risk of oil spills, documenting seven prior instances where fuel oil entered Lake Champlain. Two instances involved barges running aground at Proctor



The Plaque Commemorating the Age of the Oakledge Park White Oak Tree.

Shoal, spilling 1,600 gallons of gas- the next generation. oline in August of 1967 and 25,000 gallons of oil in October of 1969. The country had yet to begin decades of increasingly stringent environmental law and regulations. The seven instances brought to light in the 1972 decision were found to be only violations of the existing Refuse Act. Penalties for environmental damages had yet to come of age.

All of these comings and goings occurred under the spread boughs and same onshore location of a tall 237-year-old great white oak tree at Oakledge Park which one can put a hand on any time of year. A rock-mounted plaque testifies the oak tree was growing in 1790 when the U.S. Constitution was signed by the first thirteen states.

My Roadworthy **Chest Freezer:** Greta in Winter

BY BILL SCHUBART

n 2016, for only the second time in my life, I bought a new car, an emission-free Nissan Leaf. I named it "Greta." I recently ran into a friend who has a Tesla all-electric vehicle (EV) also named "Greta." I'm now wondering how many EVs there are in the world bearing the Swedish teenager's name (instagram.com/ gretathunberg).

I'm comfortable saying it was the extraordinary courage of this young woman who could be my granddaughter that drove my decision to go all-electric. "Okay, boomer," I said to myself, "It's your turn to help leave a habitable world for

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Almost eight years later, I'm now on my fourth Nissan Leaf.

As someone who frequently writes about health issues, I'm familiar with the DSM-5, the standard reference work for mental disorders like anxiety. They should consider adding "range anxiety" to their list of emotional symptoms. You may think that "range anxiety" is a fear that your pots and pans won't work on your induction stovetop, (I've suffered from that, too.) but it's anxiety over whether or not you'll make it home in your EV, especially in winter. My primary-care doc has never heard of it, but she has a BMW.

When I bought my first Greta, my only question was driving range between charges, a deciding factor for most potential buyers. The range was nominally 150 miles. My benchmark was the 88-mile roundtrip between my home in Hinesburg and Montpelier. Seemed to be fine.

I set out on my first excursion with a full 152 miles on the gauge. When I got to Montpelier, I expected to find it down 44 miles, but it was, in fact, down twice that about 66 miles left to go before I'd need a charge. This didn't make sense, so before heading home, I pulled out the manual and read what I'd neglected to read before buying Greta.

Like all living things, her capacity is temperature-dependent. It was ten above when I left the house so I had turned on the heat. Now, I had no choice but to risk a straight shot home.

Leaving Montpelier, I turned off the heat, and at 65-miles-an-hour on the Interstate, scraped my freezing breath off the inside of the windshield with a Shell credit card while watching the miles disappear ter when it didn't get colder than on the range indicator faster than on the odometer. I panicked.

When I got off the Interstate in Road, I turned off the headlights and radio, only turning the lights on again when I encountered an oncoming car.

I made it home with two miles to go.

I just sat in the dark, overwhelmed with gratitude, and thinking to myself, "Should I buy a powerful flashlight to mount on Greta's roof, a wool blanket for myself, or a milelong extension cord in case the bat- they died and then bought anothtery dies in a rural area and I need to plug into a nearby farmhouse?"

I'm generally not one to read user manuals. I consider myself intuitive when it comes to tools and technology, though I'm often wrong. I ask you, who wants to read a 500-page manual in five languages that fills up a glove compartment and contains mostly warnings written by lawyers?

When I finally settled in to read Nissan's version of War and Peace, I learned that Greta's batteries will be severely damaged by exposure to temperatures below 13 be-

low and that she uses battery juice to keep her battery from freezing in winter while just sitting in the driveway. I've lived in Vermont for 75 years and have yet to see a winthat. I remember a sunny, dry winter day in Lincoln at 38 below.

Did this mean I should try and Richmond and turned onto Kenyon bring her in the house? I imagined Greta parked near the woodstove with our two cats curled up on the hood purring.

> More important, could Greta even survive here, much less provide frigid transportation beyond a few miles from home? I began to worry.

When I was young and poor as wood, I was on my fifth rusty VW Bug. I routinely drove them until er for \$350. Bugs were notorious for their heater boxes rusting out and most of the ones I had had no heat. Some Bug owners installed gas heaters in the space where the glove box was, but they were notoriously dangerous and expensive.

I'd get so cold in winter that I imagined removing the passenger seat and installing a tiny Jotul 602 woodstove there with a steel vent going out the sunroof, but I was talked out of it by people who knew more than me, of which there were many when I was that age. continued on page 12

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▶ Commentary

Now on my fourth Leaf, I've learned that by monitoring the temperature and my energy usage as I drive, using the eco-pedal to recharge as I drive, charging every night at home during off-peak hours, I can manage quite well. And I haven't bought junk food or fuel in a gas station for years.

When I first got it, I used to take pleasure in driving up to our local service station in Hinesburg and saying, "fill'er up." It didn't take long for my joke to wear thin and the attendant didn't even bother to come out when I pulled up.

Only once have I used a public charging station. To charge Greta fully takes up to eight hours on a 220-volt charger and twice that on a 110-volt household outlet. That's more coffee than I can drink in one

sitting. I thought about keeping a folding cot in the trunk, but my trunk is taken up entirely by my mile-long extension cord.

But more important than my personal comfort are the larger environmental implications of continuing to burn fossil fuel. According to the Vermont Agency of Transportation, transportation accounts for 38 percent of the state's carbon emissions and in spite of earnest expressions of concerns and many unfulfilled commitments, emissions have increased in recent years and are 16 percent higher than they were in 1990.

A recent United Nations report has been unsparing on the havoc we're wreaking on our children and grandchildren's home as a result of interests and climate deniers froth continued emissions of carbon dioxide and toxins.

While pro-business forces from the

Ethan Allen Institute and the VT Fuel Dealers Association have opposed the Northeastern and Mid-Atlantic States Transportation Climate Initiative (TCI), TCI is supported by Democratic leaders in both chambers and a number of Vermont environmental groups. According to his website, Governor Scott now supports regional and national efforts to reduce greenhouse gas from transportation and heating sources.

As I get even older than I am now, I know that much of the remaining work I have left to do on earth is to try and leave a better, more just place for my children and

It's disheartening to hear special on about their temporal material interests. I wonder what they think when they gather over the holidays with their children and grandchil-

dren. As they play together, do they never imagine their progeny trying to make it in a world of uncontrollable fires, floods and rising sea levels, massive climate migrations, and dving food systems, all so they can drive a fossil fuel car or get their convenience foods in unrecyclable plastic? Our children comprise a quarter of our country and they will inherit our mess.

In Matthew 5:5 from the Sermon on the Mount, one of the Beatitudes tells us the meek shall inherit the earth. Our children, who will inherit the earth, are finding their voice and are no longer meek. We owe it to them to listen.

Sometimes when I'm driving Greta late at night. I stare at the range indicator, anxious about whether I'll make it home, I hear Greta whisper to me, "Okay, boomer, you did good." To a braver, kinder, livable new world!

Eurasian Milfoil continued from page 1

milfoil "...threatens the diversity and abundance of native plants as well as the ecological balance of lakes and ponds, which in turn adversely affects recreational opportunities. If left unchecked, invasive watermilfoil will spread through a lake, or even to other lakes by transmission." (invasivespeciesinfo.gov/aquatic/plants/ eurasian-watermilfoil).

Eurasian watermilfoil (EWM) is a non-native species. Some non-native species, when introduced into a new environment won't necessarily spread uncontrollably and become a problem. Those that become invasives will thrive in the new environment and spread out of control. With no natural predators in our environment, Eurasian watermilfoil is an invasive.

Japanese knotweed and buckthorn are examples of terrestrial invasives. The Burmese python that is devastating the Everglades is another example. By outcompeting native species, these invasives overwhelm and in some cases destroy native ecosystems. The damage these land-based invasives do is easy to see while the damage an invasive like EWM does to the aquatic habitat is more difficult to see but nevertheless is there.

Eurasian watermilfoil outcompetes native aquatic plants that fish and amphibians need to thrive. This loss of aquatic habitat has reverberations throughout the ecosystem, leading to critical changes that affect not just the waterbody itself but the surrounding watershed and the humans and wildlife that depend on that water resource. Once an ecosystem is out of balance, mother nature can't

just adapt. The destruction of native habitats will continue unless something is done to stop the invasive from spreading.

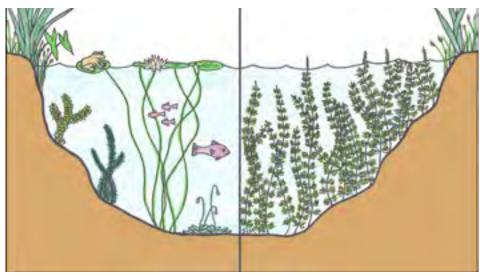
If milfoil is left alone, it grows out of control, creating dense canopies on the water's surface, robbing sunlight from native aquatic species thereby stunting or completely suppressing their growth. Those surface mats of EWM prevent boating and swimming and start to rot, stink, and foul the water. As these large infestations die back each year, they decompose on the lake bottom adding to nutrient levels in the lake which then feed toxic cyanobacteria blooms. Such excessive amounts of rotting vegetation also can reduce the oxygen in the water, causing wildlife to die, and further damaging the aquatic ecosystem.

Aquatic plants grow in the shallower parts of lakes called the littoral zone, where light can penetrate. This is where EWM is found. It usually grows in depths to about 14 feet, but it has been found as deep as 30 feet. With Vermont's

wonderfully clean and clear lakes, EWM can easily spread to those depths.

In smaller lakes where the littoral zone is a larger percentage of the lake area, it is easy to see how EWM can take over, squeezing out native aquatic plants, and destroying aquatic habitats. However, in larger and very deep lakes, like Lake Champlain, where the littoral zone is a smaller percentage of the total lake area, it can seem like EWM is not such a problem, even if it has infested much of the littoral zone. Boats can churn through it and out into the large open area where no milfoil is seen - where, in fact, no aquatic plants are seen because none grow there.

It would be a very serious mistake, however, to think that just because you don't see milfoil growing in the middle of a large lake it is not a problem. The health of a lake's littoral zone is vital to the health of that lake. A healthy Vermont lake has several dozen native aquatic plant species. Without a wide variety of native aquatic plant species,



Healthy littoral zone on the left, littoral zone with milfoil on the right. Graphic courtesy of the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation

native fish, amphibians, and other wildlife will decrease and the natural ecosystem will tip out of

One of the great difficulties in controlling EWM and protecting aquatic habitats is how easily it spreads. A brittle plant, pieces break off easily and those fragments sink to the lake bottom, root, and grow quickly. Anything that disturbs these plants and causes such fragmentation boats, swimmers, paddlers, wind, or waves - will add to the spread. Even some control methods such as mechanical harvesting (essentially mowing), or hand pulling, can cause fragmentation and lead to further spread.

Is invasive Eurasian watermilfoil just another weed that can be left in Vermont's lakes? Not if you value the health of Vermont's lakes. Don't be lulled into thinking that Eurasian watermilfoil is "just a weed." As the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service points out, "Invasive species cause tremendous harm to our environment, economy and health." (fws.gov/initiative/ aquatic-invasive-species).

We humans introduced this and other invasives into our waterbodies, so it is our responsibility to work to control or eradicate them. Help your local lake association protect and preserve Vermont's lakes, ponds, and watersheds by working to prevent and control this insidious invasive.

To learn more about Eurasian watermilfoil, visit the Federation of Vermont Lakes and Ponds milfoil page: vermontlakes.org/ eurasian-watermilfoil.

Pat Suozzi, who lives in Hinesburg, is the President of the Federation of Vermont Lakes and Ponds.

EDUCATION

Innovative Arts + Math Program, in Partnership with Shelburne Museum, Launches at Hinesburg Community School

FROM CVSD PRESS RELEASE

₹he Olivia & Leslie Rainbow Foundation, in partnership with Shelburne Museum, has launched a visual arts education program at the Hinesburg Community School aimed at teaching kindergarten and first grade students critical thinking and cognitive skills while developing their social and emotional core.

The Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics (STEAM)-based program integrates mathematical concepts such as spatial relationships, geometry, and symmetry into a carefully designed arts program that enables young children to build creative confidence. The Olivia & Leslie Arts + Math Program kicked off this month and will be offered after school twice a week.

Artwork from Shelburne Museum's collection features prominently in the curriculum, and the program will culminate with a student art exhibition at Shelburne Museum in May.

Suzan Locke, preK-4 co-principal at Hinesburg Community School, said parents and students are excited about the program.

"It gives children an opportunity to use their imaginations to explore different mediums. The program is hands-on, and I like that our young students will experience seeing the skills and concepts they are learning in math and art applied across curriculums," she said.

The driving force behind the initiative is Chris Kuenne, founder of the Olivia & Leslie Rainbow Foundation and an entrepreneur with deep roots in the area, and a Shelburne Museum trustee. Kuenne founded the global marketing firm Rosetta, which was the largest privately held digital marketing company before it was sold to Publicis Groupe for a record

amount. Kuenne is now chairman and CEO of Rosemark.

The foundation honors the creative legacies of Kuenne's daughter, Olivia, who died in an accident in 1997 at the age of five, and his late wife, Leslie, who died of ovarian cancer in 2019.

"Olivia and Leslie taught all those around them the creative power of art to inspire, teach, and invoke our deepest humanity," Kuenne said. "Our goal is to foster creativity among young students. Our longer-term goal is to catalyze changes in the way we all think about art and its role in developing creative problem-solving in our next generation."

nurture their creativity and resilience in ways that can positively impact them now and later in life, said Thomas Denenberg, Ph.D., the John Wilmerding Director of Shelburne Museum.

The after-school program was developed by Maker Prep, a foundation. The curriculum will

Ronah Harris, Ed.D., CEO at Maker Prep, described watching students

Exposing young people to art can

"The earlier we expose our children to art, the more we are helping them develop problem-solving skills and building their creative confidence," Dr. Denenberg said. 'Students seeing their work exhibited is a tremendous affirmation of the creative process. Some of my favorite moments in our work with young people is when they see the fruits of their labor on the museum

Princeton, New Jersey-based firm devoted to supporting computer science and arts education, in consultation with the Olivia & Leslie continually evolve based on analysis and research of its impact on

excited about their projects, with

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many of them showing great skill, excitement, and thoughtfulness as they cut, accurately measured, and worked with materials.

"There is a natural integration of skills, ideas, and competencies," Dr. Harris said.

William, and Matthew, the goals of the foundation are ambitious yet also deeply personal. The foundation's mission stems from Olivia's love of drawing and painting.

At the funeral reception for Olivia, Kuenne said "hundreds of pieces of her art were displayed. After the reception, all the moms and dads went home and dug through basements and closets to retrieve and celebrate their own kids' artwork.' He added that Olivia's art showed a "prolific creative energy, and people said she created a lifetime of art in her short five-and-a-half years." Leslie Kuenne was a genetic counselor, a gifted painter, sketch artist, and award-winning gardener and nature photographer.

Kuenne thanked the administration, faculty, parents, and students in Hinesburg for embracing



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the program.

"I'm inspired by the creativity of young people and appreciate that the Hinesburg community recognizes that art is essential to education - and to all of us," Kuenne said.

The Olivia & Leslie Arts + Math To Kuenne and his three sons, Peter, Program will also be provided to students at Johnson Park Elementary School in Princeton, New Jersey, where Kuenne also has

continued on page 14



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continued from page 13

Education



Children creating art through the Olivia & Leslie foundation program.



Chris Kuenne

About the Olivia & Leslie

Rainbow Foundation: The Olivia & Leslie Rainbow Foundation was founded by Chris Kuenne and his sons, Peter, William, and Matthew, to memorialize his daughter and their sister, Olivia, who died in 1997 in an accident at the age of five, and his late wife and their mother, Leslie, who died of ovarian cancer in 2019. The foundation is committed to creating and funding proven STEAM initiatives that ignite the imagination of young children, provide a safe space for creative expression and problem solving, and to teach critical thinking and cognitive skills.

Access CVU Winter/Spring Semester Under Way

BY JENNIFER MORTON, ACCESS CVU PROGRAM MANAGER

appy New Year! We are excited to share that the Winter/ Spring semester of Access CVU, your destination for community education based out of CVU high school, is under way. With almost 100 classes that have yet to start, and more being added monthly, there's something for everyone.

Some things of note:

• Do you want to up your taco night? Join Ariel, a new-to-Access Tuesday, March 12: Carving in

cooking instructor as she teaches Wood - A Comfort Bird you how to make delicious pork carnitas, two types of chicken, and Mexican rice, all in your instant pot.

Are you a maker looking for a new project? Our craft options this month are plentiful with everything from bead weaving to pastels and painting a barn quilt.

If you prefer online classes, we have options that include blood sugar and energy, food sensitivities and cat behavior.

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

Cooking & Cuisine

Wednesday, March 6: Baking with Sourdough Workshop

Thursday, March 7: Indian Appetizers: Pakoras, Chaats & Chutneys

Monday, March 11: Baking 101:

Wednesday, March 13: Taco Night in an Instant (Pot)!

Monday, March 25: Baking 101: Cupcakes

Thursday, March 28: Eritrean/ Ethiopian Cuisine - Vegetarian Specialties

Fine Arts, Crafts, Fiber, Wood, & **Photography**

Tuesday, March 5: Sewing Basics: Cotton Tote Bag

Wednesday, March 6: Knit Your First Sweater

Thursday, March 7: Traditional Rug Hooking for Beginners

Monday, March 11: Pastels and Pop



Pastels and Pop – March 11

Tuesday, March 12: Learn How to Turn a Wooden Bowl!

Wednesday, March 13: Crafting a Charcuterie Board from Repurposed Woods

Monday, March 18: Beautiful Barn



Beautiful Barn Quilts - March 18

Tuesday, March 19 When Knitting/ Crochet Attacks! Drop-in Lesson

Thursday, March 21: Beaded Earrings

Thursday, March 21: Bead Weaving for Jewelry

Monday, March 25: Fused Glass

Thursday, March 28: Interactive **Photo Editing Sessions**

Fitness, Dance, Yoga and Mindful Movement

Wednesday, March 6: WERQ! Dance with Caceirra!

Thursday, March 21: Gentle Evening Yoga with Ellen

Thursday, March 21: Slow Flow Afternoon Yoga with Ellen

Thursday, March 28: East Coast Swing Dancing for Beginners Continued...

Fun and Games

Monday, March 11: Bridge for Beginners: Club Series OR Diamond Series

Monday, March 11: Bridge: Defense Series – Hearts

Health & Nutrition, New Age and Holistic Wellbeing

Wednesday, March 6: Reiki - First Degree with Amy deGroot

Wednesday, March 13: Blood Sugar

and Energy* Wednesday, March 13: Gluten Free

Baking Discussion Monday, March 18: The Sweet

Tooth Dilemma with Dr. Andrea Gravson* Thursday, March 21: Oxygen

Advantage® Breathing Workshop

Tuesday, March 26: Therapeutic Massage Techniques for Managing Headaches, Neck and Shoulder Tension

Wednesday, March 27: Demystifying Food Sensitivities and Intolerances*

Home (DIY) and Gardening, **Nature and Animals**

Wednesday, March 6: Tool and Knife Sharpening

Thursday, March 7: Does Your Garden Need Some Hügelkultur?*

Monday, March 18: Picking Paint Colors for your Home: Trends, Tips, and Tricks

Tuesday, March 19: Cats and Behavior*

Wednesday, March 20: Plant Propagation

Tuesday, March 26: Tree Identification

Music & Languages

Tuesday, March 5: American Sign Language (ASL) for Beginners Level 2

Wednesday, March 6: Conversational Italian (Intermediate to Advanced)*

Thursday, March 7: American Sign Language (ASL) for Beginners

Thursday, March 14: Ukulele: Level

Thursday, March 14: Paris je t'aime (Paris I love you)*

Tuesday, March 19: Circle-Singing Workshop

Thursday, March 21: Paris je t'aime (Paris I love you)*

One Night University

Monday, March 4: Let Us Now Praise Famous Dogs with Jane Vossler

Wednesday, March 13: Hiking Vacations Throughout Europe and on a Budget!

Monday, March 18: Practical AI for Everyday Life

Tuesday, March 26: Cultural Resistance and Climate Change Adaptation

Professional Development & Writing Workshops

Monday, March 4: So You Want to Write a Memoir? With Author Bill

Thursday, March 7: How to get a Literary Agent's Attention for your Novel*

Thursday, March 21: Authors Guide the Way Panel Discussion*

Tech, Computers, & Automotive, Welding

Tuesday, March 5: CyberSecurity: Protect Your Personal Information*

Check out our website, cvsdvt. ce.eleyo.com (or Google "Access CVU"), for more information, and to register for a class. As a reminder, early signups help us plan- for popular classes. It ensures you

a spot in the class, and it avoids classes being canceled due to low enrollment. And if there's a waitlist for a class you're interested in, we encourage you to add your name since we will open up an extra section of a class if we get enough interest.

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Bill Eliminating **Smart Devices in Vermont Schools Hopes to Improve** Student Health — **But Education** Leaders Aren't So Sure

Bill would dramatically limit the use of electronic devices, digital platforms and more in all Vermont schools.

BY HOLLY SULLIVAN, COMMUNITY NEWS SERVICE

Laura Derriendinger wants to protect Vermont children from social media, or as she defined it to Senate education committee members Jan. 26, "a toxic rabbit hole."

"There are class-action lawsuits against social media companies on behalf of parents whose children have died because of direct product exposure to these different social medias," said Derriendinger, a mother and nurse who serves as a planning commissioner and town health officer in Middletown Springs. "While these products have become a norm, what the science is telling us now is that it's not a safe or a healthy norm, especially for our children."

Derriendinger, along with other Rutland-area citizens, recently approached Sen. Terry Williams, R-Rutland, asking for a bill limiting digital technology in schools.

The result: Williams and other legislators introduced S.284, which would dramatically limit the use of electronic devices, digital platforms and more in all Vermont schools. The bill has drawn testimony across several committee meetings in recent weeks, including from high-profile voices such as Vermont Attorney General Charity Clark

If passed, the bill would require schools to create policies banning student use of personal smart devices and cellphones, prohibit teachers and school officials from using social media in lessons or for announcements and allow students to opt out of using electronic devices, the internet and more.

The latter policies would be developed by districts and require schools to provide students alternative activities or instruction methods.

"They're an amazing group of young women," Williams explained in an interview. "Basically, one of them homeschools her children. And I said, 'So, what's your ask? Why do you want me to do this?' (She said), 'Because I'm homeschooling my children. I'd really like to get them back in the school, but I'm concerned about the presence of electronic devices in school."

The legislation, Williams told Community News Service, "aims to improve the environments of schools, to promote mental health and wellness."

S.284 would require all Vermont





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schools to create policies prohibiting students from accessing their electronic devices during the school day. A policy might prohibit students from bringing those devices entirely, require students to keep be sued under the legislation. them in a designated spot or involve putting the devices in lockers or a sealed pouch, legislative counsel Beth St. James told Senate edu-

Sen. David Weeks, R-Rutland, another of the bill's sponsors, clarified that S.284 has exemptions for students who use their smart devices for medical purposes. "One example of a medical exemption, a student may have a diabetes monitoring app on their phone," Weeks said via email.

cation committee members Jan. 26.

S.284 also gives the option to opt out of technology use in school entirely.

The bill would require all classrooms to have non-digital learn-

ing options for their students. If a school failed to provide those accommodations – even if it would mean trying to replicate a YouTube video on paper – the school could

Several of the proposed restrictions spurred debate, though most people testifying in committee meetings agreed with the bill's focus on better protecting children's data privacy.

Speaking before the committee Feb. 2, Clark, the state attorney general, said she is "supportive of the work on this bill and this bill generally."

Clark, who said she is well-informed on social media from her office's investigative work, detailed components of social media that can distort young people's mental health, such as the "infinite scroll" of app feeds, "excessive push notifi-

continued on page 16

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Education

continued from page 15

cations" and "like counts."

To illustrate her concerns regarding social media's impact on wellness, Clark outlined a hypothetical: a child struggling with an eating disorder seeking out content that exacerbates their illness.

"(The algorithm) doesn't pass a moral judgment or a health judgment on (the question of), 'This might not be good for you," she told committee members. "It just keeps showing that person the very thing that they probably shouldn't be looking at because that's the thing they keep obsessively looking at.

Jay Nichols, executive director of the Vermont Principals' Association, says he understands the negative impact of social media on young minds. As he put it Feb. 2. the association is "on the front line of the negative impacts of digital addiction to social media." However, he said, it does not support S.284.

"Already, most schools have social media and cell phone access completely or significantly restricted during the school day," he said. "Providing the mental health re-

sources that students need when they need them is probably a better approach to addressing mental health needs in students than banning cell phones and social media from schools from our perspective."

Nichols called the opt-out element of the bill unreasonable. He told committee members that providing paper copies of digital materials is "a huge burden to schools and is not necessary," saying later that "it's not HOUSEWRIGHT appropriate to allow students to sim- 802-482-3190 • Lavine Hill Rd., Hinesburg ply opt out of learning how to use technology in today's world."

Though the principals' association supports the protection of children's data and privacy, Nichols does not believe that this is the bill to do it, he said.

"To ban (online resources) would only hurt the progress of students who will be looking for jobs and pursuing higher education in our increasingly digital world," he said.

The Community News Service is a program in which University of Vermont students work with professional editors to provide content for local news outlets at no cost.

Have an ad? email ads@hinesburgrecord.org Have news? email news@hinesburgrecord.org.

SPORTS

CVU Girls **Basketball**

BY MARY JO BRACE

CVU Girls basketball (18-1) are currently the top seed with one game left of the regular season. They have had some close games but have managed to fight back in the 4th quarters for the wins. Their only loss to date was a 1-point loss to St. Johnsbury on February 2nd in a hard-fought back-and-forth battle battle.

Merrill Jacobs, the lone Hinesburg resident on the team, has been a starter all season and has played a key role in the team's success with her shooting abilities and tough defense. She is one of six seniors that will try to defend their title



Merrill Jacobs shooting a foul shot. Photos by Amy Vaughan

CVU will receive a first-round bye



Seniors L-R. Merrill Jacobs, Samara Ashooh, Elise Berger, Coach Otley, Nina Zimakas, Grace Thompson, Nevaeh Parrish

in the playoffs, their quarterfinal game will be played at CVU on February 29th. Come out and cheer them on.

CVU Boys Basketball

BY MARY JO BRACE

CVU Boys basketball (17-3) finished their regular season seeded

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CALENDAR

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 29

Publication date for The Hinesburg Record. Tickets go on sale for HAS Concert. hinesburgartistseries.org.

Jack St. Peter at the free throw line. Photo

by Heidi St Peter

Seniors: Jack St. Peter, Nik Blasius, Ollie

Cheer, Russell Willoughby, Tucker Tharpe,

Colby Morehouse, and Kyle Eaton pointing

to newly hung banner from last season.

6:30-8 p.m. Young Adult Group.

First Day of Women's History Month. 10 a.m.-12 p.m. Food Shelf open hours. HCRC,

51 Ballards Corner Rd., Hinesburg. 12-4 p.m. Drop-In LEGO Free Play Time. Carpenter-Carse Library, 69 Ballard's Corner Rd. 12-6:30 p.m. Red Cross Blood Drive. Hinesburg

United Church.

9-11 a.m. Monday Ladies Group. Community Alliance Church, 190 Pond Road, Hinesburg. **10 a.m.-12 p.m.** Hands and Needles. Carpenter-Carse Library, 69 Ballard's Corner Rd.

11:30 a.m.-12:30 .p.m. Monday Munch. Charlotte Senior Ctr., 212 Ferry Rd., Charlotte.

4:30-5 p.m. Vinyasa Yoga. Sweet Yoga, Mechanicsville Road, Hinesburg.

6-8 p.m. Men's Group. Community Alliance Church, 190 Pond Road, Hinesburg.

THESDAY MARCH 5

9:30-10:30 a.m. Weekly StoryTime. Carpenter-Carse Library, 69 Ballard's Corner Rd. 5:30-7:30 p.m. Food Shelf open hours. HCRC,

51 Ballards Corner Rd., Hinesburg. **6-7:30 p.m.** CVSD Board Committee Meetings. CVU High School, Hinesburg.

6-7:30 p.m. Mahjong. Hinesburg United Church. **7-9 p.m.** Development Review Board Meeting. https://meet.google.com/eub-awgw-prt. Town Hall.

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

ended his season.

VERMONT STATE

CHAMPIONS

BOYS BASKETBALL

2023

season game.

run style of-

2023 Banner: CVU's fense and quick

first championship stingy defense.

of their games by 20-40 points,

in school history. They won seven

only losing twice to Rice by 5 and

16 points and St. Johnsbury by 10

which they avenged with an elev-

en-point win in their last regular

CVU received a first round bye in

the playoffs and narrowly beat BFA

by 2 in overtime in the quarter fi-

nals. They will play Burlington in

the semis. Congratulations on a

Jack St. Peter is one of seven se-

niors on the team and the lone

Hinesburg resident. He played a

key role all season, chipping in

10 or more points in six games.

Unfortunately, with two games left

in the regular season, a torn ACL

fantastic, hard-fought season.

2:15-3:30 p.m. Pokemon Club. Carpenter-Carse Library, 69 Ballard's Corner Rd.

THURSDAY MARCH

10-11:30 a.m. Friends of Families PlayGroup. United Church of Hinesburg, 10570 Rte. 116,

6-8 p.m. Folk Jam with SongFarmers. Carpenter-Carse Library, 69 Ballard's Corner Rd. 6:30-8 p.m. Young Adult Group.

10 a.m.-12 p.m. Food Shelf open hours. HCRC, 51 Ballards Corner Rd., Hinesburg.

Daylight Saving Time starts. **2-4 p.m.** Ladies Hike Sunday. Shelburne Farms, 1611 Harbor Rd., Shelburne.

MONDAY, MARCH 11

9-11 a.m. Monday Ladies Group. Community Alliance Church, 190 Pond Road, Hinesburg. 10 a.m.-12 p.m. Hands & Needles. Carpenter-Carse Library, 69 Ballard's Corner Rd.

11:30 a.m.-12:30 .p.m. Monday Munch. Charlotte Senior Ctr., 212 Ferry Rd., Charlotte. 4:30-5 p.m. Vinuasa Yoga. Sweet Yoga, Mechanicsville Road, Hinesburg.

5:30-7:30 p.m. Economic Development. Town Hall, 10632 Rte 116, Hinesburg. **7-8:30 p.m.** Village Steering Committee

Meeting. Town Hall.

9:30-10:30 a.m. Weekly StoryTime. Carpenter-Carse Library, 69 Ballard's Corner Rd.

2nd. They have ORGANIZATIONS played well as a team all season, utilizing their

Senior Meals

BY PEGGY COUTU

Shelburne Age Well March 12 Grab and Go

ge 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, March 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, and are nutritious and delicious. A \$5 donation is suggested.

The menu is beef round, boiled potatoes, cabbage and carrots in beef stock, wheat roll and butter, leprechaun cake with frosting, and milk. A \$5 donation is suggested, but not required.

To order a meal, please contact Kathleen by Wednesday, March 6, by email (preferred): agewellstcath@gmail.com or 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.

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.

continued on page 18

5:30-7:30 p.m. Food Shelf open hours. HCRC, 51 Ballards Corner Rd., Hinesburg.

6-7:30 p.m. Mahjong. Hinesburg United Church. **7-9 p.m.** Hinesburg Conservation Commission Meeting. Zoom meeting.

7-8 p.m. Recreation Commission Meeting. Town Hall

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

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13

2:15–3:30 p.m. Pokemon Club. Carpenter-Carse Carse Library, 69 Ballard's Corner Rd. Library, 69 Ballard's Corner Rd.

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

THURSDAY, MARCH 14

Ad & news deadline for The Hinesburg Record. **10-11:30 a.m.** Friends of Families PlauGroup. United Church of Hinesburg, 10570 Rte. 116, Hinesburg

5:30-8:30 p.m. Lewis Creek Association Board Meeting, Carpenter-Carse Library, 69 Ballard's WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20 Corner Rd.

6:30-8 p.m. Young Adult Group.

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

10 a.m.-12 p.m. Food Shelf open hours. HCRC, 51 Ballards Corner Rd., Hinesburg.

SIINDAY MARCH 17 St. Patrick's Day.

2-4 p.m. Hinesburg Artist Series Concert. Saint Jude the Apostle Parish, 10759 Rte 116, Hinesburg.

4:30-6:30 p.m. Hinesburg Artist Series Concert. Saint Jude the Apostle Parish, 10759 Rte 116. Hinesburg.

MONDAY, MARCH 18

9-11 a.m. Monday Ladies Group. Community Alliance Church, 190 Pond Road, Hinesburg.

10 a.m.-12 p.m. Hands & Needles. Carpenter-Carse Library, 69 Ballard's Corner Rd.

Charlotte Senior Ctr., 212 Ferry Rd., Charlotte. 4:30-5 p.m. Vinyasa Yoqa. Sweet Yoqa, Mechanicsville Road, Hinesburg.

11:30 a.m.-12:30 .p.m. Monday Munch.

6-8 p.m. Men's Group. Community Alliance Church, 190 Pond Road, Hinesburg.

9:30-10:30 a.m. Weekly StoryTime. Carpenter-5:30-7:30 p.m. Food Shelf open hours. HCRC,

51 Ballards Corner Rd., Hinesburg. 6-7:30 p.m. Mahjong. Hinesburg United Church. 6-9 p.m. Rm 160 & 162, CVSD School Board Meeting. CVU High School, 369 CVU Rd.

7-10 p.m. Development Review Board Meeting. Town Office, Lower Level Conference Room. **7-9 p.m.** Trivia Night in Hinesburg! The Dumb

Luck Pub & Grill, 104 Ballard's Corner Rd.

2:15-3:30 p.m. Pokemon Club. Carpenter-Carse Library, 69 Ballard's Corner Rd.

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

THURSDAY, MARCH 21

10-11:30 a.m. Friends of Families PlayGroup. United Church of Hinesburg, 10570 Rte. 116, Hinesburg

6:30-8 p.m. Young Adult Group.

51 Ballards Corner Rd., Hinesburg. SIINDAY MARCH 24 **2-4 p.m.** Ladies Hike Sunday. Shelburne

10 a.m.-12 p.m. Food Shelf open hours. HCRC,

Farms, 1611 Harbor Rd., Shelburne.

9-11 a.m. Monday Ladies Group. Community Alliance Church, 190 Pond Road, Hinesburg.

Organizationscontinued from page 17

Shelburne Luncheon: Wednesday, March 20

St. Catherine of Siena and Age Well are teaming up to offer a luncheon for anyone age 60 and older on Wednesday, March 20, in the St. Catherine of Siena Parish Hall, 72 Church St. in Shelburne. The check-in time is 11:30 a.m. and the meal will be served at noon. There is a \$5 suggested donation.

The delicious menu is beef burgundy with mushrooms and onions, wide egg noodles, sliced carrots, green beans, wheat dinner roll, butter, Larry's homemade oatmeal date craisin cookie, and milk.

You must register by March 14. Contact: Kerry Batres, Nutrition Coordinator at: 802-662-5283 or email **kbatres@agewellvt.org**. Tickets are also available at the Age Well Office: 875 Roosevelt Highway, Ste. 210; Colchester.

Restaurant tickets will be available for distribution for a suggested \$5 donation.

New SCHIP Grant Application Deadline

BY ALI GATELY, SCHIP PUBLICITY DIRECTOR

he new spring deadline for SCHIP grant applications is Friday, March 15. Since SCHIP began making grants, many nonprofits have used their awarded funds to continue their mission to improve the lives of our neighbors and strengthen our communities. Grants range from a few hundred to several thousand dollars. In addition to our Standard grant process for grants up to \$3,000, we have added a Major Grant category, to fund the necessary seed money to be used for future self-sustaining projects. Grants funded in this category can range up to \$15,000.

Applicant requirements:

- Be a 501c(3) or submit the application through such an organization.
- Projects must serve residents of Shelburne, Charlotte, and/or Hinesburg.
- Funds may not be applied to annual operating budgets or permanent staffing
- Major Grants also require a detailed business plan.

The grant deadlines are now March 15 and Sept. 15.

For specific requirements and to obtain an application go to **schip-streasure.org/apply-for-a-grant**.

Events at the Birds of Vermont Museum

BY KIR TALMAGE, OUTREACH/ IT COORDINATOR

The museum is open by appointment November through April.
The trails are open from sunrise to sunset, every day. Libraries have passes, and admission is always free for members (birdsofvermont.org/membership). 900 Sherman Hollow Road, Huntington.

Eggstatic! (For Kids!) Wednesday, March 13, 10–11:30 a.m.

Eggs are amazing structures with multiple functions. Why do they look and work as they do? How are eggs adapted for aquatic and terrestrial wildlife?

Ages 6-10. Open for 8 participants. \$15–\$35

birdsofvermont.org/event/ eggstatic-for-kids

Deadline For Submissions to "The Power of Perspective: a shifting point of view" Monday, March 18, 11:59 p.m.

The Birds of Vermont Museum seeks art that speaks to both humans' and birds' perspectives and experiences. How might a change in perspective alter people's understanding of the lives and needs of the birds who share our world? How does your art reveal a point of view?

Submission Info: Art in any media, by new or returning artists, of any age, may be submitted. Submit .jpg (visual art); .mp3, .mp4 (music/video); .pdf or .txt (stories, poems) file types. Include your name, email, town, and a brief description of each piece (type, media, when made). Submit up to three works using the online form at tinyurl. com/bovm-art-2024.

March Bird Monitoring Walk

Saturday, March 30, 8 a.m.

Join our monthly monitoring walk to record birds on the museum's property. Please bring your own binoculars and dress for the weather. Max: 12 people. Free, suggested donation \$5 - \$15. birdsofvermont.org/event/bird-monitoring-march-2024.

Ongoing: "The GIFT of ART" show, through April 21

This winter exhibit shares works from previous shows, selections from our gift shop, and elements of our long-term collections. See how art weaves together myriad media, styles, and visions. What's present in March may be quite different from what we place in November, so consider a repeat visit!

Open by appointment and for

special events. Included with admission (free for members). birdsofvermont.org/event/gift-of-art-march-2024.

By-Appointment Season Through April 30

From November to April, we are in our "by-appointment" season. Please call to schedule a visit. Museum members have unlimited free admission.

Of course, our trails, tree house, bird blind, and wintering garden spaces are open too. Bring a friend and wander the trails, sunrise to sunset. Find out more at **birdsofvermont.org**.

Vermont Genealogy Library Classes

BY PAULINE CRAHAN

Unless otherwise noted, classes will be held from 10:30 a.m. to noon. Cost is \$10. Please visit our website, **vtgenlib.org** for additional details and for registration.

How to Research a Brick Wall Problem March 2, Scott Andrew Bartley

In pursuit of our ancestors, we occasionally run into a person we cannot fully identify by our general method of research. In these situations, we need to make adjustments to how we tackle the problem. There are several levels of attack to break through these brick wall problems. Here. Drew will address the first level to hopefully solve the problem by a methodical approach to uncover any research on this subject by others. Sometimes, this will give you the answer you need or provide clues to further research. This technique can be used over and over to further your research request. This class will be held in-person at the library, at Pinewood Plaza, 57 River Road, Essex, and simultaneously via Zoom.

Scott Andrew Bartley is a genealogist, archivist, librarian and editor specializing in Vermont, Mayflower lineages, and colonial New England.

Using Microsoft OneNote March 9, Dwight Fowler

This class shows how genealogists can organize their research materials using a free tool from Microsoft called OneNote. The power of OneNote is in its ability to combine all kinds of media. Start your move away from paper and manila folders, and instead organize photos and articles, PDF files, word docs, and use links to outside sources.

In this class Dwight will review the basics of OneNote to show its capabilities, along with examples of it in use for research. Attendees should be familiar with Microsoft Word, Powerpoint or Excel. An understanding of MS OneDrive, or cloud-based tools like Dropbox, or Google Drive, is also recommended, but not required.

This class will be a Zoom webinar and may be followed by a virtual training offering if there is sufficient interest.

Researching Your Irish Ancestors Tuesday, March 12, 7 p.m., Ed McGuire

As part of the 2024 Burlington Irish Heritage Festival, the Vermont Genealogy Library is again hosting an in-person presentation by Ed McGuire titled "Researching Your Irish Ancestors." This talk will provide a brief history of Irish immigration to North America and then cover some of the major problems facing Irish researchers. Ed will discuss techniques for finding your ancestors' parish and he'll highlight the major record sets in Ireland. The talk will also cover major new collections that have appeared online recently and provide a handout listing key references and links to some helpful online resources. This free presentation will be held at the library in Pinewood Plaza, 57 River Road, in Essex Junction. This will not be recorded for later viewing.

Be "Far-Cited"—The Whys and Hows of Source Citations March 16, Abby Miller

Do your eyes glaze over when you see long footnotes with source citations? Do you think you would never need to know how or want to deal with those? Abby Miller will try to persuade you that citations can be helpful to you. She will give you some examples and pointers from her own experience for understanding their usefulness and how you can more easily make useful source citations yourself. This class will be held online via Zoom.

Open House: March 23

The Vermont Genealogy Library is moving its Open House to spring. So, if you have been working on your genealogy or thinking of starting, come visit us on Saturday, March 23, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at our new space at 57 River Road, Essex. We will be giving tours of our facility, along with 30-minute demonstrations. Chat with other researchers while enjoying refreshments. There will also be many new, as well as gently used, books for sale. Free and open to the public. Bring a friend!

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

OUTDOORS

Managing Forests for Birds

BY ETHAN TAPPER, CHITTENDEN COUNTY FORESTER

What does it mean to manage forests for birds?

While this may seem like a simple

question, it's actually almost impossible to answer. What we call birds includes everything from ducks and gulls to hawks and herons, from woodpeckers to hummingbirds, from turkeys to turkey vultures. Vermont is home to more than 80 species of breeding birds – one of the most diverse breeding bird populations in the United States. Birds are an immensely diverse group of animals with incredibly variable habitat requirements.

For this article, let's narrow our scope to songbirds. What we call songbirds (known by ornithologists as passerines, or perching birds) includes birds as big as a raven and as small as a chickadee, as common as a robin and as uncommon as a golden-winged warbler. Our songbirds include both yearround occupants and neo-tropical migrants – birds that overwinter in the tropics and migrate to Vermont to breed in the summer.

The first thing that songbirds need is food. Most songbirds are heavily dependent on insects and other arthropods, especially when feeding chicks in the spring and early summer. Our tens of thousands of species of native insects have complex relationships with many species of trees, shrubs and herbaceous plants, as well as being associated with forests of different ages and structural conditions. Managing

for insects in the woods means encouraging forests with tree species diversity and structural diversity, big, old trees, a gap-filled forest canopy, dead wood, dead-standing trees (snags), cavity trees (trees with holes in them) and areas of young forest. Also key to promoting insect habitat (and thus songbird habitat) is controlling threats to forest diversity – especially non-native invasive plants and deer overpopulations.

While insects are a staple of most songbirds' diets throughout the year, another important food source is mast – seeds, nuts, fruits and berries. Neo-tropical songbirds will feed heavily on mast (especially soft mast like berries) as they prepare for migration, as will year-round occupants as they prepare for winter. Birds that spent the summer north of us will also snack on soft mast in our forests as they stop-over in mid-migration, fueling up for another long night of flying south.

Another important component of songbird habitat is breeding habitat. Just as different species of songbirds utilize different canopy layers (understory, midstory, overstory) for foraging, they also do so for nesting. A forest with a diverse, multi-layered canopy may have rose-breasted grosbeaks nesting in the overstory, red-eyed vireos nesting in the midstory, black-throated blue warblers nesting in the understory and hermit thrushes nesting on the ground. Managing for structural diversity is key to providing breeding habitat for all of our songbirds.

Other important (and often under-appreciated) habitats for songbirds are big, old trees, snags, cav-

Black-capped Chickadee. Photo credit Gary Sturgis.

feature complex bark and canopy structure, providing unique foraging habitat for many birds - especially bark-foragers like nuthatches. Both old trees and snags are important food sources for woodpeckers, which forage for the insects and insect larva that colonize rotten wood. As they forage, woodpeckers create the tree cavities that are nesting habitat for birds from owls to chickadees to wood ducks. As old trees, snags and cavity trees fall over, they create nesting and foraging habitat for birds like winter wrens, drumming logs for grouse, and seedbeds for future generations of trees.

ity trees and dead wood. Old trees

So, what does it mean to manage forests for birds?

We can't answer this question without also answering a larger question: how do we manage for healthy, diverse forests that are functional and vibrant and rich with habitat for all of our native species? All of the habitat features mentioned here - species diversity, structural diversity, old trees, dead wood, snags, cavity trees - are key to improving habitat for all of our wildlife, and as we manage for them we simultaneously manage for forests that are resilient and adaptable in a changing climate, for old-growth characteristics, for water quality, for carbon and much more. One of the joys of managing forests for songbirds is how by doing so we also create and sustain so many other vital things.

To learn more about managing forests for birds, check out Audubon Vermont's "Foresters for the Birds" program.

Ethan Tapper is the Chittenden County Forester for the Vermont Dept. of Forests, Parks and Recreation (and one of Vermont's Audubon-endorsed foresters!). 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.

Help Shape the Future of Outdoor Recreation in Vermont

Move Forward Together Vermont Public Survey is Now Open

VT DEPARTMENT OF FORESTS, PARKS, AND RECREATION

ndividuals have the opportunity to join the Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation continued on page 20

WHAT THE HECK?



Haircraft carrier



Podcast



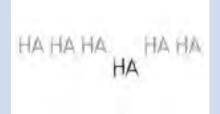
Devine



Touota Corona



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!

Arts & Leisure

Shelburne Museum News

FROM PRESS RELEASE

Summer Camps at Shelburne Museum

Extra Owl Cottage Academy Session Added!

Summer camps at Shelburne Museum offer a fantastically fun and hands-on camp experience. Reimagined for 2024, our carefully crafted camp programs are a playground for budding artists, offering the perfect mix of inspiration and self-discovery.

To register, or to join the waitlist for sessions that are full. please go to tinyurl.com/ ShelburneMuseumCamp.

Creativity Labs (Ages 7-9, 10-12, and 13-15)

Campers will be given the time, space, and guidance to try out a wide range of artistic ideas, materials, and methods. Each day, the artists will have the opportunity to explore the museum and fill their sketchbooks with creative inspiration to fuel their individual artistic adventures

Creativity Lab I: June 24-June 28, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Ages 7-9 (FULL)

Creativity Lab II: July 8-July 12, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Ages 10-12.

Creativity Lab III: July 15-July 19, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Ages 13-15.

Owl Cottage Academy (Ages 4-6)

New! Owl Cottage Academy: July 22-26, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. and noon-3 p.m. Ages 4-6.

Owl Cottage Academy: July 29-August 2, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. and noon-3 p.m. Ages: 4-6. (FULL)

Owl Cottage Academy: August 2-9, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. and noon-3 p.m. Ages: 4-6. (FULL)

Solar Eclipse at Shelburne Museum

Get Your Tickets Now to View this Celestial Wonder from the Museum

Join us for a special viewing of the total solar eclipse on April 8. We will have the museum grounds open along with the Weathervane Café, the Carousel, Round Barn and, depending on the weather conditions, a limited number of museum buildings. Plus, live

Get a group of friends together. Grab a lawn chair. Enjoy this awesome solar wonder from the unique vantage point of the museum, which is in the path of totali-Tickets are \$25 for adults; \$23 for members; \$15 for children 3-17 and students with ID. Children un-

We are also hosting a special fundraiser for the Lighthouse that includes lunch and exclusive viewing from the decks of the Ticonderoga. To learn more, go to store.shelburnemuseum.org/Events.aspx.

▶ Outdoors continued from page 19

(FPR) and the Vermont Outdoor Recreation Economic Collaborative (VOREC) in shaping the future of outdoor recreation in Vermont through the Move Forward Together Vermont Public Survey. The survey seeks public input about recreation needs and priorities and will be open until March 31.

"We are eager to hear from everyone who enjoys getting outside in Vermont, whether it's skiing at a resort, hiking or biking on our trail systems, picnicking and playing in our municipal parks, fishing and hunting in our vast forests, and more," said Claire Polfus, FPR Recreation Program Manager. "Your input will help us prioritize funding and resources across the state, including in your community."

The mobile-friendly online survey takes approximately 15-20 minutes to complete. It explores outdoor activities and gathers opinions on priorities for outdoor recreation. Share your thoughts on how and where

you spend your time outdoors.

The Public Survey is a crucial com-

ponent of Move Forward Together Vermont—an initiative led by FPR and VOREC in collaboration with partners across the state. By gathering insights on the public's preferences, the survey will inform decisions on how FPR and VOREC allocate funding and other resources for outdoor recreation. The survey will contribute to the priorities in an updated Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, which enables Vermont to access federal recreation funding. Additionally, the survey will lay the groundwork for the upcoming VOREC Action Plan and guide resource utilization and collaboration with partners to bolster the outdoor recreation economy.

For more information and to take the survey, visit tinyurl.com/ FPR-survey.

PEOPLE

Higher Education Honors

Thomas Garavelli, Cassandra Guillemette, and Trinity Nye, all of Hinesburg, have been named to the Dean's List for the 2023 fall semester at the University of New England. Dean's List students have attained a grade point average of 3.3 or better out of a possible 4.0 at the end of the semester.

Emily Heywood, Hannah Terrien, and Caitlin Vamvas, all of Hinesburg, were named to the fall 2023 Student Honors List at the Community College of Vermont (CCV). This honor recognizes parttime students with a 4.0 grade point average.

Isabelle Hopkins of Hinesburg was named to the President's List for the Fall 2023 semester at Vermont State University. President's List designation is reserved for the students who maintain full-time status and a semester grade point average of 4.0.

Madison Kittell of Hinesburg was named to the fall 2023 President's List at the Community College of Vermont (CCV). This honor recognizes full-time students with a 4.0 grade point average.

Lily Mincar of Hinesburg was named to the College of Charleston's (SC) Fall 2023 President's List (Highly Distinguished). Mincar is majoring in psychology. To qualify for the President's List (Highly Distinguished), students must earn a GPA of 3.800 or higher and complete a minimum of 12 semester

Eliza Stearns of Hinesburg was named to the fall 2023 Dean's List at the Community College of Vermont (CCV). This honor recognizes full-time students with a grade point average between 3.5 and 3.99.

Olivia St. Peter of Hinesburg has qualified for the Fall 2023 Dean's List at Seton Hall University (NJ). Undergraduate students completing all courses with a GPA of 3.4, with no grades lower than "C", qualify for the Dean's List.

Norah Van Vranken of Hinesburg has been named to the Fall 2023 Dean's List at The University of Rhode Island. To be included on the Dean's List, full-time students must have completed 12 or more credits for letter grades which are GPA applicable during a semester and achieved at least a 3.30 quality point average.

OBITUARIES



Bruce Douglas Cunningham 1940 - 2023

Engineer, inventor, runner, biker, car enthusiast, safety advocate, musician, good friend, loving husband and father, Bruce Cunningham, 83, died Monday, Dec. 11, at the McClure Miller Respite House in Colchester, Vermont, He wanted to live the rest of his life in the house he designed in Hinesburg. but his tall, strong body gave out due to a combined infection and aortic embolism, complicated by Alzheimer's.

He is survived by his wife, Donna; daughter Laura Cunningham Firkey, her husband Peter, and granddaughters Emily (husband Charlie) and Eva, all of Essex Junction, Vt.; step-children Catherine Kelly of Philadelphia, Penn., Michael Kelly of Bankok, Thailand, and John Kelly (wife Jennifer, children James and Charlotte) of Fort Worth. Texas He is also survived by his brothers, John Cunningham (wife Dana) of Durango, Mexico, and Scot (wife Sheri) Cunningham of Osgood, Ind., as well as many nephews, nieces, and cousins.

He was predeceased by his parents, Douglas and Elizabeth Cunningham, his brothers Fred and William Cunningham, and his sister Ann Maree Beaman.

Bruce served in the U.S. Air Force. He worked as an engineer at IBM for 26 years. Following retirement, he operated a road-grading business and spent many years as a citizen advocate, traveling often to the state capitol to lobby legislators on issues including drug abuse, tobacco use, and property tax fines. He served several terms as president of the Vermont Lung Association and the Arthritis Foundation of

New England and as a member of the school boards of the Champlain Valley Unified School District and Essex Junction High School.

He held a bachelor's degree in physics from Florida State University and a master's degree in electrical engineering from the University of Vermont.

A fitness enthusiast, Bruce completed more than 20 marathons, two ultra-marathons, and uncounted other races. He was an accomplished bicyclist and held two patents for his invention of the CycleCraft, a watercraft that was adjustable to fit any size bicycle and allowed bicyclists to ride, literally, on water.

He loved classic cars and was often seen in the 1952 Jaguar roadster he lovingly maintained, relying on a lifetime of mechanical expertise. Bruce loved the Vermont woods. He designed his and Donna's home. with sustainable materials, woodstoves, and large windows that take advantage of passive solar energy. He managed their 20-acre woodlot, judiciously cutting down trees and chopping wood for fuel.

He sang in several choruses and played the tuba in the Hinesburg Community Band. He played the bagpipes at home, at car shows and festivals, and sometimes on lake ferries. A private, family memorial is planned.

Ad and news deadline is March 14 for the next issue. Publication date is March 28. Go to hinesburgrecord. org or call 802-999-2410 for more information.



Carolyn Blough Duffy, loving wife, mother, grandmother, and teacher, died peacefully with family nearby a hard-fought battle with cancer.

Born in 1943, Carolyn grew up on

At Penn State University she was the only major in Latin American Area Studies. There, in the fall of 1962 she met her future husband, Leonard. It was love at first sight.

Washington, D.C., until their marriage in 1966, whereupon they set off for Guadalajara, Mexico, and then Florence, Italy, the following spring. She taught high school Spanish for a year in Pennsylvania before the couple moved back to Washington, where she started her own language school for embassy personnel while finishing her master's in applied linguistics at American University.

Carolyn Duffy

on Wednesday, Jan. 3, 2024, at her home in Hinesburg, Vermont, after

a family farm in Somerset County, Penn., with a few years in Texas when her father returned from WWII. In her youth she played the piano at her family's church and was valedictorian of her high school class.

After graduating she worked in

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After the birth of their son,

out the world. Carolyn loved her home and farm, her gardens, skiing, her horses and many dogs and cats, but most of all "Gummy" loved to spend time with her four grandchildren, with each of whom she had a spe-

Vermont, where their daughter,

Briefly, Carolyn took up weaving

and poetry until she was recruited

to teach in the English as a Second

Language program at St. Michael's

College. She was director of the

English Language Program and

taught and mentored students in

the MATESL program until retir-

In 1991, a former student asked

in Bogota. Gimnasio Vermont is

now considered one of the high-

est-ranked pre-K to 12 schools in

Colombia. At about the same time

program at the Hellenic American

Union in Athens and Thessaloniki,

Greece, where she also taught for a

portion of the year for many years

Georgetown University. One of her

proudest accomplishments was a

frequently cited paper she wrote

also co-authored a TOEFL textbook

for English-language learners that

became a worldwide resource. She

will be fondly remembered by hun-

dreds of former students through-

for the U.S. Peace Institute. She

while she completed her PhD at

she also started a teacher-training

her to help start a bilingual school

ing in 2015. She was proud to have

received an award for excellence in

Cara, was born

teaching in 1994.

cial, memorable relationship. She became a passionate golfer later in life and loved spending time on Lake Champlain, and cooking delicious meals and entertaining. She is survived by her husband

of 57 years, Leonard; her son Brennan (Brooke) of Rutland, Vermont, and daughter Cara (David Carreon) of Catonsville,

Brennan, they moved to Hinesburg, MD; grandchildren Teegan and Ronan Duffy and Jacob and Emma Carreon; sisters Marilyn Blough of Huntington, Vermont, and Kay Blough (Ben Weller) of Huntington, N.Y., and brother Robert Blough (Mary) of Boswell, Penn., sister-in-law Meg Guilfoy (Ed) of Huntington, Vermont; and numerous nieces, nephews and cousins. She was predeceased by her par-

ents, Robert and Amy (Shaffer)

Blough, of Boswell, Penn.

The family is especially thankful for the excellent care provided by her oncologist and friend, Dr. Elise Everett, and the caring nurses and staff of the UVM Medical Center; the UVM Home Health and Hospice program; the caring helpers of Home Instead; and for the diligence of Dr. Michael Kosta in Boulder, Col., who gave her additional years. We are also thankful for the love and support of her devoted friends and family.

A memorial celebration was held on Sunday, Jan. 14, at the United Church of Hinesburg. A private interment will be held in the spring.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to UVM Home Health and Hospice, UVM Cancer Center or a charity of your choice.

Hinesburg Food Shelf

Food drop off box at Lantman's in the orange bin

Monetary donations can be sent to: Hinesburg Food Shelf PO Box 444, Hinesburg, VT 05461

Hinesburg Food Shelf hours are: Tuesday nights 5:30 - 7:30 Friday mornings 10:00 - 12:00

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RELIGION

Community Alliance Church

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

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

All services live-streamed on Facebook Live (Lighthouse Baptist Church Hinesburg page)



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

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 • ucofh.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

Bob (Home) 482-2807

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482-2162

Steve (Home) 482-3671 David (Home) 324-6224

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appointment.

Sunday Worship Service: 10 a.m.

Senior Meals: Second Friday of the month; cost \$5. Contact Ellie Lawyer 802-398-5320.

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

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

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 • all souls interfaith.org

dchatfield@allsoulsinterfaith.org

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

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

Sunday 9 a.m.: Morning Meditation

Sunday 5 p.m.: Music & Spirit

▶ Carse Wetlands ► HAS Spring Concert continued from page 24 continued from page 1

class gives us an opportunity to do something." Carse Wetlands is a 255-acre nat-

ural area located in Hinesburg, next to and east of Baldwin Road. In 2013, this land was acquired by the University of Vermont as a donation from the Carse family. Carse Wetlands has been designated as a UVM natural area, with the help of Vermont Land Trust.

This natural area is made up of a mix of former agricultural fields, forests and wetlands. Carse is home to a wide range of plant and animal species, but it's also open for public use. A trail system through the forest, including a boardwalk leading out to the wetland, has been developed for the public to enjoy.



Students in the Fellowship in Restoration Ecologies and Cultures in the shrubland group. From left to right the students' names are Michael Habib, Amelia Betz,

Maria Grever and The Silver Aria from *The Ballad of Baby Doe* by Douglas Moore. Tenor Cameron Brownell will also be singing with the chorus and performing Simple Song from the Mass by Leonard Bernstein. Cellist Jiwon Lee is a returning guest soloist, and she will be performing a stunning arrangement of Be Thou My Vision arranged by Gary Lanier.

Tickets for the concert are \$25 (free for children under 12) and available at the door or at the HAS website, hinesburgartistseries.

Meet the Guest Artists

Soprano Cristina Escobedo was

born in Lima, Peru. Her first exposure to classical music was at the age of eight at the National Children's Choir, where she was part of multiple performances for six years including festivals, operas, oratorios and a European tour through Italy and Switzerland. In 2019 Cristina was admitted at the Universidad Nacional de Musica of Peru where she started her vocal studies under the guidance of the well-known Peruvian soprano Maria Eloisa Aguirre. In 2021, Cristina won the 4th Prize in one of the most important singing competitions of Peru held by Radio Filarmonia. Recent performances include a Mozart Arias concert at The Unadilla theater, soprano soloist in The Messiah by Handel with the Vermont Philharmonic and her



Tenor Cameron Brownell

debut at Carnegie Hall this past January. Now, Cristina is getting ready to sing the role of "Anina" in La Traviata by Giuseppe Verdi with the Vienna Opera Academy in July.

Tenor Cameron Brownell is honored to be making his debut with the Hinesburg Artist Series. He is the Vocal Music Teacher at Champlain Valley Union High School and the Music Director at Charlotte Congregational Church. He is also the Assistant Conductor of Solaris Vocal Ensemble, led by Dr. Dawn Willis. Cameron holds degrees in Music Education/Voice Performance from SUNY Potsdam, The Crane School of Music and a Masters in Sacred Music from The



Cellist Jiwon Lee

University of Notre Dame.

Cellist Jiwon Lee is currently maintaining an active schedule as a soloist, chamber musician, and teacher in the U.S. and South Korea. Lee earned her Bachelor of Music degree at Ewha Women's University in Seoul, Korea, and was the winner of various competitions, including the Korea Herald Competition, Seoul Arts Competition, and American Fine Arts Festival Competition.

The Hinesburg Artist Series is supported in part by the Vermont Arts Council and the National Endowment for the Arts.



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BACK STORIES of Hinesburg

Students Take Action to **Restore Carse Wetlands**

BY PHOEBE SWARTZ, COMMUNITY NEWS SERVICE

t Carse Wetlands in Hinesburg, UVM students are working to restore the landscape by testing methods of invasive species removal. These students are a part of the second cohort of the Fellowship in Restoration Ecologies and Cultures (FREC). With the first semester completed, the students are finalizing their projects that will attempt to restore an aspect of the Carse ecosystem.

"We definitely see the coverage of Japanese honeysuckle, barberry and buckthorn very much along the forest edges and that's definitely our area of focus because of how bad it really is," said Amelia Betz, a fellow in FREC. The out-ofcontrol growth of invasive shrubs, especially Japanese honeysuckle, is one of the biggest problems for Carse today.

At Carse there is a transitional zone between the cattail marsh and the forested area, called the shrubland. "Birders in the area and ornithologists, including the Audubon, have identified the shrub layer as a really important shrub layer to migratory warblers that are spending the summer in Vermont," said Professor Amy Seidl, co-founder of FREC.

"The invasive shrub species don't provide nutritious food for birds, and they take over the native shrubs that do provide nutritious food and habitat...it also just decreases the diversity of the area because the invasive species take over," said Kaylee Baker, a fellow in FREC. These warblers rely on fruit from native shrubs but when herries from invasive shrubs dominate the natives, warbler populations will decline, according to Seidl.

Invasive shrubs not only impact birds, but also the human community. "Connection to nature is very important and having natural spaces to go to makes people care about them more. So, if invasive species are taking over and decreasing the biodiversity, then we don't have the same place to go to," said Baker.

So how are the students in FREC planning to solve such a large problem in Carse?

According to Betz, they have a plan to create an experiment for testing honeysuckle removal techniques in the spring. The students plan on creating experimental plots along the forest edge. One type of plot will be left alone to act as a control; one will have invasive shrub removal: one will have invasive shrub removal plus the introduction of the native red osier dogwood shrub; and one will have no invasive shrub removal, but it will have native shrub introduction. These four types of plots will be replicated three times for a total of 12 plots.

The students will be creating and monitoring these plots and collecting information throughout April.



Japanese honeysuckle (lonicera japonica), photo courtesy of Phoebe Swartz, Community News Service.

"The plan for future cohorts, like for next year's cohort, is to be able to monitor the plots from last year like we will be doing, but also monitor our plots and be able to implement a greater invasive removal project hopefully," said Betz.

In December the students presented their project ideas to professionals and stakeholders at Carse, outside of the UVM community. "It elevates and it challenges them to do their best work... and it always makes for better projects in the end," said Seidl.

Through FREC, students get to learn about the environment but also develop professional skills and connections to the land through hands-on work that makes a difference.

"I think learning about the environment can be very hard when it doesn't feel like you can do anything about it," said Baker. "This

continued on page 23



Carse Wetlands, courtesy of Emma Graham, Community News Service.

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.

Mentorina

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 copu, 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.