

the HINESBURG Record

MAY 2024

Hinesburg's independent, nonprofit, community newspaper



Hinesburg Artist Series Mother's Day Concert at CVU

Featuring the South County Chorus
and Hinesburg Community Band

BY DOTTY SCHNURE, HINESBURG ARTIST SERIES BOARD MEMBER

The Hinesburg Artist Series (HAS) will celebrate spring and Mother's Day with a concert full of beautiful music on Sunday, May 12, at 4 p.m. in the CVU auditorium. The concert will feature the Hinesburg Community Band and South County Chorus, both under the direction of Rufus Patrick.

"We have put together a lovely mix of music that families are sure to enjoy," said Rufus Patrick, HAS Music Director. "This concert will be a wonderful way to celebrate spring and mothers."

The Hinesburg Community Band will present selections by James Swearingen, Randall Standridge, Robert Longfield and a rousing piece titled *Dragons Fly On The Winds Of Time* by Larry Neeck. The South County Chorus will sing selections by Michael Engelhardt, Howard Helvey, and David Waggoner. Other featured selections will be *Turn the World Around* by Harry Belafonte, arranged by Mark Hayes and *A Million Dreams* from the Greatest Showman arranged by Mark Brymer.

"Performing for our local community for more than 25 years has been so inspiring," said Patrick.

"We have enjoyed support from people who attend regularly, from many local businesses who have advertised faithfully in our program, individuals who have been moved to donate, and performers who are dedicated to bringing joy to the community through music." Come hear dragons flying and listen to the earth's spirit as we turn the world around through music.

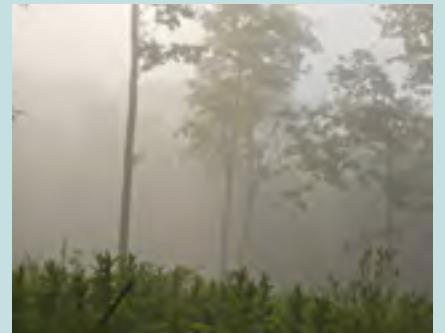
The concert is free, with donations gratefully accepted. Please go to our website, hinesburgartistseries.org for additional information.

The HAS 2024 season is brought to you in part by the generous support of Lantman's Market.

INSIDE...

Forested Landscape

Page 16: The ecological, economic, and cultural benefits of forests



Senior Housing

Page 2: In terms of demographics, Hinesburg is "getting older." More senior housing is needed.

Service Directory & Calendar

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

BACK STORIES

of Hinesburg

DandyLion

Page 24: A new kind of store right in town.



An Eclipse Like No Other

Page 12: Photos by Hinesburgers of Hinesburgers, and the eclipse!

Rotary Club Fundraiser

44th Annual No Car Calcutta Drawing is May 10

BY AMANDA VINCENT

Join us for the Charlotte-Shelburne-Hinesburg Rotary Club's 44th Annual Calcutta. We have been hosting this Calcutta annually, with only a few years missed due to Covid.

If you attended this event pre-Covid, you may remember that we used to give away a car, but most people took the cash anyway – so we got rid of the car for cold hard cash instead.

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▶ **Commentary**

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locations on Cuba's south coast. Grapnels thrown overboard from steam launches were used to manually haul up and cut two undersea cables at Cienfuegos, one running east to Havana, the other running west to Santiago.

An unofficial and supposed collection of "real-life" stories, *Blind Man's Bluff, the Untold Story of American Submarine Espionage*, by Sontag, Drew, and Drew (1998) devotes a chapter to the story of the USS Halibut (SSN 587) which allegedly tapped an undersea communication cable near the Soviet Union's missile submarine base at Petropavlovsk on the Kamchatka Peninsula in August of 1972.

The location of the undersea cable landfall which otherwise then extended across the Sea of Okhotsk was initially pinpointed by the presence of a cautionary land sign that a buried cable was nearby. I have seen many similar standard

oversized warning signs like this on the U.S. coast, particularly near ferry landings or bridges which often connect the shortest distance between two shores. Such signs are curious because they face the water with the intended audience being afloat on a work boat, barge, or a ship capable of dropping or dragging a sizeable anchor. For instance, modern floating marina docks for pleasure craft are held in place tethered to an array of cement blocks that weigh tons.

Up to events within the past few years undersea cables have remained largely out of sight and out of the public's mind even though much of the world's economy greatly depends on them remaining in place and intact. The U.S. Naval Institute Proceedings magazine published an opinion article last August titled: *The Coast Guard Should Lead to Protect Undersea Cables*. The following caption underscored a glossy photo of a cable laying vessel with which the article began.

"Undersea cables carry about 95 percent of the world's transnational Internet traffic and trillions of dollars in daily financial transactions. Within the current network of more than 500 cable lines, more than 100 cable breaks occur annually."

We haven't been this wowed by underwater infrastructure since TDI New England corporate people came to town and presented at the October 2014 Lake Symposium at Burlington's ECHO Science Center on their proposed Champlain Hudson Power Express (CHPE) power line. This kicked off years of speculative media coverage on the federal and state environmental permit applications.

Burlington Free Press articles tracking the permit process repeatedly ran the same file photo of a corporate officer cupping a short saucer sized cross-section of a high voltage direct current (HVDC) cable in his two hands. This view of the cable innards whose concentric circles of sheath, insulation, and

bumpy copper colored conductor core had an uncanny resemblance to the roughly ringed toothy mouth parts of a sea lamprey seen in an enlarged photo.

The transmission line beginning in Quebec is to be submerged the length of Lake Champlain. For a time, the cable installation was hoped to emerge and head overland to Ludlow then on to Cavendish, Vt., to be tied into the New England power grid. Whether the Vermont overland route was Plan B or only a wished-for alternative, the 1200-megawatt power cable submerged in Lake Champlain will lay entirely on the New York state side of the lake, to continue largely submerged in the Hudson River the remainder of the distance to New York City, a whopping 339 miles in overall length as originally filed in 2013. In-lake installation likely begins this summer. As no societal benefits will accrue to the state, counties or towns of Vermont, the CHPE undersea cable in Lake Champlain might as well be just another invasive species.

EDUCATION

Champlain Valley Superintendent Rene Sanchez Will Step Down

FROM CVSD PRESS RELEASE

On March 20, the Champlain Valley School District Board of Directors announced the upcoming departure of Superintendent Rene Sanchez after three years in the role. He will continue as superintendent through the remainder of the 2023-24 school year.

Sanchez joined the district in 2021 and immediately got to work finding ways to better serve students, including the creation of a Director of Data Systems position and implementation of the first district data warehouse. This tool combines all CVSD students' data in one location for ease of use by teachers, principals, and central office, enabling the district to more easily identify students' academic and social-emotional needs and successes.

Also during Sanchez's tenure, the district created its first strategic plan since consolidating nearly seven years ago. In preparation for that work, Sanchez commissioned a demographic study and an equity audit to look at the district's immediate and long-term needs. He also furthered the board's goal of improved outreach to the community in a number of ways.

"Superintendent Sanchez has made many meaningful and lasting leadership decisions during his time here, and the board greatly appreciates the contributions he's made to this district," said CVSD board chair Meghan Metzler. "In particular, Superintendent Sanchez's work on the district equity audit, and subsequent effort to establish positions to support the implementation of the resulting recommendations, is critical. These changes will continue to serve our students, administrators, and staff as we all seek to bring more equity and understanding into our schools. We wish him the very best in his next chapter."

Sanchez relocated in 2021 with his wife, who grew up in Brattleboro, and his three kids and quickly made Vermont their home.

"It has been a great honor to serve the Champlain Valley School District and to get established here in Vermont with my family. The people here have been wonderful, and I have learned a great deal. I will look back on my time as CVSD superintendent knowing that together we made significant progress creating systems in service to our students and our community, and I greatly appreciate the board's trust and support for our work," shared Sanchez.

The board of directors plans to appoint an interim for the 2024-25 school year. More information will be shared in the coming months.

CVU Scholars Bowl Team Takes the Championship!

FROM CVSD PRESS RELEASE

The team from Champlain Valley Union High School secured the state high school academic championship on Saturday, April 6, winning the Vermont-NEA Scholars' Bowl at Montpelier High School.

CVU capped a run of four blow-out wins at the April playoffs with a 505-245 victory over defending champion Burlington. The Redhawks also swept through the first set of playoffs in January, meaning they secured their third state championship overall and second in the last three years without needing to play in a championship match.

The result capped a dominant season which saw the Redhawks win every Vermont competition without losing a match. Including the regional round in the fall, the Redhawks finished the state tournaments with a record of 23 wins and no losses. CVU also won the league's three side tournaments – the Sue Pasco Opening Tournament in September, the Pre-Holiday Academic Tournament in December, and the Vermont NAQT

Championship in March – to finish the regular season with an overall record of 47-0.

A similar situation occurred in the JV tournament as January winner CVU B outlasted Burlington B, 330-240, in the JV championship game. CVU's JV players have now won that tournament eight of the past eleven seasons.

Scholars Bowl is a question-and-answer quiz competition, similar to *Jeopardy!* but featuring teams of high school students and with a heavier focus on the academic curriculum. The tournament has been held annually since the 1983-84 school year and is sponsored by the Vermont-National Education Association.

Competing members of the CVU team Saturday included (varsity) Frank Fidler, Jacob Graham, Elias Leventhal, Zoe Mui, Colin Ravlin, Nolan Sandage; (JV) Mateo Dienz-Del Rio, Dylan Elder, Leo Elder, Willcox Elliott, Leah Rauch, Charles Redmond, and Wylie Ricklefs. The team is coached by CVU teachers John Bennett and Kiran MacCormick. Some members of the CVU team will be traveling to Atlanta with their coaches to compete in the High School National Championship Tournament (HSNCT).

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► Education

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Access CVU Spring Offerings

BY JENNIFER MORTON, PROGRAM MANAGER

The Winter/Spring semester of Access CVU, your destination for community education based out of CVU High School, is nearing the end. With almost 30 classes scheduled to start during the month of May, there is something for everyone; from Vietnamese Stirfry and Pie Extravaganza to making cutting boards and a plant walk.

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

Below is a list of classes offered during May, organized by category. All classes meet in-person at CVU, with the exception of an online class (identified with an “**”) which will meet over Zoom.

Cooking & Cuisine

Wednesday, May 1: Torrone, Italian Nougat Candies

Thursday, May 2: Eritrean/Ethiopian Injera

Tuesday, May 7: Vietnamese Stirfry & Kimchi

Tuesday, May 14: Pie Extravaganza: Quiche & Fruit Pie

Fine Arts, Crafts, Fiber, Wood, & Photography

Tuesday, Apr. 30: Digital Photography Bootcamp

Tuesday, April 30: Weaving an Adirondack Pack Basket

Thursday, May 2: Card Making through Creative Collaging

Saturday, May 4: Modern Adirondack Chair Workshop



Weave Your Own Adirondack Pack Basket with Benjamin Maycock, April 30.



Learn Positive Dog Training with Alana Stevenson, May 1.



Join Jane Taylor, author of Spirit Traffic, for a night of shared storytelling, May 7.

Monday, May 6: Paint and Pop with Fia!

Tuesday, May 7 Learn How to Turn a Wooden Bowl!

Tuesday, May 14: Mantras & Mala Bead Necklace Making

Wednesday, May 15: Crafting a Charcuterie Board from Repurposed Woods

Wednesday, May 15: Let’s Draw Faces!

Tuesday, May 16: Harvest Basket: Two-Handled Lading Round

Monday, May 20: Fused Glass Wind Chime

Tuesday, May 21: Turn a Wooden Pen!

Fitness, Dance, Yoga & Mindful Movement

Monday, April 29: Vinyasa Flow Yoga with Heather*

Wednesday, May 8: i-STRIKE Self-Defense Workshop

Thursday, May 9: Gentle Evening Yoga with Ellen

Thursday, May 9: Slow Flow Afternoon Yoga with Ellen

Home (DIY) & Gardening, Nature & Animals

Wednesday, May 1: Positive Dog Training

Monday, May 6: Beekeeping Basics

Wednesday, May 8: Native Plants Landscaping

Tuesday, May 21: Late Spring Medicinal Plant Walk

One Night University

Tuesday, May 7: Separate and Connected: Understanding and Improving Your Relationships

Tuesday, May 7: Spirit Traffic – Share Your Stories of Adventure

Thursday, May 9: Connected: Understanding and Growing your Relationship with your Child

Tech, Computers, & Automotive, Welding

Wednesday, May 1: Van Conversion Forum

Thursday, May 9: Getting to Know Your Car Workshop

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.

Need help getting registered, or have a question about a class? Want to teach with us? We want to hear from you! Call 802-482-7194 or email access@cvsdvt.org. We offer senior discounts for our community over 65.

We provide enrichment and learning opportunities for anyone, anywhere, and anytime! Come explore new passions, ignite your imagination, learn a new skill and connect with lifelong learners.

ORGANIZATIONS

Plants and Pies

BY YVONNE WHITAKER

The United Church of Hinesburg’s Plant Sale tradition continues with our in-person sale on Saturday, May 11, from 9 a.m. to noon. Brighten up your gardens with annuals. Old and new favorites in a variety of colors in multi-packs, pots and hanging baskets will be for sale at competitive prices. The annuals are sourced from Paquette Full of Posies Nursery in Williston.

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

Just in time for Mother’s Day, home-baked pies will also be available. Buy a special pie and a colorful plant for a special person in your life.

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

Senior Meals

BY PEGGY COUTU

Shelburne Age Well May 14 Grab and Go Meal

Age Well and St. Catherine’s of Siena Parish in Shelburne are teaming up to provide a meal to go for anyone age 60 and older on Tuesday, May 14. 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, regardless of town of residence. These meals are nutritious and delicious.

The menu is: chicken breast with sweet and sour sauce, brown rice pilaf with veggies and cannellini beans, brussels sprouts, wheat roll, cookie and milk.

A \$5 donation is suggested, but not required. To order a meal, please contact Kathleen by Wednesday, May 8, by email: (preferred) agewellsteath@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, VT. 05446.

We will have forms on hand for you

these questions.

Over the course of the past year and a half, LCA has collaborated with a variety of partners (SLR Consulting, Lake Champlain Sea Grant, Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation, and the Lake Champlain Committee) to develop materials, photos, and examples of how to assess the land near you, and what solutions to better manage stormwater and improve water quality may be possible. The final manual is now available on LCA’s website at lewis-creek.org/aots-guidance-manual and among other partners’ websites, as well as in local libraries in the Lewis Creek and LaPlatte watersheds: Bristol, Charlotte, Hinesburg, Monkton, Shelburne, Starksboro, Vergennes, and Williston. It is applicable to properties in the Lake Champlain Basin, including New York. However, the concepts contained within it apply to any area in the Northeast or beyond.

You can learn more about the problem and what landowners can do to improve water quality in a brief 17-minute presentation on LCA’s website at bit.ly/lca-wq-videos. These include things like slowing water down, spreading it out, and sinking it into the ground (“The three S’s” that are central to LCA’s Ahead of the Storm program. You can learn more about the Ahead of the Storm program at bit.ly/lca-aots). It is crucial that we all do our part to improve water quality in small ways, in order to improve Lake Champlain’s water quality and beauty, and to protect the animals and plants that live in our waterways.

The funding for this project also allowed LCA and partners to hold workshops to help landowners in neighborhoods with poor water quality understand the connection between their actions on the land and the quality of the water in their area. They introduced neighbors to some of the wildlife (bats, and amphibians and reptiles) that depend on clean water for their life cycles.

This project has been funded wholly or in part by the United States Environmental Protection Agency under assistance agreement (LC00A007070) to NEIWPCC in partnership with the Lake Champlain Basin Program.

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.

Shelburne Luncheon, Wednesday, May 22

St. Catherine of Siena and Age Well are teaming up to offer a May 22 luncheon for anyone 60 or older, at the St. Catherine of Siena Parish Hall, 72 Church St., 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: stuffed chicken breast, mashed potatoes, sliced carrots, dinner roll, pumpkin cookie with raisins, and milk

You must register by May 16. 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.

Lewis Creek Association and Partners Release New Stormwater Guidance Manual for Landowners

BY KATE KELLY

What is stormwater, and how can you help manage it to promote healthier watersheds? *How To Manage Stormwater to Promote Healthier Watersheds: An Ahead of the Storm Guide* was recently published to help you assess and understand where problems might be occurring on the land near you, and what opportunities there are to improve these areas. Lewis Creek Association (LCA), along with partners, has released this new guidance manual that will help answer

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► Outdoors

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dedicated to the sustainable management of 19 million acres.

In Vermont, the Tree Farm System is sponsored by the Vermont Woodlands Association with 440 landowners and over 133,000 acres enrolled in the program. These landowners, known as “Tree Farmers,” commit to managing their forests to prioritize wildlife habitat, clean water, and recreation, while sustainably producing forest products.

As part of this initiative, numerous Vermont county foresters, including Tapper, serve as tree farm inspectors, actively supporting and encouraging landowner participation in the program. This collaborative gives Vermont’s woodland owners the tools they need to be good stewards of the land.

“To be named National Tree Farm Inspector of the Year is such an honor,” says Ethan Tapper. “I became a Tree Farm Inspector because I wanted to work with Vermont’s iconic working forests enrolled as Tree Farms, the amazing landowners and lands stewards that are Tree Farmers, and the incredible community of foresters that serve as inspectors. Being recognized by such an amazing organization at all – let alone nationally – is a dream come true!”

Vermont Department of Forests, Parks, and Recreation’s county foresters have been serving private landowners since the 1940s. This program provides assistance to landowners, administers Vermont’s

Use Value Appraisal program, and supports the management of town forests statewide.

**Green Mountain
Bicycle Club
Introductory Rides**

**FROM GREEN MOUNTAIN
BICYCLE CLUB PRESS RELEASE**

Are you tired of riding alone on the same bike paths and roads but worried you don’t have the skills for a group ride? The Green Mountain Bicycle Club will be offering Introductory Group Rides on select Saturdays in May and June.

Experienced riders will explain the rules of the road and teach novice cyclists how to ride safely in a group.

The rides start at 10 a.m. at the Wheeler lot at Veterans Memorial Park in South Burlington, and will travel between 12 and 20 miles. Nobody will be left behind. There will be at least two ride leaders who will teach group dynamics including signaling and passing, as well as learning to respect (and be respected by) cars. The pace will be determined by the ability of new riders. Cyclists must wear helmets and have bikes in good working condition. Those under 18 must be accompanied by an adult.

Cyclists are asked to sign up in advance at tinyurl.com/GMBCsignup.

Cyclists are also asked to sign

our waiver form at tinyurl.com/GMBCwaiver.

The GMBC’s Introductory Group Rides will take place on May 4 and 18, and June 8 and 22. Please contact the ride leaders listed below for more information.

May 4: John Bertelsen,
802-864-0101

May 18 and June 8: Dawn Fragola,
802-238-8752

June 22: Holly Creeks,
802-233-9013

To learn more about the Green Mountain Bicycle Club, visit our website at thegmbc.com.



*Vermont Fish & Wildlife is asking for volunteers to help at its conservation camp work weekends – May 11-12 at the Bomoseen camp and May 18-19 at the Buck Lake camp.
VTF&W photos by Alison Thomas.*



**Green Mountain
Conservation
Camp ‘Work-cation’
Weekends**

**FROM VT FISH & WILDLIFE
PRESS RELEASE**

The Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department is looking for volunteers to join them for fun-filled weekends to get the camps ready for the 2024 season. This year, the GMCC Kehoe ‘work-cation’ weekend will be May 11-12, and the GMCC Buck Lake work-cation weekend will be May 18-19.

“We look forward to work-cation weekend all winter long,” said Education Specialist Hannah Phelps. “With the help of local volunteers, we spruce up both camps in preparation for the summer and enjoy being outdoors knowing it’s for a good cause – environmental education for today’s youth.”

Volunteers can participate for as long as they are able to – one hour, one day, or both days. They are welcome to stay overnight in on-site cabins or they can bring their own tents. Lunch and dinner will be provided.

The Buck Lake camp is located in Woodbury, and the Kehoe camp is on Lake Bomoseen in Castleton. This is an excellent community service opportunity for Boy Scout and Girl Scout groups, as well as high school and college clubs. The Conservation Camps are looking for help with general repairs, construction, landscaping, painting, cleaning, firewood, and gardening. Participants are encouraged to bring their own tools, but the camps will have some available.

For more information and to register as a volunteer for one of these weekends, please email Hannah.Phelps@vermont.gov or call 802-249-4199.

Vermont’s conservation camp program is unique because it is sponsored and directed by the Fish and Wildlife Department professionals who conserve Vermont’s fish and wildlife species. Working biologists, foresters, wardens, and conservation educators teach young people about their role with Vermont’s forests, wetlands, wildlife, and fish through interactive activities.

The Green Mountain Conservation Camp program’s greatest strength is connecting young people to the outdoors. The camp program is sponsored in part through a grant from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program.

ARTS & LEISURE

**Lake Champlain
Maritime Museum
Opens on May 18**

**Featuring Free
Admission, Shipwreck
Tours, and More**

FROM PRESS RELEASE

The Lake Champlain Maritime Museum has announced that exhibits and museum grounds will open for the 2024 season on Saturday, May 18. The museum will be open daily with free admission from May 18-Oct. 16.

Located in a small harbor on Lake Champlain a few miles outside of downtown Vergennes, Lake Champlain Maritime Museum is an educational hub and seasonal museum that offers exhibits and hands-on programs for visitors of

all ages. Exhibits and grounds are open annually from May to October for the public to explore and learn about history, shipwrecks, ecology, boats, and more. Throughout the year, the museum also offers experiential and educational programs including rowing clubs, shipwreck tours, boat building for local students, pay-what-you-can summer camps and overnight expeditions, sailing classes, and more.

“We have seen that when people have the opportunity to connect with Lake Champlain and their past, they make connections to the present, and are inspired to build a more sustainable future for the lake and our communities,” said Chris Sabick, the museum’s executive director. “By offering free admission to all, we ensure that everyone can have this experience. We are grateful to our sponsors, donors, and members, whose support ensures our doors can open for free again in 2024.”



Two young visitors in the museum’s Key to Liberty exhibit learn about how Lake Champlain played a pivotal role in the Revolutionary War.



Visitors of all ages can visit the Maritime Museum for free and climb aboard the replica boat Philadelphia II on display in the middle of the museum’s campus.

Highlights of the 2024 season at Lake Champlain Maritime Museum include:

- **Free admission:** The museum exhibits and grounds are free for all visitors, open seven days a week from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. from May 18-Oct. 16. Exhibits include “Key to Liberty: The American Revolution in the Champlain Valley,” “Steam to Gasoline,” “A Noble Failure: Prohibition in the Champlain Valley,” the Hazelett Small Watercraft building, and more. See all exhibits that will be open at lemm.org/exhibits.
- **Jack Kelly author talk:** On May 18, opening day, the museum will welcome author Jack Kelly for a discussion about the research and highlights of his newest book, “God Save Benedict Arnold: The True Story of America’s Most Hated Man.” Kelly will sign copies of his new book, which will be available for purchase from the museum’s store. Free to attend with advance registration at lemm.org/JackKelly.
- **Shipwreck tours:** On Thursdays from July-September, guests can take a scenic boat ride to the site of a shipwreck in Lake Champlain and learn about the vessel’s dramatic story while watching real-time video from an underwater remote-operated vehicle equipped with a robotic camera. Tickets are \$25 for youth and \$40 for adults, available at lemm.org/ShipwreckTours.
- **The Museum After Hours Summer Party:** On Friday, July 12, the museum will throw its much-loved summer party, which has sold out each year. The evening includes live music, local food and ice cream, a raffle and silent auction, open exhibits, and drinks. Tickets are \$50 and include all food. Tickets are available at lemm.org/SummerParty.
- **Free public events:** The museum will host many free public events in 2024 including Collections Corners, a free monthly event to witness rarely seen artifacts up close with historians; and Abenaki Heritage Weekend on June 29-30 presented by the Vermont Abenaki Artists Association and the Abenaki Arts and Education Center. Check the calendar for the latest events at lemm.org/calendar.
- **Open-water rowing:** Each spring through fall, adults of all ages are invited to come try open-water rowing on the lake in the museum’s fleet of 4-oared and 6-oared rowing gigs, which range from beginner to experienced, or sign up for one of the rowing events this season including the Hope for Tomorrow on June 22 or the Lake Champlain Challenge Race on Sept. 14. Sign up for a rowing club at lemm.org/Adult-Rowing.

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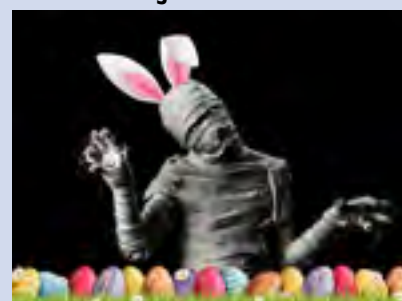
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WHAT THE HECK?

Royal Wave



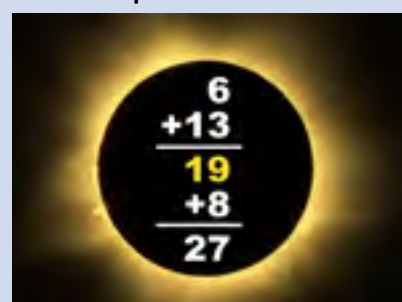
Easter Mummy



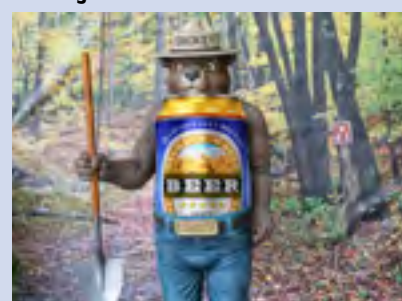
Joking



Subtotal Eclipse of the Sun



Smokey the Beer



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

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Free admission for the 2024 season is made possible with support from Champlain Valley National Heritage Partnership, the Lake Champlain Basin Program, local businesses, individuals, foundations, and the museum's membership program.

Green Mountain Film Festival reboots after 4-year Covid break

The festival was on pause during the Covid-19 pandemic, and reviving it was no small feat.

BY CECILIA LARSON, COMMUNITY NEWS SERVICE

After a four-year hiatus, the Green Mountain Film Festival returned to Montpelier's silver screens March 15 to 17. Established in 1997 as a community-building event and filmmakers' showcase, the festival was placed on pause during the Covid-19 pandemic and crawled out of hibernation for the first time since 2019.

Sam Kann, a Vermont-based artist and art event organizer, took charge of programming the festival, no small feat. Planning began months ago for her and her team, while festival advisory board chair Christopher Wiersema and others charted a course behind the scenes for two years for the spectacle's return.

The festival ran Thursday through Sunday that mid-March week, showcasing works from filmmakers local and global.

The weekend kicked off with an opening night party featuring the world premiere of a new film and

music composition by Vermonters Andreas John and Evan Premo, "The Space Between," a short feature profile that operated as a meta-commentary on creation. Here's what the audience at the debut saw:

From a dark screen emerged images of half-barren trees before the audience as they watched the film, followed by leaves falling in the gentle wind. A woman with striking white hair opened the door of a weathered barn and walked into the grasp of scattered light peeking through its paneled walls. She caressed a canvas and played with the light on the surface of the material. The shots panned and focused on the set's interaction with illumination.

Then, a voice:

"I was in love — I was in love with the light." It was Jan Sandman, self-described spiritual healer and artist, who during the film was shown using paint, a squeegee and rollers to see the interaction between canvas and light. She placed down sheets of paper on top of the wet paint before peeling them off to reveal the shadow left from their imprint.

"The whole time I feel the hugeness of being both held and witnessed and activated by what is already there," said Sandman as a cello in the soundtrack hummed through the auditorium.

After a short Q&A session following the screening, the Montpelier Chamber Orchestra performed live while two local films — "Chamberpeace" by Natalie Jones and "The Green Mountain Project" by Tori Lawrence — ran projected in the background. And just like that, the weekend had begun.

Over 30 films showed on three screens in the capital over the course of the weekend, highlighting political and historical moments, issues of sexual and racial identity and themes of privilege and resilience.

Such a jam-packed weekend was the result of Kann and a team of 13 volunteers screening each of the hundreds of films submitted for

consideration over the past several months.

Events and films screened at the Savoy Theater, a tiny two-screen art house cinema, and Capitol Theater, just five minutes down the street, for the duration of the weekend. The festival hub was Rabble-Rouser, an open plan coffee and chocolate shop, where guests could purchase tickets, ask any questions, hang out and purchase merch.

This year, Kann wanted the festival to bring light to filmmakers whose work may otherwise have never made it to Vermont. Organizers selected never-before-seen films and prioritized pieces by emerging artists.

A crowd filled the Savoy on March 16 for the documentary "Farming While Black" directed by Mark Decena, eager to learn and indulge in conversation about the experience of Black farmers in America. Afterward a panel of Black farmers from Vermont sat to chat and answer questions about mental strength and agrarianism. According to Kann, the documentary spurred "really strong conversations" and "really engaged the community in a powerful way."

The foot traffic from the festival brought some warmth back into Montpelier after the devastating floods last summer.

John Killacky, artist and former Vermont state representative, both attended the festival and debuted a work of spoken poetry. He was inspired by the organizing team's resilience and commitment to artists.

"To see Montpelier come back after the floods and to see sold out shows and to see restaurants filled and to see people walking the streets ... it was like, Montpelier's come back ... and the film festival's been really part of it. It's like a renaissance," said Killacky.

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.



The crowd outside the "Farming While Black" panel at Green Mountain Film Festival in Montpelier in March 2024. Photo courtesy Finnegan Cook.

OTHER NEWS

New Electric Vehicle Battery Technology on the Horizon

BY JOHN CLIFFORD

According to Drive Electric Vermont, as of January 2024 there are 12,754 registered fully electric or plug-in electric hybrid vehicles in Vermont — 58 percent being fully electric.

The most popular EV in Vermont is the Chevrolet Bolt EV/EUV 1LT with 1,163 cars. The Chevrolet Bolt is also the most affordable at about \$27,495. The cost of the battery pack alone is \$16,775-\$17,775. GM has announced plans to discontinue the Bolt and replace it with the Equinox EV. It's likely this new GM electric vehicle platform will come with new Ultium Battery Drive Technology which includes a wireless battery monitoring system (wBMS), saving considerable weight in copper wiring and faster electronics processing. The wBMS can continuously monitor and balance chemistry within individual battery cell groups, perform SOH checks, and communicate battery conditions on the vehicle networks for optimum battery health, range, and driver updates. These low-voltage twisted wire pairs called CAN (Controller Area Networks) carry data between the various 30 or

more modules on the vehicle. It allows all computers to share information and make better decisions.

For the chemistry lovers out there, the lithium-ion battery design has been very successful for the EV market (with a few exceptions requiring some recalls). Primarily because the lithium ion's natural net positive charge enables it to transport easily across the barriers inside battery cells. To review battery basics, there are two electrodes. The positive electrode (think as wanting an additional electron to make it more stable) called a cathode, and a negative electrode (think as wanting to more easily give up an electron) called an anode. When a battery cell is discharged, the energy (chemicals) inside the battery is used up and converted to more inert (unreactive) compounds. When a battery cell is charged, the energy coming into the battery cell drives the chemical reaction in the opposite direction, reforming the original chemistry (for the most part). When discharging, the released electrons flow from cathode to anode, and freed positive lithium ions flow across internal barriers to the anode. It is, of course, the net flow of electrons in a circuit that creates current to perform electrical power or watts.

The highest cost (51 percent) in EV battery manufacturing is the cathode materials because of the rare metals used. Open pit mining of rare metals is also the biggest

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PEOPLE

Higher Education Honors

Emaleigh Hunter of Hinesburg was named to the Champlain College Dean's List for the Fall 2023 semester. Students on the Dean's List have achieved a grade point average of 3.5 or higher during the semester. Hunter is currently majoring in Game Art.

source of embedded emissions (40-60 percent of total EV production emissions) producing 7,000-35,000 pounds of carbon dioxide emissions per battery pack. Exposure to the toxic outgases from rare metal mining carries the greatest health risk in Central Africa and Democratic Republic of Congo.

The new GM Ultium battery will be of the NCMA variety, for Nickel, Cobalt, Manganese, and Aluminum chemical blends. Rare metals are added in special percentages to lithium to give the battery cell strength, reactivity, transport characteristics, and charging enhancements. Two other EV battery designs are common, the NMC (Nickel, Manganese, Cobalt) and LFP (Lithium Iron Phosphate). Tesla uses LFP chemistries in the Model 3 and Model Y. LFP batteries are preferred for their lower costs, can discharge to flat, can handle faster charging, less fire risk, safer iron cathodes, better high-temperature stability and contain less highly toxic metals. But LFP battery cells perform less well in cold weather and carry less charge capacity.

Like I used to tell my students, every engineering design or decision comes with tradeoffs. What is good for power and performance may not be good for emissions, and what is good for the technology may not be good for costs and regulations.

New EV battery designs under development include the Lithium-Sulphate, Sodium-Ion, and Solid-State. Many of the new designs claim to boost range to 600-1,000 miles and double the charge rate. The Chinese company Tailan is currently developing an NIO Cell with a Lithium-Manganese Cathode and a high-performance oxide composite solid-state electrolyte that can give an EV a range of 620 miles. Hold on though, the battery costs alone will be more than the price of a new Tesla.

Rotary Fundraiser

continued from page 1

The Grand Prize is \$12,000. For every tenth ball drawn, a gift basket will be awarded to that ticket holder.

Purchase a Calcutta Ticket, which includes dinner for two at our drawing on May 10, at the Shelburne Farms Coach Barn; or purchase a Tulip Ticket, which will give you a chance at winning one of the 100 balls!

The Charlotte-Shelburne-Hinesburg Rotary Club is a growing presence in Hinesburg, and last fall they planted nearly 2,000 crocus bulbs in front of Champlain Valley Union High School.

Do You Love to Play in Lake Iroquois?



Support the health of Lake Iroquois

Become a member of the Lake Iroquois Association. Just go to lakeiroquois.org, click DONATE, and join us!

The Lake Iroquois Association provides:

- Protection of nesting loons
- Aquatic plant surveys twice a year
- Greeters and a boat wash at the VT Fishing Access
- Removal of Aquatic Invasive Eurasian Milfoil
- Questions? email us at info@lakeiroquois.org

BACK STORIES of Hinesburg

Making Home Goods Great!

Like-minded artisans create home and kitchen accessories

BY KEVIN LEWIS

Recently, a new kind of store opened on Kailey's Way (behind Kinney Drugs) in Hinesburg. It's a store and studio, featuring items for your home, created with skill and love by artisans from across the country. This store is part of DandyLion, the brain-child of Ashley Farland.

Ashley is a native Vermonter steeped in environmental awareness and powered by enough energy to launch the space shuttle; Ashley Farland is the visionary behind DandyLion. For 15 years, her creativity as a classically trained chef was on display at some of the finest restaurants in New York City. Later, her experience as a private chef for elite New York families kindled a love for luxurious home goods. She returned to Vermont, began experimenting, and DandyLion was born.

In 2021, Ashley decided to create a lifestyle store, where she would create a large percentage of the products she sold, understand the craft behind the products, and honor the ethos of sustainability, reuse, and superb quality.

In May 2023, DandyLion found roots off Route 116 in Hinesburg, Vermont, where customers can see exactly how each pillow, blanket, and other products are designed and produced by hand.

Most recently DandyLion

and Pompanoosuc Mills have collaborated on a new collection that will be sold exclusively in their mid-Atlantic showrooms.

Ashley stated, "I am thrilled to announce DandyLion will be



Ashley Farland



Some of the wide variety of unique products at DandyLion.

collaborating with Pompanoosuc Mills, a 50-year-old family-run New England company known for building forever furniture. Both our companies blend exquisite quality with sustainable practices – a challenge that few companies have successfully achieved. It's a natural fit."

Pompanoosuc Mills will be featuring DandyLion pillows in four of their showrooms, beginning in May: Philadelphia, Concord, Hanover, and Burlington stores.

I recently had the pleasure of visiting the DandyLion showroom in Hinesburg – originally designed pillows and wooden products, as well as the curated artisan products, are not to be missed.

You have to get past the sheer good looks of DandyLion products to



recognize the spark of genius in each. Hold it. Use it. From unique throw pillows to stunning kitchen ceramics to custom desk accessories you will find original design, exceptional quality, and sustainability.

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VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Make a Difference

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

Mentoring

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 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 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.

- Affordable Housing Committee
- Development Review Board
- Energy Committee
- Chittenden Solid Waste District
- Planning Commission
- Town Forest Committee
- Trails Committee
- Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Belonging Committee

Check town web site hinesburg.org for the most current committee openings, descriptions and instructions on how to apply. For more information contact Katharina Frazier (Assistant Town Manager) at 802-482-2281 ext. 1 or kfrazier@hinesburg.org.

The Hinesburg Record

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

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

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