

the HINESBURG Record

Hinesburg's independent, nonprofit, community newspaper

JULY 2024



Hinesburg Celebration Info

Theme: A Sporty 4th

Wednesday, July 3 – Annual Hilly Hobble Foot Race. Registration starts at 6 p.m. in front of Hinesburg Community School (HCS). Cost: \$5 adults and \$3 children. All proceeds benefit Hinesburg Fireworks. The 10k starts at the bottom of Buck Hill Road West at 6:30 p.m., 5k starts at 7 p.m., and 2k Kids' Run starts in front of Good Times Café at 7:10 p.m. All runners finish at Veteran's Park.

Thursday, July 4 – Parade lineup at the bottom of Buck Hill Road West begins at 10 a.m. Participants should register at hinesburgrec.com. Judging is at 10:30 a.m. Prizes awarded. Parade begins at 11 a.m. and travels north through the village, turning on Mechanicsville Road, finishing at post office. Various activities will be planned post parade – check hinesburgrec.com for updates. *Rough Suspects* will perform starting at 6:30 p.m. Food trucks will be set up in the lower HCS lot. Fireworks at dusk behind HCS.

Tom Giroux is the 2024 Grand Marshall for Hinesburg's July 4th Parade

BY DAWN FRANCIS

You know the guy. He is at every concert, sporting event, play and pub with live mu-

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Community-Built Windows

WindowDressers Offers Insulating Window Inserts for Energy Savings and a Warmer Home

FROM PRESS RELEASE

Drafty windows? High heating bills? Would you like to have a warmer home and save money? WindowDressers can help. Our high-quality, low-cost insulating window inserts fit inside of your existing windows to let in all the sunlight and views while keeping more heat inside your home. Each insert installed saves an estimated 8.5 gallons of heating fuel per year and installing them is a concrete way to do your part to help reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Join your neighbors in Hinesburg, Charlotte and Shelburne at a

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A neighbor in action.

Memorial Day Service Well-Attended

BY PEGGY CIOFFI

The Memorial Day Community Service held on May 27 was very well attended. Approximately eighty people gathered at the Veterans' Monuments to honor men and women living and dead and to show gratitude for the dedication of members of the police force, fire department and first response unit.

Boy and Girl Scouts Troop 692 opened the ceremony with the pre-

sentation of the colors and then led the Pledge of Allegiance. Formerly Troop 690, the Hinesburg Scouts joined with Williston Scouts and is now Troop 692. All present joined in singing The Star Spangled Banner, accompanied on guitars by Michelle Keller, John Penoyar and Joe Cribari. A red, white, and blue wreath was front and center to honor the service men and women of the various wars.

Troop 692 Scoutmaster Norman

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Boy and Girl Scout Troop 692, under the direction of Scoutmaster Norman Smith (third from left), stand with the colors in front of the two monuments.

INSIDE...

Record Records!

Page 20: Old back issues of The Hinesburg Record now online.



Uganda and HCS

Page 13: Fifth-grade students in Hinesburg and Uganda team up.

Service Directory & Calendar

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

BACK STORIES

of Hinesburg

Hinesburgers Tame Williams Woods

Page 24: One family's adventure on little-known hiking trail.

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▶ Town News

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Project Loan agreement and related documents for a loan of \$9,348,000 for a term of 30 years with 0 percent interest and administrative fees.

The selectboard approved refunding Black Radish Catering for their payment for a permit which was not needed.

The selectboard appointed Alex Weinhagen to another two-year term on the Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission Planning Advisory Committee.

Town Manager Report – The Town was awarded the grant for a scoping study for the box culvert for Patrick Brook and an inventory of other culverts in town and signs needing replacement

Applications for the job of full-time Fire Chief are open until June 17.

Selectboard Retreat Highlights, June 6

Selectboard members, along with Assistant Town Manager Joy Dubin Grossnan and Town Manager Todd Odit, held a retreat from 3-5:15 p.m. at The Birch and Berry.

Jennifer Decker offered her thoughts about climate change and general emergency management at

the beginning of the meeting, and then left.

The selectboard looked at the Future Actions from The Public Safety Strategic Plan and discussed the following items: community conversation and reconciliation, supporting public safety personnel living in Hinesburg, joint fire and police public safety clerk, public safety dashboard, emergency management position, animal control officer, expanding fire and EMS coverage with full-time staffing, regionalization of fire services, new fire station, regionalization of police coverage with Richmond, expanding police coverage to 20 hours a day, alternate police uniforms, community events for officers, policy review process and improved mental health response mode. Although many of these items are beyond the resources the Town can currently afford, some of them will be on future selectboard agendas to see what actions can be taken.

The selectboard then discussed local option taxes, which are optional taxes the voters could approve in Hinesburg. Local option tax (LOT) is a way for municipalities in Vermont to raise additional revenue. A municipality may vote to levy the following 1 percent local option taxes in addition to state business taxes.

Local Option Sales Tax: 6 percent sales tax + 1 percent = 7 percent total tax.

Local Option Meals and Rooms Tax: 9 percent meals tax + 1 percent = 10 percent total tax.

Local Option Alcoholic Beverage Tax: 10 percent alcohol tax + 1 percent = 11 percent total tax.

The Town Manager has estimated that the adoption of all three taxes could raise at least \$175,000 a year and possibly more. All selectboard members believed that the selectboard should pursue a town-wide vote on local option taxes in November 2024. The selectboard then discussed how the revenue might be used if the taxes were approved. The three ideas mentioned were reducing the wastewater facility loan payment, revenue for the operating budget and revenue for the capital budget. General consensus was on using the revenue to reduce the property tax.

The selectboard plans to hold several educational meetings on the Local Option Tax before the November vote.

LEGISLATIVE

Bill to Defend Public Libraries Against Book Bans Passes

BY NORAH WHITE

A bill aimed at fighting book bans will require school libraries to prohibit removing books based on personal beliefs, content related to sexual health or the identity and political and religious views of authors or characters.

S.220, which Gov. Phil Scott signed on June 3, will also require all public libraries, when deciding what books live on their shelves, to adopt policies that align with the First Amendment and state and federal anti-discrimination protections.

In recent years, libraries across the country have come under fire for housing books that focus on gender, sexual and racial identity, especially those for children. There's been a nationwide rise in challenges to library books and in successful book bans since 2020.

The Department of Libraries will craft model policies, guidelines and best practices for libraries to use. The department will also ensure Vermont public libraries have collections that reflect the state's diverse people, history, and political beliefs, according to the bill.

Some libraries already have similar policies in place, like the South Burlington Public Library, but not all. Those libraries without policies will make sure they are in compliance, Jennifer Murray, the library's director, said in an interview.

"I think that is a very useful thing to have," she said. "It helps us to drive our purchasing and to respond to the public when they are interested in removing a book."

Another section of the bill proposes that library card holders above 12 years old will have confidential library records, meaning teenagers' parents will not be able to see what books they've checked out.

Right now, if a parent of a child under the age of 16 asks library staff about the books the child has checked out, the library is required to provide that information.

The intent is that young readers who are exploring different aspects of their bodies and their sexualities will have an opportunity to do so without a librarian reporting back to their parents upon request, Murray said.

"It gives them that freedom to read – that is important to what we do

in libraries across the country," Murray said.

The bill will take effect July 1.

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.

VT Secretary of State Announces Candidates for 2024 Primary Election

FROM PRESS RELEASE

Vermont Secretary of State Sarah Copeland Hanzas has announced the statewide and Federal candidates for the upcoming Primary Election in August.

"The May 30 candidate filing deadline is another milestone in Vermont's very busy 2024 electoral calendar," said Secretary Copeland Hanzas. "It's inspiring to have all these folks step up to serve, and my office gets a front-row seat as candidates come to file their petitions and paperwork."

The Primary Election will be held on Tuesday, Aug. 13, 2024. Voters will choose which candidates will represent their party in the November General Election. The following offices are up for election:

U.S. Senator, U.S. Representative, Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Treasurer, Secretary of State, Auditor of Accounts, Attorney General, all 30 State Senate Seats, all 150 State Representative seats, and High Bailiffs.

Independent candidates have until Aug. 8 to file for the November general election ballot. Statewide and Federal candidates that have qualified to run in the Primary Election are as follows:

U.S. Senator

Bernie Sanders, D-Burlington
Gerald Malloy, R-Weathersfield

U.S. Representative

Becca Balint, D-Brattleboro
Mark Coester, R-Westminster

Governor

Esther Charlestin, D-Middlebury
Peter K. Duval, D-Underhill
Marielle Blais, P-Brandon
Phil Scott, R-Berlin

Lieutenant Governor

David Zuckerman, D-Hinesburg

Thomas Renner, D-Winooski
Zoraya Hightower, P-Burlington

John S. Rodgers, R-Glover

Gregory M. Thayer, R-Rutland City

Treasurer

Mike Pieciak, D-Winooski

Tim Maciel, P-Brattleboro

Joshua Bechhoefer, R-Cornwall

H. Brooke Paige, R-Washington

Secretary of State

Sarah Copeland Hanzas, D-Bradford

H. Brooke Paige, R-Washington

Auditor of Accounts

Doug Hoffer, D-Burlington

Linda Gravell, P-Waterbury

H. Brooke Paige, R-Washington

Attorney General

Charity R. Clark, D-Williston

Elijah Bergman, P-Danby

H. Brooke Paige, R-Washington

Secretary Copeland Hanzas reminded voters of one key difference between the August Primary and the March Presidential Primary: This summer, voters will be given all three major party ballots – Republican, Democrat, and Progressive – and will choose which party primary to vote in. Voters must return the other two, unmarked ballots, and the voted ballot will be recorded.

"With the busyness of summer, the August Primary will come quickly. It's good to start thinking about your voting plan," said Copeland Hanzas. "Is your voter registration up to date? Do you plan to vote in person or request an absentee ballot? Where is your polling place?"

Voters can check on all these items and more at their My Voter Page – mvp.vermont.gov – or check in with their town or city clerks."

Copeland Hanzas also praised the hard work of all the Vermonters who help prepare for and run elections in the state. "Vermont's town and city clerks do an amazing job administering elections and are a critical local resource for all voters as the Primary Election approaches," said Copeland Hanzas. "Clerks and their staff, along with local Boards of Civil Authority and all the volunteer poll workers and others that support local elections, make Vermont's elections the envy of states across the country."

Secretary Copeland Hanzas also discussed the newly enacted statewide law that prohibits firearms in polling locations. "Firearms are not allowed in other sensitive areas in our civic life. Our office supports extending that prohibition to polling locations," said Copeland Hanzas. "Ultimately, we all play an important role to make sure that our elections run smoothly and securely. This is a big election year, and it's crucial that every eligible Vermonter can make their voice heard."

As part of their work to support clerks and local election officials, the secretary noted that her office will be producing educational materials and posters before the Primary Election, including a poster related to the prohibition against firearms in polling places. In addition, they will provide de-escalation and security training for clerks and poll workers.

Voters may request absentee ballots through the My Voter Page at mvp.vermont.gov or by contacting their town or city clerk.

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POLICE

May 7: 7:01 p.m. An officer assisted first responders with a medical emergency at CVU.

7:12 p.m. An officer investigated a motor vehicle complaint at Kelley's Field.

May 8: 7:51 a.m. Officers responded to a domestic dispute on Majestic Lane. Mary Wildasin, 55, of Hinesburg was cited for domestic assault.

5:18 p.m. A fraud, reported on Hollow Road, was investigated.

May 9: 8:44 a.m. A motor vehicle complaint on Route 116 was investigated.

12:07 p.m. A loose dog was located on Hillview Terrace and later returned to its owner.

1:27 p.m. Suspicious activity on Mechanicville Road was investigated.

3:00 p.m. Two individuals were assisted with fingerprinting for employment purposes.

4:35 p.m. Suspicious activity on North Road was investigated.

May 10: 7:00 a.m. An officer investigated a noise complaint on Hollow Road.

2:14 p.m. A citizen on Commerce continued on page 6



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▶ Commentary

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Colossal facilities are way points on an international trade route over rivers, tributary waters, man-made lakes, lesser lakes and the Great Lakes along a waterway stretching 2,343 miles with access to many mid-continent cities and ports along the way.

Electrical power-wise, only a smidgeon, less than 1 percent of a once larger long-term allocation, reaches Vermont municipal and cooperative electrical utilities today from the federally commissioned hydro-electric projects on the purposefully developed water route. This power is provided at cost via a transmission line crossing from upstate New York down through Vermont's Champlain Islands. Some may remember this high voltage transmission supply was installed over water on tall wood utility poles at Sandbar but disrupted in the spring of 1994 by an ice flow which sheared off a number of them. People realized that an even more picturesque view of Lake Champlain could be had without an aerial transmission line overhead along Route 2 at Sandbar and campaigned to have it rebuilt underwater, out of sight. In the spring of 1997 eleven sets of disused utility poles and the associated rock pile pylons were removed leaving the world class view and lake surface unblemished.

In a much different setting, a year later Senator Patrick Leahy slipped words into the 1998 federal appropriations bill, signed by President Clinton, that newly classified Lake Champlain a Great Lake. See "Why Isn't Lake Champlain 'Great'?" Mike Winslow, "Essay in the Public Square," Oct. 2, 2018. Following the political uproar "the offending phrase calling Lake Champlain a Great Lake was struck, but Vermont's eligibility for a Sea Grant Office remained. Lake Champlain lost its status but retained funding." Mike Winslow is the author of "Lake Champlain: A Natural History" (2008).

An early informational pamphlet on the St. Lawrence Seaway explains "historically, it is not a new route, but an extension (and expansion) of operations begun centuries ago." Indians called the St. Lawrence "river without end." The British are credited with building the first locks upriver from Montreal. Following the Erie Canal, William Hamilton Merritt built a competing Canadian canal bypassing Niagara Falls in 1829. While the majestic Falls always gets attention, the Welland Canal crossed the Niagara peninsula of Canada with eight locks (1913-1932) and is considered the first section of the St. Lawrence Seaway to be built.

"Going through" means a ship navigates the full distance of the Seaway after rounding the Gaspé peninsula from the Atlantic to Lake Ontario, the Thousand Islands section of the St. Lawrence, Lake Erie, the Detroit River, to Lake Huron, then to Lake Michigan via the Mackinaw Straits or through the Soo Locks to Lake Superior. By this point a ship is raised 600 feet above sea level. Anyone new to the conventional names of the principal places on the Seaway in two languages might think they are seeing double. The Soo Locks on the St. Mary's River is the one and the same as the Sault Locks at Sault Ste. Marie. Charles T. Harvey, an engineer and traveling representative for the Vermont based Fairbanks Scale Company, responded to Congressional enticement and built the first canal allowing passage around the Saint Mary's Falls between Lake Superior and Lake Huron which opened in 1855.

The Ghost Quartet: Part I

BY BILL SCHUBART

If we zoom out and look with cynicism at the health care crisis in America, we see a remarkably effective business plan: Grow the burgeoning health care business even larger from its current \$4.5 trillion per year in spending, and do so using two other lucrative industries – the chemical/industrial/agriculture partnership and the ultra-processed food industry.

By design or by default, these four – the "ghost quartet" – are an extraordinarily profitable business model. They make money making you sick and even more money trying to cure you.

Starting with the chemical/agricultural complex: the Great Lakes, the largest source of fresh water in America and the source of much of America's drinking water, is now toxified with PFAS – the "forever chemical." Unlike some toxins, these chemicals endure in nature; 99 percent of humans, including fetuses, have measurable levels of PFAS in their bloodstreams, as do most animals. The presence of PFAS in our bodies is linked to altered immune and thyroid function, liver disease, lipid and insulin deregulation, kidney disease, adverse reproductive and developmental outcomes, cancers and low birth weight in newborns.

By the 1970s, half a century ago, scientists at 3M knew that PFAS were appearing in human blood samples and that the chemicals were toxic. Virtually everyone now has at least one PFAS compound in their blood, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. According to an envi-

ronmental chemist from Harvard University, given their presence in everyone, the chemicals are "reducing public health on an incredibly large scale."

Other chemicals used in agriculture can also pose a danger.

From a review published in the International Journal of Molecular Sciences: "Glyphosate, a non-selective systemic biocide with broad-spectrum activity, is the most widely used herbicide in the world. It can persist in the environment for days or months, and its intensive and large-scale use can constitute a major environmental and health problem." It's marketed worldwide by Monsanto as "Roundup."

The International Agency for Research on Cancer has classified glyphosate as "probably carcinogenic to humans." In the U.S., the Environmental Protection Agency decided it's "not likely to be carcinogenic to humans."

But the scientific review I cited previously states, "... it is unequivocal that exposure to glyphosate produces important alterations in the structure and function of the nervous system of humans, rodents, fish, and invertebrates."

The insecticide chlorpyrifos is so dangerous it was banned for household use more than a decade ago. But a ban on crop use was overturned late last year, and this toxic insecticide may be used on thousands of acres of crops during the 2024 growing season despite having been linked to neurological damage and developmental problems in young people.

Dicamba, a brand of weed killer used in industrial agriculture, has been reported by farmers to have damaged millions of acres of crops, endangered species and natural areas. It was banned for a few months in 2020 but the Trump administration reversed the ban and it's being applied again.

And just this May, Gov. Phil Scott vetoed House bill 706, which would have banned the use of seeds treated with neonicotinoid pesticides in most instances. Although the most deleterious effect of "neonics" is on pollinators, on which we depend for regenerative agriculture, they may also have a deleterious effect on humans. The science is new but there are potential effects on human brain and nervous systems, especially in the young.

On another front, microplastics have now been found in blood clots in the heart, brain and legs.

So one practice of the ghost quartet is to poison our soils, waterways, and air to make us sick.

Number two is to market us ultra-processed foods.

These are foods that contain ingredients "never or rarely used in kitchens, or classes of additives whose function is to make the final product palatable or more appealing," according to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.

One nationally known example: Kraft Heinz Foods is marketing "Lunchables" to our school systems in place of traditional school cafeteria meals. They've been found to contain deleterious levels of lead and sodium and phthalates in their trays which can disrupt hormones in growing kids.

According to National Geographic, consuming ultra-processed foods that are typically high in salt, sugar and fat – and cheap and accessible – may boost the risk of heart disease, diabetes, anxiety, depression and cognitive decline.

According to MedPage Today, a study showed that higher intake of ultra-processed foods upped the incidence of cognitive impairment or stroke. It also is believed to be one of the causes of early onset puberty in our children.

These reports are just the tip of the iceberg. Medical literature is rife with stories of the cognitive and physical damage caused by ultra-processed foods and the benefits of eating foods consistent with those found in nature, akin to the Mediterranean diet.

These industries spend a combined \$250 million lobbying Congress to forestall regulation that might protect their customers from toxic agents. (Chemical: \$65 million / industrial food industry: \$28 million / agribusiness: \$170 million)

Now that you're sick, let's look at the two world-class businesses we rely on to cure you: our cutting-edge pharmaceutical industry and the burgeoning and lucrative business of health care. To give you a sense of their market power, pharma's share of U.S. GDP is 3.2 percent, at \$625 billion, just \$200 billion below our U.S. defense budget. But health care spending is 17.3 percent of GDP – \$4.5 trillion in all, or \$13,493 per person, almost five times the defense budget.

Granted, from the consumer standpoint, there's a fault in this business model in that much of the damage caused in the customer base isn't yet curable. Science still has a lot to learn about recovery from many of the illnesses caused and some of you die prematurely, reducing the customer base. Setting that aside, the business model works.

Let me spare you further sarcasm and clarify my point if I have been too abstruse:

As a society, we must decide whether we are about the expansive accretion and concentration of wealth and power for the few. Or whether we're about the common good of our citizens, our communities and, perhaps most important, our children who will inherit the ills of our venality.

As a friend, Will Patten, has written in a forthcoming book, the concentration of power that has cycled up and down throughout U.S. history is not about the intrinsic evil of capitalism. Capitalism is simply an economic tool to either enrich us all or just the few. That depends on whether we're willing to regulate our capitalist system and tax it appropriately.

In The Age of Enlightenment, starting in the late 17th century, capitalism became the way out of poverty and dependence for peasants who were otherwise in thrall to the king who owned everything, and the church which controlled all knowledge. Capitalism gave succeeding generations the opportunity to earn income by adding value through manual labor and making possible independent businesses. This ultimately gave rise to a middle class and also a series of bloody revolutions against oligarchy.

Our failure today to slow the ascent of monopolies through regulation and to tax business appropriately is creating a new era of economic aggression that may well make our children and grandchildren a new generation of peasants.

Substance Use: A Changed Perspective

Part 2 of 2

BY ANNE C. SULLIVAN

This is the second half of a commentary by Hinesburg resident Anne C. Sullivan. The first half can be read on p. 10 of the May 30 issue, available at hinesburgrecord.org/about/past-issues.

In Massachusetts, I visited a residential treatment center for mothers, in recovery from illegal substance use, and their babies. I saw mothers individually with their babies and in a group. Some mothers slept during the group. Some

mothers often didn't make eye contact, others looked tired or uninterested. It seemed they'd rather be on their phones. They'd complain about the staff and the rules; sometimes about missing their older children, who were often in foster care. Working with these mothers would often leave me feeling drained and annoyed. Although I knew they weren't being discourteous – they were mostly tired and withdrawn – it was hard to get them involved or interested.

Now as a guardian ad litem (GAL), I was skeptical about how a mother could begin to form an attachment or bond with a baby she was separated from. I knew that infant attachment gradually forms through the senses of both baby and mother during feeding, diaper changes, comforting, dressing, and transitions between sleep and waking.

I wondered if this was happening between the mother and her infant.

Although the baby was safe, well cared for by the foster parents and developing normally, the mother's behavior was still unstable. She had to undergo drug screens, remain in medically assisted treatment (MAT), get a job, complete lots of paperwork, and report to Department of Children and Families (DCF). On one visit at DCF, after her hospitalization, she told me that she'd had a lot of stress in the postpartum period weeks after giving birth and this led to a relapse. I knew how significant the postpartum period is

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for all new mothers and how much support they need. I wondered how much support she'd been able to find for herself. Clearly not enough.

Many months later the mother was accepted at a residential treatment center. The court allowed the baby to live there with her after the transition. By now the baby was a toddler, walking, using words and eating table food. During his transition to living with his mother, I watched as the foster parents handed the boy over to his mother. He'd cry but over time he became familiar with the routine. In the center playroom I could see his mother beginning to play and talk with him more often. She also began to talk with me when we'd go outside for a walk. She was alert and focused. I remember the day she told me she didn't want to lose her son ever again.

Her words brought to mind an incident from a few years back, when I witnessed the trauma of a mother-child separation. One day in Massachusetts I had an Early Intervention appointment with a very young mother and her infant at the residential treatment center, when two DCF social workers entered the room. One social worker took the baby out of the mother's arms while the other explained why they were taking him. Then they left with the baby. The mother was distraught and crying. Other mothers there were watching. The

staff said the child's removal was due to a relapse, meaning they found illegal substances in the mother's room, and they are required to report this to DCF to protect the baby. The baby was eventually returned.

Now my GAL reports to DCF and the baby's attorney described the baby's positive development I'd observed during monthly visits. His mother now talked to him, kept her eyes on him and moved around with him in the playroom. She even apologized to me for the "very rocky start" she thought we'd had in our initial meetings.

The mother attended court hearings and conferences all held via Zoom over the past two years, answered questions from the family court judge, and listened to reports about herself by several attorneys, the family support worker, and mine about the baby. She remained at the treatment center for almost a year with her baby. She completed housing applications and searched for an apartment.

When I last visited the boy, now two years old, he was living with his mother in an apartment. He was talking, playing, sitting in her lap and she was alert and more talkative. She'd been discharged from residential treatment and found affordable housing with a voucher. I saw that the child was

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Do You Love to Play in Lake Iroquois?

Support the health of Lake Iroquois

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▶ **Commentary**

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meeting all developmental milestones and thriving despite having been exposed to substances and dealing with many transitions.

Shortly after that visit, a status conference was held in court via Zoom. I reported on the boy's great progress and said I didn't see any indications of trauma in his behaviors. Then, since the lawyers agreed there were no longer any safety concerns, the judge closed the case two months early. In court, everyone praised the mother for staying in recovery and congratulated her many times.

She deserves this. Mothers addicted to opioids, when giving birth in the hospital, are often treated as bad mothers and criminals. They are discharged from the hospital without their babies, who are taken away from them. There aren't enough treatment centers and support for them to stay together. Unfortunately, relapses are inevitable and not a sign of weakness.

Since this legal case has now been closed by the Family Court, I will no longer have contact with the mother, who texted me after the hearing, "Thank you for everything you've done to help us."

Now, when I talk with neighbors or friends about illegal drug users, I think about the struggles they face. I better understand why a safe recovery and success are so hard to achieve.

The writer, a child development specialist, was a play therapist and teacher in Massachusetts for 50 years, in schools, hospitals and agencies. In 2021 she received a Senior Heroes award from the Framingham Council on Aging and the Massachusetts House and Senate for her Environmental Justice volunteer work. She now lives in Hinesburg.

▶ **WindowDressers**

continued from page 1

Community Build to complete inserts. Your local WindowDressers volunteer team is accepting orders now for the fall Community Build, which will be held at the Shelburne Town Hall Nov. 1-7. Once you sign up, trained volunteers will schedule a time to measure your windows for the custom-built inserts. Then you and other community volunteers will gather to build the inserts at the Community Build.

Our unique "Community Build" model is like an old-fashioned barn-raising. Everyone who orders inserts is expected to participate in the Community Build, where each person learns a simple step in an assembly process, with

▶ **Memorial Day**

continued from page 1

Smith began and oversaw the ceremony. He gave a brief explanation of the origin and meaning of Memorial Day. He noted that we remember the men and women who have sacrificed their lives that we might live in freedom; and we also honor their families, who mourn their loss. He continued by saluting all those who have served in the military, the police and fire departments, and as first responders. He stated that we also remember all those who have sustained injury in mind or body in the course of their service.

Bouquets of Remembrance were then laid at the base of each of the monuments. David Eddy, son of WWII veteran Paul Eddy and nephew of World War II veteran Dwight Eddy, laid a bouquet at the World War I and World War II monument. Dwight Eddy received a Purple Heart and Bronze Star. He was a 1st lieutenant and wounded while guiding his men through a minefield (unknown to them) on the Maginot line at the French German border. He got his men safely out of the minefield and received the Bronze Star for gallantry, being promoted to Captain at the end of the war.

Raymond Bouchard laid a bouquet at the Korean and Vietnam Wars and Desert Storm Conflict monument. Ray is a retired Colonel of the U.S. Army. He served 35 years in the Vermont Army National Guard, including 15 months served in Afghanistan.

Scout Jackson Telstone did an excellent reading of "In Flanders Field" by John McCrae. This was followed by all joining in to sing America the Beautiful. The Rev. James Zuccaro of St. Jude's Church then offered a Memorial Day prayer.

Scoutmaster Smith gave a short

history of the two monuments, citing 1950 as the year of installation of the WWI and WWII monument. He noted that The Korean and Vietnam wars and Desert Storm monument is twenty-one years old this year and was dedicated on July 4, 2003.

Scoutmaster Smith noted that Hinesburg remembers with gratitude our veterans living and dead from all wars fought during our country's history and that we salute all branches of our armed services that have protected us and kept us safe. He pointed out that June 6 is the 80th anniversary of D-Day: the allied invasion of Europe in 1944. A total of 4,414 allied troops were killed that day including 2,501 Americans. He concluded with a hope for peace and an end to all wars.



Members of the fire department and community gather for the May 27 Memorial Day service as Scout Troop 692 stands at attention in front of the monuments while leading the Pledge of Allegiance.



Twelve veterans were present for the Memorial Day service on May 27. Seated in the front row, left to right, are Landon Dennison, Bruce Dumelin, and Roger Donegan. In the second row, left to right, are an unidentified woman veteran, Mike Gately, Bob Hedges, and Jerry Wetzel. In the last row, far left to far right, are Marshal Delaire, Ed McGuire, Doug Mead, Gene Giroux, and Ray Bouchard.

Daniel Silverman then played Taps, followed by the singing of the Battle Hymn of the Republic. The service concluded with the Retiring of the Colors by the Scouts.

All veterans present at the service were acknowledged and asked to gather near a monument bench for a photo.

We would like to thank our community participants, Troop 692 Boy and Girl Scouts, our musicians and all who participated in the Memorial Day service. Also, a special thank you goes out to Norman Smith for leading the Memorial Day service.

It is hoped that the Memorial Day commemoration will continue to be an annual event which goes all out to honor our veterans and community service organizations.

EDUCATION

Connecting Cultures: HCS to Uganda

BY MARY MUROSKI

Fifth-grade students at Hinesburg Community School had the exciting opportunity to participate in a cultural exchange with students at Nayenga Primary School in Kamuli, Uganda, throughout this past school year.

The HCS students were first introduced to Ugandan culture by Mary Muroski, former HCS teacher, and founder of the Children's Legacy Partnership, a local nonprofit organization that supports education and personal leadership development for children in the U.S. and Uganda.



Students at Nayenga School in Uganda receiving school supplies.

Throughout the school year, fifth graders on both sides met in live video exchanges monthly. HCS students were treated to skits and songs by the children in this rural village in northern Uganda. It was an eye-opening experience for students as they heard that Ugandan children spend much of their after-school time working around the home, tending crops, and carrying water from a borehole.

The students in Uganda were thrilled to be part of this exchange as they rarely travel from their home village. They face many challenges such as food insecurity and access to clean water. This video exchange was a bright spot in their lives and one they will remember for a long time.

Students deepened their connection by also writing letters back and forth. This presented some challenges as the students in Uganda don't have computers. They hand-wrote their letters which were scanned and sent to HCS teachers.

As the year progressed, this went way beyond a virtual connection. The HCS students learned they could be change-makers and in January they held a Penny War and raised \$1,200 to help the kids in Uganda. These funds bought school supplies for the Nayenga students, helped build a school garden, and paid school fees for some of the children.

At the last video visit, HCS students were asked how they are

continued on page 14



Ugandan advisor for the foundation Alibonaki Proscovia, who is visiting the U.S. for a few months, was able to meet the HCS students in person.

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ORGANIZATIONS



Champlain Valley View #2 by Ashley Wolff

Responsible Growth Hinesburg's 7th Annual Tiny Art Auction

BY NATACHA LIUZZI

Everyone has room to enjoy a tiny piece of original art! Each of these canvases measures just four inches by four inches.

This year's artists include Mary Azarian, Ashley Wolff, Amy Huntington, Mary Hill, Gregory Maguire, Andy Newman, John Penoyar, Kim Provost, Thacher Hurd and many others.

This year will also include children's art with a "buy now" option on the Fourth of July during the parade.

Bidding for the auction, which begins on July 4 and ends on July 12, will be done online at new.biddingowl.com/RGHinesburg.

This year's proceeds will be split between the Hinesburg Foodshelf and NOFA (Northeast Organic Farming Association of Vermont).

The mission of Responsible Growth Hinesburg is to ensure that new development in Hinesburg is scaled to meet the needs of our town, constructed so that waters of Lake Champlain, its tributaries and other natural resources are protected; and located so that it complements its

surroundings, protects our working landscape and recreational lands, and fosters a sense of community.

Lewis Creek Association Develops Projects in Lewis Creek Watershed

BY KATE KELLY, LEWIS CREEK ASSOCIATION

Lewis Creek Association (LCA) and landowners have partnered to plan for improvements to water quality in Lewis Creek. The projects LCA investigated were identified as high priority areas or projects in stream geomorphic assessments and a watershed management plan completed over a decade ago.

With funding from Watersheds United Vermont Project Development Block grant from the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation, LCA was able to prioritize a subset of these projects in 2023. LCA staff then sent letters to landowners, visited properties, and investigated a wide variety of potential projects (from river corridor easements to tree plantings to removing old bridge abutments). LCA has now prepared two high priority projects for the next step (applying for grants that will support further design work or implementation).

One of these is a tree and shrub (woody buffer) planting project along the creek in Hinesburg, for which LCA has received funding to complete this fall. The other is a road project in Starksboro, where a gravel road has been eroding, dumping sediment and pollutants into Lewis Creek. If funding is received, it will allow LCA to hire engineers to design fixes for the road.

You can learn more about Lake Champlain's water quality problem and what landowners can do to improve water quality in a brief 17-minute presentation on LCA's website at bit.ly/lea-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. Learn more about the Ahead of the Storm program at bit.ly/lea-aots). It is crucial that we all do our part to improve water quality in small ways, in order to improve Lake Champlain's health and beauty, and to protect the animals and plants that live in our rivers and streams.

Free Monthly Courage and Renewal Circle

BY PEGGY DIPPEN

I am Peggy Dippen, a Courage and Renewal Facilitator. If you are unfamiliar with Parker Palmer's Center for Courage and Renewal that was founded over 30 years ago, please check out the website: courageandrenewal.org.

The mission for Courage and Renewal is to nurture deep integrity and relational trust, building the foundation for a more loving, equitable, and healthy world.

I am offering a free monthly circle at the Carpenter-Carse Library the second Wednesday of each month, from 7:30-9:30 p.m.

Here is a list of dates and themes for our times together:

July 10: Summer: The Paradox of Scarcity and Abundance

Aug. 14: Being Present: Walking Meditations

Sept. 11: Life on the Mobius Strip: Exploring our Inner and Outer Realities

Oct. 9: The Paradox of Autumn: Shadows and Light

Nov. 13: Turning Inward: Our Individual and Collective Stories

Dec. 11: The Gifts of Impermanence and Imperfection

Feel free to check out my website at mindfuljourneywork.com to learn a bit more about me. I am a Hinesburg resident and public educator for more than 26 years.

ARTS

Learning From Shipwrecks: A New Exhibit Showcases Canal Boat Stories from a Fresh Perspective

FROM PRESS RELEASE

Lake Champlain Maritime Museum has announced that they are opening a new exhibit that dives into the history of canal boats. Using research and artifacts recovered from shipwrecks in Lake Champlain by underwater archaeologists, as well as interviews with real people and interactive experiences, the exhibit shares lesser-known local stories of canal boats and the people who worked on board, providing unexpected points of connection for all with this key era of local history. The exhibit, titled "Underwater



This cornet recovered from the shipwreck of the O.J. Walker helps us better understand the recreational side of canal boat life. Credit: Cornet and parts, O.J. Walker Collection, Lake Champlain Maritime Museum Collection.

Education

continued from page 13

thinking differently from their experience with Uganda this year. From several students, HCS fifth-grade teachers Angela Galyean, Paul Lasher, and Alyssa Wieland heard the same thing: "I didn't realize how little they had, and it makes me grateful that I have so much." "Even though the kids don't have a lot in Uganda, they always seem so happy." Wow! That's a powerful lesson for fifth graders. They are already asking if they can continue this connection next school year. To learn more or help support these important programs for children you can visit www.ourclp.org or contact mary@ourclp.org.



The famous moment the sailing canal boat General Butler crashed on the Burlington breakwater. Artifacts from this shipwreck will be on display in the new exhibit. Credit: The General Butler on the Burlington Breakwater, 2000, Ernest Haas, Lake Champlain Maritime Museum Collection.

Archaeology: Diving into the Stories of People and Canal Boats on Lake Champlain," will open to the public on July 13.

While the maritime industry of the 19th century was largely dominated by men, the canal boat community was strikingly different. Boats were often owned and operated by families who lived on board, combining work and home for men, women, and children, and building strong, connected communities with other canal boat families. For the museum's research and archaeology team, the work of excavating canal boat shipwrecks in Lake Champlain is a unique and

special experience as they discover families' home goods, toys, tools, and clothes as well as the cargo that canal boats were tasked with delivering.

The new exhibit experience invites visitors to immerse themselves in these stories and experience being an underwater archaeologist diving on a shipwreck to recover artifacts. Using 3D models of original artifacts, visitors can experience what it's like to find an object in dark water by guessing what it is by touch alone. Through audio recordings of interviews with two women who grew up on canal boats, visitors can listen to



Canal boats are towed down Lake Champlain towards the canals. Credit: In Tow Down Lake Champlain, Postcard 340, circa 1900. Lake Champlain Maritime Museum Collection.

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first-person accounts of what life was like for children on these vessels, going to school in the winter, recreation, and more. A rich collection of objects including artifacts recovered from shipwrecks, ship models, and documents welcomes visitors to envision life on board for the diverse mix of people who lived and worked on canal boats.

Featured artifacts include a toy

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boat and woman's overshoe recovered from the sailing canal boat General Butler shipwreck just off the Burlington breakwater, continued on page 16

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During summer, you may see VGS representatives outside your home inspecting our system and painting meters.

Be safe
Scan the QR Code or visit vgsvt.com/be-safe for more safety information.

How to Detect a Gas Leak

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

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

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

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



Arts

continued from page 16

sound-rich reporting, thought-provoking interviews, and profiles that take our audience along for a journey," said Angela Evancie, senior vice president of content. "Across both subject matter and geography, they deliver on our promise to share 'stories from every corner.'"

The PMJA Awards is the only national competition devoted to recognizing the best work in public media journalism. Awards are presented in five different size divisions representing public media organizations with as few as one to more than 30 newsroom employees.

Vermont Public competes in Division E along with major metro public radio stations including WBUR in Boston, WBEZ in Chicago, and WNYC in New York.

"This year, we had over 1,450 entries from 144 different organizations in our awards contest," said PMJA Executive Director Christine Paige Diers. "We're proud to be able to recognize the great journalism across the country through this contest."

In all, the PMJA is presenting 269 first and second place awards across 33 categories. The full list of winners is available at tinyurl.com/PMJAAwards.

HEALTH & SAFETY

Fires and Swimming are Prohibited at Fishing Access Areas

VT FISH & WILDLIFE PRESS RELEASE

With the beginning of summer and anglers fishing from shore, the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department reminds people that open fires and swimming are prohibited at all Vermont state fishing access areas.

Open fires and their remnants create unsafe areas for other anglers and boaters to use and enjoy. The remnants of these fires are also unhealthy for the animals and fish that live in the adjacent waters. Fish and Wildlife cleans up the toxic waste left by open fires on state lands annually at considerable expense.

Swimming at fishing access areas is prohibited due to safety concerns and because the primary

uses of the fishing access areas are for launching and retrieving motorboats and for shore fishing.

The Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department maintains 203 developed fishing access areas on lakes and rivers throughout the state. These areas have allowed uses determined by law, and swimming is not one of them.

The access areas were purchased and are maintained with funds derived from the sale of fishing licenses and motorboat registrations, as well as a federal excise tax on fishing equipment, fishing tackle and gasoline for motorboats. These funding sources explicitly prohibit activities that are in conflict with fishing and boating.

Fish and Wildlife regulations prohibit certain uses of fishing access areas including, but not limited to: swimming, littering, camping, picnicking, making a fire, washing dogs, parking of vehicles not related to priority uses, and commercial activity.

"Vermont State Game Wardens will be strictly enforcing the rules at state fishing access areas this summer," said Col. Justin Stedman, Vermont's Chief Game Warden. "Please help keep our lands clean and open for others to enjoy, and report violations to your local warden or use the anonymous Operation Game Thief online report form on the Vermont Fish and Wildlife website at this link: tinyurl.com/yxv8x7tk. Reports of time-sensitive violations should be called in to a local state police radio dispatcher who can contact a warden."

PEOPLE

Hinesburg Resident Wins EMS Recognition Award

FROM VT DEPT OF HEALTH PRESS RELEASE



Hinesburg resident Ryan Gladstone has been awarded the First Responder Provider of the Year.

The State of Vermont recognized the dedicated EMS and first responder professionals, volunteers and agencies for the essential public health services they provide in their communities, as part of the 50th annual National Emergency Medical Services Week celebration (May 19-25).

Waterbury Ambulance Service volunteer first responder **Ryan Gladstone**, a Hinesburg resident, was a co-winner of the First Responder Provider of the Year Award.

Waterbury Ambulance Executive Director Maggie Burke, in a letter nominating Gladstone for the honor, wrote, "Ryan exemplifies the highest standards of excellence in clinical skills, organizational support, and community involvement, making him a deserving candidate for this prestigious recognition."

Governor Phil Scott called out the commitment and vital work of Vermont's career and volunteer emergency service providers, in his proclamation declaring May 19 - 25 as EMS Week. With the theme of "Honoring Our Past. Forging Our Future," the week of activities included showcasing local EMS agencies, and culminated in the annual presentation of awards honoring several individuals and EMS agencies for their outstanding efforts.

Ryan Gladstone – Waterbury Ambulance Service

First Responder Service of the Year: Saxtons River First Response Rescue

Learn more about serving your community as an emergency medical technician or with the Medical Reserve Corps at [OnCallforVT.org](https://www.oncallforvt.org).

Higher Education Honors

Delaney Ayer of Hinesburg was named to the Champlain College Dean's List for the Spring 2024 semester. Students on the Dean's List have achieved a grade point average of 3.5 or higher during the semester. Ayer is currently majoring in Business Management.

Graham Coates-Farley and **Skylar Francis**, both of Hinesburg, have been named to the Dean's List for the Spring 2024 semester at Clarkson University (NY). Dean's List students must achieve a minimum 3.25 grade-point average.

Sachi Depot of Hinesburg was named to the College of Charleston (SC) Dean's List. Depot is majoring in Marketing.

Emily M. Heywood of Hinesburg has been named to the Community College of Vermont (CCV) spring 2024 Student Honors List. This honor recognizes part-time students with a 4.0 grade point average.

Lily Mincar of Hinesburg was named to the College of Charleston (SC) President's List. Mincar is majoring in Psychology.

Ethan Provost of Hinesburg has been named to the Plymouth State University (NH) President's List for the Spring 2024 semester. To be named to the President's List, a student must achieve a grade point average of 3.70 or better.

Nicole E. Talbert of Hinesburg has been named to the Community College of Vermont (CCV) spring 2024 Dean's List. This honor recognizes full-time students with a grade point average between 3.5 and 3.99.

Norah Van Vranken of Hinesburg has been named to the Spring 2024 Dean's List at The University of Rhode Island. To be included on the Dean's List, students must have achieved at least a 3.30 quality point average.

Recent Graduates

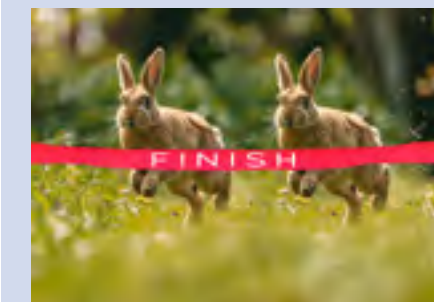
Ashley Davidson of Hinesburg graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from the College of Charleston (SC).

Travis Mark Guillemette of Hinesburg graduated from Paul Smith's College in May 2024.

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WHAT THE HECK?

Hair tie



Einstien



Cowculator



Dogapult



Infantry



Card shark

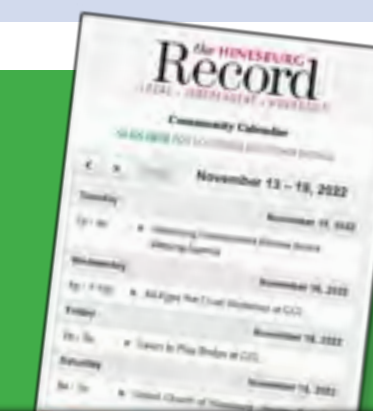


What the heck is this (below)?

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► People

continued from page 19

Guillemette earned a BS in Natural Resource Conservation & Management from Paul Smith's College, located in the Adirondacks in upstate New York.

Zachary Rock and **Hannah Elizabeth Terrien**, both of Hinesburg, earned associate degrees at the Community College of Vermont (CCV) 2024 Commencement on Sat., June 1.

University of Vermont Graduates

College of Arts and Sciences, Bachelor of Arts: **Jeremiah William Cory**, **Luke Z. Morton**, **Evelyn Dion Stearns**.

Grossman School of Business, Bachelor of Science in Business Administration: **Nicholas R.**

Burroughs, Andre Eastman, Finn C. O'Brien.

College of Education and Social Services, Bachelor of Science in Education: **Julia Ann Grant**.

College of Engineering and Mathematical Sciences, Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering: **Calvin Humberto Wuthrich**.

Rubenstein School of Environment and Natural Resources, Bachelor of Science: **Anna L. Pelkey**.

College of Nursing and Health Sciences, Bachelor of Science: **Jacob Thomas Ashe**, **Grace Kathryn Buzzell**, **Julia Christine Carlson Hillier**.

Graduate College, Doctor of Philosophy in Chemistry: **Jacob Alden Morris**. Doctor of Nursing Practice: **Kristen Koeller**. Master of Science in Counseling: **Benjamin Soll**. Master of Science in Mechanical Engineering: **Kayla M. Steen**. Master of Science in Pharmacology: **Liam J. Clancy**.

RECORD NEWS

Old Back Issues of The Record Now Available Online

BY CATHY RYAN

As many of you know, PDF versions of *The Hinesburg Record* are available online at hinesburgrecord.org/about/past-issues. Until recently, the issues available there went back to 2004. We at *The Record* are now working on digitizing much older issues.

The first issue of *The Record* was actually called "The No-Name News" because a name hadn't been decided upon yet. Readers were invited to submit suggestions for a name. This first issue was published in October 1987. The November 1987 issue was the first to be called *The Hinesburg Record*.

As of now, the first six issues of *The Record* are available online: October, November, and December of 1987, and January, March, and April of 1988. More will be added regularly, until they are all there.

On page 2 of the Sept. 29, 2007 issue of *The Record* (tinyurl.com/HR-09-29-07), a history of *The Hinesburg Record*, and *The Hinesburg News* which preceded it, is given. It gives some great context to these old issues, and how *The Record* came to be.

For readers lucky enough to have been born and raised in Hinesburg, much of what's in these early issues may seem like old news (which, technically, it is). But for those who are more new to

Hinesburg (I've lived here almost 20 years), or perhaps for young people who weren't born yet or couldn't yet read in the late 80s, there are some fascinating tidbits.

The November 1987 issue discusses the traffic light being installed at Route 116 and CVU Road, and the addition to the elementary school which was almost completed. The under-construction Lyman Meadows development is discussed in the Planning and Zoning Notes. Lyman Meadows comes up again in a letter to the editor in the January 1988 issue. Debate about development in Hinesburg is apparently nothing new!

The retirement of Doug and Betty Lantman is mentioned in the November 1987 issue, and in the December 1987 issue, there's an in-depth article about them, and a history of Lantman's Store.

The December 1987 issue again talks about "The Light" and it's a humorous little piece about the adjustment Hinesburgers had to make to this traffic light. There's also an article about the pharmacy which had just come to town June 1, 1987. The pharmacy had many ads in *The Record*, starting with the first issue.

The March 1988 issue discusses the creation of The Chittenden Regional Solid Waste Disposal District. In the "Board of Selectmen" article, Andrea Morgante is mentioned, crusading for recycling.

So, if you have any interest in the history of Hinesburg, dive into these original issues of *The Record*. The PDFs are searchable; in most PDF software, there is a way to search (Ctrl-F often works, to open a search box) and you

can type in words to search for. Feel free to write a Letter to the Editor telling us of any interesting things you find, or any other comments.



OBITUARIES

In Loving Memory of Ezra Raymond Pouech

Feb. 2, 1993 - Dec. 21, 2023

Please join us as we gather to remember and celebrate Ezra. July 20, 2024, at 1 p.m. at the Common Ground Center, 473 Tatrow Road, Starksboro, Vermont.



Ezra Raymond Pouech

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the HINESBURG Record

► Hinesburg July 4 Celebration

continued from page 1

He has probably refereed, coached, umpired, mowed or lined the field your child plays on every season for the last 45 plus years. This year's Grand Marshall for the Hinesburg 4th of July is Tom Giroux, who deserves recognition and appreciation for his many years of volunteer work in our community.

Tom wears many hats and has served on the Hinesburg Recreation Board off and on since its inception in the early 1980s. He is a Cemetery Commissioner, assists with town elections as a Justice of the Peace, and is always behind the scenes ensuring the town's concert series, recreation leagues and 4th of July run smoothly.

Frank Twarog, chairperson of the Recreation Commission, praised Tom's contributions, saying, "Tom Giroux has been the longest serving member of the Hinesburg Recreation Commission, with years and years of volunteerism so far under his belt. He is an enthusiastic supporter of every single one of our events. From coaching to delivering spectators to the bandstand for the Wednesday Night Concert in the Park series to rallying support of both past and current special events, Tom's efforts are tireless and so often unseen. As just one example, over the last decade, Tom has personally delivered thousands of dollars of donated bottle and can returns so that the Bissonette Fields could be developed without tax dollars. No small feat, considering how many hundreds of bags, boxes, and bins there have been over the years. All of these efforts are most appreciated by those of us on the commission as well as the citizens of Hinesburg, who are the beneficiaries of decades of Tom's energy."



Tom Giroux collecting bottles and cans to benefit Bissonette Fields.

According to town records, 390,938 returnables have been collected from the community and from Papa Nick's, which has raised \$19,547 for the fields. For over 10 years, Tom borrows his sister and brother-in-law's truck (Sue and Ed McGuire) two times a month to bring the bottles and cans from the Bissonettes' barn to the redemption center.

Tom also volunteers for other organizations, including the Burlington City Marathon for 29 years. He serves on the marathon's board as well as boards for the *Hinesburg Record* and Twin State Soccer. He is a regular lector and greeter at St. Jude's parish.

Tom has been recognized by the Red Cross for giving over 42 gallons of blood and platelets; giving every two weeks. He also helps with the blood drives.



Tom Giroux, the 2024 Grand Marshall for Hinesburg's July 4th Parade.

our community as he leads the Hinesburg July 4th parade. He will be joined by his goddaughter, Kaitlin Francis Gilbert, and her daughter Sydney, who have also been the recipients of Tom's generosity and kindness over the years.

When asked why he works so tirelessly for his community, Tom attributes his parents, Bernard and June Giroux, for instilling the importance of giving back to others. Bernard was a Fire Chief for many years and June started the *Hinesburg Record* and school library.

Join us in cheering for Tom's numerous efforts on behalf of

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BACK STORIES of Hinesburg

A Walk in Williams Woods

Hinesburgers Explore a Local Treasure

BY KEVIN LEWIS

On the Saturday before Father's Day my long-promised excursion to Williams Woods in Charlotte came to be. My two daughters, my wife and I got in the car and set off around 10 a.m. But first we had to go back to the house to connect to Google maps so as to find our way (there was no signal in the car). It was clear that nobody but me trusted in my ability to find Williams Woods without help. I protested but was, as usual, out-voted – Father's Day weekend privileges notwithstanding.

Secretly, though, I planned on driving there exactly how I knew to go, ignoring my oldest daughter's warning that if I deviated from Google's designated path, I would hear about it.

We arrived at Williams Woods without any berating or incident. It is off Greenbush Road in Charlotte, and the entrance is easily missed as it's barely more than a brief bit of extra road

shoulder with a smallish sign.

Now, I'd heard from Ethan Tapper, a local forester and author, that Williams Woods was one of the only remaining old-growth forests in Vermont. He

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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 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.

- 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.

Ad and news deadline is August 15 for the next issue. Publication date is April 29. Go to hinesburgrecord.org or call 802-999-2410 for more information.

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