

# the HINESBURG Record

JANUARY 2025

## Windy Ridge Permitting Process Coming to a Close

**Massive mix of housing could begin construction this summer**

BY LYNN MONTY

*This is the first installment of "The Big Five," our first in a series of major developments in the Town of Hinesburg. We will explore the proposals, where they stand, and what to expect in 2025.*

**W**indy Ridge developers could finish their Town permitting soon and begin construction this summer. A proposed mix of housing options, both rental and home ownership models, are slated to be constructed on the hill across from Champlain Valley High School. A shared use path is proposed to allow access to CVU and the Village Center for pedestrians and cyclists.

Jan Blomstrann owns this land as Peace of Mind Revocable Trust. It's a 41.98-acre property located in the Village Growth Area and the municipal water and sewer district on the east side of Route 116. Blomstrann and Champlain Housing Trust have proposed two 11-unit buildings, two eight-plexes, four six-plexes, one quad-plex and eight single-family homes for this development, as well as a non-resi-

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RAFT, Team Rubicon and Resource Youth Build work on a site in Hinesburg.

## RAFT is Here to Help Hinesburg

BY BARB WINTERS

**T**he floodwaters roar with the sounds of tumbling rocks and debris. As the water recedes, it leaves the landscape and lives changed. For those whose lives are impacted by flood waters, the damage to their home or business can be overwhelming. It may be difficult for them to navigate the bureaucracy of insurance, FEMA (if the whole county is declared a disaster) and where to go for help. That is why the Long-Term Recovery Groups (LTRG) are so important. Recovery After Floods Team (RAFT) is a LTRG that was formed after the 2024 floods to assist folks in Hinesburg, Huntington and Richmond. RAFT is comprised of volunteers seek-

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## CVU Grad Wins International Illustration Contest

**April Hollywood Awards Event**

FROM PRESS RELEASE

**S**helburne, Vermont, native and Champlain Valley Union High School graduate **Ms. HeatherAnne Lee** is a winner in the L. Ron Hubbard Illustrators of the Future Contest, earning her a trip to Hollywood for a week-long master-class workshop, an awards event and her winning art will be published in the international best-selling anthology, L. Ron Hubbard Presents Writers of the Future Volume 41.

HeatherAnne, or Heather to her friends, now resides in Savannah, Georgia, pursuing a Bachelor of Fine Arts in illustration at the Savannah College of Art and Design.

Heather started drawing as soon as she could hold a crayon and never stopped, graduating from crayon to graphite to paint, and now primarily works digitally. Despite working on a screen, Heather holds to her painting knowledge, layering colors and textures on her drawing tablet, emulating traditional painting techniques in a digital medium.



An illustration by CVU graduate HeatherAnne Lee

Heather takes much of her inspiration from the world around her, translating reality into epics and stories of dragons and knights. Heather always strives to push her work to the limit, working with clients to bring their stories to life through her illustrations.

Following the 1982 release of his internationally acclaimed bestselling science fiction novel, *Battlefield Earth*, written in celebration of 50 years as a professional writer, L. Ron Hubbard created the Writers of the Future

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*Hinesburg's independent, nonprofit, community newspaper*

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### Felted hedgehog anyone?

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### Local resident wins National Martial Arts Award

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### Calendar

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of Hinesburg

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## Deadline for our next Issue: February 13

Send articles to: [news@hinesburgrecord.org](mailto:news@hinesburgrecord.org).

You may also mail hardcopy photos and stories to The Hinesburg Record, P.O. Box 304, Hinesburg VT 05461.

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Email us at [information@hinesburgrecord.org](mailto:information@hinesburgrecord.org) for general information or call us at 802-999-2410.

### Deadlines for 2025 and 2026

Advertisement/News	Publication Date
February 13.....	February 27
March 13.....	March 27
April 10.....	April 24
May 15.....	May 29
June 12.....	June 26
There is no publication date in July	
August 14.....	August 28
September 11.....	September 25
October 16.....	October 30
November 15.....	November 30
There is no publication date in December	
January 15, 2026.....	January 29, 2026

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# Two Join *Record* Staff

## More volunteers are needed

BY THE RECORD STAFF

The *Hinesburg Record* is pleased to announce two additions to the staff this month:

**Geoffrey Gevalt**, a veteran newspaperman, is our new Managing Editor. Geoff and his family moved to Hinesburg in 1998 when Geoff took a job with *The Burlington Free Press*. While Managing Editor of *The Free Press* he and his staff won several major national awards, and for two years Geoff served as a juror for The Pulitzer Prizes. In 2006, he founded Young Writers Project (YWP) with a grant from the Vermont Business Roundtable. In 2019 he left YWP to write his novel, *Hiram Falls*, which is now being shopped to publishing houses by his agent.

**Lynn Monty**, an experienced professional reporter, is a new staff writer. Lynn is a native Vermonter who loves the Green Mountains and has been nestled in the Hinesburg hills with her husband for more than three decades. They have two children and three grandchildren. She's a semi-retired, award-winning journalist who spends her spare time transcribing interviews and editing for ghost writers of the rich and famous.

"*The Record* is a vital community resource particularly if you consider the retraction of other news organizations that used to cover Hinesburg in greater detail," Gevalt said. "It is essential that Hinesburg residents



Geoffrey Gevalt



Lynn Monty

be provided news and information that is accurate, well-written and interesting.

"Our town is on the cusp of change. I'm so pleased to have Lynn join us – I first met her when she worked for *The Free Press* – to focus much of her time on the DRB and the major developments pending in town."

This month, she begins a series on the major developments in Hinesburg, starting with Windy Ridge.

"There are many other stories to be written," Gevalt said. "And to be a vibrant newspaper, we need more volunteer reporters and photographers from the community. Are you interested? Have you ever wanted to tell a story or share a photograph?"

"We'd like to hear from you."

If you are interested in helping *The Record* – or if you have a story you think we should cover – please contact Geoff at [ggevalt@gmail.com](mailto:ggevalt@gmail.com).

# TOWN NEWS

## Hinesburg's Green Street Housing

BY THE HINESBURG AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMITTEE

We all know a lack of housing, especially affordable housing, is today one of Vermont's biggest problems. Through the 1960s, however, a steady supply of housing had been provided by plentiful land, lax regulations, a stable or shrinking population, and low construction costs. Zoning regulations allowing dense mobile home parks, sometimes on marginal property, provided plenty of housing that was affordable.

Starting in the 1970s, all those conditions began to reverse. Housing pres-

sures gradually heated up like a big pot of water that finally boiled over, locally and nationally, with the housing-based financial meltdown of 2008. Hinesburg was among the earliest towns in Vermont to recognize market forces were no longer meeting housing needs on their own, and that public policy and action needed to be developed to address the problem on the local level. In 2006, the selectboard created the Hinesburg Affordable Housing Committee (HAHC) to help figure out what to do.

Ten years later, in 2016, HAHC celebrated the completion of Hinesburg's first affordable family housing project with a ribbon-cutting ceremony to open Green Street. It is a lovely neighborhood nestled just southwest of the

Route 116-Charlotte Road intersection. While its location provides easy walking access to the grocery store, elementary school, and other local businesses, it also has great westerly views of a meadow and the LaPlatte River wetlands. The Green Street project was constructed by Evernorth (known as Housing Vermont in 2016), and Champlain Housing Trust (CHT). The 21 permanently affordable units, plus two market rate ones, all rental, are managed by CHT. Affordable rental units were (and still are) in such high demand that before the project was completed there was a waiting list of potential tenants. Soon Green Street was a thriving community, as it continues to be today. Walking down Green Street one would never suppose it was conceived and constructed any differently than any other small Vermont town neighborhood.

Nigel has been living at Green Street for about five years. "It's a cool neighborhood," he says. "Friendly neighbors. It's great for kids. A nice little scenic area too."

The project could not have happened without the selectboard supporting HAHC's recommendation to apply to the Vermont Department of Housing and Community Development for federal U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) funds from the Vermont Community Development Program. Such projects often encounter local opposition due to a kind of NIMBY fear that "affordable" housing is somehow inferior. The support that Hinesburg showed for the project, in particular through HAHC, con-

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

*With these cautions, please keep those letters rolling in. Send them via email to [news@hinesburgrecord.org](mailto:news@hinesburgrecord.org), or mail them to The Hinesburg Record, P.O. Box 304, Hinesburg VT 05461.*



The Green Street development



Nigel, a resident of Green Street.

vinced Champlain Housing Trust and Vermont's Department of Housing and Community Development that the Green Street project had a good chance of success. They were right, and Hinesburg now has a fairly new, but well-established little neighborhood.

The reputation that Hinesburg has earned as welcoming to new and affordable housing has attracted more projects. We have recently reported on some of these such as Kelly's Field 1, which is also well established, and Kelly's Field 2, which will be opening soon. Others are in the works, including a new development again led by Champlain Housing Trust called Windy Ridge. It is on land adjacent to NRG donated by its founder, Jan Blomstrann. It will include permanently affordable rental apartments and both affordable and market rate homes for sale. We'll keep you posted as the project moves forward. The specific ways and means that such projects reach fruition varies from project to project and can be complicated. Hinesburg has become skilled at wielding them.

If you have an interest in helping Hinesburg bring housing to our community, especially affordable housing, the Hinesburg Affordable Housing Committee has two openings on the committee. Please contact Carl Bohlen at [larcredsox@gmavt.net](mailto:larcredsox@gmavt.net) or contact the town manager's office.

## Much Ado About ADUs

BY JIM JARVIS, TOWN OF HINESBURG ZONING ADMINISTRATOR

Accessory Dwelling Units are a hot topic.

### If you have an (ADU) on your property...

...you may get an email from a research group at Middlebury College. They're conducting a month-long research project into towns in northern Addison County, and select towns in Chittenden County. They recently reviewed our log of ADU permits issued in the last five years, and retrieved the applicants' addresses and emails. They'd like to ask you a few questions. If you would like to validate any such contact, their faculty advisor is Joe Morsman, [jmorsman@middlebury.edu](mailto:jmorsman@middlebury.edu).

### If you're thinking about building an ADU, here are the rules:

#### Do I need a zoning permit?

You do, just like any other structure.

#### Can anyone get an accessory apartment approved?

State regulations basically say that anyone can have an accessory apartment

*continued on page 4*

### Please answer the need

## Hinesburg Food Shelf

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

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

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

# GOVERNMENT CONTACTS

## US Senators

**Peter Welch**, D  
 802-652-2450 [welch.senate.gov](mailto:welch.senate.gov)

**Bernie Sanders**, I  
 802-862-0697 [sanders.senate.gov](mailto:sanders.senate.gov)

## US Congressman

**Becca Balint**, D  
 202-225-4115 [balint.house.gov](mailto:balint.house.gov)

## VT Senate

Chitt. Southeast District  
**Thomas Chittenden**, D – South Burlington  
 802-233-1913  
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**Virginia "Ginny" Lyons**, D – Williston  
 802-863-6129 [vl Lyons@leg.state.vt.us](mailto:vl Lyons@leg.state.vt.us)

**Kesha Ram Hinsdale**, D – Burlington  
 802-324-5608 [kesha@kesharam.com](mailto:kesha@kesharam.com)

## Vermont House

**Phil Pouech**, D – Hinesburg  
[ppouech@leg.state.vt.us](mailto:ppouech@leg.state.vt.us)

**Chea Waters Evans**, D – Hinesburg/  
 Charlotte [cewans@leg.state.vt.us](mailto:cewans@leg.state.vt.us)

## Hinesburg Selectboard

**Merrily Lovell**, Chair  
 802-482-5655 [mlovell@hinesburg.org](mailto:mlovell@hinesburg.org)

**Maggie Gordon**, Vice Chair  
 802-482-4216 [mgordon@hinesburg.org](mailto:mgordon@hinesburg.org)

**Mike Loner** 802-309-5032  
[mlooner@hinesburg.org](mailto:mlooner@hinesburg.org)

**Dennis Place** 802-482-2271  
[dplace@hinesburg.org](mailto:dplace@hinesburg.org)

**Paul Lamberson** 802-578-1105  
[plamberson@hinesburg.org](mailto:plamberson@hinesburg.org)

## Town Hall Information

**Heather Roberts**, Clerk Treasurer  
[hroberts@hinesburg.org](mailto:hroberts@hinesburg.org)

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Contact info for CVSD School Board is at [cvsdvt.org/domain/41](http://cvsdvt.org/domain/41).

### TOWN HALL INFORMATION

HINESBURG.ORG

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

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

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

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

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

**Hinesburg Recreation Office:** Mon.-Thurs. 8:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m. **Jennifer McCuin**, Recreation Coordinator, [hinesburgrec@gmavt.net](mailto:hinesburgrec@gmavt.net), 802-482-2281 ext. 230.

### OTHER INFORMATION

**Recycling & Trash Drop-Off Centers:** Hinesburg, 907 Beecher Hill Rd., Sat. and Weds. 8 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Williston, Redmond Road; Mon.-Sat. 8:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m. [CSWD.NET](http://CSWD.NET).

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

**Hinesburg Community Resource Center:** 51 Ballards Corner Road. **Shannon Wheeler**, Executive Director, [wheeler@hinesburgresource.org](mailto:wheeler@hinesburgresource.org), 802-482-4946. **Alex Konciewicz** is the contact for **Friends of Families**, and she can be reached at the same number or at [konciewicz@hinesburgresource.org](mailto:konciewicz@hinesburgresource.org). **Hinesburg Food Shelf** hours are Fri. 10:00 a.m. -12:00 noon. Tues. 5:30-7:30 p.m. [HINESBURGRESOURCE.ORG](http://HINESBURGRESOURCE.ORG)

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

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

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

**Carpenter-Carse Library:** 69 Ballards Corner, 802-482-2878, [CARPENTERCARSE.ORG](http://CARPENTERCARSE.ORG) for library hours, services, and online resources.

**Connecting Youth:** Chittenden South community-based organization dedicated to creating a safe and healthy environment for young people. [SEEWHY.INFO](http://SEEWHY.INFO)

Have an ad? email [ads@hinesburgrecord.org](mailto:ads@hinesburgrecord.org) or call 802-999-2410.

## Town News

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of up to 900 square feet in area, providing the water/wastewater system will support it. Water/wastewater permitting is done by the state. Units served by well and septic systems may require an engineer's involvement in applying for the state permit. If you're within the town's water service area, you should contact the Hinesburg Water Department for allocation information.

### How big can they be?

This can be confusing. The state says anyone can have a 900 square-foot ADU. Hinesburg's zoning regulations provide for larger units, tied to the size of your principal residence. Homes up to 1,600 square feet may have accessory units of 75 percent of the size of the principal residence. Homes of 1,600 to 4,000 sq. ft. are allowed ADUs of 1,200 sq. ft., and homes over 4,000 square feet can have ADUs up to 30 percent their size.

Note that the ADU square footage figure does not count decks or garages, only finished, conditioned space.

### What does the apartment have to look like?

Accessory apartments may be one or two bedrooms, or efficiency units. They must have bathroom and kitchen facilities in order to be considered an apartment.

### Do they have to be attached to my home?

No, although they may be. Separate accessory structures are fine. Some have been done by finishing the second floor in a barn.

### How do I apply for a permit? What's it cost?

You can download a permit from the town website ([Hinesburg.org](https://www.hinesburg.org)) or call my office and I can send you one. The permit fee will vary by size of the project. You'll need to submit a dimensioned sketch with your application. Once I review the drawing, I can determine what the required fee will be. An application is considered complete once the check arrives.

### How long should it take to get a permit?

From the time we have a completed application (including your check for the fees), the zoning administrator has two weeks to issue the permit. I try to get them done within a day or two, but when peak building season hits, it can be challenging to keep up with demand.

There is also a two-week appeal period, to give your neighbors an opportunity to object. Once that passes, you can begin the project.

### Got questions?

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

## Selectboard Highlights

BY MERRILY LOVELL,  
SELECTBOARD CHAIRPERSON

### November 20

The selectboard made three committee appointments:

Jonathan Trefry to the Town Forest Committee for a term ending April 2027.

Marcy Stabile to the Trails Committee for a term ending April 2025.

Christopher Stabile to the Trails Committee for a term ending April 2026.

The selectboard heard the following FY26 department budget presentations:

Town Clerk, given by Town Clerk Heather Roberts.

Planning and Zoning, given by Planning and Zoning Administrator Alex Weinhagen.

Overall Budget Review, given by Town Manager Todd Odit.

The selectboard approved the purchase of a Freightliner Highway Truck to replace the 2016 tandem Freightliner. Due to long lead times for body and plow the truck will not be ready for delivery until 2026. The board approved ordering the truck for the quoted price of \$166,150.

The selectboard looked at three design and engineering proposals for Beecher Hill bridges or culverts at sites #23 and #28. The board approved the bid from Otter Creek Engineering for \$49,323 for each project, which was by far the lowest of the three bids.

The selectboard approved tobacco and liquor licenses for the following establishments:

Stewarts Shops (2nd Class Liquor, Tobacco and Tobacco substitute)

Boldwin Enterprises LLC dba Dumb Luck Pub (1st Class Liquor, 3rd Class Liquor and Outside Consumption)

The selectboard held a public hearing on the new Zoning Regulation Amendments. Alex Weinhagen answered questions from the public. When all questions were answered, the public hearing was closed. The selectboard will vote to accept the new amendments at a future meeting.

Alex Weinhagen showed the selectboard the proposed Land and Water Conservation Fund grant for the Town Common that the Town Common Committee is planning to apply for. Although no action was required from the board, Alex wanted to ensure that the board was informed.

### Town Manager Report:

Energy Audit – We did not get the grant that was hoped for to make repairs and renovations on the Town Hall from this audit.

Wasterwater Treatment Plant – We are about halfway through the project cost. We will need to get another line of credit to pay all the costs.

Storm water damage and repairs are about \$565,000 so far.

Staff is working with FEMA for help with costs, including the Beecher Hill Road culvert and bridge.

The major road repair work is done for the season.

FEMA is moving out of the Hinesburg Town Hall on Saturday. The FEMA Recovery Center will be closed on that day.

### November 26

The selectboard met on the Tuesday before Thanksgiving, Nov. 26, for a budget workshop.

### Revenue

The current draft budget is an 8 percent increase in spending, but requires a 13 percent increase in the amount of revenue that is raised through taxes. This is because the Town has a loss of revenue this year due to various sources of income being lost. The loan that the Town had taken out to build the Highway Garage had funds left over that were used up last year. There is also a projected decrease of \$156,000 in budgeted revenue from a police contract with Richmond. Our FY26 budget assumes that Richmond has a fully staffed police department and Hinesburg is only providing Chief services. This is not yet a definite decision, and talks with Richmond are ongoing. Last year's tax rate increase would have been 11.6 percent instead of 5.5 percent without the \$240,000 revenue from Richmond.

Another area of a reduction in revenue is in the use of the fund balance. We are reducing the use of the fund balance by \$25,000 to \$100,000, so \$25,000 more has to be raised by taxes. Using the fund balance shows that the town will still not raise enough in taxes alone to cover ongoing operations. With the expenses of the flooding this past summer, it is too early to tell if there will even be sufficient fund balance available to use to offset the tax rate.

It is too early, at this point, to know what the effects of the reappraisal will be on the tax rate.

### Expenses

The operating budget is increasing by 3 percent (\$151,422) and the capital budget is increasing by 40 percent (\$291,489). For the operating budget the biggest increases are in the fire and highway departments, the Conservation Commission's request for land preservation funds and the cost of landfill monitoring and testing and the maintenance of point of entry treatment systems for homes with a contaminated well.

Wages for union employees (highway) are increasing by 4 percent per the collective bargaining agreement and

the same wage increase is budgeted for non-union employees. Meanwhile, the town is contributing 2 percent less toward health insurance premiums for non-union employees, who, over a three-year period, are moving from contributing 10 percent to 15 percent of health insurance premiums, the same as union employees.

The only new position is the full-time fire chief, but this is covered by funds that had been budgeted for a Public Works Director. In the police department, the sixth officer is removed due to the expected change in our contract with Richmond.

The majority of the increase in the Capital Budget is in the highway department due to costs for paving, gravel, culverts and a dump truck replacement. While the highway department capital budget is increasing by \$274,989, \$175,000 of that will be covered by a paving grant, the rest will fall on taxes in order to support the increased spending on gravel roads, culverts and truck replacement. The Capital Budgets for buildings and facilities, fire, and police are increasing by \$7,500, \$6,000, and \$3,000 respectively.

The selectboard found it difficult to cut this 'bare bones' budget, but considered various options, such as cutting the police to four full-time officers and thereby reducing coverage hours, cutting EMS/fire to one full-time staff person (risking more missed calls), cutting professional services in various departments. An example of the types of cuts that would need to be made in order to avoid an increase in town taxes included: not funding outside agencies (like Red Cross); not funding the Route 116 commuter bus; an additional one FTE reduction in the police department; one FTE reduction in the fire department; one FTE reduction in planning and zoning; level funding the library; reductions in recreation programming and reductions in budgets for town boards and committees. At this point in the budget process, \$539,610 would need to be cut from the budget to achieve a zero-percent tax increase.

Todd noted it is not so much an expense problem as a revenue problem. Our operating budget is going up only 3.2 percent, roughly the rate of inflation. We don't want to cut salaries as that could result in losing employees, and we are already asking them to pay up to 15 percent of their insurance costs.

Selectboard members gave themselves the assignment, before our next meeting on Dec. 4, 2024, of seeing what could be cut from our operating budget to result in a 2 percent increase in taxes (\$456,000 would need to be cut), a 4 percent increase in taxes (\$375,000 cut) and a 6 percent increase (\$292,000 cut).

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### December 4

The selectboard meeting on Dec. 4 was again focused on building our FY26

budget. Our goal is to finalize a draft by the end of December so we can hold a public hearing on it in early January in order to get public input before its final adoption in late January.

The selectboard heard FY26 budget presentations from the following groups, with each group explaining their budget request, and selectboard members asking questions: Recreation, Tri-Valley Transit, and Carpenter-Carse Library.

Although little could be found to reduce in the Recreation Department, the process with Tri-Valley Transit involved selectboard members asking many questions, as we had hoped to pay less for bus service with TVT than we had in our previous contract with GMT, but the TVT request for FY26 is \$52,980, exactly the same as we are paying this year. Many attendees spoke highly of the bus service and its value to the town. The problem from the selectboard's perspective is that Hinesburg has been charged a significantly higher cost than other towns served (and some not at all) for many years with GMTA, and this continues to be the case currently with TVT.

The board also questioned the library about increased costs and asked if they could find areas to reduce costs and/or increase donation income. The Carpenter-Carse Library is recognized by many as a very valuable resource in our community, but in this tight budget year we are looking for places to reduce rather than increase costs.

The board granted a request from the Town Common Committee to display a temporary Town Common Fundraising sign.

The board voted to approve adoption of the proposed Zoning Regulation Amendments on which we held a Public Hearing on Nov. 20, 2024. As we could not approve the amendments then because approval had not been on the agenda, we approved them at this meeting.

FY26 Budget Discussions – The bulk of our meeting was taken up in looking at our draft FY26 budget. We went through the whole budget line by line, with selectboard members (whose homework had been to seek ways to reduce the increase in the amount raised in taxes to 2 percent, 4 percent and 6 percent) along with our Town Manager pointing out items that could be reduced or even cut. Selectboard members easily agreed to cut their own

salaries to \$100 per year, for a total of \$500 rather than \$8,100. Other reductions and cuts were much more difficult as we continued to examine each line item. Overall, no changes to staffing or services were made during this session.

Unfortunately, there was not time after this unusually long meeting to get input from community members. There were many who did attend and I encourage everyone who has ideas to send them via email to the selectboard. The result of that work is a draft budget with a slight increase in overall spending compared to FY25 but an estimated 7.5 percent increase in what would need to be raised in taxes to pay for the budget. In order to bring that increase down, the selectboard would need to look at staffing and service reductions.

### December 18

The selectboard approved Paul Lesure to be on the Economic Development Committee for a term ending April 1, 2026.

After hearing about the benefits of this web-based change, the selectboard approved the server replacement with a migration to the Cloud.

The board approved the Fire Department Property Auto and Workers Compensation Insurances change to be covered under the town policy. This change saved \$10,000, which was put back into the department budget to fill items the selectboard had cut.

Due to the changed offer from the selectboard the cost of the Tri-Valley Transit bus was reduced from \$52,900 to \$45,000. In addition, Hinesburg State Representative Phil Pouech was approved by Tri-Valley Transit to join their board.

The selectboard continued our FY26 budget discussion. As a result of the changes the selectboard made at the Dec. 5, 2024, meeting, the draft FY26 budget is at a 0.8 percent increase in total spending which would necessitate a 7.5 percent increase in the amount raised in taxes due to reductions in non-tax revenue. After a thorough discussion of where the budget stood and desires that the tax rate could be lower, no further changes to the budget or staffing levels were made. In terms of full-time equivalents, the selectboard was informed that to get the increase in the amount raised in taxes down to 6

percent, 4 percent and 2 percent, there would need to be respective FTE reductions of 0.5 FTE, 1.5 FTE and 2.5 FTE.

### January 8

The main purpose of this meeting was to hold a public hearing on the selectboard's proposed FY26 budget. Many valuable questions and comments were put forth. There was a request for clarification about the drop in revenue from Vermont Gas. Because of a state formula applied to assessing the value of utilities in Vermont, the Vermont Gas valuation is dropping from \$18,623,100 to \$14,193,446 or 23 percent. This results in a 0.7 percent decrease in the total grand list. As a result, we will collect \$27,911 less in municipal taxes than anticipated and \$91,082 less in education taxes.

Over the last few years, the grand list has increased in value around 0.75 percent to 1.25 percent annually. So this decrease could erase any potential increase in the next grand list. However, the reappraisal will make a year-to-year comparison impossible. In short though, this reduction redistributes more of the tax burden on other taxpayers.

Other questions are too numerous to be answered here, but anyone can watch the media factory video of the meeting for further details.

In other business, the selectboard voted to approve putting the question of retail cannabis on the March ballot. By Vermont law, retail cannabis can only be allowed in a town if the voters of that town approve it. The Vermont Cannabis Board decided last November to stop giving licenses for retail cannabis. If that does not change by next March, even if the voters approve it a store will not be allowed to open until they can get a state license.

The selectboard also approved increasing the fee for dog licenses from \$5 to \$8. Since \$7 would have to go to the

State of Vermont, this would raise the total fee to \$15. This fee is less than or equal to most surrounding towns.

The selectboard approved a one-year Bond Anticipation Note from Community Bank in the amount of \$5,900,000 at 4.99 percent interest to cover the final costs of the Wastewater Treatment Facility. Work on the facility is expected to be completed next summer.

### January 17

Alex Weinhagen, our director of Planning and Zoning for only one more week (Jan. 24, 2025, is his last day) presented to the selectboard details of the Downtown Transportation Fund Grant the Town Common Committee wants to apply for. The grant request, for \$127,000, is to cover entryways, sidewalks, signage, parking, gravel paths, engineering and stormwater. It requires a 20 percent matching grant. Alex said the committee is planning to obtain the \$32,000 needed through fundraising efforts. Todd, our Town Manager, offered that the Town could show support for this grant by supplying half of the matching amount, \$16,000, from the Town's Capital Reserve Fund, a fund set aside each year for projects like these which are not known at the time the budget is formed. The selectboard approved the Downtown Transportation Grant Application for the Town Common.

The selectboard approved a Regional Planning Commission Grant (UPWP) application. Every year Hinesburg applies for such grants. The goal of this grant will be to do a study of the traffic that will come out of Riggs Road once the residences in the Haystack Crossing project and the Windy Ridge project are complete. Alex said that some of the developers involved are interested in contributing to the cost of this study.

*continued on page 6*



## Element Nail Salon

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# HART & MEAD ENERGY

## FUEL DELIVERY 24 HOUR SERVICE

### Home Heating    482-6666    Kerosene    Diesel

## Town News

*continued from page 5*

The selectboard approved adopting Option A (maintain existing operations) of the revised Fire Impact Fee. This fire impact study was brought to the selectboard last February and was slightly changed on Jan. 7, 2025. The full study can be found on the Town web page under selectboard, documents for Jan. 15.

The selectboard had a discussion with Police Chief Anthony Cambridge. They asked for his thoughts on his resignation from Hinesburg (which takes effect Feb. 17, 2025) and his acceptance of a position with Richmond, where he lives. They confirmed with Chief Cambridge that the collaboration with Richmond would remain essentially the same, except that now Richmond would be paying his salary and Hinesburg would be paying Richmond half the chief's salary. Chief Cambridge confirmed that he would remain the Chief for Hinesburg under the new arrangement. The selectboard will need to approve the new contract for services with Richmond.

The selectboard voted down a request for an exception from the DEIB committee to fly the Black Lives Matter flag from Feb. 1 to June 19, 2025, and instead voted to fly the flag for the month of February. Our new flag policy, formulated by the DEIB committee, recommends flying extra flags, upon requests approved by the selectboard, for one month.

The selectboard approved the request from Joe Laster for water and wastewater allocation for the next phase, 1B, of his development on Mechanicsville Road. The request is for a 2,600 gpd water allocation out of current capacity and 2,600 gpd wastewater allocation that will be available when the new wastewater plant is operating.

The selectboard approved the FY26 operating and capital budgets that were discussed with voters at last week's public hearing on the budget.

Town Meeting information meeting – Since early voting starts a few weeks before Town Meeting Day, the selectboard explored holding the information evening earlier than the traditional Monday night before the March Town Meeting voting. Early voting ballots will be mailed out as early as Feb. 12 this year. Joy Dubin Grossman found that the CVU library will be available, and so the selectboard will hold the Town Meeting Information Meeting in the CVU library on Feb. 10 at 6 p.m.

Appointment of Ethics Liaison – The selectboard appointed Joy Dubin Grossman as our new Ethics Liaison. Pursuant of Vermont State Act 171, municipalities are required to appoint an Ethics Liaison to serve as a point of contact with the State Ethics Commission.

Our next regular selectboard meeting will be on Wednesday, Feb. 5, at 6 p.m.

## CSWD

### Happy New Year!

**KAT MOODY, COMMUNITY OUTREACH COORDINATOR**

With the new year in full swing, many of us are enjoying a moment to catch our breath after the hustle and bustle of the holidays. If you're tackling the post-holiday clean-up, you're in good company. This month, our Drop-Off Centers are busy with people coming by to dispose of everything from wrapping paper and shipping materials to Christmas trees and broken string lights. If you need a refresher on what goes where, don't forget that you can use our A-Z list to search for the proper disposal of different items: [cswd.net/a-z-list](https://www.cswd.net/a-z-list). And for holiday-specific items, you can check out our holiday waste guide.

We hope that the new year brings you a whole lot of good karma for reducing, reusing, and recycling!

### Make Composting Your New Year's Resolution

Vermont is one of just nine states with a law requiring people to compost their organics. Vermont's Universal Recycling Law (Act 148), which prohibits the disposal of food scraps in the trash, has been in effect since July 1, 2020. While this law has been active for over four years, there's still room for improvement.

Currently, Vermont is diverting just over half of its food scraps from the landfill – a significant accomplishment. However, in 2023, food waste still accounted for 18.8 percent of what ended up in Vermont's only landfill.

So how can we reduce that percentage and divert even more food scraps? Start composting! And if you already compost, take it one step further by encouraging your friends, family, and neighbors to join in. Composting not only reduces waste but also helps create nutrient-rich soil, supports local agriculture, and cuts greenhouse gas emissions from landfills.

We're here to help you overcome any obstacles standing in the way of making composting your 2025 resolution. Here's how to get started:

#### Step 1: Know What Goes in Your Food Scraps Bin

To successfully compost, it's important to understand what can and cannot go in your food scraps bin.

#### Items We Accept:

- All food scraps of any kind
- Certified, clearly labeled compostable bags used for lining food scrap containers
- Coffee filters and tea bags (paper only – no plastic tea bags)
- Newspaper and untreated paper bags used to line food scrap containers
- Paper towels and napkins (only if they do NOT contain body fluids or chemicals)
- Wooden or bamboo stirrers, toothpicks (no plastic frills), chopsticks
- Uncoated paper leaf bags

#### Please Keep These Items Out of Your Food Scrap Bin:

- Compostable foodware products
- Fruit/vegetable stickers
- Plastic packaging
- Coated or waxed paper
- Bathroom trash
- Dirt, fill, or stumps
- Cat, dog, or human waste
- Diapers (even those labeled "compostable")
- Styrofoam
- Metals (including foil wrapping and twist ties)
- Toxic materials such as paints, solvents, pesticides, or petroleum products

#### Step 2: Collect Your Food Scraps in a Bin

Now that you know what goes in and what has to stay out of your food scraps bin, it's time to start collecting. You can use any type of container that works for you. And if you would like to line the container with a bag before putting in any food scraps, you can use either a BPI-certified compostable liner bag or a brown paper bag.

#### Step 3: Overcoming Obstacles

One of the biggest concerns people have about composting is the potential for smells or fruit flies. Don't let that stop you from composting. Here's how to tackle these challenges:

#### To eliminate or reduce odors

- Store your food scraps in a container in the freezer.
- Empty your food scraps bin more frequently.
- Use a food scraps bin with a secure lid.

#### To prevent fruit flies

- Store your food scraps in a container in the freezer.
- Use fruit fly traps.
- Keep any produce in your fridge.

#### Step 4: Choose Your Composting Method

Once you've gathered your food scraps, decide how you want to compost them.

Here are some options to consider:

#### Option 1: Backyard Composting

If you have outdoor space, consider starting your own compost pile or bin. This allows you to manage your own food scraps and create nutrient-rich compost for your garden. You'll need a mix of "browns" (i.e. leaves) and "greens" (i.e. food scraps) to keep the compost balanced. Learn more about starting your own backyard compost.

#### Option 2: Food Scrap Hauler

A hauler will pick up your food scraps and take them to a composting facility. This is a convenient option if you don't have space or time for backyard composting, or limited time to take your food scraps to a drop-off center. Find a food scrap hauler.

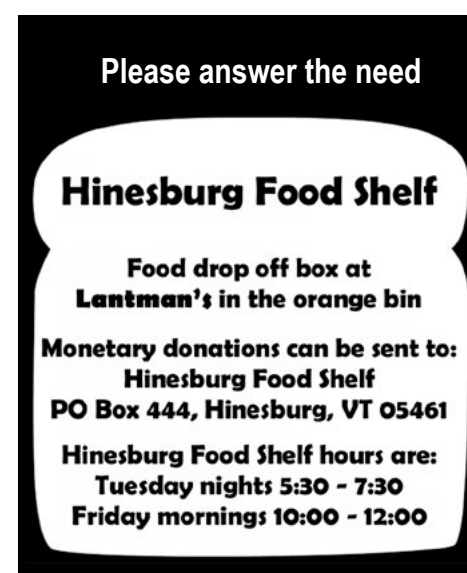
#### Option 3: Self-Haul to a Drop-Off Center

If you would rather drop off your food scraps yourself, you can bring them to any of CSWD's six Drop-Off Centers.

CSWD Drop-Off Centers: With trash, no fee. Without trash: \$1 per 5-gal container (30-gallon daily limit).

CSWD Organics Recycling Facility (home of Green Mountain Compost): Under 30 gallons, no fee. 30+ gallons: Please contact our Organics Recycling Facility at 802-660-4949.

Composting is one of the easiest and most impactful changes you can make to help the environment. By keeping food scraps out of the landfill, you're reducing greenhouse gas emissions and supporting a circular economy that turns waste into valuable resources. Let's work together to make Vermont's composting efforts even stronger in 2025 and beyond.



# 2025 Rebates for Your Home

Efficiency Vermont

If you're planning on improving the efficiency of your home or apartment this year, take a look at Efficiency Vermont's residential offers, including:



### Air Sealing and Insulation

- Up to \$9,500 off weatherization projects with an Efficiency Excellence Network contractor (depending on household income)
- Up to \$15,000 for home repairs (for income-eligible households) that are necessary before weatherization
- DIY weatherization: \$100 back on select do-it-yourself projects



### Heating, Cooling, and Water Heating

- Air-source heat pumps: discounts starting at \$350 + income bonus
- Ground source heat pump: up to \$2,100/ton + \$500 income bonus
- Smart thermostats: \$100 rebate for select ENERGY STAR models
- Water heaters: up to \$5,000 for select heat pump water heaters
- Window air conditioners: \$100 rebate for select ENERGY STAR models
- Wood pellet furnaces & boilers: \$6,000 rebate
- Wood and pellet stoves: \$400 discount at select retailers



### Electric Vehicles

- Up to a \$7,500 federal tax credit



### ENERGY STAR® Appliances

- \$25-\$40 for dehumidifiers
- \$200-\$400 rebate on heat pump clothes dryers
- \$400 for heat pump dryer/washer combination units



### Lighting and Electrical

- Up to \$10,000 for electric panel upgrades (for income-eligible households)
- \$100 rebate for qualifying LED fixtures for indoor growing



### Income-based Assistance

- Free lighting, appliances, energy consultations, weatherization, and more – visit [efficiencyvermont.com/free-products](https://www.efficiencyvermont.com/free-products) to see if you are eligible

Additional rebates may also be available from your electric or gas utility.



### Not sure where to start?

Sign up for a FREE Virtual Home Energy Visit! Call 888-921-5990 to learn more (Translation services are available)

All rebates are subject to availability and eligibility. For the most up-to-date information, visit: [www.efficiencyvermont.com/rebates](https://www.efficiencyvermont.com/rebates)



## LEGISLATIVE

## POLICE

## GoldenDomeVT.com Launches with SmartTranscripts for Legislature Meetings

### Unique SmartTranscripts Empower Vermonters to Affect Legislative Action at the Committee Level

BY TOM EVSLIN

**GoldenDomeVT.com** introduces a groundbreaking way for Vermonters to engage with their legislature. For the first time, anyone can access free, searchable SmartTranscripts of House and Senate floor meetings and committee sessions, transforming how citizens, reporters, and officials stay informed and involved.

The first SmartTranscripts for this year were posted yesterday following floor meetings of the House and Senate.

Unlike video, SmartTranscripts enable keyword and speaker-specific searches, allowing users to quickly find relevant content. By highlighting text in a transcript, users can instantly view the corresponding video clip. This combination of text and video ensures accuracy and adds valuable context through body language and facial expressions.

The website [goldendomevt.com](http://goldendomevt.com) is now in open Beta mode with SmartTranscripts of meetings from the current legislative session, as well as a selection of SmartTranscripts from the end of the 2024 session. New meetings are added as soon as their videos are posted – usually just hours after the meetings end.

User feedback during this Beta phase will help refine the platform and make it more useful. Feedback, including bug reports and suggestions for improvement, can be sent to [contact@goldendomevt.com](mailto:contact@goldendomevt.com).

**GoldenDomeVT.com** is a free service requiring no registration, is free of advertising, and does not request or collect personal information. The code used to create SmartTranscripts and the website will be released as shareware on GitHub, enabling others to build on the platform or adapt it for their local use.

Have news? email  
[news@hinesburgrecord.org](mailto:news@hinesburgrecord.org).

**December 4:** 7 a.m. An alarm activation on Commerce Street was investigated.

8:35 a.m. An officer assisted Williston P.D. with a two-car motor vehicle crash on Oak Hill Road.

8:58 a.m. Officers responded to a motor vehicle complaint on Route 116. Joshua Jerger, 37, of Starksboro was arrested on a warrant out of Burlington and charged with operation without owner's consent, driving with a criminally suspended driver's license, unlawful trespass, and violation of conditions of release.

12:03 p.m. The report of a threat by electronic communication was investigated.

2:55 p.m. A motor vehicle complaint on Route 116 was investigated.

4:40 p.m. An officer assisted a motorist with a disabled vehicle on Richmond Road.

8:42 p.m. An officer assisted Shelburne P.D. with an investigation.

**December 5:** 11:54 a.m. A citizen was assisted with a VIN verification.

12:45 p.m. An officer assisted Middlebury P.D. with a stolen vehicle investigation.

4:23 p.m. An alarm activation on Partridge Hill was investigated.

5:34 p.m. A subpoena was served on behalf of Chittenden County Courts.

**December 6:** 6 a.m. Officers assisted with service of a warrant by HSI in Starksboro.

12:01 p.m. Following a lengthy investigation, officers responded to Patricia's Place where Steven Gabaree, 32, of Hinesburg was arrested for grand larceny, unauthorized titling of a motor vehicle, registering a motor vehicle of which applicant is not owner, five counts of forgery, and seven counts of false pretenses or tokens.

5:37 p.m. Officers investigated the vandalism of property on North Road.

**December 7:** 7:45 a.m. A motor vehicle complaint on Southwest Shore Road was investigated.

7:46 a.m. An alarm activation at CVU was investigated.

10:26 a.m. An officer investigated suspicious activity on Old Route 116.

5:23 p.m. An officer assisted Middlebury P.D. with a stolen vehicle investigation.

5:41 p.m. Suspicious activity was investigated on North Road. Trevor Lacross, 33, of Grand Isle was arrested for two counts of unlawful trespass.

6:48 p.m. An officer investigated the report of a two-car motor vehicle crash on Lincoln Hill Road.

8:25 p.m. Officers investigated the report of motor vehicle stolen from Hillview Terrace. That vehicle was later located on Richmond Road.

8:33 p.m. Officers investigated the report

of theft from a motor vehicle on Hillview Terrace.

**December 8:** 7:30 a.m. An officer served a citation on behalf of another agency.

8 a.m. An officer assisted Williston P.D. in attempting to locate a stolen vehicle.

11:31 a.m. A single-car motor vehicle crash on Patricia's Place was investigated.

11:45 a.m. An individual stealing property from a residence on Shelburne Falls Road was reported. Investigation into that crime led to a residence on Tyler Bridge Road. There, a stolen vehicle out of Williston and two stolen vehicles out of Montpelier were located. Joshua Emmons, 39, of Starksboro was cited for unlawful mischief and unlawful trespass.

12:33 p.m. A motorist on Richmond Road was assisted with a disabled vehicle.

4:02 p.m. A citizen was assisted with a civil issue.

**December 9:** 7 a.m. An officer investigated a traffic hazard on Route 116.

8:01 a.m. Officers responded to a 911 hangup on Hillview Terrace.

9:59 a.m. Suspicious activity on Enos Road was investigated.

11:43 a.m. Officers assisted the Chittenden County Sheriff's Department with serving an eviction notice on North Road.

6:40 p.m. Suspicious activity on North Road was investigated.

7:17 p.m. An officer responded to a single-car motor vehicle crash on Pond Road.

**December 10:** 10:07 a.m. An officer investigated a traffic hazard on Baldwin Road.

11:16 a.m. Lost property was reported to the P.D.

5:17 p.m. An officer assisted a motorist with a disabled vehicle on Charlotte Road.

5:55 p.m. An officer responded to the report of a motor vehicle that struck a deer on Shelburne Falls Road.

**December 11:** 8:11 a.m. Suspicious activity on Elderberry Lane was investigated.

8:21 a.m. An officer investigated the theft of property from a motor vehicle on Lyman Meadows.

9:03 a.m. An officer assisted state troopers with a theft investigation in St. George.

12:57 p.m. A motor vehicle complaint on Commerce Street was investigated.

**December 12:** 3:50 p.m. An alarm activation on Richmond Road was investigated.

4:09 p.m. An officer responded to a 911 hangup on North Road.

7 p.m. A single-car motor vehicle crash on Silver Street was investigated.

**December 13:** 7:04 a.m. Officers assisted Hinesburg Fire Department with a fire investigation on Pond Road.

3:18 p.m. Found property was turned into the P.D. and the owner was later located.

3:46 p.m. Officers responded to a two-car motor vehicle crash on CVU Rod.

9:48 p.m. The report of a suspicious motor vehicle on Southwind Road was investigated.

**December 14:** 9:09 a.m. Suspicious activity on North Road was investigated.

1:09 p.m. Suspicious activity on Shelburne Falls Road was investigated.

1:51 p.m. A loose dog was located on Pond Brook Road. The owner was later located.

4:22 p.m. Suspicious activity on Hayden Hill Road was investigated.

**December 15:** 8:35 a.m. Officers responded to the report of suspicious activity at a residence on Route 116. Joshua Jerger, 37, of Monkton was arrested for aggravated operation without owner's consent and unlawful trespass, motor vehicle. Jerger was lodged pending federal charges related to firearms.

**December 16:** 6:30 a.m. An officer responded to a two-car motor vehicle crash on Silver Street.

1:12 p.m. A theft of property on Mechanicsville Road was reported and investigated.

1:42 p.m. A citizen was assisted with a lockout on Route 116.

6 p.m. Found property was turned into the P.D. and the owner was later located.

**December 17:** 10:11 a.m. Suspicious activity on Orchard Commons was investigated.

12:15 p.m. An assault was reported and investigated.

1:30 p.m. Officers responded to a domestic dispute on North Road.

2:47 p.m. A citizen was assisted with a lockout.

4:30 p.m. An animal problem on Silver Street was reported and investigated.

4:56 p.m. Officers responded to a citizen dispute on North Road.

6:43 p.m. A motor vehicle complaint on Route 116 was investigated.

**December 18:** 4:11 p.m. An officer assisted with a traffic hazard on Hollow Road.

4:37 p.m. Officers responded to a citizen dispute on Bear Lane. Marcie Whittemore, 32, of Brandon was served a warrant out of Middlebury.

8:40 p.m. Officers responded to a single-car motor vehicle crash on Charlotte Road.

**December 19:** 7:04 a.m. Officers responded to a single-car motor vehicle crash on Route 116.

1:57 p.m. An alarm activation at CVU was investigated.

5:25 p.m. Officers investigated the theft of a motor vehicle on Shelburne Falls Road.

**December 20:** 6:40 a.m. An officer responded to a two-car motor vehicle crash

on Route 116.

7:20 a.m. An officer assisted with a traffic hazard on Route 116.

5:05 p.m. Officers responded to a single-car motor vehicle crash on Route 116.

5:23 p.m. Officers responded to a single-car motor vehicle crash on Baldwin Road.

6:37 p.m. Officers assisted first responders with an individual having a mental health crisis on Hawk Lane.

**December 21:** 11:56 a.m. A retail theft at the Jiffy Mart on Ballards Corner Road was investigated.

1:44 p.m. An officer responded to a single-car motor vehicle crash on Pond Road.

2:13 p.m. An officer attempted to serve a citation on Magee Hill Road.

6:56 p.m. An officer responded to a single-car motor vehicle crash on Baldwin Road.

**December 22:** 7:54 a.m. An alarm activation on Route 116 was investigated.

10:19 a.m. An officer assisted firefighters with a house fire in St. George.

**December 23:** 9:17 a.m. A citizen was assisted with a VIN verification.

11:34 a.m. A welfare check was conducted on Kailey's Way.

2:13 p.m. An officer responded into Shelburne to assist Shelburne P.D. with a crash investigation involving a stolen vehicle out of Hinesburg.

3:30 p.m. Officers assisted another agency with a death notification.

6:04 p.m. A traffic stop was conducted on Route 116. Francis Harris, 61, of Hinesburg was arrested for driving with a criminally suspended driver's license.

8:40 p.m. An officer investigated the report of a vehicle off the roadway on Palmer Road.

**December 24:** 8:50 a.m. A citizen was assisted with a civil issue.

10:40 a.m. An officer served court paperwork to a citizen on Jourdan Street.

**December 26:** 4:35 p.m. A citizen was assisted with fingerprinting for employment purposes.

5:07 p.m. An officer assisted Hinesburg First Responders with a medical emergency on North Road.

7:52 p.m. A loose dog was turned into the P.D. and the owner was later located.

**December 27:** 1:06 p.m. A traffic hazard

on Buck Hill Road East was investigated.

**December 28:** 12:34 p.m. An officer responded to a single-car motor vehicle crash on Texas Hill Road.

**December 30:** 9:48 a.m. An officer assisted a motorist with a disabled vehicle on CVU Road.

1:30 p.m. An alarm activation on Route 116 was investigated.

3:05 p.m. An officer conducted a welfare check on Ledgewood Lane.

**December 31:** 10:24 a.m. The report of unlawful mischief at a business on Route 116 was investigated.

11:21 a.m. An officer responded to a two-car motor vehicle crash on Commerce Street.

**January 1:** 4:01 p.m. A parking issue on Hillview Terrace was investigated.

8 p.m. A welfare check was conducted on Hillview Terrace.

8:33 p.m. A traffic stop was conducted on Route 116. David Macomber, 48, of South Burlington was arrested for driving with a criminally suspended driver's license.

**January 2:** 7 a.m. Officers investigated a motor vehicle theft from a residence on North Road.

11:14 a.m. Suspicious activity on North Road was investigated.

11:38 a.m. Suspicious activity on Enos Road was investigated.

1:54 p.m. An officer assisted state troopers with an investigation on Richmond Road.

3:56 p.m. A fraud was reported and investigated.

7:58 p.m. An officer served court paperwork to a citizen on Jourdan Street.

**January 3:** 8:08 a.m. An officer investigated the report of unlawful mischief on North Road.

**January 4:** 10:49 a.m. An alarm activation at CVU was investigated.

1:56 p.m. A citizen was assisted with a lockout.

6:32 p.m. A traffic stop was conducted on Pond Road. Clyde Bovat, 76, of Hinesburg was arrested for driving with a criminally suspended driver's license. The passenger, Sara Whritenour, 37, of Hinesburg was arrested on an active warrant for failure to appear in court and charged with possession of crack cocaine.

**January 5:** 8:44 a.m. Suspicious activity

was reported and investigated on Piette Road.

9:10 a.m. An officer assisted a motorist on Richmond Road.

**January 6:** 7 a.m. An alarm activation on Route 116 was investigated.

7:38 p.m. A motor vehicle complaint on Commerce Street was investigated.

**January 7:** 7 a.m. An officer investigated the report of a vehicle off the roadway on Route 116.

8:55 a.m. An officer responded to a single-car motor vehicle crash on CVU Road.

12:08 p.m. An officer responded to a single-car motor vehicle crash on Texas Hill Road.

**January 9:** 7:55 a.m. An officer responded to a single-car motor vehicle crash on Pond Road.

9 a.m. A fraud was reported and investigated.

10:21 a.m. A two-car motor vehicle crash on Ballards Corner Road was investigated.

11:48 a.m. The report of a hit-and-run with property damage on Mechanicsville Road was investigated.

1:19 p.m. An officer responded to a single-car motor vehicle crash on Route 116.

1:37 p.m. A motorist was assisted with a disabled vehicle on Pond Road.

**January 10:** 11:11 a.m. Suspicious activity on Ballards Corner Road was investigated.

3 p.m. An alarm activation on Ballards Corner Road was investigated.

6:26 p.m. A welfare check was conducted on North Road.

7:32 p.m. A motorist was assisted with a disabled vehicle on Route 116.

**January 11:** 12:11 p.m. An officer responded to a single-car motor vehicle crash on Pond Road.

2:57 p.m. Court paperwork was served to a citizen on Hollow Road.

4:38 p.m. An officer responded to a single-car motor vehicle crash on Lincoln Hill Road.

**January 12:** 7:57 a.m. An officer attempted a traffic stop on North Road in which the vehicle fled from police. That incident is still under investigation.

12:21 p.m. An assault was reported and investigated.


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## RECREATION

To register for HRD programs go to [hinesburgrec.com](http://hinesburgrec.com).

### Champlain Valley Little League (CVLL)

Registration is open for the 2025 Champlain Valley Little League baseball/softball season. Deadline is March 1.

#### 2025 Spring Divisions:

##### Baseball:

Pee Wee – Age 4 years (\$10 before Feb. 1 and \$25 after)

T-Ball – Age 5 years (\$65 before Feb. 1 and \$80 after)

Single A – Ages 6-7 years (\$90 before Feb. 1 and \$105 after)

Double A – Ages 8 years (\$90 before Feb. 1 and \$105 after)

Triple A – Ages 9-10 years (\$105 before Feb. 1 and \$120 after)

Majors – Ages 11-12 (\$105 before Feb. 1 and \$120 after)

##### Softball:

Softball Minis – Ages 6-8 (\$90 before Feb. 1 and \$105 after)

Softball Minors – Ages 9-10 (\$90 before Feb. 1 and \$120 after)

Softball Majors Softball – Ages 11-12 (\$90 before Feb. 1 and \$120 after)

To determine what "Little League age" please visit: [littleleague.org/play-little-league/determine-league-age](http://littleleague.org/play-little-league/determine-league-age). Registration fees include uniform and a cap. Register and find more information at [champlainvalleylittleleague.org](http://champlainvalleylittleleague.org).

Skills assessments and/or pre-season indoor practices are TBD. Stay tuned for more information. Volunteer coaches and snack shack volunteers are needed. If interested, please send an email to [cvllvt@gmail.com](mailto:cvllvt@gmail.com).

Lenny Bissonnette Scholarship Fund

– please contact the Champlain Valley Little League at [cvllvt@gmail.com](mailto:cvllvt@gmail.com) for more information.

### Co Ed K-1-2 Lacrosse

Sundays, May 4-June 8. Millie's Field, Bissonette Rec. Area. 11 a.m.-noon. Cost: \$50 until April 18 and \$60 afterward. Registration deadline May 1.

### Boys and Girls Youth Lacrosse

Boys: 3rd and 4th grades, 5th and 6th grade and 7th and 8th grades

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

Indoor time will begin in March. Outdoor practices can begin as early as mid-April, depending on weather. Please plan on two mid-week practices and two games on Saturdays (boys) and Sundays (girls) from May 3 through June 8. A (\$30) U.S. Lacrosse membership found at [uslacrosse.org](http://uslacrosse.org) is mandatory to register for this program. Practices may be in Hinesburg, Williston, or Charlotte. Dates and times contingent on coaches and field space.

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

Cost: \$70 until March 9. Registration deadline is March 9 at 11:59 pm.

### Iroquois Soccer Club 2025 Spring Registration

Join us for another fun year of youth soccer.

Iroquois Soccer Club is available for residents, ages 6-10, of Hinesburg, Charlotte, Shelburne and Huntington.

Practices will be Tuesdays and Thursdays around 5:30 until 6:30 p.m. (days and times to be determined based on coach's availability). Games are on Sundays. Practices and home games are located at Bissonette Fields in Hinesburg. Away game locations TBD by Vermont Soccer Association. The season runs from April 25 to June 11.

your 401(k) with your previous employer, if allowed, and if you have been happy with your plan's performance. Or you could move your 401(k) into your new employer's plan, which might be a good choice if the new plan has lower fees and attractive investment options. You'd also want to ask whether the new employer offers matching contributions. Finally, you could roll over your old 401(k) into a traditional IRA, which would give you more investment choices.

• HSA/FSA – If your new employer offers a health savings account (HSA) as part of a high-deductible health plan, you may want to take advantage of it. Your contributions are made with pre-tax dollars, your earnings generally grow tax deferred and your withdrawals are tax free, as long as they're used for qualified medical expenses. Plus, you can carry unused funds through retirement, when you can still use them for qualified medical expenses. Your employer might also offer a flexible spending account (FSA), which can pay for a variety of health care costs, such as deductibles, co-payments and co-insurance.

• Waiting period for health benefits – You'll want to ask your new employer if there's a waiting eligibility period to enroll in its benefits plan – health insurance, dental, vision, and so on.

If so, you may need to get COBRA coverage for a few months to stay in your old plan, unless you can be added to a spouse's plan. When you go on your new employer's health care plan, make sure you know what it covers. Depending on your situation, you might want to add supplemental health insurance.

Changing jobs can provide you with an opportunity to expand your career, learn new skills and broaden your social network. And it can certainly be financially rewarding, too – so make sure you know all the benefits involved.

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



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For more information and to register, please visit [iroquoissoccer.org](http://iroquoissoccer.org). Please contact ISC President Mike Webb at [michael.jason.webb@gmail.com](mailto:michael.jason.webb@gmail.com) for any questions.

Registration for the Spring 2025 season will close on March 1, 2025, at 11:59 p.m.

### Horseback Riding April Vacation

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

Grades K-8. Monday-Friday, April 21-25. Livery Stables, 601 Lavigne Hill Road, Hinesburg. Half day 8 a.m.-noon; or full day 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Cost: Weekly, half-day \$365 or full day \$495. More information can be found at [liveryhorsefarm.com](http://liveryhorsefarm.com)

### After-School Horseback Riding

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

Grades K-8. Tuesdays, April 29-June 3, and/or Fridays, May 2-June 6. 3-5 p.m. Cost: \$285. More information can be found at [liveryhorsefarm.com](http://liveryhorsefarm.com).

### Middle School Boys Pick-up Basketball

Tuesdays, March 11-April 15. 6:30-7:30 p.m. HCS Gym.

### Middle School Girls Pick-up Basketball

Mondays, March 10-June 9. 6:30-8:30 p.m. HCS Gym. Register at [hinesburgrec.com](http://hinesburgrec.com).

## LIBRARY

### Library Hours Year Round

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

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

Phone: 482-2878

Address: 69 Ballards Corner Road, Hinesburg 05461

Web Site: [carpentercarse.org](http://carpentercarse.org)

Email: [library@carpentercarse.org](mailto:library@carpentercarse.org)

### Library News

A huge thank you to our patrons for helping us make strides towards our fundraising goals. We couldn't offer such a rich variety of events, materials, and resources without your support. If you haven't had a chance to donate yet, it is not too late to make a contribution. Any size gift makes a meaningful impact and supports a thriving community space, right here in Hinesburg.

Books to look forward to in February include *Black Woods*, *Blue Sky* by Eowyn Ivey, *Blood Ties* by Jo Nesbo, *Memorial Days* by Geraldine Brooks, *Three Days in June* by Anne Tyler, *We All Live Here* by Jojo Moyes, and *Battle Mountain* by C.J. Box. Contact the library to put any of these titles on hold.

### February Youth Happenings at Carpenter-Carse Library

For more information about any of these programs contact [jen@carpentercarse.org](mailto:jen@carpentercarse.org)

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[sarahcapron@deept.com](mailto:sarahcapron@deept.com)



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dlers, and preschool aged children and their caregivers No registration is required.

### Saturday Family Playtime: Saturdays in February at 10 a.m.

Young children and their caregivers are invited to join us in the library community room every Saturday morning for play time, pop-up storytimes, and socializing. Coffee and tea will be provided for adults, and families can browse for books afterwards. Library staff will provide a rotating selection of activities and play themes. No registration required. **continued on page 12**

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## BUSINESS

### Free Mindfulness Workshops

BY PEGGY DIPPEN

Peggy Dippen, founder of Mindful Journeywork LLC, is set to lead a series of transformative workshops in Vermont this February, focusing on Real Dialogue and mindfulness practices. With a mission to foster love, gratitude, and compassion for oneself and the world, Peggy brings her extensive experience as a certified Mindfulness-Based Psychedelic Guide, Real Dialogue Specialist, Courage and Renewal Facilitator and educator to these community events.

**Saturday, Feb. 1, from 1 to 3 p.m.** – two-hour introductory workshop on Real Dialogue at the Brandon Library. This session aims to equip participants with skills to transform conflicts into opportunities for personal growth and deeper understanding.

**Sunday, Feb. 16, from 1 to 3 p.m.** – "Winter as Teacher" Courage Circle at the Carpenter-Carse Library in Hinesburg. This gathering invites individuals to explore the lessons of the winter season, fostering inner reflection and communal support.

**Sunday, Feb. 23, from 2 to 4 p.m.** – In collaboration with Dr. Polly Young-Eisendrath, a renowned psychologist and founder of Dialogue Therapy, Peggy will co-facilitate another Real Dialogue workshop at the Lincoln Library. This unique opportunity allows participants to engage with two

experts dedicated to enhancing communication and relational dynamics.

Additionally, starting Wednesday, Feb. 5, Peggy will begin hosting free, monthly Psychedelic Integration Circles online from 8 to 9 p.m. These sessions provide a supportive space for individuals to integrate profound experiences, such as those involving psychedelics, near-death encounters, or spontaneous awakenings, into their daily lives. Guided by the Courage and Renewal Touchstones, the circles aim to create a safe environment where every voice is welcomed. Registration is requested to tailor the sessions to participants' needs.

For more information on these events and to register for the Psychedelic Integration Circles, please visit Mindful Journeywork's website at [mindfuljourneywork.com](http://mindfuljourneywork.com).

### Financial Focus:

#### Financial Considerations When Changing Jobs

FROM PRESS RELEASE

Are you changing jobs soon? If so, you'll obviously be interested in your new salary – but you'll also want to look at other financial considerations.

Here are some of the important ones:

• 401(k) – If you had a 401(k) plan through your previous employer, you'll need to decide what to do with it once you've joined a new employer. You could just cash it out, but you'd pay taxes and possible penalties. You could leave

► **Library**

*continued from page 11*

tion required.

**Pokémon Club: Wednesdays through Feb. 12, 2-3:15 p.m.**

After-school Pokémon at the library continues this month. Students in grades K-4 are invited to bring their own Pokémon cards each week to play card games, discuss and trade, and have fun with other Pokémon themed activities. If students do not own cards, they are welcome to use the library's stash to participate in all the activities and learn more about the world of Pokémon. Contact Jen to sign up.

**After-School Dungeons and Dragons Club: Thursdays (when school is in session) in February at 3-4:30 p.m.**

Kids in grades 3-8 are invited to join Devin Morrill in learning the basics of Dungeons and Dragons, including character creation, understanding game mechanics, and how to work together to create and play in their own campaigns. Additionally, the program will provide a space for these kids to form their own groups, giving them the tools and confidence to continue playing and developing their own adventures together. Beginners and experienced players are welcome. Contact Jen with any questions and to reserve your spot.

**STEM Book Club: Tuesday, Feb. 18, 3-4:15 p.m.**

This monthly after-school book club is for mid-grade readers (grades 3-5, but we are happy to talk about including other ages) who want to see what it's like to be part of a regular book club, especially one with a really fun topic. We will read a new STEM themed book each month, then get together for snacks, crafts, and discussion. To reserve your spot in the book club and receive a copy of this month's book, email Jen.

**Siber Sled Dogs at the Library: Thursday, Feb. 27, 11 a.m.-noon.**

Join us at the library during February break to learn about dog sledding and meet (and pet!) some trained Siberian Huskies! Milagro Amaya Turner will be here to introduce us to her sled dogs, tell us about dog sledding, and answer your questions! No registration required. Contact Jen with any questions.

**Middle School Book Club: Thursday,**

**Feb. 27, 5:30-6:30 p.m.**

We invite middle schoolers who are interested in reading and discussing all kinds of books (chapter books, memoirs, graphic novels) that are generally geared toward students in grades 6-8. Students will receive each month's book from the library then meet on the fourth Thursday of the month to engage in a fun discussion, eat snacks, hang out with friends, and decide what to read next. Email Jen with any questions and to sign up for this book club and receive the book.

**CCL Adult Programs February**

For more information about any of these programs contact [alex@carpentercare.org](mailto:alex@carpentercare.org)

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

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

**Senior Meet-Up: Mondays, 1-2:30 p.m.**

Do you remember rotary phones? Cigarette smoke in diners? Bike riding without helmets? The Ed Sullivan Show? 8-Track Tapes? Then this meet-up is for you. Come gather and talk, schmooze and kvetch, share and laugh with other seniors. Coffee and tea will be provided. No registration required.

**SongFarmers of Hinesburg: Thursday, Feb. 6, 6-8 p.m.**

Do you play an acoustic instrument or just love to sing along to old time, blues, country, and folk music? Come join the SongFarmers during their monthly gathering and participate in this wonderful live music offering. Listeners are also welcome. Free and open to the public in the library's community room, or outdoors as weather allows.

**Puzzle Race: Friday, Feb. 7, 6:30-8**

► **RAFT**

*continued from page 1*

ing to provide three main areas of assistance:

**Support for Flood-Impacted Residents**, including helping with navigating the system, filling out forms, mucking out the home, dealing with mold, weatherization, general repair and clean-up of the site.

**Preparedness and Education** which includes working with other organizations such as emergency response, town committees, faith-based organizations and others to plan for future events.

**Community Empowerment and Coordination:** the goal is to have a large base of volunteers who can respond in a time of need.

RAFT needs volunteers to do this work. It will only work if we help each other. Volunteers can sign up for what work they feel they can do and

p.m.

Do you love puzzles? Then put together a team of up to six people and join us for a Puzzle Race. The team that can assemble their jigsaw puzzle the fastest will win a prize. Registration is required and spots are limited. Email [alex@carpentercare.org](mailto:alex@carpentercare.org) or stop by the library to register.

**Mystery Book Club: Wednesday, Feb. 12, 12:30-1:30 p.m.**

Meet with other readers at the library to discuss a mystery novel - ranging from cozy to gritty. Please email [alex@carpentercare.org](mailto:alex@carpentercare.org) to receive a copy of the book and to let us know you will attend.

**Palentine's Day Trivia: Wednesday, Feb. 12, 6:30-8 p.m.**

Grab your pals and join us for a trivia night that celebrates all things love and friendship. Snacks and drinks provided and there will be a prize for the winning team. Registration is required and spots are limited. Email [alex@carpentercare.org](mailto:alex@carpentercare.org) or stop by the library to register your team.

**Being a Friend in Grief: An Informative Workshop for Times of Hardship with Francesca Arnoldy: Tuesday, Feb. 18, 7-8:30 p.m.**

Grief is universal. Grief is personal. And it can be overwhelming. How can we show up for people enduring loss? What can we say? What can we do? What kind of support is actually beneficial? Join local doula/author Francesca Arnoldy for this interactive workshop. We'll discuss the language of grief, including what to say and phrases to avoid, and how to offer emotional care and practical assistance to the bereaved with sensitivity, no matter the type of loss.

\*This is not a mental health training or grief support group - it is a community education event meant to help increase our courage, confidence, and connections as friends, loved ones, and neighbors.



Recovery After Floods Team

the times that they are available. The RAFT board needs representation from Hinesburg. The board should be representative of the communities served by RAFT, which means farmers, businesses, homeowners, etc.

RAFT invites you to join our meetings, either in person or virtually. For more information, the website is [raftvt.org](http://raftvt.org). Contact: Prem Linskey, RAFT board chairperson 802-318-1161.

**WHAT THE HECK?**

**Naughty list**



**Peas on earth**



**Split second**



**Flosstrich**



**Locker spaniel**



**What the heck is this (below)?**



Take a guess at [hinesburgrecord.org/what-the-heck/](http://hinesburgrecord.org/what-the-heck/) and have a chance to **WIN A \$25 GIFT CERTIFICATE!**

**EDUCATION**

**January Marks National Mentoring Month**  
*Mentorship programs thrive at Hinesburg Community School*

BY TYLER COHEN AND JANET GRAY

This year our community has two reasons to get excited about National Mentoring Month. Champlain Valley School District is celebrating 25 years of Connecting Youth's mentoring program for 5th-12th graders, while Everybody Wins! Vermont is kicking off a literacy-based program for 2nd-4th graders in Hinesburg.

Connecting Youth, founded in 2000, has paired thousands of mentors with local students, providing support during pivotal moments in their lives. This year, CY Mentoring serves 184 students across CVSD. According to Mentor National ([mentoring.org/mentoring-impact](http://mentoring.org/mentoring-impact)), one in three young people will grow up without a trusted mentor to turn to for support outside of their immediate family. CY Mentoring exists to foster meaningful relation-

ships and help close that gap.

"Becoming a mentor is not only rewarding but also a lot of fun," says Ivy Enoch, a Hinesburg Community School mentor. "It's a chance to inspire and connect with young people in our community. It's an honor to be a positive, supportive adult in a 7th grader's life, and I appreciate the hour it affords me to step away from [work] to see the world through her eyes."

Now in its 25th year, Everybody Wins! Vermont focuses on younger children and has partnered with 21 schools in Vermont and New Hampshire since 2000 to pair over 600 community members annually with children. Any child in grades 2-4 can apply or be nominated for the program. Pairs meet one day a week over lunch and recess to read books, play games, and build connections.

"Everybody Wins! mentors don't teach children to read; that's the school's expertise. Mentors share their love of reading, language, and books with children," says Executive Director Beth Wallace. "We like to say that schools teach children to read and Everybody Wins! helps them LOVE to read."

Mentors and students often stay together for several years, as long as the child is enrolled. At Hinesburg Community School, pairs have the opportunity to seamlessly transition to



CVSD is celebrating 25 years of Connecting Youth's mentoring program.

Connecting Youth Mentoring when the children enter 5th grade.

"They develop friendships, they read books, they play games - all in the interests of literacy and community," Wallace says. "The program is low lift and high reward for volunteers. Last year, a busy executive told me, 'When I started, I wasn't sure how I was going to make space in my schedule. Now it's my favorite day of the week, one I would never miss.'"

"The more community members we have involved, the more children can participate in the program, so please spread the word," says Janet Gray, program coordinator for Hinesburg Community School. Other Chittenden County programs include Flynn, Edmunds, and the Sustainability

Academy in Burlington, and Shelburne Community School.

As we celebrate this milestone year for Connecting Youth and welcome Everybody Wins! to Hinesburg, we invite community members to join in recognizing the profound value of mentorship. Today, there are more youth needing mentors than there are mentors available. If you're interested in contributing to your community now and in the future, please contact the appropriate coordinator below.

Connecting Youth: Hinesburg Community School, Livy Bulger, [lbulger@cvsvdt.org](mailto:lbulger@cvsvdt.org), 802-482-6248

Everybody Wins! Vermont: Hinesburg Community School, Janet Gray, [hinesburg@everybodywinsvermont.org](mailto:hinesburg@everybodywinsvermont.org), 512-466-0753

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Ad and news deadline is February 13 for the next issue. Publication date is February 27. Go to [hinesburgrecord.org](http://hinesburgrecord.org) or call 802-999-2410 for more information.

► Education

*continued from page 13*

## Youth Engineering Day to Be Held At UVM

BY MARGARET COAN, UVM EXTENSION

A free day-long event, hosted by Vermont 4-H and the University of Vermont (UVM) College of Engineering and Mathematical Sciences, will expose young people to different engineering fields and career opportunities.

Discover Engineering Day will take place on Feb. 22 from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. on the UVM campus. Students in grades 5 through 12 are invited to participate to learn about engineering, build skills through hands-on workshops and network with college students, professors and industry professionals.

The deadline to register is Feb. 17 at 5 p.m. To register, go to [go.uvm.edu/2025](http://go.uvm.edu/2025). Location and parking details will be emailed to registrants. Lunch will be provided.

The event kicks off with a fun Engineering Scavenger Hunt involving interactive exhibits that showcase various types of engineering and career pathways. Afternoon workshops will focus on a range of topics including Python programming, robotics, bridge design, cartilage construction, lift and force and renewable energy, among others.

The annual Discover Engineering Day is sponsored by the Lola and George Aiken Fund as part of National Engineering Week (Feb. 16 to 22). If requiring language interpretation, translation assistance and/or a disability-related accommodation to participate, contact Margaret Coan at 802-656-7634 or [margaret.coan@uvm.edu](mailto:margaret.coan@uvm.edu) by Jan. 31.

## Access CVU Winter/Spring Semester Launches

BY JENNIFER MORTON

Happy New Year! We are excited to share that the Winter/Spring semester of Access CVU, your destination for community education based out of CVU High School, is ready to launch. With more than 120 classes offered, and more being added monthly, there's something for everyone.

Some things of note:

Ready to start garden planning? How about Edible Landscaping?

Are you a maker looking for a new project? We have new classes that include

jewelry making (first up is a silver ring, and then a cuff bracelet or a silver pendant in future months), needle-felting a cute hedgehog, or making a coat hook from old pallets.

We are once again offering Strength & Fitness. Becca, a new-to-Access instructor, is a PT during the day and looks forward to helping you set up an attainable exercise routine.

Are you looking to learn a language or dust off your rusty skills? We have Spanish, Italian, French and German classes all starting this month.

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

### Arts & Crafts

Monday, Feb. 3: Watercolor for Beginners

Monday, Feb. 3: Figure Drawing for Beginners

Tuesday, Feb. 4: Mixed Level Wheel Throwing Tuesday, with Ryan Strobel – 12 weeks

Tuesday, Feb. 4: Telephone Wire Mosaic Necklace

Tuesday, Feb. 4: Textured Silver Ring Band



Textured Silver Ring Band, Feb. 4

Wednesday, Feb. 5: Mixed Level Wheel Throwing

Wednesday, Feb. 5: Watercolor Studio with Ginny Joyner

Thursday, Feb. 6: Watercolor for Beginners 2

Thursday, Feb. 6: Mixed Level Wheel Throwing Thursday, with Jessica LaBonte – 12 weeks

Thursday, Feb. 6: Crafting a Coat Rack and Shelf from Repurposed Pallets and Hardwoods



Coat rack and shelf, Feb. 6

Monday, Feb. 10: Introduction to Welding Fabrication I

Tuesday, Feb. 11: Open Lathe Workshop – Bowl Turning with Eddie

Tuesday, Feb. 11: Oil Painting Studio for Intermediate to Advanced Painters

Tuesday, Feb. 11: Carving in Wood – The Love Spoon

Wednesday, Feb. 12: Learn How to Turn a Wooden Bowl

Monday, Feb. 17: Intro to Beaded Necklaces and Bracelets

Thursday, Feb. 20: Felted Hedgehogs



Felted Hedgehogs, Feb. 20

### Computers & Technology

Monday, Feb. 10: Digital Skills Series for All Ages with Emmy Hilliard

### Cooking & Baking

Wednesday, Feb. 5: Baking with Sourdough Workshop

Wednesday, Feb. 12: Valentine Gingerbread Cottage



Valentine Gingerbread Cottage, Feb. 12

Thursday, Feb. 20: French Onion Soup

### Dance, Yoga & Mindful Movement

Monday, Feb. 3: Strength and Fitness for All Levels

Tuesday, Feb. 4: Yang Tai Chi

Tuesday, Feb. 4: Svaroopa Yoga: Gentle, Deep and Profound \*

Thursday, Feb. 6: Gentle Evening Yoga with Ellen

Thursday, Feb. 6: Zumba with Dillon

Thursday, Feb. 6: Slow Flow Afternoon Yoga with Ellen

Monday, Feb. 10: Yoga Flow for Strength and Balance

### Home & Garden, Nature & Animals

Tuesday, Feb. 4: Better than a pound of medicine... Preventive Care for Dogs and Cats

Monday, Feb. 10: Edible Landscaping

### Music & Languages

Tuesday, Feb. 4: Italian for Beginners: Level 1 \*

Tuesday, Feb. 4: Italian for Beginners: Level 2 \*

Tuesday, Feb. 4: Intro to Ukulele: Level 1 for Beginners

Tuesday, Feb. 4: American Sign Language (ASL) for Beginners, Level 2

Wednesday, Feb. 5: Spanish Level 1 for Beginners – 12 Sessions

Wednesday, Feb. 5 Spanish Level 2 (Intermediate) – 12 Sessions

Wednesday, Feb. 5: German for Beginners with Pamela Krieger \*

Wednesday, Feb. 5: German for Advanced Beginners \*

Thursday, Feb. 6: American Sign Language (ASL) for Beginners Level 1

Monday, Feb. 10: Incorporating an Arts/Music Practice Into Your Daily Life

Monday, Feb. 10: French for Beginners \*

Tuesday, Feb. 11: Intro to Guitar

### Nutrition, Beauty, & Wellness

Thursday, Feb. 13: Herbal Medicine Making Basics

## ORGANIZATIONS

### Hinesburg Youth Project Gives Back

BY ANNA MAIN, HYP CO-CHAIR

The holiday season is about giving back, and the Hinesburg Youth Project (HYP) members and their families did just that in December. The teens, tweens and parents volunteered their time at the Polar Express in Burlington, spreading Christmas cheer to young families.

It was a magical evening filled with hot cocoa, cookies, festive elves, talented local singers, a reading of Chris Van Allsburg's classic "The Polar Express," and the chance to meet Santa and Mrs. Claus. All proceeds from this event support the Vermont Children's Trust Foundation.

The Hinesburg Youth Project is a community service group for middle and high school students based out of the United Church of Hinesburg. If you'd like to learn more about HYP and the great work they do, visit the UCH website: [ucofh.org](http://ucofh.org).

### Shelburne Age Well February Luncheons

BY PEGGY COUTU

St. Catherine of Siena and Age Well are teaming up to offer two February luncheons on Feb. 11 and Feb. 18 for anyone 60 or older (regardless of town of residence) at the St. Catherine of Siena Parish Hall, 72 Church St. in Shelburne. The check-in time is 11:30 a.m. and the meal will be served at noon. There is a \$5 suggested donation.

The delicious menu for Feb. 11 is wheat spaghetti with meatballs, marinara and parmesan cheese, spinach, wheat roll, mandarin oranges in orange Jello, and milk.

Deadline to register for Feb. 11 is Feb. 5.

The delicious menu for Feb. 18 is Swedish meatballs with sauce, rotini noodles, sliced carrots, green beans, wheat dinner roll, pineapple tidbits, and milk.

The deadline to order for Feb. 18 is Feb. 12.

Contact: Molly BonGiorno, Nutrition Coordinator at 802-662-5283 or email [mbongiorno@agewellvt.org](mailto:mbongiorno@agewellvt.org)

Tickets are also available at the Age Well Office: 875 Roosevelt Highway, Ste. 210; Colchester, Vt. 05446

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

### Working in the Watershed: Wrapping Up the Water Quality Stewardship Field Season

BY KATE KELLY AND PORTIA BUTRYM, LCA PROGRAM MANAGER AND LCA NON-NATIVE INVASIVE PLANT COORDINATOR

For yet another summer, volunteers of all ages hopped in kayaks and canoes to remove European frogbit, a non-native invasive plant species that spreads rapidly in bays and wetlands if given the opportunity. In 2007, Lewis Creek Association (LCA) initiated the "Water Quality Stewardship Program" and has since worked annually to manage the invasive plants and water quality of the rivers and streams that drain directly into Lake Champlain. The volunteer-driven frogbit project is the result of cooperation between many individuals and groups, including LCA, the towns of Charlotte, Shelburn and

Hinesburg, Shelburne Bay Boat Club, and a supportive Charlotte property owner.

European frogbit, a common aquarium plant, spread to the United States via the St. Lawrence River after it was introduced to arboretum ponds in Ottawa in 1932. It is now considered an aquatic invasive species (AIS) because it dominates native species in the competition for sunlight, nutrients, and surface area. LCA's volunteer efforts have proven highly successful since friends of LCA discovered frogbit covering 50 percent of Town Farm Bay in 2007. Annual paddling and weeding trips, with a side of bird- and turtle-watching, have reduced the coverage of frogbit to just under 4 percent cover. In contrast, when frogbit was discovered in the wetlands of the LaPlatte Natural Area, it had a much lower percentage cover; this gave LCA's program and volunteers the opportunity for "early detection, rapid response." Though the invasive plant will never be eradicated in either location, maintaining this low population allows native plants and animals to thrive.

This summer, volunteers spent 159 hours removing 720 pounds of frogbit from Town Farm Bay, more than what was harvested in 2023. Volunteers spent 63 hours harvesting 450 pounds of Frogbit, more than seven times the amount from last year, in the LaPlatte River wetlands. Multiple precipitation events throughout the month of July impacted the water level of

Lake Champlain, greatly increasing the amount harvested by volunteers. Frogbit became more visible to volunteers at both Town Farm Bay and the LaPlatte River wetlands because the higher water levels submerged the native lily pads (*Nymphaea odorata*), which cover much of the water surface area. High water levels also allowed volunteers at the LaPlatte River wetlands to paddle into a previously inaccessible area to boaters; this area produced the majority of frogbit harvested at this location, likely because volunteers were unable to harvest from this area during most previous summers.

LCA's Water Quality Stewardship Program also includes the annual monitoring of water quality in the LaPlatte River, Patrick Brook, McCabe's Brook, Thorp Brook, Kimball Brook, and Lewis Creek and its tributaries, by volunteers for South Chittenden River Watch. Volunteers collect water samples which are then analyzed by the Vermont Agricultural and Environmental Laboratory, and interpreted by LCA technical consultants. The sampling season has recently wrapped up, and included sampling for nutrients (phosphorus, nitrogen) and chloride, in order to understand sources of nutrient loading to Lake Champlain while informing water quality improvement project plans. 2024 results will be available on LCA's website ([lewiscreek.org](http://lewiscreek.org)) in the spring of 2025; to see the last three years' re-

*continued on page 16*



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HELPING NEIGHBORS CONNECT



Organizations

continued from page 15

sults, visit [bit.ly/LCA-WaterQuality](http://bit.ly/LCA-WaterQuality). Check out more information on water quality and what you can do to improve it on LCA's YouTube channel at [bit.ly/LCA-youtube](http://bit.ly/LCA-youtube).

This water quality stewardship program is important for maintaining productive, functioning, and scenic waters, and also allows residents of Charlotte, Shelburne, and Hinesburg to become advocates for water quality. Volunteers in each town help share this information with neighbors and friends, helping improve water quality in the future. This program being funded through your town budget is crucial, since it allows the whole community to take ownership of local water quality and natural resources that are extremely important to protect. This will result in healthier ecosystems that all citizens can enjoy. If you are in-



The beautiful scene from Town Farm Bay (with a basket full of frogbit). Photo credit: Portia Butrym



Volunteers remove European frogbit plants and load them into boats. Photo credit: Portia Butrym

terested in assisting with water quality monitoring or invasive plant removal in 2025, please reach out to Kate Kelly, LCA Program Manager, at [kate@lewis-creek.org](mailto:kate@lewis-creek.org) or 488-5203.



Sly Moves for Gas Safety this Winter

Protect Meters and Vents from Ice and Snow

Don't push or pile deep snow around meters and ensure whoever removes snow from your property knows meter and appliance vent locations. Use extreme caution when clearing snow and large icicles near meters and vents. If your meter gets encased in thick ice, please call us.

More safety information here:



Have a happy and safe holiday season!



How to Detect a Gas Leak



Natural gas is normally odorless. VGS adds an odorant similar to the smell of rotten eggs, so it can be easily recognized.



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.



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

If you suspect a leak:

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



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rotaryclubofcsh.org  
charlotteshelburnerotary@gmail.com  
or 802-349-0707.

Ad and news deadline is February 13 for the next issue. Publication date is February 27. Go to [hinesburgrecord.org](http://hinesburgrecord.org) or call 802-999-2410 for more information.

OUTDOORS

New Town Forest Established in Monkton

450 acres secured for wildlife habitat, recreation, and forest health after successful campaign to raise over \$1.1 million

RASNA DHILLON, VERMONT LAND TRUST

On Nov. 22, the Town of Monkton bought 450 acres to establish their new town forest and conserved the land with the Vermont Land Trust (VLT), the two entities announced recently.

The town purchased the land from the A. Johnson Company, a local forestry and timber management company that operated a sawmill in neighboring Bristol for almost a century.

Stephen Pilcher, selectboard chair for Monkton, said: "As Monkton continues to grow, it is more important than ever to protect our forests, preserve our wetlands, and create and maintain recreational opportunities. The Monkton Town Forest will accomplish these goals and be a bridge between Monkton's past and future."

The new town forest is located at the southern end of Monkton, along the Bristol town line. It abuts 1,000 acres of conserved forest at Bristol's Watershed Center and is part of a nearly 2,500-acre block of contiguous forestland and wildlife habitat that has been identified as high priority interior forest at a state level. It joins hundreds of other forests owned by Vermont

municipalities, including over 12,000 acres of forestland conserved with VLT.

The property has significant opportunities for outdoor recreation, including areas with gentle terrain near access points, ponds, extensive forestland and existing woods roads that were used informally in the past by the community.

Through a multi-year campaign, the town and VLT raised over \$1.1 million to buy and conserve the property and establish a management fund to help care for the land and improve public access for recreation and education.

"This has been a really impressive community-driven effort," said Bob Heiser, Project Director for VLT. "Local community members and volunteers were very intentional and generous in their search for land that could deliver the broad sweep of natural and community benefits they were seeking in a town forest. We're honored to help create this latest addition to Vermont's community spaces."

The new community resource is the result of over ten years of planning, effort and collaboration. Since 2014, the Monkton Town Plan has included a goal of exploring the creation of a town forest. In 2019, the Monkton selectboard formed a Town Forest Committee to explore the possibility. The committee researched town forests, sought community input, and considered potential parcels in town.

In early 2022, the committee approached the A. Johnson Co. about buying this parcel. The A. Johnson Co. worked in close partnership with the town and VLT over the ensuing years to make the purchase happen.

The effort was funded by grants from the Vermont Housing & Conservation Board (VHCB), the USDA Forest Service Community Forest and Open Space Program, existing town funds (American Rescue Plan Act funds and the Agricultural and Natural Area Fund), North Country Federal Credit Union, and numerous generous community members and smaller grants.

Through the local fundraising effort, a Town Forest Management Fund was created to help with costs such as access improvements, parking, trails, signage, wildlife habitat enhancement, and to leverage competitive grant funding. The town has an Interim Management Plan in place for four to six months that will be replaced by the long-term management plan the community is actively working on.

CALENDAR

PLEASE GO TO [HINESBURGRECORD.ORG/CALENDAR](http://HINESBURGRECORD.ORG/CALENDAR) FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS

FRIDAY, JANUARY 31

8:30-9:10 a.m. Flex and Flow Yoga. Sweet Yoga, Mechanicsville Road.

10-11 a.m. Baby and Me. 69 Ballard's Corner Rd.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 1

10-11 a.m. Saturday Family Playtime. Carpenter-Carse Library, 69 Ballard's Corner Rd.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 2

9-10:30 a.m. Youth Group. Community Alliance Church, 190 Pond Rd.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 3

8:30-9:10 a.m. Flex and Flow Yoga. Sweet Yoga, Mechanicsville Road.

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

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

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

1-2:30 p.m. Senior Meet Up. Carpenter-Carse Library, Ballard's Corner Rd.

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

6-7:30 p.m. Youth Group. Community Alliance Church, 190 Pond Rd.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 4

9:30 a.m.-10:30 a.m. Spanish Group. Hinesburg United Church.

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

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

6-7:30 p.m. Mahjong. Hinesburg United Church.

7-9 p.m. Development Review Board Meeting. meet.google.com/eub-awgw-prt. Town Hall.

7-9 p.m. Dumb Luck Pub and Grill Hinesburg Trivia Every Tuesday! 104 Ballard's Corner Rd.

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

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 5

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

3:30pm-4:30 p.m. St. George Beginner Highland Dance. St. George School House, Saint George, VT 05495.

5:30-6:30 p.m. Ashtanga Vinyasa Fusion. Sweet Yoga, Mechanicsville Road.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 6

9 a.m.-10 a.m. Tai Chi for Seniors. St. Jude the Apostle Parish, 10759 Rte 116.

10-11:30 a.m. Friends of Families. Hinesburg United Church.

3-4:30 p.m. Dungeons and Dragons Club. Carpenter-Carse Library, 69 Ballard's Corner Rd.

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

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

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 7

8:30-9:10 a.m. Flex and Flow Yoga. Sweet Yoga, Mechanicsville Road.

10-11 a.m. Baby and Me. 69 Ballard's Corner Rd.

3:15-4:30 p.m. Monthly Fiber Arts Club.

Carpenter-Carse Library, 69 Ballard's Corner Rd.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8

9-11 a.m. Child Evangelism Fellowship Party Club. Lighthouse Baptist Church, 90 Mechanicsville Rd., Hinesburg.

10-11 a.m. Saturday Family Playtime. Carpenter-Carse Library, 69 Ballard's Corner Rd.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9

9-10:30 a.m. Youth Group. Community Alliance Church, 190 Pond Rd.

2-4 p.m. Ladies Hike Sunday. Shelburne Farms, 1611 Harbor Rd., Shelburne.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10

8:30-9:10 a.m. Flex and Flow Yoga. Sweet Yoga, Mechanicsville Road.

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

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

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

1-2:30 p.m. Senior Meet Up. Carpenter-Carse Library, Ballard's Corner Rd.

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

6-8 p.m. Women's Group. Community Alliance Church, 190 Pond Rd.

6-7:30 p.m. Youth Group. Community Alliance Church, 190 Pond Rd.

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

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11

9:30 a.m.-10:30 a.m. Spanish Group. Hinesburg United Church.

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

10-11:30 a.m. Senior Bingo & Meal to go. St. Jude the Apostle Parish, 10759 Rte 116.

6-7:30 p.m. Mahjong. Hinesburg United Church.

7-9 p.m. Dumb Luck Pub and Grill Hinesburg Trivia Every Tuesday! 104 Ballard's Corner Rd.

7-9 p.m. Hinesburg Conservation Commission Meeting. us06web.zoom.us/j/82438637932?pwd=MTZqRWdPMVZkZ3M0b3FWb3plY2dVdz09.

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

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

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 12

12:30-1:30 p.m. Mystery Book Group. Carpenter-Carse Library, 69 Ballard's Corner Rd.

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

3:30pm-4:30 p.m. St. George Beginner Highland Dance. St. George School House, Saint George, VT 05495.

5:30-6:30 p.m. Ashtanga Vinyasa Fusion. Sweet Yoga, Mechanicsville Road.

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

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 13

Ad & news deadline for The Hinesburg Record.

9 a.m.-10 a.m. Tai Chi for Seniors. St. Jude the Apostle Parish, 10759 Rte 116.

10-11:30 a.m. Friends of Families. Hinesburg United Church.

11 a.m.-12 p.m. Eclectic Book Group. Carpenter-Carse Library, 69 Ballard's Corner Rd.

11 a.m.-12 p.m. Not-Your-Traditional Book Group. Carpenter-Carse Library, 69 Ballard's Corner Rd.

3-4:30 p.m. Dungeons and Dragons Club. Carpenter-Carse Library, 69 Ballard's Corner Rd.

6:30-8:30 p.m. Lewis Creek Association Board Meeting. Carpenter-Carse Library, 69 Ballard's Corner Rd.

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

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

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 14

Valentine's Day.

8:30-9:10 a.m. Flex and Flow Yoga. Sweet Yoga, Mechanicsville Road.

10-11 a.m. Baby and Me. 69 Ballard's Corner Rd.

10:30 a.m.-12 p.m. Free Technology Support. Carpenter-Carse Library, 69 Ballard's Corner Rd.

5-8 p.m. Girl Scouts. Hinesburg United Church.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15

10-11 a.m. Saturday Family Playtime. Carpenter-Carse Library, 69 Ballard's Corner Rd.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 16

9-10:30 a.m. Youth Group. Community Alliance Church, 190 Pond Rd.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 17

Presidents' Day.

8:30-9:10 a.m. Flex and Flow Yoga. Sweet Yoga, Mechanicsville Road.

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

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

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

1-2:30 p.m. Senior Meet Up. Carpenter-Carse Library, Ballard's Corner Rd.

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

6-7:30 p.m. Youth Group. Community Alliance Church, 190 Pond Rd.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 18

9:30 a.m.-10:30 a.m. Spanish Group. Hinesburg United Church.

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

6-8 p.m. CVSD School Board Regular Meeting. CVU High School, 369 CVU Rd., Hinesburg.

6-7:30 p.m. Mahjong. Hinesburg United Church.

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

7-9 p.m. Dumb Luck Pub and Grill Hinesburg Trivia Every Tuesday! 104 Ballard's Corner Rd.

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

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19

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

3:30pm-4:30 p.m. St. George Beginner Highland Dance. St. George School House, Saint George, VT 05495.

5:30-6:30 p.m. Ashtanga Vinyasa Fusion. Sweet Yoga, Mechanicsville Road.

## PEOPLE

### Higher Education Honors

**Isaac Bergeron** of Hinesburg has been named to Husson University's (ME) President's List for the Spring 2024 semester of the 2023-2024 academic year. Bergeron is studying toward a degree in BS Sport Management. Full-time students who earn President's List achieve a 3.80 to 4.0 semester grade-point average.

**Ann Marie Dufault** of Hinesburg, a freshman majoring in psychology, was named a Presidential Scholar for the Fall 2024 semester at Clarkson University (NY). Presidential Scholars must achieve a minimum 3.80 grade-point average.

**Skylar Avery Francis** of Hinesburg, a sophomore majoring in biology, was named to the Dean's List for the Fall 2024 semester at Clarkson University (NY). Dean's List students must achieve a minimum 3.25 grade-point average.

**Thomas Popke** of Hinesburg has been named to Southern New Hampshire University's (SNHU) Fall 2024 President's List. The fall terms run from September to December. Full-time undergraduate students who have earned a minimum grade-point average of 3.700 and above for the reporting term are named to the President's List.

**Madeline Rugg** from Hinesburg has been named to the Fall 2024 Dean's List at Stonehill College (MA). To qualify for the Dean's List, students must have a semester grade point average of 3.50 or higher.

### Tim Trevithick Graduates from Snelling Center for Government's Vermont School Leadership Project

**Trevithick is a Co-Principal at the Hinesburg Community School**

FROM PRESS RELEASE

The Snelling Center for Government is pleased to announce that **Tim Trevithick** of Shelburne has graduated from the Vermont School Leadership Project. The Class of 2024 celebrated their achievements with a graduation luncheon on Nov. 8 at Lake Morey Resort in Fairlee.

Trevithick is currently the 5-8 principal at the Hinesburg Community School. As a participant in the Vermont School Leadership Project, Trevithick joined 15 other school leaders from around the state for a series of seven unique overnight sessions designed to foster meaningful relationships and encourage self-reflection. With session topics including complex systems thinking, understanding of self, values, personal leadership assessments, skills for listening, discussion, and collective inquiry, and development of a personal practice plan, the program challenges and supports participants to develop self-awareness and acquire knowledge and skills that result in strong, effective



From left to right are Val Gardner, Tim Trevithick, Jeff Evans, and Meagan Roy. Val, Jeff, and Meagan were the Co-Directors of VSLP. Photo by Johannes Otter.

leadership and thoughtful action.

With graduation as the culmination of the VSLP journey, this year's keynote address was delivered by Elaine Pinckney (VSLP 2001), former superintendent of the Champlain Valley School District. Pinckney read selected poems, as well as shared stories from her own time in the program. Her message to the cohort was to stay connected with one another, and to nurture the community that has formed over the several months.

As the 16th cohort of the Vermont School Leadership Project, the class of 2024 joins a professional network of over 1,100 Vermont Leadership

Network alumni, including more than 325 VSLP graduates who are leading their schools and districts with a collaborative, ethical, effective approach.

To learn more about the Vermont School Leadership Project and the Snelling Center's other professional development programs, please visit [snellingcenter.org](http://snellingcenter.org) or call 802-859-3090.

The Snelling Center for Government is a non-partisan, nonprofit organization committed to fostering responsible and ethical civic leadership, encouraging public service by private citizens, and promoting informed citizen participation in shaping public policy in Vermont.

Have an ad? email [ads@hinesburgrecord.org](mailto:ads@hinesburgrecord.org) or call 802-999-2410.

## ARTS & LEISURE

### Hinesburg Artist Series 27th Annual Concert at St. Jude

March 16 at 2 p.m. and 4:30 p.m.

BY RUFUS PATRICK

The HAS 27th annual concert will be on Sunday, March 16, 2025, at 2 and 4:30 p.m. at St. Jude in Hinesburg. Groups performing will be the South County Chorus, Hinesburg Artist Series Orchestra, and soloists. Featured guest soloist will be baritone David Ruggier.

The performance will include the Faure Requiem, selections from Messiah,

and other choral offerings. Please save the date and support our musicians. Further information regarding soloists, tickets, etc. will be in the Feb. 27 issue of *The Record* and at [hinesburgartistseries.org](http://hinesburgartistseries.org).

### Shelburne Museum News

FROM PRESS RELEASE

**Virtual Artmaking Series: Portrait Drawing for All**

Wednesdays, Feb. 5 and 19, and March 5 and 19, noon-1 p.m.

Develop and practice your portrait drawing skills in our series of four vir-

tual portrait drawing sessions. Every session will have a unique focus, building comfort and confidence in drawing portraits.

Each session will include a warm-up inspired by selected artwork from the museum's collection followed by an introduction to essential skills and concepts, drawing demonstrations, and practice time with the area of focus of the day.

Free with registration. Artists of all ages and skill levels welcome. Participants do not need to sign up for all sessions. Sessions will stand alone if you cannot attend all four.

Questions before the event? Contact [education@shelburnemuseum.org](mailto:education@shelburnemuseum.org).

### Camp Registration Opens

Get ready for an artistic journey where creativity knows no bounds. Summer

camp at Shelburne Museum offer children ages 4 to 15 a fantastically fun and hands-on camp experience. Our carefully crafted camp programs are a playground for budding artists, offering the perfect mix of inspiration and self-discovery.

Advance registration for museum members opened on Tuesday, Jan. 28, and closes 11 a.m., Friday, Jan. 31.

General registration opens at noon, Friday, Jan. 31.

Members, for advance registration have your current membership ID ready. If you need support finding your membership ID, or would like to purchase a membership, contact the museum Membership Office at 802-985-0923 or [members@shelburnemuseum.org](mailto:members@shelburnemuseum.org).

Please reach out to Sara Wolfson, School and Youth Programs Educator, at [education@shelburnemuseum.org](mailto:education@shelburnemuseum.org) or 802-985-0922 with any questions.

### Local Resident Jason Fitzsimmons wins National Martial Arts Award

BY KELLIE THOMAS

Master Kellie Thomas of TaeKwonDo KICKS is proud to announce that **Jason Fitzsimmons** has been awarded the Whistlekick Never Settle 2024 Flashlight Award.

Recipients are nominated by fellow martial artists and then voted on by the public.

The Flashlight Award goes to a person who make a difference in the arts – no matter rank. While quietly making an impact in their community, they demonstrate that actions speak louder than words in the most positive of ways.

A nomination for this award represents that the nominee's actions were noticed, were appreciated, and are worthy of recognition beyond a simple "Thank You." This is the person who needs to be nominated because they would never nominate themselves.

Jason began training at the Hinesburg KICKS school two and a half years ago, when he decided to join his son Wilder in class. Since then, he quickly grew into one of the leaders of the school. He brings joy to his classmates and works hard to make sure everyone is included. He puts in extra time and effort to teach students outside of regular classes with one of the school's patterns clubs where he helps students be better prepared for leveling up and by spearheading a D&D group that gives adult students an opportunity to get to know each other in a different setting. Jason is the spearhead of the TaeKwonDo K.I.C.K.S. "Extra Ki-Ups." This is a way to celebrate the achievements of students young and old because he believes that celebrating achievements outside of class is a great way to encourage community in our school. Jason achieved his black belt in December. Thank you, Jason, for all that you have done for the KICKS family and for being a good role model for martial artists.

Have news? email [news@hinesburgrecord.org](mailto:news@hinesburgrecord.org).

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## OBITUARIES

### Jeffrey Hinsdale Sr.

The family of Jeffrey Wright Hinsdale Sr. is saddened to report his passing on New Year's evening, 2025. Jeff was born on June 16, 1946, in Burlington, Vermont, to parents Robert and Elizabeth (Page) Hinsdale. He graduated from Hinesburg High School in 1964 and went on to graduate from Champlain College with a major in business. While attending college Jeff worked in the automotive department at Sears, continuing to work there for 20 plus years. Following that, he owned an excavating business for a short time, then sharpened his business skills by managing Clark Hinsdale Properties for about two years. From that experience, Jeff bought rental buildings in Bristol, Burlington, and Hinesburg. He had an eye for property and saw potential in buildings that needed care. He transformed several distressed properties back to their former glory and enjoyed the process of revitalizing communities. An abandoned basement bowling alley was transformed into a heated self-storage business. A fire damaged building was transformed into apartments and store fronts. He was proud to earn a Townscape award for his work on Main Street in Bristol.

He enjoyed meeting many people, solving problems at all hours of the day and night, and generally being a responsible landlord of JHinsdale Properties LLC. By fate or coincidence, he even rented to his future daughter-in-law and is responsible for Jeff Jr.'s introduction to Jen. She fondly states, that when making the choice to move there, it was because she thought Jeff Sr. was the kindest landlord she had met.

Approximately 20 years ago, Jeff was diagnosed with late-stage esophageal cancer. Through his faith, determination, great doctors and a little bit of luck, he was able to beat what seemed like the impossible. This experience ushered in a new stage of life where nothing was taken for granted. He traveled extensively, obtained his pilot's license, bought a sport airplane, bought



Jeffrey Hinsdale, Sr.

and traded many motorcycles, sports cars, boats, and anything that went fast. It was always exciting to see what new toy would be sitting in the garage emblazoned with the "Jeff's Toy Box" sign. Jeff and Nancy also spent several years wintering at their other home in Cape Coral, Florida.

Throughout the following years, Jeff continued to run his business while he dealt with health challenges with courage and continued perseverance, never complaining or worrying about what he could no longer do, but focused on what he could. His attitude and outlook were infectious and truly amazing. Jeff returned to his home in September, following an extended hospital stay and the following months were spent surrounded by friends and family. Jeff

passed peacefully in his home on the hill of over 50 years, with his wife by his side, fulfilling his final wish. Jeff was proud of his life and his family.

Jeff Sr. was preceded in death by his parents Bob and Elizabeth Hinsdale, his maternal and paternal grandparents, uncles and aunts and all eleven cousins. He was also preceded in death by his nephew Andrew Whitman. Jeff is survived by his wife of nearly 31 years, Joan Nancy (Brodie) Hinsdale; his first wife and the mother of his children, Marilyn Johnston Hinsdale; his daughter Elizabeth Brandt (Mark) of Divide, Colorado; his son Jeffrey Wright Hinsdale Jr. (Jennifer) of Huntington, Vermont; a step-grandson Brodie, as well as one sister, Ann Hinsdale Whitman (Bill) of Milford, Delaware. Jeff has one living nephew, Scott D. Whitman (Susan) of Sanford, Florida. In addition, he is survived by his cat Sammy and his two sister golden doodles, Sasha and Josie, that gave him so much joy in his last year. There are too many friends and neighbors to mention but we would like to thank his lifelong friend, Bill Piette, who Jeff adored. Also, Ken Fitzgerald, whom he thought of as his little brother and Nick Mullen, who helped out with the business frequently. We do not say goodbye, since Jeff is with us in our hearts and in spirit. According to Jeff's wishes, there will not be a funeral service. However, there will be graveside services in late spring with information to come at a later date. Gifford's Funeral Services, Richmond, Vermont, has final arrangements. In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to a charity of your choice.

**continued on page 20**

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## Obituaries

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### David Allen Tucker

Aug. 26, 1961 – Nov. 29, 2024



David Allen Tucker

David Allen Tucker, age 63, passed away on Nov. 29, 2024, at UVM Medical Center after a brief illness. David was born on Aug. 26, 1961, in Burlington, Vermont, to Torry “Cletus” and Mae (Vaughn) Tucker. David was one of 10 children the Tuckers raised in Hinesburg on the family farm.

David graduated from Champlain Valley Union High School and later met and married his wife, Beverly, in 1991. David is survived by his wife of 33 years, his stepchildren Dawn (daughter Alexis and son Taylor) and Nichole (daughter Adriana). Also, his brother Greg and wife Sue of Hinesburg, sister Diana and husband Steve of Maine, sister Judy and her husband James of Lincoln, sister Margaret “Peggy” and her husband Phil of Bristol, brother Dan of Hinesburg and brother George and his wife Louana of Hinesburg. He leaves behind several cousins, nieces, nephews and friends who loved him like family. He was predeceased by his father Cletus, mother Mæe, brother Paul, brother Gerald, sister June and niece April.

David worked for several years at both GW Savage and later at Iroquois Manufacturing with his older brother Greg and nephew Josh, whom he was very close to. Once David reached an age closer to retirement, he was self-employed and worked side jobs for Polli in Hinesburg. He was a talented handyman and took care of several properties with his lawn care and snow removal.

David will be greatly missed by all that knew him. His devotion to family was fierce and you could always count on him lending a hand when someone needed it. His hobbies included hunting, fishing, traveling and woodworking. He made numerous handmade Christmas presents from bird feeders to coat racks and anything in between.

There will be no services at this time.

## COMMENTARY



Bronzed Otters at Perkins Pier

### Wild is Where You Find It

BY ROGER DONEGAN

One still mid-February morning last year it took a minute to decipher what had transpired on an otherwise perfect blanket of freshly fallen snow. For sure, no one had slipped into a snowsuit and gone out and made a mess of angel wings. Nor were there dramatic signs of a struggle by a predator taking prey. It looked as if someone had doodled over half the yard in a free-hand cursive kind of way.

It was an otter. Or two. We see otter off Pond Brook Road at least once a year, sometimes more. Their road is the waterway between Lake Iroquois and the series of beaver ponds that lead to Lake Sunset. Light snow reveals surprising things animals do in the night. Often their paths cross without any hesitant steps, each critter simply pressing on, tuned to their own senses and mission.

Our yard has two levels and connecting grass paths. The width of the otters’ half-pipe body imprint looked like those fat tires on the trendy bikes, but there were no tread marks nor paw prints. I assumed there was more than one otter, each track left by an otter slaloming in the snow up and down the paths.

The box culvert on Pond Brook is a worthy location for one of those suggestive wildlife viewing signs. Throughout the year a driver will stop for a better look or to take a photo. In winter the ice cover constantly changes while a thick edge remains at a distance. On occasion there’d be a wet dark shape of a beaver up on the ice consuming a choice sprig of wood or an otter eating a fish.

This past November I had a surprise encounter with otter at Perkins Pier in Burlington – a still-life. I often take a walk on the Burlington bike path, preferring its flat ground and sanctuary from traffic. Typically, the pier is my turnaround. I noticed two new boulers were set in place. On close approach I was dumbfounded to discover a life size pair of bronze otters permanently mounted on the top of a red

granite boulder, the work of Montpelier sculptor Ryan Mays.

What an appropriate setting for this pair of bronze otters near their would-be real-world habitat! The pair of otters is cast preoccupied with each other, afloat and heads out of water. Their paws are splayed as if actively swirling around treading water together.

The pier has warm weather charm for people strolling in summer, for winged wildlife off-season, and for sunset watchers most of the year. When weather conditions obscure the Adirondack Mountains side of Lake Champlain and the winds kick up real waves, it can feel like the ocean coast of New England. The pier is flat, void of landscaping, and grassy green. As the season changes and sunlight lengthens, new grass grows bright green, especially when fringed with sugar snow.

### Flocks of migrating Canada geese like to put down to rest here and eat.

The geese simply keep their distance from people walking the perimeter by warily shuffling away towards the center.

One time a flock of Canada geese turned out to be brant, a smaller geese with different markings and calls. Instead of the familiar sound of the sentries on approach, the flock of brant murmured as one, like chickens, ambling off towards the center. The coloration of the two is similar – in a brant the black collar is longer and has a more subtle white necklace instead of the white cheek patch of a Canada. The brant is also smaller.

The brant is among Arctic breeders



Canada Geese on Pond Brook

that often use the Champlain Valley as a migration flyway; nonetheless it is unusual to see, according to “Bird Watching in Vermont” by Ted Morin and Brian Pfeiffer. A rare treat indeed.

### Green Burial in Vermont

BY BILL SCHUBART

Bob Stannard’s recent commentary about death and dying in VT Digger prompted this octogenarian friend to do some thinking.

My wife and I have discussed and made clear we want green burials when our times come. But although there are fourteen cemeteries in our home town, Hinesburg ([tinyurl.com/HinesburgCemeteries](http://tinyurl.com/HinesburgCemeteries)), none allow natural or green burials. The nearest green burial site is in Vermont Forest Cemetery in Roxbury some forty miles away. While Vermont has some 2000 cemeteries, only fifteen currently accommodate green burial.

At the recent memorial service of a neighbor and friend, her surviving spouse detailed the complexity of simply finding and using a green burial site for his recently departed wife.

### It’s worth noting that green burial has been the dominant form of interment for most of humankind’s time on earth.

The dead are simply laid to rest in a hole in the ground with no chemical embalming, liners or concrete vaults, using only biodegradable materials such as a linen shroud, pine coffin or nothing at all, and they’re buried at a shallower depth to hasten natural biodegradation.

What is the dominant form of interment today? Currently, some 60 percent of Americans choose cremation over embalming and burial. Embalming requires the use of toxic fluids such as formaldehyde, methanol, sodium borate, sodium nitrate, glycerin, coloring agents, and water. And burial often uses exotic wood or metal caskets and concrete vaults.

Cremation, however, typically releases between 160 and 190 kilograms of CO<sub>2</sub> into the air, equivalent to driving a car 470 miles and it uses some 28 gallons of natural gas or propane fuel to reach the required heat for cremation.

Our world is rife with many funerary customs.

When I was in India, I saw a great deal of cremation sites near the Ganges, but in their tradition, bodies were simply burned on wood piles and the remains were dumped into the river.

I also saw “sky burial,” where the corpse is left on an elevated wooden rack to be eaten by vultures until only the bones are left and these fall through the rack onto the ground

where they’re collected by relatives for veneration on small altars within the home. In Tibet, the body may simply be left on a high mountain charnel field to be consumed by vultures.

When hiking across Baffin Island with three friends in the ‘90s well north of the Arctic Circle, we attended a local burial in which a young Inuit boy who had just drowned in a whalebone kayak was simply laid on the ground and covered with stones to prevent wild animals from disturbing his body as permafrost that far north makes burial impractical.

On our honeymoon in China, my new wife and I saw the Terracotta Army of China’s first Emperor Qin Shi Huang dating from 210 BCE. The pits where the buried soldiers were found in 1974 contain some 8000 life-size terracotta soldiers, 130 chariots with 520 horses and 150 cavalry horses. Built by slaves, this terracotta army was intended to protect the Emperor in the afterlife.

Around 2600 BCE, Egyptian royalty

### Windy Ridge

continued from page 1

dential lot for a proposed day care.

The Development Review Board (DRB) reviewed a draft approval for the preliminary plat review on Jan. 7. DRB Coordinator Mitchel Cypes said the preliminary plat is the second of three approvals that are required for a subdivision approval. “This approval describes the improvements to the submitted documents and what additional information the applicant will need to provide at final plat review, which is the last step in subdivision review,” he said in an interview with *The Record*.

Proposed are a 15-lot, 74-residential unit subdivision, including one non-residential lot, between Riggs Road and CVU Road in the Village Northeast Zoning District surrounding the NRG property. Sketch plan approval was granted on Dec. 19, 2023; preliminary plat review began Nov. 19, 2024.

Besides final plat review and approval, conditional use and site plan approvals for the multi-family dwelling units and the proposed daycare business are required. Cypes said the applicant could apply for the conditional use and site plan approvals along with final plat subdivision review and receive all the required approvals at the same time. Being in a neighborhood designation area with inclusionary (affordable) housing, Act 250 approval is not required.

Amy Demetrowitz of Champlain Housing Trust said they have partnered with Vermont Gas Systems (VGS) and applied for a major grant to install the infrastructure for geothermal; solar panels would be incorporated on rooftops wherever possible.

There are three areas in the plan that meet the open space requirement regulation, Julia Ginorio of Engineering

began the seventy-day process of mummification to preserve bodies after death. This lasted well into the Roman Era. Embalming entailed removing all the organs and the brain to reduce moisture, covering the body with salts and then finally wrapping it with hundreds of yards of linen. Amulets, masks, and religious objects accompanied the dead before they were entombed. Mummified bodies were believed to be the home of the soul or spirit and only if the body was preserved could the spirit make the journey to the afterlife.

In 19th and 20th century America, death and burial was catapulted into popular view by Edgar Allen Poe who wrote in 1844 about his terror of being buried alive – “taphophobia.” His best-seller, “The Premature Burial,” ignited popular fear leading to the use of “safety coffins.” In the Evergreen Cemetery in New Haven, Vermont, the grave of Timothy Clark Smith has such a coffin with a pipe from the coffin to the lawn above to enable the buried person to

be seen and to ring a bell if he were indeed buried alive.

When I was young, our family doctor told us that some doctors he’d known kept an eight-inch hatpin in their black bags that they used to pierce the heart of one believed to be dead and, if not, to ensure that they were before burial.

What drives this obsession with human rituals of death? For some it is religious and derives from belief in an afterlife. For others, it’s inherited family or community tradition. For my wife and me, anything other than a natural burial is alien. I liken it to regenerative rather than industrial agriculture.

The idea of life ending, being laid to rest in the ground and becoming an enriching element of the earth that then nurtures future generations of flora, fauna, and humans appeals to us much more than the idea of being “preserved” or turned into “cremains” in an expensive, polluting process that feels alien.

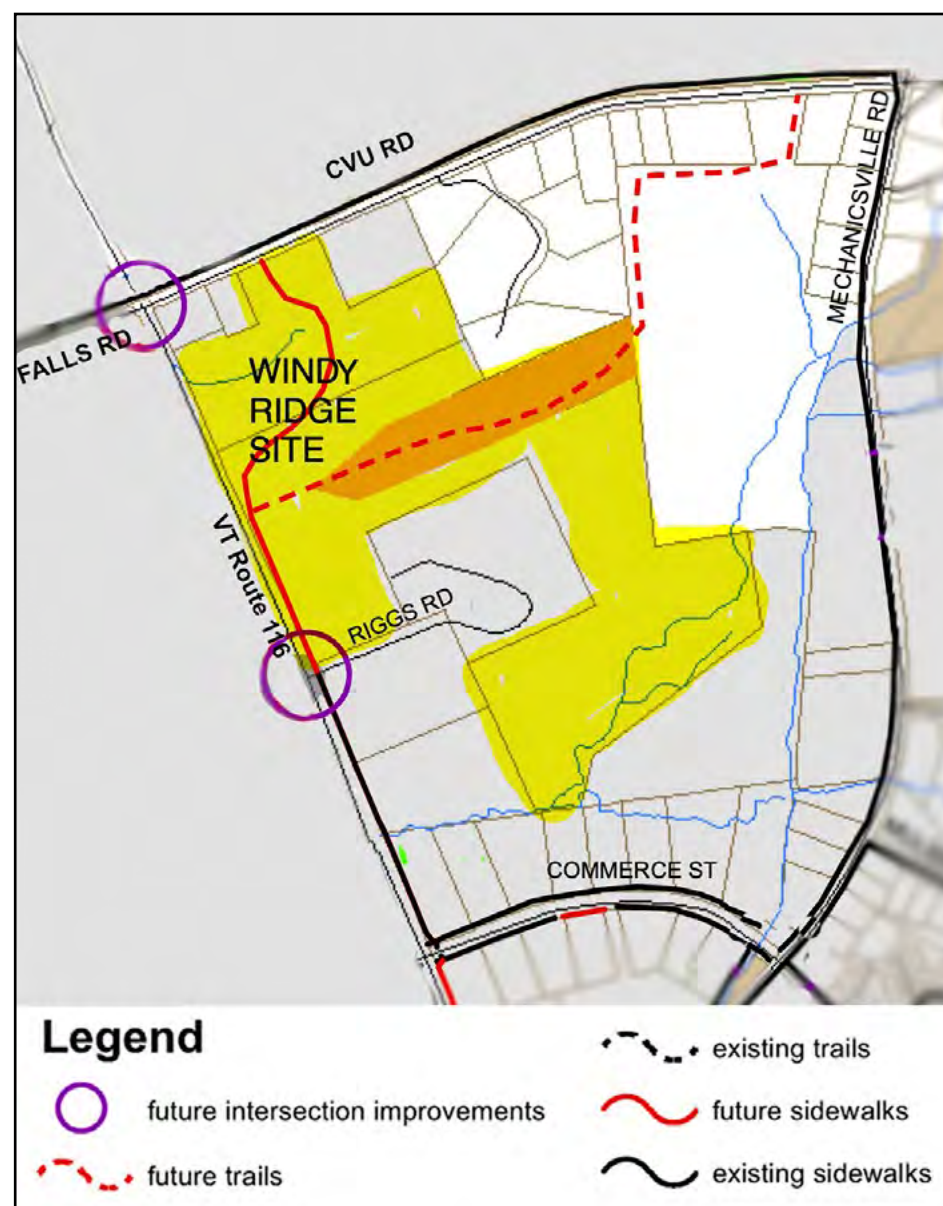
Ventures said: a playground between the two multi-family units near South Meadow; and a terraced community garden.

### Four distinct sections are outlined for the project:

- The first section of the project

would be adjacent to Riggs Road (currently being called Riggs Meadow), made up of 36 proposed rental units and eight home ownership units (for a community total of 44).

- The second section would be the



Map of Windy Ridge Development

With the average funeral costing \$8,000 for burial and \$7,000 for cremation in 2023 and some three million people dying in the U.S. in that year, one can secure a plot in a green burial cemetery for as little as \$1,000. Surviving family can dig the shallow gravesite, lay the body to rest, and refill the grave, leaving the surface as it was found in nature or possibly placing a small flat stone over the grave. So that’s \$3 billion vs. \$22.5 billion, a net savings of \$19.5 billion that could be used to reduce hunger or homelessness.

Let us hope that our Vermont and national communities expand options for green burial for the sake of the earth. One can learn more at the Green Burial Council.

When I was young, our euphemism for death and dying was “pushing up daisies.”

My goal when I die will be just that, to “push up daisies.”

commercial lot, proposed to be a childcare center to serve up to 100 children, located adjacent to CVU Road and access by a CVU connector road.

- The third section would be the eight private lots along the CVU connector road, that could be either market rate or affordable homes (dependent upon which developers build the homes) and either single-unit dwellings or duplexes.
- The fourth section would be another community, adjacent to Route 116, with 22 affordable townhomes proposed, and located at the end of the CVU connector road.

In the Dec. 17 hearing, Cypes said the Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTrans) confirmed a 90-foot radius traffic circle would be appropriate for Route 116 at the Riggs Road intersection to accommodate traffic. The traffic circle is on the Hinesburg Official Map as a future improvement. “New developments can not restrict future designated improvements that are on the Hinesburg Official Map, like the traffic circle, from being built,” he said. “In other words, no buildings or critical unmovable infrastructure can be built that would prohibit the construction of the traffic circle in the future.”

This traffic circle would require an additional 10-foot, front-yard setback, and a 100-foot radius would be required. The proposed buildings in the Windy Ridge development would not be impacted but some existing infrastructure would need to be relocated, such as the outlet for stormwater and some of the existing sidewalk would need to be pushed back. Its timeline is up to VTrans.

Please direct further information, comments, and questions regarding this story to Lynn Monty at [Vermontsongbird@gmail.com](mailto:Vermontsongbird@gmail.com).

# RELIGION

## Community Alliance Church

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

**Location and Mailing Address:**

190 Pond Road, Hinesburg (overlooking CVUHS soccer fields)

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

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

**Weekday Life Groups and Bible Studies:** Various times, days, and locations throughout the week.

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

## Lighthouse Baptist Church

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

**Location:** Hinesburg Village Center, 90 Mechanicsville Road

**Mailing Address:** P.O. Box 288

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

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

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

## Saint Jude the Apostle Catholic Church

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

**Location:** 10759 Route 116, Hinesburg

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

**Pastor's Mailing Address:**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Buildings and Grounds**

**Supervisor:** Contact parish office.

**Weekend Masses:**

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

**Weekday Masses:**

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

**Sacrament of Baptism:** Call the Pastor for appointment

**Sacrament of Reconciliation:** Tuesday following the 5:15 p.m. Mass at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church; Saturday at 4 p.m. and Friday following the 8 a.m. Mass at St. Jude Church and by appointment.

**Sacrament of Marriage:** Contact the Pastor at least six months in advance

**Communion at Home:** Call Parish Office, 802-482-2290

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

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

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

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

**Food Shelf Weekend:** Every first Saturday and Sunday of the month. Parishioners are asked to make an extra effort to bring non-perishable canned and dried food in weekly for the Hinesburg Food Shelf. Food Collection baskets are in the entry for your convenience.

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

## United Church of Hinesburg

**An Open, Welcoming, Affirming and Reconciling Church**

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

**Location:** 10580 Route 116

**Mailing Address:** P.O. Box 39

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

appointment.

**Sunday Worship Service:** 10 a.m.

**Senior Meals:** Second Friday of the month; cost \$7. Contact Ellie Lawyer 802-398-5320.

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

## Williston Federated Church

United Church of Christ and United Methodist Church

**An Open and Affirming Reconciling Congregation**

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

**Location and Mailing Address:**

44 North Williston Road, Williston VT 05495

**Activities:** Junior and Senior High Youth Groups; Men's Bible Study; Women's Book Group; Junior, Senior and Contemporary Music Choirs; Friendship Suppers; opportunities for mission and outreach in the community, country, and world.

**Service:** Sundays, 9:30 a.m., Nursery/Child care provided; Sunday School during the service for pre-K through high school; Coffee/Fellowship after service in Fellowship Hall.

## Trinity Episcopal Church

**Rector:** Rev. Dr. Fred Moser

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

**Location and Mailing Address:**

5171 Shelburne Rd., Shelburne, VT 05482

**Worship service and Sunday School:**

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

## All Souls Interfaith Gathering

**Pastor:** Rev. Don Chatfield

**802-985-3819 • allsoulsinterfaith.org**  
**dchatfield@allsoulsinterfaith.org**

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

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

**Services:**

**Sunday 9 a.m.:** Morning Meditation

**Sunday 5 p.m.:** Music & Spirit Service

► **Story of a Storyteller**

*continued from page 24*



Wendi takes photos while in country that become reference for creating stories or other communication efforts. This is her photo of a boda boda (motorcycle) wash in Uganda.

On a personal level, Wendi says, "PMC has helped me as a human being. I am so much more aware of the connection of the environment and resources and human rights. As a program manager I've been fortunate to visit the places where our local teams are doing incredible work. ... Because of the nature of our work, most of the countries we work in are developing nations. ... It can be quite a feat to complete a project.

"I consider myself a people person. I love learning about the people and the culture where we work. People are people. They wish for the same thing as we do. They want their children to thrive. They want their families to be healthy." Wendi has other passions. "My first

love is theater. I co-founded a theatre company, Theatre Kavanah (theater of intention), that was active for about five years. We're on hiatus now, but it was a great joy to focus on material that reflected the wide and complicated Jewish experience. I took learnings from my work at PMC and applied it to

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► **CVU Grad Wins**

*continued from page 1*



Ms. Heather Anne Lee

(**writersofthefuture.com**) in 1983 to provide a means for aspiring writers of speculative fiction to get that much-needed break. Due to the success of the Writers of the Future Contest, the companion Illustrators of the Future Contest was inaugurated five years later.

To see some of Heather's work, go to **heatherannelee.artstation.com**.



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Theatre Kavanah by not just staging a play but creating several adjacent programs to deepen the experience of the play. And when things align, I look forward to performing or, more recently, directing still."

Many of Wendi's friends are musicians. Wendi's husband, Brian, plays banjo and guitar, sometimes at the SongFarmers program at Carpenter-Carse Library.

Wendi and Brian feel fortunate to have Carpenter-Carse Library, their doctors, their dentist and Dumb Luck Café all within walking distance. They also appreciate Bissonette Recreation Fields and Geprags Park; it was a nice place to walk a dog named Bert.

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BACK STORIES

# BACK STORIES

of Hinesburg

## The Story of a Storyteller

*Love, life, work, a dog and the power of stories*

BY KEVIN LEWIS

When your work and your life are equally fulfilling, it can be good. Add love and it can start to get awesome. Insert stories that can change the world and you are unbeatable. Having a great dog helps a whole lot, too.

Such is the tale of Hinesburg resident Wendi Stein – her work, her family, her communities, and, yes, her dog.

Some Hinesburg residents may know Wendi from her walking a black Lab, Bert, either at Geprags or Bissonette Field. He was a huge part of the Stein family. Bert woofed into their lives in 2010. Sadly, he passed three years ago.

How did Wendi and Bert come to love Hinesburg? For Wendi it was, in her words, “Love. Isn’t it nearly always love?” She met her husband, Brian, in Vermont. They lived together in Burlington for some time, tied the knot in 1991, started a family, and made a great community of friends. In 2005 they moved to Hinesburg where they have been ever since.

Wendi works for Population Media Center headquartered in South Burlington and dedicated to using media as a tool for social change. Founded in 1998 by Bill Ryerson of Shelburne, PMC focuses primarily on global population issues, reproductive health and gender equity through storytelling and entertainment.

**PMC and Wendi believe in the impact of stories.**

“The real-life stories of women and girls who avoid child marriage or gender-based violence are very powerful,” she says. “I was observing a group of listeners sharing what they learned from the radionovela “Toma Mi Mano” (“Take My Hand”). One woman mentioned that she was motivated to replicate what was modeled in the drama. She organized her community to distribute whistles to women and girls. (She said that) ‘one



Left to right: UNICEF’s Social & Behavior Change Manager, Rachana Sharma, Wendi Stein, and PMC’s Country Director for Ethiopia Dr. Hailegnaw Eshete



Observing a live recording of the radionovela Toma Mi Mano (Take My Hand) from the booth with the production team, Guatemala

time some men were going to kidnap a little girl of my neighborhood. She had a whistle that her parents gave her in case of emergency, and when that happened to her, she blew it and immediately started screaming like crazy, so she wasn’t taken by the thugs...The whistles helped a lot.”

**A story, within a story, within a story showing that stories really can change the world.**

*continued on page 24*



Bert on a walk, behind the health center heading south toward the town center

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

**Make a Difference**  
Do you need volunteers for a Hinesburg event or non-profit organization? Send the information to [news@hinesburgrecord.org](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://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](mailto: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](mailto:news@hinesburgrecord.org).

**Rotary Charlotte Shelburne Hinesburg**

**JOIN THE MAGIC!**

Do Halloween parades, pickleball tournaments, and dragonboat races, all the while raising money for charitable causes.

Join a fun group of volunteers every Wednesday for breakfast and learn how.

**Full breakfast is free for first-time attendees!**

[rotaryclubofcsh.org](http://rotaryclubofcsh.org)  
charlotteshelburnerotary@gmail.com  
or 802-349-0707.

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