The Times Ink!
OF RICHMOND & HUNTINGTON

The Newspaper of Richmond & Huntington
Volume 32 **November 2015 Issue** Number 9

Community Mourns Tom Levesque

Chief Tom Levesque in 2015 July 4 parade. Photo: Ellie Lawyer

Left, Tom Levesque and Dennis Gile in 1932 truck, recent Richmond Fourth of July parade. Courtesy photo. Right, last parade. A tribute to Tom Levesque by the emergency volunteers of the Richmond Fire Department and Richmond Rescue. Photo: Richmond, Vt Facebook.

Richmond Fire Chief Tom Levesque is remembered with respect and sadness as the community of Richmond and emergency volunteers throughout the State of Vermont learned of his sudden passing on October 13, 2015. A calm, quiet man whose Richmond roots were strong and loyal, he was a familiar presence around the town. Levesque joined the Richmond Volunteer Fire Department in 1968 and served as Chief for the last 22 years. Assistant Chief Dennis Gile, who also became a Richmond Firefighter in 1968, will serve as Interim Chief. He spoke to Levesque's leadership and the large boots that Levesque has left to be filled. Said Gile, "It's a huge loss. We were great friends."

Barn Restoration Cultivates Zoning Dispute

by Greg Elias

The controversy over plans to rebuild a century-old Richmond barn that critics warned could create a loophole for future developments concluded quietly with the Selectboard opting out of the legal battle.

Former resident Ann Cousins originally appealed in Vermont Environmental Court, aiming to overturn a permit issued by the town's Development Review Board to residents Robert and Joy Reap. But the court ruled Cousins did not have legal standing because she moved to Williston before the case was heard.

The Selectboard, which appoints DRB members, could have itself appealed. But following a closed-door discussion on September 21, the Selectboard decided not to enter the fray.

So ended a months-long tussle over a Richmond land-use rule regarding adaptive uses that waives some zoning restrictions for property owners who renovate structures according to federal historic preservation standards. The Reaps intend to use the rebuilt barn for a restaurant and offices.

Opponents argued that the project did not follow federal standards, and warned the decision creates a loophole that other developers can exploit. Supporters said the plan was a carefully crafted renovation and asserted that those standards are guidelines, not mandates.

"We spent a considerable amount of time, energy and effort designing a project that will result in a beautifully rebuilt and renovated barn that will house local businesses and which will be compatible with the character of the neighborhood," wrote Joy Reap in an email, adding that the plan complied with town land-use rules and generally followed historic renovation guidelines.

Cousins, who lived about one mile away from the Reaps on Valleyview Road in Richmond before moving in July, said the project failed to follow those guidelines or town's land-use ordinance.

"Simply stated, the DRB did not review the Reaps' project according to their own bylaws and rules," she said in an email. "They approved a plan for some nice folks, our neighbors, even though the plan didn't comply with the rules."

At issue was the renovation of a barn built in 1910 but now dilapidated beyond repair. It is located on the Reaps' property at 830 West Main Street.

The plan approved by the DRB would allow the Reaps to dismantle the barn and move it 75 feet closer to the road.

Minutes from the DRB's May 13 session outline the details. The Reaps will reuse the original barns exterior posts and beams, and the old floor will be repurposed for an outside walkway.

New windows will be installed in the original openings and more windows will be added. The original slate roof will be replaced with a standing seam roof. The reconstructed barn will contain about 12,000 square feet of space.

Relaxed rule or loophole? Joy Reap confirmed that she and her husband want to house a restaurant and office space in the new barn. Moving the structure will allow parking to be hidden behind it, which neighbors requested.

The Reaps' barn is in Richmond's gateway zoning district, which ordinarily does not permit restaurants. But because of the historic renovation, an exemption was granted.

But Cousins said that to earn that exemption, town rules require the project to follow restoration standards established the U.S. Secretary of Interior.

Cousins explained that the plan failed to meet the standards because of the extensive changes from the original structure, such as the new roof, additional windows, altered siding and removal of the silo. "There is the practicality that this project is a rehabilitation and not a restoration," she said, "and there is a point at which it's no longer a historic barn."

When plans were presented in May, Joy Reap asserted that the regulations are guidelines and have been "loosely" applied to other historic renovations in Richmond, such as the Monitor Barn, a video recording of the DRB session shows.

The DRB ultimately agreed that the standards were guidelines, not written-in-stone mandates, and voted to approve the project as proposed with a couple of suggested modifications.

The issue prompted a debate on Front Porch Forum, a local online bulletin board. Opinions were evenly divided between those who agreed with the DRB approval and those who thought the Reaps, who operate a construction company, should be permitted to do what they want with their property.

"The Reaps are good people (who) do amazing construction work and have classy taste," wrote one poster. "Let them do what they do as professionals."

Wrote another poster: "Sounds like what I said before, developers keep up the pressure until the regulatory system folds to their actual intent."

Selectboard Steps In The DRB's approval, however, was far from the final word on the project. Cousins urged the DRB to reopen the hearing, but it rejected that idea.

David Sunshine, chairman of the DRB and a Richmond attorney, said in an interview that nothing in town ordinance permits revisiting a previously approved project. But he acknowledged that there is also no rule that forbids it.

Cousins, who has worked in the historic preservation field since 1991, said she asked the DRB to reconsider partly because other people who supported her view wanted them to be heard. Those who do not testify at a DRB hearing cannot later be considered "interested parties" and appeal the decision to Environmental Court.

The refusal to reopen the hearing short-circuited the chance for an appeal, Cousins said. "In retrospect, since everyone knew at that point that I was planning to move later that summer, it was a critical inaction on the part of the DRB."

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The Times Ink!
OF RICHMOND & HUNTINGTON

PO Box 532 • Richmond, Vermont 05477
news@timesinkvt org

The Times Ink! is published monthly by The Richmond Times, Inc , a non-profit educational corporation. It is wholly supported by paid advertising and subscriptions. It is mailed free to all 2995 post office boxes and households of Richmond & Huntington, and the Bolton Access Road.

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Next Issue/Deadline: November 3
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HUNTINGTON RICHMOND

Letters

Conant Corn 2015

Vitality was restored when the Prophet told of the Allure of a new Conant corn season over a Latte. It was the Essence of Bodacious for them to offer so many new varieties. Hope you had your Honey Select that Incredible Montauk experience. The late summer weather Inferno certainly was Serendipity to corn lovers who wanted the season to last forever and for Jackie's Maine friend. In the end, the driveway again became Mattapoisett when the last ear was gone.

Thanks, Conants, for another Primus year.

—*Robert Low*, Richmond Conant Corn Lover.

Senate Update

Call me old-fashioned but I still believe Vermonters are entitled to private lives. That's why I'm increasingly concerned with the deterioration of meaningful privacy in this technological age.

Privacy used to be a concern primarily for celebrities. Now everyday Americans can find little refuge from the private companies and government agencies who keep track of our every move and transaction. Companies like Google inspect our every keyboard stroke while we're on-line; telecom providers like AT&T give our e-mails and texts to the National Security Agency; and local law enforcement use cruiser-mounted cameras to track our movement on the roadways.

Technological innovation has moved too quickly for the public to preserve privacy on terms we choose. Yes, public safety and efficient commerce require some sacrifices, but the people should set the terms of those trade-offs.

In January, a Republican colleague and I introduced S.18, An Act Relating to Privacy Protection. While not comprehensive, the bill addresses four privacy-related topics – the use of license plate-reading cameras by police departments, the use of commercial and government drones, inappropriate access or disclosure of a person's medical records, and the release of private commercial information to government agencies.

In October, the Senate Judiciary Committee will be convening four meetings to explore these and other privacy issues further. The meetings will be on October 13th, 14th, 21st, and 22nd with a public hearing the evening of the 21st. All Vermonters are welcome to attend.

If you are unable to attend but wish to express your opinion on privacy issues, please e-mail me directly at timashe@burlingtontelecom.net.

Ihope you are enjoying the beginning of autumn, and free to contact me with questions or comments on this or any other state issue.

—*State Senator Tim Ashe*
Chittenden County (except Colchester and Huntington)

Our Community Cares Camp Annual Meeting

Our Community Cares Camp (OCCC) will hold its annual meeting on Wednesday, October 28, from 7 pm to 9 pm at Camels Hump Middle School. The public is invited and encouraged to come and learn more about how this free camp can be offered to children from Chittenden East communities.

The meeting will include financial reports, plans for the future, and discussion of camp management and benefits realized to children and the community.

Our Community Cares Camp will be celebrating its eight year of providing enriching summer activities and nutritious food to children from the five towns of Chittenden East in July 2016. The camp is made possible through the generosity of local donors and charitable foundations.

Everyone is invited to attend this board of directors meeting. Time will be available for public comment. For more information, please contact OCCC at 434-6006 or occc@gmavt.net prior to the meeting. To learn more about OCCC, visit the OCCC website at www.ourcommunitycarescamp.org. Thank you for your support. Our community really does care about its children and their future.

—*Marie Thomas*, Richmond

Weigh in on Public Access

MMCTV would like to invite all of its friends and supporters to a statewide Vermont Public Service Board (PSB) hearing on October 21 at 7 pm at Vermont Interactive Technologies (VIT) in Williston (Blair Park, 451 Lawrence Place).

Your input - whether as a viewer, producer or fan of public access - is vital as the PSB reviews Comcast's Certificate of Public Good renewal. You won't have another chance for 11 years, so let the PSB know your thoughts on your cable service and Vermont PEG Access stations like MMCTV.

If you can't make it in person, please submit written comments via post or email to both of the following:

Vermont Dept. of Public Service, Christine Peterson, CAPI Division, RE: Docket#8301, 112 State Street, Montpelier, VT 05602 (email: christine.peterson@vermont.gov)

Vermont Access Network, c/o Elizabeth Malone, RE: Docket #8301, PO Box 468, St. Albans, VT 05478 (email: director@nwaccess.tv)

—*Angelike Conti*, MMCTV

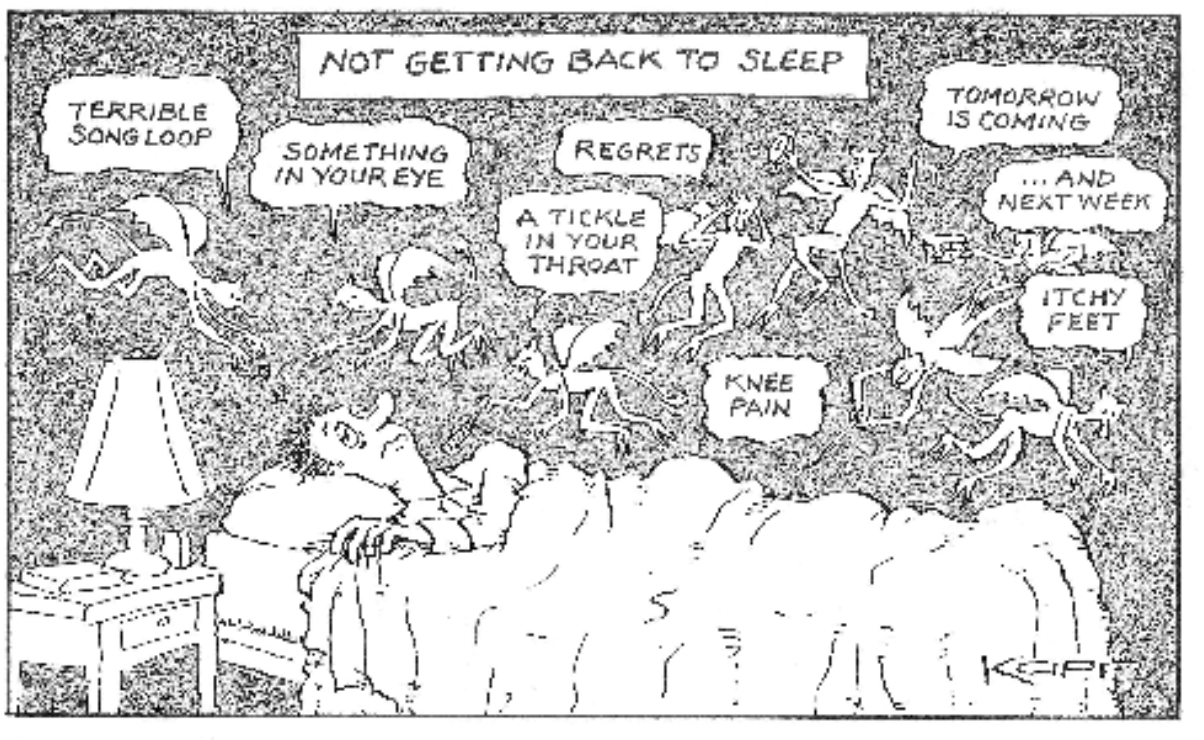
Richmond Foot Clinics Scheduled

The Richmond Foot Clinics for Seniors are back Mark your calendar for:

November 24	January 5, 2016
February 16	March 29
May 10	June 21

Clinics are held at the Richmond Rescue Building. Appointments can be made for 9 am, 9:30 am, or 10 am. Call for an appointment: Sally Singer (434-3480 or Catherine Coggio 434-3572.

Bring a towel and enter through the back door of the building. The clinic is sponsored by Fletcher Allen Health Care. More information can be obtained at singersallydan@yahoo com.



St. Albans Raid: RHS Potluck and Fall Program

The Richmond Historical Society will host its annual potluck supper and fall program on Saturday, November 7, in the Richmond Congregational Church. The potluck supper will take place in the church fellowship hall beginning at 6 pm. Following supper, Vermont author Ted Tedford will give a slide show presentation about the 1864 Confederate raid on St. Albans, the subject of his recent book Incident at St. Albans.

Bring a main dish to share and join the Richmond Historical Society for an evening of fellowship and fun. $2 per person will be charged at the door to cover the cost of salad, beverage and dessert. Admission is free for those wishing to attend just the program. The program will begin at approximately 7:15 pm in the church sanctuary.

For more information or to RSVP for the supper, contact Martha Turner at rhs@oldroundchurch.com or 434-6453.

Alzheimer's Memoir Author to Speak at Brownell Library

Author and caregiver Rundy Purdy will be appearing at the Brownell Library on Monday, October 26 at 7 pm to share his experience with Alzheimer's caregiving and his memoir The Sea is Wide. When Rundy Purdy was twenty-four he began accompanying his grandfather on a journey through confused days, long nights, and inevitable loss. He tells an adventure of bedtime stories, bathroom struggles, and a shared love that stretches across the wide sea of Alzheimer's.

Rundy, the author of two novels, spent the last eight years providing daily elder care to two of his grandparents. His three years of Alzheimer's caregiving in that time made a deep impact on him, and created the desire to help others through through the difficult, but rewarding, experience of caregiving. With compassion, hope, and a strong doze of gritty realism, The Sea is Wide: A Memoir of Caregiving brings the light of hope to voyage of a grandfather into Alzheimer's, and the story of grandson who went with him.

While caregiving, Purdy wrote a blog chronicling his experience which formed the basis for his book. During that time his writing was profiled on The New York Times blog The New Old Age, where his account of caregiving and Alzheimer's was described as "touching as Tuesdays With Morrie, as tender as John Bayley's memoir of his wife, Iris Murdoch, and in many ways truer and more tough-minded than either."

After reading the book Louise O'Keefe, PhD, CRNP said, "It is a must-read for those taking care of loved ones suffering from Alzheimer's and for those in the medical and nursing profession. I will definitely recommend this book to my patients and nursing students."

All are welcome for an evening of education and encouragement. Books will be available for purchase and author signing. For more information, contact the Brownell Library at 878-6955.

Huntington Harvest Supper on October 24

As the leaves fall off the trees and the night frosts move the valley into winter, the Huntington volunteers can be depended on to provide a tasty and expeditous meal at the end of October. The annual potluck supper is now in its fifth decade. Long-time residents eagerly look forward to filling their plates and catching up with neighbors before the cold moves many indoors and others travel south for the winter.

Huntington's Annual Harvest Supper to benefit the Huntington Volunteer Fire Department will be held on October 24 at Brewster-Pierce School. The meal features a wide range of favorite dishes made by Huntington's best cooks, from chicken pie to Jello salad to savory baked beans. Fresh rolls and pies complete the meal.

Serving begins at 5:30, continues until all are served.

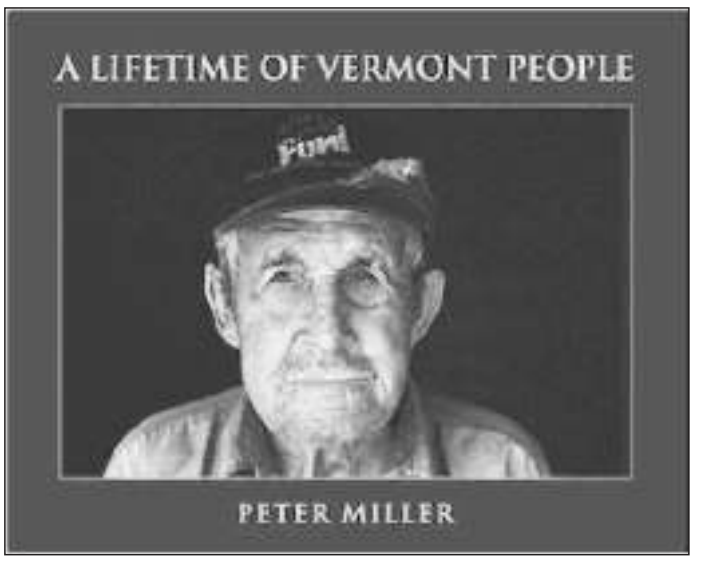
The admission is $10 adults; $5 children; kids under five are free.

Contributions of food are always needed. If you don't get a call from a neighbor, don't be shy. Bring in a salad or hot dishes when you come to eat.

The potluck supper is a great opportunity to visit with neighbors, eat an ecelectic plate of food and support a necessary local volunteer organization.

Bring your appetite and spread the word!

Photographer and Author Peter Miller to Speak



Peter Miller, well-known photographer and author of photographic books, will make a presentation at the Huntington Public Library on October 30.

The evening is co-sponsored by Huntington Public Library and the Huntington Historical and Community Trust (HHCT).

Miller has a long and distinguished career starting with a twin lens Kodak reflex camera in the 1950s when he started filming Vermont landscapes and events. He went on to work with Yousuf Karsh in the filming of Pablo Casals, Picasso, Camus, Schweitzer and other notables in Europe. This resulted in his first book of photographs some time later called the First Time I Saw Paris. After spending time with Life Magazine, initiating a ski magazine, freelancing as writer and photographer, and as contributing editor of Ski Magazine, Miller concentrated on his Vermont publishing endeavors.

Miller is best known for his portraits of rural Americans, especially here in Vermont where he has published word and photograph books, Vermont People, Vermont Farm Women, Vermont Gathering Places and People of the Great Plains.

Vermont's most respected photographer, he has won numerous awards and was voted Vermonter of the year in 2006. He was honored with a proclamation from the Vermont State Legislature for his contribution to Vermont's culture.

His photos may currently be seen at Frog Hollow and at his home and gallery in Waterbury Center. Frog Hollow and Miller have collaborated on a speaking tour presenting his work in 12 communities throughout Vermont.

The Library event on October 30 will begin at 7 pm and include refreshments. HHCT will hold a brief annual meeting at 7:15. Miller's Power Point® presentation will begin at 7: 30, followed by questions and answers, finishing up by at 9 pm. Miller will have copies of his books for sale including his latest, A Lifetime of Vermont People.

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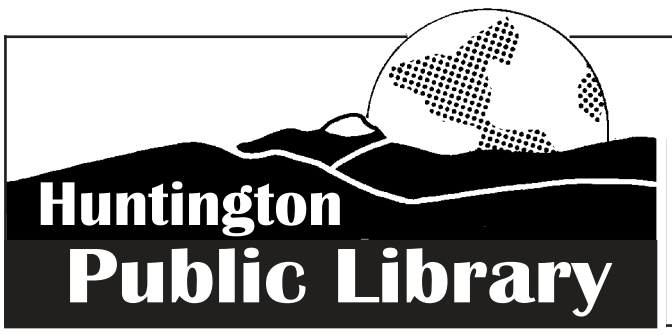

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Speakers Series Presentation The Huntington Historical and Community Trust and The Huntington Library will be presenting Vermont photographer and author, Peter Miller, on Friday, October 30. See the article on page 3.

Sunday Volunteers Needed We are seeking a few dedicated and generous individuals who are willing to donate one Sunday shift per month to keep the Huntington Public Library open on weekends. The Library depends on volunteer staffing for Sundays from noon – 5 pm. Shifts and dates are flexible, ranging from 2 ½ hours at a time to a full 5 hours. Training provided. Please visit or email for more information hpl@gmavt.net.

Orion Magazine The Library is still seeking a sponsor to donate a subscription to Orion magazine. If you are interested, please contact the Library.

New Novel by Bill Heffernan The history of Lincoln Hill in Huntington inspired Bill Heffernan's book, Beulah Hill. Now, his characters have gone to war and not all have returned and those who have are not the same people they were when they left. When Johnny Came Marching Home follows the story of a young girl Rebecca, and Jubal Foster and his two best friends, Johnny and Abel, country boys raised in the woods of Vermont. Inseparable, they do everything together, from hunting deer to pulling pranks and practical jokes. The boys soon join the Union Army and they are quickly exposed to the harsh reality of the violence and brutality of the Civil War. The story plot goes back and forth of the men's past/future.

Former Huntington resident, Library Trustee and three-time Pulitzer prize nominee William Heffernan has written 18 novels and the Huntington Public Library has most of them. He now lives in Florida.

Start a New Mystery Series Love a good mystery? Need a new author as the weather turns cooler? The Library has recently acquired many of the books in the Inspector Montalbano series of mystery novels by Italian author Andrea Camilleri. Montalbano is a Sicilian detective who works for the fictional town of Vigata. The Inspector Montalbano series began in Italian in 1994, which was translated into the 2002 novel The Shape of Water. The series is currently ongoing (the series is approximately four novels ahead in Italian). The Library has added to the books already on the shelves: Rounding the Mark, August Heat, The Dance of the Seagull, A Beam of Light, The Brewer of Preston and Treasure Hunt.

More New Adult Fiction Make Me by Lee Child; Robert B. Parker's The Devil's Wins by Reed Farrel Coleman; The Hummingbird by Stephen P. Kiernan; Entry Island by Peter May; The Mistake I Made by Paula Daly; Who Do You Love? by Jennifer Weiner; The Impersonator and Silent Murders – Mysteries by Mary Miley; The Girls at the Kingfisher Club by Genevieve Valentine; Purity by Jonathan Franzen; A Knight of the Seven Kingdoms by George R.R. Martin.

Adult Non-Fiction The Soil Will Save Us – How Scientists, Farmers and Foodies Are Healing the Soil to Save the Planet by Kristin Ohlson; Attracting Beneficial Bugs to Your Garden by Jessica Walliser; Brain Maker – The Power of Microbes to Heal and Protect Your Brain for Life by David Perlmutter, MD; Big Magic – Creative Living Beyond Fear by Elizabeth Gilbert; A Fifty-Year Silence – Love, War, and a Ruined House in France by Miranda Richmond Mouilot; Wild Feminine – Finding Power, Spirit and Joy in the Female Body by Tami Lynn Kent; Inside of a Dog – What Dogs See, Smell, and Know by Alexandra Horowitz; The Ghost Army of WW II by Rick Beyer and Elizabeth Sayles.

Adult Audio Books The Bee Keepers Apprentice by Laurie King; The Heart Goes Last by Margaret Atwood.

Picture Books Andrew Drew and Drew by Barney Saltzberg; Steam Train, Dream Train by Sherri Duskey Rink and Tim Lichtenheld; The Day the Crayons Came Home by Drew Daywelt; Pitter and Patter by Martha Sullivan; Over in the Mountain Somewhere in the World, Over in a River Flowing Out to the Sea, and Over in the Forest Come Take a Peek by Marianne Berkes; Noisy Bird Sing-Along by John Himmelman; Around One Log – Chipmunks, Spiders, and Creepy Insiders by Anthony D. Fredericks; Zen Socks by Jon J. Muth; An A From Miss Miller by Patricia Polacco.

Junior DVD The Adventures of Tintin – Season Three; Stuart Little, Stuart Little #2 and Stuart Little #3; Annie; Alvin and the Chipmunks.

Junior Fiction Auggie & Me – Three Wonder Stories by R.J. Palacio; All the Wrong Questions - Why is This Night Different from All Other Nights? by Lemony Snicket; Angelica, the Angel Fairy by Daisy Meadows.

Junior Graphic Novels Big Nate – Welcome to My World by Lincoln Peirce; Babymouse – The Musical # 10 by Jennifer L. Holm and Matthew Holm.

TerraCycle at the Library! Each participating recyclable item earns money for the Library. Bring in your CLEAN recyclables. Here are some of the items we are collecting – hard tops from detergent bottles, Brita brand filters, all Tom's of Maine items, baby food pouches, all Colgate products (even used toothbrushes!), all Garnier products, and more! Come in to see a more complete list of acceptable returnables.

First Friday of the Month Movie Night The next Movie Night is on Friday, November 6, at 7 pm. Wear your pajamas, bring a cozy blanket, and we'll pop the popcorn!

Huntington Playgroup Fridays, 10 am – noon. A supportive, social and creative space for children and their caregivers. The playgroup meets on the school year calendar and is facilitated by Jen O'Hora and sponsored by Building Brighter Futures. Contact Jen for more information at huntingtonplaygroup@yahoo.com.

Story Time Babies and toddlers learn early literacy skills by listening to stories, fingerplays, rhyming and singing songs. Every Friday, 10:45 am.

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We have lots of Halloween books at all age levels (scary and not-so-scary). Many of them are in circulation right now, but some of them will be back before Allhallows Eve.

Picture books and Easy Readers Five Little Pumpkins by Dan Yaccarino, By the Light of the Halloween Moon by Caroline Stutson, The Ghost of Nicholas Greebe by Tony Johnston, One Witch by Laura Leuck, The Halloween Parade by Rosemary Wells, A Creepy Countdown by Charlotte S. Huck, That Terrible Halloween Night by James Stevenson, Pumpkin Eye by Denise Fleming, Which Witch Is Which? by Pat Hutchins, Ollie's Halloween by Oliver Dunrea, I Dare You: Stories to Scare You by Kathleen Keeler, Big Pumpkin by Erica Silverman, One Halloween Night by Mark Teague, Ghosts in the House! by Kazuno Kohara, A Beastly Story by Bill Martin Jr, The Monsters' Monster by Patrick McDonnell, Five Little Monkeys Trick-or-Treat by Eileen Christelow, and books about the fall season.

Intermediate Readers Mostly Ghostly: Eight Spooky Stories to Chill Your Bones adapted by Steven Zorn, The Witch Family by Eleanor Estes, Scary Stories to Tell in the Dark collected from folklore and retold by Alvin Schwartz, Geronimo Stilton's It's Halloween, You 'Fraidy Mouse!, Walter the Warlock by Deborah Hautzig, Even More Short and Shivery retold by Robert D. San Souci, Witch Catcher by Mary Downing Hahn, The Ghost of Fossil Glen by Cynthia DeFelice, The Beasts of Clawstone Castle by Eva Ibbotson. and in non-fiction: Witches, Pumpkins, and Grinning Ghosts: The Story of the Halloween Symbols by Edna Barth, The Gruesome Guide to World Monsters by Judy Sierra, Green Mountain Ghosts, Ghouls and Unsolved Mysteries by Joseph A. Citro, and The Vermont Ghost Guide by Joseph A. Citro.

Audiobooks Favorite Scary Stories of American Children by Richard and Judy Dockrey Young, Ghosthunters and the Incredibly Revolting Ghost! by Cornelia Funke, The Monsters of Morley Manor by Bruce Coville, and Skulduggery Pleasant by Derek Landy.

YA Novels Books with vampires, werewolves, high school teachers, warlocks, monsters, and other scary stuff.

Art at the Library We are currently scheduling art/photography shows for our first floor gallery for 2016. If you have several pieces of original art or photography that you would like to share with the community we would love to find a spot for you in next year's lineup. You need not be a professional to take advantage of this opportunity. Please call, email or stop by and we'll give you more details.

The Birds of Vermont will fill our foyer display case for the month of November with a display entitled Cold Winter, Warm Feet. Engaging props and images of winter's cold challenges faced by Vermont's year round avian residents, and the physical and behavioral adaptations they employ to stay warm present a remarkable story of perseverance and adaptation.

If you have not already done so come see the work of Kathryn Wysockey Johnson hanging on our walls through November. She says, "Recently, I have been learning to paint. Vincent van Gogh is my teacher, chosen for his ability to capture the essence of his subjects, and for his use of color. In our culture self-portraiture has recently enjoyed a renaissance, at least in photographic form. But Vincent was a master of the original Selfie. I wonder if our fleetingly captured images will withstand the test of time as his do? In my study of Vincent, I have learned about his subjects – and the relationships he had with them. His paintings were journalistic in their honesty and revelation. My interpretation of Vincent's portraits was a delightful challenge, in terms of attempting to render a likeness and capture his color palette." Come see.

Work Areas Available Did you know that we offer quiet work areas on all three of our floors, including a newly renovated lounge on our third floor? If you work from home and occasionally like a change of scenery come check out our spaces. We have Wi-Fi, and coffee (tea & hot cocoa, too!) and the newspaper at the ready for your mid-morning break.

Book Discussions November 10, 6 pm: Wives of Los Alamos by Tarashea Nesbit.

November 19, 7 pm: Reconstructing Amelia by Kimberly McCreight.

Copies of book discussion titles are available at the 1st floor circulation desk. Everyone is welcome!

1927 Flood Talk Rescheduled We have rescheduled Nicholas Clifford's talk on the 1927 Flood in Vermont for Sunday, December 13, at 2 pm. Professor Clifford is a Middlebury College Professor Emeritus of History and co-author of The Troubled Roar of the Waters: Vermont in Flood and Recovery, 1927-1931.

New Adult Books Black Flags by Joby Warrick, The Unsustainable Presidency by William Grover, Burlington by Vincent Feeney, Make Me by Lee Child (book and cd), The Nature of the Beast by Louise Penney (book and cd), A Pattern of Lies by Charles Todd, An Unnecessary Woman by Rabih Alameddine, Lamp Black, Wolf Grey by Paula Brackston, The Girl Who Slept with God by Val Brelinski, The Secret Chord by Geraldine Brooks, Red Rising by Pierce Brown, Friction by Sandra Brown, The Perfect Comeback of Caroline Jacobs by Matthew Dicks, Astray by Emma Donoghue, The Drowned Boy by Karin Fossum, The Sage of Waterloo by Leona Francombe, Left Neglected by Lisa Genova, Girl Missing by Tess Gerritsen, X by Sue Grafton, Fates and Furies by Lauren Groff and many more.

Also good to remember – the Library subscribes to 80 different magazines, from Adventure Cycling, Atlantic Monthly, Consumer Reports, Cooks Illustrated, Discover, Family Fun, Family Handyman, Fine Gardening, Kiplinger, Mother Jones, The New Yorker, Practical Homeschooling, Utne Reader, The Week, Wired, Yes! and MORE!

We also have many new (to us) DVDs and CDs! Browse our collection!

Early Bird Math If you spend time with a little person on Friday mornings, consider bringing them to Early Bird Math. We read books, sing songs and play simple action games that introduce and reinforce early math concepts. No registration is required, just come ready to count, sort and measure. Fridays at 11 am

Storytimes Toddlertime (for ages 18 months to 3 years) is on Wednesdays at 10:30. Storytime (ages 3-5) is on Mondays at 10:30. We're very flexible about ages, siblings, and so on, so don't feel restricted by the age suggestions. No registration is necessary.

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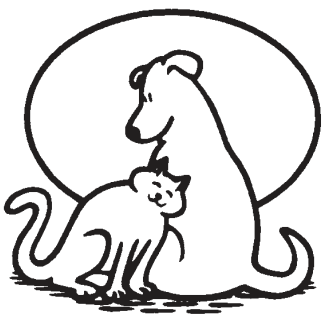

Drs. Virginia Clarke,
Daniel Hament & Cori Weiner

Huntington Selectboard

Reported by Ruth Blodgett

The Huntington Selectboard Meeting of September 14, 2015, began with Selectboard member Helen Keith and Main Road resident Dean Grover of the Lower Village Traffic Calming Ad-Hoc Committee giving a report on traffic calming progress in the Lower Village. Speed data has been collected yet not analyzed, fog lines creating nine-foot-wide lanes have been painted, and calls for free resources have been made, mentioned Keith. Radar recording signs, painting "25 mph" on the road surface and speed tables will be tested individually with help form the CCRPC (Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission), the Committee members stated.

A proposed traffic redirection around the village green and the entrance to East Street was discussed. Ray Staskus, Chittenden East Supervisory Union Transportation Supervisor, has been contacted and will consider if modifications to the current bus traffic patterns are feasible, Keith added.

Moody Road Bridge The Moody Road Realignment Project, which involves moving the approach from the bridge at the Carse Road intersection to the east, straightening the road, was reviewed. Next steps include surveying the new roadway and right of way, then determining impacts on properties. The motion to initiate the road alteration project at an expense not to exceed $6,000 for surveying, legal fees and associated costs, passed. The construction costs of the alteration were in the budget, but the surveying and legal costs were not.

The Highway work schedule is now posted on the Town website. CCRPC has completed a sign inventory and is working on a culvert inventory.

Sand Shed Work Road Foreman Clinton "Yogi" Alger asked the Board to waive its purchasing policy and approve a bid from a local contractor in the amount of $6,555, for sand shed electrical work. An exception was required since this was the only bid. Selectboard Chair Dori Barton reminded the Board that money for this project had been previously approved. The Board passed a motion to approve a request to waive the bidding policy in this case.

Storm Water Runnoff Grant Huntington Conservation Commission (HCC) member Darlene Palola presented information to the Board regarding a Lake Champlain Basin Pollution Prevention Grant, seeking approval of the application. The HCC is working with Friends of Winooski River for storm water runoff management by the Town Garage. No local match of funds is required, and Friends of Winooski River would be the project managers. Livak, added, "I believe they will give us options for an engineering plan." In essence," continued Elliott, "They work to scope out a solution, so in Fiscal Year (FY) 17/18, we can put money in the budget to solve the problem. Palola, concluded, "We will be ahead of the game because we'll have a plan." A motion to approve the grant application passed unanimously.

Municipal Planning Grant Huntington Planning Commissioners (HPC) Mark Smith and Everett Marshall came to request approval of a State of Vermont Municipal Planning Grant application, which would require a $2,000 local match, in the FY17 Planning Commission budget. "[The HPC] is really hoping to work closely with CCRPC on this grant. CCRPC has a lot of expertise. We are combining subdivisions and zoning and stand alone flood regulations, stepping back from the form-based code and moving towards new regulations. It will be helpful," Marshall elaborated. Barton asked, "What is the help you will get?" Smith replied, " I see an important component is the finished document." Marshall resonded, "I would see them helping us with formatting ideas...it's important that the final document be very readable." The motion granting approval to the HPC to submit a 2016 Municipal Planning Grant for a Land Use Regulation Project was approved.

Lincoln Hill Road During Public Comment at the Board's September 21 meeting, Leon Ross expressed concerns about the condition of Lincoln Hill Road. Ross characterized the rutting, wash boarding and overhanging brush on the road as a result of lapsed maintenance. As a result, grading has been completed on Lincoln Hill Road. Alger looked for overhanging brush in that area, but found none.

Noise Complaint Also brought to the Board's attention was excessive noise at a Main Road property on the corner of Bridge Street. State Police have been contacted, but nearby residents have requested Town follow-up on this violation of the Town Noise ordinance. Elliott told the Board she would speak to the landlord as well as send a copy of the noise ordinance to the landlord and tenant, and contact the Towns' State Police liason.

Tax Sale Result The Board discussed proposed options for the occupants of a property bought by the Town during a Delinquent tax sale August 2014, due to the lack of additional bids. A one-year term provided to the owners for redemption of the real estate by paying back taxes has now expired, resulting in its conveyance to the Town of Huntington. Elliott planned to communicate the alternatives for retaining legal residence at the home by phone and by mail.

Education Tax Rate Keith shared her research on the education tax rates for the Town of Huntington, noting that Huntington tax bills included the correct education tax rate for Huntington despite the incorrect data sheets being posted on the Department of Taxes website for CESU towns. Keith will work with Town treasurer Kathleen Clark to provide additional information on the Town website.

Appreciation and Town Hall On September 28, 2015, the Selectboard hosted an Appreciation Dessert at the Town Hall for members of Town Boards, committees and commissions, Town employees and others who serve the Town. The Town Hall Committee provided tours of the building.

A Public Hearing providing an overview of the use of VCDP (Vermont Community Development Program) funds awarded to the Town was held following the Dessert Celebration. Barbara Felitti, THC Chair' explained the work performed to improve the building's accessibility. Felitti provided an overview of the next steps of roof, insulation, floor and plaster work. Also presented were the longer-term plans for the building, including its uses. Felitti acknowledged the funding sources for the accessibility project: the VCDP, Vermont Arts Council, Town Conservation Fund, and Huntington Historic and Community Trust.

The Public was invited to ask questions about the Town Hall renovations and plans for its use. THC member Aaron Worthley emphasized that the Town Hall is the community's building for municipal and community use, encouraging participation from townspeople interested in the building's future.

One Driveway or Two The Selectboard meeting on October 15 began with the discussion of a driveway permit application for two curb cuts at 15 Hinesburg Hollow Road. A motion to approve the driveway permit resulted in two oppositions and three abstentions. A motion to postpone a decision until the Development Review Board (DRB) provides an opinion and the Board researches regulations about two driveways. All voted in favor of this motion. During Public Comment, Terry Boyle expressed his understanding that curb cuts had to be approved before construction began. Robin Worn added, "I thought there was only to be one curb cut per lot."

During the Highway report, it was noted that thirty-two culverts have been replaced this year. The Road crew plans to also replace culverts on Camels Hump and Moody Roads this fall.

Public Access TV Angelinke Contis, Executive Director of MMC-TV, a public access cable TV station, provided information on the station's services. Contis presented a few options for broadcasting Selectboard meetings: cover three big meetings a year such as Town Meeting; having a trained volunteer film meetings using a small camera; live streaming using ethernet; or (the most costly) filming using a big camera and microphones. "Towns who [sic] resisted the idea of filmed meetings have grown to like having the meetings on record," said Contis. A motion to further explore the idea of filming Selectboard meetings passed.

Town Forest Dilemma Members of the HCC came to address matters concerning the Town Forest. The HCC is considering an easement for the Camels Hump Nordic Ski Association (CHNSA). The HCC recommends Catamount Trail Association (CTA) Easement Approval and also recommends selling the Town Forest. Bill Hegman, representing the CTA, described new routes for the trail, which will pass through the Town Forest. The motion to grant a permanent easement to CTA passed unanimously.

HCC co-chair Rebecca Ryan referred to lack of access to the Town forest, which is surrounded by private land, An adjacent landowner is interested in purchasing the property for limited forest and wildlife management, Ryan divulged. HCC co-chair Sheri Lynn, "We don't see how the land will fulfill the mission of the HCC since it is so inaccessible." Ryan expressed HCC hopes that money from the land sale would be set aside for conservation. Elliott noted the sale would be contingent upon trail and conservation easements being in place by the buyer, approval by Town attorneys, and a sale price equal to or greater than value established by the listers. Aaron Worthley spoke against the Town Forest sale, "The access situation is much better now... I think just because we haven't come up with all the answers. The Town has opportunity to be good stewards to this one piece of forest land the Town owns." Barton responded," You need more input from the public before selling a town asset. The Selectboard usually decides to involve the Town in general." The Board plans to schedule this topic for a future meeting, as well as discuss a CHNSA easement.

Other Business The Board moved to authorize the Town Hall Committee's submission of the 2016 Vermont Historic Preservation Grant in the amount of $18,700 with the 50-50 match requirement being paid from the Town Hall Reserve Fund.

The Board voted to sign the Pond Road Underground Line Permit for Vermont Electric Cooperative (VEC).

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Richmond Selectboard

Reported by Greg Elias

Engineers outlined options for repairing flood-damaged Greystone Drive in Richmond. But funding for the six-figure job remains uncertain.

The Selectboard, at its October 5 meeting, heard a presentation from KAS, a Williston-based consultant. Stephen Diglio a civil engineer with the firm, detailed two ways to fix the road damaged in a June "microstorm" that washed out Greystone Drive. It is the main thoroughfare for the hillside neighborhood.

The Selectboard viewed photos taken during a drone flyover that showed a 140-foot-long section of the road was gone, leaving formerly buried utility lines suspended in midair. Diglio noted that 1,000 cubic yards of soil eroded during the storm.

To fix the problem, the road has to be repaired and the washed-out hillside restored, Diglio said.

"We need to get things back to the way they were before (the storm) and prevent them from happening again," he said. The idea is to allow the road to be able to withstand a 25-year storm with minimal damage.

The more expensive of the two options, priced at roughly $260,000, would involve installing a retaining wall using giant concrete blocks "kind of like Legos" uphill from the road. This would stabilize the bank and prevent further washouts.

But that project probably couldn't be completed this fall. That would leave residents to deal with the washout all winter and the neighborhood would remain vulnerable to additional flood damage.

The second option would be simpler and less expensive at just under $100,000, Diglio said. That work would restore the hillside with earth-moving equipment and stabilize it by replanting grass.

He recommended the Selectboard choose the second option, saying the project would have less impact on neighbors and quicker to complete. The big unknown if federal funding for the project. The Federal Emergency Management Agency, better known as FEMA, will likely pay 90 percent of the cost of the work within the right-of-way of Greystone Drive. Diglio said. Work further away from the road would be funded by the town and/or the neighborhood association.

Members of the association who attended the meeting talked about work they had already done to repair flood damage and said the town should share responsibility because it approved plans when the neighborhood was constructed that were insufficient to prevent washouts during heavy storms.

Selectboard members discussed expenses and which option was best. The more costly first option was designed to take place mainly in the right of way and likely would be funded mainly by FEMA, Diglio explained, making costs to the town and neighbors similar for both projects.

Board member Ellen Kane wondered if the town should wait for the final word on FEMA funding before choosing an option. Board member Taylor Yeates said he didn't want to make a decision without a FEMA commitment.

But Town Manager Geoffrey Urbanik said with the potential for further storm damage looming, "we are under a lot of pressure to get something started." Greystone Drive residents also urged a speedy resolution.

The Selectboard voted 3-1 to go with the second option. Yeates voiced the lone dissenting vote.

Sun-powered Pick The Selectboard faced another choice, this one between competing bids to provide solar power that will reduce the town's electricity bills.

Jeff Forward, Richmond's energy coordinator, reviewed proposals from Vermont-based Green Lantern Capital and California-based SunEdison. Both companies offered to sell solar power to the town generated at facilities located elsewhere in Vermont. The town would save a similar amount of money – roughly $18,000 a year – from either company.

The savings would come from net-metering credits on its electrical bill from Green Mountain Power. Those savings are based on the assumption that the town will replace between 60-70 percent of its electricity usage with solar power.

Forward said each proposal was attractive but recommended the town choose Green Lantern. "I'm a local person, too, and I like to buy local," he said.

Board members discussed at length the one provision that differs between the two proposals, how Renewable Energy Credits are treated.

RECs are an accounting device that spring from governmental efforts to promote renewable energy. Forward noted in a memo that many Northeast states now require a certain amount of power come from renewable sources such as solar and wind. Utilities can meet that mandate by building their own renewable projects, buying from other renewable power companies or by purchasing renewable energy credits, Forward said. RECs can be traded among parties.

The SunSolar proposal reserves RECs for itself. Green Lantern allows the town to get the credits after five years. The credits could be worth about $8,000 a year.

Yeates wondered about the market for RECs and wondered if they would maintain their current value. Forward said there was no way to know to know for sure, but figured that amid fluctuations they would be a good long-term bet with the continued push for increased renewable energy usage.

After Urbanik reassured members that staff could handle the additional duty of trading RECs, the Selectboard voted unanimously to pick Green Lantern.

Survey Results Mulled The Selectboard learned about the results of a survey that asked residents how the town should use land it owns off Cochran Road.

Former Selectboard member Chris Granda gathered survey responses online and during a pair of public meetings last month. Altogether, he heard from about 40 people.

The most popular use was a parking lot that could ease demand for spaces during Round Church events and for people accessing the Safford land preserve. About three-quarters of respondents requested at least some parking.

The second and third most popular uses for the land were as a community garden and a dog park. Coming in at number four was an orchard. Other less popular potential uses included an ice rink, tennis courts and a park and ride.

Granda suggested the town pare the possibilities down to three of the four most popular uses, leaving out the dog park because abutting property owner, Mary Houle, opposed the idea.

Selectboard members offered varying opinions on the parking issue. Lincoln Bressor said he supported using the land for parking, noting the demand for spots by people using the Safford preserve. Yeates expressed safety concerns because people still have to walk along Cochran Road, which has no sidewalks at that location. Kane said she liked the idea of combining uses, with a little parking sharing space with an orchard and garden.

The Board did not decide on uses but agreed to consider the matter again at a future meeting after more details are gathered about the most popular proposals.

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MMMUSD Board Meetings

Reported by Diane Wester

Corrections and Clarifications: In the September Times Ink, a mathematical symbol was wrong. The report should read: "The financial goals include: overall education spending increase of less than 3%; overall budget increase of less than 2.5%; and an estimated district tax rate increase of less than 2%." We regret the error.

The Town of Huntington will receive some incentive monies from the state because some Huntington students attend two of schools (CHMS and MMU) consolidated within the recent merger. Neither Brewster Pierce Elementary school nor Huntington residents will receive tax incentive monies.

The School Board toured Smilie Memorial School in Bolton and Jericho Elementary School before the regularly scheduled meetings. During the tours, each host principal pointed out recent improvements to the physical structures of their schools, as well as areas which would need attention in the future. The principals answered many questions from the Board during the tours concerning functionality of the classrooms and large gathering spaces.

Smilie Principal Barbara Tomasi-Gay reported the school population is up to 82 students. Smilie posted good results in the first year of the SBAC standardized test (more below) and plans to improve the achievement gap between Free/Reduced lunch/non-FRL students; has formed a partnership with the Friends of the Winooski River for hands/on learning; would like to provide more after school programs.

JES Principal Vicki Graf also reported good SBAC results. Great progress with the school-developed new Data Team Model headed by Karen Reinhardt is one example of success that can be proliferated throughout the other elementary schools. Their next area of interest will be Writer's Workshop.

A new standardized test has replaced the NECAP. It is the SBAC (Smarter Balanced Assessment). Assistant Superintendent Jen Botzojorns has created a short video on the CESU website explaining the results of the first year of this test. In general, CESU did substantially better than the standard. In particular, a gap remains between the Free/Reduced lunch and non FRL student populations. A large gender gap has also been identified – with females doing better at both reading and math at all grade levels. This data will serve as the first years' information to identify trends that will cause adjustments in the curriculum and distribution of funds to improve results for all students.

Special Services Report by Director Beverly White Although the numbers of children receiving special services remains constant (357 this year in CESU) – the number of students on the autism spectrum has increased fourfold in the past 20 years (36 in 2014.) Costs continue to be (10%) below the state average due to a variety of factors. Having Mansfield Academy on site is one reason, fewer contracted consultants are needed. The department goals are to continue to maintain their 92+% accuracy in evaluating students for special services, providing the least restricting environment "foster independence," said White; use data-driven assessment and do all of this in a cost-effective manner. Over 96% of their students graduate high school in four years.

Governance: VSAC Val Gardner and Jim FitzPatrick will make a presentation about Phase II of Policy Governance Model at the next Board meeting to be held at CHMS beginning at 6 pm. A three-and-a-half-hour meeting is anticipated. The tour/board meeting of Brewster-Pierce Elementary School has been postponed to December 7. At the September 21 meeting, Huntington resident Jim Christiansen asked that "given the state of flux" concerning the newly merged district, the ever evolving government structure, the new common core curriculum and implementation of the new Personal Learning Plans the Board think about moving toward a new governance structure.

Finance Committee The September 24 meeting was filmed and available on the CESU website: www.cesu.k12.vt.us. A Revenue/Expense report for the months of July and August was presented by CESU Finance Director Robert Fahey. Most schools were represented by their principals at this meeting. At the present time, Facilities is included within the Finance Committee. In the 2016/17 Learning and Instruction Priorities summary RES Principal Michael Berry reported no change in budget to implement Reader's and Writer's Workshop in K-4. Also, no change in budget to provide students and families with supportive after school opportunities, or to continue quality food service. Staffing special needs in the three additional preschool classrooms may increase the budget by $14,000-plus. Heating system control upgrade estimate is an additional $35,000 to the budget.

At the October 8 Finance Committee meeting, Ray Staskus, CESU Transportation Supervisor ,summarized the staffing levels, fleet status, routes and submitted a "Wish List." The FY 2017 Budget is level funded. Finance Committee information summarized from reports published on CESU website.

Communications There will be no standing committee for communications. Chair Jon Milazzo will respond to letters addressed to the entire Board within 24 hours. Vice Chair Andrew Pond will post meeting agendas and summaries on Front Porch Forum. Superintenent John Alberghini will be consulted on these and other communications.

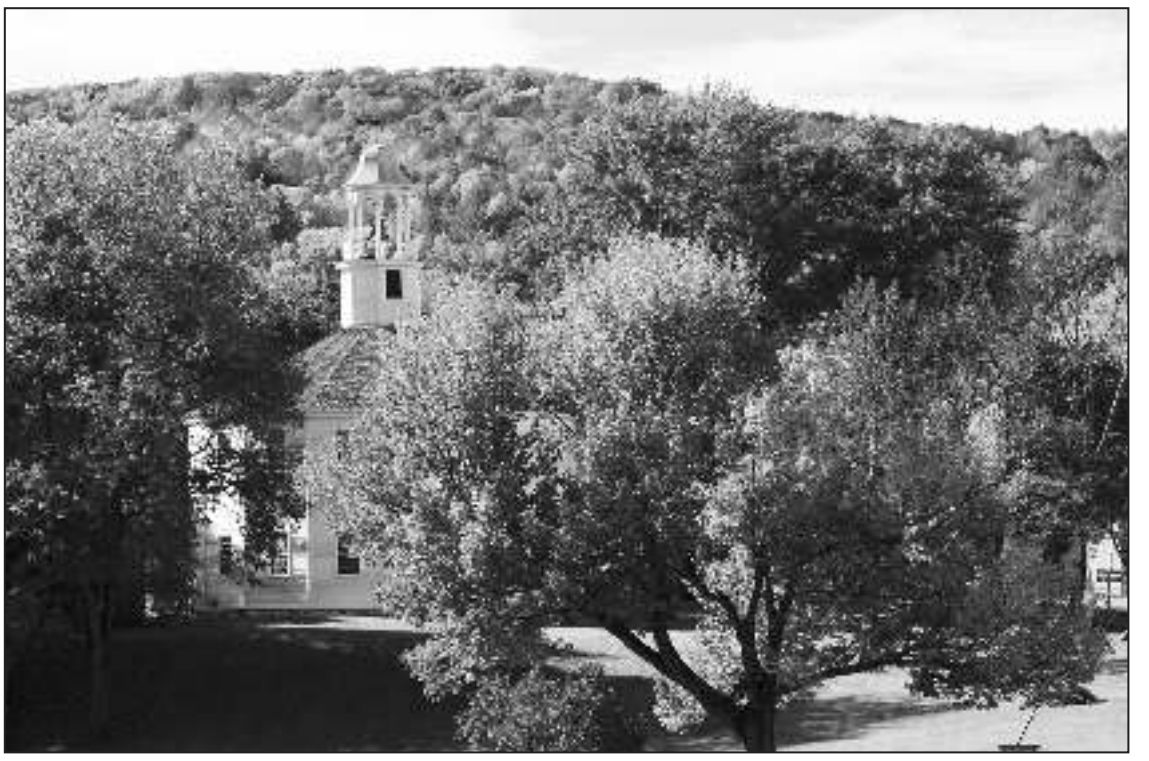
New MMU student representatives Isabelle Rabideau and Eliza Bryan reported the dates for upcoming PSAT test and Personal Learning Plans for juniors. The girls soccer and field hockey teams are having winning seasons thus far. The girls club volleyball team won its first exhibition match. The fall play is now in rehearsal and the first Cabaret of the year was presented.

Alberghini reported the first regularly scheduled two-hour delay of the year went well. Transportation options have been presented. Programs are in place in schools. Three e-mails addressed to Alberghini have been answered.

Employees' health insurance options for next year to avoid the potential federal excise tax on the "gold" level of insurance have been developed and will be presented to employees in a series of forums at various locations throughout the state throughout the month of October.

continue to page 11

Beauty of the Late Autumn



The scene is breathtaking in color and lovely in black and white. Photographer Larry Thomson captured the iconic Round Church in its late autumn glory.

MMU News

MMU High School News Reporter Needed

The Times Ink is looking for a Richmond or Huntington student to write an informative and engaging column for this newspaper. The columnist must commit for the school year

A stipend is available or the student may chose to use this opportunity to gain community service credit. This opportunity may also be used toward an independent study. This is a great opportunity to do something that benefits the entire community. Residents like to know what is going on at the high school, especially those who do not have students in the school.. Additionally, writers get to know more facets of the MMU program, as well as interact with staff and students.

Applicants must be able to:

1. Make a deadline.

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3. Provide a well-rounded column that covers a variety of school activities highlighting the activities and accomplishments of our students.

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Area Residents Honored

United Way of Chittenden County honored 48 local volunteers during the fifth annual Building Block Awards ceremony at the LIVE UNITED Breakfast on September 28th at the Flynn Center for the performing arts.

Richmond residents honored included **Betsy Emerson** for her volunteer work with Joint Urban Ministry Project (JUMP) and **Joan Westcot Lajoie** for her work with the Vermont Action Team of Planned Parenthood of Northern New England.

"This event is our opportunity to recognize the precious gifts of time and caring that advocates and volunteers offer our community. Volunteerism and advocacy leverage the gifts of resources from our donors and are critical elements of the work that we do. Time is a precious gift," said Director of Community Impact Amy Carmola. All award winners were honored with certificates and presented with a gifts donated by Lake Champlain Chocolates and the Flynn Center for the Performing Arts.

Betsy Emerson

Renewable Energy Vermont (REV) recognized a Vermont real estate development company and two Vermonters for their outstanding contributions to the progress of a sustainable energy future at Renewable Energy 2015: Leading the Energy REVolution, an annual conference hosted by REV, taking place on October 8-9 at the Sheraton Hotel and Conference Center in Burlington. The 2015 Renewable Energy Awards are presented by VLITE as part of their continuing commitment to building an energy secure Vermont.

The Renewable Energy Legislative Award, awarded to an elected official who worked to advance energy policy in the state in the prior year, is awarded to **Senator Christopher Bray** from Addison County (also representing Huntington). In his first year as Chair, Bray passed a Climate Change Resolution, initiated a water bill that became law, and – critically – oversaw the passage of Vermont's Act 56, the Renewable Energy Standard. Act 56 focuses on the balance between rate impact, renewable goals, alignment with regional policy, helping Vermonters lower their total energy costs, economic development and greenhouse gas emission reductions. This Act brought Vermont into compliance with the regions' RPS policies thereby preventing a $40 million rate increase, set forth renewable energy requirements through 2032, and also made significant changes in solar siting requirements while also establishing a Solar Siting Task Force. For those who experienced the last three weeks of the 2015 Legislative Session, Bray provided a fair and balanced approach to governing and an example of true leadership. Not surprisingly, this will not be the first energy-related honor for Senator Bray, who was the recipient of the Vermont Natural Resources Council's Legislative Leadership Award in 2009.

St. Lawrence University

The following students are participating in St. Lawrence University's Study Abroad Program for the Fall 2015 semester:

Helen R. Cox of Huntington, a member of the Class of 2017, majoring in psychology. She graduated from MMU High School. Cox is in Spain.

Jennifer M. Finan of Richmond, a member of the Class of 2017, majoring in biochemistry. She graduated from MMU. Finan is in New Zealand at the University of Otago.

Alita F. Rogers of Huntington, a member of the Class of 2017, majoring in sociology. An MMU graduate, she is in Kenya.

Helen R. Cox of Huntington has also been selected for membership in the St. Lawrence University chapter of Psi Chi, the international psychology honorary society. To be eligible for membership, students must have an overall grade-point average (GPA) of at least 3.3, a psychology average of at least 3.4 and be in the top 35 percent of their class.

The **Northeast Organic Farming Association of Vermont (NOFA Vermont),** has been awarded a three-year $247,000 grant from USDA's Food and Nutrition Service (FNS). With this funding from the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Farmers Market Support Grants, NOFA-VT will work to increase SNAP accessibility and participation at Vermont's farmers markets, and to support the establishment, expansion, and promotion of SNAP services, known in Vermont as 3SquaresVT, at farmers markets.

NOFA-VT has worked for nine years with farmers markets to establish and support programs to accept 3SquaresVT benefits, supporting the use of EBT cards in order to increase access to local foods for recipients of 3SquaresVT benefits.

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Beautiful Birch Trees

by Dr. Leonard Perry, UVM Horticulture Professor

Birches are beautiful in all seasons, from the bright green leaves in spring and dangling flower clusters, the dappled summer shade, yellow fall colors, and the attractive bark of many in winter. There are several species and popular cultivars (cultivated varieties) to choose from, some being native to Vermont.

Most have an upright, oval habit, but the European birch (Betula pendula) has weeping branches (pendula means weeping). Reaching 30 to 40 feet high or more at maturity, birches are not for small landscapes, yet only one tree can be planted as a specimen if space—they often spread 20 to 30 feet wide or more. Or, several can be planted in a mass, as you often see in commercial business plantings. Whether planting as specimens or in masses, consider underplanting them with perennials or groundcovers.

Birches are hardy to at least USDA zone 4 (-20 to -30 degrees F average winter low temperature), some to even colder temperatures. They prefer sun, except for a few that also grow in part shade. They prefer moist soils, but some tolerate ones that are dry and sandy.

The bronze birch borer can be a problem on some species—the larvae of this insect killing tree tops and perhaps whole branches through its feeding in the bark—but other species are resistant to it. Trees more stressed, as from drought and poor planting sites, are more susceptible to this borer. White-barked species have more of the chemical rhododendrol, which is a border attractant.

Since birch sap is active or "runs" in spring, wait until summer to prune them or they will "bleed" sap. This sap has been a traditional drink in northern Europe and similar cold climates of the world. In Alaska and some areas it is boiled, similar to maple sap, to make a similarly used syrup. The many and varied birch uses around the world range from twigs used in saunas, to leaves used in teas, to wood used in furniture and bark for containers and canoes.

The European birch is one of the most popular and commonly seen, due in part to its lovely white bark with black fissures, and bright yellow fall leaves. There are several cultivars, including PURPUREA with reddish-purple leaves, or CRISPA with finely and deeply cut leaves. This birch, however, is susceptible to the birch borer, heat and drought.

Similar to the European in appearance, only with non-dropping branches, is the Paper or Canoe birch (B. PAYPYRIFERA). Its white bark tends to peel off ("exfoliate") in strips, which can be attractive and led to its name. Native Americans of the northeastern U.S. used the bark of this native tree to line canoes. This birch, too, doesn't tolerate heat, drought, and pollution in cities.

Paper birch is quick-growing, short-lived, and with weak branches that can snap under winter ice loads. They seem to get birch borers less than the European birch, and leaf miners less than the Gray birch. The cultivar PRAIRIE DREAM is resistant to the borer. They're good wildlife plants, hosting larvae for luna moths, and attracting many birds such as yellow-bellied sapsuckers, black-capped chickadees, tree sparrows, redpolls, and pine siskins.

Gray birch (B. POPULIFOLIA) is another native birch tree, having whitish-gray and non-peeling bark. This tree with multiple trunks is similar otherwise to the paper birch, with which it can be confused. It is similar, too, in problems and cultural limitations. Yet it will tolerate dry and sandy soils better than some other birches, and is fairly resistant to borers.

Sweet or Black birch (B. LENTA) is yet another native, only with dark brown, cherry-like bark and golden yellow fall leaves—some of the best fall color of birches. It may not grow well near paved areas and buildings that reflect heat, nor in dry and sandy soils. It will grow in part shade, and is resistant to the birch borer. The bark contains an oil with wintergreen scent, apparent when you scratch the bark. This fragrant bark was used in the past to flavor beer and relieve many illnesses, from colds to cancer. The wood has been used by furniture makers.

Woodcut by Daryl Storrs. Used with permission.

A native birch more commonly found in forests than for sale is the yellow birch (B. ALLEGHANIENSIS). It has attractive copper-colored bark that peels off in sheets, as well as yellow fall leaves. It, too, dislikes dry and sandy soils, and hot sites, but has good borer resistance.

Perhaps the most popular birch seen now in landscapes is the river birch (B. NIGRA), and in particular the cultivar HERITAGE or CULLY. One attraction is the reddish cinnamon to salmon bark, which shreds and peels in curls when trees are young, with less peeling as the trees age. Leaves are bright green in spring, glossy dark green in summer, yellow in fall, and are doubly cut along the edges. You can find these birches with single or multiple trunks.

River birch will tolerate heat quite well, some shade (at least four to six hours of direct sun), and wet sites as well as some drought, although in longer dry periods it will shed some leaves. It is immune to the birch borer, and perhaps the most trouble-free birch overall.

There are other birch species less commonly found, there being 30 to 60 worldwide. There are other cultivars, too, primarily of the river and European white birches. Plant birches in proper sites, and keep them healthy, and they should grow for 40 to 50 years or more. Otherwise, they may decline and die before 20 years old, especially the white-barked ones.

Distribution of this release is made possible by University of Vermont and New England Grows--a conference providing education for industry professionals and support for university outreach efforts in horticulture.

Free WiFi in Public Places: Protect Yourself from Fraud

Because ubiquitous free public Wi-Fi networks can be particularly hazardous environments for cyber scams, AARP has launched a WATCH YOUR WI-FI campaign Visit www.aarp.org/WatchYourWiFi to learn about THE FOUR THINGS NEVER TO DO ON PUBIC WI-FI, along with a description of the cyber con artists' favorite techniques, including the MAN IN THE MIDDLE ATTACK and the EVIL TWIN ATTACK.

In addition to this month's Cyber Security Awareness designation, an article in the current issue of THE AARP BULLETIN, BEWARE FALL SCAMS, notes that October is a time when certain seasonal fraud schemes are prevalent.

Know the risks when using public wireless networks. Here are a few tips from the AARP website:

Even if the connection requires a password, it is not safe to use public Wi-Fi for online banking, shopping and personal email. Why? Though a password can help limit access to a network, it can't protect you from hackers on the same network who are looking to attack your computer with malware, view your online activity or gain access to any unsecured accounts.

Although a website address with a URL that starts with "https" is preferred, a hacker may still be able to intercept data sent to such a site over public Wi-Fi unless you have a virtual private network (VPN). A VPN encrypts traffic between your computer and the Internet. You can get a personal VPN account from a service provider.

When you are using public Wi-Fi networks, it is important to turn off the file sharing function.

If you've set up your computer to allow file sharing, once you connect to a Wi-Fi network, your folders and files could be accessed by anyone else in the same network. In other words, the attacker would have complete run of your computer and be able to steal files and data and to plant malware. Check your computer settings on how to turn off file sharing, particularly when you are on the road.

Even if you are not using the Internet, you should disable your wireless connection if you're in a location with a public Wi-Fi network.

If you want to guarantee your security and you are not actively using the Internet, simply turn off your Wi-Fi. (Check your settings or use the "help" function for instructions on how to do this.) The longer you stay connected, the longer people have to notice you're there and to snoop around.

And while evaluating and enhancing your cyber security protections and activities is vital, experts also remind you to be mindful of certain low-tech behaviors which can put you at risk for identity theft. These include: using an unlocked mailbox, failing to shred important documents and credit cards, and leaving valuable papers, computers or other portable devices in your car.

For more information on identity theft scams – high-tech and low-tech – visit www.aarp.org/FraudWatchNetwork.

Fall Scams

Medicare Scams "Medicare will never call and ask for personal information, such as your Medicare number, over the phone," says an agency spokesman. Nor will Medicare email or visit your home unannounced to collect data that it already has.

Before and during open enrollment, which runs October 15 through December 7, identity thieves angle for your Social Security number by posing as Medicare employees. Claiming that new cards are being issued, agency records need updating or they can help with plan enrollment, they solicit Medicare numbers (which are the same as Social Security numbers) for "verification." Some also seek payment, pretending you've got past-due medical bills. Don't believe them — or caller ID.

Cold-Weather Capers As the temperature chills, telephone scammers pose as utility company employees and threaten to shut off your service because of supposedly unpaid bills. If you really are overdue, most utilities will mail at least one, if not several, notices before terminating service. Utility companies do not dispatch employees to your home for payments and rarely show up unannounced for service calls.

> Unless you dialed, don't provide payment over the phone.

Also beware — and get second opinions — when contractors you've hired at low-ball rates tell you they've discovered costly jobs that you'd better take care of right away before winter sets in, such as cleaning chimneys, HVAC ducts or furnaces.

Investment Fraud The year's final quarter prompts many folks to tweak their investment portfolios or search for year-end tax breaks. Remember that free lunch seminars touted as "educational" are really sales pitches for often unsuitable if not bogus investments. Don't believe words like "guaranteed," "risk-free," "secret," "can't miss" or "limited-time offer."

Common investment scams aimed at retirees may involve oil and gas, precious metals, promissory notes, life settlements (known as "viaticals") and long-maturity annuities. Besides visiting brokercheck.finra.org, check for past lawsuits, bankruptcy filings and other dirt on advisers and companies at pacer.gov and your state securities regulator, which you can find at nasaa.org.

Charity Cons Superstorm Sandy hit in October — along with fake charities supposedly raising money for its victims. Last year, it was Ebola. And with the approaching holidays (and deadlines for year-end tax deductions), it's prime time for heartstring tugging to get you to open your wallet. Besides the disaster du jour, scams that specifically target older donors often claim to help police and fire personnel, veterans, and sick or needy children.

Unless you dialed, don't provide payment over the phone. If you didn't provide your email address to that organization, assume that email pitches are scams. Don't click on links, which could unleash dangerous malware programs into your computer. Ask door-to-door solicitors to leave some material with you so you can authenticate the organization before donating. Gauge a charity's credibility at give.org, charitynavigator.org or your state's agency that regulates charities at nasconet.org.

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White Christmas in November

Working on Lyric Theatre's production of White Christmas *are Hannah Marshall (Waterbury Center), Sarah Connor (East Montpelier), Owen Rachampbell (Huntington), Belinda Emerson (West Bolton). Courtesy photo.*

Two Bolton/Huntington residents are actively preparing for Lyric Theatre's fall production of Irving Berlin's White Christmas, which will be performed November 12-16, at the Flynn Theatre in Burlington. Owen Rachampbell of Huntington is one of the male leads in the show, while Belinda Emerson of West Bolton serves as Technical Director of the production.

Rachampbell said, "The first time I heard the Broadway soundtrack to the show, I knew I had to audition. The music is addicting. It's a great take on a classic film - rewritten with fuller music and a ton more dancing. It's smart and funny yet grips you emotionally as well."

The stage production of White Christmas is based on the 1954 movie musical starring Bing Crosby, Danny Kaye and Rosemary Clooney. The show follows the dynamic duo of Wallace and Davis, who meet during World War II and go on to become partners on stage as singers, dancers and producers. After meeting the beautiful and talented Haynes sisters, the men decide to follow them to the fictional town of Pine Tree, Vermont, where the ladies are scheduled to perform at an inn over the holidays. The inn happens to be run by the General that Wallace and Davis served under during the war. Unfortunately, the inn has fallen on hard times mainly because Vermont is experiencing a heat wave and severe lack of snow. Wallace and Davis decide to team up with the Haynes sisters and bring their entire stage show from New York to Vermont for the holidays to help with the General and his nearly bankrupt inn. Through a series of songs, dances, drama, romance and even a few surprises, White Christmas tells a story the whole family is sure to enjoy.

Gather your family and friends, dress in your holiday best and head to the Flynn Theatre to experience a holiday classic. Who knows… maybe it will even snow!

White Christmas will be onstage at the Flynn Center for the Performing Arts, Burlington on November 12, 13 and 14, 7 pm; matinees at 2 pm on Saturday, November 14, and Sunday, November 15.

Tickets are available at 863-5966 or www.flynntix.org

MMM Board

continued from page 8

He presented quantified 2015/16 goals to the Board.

Language Immersion Update A team of eight individuals including administration, teachers, board members and parents have met five times since last March to conduct research on this subject. After two-three more meetings the group hopes to present a white paper with an action plan, budget and short/long term implications to the Board in November or December.

STEM/STEAM Update While this 15-member team is still in the brainstorming phase and plans to complete a proposal by May 2016, CESU science and enrichment teachers have created makerspaces in some buildings. There is a makerspace at the high school with a 3Dprinter. MMUHS has the highest number of National Merit Scholar Semifinalists in the state. These students have excelled in academic assessments of PSAT and SAT standardized test as well as classroom performance and community efforts. They are Margaret Allen, Matthew Ellison, Jonathan Fisher, Kaylie Groff, Katarina Keating, Maria Vespa and Sarah Vespa.

Jeff Forward has been hired as the next MMMUSD/CESU Facilities Coordinator.

The approved meeting calendar has been posted on-line. The next meeting will be October 19, 6 pm at CHMS and the subject will be Phase II Policy Governance.

The following meeting will be November 2, 6 pm Underhill ID Elementary School beginning with a tour of the facility. The subjects of the meeting will be Plans and Goals of Technology and Participation in Enrichment and Co-Curricular activities.

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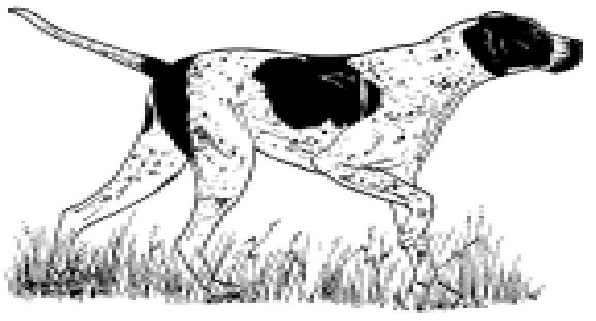

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News from Area Churches

Richmond Congregational Church

Rev. Katelyn B. Macrae, 434-6715

Almost three years ago now, my cousin was a fourth grade student at Sandy Hook Elementary School on that fateful December day when an armed gunman entered her school and took the lives of 20 students and six teachers. Just this month there have been shootings on college campuses in Oregon, Arizona and Texas. These national shootings bring gun violence into focus in a way that cannot be ignored. According to the Centers for Disease Control's 2013 Fatal Injury Reports, school shootings are only a fraction of gun violence. What is much more staggering is the national average of 92 gun deaths per day, about 30 of which are homicide and 58 are suicide.

In Vermont, gun regulation is a sensitive topic. Hunting season is upon us and in the Green Mountain State there is a rich hunting tradition. Many people who own firearms have been well trained to use them responsibly and store them properly. This does not seem unreasonable.

But what is unreasonable is our national culture of violence where people find it easier to dialogue with weapons than words. What is unreasonable is a small child being able to find a weapon that has not been properly stored. What is unreasonable is inadequate access to mental healthcare. As our politicians continue to debate gun regulation, what is the role of people of faith and good conscience in the dialogue? Where are our priorities?

As a Christian, I seek to live in peace with all of God's children. Jesus embodied a radical call to love in the face of violence and hatred, and to bring healing to places of brokenness. What better way to seek love and peace than to model it in our lives, actions, words, and perhaps even our legislation.

Our Lady of the Holy Rosary Church

Father Lance Harlow, 434-2521

Many people in Richmond are familiar with the retired priest who has been living at Our Lady of the Holy Rosary Rectory. If they did not know him by name, they would have recognized the tall, elderly gentleman who would take his daily constitution around town every day. His destination was to walk down to the Round Church and sometimes beyond. He greeted everybody along the way. His walking attire was more practical than fashionable, but always served him well.

Fr. Gerard Leclerc has moved back to St. Johnsbury, his home town, to live out the remainder of his life. Two years ago he was diagnosed with cancer and underwent emergency surgery and chemotherapy treatment. The cancer has reached the stage where more aggressive measures are required and at eighty years of age he decided that the side effects would significantly alter his quality of life and would be too burdensome—and only prolong the inevitable.

It is that quality of life that is truly remarkable for his age. In addition to taking his daily walk around Richmond, he also rides a stationary bike in his apartment three to four miles a day. He has spent his "retirement" traveling throughout the state nearly every Sunday to celebrate Mass in Spanish for the scattered Hispanic populations. Father Leclerc had been a missionary in Bolivia for twenty years starting in the mid-1960s. He had to return to Vermont in the 1980s because he became so sick from parasites. In addition to his exercise and work routine, he has been taking violin lessons which he started up in his seventies, traveling once a month to meet with his instructor. You may also have noticed him in the flower gardens at Holy Rosary which he has been tending himself this summer or weeding the crab grass from the lawn. One of his other interests is raising tomatoes from the seeds of the previous harvest which he starts growing in his apartment mid-winter. He distributes the seedlings to anyone who would like them in the spring.

Not only will Father Leclerc be missed by the parishioners at Holy Rosary, where he helped me with the daily Masses, but the town will also notice his absence. Sometimes there are saints disguised as elderly gentlemen or ladies walking right past us every day and most days in the "daily rush" we barely notice.

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Gateway

continued from page 1

The Selectboard tried to facilitate mediation between Cousins and the Reaps, according to Town Manager Geoffrey Urbanik. Cousins said she personally tried to contact the Reaps but they did not respond.

On September 21, the Selectboard revisited the barn controversy. It heard public comment from a half-dozen people, including DRB member Cara LaBounty. All who spoke said the Selectboard should support the DRB's decision.

Selectboard members then held a 45-minute, closed-door session to discuss the issue. They voted 3-1 to approve not to pursue litigation.

Future Concerns, Coming Construction
Cousins and other critics worry that the DRB approval sets a precedent, opening the door for other projects to use the pretext of historic preservation to circumvent zoning. "The standards kept adaptive use in check," she said. "What happens now?"

Sunshine said there is a lesson to be learned from the DRB's deliberations. Boards usually hear from residents only after decisions are made – and that's too late, he said. (Sunshine acknowledged that Cousins expressed her views before the DRB decision in writing, but she and other opponents did not attend the meetings.)

"When people get on DRB members for making a decision, and say 'why didn't you consider this issue?' Well, that issue was never put in front of us to consider because they didn't come to the hearing to express that issue."

Joy Reap said the timetable for the barn restoration, the type of restaurant, and the names of other future tenants all remain uncertain.

"Once we have tenants lined up for the building, we will have a better idea on our construction schedule," she said. "We have some businesses interested in the space, but nothing concrete yet."

Calendar of Events

FIRST & THIRD TUESDAY: Free car seat inspections, Richmond Rescue, 216 Railroad St., 9 am to noon. Call Mike Chiarella for an appointment: 434-2394.

3RD THURSDAY: Shelburne Vineyard Unfiltered Wine and Poetry Series, begins at 6 pm. Opportunity for poets and poetry lovers to gather to read and listen. All poets, genres and topics welcome. Wine available in the Tasting Room. Free, no reservations necessary. Information: shelburnevineyard.com or Shelburne Vineyard on Facebook, 985-8222.

1ST THURSDAY: Essex Art League meeting, 9 to 11, Essex Junction Congregational Church, Rt. 15. Business and social time, and features a guest artist presentation. Calendar: www.essexartleague.com

TUESDAYS: DeStress Yoga class, 5:45-7 pm www.balanceyogavt.com

SATURDAYS: Flow Yoga, 8:30 am to 9:45 am for the summer months, See: www.balanceyogavt.com.

SATURDAYS: Story Time at Phoenix Books, Burlington, 11 am, 191 Bank Street, downtown Burlington. Free. Information: www.phoenixbooks.biz or 448-3350

2ND TUESDAY: Champlain Valley Prostate Cancer Support Group, 6 to 8 pm, Hope Lodge, 237 East Ave, Burlington. Mary L. Guyette RN, MS, ACNS-BC, 802-274-4990

OCTOBER 23- NOVEMBER 1: 30th Annual Vermont International Film Festival, Min Street Landing, Burlington. Presented by VTIFF (Vermont International Film Foundation. The VTIFF box office is open daily noon to 2 pm at 230 College Street, Burlington. The box office will relocate to Festival HQ at Main Street Landing Performing Arts Center from Oct 24 and will open each day 1 hour before the first performance. To purchase tickets online: http://vtiff.org/festival-passes-tickets/

OCTOBER 24: Turkey Carving (in wood) with David Tuttle, 9 am to 3 pm, Birds of Vermont Museum, Sherman Hollow Road, Huntington. Carve and paint a Wild Turkey with David Tuttle of the Green Mountain Woodcarvers. Wood blank, eyes, snacks, and coffee provided. All levels welcome. Bring your tools and gloves if you have them; if you don't, contact the Museum beforehand. Great for adults and teens. Younger kids need parental permission and Cub Scouts could show their Whittling Chip. $25 for Museum and GMWC members • $35 for everyone else. 434-2167 to pre-register.,museum@birdsofvermont.org • http://www.birdsofvermont.org

NOVEMBER 6 & 7: Milton Artists' Guild's 11th Annual Holiday Art Show and Sale: exceptional work by many fine artists and artisans. Photography, collage, jewelry, wood designs, sculpture, monotypes, watercolor, oil and acrylic paintings in the historic Milton Grange Hall, located in the village, Route 7. Art reception Friday evening, 6 pm to 8 pm. Saturday Art Show hours, 9 am to 4 pm. Food and live music. Free admission. Information: 802-578-1600 or www.miltonartistsguild.org

NOVEMBER 12: Winooski Natural Resources Conservation District (WNRCD) dinner and annual meeting, Old Meeting House, East Montpelier, 5:30 pm to 8 pm. All welcome and invited to attend. Presentations include: WNRCD: A Year in Review, Vt. Department of Environmental Conservation: Water Quality Regulations related to Small Farms, and a Keynote speaker. Dinner provided by the ladies of the Church. Choices of New England chicken pie, vegetarian and children's options. $16/person All event proceeds go toward district conservation projects. Limited seating; RSVP by November 1 with dinner choice: corrina@winooskinrcd.org Information and a list of raffle items and donations: www.winooskinrcd.org

NOVEMBER 20: Candlelight Yoga, 7 pm to 8:30 pm. $14 or class card, Balance Yoga,840 West Main St. Suite 1 Richmond. Information: 434-8401 or www. balanceyogavt.com

Regular Meetings

SELECTBOARD:

Huntington: 1st & 3rd Mondays, 7 pm, Town Office.

Richmond: 1st & 3rd Mondays, 6:30 pm, Town Center

SCHOOL BOARD:

Huntington: 2nd Tues, 6:30 pm, Brewster-Pierce School.

MMMUSD: 1st & 3rd Monday of the Month, 6:30 pm, Meetings will rotate amoung the MMMUSD schools. Check the website for specifics: www.cesu.k12.vt.us.

PLANNING COMMISSION

Huntington: 1st & 3rd Tues., 7 pm, Town Office.

Richmond: 1st & 3rd Wed, 7 pm, Town Center

DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD

Huntington: 2nd Tues., 7 pm, Town Office

Richmond: 2nd & 4th Wed., 7 pm, Town Center.

WATER & SEWER COMMISSION

Richmond: 1st Mon., Town Center

SCOUTS

Richmond: Cub Scout Pack 646 meets 7-8 pm, last Wednesday of the month, Camel's Hump Middle School music room pit.

Huntington: Boy Scout Troop 645, Sun, 10 am or Wed, 6:30 pm, Community Church of Huntington, John Christiana (johnpchristiana@gmail.com) or Mike Flock (mflock23@gmavt.net).

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Richmond: 2nd Tues, 7 pm, Town Ctr

Huntington: 2nd Thursday, 6-8 pm, Town Office (downstairs).

RECREATION COMMITTEE Richmond: 1st Tues, 7-9 pm, Town Center Mtg Room

RICHMOND TRAILS COMMITTEE Richmond: 3rd Tues, 7 pm, Town Center Meeting Room

RICHMOND LAND TRUST:

First Thursday . Monitor Barn Annex. All are welcome. Dan Martin, (4231).

CSWD Richmond Drop-Off Center
Open all year Tuesday, 8-3:30; Thursday, 9:30-5; Saturday, 8-3:30. Located on Route 117 (80 Roger's Lane). 872-8111.

TOWN HALL COMMITTEE

Huntington: 3rd Wednesday, 7 pm, Town Office

LIBRARY

Richmond: Library Board, 1st Thursday, 6 pm, Richmond Free Library, 434-3036.

Huntington: Library Board, 4th Tues, 7 pm, Union Meeting House, 434-4583

RICHMOND RESCUE

Friends of Richmond Rescue: meet as needed, Rescue Bldg., Richmond. 434-2394. New members welcome!

COMMUNITY GROUPS

Beacon Light Grange: For information, call Master Darceline Lewis-Wedge at 482-2532.

Hale and Hearty Seniors Club: 2nd Wed. Holy Rosary Parish Hall, 6 pm., Sept.-May.

HHCT (Huntington Historic and Community Trust): 3rd Tues, Huntington Public Library, 7 pm. All are welcome to attend.

Howl Women's Land Monthly Business Meeting, 2nd Sunday of each month. 10 am. All women welcome 434-3953.

Prostate Cancer Support Group: Meeting Location: Hope Lodge, 237 East Ave, Burlington, second Tues each month, 6 pm to 8 pm.General discussion and sharing among survivors and those beginning or rejoining the battle. Mary L. Guyette RN, MS, ACNS-BC. 802-274-4990.

Richmond Community Band (RCB) Richmond Community Band rehearsals 7 pm to 9 pm. Mondays at Camels Hump Middle School. All band instruments are sought. Info: 434 2972.

Huntington Playgroup Fridays, 10 am, newborn through preschool (with older siblings welcome) Residents from any town are welcome. Huntington Public Library. Information, contact facilitator Jane Davis at huntingtonplaygroup@yahoo.com.

Blood Donation Opportunities

Burlington
November 3::11 am - 4 pm. Burlington Elks Club, North Avenue
November 4: 10 am - 2 pm, University of Vermont Medical Center, 111 Colchester Avenue
November 19: 1 pm - 7 pm, University of Vermont Patrick Gym, 97 Spear Street
Essex
November 5: 9 am - 2:30 pm, Essex High School, 2 Educational Drive
Hinesburg
November 6: 12:30 pm - 6 pm, St. Jude's Parish Hall, Route 116
Jericho Center
November 3: 8 a.m. - 2 p.m., MMU High School, 211 Browns
South Burlington
November 12: noon - 5 pm, Vitamin Shoppe, 195 Dorset Street
November 7: 11 am - 4 pm, Midas, 60 Midas Drive

Visit redcrossblood.org or call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) to make an appointment or for more information.

Worship

Community Church of Huntington: (See article, above, for specific activities.) Sunday morning Worship 9 am. Communion:1st Sunday. Senior Luncheon 3rd Tuesday (434-3155). Small Groups: Tuesday at 10 am and Wednesday at 7 pm at host homes in Huntington (Larry Detweiler 434-6715).

Richmond Congregational Church, United Church of Christ: 20 Church Street., 434-2053. Sunday Worship with Sunday School, 10 am.

Our Lady of the Holy Rosary Roman Catholic Church: Religious Education Classes: Sat. 9-10:15 am, CHMS, Richmond. Sacrament of Reconciliation: Sat. 3:15 pm. Masses: Sat.4 pm,Sun.8:30 am.

Community Alliance Church: 190 Pond Road (overlooking CVU), Hinesburg. Sunday, 9 am, Sunday school for all ages, with adults and teen electives; Scott Mansfield, 482-2132, www.hines burgcma.org

Jericho United Methodist Church: Rte. 15 in Jericho Corners. Sunday Worship and Church School 9 am winter and summer; Bible/Prayer Study Tues 7:30 pm. Rev. Kirk Thompson, 899-4288.

Jericho Congregational Church: on the green in Jericho Center. Interim Pastor, Doug Walker. Youth Pastor, Glenn Carter. Sunday services in the summer: 8 am & 10 am. Nursery care provided; Fellowship, 9:30 am. Sunday Youth Group: 6:15 pm. 899-4911; www.jccvt.org

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church: 273 Vt Rte 15 (near Brown Trace Rd) Jericho, 899-3932, Rev. Philip Raushey, Pastor, Worship Service: 9 am (Nursery Care provided) Sunday School & Bible Study: 10:30 am. www.GoodShepherd-Jericho.org

Mount Mansfield Unitarian-Universalist Fellowship: 195 Vermont Route 15, Jericho, (the red barn across from Packard Road) 9:30 am services second and fourth Sunday (September to June). All are welcome.

Episcopal Gathering in the Jerusalem Schoolhouse (behind the Jerusalem Country Store, South Starksboro, Rte 17). Holy Communion Service 9:30 am first and thirds Sundays. Rev. Molly Bidwell, 453-5537.

Calvary Episcopal Church Route I5, Underhill, (899-2326) Sunday Eucharist/Sunday school 9:30 am. Nursery available, handicapped accessible, coffee hour following service. Rev. Regina Christianson. www.calvarychurchvt.org

Talk on A Band Called Death

On Wednesday, November 4, at 7pm, Phoenix Books Burlington will host Bobby Hackney for a talk, Q&A, and book signing for his new book, Rock 'n' Roll Victims, The Story of a Band Called Death. Anyone who has seen the documentary A Band Called Death will love going deeper into the inspiring three-decade-long journey of the band that was playing punk music five years before the term became associated with rock 'n' roll. This autobiography is a book about rock 'n' roll, family, and the determination of three young brothers to simply exist as a band.

Bobby Hackney is the youngest of the three Hackney brothers who formed the rock 'n' roll band Death in Detroit during the early seventies. Bassist, lyricist, songwriter, and lead singer for the band Death, He began writing poetry, song lyrics, and short stories from an early age while growing up in Detroit. Graduating from Detroit's Southeastern High School in 1975, and continuing his education at the University of Vermont in business and music during the eighties, He has carefully and skillfully woven the details of his memory into the story that has become Rock 'n' Roll Victims The Story Of A Band Called Death. Hackney continues to write, perform and produce recordings.

Tickets are $3 per person, and include a coupon for $5 off the featured book. Coupons expire at closing the evening of the event. Seating is limited. Phoenix Books Burlington is located at 191 Bank Street in downtown Burlington. 448-3350 or visit www.phoenixbooks.biz.

BOLTON • RICHMOND • HUNTINGTON
Community Senior Center

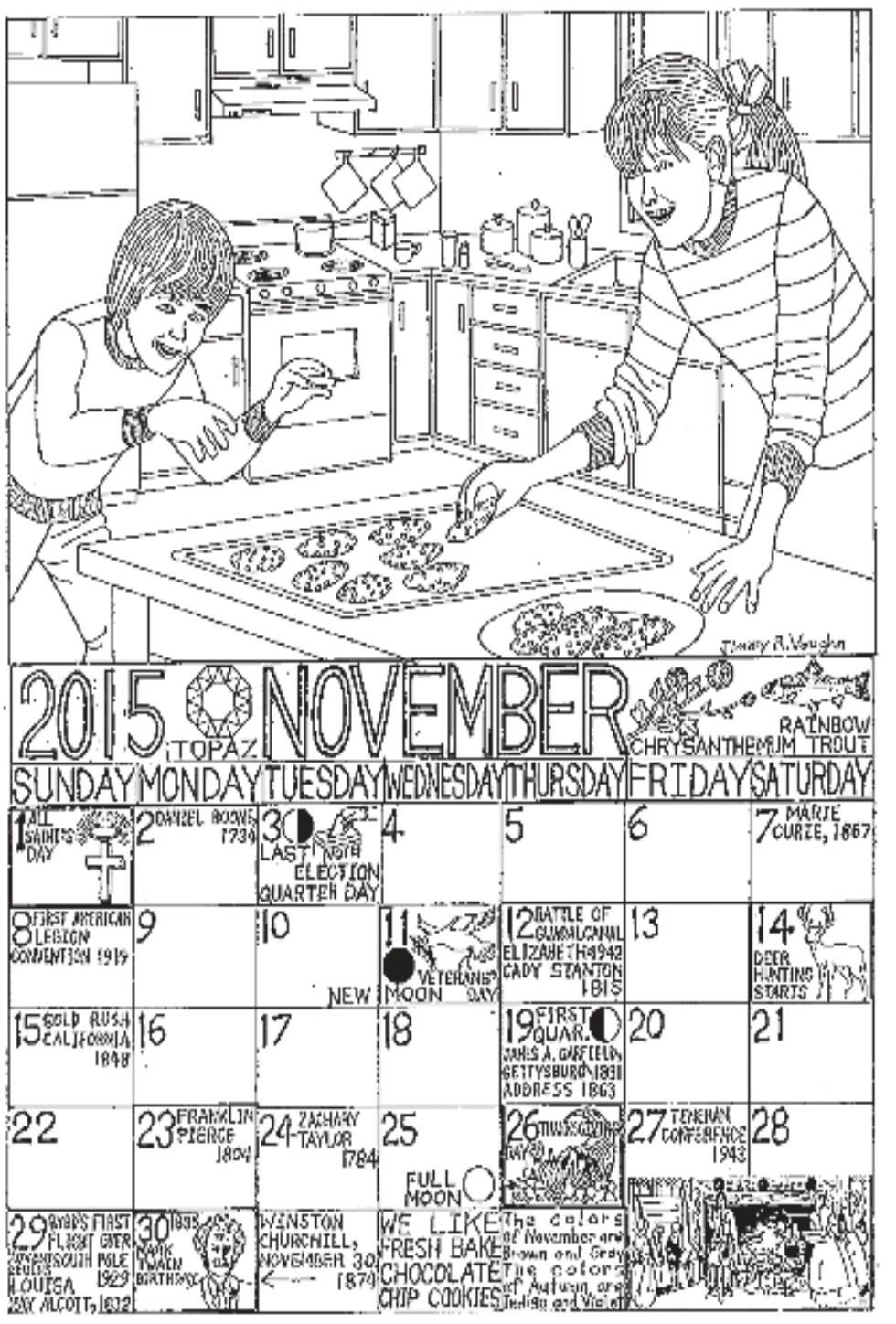
The Community Senior Center is offering a new wellness series with a program offered each month. Did you know that most people wait much too long to get help for their hearing loss? On November 19, Dr. Julie Bier from Better Living Audiology will present Coping with Hearing Loss. She'll discuss symptoms and diagnosis of hearing loss and talk about available solutions. Ten-minute hearing screenings will be available after the presentation. Please call 434-3169 if you would like to schedule a free screening.

We are continuing to offer life long learning presentations each month starting in November. On November 16, Richmond food author, blogger, recipe developer and chef Katie Webster will do a live cooking demonstration, question and answer session and sign copies of her new cookbook, Maple.

All of the above programs will be held at the Richmond Free Library from 1 pm to 3 pm. The programs are free and open to all. We hope to see you there.

GIVE BLOOD TODAY
American Red Cross

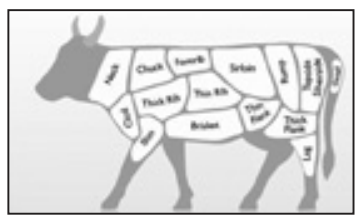
Church News now on previous page.



Service Directory

Animal Care

Beef



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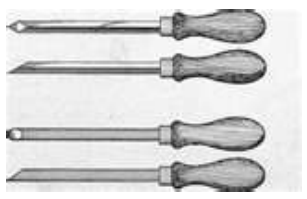


Catering

Drawing for a FREE AD

Buy a six-month Service Directory listing and be entered into a drawing for a FREE 1/8 page ad.

Drawing December 1, 2015.

Contact Meg Howard at advertising@timesinkvt.org for more information.

Cleaning

Dental

Excavating / Mowing

BILL ATWOOD EXCAVATING Driveways, ditching, grading, culverts replaced, drainage systems, house sites, septic systems, clearing. Excavator/dozer Bolton, 244-7495. [04/16]

Fuel Sales & Service

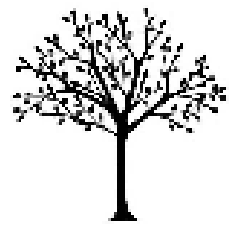
Gardening / Tilling

Gifts & Antiques

STARGAZER GIFTS & TOYS 56 Bridge Street, Your neighborhood toy store. Balloons, books, games, activity books, puzzles. 434-7318. Like us on Facebook. [09/15]

Hair Salon

BRIDGE STREET HAIR: Full service hair salon, tanning salon, Axxium Nails, manicures, pedicures. Hair products, jewelry, scarves and gifts. Gift certificates available. Appointments or drop-ins for all ages. Denise Begins Barnard, owner/operator. 46 Bridge Street, 434-2220. [1/16]



Landscaping / Arborist

GINKGO TREE EXPERTS LLC: Tree pruning and removal. Fully insured, Certified Arborist. Call 338-0729 for a free estimate. Ginkgotreeexperts@gmail.com [09/15]

INTERESTED IN A SERVICE DIRECTORY LISTING?

If you would like to purchase space in the Service Directory or if your current listing expires soon (check the date at the end of your listing), write to the address for Classified Ads. Cost is $25 for 3 months, $40 for 6 months, $60 per year, .20/word for listings over 20 words. We reserve the right to edit for content, spelling and grammar.

Lawn Care / Plowing

Laundry Service

Legal Services

Photography

MARY CLAIRE CARROLL PHOTOGRAPHY I love taking photographic portraits that transform the way you see yourself. Call me for individual,family, business,or high school senior portraits. www.carrollphotos.com 434-2312

PENNIE RAND PHOTOGRAPHY Outdoor portraits (family, individual, children), Weddings, Special Events, Sporting Events, Art Projects. 434-6047

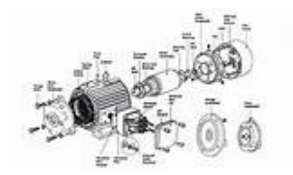
Professional Services

GROVER ENGINEERING, PC Design and permitting services for water supply, wastewater, stormwater, Act 250, site designs, ponds, site surveys. 434-2989 [02/15]

Repair

FARR FAMILY REPAIR SERVICE Farm tractors, compacts, snowblowers, all small engines,lawn and garden, chainsaw, chain and Hydraulic Hoses. 434-2151. [05/14]

YOUNG'S SMALL ENGINE REPAIR Repair and service of all small engines. Chainsaws sharpened. Jim Young, 3147 Dugway Road, 434-3993. [11/14]



Sewing

THE GOLDEN STITCH Custom sewing, tailoring, alterations, mending, pillows, slipcovers, prom and wedding gowns and dresser, crocheting, knitting, hand embroidery, etc. Joan Lajoie, proprietor, 999-8448. thegoldenstitch@yahoo.com [02/16]

SEWING & MENDING Shorten pants. Selling: holders, baby bibs, blankets, hot mats, vests, doll blankets, bag holders, clothespin bags, aprons. Raelene Emerson, 434-6159.

Weddings

HAVE YOUR DREAM WEDDING at the Sleepy Hollow Round Barn in Huntington. A beautiful 17-sided barn that can seat up to 165. Let your family and friends enjoy over 800 acres of true Vermont. Two nights in our Eight bedroom Inn is included. Dates still available for next summer and fall. Please visit www.skisleepyhollow.com for more information or call 434-2283. [12/14]

FLOWERS FOR YOUR WEDDING Natural-looking, graceful wedding flowers: bouquets, table arrangements; planted arrangements in urns and pots. Colorful Vermont-grown flowers also used in season. Pleasant Mount Farm, Huntington. 434-2690 [10/16]

Wellness

INTERFAITH SPIRITUAL DIRECTION with a certified spiritual director. Enjoy the benefits of a deepened connection between faith and everyday life. Sliding scale. Call Tess Starecheski, 434-7005, or e-mail at tessstar@gmavt.net to arrange free introductory session.

LIFETYPES TIME LIMITED WORK WITH COUPLES Who want to learn to better understand and celebrate their different styles and improve communication. Counseling for individuals exploring life or career changes and collegebound students seeking career directions or choosing majors. Myers-Briggs Type Indicator (MBTI), Strong Interest Inventory, etc. Bill Haddock, MA. 434-2210, lifetypes@gmavt.net.

MASSAGE THERAPY Swedish Massage, Deep Tissue and Reiki Healing for rest, relaxation, and pain relief. Over 20 years experience. Theresa Luca Gilbert, 434-2835, treeluca@gmavt.net [02/16]

PSYCHOTHERAPIST Are you confused and out of balance? Are you looking for meaning instead of stuff? Over 30 years experience. Demaris Tisdale, M.S.W. H: 434-3941 O: 229-2770

Employment

CLASSIFIED ADS*

All ads must be Prepaid! No phone call, please.

Rates: $4 for first 20 words. 25¢ each additional word

Deadline: See dates on bottom of page 1

***Personal, NOT BUSINESS ADS. Business ads must appear a minimum of 3 mos in the Service Directory**

Number of appearances: _____

Price/month _____ Total _____

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Business Beat
by Gina Haddock & Your Name Here

by Gina Haddock

Located upstairs in the Fieldstone Office Center building along Route 2 in Richmond is newly opened **Green Mountain Coral**, a business dedicated to providing service and equipment for salt water tanks as well as providing a wide range of aquatic life including live coral.

Owner Matt Spaulding told the Business Beat that his business was born out of his hobby and interest in fish and coral. Spaulding would travel throughout New England to visit "Frag Farmer's Markets,"basically markets for coral, where he had a chance to network with fellow coral enthusiasts as well as attend lectures to learn more about sustainable fishing practices. He began to grow coral at home in his tank and over the years his collection began to grow as did his enthusiasm for the hobby. Spaulding explained to us that coral is alive and by cutting a piece and attaching it to a rock it will then grow into another large coral through a cloning process which then makes it sustainable. This process of farming coral in tanks rather than wild harvesting from the ocean can help to protect coral reefs which are vulnerable.

In addition to selling a huge array of fish, coral, tanks and equipment, Spaulding offers full service support for salt water tanks. He works with clients to test tank water, develop solutions to any problems, plan out an aquarium and even provide tank maintenance when people are out of town. Knowing how important it is to deliver good customer service, Spaulding posts his cell phone on the door of his business and makes himself available if people need support on off hours. "My goal is for people to be happy and have a great experience owning a fish tank. Studies have even show that owning a tank can be a good investment in a person's emotional well-being. It also helps us to become better stewards of this earth," Spaulding explained to us.

When asked why he decided to locate his business in Richmond, Spaulding said that he wanted to be located further out from the other pet stores and yet close enough to the interstate. Also many of his clients are located in the Waterbury/Montpelier area and Matt himself lives in Bolton which makes it convenient. "I provide excellent customer service, a wide range of products that people would not find in the local pet stores and support and expertise for salt water tank customers. I can't compete with a large store or Amazon but I think when people are setting up an aquarium, they want to see what they are buying in advance and talk with someone who has a good understanding of fish, coral and tanks, so I hope to provide a niche for this market."

Clearly he knows his stuff and has a healthy dose of idealism that sustains his vision. Spaulding can provide all the consultation needed and equipment for someone looking to set up an aquarium. He can work with a variety of price points so there is something for everyone. "A great salt water tank doesn't have to break the bank. I want to work with people at their comfort level," he explained. Spaulding comes across like a natural and enthusiastic teacher and it's hard not to become fascinated by the mysterious creatures of the ocean after a visit to Green Mountain Coral.

"The beauty of a salt water tank," he tells us, "is that since it mirrors the environment of the ocean, the variety of aquatic life is immense and the ecosystem can create an environment for the tank to stay naturally clean." The coral collection alone was well worth the visit with tanks filled with stunning colors and shapes. For coral, among his many selections, Spaulding carries goniopora, which look like floral bouquets, acans, maze corals and zoanthids. Tanks also showcased clams, oysters, puffer fish, sea fans, tube anemones, miniatures lobsters, sea horses, star fish, clownfish and so much more. Spaulding deals with fish suppliers who use captive bred fishing practices which are both better for the environment and provide hardier fish for aquariums because they have been acclimated to the diet and environment of a fish tank.

And even if you don't have a fish tank or plan to purchase one, a trip to Green Mountain Coral can be great fun and an educational stop for folks. Here is where you'll find a very welcoming atmosphere and Matt Spaulding is delighted to share his knowledge and beautiful tanks to anyone who decides to stop by. And for all the kids who loved the charming Pixar movie Finding Nemo, ask your parents to take you over to Green Mountain Coral. Because you know what? We found "Nemo" and he's in Richmond, Vermont.

Green Mountain Coral is located at 1070 West Main Street in Richmond. 434-5465. A website is currently being developed but you can visit Green Mountain Coral on Facebook. Hours are Tuesday-Sunday, from 1 pm to 9 pm.

Editor's Note: After almost two decades of writing the Business Beat, Bill Haddock has decided to put down his notebook. His efforts over the past few years have been collaborative with his wife Gina, who would like to continue to cover the community's business news, but not on a monthly basis. So, The Times Ink is looking for a writer or two to work on the Business Beat without the pressure of producing a monthly column. Another great thing is you get to choose your subjects(s) and, even better, you work with Gina Haddock! Send an email: news@timesinkvt org

There is a lot of exciting business news in the Richmond area and we want to be sure it is in The Times Ink!

Isaac's Antiques Closes After Decades on the Green

Phyllis Sherman has closed Isaac's Antiques, which had been located next to the Round Church for almost three decades. Sherman reported that many and varied articles left from the closing are still for sale at 88 Esplanade. Everything is 50% off or even best offer. Art glass, lighting, willow ware, a few pieces of jewelry, small early train (not electric) sewing articles and buttons, framed pictures, Vermont books, kitchen items, steins, goblets, brass candlesticks, and more. Open by appointment or chance. 434-2555.

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TAX NOTICE

Town of Richmond

Second Quarter 2015-2016 taxes payment due Monday, November 16, 2015.

Town Clerk's Office will be closed on Monday, November 9, for Veterans Day.

The office is open until 6 pm on Monday, November 16, to accept payments.

A late fee of 1% interest will be applied to late payments on November 17.

Postmarks by the 16th will be accepted and there is a TOWN CENTER DROP BOX located by the side door across from the post office entrance.

Town of Huntington

Second Quarter 2015-2016 tax installment is due November 16, 2015.

Town Clerk's Office will be closed on Wednesday, November 11, for Veterans Day.

Office will be open:
Tuesday–Thursday, November 12-14, 8 am – 3 pm
Monday, November 16, 8 am – 7 pm

Postmarks by the 16th will be accepted.
(Note: Internet-generated checks do not have a postmark and therefore must reach our office by the 16th.)

You can also drop your payment through the wall slot at the Town Office until **midnight** on November 16.

Late payments are subject to a 1% per month interest charge on November 17.

All Things Human

by Demaris Tisdale, MSW

A Brief History of Family Focus

"I am human, and nothing that is human is alien to me."

—Terence, Roman poet (c.195-c159 BC)

In 1985, shortly after Betsy Bott organized the publication of our local paper The Times Ink!, she asked me if I would contribute. She suggested that a column on topics related to families would be a positive addition to the paper, and though I am not a professional writer or a journalist, I agreed.

For many years, I wrote about issues of family relationships and raising children. In 1990, Betsy asked me to write the lead story on the front page entitled Love Your Mother. Celebrating Earth Day, I revealed my passion for the planet, an appreciation instilled early by my own mother. Over the decades, my areas of interest expanded my range of topics.

With rare exceptions, my readers have been loyal and accepting, offering few criticisms. One reader many years ago took me to task for suggesting that psychotropic medications aren't a good idea for children. (Over time, research has only strengthened that view.)

In 2009, Heidi, our beloved editor, had the unpleasant task of informing me that someone had written a lengthy letter to the Times Ink! Board.

For a page and a half, Ms. Anonymous excoriated me for straying from the topic Family Focus and writing about education "despite her lack of credentials in this area." Ms. A. had evidently kept close watch on the columns, noting one in 2005 on the value of learning from literature, and another in 2006 on the importance of memorization. Ms. A. was very "bothered that she is being given license to write about whatever she chooses" and is not staying "in the realm of mental health." She suggested the column be replaced by one on local foods.

At first, I was tremendously hurt. It is painful to be severely criticized. Confidants were sympathetic and supportive, as was Heidi. I had to learn that when you put yourself and your opinions out there, you have to be ready to take some blows.

Anyway, I wrote a response to the Board apologizing for offending anyone and clarifying the wide variety of issues I'd been asked to write about.

Now I want to thank Ms. A. Regaining my composure, I was able to self-reflect, and develop a more research-based approach to my writing.

In my opinion, anything having to do with people, their environment and living conditions, is interesting material to write about. So we are changing the title of this column from Family Focus to All Things Human.

Being curious and eager to learn, I enjoy presenting information for people to think about and hopefully learn from. Never will everyone agree with all that I write, and that's okay.

Thank you, Ms. A., and thank you, loyal readers.

(Demaris Tisdale, M.S.W., is a licensed psychotherapist. She can be reached at 434-3941.)

Aging in Place

Submitted by Scott Funk

Paperwork and Parents

One of the most difficult parts of assisting an older parent, sibling, or friend is that when you become aware of situations, they may already be full-blown crises. Dealing with these problems can not only be time-consuming and needlessly costly, they can also create friction between you and the loved one you are trying to help.

My work requires clients to provide paperwork about insurance, mortgages, bank accounts, and more. This often reveals the confused state of many people's documents. Driver's licenses can be years out of date, home insurance expired, and the most recent bank statement, four years old. Imagine being the support person who gets a call that starts, "I was driving with an expired license and no car insurance . . ."

So, what is my point? Even though it can be a difficult negotiation, it is worth the effort to get paperwork in order and review it regularly. My recommendation is to agree upon a system to save all statements each month and review them during each visit.

As an example, my dad would call my sister when his lights were turned off. Why were they turned off? Because after a few months of receiving no payment, that is what the electric company does. However, that was not as big a problem for my dad as it was for my sister, who would have to spend the next day running around getting the bill paid and the lights back on.

Trying to get Dad to let my sister receive the bill and pay it out of his checking account was a non-starter. Dad found that insulting. If, instead, my sister had tried to negotiate a system for the paperwork, it might have been more successful, especially if she framed it as "helpful to her."

What I'm talking about here is a simple accordion file folder with a slot for each month. Dad could have put his paid (and unpaid) bills in the monthly slot and my sister would have a heads-up on what was being paid, what wasn't being paid, and what the charges were on the various bills.

That last point is an important one. One of my uncles was paying substantially more on his phone service than he expected. Little by little the phone service provider had been adding small charges. When my cousin found out about it, he called and found out the fees were "optional." All my uncle had to do was call up and complain and they would remove the charges. Because no one had read the bills, the charges had kept piling on.

Helping to organize and review the paperwork will benefit you and the person you are supporting. It may seem like an extra task, but in the long run it will make it easier for both of you.

Aging in Place, it doesn't happen by accident, but you have to do the paperwork.

(Former Richmond resident Scott Funk is Vermont's leading Aging in Place advocate, writing and speaking around the state on issues of concern to retirees and their families. He works as a Home Equity Conversion Mortgage and HECM for Purchase specialist. You can access previous Aging in Place columns and blogs at scottfunk.org.)

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