The Times Ink!
OF RICHMOND & HUNTINGTON

The Newspaper of Richmond & Huntington

Volume 35 **December 2018 Issue** Number 10

Let It Snow!

Willis Hill Ready for Sledding Season

Slope-side parking, a little kid's hill, a freshly groomed main hill and a new trail connection have the Richmond Land Trust's Willis Hill Preserve in prime shape for wintertime fun, on Route 2, just west of Richmond village.

Most of the work was completed by Spence Construction and groups of volunteers organized by RLT's Lou Borie and Gary Bressor. On-site parking is now available for the first time, with easy access from a driveway on Rt. 2. A new slope has been cleared for the younger set, featuring a run-out that will safely steer kids away from the road. The main slope is freshly mowed and cleared of some stumps to give sledders of all ages even more room to enjoy what is easily one of the most exciting sledding hills in the area. The new path from the parking area leads to the trail connecting the elementary and middle schools with the full slate of the Preserve's educational, athletic and recreational opportunities.

Volunteers last month build a trail at the Richmond Land Trust's Willis Hill Preserve to connect the new parking lot to the main sledding hill and the elementary and middle schools.

Ringing the Bell

On November 11, 2018, at 11 am, Bill Rogers and Paula Kelley climbed the narrow stairs into the tower of the Union Meeting House in Huntington's Lower Village to ring the bell as part of a national commemoration of the 100th anniversary of Armistice Day. Photo taken near the bell by Julie Rogers.

Election Results

Huntington Registered Voters 1687
Buels Gore Registered Voters 23
TOTAL HUNTINGTON CHECKLIST 1710
Votes Cast: Huntington 1104 (67%) Buels Gore 15 (65%)
TOTAL VOTES 1119
Absentee (early) ballots returned 150
Voters added on Election Day: 28

TOTAL RICHMOND CHECKLIST 3295
Votes Cast: 2352 (72%)
Absentee (early) ballots 686
Voters added on Election Day: 54

Ballot Results:

Office	Huntington	Richmond
US SENATOR		
Folasade Adeluola	6	22
Russell Beste	9	21
Bruce Busa	3	0
Edward S Gilbert Jr	7	7
Reid Kane	1	6
Brad J Peacock	4	7
***Bernie Sanders**	**867**	**1753**
Jon Svitavsky	3	7
Lawrence Zupan	205	495
REPRESENTATIVE TO CONGRESS		
Cris Ericson	24	51
Laura S Potter	18	28
Anya Tynio	196	453
***Peter Welch**	**860**	**1794**
GOVERNOR		
Trevor Barlow	7	14
Cris Ericson	7	16
Christine Hallquist	561	1103
Charles Laramie	3	6
Stephen Marx	6	12
Emily "Em" Peyton	4	2
***Phil Scott**	**513**	**1177**
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR		
Murray Ngoima	7	30
Don Turner Jr	307	748
***David Zuckerman**	**779**	**1521**
STATE TREASURER		
Richard Morton	220	533
***Beth Pearce**	**850**	**1734**
SECRETARY OF STATE		
***Jim Condos**	**846**	**1768**
Mary Alice Hebert	30	33
H Brooke Paige	214	480
AUDITOR OF ACCOUNTS		
Marina Brown	31	64
***Doug Hoffer**	**787**	**1583**
Richard Kenyon	230	564
ATTORNEY GENERAL		
***TJ Donovan**	**866**	**1799**
Rosemarie Jackowski	25	55
Janssen Willhoit	186	424
STATE'S ATTORNEY		
***Sarah F George**	899	1976
SHERIFF		
***Kevin M McLaughlin**	**885**	**1904**
HIGH BAILIFF		
***Daniel Gamelin**	**872**	**1857**

Office	Huntington	Richmond
PROBATE JUDGE		
***Gregory J Glennon**	**719**	**1506**
William "Bill" Norful	279	672
ASSISTANT JUDGE (2)		
***Suzanne Brown**	**626**	**1400**
Charles Delaney	279	553
***Connie Cain Ramsey**	**493**	**1088**
Zachary York	188	317
STATE REPRESENTATIVE (2) Washington-Chittenden (Huntington & Buels Gore)		
***Tom Stevens (Dem)**	**799**	–
***Theresa Wood (Dem)**	**863**	–
STATE REPRESENTATIVE (1) Chittenden 1 (Richmond)		
***Marcia Lawrence Gardner (Dem)**	–	**1517**
Terry Moultroup (Rep)	–	795
STATE SENATOR ADDISON (2) (Huntington & Buels Gore)		
Audet	149	–
***Christopher A Bray**	**650**	–
Peter Briggs	245	–
Flower	31	–
***Ruth Hardy**	**701**	–
Ralston	124	-

STATE SENATOR CHITTENDEN (6) (Richmond)

***Tim Ashe**	**1539**	***Phil Baruth**	**1342**
Seth Cournoyer	162	Paul Dame	574
Alex R Farrell	651	***Debbie Ingram**	**1433**
Joshua H Knox	323	***Virginia "Ginny" Lyons**	**1498**
Dana Maxfield	579	Louis Meyers	251
***Christopher A Pearson**	**1097**	Loyal Ploof	154
***Michael Sirotkin**	**1336**		

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Letters on local topics are encouraged. Please submit to news@timesinkvt.org . All submissions must have a signature and phone number for verification. Letters with an inflammatory tone, or prose likely to incite high blood pressure in some of the readers, will be reviewed and evaluated by The Times Ink! Board of Directors before printing.

The Times Ink!
OF RICHMOND & HUNTINGTON

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Date of Issue: December 20

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Letters

Food Shelf Needs Board Members

The Richmond Food Shelf and Thrift Store is looking for two Board Members for 2019.

We are seeking people who are aware of the social injustice surrounding the issues of poverty and food insecurity. Someone who has an open and compassionate heart.

Do you have the time and energy to help the food shelf continue moving in the right direction?

Diverse skill sets and backgrounds are encouraged to reach out and apply.

Please visit our website for more information: richmondfoodshelfvt.org.

Marcia Levison, Richmond

CHMS Thanks and Congrats

Many thanks to Ralph and Rachel Towers for donating pumpkins for the 5th Annual Pumpkin Chunkin' held on October 27 at Camels Hump Middle School. Every year this fun, family event is held to support the continuation of the PROSPER Program; a seven-week program for 5th and 6th grade families to assist both through the challenges of adolescence.

CHMS Principal Mark Carbone with pumpkin growers Rachel and Ralph Towers.

CHMS Cross-Country runners after the race at the Shelburne Museum on October 17.

Congratulations to the CHMS Cross Country team, which participated in the Chittenden Cross Country Championship race at Shelburne Museum on October 17. It was a large field of 230 girls and 325 boys that made for an exciting race. Runners persevered through a cold and blustery weather, accented by a squall of hail during the girls race. The boys team placed 9th and the girls 12th out of 15 teams. Some of the team participated in the State meet at Trapp Family Lodge on October 28.

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Election Results

continued from page 1

RICHMOND JUSTICE OF THE PEACE (12)

***Denise Begins Barnard**	**1798**	**–**
***Francis Churchill**	**1605**	
***Joel K "Jay" Furr**	**1384**	
***Cheryl Hard**	**1060**	
***James "Jeff" Hard**	**924**	
Mary Houle	860	
***Keith Kasper**	**1445**	
***Marshall Paulsen**	**1321**	
***Sue Pochop**	**1625**	
***Curran "Spike" Robinson**	**1113**	
***Cameron Thomas**	**1147**	
***Jane van Landingham**	**1396**	
***Becky Vigneault**	**1458**	

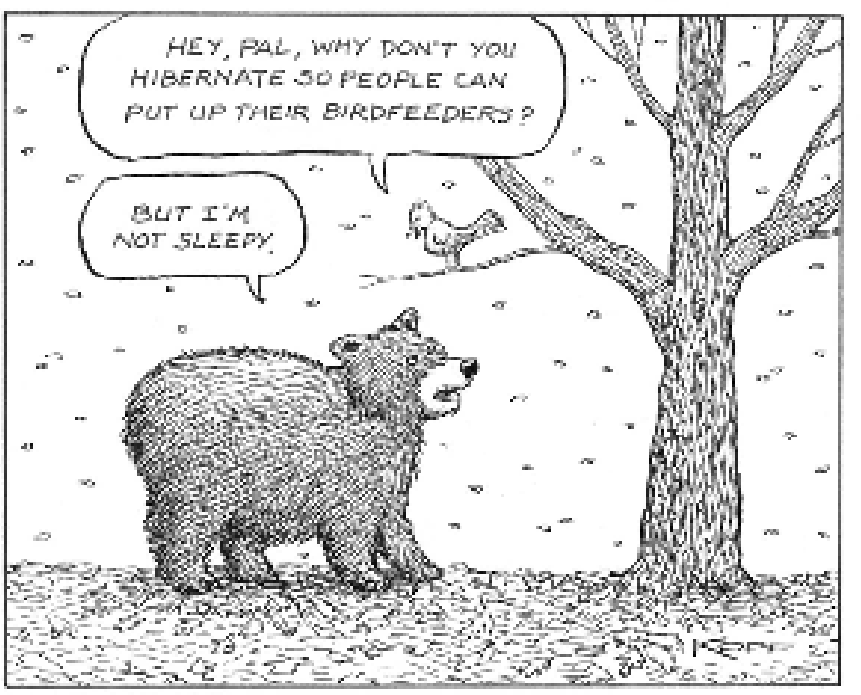
HUNTINGTON JUSTICE OF THE PEACE (7)

***Patricia Quinn Baumann 658**
***Don Dresser 689**
***Bonnie Gordon 630**
Barrett Grimm 399
***Shelly McSweeney 645**
***Heidi Racht 848**
***Mary Taft 797**
***Carol Wildman 515**

Next Local Blood Drive December 13

Richmond Congregational Church will host an American Red Cross blood drive on Wednesday, December 13, noon to 6 pm. Please note the later times which may help accommodate your work schedule. Eligible donors can call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or go online to redcrossblood.org for more information and to make a blood donation appointment. Those with appointments are able to help minimize the time it takes to donate. To further reduce your wait time, consider using RAPIDPASS (http://www.redcrossblood.org/rapidpass), a pre-donation & health history questionnaire. Complete it on line on December 13 before you arrive to donate.

As the giving season approaches, please put being a donor at the top of your shopping list; donating blood can be both a rewarding experience and an opportunity to make a difference in a patient's life.



Turkey Trot in Honor of Jarred Williams

The Never Give Up Ever non-profit organization is hosting its annual Turkey Trot in honor of Jarred Williams. The event will be held on Thanksgiving morning at the Round Church in Richmond.

The course will be an out and back on Cochran Road. Runners and walkers have the choice of participating in a 5k or 10K.

Registration will be available online up until November 20 at 8:30 am at https://runsignup.com/Race/VT/Richmond/ JarredWilliamsTurkeyTrotbenefitingNeverGiveUpEve and on site between 7:45 am and 8:20 am Thanksgiving morning.

The entry fee for the race will be $25 and a canned good, if signed up online and $30 and a canned good if signed up on race day. The canned goods will be donated to a local food shelf. The entry fees will go directly to support patients (and families) with a chronic or life threatening illness treated at UVM Children's Hospital undergoing financial hardships.

The registration packet will include a race number, timing chip, t-shirt (first 225 runners/ walkers signed up) and light refreshments. Further information: Jennifer Eddy 802-777-9522 or jencasa@aol.com.

Are You Ready for Winter?

On December 11, the Huntington Energy Committee (HEC) is sponsoring a free Button Up Workshop and Holiday Potluck Dinner at the Huntington Town Hall at 6 pm.

At this informal workshop, you will learn about how houses lose energy and discover opportunities for saving money on your energy bills. This workshop will cover low-cost tips, air sealing and insulation, and financial and technical resources. The workshop will be led by Matt Sargent of Efficiency Vermont, who you may have seen on TV over the past year.

An interactive panel Q&A will be part of the program for folks to ask and receive answers from the experts.

This event is co-sponsored by Efficiency Vermont and Building Energy, which will provide, for those who attend, two chances to win a free professional Home Energy Audit, valued at $400 each.

For more information, contact Miranda Keir at 434-6041.

Gifts Galore on December 16

A Festival of Locally Made Treasures will be held at the Richmond Free Library, on December 16, 10 am to 3 pm.

This festival, held for the second year, is the perfect holiday gift-buying opportunity, in a small and friendly setting with 15 local vendors. Enjoy a wide variety of gift ideas and price ranges that include; table top decor, art, jewelry, wood products, clothing and notecards and more.

Refreshments will be hosted as a fundraiser for the Richmond Library Children's Program.

New Year's Eve with Folknight in Richmond

A New Year's Celebration of Roots will be held in Richmond on New Year's Eve, at the Richmond Congregational Church, at 7 pm. A new group is picking up the event that Tim Whiteford started years ago, now with a new name.

Ir promises to be a fantastic evening of roots music, featuring Young Tradition Vermont, Old Sky, Emerald Rae and Pete's Posse!

Watch for more information in the next issue of The Times Ink.

Richmond Senior Foot Clinics

Richmond Foot Clinics for Seniors are off and running for fall. Mark your calendar. Due to renovations being done at the Richmond Rescue Building, the foot clinic for the next three times will be held at the Holy Rosary Church: November 27, January 8 and February 19, 2019.

Please call Sally Singer, 434-3480 for an appointment.

Next dates for 2018-2019:

November 27	January 8	February 19
April 2	May 14	June 25

Don't wait to make an appointment or get on the waiting list. 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 UVM Medical Center. More information can be obtained at singersallydan@yahoo com.

Richmond Holiday Market

Above, Santa and friends at the 2017 Richmond Holiday market. Courtesy photo

The 2018 Holiday Market in Richmond is scheduled for December 1, 9 am to 3 pm. The day will feature over 60 booths selling holiday gifts in four locations, a silent auction, hearty food, and Santa at Our Lady of the Holy Rosary hall 10 am to noon. A shuttle will be available; lots of live music to enjoy in all four venues: Richmond Free Library, Richmond Congregational Church, Richmond Town Center and Our Lady of the Holy Rosary Catholic Church. It is a great place to get your holiday gifts, support local artists and businesses and meet and greet friends of all ages.

Film Premier

Audubon Vermont will hold a film premier event, featuring A Natural History of Vermont followed by the opportunity to speak with the film's producer Emily Tredeau, on November 28, at the Main Street Landing Film House in Burlington.

This visually remarkable film distills an entire year of ambling about Vermont's fields and forests, and pays homage to all of the fellow beings you can meet by just going outside. The beauty of nature at all scales reveals itself in immersive visuals, natural soundscapes, and original music, all by Vermont filmmaker James McNamara.

This event is open to the public with tickets available for free through Eventbrite. The evening will include a reception beginning at 6 pm, followed by the film screening at 7 pm. The reception will give interested people the opportunity to meet Audubon Vermont's new Executive Director David Mears and to talk with the staff and board of Audubon Vermont about its conservation work, education programs, and legislative priorities.

More information:: http://vt.audubon.org/events/natural-history-vermont-film-screening-and-reception.

Two Valley Stage December Concerts

Valley Stage Productions will present two concerts at the Richmond Congregational Church in December. Darol Anger will be performing his Keeping It In the Fam holiday show with Emy Phelps and the Matt Flinner Trio on December 2.

On the following Sunday, December 9, Rani Arbo and daisy mayhem will perform their Wintersong program which "sidesteps the holiday canon and digs up the power, beauty and hopeful yearning at the roots of this holiday." These are songs — and musicians —full of fierce poetry and wild joy; this program is their ode to light and dark, and to the balance of both at the turn of the year. Rani Arbo is always a community favorite and her shows often sell out.

Tickets are $20 in advance and $23 day of show. Seniors (65+) and children 16 and under are $15.

For more information about these concerts: www.valleystage.net or contact Don Sheldon at 434-4563 or don@valleystage.net

HUNTER'S BREAKFAST

November 17 & 24, 6 am to 11 am

Traditional breakfast fare:

Eggs • Pancakes • Earl's Famous Cornmeal Pancakes
Toast & French Toast on Heidi's Homemade Bread
Vermont Smoke & Cure Sausage • Bacon
Coffee • Juice & Other Beverages

Bring your Newspaper & Your Appetite!
Bring the Entire Family! Not to be Missed!

Community Church of Huntington • Huntington Center

BUTTON UP

and stay warm this winter!

Panel Discussion and Potluck Dinner

Tuesday, Dec 11th, 2018 at 6:00 pm

Join the Huntington Energy Committee for dinner and discussion.

- Holiday Season **Potluck Dinner**
- **Interactive Q&A** with experts from Efficiency Vermont and Building Energy
- 2 chances to win a **FREE professional Home Energy Audits**, valued at $400 each. Must be present to win.

Contact Miranda Keir for more information, 434-6041

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radiate
ART SPACE

Come Create at Radiate!

Do your kids love giving gifts as much as receiving them? Sign up now for our popular holiday gift-making sessions. They will choose from a variety of stations that will allow their creativity to shine while personalizing their gifts.

Fri, Dec. 14, 6-8:30pm (10-16 years) • Sat, Dec. 15, 3-5pm (5-10 years)

For more information + to reserve your spot visit:
www.radiateartspace.org

Our 15TH Year!
WESTERN SLOPES
RICHMOND • HUNTINGTON • BOLTON • UNDERHILL • JERICHO
Working Together to Promote a Vibrant Business Community

Holiday Market in Richmond, VT

Saturday, December 1, 2018 • 9:00 am–3:00 pm

Four Richmond locations:
Richmond Free Library • Richmond Congregational Church
Our Lady of the Holy Rosary • Richmond Town Center

This HOLIDAY FESTIVE EVENT includes:
— from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm —
Over 60 booths selling great holiday gifts • Wreaths will be on sale
Free ornament making
(with donation of canned goods for Richmond Food Shelf)
Silent Auction in Town Center (9:00 am–2:30 pm)
to benefit the MMU Scholarship Fund

All Are Welcome!
— from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm —
SANTA at the Catholic Church
Shuttle Service from Catholic Church to the Town Center!

Lots of music! CHMS performances in all 4 venues
DJ Tony Basanta spinning tunes!

For more information call Nick de Tarnowsky at 802.434.4483
NickDet@iCloud.com • www.westernslopesvt.org

Huntington Public Library

HOURS:
Mon 10–6
Tues & Thurs 12–5
Fri 10-5 • Sun 12–5
434-4583
hpl@gmavt.net

www.huntingtonlibraryvt.org

Thank you to our many generous and dedicated volunteers who helped make the Sunday Afternoon Irish Tea a gem of an event! The event was a fundraiser for HELD (Huntington Endowment for Library Development), a non-profit organization with a mission to create a fund which will have interest earnings to be used for the operation of the Huntington Public Library. HELD was the idea of a local resident who offered a $5000 match to create an endowment in the manner of the Hubbard Library in Montpelier. Although we have a much smaller community and no obvious benefactor, the endowment is climbing and the money has been invested by the HELD Board with good results. If you missed the tea and would like to make a donation to HELD, contact Lorrie Richland, 2030 Main Road, Huntington. HELD is a 501c3 nonprofit and all donations are tax-deductible.

Hatha Yoga with Tania Dornic Thursdays, 5:45 pm – 6:45 pm. Invigorate your week with a slow, yet empowering yoga class suitable for all levels of experience. We will focus on alignment in the postures, while being mindful of body, breath, and mind. While classes are drop-in, it would be helpful to know ahead of time how many plan to attend. You can contact Tania with any questions, or to let her know you are coming to any of the classes, at 802-355-4013 (call or text).

Environmental Film Series The Library will be featuring three films a year on environmental themes. We are pleased to have Barrett Grimm as the host for this series. Our first film will be Call of the Forest by Diana Beresford-Kroeger. It will be shown on Sunday, December 9, at the Library. Snacks will be available at 5:15 pm and the film will begin at 5:30. Please remember that the Library is a Zero Waste venue, so please bring your own mug and napkins.

You can watch the trailer at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=45jwIzO6D60. It is an 85-minute feature. Beresford Kroeger has written several highly regarded books that are part of the HPL collection. This series is being sponsored in collaboration with the Huntington Conservation Commission and Vermont Coverts – Woodlands for Wildlife. vtcoverts.org

Citizen Science Forum Back by popular demand - the Cit Sci Forum will return in early spring 2019! If you are a citizen scientist please consider sharing your experiences with the community. Our first presenters (in 2016) were Wally Jenkins – Dragonflies, Cindy Sprague – Herps, Erin Talamge – iNaturalist 101, Ali Wagner – Birds, Elizabeth Spinney – Invasives, Larry Montague – Huntington Town Garage Stormwater Mitgation, John Hadden – Backyard Weatherman and Corina Parnapy – Winooski River Watershed Conservation. Please contact Anne at the Library if you are interested or know of another local citizen scientist.

Medication Mailers The Vermont Department of Health has issued Libraries special mailers for your used, expired, or unwanted over-the-counter and prescription medications, as well as prescription patches, ointments, pet medicines, and vitamins. Individuals are asked to remove any identifying information and Rx numbers and not to overfill bags. This is a completely free service.

New Adult Fiction Winter in Paradise by Elin Hilderbrand; Ambush by James Patterson; The Clockmaker's Daughter by Kate Morton; The Infinite Sea, The Glass Ocean, Tiny Little Thing and A Certain Age by Beatriz Williams; The Witch Elm by Tana French; The Temtation of Forgiveness by Donna Leon; A River of Stars by Vanessa Hua; The Girl in the Tower by Katherine Arden; Every Breath by Nicholas Sparks; Unsheltered by Barbara Kingsolver; Down the River Unto the Sea by Walter Mosley; Depth of Winter by Craig Johnson; Open Your Eyes by Paula Daly; Where the Crawdads Sing by Delia Owens; Labyrinth of the Spirits by Carlos Ruiz Zafos.

Non-Fiction The New Organic Grower – 30th Anniversary Edition by Eliot Coleman; Vaccines, Autoimmunity and the Changing Nature of Childhood Illness by Thomas Cowan; Feathers – The Evolution of a Natural Miracle by Thor Hanson; Differently Wired – Raising an Exceptional Child in a Conventional World by Deborah Reber; Almost Everything by Anne Lamott; The Singing Wilderness by Sigurd F. Olson; A Secret Sisterhood by Emily Midorikawa and Emma Claire Sweeney; Call of the Reed Warbler by Charles Massy; Life in the Soil – A Guide to Naturalists and Gardeners and Discoveries in the Garden by James Nardi; Teaching the Trees - Lessons From the Forest by Joan Maloof; Dirt to Soil–One Family's Journey into Regenerative Agriculture by Gabe Brown; Woody Plants of the Northeast–A Photographic Guide by Jerry Jenkins; Mesquite – An Arboreal Love Affair by Gary Paul Nabhan; The Whole Smiths Cookbook by Michelle Smith.

DVD Outlander Season 3; Curious George; Hotel Transylvania 3.

Junior Fiction Thea Stilton and the Mystery in Paris and The Spanish Dance Mission by Geronimo Stilton.

Huntington Library Playgroup and Story Time Fridays, 10am – noon. Stories at 10:45 am. Everyone needs books! The playgroup aims to provide a welcoming, fun, and social environment for babies and toddlers with their caregivers. Join us for books, singing, rhyming, counting, and crafts!

First Friday of the Month Movie Night December 7, at 7 pm. Bring your best friends and wear your coziest pajamas while we watch Coco! All ages welcome!

Goodsearch As the holidays and shopping approaches, please consider shopping through GoodSearch.com to both search and shop online. Each search is a penny and selected companies donate money for purchases through the site. Thank you!

Please Note The Library will be closed on Thursday, November 22, and Friday, November 23, in observance of the holiday.

Loon Song Healing
Local Reiki Master
Jackie Pichette
802-734-2479
loonsonghealing@gmail.com

Richmond Free Library

Mon & Wed
10 - 8
Tues & Thurs
1 - 6
Fri 10 - 6
Sat 10 - 2
434-3036

www.richmondfreelibraryvt.org rfl@gmavt.net

Wild Nature Speaker Series On the first Sunday in December, outdoor adventurer and conservationist John Davis will show Born to Rewild, a short film about his 5,000-mile, human-powered (bike, hike, horseback and paddle) exploration of the Western Wildway, and talk about how the lessons of that trek apply to the East. Davis set out on this epic conservation adventure from Mexico to British Columbia to experience the land as wildlife experience it and found a landscape that is fraught with barriers, but which is also being miraculously stitched back together. Davis will also talk about his 7,600-mile trek on foot, bicycle, and boat through the proposed Eastern Wildway, and highlight some rewilding opportunities for our region--in particular, the need to restore catamounts. Formerly a resident of Huntington, now living across the lake in the Adirondack Park, John Davis is the editor of the website Rewilding Earth (rewilding.org) and the author of Split Rock Wildway: Scouting the Adirondack Park's Most Diverse Wildlife Corridor. Please join us on Sunday, December 2, at 4 pm for Born To Rewild--East and West.

The Wild Nature Speaker Series is at the Library on the first Sunday of the month at 4 pm in November, December, January, and February. Save the date for future programs "From Camels Hump to Patagonia: Who Saved the Parks Beloved by Millions?" with Tom Butler on Sunday, January 6; and "The Real Eastern Coyote" with Chris Schadler on Sunday, February 3.

New Books In conjunction with our Wild Nature series, the Library has an assortment of new books about nature, wild animals, and climate change, which will be on display in November. These new purchases were made possible with a grant from the Eddy Foundation, which is also underwriting the speaker series. Some of the new books include: Nature's Temples and Among the Ancients by Joan Maloof; The Inner Life of Animals by Peter Wohlleben; Field Notes from a Catastrophe by Elizabeth Kolbert; The Tangled Tree by David Quammen; Coyote America by Dan Flores; Feathers: The Evolution of a Natural Miracle by Thor Hanson; The Wisdom of Wolves by Jim and Jamie Dutcher; The Songs of Trees by David George Haskell; Beyond Words: What Animals Think and Feel by Carl Safina; Wilderness Essays by John Muir; Reading the Forested Landscape by Tom Wessels; The Lost Art of Reading Nature's Signs by Tristan Gooley; Encyclical on Climate Change & Inequality by Pope Francis; Drawdown: The Most Comprehensive Plan Ever Proposed to Reverse Global Warming edited by Paul Hawken; The Great Derangement by Amitav Ghosh; Rising: Dispatches from the New American Shore by Elizabeth Rush; and New York 2140 by Kim Stanley Robinson.

New Adult Playaways A Playaway is an all-in-one audio device that can be worn around your neck while working or exercising or it can be plugged into your car speakers. It has a simple on/off feature which remembers your place in the book. As there are no disks to change or get damaged they generally offer an easier, skip-free listening experience than books on audio disks. Kids love them and now many adults are discovering their utility. Our adult collection is growing as more people tell us that they enjoy this new book format. Check one out and let us know what you think. We have new current titles for the fall of 2018.

Baby Laptime This 30-minute program is for our youngest visitors. Adults interact with their little person through simple stories, songs, rhymes, bounces and wiggles that are sure to bring out the smiles and giggles. Baby Laptime is designed for infants through age 2. Join us on Mondays at 10:30 am.

Playgroup with Stories and Music The morning begins at 10 am with songs, stories and a simple snack (bring your own) on the alphabet rug. Around 10:30 am, we'll get out the toys for free play with friends in the Library's sunny and spacious Community Room. We have gross motor and fine motor toys, puzzles and activities for infants through preschool age children. Join us on Wednesdays for storytime and playgroup.

Movers and Shakers Storytime Frequent exposure to picture books not only entertain and delight children but also strengthens their vocabulary and their ability to make sense of the world. We'll share fantastic new and classic picture books and work some early literacy magic into a child's day. We'll couple stories with simple songs and activities for some interactive moving and shaking. Toddlers and preschoolers and their caregivers are welcome on Fridays at 10:30.

Weekly children's programs at the Library run from September through May and follow the CESU school district schedule for vacation days and weather closure days.

Fiction Book Discussion No Biking in the House Without a Helmet by Melissa Fay Greene is a loving portrait of a unique twenty-first-century family as it wobbles between disaster and joy. Pick up a copy at the Library and join us on Tuesday, December 11, at 6 pm.

Mystery Book Discussion Blood on the Tongue by Stephen Booth is the book for December. It's a new year for Peak District detectives Ben Cooper and Diane Fry, and that means new murders to solve in the icy depths of a bitter winter in Edendale, Derbyshire. All are welcome to join the discussion on Thursday, December 20, at 7 pm.

Holiday Movie and Pizza Party We will be showing a favorite and hilarious holiday classic about a human who is raised by elves. Like most elves, this particular elf-like human has a real fondness for all things sweet, turning even spaghetti into a strange confection. Come watch and eat some elf-inspired pizza. Join us after school on Friday, December 14, at 3:30 pm.

Holiday Sweater Coloring Show November is the month to pick up your sweater cut-out to design and color for the holiday season. Sweater cut-outs are available on the first and second floor for you to work on at the Library with our art supplies or to take home. All entries will be on display during the month of December.

November Art Show and Display Case Jennifer Esser will show the paintings of her grandfather William Stelzer, a self-taught inventor, designer, and artist. Born in Switzerland in 1903, Stelzer came to the United States in 1923 at age 20. Without formal training, he decided to become an engineer and eventually held over 220 patents in his name; the power brake was his most important invention. The display case will share photos and stories about his life and accomplishments, while some of his paintings will hang on the Library's walls. His lively, colorful work is surrealistic and sometimes abstract. Stelzer's art was included in several shows during his lifetime and his paintings are now shared among his children and grandchildren.

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Richmond Selectboard

Reported by Greg Elias

Amid management upheavals at Town Center, Richmond's annual budget process plods along in much the same way as years past.

The municipal budget proposal presented at the Selectboard's November 5 meeting increases spending by a little more than 5 percent, similar to previous initial offerings by former Town Manager Geoffrey Urbanik. Meanwhile, the Selectboard targeted a smaller spending bump of about 2 percent, pegged as usual to inflation.

As in previous years, Selectboard members scheduled meetings to talk with department heads and debate spending cuts. The idea is to finish the process by January so residents can vote on the budget at Town Meeting Day in March.

The process offers comforting familiarity following the departure of two top administrators. In September, Urbanik resigned to take a job with the town of Colchester. Police Chief Alan Buck retired at the end of June.

The Selectboard delayed permanently replacing Buck until a new town manager was hired. To temporarily fill Urbanik's position, Selectboard appointed former Shelburne Town Manager Paul Bohne.

Meanwhile, a committee searched for Urbanik's permanent replacement. At the November 5 meeting, Josh Arneson was introduced as Richmond's new town manager. He previously was the vice president of sales and marketing at Bolton Valley Resort and served on the Bolton Selectboard for five years.

The timing puts Arneson in the unusual position of dealing with a budget he did not write. Municipal budgets are typically developed by the town manager in consultation with department leaders. For this budget cycle, Bohne worked with Finance Director Connie Bona to formulate the spending plan.

Spending Specifics Bona outlined for the Selectboard details of Richmond's proposed $3,953,732 budget for the fiscal year starting next July. As proposed, the budget would boost the property tax rate by about 3 cents, equal to roughly a $90 annual increase in property taxes on a $300,000 home.

The budget increases overall spending by 5.5 percent. Town administration, a kind of catch-all department that includes everything from election administration to building maintenance, seeks one of the biggest increases, 21.8 percent, for a $914,311 budget. Only town Listers asked for a larger increase, 38 percent, albeit on a much smaller budget, $41,350.

Other departments ask for smaller spending hikes. Planning and Zoning seeks a 12.8 increase, the Richmond Free Library asks for a 4.3 percent funding bump and Recreation and Trails Department wants just a 0.8 percent increase. The Highway Department's $1,623,782 budget, the town's largest, represents a 4.8 percent increase.

Bona explained that several significant expenses are not accounted for in the budget because those numbers were not yet available. Among the blank lines is the cost of shoring up with rip-rap banks of the stretch of the Winooski River running along Volunteers Green. Bona said that $138,000 expense could be covered by a loan to be paid off using budget reserves. If financed that way, the project will not increase the spending or taxes.

Health insurance for town employees has been one of the major causes of previous budget hikes. Depending on the department, projected insurance costs in the proposed budget are up 4-5 percent, smaller than the double-digit jumps seen in previous years.

Board member Steve Ackerman asked about the insurance line in the police budget, which drops by 18.6 percent to $77,523. He wondered if that number and other department's health insurance expenses were accurate. Bona acknowledged that the figures are "a guess."

A discussion of health insurance coverage costs ensued. It was noted that under Urbanik the town explored moving toward high deductible plans, but those shift expenses to employees.

Ackerman touched on the friction regarding equitable treatment regarding health insurance and other benefits for police, who are unionized, versus other town workers, who are not. "All our employees should have the same," he said.

Selectboard Chair Bard Hill summarized the unsettled debate. "So health insurance continues to be a national problem," he said.

Department Detail Budget talk also briefly touched on other potential changes to departmental spending.

At Richmond Free Library, which proposes a $232,238 budget, Selectboard member Christy Witters said there may be some revisions to its spending plan. Bona said those revisions could involve minor changes to individual employees' health care insurance plans.

The Fire Department's budget could also evolve. Bona said two proposed $100,000 line items to fund a fire station capital reserve fund and an equipment fund were deleted. There has been talk about constructing an addition and making other improvements to the station. Bona said the department might ask the Selectboard to change its budget, which as initially presented cut spending by 14.8 percent.

Unsettled, too, is the budget for the Recreation and Trails Department. Bona said she has not received spending proposals from some entities involved with recreation, including the Lake Iroquois Association.

Former Selectboard member and longtime resident Mary Houle noted that there is no line item for maintenance of the newly acquired town forest near the Vermont Youth Conservation Corps complex on Route 2. She noted that maintaining trails would be an ongoing expense and "it's not going to be cheap."

The Highway Department budget includes funding for a new full-time employee, Bona said. It also shifts the way the department pays for replacing guardrails. Instead of repairing them a piece at a time when damaged, the department wants to steadily replace entire sections. But that won't increase the budget, Bona said, because funding will be shifted from an existing line item to new reserve fund for guardrail replacement.

Hill asked about the proposed new employee, wondering if this additional staffing would allow the Highway Department to take on new tasks. Bona said it is unclear how this additional position will fit with existing permanent and seasonal workers. She said she would need to review staffing with Highway Department Foreman Pete Gosselin.

The discussion then turned to a schedule for budget hearings, when in the past the Selectboard heard presentations from each department and made final spending decisions. With the process starting late this year – budgeting usually begins in September or October – Selectboard members decided they needed to expedite the effort by adding to their usual twice-monthly meeting schedule.

They settled on two budget-only sessions to be held on Monday, November 26 and Monday, December 10. Each public meeting will begin at 7 pm at Richmond Town Center, and will likely include review of two departments' budgets.

Huntington Selectboard

Reported by Ruth Blodgett

The Huntington Selectboard meeting on October 15, 2018 was held at the Community Church of Huntington Annex, in order to accommodate members of the public interested in a Town Forest Recreation Planning presentation.

Preceding this presentation, Duncan Keir of the Huntington Energy Committee (HEC) updated the Board on a proposed municipal solar power project. The HEC aims to move forward with the design and development of a renewable energy plan for local electricity generation. The goal is to provide power to Town buildings at a rate comparable to current rates. This project would be in alignment with the State's renewable energy standards. If the project includes storage batteries, Keir noted, the Town would be more prepared for natural disaster emergencies.

The HEC has explored designs and costs of systems from Suncommon, Aegis and Building Energy for the installation of panels on the south facing roofs of the Town Garage, Town Office, Union Meeting House and Brewster Pierce Memorial School (BPMS). This system, Keir assured, would produce more energy than the municipal entity uses. The Huntington School Board, as well as Chittenden East Supervisory Union (CESU) facilities Coordinator Jeffrey Forward and Superintendent John Alberghini, expressed support for the project at BPMS, Keir added.

Keir said next steps include consideration of owning versus leasing the system. Ownership would require a bond. Keir conceded the HEC needs the financial expertise of the Town Treasurer. Selectboard Chair Dori Barton said the Board is "ready to see how we could make this work." Board member Roman Livak asked if there would be a tax credit if the system were leased. Keir explained that tax credits are available to private individuals only.

"We are close to making a decision on whether to hire a project manager, "Keir concluded.

During the Town Forest Recreation Planning Presentation, Barton left the Selectboard table, in order to avoid speculation about any conflict of interest. Barton's business, Arrowwood Environmental, had done work for SE Group, which has worked on the Town Forest project. No Selectboard members expressed a conflict of interest between Barton's work with SE Group and her role on the Board.

Breck Knauft, representing the Town Forest Outdoor Recreation Steering Commitee, led the presentation, outlining the three main goals of the Town Forest plan: craft a vision, develop strategies and create a process for identifying and purchasing property. Knauft said actions began last fall towards generating resources. Knauft pointed out that the current Town Forest can only be accessed by skis; acquiring a new Town forest would increase opportunities for recreation. The emphasis would be natural resource protection, therefore excluding timber harvesting. Sherry Lynn said the Committee would like a letter of support from the Selectboard for the new Town Forest. Joe Segale said residents support buying land for recreation and such opportunities come up fast. HCC (Huntington Conservation Commission) member JB Bryan asked, "How are we going to streamline the process so we can purchase property?" Livak said the HCC would have to find a willing seller, and the Selectboard would need to preapprove a purchase. Livak also noted that a there is a timeline of three months for a purchase and sales agreement to be drafted and signed.

County Forester Ethan Tapper referred to a town and conservation partnership model. HCC Chair Rebecca Ryan said the HCC has informally contacted landowners about potential Town forest sites. Tapper said resources of a property would be identified while mapping.

Heidi Racht mentioned the idea of a path (not along the road) between the villages. The Planning commission has brought this up in the last few Town Plans.

SE Group, which does recreation planning, prepared planning toolkits and the process for this project. The toolkits will be available online and at the Library in January.

HCC Jeanette Segale reported a request from the Camels Hump Nordic Skiers Association (CHMSA) to build two bridges over small ravines in the Town Forest. The HCC fully supports the request. The project involves no tree cutting. The motion to approve this "low impact" project passed.

The Selectboard met on Saturday, November 3, for a Capital Plan and General Fund Budget Planning work session. During the working session, the Board reviewed proposed Capital Plan and General Fund budget requests, focusing on Highway Department projects, which make up the lion's share of the Town budget.

The Board considered which committees to invite to its regular meetings for budget planning follow-up.

During the Highway report at the Selectboard Meeting on November 5, 2018, Livak expressed surprise regarding an expensive truck repair not covered by warranty. This led to discussion about warranties, and the need look more carefully at vehicle warranties in the future.

Public Comment Shawn Smith raised a question about minutes from October 15. During the Town Forest discussion a reference was made to the "sledding hill next to the school," giving the impression that it is public land, said Smith. "It is private land, we don't want this ongoing perception that this is public land. The school always calls and asks respectfully if they can use our property, and we are happy to grant permission." Town Administrator Barbara Elliott said Smith's comments would be noted in the minutes.

The Animal Control activity report was reviewed. Barton asked Elliott if the ACO (Animal Control Officer) could meet with Elliott to provide more detailed accounting of activities, including the resolution of complaints.

Public Comment Shawn Smith asked what special road projects were discussed at the November 3 meeting. "It came to mind in respect to conversations about Trapp Road; you were going to do a site visit, which never happened for various reasons. Now we are entering winter again. We are missing an opportunity to gather information. If there is no action taken and it is determined that the Town is responsible for maintenance, did we miss the chance for analysis?"

Barton responded, "That [bringing a section of Trapp Road up to Class 3 standards] would not be considered a special project, we are still hoping to get some clarification on the road classification." Elliott added, "Special road projects are tied to the MRGP (Municipal Roads General Permit)." These include three sections of Bert White Road, tied to grant funding opportunities. Smith asked how Trapp Road upgrades would be funded. Barton said plans would be developed according to advice from the Town attorney regarding road classification questions.

Move into Executive Session The Board moved to enter into Executive Session for allowing confidential attorney client communications about Town Highways. Smith questioned why the Selectboard needed to discuss these issues in Executive Session. "The client is the Town of Huntington," Town Attorney Jim Carroll explained, saying he would provide "pretty standard advice, strategy conversations." Smith asked, "Who would suffer if the conversation was held publicly?" "The Town," Carroll replied. Smith responded, "Executive session is rare, these are elected officials not private citizens." Carroll continued, "It is the people's business that is true, but the Board may need advice on how to do the people's business, so the attorney client privilege is an exception... allows free and open conversation. No decision would be made in the Executive Session."

The Board entered into Executive Session for a conversation with the Town Attorney, and then entered a second Executive Session for the purpose of discussing the employment of an appointed official. No decision was made about the Town Treasurer position prior to adjournment.

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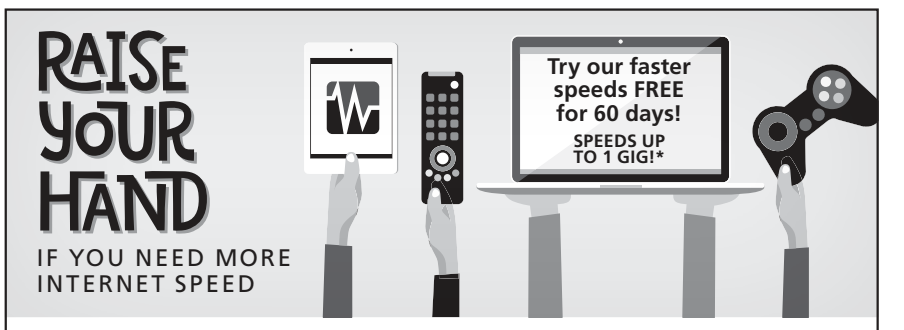

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TOWN OF HUNTINGTON

NOTICE OF DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD

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The Huntington Development Review Board (DRB) will meet on December 11, 2018, at the Huntington Town Clerk's Office in Huntington Center to review the following application:

Request for Subdivision Review - Change to Recorded Mylar

Michael Aruzza, 4370 Main Road, Huntington, for a boundary line adjustment of a shared driveway to 4340 Main Road, pending the approval of existing commercial access change to residential driveway. Subject property (3.08 acres) is located north of Huntington Center and is in the Village District (1-acre zoning).

—Heidi Racht, DRB Clerk,November 13, 2018

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MMMUSD Board

Reported by Diane Wester

Underhill ID?

The fourth and last Community Informational Meeting concerning "repurposing" (maintaining ownership; changing use) the Underhill Incorporated District elementary school (UID) and distributing the existing 88 students into the Underhill Central School (UCS) and Jericho Elementary School (JES) was held October 17 at MMUHS. It was attended by about 33 community members (some were former elementary school board members themselves), few participants were from the South End. Hard copies of the North End Study, and a FAQ sheet were available at the meeting. These resources are available at the website www.cesuvt.org and a video of this meeting is available on www.vimeo.com. Two principle points of the information (1) the student population in the North End has decreased by 38%; and (2) the UID building has old-fashioned/open concept classrooms in the bulk of the school and is more suitable for a pre-school and the enclosed offices in the front of the building are suitable for the relocation of the Central Office from rented space in Richmond. UCS and JES would still be only at 70% capacity if they absorbed the UID students.

The principle objections of those community members speaking at the meeting were: (1) community comments (or even a straw poll vote on election day) seemed to be asked for after the Board's decision had already been made; and (2) that the study seemed to be skewed to closing the UID as the best solution. Board Chair Andrew Pond and others noted the UID ceased to exist when the towns voted for the merger, therefore there was no voting constituency to ask; and, the repurposing was based on enabling the students to have access to the best, most equitable educational opportunities available as determined by Superintendent John Alberghini. When the Board adopted the Policy Governance model, it assumed the responsibility of establishing Policies to guide the Superintendent and asked for the North End Study. The Superintendent has the responsibility, at the Board's direction, to implement the closing of a school and redistribute the students therein to their best educational advantage.

At the October 15 School Board Meeting, community member Peter Mitchell of Jericho in the UID District said he felt "closing the ID has been the plan from the beginning." [of the merger discussion] and asked all schools remain open. Chuck Lacy of Jericho supports closing the school, as the number of elementary students has declined by 40% in twenty years, and the birth rate has declined.

(CESU Central Office posted a press release, dated November 6, after the MMMUSD Board voted to act on the superintendent's recommendation. See information at end of this report.)

Finance Finance Committee chair Kevin Campbell reported the first meeting of the year occurred October 4. Minutes of this meeting are available on line at cesu.org, and there is also a vimeo recording of the meeting. A timeline for the budget process was developed. Major changes coming from Montpelier affecting the budgeting process include: the Education Funding Formula; Act 173 Special Education Funding; and statewide collective bargaining and health insurance. The Huntington School District effects on the budget are: the past years' Central Office assessment has been low; and the possibility of a merger.

Personnel Kendra Rickerby was introduced as the new Director of Curriculum, Communication and Innovation. She and Alberghini shared the results of the SBAC the standardized testing. Not all information has been sent by the testing system as yet, but the results available show the district scores in language arts and mathematics are significantly higher than the state average (at least 14%). Cost per pupil is lower than the state average. "The roll out of the data was two months late," Alberghini said. In a related subject, UCS was recognized for excellence by the State Board of Education in August.

Personnel Angelike Contis was administered the oath of office, she is replacing Les Kanat of Jericho.

CHMS Library Media Specialist Steve Madden was selected as one of the UVM Outstanding Teachers of the Year.

Policy Governance / Board Self-Monitoring The Board broke into groups to continue their Policy Governance Monitoring Report. It also reviewed its own self-evaluation forms, and reviewed studies from other school districts concerning Monitoring Superintendent Performance.

MMMUSD Board Votes to "Repurpose" UID

At a meeting on November 5, the Mount Mansfield Modified Union School District (MMMUSD) School Board approved a motion directing Superintendent, John R. Alberghini to reassign kindergarten through fourth grade students from the Underhill ID Elementary School (UID) to the Jericho Elementary School (JES) and the Underhill Central School (UCS) beginning with the 2019-2020 school year.

The decision comes following a district study detailing expanded student opportunities and operational efficiencies offered by "repurposing" the school building. The study was commissioned in the Fall 2017 by the MMMUSD School Board.

Under the new reconfiguration, students from Jericho will attend JES and Underhill students UCS. MMMUSD offers school choice so that families can select any school in the district limited to building capacity. The plan will not result in a reduction in the number of classroom teachers or an increase in average class sizes.

While this change reduces overall costs, increased student opportunity and education quality are the ultimate goals.

Central Office to Move from Richmond to Jericho The redistribution of students to the two elementary schools allows for a "repurposing"of the UID school building by moving Central Office to the site. The district's north end pre-K providers will also be housed at UID, which features an open floor plan for play-based early education. Among other ideas is the space could open the door for expanded opportunities for children birth to age three, seniors, and recreation programming in the area.

The press release noted "Superintendent Alberghini and the Board recognize the significant change for some students, families, and staff and commit to engaging "stakeholders" [those affected by the decision] in determining

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Huntington School Report

Reported by Helen Keith

Huntington School Board and Community agree: it's all about what's in the best interest of the children (and families), and the staff and community.

Multiple meetings regarding merger occurred in the past six weeks.

At the local level (Huntington Elementary School District aka Brewster Pierce Memorial School): three meetings of the School Board and one "listening meeting" arranged by community members with three legislators listening to people's opinions on the law.

At the MMMUSD level: two board meetings and several committee meetings during which the "Huntington Issue" is sometimes referred. This includes a withdrawal of a prospective vote on Huntington's joining the MMMUSD that would create the "preferred" model of administration of schools under Act 46: one Unified School District.

At the State level: the State Board of Education held four recent meetings since mid-September to decide the fate of the 43 un-merged school districts and whether to agree with or alter the Agency of Education's recommendations made in their June 1 Proposed Statewide Plan for School District Governance 2015 Acts and Resolves No. 46, Sec. 10(a). This Board is required to produce by November 30 – its Final Statewide Plan. This includes the Agency recommendations on whether and why to support or not support an un-merged district's alternative governance structure proposal. The Plan can be found at https://education.vermont.gov/documents/secretarys-proposed-plan-under-act-46-section-10

A summary of current legal requirements … all of this has led to these multiple meetings in the Huntington community as the Statewide Plan is expected to be published prior to or on November 30, 2018. It will likely (as the State Board minutes reflect in October) result in Huntington Elementary School District's being directed to merge with the Modified Mount Mansfield Union School District, making the MMMUSD into a single Unified Union School District, the preferred governance structure under Act 46.

The Huntington Elementary School District's School Board has hired Paul Gillies, a privately-funded attorney from Montpelier, to help with its plans to contest a projected decision by the State Board to force a merger on a school district that has four times voted against merging and reportedly sees no real benefits for the children or this local community (among other things). These arguments against merger have prevailed throughout the seven-and-a-half years. Another prevailing argument during the first three years (two votes) was the process was backwards – it did not engage the community in planning prior to developing the plan/article of agreement which then became the merger committee's promotional plan for consolidation.

The other big problem, on recollection of this author, was that the initial vote involving each of the elementary school boards, addressed not the content of the proposal (consolidation/merger) but the agreement to approve a merger committee to do the work to determine if merger could work. Every board of each elementary school district in the Chittenden East Supervisory Union voted to put a Study Committee into place (it became known as the Merger Committee). The Articles of Agreement became the focus of the presentations and many times the benefits or improved educational outcomes for students, especially high risk, low income children/students (especially pre-K to 4, the school districts impacted) were not clear. Cost savings appeared to be minimal, giving up local property was troublesome, this was coupled with the fact that the with the Supervisory Union already had authority to do much of what was being proposed as a benefit under a merger.

From then on, came the four votes required by the electorate to approve or not approve a merger in various forms. While these votes may not have been directly specified in the thread of consolidation laws passed from 2010 on, these votes were required for any merger action to dissolve a school district or create a newly configured one.

The first vote (2011) was a "no" to merger by two towns, Richmond and Huntington; the second vote in 2014 when the law was revised to allow towns in the Supervisory Union to vote no, but still allow the majority of towns voting yes to merge. All the school districts except Huntington (PreK-4) voted to join the MMU school district, making it the Modified Mount Mansfield Union School District. Another attempt in 2015 to offer merger to Huntington and the most recent one on Town Meeting Day 2018 were put on the ballot by the local school board to test the waters on merger again. Deadlines on a possible "required" merger were fast approaching along with deadlines related conversing with the Agency of Education on a plan for an Alternative Structure.

Below is a brief summary taken from the Agency of Education's web site (https://education.vermont.gov/vermont-schools/school-governance/options#state-board-plan) and the following sections are what have heated up the debates and pressure to resist anything that is "forced" or directed or ordered. The language using the words "forced" has appeared in the minutes of State Board meetings and in news articles. The terms in use a lot are voluntary mergers…with not a lot to describe the lot of un-merged districts and what action to take, by whom, when if those un-merged districts do not have their "alternative structure" proposals accepted/approved.

Secretary's Proposal Act 46, Sec. 10 requires the Secretary of Education to develop a proposal to realign districts into more sustainable models of governance to meet the goals set out in Act 46, Sec. 2. The Secretary will develop the proposal based on information gleaned from Voluntary Mergers, proposals from Unmerged Districts above, and from other resources. The Secretary will propose changes to the extent necessary and in a manner that is possible and practicable for the region. The Secretary will post the proposal on the Agency's website and present it to the State Board of Education by June 1, 2018.

State Board's Final Statewide Plan Act 46, Sec. 10 requires the State Board to issue a final statewide plan by November 30, 2018 that requires the merger and realignment of districts and supervisory unions where necessary. The same purposes and same criteria that govern the Secretary's proposal. The State Board is directed to review the Secretary's proposal and is authorized to take testimony and request additional information." The November 30 deadline may be moved earlier in order to accommodate a planned operational date for changing school districts of July 1, 2019."

In the Agency of Education's June Proposed Statewide Plan it recommends to the State Board: merger for 18 of the 43 un-merged districts that had alternative structure "conversations" with the agency staff (Huntington is part of this group); they left alone three as those districts are progressing with merger talks; they did not recommend merger in 12 cases as their alternative structures were not "practicable" or would not "advance the goals of Act 46"(reasons specified in Act 46 for not merging); and did not recommend merger in 10 other cases due to their stated fact that " it is not legally possible due to the differing operating/tuitioning structures in the region." (Page 7 of Agency Plan, see above link.)

continue to page 11

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www.mpathwellbeing.com

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Mount Mansfield UHS Wrestling Sign-ups

Grades 9 to 12: 3:30 pm
Grades 7 & 8: 5 pm

November 26, 2018
Mount Mansfield's Wrestling Room

Contact: Harley Brown
434-4141 • harleybrown@madriver.com

TOWN OF HUNTINGTON

NOTICE OF DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD

4930 Main Road Huntington, Vermont 05462

The Huntington Development Review Board (DRB) will meet on December 11, 2018, at the Huntington Town Clerk's Office in Huntington Center to review the following application:

Request for Subdivision Review - Change to Recorded Mylar

Michael Aruzza, 4370 Main Road, Huntington, for a boundary line adjustment of a shared driveway to 4340 Main Road, pending the approval of existing commercial access change to residential driveway. Subject property (3.08 acres) is located north of Huntington Center and is in the Village District (1-acre zoning).

—Heidi Racht, DRB Clerk,November 13, 2018

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Personal Essay

Why I am Proud to Work at Our Community Cares Camp

Submitted by Grace Butler

During the summer after my 8th grade year, after being told by my parents that I would not be allowed to spend my entire summer lounging around the house, I began interning at a local summer camp called Our Community Cares Camp. Our Community Cares Camp, or OCCC, is a non-profit organization that provides a free, month-long summer camp to children within my community. Although all children between the ages of 5 and 13 are welcome to attend, OCCC's target demographic is the socioeconomically disadvantaged families for whom the summer vacation can prove to be challenging. OCCC's mission is twofold; first to give children who might otherwise not have the opportunity to attend a summer camp an amazing and memorable experience, and second to ensure that students who rely on the free and reduced lunch programs provided by schools are not going hungry during the summer break. For this reason, in addition to offering normal summer camp fun, OCCC provides every camper with a healthy and filling breakfast and lunch every day.

Today, as I excitedly anticipate returning to OCCC for my fifth summer, I can safely say that getting involved with such an extraordinary organization was one of the best decisions I ever made. In the past five years I have transitioned from intern to counselor, and have even had the opportunity to work behind the scenes doing some administrative work for the camp director. Throughout my time at OCCC my eyes have been opened to the struggles that many around me face everyday. I have also learned first hand how much work goes into putting on a camp that hosts and feeds more than 100 campers every summer completely free of charge. While I never forget the unique mission of OCCC and the incredible benefits it provides to campers, day to day life at OCCC feels, I would imagine, very similar to a day at any other summer camp. Exciting kickball games, creative (and of course messy) art projects, and tons of happy, smiling campers laughing and playing together. OCCC is unique in its emphasize on community, and the bonds and friendships formed between campers and staff alike are strong and long lasting.

Occasionally though, there is a camper who struggles to find her or his way into the group. Last summer, I experienced one such case with an 11 year old boy who joined my group during the second week of camp. He seemed hesitant to interact with his fellow campers. I could immediately tell that he was shy, something that resonated with me, as I am reserved myself. While many of the children at OCCC face struggles in their personal lives that are unimaginable to me, the difficulty of integrating myself into an unfamiliar group is a struggle that I can relate to.

The first part of every camp day routine involves campers and counselors sharing breakfast. This usually means a big group of campers eating together with counselors interspersed, but that first few days my new camper definitively shied away from the big group, so the two of us ate breakfast together. He was one of the sweetest campers I'd ever had the privilege of interacting with, and he quickly opened up to me. I learned that he had just moved across the country to live with his aunt at the end of the school year, and hadn't had a chance to become acquainted with many of his new classmates.

I also learned that he loved to read, a favorite pastime of my own, and that he was working his way through the year's Dorothy Canfield Fisher (DCF) Book Award Nominees in the hopes of reading them all, a goal I had also taken great pride in throughout middle school. On his second or third day at camp he also confided in me that he never knew what to do during blocks of free time when his fellow campers were making teams to play basketball or forming groups to play boardgames. He said to me, "I don't have any friends here." Hearing him say that broke my heart, and immediately I began racking my brain for a way to help. I wondered if perhaps our shared passion for books, something the two of us had bonded over, could help forge connections with other campers as well. I suggested to him that we pick out a DCF book together, and invite other campers to join us for a read aloud. We did just that, picking out The Inn Between by Marina Cohen, and that day he and I sat down with six other campers. That day in a comfortably small group of seven, introductions were made, and a kid who had started the day feeling as though he had no friends at all ended the day with six new ones.

Afternoon read aloud became a staple freetime activity, with more and more campers joining us, as we worked our way through the book during the remaining three weeks of camp. The camper who had started off as painfully shy began opening up to more and more people. As a counselor it felt incredibly gratifying to help a camper make a change that, I hope, had a positive impact on his life. I am proud that I get to work for a camp that is not only working to better the community by addressing larger scale social problems such as poverty and food insecurity, but also provides an environment that allows me to help my campers create small-scale changes that make big differences on their lives. It truly is a magical place.

(Grace Butler is a 2018 MMU graduate. She is currently enrolled at UVM.)

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Huntington School

continued from page 9

In response to this set of looming deadlines and reports via minutes of the State Board quickly agreeing with the AOE recommendations calling for Huntington to merge with MMMUSD to create the MMUSD, as mentioned, numerous meetings have occurred. These have included the Huntington School Board, a community organized listening meeting in which current Representatives, Theresa Wood and Tom Stevens and Senator Tom Bray came to hear residents talk of their concerns about merger and their reasons why merger works well.

Participants in the meetings have voiced their concerns about both the process and content of the merger efforts over the years, while others have stated their reasons why merger would work better for children, and staff and the overall system of operating. Numerous times in the session and in the recent school board meetings, people from all approaches to school governance clearly expressed that, no matter what, all were committed to the best interests of the children, staff and community.

A good portion of the listening session focused on the very strange (author and community members) and concerning wording of the AOE report regarding the fact that the Agency did not value voting. And seemingly, the Agency did not understand that voting was required for decisions on merger, And, that Huntington had different needs than, Bolton for example, related to merger indicating a need for diversified support. For samples of language in the report about downgrading or ignoring the value of voting, please see the October 2018 issue of the Times Ink! (volume 35, number 8) for a longer set of examples of how voting was referenced.

Representative Stephens was curious about peoples' perspectives on what aspects of the merger efforts, acts 153-156-46-49 were most challenging for people: the process or the content. Senator Bray had a conversation with the author following the session with questions about the role of the Legislature is (in new laws and in this School Consolidation-Act 46 process) in reviewing and possibly changing the final State Board of Education's Statewide Plan ,due November 30. In this author's opinion, it appears this public participation loop to the Legislature may have been overlooked, or perhaps not desired, leaving the authority for changes nearly unreachable by the ordinary human or set of humans attempting to have close-to-home participatory-democracy and local governance.

At its October 30, specially-called meeting, the Huntington Elementary School Board went into Executive Session to plan legal strategy. Four options were reported to the public for the board's consideration:

• Continue with current Attorney Paul Gillies, who represents the School Board as it challenges the decision-making and authority of the State Board of Education to require merger.

• Go with the Statewide group of un-merged districts that have hired David Kelly to represent them as they challenge the same as above.

• Support the efforts of the statewide group but do not drop current attorney, Paul Gillies; or

• Don't do anything.

The decision was to continue with Paul Gillies and to informally support and coordinate with the statewide group, which is addressing many issues, some but not all of which, are in common with Huntington. In addition, people working with Gillies and his staff are pleased with their work (mostly chair Paul Susen and Vice-Chair Tara Fowler).

Community members came to the meeting and expressed opinions much the same as what occurred in the listening session. However, people spoke with passion about commitment to the children, families, programs, staff, principal, and to the superintendent and supervisory union staff, all of which have contributed to great years of educational and community success. And, according to people on all sides of the issues, this is what counts no matter which way the merger coin falls.

Stay tuned for the Final Statewide Plan for School District Governance and its meaning for Huntington and the greater MMMUSD.

Become a Foster Parent

Are you ready to celebrate his first ever birthday party? Can you help a teen discover her growing independence in healthy ways? Do you and your family have a lot of patience, determination, and most of all, an abundance of love to share?

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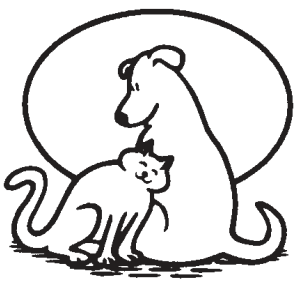

Drs. Virginia Clarke,
Daniel Hament & Cori Weiner

Upcoming Lifelong Learning Program

Tuesday, December 11, at 1:30
Richmond Free Library

Travelogue -- The Mayan Ruins and the Culture of Belize, Guatemala and Honduras
by Fran and Dave Thomas

This Roads Scholar tour included the extraordinary Mayan ruins of Copan - Honduras, Tikal - Guatemala, Cahal Pech and Xunantunich in Belize, a boat ride on Lake Atitlan and interaction with the local communities to experience the culture of each country. Other points of interest were the UNESCO World Heritage City of Antigua with its Chichicastenango Market, a textile cooperative and a jade museum and factory.

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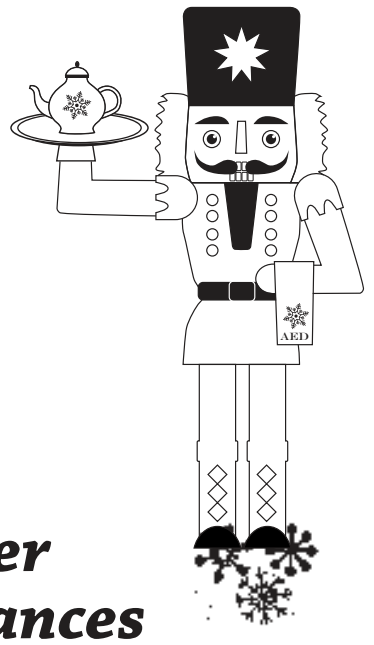
DANCE STUDIO

Nutcracker Dessert Performance

December 7, 6 pm

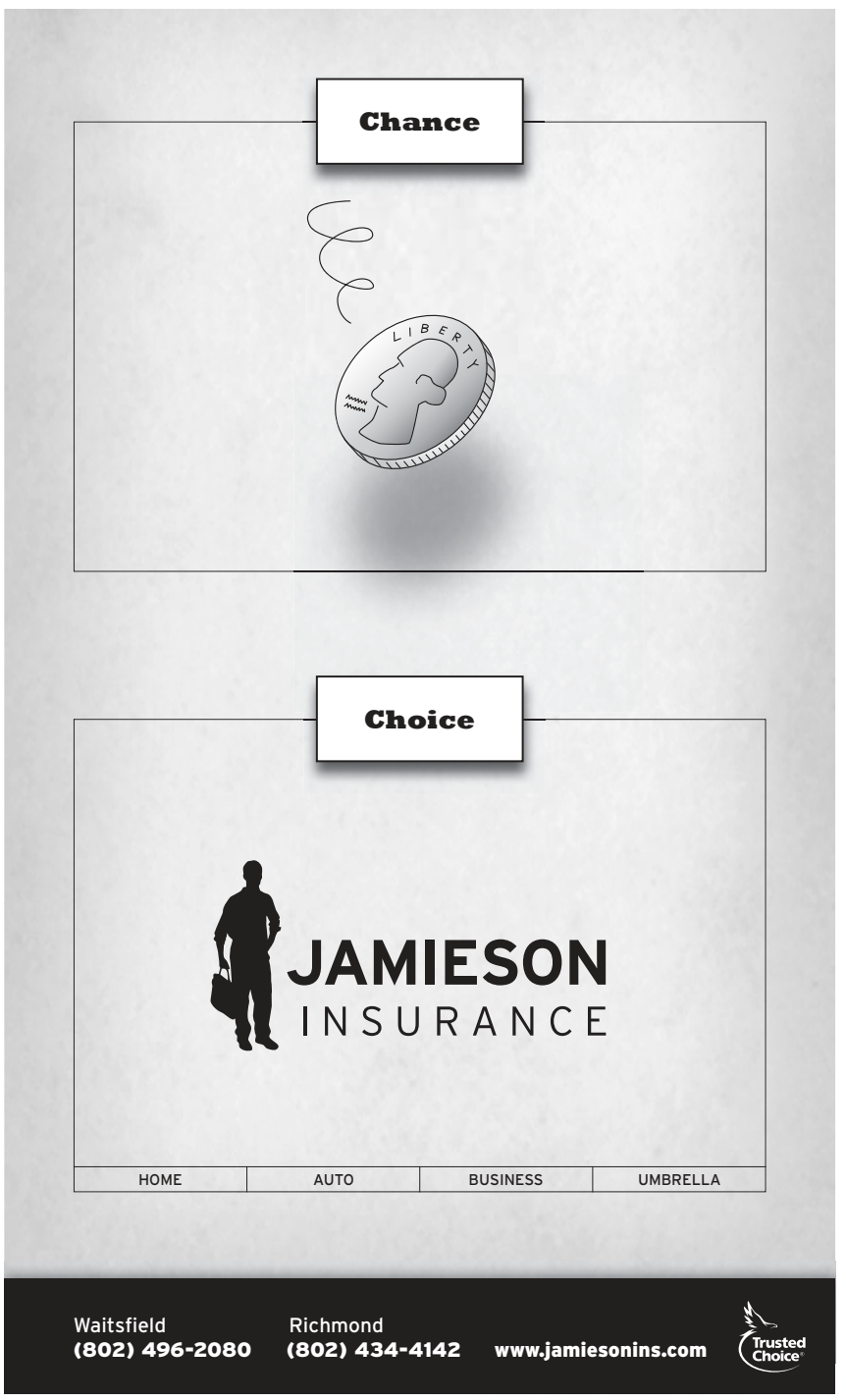


Nutcracker Tea Performances

December 8 • 1 pm & 4:30 pm

December 9 (30-minute preschool performance with gingerbread cookie) 11 am & 3 pm

Tickets on Sale at Arabesque Etc Dance,
35 Main Street, Richmond, or at 383-8468



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News from Area Churches

Richmond Congregational Church

Rev. Katelyn Macrae, 434-2053

As I write this month's article on All Saints Day (November 1), yet with an eye towards Thanksgiving, I feel nostalgic as I remember Thanksgivings past, and the many Saints I have shared this meal with who now dwell with God. Furthermore, as relatives and church family members age, I'm reminded to appreciate each moment God gives us. Even in the tricky and difficult moments, if we pause and reflect, there is something we can learn, and even appreciate, from the experience.

Above, young bakers prepare the bisquits for the Annual Chicken Pie Supper at the Richmond Congregational Church in October. Below, happy diners. Courtesy photos.

I imagine that if my Grandpa Dave were alive today, we wouldn't see eye to eye on every political or theological issue brought up at the Thanksgiving table. In fact, his church still won't have a woman in the pulpit! Even so, we would find places of commonality, including a shared appreciation for Grandma Dottie's pineapple upside down cake and mini cherry cheesecakes. Though I might disagree with my grandpa's positions, I also appreciate how he encouraged my faith development, and enjoyed taking me to his church when I visited. Now that all of my grandparents have died, I am grateful for the traditions they passed on to me, including the grace Grandma Dottie and Grandpa Dave used before every meal:

> Be present at our table, Lord;
> Be here and everywhere adored;
> These creatures bless and grant that we,
> May feast in paradise with thee. Amen.

As we prepare for Thanksgiving, the first line, "Be present at our table, Lord" is a great reminder to be grateful for God's presence and abundant love. It is also a reminder of what it means to dine like Jesus. Jesus modeled how to build relationships across division by breaking bread together with people of different social stations, ethnicities, and religions. He dined with tax collectors, prostitutes, soldiers, and widows.

This Thanksgiving let's follow Jesus' model around our own tables. Perhaps, your table will be full of joy as it might be the only time of year that you get to see certain family members and friends. Maybe you feel anxious as you think about having to talk politics, putting up with Uncle So and So's jokes, or prepare for having a difficult conversation with an aging parent. Or perhaps you feel grief as you miss the people you used to share Thanksgiving with, or you can't afford to have the feast you'd like. Whatever it is that you might encounter at the Thanksgiving table, may you remember that God is there too. May you work to find the blessings and the commonalities in the midst of it all. And if the subject gets a little too heavy, and it's not your place to call it out, you can take a trick from my family - take a deep breath, say a quick prayer to yourself, and then ask, "Please pass the sour cream," or, "How 'bout those Red Sox?"

Wishing you an Attitude of Gratitude in the midst of it all!

Share-a-Prayer Sunday, November 18, 10 am Bring a favorite poem, prayers, graces, or hymn to share along the theme of gratitude.

Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service, November 18, 4 pm Williston Federated Church will host this year's Thanksgiving service, followed by a soup supper. The service is a joint effort between Our Lady of the Holy Rosary Catholic Church, Richmond Congregational Church, Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church, and Williston Federated Church. A freewill offering will be taken for the Richmond and Williston Food Pantries.

Heifer Sunday, December 9, 10 am Purchase gifts for a Living Gift Market

A Quiet Advent: Winter Solstice Service - Thursday, December 20, 7 pm

Socks for COTS Tree Throughout December, our Deacons will be collecting new, warm winter socks for men, women, and children for COTS Homeless Shelter in Burlington. Please drop donations off during the week or on Sunday mornings.

The Times Ink! OF RICHMOND & HUNTINGTON

Annual Meeting

Sunday, December 2
Business Meeting at 5 pm
with refreshments

Huntington Public Library

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Calendar of Events

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

FRIDAYS: Volleyball during school year, CHMS, 7 pm to 9 pm. looking for new players, $10 per year. Just show up. Richmond McCauley, 434-3798.

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

FIRST FRIDAY: Free yoga class. 7 pm to 8pm www.balanceyogavt.com

SUNDAYS: KarmaYoga class time has changed. 10:30 am to 11:30 am, Balance Yoga. $5 plus a non-perishable, non-expired item or two for Richmond Food Shelf (or $10 without food item). www.balanceyoga.com

SATURDAYS: Story Time, 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 pm to 8 pm, Hope Lodge, 237 East Ave, Burlington. Mary L. Guyette RN, MS, ACNS-BC, 802-274-4990

LAST SATURDAYS, EVERY MONTH (November 24): Monthly Bird Monitoring Walk, 7:30 am to 9 am, Birds of Vermont Museum. All birders welcome on the monthly monitoring walk outdoors on the Museum's trails in forest and meadow. Often coffee afterwards, indoors at the viewing window. Most fun for adults, older children. Bring your own binoculars, dress for weather. Preregistration is nice but not required (museum@birdsofvermont.org or 434-2167) Free, donations welcome.

NOVEMBER 24 & 25: 29th Annual Women's Festival of Crafts, Burlington City Hall. Shop at over 50 artisans' booths to find just the right handmade jewelry, artwork, pottery, greeting cards, clothing, recycled and upcycled art, housewares, herbal products, and more. Saturday, 10 to 5, and Sunday, 10 to 4. Information: www.womensfestivalofcrafts.com. Free and open to the public.

DECEMBER 7: Women's sing (and potluck) at HOWL: Vermont Women's Land Trust, Huntington, 7 pm. Come on over at 6 pm with a potluck dish if you'd like to join others for dinner. Information: https://howlvt.org or 434-3953.

DECEMBER 12: Midday, Midweek Meander at HOWL: Vermont Women's Land Trust, 1 pm. Take in the beauty of HOWL's woods and fields in the company of other women in meander along hilly (but not steep) trails for an hour. (Lots more walking/skiing/snowshoeing available to those who wish to continue on their own after the group meander!) All women welcome. Questions? https://howlvt.org or 434-3953.

DECEMBER 16: Gifts Galore, A Festival of Locally Made Treasures, Richmond Free Library, 10 am - 3 pm. Holiday gift-buying opportunity, small and friendly setting, 15 local vendors.Wide variety of gift ideas and price ranges: table top decor, art, jewelry, wood products, clothing and notecards and more Second annual event. Refreshments will be hosted as a fundraiser for the Richmond Library Children's Program.

Regular Meetings

SELECTBOARD:
Huntington: 1st & 3rd Mondays, 7 pm, Town Office (downstairs).
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: 2nd & 4th Mon., 7 pm, Town Clerk's 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, CHMS music room pit.
Huntington: Cub Scout Pack 645, Sundays, Brewster-Pierce School, Matt Plumer (chewiecbr@gmail.com).

CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Richmond: 2nd Tues, 7 pm, Town Ctr
Huntington: 2nd Thursday, 7 pm, Huntington Public Library.

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

Huntington: 1st Tues, even months, 7 pm, Town Clerk's Office.

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: 4th Thursday, 7 pm, Huntington Town Hall.

LIBRARY
Richmond: Trustees, 1st Thursday in January, March, April, June, September & November, 6:30 pm. 434-3036.

Huntington: Library Board, 4th Tues, 6:30 pm, Huntington Public Library, 434-4583

HUNTINGTON ENERGY COMMITTEE
3rd Tues, 5:30 pm, Town Office (downstairs)

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): 1st Thurs, 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.

Learn Gardening Know-How

Do you like to garden, but want to know more? You can grow your knowledge of home horticulture by enrolling in the 2019 University of Vermont (UVM) Extension Master Gardener online course. Classes start January 18 and end on May 10.

Registration is now open for the 16-week non-credit course designed to enhance your knowledge of vegetable and flower gardening, sustainable landscaping, lawn care, insect and disease problems, composting, rain gardens and a host of related topics. You may either participate in interactive webinars with live Q & A sessions on consecutive Thursday nights from 6 pm -7 pm or watch the archived recordings. You will need basic computer skills as well as be willing to spend approximately four to six hours a week on course work, assignments and quizzes.

For information or to register: www.uvm.edu/mastergardener. The registration deadline is Jan. 16. Contact Beret Halverson at 656-1777 by Dec. 21 to request a disability-related accommodation if needed to participate.

Worship

Community Church of Huntington: Sunday morning Worship 9 am. Communion:1st Sunday. Senior Luncheon 3rd Tuesday (434-3155). Pastor Larry Detweiler (revdets@gmail.com or 989-2679).

Richmond Congregational Church, United Church of Christ: 20 Church Street., 434-2053. Sunday Worship with Sunday School, 9:30 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.hinesburgcma.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. Pastor David Coons. Youth Pastor Glenn Carter. Sunday services: 8 am & 11am. Nursery care provided; Sunday school for all ages, 9:30 am. Fellowship, 10:30 am. Sunday Youth Group: 6:15 pm. 899-4911; www.jccvt.org

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church: 273 VT Rte 15 (near Browns Trace Rd) Jericho, 899-3932, Rev. Arnold Thomas, pastor. Worship Service: 9 am (nursery care provided), Sunday School & Bible Study: 10:30 am. www.goodshepherdjericho.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 370 Vermont Route 15,Underhill Flats. Worship service 9:30 am. Sunday morning Eucharist with supply priests or Morning Prayer at Calvary, followed by a coffee hour. Handicapped accessible. information: www.calvarychurchvt.weebly.com or 899-2326.

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Community Senior Center

Third Floor Genealogy

Love history, puzzles, research, family legacy, the quest for identity? These are some of the passions driving people who delve into genealogical data. Thanks to computer technology and DNA discoveries, there is an ever-increasing sea of information available out there. One starts with toes in the water, begins wading out and is soon over their head! Whether it's a family tree or a DNA analysis once they reach the great-grandparents it's time to band together with fellow swimmers to pool skills and resources.

The Community Seniors have a dedicated genealogy group which meets weekly at the Richmond Library on Thursday afternoons. In what can sometimes be a dramatic truth, arriving on the third floor puts you on the threshold of discovery. With computers engaged, the group shares what they have learned over their years of research aiding beginners and seasoned researchers as well. In the course of the last few years they have helped find many lost relatives and some notorious ones. Irish immigrants in Colorado, New Mexico and California tracked from old postcards, Loyalist land grants in Ontario, a father who said goodbye to his daughter in 1925 never to be seen again. These are just a few of the stories uncovered on the third floor.

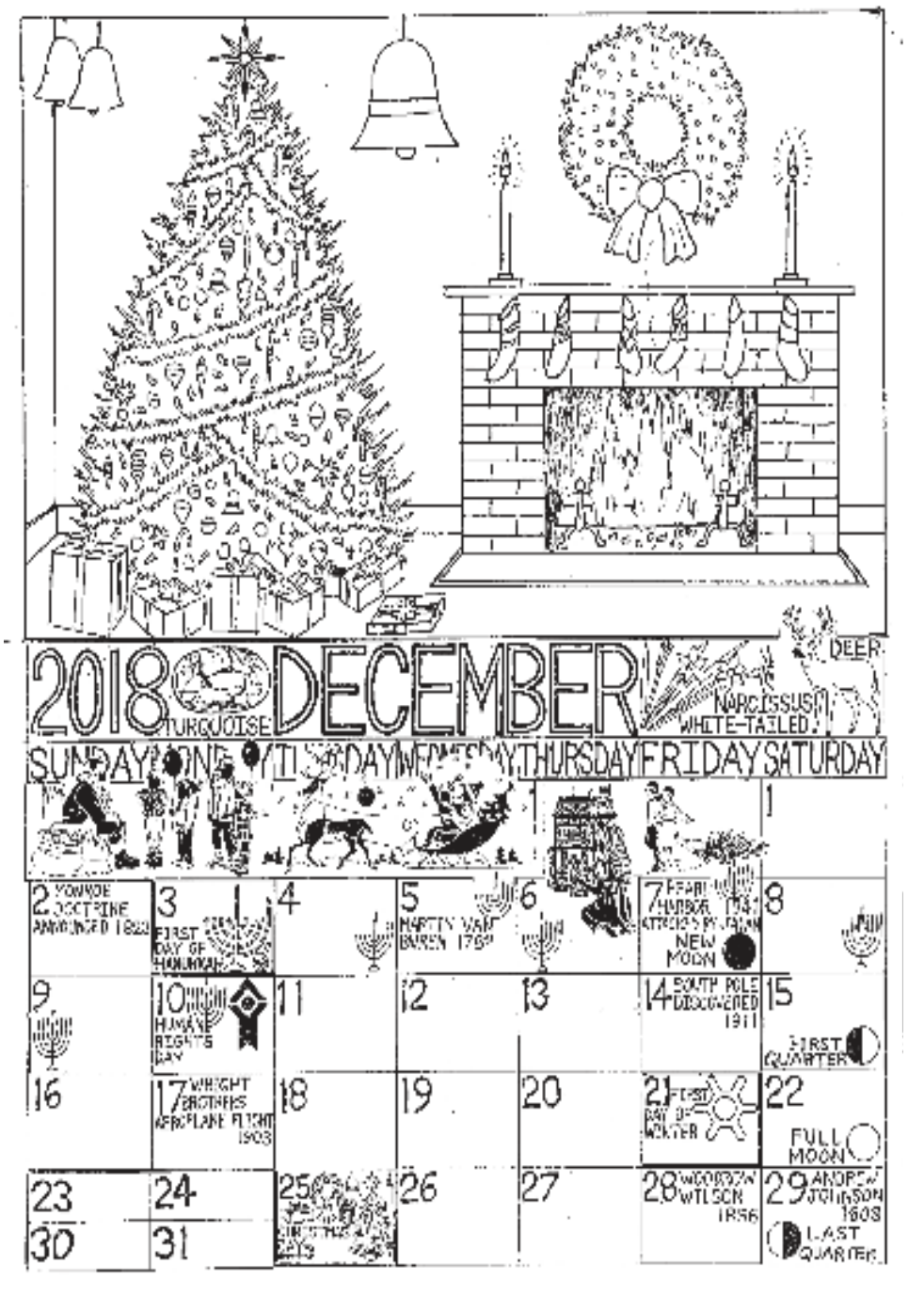
Tracing family roots has most often been seen as a solo pursuit. It has long been associated with dusty town clerk's vaults and library special collection rooms. Much has changed now that Ancestry and other web sites have done lots of the musty data collecting making it accessible for computer searching and collaboration. In this way the grandfather who left his family in 1925 was returned in 2016. With the help of the genealogy group I found him identified in a newspaper as the victim of a fire in the northwest corner of Washington State. After spending 30 years as an itinerant electrician, he had died alone in a rooming house. My mother had wondered since she was 10 years old. It was too late for her, but my heart certainly felt the impact of the discovery.

Another member of the group, born in California, had heard stories of her Irish immigrant ancestors. They had gone west working on the railroads, helping new family members as they came over. She had old postcards from relatives in Ireland sent to their family in the western United States. These ended up being pieces of the puzzle that helped her connect herself and her family with the past.

Suddenly this past comes closer. History becomes real. The 19th century upheavals of industry, mass migration to the United States, and the Civil War are who we are. Our relatives: coal miners, domestic workers, farmers, mill workers, railroad men and laborers of all sorts arrived to start a new life and populate this country. If you go back a little further there is the possibility that you are not the daughter of the revolution you may have thought but a descendent of the United Empire Loyalists. Suddenly the questions of what people do to survive and hang on to what they have worked for become very relevant.

Yes, genealogy can be done at home with your computer. Joining a group, however, gives you a chance to get help and new ideas, help someone else, stay motivated in your search, and best of all, have fun and share your story.

—Peggy Curtis



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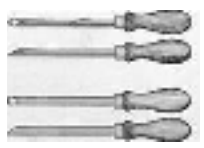

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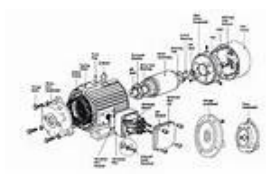

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One Take, Episode 81

Contributed by Toni Basanta

The Cuban Bridge on TV presents One Take Volume II. Jazz more than other musical genre, comes into being through live performances. A thoroughly-composed piece of music can largely be expressed in notation, but improvisation is an activity that mostly occur in real time.

The vast majority of jazz recordings are therefore technically live takes. That was the principle and the purpose of Alma Records in Toronto, Canada, when they created the One Take Music Series in 2004.

With this said, innumerable iconic moments in the history of music and in the history of Alma Records have resulted from public performances in the presence of an audience - "Live" in the conventional sense.

During more than two decades, as a DJ Host on the radio and on TV, I have enjoyed hosting many live recordings, either on cassette, LP, CD or DVD.

One unforgettable experience came when singer Al Jarreau recorded his album Tenderness in 1993 for Reprise Records, at Sir Film Stage in Los Angeles and the Hit Factory in New York, celebrating his Grammy Awards in three different categories : Jazz, R&B Funk and Pop, as a concert in studio in front of an invited audience.

The passion and unpredictability that typically defines these performances is the testament of the role of the audience in the creative process. They especially bring energy to the players, and the artistry of the performers that can flourish in less controlled settings.

When the whole package is finished, it absorbs the watchers and listeners into the details.

Saxophonist Phil Dwyer

Producer Peter Cardinalli invited four musicians whose experimental virtuosi were so flexible and kindred that after 13 years, their approaches to harmony, texture and feel, parse the sonic tapestry of 12 renowned composers, injecting the American Song Book with new energy, because jazz done live is jazz done best!

They are drummer Terri Lyne Carrington, bassist Marc Rogers, pianist Robi Botos and saxophonist Phil Dwyer.

To close our new episode, we selected an episodic piece of saxophonist Phil Dwyer contained in his Suite in Four Movements Changing Seasons, inspired by Antonio Vivaldi and John Coltrane. It serves new landscapes to 21st century chamber music.

Changing Seasons was an idea that Phil Dwyer presented to violinist Mark Fewer late in 2009.

Fewer was an enthusiast right off the bat and was able to bring the Schulich School of Music (McGill University) on board to help commission the piece and facilitate a performance which ultimately took place on November 23, 2010.

Changing Seasons is among the most ambitious collaborations between these two virtuosos of the Canadian Music scene.

Before and after 2005, when this One Take release took place in Toronto, Canada. These musicians ranked among the most gifted artists of their generation.

Through a photo gallery, and liner notes, ending our show, our aim in this new episode, is to highlight some appreciated moments of their most clever, ambitious and emotional unrestrained careers, up to the present day.

Episode 81 is a new Stage for the Success of Jazz and Classical Music and for all the players who are involved. The definition is appropriate, since our intention is to continue pushing every historical gathering.

The Cuban Bridge airs Tuesday to Saturday @ MMCTV Channel 15 in Richmond, Vermont. If you cannot follow our shows on your Comcast TV, on real time, feel comfortable to enjoy all our album through vimeo.com/mmctv

Letters

continued from page 2

Lake Iroquois Association Responds to State Permit Denial

Recently the Lake Iroquois Association (LIA) was notified of the denial of a permit application to treat Lake Iroquois with herbicide Sonar to significantly reduce the prevalence of the invasive species Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM). LIA worked with the town of Williston on this application. The Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation (VT DEC) considered this permit application for nearly two-years. This was proposed to prevent further native species loss and reduce the impact on recreational uses of the lake. In 2014 LIA contracted with Northeast Aquatics to conduct an aquatic plant survey prior to the permit application. That survey found that 70.7 acres of the lake was infested by Eurasian Water Milfoil. This is 67% of the lake's littoral zone (area of a lake in which aquatic plants grow) and suggested that an additional 33 acres of milfoil colonization is possible. EWM has become the dominant aquatic plant in the lake. Another survey in 2017 found similar results. Since applying for the Sonar treatment LIA has conducted Diver Assisted Suction Harvesting (DASH) and installed Benthic Barriers in the lake to control the EWM in the most heavily infested areas of the lake.

Following nearly a decade of work to limit nutrient flows into the lake by stream remediation projects, implementing a greeter program at the state fishing access to prevent further invasives from entering the lake, instituting many educational programs including publication of a lakeshore property owners manual, and working with property owners to create shoreline riparian buffers, LIA embarked on the EWM control program at the request of lake users. The plant survey was commissioned in 2014 and in 2015/2016 LIA met several times with VT DEC staff, as well with local town Selectboards and Conservation Commissions, representatives from other lake associations, and Lake Iroquois property owners and users to discuss control options. This culminated in applications for a DASH permit in early 2016 and the application for the Sonar permit in November 2016. Sonar has been used safely in Vermont lakes since 2000 to control EWM and has been widely used in other states to control this invasive species, including in drinking water reservoirs. The proposed treatment concentrations were well below EPA guidelines for drinking water.

The Lake Iroquois Association has worked tirelessly in this effort over many years to research best practices for controlling EWM. The application for the Sonar permit included a five-year plan for management which included continued use of both DASH and Benthic mats (bottom barriers) which already were in use at the lake. Diverse funding sources, state grants, municipal contributions, and private funds help ensure the continued success of the efforts. The goal of the use of Sonar was not eradication but was intended to reduce the EWM enough to allow the other control methods to be effective and sustainable.

LIA has used Benthic barriers in a channel near the state fishing access to limit the spread of this invasive species. The use of Benthic Barriers is not benign because they kill all plants under them and affect fish spawning. Therefore they can only be used in a very limited area, for example, to keep a boat channel open, but are not a solution for control of EWM in a wider area of any lake. In 2016 and 2018 LIA hired AB Aquatics to conduct Diver-Assisted Suction Harvesting (DASH) of milfoil on Lake Iroquois. DASH can cause fragmentation, harvest non-target species, and disrupt the lake bottom. Again, this is a method that is part of an integrated EWM management plan but also is slow, and as noted can be disruptive to native species, as well as being very expensive. The LIA plan was and continues to be a control program that combines these various methods, including the judicious use of herbicide at lowest effective concentrations, in such a way that this invasive is reduced and controlled so that native species can repopulate and flourish thereby enhancing the biodiversity and health of the lake ecosystem.

At the same time, the LIA continues its many other actives aimed at enhancing and maintaining the health of Lake Iroquois and its surrounding ecosystem. These include our greeter program in which boats entering and leaving the lake are checked for invasives and cleaned at our boat wash station. Other efforts are our several stream remediation projects to reduce runoff along the west shore, which are showing a significant reduction of nutrients and sediment entering the lake; ongoing efforts to inform and support lakeshore property owners and lake users in best management practices; help with creation of no-mow zones and riparian buffers to prevent nutrient runoff into the lake; continued monitoring and regular sampling and data collection to support evidence-based water quality activities. All of these many successful projects, the ongoing education and outreach efforts, and the 40-plus years of water quality data collection have been done by dedicated volunteers, volunteers who continue to commit to the hard work of protecting and enhancing the water quality and health of Lake Iroquois and sharing their knowledge and experiences with other lake associations in the state in order to collectively protect the health of Vermont's valuable water resources.

LIA remains committed to a program to control EWM to ensure the rich native aquatic plant community in the lake and, to eliminate the monoculture caused by the EWM infestation, so that appropriate recreational uses of the lake can continue and the health of the lake is protected. The association will continue to research ways to control EWM, to consult with other lake associations, lake users and property owners, municipalities, and the state to develop best practices and to work to enhance the health of the Lake Iroquois ecosystem.

The initial application (2240-ANC), denial, and replies to public comments are available from this web directory: https://anrweb.vt.gov/PubDocs/DEC/WSMD/Lakes/PublicNotice/2240/

For more information, go to our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/lakeiroquois/, check out our website: www.lakeiroquois.org or email us at lakeiroquoisassociation@gmail.com

—Chris Conant, President, Lake Iroquois Association
Jamie Carroll, Secretary, Lake Iroquois Association

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All Things Human

by Demaris Tisdale, MSW

Words Matter

"Sticks and stones can break my bones but words can never hurt me."
—(familiar children's retort)

But it's not true. From the husband who insults and demeans his wife in front of their children, mocking her for the food she has prepared for them, to the dictator who incites anger and fury in speeches to huge crowds, words have powerful, damaging, and lasting effects.

Western civilization was endangered in the 1930s and '40s, threatened by Hitler and Nazism. During that time four men surfaced using words that changed the course of history and rescued western civilization. Those four men were Orwell, Churchill, Roosevelt, and Freud. Three of these men --Winston Churchill, George Orwell, and Sigmund Freud -- were writers. Franklin Roosevelt was a speaker.

Churchill's significant contribution was his stubborn persistence and refusal to capitulate. Writing thousands of words -- letters, columns, books and speeches, he inspired his fellow citizens in their Darkest Hour. It is well known that his words enabled citizens to withstand great pressures as he and his country refused to be bullied. Suffering anguish and privation, they tolerated severe damage to their little island. Inspired by their leader, they refused to cave in to appeasement.

Franklin Roosevelt risked his political life as he, like the others, showed courage, clarity, and force. Ignoring his physical disability, he defied legislators and naysayers, surrounding himself with men and women who believed in the value of freedom. These men and women displayed a will and moral consciousness, and a strong commitment to the Western way of life and democratic values. He joined Churchill in defending these values and forming what Joseph P. Lash called, "The Partnership that Saved the West."

Sigmund Freud's discovery of the unconscious and the aggressive nature of humans fostered the growing understanding of how our basic instinctual drives control behavior. As a Jew, Freud's life was in danger, but he refused to leave his home in Austria. However, when his daughter was arrested and questioned by the Gestapo, Freud finally accepted help to leave Austria and go to England where he could continue his work.

Orwell's Animal Farm (1945) alerted people to the dangers of totalitarianism. Using vivid satire, Orwell characterized farm animals to represent people and their behavior that portrayed societal threats to humans. Written in 1949, Orwell's prophetic, nightmarish vision in 1984, became a classic negative utopian novel. His creation of an imaginary world, a world of hopelessness, was completely convincing.

These four were not passive men. They each sought information and knowledge, aware that both are essential to wise judgment. They listened and learned, always keeping themselves informed. With an understanding of the value of words, they embraced the principles of free speech and a free press.

Boomer Funk

Submitted by Scott Funk

Hey, I'm an Old Guy

As kids playing in the canyons near home, we would hide whenever we saw big kids walking through. Then a day came when I recognized the big kids were my friends from school and realized I wasn't a little kid anymore. Same sort of thing happened when I was a teenager, young adult, and real adult. At each stage, there was a realization I'd passed over to an older group.

It has happened again. At 69, I'm no longer a grown up; I'm an old guy. People naturally offer me a seat in subways or buses. I get the senior discount without asking. My choice in clothes is determined more by what I'm familiar with than by fashion. Buying two 20-pound bags of birdseed is wiser than one 50-pounder, even though it is slightly more expensive. I can compliment ladies on their beautiful dresses without being threatening. All indicators I've passed middle age.

Yes, I know 'we are only as old as we feel'. That is my point: I now actually feel older. Still in the game, but not quite up to my old game. Learning takes longer, goals are more practical, expectations have adjusted down somewhat. Best of all, for the first time in my life, I have enough.

Appreciating I have enough is what tipped me off that things had changed. It began at a library book sale. At a dollar a book, I'm pretty extravagant in the reading risks I take. Yet, this time, as I looked through the history books, they reminded me of all the books I'd already purchased, many still unread. So, I left the sale empty-handed and puzzled.

What had happened? At a buck a book, what was the harm of picking up a few more? Back home, in my library, I perused the shelves, taking note of how many I'd like to read again or haven't read at all. There were enough to keep me reading for the rest of my life.

Wow! Not a thought I'd had before. Enough for the rest of my life. What else did I have enough of? Well, everything, it turns out. Shirts, suits, shoes, pants, (okay, underwear and socks will need replacing), ties, belts, tools, CD's . . . just about everything I considered was enough for the rest of my life.

That's when it hit me: the rest of my life, meant the rest of my life wasn't all that long. Not a lot of time remains and none of it needs to be wasted acquiring more than I need. I've reached the place of enjoying what is, rather than chasing what might be. Just in time, too, because I'm not moving as fast as I used to.

Then came my 69th birthday and very few presents. Which was great. The cards and sentiments were enough. 69, content with enough, enjoying a slower pace? Wait a minute, I have gotten older! Wham, that's when it hit me: I've become an older person. And, you know, it isn't such a bad thing to be, now that I've realized it.

(Former Richmond resident Scott Funk writes and speaks around the state on issues of concern to retirees and their families. His Boomer Funk columns are available at www.VermontFunk.com, as are his blogs and archived Aging in Place columns.)

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