

The Times Ink!

OF RICHMOND & HUNTINGTON

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Huntington's Turn

Residents to Vote on Bond for Town Community Forest

The Huntington Conservation Commission (HCC) has spent the last four years examining different potential properties as a new town forest. Although, the town has had a town forest for decades, the 100-acre property is landlocked, with access only in the winter months.

forest management of the property; and use a public process to guide the property's overall management. The Town of Richmond purchased the property in 2018.

Huntington's Proposal In Huntington, which already had a town forest,

a community survey, conducted by the Town of Huntington, revealed that residents felt that 100 acres with limited access was not adequate. A year of planning with consultants resulted in putting the acquisition of a new town forest, with "good public access," as a top priority. This was supported by the Huntington Planning Commission and Selectboard in the Huntington Town Plan, adopted in October 2019. The work done by the HCC also helped to reach conclusions that residents in the town wanted more public trails near the village; additional options for mountain biking, access to the Huntington River; and opportunities for forest recreation and education in town.

The Huntington Conservation Commission has, through a series of meetings, identified a willing seller for the purpose of creating a new town forest in Huntington Center. The land, formerly owned by the Blands for 50 years (and known as the Bland land until very recently), is located in the village and uplands between Camels Hump Road and Trapp Road. Over-

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Area Weather 2019 More Extremes



Road slide in the early hours of November 1 closed Dugway Road near the Huntington Gorge until the spring. Photos: Robert Low

by Robert Low

The year brought typical weather variability up here on White Hill, with the now expected extremes attributed to climate change. Precipitation and snowfall were up some 20%. It was a warm year with cooling degree days, up by some 25%. Elsewhere, catastrophic weather was suffered by many.

A moderate early January allowed outdoor enjoyment for many. Mid-month major snows were followed by a long string of below zero nights, coming to an end with the customary January thaw with a 60 degree plus temperature swing in 36 hours. Skiers were delighted with the nearly four feet of snow for the month. The Polar Vortex hemorrhaged again at the end of the month bringing more cold. The weather was not easy for some wildlife – barred owls at our deck – but OK for others with turkeys galore.

Early February cold and snowy conditions were conducive to outdoor sports but quickly ended with a record thaw for the area; otherwise quite normal weather ending on a cold note. Persistent cold and snow cover into March continued to please winter sports enthusiasts, with Lake Champlain freezing over on March 8. Mid-month brought a modest sap run followed by unusual warmth, then substantial snow. Sap season finally really getting started just in time for sugar-maker open houses. By then, the Richmond Highway crew had spread more sand than in any of the last 10 years.

April was its usual fickle self. Seventy-degree temperatures mid-month encouraged those who had had

enough of winter weather, only to have hopes dashed by consistent cold toward the end of the month delaying many gardens. May's cold, wet start with persistent rains again caused by a mis-behaving jet stream further delayed garden growth, though at least we were spared the mid-month snow that fell nearby.

Above average rains persisted into June, further delaying gardens but otherwise was quite normal. With July, however, came persistent humidity and heat, with six days in the 90s for us and an average temperature some five degrees above normal, cooling degree days all but double normal with especially warm nights, heat pumps working overtime in reverse. August brought welcome relief, though average temperature and cooling degree days remained above normal.

September began cool and wet with first frost up here earlier than recently on September 19. October was warm, four degrees up. Its claim to fame is the Halloween storm that left upwards of six inches of rain and heavy wind in our area, flooding the countryside and many basements, causing power outages and major road damage such as at Huntington Gorge on Dugway Road, as previously reported in TIMES INK.

November felt like December with more than double normal snowfall with all but one day of measurable snow from November 9 on. Mid-month cold broke past records, some by five degrees and earliest ever single number temperature highs. Persistent cold provided a complete spectrum of winter activities. De-

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Chittenden County Forester Ethan Tapper leads a group through the proposed Huntington Town Community Forest in Huntington Center on January 4. Photo: Heidi Racht

Town forests have been the focus of Conservation Commissions of late. In 2017, Huntington and Richmond were selected as two of 10 Vermont communities to each receive a grant from the Vermont Urban & Community Forestry Program to involve the public in planning and stewardship of their town forests. The funds were used for research in the field and workshops to involve the public in creating what might be implemented in the community.

Richmond's Success The process in Richmond resulted in the acquisition of 428 acres of the Andrews farm, mostly wooded acres about a mile east of the village. The land lies within one of Vermont's largest blocks of unfragmented interior forest, stretching from Richmond's uplands up and over the Green Mountains.

To protect the land and its natural resources, the Andrews family, which has farmed this land for almost 100 years, worked with the Vermont Land Trust to convey the property to the Town under a conservation agreement. The Town agreed to conserve the forest's natural and scenic resources and open space values; provide for appropriate recreational, educational and other uses; oversee



Woodland stream that crosses under Trapp Road. Photo: John Hadden

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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.



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Letters

Universal School Meals

Hunger Free Vermont, VT-NEA, Outright Vermont, National Life Group, Clean Yield Asset Management, and other groups, as well as key legislators, gathered in the Vermont Statehouse on January 14 to launch a campaign to achieve the goal of universal school meals in every public school in Vermont over a five-year period. Senator Debbie Ingram announced that she has introduced a bill in the Senate - S.223 - that would require that all schools move to universal meals by 2025. The bill would also require that schools do all they can to maximize participation and thus maximize the federal funding that would come into the state for school meals.

Universal school meals would mean that no child would have to pay for breakfast or lunch at the school - it would be paid for with public funds, as part of the education of our children. Since 2014, Hunger Free Vermont, working with the Vermont Agency of Education, has helped nearly 25% of Vermont public schools take the money out of school meals. Now, the results of multiple studies confirm that a universal school meals model improves multiple student, school and community outcomes.

Kathy Alexander, Food Service Director, Mount Abraham Unified School District and Addison Northwest School District, expressed her support of the bill by stating, "This bill presents a solution that supports all families and supports education. This bill gives every student access to consistently healthy food - vegetables, fruits, whole grains, healthy fats, and appropriate daily nutrients. This bill puts access to food and health at the forefront for all Vermont children regardless of income and in the process eliminates the vicious and wasteful cycle of trying to artificially run a business in a school environment. This bill acknowledges that healthy learners are our greatest resource and our investment in them should be our first priority."

Molly Betourney, Director of Social Research and Advocacy at Clean Yield Asset Management, explained why Clean Yield is proud to support the universal school meals campaign. "Universal school meals can promote workforce development by strengthening VT's future workforce and helping to attract and retain workers from afar. As Hunger Free Vermont has indicated, universal school meals can improve academic achievement - which will result in a stronger, better prepared workforce for Vermont businesses. In addition, universal school meals improve academic outcomes which strengthens schools overall - making them more attractive to workers considering a move to Vermont."

Don Tinney, a 31-year veteran English teacher and president of Vermont-NEA noted, "Vermont educators work hard each day to create safe, compassionate learning environments, where all students grow intellectually and socially. When students are hungry, they simply cannot concentrate on class activities or lessons. Making sure our students are well-nourished contributes not just to the quality of their lives but to the quality of their learning."

Dana Kaplan, Executive Director at Outright Vermont, expressed that group's support by stating, "We know that LGBTQ+ youth face incredible health disparities compared to their peers. Universal school meals gets us closer to healthy, safer schools. And healthy schools means nourished youth. Let's be the Vermont that acts from abundance, possibilities,

and the resolve to make it so."

Anore Horton, Executive Director of Hunger Free Vermont summed up the position of the groups, saying, "When schools offer universal school meals, student learning, behavior and health improve. Also, relationships between school administrators and families improve. We can do this here in Vermont. It's time for every student, in every Vermont public school to have the same opportunity to thrive with Universal School Meals."

A companion bill is expected to be introduced this week in the House by Representative Lucy Rogers (D-Lamoille-3). The groups are hopeful that the bill will be taken up in committee in the coming weeks.

Learn more about the universal school meals campaign and get involved at universalschoolmealsvt.org.

Huntington Town Forest

continued from page 1

tures to the Bland family by Huntington School Board in the 1980s to acquire more land next to the school (as the building expanded across the existing property), and the Conservation Commission about ten years ago, did not come to fruition. The property was sold to Ted Blood, who is now working with the Conservation Commission to sell 248 acres to the Town.

The property is within walking distance of Camels Hump Road, the Town Office and Town Hall, the town's recreation field, and Brewster-Pierce Memorial School and available parking at each of these locations. With paths leading from the school parking lot into the property, the opportunity exists for an easily accessible outdoor classroom and community experience.

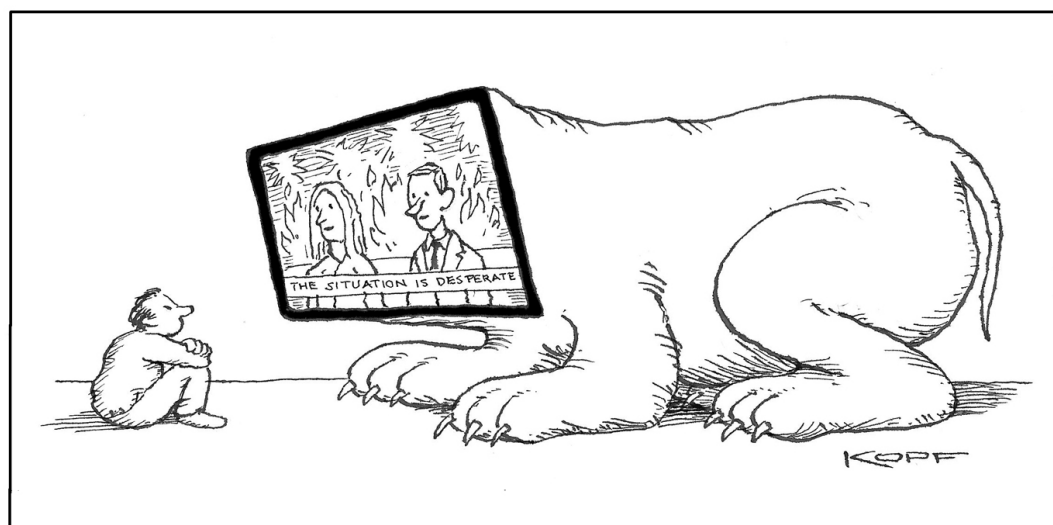
Additionally, a portion of the property is located between the Recreation Field and Huntington Center Cemetery and will serve to join the existing town properties along the Huntington River, as three acres will be conveyed to the town.

The Conservation Commission is working with the Trust for Public Land, the Vermont Land Trust, and the Vermont Housing and Conservation Board. All documents relevant to the project are located on the town's website: huntingtonvt.org with a link on the homepage.

Public hearings have been well attended with between 50 and 60 people in attendance. The HCC held an informational meeting at the Huntington Public Library and worked with Chittenden County Forester Ethan Tapper, who conducted a educational tour of the forest on the lower portion of the property on January 11 with over 50 people and some well-behaved dogs.

On January 6, at its Public Hearing, the Selectboard voted to spend \$140,000 from the Huntington Conservation Fund to go toward the purchase of the property. On January 13, the Board signed the warning for a Town Meeting Day bond vote to cover the remainder of the town's portion of the purchase, which will also be made with grants from federal, state and private sources, including local fundraising. Detailed information will be provided in the next issue of the TIMES INK.

—Heidi Racht



Hollywood in Vermont

Rare Insights into Nearly 100 Years of Filmmaking Set in this Fair State



Join Amanda Kay Gustin of the Vermont Historical Society on January 30 at 1:30 pm in the Richmond Free Library as she presents an engaging look into Vermont's nearly 100 years as a featured location for Hollywood films.

Vermont has represented many different ideals during its century of appearances in various movies. Its portrayal in films reflects both its

own history as well as America's history in various important historical eras.

Gustin shares film clips ranging chronologically from 1919's *WAY DOWN EAST* with Lillian Gish, to the more recent 2005's *THANK YOU FOR SMOKING*. Her examination of various scenes reveals interesting and novel insights into the captivating appeal Vermont has had to filmmakers and audiences alike in the media age.

This Vermont Humanities Council program is hosted by the Community Senior Center of Bolton, Richmond and Huntington. Admission is free and open to the public.

For information, contact: Jane Vossler (janevossler@gmail.com)

Amanda Kay Gustin has been the Public Programs Coordinator at the Vermont Historical Society since 2012. Prior to that, she was a researcher at the Mary Baker Eddy Library in Boston. She particularly enjoys connecting with her audiences while she explains and demonstrates historical subject matter.

She has studied military, religious, and women's history in the medieval period and nineteenth-century America.

Marketing poster, above at left, for 1919 film WAY DOWN EAST, directed by D. W. Griffith, starring Lillian Gish and Richard Barthelmess depicts dramatic water rescue scene filmed in Vermont.

Seeking Executive Director Our Community Cares Camp

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We are looking for an energetic, engaged community member to lead OCCC into its second decade of helping children facing food insecurity. If you are passionate about helping children who could benefit from a locally run, non-profit, free summer camp and food program for area residents ages 5-13, with job training for older teens, please consider applying. This year round, part time, paid position is responsible for overseeing functions of the camp in addition to keeping up with the business components, including fundraising. Please visit our website at bit.do/OCCCjobs for application instructions and job description. Application letters and resumes will be accepted until the position is filled.



2020 Schedule

January 9 deadline Town Meeting Preview	January 23 issue
February 6 deadline	February 20 issue
March 12 deadline	March 26 issue
April 9 deadline	April 23 issue
May 7 deadline	May 21 issue
June 11 deadline	June 26 issue
July 23 deadline	August 6 issue
September 5 deadline	September 19 issue
October 8 deadline	October 23 issue
Holiday Issues	
November 5 deadline	November 19 issue
December 3 deadline	December 17 issue

Annual French Canadian Supper

Are you looking for an opportunity to taste some authentic French Canadian food without having to travel north of the border? A unique and tasty Annual French Canadian Supper will be held on Saturday February 1, at Our Lady of the Holy Rosary Church in Richmond. Featured food items prepared by the he Richmond Knights of Columbus (Rosary Council 4684) and other church members, include such traditional French Canadian favorites as pea soup, meat pie ("Tourtiere"), mashed potato, beverages, dessert, and more. Tourtiere, a mixture of several kinds of minced meats, is rich and delicious and is traditionally enjoyed on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve.

The supper will be held in the Parish Hall of Our Lady of the Holy Rosary Church on West Main Street in Richmond beginning at 5 pm. Admission is by a suggested donation of \$12. The evening's proceeds will benefit the various charities (scholarships, donations to the needy, and summer camps.) supported by the Knights of Columbus.

For information, call 872-8063 evenings or the Church office at 434-2521 Tuesday, Wednesday or Friday during the day.

Local Blood Drive February 12

Our Lady of the Holy Rosary Church will host the next local American Red Cross blood drive on February 12 from noon to 6 pm. 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. Use RAPIDPASS (<http://www.redcrossblood.org/rapidpass>), a pre-donation and health history questionnaire, to further reduce the wait time. Complete it on line on February 12 before you arrive to donate.

If you are unable to donate on February 12, consider a donation on March 18, at Mt. Mansfield Union High School in Jericho, 8 am to 2 pm. This drawing is organized by students at the high school. It is a great excuse to stop by and visit the school that the Richmond and Huntington students in grades 9-12 attend. The same protocol for registering applies.

Donation only costs a little time, yet it can save a life. Bring a friend and double the pleasure. It doesn't get any better!

Foot Clinics for Seniors

The 2019-2020 Richmond Foot Clinics for Seniors continues on the following dates:

February 18, March 31, May 12, June 23

Bring a towel and enter through the back door of the Richmond Rescue building. The clinic is sponsored by UVM Medical Center. More information can be obtained at singersallydan@yahoo.com.

Don't wait to make an appointment or get on the waiting list. Call for an appointment: Sally Singer (434-3480).



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Come to the Friends of the Richmond Free Library BOOK SALE!

Help support library programs such as
summer art classes, performers,
and special acquisitions.



Friday, February 14
5:30 pm to 8:30 pm
(Best Selection)

Saturday, February 15
9 am – 3 pm
(Reduced Prices)

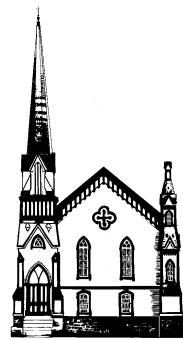
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♥ Love Your Library! Happy Valentine's Day! ♥

Looking for volunteers. Call the Library at 434-3036
or email Mary at mkellerbutler@gmail.com



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www.richmondfreelibraryvt.org

Mon & Wed
10 - 8
Tues & Thurs
1 - 6
Fri 10 - 6
Sat 10 - 2
434-3036
rfl@gmavt.net

Thank you to everyone who purchased a raffle ticket for one or more of our holiday book baskets. The four winners were notified on December 18. If you were not a basket winner, you still win! The proceeds from the raffle will go toward the purchase of new DVD movies for children and adults. Many newish releases will be available on the shelves soon.

Slideshow Authors Liz Thompson, Eric Sorenson, and Bob Zaino will present a fascinating slideshow about Vermont's natural communities in celebration of the new edition of their book, *WETLAND, WOODLAND, WILDLAND: A GUIDE TO THE NATURAL COMMUNITIES OF VERMONT*. Books will be for sale, and the authors will be available to sign them. Liz Thompson is Director of Conservation Science at Vermont Land Trust; Eric Sorenson is Natural Community Ecologist for Vermont Fish and Wildlife; and Bob Zaino is State Lands Ecologist for Vermont Fish and Wildlife. Join us on Wednesday, January 29, at 4:30 pm.

Friends of the Richmond Free Library Annual Love Your Library Book Sale As always, there will be a wonderful selection of books and media in great condition. Browse accompanied by live music from our incredible local talent. Mark your calendar! This year's sale takes place on Friday evening, February 14, 5:30-8:30, and Saturday, February 15, 9-3.

Young Storytellers Video Workshop We are once again working with the local television station MMCTV to offer the fifth annual video workshop for middle school students during the February school vacation. The workshop will cover the three basic techniques of video storytelling--animation, documentary and fiction--and will provide hours of hands-on filming and editing experience. We will be producing three short videos that tell the same story three different ways. Students aged 10-14 are invited to register (434-3036/rfl@gmavt.net) for this fun, free workshop from 9 am - noon on February 24, 25 and 26. Time will be split between the Library and the MMCTV studio. Space is limited.

Sleepy Hollow Ski Center Pass We have a new improved pass for Sleepy Hollow in Huntington for 2020. The benefits to pass-holders include free day or half-day entry for up to two adults and two children in the same family. A family can use the pass once a season. This is a great way to experience Sleepy Hollow for perhaps the first time. Thanks go out to RiseVT for funding the pass and to Sleepy Hollow for working with the Library to provide this opportunity to get out and ski. Ask at the circulation desk.

Mostly Fiction Book Group *THE ENCHANTED APRIL* by Elizabeth von Arnim. A month spent in Portofino, Italy reintroduces four women to their true natures and reacquaints them with joy. Tuesday, February 11, 6 pm.

Mystery Book Group *DARK ANGEL* by Elly Griffiths (#10 in the Dr. Ruth Galloway series). In this highly atmospheric mystery, Ruth Galloway investigates a murder in a medieval Italian town where dark secrets are buried as deep as bones. Thursday, February 20, 7 pm.

AARP Volunteer Tax Preparers are returning! We haven't been given an exact start date yet, but we'll announce it as soon as we know. If you intend on using the volunteers' services please gather the following documents: Social Security Card (or photocopy), government issued photo ID, W-2 (if received), any

1099s, current and prior year property tax bill, Landlord Certificate (if applicable), Health Care Form 1095 (from ACA) if applicable, Social Security Statements, and any other financial documents relevant to your return (e.g., phone bills if using Lifeline). If in doubt of a document's value, bring it. Keep in mind, if filing jointly, both individuals must be present.

Free Coffee and Tea Warm yourself with a hot cup of coffee or tea during the cold winter season. The beverage table is to the left of the circulation desk on the ground floor. Help yourself and sip while you browse, read, work or gather with friends.

Art Gallery Photography Jake Levison has been a lifelong photographer. The photos in this exhibit represent his appreciation for jazz musicians and their music, animals and flowers of this area, and other characters that he has encountered along the way. He always carries a camera with him. "You never know..." Jake has lived in Richmond for 35 years, so far. (Some of his wonderful photos are available for sale--inquire if you're interested.)

Display Case Catherine Peacock is sharing her collection of, you got it, peacocks! After marrying in 1977 and taking on the surname Peacock, she began collecting peacocks. Friends and family have also brought her peacock items from all over the world. From earrings to ornaments, we see the many ways that peacocks can be depicted.

February Art We will be featuring the art work of students from the Mansfield Cooperative School on our walls and in our foyer display.

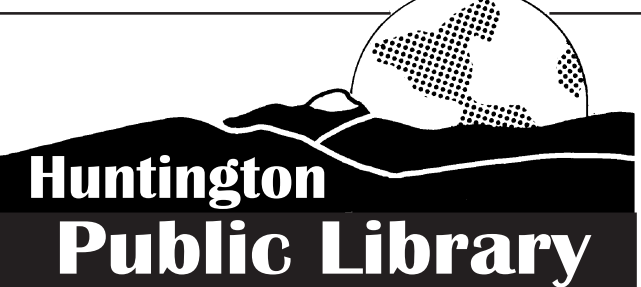
Seeking Artists and Collectors We are currently scheduling art shows for our walls and display case in 2020. If you have framed pieces (art, photography) and would like to schedule a show, contact us to choose your month. No professional experience is necessary, just a willingness to share your talent. We're also seeking interesting collections for our foyer display case. If you are a collector of Beanie Babies, bird nests, little cars, old books or anything else that would fit in our case, we would love to hear from you. Call or email the Library.

Weekly Youth Programs Details about our regularly scheduled programs appear below. Weekly children's programs at the Library run September through May and follow the MMUUSD schedule for vacation days and weather closure days.

Baby Laptime This short, active storytime is for our youngest little book lovers and their grown ups. We'll look at picture books, sing simple songs, do some rhyming and bouncing and sometimes get out the shakers and scarves. Designed for infants and early toddlers. Join us on Mondays at 10:30 am.

Playgroup with Stories and Songs The good times kick off with songs and shakers around the colorful alphabet rug. Next up is storytime and snacks (bring your own). Then, the toys and art supplies come out for free play and crafts. Co-sponsored by the Lund Center. Kids from infant to age five and their caregivers are invited to join us in the community room on Wednesdays from 10 am - noon.

Preschool Storytime This special storytime is for children ages 3 - 5. We will share picture books, songs, and activities with a focus on the six pre-reading skills that form a child's early literacy experience and help set them up for a lifelong love of books and reading. Join us on



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The Friends of the Huntington Public Library would like to thank everyone who has donated to our Annual Appeal. Thank you for your generosity! If you haven't donated yet, it's not too late. We are still accepting donations which will help support our mission to underwrite special purchases and programs for the HPL. One upcoming program is the Annual Baby Brunch on Sunday, January 26. Attending families will have the opportunity to choose a new children's picture book to be dedicated to their child, born in 2019.

Friends Annual Meeting The Friends announces our first Annual Meeting on Sunday, February 9, at noon at the Library. All are encouraged to attend. We will discuss the goals of the Friends and how the Friends and Trustees work together to support the Library. Most importantly, we will brainstorm new ideas about possible programs and fundraising ideas. If you would like to be involved a little or a lot, this is the meeting to get to. See you there.

Learn Your Ancestry Genealogy Group Mondays at 1:30 pm to 3 pm with Martha Nye. Your Community Senior Center, in partnership with your Huntington Public Library, is offering a weekly activity at the Huntington Public Library. Would you like to learn more about your ancestry? Join us! Martha will be leading us through the process of discovering our roots. Have you been wanting to start tracing your family's history? Have you some information about your family tree, but want to find out more? We are starting a beginners group, an introduction to using the internet to help you. Please stop by if you have a question or just want to be with folks who love to find missing ancestors. Please bring your laptop or tablet. No charge.

New Babies Wanted Annual Baby Brunch on Sunday, January 26, 11 am to 1 pm. The Annual Baby Brunch welcomes the newest residents of Huntington, born in 2019. In honor of each new baby, a new picture book with a Baby Book Dedication bookplate will have the child's name and birthday will be added to the library's collection. There will also be a healthy and delicious brunch for families. Invitations have been sent to all those born in 2019. Refreshments courtesy of the Library Friends and the Board of Trustees.

Farming (and Gardening) on the Wild Side Join our community and neighbors on Sunday, February 2, at 4:30 pm, at the Library for an inspiring presentation given by ecologists, farmers and authors Nancy and John Hayden.

The Haydens speak about the evolution of The Farm Between in Jeffersonville, over a period of 28 years: from a conventional dairy to a regenerative organic fruit farm and nursery. Nancy and John will share information on how you can add pollinator and bird habitat, manage pests, soak up and use carbon for soil fertility, improve water quality, and enjoy the fruits of your labor from whatever size parcel of land that you steward. Their newly published book, *FARMING ON THE WILD SIDE – THE EVOLUTION OF A REGENERATIVE ORGANIC FARM AND NURSERY* is available at the Library. To learn more about these gentle regenerative farmers visit: thefarmbetween.com. Light refreshments will be served.

The Library is a Zero Waste Venue. Please BYO cups and napkins. This program is sponsored by the Huntington Public Library and the Huntington Conservation Commission. It is made

possible by a generous grant from the Eddy Foundation, theeddy.org, with special thanks to Huntington resident, Jennifer Esser.

Compost with Confidence Backyard Composting Workshop with CSWD Sunday, February 23, at 5:30 pm. Learn the joy of home composting and digesting in a free workshop. Discover the benefits of “closing the loop” with your own household food scraps in this interactive, hands-on demonstration of a healthy compost and digesting system. Our compost guide will show you what type of bin is best for you, where to locate your bin, what to put in your bin – and what not to pin in your bin – troubleshooting common issues, harvesting your compost, and alternatives to your backyard bin.

Art Exhibit Enjoy the colorful and peaceful watercolors by Huntington resident Deanna Allgaier in our gallery.

New Adult Fiction *THE GIVER OF STARS* by Jojo Moyes; *THE INSTITUTE* by Stephen King; *THE STARLESS SEA* by Erin Morgenstern; *LOST* by James Patterson; *THE ONLY WOMAN IN THE ROOM* by Marie Benedict; *THE FALLEN ARCHITECT* by Charles Belfoure; *THE YELLOW HOUSE* by Sarah M. Broom; *THE INVITED* by Jennifer McMahon.

Adult Non-Fiction *ON FIRE* by Naomi Klein; *RAIN – A NATURAL AND CULTURAL HISTORY* by Cynthia Barnett; *FARMING ON THE WILD SIDE* by Nancy and John Hayden; *AMERICAN WOLF – A TRUE STORY OF SURVIVAL AND OBSESSION IN THE WILD* by Nate Blakeslee; *FREE, FAIR AND ALIVE – THE INSURGENT POWER OF THE COMMONS* by David Bollier; *WALKING WITH THE WIND – A MEMOIR OF THE MOVEMENT* by John Lewis; *WELCOMING THE UNWELCOME* by Pema Chodron; *POETRY OF PRESENCE – AN ANTHOLOGY OF MINDFULNESS POEMS*; *THE INVENTION OF NATURE – ALEXANDER HUMBOLDT'S NEW WORLD* by Andrea Wulf.

Adult DVD *GAME OF THRONES – The Complete Eighth Season*.

Adult Audio *THE OLD SUCCESS* by Martha Grimes.

Picture Books *DRAGON GETS BY* by Dav Pilkey and many, many more available after the baby Brunch.

Junior Non-Fiction *DIY CIRCUS LAB FOR KIDS – A FAMILY FRIENDLY GUIDE TO JUGGLING, BALANCING, CLOWNING AND SHOW-MAKING* by Jackie Leigh Davis; *ART LAB FOR LITTLE KIDS* and *ART LAB FOR KIDS/EXPRESS YOURSELF* by Susan Schwake; *STITCH TO STRING LAB FOR KIDS* by Cassie Stephens.

Junior Graphic *JUST JAIME* by Terri Libenson; *NIGHTLIGHTS* by Lorena Alvarez; *BABYSITTER'S LITTLE SISTER: KAREN'S WITCH* by Katy Farina; *PASHMINA* by Nidhi Chanani.

VOL - Vermont Online Library is available to all Huntington residents with a valid library card. This service offers a wide array of electronic information databases on a wide variety of topics for all ages and interests. Use the password “student” for the GALE database and for the HERITAGE databases your password is the barcode on your library card (home card). Call or email for further assistance.

ListenUpVermont and Libby Ebooks and audiobooks are available online for your device with your library card at www.listenupvermont.org or meet.libbyapp.com. Thousands of digital titles are supported through this website. All you need is a valid Huntington library card and your password. Ask a librarian if you have any questions.



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TAX NOTICE

Town of Richmond

Third Quarter 2019-2020 taxes payment due
Tuesday, February 18, 2020.

The office is closed on February 17 (Presidents' Day).

The office is open until 4 pm on February 18, to accept payments.

A late fee of 1% interest will be applied to late payments on February 19th.

Postmarks by the 18th will be accepted and there is a TOWN CENTER DROP BOX located by the side door across from the post office entrance.

Electronic checks have no postmark, must be received before February 18, 2020.

Town of Huntington

Third Quarter 2019-2020 tax installment is due
Tuesday, February 18, 2020.

The office will be closed on Monday, February 17
(Presidents' Day)

The office will be open Tuesday, February 18,
8 am – 6 pm

USPS Postmarks on or before February 18th are accepted.

Payments placed through the town office door slot are accepted up until midnight on February 18th.

In office payments accepted by check or cash only.

(Note: Internet-generated checks do not generally have postmarks and MUST arrive on or before February 18th.)

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Huntington Selectboard

Reported by Barrett Grimm

The December 9 Selectboard meeting was largely dedicated to financial matters. Capital projects that might be appropriate for use of the General Fund surplus were reviewed including a new heating system for the Library, replacement siding for the sand shed, a new highway truck, and matching funds for the Camels Hump Road bridge construction. The Selectboard plans to ask for approval at Town Meeting to use surplus funds for the Fire Department utility truck and an addition to the highway storage shed to better protect equipment. The Selectboard also finalized its proposals for contributions to social service organizations, deciding to increase the budgeted amount for Our Community Cares Camp from \$300 to \$500, but not to honor the request for bridge funding to hire a new executive director. The Selectboard also chose not to sponsor an article for Town Meeting for the additional funding.

At the December 16 meeting, the Selectboard gave preliminary approval for the General Fund and Capital Plan, and will forward the documents to the Town Auditors for review and placement in the Town Report.

Lela McCaffrey, a representative from the Town's professional auditing firm Fothergill Segale & Valley CPAs, reported that Town officials did a "great job" on the audit and that no adjustments were necessary as a result of the audit.

Grants Also at the December 9 meeting, the Selectboard authorized Town Administrator Barbara Elliott and Road Foreman Clinton "Yogi" Alger to submit two grant applications to the Better Roads Program for work on Bert White Road and Handy Road. Elliott and Alger will also work on applications for grants from the Chittenden Regional Planning Commission Unified Planning Work Program for developing a comprehensive Municipal Roads General Permit Implementation Plan and an updated bridge inventory.

Community Forest Project The Conservation Commission (HCC) was present at the December 16 meeting to convey the results of its initial public

meeting on the application for use of the Town's Conservation Fund to purchase a community forest and to formally make its recommendation to the Selectboard regarding application approval. At the HCC's December 12 event, 56 community members expressed overwhelming support for the project overall and use of the Conservation Fund. The HCC unanimously recommended the Selectboard approve the application for the full amount of \$140,000, and that the Selectboard schedule its public meeting on use of the funds at the earliest available date. On January 6, the Selectboard gave final approval to use \$140,000 from the Conservation Fund to potentially acquire the 240-plus acre land between the school and Trapp Road. The HCC also requested the Selectboard approve use of an attorney to prepare the necessary documentation for an anticipated bond vote at Town Meeting for additional funding for the Community Forest Project. The Town Treasurer was authorized to work with a bond attorney to meet the statutory requirements for a bond vote.

On January 13, the Selectboard approved the bond article that will be on the Australian ballot at Town Meeting. By statute, any bond vote must be preceded by an informational meeting within 10 days of the election. The Selectboard has asked the Conservation Commission (HCC) to host that meeting and it has been scheduled for February 25 at 6:30 pm in the Community Church.

The Selectboard also unanimously approved the HCC's recommendation that Anne Dannenberg be appointed to the Commission.

Pillsbury Estate Late, long-time Huntington resident Ken Pillsbury included a generous allocation in his will for construction of senior housing in Huntington. Pillsbury's will did not include specific instructions regarding any interest earned from investment of those funds but the executor of his estate, Attorney Steve Soule, wrote to express his belief that Pillsbury would only want interest to also go to direct construction and not planning or design, nor any other purpose. The Selectboard Investment Subcommittee plans to present its Municipal Investment Strategy at a meeting in January.

FEMA Buy-outs The Town received the signed Reimbursement Agreement with John and Kendra Christiana regarding their property on Texas Hill Road that had been drafted and approved by the Town Attorney. A property appraisal process is the next step in the buy-out process. The Selectboard also approved moving forward with the first 12 FEMA buy-out applications resulting from the Halloween flooding.

Glebe Lands During American Colonial times, the British Monarchy set aside glebe lands, also known as perpetual lease lands, to produce revenue to support the local parish of the Church of England. Those glebe lands still exist and have complicated the sale of some properties in Vermont with title insurance companies unwilling to issue policies for "encumbered" land. As a result, the Vermont Legislature passed an act stating that such lands would vest to the current owner on January 1, 2020 unless a municipality votes to maintain ownership of those lands. The Town Attorney alerted the Town of that upcoming deadline resulting in the scheduling of a special meeting on December 23. Huntington has three known glebe lands, all on State-owned property. Other glebe lands may also exist but, since the Town can unencumber landowners by relinquishing its interest in those lands at any time with a simple vote, the Selectboard voted to maintain ownership of the Town's glebe lands.

Towns of Richmond & Huntington

Positions Open for March 3, 2020 Town Meeting Vote by Australian Ballot

RICHMOND

Position	Length of Term
Moderator	1 year
Selectboard	3 years
Selectboard	2 years
Constable	1 year
Cemetery Trustee	5 years
Library Trustee	5 years
MMUU School Director	3 years

Petitions must contain 1% of the eligible voters from the Town of Richmond (30 names) and must be submitted to the Town Clerk's Office by 5 pm on Monday, January 27, 2020.

HUNTINGTON

Position	Length of Term
Auditor	3 years
Auditor (Remainder of 3-year term)	1 year
Cemetery Trustee	5 years
Library Trustee	3 years
Lister	3 years
Moderator	1 year
Planning Commission	3 years
Selectboard	3 years
Selectboard	2 years
Town Agent	1 year
Town Grand Juror	1 year
MMUU School Director	3 years

In order to run for any office, you must pick up a petition at the Town Clerk's Office and obtain signatures from 1% of the registered voters in Huntington (16 people) and fill out a consent of candidate form. These forms are also available at www.huntingtonvt.org

The petition must be returned to the Huntington Town Clerk's Office by 5 pm on Monday, January 27, 2020.

A consent of candidate form is due at the same time. Petitions and consent forms are available at the Town Clerk's Office.

17 V.S.A. §2681(b), 2681(a)(3). The nominating petition, accompanied by a consent of candidate form, must be filed with the municipal clerk no later than 5 p.m. on the sixth Monday preceding the day of the election.

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Richmond Selectboard

Reported by Greg Elias

Town officials in recent years finished work on the municipal budget ahead of schedule. But this time, problematic appropriations pushed the process up against deadline.

The Selectboard, at its January 6 session, tried to finalize a spending plan for the fiscal year starting in July. The budget will be presented for voter approval on Town Meeting Day in March.

Board members first tweaked a few line items, including a reserve fund for Town Center renovations and funding for technology upgrades. The section of the budget covering charitable appropriations, however, halted progress toward final approval.

The Selectboard has for years during each budget cycle fielded funding requests from nonprofit organizations or charitable groups. The amounts for each group are typically modest, ranging from a few hundred to a few thousand dollars.

But Selectboard members this time have discussed having voters separately approve requests from 10 organizations rather than include them in the budget. The move would affect the Town Meeting Day agenda while making a relatively minor impact on the proposed \$3.9 million budget. The charitable requests this year total \$86,403.

Board member Bard Hill said the idea of asking for voter approval was prompted by a \$20,635 request from Our Community Cares Camp, which offers a summer camp to kids regardless of their ability to pay. It represented a sharp increase over the \$800 provided for OCCC in the current budget.

The Selectboard initially placed each request on the proposed Town Meeting Day agenda for separate voter approval. But Hill and fellow Selectboard member Katie Mather reported that what they heard from community members led them to reconsider. The unanimous advice: Don't punt to voters because we elected you to make such decisions.

A lengthy discussion ensued. It was pointed out that those attending Town Meeting likely would hesitate to speak out or vote against charitable funding in front of their fellow residents, making for an inherently flawed decision-making process.

"Basically, nobody wants to be the jerk," Mather said. "It will pass, but there won't have been a good-faith discussion where people feel truly empowered to speak their opinions about what should be funded."

Board member Christy Witters said she supported all the funding requests except the one from Our Community Care Camp, so she suggested that just that request be placed on the Town Meeting agenda.

Board member Roger Brown said if the town was going to spend \$20,000 on a summer camp, it should instead consider hiring a part-time recreation director, an idea considered in years past.

Hill proposed that all the funding requests be approved as part of the budget while giving OCCC the same \$800 it received last time. He noted that amount could be altered via a motion from the floor at Town Meeting. It appeared that other Selectboard members agreed with this approach, but there was no final decision.

Town Manager Josh Arneson noted that the Selectboard must approve the budget and meeting notice at its next regular meeting to comply with the public notice requirement. Notices must be published no later than 30 days before Town Meeting Day.

Information from the Selectboard's next meeting on January 20 was not available by press time.

Course change on conservation The other issue that could be headed toward a Town Meeting Day decision is money for conservation projects and land purchases. The Conservation Reserve Fund is funded through a one-cent addition to the property tax rate. The fund, which contained \$287,285 at the start of the current fiscal year, was used in 2018 to purchase the 428-acre Andrews Town Forest.

Voters in 2015 renewed use of the fund for another five years. But Arneson said he now has been advised that the town must ask voters each year to approve the fund. Attorneys for the town of Richmond and the Vermont League of Cities and Towns told him that the voting pool varies from year to year, and a spending decision made one year cannot be binding on voters in subsequent years.

That legal opinion led to a lengthy debate. Conservation Commission members attending the meeting protested that shifting to year-to-year funding would prevent long-range planning.

Judy Rosovsky, who chairs the Advisory Board, said the Andrews Forest purchase and other conservation projects would never have been completed under a shorter funding regime. She said other towns such as Colchester and South Burlington use multi-year approvals to promote planning. But she acknowledged it was ultimately the Selectboard's decision.

"I am certainly not going to fight with you about it," she said. "You are liable, not me."

In 2017, Richmond voters approved using \$125,000 from the Conservation fund for Richmond's share of the Andrews Forest purchase. The balance of the \$450,000 deal was covered by grants and other funding procured by the Vermont Land Trust.

The vote culminated a lengthy effort to acquire the land along Route 2, about two miles east of Bridge Street. The town has since used the Conservation Reserve Fund to plan trail upgrades and pay for public access improvements at the site.

Rosovsky questioned the town's legal advice, noting that it was just an opinion and wondering what law backs it up. Arneson said the lawyers told him that there is no explicit law, but Vermont statute gives municipalities only those powers granted by the state. The attorneys said voters must make funding decisions annually, with the only exception being loan payments.

Mather said the Selectboard needed a clearer answer about legal requirements before making a decision. She too thought the five-year approvals were needed to facilitate planning for conservation projects.

Hill said he was not willing to risk overriding the legal advice the town received on the matter.

He suggested that perhaps South Burlington charter allows the city to hold funding votes covering multiple years. Hill said the town attorney stated that Richmond would need a charter change to permit multi-year funding. Charter changes must be approved by the Vermont Legislature.

Arneson said he was confident that the legal opinions were valid because both the town attorney and VLCT independently stated the same thing. Each noticed without prompting the five-year approval in the proposed Town Meeting notice and warned it violated the law.

Board members discussed just how to word the meeting warning asking voters to approve the fund. Arneson said the lawyers advised the town to use minimal language so as to remain neutral and avoid promoting approval. Promotional pushes by other Vermont elected boards have resulted in legal challenges.

Town Meeting Day this year takes place on Tuesday, March 3.



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MMMUSD Board

Reported by Diane Wester

January 6, 2020

Budget, Budget, Budget The Board approved the seconded motion from the finance committee and warned the annual meeting. Dramatic changes would have occurred even without the addition/combination of the Brewster-Pierce individual budget into the merged district. The State has changed the funding of Special Education, in itself a major driver of expense, but also has changed the Health Care Insurance premium system. Health care insurance premiums continue to be second only to salaries in cost to the system. Using the new State mandated system, increases are double digit.

Even so, diligent work since July by the Finance Committee and the Financial Officer has managed to produce a total budget of \$50,126,550, an increase of 3.59% over last year. Education spending increased approximately 2.69% (this is the spending on which your tax assessment is based). Superintendent John Alberghini stated, "enrollment is steady. Reduction in staff has been avoided by attrition." Special Education's student numbers "are flat, but intensity of needs have gone up a lot." This report, and the accompanying power point presentation, are available on-line at www.cesuvt.org.

A modest sum was included to begin to survey and educate the populace in the southern district about the Spanish immersion program. Strategic planning and vision for the district was accorded \$20,000.

At the Finance Committee meeting of December 19, 2019, retiring Board member Michael

Marks (Richmond) once again encouraged the development of a strong five-year capital improvement plan to force a serious evaluation of each building and its needs in the future.

This Richmond Board opening is a three-year elected term. Petitions are due January 27, 2020. Call the Central Office at 434-2128 for more information. The Administration Offices have moved to 10 River Road, Jericho 05465 (the old UID building), but the telephone number remains the same.

Two more budget public presentations will be made before Town Meeting Day: February 20, 6 pm, at Camels Hump Middle School, and at the MMMUSD Annual Meeting February 27, 6 pm, MMUHS.

Let's Grow Kids* has assisted with the preparation of a Request for Proposal to create a K-3 space at the River Road address. One proposal has been offered. The evaluation process is ongoing.

The Town of Huntington is fundraising to buy a piece of property adjacent to Brewster-Pierce Memorial School to enhance its outdoor education programming. Chuck Lacy encouraged the individual board members to consider making a personal donation to this cause. It is "incredibly important," he said.

The next regularly scheduled School Board meeting is February 3, 6:30 pm, Camels Hump Middle School.

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2020 Schedule

January 9 deadline
January 23 issue

Town Meeting Preview
February 6 deadline
February 20 issue
March 12 deadline
March 26 issue
April 9 deadline
April 23 issue
May 7 deadline
May 21 issue
June 11 deadline
June 26 issue
July 23 deadline
August 6 issue
September 5 deadline
September 19 issue
October 8 deadline
October 23 issue

Holiday Issues
November 5 deadline
November 19 issue
December 3 deadline
December 17 issue

Area Residents Honored Big Opening Night

President's List Fall 2019

Aislynn Farr, Richmond, Vermont Technical College, student in the Associate of Applied Science Dairy Farm Management program. Degree students carrying 12 or more letter-graded credit hours who achieve a GPA of 4.0.

Isabel Thon, Richmond, Plymouth State University, Plymouth, New Hampshire, achieving a grade point average of 3.7 or better for semester and must have attempted at least 12 credit hours.

Clarkson University Potsdam, New York

Jonathan Thomas Aselin, Jericho, majoring in mechanical engineering.

William Martin, Starksboro, majoring in mechanical engineering.

Rachel Rackliff, Jericho, majoring in civil engineering.

William J Smialek, Richmond, majoring in mathematics.

Presidential Scholars must achieve a minimum 3.80 grade-point average and carry at least 14 credit hours.

Dean's List - Fall 2019

Elizabeth Werner, Richmond, Plymouth State University, Plymouth, New Hampshire. Werner is a Nursing major.

Allison Charland, Richmond, Quinnipiac University, Hamden, Connecticut. She is a freshman and the daughter of Jerry and Kim Charland.

University of Vermont

Students must have a grade-point average of 3.0 or better and rank in the top 20 percent of their class in their respective college or school.

Huntington: Eliza Bryan, Grace Butler, Maia Hendrickson, Samuel Leo, Eli Ogilvie

Richmond: Jordan Bursell, Eleanor Churchill, Finley Clark, Amanda Grzywna, Hagen Harris, Eamonn Heney, Kira Mincar, Emily Morison, Emma Parent, Jack Parker, Maeve Poleman, Cory Raymond

Starksboro: Adeline Crosthwait

Jericho: Gina Airoidi, Molly Beatty, Ella Bergin, Brianna Borch, Anna Chaffee, Thomas Chivers, Jacob Crawford, Ethan Sander, Joshua Springer

Clarkson University Potsdam, New York

Students must achieve a minimum 3.25 grade-point average and also carry at least 14 credit hours.

Rylee LeBourveau, Jericho, majoring in innovation and entrepreneurship

Brennan Moreau, Jericho, majoring in chemical engineering

Lydia Parker, Starksboro, Pensacola Christian College, Pensacola, Florida, earning a semester grade point average of 3.00 or higher.



Will Dix, above, serves up two more pies with an always positive attitude. The adoring crowd emptied the pizza plates almost before they'd hit the table. Below, Tyler Stratton tosses another crust. Photos: Jared Katz

It was standing room only on opening night at Stone's Throw Pizza. The January 7 event was hit with the ever-changing crowd.

Tyler Stratton, his wife, Allison, and Silas Pollitt make up the ownership of this Richmond iteration of their Fairfax legend. They, along with a staff of at least seven on this opening night, refreshed the four pizza stations in minutes after the last pie was devoured. Serving up 12" and 18" pies from their extensive menu, the team satisfied the omnivores and vegetarians alike with pies ranging from traditional pepperoni and margherita, to the Grazer with white sauce, buffalo chicken Bailey-Hazen Blue, shaved leeks and creamy dill; and Joon Baba, a white sauce pizza with baba ghanoush, charred peppers, preserved orange and feta.

Many patrons could be heard proclaiming their appreciation for such a good fit for Richmond. Jonesville resident John Cohn, commented that Stone's Throw is a fitting follow up to the



original history of the building. That sentiment was echoed by those around him.

Said photographer Jared Katz, "It will be a tough job, but I'll return to try the rest of the menu!"

Area Graduates Fall 2019

Vermont Technical College

Kelci Gibbard, Jericho, Bachelor of Science in Nursing.

2020 Legislative Plan for Climate Action

At the Vermont State House, 30 Vermont organizations representing business, youth, poverty alleviation, public health, environment and other diverse interests presented a policy plan for climate action in 2020. The plan proposes a concise and essential platform for Vermont to do its part on climate change, while supporting a stronger economy and improving equity.

The four legislative priorities include:

- Enacting a Global Warming Solutions Act that enables and requires state government to achieve climate emissions reductions, by holding the state accountable to developing and implementing a plan that will meet our commitment to the Paris Climate Accord by 2025 and achieve net-zero carbon emissions by 2050.
- Making a commitment to 100% renewable energy by 2030 to move state infrastructure away from imported fossil fuels and strengthen our local economy
- Modernizing Vermont's energy efficiency utilities, enabling them to focus on reducing climate pollution through innovative new

technologies while reducing the cost burden by helping low- and moderate-income Vermonters access cleaner, healthier, and more affordable heating and transportation solutions

- Participating in a just, equitable implementation of the Transportation and Climate Initiative (TCI), a regional effort to reduce climate pollution by placing a cap on emissions from fossil fuel companies and using revenue raised to help participating states invest in cleaner transportation options

"Climate action is a top priority for Vermonters, and this platform is intended to serve as a four-part strategic roadmap to ensure long overdue progress on this pressing issue," said Johanna Miller, Energy and Climate Program Director at the Vermont Natural Resources Council (VNRC). "The stakes could not be higher, and we look forward to working as a coalition of 30 diverse partner organizations to ensure this platform is enacted into law."

Read the 2020 Climate Plan for Climate Action in Vermont by visiting this link: vnrc.org

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State House News

Rep. Marcia L. Gardner

Proposal 2, a proposed amendment to ban slavery in the Vermont State Constitution, unanimously passed the House Committee on Government Operations (the committee on which I serve) on January 10th. Proposal 2 would amend the second half of Chapter I, Article 1 of the Vermont Constitution to clarify that slavery and indentured servitude in any form are prohibited. The second half of Article 1 currently reads, “no person born in this country, or brought from over sea, ought to be holden by law, to serve any person as a servant, slave or apprentice, after arriving to the age of twenty-one years, unless bound by the person's own consent, after arriving to such age, or bound by law for the payment of debts, damages, fines, costs, or the like.” This amendment would eliminate the above quoted text and replace it with the statement, “slavery and indentured servitude in any form are prohibited,” and would rid the document of all other references to slavery.

The process to amend the State Constitution spans two different sessions in the Legislature. An amendment must originate in the Senate and be approved by a two-thirds vote. Then it must receive a majority vote in the House. The passage of this amendment requires House and Senate approval in this biennium (before May 2020) and in the next biennium (before May 2022), and then a majority vote in the general election (November 2022). It is a deliberately slow process as changing our State's Constitution should not be taken lightly.

Peter Teachout, Professor of Law, Vermont Law School, in his testimony before the House Government Operations Committee, stated, “It is a particularly awesome responsibility when what is being considered is amending a provision that has the sort of historic significance that Article 1 of Chapter I has. Article 1 holds special significance for Vermonters because it is the source of the anti-slavery provision that made the Vermont Constitution of 1777 the first state constitution in the country to outlaw slavery. It stands as a monument to Vermont's early opposition to slavery and represents a constitutional achievement of which Vermonters ought to be proud.”

Initially, the proposal eliminated any reference to slavery. However, after much discussion and agreement by all advocacy groups involved, it was decided that, if the reference to slavery were to be eliminated, future generations of Vermonters would lose sight of why Article 1 represented such an important constitutional achievement.

The original motivation for amending Article 1 was that it outlawed only adult slavery, setting the age for which a person could not be enslaved at 21, and implied that the Vermont framers condoned child

slavery. (In actuality, they were more likely allowing for youth apprenticeships that were very common at the time.) While the 13th Amendment of the U.S. Constitution banned slavery in 1865, Proposal 2 would close the age loophole and send a very clear message that slavery or indentured servitude will not be allowed.

Vermont State Senator Jeanette White aptly stated, “It will not change any law, and it will not guarantee any new rights or freedoms. But we're living in troubling times. We're experiencing an increase in hate crimes



and attitudes of intolerance.”

It remains to be seen whether Proposal 2, if passed, will reduce racism, hate crimes, and intolerance. It sends a strong, clear message, however, that slavery at any age and in any form will not be tolerated in this state.

Rep. Theresa Wood & Rep. Tom Stevens

The second year of the 2019 Biennium is upon us, and, as always, it is getting off the mark with a head of steam that will not end until the middle of May. We have unfinished work from 2019, and new bills have arrived, vying for attention with no lesser priority than the ones on which we continue to work.

During the offseason, the Vermont Democratic Party sponsored an online survey that was open to all, primarily through social media and Front Porch Forum. The survey was considered a temperature check on issues that were important to Vermonters. We acknowledge that working on legislation in Montpelier is often difficult to decipher, and for us, when we put our heads down to do that work, we can lose sight of what is important to you. This survey was not scientific — Vermonters chose to participate or not and if you didn't click through one of the links to the survey, you didn't have the opportunity to participate. It was not unlike the recently ended “Doyle Poll” from town meetings past. But while not scientific, the results did give us a picture of where we are right now, at a time when there are so many important issues requiring our attention.

The poll asked participants to rank their top three issues from a list provided. The list was based on some priorities — a list by no means complete — shared by the relevant committees in the General Assembly based on legislation introduced during 2019. The initial results were as follows, based on the responses from nearly 2,000 Vermonters. (And while the survey was conducted by the Vermont Democratic Party, it was open to all, and responses came from individuals

who identified as Democrats, Republicans, Progressives, Independents, and Libertarians.

- 1) Improve affordability of health care (47.8%)
- 2) Pass climate change solutions legislation (35.5%)
- 3) Invest in rural development and broadband (25.2%)
- 4) Raise the minimum wage (25.1%)
- 5) Tax and regulate marijuana (23.7%)
- 6) Enact gun safety legislation (23.3%)
- 7) Make higher education more affordable (19.2%)
- 8) Create a paid family and medical leave program (12.3%)
- 9) Invest in more treatment for opioid misuse (12.1%)
- 10) Ban toxic chemicals that are known to harm kids (11.6%)
- 11) Implement criminal justice reforms (10.9%)
- 12) Build on child care investments (10.2%)
- 13) Reduce racism and implicit bias (7.7%)

The survey also asked four specific questions:

Do you think increasing Vermonters' pay by gradually increasing the minimum wage will benefit Vermont's economy and its workers? 64.3% Yes, 22.4% No

Do you want to see a law that will provide family and medical leave insurance for Vermont workers so they can take paid time off to bond with their newborn or support their loved one in a time of need? 64.8% Yes, 22.2% No

Do you support the State of Vermont moving toward a system of taxing and regulating the sale of marijuana, so we have adequate resources to protect consumers and reduce youth usage? 74.3% Yes, 13.4% No

Do you support the State of Vermont taking a leadership role to combat climate change, either individually or with neighboring states? 69.9% Yes, 20.5% No

Just as important as the issues listed and the questions asked were several that were not included in the survey. For instance, while Rep. Wood was the lead sponsor on the bill that assisted families in accessing high quality, affordable childcare, she was also working to insure the financial stability and safety of supports and services for older Vermonters and people with disabilities. Rep. Wood also worked in committee to pass legislation updating requirements to test for lead in drinking and cooking water in public schools and child care programs. Additional work involved raising the legal smoking age to 21 and limiting access to vaping by youth.

Rep. Stevens, along with his committee's work on family medical leave insurance and minimum wage, continues to prioritize finding solutions to our affordable housing crisis, as well as other issues that do not find the limelight but are equally important to those who are in need, from the homeless to those who are survivors of domestic violence.

And, in the case of the three towns (and gore!) in our district, the survey did not address the difficulties apparent in making sure our school systems address the needs of students and taxpayers in the aftermath of Act 46 or the issues facing local towns in responding to new permitting requirements for municipal roads.

Further, the survey did not ask participants how they think these priorities should be funded. Given the way we have approached government spending over the past decade since the Great Recession, we have focused on budgeting to a number and not necessarily to the need. This has created great tension, because the social needs are growing, the costs of living — especially as it relates to health insurance and care — are increasing, as is the cost of child care. In fact, two of our critical needs, elder and child care, are industries that cost the most to consumers but compensate the skilled workers the least. This illustrates fundamental flaws in our goal of affordability, but we often just think of affordability as taxes, which is how we fund these other essential needs.

We don't have all the answers, but we are keeping our noses to the grindstone on your behalf. We remain honored and privileged to serve you. Please stay in touch and let us know what you're thinking about on any of the issues discussed here, or any that affect you.

Rep. Theresa Wood Washington-Chittenden 1 1461 Perry Hill Road Waterbury, VT 05676 (c) 802.585.5202 (h) 802.244.8087 twood@leg.state.vt.us	Rep. Tom Stevens Washington-Chittenden 1 12 Winooski Street Waterbury, VT 05676 595-0429 (cell) tom@stevensvermont.com tstevens@leg.state.vt.us	Rep. Marcia Lawrence Gardner Chittenden 1 2290 Hinesburg Road Richmond, VT 05477 434-2854 mgardner@leg.state.vt.us
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Weather

continued from page 1

cember began cold and snowy, ending with a second-week “January” thaw. Gillett Pond recreation began mid-November and continued but for brief thaws that resurfaced ponds for skating and skiing as snow allowed. Glorious ice over the holidays brought many for pond skating, all coming pretty much to an end with snow, sleet and freezing rain just before the New Year.

Oxford Dictionary’s choice of Climate Emergency as the WORD OF THE YEAR would seem appropriate recalling world-wide weather events featuring climate change signatures such as slow-moving, major storms, droughts and inundation. Included were record drought and catastrophic wildfires in Australia, record cold in Europe and our Midwest, massive Midwest

release CO2, reminiscent of a similar scenario for why good sap runs require cold nights and warm days.

The authoritative medical journal, LANCET, provides a detailed analysis of impact on human health (<https://www.thelancet.com/climate-and-health>) including on disease patterns of disease, food availability, water and sanitation, with poor populations taking the brunt. That disease arises from affluent high-carbon societies – obesity, diabetes, heart disease – must be appreciated. Reductions of global warming emissions for luxury versus those necessary for survival must be a focus. As FDR pointed out, World War II could not be won on hope alone.

Inspiration for change was provided by Greta Thunberg beginning with her speeches before Swedish Parliament at age 15, her address to the 2018 United Nations Climate Change Conference, the student demonstrations that



Christmas day skating on Gillett Pond. Photo: Robert Low

floods, the hottest June temperature on record world-wide, record-breaking heat in Europe, Category-5 Hurricane Dorian in the Bahamas with sustained winds in excess of 180 mph (but not Alabama!).

Of interest to weather aficionados, the history of weather forecasting is neatly summarized in Andrew Blum’s *THE WEATHER MACHINE* providing a review of the development and improved long-term accuracy of weather forecasts (SCIENCE, 2019, 363:6425). A six-day forecast in 2015 was as good as 1975, three-day forecast. Several models currently are out there. Best record is with the “European Model” (EC-MWF: European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts; <https://weather.us/model-charts/euro/significant-weather.html>) which for example accurately predicted the course of Hurricane Sandy 8 days in advance, other competitor models still indicating 4 days before it hit land that it would go out to sea 4 days before it hit land. The models operate by real-time updating of hypotheses based on ongoing actual outcomes. A 10-day forecast now requires 2.5 hrs. of supercomputer calculations. Recent climate-induced changes in the frequency and pattern of major weather events presents a challenge in terms of the conventional use of historic weather patterns to predict the future. The inevitable APPS have been developed: think Weather Underground (now Weather.com) that grabs the model output, refines a bit and refines to specific locations and shares forecasts with Google, Apple, Yahoo, and others. Crowd sourcing forecasting data gathered improperly and without standards raises the spectrum of fake weather news and attendant forecast unhappiness.

Every form of life is coming under the gun with accounts of multiple extinctions regularly in the news. As reported by the Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology, world bird populations have declined by 29% since the 1970s: think billions. (SCIENCE (2019) 365:6459).

Oceans continue to warm and not just dominantly at the poles. A newer development is hot spots such as occurred off southern Alaska causing a precipitous drop in numbers of Pacific cod attributed to food chain collapse: the demise of phytoplankton, followed by copepods, krill, then smaller fish; larger fish further starve, abetted by warmer temperatures which increases metabolism, hence underwater famine. Increased water temperature, of course adds to rising sea levels, also causing waters to

blossomed, and her becoming the youngest individual TIME magazine named Person of the Year. Unfortunately, despite her efforts and those of many others, the Madrid UN Climate talks ended in failure.

As pointed out by Wallace Wells in the NEW YORK TIMES, a key psychological problem is mindset: an optimistic prejudice; a tendency to wait for others to act; preference for the present; resistance to change; confidence that things can be changed easily; disbelief about future very bad outcomes. Charles Mann’s *The Wizard and the Prophet* presenting dueling visions / is a good read for those interested in the dueling visions of what can be done. As pointed out many years ago by Chief Seattle: “Humankind has not woven the web of life. We are but one thread within it. Whatever we do to the web, we do to ourselves. All things are bound together. All things connect.”

Up here on Wes White Hill, Gillett Pond had its ups and downs. An excellent year for winter sports as the year began. The Pond all but disappeared over the summer due to low precipitation and leaky dam. Fortunately, rains filled the Pond in time for early fall canoeing and kayaking. Winter sports began earlier than ever before, with walking, skiing and / or skating by mid-November and continuing into December but for brief thaws. Many enjoyed a full plate of options as the holidays began, a pre-Christmas thaw giving way to some great skating at both ends. Unfortunately, mixed weather put an end to that just before the New Year. The future of the Pond remains tenuous given the condition of the current dam. However, volunteers are working vigorously on securing the necessary funding for the replacement dam. (<http://gillettpond.org/activities/>).

Contact: Bob Low, 434-3132, Bob.low@uvm.edu



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Reconciliation:

After Weekday Masses

Saturday, 3:15 - 3:45 pm

3rd Thursday of each month, 6 - 7 pm

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News from Area Churches

Community Church of Huntington

Submitted by Becky Cozzens

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation, old things have passed away: behold all things have become new."

2 Corinthians 5:17

What did I observe during the Christmas Eve Service? I saw many precious angels, a proud Mary and Joseph with Baby Jesus, three noble kings and two worthy shepherds. That's what I saw on Christmas Eve as the nativity came alive and as we sang many Christmas carols. This service set the mood for a meaningful Christmas for all in attendance. It was heartwarming to see so many who came to the nativity to give their generous gifts to Neighbor Helping Neighbor. This is the message that Jesus gives us, that being JOY, Jesus first, Others next and Yourself last. May this generous loving spirit be with you throughout 2020. Please come and join us at the Community Church of Huntington, services are at 9 am with Sunday school for the children during the service. Happy New Year to all of you!

Neighbor Helping Neighbor (NHN) Sometimes God uses the unexpected to open our eyes to his power. In the Bible story of Jesus feeding the 5,000, we see doubt from the disciples in Jesus, and the provision of God through a miracle. In Matthew 14: 13-21, we will find details of how five loaves of bread and two fish was more

than enough to feed 5,000 people.

On Halloween night, the Huntington River rose over its banks making serious problems for many folks in Huntington. NHN was on hand to help many of these people and offer monetary support. Next came November with its very cold temperatures and there were members of our community who didn't have money for fuel, electricity or food. NHN was again there to step in and help those in need.

Through that period, the NHN fund kept growing - the more we gave out, the more that seemed to come in. Just like the five loaves of bread and the two fish that fed the 5,000.

If you are in a situation that needs a "miracle," allow God room to work through ways you never imagined or dreamed. Sometimes the miracle is not what we expect but God knowing what we need.

Thanks to all of you who have supported NHN by giving generously through the Huntington Race for Sundaes, the mail, our website, open mike, memory tree, soups on, and the Christmas Eve service. The need never goes away, so please keep on giving in 2020. Let's help our friends and neighbors all year long.

Neighbor Helping Neighbor, Box 24,
Huntington, Vermont 05462

<https://www.communitychurchofhuntington.org/neighbor-helping-neighbor-nhn1.html>

Guess



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Calendar of Events

MONDAYS & WEDNESDAYS: Tech Help with Clif - Offering one on one technology help, noon & 1pm, Brownell Library, Essex Junction. Reservation required. call 878-6955 at least 24 hours in advance.

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

TUESDAYS: Men's yoga basics. Lengthen, strengthen and breathe. No experience necessary, 7:15 pm. www.balanceyogavt.com

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

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 8 pm www.balanceyogavt.com

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

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

Until MARCH 1: The magic and mystery of the forest and beauty of nature are captured in Jericho artist Marcia Congdon Rosberg's paintings, on display at Mt. Mansfield Community Television's Richmond studio (35 W. Main Street). Exhibit is open during

Regular Meetings

SELECTBOARD:

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

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

SCHOOL BOARD:

MMMUSD: 1st & 3rd Monday of the Month, 6:30 pm, Meetings will rotate among 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 (chewiecr@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).

MMCTV office hours and by appointment: (434-2550) mtmansfieldctv.org

JANUARY 25: Monthly Bird Walk, 8 am, Birds of Vermont Museum, 900 Sherman Hollow Road, Huntington, 434-2167, museum@birdsofvermont.org, http://www.birdsofvermont.org All birders welcome on the monthly monitoring walk. Coffee and conversation afterwards. Bring your own binoculars. Learn something new, share what you know, or both. Free, donations welcome.

JANUARY 29: Snow Buntings (Winter Birds series, episode 2), 1:30 pm, Birds of Vermont Museum, so-sponsored with the Richmond Seniors. Discover Snow Buntings through carvings, photos, audio, and literature. How do they build their nests? What are their courtship practices? How do they care for their young? Where are you most likely to see them? And more. \$5 suggested donation.

FEBRUARY 2: Winooski and the Buffalo Soldiers: A Celebration of Black History Month co-sponsored by the Chittenden County Historical Society, the Winooski Historical Society, and the United Methodist Church of Winooski, 2 pm, 24 West Allen Street (use side entrance) and will include the history of the Church's Hall organ, the legacy of the Buffalo Soldiers at the Church, historic organ music, gospel music, and a spiritual sing-along. Free and open to the public. Parking is free on Sundays in Winooski and behind the municipal building. Not handicapped accessible. Information: Ann Gray, grayann8@aol.com or 878-4088.

FEBRUARY 5: Kinglets (Winter Birds series, episode 3), 1:30 pm, Birds of

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, 7:30 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.

Vermont Museum, co-sponsored with the Richmond Seniors. Kinglets are tiny and yet survive the winter well. How do they do it? \$5 suggested donation.

FEBRUARY 6: Deadline for Times Ink February 20 issue.

FEBRUARY 12: Journal and Sketch for Better ID (Winter Birds series, episode 4), 1:30 pm, co-sponsored with the Richmond Seniors. Learn how to use journaling and nature sketching help you identify birds. When you spot a bird only briefly, what do you look for in the first second that will help you know what to look for in the next second? Also how to participate with join the Great Backyard Bird Count and other Citizen Science Projects. \$5 Suggested donation.

FEBRUARY 15: Birds of Vermont Museum Carving Class: Belted Kingfisher, 9:30 am to 3:30 pm. Carve and paint in wood during this one-day carving class. Wood blank, paint, snacks, and coffee provided. David Tuttle of the Green Mountain Wood Carvers leads the workshop. Register early. \$40 (\$30 for members).

FEBRUARY 15: Birds of Vermont Museum open for Great Backyard Bird Count, 10 am to 3 pm. A perfect citizen science experience for beginners of all sorts. Discover more at http://gbbc.birdcount.org/ Regular museum admission (free for members).

Worship

Community Church of Huntington: Sunday morning Worship & Sunday School, 9 am. Communion:1st Sunday. Senior Luncheon 3rd Tuesday (434-3155).

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

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

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

South Starksboro Friends Meeting (Society of Friends: Quakers) Dan Sargent Road (call 388-0134) Worship and First Day School, 9:30 am every Sunday, preceded by singing at 9 am.



Coffee Anyone?

An important mission of the Community Seniors is to provide opportunities for its members to connect with each other.One means to accomplish this is by bringing .people together at weekly coffee times that currently occur in Richmond and Bolton. These two meet-ups run consistently year round in Richmond on Thursdays and in Bolton on Wednesdays. Both run from 9 to 11. The coffee, other hot beverages and pastries, warmed in the oven, are all free.

The success of the coffee hours is due to the people who attend them. Open to all, there is an ease about the structure of them. There is no club membership or expectation attached to these occasions. Instead the atmosphere is welcoming and homelike. Topics of discussion range in all directions; maybe the weather, farming, hunting, quilts, or family history. Sometimes the discussion includes the whole group,and often smaller groups around the table may engage in conversation. A newspaper sits on the table for anyone who's interested. Tablecloths and seasonal decorations enhance the warm atmosphere. Occasionally a cribbage board comes out . One participant in Bolton told me “We are like family now.”

Kathy Manley who initiated Martha Nye's origi-

nal vision for coffee hours over two years ago looked at it from the beginning as an extension of her career as a nurse after she retired from that profession. It helps fill her own need to care for people. She told me that she has always enjoyed listening and smiling and she knows the value of just that in the lives of people.

Jack Lazarowski took up responsibility for the Bolton meetup after being a participant there. He feels that the welcome, the support, and the opportunity to linger and talk adds depth both to the relationships between people and the community they share.

Both Kathy and Jack are open to ideas on how the coffee times could evolve. Kathy would like to consider opportunities for people to get together on holidays when loneliness has a heavy impact. Jack wonders who they are missing, how do they extend the invitation, and how do they transport people who need a ride.

Come along on Wednesday mornings to the Bolton Fire Station. The lounge is in back behind the trucks. Don't park in front of the garage doors! On Thursday mornings, come to Richmond at Our Lady of the Holy Rosary Church in the church hall around back through the kitchen. As one man in Bolton told me, “Don't be shy!”

—Peggy Curtis

Times Board Needs a Member

The Times Ink, a 501c3 nonprofit organization, has an immediate opening on its Board of Directors. Long-time Board member Jane Vossler has recently stepped down.

The five-member Board meets at least once in a calendar year and reviews the finances, content and direction of the paper. The Board approves the calendar of publications, the budget and advertising rates and develops a solicitation for necessary donations to supplement the advertising income that enables the paper to be printed and delivered to all mailboxes served by the Richmond, Huntington and Jonesville Post Offices.

For more information, call or email a current member of the Board (names on page 2).

Free Financial Advice Offered for Agricultural Businesses

If you own or operate a farm, forest or maple business and need advice regarding the financial aspects of your operation, University of Vermont (UVM) Extension can help.

You can schedule a free 90-minute individual consultation with an Extension business expert at UVM Extension offices. Appointments are available from February 19 to April 22.

For a complete list of dates and locations, visit go.uvm.edu/bizclinic2020. Appointments are on a first-come, first-served basis and must be made by Thursday of the week prior to the desired time slot.

You can use your session for assistance with preparing balance sheets, updating financial statements, developing a budget or for a review of your written business or feasibility plan. Or you may focus on assessment or revision of your business planning goals such as capital access, marketing or strategic planning, or ask questions

about other financial matters. Plan to bring all relevant business records. These could include recent bank account statements, bookkeeping reports, your most recent IRS Schedule F tax form, loan documentation and other business records.

UVM Extension specialists are available to meet at the following nearby locations:

Mark Cannella (farm or maple): Berlin, Morrisville

Tony Kitsos (farm): Middlebury, Morrisville

Chris Lindgren (forest or maple): Berlin

Betsy Miller (farm): Middlebury

Zac Smith (farm): Berlin, Morrisville, St. Albans

Contact Christi Sherlock at Christi.Sherlock@uvm.edu, (802) 476-2003, ext. 200, or toll-free at (866) 860-1382, three weeks in advance if requiring a disability-related accommodation to participate.

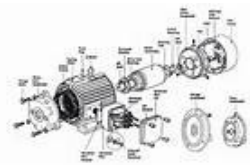


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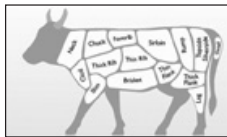
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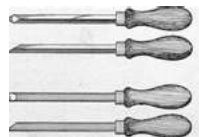
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GRASS FED BEEF Our freezers are full of many cuts of Black Angus Grass-fed beef. Roasts, Steaks, Ground, Stew beef and more. See us at moultroupvalleyfarm.com or contact Jeff or Debbie at 434-3720. [9/19]



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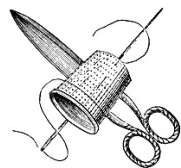
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Pizza



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



Classified

FREE, FREE!

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3. Use classified form below and indicate FREE, FREE FREE!

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Creative Writing

Student Writing from Aimee Motta's Class 1/2 at Brewster-Pierce School

The Corn Maze

by Ophelia Stone

Hi guys! I went to a corn maze with my best friend. It was really fun. We went in circles. Lots and lots of circles. I was really tired. And then we took the easier way. It was so much easier than the other path. And then we got to the end and played golf for a half hour. Then the rest of the family came out of the corn maze and we went home!

Fun Days

by Kaydin Ellis

One day I was getting ready to go to New Hampshire. We got there at 6:30pm. The next day we went to the seafood festival. I was so excited. I got the best scorpion box, and then we went to the cornhole festival. Then we went to the beach and I collected lots of shells.

The next day I played on the beach again and then we went home and I played my video game.

Then I went to school. It was the best day of my life. I had so much fun. I had P.E., music and then I went home.

The Day of the Girls Snow

by Layla Poland

Today I played with my friend Luke. I almost finished a snowman with Luke. Then it was line up time. It was fun. Then we went inside. I was happy. I liked my day.

The River Story

by Lowell Marchelewicz

One day I went to the Huntington River. My class was throwing rocks and some were smacking rocks. I invented a puzzle muzzle. That is a rock that is a cracked rock. The rock is crushed in a special way. The sun was shining. The water was clear and the birds were chirping. My friend Ethan's teacher said, "You can crash rocks over here," so we moved. I found the perfect rock to smash another rock. I found a crystal! I kept the crystal.

The Celebration

by Cooper Strite

We had an all school celebration. It was fun. It was a drawing celebration. We drew for twenty minutes. The celebration was at all school morning meeting. I colored an army force man. I colored him rainbow even though an army force man isn't rainbow. PS This book is nonfiction.

The Sled Day

by Fernie Poynter

It is Christmas today. "Abby, Michael, let's go sledding. Let's go on that jump."

"Ooof," I said. I slid on the ground. We giggled for a while. "Let's go again together," we said. "That was so much fun. That was such an adventure. I hope we can do it again next year as well."

It is fun to be back in Minnesota again!

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Business Beat

by Gina Haddock

Diner by Day, Tacos by Night

The Richmond food scene is happily beginning to pick up again. Along with the recent welcome of **Stone's Throw Pizza** located by Volunteer Green, we can now look forward to another unique dining facility in the former Toscano Building sometime this summer. Occupancy of the building has been a long time coming. Gabriel Firman, owner of **Hatchet**, was actually one of the first people to look at the building as a possible new restaurant more than three years ago but the timing was not good. At that point in time, Firman and his team were still putting all their efforts into developing Hatchet. As Firman explained, "We had to get things right with Hatchet before we could embark on something new. There was a lot of trial and error in coming up with the right staffing and best menu but the community stuck

explained. Occasionally music may also be offered in the evenings. And to take advantage of our beautiful Vermont summers, there will be an ample outdoor seating area. "We won't be competing with Hatchet because our goal is to be all the things we weren't able to be at Hatchet. We know people love to eat outside in the summer and we have been wanting to make that option available. We also know people want more than burgers and some of the traditional comfort foods we offer. We thought Mexican food would provide a good new option. It offers creative menu choices, the price point is reasonable and it's fun to cook," Firman told the Beat. Future plans also include moving the creemee stand from Hatchet to the new restaurant across the street so that it can have a larger space designated exclusively to their creemee program. Eventually "water ice," a vegan gluten-free Italian delicacy will also be



The crew working on the construction/renovation project on Bridge Street. In the front row are Gabriel Firman and Lars Whitman. Photo: Shem Roose Imagery.

with us giving their feedback and support all along the way. I'm so grateful for everyone's patience and loyalty."

Finally the time was right to go forward with a new idea. Firman decided to team up with local craftsman and ski maker, Lars Whitman, of Silo Skis, to bring the building back to life. Fortunately, both men have backgrounds in construction and renovation projects. Firman and Whitman are in the process of overseeing an extensive renovation which has included rebuilding the building from inside out including all electrical and plumbing. The only thing remaining of the original structure is the foundation, the siding and the 150-year old framing which needed an overhaul. Plans also include using the upstairs to create some apartment rental units.

Now driving down Bridge Street you may see a flurry of activity around the building as renovation work is well underway. Birdseye, a local architectural firm, is helping out with design and layout for the project. They also helped with the Hatchet project. There will be a 45-seat diner style restaurant which will serve breakfast, lunch and dinner. According to Firman, there has been a lot of vocal demand for a classic breakfast spot where people can get traditional breakfast fare at a reasonable price. But surprise....once the breakfast rush is done, the restaurant will gear up for, lunch and dinner with an authentic Mexican style menu with an emphasis on tacos. "Our goal is to give people what they want and from the community input we've received, that is a classic breakfast establishment and more dining options." Firman

offered. Having a dedicated space will allow the staff to get really creative with flavors... think key lime creemees with salted graham cracker crumble. The new facility also makes it possible to offer some private event space that will be available to rent for parties. This space can be used on occasion for overflow seating or as a comfortable space for patrons to enjoy a drink while waiting for a table on a busy night. A take-out menu will also be made available as well as on-line ordering.

The renovation project is deep underway. Expect the creemee stand and lunch and dinner service to begin this summer. Breakfast service will be phased in later and should begin in early September. Presently, Hatchet has a strong staff of about 20 people and it's anticipated that another 20 will be needed for the new restaurant. While a number of possible names have been discussed for this new dining option, as of press time no official name has been set yet.

Firman and his team hope that Richmond can again become the culinary destination that it was a few years ago. "We have some great long-time establishments like the Kitchen Table and Papa McKees and in the last few years we've started to see a number of new eating establishments that are bringing a new vitality to Richmond. We are proud and honored to be a part of this Renaissance."

Community comments are most appreciated and, in fact, was key to the evolution of Hatchet's offerings. The team can be reached at hello@hatchetvermont.com.

Hollywood in Vermont?

... they've been shooting movies here for nearly a century!

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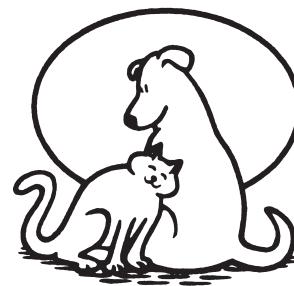
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OFFICIAL WARNING

OFFICIAL WARNING MOUNT MANSFIELD UNIFIED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT

February 27, 2020 & March 3, 2020

The legal voters of the Mount Mansfield Unified Union School District comprising the voters of Bolton, Huntington, Jericho, Richmond, and Underhill, (all Grades PK-12) are hereby notified and warned to meet at the Mount Mansfield Union High School on **Thursday, February 27, 2020, at 6:00 p.m.** to transact any of the following business not involving Australian Ballot, the meeting is to be adjourned and reconvened in the respective polling places hereinafter named for each of the above-referenced town school districts on **Tuesday, March 3, 2020** at 7:00 a.m. (Huntington at 6:30 am) at which time the polls will open until 7:00 p.m. at which time the polls will close, to transact any business involving voting by Australian Ballot.

- Article 1: To elect the following officers:
a Moderator for one year,
a Clerk for one year,
a Treasurer for one year.
- Article 2: To hear and act upon the written reports of the District Officers.
- Article 3: Shall the voters of the Mount Mansfield Unified Union School District authorize the school board under 16 V.S.A. 562 (9) to borrow money by issuance of bonds or notes not in excess of anticipated revenue for the school year?
- Article 4: This time serves as a public information hearing for public review of the 2020-21 proposed budget--for discussion purposes only.
- Article 5: To transact any other school business thought proper when met.

March 3, 2020 -- Australian Ballot Question

- Article 6: Shall the voters of the Mount Mansfield Unified Union School District approve the School Board to expend **\$50,126,558**, which is the amount the School Board has determined to be necessary for the 2020-21 fiscal year?

It is estimated that this proposed budget, if approved, will result in education spending of **\$16,219** per equalized pupil. This projected spending per equalized pupil is **2.54%** higher than spending for the current year.

Upon closing of the polls, the ballot boxes will be sealed, re-opened at Camels Hump Middle School in the Town of Richmond, the ballots commingled and publicly counted by representatives of the Boards of Civil Authority of the Towns of Bolton, Huntington, Jericho, Richmond, and Underhill under the supervision of the Clerk of the Mount Mansfield Unified Union School District.

The legal voters of Mount Mansfield Unified Union School District are further warned and notified that an informational meeting will be held at Camels Hump Middle School in the Town of Richmond on February 20, 2020 commencing at 6:00 pm and Mt. Mansfield Union High School in the Town of Jericho on February 27, 2020 commencing at 6:00 pm, for the purpose of explaining the 2020-21 proposed budget.

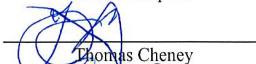
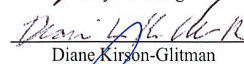
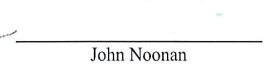
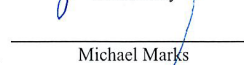
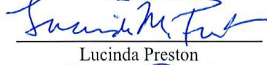
Polling Places

The voters residing in each member district will cast their ballots in the polling places designated for their town as follows:

Bolton	*	Smilie Memorial School	*	7 am - 7 pm
Huntington	*	Brewster-Pierce Memorial School	*	6:30 am - 7 pm
Jericho	*	Mt. Mansfield Union High School	*	7 am - 7 pm
Richmond	*	Camels Hump Middle School	*	7 am - 7 pm
Underhill	*	Browns River Middle School	*	7 am - 7 pm

Dated this 6th day of January, 2020.

SCHOOL DIRECTORS

 Kevin Campbell	 Edye Graning	 Derek Miodownik
 Thomas Cheney	 Diane Kirson-Glitman	 John Noonan
 Gail Conley	 Chuck Lacy	 Andrew Pond
 Angelike Conjis	 Michael Marks	 Lucinda Preston
 Eric Gildemeister	 Ethan Maurer	 Beth Racine

Received for record this 6th day of January 2020, A.D.


Clerk, Mount Mansfield Unified Union School District

All Things Human

by Demaris Tisdale

The Rest of the Story

"Representation of the world, like the world itself, is the work of men; they describe it from their own point of view, which they confuse with the absolute truth."

—Simone de Beauvoir

Lorraine wanted to be a doctor. At the time of her birth in 1914, there were few opportunities for women to enter the male-dominated profession.

Growing up on a chicken farm in rural Rhode Island, Lorraine would tell how she had two dresses in high school, both made by her seamstress mother. After graduating from a teaching college, she entered nursing school, viewing this as a path to becoming a physician.

While in school in Boston, Lorraine met Richard, a sailor in the Navy. He courted her for five years, finally convincing her to marry him. They had two children, and Lorraine was able to work in her chosen career by doing private duty nursing at nights. This enabled her to be home when her kids returned from school.

When the daughter was a teenager Lorraine told her, "There are two professions for a woman: nursing and teaching because wherever your husband gets a job you'll be able to find work."

This was somewhat surprising given Lorraine's early aspirations. But society has strong norms and so this ambitious woman abandoned her career goals and allowed herself to be convinced that her career was secondary to her husband's.

We must acknowledge that it's complicated, because women are, in fact, the ones who get pregnant, deliver the baby, and nurse the infant. And I am a strong supporter of parents being the primary ones to raise their own children. But our society has become complex. Many families now need two incomes to support a decent lifestyle, even if a huge chunk of the money goes to childcare.

Having acknowledged these facts, we are left facing what appears to be a world full of bias and discrimination. Although many words in our society have evolved and are currently understood as gender neutral, such as doctor, lawyer and professor, all of these originated as male terms. And English continues to evolve. It is now common to refer to firefighters, not firemen, and we don't say "female lawyer." In fact, statistically, women are outnumbering men in medical school and law school.

But major problems remain. Inequities in opportunities disproportionately affect women.

In her recent text, *INVISIBLE WOMEN: DATA BIAS IN A WORLD FOR MEN*, Caroline Criado Perez explores how data continues to be based on studies of men. For example, studies of heart attacks typically involve men, even though, as Perez notes "cardiovascular disease has been the leading cause of death in US women" since 1989, and women more often die.

Perez has gathered a lot of information and provides extensive documentation.

Incidentally, Lorraine's daughter ignored her mother's advice and chose the third female profession - social work.

Boomer Funk

Submitted by Scott Funk

Lookin' Old

There's being old and then there's looking old. One you eventually figure out for yourself. The other, people have to tell you about, because you just can't see it, if you are a man.

Most men have a pretty low bar for feeling good about their appearance. Our expectations influence what the mirror reflects. Wrinkles that might concern a woman, a man sees as character lines or an attractive ruggedness. We don't need compliments, because we've already paid them to ourselves.

This is why it can come as a surprise when someone else sees us as older than we are prepared for. Like when the pharmacist cheerfully offers the senior discount, but we don't feel old enough yet. Or a young person offers to lift our carry-on into the overhead storage on a plane. These are unexpected, as we believe we look as young as we feel, rather than the age that we are. Over Thanksgiving this was demonstrated dramatically enough to leave me reeling from the shock of its revelation.

My lovely wife and I volunteered to help at the Thanksgiving dinner given by a local church. Arriving, we found the hall beautifully decorated for the holiday. The seats at the tables

were filled with older parishioners and seniors from the area. Asking where the kitchen was, I was instead invited to find a seat as they would be serving soon. "No, I'm here to help," I said. We were immediately welcomed into the cheerful clatter of the busy place and put to work.

Later, I was back out in the hall to clear the empty plates before dessert was served. "Hey, sit down. There's room for you right here," and "Someone else should do that. Come and join us. The food is delicious," met me at each table. Then the worst cut of all: one of the teenage servers gently took me by the arm saying, "Excuse me, sir, why don't you put that stuff down? I'm here to serve you. Can I assist you in finding your seat?"

Assist me in finding a seat? How old do I look? After extricating myself from his kindly grip, I bee-lined it to the bathroom for a long and serious exploration of my face.

There were numerous visits to mirrors over the next several days -- a quick, passing glance to catch myself off guard or a long, solitary study when no one was looking -- all to assess the aging evidence. The thought kept coming back, "Just how old do I really look?"

Not that there hadn't been hints: greying hair, lizard eyelids, sagging neck, getting shorter. And I haven't been carded when buying alcohol this century, even when standing beside a big sign declaring they carded everyone. No one asks about the senior discount anymore; they just give it. In crowded venues, someone always offers me a seat. Everyone "sirs" me. Whenever I speak at a senior center, someone invites me to join. You'd think I'd catch a clue.

(Former Richmond resident Scott Funk lives, works, and writes (and gardens) in central Vermont. His *BOOMER FUNK* columns are available at www.VermontFunk.com, as are his blogs and archived *AGING IN PLACE* columns.)



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