

Green Up Day Coming Up, No Tires For Hardwick

By Michael Bielawski
HARDWICK — Another Green Up Day is coming to the Northeast Kingdom. Hardwick and surrounding communities are getting ready.

This year, resident Karen Klotz will be running the Hardwick program, which will be run at the firehouse, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

All 251 towns in the state participate, according to Melinda Vieux, president of Green Up Vermont. The initiative started after Robert S. Babcock, Jr., a journalist with the Burlington Free Press, was driving to work in Montpelier and was appalled by all the trash along the side of the road. He proposed a state-wide, volunteer-led clean-up effort to then-Governor Deane Davis, who approved the initiative.

"Most of the volunteers were kids," Vieux said. "There were 70,000 to 75,000 volunteers altogether that first year. It drew national media attention. We've got photographs in the national archives and some on our website [GreenUpVermont.org]." Vieux said that each year the event has maintained or increased in popularity. To this day, no other state in the nation has an event quite like Vermont's Green Up Day. This year, the state will begin collecting data on participation.

At the Hardwick fire station, there will be three teams of two, each working two-hour shifts. They will be handing out bags and gloves, as well as gathering everything that is turned in.

There will be a satellite location in East Hardwick, at the Grange building, run by resident Nancy Kellogg.

Klotz said the event is growing year after year.

"More and more people are participating," she said.

While official Green Up bags will be handed out, it is acceptable to use regular trash bags.

There are some precautions. Volunteers should not handle needles, but should let the collection station know so that a professional can dispose of the needles safely. Also, the state has issued a special warning this year regarding ticks. Volunteers should wear long pants and socks, as a precaution.

"(The authorities) are expecting a bad tick year in Vermont," Vieux said.

Klotz said that because people usually focus on their own neighborhood, program coordinators will try to direct people to neglected areas. She said there is no typical item picked up.

"The most common items that are picked up? Oh boy... everything. You've seen what you'll find out there in the woods. I've seen all sorts of old furniture... it's amazing what people will bring in."

She noted that it is not acceptable for people to intentionally throw out trash along roads for Green Up Day. As mentioned at the latest Wolcott select board meeting, it is not uncommon for some people to intentionally discard old tires by the roadside immediately before Green Up Day.

This year, Hardwick will not take tires at all. The usual place that tires are taken to be shredded is Gates Salvage yard, and this year their shredder is not working.

The town searched for another location to shred tires, without luck. In the meantime, Gates cannot legally accumulate tires beyond

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Go Fly A Kite
Brent and Maya McCoy compete to fly their kites during an act in this year's Vermont Vaudeville production, "Password Please," held at the Hardwick Town House Thursday, Friday and Saturday.
(photo by Vanessa Fournier)

Final Version of Merger Proposal Going to State Education Board

by Will Walters
CABOT — The Act 46 study committee approved version 7 of the proposed merger proposal for Danville, Cabot and Twinfield school districts.

Consultant Peter Clarke was authorized to submit the plan to the Agency of Education (AOE) for review. The committee authorized Clarke to make changes to the document to follow the advice of the AOE and the committee's legal counsel. The respective school boards will also receive copies to review.

At the April 24 meeting, the committee answered questions from the audience. One person asked about the possibility of Cabot School closing.

Clarke responded that Act 46 does not allow the closing of a merged

school sooner than four years after the merger takes effect. The articles of agreement state that closing a school requires that at least 75 percent, a super-majority, of the new district's board of directors must vote for a school closure.

The articles of agreement on closing a school delineate the process: "Prior to holding a vote on whether to close a school, the Board shall hold at least three public hearings regarding the proposed school closure. At least one of the public hearings shall be held in the community in which the school is located. If, after conducting public hearings, the Board of Directors intends to vote on whether to close a school, it shall give public notice of its intent to hold a vote on whether to close a school, stating the

reason for the closure, at least ten days prior to the vote. The closure shall be effective only if approved by each of the member towns voting at a special vote warned for this purpose. The votes shall be counted and reported by town, voting by Australian ballot."

However, the committee agreed that the articles of agreement should not tie the hands of a future board, though it has been made clear that the intention is to maintain grades pre-K through 8 at each of the schools.

Clarke said that a remaining challenge for the merger proposal is a change in requirements introduced by Senate bill H.122, which has not been passed yet. The bill would loosen some of the district student numbers

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Greensboro Swim Program Churns Up Rough Water

June Pichel Cook
GREENSBORO — The Greensboro Swim Program has operated since 1956 and has churned through rough water from time to time. So far, the program, historically coordinated and supported by the Greensboro Association, has stayed above water.

Handling the payroll for instructors has become a problem. In 2012, Greensboro Swim teamed up with Orleans Southwest Supervisory Union's REACH (Recreation, Enrichment, Academics, Culture, Health) summer learning program and shared instructors. Instructors and the lifeguard were paid through the OSSU.

Loreli Wheeler, coordinator of Greensboro Swim since 2000, met with the select board to seek help on administering payroll for the program. She reported that, with the help of the Greensboro Association, OSSU had been reimbursed for wages and fees for background checks and fingerprinting in the past.

Earlier this year, OSSU Chief Financial Officer Rick Pembroke indicated that only the REACH payroll would be handled by OSSU. The Greensboro Swim's program was a town initiative, not a school program, he noted.

The select board tabled the issue for further study. Wheeler has indicated she will be meeting with the board again in May, with more information.

In her earlier report to the board, Wheeler outlined the program's history. "A stipend check was given to swim instructors at Caspian Lake from 1956 to 1998," she said. From 1998 to 2010, the Red Cross sent instructors, and classes

were offered at several levels with a dedicated lifeguard. Classes were extended from 30 to 45 minutes. Wheeler coordinated sign ups for the program.

Hardwick Recreation Committee classes were in the afternoon; Greensboro's in the morning. Both groups used the same instructors, but managed their programs separately. The staff were given a check directly by both groups, using timesheets and an hourly wage.

In 2010, the Red Cross "gave control of lessons back to the local community," Wheeler reported, as the organization focused more on emergency response. It also became more difficult to find certified staff. In 2001, the Red Cross fee was \$1,500; by 2009, it had risen to \$3,000.

In 2014 and 2015, Greensboro Swim could not hold a program due to lack of staff. In 2015, REACH and Greensboro Swim paid training costs for four staff — three instructors and lifeguard. Since Greensboro had fewer students in the program, the costs were split 30/70.

Wheeler said representatives from REACH, Greensboro, and Hardwick met in February, 2017, and agreed to have two certified staff and recreate the old model of half-hour lessons, which maximizes the number of students taught. The Greensboro Recreation Committee and Greensboro Beach Committee are contributing funds to the swim program this year, which comes from the town's general fund.

Wheeler makes sure students have the required paperwork, takes time sheets, ensures the staff gets paid, and handles complaints.

"We do use best practices, following the same guidelines of the OSSU. Job descriptions on contracts are

signed, clearly delineating expectations of the Water Safety Instructor and Swim Program staff."



Floyd, a 10-year-old, 25-pound cat owned by Theresa and Clint Howard, sits on a table full of prizes Saturday at the 4th Annual Floyd Fleaflicker Fix 'Em Fund Fundraiser, held at the Hardwick American Legion hall. 111 people attended the event, which included a ham dinner, ticket raffles and a silent auction. \$4,276 was donated to the Hardwick Veterinary Clinic's spay-neuter program.
(photo by Vanessa Fournier)

Third Attempt To Pass Hardwick School Budget

by Michael Bielawski
HARDWICK — The Hardwick Elementary School is preparing for a third attempt at passing a budget. The vote is scheduled for May 16.

The budget proposal has been re-worked so that there is no Actual Homestead tax rate increase.

Local Revenues declined \$720,919 and Total Expenditures dropped \$504,528, due largely to the transfer to the central office budget of both revenues and expenses for special education and transportation. The result is a \$216,391 increase in education spending. The district came in under the Vermont's penalty threshold by \$778 and thus avoided a penalty to the tax rate.

"I think this proposal leaves everything intact in your budget and it accomplishes what you were hoping to do, which was [to cut] \$20,000 and have a flat tax

rate of 0 [percent increase]," said LeBlanc.

Other School Business
The discussion turned to the viability of the school's preschool program. LeBlanc recommended deferring major policy changes to the next budget. "If you don't get the enrollment that you need, that's a serious discussion that you need to have. I think you can still have that discussion come budget time next fall, but at this point we've already put out registrations, we've had families who are banking on having a place for their child to go." The current preschool program would operate most efficiently with 12 students, but it is approved to take in as many as 15.

Board vice-chair Jennifer Laundry said she would like to see the program better advertised. "I think we do a very bad job at advertising what our

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Cabot School Budget Passes on Third Try

by Will Walters
CABOT — The Cabot School budget passed yesterday by a vote of 235 to 171, with 406 total votes cast. It was the third budget proposal the school board presented to the voters. There are 1,157 voters on the checklist.

The vote was held at the Willey building after the school board, which first warned it for the school gymnasium, moved it to town hall because the gymnasium was being used by students on a school day.

Superintendent Nancy Thomas said "I am delighted that the vote passed today. I recognize that there has been great uncertainty and some confusion that has gone along with the Act 46 merger discussions. This will allow the operation of the school for the next school year to proceed as planned, while the governance issues are sorted out for future years. The continuation of excellent instruction and support for the students of Cabot

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Stoners Awarded 2017 Outstanding Tree Farmers

by June Pichel Cook
CRAFTSBURY COMMON — The Vermont Tree Farm and Vermont Woodlands Association have awarded David and Jenny Stoner of Craftsbury Common the "2017 Outstanding Tree Farmer of the Year Award."

The Stoner's 360-acre woodlot lies in Greensboro and is an important watershed for the Black River and Lamolle River. The Black River drains into Lake Memphremagog; a smaller portion flows into Caspian Lake, and then to the Lamolle, which feeds into Lake Champlain.

In accepting the award, David Stoner said: "We have the good fortune of living next door to Sterling College, within walking distance of most of its professors, the Orleans County Forester, a former Vermont

Commissioner of Fish and Wildlife, the former Executive Director of Vermont Coverts, the current Director of Vermont Lakes and Ponds, the former Deputy Commissioner of the Vermont Department of Agriculture, the recent recipient of the Forest Stewards Guild Award for Lifetime Achievement and a number of old farmers and wildlife enthusiasts who are willing to share their knowledge and experience. We live in what is truly paradise for an aspiring woodlot manager."

In 1983, the Stoners purchased the property while living in England. The property had previously been two subsistence hill farms. At the awards ceremony, Stoner showed a picture of the cleared property from the 1900s, with two homesteads. The property

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Hazen Wants More Students From School Choice Communities

by Michael Bielawski
HARDWICK — The Hazen Union school board is finally done with budget season, so it is back to its primary focus — education quality for students.

The board wants to attract more tuitioning students to attend Hazen which, they say, offers more than competing high schools. The first order of business is to attract more students.

At a recent Wolcott school board meeting, it was stated that almost all of their new secondary students are planning to attend other schools, especially Craftsbury.

Board clerk David Kelley reiterated that point, noting that the three-year trend has been that Craftsbury's tuitioning population has gone up by 30 students, and Hazen has lost about 30 students. Hazen currently expects 28 tuitioning students for the next fiscal year.

The board has discussed plans to start a student newspaper, both as an added activity for current students and as an attraction for students who do not currently attend the school. It would be called the Hazen Times.

The discussion turned to the logistics of how such a paper might come to fruition. Such as should it be a single page, or multiple pages? Should it exist as its own entity, or to try to become a section of the Gazette? Where should it be printed? Kelley will take the lead on this planning effort.

There was also discussion about having board members attend the school board meetings of tuitioning towns, and to invite some of their

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Twinfield Union School in Marshfield will have students on the roads of Marshfield and Plainfield on May 5. The school will transport students to selected roads by bus. An educator from the school will be on-site with each group. The school has had a lot of success in past years, bringing in 100 or more green bags of roadside trash.

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Presentations on Great Brook and Erosion Control in June

by Will Walters

PLAINFIELD—Atalksponsored by the hazard mitigation committee will focus on the dynamics of the Great Brook, emergency management coordinator Michael Billingsley has announced. The talk will be held on June 3, at 1 p.m., at the Town Hall Opera House and will include a walk to the Great Brook for an on-site discussion.

Billingsley said at the recent select board meeting that there will be a presentation on June 10 on ways to have minimal impact on waterways. The presentation will provide information on proper ways to maintain private roads and driveways and ways to stabilize them to lessen impact on waterways. Billingsley said the presentation is sponsored by the Friends of the Winooksi River and will be held at the Old Schoolhouse Common in Marshfield village.

He also made a proposal that he draft an emergency management

plan on how the town will address hazards, including the allocation of resources and assignment of responsibilities. He said state law requires that the town have such a plan on record. Billingsley said he has annually developed the town's local emergency management plan, but that would like to draft an emergency management plan that could be a municipal ordinance.

The board gave him permission to draft an emergency management and health ordinance, which will be reviewed by the board and the town's attorney.

The board re-appointed Billingsley, with a change to his correct title of Emergency Management Director.

Four bids were submitted for the Bean Road box culvert project ranging from \$99,637 to \$195,800. The project is anticipated to be done this summer. The lowest bid, by Darrell Mathews, of Waterford, was accepted for the work on Bean Road over the Mskaskek Brook.

Guru Sugarmaker Moves from 10,000 Taps to 110

by June Pichel Cook

Jim Moffatt and his friend, Carol Maroni, enjoyed the April sunshine as they finished the last boiling of maple syrup. The former milking parlor in Moffatt's old dairy barn houses a scene that is increasingly rare.

Steam rises from the small evaporator, tiny bubbles gently murmur in the open pan. An inch of golden liquid simmers. Maroni peers into the finishing tank in the front pan. The bubbles change, the aroma of maple drifts upward. The wood-burning arch door boasts "Taunton Ironworks, Taunton, Mass." A small tractor sits outside. A big, white gathering tank is harnessed to the back.

Moffatt, now in his late seventies, once had 10,000 taps, with miles of tubing laced throughout his sugar maples; he drilled 110 taps this season and used old-fashioned buckets.

"When I stopped the big operation years ago, I never spent any money, just used odds and ends I had around."

Sap was collected in earlier times with 8 draft horses with two gathering crews of men working two teams. The horses were replaced with tractors and white gathering tanks. Open tanks were replaced with enclosed stainless steel tanks. The open tanks always had a branch tucked in that allowed an animal to climb out if it fell in.

At one time, Moffatt sold syrup both retail and wholesale, operated a family-size packaging business, and had a regular route.

"The men didn't mind the long working hours and we made beautiful syrup."

Moffatt was one of the first sugarers to use pipelines in sap collection. He gradually increased from 2,000 taps to 10,000. When he was in his early 40s, he said he did not want to get left behind.

He was the first person to make a 1,000 gallons of syrup in the area. The white tubing with its black stripe became a nightmare, Moffatt said, with the squirrels chewing it to pieces. He described it as the perfect solar collector and sugars fermenting quicker.

"I couldn't make a gallon of syrup that suited me and became discouraged with everything."

For 35 years, he was the purchasing agent for what is now Butternut Mountain Farm. He was one of five agents, buying syrup in throughout the Northeast. Syrup is judged on color, flavor, and consistency.

"I enjoyed those years," Moffatt said. "I had to taste each barrel."

"Sugaring was my love. All my life I enjoyed doing it. My father had a sugar bush and I still use it. When the cows went down the road, I expanded the sugaring."

Moffatt, now a well-known Christmas tree farmer, was a dairy farmer, but hard economic times forced a change of course. Milk was selling for \$3.85/hundredweight, he said, and grain was \$5/hundredweight. The land was used for haying to feed the draft horses. When the horses passed, he planted Christmas trees.

He described the season as average and expected to make 30 gallons of syrup. In March, the weather had cooperated with its warmth, then turned cold. Mother Nature dictates the season. Scientifically, people may explain theories with leaf growth, sunshine, water, soil, terrain, and temperatures; the trees determine when the cycle begins and ends.

"I still have a great stand of maples though patches died off in the 1980s. Old trees began dying in certain areas and started being less productive."

Not a Pretty Picture



The Country Store still stands in Woodbury, despite the Woodbury select board's years-long effort to have it torn down (photo by Vanessa Fournier)



A section of the Woodbury Country Store roof collapsed about a month ago. Select board members have been trying for years to have the building torn down. The recent partial collapse has added to concerns about whether asbestos containing material was disturbed. (photo by Vanessa Fournier)

Cabot Church Clock to be Working by the Weekend

by Will Walters

CABOT—"Bells will be ringing," said Richard Ducharme, "perhaps as soon as Sunday," with the return of the clock to the Cabot United Church's steeple.

The clock is expected to be fully reinstalled by the end of the week. Ducharme said part of it was carried up the staircase on Friday by the volunteers who repaired it.

He said "bring a camera on Thursday and Friday" to get pictures of the clock being carried up to the steeple but, he added, "don't have a microphone; we don't need to hear all the huffing and puffing and groaning and wheezing."

Once the clock is operational again, it will not only tell time for the first time since last fall, but will ring the bell, which has not been heard in a very long time.

The 750 lb. brass and steel time-keeping mechanism was made by E. Howard and Company of Boston, Massachusetts. It was taken apart and packed in boxes and carried down the stairwell in the steeple by volunteers. After being repaired at Ducharme's work shed over the winter, it was again taken apart and put into boxes to be brought up the stairs for re-installation.

Paul Wade had to do some work on the stairs in the church tower and built catwalks to carry the weight. He replaced a lot of stair treads to make sure the volunteers survived the ordeal of carrying heavy metal parts down a narrow stairwell.

Ducharme's contribution to the restoration was providing a work area for the mechanism to be laid out, cleaned and tuned up, section by section.

Ken Klinger fixed the arms of the clock face. He said that the original wood appeared to be spruce, but he made some new arms from cedar and applied coats of shipbuilder's epoxy to make it highly weather resistant.

The timing mechanism was worked on by professional clock restorer Peter Rioux of Winter Harbor, Maine.

The cost of the restoration was funded by a grant from the Vermont Community Foundation and private charity. The original estimate was for \$17,000, but with the volunteer aid, it is expected to cost around \$6,000.

Partying and Littering Head Up Select Board Agenda

by Will Walters

PLAINFIELD—Partying, littering and smoking marijuana at the parking lot on Spruce Mountain Road caught the attention of the select board recently. It seems to be a repeat of what Constable George Cushing and former select board chair Bram Towbin faced last year.

Cushing told the board that he and Towbin spoke with the visitors who set up camp next to the parking lot. The conversation was sparked by a resident's call expressing concern about sanitary issues.

Cushing said the state has the authority to issue citations which carry fines, but he felt the town could address the matter through the zoning administrator. He said he will look at the issue with the health officer and report back to the board with their findings.

Member Ross Sneyd said he will contact the Vermont League of Cities and Towns about a No Littering sign for the location.

Cushing talked with the board about his experiences as constable. He is leaving the position and the board needs to find a replacement. Chair Betsy Ziegler said his comments will be helpful in developing a job description for his successor. Cushing said that it was helpful that he had lived in the town for many years, knew everybody and they knew him. He said that the position calls for common sense and showing discretion on when to call in other authorities.

Alexandra Thayer, board member, described the "notice of anticipated opening for constable" which she said was written more as a description of what the town was looking for in the position than it was a job description. She said additional responsibilities could be added by the board at a later time.

Michael Billingsley suggested that two items be added to the notice: that the constable accompany the health officer while performing his duties and that the constable be present at an emergency shelter to maintain order and when a quarantine is required. Thayer said the first suggestion about the health officer is already established by state law.

After some discussion, Sneyd moved that the section on pay be removed and the following be included: "The constable for the Town of Plainfield is expected to treat all with fairness and consideration, without regard to an individual's sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, marital status, race, color, religion, national origin, immigration status, age, or disability." The board approved the motion.

Billingsley, the emergency management director, said that he will be at the collection site on Green Up Day and will be giving out copies of a home emergency planning guide from Vermont Emergency Management to Green Up Day participants.

The Conservation Commission will be coordinating activities and snacks will be available at the Recreation Field.

Long-term Restoration Plan for Town Hall Released

by Will Walters

CALAIS—The Calais Historic Preservation Commission has released a new report in which it outlines additional steps for the preservation of Town Hall in Gospel Hollow. The select board was presented with a copy of the report at its last meeting by David Schutz, Chair of the commission.

The historic preservation firm of Arnold and Scangas was contracted by the commission to develop the plan in conjunction with the hydrology engineering firm of Malone and MacBroom. The updated report is available at calaisvermont.org.

The plan includes making the building compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act, recovering space taken by the old, non-compliant lift, and making a new handicapped entrance.

Board members asked questions of Schultz and former board member Scott Bassage, who took a personal interest in developing a program to restore the building for continued use by the townspeople.

Chair Denise Wheeler asked if the improvements would require an upgrade to the septic system. Member Rob Richert asked if the building's insurance rating would change as a result of the culvert recommendations which will take town hall out of the flood plain. There were no exact numbers for the developing project and the board was told they will be provided at a future meeting.

Cost of the project will be funded by a combination of federal and state grants, matching funds by the town, and private fundraising. Schutz said he will engage Historic Kents' Corner, Inc. in fundraising. There presently is a \$12,000 certified local government grant that the town has received which can be used for the expense of developing documents for a request for proposal.

After biddable documents are developed, a consultant will be hired to look at available methods to raise funds and to develop recommendations for paying for the restoration.

The location of the restored foundation depends on increasing the size of the Pekin Brook culvert from 12 to 22 feet and moving the existing 12-foot culvert to Elmslie Brook. This will change the base flood elevation by about 18 inches. The proposed foundation will be lower and less expensive if the culverts are replaced. Relocating the 12-foot culvert eliminates the need to buy a new one.

Craftsbury School Board Studies OSSU Act 46 Proposals

by June Pichel Cook

CRAFTSBURY—At its last meeting, the Craftsbury school board received the Orleans Southwest Supervisory Union (OSSU) Administrative Leadership Team report from OSSU Superintendent Joanne LeBlanc. The report focused on centralizing services, instruction, and partnering with local entities.

Currently, the OSSU system has eight school district boards, an Executive Committee with district representatives, and Supervisory Union board.

Current centralized services include special education; transportation; human resource services; payroll and benefits; financial management and oversight; network administration; curriculum, instruction, assessment, and grants; and data management.

In the section titled "Centralizing and Strengthening Services," the report proposes that food service, maintenance, and facilities also be centralized, to reduce costs and improve efficiency. Centralized food purchasing is projected to reduce costs, with greater economies of scale and improved monitoring food expense, quality, and nutritiousness.

The proposal also stated that centralized monitoring of the Community Eligibility Program, federal and state funding, state health and sanitation requirements would be more effective.

In the area of maintenance, the report stated that centralization would improve efficiency in the purchase of products, procedures, and training. Preventative maintenance plans would be created, monitored, and carried out at the OSSU level. Combining fuel purchases and building maintenance services could also reduce costs, as would expanding purchases in coordination with other supervisory unions.

An OSSU Facility Team would bring its expertise to the purchasing of products such as flooring, roofing, heating and cooling systems and future building design.

In its Instruction section, the report suggests a single lead Library and Media coordinator at the district level, with support staff at individual schools. Advanced Placement (AP) classes would rotate yearly at Craftsbury Academy and Hazen Union.

School board Chair Stephen Moffatt noted that he was contacted by Steven Freihofner, Chair of Hazen Union school board, about coordinating class schedules to enable sharing language and AP classes. Coordinating schedules has been problematic, as Hazen Union's schedule is structured differently from Craftsbury's, according to Craftsbury Academy Principal Merri Greenia.

The practicality of making scheduling work with Hazen, in conjunction with current efforts to sync schedules with Sterling College would be challenging.

"If we want to match Hazen's (schedule)," she said, "we couldn't match Sterling College's."

Board member Harry Miller felt the future with Sterling College offered a stronger benefit. Act 46 was about saving money, but transporting students increases costs. Teachers might travel between schools rather than students, he suggested.

LeBlanc noted that if the Hazen and Craftsbury Academy school boards are interested in coordinating classes, no directives have been given to the administration to work out how this could be done.

Regarding teachers being at different pay scales, LeBlanc said, "If you are getting an opportunity for students, you forego cost differentials and do an even swap."

Board member Mary Lou Rylands suggested rewarding teachers for extra work and providing students with the "best they can get." She noted that this type of cooperation adheres to the objectives of Act 46. The board's consensus was to have the administration further investigate the issue.

Other OSSU Leadership Team proposals included sharing Driver's Education by renting a single car and employing a shared, full-time instructor. Hazen and Craftsbury currently operate separate driver's education programs.

The proposal suggested employing a registered nurse at a centralized location, with licensed practical nurses at each school. A medical professional would be present in each building full-time.

The report also suggested replicating the approach to foreign language instruction offered at the Craftsbury Elementary School throughout the supervisory union.

It also suggested tapping into local resources and businesses to expanding personal and experiential learning opportunities for students. LeBlanc called attention to a year-round school flex schedule which might help to eliminate summer learning loss, support families, and ensure sustainable learning.

Hollister Hill Agreement Signed, Work to Start this Month

by Will Walters

MARSHFIELD—The select board signed an agreement with The Housing Foundation, Inc. (HFI) to take responsibility for compliance with all requirements of the grant for reconstruction of the Hollister Hill apartments. Construction is expected to begin this month.

Town Clerk Bobbi Brimblecombe reminded the board that the town is ultimately responsible for the conditions of the grant and that by entering into the agreement, they will be trusting HFI and their consultant to meet all of the conditions of the grant.

The board adopted the Municipal Policies and Codes required by the Community Development Program, the provider of the grant.

A letter requesting a safety audit for Cabot Road was signed and the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission (CVRPC) will contact the Agency of Transportation to conduct the audit. The board chose to request the audit after a resident of Cabot Road said that traffic rarely complies with the speed limit. The audit will use road strips to determine the amount of traffic and the speed ranges it moves in.

Dan Currier, Program Manager at the CVRPC, will attend the next meeting. Brimblecombe submitted an application for a grant to repave part of Hollister Hill Road.

Other Town Business

The Select Board was told that Cabot has been informed by the Agency of Transportation (AOT), that Route 215 could be eligible to be re-classified as a Class I road. Cabot Road Commissioner Karen Deasy was asked to explore the process of having the road re-classified with AOT. The Class I status would make Cabot Town eligible for more highway assistance. The town would still be required to maintain the road.

The board discussed a letter received from Redstart Forestry regarding a tax map discrepancy. The board drafted a response, stating that the tax map can't be changed without a survey, deed evidence, or evidence of agreement of all affected landowners.

A number of moving and maintenance contracts were approved, based on bids. For the Old Schoolhouse Common, a moving contract with Martin-Mitchell for \$110 was approved; Caleb Martin received a contract for the Martin Bridge Park for \$1,400 for the season and Joe Mangano's bid for cemeteries was approved for \$8,600 for the year, \$80 per hour for extra work, \$500 for a full burial and \$150 for a cremation burial. All awards were given to the lowest bidder.

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a set limit, or they will get fined.

For Woodbury, the drop-off is at the Woodbury School, between 9:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. They accept roadside trash and tires, as well as scrap metal. Bags are available at the town clerk's office, or the Village Store. For more information, call 456-1549.

The Greensboro site will be behind Town Hall. The hours are 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Coffee and snacks (provided by the Greensboro Ladies Walking Group) will be available. There will

be a trash collection point, a metal dumpster and a tire dumpster. A \$3 donation per tire donation is suggested; if there is no volunteer to collect tire money, persons bringing their own tires are asked to bring their donation to Town Hall during regular opening hours. For more information, please call 533-2911.

"We have a very active Green Up Day, we hope everyone gets out there, it would be nice if it's a sunny day!" said town clerk Kim Greaves.

For all other communities, go to GreenUpVermont.org for information or contact your town clerk.

Merger Continued From Page One

and the timeline for completing the merger process.

Another question is whether the merger take place if there are no tax incentives, or if the Walden, Barnet and Waterford merger is not approved by voters. The vote for these districts is May 23. Those schools will be the pre-K to 8 grade component of the proposed Regional Education District (RED) in the new supervisory union.

Walden School Board warned the vote with language indicating that the elementary schools would not be able to merge if the high school districts do not vote to merge. Likewise, Cabot, Twinfield and Danville cannot merge under the present arrangement if Barnet, Walden and Waterford do not vote to combine their districts.

May 3 - May 9

Rain Gear 20% off 5/3-5/9 While Supplies Last

Seed potatoes and onion sets are here!

San Pellegrino Sparkling Water 2 ⁵ / ₃ 25.3 oz.	Morton Kosher Salt 2 ⁵ / ₅ 48 oz.	Aunt Jemima Pancake Mix 2 ⁵ / ₅ 32 oz.
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Barilla Pasta 4 ⁵ / ₅ 12-16 oz.	Mission Large Flour Tortillas 2 ⁵ / ₅ 20 oz.	Old El Paso Taco Dinner Kits 2 ⁵ / ₄ 8.8-11.4 oz.
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Charmin 6 Mega Roll Bathroom Tissue \$5.99 201 sf.	Bounty 6 Roll S-A-S Paper Towels \$5.99	Cabot Shredded Cheese 2 ⁵ / ₅ 8 oz.
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POLICE REPORT

Hardwick Police Burglary at the Hardwick Inn

On April 27, Hardwick Police were called to the Hardwick Inn for the report of a burglary. Investigation showed forced entry into the building and clothing store. The items taken will remain undisclosed at this time. The burglary is currently an active investigation by Hardwick Police.

Hardwick Police are investigating the theft of construction tools at a job site on North Shore Road in Greensboro. Anyone with any information is asked to contact Hardwick Police at 802-472-5475.

Joyce Vitale, of Greensboro, was stopped on Craftsbury Road in Greensboro, at 9:45 a.m., April 29. Police issued a ticket for \$99 for driving 40

mph in a 30 mph zone.

Jason Pontias, of Alameda, CA, was stopped on Craftsbury Road in Greensboro, at 10:05 a.m., April 29. He was issued a ticket for \$99 for driving 40 mph in a 30 mph zone.

Kenneth Wetherell, of East Hardwick, was stopped on Route 16, in Hardwick, at 2:00 p.m., April 28. He was issued a ticket for driving 60 mph in a 50 mph zone.

On April 26, at approximately 12:15 a.m., police responded a report of a vehicle run off the roadway on Route 15. At the scene, they spoke with Donald Lowell, who advised that he was run off the road by an oncoming dark car that was on his side of the road. Lowell said he was fine.

State Police Vandalism and Burglary

On April 29, at 4:58 p.m., State Police responded to a call from the Peter Beyerle residence at 424 Danville Hill Road, Cabot, for a vandalism complaint. Matthew Barnett, of Cabot, went to Beyerle's residence looking for a third party. Before leaving, Barnett broke a window on Beyerle's porch. Barnett was issued a citation for Unlawful Mischief. He is scheduled to appear in Washington County Superior Court – Criminal Division on June 8, 2017.

On April 30, 2017, Vermont State Police received a report of a burglary that occurred at the Grace United Methodist Church in Plainfield. Entry was made into the


building and miscellaneous items were taken. The case is still under investigation. Anybody with information is asked to contact Trooper Darryl Cremo at 802-229-9191 or Central Vermont Crime Stoppers at 1-800-529-9998.

On Monday, May 1 at approximately 7:55 p.m., State Police were dispatched to a citizen dispute on Lower Road in Plainfield. Gary T. Brennick, of Barre, assaulted the mother of his child while she had the child in her arms. Brennick also broke several car windows during the altercation. Brennick was arrested and lodged at the Chittenden Regional Correctional Facility.

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Historical Society Plans For New Season, Seeks New Board Members

by Michael Bielawski

HARDWICK – The Hardwick Historical Society is just weeks away from a new season. The board met on Monday evening to review logistics in preparation for 2017.

The society's Annual Meeting will be held on May 22. The board is looking for two new members. Specifically, they are hoping to find someone who can work on their displays and someone who can help with managing memberships.

There will be a coin drop on May 20. The society hopes for several hundred income from this. The coin drops are held on Wolcott Street, by the fire station.

The society's museum, commonly known as "The Depot," will open on May 23. There will be an open house at the end of the month. The society is looking for help with the Depot building itself, especially the windows. Elizabeth Dow, the society's president, said that they may have to consider getting a private business to do the work, paid for by the society. Dow said that once the windows are done properly, it will be easier to get financial support for other projects, such as electrical wiring and heating.

There may be some World War I displays this season in the old freight room at the Depot. WWI photos and stories will likely be highlighted in the next issue of the Historical Society Journal.

There was discussion about having some kind of a web presence for the society. Most likely this would be part of the town's website, rather than its own stand-alone site. The meeting's consensus was that establishing a website only made sense if there were resources to maintain and update it.

The section house also came up for conversation. The building is located on the northern portion of Church Street, along the rail bed, and used to be part of the railroad, which hasn't seen use over almost three decades. In the past, a railroad section house would have been used for storage of maintenance equipment for the area's section of rail tracks.

The section house is currently being used for storage and may take time to clear out. The long-term goal is to move the structure closer to the center of town, but still along the rail bed. There is the potential for restoring the building and using it as a mini rail museum of a welcome center for the anticipated extension of the rail trail.

Discussion turned to the potential donation of books once used by prominent lawyer William Taylor. The donor has requested that the society prepare an estimate of the

value of the books, for a tax deduction. Dow cited historical precedent set by the Nixon Administration after which the IRS said that repositories

are forbidden from doing appraisals.

Dow wants all of the society's committees to be clarified and spread out more among neighbors.

"We need a structure in place, people whose focus is on one or two aspects of the work of the society," said Dow.

The society agreed such an initiative may require getting members from outside the organization involved.



Forty Hazen Union Chorus and Band students, music directors Talan Bryant, and Mason Mills and four other teacher chaperones boarded a bus shortly after 6 a.m. April 25 for New York City. They visited the Museum of Natural History, attended a concert at Lincoln Center with the New York Philharmonic Orchestra, visited the Metropolitan Museum of Art, attended the Lion King on Broadway and went to the Metropolitan Opera to see Don Giovanni. The group returned on April 27. (photo by Vanessa Fournier)

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Hardwick and East Hardwick's Green Up Day

Saturday, May 6

9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

It's time to clean up our roads, streets, fields and lots! Grab some bags and gloves...

In Hardwick:
Meet us at the fire station on Wolcott Street
In East Hardwick:
Meet us at the Caledonia Grange #9



Free Creamies for all kids!

*Due to unforeseen circumstances, we will not be able to accept tires this year.



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WARNING HARDWICK TOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL HEARING ON THE FY18 BUDGET AND ANNUAL SCHOOL DISTRICT MEETING

The legal voters of Hardwick Town School District are hereby warned to meet for the Public Informational Hearing on the FY18 Budget at the Hardwick Elementary Library, Hardwick, Vermont, on Monday, May 15, at 7 p.m. for discussion on the school district's proposed FY18 budget as required by Title 17 VSA 2680(g).

Article 1: Shall the voters of the school district approve the school board to expend \$4,227,997, which is the amount the school board has determined to be necessary for the ensuing fiscal year? It is estimated that this proposed budget, if approved, will result in education spending of \$16,608 per equalized pupil. This projected spending per equalized pupil is 11.04% higher than spending for the current year.

Article 2: To transact any other business that may legally come before this meeting.

Voting on the aforementioned Article 1 will be by Australian Ballot at the Hardwick Elementary School gymnasium on Tuesday, May 16, between the hours of 9 a.m. at which time the polls will open and 7 p.m., at which time the polls will close.

The legal voters of the school district are further notified that voter qualification, registration and absentee voting relative to said meeting shall be as provided in Chapter 43 of Title 17, Vermont Statutes annotated.

Dated at Hardwick, Vermont, this April 25, 2017

Hardwick Town School District Directors

Jennifer Fliegelman, Katharine Ingram,

Kevin Moore Jr., Jennifer Laundry

Attest: Alberta A. Miller, District Clerk

April 27, 2017

Letters From Readers

OSSU Budget Needs a Closer Look

To the editor:

I'm writing this letter to express my disappointment with the Hardwick Town school board. A vote was not held to ask for the OSSU Board to reconsider Hardwick's portion of the Central Office budget at their April 18 meeting. While I commend them for asking hard questions and looking at cuts in the school, I don't believe that's where the cuts should come from.

I was on The Hardwick Town school board for over 3 years. Every budget season we heard the same message from taxpayers: the OSSU Central Office Budget is too high. Administrative costs continue to rise and the budgets for local schools continue to be trimmed. The Hardwick Town School Board always put forth a good effort to make cuts and administrative

costs at the OSSU Central Office continued to rise.

This year, there was a \$236,219 savings in Special Education cost. Instead of seeing that in savings we saw a \$383,167.00 increase, for a total increase of \$619,386.00.

The Hardwick Elementary School Budget is voted on after the OSSU Central Office Budget is finalized. That means that when the budget is defeated, we have to make cuts in our school. The portion we pay the Central Office is locked and our students and teachers will have to make the sacrifices.

As a taxpayer, parent and community member I continue to hear the same thing, "I voted 'no' because the Central Office budget is too high." I would say it's time that we started listening and asking how that can be changed.

Amanda Brochu
Hardwick

Vote on the HES Budget Proposal on May 16

To the editor:

The Hardwick Town School board has adopted a new budget of \$4,227,997 that will go to the voters on Tuesday, May 16th.

The updated budget cuts \$20,000, for a 0% tax increase for the 2017-18 school year, with no impact to student services or staff. The ballot will state that this is an 11.26% increase in spending per equalized pupil.

Copies of this updated budget are available at the front desk at Hardwick Elementary School, OSSU

offices in the Daniels Building and at the Town Clerk's office.

Any questions regarding this budget can be directed to the Hardwick Town School Board at hesboard@ossu.org.

Please come out to vote on this budget at the Hardwick Elementary gym on Tuesday, May 16, from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

To obtain an absentee ballot, contact Alberta Miller at 472-5971.

Katharine Ingram
Hardwick Town School Board

Thank You, Hazen Teachers and Staff

To the editor:

Dear Hazen Teachers, Staff, and greater Hardwick Community,

I am writing today on behalf of the Hazen School Board. We would like to express our utmost gratitude and appreciation for every teacher and staff member who works at Hazen. We are extremely proud of the classes and programs that are being offered and foresee a bright future for the school.

I graduated from Hazen in 2007 and am honored to be serving with the board. For me, the most impressive aspect of Hazen were the teachers. They challenged and guided me, encouraging me to take extra classes, try new things, and be an engaged citizen.

There is no doubt that Hazen is a very different place than it was

10 years ago. There are many more options for students, including extracurriculars, languages, college level classes, clubs, and more.

What remains the same is the dedication of staff and faculty. It is inspiring to see teachers who once were my role models still enriching the lives of our students and to see new teachers bringing their own expertise and experiences to the school.

We would like to thank each teacher for everything they do. Keep up the good work!

Ceiliadh Galloway-Kane
Hazen Union School Board
Hardwick Representative

P.S. Next week is teacher appreciation week. If you see a teacher, thank them!

MEETING MEMO

Upcoming Public Meetings

Thursday, May 4

•Hardwick Select Board, 6 p.m. Memorial Building
•Cabot School Facilities Committee, 7 p.m. School

Development Review Board, 7 p.m. Old Schoolhouse Common

Friday, May 5

•Volunteer Medical Reserve Corp. Information Session, 2 - 3 p.m., Hardwick Town Office Meeting Room.

Saturday, May 6

•Cabot Parents In Education, 9 a.m. Cabot Library

Monday, May 8

•Woodbury Select Board, 6 p.m. Town Offices
•Calais Select Board, 7 p.m. Town Hall

•Jaquith Library Trustees, 7 p.m. Jaquith Library

Tuesday, May 9

•Cabot Library Trustees, 7 p.m. Cabot Library
•Hardwick Planning Commission, 6:30 p.m. Memorial Building
•T

6:30 p.m. Twinfield

•Walden Library Trustees, 6:30 p.m. Library

Wednesday, May 10

•Greensboro Select Board, 6:30 p.m. Town Offices

•Hardwick Area Food Pantry Board, 3 p.m. Food Pantry

•T Education, 6:30 p.m. Twinfield

•Stannard School Board, 6 p.m. Town Offices

Thursday, May 11

•Historic Kents Corner, 7 p.m. Community Center

•Jeudevine Library Trustees, 5:15 p.m. Library

•OSSU Executive Committee, 5:30 p.m. OSSU

Commission, 7 p.m. Old Schoolhouse Common

•Woodbury Historical Society, 7 p.m. Library

Agenda for meetings are available prior to meetings, usually at the town clerk's or superintendent's office, or by calling a board or committee chair.

THE Hardwick Gazette

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Woodsmoke by Julie Atwood



Its annoying what people will toss out of their car window!

See more from Julie at https://www.amazon.com/Cabin-Fever-Life-Green-Mountains-ebook/dp/B00L2TF9EK/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1472401880&sr=1-1&keywords=cabin+fever+julie+atwood

Lake Views

by Charles T. Morrissey

Books Old and New Offer Startling Insights on Vermont History

The Russian Revolution of 1917 gets me thinking, oddly enough, about Vermont's Northeast Kingdom. This centennial year of the Russian uprising, with its long-lasting global impact, conjures images in my mind of Lyndon, Vermont.

Why Lyndon?

Because Lyndon has a section of town, in its southeast corner, called Red Village.

In her 1977 book, "Vermont Place Names: Footprints of History," Esther Munroe Swift wrote that "Many stories are told about how Red Village got its name. One persistent account even claims that it was so called because some Russian exiles had settled in that area. However," she wrote, "there are several reasons why this argument is not valid. For one thing, town records show no trace of Russian names. For another, 'red' was not in connection with Russia or Russians until after the First World War – and of course the name of the village goes much further back than that. Finally, Russian exiles in the early 20th Century would have been categorized as White – not Red – Russians."

So: how did Lyndon's Red Village get named Red Village?

Don't overlook the obvious: conjure images of red paint.

That is Mrs. Swift's explanation. Many residents of Red Village painted their house, and/or barns, with red paint. This red-painted village had nothing to do with Russian "reds" in 1917 imposing a communist government on the Russian people.

You don't have to leave Vermont's Northeast Kingdom to visit another community with a colorful name like Red Village. Go to Lower Waterford. "Locally, the village is known as White Village," wrote Mrs. Swift, "because most of its buildings are painted white."

Has Craftsbury Common ever been labeled a White Village because of the gleaming white buildings edging the long rectangular green, itself bounded by a white fence?

Even mainstay volumes on a shelf of Vermont reference books have their shortcomings. While Esther Swift's volume is the "go-to" source for learning about Vermont place names, and my personal copy, due to frequent usage, is the most dog-eared book in my collection of Vermontiana, I regret that a tough-minded editor of it did not, before publication, expose and correct some overlooked glitches.

About Hardwick, Swift said, "Probably no other town in Vermont has moved the name of its main village around as (much as) Hardwick has. In fact, one needs to have a schedule, showing what post offices were open when, in order to be certain which village was called Hardwick at any given time."

But her entry for Reading, in Vermont's Windsor County, undermines her claim for Hardwick's uniqueness. "The postal history of Reading, Vermont," she wrote, "is as confused as that of any town. At different times, three entirely different villages

were given the name Reading as the official postal designation."

Even books published 80 years ago are worth pursuing now because their contents can both startle and please. This is especially true for Greensboro readers. May 17 will be the 80th anniversary of the release, by Alfred A. Knopf, the esteemed New York publisher, of Charles Edward Crane's volume, "Let Me Show You Vermont." This book was instantly popular; it underwent four additional printings in the four months following its release. I borrowed the copy available at the John Woodruff Simpson Memorial Library in East Craftsbury.

Some of Crane's statements about Vermont in the 1930s will surprise readers in 2017. Born in 1889 and raised in Ludlow, he said. "When I was a boy, Vermont-made cheese was as common as home-grown potatoes, whereas today cheese-making in Vermont either on the farm or in the factory has almost ceased to be."

But if cheese-makers in Greensboro and environs are startled by this assertion, they may be mollified by his reference to Caspian Lake. He exulted that Caspian is "distinguished, not alone for its beauty, but for its brains, as around the lake are concentrated in summer more college professors than about at any other lake in New England."

Even books not yet published can arouse pleasant expectations. This fall, UVM's Center for Research on Vermont (CRV) will be publish Green Mountain Scholar: Samuel B. Hand, Dean of Vermont Historians.

The late Sam Hand taught American history at UVM from 1961 until his retirement in 1994. Beginning in the fall term of 1977, he succeeded H. Nicholas Muller as the teacher of UVM's survey course, spanning Vermont's history. His 2002 book, "The Star That Set: The Vermont Republican Party, 1854-1974," explained how Vermont, politically, became America's most steadfast Republican state, a dominance that endured longer than in any other state.

Sam was also fond of visiting Greensboro on summer afternoons, chatting with historians on porch chairs while the westerling sun sent glimmering rays onto Caspian Lake.

A prospective from UVM's CRV says: "This book will collect the best of Sam's writings on Vermont, accompanied by a selection of Vermont history articles and essays by his CRV friends and colleagues."

Nick Muller is editing this volume together with Kristin Peterson-Ishaq, CRV Director Richard Watts, and J. Kevin Graffagnino.

One final note: during this current time, when funding for the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) is uncertain, I recall that Sam's initial work on his book about Republican dominance of Vermont was facilitated by a grant from the NEH. Sam would appreciate the irony: Republicans in the Trump era want to kill the NEH, which funded Sam's early research about Vermont Republicans.

Letters From Readers

HES Cancer Walk on May 7

To the editor:

Friends of HES (Hardwick Elementary School) will be having its 4th annual cancer walk on Sunday, May 7. Registration begins at 8:15 a.m. The walk/run starts at 9 a.m. We will start the walk by the Hazen Varsity Soccer Field.

There is a \$5.00 donation per participant. All money raised benefits the Lamoille Area Cancer Network!

Please come join us for a nice walk on the Hardwick Trails.

Friends of HES
Jennifer Laundry
Hardwick

Let's Get Out and Vote on the HES Budget

To the editor:

Our Hardwick Town School board has been working hard on our budget. The re-vote will be Tuesday, May 16, from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., at Hardwick Elementary school.

If you would like an absentee ballot, please contact Alberta Miller at the town clerk's office, 472-5971.

Please come out and VOTE!
Jennifer Laundry
Hardwick

May Bird Walks Begin May 6

To the editor:

Grab your binoculars! The winged ones are arriving! It's spring migration on the Hardwick Trails!

The May Bird Walks are beginning. Come to the trailhead (behind Hazen Union parking lot) each Saturday in May, at 7:00 a.m. Experienced leaders will help us all find the arriving birds, learn their songs and enjoy spring in the forest. The Hardwick Trails

Committee invites birdwatchers of all ages and skill levels. The more eyes we have, the more we'll all see.

Our walks feature these local experts:

May 6 and 13: Lucian Avery
May 20: Paul Council
May 27: Gail Johnson

For more information, call Ron or Norma Wiesen, at 472-6517.

Norma Wieseen
Hardwick

Dealing With Discarded Tires on Green Up Day

To the editor:

Green Up Day is rapidly approaching! On Saturday, May 6, roadside trash can be dropped off at the Hardwick fire station and the East Hardwick Grange from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Help beautify your community and clean up Mother Earth. This is one way we can make up for all the destructive things humans are doing to our planet. There will be free Creemees for all kids taking part.

We are sorry that we will be unable to accept any tires this year. There is currently no place to dispose of them. If you find them along a state highway (Routes 14,

15 and 16), drag them to the side of the road where they will be visible to the state crews. Otherwise, leave them in place.

Discarded tires have been one of the biggest eyesores along country roads for many years. They are also the largest cost in effort and dollars that Green Up volunteers have had to deal with across our state. It's time for a better solution than pulling them out of roadside ditches every year. A tire-deposit law would go a long way in providing a solution! Let's encourage the legislature to enact one.

Ron Wiesen
Hardwick

Senate Report

by Sen. Joe Benning, Caledonia-Orange District

School Daze

As Vermonters slowly adjust to the school governance models dictated by Act 46, it was inevitable that some are dazed and frustrated by the idea of forced change to the familiar. We Vermonters, after all, are naturally suspicious of activity under the Golden Dome. But my daily walk reminds me that education governance and delivery are always changing.

The road I live on is a hill, one of the earlier roads in town, built to reach a very old farmhouse perched on the top of that hill. At the other end is an intersection, a connecting artery older than my own road, built to reach widely dispersed farmhouses that controlled an agrarian economy since the early 1800s.

Most people driving by that intersection will never see it, but at a walking pace one notices an anomaly in the landscape, a cellar hole that leads the curious (me, anyway) to visit the local library. Perusal of an ancient Caledonia County map reveals that the hole was once occupied by the Mosquito School, built to educate the children of the eight or nine families whose parents were area farmers in the nineteenth century. Since transportation at the time was limited to two or four legs, the town was forced by law to distribute schoolhouses to meet the needs of a widely dispersed student population growing up in an agrarian economy. In every town in the Northeast Kingdom, indeed in every Vermont town, educational cellar holes and still-existing one-room school houses converted to other uses are a common feature of our landscape.

The Mosquito School burned down in the 1950s. I have no doubt a difficult conversation followed, a conversation now being repeated today over Act 46. Times had changed. The horse and buggy had been replaced by the horseless carriage. Farmers were trading in their plows for better paying jobs in town. There were better educational opportunities if children were sent to the bigger, more centralized schools.

Conversely, there was genuine concern for the loss of local control and community engagement that small schools offered. Whether it was prohibitive cost, declining

enrollment, or a combination of both I do not know. They decided not to rebuild Mosquito School. Foliage invaded where a community once gathered to educate their children.

But the story does not end there. Over the course of the next three decades, the remaining one-room school houses and fine brick buildings built to educate a growing and more mobile student population became obsolete.

By the 1990s, another difficult debate ensued over balancing the need for better space against the rising cost of maintaining deteriorating facilities. Familiar arguments over loss of community institutions versus cost savings and new educational opportunities split the town's residents. In the end, a fine new school was built to accommodate 800 students.

But once again, the story didn't end. Over the next two decades a substantial statewide decline in student population was also felt in Lyndon. (Student head count has now fallen below 500.) The Supreme Court's Brigham decision resulted in legislation requiring state collection and distribution of all education taxes to more equitably deliver education to all Vermont students. But the tradeoff was loss of the local taxpayer's ability to have direct control over his/her property tax rates. Property taxes rose even when local school boards decreased school budgets.

Twenty years later, frustrated Vermonters demanded change and the legislature responded with Act 46. It changes governance boundary lines to provide better education at less cost. All change brings discomfort, but the ghosts still lingering over a cellar hole in Lyndon offer hope. Act 46 is not the end of the discussion. It is merely a momentary solution in a centuries-old debate that will continue long after we become ghosts ourselves.

Governing boundary lines do not educate our children. The crucial component in our educational heritage is the willingness of parents and neighbors to stay engaged. If Vermonters stay focused on seeing our children succeed, our descendants will be all right.

Area Troops Deployed for Service

Our Neighbors, Our Friends, Our Family

Lt. Sabin Clark

Col. Stephen R. Davis

The list is not complete. Families are encouraged to send names to be included.

Letters From Readers

GreenUp Day, Tires and the East Hardwick Grange Outpost

To the editor:

I made a mistake announcing that the Hardwick Town crew will pick up tires by the side of the roads for the Green Up Day cleanup. It is the State road crews who will pick up tires on the sides of state highways only.

Green Up Day is a state-sponsored activity coordinated by an office in the Vermont Statehouse since 1970, the same year that the Wisconsin governor declared EarthDay, which goes further than roadside trash cleanup. I'm a Wisconsin transplant to these parts, but what I know about cleaning up other people's trash I learned from my parents, by example and mandatory participation. So this is intended to be a hand-on teaching exercise. It's just

what you do when you see trash in nature. Of course, I get a bit disgusted and also mutter to myself "how can people just throw their trash ...on the ground ?!"

Since Vermont has perhaps the most comprehensive waste management policy in the US - Act 148 - special legislation was passed to exempt the required sorting and separation of recyclables for Green Up Day trash.

Yes, it all goes into our shrinking landfill, but at least it won't be collecting on our roadsides. Our Green Mountains are too spectacular to be trashed. Personally, I think the state should post signs with fines and encourage citizens to report people

seen trashing our roadways. Youth who participate in Green Up Day activities receive a coupon for a free Creemee.

The East Hardwick Grange will staff a collection site, as it has done for the last three years, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday. Early bag pickup is at Hay's Auto, on Cedar Street in East Hardwick.

And then there are the tires. Our local licensed tire grinder is Gates. Their tire grinder is down and they don't have room for storage at this point. Therefore, the State will be picking up and transporting the tires to another location, but only from State highways 14, 15, 16.

Nancy Kellogg
Hardwick

Hand prints

Lakeview fifth grader Lydia Hall, right, is assisted by race car driver Bunker Hodgdon, center, and teacher Danielle Slayton, left, in placing her painted hand print on the trunk of Hodgdon's #83 race car. On April 26, sixteen fourth- and fifth-grade students put their hand prints and signatures on the trunk of Hodgdon's car as a reward for meeting their challenge of reading 15 books this year. Hodgdon races at Thunder Road and Speedway 51.

(photo by Vanessa Fournier)



Obituaries

DOROTHY AVIS VIRGINIA GOODRIDGE



Dorothy Avis Virginia Goodridge

Dorothy Avis Virginia (Hamp) Goodridge died peacefully on April 11. She was born March 14, 1926 in Akron, Ohio to Joseph E. and Dorothy

E. (George) Hamp.

She graduated from Barberton High School in 1942, then spent the next 2 years in the Cadet nursing

school program at Peoples Hospital in Barberton, Ohio.

She quit to marry Donly Clement Goodridge, Sr., a Vermont boy, who was her pen pal while he was in the Navy. They married February 11, 1946 and of this union had 6 children. They owned and operated a dairy farm, in Craftsbury Common, Vermont, for 15 years. Avis was an avid reader, enjoyed years of travel to bowling events with Donly and spending time with her children, grand children and great grand children.

She is survived by her children: A. Jean (Charles) Bezio of Newport; Susan J. (James) Richardson of Albany; Donly C. Goodridge, Jr. of Craftsbury; Gilbert E. (M. Kay) Goodridge of Craftsbury; and Kevin M. (Rosemary) Goodridge of Albany; son-in-law Michael Grondin of Albany; daughter-in-law Colleen Goodridge of Albany; her brother Paul W. Hamp of Mogadore, OH; her sisters-in-law, Anthea Pugh of Radford, VA; Ruth Goodridge of Burlington; and her brother-in-law, Carroll Goodridge, and his wife Donna of Easley, SC; 16 grand-children, 19 great-grand children and many nieces and nephews.

Avis was predeceased by her parents; her in-laws, Bert and Bea Goodridge; her husband, Donly, in 1997; her youngest daughter, Carol, in 2015; her great-grandson, in 1994; her sister-in-law, Barbara King; and brothers-in-law, Basil Goodridge and Albert Pugh.

A graveside service will be held at a later date in Craftsbury.

Online condolences may be shared at www.curtis-britch.com

Arrangements are entrusted to the care of the Curtis-Britch & Davis Funeral Home in Craftsbury Common.

CHRISTINE J. PARKHURST



Christine J. Parkhurst

WOLCOTT – Christine J. Parkhurst, 67, died Monday January 23, in Lebanon, N.H. Christine was born June 7, 1949, in Montpelier, the daughter of Merrill Hugh and Katherine Marana (Bragg) Johnson.

She was a graduate of Harwood Union High School and Rutland Business College. Her employment included the State of Vermont and later the Woodbury Elementary School. Christine was a long-time member of the Wolcott Church of the Nazarene, where she taught Sunday School and was active on the church governing board.

Survivors include her husband, Armand, whom she married October 21, 1972; two sons: Jason, and wife Tracey, of Springfield; and Travis, and wife Johanna, of Pueblo, Colorado; two brothers: John Johnson and Hugh Johnson, both of Waitsfield; two sisters: Marana Allen, of Waterbury, and Myrna Wiseman, of Tennessee. Two grandchildren, Kai and Ayden, survive Christine, as do numerous cousins, nieces and nephews.

Funeral services will be held May 13, at 10 a.m., at the Wolcott Nazarene Church, with interment following in Fairmont Cemetery Wolcott.

Contributions in Christine's memory may be made to the Wolcott Nazarene Church, 3950 Rt. 15, Wolcott, VT, 05680.

Arrangements are in the care of des Groseilliers Funeral Home Church Street, Hardwick, Vermont.

Nature Notes

Watch Out For Rabies

by Tyler Molleur

As the activity of mammals increases throughout the spring, the Vermont Department of Health, Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department, and local veterinarians ramp up efforts to prevent the spread of rabies and monitor the state for new cases.

So far this year, over ten cases of rabies have come to the health department's attention, including one red fox in Stowe which tested positive in March. Last year, three separate cases were reported in Calais: one fox and two raccoons. The state sees tens of cases of rabid animals annually, and has seen hundreds since 1992, when the incidence in raccoons increased dramatically.

Rabies is a virus which attacks the brain and progressively changes the behavior of animals, including levels of aggression, balance and coordination, and overall mood. While these neurologic signs often occur in wild animals, domestic animals can also acquire rabies as well, and some infected animals may appear asymptomatic.

"Even cute fuzzy baby wild animals can look normal and have rabies," said Dr. Bob Johnson, a veterinarian with the Vermont Department of Health.

Johnson says the department collaborates with Vermont Fish and Wildlife and other organizations to

retrieve specimens which may be infected with rabies. In addition, efforts are made throughout the state to host vaccination clinics for pets and livestock prior to dog licensing due dates. Sweetened bait is distributed in forests to immunize wildlife from the disease in select parts of the state.

While raccoons were the original culprit, many bats have been implicated in human contraction of rabies. Other animals that have tested positive for rabies in Vermont include, but are not limited to, woodchucks, skunks, foxes, cows, cats, and dogs.

Johnson said the best way for humans to protect themselves from contracting rabies is to appreciate wildlife from a distance.

"Use common sense and enjoy the outdoors," he said. "See your doctor when bitten by an animal."

Treatment following exposure to a likely rabid source includes vaccinations and the administration of antibodies which help the body to fight the virus. Wounds should be washed immediately with soap and warm water to prevent other infections.

Johnson said that it is important to know who to call when a suspected exposure has occurred. A 24-hour hotline with pre-recorded information on rabies can be reached at 1-800-4-RABIES. Your local town health officer is also a point of contact for a suspected exposure.

Third

Continued From Page One

program has to offer and the amount of space that we have," she said. At its last meeting, the board asked the central office to provide their tech expert to explain why the school needed an increased technology budget.

Orleans Southwest Supervisory Union network administrator Dave Martin visited the board to explain how needs and demands are increasing.

"Technology has changed. In 2012, we had 500 devices in the school," he said. "Now we have about 1,500, and tech support has only

gone up by 6 hours." Wireless access in schools is increasing rapidly. For example, Hazen has gone from nine access points to over 100.

"In the last five years, there's been a big shift. When I came in we were 60 percent Microsoft, 40 percent Macs. (Since then,) iPads and Chrome Books came out, so there's been a lot of changes in the way that we manage things and different demands from the teachers."

This week, there will be six interviews with candidates for the principal position, according to board member Katharine Ingram. The six were chosen out of a pool of a dozen candidates.

Check out these ideas for Mother's Day gifts

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Stoners

Continued From Page One

is primarily a northwest facing hill, he explained, which is now covered with sugar maple, some beech, yellow and white birch, balsam, spruce, and cedar.

Stoner tended to minimize what he and his family have accomplished. He is credited with "releasing" 280 wild apple trees, among other land improvements. Over the last 20 years, their stewardship has evolved – building a pond, clearing and pruning beech and apple trees, planting blueberry bushes, clearing brush and practicing wildlife habitat management.

Orleans County Forester Jared Nunnery nominated the Stoners for the award. He noted that their interest in stewardship began in the 1980s after attending a work-

shop for woodland owners led by forester Ross Morgan at Sterling College.

Nunnery said that the family "quietly shares their land ethic through example with anyone who sets foot on their land."

"Beyond what they have done," Nunnery stated, "I am nominating the Stoner family for who they are, and the stewardship ethic that they embody."

"The Stoner family is the first landowner who has invited me to walk their land with three generations of the family to specifically discuss the transfer of not only their land, but a common land ethic and management objectives."

On August 12, the 2017 Vermont Tree Farm of the Year Tour will be held on the Stoner property in Greensboro.

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Wedding Policy
The Hardwick Gazette provides space for engagements and wedding news as a free service. Wedding announcements and photos should be received by our office within two months of the ceremony. Photographs supplied will be returned when accompanied by a SASE. Use of engagement and wedding information, as well as accompanying photographs, is at the discretion of the editors.

For information about advertising in the Wedding & Party Planner call The Hardwick Gazette at 472-6521!

THIS WEEK

Thursday, May 4

•**HARDWICK HISTORICAL SOCIETY** at the Depot. Closed until May. Call 472-5903 or 472-6424.
•**STORY TIME**, 10 a.m., the Greensboro Free Library, for 0-6 years old. Information: greensborokids@gmail.com, 533-2531.
•**TAI CHI BEGINNER CLASS**, 10 - 11 a.m. Open to the public, Twin Valley Senior Center, 4583 Rt. 2, E. Montpelier. Information: 223-3322.
•**LEGO CLUB**, Jeudevine Memorial Library, Hardwick, every Thursday, 3 - 4 p.m. Information: 802-472-5948, www.jeudevinememoriallibrary.org.
•**SUMMER FORESTRY & Conservation Series**, 7 p.m., Activity Center, Craftsbury Outdoor Center, 500 Lost Nation Rd., Craftsbury Common. "The Original Forest of Vermont", with Charlie Cogbill. Free and open to the public. Information: Katie. black@craftsbury.com.
•**DAVID BUDBILL'S JUDEVINE**, 7:30 p.m., Lost Nation Theater, City Hall Arts Center, Main St., Montpelier. Information and tickets: 802-229-0492 or www.lostnationtheater.org.

Friday, May 5

•**OPENSTUDIO**. The illuminations, painted and carved works at Lauredon Place. Gallery/Classes/Menu. Fridays, 4 - 6 p.m. Tastings from the kitchen. 545 Lauredon Ave., Greensboro. Contact Carole at 533-2163. www.lauredonplace.com.
•**BIG & MESSY** - Art Space, Drop-in, Fridays, through June 23, 10 a.m. - noon, River Arts, Morrisville. Information: RiverArtsVT.org.
•**LET'S GROW STORY TIME**, 10 a.m., Craftsbury Public Library. Information: 586-9683.
•**TAI CHI CLASSES** for advanced participants, 1 to 2 p.m., Twin Valley Senior Center, 4583 U.S. Route 2, E. Montpelier. Information: 802-223-3322.
•**BONE BUILDERS**, 7:30 a.m., Twin Valley Senior Center, 4583 U.S. Route 2, E. Montpelier. Information: 802-223-3322.
•**DEATH CAFE**, 11:45 a.m. - 1 p.m., Twin Valley Senior Center, Rt. 2, E. Montpelier. Discussions of events past, present and future. All are welcome. Information: 802-223-3322 or twinvalleyseniors@myfairpoint.net.
•**ENCHANTED APRIL**, performed by the Lamoille County Players, 7 p.m., Hyde Park Opera House. Information: 888-4507, www.LCPlayers.com.
•**ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE** and Nuclear Waste: The Road from Vermont Yankee to Texas, 5:30 p.m. potluck, 6:30 p.m. program, Christ Church, State St., Montpelier. Organized by Citizens Awareness Network, the Safe and Green Campaign and the VT Yankee Decommissioning Alliance.
•**PEACHAM CORNER GUILD** opening for the season. Open daily 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. 643 Bayley Hazen Road, Peacham. Small antiques, fine handcrafted gifts and specialty foods. Information: 802-922-3332.
•**DAVID BUDBILL'S JUDEVINE**, 7:30 p.m., Lost Nation Theater, City Hall Arts Center, Main St., Montpelier. Information and tickets: 802-229-0492 or www.lostnationtheater.org.
•**WILD FLOWER WALK**, with ecologist Eva Dannenberg Alexander, 10 a.m. Meet at the base of the Hosmer Point Camp driveway, 535 Lost Nation Road. Rain or shine. Hosted by the Craftsbury Outdoor Center. Information: 802-586-7767, www.craftsbury.com.
•**DAVID BUDBILL'S JUDEVINE**, 7:30 p.m., Lost Nation Theater, City Hall Arts Center, Main St., Montpelier. Information and tickets: 802-229-0492 or www.lostnationtheater.org.
•**OPEN GYM PLAYGROUP**. Drop in, Mondays, 9:30 - 11 a.m., River Arts, Morrisville. Information: RiverArtsVT.org.
•**GROWING STRONGER**, free exercise program for older adults, sponsored by the NEK Council on Aging, 10 to 11 a.m. every Monday and Wednesday. Location: UCC Church, 165 Wilson St., Greensboro. Information: Call Karen Budde at 748-5182 or just show up.
•**MUSIC & MOVEMENT FOR KIDS**, (for preschoolers) with Emily Lanxner, 10 a.m., Jeudevine Memorial Library, 93 N. Main St., Hardwick. Followed by a snack. Information: 472-5948.
•**THE BARRE-TONES**, women's chorus. Open to all women age 18 and over.
•**COMMUNITY FITNESS CLASSES**, Mondays and Thursdays, 5:30 - 6:30 p.m., The Craftsbury Outdoor Center.
•**LEGISLATIVE FORUM** with Senators and Representatives of Caledonia County, 7 p.m., The Lake View Grange, West Barnet. Refreshments.
•**HIGHLAND CENTER** for the Arts, Greensboro, local auditions and crew call for Shakespeare's A Midsummer Night's

Dream, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Email: info@highlandartsvt.org to schedule an appointment. Information: 533-9075, www.highlandartsvt.org, <http://highlandartsvt.org/events/>
•**BOWL-A-THON**, 1 - 3 p.m., Twin City Family Fun Center, hosted by the People's Health and Wellness Clinic. Information: 479-1229.
•**CHRISTINE MALCOLM & Honey I'm Home Band**, country, folk, blues and rock, 8 p.m., The Music Box, 147 Creek Rd., Craftsbury. Information: 586-7533, www.themusicboxvt.org.
•**DAVID BUDBILL'S JUDEVINE**, 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m., Lost Nation Theater, City Hall Arts Center, Main St., Montpelier. Information and tickets: 802-229-0492 or www.lostnationtheater.org.
•**ORCHARD VALLEY WALDORF School's Annual Sweet 'N Savory Pie Breakfast**, 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Unitarian Church, 130 Main St., Montpelier. Information: www.ovws.org, 802-456-7400.
•**ANIMA**: The Verdant Grove, 7 p.m., Christ Church, Montpelier. Women's vocal ensemble, with the Fyre and Lightning Consort, offering Medieval, Renaissance and traditional music. Information: info@animavermont.org.
•**GROW YOUR OWN WORKSHOP**, led by Carol Schminke. An exploration of the topic of worm composting, 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Center for an Agricultural Economy, 140 Junction Road, Hardwick. Children are welcome. Preregister by calling 802-472-5940.
•**GENEALOGY RESEARCH** in New York State, 10:30 a.m. - noon, Vermont Genealogy Library, 377 Hegeman Ave. (across from State Police), Fort Ethan Allen, Colchester. Information: 802-310-9285, www.vtgenlib.org/

Sunday, May 7

•**"AGE OUT LOUD"** - how best to live out life's journey, with Leah Carey, journalist and writer of "Living with Dying", and the Alexander Twilight Trio, NEK Council on Aging, 481 Summer St., St. Johnsbury. Reception follows. Benefits CoA programs. Reservations and information: 745-1007.
•**ENCHANTED APRIL**, performed by the Lamoille County Players, 2 p.m., Hyde Park Opera House. Information: 888-4507, www.LCPlayers.com.
•**NORTHEAST FIDDLERS ASSOCIATION** Monthly Jam and Meet, noon - 5 p.m., VFW Pleasant St., Morrisville. Fiddlers and public welcome. Local food shelf donations welcomed. Information: Lee at 802-728-5188.
•**DAVID BUDBILL'S JUDEVINE**, 2 p.m., Lost Nation Theater, City Hall Arts Center, Main St., Montpelier. Information and tickets: 802-229-0492 or www.lostnationtheater.org.
•**ANIMA**: The Verdant Grove, 4 p.m., Morrisville Church of Cabot, Women's vocal ensemble, with the Fyre and Lightning Consort, offering Medieval, Renaissance and traditional music. Information: info@animavermont.org.

Monday, May 8

•**BONE BUILDERS**, Exercise & Osteoporosis, 2 classes, 7:30 - 8:30 a.m. and again at 9 - 10 a.m. Free. Tai Chi advanced class at 1 p.m. Twin Valley Senior Center, Blueberry Hill Commons, Exercise Room, Rt. 2, E. Montpelier. Every Monday and Wednesday. All ages welcome. Information: Cort at 223-3174 or 228-0789.
•**OPEN GYM PLAYGROUP**. Drop in, Mondays, 9:30 - 11 a.m., River Arts, Morrisville. Information: RiverArtsVT.org.
•**GROWING STRONGER**, free exercise program for older adults, sponsored by the NEK Council on Aging, 10 to 11 a.m. every Monday and Wednesday. Location: UCC Church, 165 Wilson St., Greensboro. Information: Call Karen Budde at 748-5182 or just show up.
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•**HARDWICK HISTORICAL SOCIETY** at the Depot. Open Tuesdays and Thursdays,

1 - 4 p.m., May - Oct. Call 472-5903 or 472-6424.
•**STORY HOUR**, Tuesdays, 10:30 a.m., Cabot Public Library.
•**TAI CHI CLASSES** for beginners, 10 - 11 a.m., every Tuesday and Thursday, Twin Valley Senior Center, Blueberry Hill Commons, Rt. 2, E. Montpelier. Information: 223-3322 or email: twinvalleyseniors@myfairpoint.net.
•**STORY TIME**, Tuesdays, 10 a.m., Greensboro Free Library, ages 6-12.
•**STORY HOUR**, 10 - 11 a.m., for birth - 6 years, Craftsbury Public Library. Information: 802-586-9683 or email: jenmckcraftsburylib.com.
•**BINGO**, Twin Valley Senior Center, Tuesday nights, open to the public. Doors open at 5 p.m., games start at 6 p.m. Snack bar refreshments available at 5:30 p.m. 4583 U.S. Route 2, E. Montpelier. Information: 802-223-3322, email: twinvalleyseniors@myfairpoint.net.

Wednesday, May 10

•**BONE BUILDERS**, Exercise & Osteoporosis, 2 classes, 7:30 - 8:30 a.m. and again at 9 - 10 a.m. Free, Twin Valley Senior Center, Blueberry Hill Commons, Exercise Room, Rt. 2, E. Montpelier. Every Monday and Wednesday All ages welcome. Information: Cort at 223-3174 or 228-0789.
•**GROWING STRONGER**, free exercise program for older adults, sponsored by the NEK Council on Aging, 10 to 11 a.m. every Monday and Wednesday. Location: UCC Church, 165 Wilson St., Greensboro. Information: Call Karen Budde at 748-5182 or just show up.
•**INSIGHT MEDITATION**, 5:30 - 7 p.m., Wednesdays, Wellspring, Hardwick. Information: wellspringvt@gmail.com or Maggie McGuire 472-6694.
•**GAME CLUB**, Wednesdays, 3 - 4 p.m., Cabot Public Library.
•**HOMESCHOOL GROUP**, 10 a.m. - noon, for ages 5 - 13 years, Craftsbury Public Library. Information: 586-9683 or email: jenmckcraftsburylib.com.
•**STORY AND ACTIVITY TIME** followed by a free lunch: Kids birth to age 7, Wednesday mornings at 10 a.m. Information: 426-3581 or email: jaquithpubliclibrary@gmail.com or www.marshfield.lib.vt.us.
•**ST. NORBERT'S BINGO**, Hardwick. Mini games start at 7 p.m.; regular at 7:30 p.m., in the Julian Room. All ages invited.
•**SONG CIRCLE** and Circle-songs, with Heidi Wilson, 6:45 to 8:15 p.m., Jaquith Public Library, 122 School St., Rm. 2, Marshfield. All voices and ages welcome. Information: 802-426-3581, jaquithpubliclibrary@gmail.com, www.jaquithpubliclibrary.org.

EXHIBITS

•**THE GALLERY AT RIVER ARTS**, Morrisville, presents "Sad and Jazz," an exhibition of mixed media paintings by Ted Zilius, through May 9.
•**SPRING FOUR-WARD**, Watercolors by four members of the Vermont Watercolor Society. The Gallery at Central Vermont Medical Center, through June. Information: Maureen at 802-279-6403.
•**SEEN/UNSEEN**, An Exhibit of the Unusual, through June 13, Northeast Kingdom Artisans Guild, 430 Railroad St., St. Johnsbury. Artists Reception/Gala Opening, Saturday, May 6, 4 to 6 p.m. The Back Room Gallery. Hours: Mon. - Sat., 10:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.
•**SENIOR THESIS EXHIBIT** of work by Johnson State College Bachelor of Fine Arts students, through May 7, Julian Scott Memorial Gallery and the Visual Arts Center on campus. Reception and artist talks begin 3 p.m. May 3.
•**STUDIO PLACE ARTS**, Main Floor Gallery: Seeing the Forests for the Trees. Second Floor Gallery: Silent Auction to Benefit SPA Programs. Third Floor Gallery: Visual Jazz-Homage to the Earth by Roger Goldenberg. Exhibit dates: through May 28, 201 N. Main St., Barre. Hours: Tues. - Fri., 11 a.m. - 5 p.m. Sat. noon - 4 p.m. Information: (802) 479-7069, www.studioplacarts.com.
•**RECYCLE INTO SPRING II**, April 28 - May 27, MAC Center for the Arts, Downstairs Gallery, 158 Main St., Newport. Information: 802-334-1966.
•**HARRIET WOOD RETROSPECTIVE**, Paintings, May 1 - June 16, Goddard College, Eliot Pratt Library, Plainfield. Reception: Friday, May 5, 4 - 6 p.m. Information: harrietwood@gmail.com.
•**THE STOWE INN**, Art Exhibit, featuring the photography of Lawrence Jay Kennedy, May 6 and 7, 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. Refreshments. Information: 802-397-8010.



Cate Great, of Cambridge, MA, juggles balls while balancing on three tiers of cylinders and a board during Vermont Vaudeville's production of "Password Please," held at the Hardwick Town House over the weekend.
(photo by Vanessa Fournier)

Vermont Vaudeville Delights Once Again

REVIEW

by David K. Rodgers

HARDWICK - Vermont Vaudeville gave their Spring performance at the Hardwick Town House last weekend, with three evening shows and a Saturday matinee.

Entitled "Password Please," the show presented two full hours of imaginative and original skits by founders Brent and Maya McCoy, Justin Lander and Rose Friedman, not to mention Maura Gahan as the irascible gorilla.

Two guest artists, Tim Holland, from Toronto, and Cate Great, from Boston, were hugely entertaining in their unique acts. Otto Muller on piano and Geoff Goodhue on drums gave some great jazz numbers before things got started.

The Youth Core is a delightful addition to Vermont Vaudeville: eight high-energy young people who attended Justin Lander's improvisation acting workshops in Hardwick and at Craftsbury Academy. Youth Core members include Maya Remick, Jas Zendick, Ezra Schenck, Silas Hunt, Ida Easmes, Sophie Cornelius, Connor Rothhammer and Zack Rothhammer. They literally threw themselves into their roles with wonderful enthusiasm!

Justin Lander is the emcee for the show, in his stage persona Leo Lander, but when his name was announced, another person dressed as Lander usually does - dark suit and hat - came out, followed by a slew of other actor in similar attire. Lander explained that he made a mistake: he accepted a free "cookie" on his computer and that his identity was subsequently stolen, as represented by the many look-alikes. They humorously imitated his every movement and gesture. He was only able to get rid of them by asking questions they could not answer, a fine spoof on potential internet disasters.

Tim Holland was next with his fast-moving and very funny puppet/ventriloquist act. It was only after some encouragement that he got his parrot puppet to come out of a suitcase, and their ridiculous exchanges brought continuous laughter. His major trick was to shoot an apple off the top of the head of a young girl volunteer from the audience, a la William Tell, using only elongated balloons, with fine comic timing in his stream of banter.

Lander and Friedman then appeared as The Flatlanders in "Saturday at the Playground." All in pantomime, they mimicked a young couple with a small child going through their weekend routine, expressing anxiety as their child climbed a tree, temporarily disappeared, got into a fight and played on a teeter-totter, while the parents drank their coffee and amused themselves on their cell phones. It was a well-observed and pointed commentary on contemporary family life, with

very expressive wordless miming in the hilarious sequences.

Brent and Maya McCoy took the stage in their classic roles as a "just down home folks" Vermont couple, Charlie and Margret. In their cleverly scripted dialogue, they explored the many ways you could tell a Vermonter from an Outer-Stater. For example, if they had their snow tires on in July, if they bought artisanal cheese, if their car had that new car smell or the odor of a cow barn. Healthy laughter at ourselves!

Cate Great demonstrated her remarkable balancing skills in her performance, taking a number of precarious positions on a table, keeping steady on a short board placed on a cylinder while juggling three balls, even behind her back. She upped the ante by adding another cylinder to the stack and climbing on top of it all. The ever-present danger of falling is always one of the excitements of such an act!

After intermission, Lander - with help from his stolen identity clones - answered questions that the audience had submitted, with his usual quick-witted repartee. The McCoy's returned, this time in ludicrous costumes, and engaged in a fierce kite flying competition, all in pantomime. Brent entered on a large rubber ball, with striped pants, a black coat and a tiny paper hat, unsuccessful in getting his kite up in the air, while Maya kept gliding by in the background on her skateboard, her kite well above her, with a superior smirk on her face. In his extreme frustration, he cut down her kite. They then recruited two members of the audience, who pretended to fly the kites by running around the stage and through the back of the hall, much to everyone's amusement.

Cate Great's second appearance featured the manipulation of several red rubber balls around her arms and legs, changing their positions without touching them with her hands - quite an impressive feat of control.

Lander and Friedman followed on muted cornet and ukulele in a lively original song about changing your password as you get older, with increasingly bizarre choices - a caricature of our contemporary obsession with electronic devices.

The last event of the show featured Tim Holland once more, this time with his turtle puppet, who turned out to be a psychic. A young volunteer from the audience indicated various numbers with his fingers, and the turtle (his head withdrawn into his shell) managed to guess them correctly, even when Holland was (supposedly!) blindfolded. His animation of the puppet and ventriloquist voice was quite engaging!

Contributions were collected from people as they left for further improvements to the Hardwick Town House, such as upholstering the seats and adding more insulation to the walls and ceiling.

Information on future performances of Vermont Vaudeville, can be found at VermontVaudeville.com.

THIS WEEK

The Hardwick Gazette will publish announcements of events of general interest in the calendar. Information must be received by 5 p.m. Friday to be published the following week.



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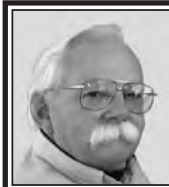
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SPORTS

Defending Champs Too Much For Trojans in Opener



South Royalton's Michael Hemond safely crosses home plate as Twinfield catcher Noah Slayton waits for a throw. (photo by Vanessa Fournier)

by Ken Brown

MARSHFIELD – South Royalton showed once again why they are at the top of Division IV in baseball, dominating Twinfield in their home opener last week to improve to 2-0 on the season.

The Royals are not showing any signs of a state title hangover this season. They breezed to a 31-2 win at Twinfield last Thursday. Dalton McDougal, Nicholas Howe, and Josh Scoskie led a 20-hit attack, battering five Trojan pitchers along the way for their sixth win in a row, dating back to last season's title run.

"South Royalton is a very good hitting team, with a deep pitching staff. They are very well coached and they are defending champs for a reason. Unfortunately, it was our first game of the season and it was a comedy of errors for us out there. We had too many mental mistakes and lack of communication. It wasn't the result we were hoping for the first time out," said head coach John Walker.

Jordan Moore, Eli Wilson, and Connor Spencer had the only hits for the Trojans and Carter Martin took the loss. Freshman Bradley Duke

was a bright spot for Twinfield on the mound, pitching out of a jam in the fifth.

"Our pitchers have to throw strikes against a team like that and Bradley did a great job. I brought him into a tough spot late and he performed extremely well for a freshman. Hopefully, this was a wake up call for a lot of the guys. Baseball is a game of executing the little things as a team to be successful. They are competitors and I think they will continue to work hard to improve as a team," said Walker.

South Royalton graduated just three seniors from last year's championship squad. They steamrolled through the playoffs before nipping Danville in the title game, 4-3. They opened this season with a dominating 8-2 win over Division III Green Mountain.

Mother Nature has forced Twinfield into a packed schedule this week. The team was scheduled to travel to Chelsea on Monday before hosting Blue Mountain on Wednesday. They then travel to Rivendell Academy on Thursday and will host Chelsea on Saturday.



Cabot softball team players from left, Zoe Hislop, Lilly Bailey, Emily Hill, Samantha Villeneuve and Evelyn Hislop congratulate Whitechester players after their win against Cabot, April 27. (photo by Vanessa Fournier)

Cabot Loses Opener, But Players are Already Winners

by Ken Brown

Whitechester stayed perfect on the season with a dominant win over the Lady Huskies last week but, more importantly, varsity softball returned to Cabot after an eight-year absence.

Hayley Mears went 5-5 and Krista Townsend smashed a 3-run homer to lead Whitechester to a home win over Cabot last Thursday, 32-0. Fiona Vaillancourt and Chelsea Trask combined to strikeout 11 to help Whitechester improve to 3-0.

Whitechester was playing its third game this season, while Cabot was playing its first game this decade. Many of its players are taking up the sport for the first time. Participation numbers for high school softball in the Northeast Kingdom are on the decline, so the Cabot girls' softball team and

its head coach, Jenny Dunham, all became winners after the first pitch was thrown.

"This was the first time being in a varsity softball game for these girls and I was so proud of them. To take practicing the basics of the game and apply that to competitive game situations is extremely challenging, but the girls got through the first game jitters and maintained a great attitude throughout the whole game. Everyone of our players did something amazing, whether it be a catch or a hit at some point in the game. To go through that process and experience (it) with them is a privilege," said Dunham.

Freshman Zoe Hislop led Cabot by smacking a first-inning double for the first hit of the season for the new program. Brooke Fontaine, Emily

Hill, Evelyn Hislop, and Michaela Gokey also collected a hit for the Lady Huskies.

"Every team we play this season will have more experience than us. It is important to stay positive and approach it with a good attitude and to learn from the teams we are playing. This group of girls is special. They support each other in everything that they do. It is one of the main reasons that this program is starting up again. We will learn and be vulnerable together throughout the season. I look forward to the process of all of us becoming better softball players and coaches throughout the season," said Dunham.

Cabot was scheduled to host Blue Mountain on Monday before a home date with South Royalton on Wednesday.

Runner Roundup on Trail, Track and Road

by Jim Flint

HUNTINGTON – Swapping cross country skis for running shoes, Cormac Leahy took to the hills Sunday at the Sleepy Hollow Mountain Race. Within the field of 269 competitors, four athletes were under age 20. Leahy was by far the youngest participant.

At high noon, the starting gun sounded. The runners took off on their first 400-foot climb, over a distance of ¾ mile. Cresting the first hill, they descended straight down the other side for the next mile, and right back up the next hill. Twists and turns abounded, with no flat sections.

Leahy was undaunted by the group of veteran mountain runners, hailing from nine states and the Province of Quebec. The Lakeview 6th grader placed 32nd overall and first in his age

group. His time on the rugged 6.4 mile course was 52:17.

NAPERVILLE, IL – Hazen Union grad Jeremy Ducharme continues to contribute to the North Central College men's track and field team. The team is currently ranked No. 4 nationally among NCAA Division III programs, according to the United States Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association.

Ducharme competes in the 800 meter and 1500 meter races for the Cardinals squad. The exercise science major is also the recipient of an Academic All Conference award, given to varsity athletes who maintain at least a 3.3 Grade Point Average.

At the Benedictine Eagle Relays, on April 15, Ducharme ran his best 1500 meter time of the 2017 season. His 4:02.86 finish placed 7th in a field

of 69 competitors. Earlier in the season, he ran a season best for the 800 meters, 2:02.38, at the Washington University Invitational.

BOSTON – Julia Porrazzo, a summer resident of Greensboro, was among Boston Marathon runners with local ties. She ran the 26.2 mile course in 4:22:37, placing 19,958th. Porrazzo qualified for Boston at the 2015 Chicago Marathon.

Candace Smith Brown and Julia Lungvall, from East Calais, also finished the April 17 marathon. While their times were over six hours and therefore do not have an official finishing time, the mother-daughter team refused to quit. They ran the race in memory of Candace's late husband, Walter Brown, who was the official race starter from 1991 to 2013.

Lady Royals Outlast Twinfield in Opener



Twinfield's Megan Riley waits for the ball as Iris Hudson, of South Royalton, safely reaches third base during play at Twinfield, April 27. Second from right is Kendra Martin. (photo by Vanessa Fournier)

by Ken Brown

MARSHFIELD – The Twinfield girls' softball team finally got on the diamond last week to start their season, but were plagued by one bad inning in a loss to South Royalton.

Mara Southworth pitched a solid game to help South Royalton earn their first win of the season, beating Twinfield on the road last Thursday 21-13. Meagan Carbino had four hits to help the Lady Royals break open a tight game in the top of seventh, scoring nine times behind several Lady Trojan walks and miscues.

"It was really a great game for both teams for six innings. Our pitching fell apart in the seventh. We couldn't find the strike zone and, when we did, we couldn't field it. Overall, I'm happy with where we are with our development, though. That was our first game and it was already their fourth game of the season," said head coach Mike Potter.

Last season, the Lady Trojans struggled to score consistently. However, they came out swinging early

behind four hits from Marin Fowler and three more from Sierra Ryan. Emma Lord also had two hits and sophomore Sam Weinstein played solid defensively and had a hit. Ryan took the loss on the mound. She pitched well in her debut, before tiring.

"The girls did a great job of battling at the plate and giving us chances all game long. We look a little further along in our development offensively than this time last year, so that is a good sign. We did have a few base running mistakes that took us out of potential big innings, but that is going to happen early with a young team. We saw some good things from Sierra, but we need to build up her endurance as the season progresses. I'm excited in some of the things that I saw out there for our first game. Now we just have to tighten up some things as we get into the meat of our schedule this week," said Potter.

Twinfield is scheduled to host Blue Mountain on Wednesday and will have a make-up game at Rivendell on Thursday.

Wildcat Bats Go Cold



Close Call

Hazen's Derek Fadden slides safely into second base just ahead of the tag by George Goldsworthy of Lamoille during a home game on April 25. (photo by Vanessa Fournier)

by Ken Brown

HARDWICK – The Hazen baseball team struggled on offense and in the field last week, as they dropped decisions to Lamoille, Montpelier, and Lake Region to fall to 1-6 on the season.

Nick Fitzgerald gave up one hit and the Lancers pounded out 13 hits in a dominating road win over the Wildcats last Tuesday, 24-1. Aiden Trombley and George Goldsworthy combined for 5 hits and Keith Lamphear drove in 5 runs to help Lamoille improve to 3-1 on the season. Jamon Flanders led the Wildcats with two more hits. Derek Richardson had two of his own, but it wasn't enough as Hazen made four more errors on the day.

"They won the Division II state championship last year and are still a very strong young team. We had way too many walks and errors," said head coach Dan Hill.

Richard Holt kept Hazen's bats quiet on Thursday, as he struck out 10 and gave up one hit in leading

Montpelier to a 13-5 road win. Holt also had two hits and twin brother, Andrew, drove in three runs, as the Solons improved to 2-2 on the season. Ben Gaboriault took the loss for Hazen and Jamon Flanders once again had the only Wildcat hit on the day.

Brady Perron and Josh Royer combined for four hits and two doubles to lead Lake Region at home on Saturday, 9-2. Gabe Riendeau tossed a five-hitter and also had two hits to help the Rangers improve to 3-2 on the season. Jamon Flanders led the Wildcats with two more hits. Derek Richardson had two of his own, but it wasn't enough as Hazen made four more errors on the day.

"We have talent on this squad. We will approach the second half of the season with a different mindset," said Hill.

Hazen was scheduled to host Peoples Academy on Tuesday, before traveling to Richford on Thursday and hosting BFA-Fairfax on Saturday.

Purrier Races to New Records

by Jim Flint

PHILADELPHIA – University of New Hampshire (UNH) All-American, Elinor Purrier raced to another impressive victory Saturday at the 123rd Penn Relays. Runners from around the world competed in the April 27-29 track and field competition, held at the University of Pennsylvania.

The 2014 Richford High School graduate ran in the Olympic Development Mile. The high-level race included Olympians, professionals, and four of the nation's top collegiate milers. Purrier qualified by virtue of her second-place mile finish in the NCAA Division I Indoor Championships.

The Montgomey Wildcat out-kicked the tight field in front of a cheering crowd of 40,000. She finished in a time of 4:32.05, outpacing Hanna Green of Virginia Tech, at 4:32.50. The top four runners finished under 4:33.

At the other end of the age spectrum, Ida Keeling set a new world masters age group record in the

100-meter dash. The 100-year old athlete finished in 77.33 seconds. After the race she said her secret is to "exercise at least once a day."

Purrier's next event is the 3000-meter steeplechase on May 6 at the America East Outdoor Track & Field Championships. The competition will be held in UNH's Wildcat Stadium. On May 7, she will likely run a leg of the women's 4x800 relay.

Purrier broke her own UNH steeplechase record earlier this season. She sped to a 9:43.65 win at the Ocean State Invitational on April 15 at Providence College. She took four seconds off her previous best time of 9:47.71. She is currently ranked number one in the steeplechase in the NCAA.

At the Colonial Relays, on

March 31, in Williamsburg, Virginia, Purrier broke yet another UNH school record. She finished first in the 1500-meter run, with a time of 4:14.48. The effort shattered her mark of 4:18.59, set in 2015. She returned the next day to run the anchor leg for the winning Wildcat team in the 4x1500 meter relay.

Purrier holds 10 UNH track and field records, both individual and as a part of a relay team. Her 1500-meter time places her second in the NCAA national rankings for the outdoor season. The nutrition science major also has a solid track record in the classroom. She was recently named 2017 America East Women's Scholar-Athlete of the Year for Indoor Track and Field.

Youth Hunter Education Challenge on May 14

WOODBURY – Youth hunters hoping to hone their skills are encouraged to attend the 2017 NRA Youth Hunter Education Challenge at Green Mountain Conservation Camp, in Woodbury, on Sunday, May 14, from 8 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Spaces are still available for this annual event, held at Buck Lake.

The Youth Hunter Education Challenge provides young hunters additional skills in firearm handling, archery, tree stand safety, trapping and land navigation, in simulated hunting conditions. The event is free and is open to all youth under 19 years of age who have completed hunter education. Mentors, parents and guardians

are also welcome to attend.

"Young hunters who participate in programs such as this grow up to be exceptionally skilled, successful and ethical hunters," said Alison Thomas, education coordinator for the Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department. "They also gain an appreciation for the conservation of habitat, along with their love for wildlife and the outdoors."

Pre-registration is required. Call Butch Spear at 802-866-5990 by May 7. This event is co-sponsored by the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department, Friends of the National Rifle Association, and the Vermont Bear Hound Association. Lunch will be provided.



Winners of the 12th annual Bart Jacob Memorial Youth Turkey Calling Contest, held April 8 in Castleton, were Front row (from left): Cooper Shelton, Dorset; Nick McReynolds, North Danville; Robby Harris Poultnery; Brook Flewelling, Rutland; and Spencer Shelton and Colby Butler, both from Dorset. Back row (from left): Luke McReynolds, North Danville; Jonathan Churchill, Groton; Josiah Aubrey, Fort Ann, New York; Adam Browne and Ethan Moore, both from Pawlet; and Hunter Michaud, East Hardwick. (courtesy photo)

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Dogs and Humans Romp at Mutt Strutt



Tim Hogeboom, from Walden, and Finn, taken by Elizabeth McCarthy at the Mutt Strutt in Waterbury. (courtesy photo)

by Jim Flint
WATERBURY — With faithful humans in tow, thirty-five canine competitors came ready to run on Sunday at Little River State Park. Thanks to careful organizing by Calais coordinator Cindy Gardner-Morse, the twenty-first Annual Mutt Strutt was by all accounts, a howling success.
Elizabeth McCarthy and Tim Hogeboom drove from Walden to give their pooch a try at the three-mile course. “Finn is a great dog, but he doesn’t have much experience with other dogs,” McCarthy said after the race. “He was a rescue puppy from Georgia and is three years old now. He still acts like a puppy and wanted to play with every dog there.”
McCarthy and Hogeboom tried to harness Finn’s youthful energy. “The starting line was like horses in the Kentucky Derby,” McCarthy said. “Everyone tried to hold their dogs steady as we waited. I was holding Finn when he took off like a rocket. He had to be at the lead of the pack.”
Eventually, Finn calmed down. He set a steady pace that was not too fast for the humans. They swapped off holding Finn, with Hogeboom taking

the downhill. The trio finished 13th and 14th overall, in 29:41 and 29:42. They won the small dog division for the human male and female 60 to 69 age groups.
Eric Morse and his trusty Westie, Murdock, crossed the finish line first for their seventh consecutive victory. They topped the small dog division in 19:22.
Mack Gardner-Morse and Ginger placed second overall. They won the large dog division in 23:12. “Ginger usually goes out in front,” Gardner-Morse said, “but this time she wanted to know who was behind her. I had to tug her up the first hill.”
The yellow Lab eventually settled into a comfortable rhythm, cheered on by course volunteers John and Ira Gardner-Morse. Nearing the finish line, Ginger spotted Cindy Gardner-Morse. She happily sped to the awaiting dog treats and water.
The number of participants was more than double last year’s total. Division winners took home a bundle of dog toys, books, food, and supplies donated by local businesses. The event was sponsored by Central Vermont Runners. Proceeds support the Central Vermont Humane Society.



Cousins Colby Mercier, left, 10, of Greensboro, Grayden Noyes, center, 14, of Woodbury, and Jayden Brochu, 9, of East Hardwick, each shot a turkey in Greensboro on Sunday during youth turkey hunting weekend. The three went hunting with Adam Brochu, back left, and Chad Brochu, back right. Mercier’s turkey weighed in at 12 ½ lbs., with a 3 ½ inch beard and 1/8 inch spurs; Noyes’ weighed 13 lbs., with 4 ½ inch beard and ¼ inch spurs; Brochu’s weighed 13 lbs., with a 3 ¾ inch beard and ¼ inch spurs. (photo by Vanessa Fournier)

Comment on Deer Proposal by May 23

MONTPELIER – At its meeting on April 26 in Montpelier, the Vermont Fish & Wildlife Board voted on the Fish & Wildlife Department’s proposal for antlerless deer hunting for 2017.
“We are recommending an increase in muzzle-loader season antlerless deer permits this year to account for the increase in the deer population following another mild winter in 2017,” said Nick Fortin, deer project leader for the Fish & Wildlife Department. “Much of Vermont has experienced two consecutive very mild winters. As a result, the recommendation is intended to stabilize or reduce deer densities in some parts of the state, while allowing for moderate population growth in other areas.”
The department’s annual recommendation is based on population estimates, biological data, winter severity data, and deer sighting rates reported by hunters, as well as input from game wardens, foresters and the public.
“We expect the statewide deer population to be about 157,000 prior to the start of the 2017 deer seasons,” said Fortin.
Hunting for antlerless deer is proposed statewide for the October 7 to November 3, and December 2 to 10 archery seasons. Last year, hunters took 2,595 antlerless deer during the archery season.
One deer of either sex would be allowed for youths during the November 4-5 youth weekend hunt. Youths took 885 antlerless deer during the 2016 youth weekend hunt.
The December 2 to 10 muzzle-loader season would have 24,500 antlerless permits distributed in 18 of Vermont’s 21 Wildlife Management Units (WMU), which is estimated to result in 3,608 antlerless deer being taken.
The Fish & Wildlife Department’s antlerless deer hunting proposal for 2017 and the Fish & Wildlife Board’s recommended permits by each WMU are on Vermont Fish & Wildlife’s website (www.vtfishandwildlife.com). Public comments on the proposal may be emailed to ANR.FWPUBLICCOMMENT@Vermont.Gov by May 23, 2017. The department held three deer hunting public hearings earlier and will hold two more in May. The meetings will be held from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. on Thursday, May 11, at Randolph Union High School, 15 Forest Street in Randolph and on Tuesday, May 16, at Burr and Burton Academy, 57 Seminary Avenue in Manchester.
The Fish & Wildlife Board will vote again at its May 24 board meeting on the antlerless deer hunting proposal. Muzzle-loader season antlerless permit applications are scheduled to be available on the Fish & Wildlife Department’s website in early June.



Vermont’s Wild Turkeys

by Pete Quinlan
Early settlers quickly learned how to raise wild turkeys for a major food supply, but as natural forests were logged - for fuel, lumber, roads, villages and sheep pastures - wild turkeys became scarce. A common practice among farmers was to take turkey eggs from nests of wild birds, hatch them under domestic geese or chickens and raise them in pens. The newly-hatched turkeys matured without learning “wild ways”, were wing-clipped to prevent flight and eventually became the “butterballs” sold today.
When a parasitic grub killed American chestnut trees that were a prime source of fine furniture and wild turkey food, their populations dropped to an all-time low. Sportsmen began funding programs to re-stock their original woodland habitat.
In the early 1950s, turkey hunting was banned by the Vermont legislature. Percy Angwin was then a city editor and outdoor columnist at the Barre Daily Times. He was an active member of the Outdoor Writers Association of America and friend of Dr. Roger Latham, a wildlife biologist in Pennsylvania. They recommended a southwestern Pennsylvania breeder for supplying pen-raised wild turkeys to stock central Vermont - at \$20 each. Eugene Stefanazzi traveled there as a granite salesman, and chaired the first committee to purchase small flocks of turkeys before their nesting season. I ran the club’s turkey restoration program after Gene, leg-banding and releasing about 80 more birds.
When I read about New York biologists who used cannon nets to catch and release baited wild turkeys, I wrote to eleven states doing this and received two offers of live-trapped wild birds for stocking in Vermont.
When the Vermont legislature failed to extend closed hunting seasons for wild turkeys, it became legal to hunt them all year long - without licenses! I stopped our stocking program and gave all my turkey data to Chief Wildlife Biologist Ben Day.
A few years later, the legislature closed wild turkey hunting and the Fish & Wildlife Department hired turkey biologist Bill Drake. He quickly brought cannon-netted wild birds into southern Vermont. They spread rapidly and created the big game sport we always knew it could be.
Studies show that each hen turkey can lay 12 to 20 eggs every spring, but predators can eat half of those eggs before they hatch and half of the hatched chicks before they can fly to safety in trees. Each hen adds three to five predator-educated chicks to the neighborhood flock. Their survival rates become even better when their keen eyesight and hearing are combined with flocks of wary adults.
Turkey Hunting Tips
This should be another good hunting year in Vermont. The large wintering flocks will scatter after hens breed and start nesting.
Mature gobblers and yearling “jakes” will still be looking for hens to breed and they are easiest to call early in the season. However, coyote predation has become a major factor in turkey survival, perhaps leading to reduced gobbling and reproduction in recent years.
Here are some pointers to help fill your two-bird limit early in the season. First, locate a gobbler on his evening roost to improve your chance of calling him the next morning. Just drive or hike along hardwood ridges where you have seen them and try owl hoots, or a crow call, to trigger a gobbling challenge. When you hear one, plan to call him in the morning and pray that no other hunters will too! If not, sneak within a few hundred yards of the gobbler roost before dawn and find a spot to hide. Wear complete camouflage, load your shotgun and ready your favorite hen call.
When roosting turkeys start clucking at dawn, you can offer a few soft hen yelps and the boss gobbler might answer, fly down and strut into easy range. As he comes closer, call less. When he is in sight, look for the “beard” on his chest and as he struts behind a screening tree, raise your shotgun and try for a head shot. Turkeys are so tough some hunters use heavy loads of large shot to penetrate their dense body feathers. After I called my first gobbler into close range and easily bagged him with one shot from my Remington 1100 automatic, I used copper-plated #5 shot in my antique 12-gauge muzzle-loader to get three in following years!
There is no doubt that wild turkeys have become smarter and harder to call since they returned to Vermont. Many hunters believe predation by coyotes has caused them to reduce their natural calling habits. That sounds logical, because coyotes are abundant and efficient predators. In fact, I once shot a young male coyote that stalked ME after scaring off the gobbler I was calling. That also stopped all romantic thoughts of my gobbler and gave me the shivers!

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**PUBLIC NOTICE, TOWN OF CABOT
ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT**

The Town of Cabot Zoning Board of Adjustment hereby gives notice that it will hold a public hearing on May 22, at 7 p.m. at the Willey Memorial Building meeting room to consider the following item of business: Appeal No. 254 — Lloyd Plumbing and Heating, Conditional Use Application.

Dated at Cabot, Washington County, State of Vermont this 26th Day of April, 2017.

Karen Deasy, Zoning Administrator

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**JOB POSTING
TOWN OF HARDWICK**

The Town of Hardwick has an opening for a full time "Public Works Grounds Maintenance Worker". This is an entry level position within Town government. The employee is responsible for performing grounds maintenance in Town cemeteries, around Town buildings, the parks and along select Town owned roads and parking lots in Hardwick Village. The employee will also maintain sidewalks and assist the highway crew and the water and wastewater facilities operators as necessary.

The job does not require a Commercial Driver's License (CDL) to apply, but a CDL must be obtained within two years of employment. The employee will also be expected to gain certification as a wastewater treatment operator, initially acquiring a temporary certification (for 2 years) and a full certification thereafter. A good knowledge of math and science is a requirement for success in this position. Additionally, a potential employee must have a good work ethic and must understand the need to keep Town equipment clean and well maintained.

To apply for this position, please submit an email with a cover letter (explaining why you want to work for the Town of Hardwick) and a resume demonstrating your work history and accomplishments. Send to jon.jewett@hardwickvt.org or mail to the Town Manager's Office, Town of Hardwick, P.O. Box 523, Hardwick, Vermont 05843. If you have questions about this position, please call the Town Manager's Office at (802) 472-6120.

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AUCTIONS

Foreclosure: 3BR/2BA Home

Thursday, May 11 @ 1PM

348 Walden Hill Road, Danville, VT



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Charming ca. 1850 3BR/2BA home with 1,935±SF, attached 2-car garage, basement, on 6.23± acres. Close to Route 2 and Danville amenities, minutes from interstates.

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Thursday, May 11 @ 10AM

212 South Main Street, Barre, VT



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Hardwick Community Television held a video workshop for children ages 7-13 on April 19 and 20. HCTV and guest artists Rip Keller and Valeria Angelo transformed three classic fables written by Goethe, LaFontaine and Carroll into short videos. Front, from left: Piper Hall, Maia Boyer, Ursa Goldenrose, Cameron Griffin. Middle row: Amatista Keller, Maya Remick, Max Demaine. Back row: guest artists Rip Keller, Valeria Angelo and Leif Goldberg. Elizabeth Rossano operated the cameras. (photo by Vanessa Fournier)

**CABOT SCHOOL
KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION**

Cabot School welcomes Kindergarten students to the 2017-2018 school year! Parents of all children who will be five by September 1, 2017, and who plan to enroll in Cabot School Kindergarten must register their children during the week of May 22-26, 2017, at the Cabot School office. Please bring an original birth certificate and vaccination records. You may contact Linda Savoca at 563-2289 if you have questions.

IMPORTANT DATES:
KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION
MAY 22-26, 2017
PARENT INFORMATION MEETING
JUNE 2, 2017, 11 a.m.
IN THE KINDERGARTEN ROOM

**Executive Assistant
to the Superintendent
OSSU Central Office
2017-2018 School Year**

This full-time administrative position provides a wide variety of complex and confidential administrative and secretarial support, i.e., interprets policy and administrative regulations to officials and the public; analyzes requests and provides recommendations for action; communicates information on behalf of the district and the governing board to staff, other districts and public agencies. Candidates must be knowledgeable with standard assistant procedures and office management techniques; record keeping and filing systems; Robert's Rules of Order; standard office equipment and software applications; principles of internet research; and effective telephone techniques.

Associate's Degree preferred, as well as training and/or experience which demonstrates ability to perform the duties described within the job description including satisfactory experience at the executive assistant level, preferably in a public education environment; coursework in business administration or a related field is desirable.

For a complete job description and to make application go to: www.SchoolSpring.com job #2782110.

This position is expected to begin mid- to late May. Person offered employment will complete the criminal records process.

EOE

**WARNING
WOLCOTT TOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT
PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL HEARING
ON THE FY18 BUDGET**

The legal voters of the Wolcott Town School District are hereby notified and warned to meet for the **public informational hearing on the FY18 budget** at the Wolcott Elementary School in Wolcott, Vermont, on Monday, May 8, at 6 p.m. for discussion on the school district's proposed FY18 budget as required by Title 17 VSA 2680(g).

Article 1: Shall the voters of the school district approve the school board to expend \$4,611,950, which is the amount the school board has determined to be necessary for the ensuing fiscal year? It is estimated that this proposed budget, if approved, will result in education spending of \$15,999 per equalized pupil. This projected spending per equalized pupil is 7.44% higher than spending for the current year.

Article 2: To transact any other business that may legally come before this meeting.

Voting on the aforementioned Article 1 will be by Australian Ballot at the Wolcott town office on Tuesday, May 9, between the hours of 8 a.m. at which time the polls will open and 7 p.m. at which time the polls will close.

The legal voters of the Wolcott Town School District are further notified that voter qualification, registration and absentee voting relative to said meeting shall be as provided in Chapter 43 of Title 17, Vermont Statutes annotated.

Dated at Wolcott, Vermont April 19, 2017

Wolcott Town School District Directors
Peter Burgess, Rebecca Ventrice, Pamela Peck,
Anne Farley, Christy Moodie

Attest: Linda J. Martin

District Clerk

April 20, 2017



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Today's News...

Tomorrow's History.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The Town of Cabot is bidding the following projects for 2017 construction:

- Danville Hill Road, culvert replacement. Bids due May 15.
- Porter Road, culvert replacement. Bid date to be determined.
- Paving of 5.3 miles of class 2 highway. Bids due May 15.
- Garage site reconstruction. Bid date to be determined.

Additional information, drawings and bid requirements will be posted on the Town of Cabot website, www.cabotvt.us/

Karen Deasy, Road Commissioner

PROPERTY TAX NOTICE - TOWN OF WOLCOTT

Notice is hereby given to the taxpayers of the Wolcott Town and School District that the final installment of the 2016-2017 property tax is due and payable in the Town Clerk's Office by 4 p.m. on Monday, May 15, 2017. Property taxes will be considered late if not received in the Town Clerk's Office by the close of the business day. Postmarks will not be considered timely.

All such property taxes not paid on or before May 15 will be placed in the hands of the Collector of Delinquent Taxes with a warrant for their collection. Payments may be made Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Tuesday 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Linda J. Martin, Treasurer

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION



Saturday, May 13
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

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A MAXIMUM OF 10 GALLONS of paint per car will be accepted. Visit www.paintcare.org to find a convenient, year-round collection location.

Business waste will be accepted between 8:00 a.m. and 9:00 a.m. ONLY. Pre-register with a disposal inventory no later than one week before each collection. Call the office to register: 888-7317. Payment due at time of collection unless you are an LRSWMD approved customer.

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RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL accounts wanted for upcoming season. Spring clean-ups and weekly lawn maintenance. Fully insured. Blaisdell Mowing & YardWork, 802-279-0118. (5-31)

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CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENT

Classified ads must be paid in advance. The charge is 30¢ per word; \$5.00 minimum charge per week; \$3 additional charge per week for border. Classified tear sheets are \$2.00 each.

DEADLINE FOR CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS IS MONDAY AT NOON - PAID IN ADVANCE.

AD TO READ AS FOLLOWS

Number of weeks to run _____ Amount enclosed _____ Sorry, NO REFUNDS.

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Much Mud Fun

Hailey Smith, left, and Jennifer Waterhouse, right, compete in the three legged race during the Mudapalooza event held at Craftsbury Academy on April 14. (photo by Vanessa Fournier)



Green Up Day is Saturday, May 6. Garbage will be picked up along roadsides and in pull off areas throughout the state. (photo by Vanessa Fournier)

Area

Continued From Page One

Twinfield will provide a map of the areas that the students will clean, to coordinate with Plainfield volunteers. Atchinson said that this is Twinfield's third year of Green Up activities, which are sponsored by the school's Honor Society.

Personal tires are not accepted but tires found along the roadside are taken. Roadside does not include tires left at the end of driveways.

Atchinson said that she will have a safety pamphlet on the safely dealing with needles, which is provided by the Green Up organizers. She said it is wise to dress to protect against ticks.

The Conservation Commission will be coordinating activities. Snacks will be available at the Recreation Field. Emergency Management Director Michael Billingsley will be giving out copies of a home emergency planning guide from Vermont Emergency Management to Green Up Day participants.

Cabot

The town will not be accepting tires this year as part of Green Up Day; the recycling center accepts tires all year. Tires can be brought to the recycling center on Saw Mill Road in Lower Cabot from 8 a.m. to noon. The fee is \$3 per tire up to 19 inches. Tires larger than 19 inches will not be accepted, but can be brought to the Northeast Kingdom Waste Management District, in Lyndonville.

Bags will be available at the town clerk's office and Harry's Hardware during the week and at the Cabot fire station on May 6. Collection will be from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the fire station parking lot in the village.

Marshfield

Green Bags are available from the town clerk's office. Volunteers are asked to mark how many they take and where they will be green-ing up. People are asked to email coordinator Drew MacNaughton, at drewmnaughton@gmail.com to report which sections of road or river they will be working on.

Collection bags should be brought to the town garage, on School Street, between 8 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. Volunteers can bring roadside collection bags, roadside tires and "other large items."

Volunteers are reminded to please report by email where they or their group will be cleaning.

Rich Phillips is looking for volunteers to work at the Martin Bridge Park on Green Up Day. Starting at 8 a.m., there will be cleanup activities, including bush trimming, spreading gravel and painting signs. Phillips said he will bring the tools needed for the various tasks.

Budget

Continued From Page One

is paramount during this time of transition."

Cabot school board member Jackie Folsom added: "We are grateful for the continuing support of the Cabot community and look forward to working toward the future of our school."

The approved budget proposal of \$3,332,780 is \$24,731 less than the April 5 re-vote, which failed by

five votes. The budget then was \$3,357,511. The first proposal of \$3,404,222 failed on Town Meeting Day by a margin of 25 votes.

The budget is not final at this stage, because a petition to reconsider the vote can be filed up to 30 days from the re-vote. Only one re-vote can be required by a petition, although the school board has the authority to call additional votes, without limit, if it is necessary to get a passed budget.

Choice

Continued From Page One

board members to join Hazen meetings.

"If you want to entice these tuitioning towns, I think you do need to go and talk to them at their meetings and introduce yourself," said Superintendent Joanne LeBlanc.

The board agreed the newspaper would be a great opportunity to reach out to the other boards to show them what is going on at Hazen. Wolcott, Walden, Lakeview, and Craftsbury were all mentioned as targets for a visit.

Student board member Rylan O'Connell suggested having more Hazen students engage in teaching projects in elementary schools. This would offer Hazen students another activity while giving Hazen more exposure to soon-to-be secondary students.

The discussion then turned to whether Hazen should offer the same rate to tuitioning students as Craftsbury does. Kelley was adamant that they be competitive.

"I would like to send a message to Craftsbury, which says that if they are going to compete in dollars, we are going to compete in dollars," he said. "So, if they are going to set it (the tuitioning rate) at \$15,500, then we are going to set it at \$15,500."

The board ultimately opted to take LeBlanc's advice to set tuition at a fixed rate of \$15,800 to cover their initial budget requirements with some cushion in case not all of the 28 projected students enroll. She also noted that parents, who

ultimately make these decisions, don't really base their decision on what the tuitioning rate is.

Act 46 News

Hazen Union is one of four schools in the supervisory union that has not completed its profile report regarding its plans to be part of an alternative district to comply with Act 46.

To become an alternative district means that the school must adequately prove to the Agency of Education that it can meet various education quality criteria without merging with another district, as originally intended by the law.

"The front end of this whole process is really writing about Hazen Union," said LeBlanc. "What is Hazen Union and how will it meet the five goals of Act 46? How do you provide equity and excellence?"

Board clerk David Kelley said that he would like to be part of a small sub-group that will work on this topic.


Associate principal John Craig said that he agrees with the notion of forming a subcommittee.

"I think forming that committee, developing a list of wishes, hopes, dreams, desires, to then sharing that with us will help us develop a presentation of what we think we are capable of doing," he said.

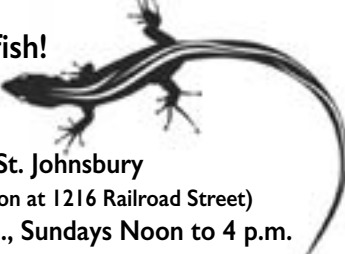
The subcommittee will be comprised of Kelley, board chair Steven Freihofner, and student representatives Clara Lew-Smith and O'Connell. They have not yet decided when they will meet, but the meetings will be public.

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1:00 Prizes awarded

Sunday, May 21, 2017

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The Original Forests of Vermont
Thursday, May 4, 7:00pm

Vermont has gone from fully forested, to less than 20% forested, to nearly fully forested again. During this time the landscape, and those who rely on the landscape have significantly changed. Over the course of the summer we will explore this evolution to help us better understand where we came from and where we are heading. This Thursday, join Naturalist Charlie Cogbill as he explores original Vermont forests. Visit craftsbury.com for more info. All talks are free and open to the public with refreshments served.

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