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**YOUR AWARD-WINNING, INDEPENDENT, NONPROFIT SOURCE OF NEWS AND VIEWS**



The Guilford Country Store, shuttered since the new year, will reopen under new ownership on Feb. 1. JEFF POTTER/THE COMMONS

## Guilford Country Store will reopen on Feb. 1

Two friends and food service pros — Ali West and Wayne Warwick — will take over operations of the general store, closed since the end of 2022

By Virginia Ray  
*The Commons*

**G**UILFORD—Ali West and Wayne Warwick, partners in Warwick & West, LLC, plan to reopen the Guilford Country Store on Feb. 1.

“I’ve always loved the Guilford Country Store, and growing up in Guilford, it was a pretty big fixture in my life,” says West, of Vernon.

She said that she and Warwick “have talked about other business opportunities, but none of them ever felt just right.”

But when Marc and Suzanne Tessitore, who owned and operated the store for a decade, decided to close it at the end of 2022, “we simply knew it was

time to take the leap and we are so excited we did,” West says.

When the store reopens its doors next month, some changes will be in store.

West announced expanded hours: Monday through Friday, from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Saturday from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and Sunday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

“The other major change will be the menu; we will continue to create excellent homemade food, as the Tessitores did; however, menu items will change and the grab-and-go selection will expand,” West says.

The store is located in the historic century-old Broad Brook House, owned by the nonprofit, all-volunteer group Friends of Algiers Village, Inc., which announced the reopening on

Sunday.

The store has been a fixture in town for generations, providing food, goods, and a place for people to gather.

The Friends of Algiers Village purchased the building in 2010 from the store’s long-time proprietor, Pat Good.

“When we completed the renovations on the store in 2013, we were eager to return The Guilford Country Store to its place as a community hub,” says Anne Rider, Friends of Algiers Village board of trustees chair.

“Marc and Suzanne were committed to relaunching the store and re-establishing a place to bring the community together,” she said. “For the past 10 years, they helped achieve our shared vision, and the store has

returned to its central role in the community.”

“We are so grateful for their years of dedication and involvement with the Guilford community and wish them luck as they move forward with their lives,” Rider said.

A gathering at the store celebrated the couple and their work over the years to create the community space just before the store closed. Rider said that the Tessitores “graciously returned the business” to the Friends of Algiers Village after trying in vain to sell the enterprise.

During their time here, the Tessitores offered prepared foods, sandwiches and soups, Vermont craft beers and wine, local art and gifts, basic grocery

■ SEE STORE, A2

## Lawmakers from county named to leadership posts

Kornheiser to lead Ways and Means, Coffey to chair Transportation; vice-chair positions go to Sibilia, Harrison, Hashim

By Randolph T. Holhut  
*The Commons*

The 2023-24 biennium of the Vermont Legislature convened on Jan. 4 with many new faces in both chambers.

About a third of the members of the House and Senate are newcomers this biennium, filling the seats of members who retired or mounted campaigns for higher office.

The turnover was most evident in the House, where Emily Long, D-Newfane, will serve as House majority leader and where nine new committee chairs have begun work in this new session.

House Speaker Jill Krowinski, D-Burlington, announced the leadership of that chamber’s committees. Two chairs are going to members of the Windham County delegation, while vice-chair positions went to three other members.

Emilie Kornheiser, D-Brattleboro, will chair the House Committee on Ways and Means, which has jurisdiction over tax policy. Kornheiser told VT Digger that she believed the pandemic showed the power of what government can do for people.

“I think there’s so many lessons that we learned then that have really upended some of what we previously thought was possible,” Kornheiser said, adding that she was proud of the passage last session of a child tax credit and that she hopes to continue last year’s

efforts to rework the corporate tax code.

Kornheiser wants the state’s tax structure to reflect a commitment to equity, she said. “I think about equity in terms of taxation, both in terms of people paying according to their means and that people understand what their responsibilities are.”

Sara Coffey, D-Guilford, will chair the House Transportation Committee, joining long-time member Mollie Burke, P/D-Brattleboro.

As described on the Legislature’s website, this committee considers “matters relating to all transportation companies and corporations subject to the regulation of the Public Utility Commission; all air and surface transportation; the registration, regulation, and licensing of transportation operations and users; the construction and maintenance of thoroughfares; and the impact of the transportation sector on air pollution and climate change.”

Coffey served on the Corrections and Institutions Committee in the last two bienniums and told *The Commons* that, given all the changes in the House with so many new members this session, her experience of serving on a “money committee” was a factor in being chosen to chair the Transportation Committee.

“Corrections and Institutions touched on every part of the state budget except the transportation budget,” she said. ■ SEE LEGISLATIVE LEADERS, A3

## Grace Cottage emergency dept. expansion underway

Hospital says the project will improve patient triage, comfort, and privacy

By Virginia Ray  
*The Commons*

**T O W N S H E N D** — Construction has started on a \$650,000 expansion of the Grace Cottage Family Health & Hospital emergency area to enhance patient comfort and privacy and improve patient flow and security.

“This is a very exciting and much-needed renovation, allowing us to efficiently see the increasing number of patients visiting our Emergency Department,” says President and CEO Doug DiVello.

“The technology available in our Emergency Department,

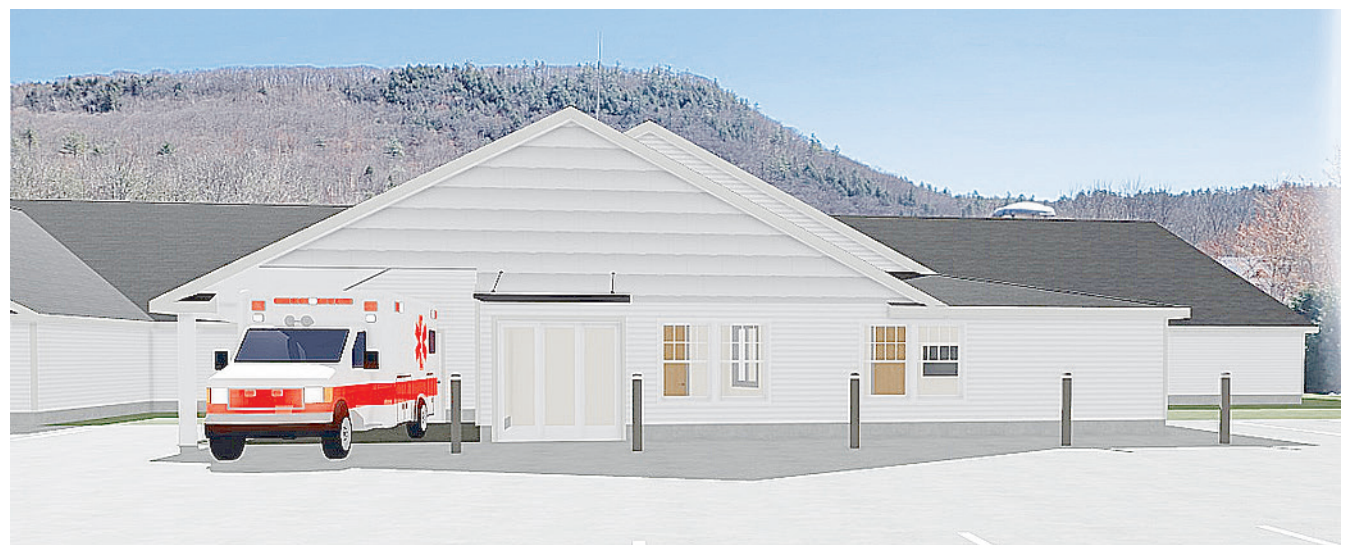
especially with our recent link to Dartmouth Health’s TeleEd and TeleNeurology service, is, quite frankly, astonishing for a rural hospital of our small size and the support that we’ve received from the community for this project has been overwhelming,” DiVello said.

Work on the historic facility at 185 Grafton Rd. will include building a 250-square-foot canopy and a 1,050-square-foot addition to the emergency area.

The new ambulance entrance will allow patients coming by ambulance on stretchers to remain “under cover at all times,” said Andrea Seaton, senior director of development, marketing and community relations.

“And the entrance for people coming into the ER on foot will be separate from the ambulance entrance,” she added. “We will also have an ER waiting room dedicated to ER patients. Currently, the waiting room is in the hospital itself. In addition, there will be a dedicated triage room.”

The ER will remain open around the clock and emergency service will be uninterrupted during construction, expected to be



An architectural rendering of the addition to Grace Cottage Hospital, which will expand the footprint of the tiny medical facility’s emergency department. VERMONT AGENCY OF NATURAL RESOURCES

completed in May. A temporary entrance, in the glassed-in Nessel Pavilion on the south side of the hospital, is well marked.

“Our emergency department will be fully open during construction,” DiVello says.

The portico will allow ambulances to pull in under a covered ambulance entrance to protect

patients from the weather. The separate entrance for walk-in patients will include a private, comfortable check-in station, allowing for private conversation between patient and registration clerk.

Patients will have access to a nearby restroom and can wait for treatment in a private waiting room. The new triage room will serve for initial assessment

and to treat minor issues, leaving the specially equipped treatment and trauma rooms ready for more severe issues.

The expanded emergency department will also include a dedicated space for the presence of a seven-night-a-week overnight security officer.

Brunelle & Son Construction of Brattleboro is undertaking the

expansion work.

### A community of giving

To date, 97% of the estimated cost of the project — \$633,000 — has been raised for the project, for which fundraising was initiated in 2021. Several grants are being sought to help with the

■ SEE GRACE COTTAGE, A2

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*The Commons* presents a broad range of essays, memoirs, and other subjective material in Voices, our editorial and commentary section. We want the paper to provide an unpredictable variety of food for thought from all points on the political spectrum.

We especially invite responses to material that appears in the paper. We do not publish unsigned or anonymous letters, and we only very rarely withhold names for other pieces. When space is an issue, our priority is to run contributions that have not yet appeared in other publications.

Please check with the editor before writing essays or other original submissions of substance. Email: [voices@commonnews.org](mailto:voices@commonnews.org).

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In memoriam:  
 Alan O. Dann, Judy Gorman, Mia Gannon

**Store**

FROM SECTION FRONT

staples, hunting/fishing licenses, a weigh station, and a recycling center in the parking lot.

"The board of Friends of Algiers is very excited to have found new operators with plans to reopen the doors so quickly," says Rider. "We are impressed with the extensive experience that Ali and Wayne bring to this venture."

She called it "a wonderful bonus that Ali grew up in Guilford and knows the community well" and pointed out that for years, Warwick, of Brattleboro, has also volunteered "countless hours" at the Guilford Fair.

"We are confident the store will be in very good hands," Rider said.

**A welcome history of community know-how**

West brings decades of experience in food service and management to her new role. Most recently, she served as food services director for the Windham Southeast Supervisory School District.

In that role, she received widespread recognition for her leadership response to the COVID-19 pandemic, when she quickly developed a plan to feed district children with food delivered by bus.

As a farm-to-school champion, West was honored in 2022 by the School Nutrition Association of Vermont and Hunger Free Vermont with an Outstanding Achievement Award for "directors or managers whose efforts exemplify positive attitudes, creativity, and expertise regarding the challenge of providing nutrition services to Vermont students, especially in times of elevated standards, fewer resources, and recently, a pandemic," according to the two organizations.

While with the WSESU, West created the Where in the

World Are We Eating program, a monthly program designed to engage a school community in celebrating diversity through dining.

She collaborated with teachers of English language learners in the district to compile a list of the 22 countries students hailed from. Each month a different cuisine from one of the countries on the list was featured on the menu.

West has also been part of a group helping welcome Afghan refugees to Brattleboro. As part of her effort, she marked all cafeteria pork items and translated school menus into Dari for new students' easy understanding.

She has also managed kitchens in other general stores and cafés, bakeries, and delicatessens.

Warwick, a Brattleboro native, has been senior manager of service delivery at C&S Wholesale Grocers for almost 15 years.

**Historic preservation, adaptive reuse**

Since 2004, the Friends of Algiers Village has held the goal of guiding the socially responsible development of Algiers Village in the absence of zoning. The group previously revitalized the 1819 Tontine Building across the street.

Work on acquiring the Broad Brook House began in 2008, when 7-Eleven approached owner Patricia Good that year to buy the building. She and her late husband, Jim, owned the building and operated the store there for 22 years.

When the Dallas, Texas-based chain of convenience stores would not guarantee to use the Broad Brook House rather than leveling it, Good contacted the Friends of Algiers Village.

It took two years for the group to raise the funds and purchase the building, which was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2011.



LISA FORD SPECIAL TO THE COMMONS

**At a community sendoff for Suzanne and Marc Tessitore, the former Guilford Country Store proprietors flank Anne Rider, president of Friends of Algiers Village, and husband Rich Heinrichs.**

"Pat deserves credit for saving the store for us rather than selling to a chain," board member Fred Humphrey told *The Commons* at the time.

Rider agrees.

"We have been extremely successful in our efforts to revitalize this village with the goal of protecting its historic resources and using them to create a strong, self-sustaining village center," she says.

**A goodbye message from longtime Guilford Country Store proprietors Marc and Suzanne Tessitore.**



JEFF POTTER/THE COMMONS

**the CLUB BOYS & GIRLS CLUB WINTER 2023**

The club is offering a wide range of programs this winter. Programs are free for members. Spaces are limited and registration is preferred. Membership includes academic support, skatepark, tech lab, and more.

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<p><b>MINECRAFT: ACTIVE CITIZEN</b>                  Thursdays</p> <p><b>FULL</b></p> <p>A unique collaboration between the... Minecraft. Active... presents a new way to engage young people in creating a more peaceful world.</p>	<p><b>PRISM</b>                  Fridays</p> <p>PRISM creates spaces for shared understanding of gender and sexuality; and highlights practices that increase social and emotional safety not only for our LGBTQ+ youth, but for all young people.</p>

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**Grace Cottage**

FROM SECTION FRONT

remaining balance.

When fundraising started in earnest in 2021, a technical assistance grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture through the Brattleboro Development Credit Corporation helped hire health care architects from E4H (Environmentalists for Health Architecture) of Burlington, with whom the hospital has worked previously, to develop an initial site plan.

Seaton says the needed money has come from the annual Hospital Fair days, Giving Tuesdays, Cabin Fever auctions, and annual golf tournaments over the past two years.

Money raised from those events was augmented by private donations as well as by a number of gifts from foundations, including

the Windham Foundation and the Rotary Club of the Deerfield Valley, as well as the Red Sox Foundation in Boston.

Asked how the latter came to a hospital in very rural Vermont, Seaton says, "We came to their attention as being an excellent mental health provider in the state," adding with a clear measure of pride, "it was a vote by Vermonters that gave us that award."

This year on Giving Tuesday, an annual November online fundraiser, the initiative saw 144% of that day's \$50,000 goal raised: \$72,023.

"It's been wonderful," Seaton says. "The community has been so supportive. They know we have a wonderful emergency department and they want to be sure

it continues to be here to serve them long into the future."

To donate to help Grace Cottage raise the remaining needed funds, call 802-365-9109 or visit [gracecottage.org](http://gracecottage.org), or send checks payable to Grace Cottage to P.O. Box 1, Townshend, VT 05353.

**BRATTLEBORO**

**2023 dog licenses available**

BRATTLEBORO—Dog and wolf-hybrid licenses are available for the 2023 licensing period. Vermont dogs and wolf-hybrids 6 months and older must be licensed on or before April 1.

New licenses and renewal licenses may be obtained in person at the Town Clerk's office by using the drop box in the Municipal Center parking lot, through the mail, or online at [brattleboro.org](http://brattleboro.org).

Vaccination against rabies is required by Vermont statutes before licensing. If an animal has been spayed or neutered, the certificate issued by the veterinarian must be presented when licensing the animal for the first time. A current rabies certificate issued and signed by a veterinarian must be filed with the Town Clerk.

The licensing fees are \$19 for neutered animals and \$23 for un-neutered animals. Specially trained assistance dogs may be eligible for a reduced licensing fee.

Dogs and wolf-hybrids licensed after April 1 will be charged a penalty. In addition, any person failing to license them may be fined up to \$100 and the dog or wolf-hybrid may be impounded.

If an animal licensed last year has died or been given away, contact the Town Clerk's office at 802-251-8157, Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

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## Legislative leaders

“Transportation is an \$800 million budget by itself, so there are a lot of similarities with what I did on my old committee.”

With transportation being the chief source of the greenhouse gases that are causing climate change in Vermont, Coffey said that dealing with the need to reduce the state’s carbon emissions will be a big part of her new committee’s work.

“It’s going to be challenging, but there are some great opportunities to create change,” she said. “We hope we can build on the work that has already been done.”

### Structural changes

In addition to announcing who will be chairing the chamber’s committees, Krowinski also unveiled changes to how the committees are structured and what their jurisdictions will be.

Military affairs have been moved from the General and Housing Committee to join Government Operations. And the Committee on Natural Resources, Fish and Wildlife, which has typically handled major environmental policies, has been dissolved.

Instead, the former Energy and Technology Committee will expand to include “conservation and development, climate change mitigation, energy, broadband, land resources, air, water, and wildlife, and other similar policies,” according to the House resolution describing the change.

The new committee, chaired by Rep. Amy Sheldon, D-Middlebury, is called the House Committee on Environment and Energy. Sheldon previously chaired Natural Resources.

On the energy side, the new committee plans to take up a bill that would update the Renewable Energy Standard to move the state closer to relying entirely on renewable energy by 2030.

Lawmakers also will push forward on an “Affordable Heating Act” — called the clean heat standard last biennium — that would aim to reduce the amount of fossil fuels in Vermont’s heating and cooling sector.

Rep. Laura Sibilila, I-Dover, who will serve as vice-chair of the new Environment and Energy Committee, expressed concerns about the group’s vast jurisdiction. She cited the widespread power outages that occurred in the winter storm last month and said lawmakers have plenty of work to do to promote resilience and plan for climate change.

“Large change of any kind, good or bad, causes stress,” Sibilila told VTDigger. “I think there’s probably 150 opinions about how it should have been done. I don’t think that this is the way that I would have structured it.”

“However, I’m not speaker, and I’m not looking to be speaker,” she said. “I appreciate that this was a tough balancing act.”

Sibilila said she’s looking forward to working with the new committee, and hopes that the “very big issues” in its jurisdiction will progress.

### Other House committee assignments

• **Tristan Toleno**, D-Brattleboro, returns to the Appropriations Committee, which considers matters relating to appropriating money from the state treasury. It and the Ways and Means committee are widely considered the two most important House committees.

• **Leslie Goldman**, D-Bellows Falls, also returns to the Committee on Health Care.

• **Kelly Pajala**, I-Londonderry, will serve on the Committee on Human Services.

• **Tristan Roberts**, D-Halifax, and **Michelle Bos-Lun**, D-Westminster will both serve on the Corrections and Institutions Committee, which considers matters relating to the Department of Corrections, public buildings, and state lands and property.

• **Mike Mrowicki**, D-Putney, will serve on the Government Operations and Military Affairs Committee, which considers matters relating to the organization, oversight, and conduct of state government.

### Senate assignments

Three of the Vermont Senate’s standing committees have new chairs this year, according to a roster released on June 5 by Senate President Pro Tempore Phil Baruth, D/P-Chittenden.

**Kesha Ram Hinsdale**,

D-Chittenden Southeast, will lead the Committee on Economic Development, Housing, and General Affairs; Ruth Hardy, D-Addison, will lead the Government Operations Committee; and Russ Ingalls, R-Essex, will lead the Institutions Committee.

Notably, six first-term senators were appointed vice-chairs of committees, including Windham County’s two Democratic senators.

Wendy Harrison of Brattleboro was named vice-chair of the Institutions Committee, which has jurisdiction over matters relating to public buildings, lands in which the state has an interest, and the Department of Corrections. She will also serve on the Committee on Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs.

Harrison said last month she was interested in serving on the Government Operations and the Transportation committees.

FROM SECTION FRONT

Nader Hashim of Dummerston was named vice-chair of the Judiciary Committee, which has jurisdiction over matters relating to judicial and legal affairs and motor vehicle and homeowner liability insurance. Hashim will also serve on the Education Committee.

Both assignments were high on Hashim’s wish list heading into this session, as he expressed interest in these assignments in remarks he made last month at a constituent gathering in Brattleboro.

While the Speaker of the House makes that chamber’s committee assignments, Senate committee assignments are made by the Committee on Committees, a three-member panel comprised this biennium of Baruth, Lt. Gov. David Zuckerman, and Sen. Dick Mazza, D-Grand Isle.

*With additional reporting from Emma Cotton and Riley Robinson of VTDigger.org.*

## Community members set priorities, seek volunteers ahead of final Our Future Putney meeting

PUTNEY—Members of the Putney community came together Dec. 12 for the second step of the Our Future Putney community visit process and set three concrete and actionable priorities for the future of the town.

All area residents are encouraged to sign up for these task forces online at [bit.ly/FuturePutney](http://bit.ly/FuturePutney).

As part of the Community Visit process, community members discussed and voted on more than 20 action items that were identified in the first phase of the process on Nov. 14, developing ideas around building community events, addressing childcare and housing, engaging youth, developing a community center, supporting the downtown, and more.

Through the voting process to identified top priorities and voted to create three task forces: 1) to revitalize Putney’s downtown, 2) to develop a Community Center, and 3) to develop solutions to the housing crisis.

Community members then signed up for task forces to help move each item forward.

The third and final phase of the Community Visit process will take place on Tuesday, Jan. 17, at Next Stage Arts. Doors will open at 6 p.m. for light snacks and refreshments, with programming starting promptly at 6:30 p.m.

This will be the first opportunity for task forces to come together to build action plans and identify resources to move this work forward. All members of

the Putney community are encouraged to attend.

The process is facilitated by the Vermont Council on Rural Development (VCRD), who was invited to the community by the Putney Selectboard.

VCRD is a nonprofit, non-partisan organization dedicated to the advancement of Vermont communities. In the past 20 years, VCRD has worked with over 80 communities throughout Vermont to bring residents together through their facilitated and structured process to share ideas and move toward common solutions.

For more information about VCRD, contact phone 802-223-6091 or email Hannah Carpino, community and policy manager, at [hannah@vtrural.org](mailto:hannah@vtrural.org).

# PUBLIC NOTICES

**STATE OF VERMONT**

SUPERIOR COURT PROBATE DIVISION  
Windham Unit Docket No.: 22-PR-07668  
In re ESTATE of: Janet Lee Chauncey

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

To the Creditors of: Janet Lee Chauncey (Decedent)  
late of Londonderry, Vermont (Decedent’s town of residence)

I have been appointed to administer this estate. All creditors having claims against the decedent or the estate must present their claims in writing within four (4) months of the first publication of this notice. **The claim must be presented to me at the address listed below with a copy sent to the Court. The claim may be barred forever if it is not presented within the four (4) month period.**

Dated: January 5, 2023 c/o Amelia W. L. Darrow, Esq.  
Gretchen Chauncey, Executor Secret & Darrow, PLC  
209 Austine Dr. Brattleboro, VT 05301

Name of Publication: The Commons 802-251-6598  
Publication Date: January 11, 2023 jsecret@secretsdarrow.com

Name of Probate Court: Vermont Superior Court, Probate Division  
Address of Probate Court: 30 Putney Road, Brattleboro, VT 05301

**STATE OF VERMONT**

SUPERIOR COURT PROBATE DIVISION  
Windham Unit Docket No.: 22-PR-07156  
In re ESTATE of: Gregory T. Epley

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

To the Creditors of: Gregory T. Epley (Decedent)  
late of Brattleboro, Vermont (Decedent’s town of residence)

I have been appointed to administer this estate. All creditors having claims against the decedent or the estate must present their claims in writing within four (4) months of the first publication of this notice. **The claim must be presented to me at the address listed below with a copy sent to the Court. The claim may be barred forever if it is not presented within the four (4) month period.**

Dated: January 3, 2023 c/o Jonathan D. Secrest, Esq.  
Amy Ramsey, Executor Secret & Darrow, PLC  
209 Austine Dr. Brattleboro, VT 05301

Name of Publication: The Commons 802-251-6598  
Publication Date: January 11, 2023 jsecret@secretsdarrow.com

Name of Probate Court: Vermont Superior Court, Probate Division  
Address of Probate Court: 30 Putney Road, Brattleboro, VT 05301

**STATE OF VERMONT**

SUPERIOR COURT PROBATE DIVISION  
Windham Unit Docket No.: 22-PR-07174  
In re ESTATE of: Loretta Slicer

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

To the Creditors of: Loretta Slicer (Decedent)  
late of LaFargeville, New York (Decedent’s town of residence)

I have been appointed to administer this estate. All creditors having claims against the decedent or the estate must present their claims in writing within four (4) months of the first publication of this notice. **The claim must be presented to me at the address listed below with a copy sent to the Court. The claim may be barred forever if it is not presented within the four (4) month period.**

Dated: January 3, 2023 c/o Jonathan D. Secrest, Esq.  
Brenda J. Ryan, Administrator Secret & Darrow, PLC  
209 Austine Dr. Brattleboro, VT 05301

Name of Publication: The Commons 802-251-6598  
Publication Date: January 11, 2023 jsecret@secretsdarrow.com

Name of Probate Court: Vermont Superior Court, Probate Division  
Address of Probate Court: 30 Putney Road, Brattleboro, VT 05301

**STATE OF VERMONT**

SUPERIOR COURT PROBATE DIVISION  
Windham Unit Docket No.: 22-PR-06919  
In re ESTATE of: Corwin S. Elwell

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

To the Creditors of: Corwin S. Elwell (Decedent)  
late of Brattleboro, Vermont (Decedent’s town of residence)

I have been appointed to administer this estate. All creditors having claims against the decedent or the estate must present their claims in writing within four (4) months of the first publication of this notice. **The claim must be presented to me at the address listed below with a copy sent to the Court. The claim may be barred forever if it is not presented within the four (4) month period.**

Dated: January 3, 2023 c/o Jonathan D. Secrest, Esq.  
Peter B. Elwell, Executor Secret & Darrow, PLC  
209 Austine Dr. Brattleboro, VT 05301

Name of Publication: The Commons 802-251-6598  
Publication Date: January 11, 2023 jsecret@secretsdarrow.com

Name of Probate Court: Vermont Superior Court, Probate Division  
Address of Probate Court: 30 Putney Road, Brattleboro, VT 05301

### Important Annual Notice Regarding Herbicide Use in the Maintenance of Electric Utility Rights-of-Way

The Vermont Public Utility Commission has set forth rules under [PUC Rule 3.600](#) pertaining to the use of herbicides in the maintenance of electric utility rights-of-way (ROW). Each spring, herbicide applications may begin on or after April 1st. These rules afford you important rights and duties. Vermont electric utilities maintain electric line rights-of-way with several methods, including the selective use of herbicides on trees and brush. They also encourage low-growing shrubs and trees which will crowd tall-growing species and, thus, minimize the use of herbicides. Methods of herbicide applications may include stump, stem injection, basal, soil, and foliar. **Only electric utility rights-of-way that have tall-growing tree species with the potential of threatening the electric utility system are treated.**

#### If you reside on or own property in Vermont within 1000’ of an electric utility right-of-way:

- Sign up to receive written notification** from your local electric utility of plans to apply herbicide on any ROW within 1000’ of your property or the property where you reside. Check nearby poles for tags identifying the utility and/or pole number, complete the form below and submit it to your local electric utility by mail before February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023 to be added to the notification list. If determined to be qualified, you will receive notification from the utility at least 30 days prior to scheduled herbicide application.
- You are responsible to make your local electric utility aware** of the location of any potentially affected water supply, and of any other environmentally sensitive area where herbicide application ought to be avoided.
- Watch and listen for public service announcements** in newspapers and radio ads noting upcoming herbicide applications.
- Check with your local electric utility** regarding the vegetation management cycle near your particular line.
- You have the right** to request, in writing, that the utility refrain from applying herbicides in the process of clearing the right-of-way, and the utility may offer alternatives such as herbicide stump treatment or herbicide stem injections.
- You have the right** to refuse, in writing, the use of herbicides whatsoever at no cost to you if the type of lines in the right-of-way are **distribution lines**, bringing electric service directly to individual customers.
- You have the right** to refuse, in writing, the use of herbicides whatsoever by paying a \$30 administration fee if the type of lines in the right-of-way are **transmission lines** or **sub-transmission lines**, bringing electricity to or between substations.

For more details, or to ask additional questions, please contact your local electric utility, or one of the following:

<b>Vermont Electric Power Company (VELCO)</b> 366 Pinnacle Ridge Rd. Rutland, VT 05701 Attn: Scott Carlson (802) 353-3584	<b>Agency of Agriculture Public Health &amp; Ag. Resource Mgmt</b> 116 State St., Montpelier, VT 05602 1-802-828-2431	<b>Department of Public Service Consumer Affairs &amp; Public Information</b> 112 State St., Montpelier, VT 05620 1-800-622-4496
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Based on the information above, if you believe you qualify to be notified in advance of pending herbicide applications in the rights-of-way, mail the request below to your local electric company before February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

Resident/Property Owner Request to be Added to Herbicide Treatment Notification Mailing List			
Name	Town/City of Affected Property		
Street Address	Home Phone Number		
Town	Work Phone Number		
State	Zip Code	O.K. to use work number?	Yes No
Electric Utility Account Number		Best time to contact you	
Affected Property: Year-Round Residence Summer Residence Commercial Property Water Supply Organic Farm Land Other (Circle all that apply)			
Line/Pole Identification: Utility Initials		Pole Numbers	
Please fill out this request completely to help us determine if you qualify for herbicide treatment notification. <b>MAIL THIS REQUEST TO YOUR LOCAL ELECTRIC UTILITY AT THE ADDRESS LISTED ABOVE BEFORE FEBRUARY 15<sup>TH</sup>, 2023</b>			

Nothing is more destructive of respect for the government and the law of the land than passing laws which cannot be enforced.

—ALBERT EINSTEIN

# MILESTONES

Births, deaths, and news of people from Windham County

## Obituaries



• **Anne Elizabeth Andrus, 68**, of Brattleboro. Died Dec. 31, 2022 at Hartford (Conn.) Hospital following a brief period of declining health. Anne was born in Bennington on July 29, 1954, the daughter of Leon M. and Marjorie C. (Ware) Andrus. She was raised and educated in Vernon and was a graduate of Brattleboro Union High School, Class of 1973. She worked for several years at Mary Meyer Toy Company in Townshend and previously had been employed at a car dealership in Greenfield, Massachusetts. Anne enjoyed shopping, crafts, and taking day trips in the tri-state area. She had a deep interest in genealogy. With her mother, she visited area cemeteries and town clerks' offices to trace her family's history. Anne was known for her pleasant and friendly personality and, after becoming disabled, she committed several years of her life to helping to take care of her elderly mother with whom she made her home. Survivors include a step-brother, Roland Andrus, and three step-sisters, Mary Rock, Janet Fleming, and Alberta Wenzel. Additionally, she leaves several nieces, nephews, cousins, and second cousins. MEMORIAL INFORMATION: A memorial service in celebration of her life will be conducted Saturday, Jan. 14, starting at 11 a.m., at West Brattleboro Baptist Church on Western Avenue. A reception will follow the services. Burial in the Ware family lot in Riverview Cemetery in Wilmington will take place in the springtime where Anne will be laid to rest next to her mother. Donations to Rescue, Inc., P.O. Box 593, Brattleboro, VT 05302. To share a memory or send condolences to the family, visit [atamaniuk.com](http://atamaniuk.com).



• **Joseph Raymond Bates, 91**, of Newfane. Died on Dec. 13, 2022. Ray, as everyone knew him, was born in Edinburgh, Scotland on Jan. 17, 1931. He completed a five-year apprenticeship at the R.L. Christie Clockmaking Company of Scotland, while also studying mechanical engineering at the University of Edinburgh. These

pursuits culminated in graduation as a Craft Member of the British Horological Institution of London, in 1952, along with the achievement of Master Status upon building a clock of his own, completely from scratch. Ray served two years in the Royal Air Force as an instrument specialist and photo analyst, after which he toured Europe with a friend on motorcycles. In 1957, Ray immigrated to the United States, obtained teaching credentials from Keene State College, taught English, and established The British Clockmaker, a business focused on restoring antique clocks. He married Beverly Myer Graham in 1962, and in 1964, moved from Waltham, Massachusetts to Newfane. By 1966, Ray initiated an apprenticeship program with the state of Vermont and successfully trained six apprentices, including his son Richard, who continues to run the business. Ray also created a company, Precision Industrial Photography, and did work for *National Geographic* and other professional publications. On April 23, 2010, in London, Ray was inducted into The Worshipful Company of Clockmakers, a guild dating back to the early 1600s. Ray loved Corgis, cars, jazz and classical music, and traveling in Europe with Beverly. He was an avid reader of *The New York Times* and appreciated good literature. He held strong opinions about politics, social justice, and religion. Ray was a self-taught gourmet chef who relished cooking delicious meals for friends and family. Until the last year of his life, Ray and Beverly hosted friends for dinner a couple times a week. Ray is survived by his wife of 60 years, Beverly Graham Bates; his sons Philip Graham Bates and his wife, Susie, and children Isabel and Emma of Melrose, Massachusetts; Iain Ramsey Bates of San Francisco; and Richard Elliott Bates and his wife, Stephanie, and children Hannah and Ella of Keene, New Hampshire. He is also survived by his closest cousin, Jane Johnston and her husband, David, of Surrey, England. MEMORIAL INFORMATION: There will be a private celebration of his life in the spring. Donations to the Newfane Congregational Church, P.O. Box 27, Newfane, VT 05345, noting that the donation is for the Discretionary Fund. Assisting the family with arrangements is the Cremation Society of New Hampshire. To view Ray's online tribute, send condolences to the

family, or for more information, visit [csnh.com](http://csnh.com).

• **Russell Daniel "Russ" Brown, 49**, of Athens. Died on Dec. 22, 2022 due to recent health complications. Russ was born Sept. 27, 1973 in Townshend to Linda Jean (O'Neill) and Daniel Columbus Brown. Russ spent his youth living in Windham County and attended Leland & Gray High School where he enjoyed playing baseball and graduated in 1991. After high school, he spent time working at Stratton Mountain Resort and for the town of Windham before going to work for several local oil companies as a service technician. He excelled in that field and, in 2014, Russ ventured out on his own and opened Brown's Oil Heating Service. The business took off and he expanded from installing and servicing oil furnaces and boilers to air duct cleaning and sanitizing. Russ enjoyed hunting, boating, snowmobiling, camping, and the company of his family and many friends. In his younger years, Russ enjoyed working on and racing cars, and working on cars with his Dad. He was a very hard working family man with a great sense of humor. Russ was well known for his sense of humor and ability to pick on people, making them feel included. Russ's love of animals began early in his life when his family adopted several rescue dogs. He especially loved his dogs, he loved a big, furry dog (perhaps because they were the only ones who appreciated his singing abilities!) Russ had a big heart and loved to have fun. Though Russ had no children of his own, he was a role model who worked hard to help raise his stepson, Kaden and his nephew, Nicholas and was a loving, supportive uncle to Evan and AnnaMarie. Russell was predeceased by his mother and grandparents Guy and Lilliane Brown and Mary (Stewart) Wright and Hugh O'Neill. Russ is survived by many friends and his family. He was the loving son of Dan, who he has always been there for, his stepmother, Jeanne (Gigi) Brown, his devoted fiancée, Angela Lashway, his stepson, Kaden Lashway; nephews Nicholas Hall and Evan Smith-Lake; nieces AnnaMarie Smith-Lake, Danielle Labrecque, and Hayley Labrecque; siblings Tara (Jeff Martone) Brown of Brattleboro, Duane (Heather) Brown of Guilford, Tim (Vicky) Brown of Jamaica, Tammy Brooks of Townshend, Kim Ward of Brattleboro, and Todd (Melanie) Ward of Brattleboro; and his fiancée's family, parents Terry and Diane Lake and sister Amber Lake. MEMORIAL INFORMATION: Calling hours will be held at the Fenton & Hennessey Funeral Home, 55 Westminster St., Bellows Falls, on Saturday, Jan. 14 from 3 to 5 p.m., with burial and a celebration of his life to follow in the spring.

• **Philip B. Chapman, 98**, formerly of Brattleboro. Died Jan. 1, 2023 at Vernon Green Nursing Home. He was born on Aug. 25, 1924 in Peabody, Massachusetts to Clarence E. Chapman Sr. and Irene Putnam Trask. He lived with his family in Danvers, Massachusetts until 1943, when he moved to Plymouth, New Hampshire and married Alice Mitchell in 1944. In 1946, he became a carpenter working for Carl Mitchell. In 1947, he became a shoe salesman calling on dealers in northern New England, working four days a week while working the rest of his week for Carl Mitchell as a builder. In June 1949, he was hired as an assistant buyer for Dunham Brothers Co., of Brattleboro. He worked there for 15 years, ultimately becoming the company's merchandise manager. He was appointed treasurer of the Brattleboro Community Building and Armory (1950-51). He was then elected to the Brattleboro Union High School

Board, and also served as a representative to the newly formed Representative Town Meeting. Philip also served as a Rotarian from 1952-57, and was president of the Brattleboro club from 1956-57. In 1952, he became a trustee of All Souls Church becoming the board chair for six years. In 1966, Philip became a director of the New Hampshire Unitarian Association, serving as president in 1968. In 1964, he was hired by Windham College of Putney as business manager and treasurer. Philip was the "keystone" in the financing and building of the "White Brick Campus." He worked at the college for six years. In 1970, he married Elsie Mills Rathbun and also joined Electrosonics in Spofford, New Hampshire, working there for 15 years. They ultimately built a new manufacturing plant in Technology Drive in Brattleboro at which time he convinced his friends and associates that it would be best to sell the business. In 1972, he was elected to the Keene State Industrial Advisory Committee. He and Elise moved to Ogunquit, Maine and he became CEO and treasurer of Homisco Inc. It was here that he agreed to work for a year to build their national sales force, establish a line of credit and settle a long-running lawsuit, and hired a full-time replacement for himself. He later retired and returned to Ogunquit full time. He served as a private consultant to several electronic firms and became a full-time Maine and New Hampshire real estate agent and broker for 8 years. At age 72, he came out of retirement and became a full-time courier for Path Labs. He later stopped working to take care of his wife and they moved back to the Brattleboro area to be closer to family. Philip graduated from Danvers High School and attended Wentworth Institute, he completed the Dale Carnegie Course in 1952 and took numerous courses through Brattleboro Adult Education. He was particularly pleased to complete three summers of courses at Dartmouth's Tuck School of Business. One of Philip's hobbies was designing and building of houses. Several of those homes were built in Brattleboro, Plymouth, and southern Maine. He was particularly proud of building a house in Brattleboro without the use of power tools. After returning to Brattleboro in 2007, he was elected as a Town Meeting Member and appointed to the Sewer Project Committee and serving as president. He was then appointed to the Police and Fire Building Committee. Philip leaves a son, John "Jack" (Debra) Chapman, and a daughter, Nancy Sprague, both of Brattleboro; stepchildren Michael (Joyce) Rathbun of Brattleboro and James (Renee) Rathbun of Jacksboro, Tennessee; and seven grandchildren, nine great-grandchildren, and one great-great-grandchild. Philip was predeceased by his parents, brother Clarence E. Chapman, and grandson Tyler W. Chapman. MEMORIAL INFORMATION: A private graveside service for family was held at New Westminster Cemetery in Westminster.

• **Janice Baker Chase, 80**, of Vernon. Died peacefully on Dec. 29, 2022. Janice was born Nov. 23, 1942, in Brattleboro, daughter of Curtis L. and Eleanor (Hall) Baker. She graduated from Brattleboro Union High School as a member of the Silver 'B' Society. She went on to attend Howe's Hair Design School in Manchester, New Hampshire. She married and raised four children with David E. Chase before their divorce. Over the years, she worked as a

hairdresser, cake decorator, and bookkeeper. She was employed for several years at the Holstein Association, with a short stint at Famolare, and retired from the Windham Southeast Supervisory Union after more than 25 years. She was devoted to her family and was especially proud of her grandchildren and great-grandchildren. She enjoyed sewing, painting, cake decorating, dancing, puzzles, traveling, and time with family. A lifelong member of the First Congregational Church in West Brattleboro, she was a member of the church Casual Club and supported the annual Christmas Bazaar fundraising efforts. She was also a member of the Green Mountain Square Dance Club and the Yellow Ribbon Club in support of our soldiers. She was predeceased by her beloved friend of many years, Merrill Yeaw of West Chesterfield, New Hampshire, and her brother-in-law Timothy Chase. She leaves her children Tonja Chase and Robert Furman of Cambridgeport, Rebecca (Chase) and Brian Cleveland of Brattleboro, Katherine (Chase) and Kevin Kervick of Belchertown, Massachusetts, and Nathan Chase of Vernon; her siblings Carol (Baker) Eddy of Vernon, Gerald Baker and Karen (Mahoney) of Guilford, Elaine (Baker) & Thomas Cheney of East Montpelier, and Margaret (Baker) and Gary Winn of West Chesterfield; her brother-in-law and his wife Donald & Barbara (Woodruff) Chase of Waterville, Maine; as well as 15 grandchildren, 13 great-grandchildren and many nieces and nephews. She also leaves Merrill's children, their spouses, and grandchildren. MEMORIAL INFORMATION: Family and friends are invited to a celebration of life which will be held on Sunday, Jan. 15, from 1 to 3 p.m., at American Legion Post 5, 32 Linden St., Brattleboro. A private burial will be held at a later date. Donations to the Resident Activities Fund at Vernon Green Nursing Home, 61 Greenway Drive, Vernon, VT 05354. To send condolences, visit [atamaniuk.com](http://atamaniuk.com).



• **Sandra Marie "Sandy" Dowley, 86**, formerly of Newfane. Died peacefully Jan. 1, 2023 at Valley Cares in Townshend, with her family at her side, following a brief illness. She was born at home in Brookline on Oct. 26, 1936, the daughter of Harlan and Vera (Rink) Harrington. She was raised and educated in the West River Valley, attending school in Newfane and graduating from Leland & Gray Seminary with the Class of 1954. At age 16, she worked the switchboard as a telephone operator in Newfane. On June 26, 1954, at Newfane Congregational Church, she married Richard Dowley, who predeceased her in 2012. Sandy served as town clerk in Newfane, which she retired from following 11 dedicated and faithful years with the town. Previously, she had worked at The Book Press in Brattleboro and Mary Meyer Toy Company in Townshend. In her earlier days, Sandy assisted with the day-to-day operation of the Kenolie Family Dairy Farm in Newfane, delivering milk, driving a tractor, and performing other vital duties. In more recent years, on a part-time basis with her husband, she assisted with the operation of a lawn care business serving several municipal and private accounts in Newfane. A woman of faith, she was an active member of the Newfane Congregational Church for many years and held membership in the Newfane Ladies Aid Association. Sandy enjoyed gardening, both vegetable and flowers, taking care of her home on River Road, and

knitting and stitching many very intricate and delicate projects. Several were sold at retail shops in New York City. Survivors include her three children, Lori Ethier of Brattleboro, Richard Dowley, Jr. and wife Margaret of Guilford, and Timothy Dowley and wife Christine of Hinsdale, New Hampshire; two brothers, Dennis Harrington of Brattleboro and Keith Harrington of Ticonderoga, New York; grandchildren Karen Ethier and Megan, Nicholas, and Ryan Dowley; and great-granddaughter Emma Ethier. Additionally, she leaves many nieces and nephews. Sandy was also predeceased by a brother, Bruce Harrington. MEMORIAL INFORMATION: In keeping with her final wishes, there are no formal funeral services scheduled. In the springtime, she will be laid to rest in Woodlawn Cemetery in Newfane next to her beloved husband. Donations to the Windham County Humane Society, P.O. Box 397, Brattleboro, VT 05302. To send condolences to the family, visit [atamaniuk.com](http://atamaniuk.com).

• **Roger L. Fuller, 72**, of Cavendish. Died peacefully, surrounded by his loved ones, on Dec. 29, 2022. Roger was born on July 9, 1950 in Townshend to Doris (Bills) and Kenneth Fuller Sr., both of whom preceded him in death. Roger's two older brothers, Lester and Kenneth Fuller Jr., also preceded him in death. Roger is survived by his loving wife of 46 years, Joyce (Wood) Fuller, and their three beloved dogs; oldest son Silas, his wife, Jenna, and their two daughters Ava and Kendra; his youngest son Virgil, his wife Nicole, and their two children Lester and Leona. Surviving siblings are Ellen Fuller of South Newfane, Sarah (Fuller) Wilcox, and her husband Donald of Springfield, Vermont and Bonnie (Fuller) Bedi of Albany, Georgia, along with numerous nieces and nephews. Roger was a contractor for more than 30 years and owned his own business, Roger Fuller Building and Remodeling. He took great pride in his work and left behind many fine projects that people will be able to enjoy for years to come. Roger was happiest when spending time with his family, dogs, and being the best "Pepe" to his grandchildren. Roger was an avid deer hunter and sports fan. He had a keen ear for music and an eye for a good book. Anyone who knew Roger knew him as a man of passion, generosity, love, and sincerity. He felt the most peace in life while in the fields of Vernon overlooking the Connecticut River where he worked with his older brothers Lester and Kenny as a boy, in the woods of the Stratton and Somerset area of the Green Mountain National Forest, where he hunted for many years, his family Deer Camp in Norton, and his home in Cavendish. MEMORIAL INFORMATION: Calling hours will be held on Saturday, Jan. 14, from 2 to 4 p.m., at Davis Memorial Chapel in Springfield. Donation to the Springfield Humane Society or Kurn Hattin Homes for Children in Westminster.

• **Robert "Bobby" Hall, 86**, of Wilmington. Died peacefully in his home on Dec. 27, 2022. A resident of Wilmington since 1982. Bobby was born in Jersey City, New Jersey on April 24, 1936 to Alice (Perrenod) and Samuel Hall. He attended Lodi (N.J.) Regional High School and graduated in 1954. Bobby was a proud Navy veteran and found great pleasure in sharing stories about his service on submarines. Bobby served 20 years as a firefighter for the North Arlington Fire Department and worked his way up the ranks to chief in 1978, retiring from his service in 1981. Bobby also worked for New Jersey Bell for 27 years before relocating to Vermont. He is fondly remembered for his time running the Crafts Inn. He made lasting friendships and was an integral part of the history of the Crafts Inn and community. Bobby finished out his career doing general contracting work alongside his family and close friends. He was lovingly referred to as "Bob the Builder." Bobby married Helen Whitney on May 23, 1959. He is survived by his children, Sandra (Hall) Murdock and David (Bethany) Hall; grandchildren Riley and Mitchell Hall, and Ian, Kyle, and Whitney Murdock; his best friend and soulmate Jeanette Felton and her children Sarah Crawford and husband Bo, Tim Betit and his wife Jessica Betit, Nate Felton and his wife Brittany, and their son Michael Betit, as well as her many grandchildren whom he treated like his own. MEMORIAL INFORMATION: No memorial services will be held. A celebration of life will take place at a later date.

• **Bruce Harrington** of Newfane died on Dec. 26, 2022, after a brief illness. Bruce was a lifelong resident of Newfane. He worked for Fellows Gear Shaper in Springfield, Vermont for 45 years. Bruce was an avid train watcher

**Be Sure To Check Our Full Program Schedule @ [brattleborotv.org](http://brattleborotv.org)**

**bc tv LOCAL PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS**  
Jan. 9-15  
CHANNEL 1078 CHANNEL 1079

PLEASE NOTE NEW CHANNEL NUMBERS!

<b>Here We Are with guest Ken Burns - Filmmaker:</b> Mon 8p, Tues 7a, Thurs 7p, Sun 4a	<b>Brattleboro Selectboard Mtg.</b> 1/10/23: Thurs 6p, Fri 8p, Sat 7a
<b>The World Fusion Show - Ep 143 - Stephanie Sylla:</b> Wed 11a, Thurs 1a, Fri 9:30a, Sat 10p, Sun 8a	<b>Jamaica Selectboard Mtg. 1/9/23:</b> Sat 12:30a, Sun 12:30p
<b>Brattleboro Literary Festival - Simi Berman and Vincent Panella:</b> Wed 1a, Thurs 3p, Fri 12p, Sat 12a	<b>Putney Selectboard Mtg. 1/11/23:</b> Fri 8:30a, Sun 12:30a
<b>Media Mentoring Project - The Power of Cartoons:</b> Mon 4:45p, Wed 4a, Thurs 7:45p, Fri 2a, Sun 11:30a	<b>Townshend Selectboard Mtg. 1/10/23:</b> Fri 12a, Sat 2:45p
<b>Mitchell Giddings Fine Arts - Brian D. Cohen &amp; Chard DeNiord:</b> Wed 8:30a, Thurs 1:30a, Fri 8:30p, Sat 1a, Sun 3p	<b>West River Education District Bd Mtg. 1/11/23:</b> Sat 6:30p, Sun 4a
<b>Keeping Up With Senior Solutions - Ep 25 - Annamariam Pluhar:</b> Mon 10a, Wed 3a, Fri 9:45p, Sun 9:30p	<b>River Valleys Unified School District Bd Mtg. 1/9/23:</b> Sat 12p, Sun 10a
<b>Brooks Memorial Library Events - Buddha as a Political Actor 1/16/22:</b> Tues 12p, Thurs 9p, Fri 6:30p, Sun 5a	<b>Dummerston Selectboard Mtg. 1/11/23:</b> Thurs 9:30p, Sun 12a
<b>Around Town with Maria - A Ray McNeill's Celebration at the Stone Church 12/17/22:</b> Tues 3p, Wed 8p, Thurs 12p, Sunday 9:30a	<b>Guilford Selectboard Mtg. 1/9/23:</b> Fri 3:30a, Sun 7p
<b>Vermontitude - Weekly Episode:</b> Tue 11:30a & 6:30p, Wed 6a, Thu 1p, Sat 12p, Sun 5p	<b>Marlboro Elementary School Board Mtg. 1/05/23:</b> Wed 5a, Fri 11a, Sat 8:30p
<b>WTSA News:</b> Mon-Fri 12p & 6p	<b>Windham Southeast School District Bd Mtg. 1/10/23:</b> Sat 12:30a, Sun 4:30p
<b>St. Michael's Episcopal Church - Weekly Service:</b> Wed 2p, Sun 11a	<b>Newfane Selectboard Mtg. 1/3/23:</b> Tues 12p, Thurs 8a, Sun 9:30p
<b>Calvary Chapel of the West River Valley - Weekly Service:</b> Tue 9a, Fri 7a, Sun 10a	<b>Windham Southeast Supervisory Union Bd Mtg. 1/11/23:</b> Sat 4p
<b>Trinity Lutheran Church - Weekly Service:</b> Wed 10a, Sun 3p	<b>Brattleboro Charter Revision Commission Mtg. 1/12/23:</b> Fri 5:30p, 1p
<b>Guilford Community Church - Weekly Service:</b> Wed 6:30a, Sun 8a	<b>Energy Week with George Harvey &amp; Tom Fimmel:</b> Mon 9a, Tue 5p, Wed 12p, Thu 10:30a, Sun 11a
<b>St. Michael's Catholic Church Mass:</b> Sat 4p (LIVE), Tue 6:45a & 2p	<b>The David Pakman Show:</b> Mon 8a, Tue 9a, Wed 5p, Fri 10:30a, Sun 5p

**Note: Schedule subject to change.**  
View full schedule and watch online at [brattleborotv.org](http://brattleborotv.org)

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Love thy neighbor

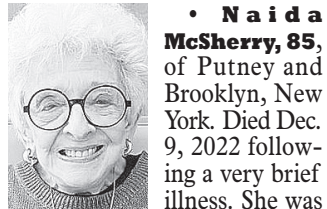
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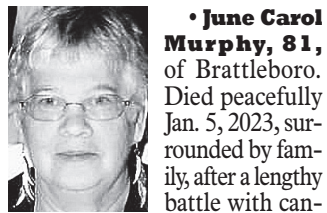
adapted from ©TheHappyGivers.com

■ STORY CONTINUES ON FACING PAGE

and took hundreds of pictures of the trains crossing in Brattleboro, as well as Massachusetts and New Hampshire, and frequently talked with the engineers. He then went on to collect and build model trains, villages, and people; he made a track behind his house and would spend hours running the trains. He was predeceased by his son Brent. His sister, Sandra Dowley, died on Jan. 1, 2023. He is survived by his brothers Keith Harrington of Ticonderoga, New York, and Dennis Harrington of Brattleboro. MEMORIAL INFORMATION: In keeping with Bruce's wishes, there will be no funeral services. Donations to the Windham County Humane Society, P.O. Box 397, Brattleboro, VT 05302.



• **Naida McSherry, 85**, of Putney and Brooklyn, New York. Died Dec. 9, 2022 following a very brief illness. She was born Oct. 29, 1937 in Rockford, Illinois, to Clarence and Genevieve McSherry. She obtained her bachelor's from Rockford College in 1959 and her master's in fabric design in 1962 from Cranbrook Art Institute. She worked with Knoll Fabrics becoming an award-winning fabric designer, and designer of wall coverings. While exploring Brooklyn, Naida fell in love with the historic architecture and, in 1982, changed careers to become a realtor, owning Naida McSherry Real Estate. She became a real estate legend and sold more than 400 homes in Fort Greene and Clinton Hill in the neighborhood's pre-gentrification days. She totally embraced the community and actively engaged in its revival when it needed a boost in the 1970s through the late 1990s. She was masterful in presenting her beloved neighborhood to even the most reluctant of buyers. Naida became the lynchpin of what this great neighborhood has become through her prolific sales of once-faded houses, and tireless recruitment of new residents to engage in community activism. She restored a number of Clinton Hill mansions, preserving all historic architectural elements. Her restored properties were featured in *The New York Times*, the *New York Daily News*, and many other publications and daytime television shows. She was an early active member of The Society for Clinton Hill, an organization of neighborhood activists who worked toward the designation of the Clinton Hill Historic District to save its iconic structures from destruction. In Vermont, Naida developed a private sale antique business and restored a late 1700's farmhouse. The beauty of Vermont was very special to her. She was a strong supporter of Yellow Barn in Putney, the Brattleboro Museum & Arts Center, and Vermont Public. McSherry is survived by her beloved "son" and partner in crime, Kurt Wohlfeil. Naida collected friends throughout her life and is survived by a cadre of "best friends" in Clinton Hill, Putney, and Brattleboro, including Terree Randall, Mary Arenas (a best friend since college), Abigail Golde, Roslyn Huebener, Binnie Sen, Debbie Holland, B & T Lewin, Mary Meyer, and many, many others, and by her dog, Feona, her pride and joy. MEMORIAL INFORMATION: A memorial will be at a future date.



• **June Carol Murphy, 81**, of Brattleboro. Died peacefully Jan. 5, 2023, surrounded by family, after a lengthy battle with cancer. Born to Carl and Edith Pierce on March 9, 1941, June grew up in Morrisville, moving to Brattleboro as a young adult. Her first marriage to Alan Mason ended in divorce. In 1986, June met her lifelong love, John Murphy. The two married Dec. 28, 1988. Throughout her life, June worked at the H. Margolin Company, The Book Press and, for the last 25 years, at the Brattleboro Retreat. June enjoyed gardening, family gatherings, Bingo, and trips to the casino. Over the last two decades, June and her husband John boarded 17 different cruise ships, creating wonderful memories together. June was devoted to her family. She will be remembered for her quick wit and strong-willed personality. She will be dearly missed by her devoted husband and all who knew her. June was predeceased by her oldest son James Mason and siblings Vernon Pierce, Virginia LaClair, and Helen Sawyer. She is survived by her husband, John Murphy, daughter Lorie (Geoff) Downing, sons Wesley (Amy) Mason and David (Heather) Mason; sisters Leona Sweeney, Lora Doe, Sandra Caldwell, and Penny Bernier; stepsons David (Diane) Murphy, Shawn Murphy, Kevin (Diane) Murphy, and Michael (Christine) Murphy; stepdaughter Tina (Richard) Annear; and several grandchildren and great-grandchildren. MEMORIAL INFORMATION: Family

and friends will hold a celebration of June's life on Saturday, Jan. 21, at 1 p.m., at VFW Post 1034, 40 Black Mountain Rd., Brattleboro. Donations to the Windham County Humane Society, P.O. Box 397, Brattleboro, VT 05302. To send condolences, visit [atamaniuk.com](http://atamaniuk.com).



• **Josephine "Josie" E. Rigby, 74**, of Greenfield, Massachusetts. Died Jan. 1, 2023 at Mercy Hospital in Springfield, Massachusetts after complications suffered from a stroke that hospitalized her in December. She was born in Stretton, England on April 6, 1948, the daughter of William and Joan Hankey. She grew up on Mosswood Farm with her family and attended local schools in England, continuing her education by graduating from the International Business School in London. Josie was fluent in Italian and French and ran the American Institute of International Studies for two summers in Rome, Italy. Josie met her future husband Robert in 1972 and they were married in 1973. Josie and Robert, along with their children Andrea and Graham, moved from England to Brockville, Canada in late 1977. They then moved to Watertown, New York in 1982 and lived in Deerfield, New York before finally moving to Greenfield in 1992. Josie raised her children at home before later working for Northfield Mount Hermon School for 20 years in the Alumni Relations office where she led annual alumni reunions, something she truly loved to do. Outside of work, Josie and her husband were actively involved in the Brattleboro Senior Bowling League, and she was a volunteer at LifePath in Greenfield. She loved to bowl, play tennis and badminton, and won many awards as an equestrian in her youth. She loved to travel with her family, visiting many states and countries in the process. Besides her beloved husband of 49 years, Josie leaves a daughter, Andrea Kessler of Lincoln, Nebraska; a son, Graham Rigby and his wife Lee of Keene, New Hampshire; grandchildren Gavin and Clara Jane; a brother, Billie Hankey of Waterhouses, England; and cousins John Ramicone of Columbus, Ohio, James and Marcia Ramicone of North Royalton, Ohio, and Albert and Sandy Ramicone of Lakeside, Ohio; several beloved nieces and nephews; and her dog Harvey. She was predeceased by her parents, her sister Helen, her sister-in-law Phyl Hankey and cousin Jane Ramicone. MEMORIAL INFORMATION: Per Josie's request, there will be no services at this time. A memorial service will be announced at a later date. Donations to LifePath, 101 Munson St., Suite #201, Greenfield, MA 01301. To send condolences, visit [kostanskifuneralhome.com](http://kostanskifuneralhome.com).

• **Phyllis Kinsey Stevens, 98**, of Fairfield, New Jersey. Died peacefully of natural causes on Jan. 1, 2023. In the days leading up to her death, she was surrounded by her loving family and the wonderful caretakers at Sunrise of West Essex. Phyllis was the beloved wife of the late John Nash Stevens; loving mother of Eric and Carol Stevens, Mark Stevens and Deborah Mears, and predeceased by the late Ann Kays and survived by her son-in-law Jeffrey Kays. Phyllis was the dear sister of the late Lloyd and Pat Kinsey. Phyllis is predeceased by grandchildren Chris Scott and Christopher Kays and survived by grandchildren Tim, Brian, Drew, Kerry, Tara, Erin, Patrick, Rob, and Katie. She is also survived by her great-grandchildren Chace, Emma, Rowan, Haley, Dylan, Marina, Harriet, and Olivia. Phyllis was born on Oct. 12, 1924 to Mabel (McCord) and Lloyd Kinsey

**802 Credit Union donates \$6,000 to Project Feed**

BARRE — On Dec. 22, 802 Credit Union Vice President of HR & Compliance Celina Ayers presented a \$6,000 check to the 2022 Project Feed Campaign. Ayers also sits on the board of Project Feed the Thousands and presented the check to Kelli Corbel of W TSA Radio and John Sciacca of Brattleboro Subaru, both board members as well.

802 Credit Union (previously known as River Valley Credit Union) has been a proud community supporter of Project Feed for more than a decade, providing administrative, marketing, and financial support to underwrite the annual campaign.

With the annual Fill the Bus event cancelled due to severe weather, Project Feed said it was left with an even greater need for financial support to meet the 2022 \$100,000 goal and that 802 Credit Union was happy to assist with this donation.

The nonprofit takes donations year-round, to help with the continuing food insecurities that families in our communities face. Monetary, tax-deductible contributions may be sent to Project Feed the Thousands, c/o 802 Credit Union, P.O. Box 8366, North Brattleboro, VT 05304. You can also donate at [projectfeedthethousands.org](http://projectfeedthethousands.org) or [bit.ly/697-feed](http://bit.ly/697-feed).

**Republicans to meet in Guilford**

GUILFORD — The Republican Town Committee will meet on Saturday, Jan. 14, at 11 a.m., at the Town Office, 236 School Road. The main order of business is to select two Republicans who are residents whose names will be submitted to the Selectboard for appointment to the Board of Civil Authority. State statute allows representation on the BCA by at least three people from each major political party.

in Henderson, North Carolina. Phyllis and her family moved to New Jersey in 1935, where Phyllis was a graduate of East Orange High School. Phyllis graduated from Randolph Macon Women's College in Virginia with a degree in Spanish studies. Phyllis then met the love of her life, John Stevens. Phyllis and John were married on Nov. 23, 1946 and enjoyed 71 happy years together. Phyllis and her beloved John raised their children in Verona, New Jersey and was an active member in Cub and Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, and the Church of the Holy Spirit in Verona, NJ. When her husband retired in 1985, Phyllis and John moved to Long Beach Island, New Jersey, where she shared treasured memories with family and painted the island landscapes with great love, talent, and skill. Phyllis was a beautiful woman, inside and out. She always had a smile on her face and made others laugh with her charming and endearing sense of humor. She lived with love in her heart and her days were filled doing things for others. Every person who met her loved her. Above all else, she took great pride in caring for her husband and her loving family. She will be deeply missed by all who were blessed to know her. MEMORIAL INFORMATION: A celebration of her life will take place this summer with family and friends on Long Beach Island.

• **Leroy J. Stewart, 56**, of Brattleboro. Died Dec. 24, 2022 at home, with his family at his side, following an illness. Born in Greenfield, Massachusetts on Feb. 21, 1966, he was the son of

**AROUND THE TOWNS**

Pursuant to the November 2022 election, the Republican Party has only one duly elected representative on the BCA and wishes to request appointment by the Selectboard of two additional representatives. All Guilford residents are invited to attend this meeting. Any attendee who is not yet a member of the Town Committee, but wishes to join, will be voted into membership. For more information, call Town GOP Committee Chair Connie Burton at 802-257-1550.

**Tracking workshop offered**

DUMMERSTON — Forester and naturalist Lynn Levine will host a workshop, "Tracks and Trees: The Art of Seeing," on Saturday, Jan. 14, from 1 to 3:30 p.m. In case of bad weather, the workshop will be held on Sunday, Jan. 15, at the same time.

Participants will join Levine for an afternoon to experience the wonders of winter, whether they are tracks, scat, or animal signs. Along the way, she will share tips on identifying trees in the winter, and whatever else we see or hear. Participants should dress appropriately for the outdoors and, if necessary, bring snowshoes. Each workshop participant will be provided with their own copy of Levine's book, *Mammal Tracks and Scat: Life-Size Pocket Guide*.

Pre-registration with payment of \$20 is required. This workshop is limited to a maximum of 15 people. Register by emailing [director@vermontwoodlands.org](mailto:director@vermontwoodlands.org) or calling Kate Foldeak at 802-747-7900. Participants must be fully vaccinated. Masks required for the indoor portion of the workshop.

**Meeting will discuss bike, pedestrian safety**

NEWFANE — A community meeting to discuss ways to make Newfane Village Center safer and more comfortable for walking and bicycling will be held on Thursday, Jan. 19, at 6 p.m., at the Newfane Town Office, 555

VT Route 30. The meeting will cover the several design options that have been developed to improve safety in Newfane Village Center. To attend via Zoom, go to [bit.ly/697-bike](http://bit.ly/697-bike). For more information about the project, visit [windhamregional.org/transportation/newfane-sidewalk](http://windhamregional.org/transportation/newfane-sidewalk).

**RFPL hosts local legislators for monthly chats**

BELLOWS FALLS — The public is invited to drop by the Rockingham Free Public Library in Bellows Falls on Saturday, Jan. 21, from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m., to chat with Windham County state Sens. Nader Hashim, D-Dummerston, and Wendy Harrison, D-Brattleboro, and Windham-3 (Brookline, Rockingham, and Westminster) state Reps. Michelle Bos-Lun, D-Westminster, and Leslie Goldman, D-Bellows Falls.

Subsequent conversations at the RFPL are planned for the third Saturday of the month, February through April: Feb. 18, March 18, and April 15, with a tentative May meeting scheduled for May 20. A table in a quiet corner of the fiction room will be reserved for these conversations.

**Death Cafe comes to Putney**

PUTNEY — On Saturday, Jan. 21, from 1 to 3 p.m., Brattleboro Area Hospice will host a Death Cafe at Putney Friends Meeting, 17 Bellows Falls Road. This event is free and the public is encouraged to attend. Donations are gratefully accepted and will go to Putney Friends for the use of the space.

Participants are invited to join curious and like-minded folks to talk about death while enjoying tea, coffee, and snacks. A Death Cafe is a group-directed discussion of death with no agenda, objectives, or themes. The objective is "to increase awareness of death with a view to helping people make the most of their

(finite) lives." Find out more at [deathcafe.com/what](http://deathcafe.com/what).

RSVP by Wednesday, Jan. 18, by emailing [info@brattleborohospice.org](mailto:info@brattleborohospice.org) or calling 802-257-0775.

**Monthly free produce available**

PUTNEY — The Vermont Foodbank and the Putney Foodshelf will co-sponsor the next monthly drop of free produce and some nonperishable items on Thursday, Jan. 26, from 9 to 9:45 a.m. on Alice Holway Drive (in front of Putney Meadows, the white building across from the Putney Co-op and Putney Fire Station.)

All are welcome. Because of COVID-19, participants are asked to remain in their car at pickup, and volunteers will bring out bags.

**Winter Reading Series begins at Southern Vermont Natural History Museum**

MARLBORO — Join the Southern Vermont Natural History Museum on Saturday, Jan. 28, at 4 p.m., for a discussion of Rachel Carson's landmark 1962 book *Silent Spring*.

Led by Mary Wright, the discussion will cover the book, its historic implications, and how its message remains relevant today. The Pettie Memorial Library, Whitingham Free Library, and Dover Free Library all have copies available.

This event is free to the public but donations to the museum's educational programming are always appreciated. Refreshments will be served. Contact the museum for more information at [vermontmuseum.org](http://vermontmuseum.org) or follow the event page at [facebook.com/vermontmuseum](http://facebook.com/vermontmuseum).

The Winter Reading Series will continue in February with Barry Lopez's *Of Wolves and Men* and in March with Robin Wall Kimmerer's *Braiding Sweetgrass*.

Dalton Fisher Sr., Nancy (Booker) Colleli and his late stepfather Raymond R. Stewart. Being part of a military family, he frequent moved around, including time in Germany and Fort Riley, Kansas, before settling in Orlando, Florida. He graduated from Boone High School in Orlando in 1984. A talented craftsman, Leroy did marble fabrication and installation and later became a land surveyor with Boyer-Singleton & Associates. He was also an expert handyman. Leroy had a passion for mountain biking, surfing and building things including, more recently, two tiny homes where he resided the past four years. He also enjoyed hiking, camping and truck shows with his customized Dakota pickup, which earned him numerous trophies. Leroy loved his dogs Cherokee, Kanga, and Sioux. A kidney transplant recipient himself, Leroy was a member and supporter of the National Kidney Foundation. Leroy will be sadly missed by his daughter, Brandy Stewart of Miami, Florida; his mother, Nancy Colleli of Leesburg,

Florida; brothers Joe Stewart of Orlando and Dalton Fisher Jr. of Orange, Massachusetts; and sister Tammie Fisher of Shelburne Falls, Massachusetts. He is also survived by his many aunts and uncles: Rhonda Booker Bradbury of Brattleboro, Kathy Ames of Hinsdale, New Hampshire, Carol Booker of Greenfield, Jimmy Booker of Duncan, South Carolina, Anna Booker Guay of DeSoto, Missouri, Jimmy Booker of Festus, Missouri, Mary Booker Davis of Patton, Missouri; and many, many cousins that he was very close with. Leroy was predeceased by his aunt Judy Bartlett Gunn and his niece Brittany Fisher. MEMORIAL INFORMATION: Interment took place in South Cemetery in Orange. Donations to the National Kidney Foundation, 5756 South Semoran Blvd., Orlando, FL 32822.

• **Arol Ward Jr., 87**, of Grafton. Died on Dec. 31, 2022, in Springfield, Vermont. Arol was born on July 12, 1935, in Pittsfield, Massachusetts, to the late Arol Ward Sr. and Florence (Gaylord)

Ward. A longtime resident and business owner in Grafton, Arol graduated from Bellows Falls High School and later married Luann (Bell) Ward, who survives. He loved hunting, camping, puzzles, and fishing. He also served as a selectman and former trustee for the fire department, and as a deacon in his church. Arol also took great pride in his business, Ward Excavating, but even greater pride in his family. Arol is survived by his children: Heidi (Bob) Milbauer, Andrew (Janet) Ward, and Betsy (Edward) Garciadealba; grandchildren Jim (Ashlee) Milbauer, Kurt (Crystal) Milbauer, Erika Milbauer, Dillan Ward, Carmina Garciadealba, Jason (Brit) Garciadealba, and Justin (Madelyn) Garciadealba; and his great-grandchildren Kaleb Hathaway, Makenna Milbauer, Jacob Milbauer, James Milbauer IV, Tacomie Milbauer, Bethany Garciadealba, and Hailey Garciadealba. MEMORIAL INFORMATION: Funeral services and burial were private.

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Hi, my name is **Maggie**! I am a sweet active dog looking for a new home. I am currently in foster. My ideal home would be one without other animals and would do best in a home with kids 13+. An experienced owner who knows my breed would be recommended. I am very loyal to my owners.



Hi, my name is **Leah**! I came from another Vermont Shelter to find a new home. I may look small and petite, but I actually weigh 65 pounds. I am both sweet and independent. I may be able to live with another dog if we are introduced slowly. My experience with cats are unknown and I would do better in a home with older respectful kiddos. If you are looking for an older gal than I may be the gal for you.



Hi, my name is **Bo**! I am a very sweet and friendly young man. I am heartworm positive. Heartworm is a serious condition but can be treated with time and specialized medical care which WCHS will provide. The staff can tell you more about the treatment and after care when you come and meet with me! Once I am healthy I would like to have lots of adventures as I'm still young and energetic. I may be able to live with another dog who doesn't mind my exuberance as long as we get a chance to know each other gradually. Cats are a bit too exciting for me so I shouldn't live with any. Children who won't be intimidated by my bouncy personality and puppy like play should be okay.



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# State may extend pandemic-era Town Meeting options for 2023

## Brattleboro will return to in-person Representative Town Meeting in March

By Kevin O'Connor  
VtDigger.org

The Vermont Legislature is considering whether to allow continued pandemic-era flexibility in how and when the state's 247 cities and towns decide local leaders, spending, and special articles.

Lawmakers passed several bills in the past two years letting communities make short-term, Covid-safe changes to Town Meeting — traditionally held on or around the first Tuesday in March — and to gather municipal governing boards solely online.

“The citizens of Vermont should be able to protect their health, safety, and welfare,” each bill said, “while also continuing to exercise their right to participate in annual municipal meetings.”

Some 80% of communities

in 2021 and almost 75% in 2022 used the temporary laws to replace shoulder-to-shoulder decision-making with mailable ballots, while most of the rest tapped the legislation to reschedule proceedings until residents could open windows or move outdoors in warmer weather.

This week, the House Government Operations Committee is set to consider a bill modeled on the last session's Act 1 ([bit.ly/697-act1](https://bit.ly/697-act1)) to continue the options of switching from floor voting to ballots, rescheduling Town Meetings, and holding public information sessions online.

“I have been working with stakeholders to address a temporary extension of some of the provisions,” said the committee's newly named chair, Rep. Michael

McCarthy, a Democrat from St. Albans.

The Vermont League of Cities and Towns, a municipal support organization, has heard from a rising number of Selectboards that want Covid options to continue another year, it noted in a recent legislative report.

The move isn't expected to affect Vermont's 28 cities and towns with 5,000 or more people, as they annually vote on local leaders and spending using ballots. But most of the 219 communities with smaller populations traditionally hold some sort of Town Meeting, which must be warned at least 30 days in advance — by Feb. 5 this year, for those seeking to take municipal action on the traditional first Tuesday in March.

Covid-19 struck Vermont a week after Town Meeting Day



KEVIN O'CONNOR/VTDIGGER FILE PHOTO

**Brattleboro Town Moderator Lawrin Crispe, right, and Assistant Town Manager Patrick Moreland run the online version of the 2021's Representative Annual Town Meeting from the Municipal Center.**

in 2020. As the pandemic continued in 2021, only five communities gathered in person, with each having little on the agenda or gaveling in for the sole purpose of adjourning to a later date.

In 2022, the figure rose to about 40 cities and towns, 15% of the total number of Vermont municipalities.

The number could increase this year if communities follow the example of Brattleboro, whose local leaders just voted to return to an in-person Town Meeting after three years of doing so remotely.

Brattleboro is the only municipality in the state allowed to hold an annual Town Meeting electronically, as its unique gathering of elected representatives is the sole one previously permitted to limit online participation to official members and let everyone else watch on public access television.

But that has resulted in recent sessions as long as 15 hours over two days.

“Much as I like sitting at home for Town Meeting and being able to get up and go to the refrigerator anytime I want,” Brattleboro physician Franz Reichsman told the Selectboard this month, “I do think there's real utility in having an in-person meeting and avoiding the prolongation of what has already become a difficult and lengthy procedure.”

As for health concerns, the doctor quipped, “do we really want to interfere with the centuries-long tradition of Vermonters giving each other viral illnesses at Town Meeting?”

Reichsman then observed that, “as people have gotten vaccinated and had previous infections, the

virulence of the virus has gotten considerably less.”

Statewide, many people want the Legislature to permanently allow public bodies to conduct year-round business online, citing greater access, participation, safety, and transparency.

Electronic sessions have allowed Vermonters to attend from anywhere and “keep quorums during inclement weather, while recovering from illness, or simply when child-care and elder-care duties prevented in-person attendance,” the League of Cities and Towns noted in its legislative

report.

The chairs of the House and Senate Government Operations committee are set to explore such options.

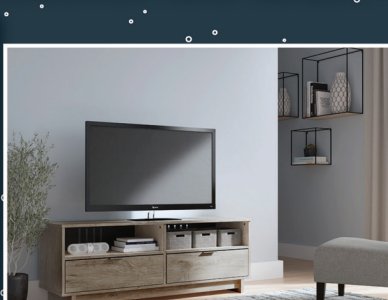
Said McCarthy: “We plan to have a broader discussion this biennium, with an inclusive and more extended process to address the long-term issues.”

And Sen. Ruth Hardy, a Democrat from Addison County, said: “These are temporary provisions, which will be followed by a longer discussion of whether more permanent action is necessary.”

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Or email resume to: employment@cersosimo.com

having the fire department assume EMS duties.

Local leaders recently received a feasibility study that showed the takeover, sold as a money saver, could cost taxpayers more because it will require additional employees and equipment.

The Selectboard has yet to discuss the study's findings and, as a result, is set to propose a fiscal year 2024 budget that won't specify any particular EMS plan.

“I want to provide us the space so that we can make an informed decision and not rush it,” board Chair Ian Goodnow said at a Jan. 3 meeting.

Local leaders surprised residents last spring when they voted to drop a nearly six-decade contract with the private nonprofit Rescue, the region's largest and longest-serving EMS provider, and hire competitor Golden Cross Ambulance to help the fire department pick up coverage.

Leaders at the time claimed the plan not only would cost less than Rescue's \$285,600 annual fee but also reap an estimated \$500,000 to \$700,000 in yearly insurance revenue after expenses. But neither the past six months of a test run nor the 112-page municipally commissioned feasibility study by the AP Triton consulting company has found that the town can save money without cutting service.

If the town funds extra fire department staff and supplies to cover all EMS calls, it would collect an estimated \$935,626 in annual insurance payments but would still need to pay more than \$300,000 a year to cover \$1.2 million in expenses — a figure higher than the most recent Rescue contract, the study found.

Reducing the number of available EMS vehicles and staffers would bring down the bill, but also limit service to one 24-hour ambulance and one 10-hour-a-day vehicle — less than the current two 24-hour units and one backup for a town where the closest mutual aid partners are a half hour away.

The Selectboard must approve a budget proposal this month in preparation for Town Meeting, which is set to return to its traditional in-person format on Saturday, March 25.

But local leaders are facing a long list of other considerations, including \$4.3 million in proposed facility upgrades to Brattleboro's main recreational area, Living Memorial Park.

Board members hope that putting a placeholder EMS sum in the coming budget will give them the opportunity to schedule public meetings on the issue sometime this winter.

Said Goodnow: “We have the ability to make a motion on the floor at Town Meeting to affect this amount.”

And colleague Daniel Quipp: “That's why I want to have a big asterisk next to ‘ambulance service’ that says ‘subject to contract yet to be decided.’”

# Honoring a love of music and community

*Dar Williams will be the first to perform in the Ray Massucco Concert Series in February*

By Robert F. Smith  
The Commons

BELLOWS FALLS—The premier concert of the Ray Massucco Concert Series will feature Dar Williams ([darwilliams.com](http://darwilliams.com)), with opening act Crys Matthews ([crysmatthews.com](http://crysmatthews.com)), at the Bellows Falls Opera House on Saturday, Feb. 4.

A small group of friends created the concert series in memory of Massucco, who died suddenly last September, with the first concert featuring Williams, one of his favorites.

The local attorney had great enthusiasm for a lot of things, with music and his hometown of Bellows Falls ranking near the top. It is hard to find any important project in the community, going back decades, that Massucco didn't have some sort of hand in.

That includes the restoration of the Bellows Falls Opera House into a 550-seat theater and live music venue, with one of the largest movie screens in New England and a stage large enough to easily hold a symphony orchestra.

Concert organizer Charlie Hunter, who reported that supporters bought more than 70 tickets for the series before the acts were booked, said that this will be at least the fourth time since 2007 that Williams has performed in Bellows Falls.

She came to town so often because, for five years, her manager was Hunter, who also founded the Roots on the River Music Festival.

Massucco took over the three-to-four-day roots and Americana festival from Hunter about halfway through its 20-year run.

Working with Hunter on the new concert series are Ezra Veitch, Maridee Serebrov, Patrick LaBlanc, and Robb Fox, who had all also worked with Massucco.

■ SEE MASSUCCO CONCERTS, B3



JUSTIN HIGUCHI/WIKIMEDIA COMMONS; COMMONS FILE PHOTO (INSET)

Dar Williams will return to Bellows Falls for the first of a series of concerts to honor longtime attorney and civic volunteer Ray Massucco (inset). The longtime director of Roots on the River died last September.

## COLUMN | Creative Conversations



Antje Duvekot is the headliner at Next Stage Arts on Jan. 14.

COURTESY PHOTO

# Straight from the HEART

Antje Duvekot, a singer/songwriter, will bring her acoustic-based folk music with emotional resonance to a performance at Next Stage Arts

When reached by phone recently, award-winning singer/songwriter Antje Duvekot says she's looking forward to playing at "one of [her] favorite venues ever."

Next Stage Arts Project and Twilight Music present an evening of contemporary folk music with Duvekot on Saturday, Jan. 14, at 7:30 p.m., at Next Stage at 15 Kimball Hill.

Duvekot will be joined on this double bill of contemporary folk music by the New York-based duo The Sea The Sea (see story, this issue).

"As for what to expect from my live show, I share a lot, like I usually do, like personal philosophies and insights," Duvekot says. "My show is like a personal journey in song."

"My songs are often poetic and metaphorical," she says. "The music is



**VICTORIA CHERTOK's** passion is covering the arts and entertainment in Windham County for The Commons. An educator, writer, photographer, chef, musician, and the mother of two sons, she has lived in the Green Mountain State since the '90s and has had more than 80 arts features published since she began writing in 2017.

acoustic-based folk."

Duvekot, of Lincoln, Massachusetts, was born in Heidelberg, Germany and moved to the United States at 13 years old. She enjoys visiting Germany: "My father, brother and nephew live there so I go back at least once a year."

I tell her about when I backpacked through Europe years ago and I fell in love with German cuisine. She laughs. "I do love German food," she says.

"I miss the bread and the yogurt the most. They make the best dark, heavy whole wheat, whole grain bread."

According to her bio, Duvekot has won some of the top songwriting awards, including the grand prize in the John Lennon Songwriting Contest, the Kerrville Folk Festival, Grassy Hill New Folk Competition for Emerging Songwriters, and the Boston Music Award for Best Folk Artist.

She has wowed audiences at many major music festivals: Newport, Mountain Stage, Philadelphia, Falcon Ridge, Great Waters, and Kerrville.

The Commons spoke with Duvekot

■ SEE DUVEKOT, B4

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# arts & community CALENDAR

THURSDAY	THURSDAY CONT.	FRIDAY CONT.	SATURDAY CONT.	SUNDAY CONT.
12	<p>working volunteers from the church and community.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ 12 noon.</li> <li>▶ Suggested donation: \$3.50.</li> <li>▶ Newfane Congregational Church, 11 Church St. Information: Questions? Call Winnie Dolan at 802-365-7870.</li> </ul>	<p>▶ 7 p.m. (doors open 6:30 p.m.). Note: If you want to join the choir, the Brattleboro group rehearses at the Vermont Jazz Center on Monday nights from 7-9 p.m., starting 1/30. Enroll: <a href="http://www.rockvoices.com">www.rockvoices.com</a>.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ \$15 adults, \$12 seniors, \$8 students, Donation jar set up to benefit Groundworks Collaborative in Brattleboro.</li> <li>▶ Centre Congregational Church, 193 Main St. Information: 802-254-4730; <a href="mailto:centrechurch@centrechurchvt.org">centrechurch@centrechurchvt.org</a>.</li> </ul>	<p>develop a deeper understanding of how the dynamics of violence work as well as how the dynamic of non-violence can be cultivated. This will be developed in the context of gender issues, reverence for the earth, social systems, and work for social justice leading to work on how to create and enhance communities of non-violence and transformation."</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ 1-3 p.m. on Saturdays.</li> <li>▶ Free.</li> <li>▶ The Beloved Community, 18 Town Crier Dr. Information: More info - Rev. Ralph Howe: <a href="mailto:howerwiii@gmail.com">howerwiii@gmail.com</a> or 802-249-2947.</li> </ul>	<p>Seven years in the making, the sold-out performances happened over 14 days in August of 2022. Film director is Lukas Huffman.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ 4 p.m. This 40 minute film is being shown in various locations in VT and NH.</li> <li>▶ \$5 suggested donation.</li> <li>▶ Next Stage Arts Project, 15 Kimball Hill. Information: 802-387-0102; <a href="http://nextstagearts.org">nextstagearts.org</a>.</li> </ul>
13	<p><b>Music</b></p> <p><b>BRATTLEBORO First Salon of the New Year at Brattleboro Music Center:</b> Moby Pearson presents the 2022 remix and re-release of what some say is the Beatles' best ever, the 1966 album Revolver - plus outtakes from many of the songs! Songs such as: "Tomorrow Never Knows," "Got to Get You into My Life," "Yellow Submarine," and "I'm Only Sleeping." Did you know "Rain" and "Paperback Writer" were also created during these recording sessions?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ 6:30 p.m. Food and drink are provided.</li> <li>▶ \$20 suggested donation.</li> <li>▶ Brattleboro Music Center, 72 Blanche Moysse Way. Information: More info: <a href="mailto:info@bmcvt.org">info@bmcvt.org</a> or calling 802-257-4523.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Instruction</b></p> <p><b>BRATTLEBORO DIY Herbal Eye Pillows:</b> The gentle scent of herbs can be a great support in the quest for great sleep. Co-op Educator Lisa and Herbalist Susan Stanton will guide up to ten students in making linen eye pillows featuring a blend of herbs you customize yourself. This is easy to make at home, by hand or on a machine.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ 3-4:45. Register by 1/12.</li> <li>▶ Free.</li> <li>▶ Brattleboro Food Co-op Community Room, 7 Canal St. Information: Register: <a href="mailto:Education@BFC.coop">Education@BFC.coop</a>.</li> </ul>	<p style="background-color: #e6e6fa; text-align: center; font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold;">14</p> <p><b>Performing arts</b></p> <p><b>BRATTLEBORO The Met - Live in HD: Umberto Giordano's exhilarating drama "FEDORA":</b> Soprano Sonya Yoncheva sings the title role of the 19th-century Russian princess who falls in love with her fiance's murderer, Count Loris, sung by tenor Piotr Beczala. Soprano Rosa Feola is the Countess Olga, Fedora's confidant, and baritone Lucas Meachem is the diplomat De Sirieux, with Met maestro Marco Armiliato conducting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ 1-3:45. Masks strongly recommended.</li> <li>▶ \$22, \$20 for MET CLUB FOREVER members, \$10 students.</li> <li>▶ Latchis Theatre, 50 Main St. Information: Questions: Advance credit card purchases/MET CLUB FOREVER membership/season tickets: <a href="mailto:Jon.Potter@802-254-1109">Jon.Potter@802-254-1109</a> ext. 3 or <a href="mailto:jon@latchisarts.org">jon@latchisarts.org</a>.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Community building</b></p> <p><b>W. BRATTLEBORO All Souls Church Hybrid Worship Service: "Our Hands of Justice with Rev. Telos Whitfield (In Person/Zoom):"</b> Together, we reach out and re-commit our hands and hearts to the work of justice. Racial justice, equality and care for our LGBTQ and refugee communities, freedom for all people, and in these times of climate crisis, justice for our earth. May we live, speak and act through our values."</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ 10 a.m.</li> <li>▶ All Souls Unitarian Universalist Church, 29 South St. Information: Go to <a href="http://ascvt.org">ascvt.org</a> on Sunday shortly before 10 a.m. to join via Zoom.</li> </ul>
15	<p><b>Well-being</b></p> <p><b>GREENFIELD Yoga for Your Chakras - Balancing Your Energy Centers (In-Person/Zoom):</b> In this 7-class series we'll use the chakra system as a template to support body-mind inquiry in our yoga practice. Each week we'll focus on and support individual chakras. You can attend just one or all of the classes in the series. Teacher is Louise LeGouis.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ 5-6 p.m. on Thursdays. Vaccinated students only. Masks optional.</li> <li>▶ Through Thursday, March 2.</li> <li>▶ \$85 for whole series or \$13.50 to \$18 for individual classes with or without class cards.</li> <li>▶ Community Yoga and Wellness Center, 6 Federal St., 2nd fl. Information: Pre-register by 4 p.m.: <a href="mailto:community-yoga.com">community-yoga.com</a>.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Well-being</b></p> <p><b>GREENFIELD Roll &amp; Relax with Self-Massage Techniques to Unlock Your Fascia:</b> Learn how to use self-massage therapy balls to relieve tension, increase mobility, enhance breathing, improve posture, and induce deep relaxation. Teacher is Louise LeGouis.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ 5-6:30 p.m. Therapy balls provided and available for purchase. Limited to 15 students.</li> <li>▶ \$20 per class.</li> <li>▶ Community Yoga and Wellness Center, 6 Federal St., 2nd fl. Information: Pre-register by 4 p.m.: <a href="mailto:community-yoga.com">community-yoga.com</a>.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Music</b></p> <p><b>PUTNEY Next Stage Arts Project and Twilight Music present Antje Duvekot and The Sea The Sea:</b> Contemporary folk music. Antje Duvekot is a German-born, singer/songwriter, American-raised, whose songs have been critically praised for their hard-won wisdom, dark-eyed realism, street-smart romanticism. Her bicultural upbringing and relative newness to English have helped shape her unique way with a song, giving her a startlingly original poetic palette. They are the keys to the powerful, revolutionary empathy that informs her writing.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ 7:30 p.m. Beer, wine and cash bar on site.</li> <li>▶ \$20 to \$40.</li> <li>▶ Next Stage Arts Project, 15 Kimball Hill. Information: Advance tickets: <a href="http://nextstagearts.org">nextstagearts.org</a>. Information: 802-387-0102 and website.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Arts and crafts</b></p> <p><b>GUILFORD Greeting Card Workshop:</b> Join Guilford folk to learn the how-tos of making your own stationery. Inspired by the upcoming return of Guilford Winter Pen Pals, this workshop will give you some original flare to your letter writing endeavors. Nancy Detra and Linda Lemcke, two local crafty artists, guide us in using watercolors, masking techniques, stamps, stencils. No painting experience needed. Blank cards w/ matching envelopes and all art supplies included. Letter writers of all ages welcome.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ 12 noon - 2 p.m. (If you are also interested to sign up for the Guilford Winter Pen Pals, there's still time! Just fill out this simple form: <a href="https://www.guilfordfreelibrary.org">https://www.guilfordfreelibrary.org</a>.)</li> <li>▶ Free.</li> <li>▶ Guilford Community Church, 38 Church Dr. off Rte. 5. Information: Questions: <a href="mailto:guilfordfolk@gmail.com">guilfordfolk@gmail.com</a>.</li> </ul>

## THE COLONIAL RECYCLED PERCUSSION

### Two Shows! 1.14

## DRAGONS AND BEASTS

### Giant Puppets! 1.20

## APPLE HILL STRING QUARTET 1.21

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**Farmers' markets**

**BRATTLEBORO Brattleboro Winter Farmers' Market:** Weekly diverse indoor farmers' market. Local farm produce, meats, syrup, fresh baked goods, fruits, cider, preserves, handmade jewelry, pottery, soaps, more. SNAP shoppers turn \$10 into \$40 each week!

- ▶ 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturdays through 3/25 in the gymnasium.
- ▶ Through Saturday, March 25.
- ▶ Brattleboro Winter Farmers Market, 60 Austine Dr. Information: [farmersmarket@posttollsolutions.org](mailto:farmersmarket@posttollsolutions.org), 802-275-2835.

**The written word**

**"Start Your Story Engine" - led by Barbara Morrison (Online):** "In this workshop, appropriate for beginning and experienced writers, we'll begin by considering the spark that can become a story, and then look at how to keep the story moving and the reader engaged."

- ▶ 4-5 p.m.
- ▶ \$10 suggested donation.
- ▶ Zoom. Information: Register: [info@timetowrite.us](mailto:info@timetowrite.us).

**Kids and families**

**BRATTLEBORO "Snack and a Story" Interactive Workshop with Jamie Champney:** Featuring children's author Jan Brett. Listen to "The Mitten" and make "brown bear toast" to enjoy together afterward!

- ▶ 10-11 a.m. Register by 1/13.
- ▶ Free.
- ▶ Brattleboro Food Co-op Community Room, 7 Canal St. Information: Register: [Education@BFC.coop](mailto:Education@BFC.coop).

**Well-being**

**BRATTLEBORO Food Choices with Robin Matthias: "Fat":** Get the real facts on fats: Saturated and unsaturated, cholesterol, trans fats, and omega 3's, as well as their connections to disease. Learn how to make healthy fat choices and how to minimize the unhealthy fats. Discover why some foods contain less healthy fats today than they did in the past. We will learn ways to substitute healthy fats for unhealthy ones.

- ▶ 1-3:30. Register by 1/13.
- ▶ Free.
- ▶ Brattleboro Food Co-op Community Room, 7 Canal St. Information: Register: [Education@BFC.coop](mailto:Education@BFC.coop).

**Performing arts**

**PUTNEY The Quarry Project:** Conceived and directed by Hannah Dennison, this was a site-specific dance/theater piece created for the Wells Lamson, one of the oldest, deepest granite quarries in the country, situated in the small village of Websterville, VT.

SUNDAY

# 15

**Performing arts**

**PUTNEY The Quarry Project:** Conceived and directed by Hannah Dennison, this was a site-specific dance/theater piece created for the Wells Lamson, one of the oldest, deepest granite quarries in the country, situated in the small village of Websterville, VT.



## Massucco concerts

Putney's Next Stage Arts is the concert series' co-presenter. Brattleboro's Dan Richardson will do the sound.

### Music and community faith

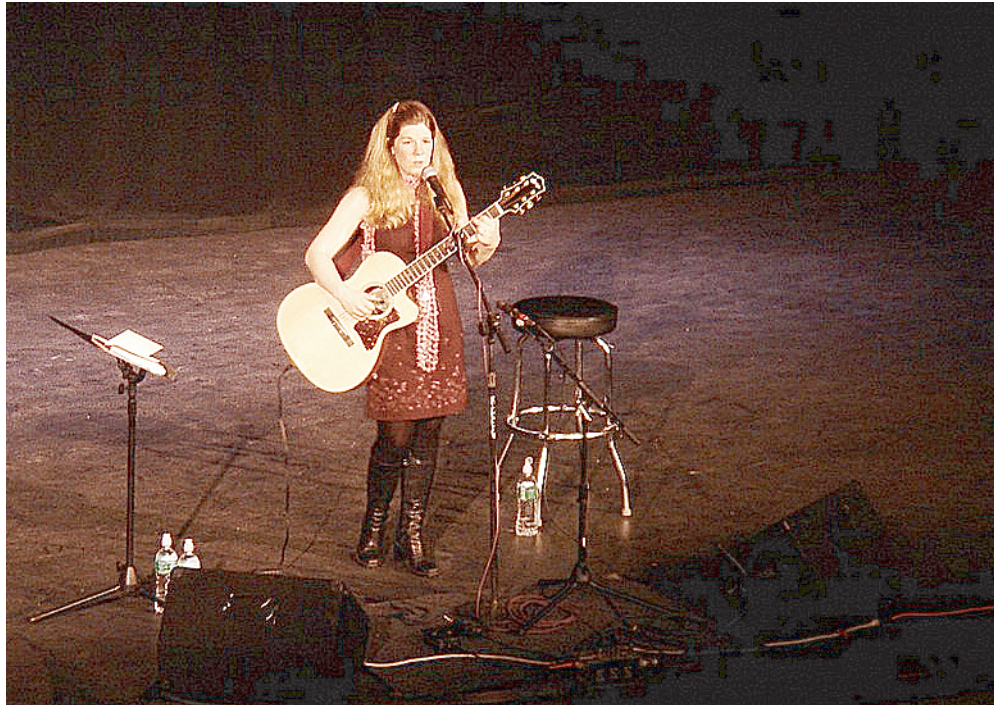
Williams, whose 30-year career as a singer, songwriter, and performer has established her at the top of the Americana music genre, has a strong fan base in New England.

Her songs such as "When I Was a Boy," "The Babysitter's Here," and "After All" have become modern classics to many. Hunter said her song "The Christians and the Pagans" — about a pagan lesbian couple spending Christmas eve with Christian relatives — is a standard at Unitarian Universalist Christmas concerts.

"Dar was one of Ray's favorites," Hunter said. "I think he'd be thrilled. But he would be thrilled with any show. He loved so much music. He was a real appreciator of music."

Williams agreed. "I was really happy when Charlie invited me to be a part of Ray's concert series," she wrote in an email. "I'm happy to play the first concert, but I don't think it's any reflection of Ray's preferences. He loved so many artists and genres with no hierarchy, and I'm guessing he told all of them that they were his favorites."

Massucco worked to help found the Bellows Falls Farmers' Market, among his many projects. Williams came to Bellows Falls in 2007 and performed a benefit show to help get the market



Dar Williams performs in 2007 with her bioluminescent eggplant scarf "in honor of the Bellows Falls Farmers Market."

going. "When Dar played the Farmers' Market benefit, she gave her full fee back to the benefit," Hunter said. "That really helped support the market, and helped keep live music at the markets. That's one of the reasons why this concert will be so meaningful."

In addition to the benefit concert, Williams also came to Bellows Falls as a surprise guest when Richard Shindell and Lucy Kaplansky performed at the Opera House. The three had performed as a trio, Cry, Cry, Cry,

where they paid tribute to their favorite songwriters. Williams' appearance helped sell out the show.

Williams explained why Bellows Falls holds a special place in her heart.

"About 20 years ago, Charlie Hunter told me he was moving to Bellows Falls, a beautiful Vermont town where he could grow the good that was already happening there," Williams wrote.

"Bellows Falls welcomed his sign-painting skills, street-corner painting studio, and plans to fill some of the old historic spaces with new music," she continued. She remembers Massucco as "a great kindred spirit who loved being a part of Charlie's indoor and outdoor music productions."

Describing it as "the crown jewel" of these projects, Williams described the impact of Massucco and Hunter's work in bringing the Bellows Falls Opera House to life.

"You need a lot of community faith in the commons to pull off a big opera house in a small town, especially one that's ingeniously combined with a town hall," she wrote. "Charlie and Ray, among others, had the vision and the energy to see it through."

### Crys Matthews will perform

Hunter said that Crys Matthews sharing the bill with Williams will be a special treat. "Crys is such a dynamic new voice," he said. "She did a show for Next Stage. She's coming up like Dar did 30 years ago."

Four shows are planned for 2023, including upcoming shows with The Steel Wheels



CHARLIE HUNTER

(thesteelwheels.com) on Friday, April 7 and Chris Smither (smither.com) on Saturday, Sept. 23. The fourth show has yet to be booked.

Hunter, who also managed Smither early in his career, said he's especially happy with this 2023 lineup.

"It's a joy," he said. "I'm 20 years out of the music business, but it's a joy to see two of my clients — Dar and Chris — still having viable careers."

Williams said that she has a special goal when she gets to the Opera House for this show.

"I seem to remember being told," she said, "when I played at the Opera House around 2006, that my manager Patty and I would have our names on two seats in the audience."

"I'm going to get there early and see if I can find them!" Williams said.

For more information about the Ray Massucco Concert Series or to purchase tickets for any of the shows booked to date, visit [BellowsFallsOperaHouse.com](http://BellowsFallsOperaHouse.com).

## Phil Henry, Rust and Ruin visit Stage 33 Live

BELLOWS FALLS— Singer-songwriter Phil Henry will perform a matinee concert on Sunday, Jan. 22, at 3 p.m. at Stage 33 Live at 33 Bridge Street.

Henry "builds detailed worlds and characters with vivid lyrical imagery," organizers say. His music "displays the skills of a craftsman and the authenticity of an artist, with strong melodies buoyed by rhythmic acoustic energy."

He's earned contest wins at SolarFest and Susquehanna Music and Arts, and showcase slots at Falcon Ridge, Kerrville, and the NorthEast Regional Folk Alliance.

Rust and Ruin will open the show with original songs

by bandleaders Beth and Josh Adams, in a style organizers describe as "popular retro-inspired country rock, featuring their signature sweet harmonies and fancy fretwork."

Tickets are \$7 in advance through [stage33live.com](http://stage33live.com) or \$10 at the door. Seating is limited. All performances are recorded and filmed.

Stage 33 Live is a casual and intimate industrial-rustic listening room in a former factory hosting local, regional, and national performances and presentations of original material. More info about the non-profit, all-volunteer project, and this and other upcoming events, can be found online ([stage33live.com](http://stage33live.com)).

### TUESDAY CONT.

rive before 9:45 a.m.) Stay in your vehicle. If you are walking to get here, see a VT Foodbank associate but make sure to stay 6 ft. back. No income requirements, registration or paperwork to participate.  
 ▶ You do not need to be present to get food: you may ask someone to pick up on your family's behalf.  
 ▶ Brattleboro Union High School, 131 Fairground Rd. Information: 800-585-2265, [veggievango@vtfoodbank.org](mailto:veggievango@vtfoodbank.org).

### Ideas and education

**BRATTLEBORO Southeastern Vermont Audubon Society Presentation:** Wildlife Rehabilitator Fred Homer and veterinarian Ron Svec present a slide show and talk about their work, experiences, friendship over the years as a team to provide care to many species of injured or orphaned birds - especially the many species of birds of prey they've helped. They'll discuss their work providing necessary care, treatments, surgery needed to release these awesome birds back into the wild. Q&A follows.  
 ▶ 7 p.m.  
 ▶ Free.  
 ▶ Brooks Memorial Library, 224 Main St. Information: 802-254-5290; [brookslibraryvt.org](http://brookslibraryvt.org).

### WEDNESDAY

# 18

### Well-being

**Taking Steps Brattleboro: Advance Care Planning Weekly Information Sessions (via Zoom):** Advance Care Planning ensures that your loved ones and health professionals know what you want in a medical emergency if you are unable to speak for yourself. It's a process of creating a written health care plan that tells others what you would want if you couldn't tell them yourself.



Includes discussing choices about end-of-life care with your medical provider, family, others, choosing/educating your Health Care Agent, making informed decisions to complete an Advance Directive.  
 ▶ 10-11 a.m. on Wednesdays. Find out if adding a COVID-19 or Dementia provision would be beneficial to include or add to a previously completed Advance Directive. This is a program of Brattleboro Area Hospice.  
 ▶ Free.  
 ▶ Zoom. Information: Ruth Nangeroni, Advance Care Planning Program Coord.: 802-257-0775 x101, [ruth.nangeroni@brattleborohospice.org](mailto:ruth.nangeroni@brattleborohospice.org).

**BRATTLEBORO Exercises for Health and Longevity:** Longevity Exercises are a distillation of the centuries-old method of the internal martial art Xingyiquan. These exercises artfully combine physical movement with intention, to stretch and "clean" all the joints of the body, while balancing the energetic system and remaining easy to learn. Taught by Stefan Grace, who has over 20 years of experience training and teaching the internal martial arts and qigong.  
 ▶ 9 a.m.-10 a.m. on Wednesdays.  
 ▶ \$10 to \$20 per class.  
 ▶ One Eighteen Elliot, 118 Elliot St. Information: Questions: [12redhammers@gmail.com](mailto:12redhammers@gmail.com).

**WILLIAMSVILLE Fall Prevention: Tai Chi, Level I:** Sponsored by Senior Solutions and taught by certified instructor Jane Douglas resumes on Thursdays. Previous and new attendees welcome.  
 ▶ 11 a.m. on Thursdays. Class size limited to 12. Vaccinations and masks appreciated.  
 ▶ Class is free of charge - donations accepted to help support the Hall.  
 ▶ Williamsville Hall, Dover Rd. Information: To enroll, show up on

the National Register of Historic Places, including the New York Museum of Modern Art (MoMA).  
 ▶ 6:30-7:30 p.m. (doors open 6 p.m.) Part of 118 Elliot Street's 2nd Wednesday monthly Architecture + Design Film Series. Trailer: <https://vimeo.com/251153053>.  
 ▶ Free.  
 ▶ One Eighteen Elliot, 118 Elliot St. Virtual (all day): [www.adfilm-series.org](http://www.adfilm-series.org); 118elliot.com.

### WEDNESDAY CONT.

Thursday or RSVP Steve Levine: [slevine761@gmail.com](mailto:slevine761@gmail.com).

### Film and video

**BRATTLEBORO "Albert Frey: The Architectural Interpreter" - Part 2 (In Person/Virtual):** Albert Frey: The Architectural Interpreter explores Frey's formative years while working with Le Corbusier in Europe and his transition to America, where 11 of his buildings are now on

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with photos of lost loved ones for movie/powerpoint

## Rock Voices Brattleboro returns for Jan. 13 winter concert

BRATTLEBORO—Rock Voices Brattleboro and director Bob Thies invite everyone to join them for an evening of choral music at Centre Congregational Church, 193 Main Street, on Friday, Jan. 13, at 7 p.m. Doors open at 6:30 p.m.

Backed by a professional rock band, the choir will deliver the harmonies of songs by Stevie Wonder, Styx, Queen, ELO, Journey, Imagine Dragons, Harry Styles, and Lake Street Dive, among others.

Rock Voices organizers say the choir "represents the best of southern Vermont and the greater Pioneer Valley: a sense of community, a love of music, and a desire to share their joy

and talents with others. But be warned — once you listen to this lively choir in person, you might find yourself signing up to join them next time around!"

For those interested in joining the Brattleboro group, they rehearse at the Vermont Jazz Center on Monday nights from 7 to 9 p.m. and will start a new session Jan. 30. Enroll from their website, [rockvoices.com](http://rockvoices.com).

Admission prices are \$15 for adults, \$12 for seniors, and \$8 for students. Children 12 and under are admitted free of charge. A donation jar will be set up to benefit Groundworks Collaborative. Tickets will be available at the door or online at [bit.ly/697-rock](http://bit.ly/697-rock).

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**PUSS IN BOOTS: THE LAST WISH** PG  
DAILY MATINEES 4 PM  
NIGHTLY 6:45 PM

**M3GAN** PG-13  
DAILY MATINEES 3:55 PM  
NIGHTLY 6:55 PM

# The Sea The Sea's music 'gets to the truth'

*'Songs are lenses through which we see the world, the things we are thinking about and experiencing,' says Mira Costa, who, with husband, Chuck, will perform at Next Stage*

**C**huck and Mira Costa (The Sea The Sea) will be performing on the double bill with Antje Duvekot (see interview with concert details, this issue). *The Commons* reached the indie folk-pop duo by phone recently, and they spoke about their upcoming concert, how they met Antje Duvekot, and how Covid has affected their songwriting and the audiences.

Here's an excerpt of their conversation:

**VICTORIA CHERTOK:** Have

you played with Antje before? **CHUCK COSTA:** We've known Antje for a long, long time!

**MIRA COSTA:** I met Chuck and Antje on the exact same day. I was stage managing at the Mountain Stage NewSong Festival in Shepherdstown, West Virginia, and both Antje and Chuck were songwriting contestants.

We are fans of her work and have played some shows together over the years. Because of Covid — it's like a time vortex where everything has been double as long now — so it's been a little while since we've played together, and we're really looking forward to it.

**V.C.:** Ha! I love your time vortex reference. Speaking of Covid: How has it impacted your songwriting and performing career?

**M.C.:** It was an interesting time — the first year of lockdown and not touring was a lot of creating. We finished our record *Stumbling Home* in August of 2020 and also tried to get creative with videos and the many ways of performing through our computer screen.

During that whole process, we considered ourselves lucky that we are a couple and we live together, so we were able to continue creating together during that time.

We also built a studio space during the pandemic, which has allowed us to write and record more songs than we probably ever have since starting to play together. It meant we got a lot of time just playing in a room together, too.

And then once touring began



Chuck E. Costa and Mira Costa — The Sea The Sea — will perform at Next Stage Arts in Putney.

again, all of a sudden it was an adjustment playing for actual people in the room instead of to a computer screen for two years, which was a funny thing. But I think we came out of that time evolved. That was a way we could honor that time — to dig in and grow.

**V.C.:** Have you noticed a difference in the audiences since you started performing live again?

**M.C.:** I think for audiences and performers alike there is a level of gratitude for what it means to be in a space together. You know, it's just something that you almost didn't know you were taking for granted before.

**C.C.:** There's been a shift we've noticed in [audiences] buying advance tickets. I think we all dealt with so many cancellations in all parts of our lives throughout the pandemic that there's still fear sometimes that the other shoe will drop.

There's been more waiting up until the last minute to commit to going to shows, but that's starting to change. It's been an interesting dynamic for many touring artists.

**V.C.:** Where did the name of your group The Sea The Sea come from?

**C.C.:** The name is an ancient Greek cry of joy. It comes from

a story in Xenophon's *Anabasis*. Soldiers living on the sea had to fight a battle inland. To survive they had to fight their way back home and, when they finally reached a mountaintop and could see the ocean once again, they knew they had made it through and were home again. [The soldiers cried out, "Thalatta! Thalatta!" ("The sea, the sea!")]

**V.C.:** What can the audience expect at your Next Stage show?

**M.C.:** If you like harmonies, you will find many harmonies in our set.

We describe ourselves as an indie folk duo — which to us means lyric-based songs that exist within a non-traditional sonic palette. There's acoustic guitar, but we are a two-man band in many ways.

There is percussion, bass, and electric guitar, too — we like to push the boundaries of what you can do with two people. I play acoustic guitar, keys, percussion.

**C.C.:** I play electric guitar, acoustic guitar, percussion, and bass guitar. Our style is a bit more eclectic. But our sound is rooted in the songs, the songwriting, and then our vocal harmonies that are the core of what we do.

**V.C.:** What inspires you to write songs?

**C.C.:** I think that I speak for both of us when I say we think in metaphors — that is how our brains work — so we look for metaphors that can be a visual we can use to feel some bigger universal idea.

As a broader theme, our songs often lean hopeful and positive. I think we tend to see the world in that way, and that comes through in our music.

**M.C.:** We think about songwriting as about sharing the human experience. Songs are lenses through which we see the world, the things we are thinking about and experiencing. We always try to get to the truth that we're coming into contact with.

Our mission statement as a band is to remind each other that none of us is alone — we are all feeling and experiencing the same things, even if they are their own specific versions of that and we just believe in trying to get to the truth of what those things are so that it resonates with whoever is listening.

For more information on *The Sea The Sea*, visit [theseathesea.com](http://theseathesea.com).

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## Duvekot

about her upcoming show in Putney, her early musical influences, her love of German food, and why the arts matter. Here is an excerpt from the conversation.

**VICTORIA CHERTOK:** Was guitar your first instrument?

**ANTJE DUVEKOT:** I grew up in Germany, and everyone in the second grade has to learn the recorder, but I didn't find the recorder an inspiring instrument at all. My mom had a guitar. My uncle played guitar and I really looked up to him, so I've only ever played guitar.

**V.C.:** Which guitar will you play at Next Stage?

**A.D.:** I'm partial to Martin guitars and Gibson guitars. Martin guitars are so well rounded and warm sounding.

**V.C.:** Did you always know you wanted to be a singer/songwriter?

**A.D.:** It was a dream of mine when I was in high school. I was listening to folk musicians like Ellis Paul and John Gorka, and they spoke to me so much. It was like, my everything.

No one else knew this music, so it was like my private little secret. So I started writing little songs here and there. In college, I started recording my first album.

**V.C.:** Who were your early

musical influences?

**A.D.:** The female heroes who helped me figure out what it means to be a girl.

Ani DiFranco factors very large in my music education. She wrote about personal things that really moved me, and she wrote really outspoken songs that were revolutionary.

Dar Williams is up there and, other than them, the Indigo Girls and Ellis Paul.

**V.C.:** I've been listening to your song "Lighthouse" to get a sense of your music and lyrics. How do you pick your songwriting topics?

**A.D.:** I'm one of those writers who write straight from the heart — straight from the autobiography.

So I write where I'm at emotionally. If I'm heartbroken or struggling, I'll write about that — or, in the case of my new album, it focuses on overcoming trauma and gaining center.

In my middle age now, I'm finding my emotional center and my strength. I don't sweat the small stuff anymore.

**V.C.:** Tell me about your new album.

**A.D.:** I'm releasing *New Wild West* (Indie release, Pantjebare Publishing) in March. It is produced by Mark Erelli, who frequents Next Stage.

**V.C.:** I saw you perform twice at Next Stage in the past decade and marveled at how you create an intimate

connection with your audience. Have you noticed differences in the audiences since the resumption of live music?

**A.D.:** Yes! I have noticed that they are so exuberant with gratitude and joy and everyone, including myself, feels like it's a miracle to be doing this again and to be together and creating space.

Everyone is so aware of how special it is. [Audiences have] been smaller but incredibly enthusiastic.

**V.C.:** And have you noticed any tangible differences in your songwriting or performing since the resumption of live music?

**A.D.:** I have not written about Covid in my songs. It did affect my writing because I had time to write during lockdown, so I was able to write a whole album, but the songs were about the before. I've got to think about that a little more...

**V.C.:** Do you ever write songs in German?

**A.D.:** I have written songs in German, but right now my English is better than my German. So I like to write in my stronger language, which is English, but I have one or two songs in German for the fun of it.

**V.C.:** What do you like best about performing at Next Stage Arts Project?

**A.D.:** Everything! It's literally one of my favorite places to play!

FROM SECTION FRONT

I love the crowd. Vermont people are down to earth and emotionally open, and they are really good listeners. I like playing Vermont, in general, and I really like Barry Stockwell, who is one of the founders of Next Stage. He has so much heart and is wonderful to work with. Barry has done so much to make it thrive.

**V.C.:** And finally: Why are the arts important to you?

**A.D.:** On a personal level, a few weeks ago, when it was so dark and I was feeling really low, low energy and kind of depressed, a friend of mine invited me to go see a duo called Son of Town Hall at Club Passim [in Cambridge, Massachusetts], and they put on such a lovely show.

It made me laugh. It was beautiful; it moved my heart and really lifted my spirits. It's so powerful, a live performance — it lifts you out of yourself. You kind of forget all your problems, and it transports you and inspires you.

I think that is the job of art: to lift our spirits, essentially.

Tickets are \$20 in advance and \$24 at the door. Next Stage will provide a beer, wine, and cocktail cash bar. For advance tickets, Covid safety policy, or information, visit [nextstagearts.org](http://nextstagearts.org).

For more information on Antje Duvekot, visit [antjeduvekot.com](http://antjeduvekot.com).

## Sarasa Ensemble presents 'Music of the Madonna' at BMC

BRATTLEBORO—The Brattleboro Music Center's Season Guest Concert Series celebrates the return of the Sarasa Ensemble with "Music of the Madonna" on Friday, Jan. 13.

"No doubt the life of the Virgin Mary, the Madonna, has been a focal point of sacred music in Western classical music, especially in the Baroque era," organizers say in a news release. This 7 p.m. concert at the BMC will feature two Marian Cantatas, as well as works for strings and continuo by Händel, Corelli, Rosenmüller, and Leonarda.

Performers include Meg

Bragle, mezzo soprano; Elizabeth Blumenstock, Christina Day Martinson, and Jesse Irons, violins; Jenny Stirling, viola; Jennifer Morsches and Timothy Merton, cellos; and Michael Beattie, organ.

The Sarasa Ensemble is a collective group of international instrumentalists and vocalists who perform classical music of outstanding quality, spanning the 17th to the 21st centuries, on both period and modern instruments, and bring this music to diverse communities.

Through the ensemble's outreach program in adolescent

detention facilities, it is dedicated to bridging cultural, aesthetic, and economic barriers and providing incarcerated teenagers with opportunities for growth, self-expression, and enrichment through music.

Advance tickets are \$20 general admission, and \$25 at the door. For tickets or more information, contact the BMC at 802-257-4523, email [info@bmcvt.org](mailto:info@bmcvt.org) or visit the BMC website at [bmcvt.org](http://bmcvt.org). Please note BMC concert attendance requires masking for all attendees.

PRIMARY SOURCES

# Distance between regions, gap in opportunity

‘We find ourselves at a rare moment in history, with one-time money that those who came before us could only dream of, to tackle issues we have faced for decades,’ the governor says in his annual State of the State address

*Montpelier*  
I AM TRULY thankful for the opportunity to continue to serve as governor. And after a few long years, it is good to be back in the people’s house, where Vermonters have come together from across the state in our darkest times and finest hours to solve problems for their communities and help their neighbors. So today, I am especially grateful we are here, in this building, together.

In 1974, after 34 years in office, Sen. George Aiken decided to retire from the United States Senate. He had earned a reputation as a staunch defender of our state and added Vermont’s voice to the national conversation. So, his shoes seemed difficult to fill.

But that fall, we put the responsibility on the shoulders of a 34-year-old state’s attorney. And the rest, as they say, is history.

In the time since, Patrick Leahy has worked with nine presidents and, as pro tem of the Senate, he was third in line to the presidency. He introduced 1,768 bills and cast 17,374 votes, the second most in Senate history.

Not bad for a kid from Washington County.

He carved out a legacy that will benefit generations of Vermonters to come. And that’s because he always served with an eye on what’s best for the state he represented.

Sen. Leahy could not be here today, but I know he and Marcelle are listening. So, please join me in showing them our thanks and gratitude for so many years of service and a job well done.

THIS SESSION, we should take a page out of Sen. Leahy’s playbook by always working with an eye on what’s best for the communities we represent.

Just look at how he used the small-state minimum to prevent states with larger populations and larger congressional delegations from taking the lion’s share of federal funds. About half of you [state lawmakers] represent towns of less than a thousand. So, you are up against the same challenge when compared to our biggest cities.

What better way to honor Sen. Leahy’s legacy than to deliver for your small communities the way he has delivered for our small state.

IN NOVEMBER, my team and I set out before dawn to visit all 14 counties in a single day. I have done this six times before. It is a reminder of why I love our state and why I do this work.

Seeing every county in a day — well over 500 miles — puts things in perspective. At every stop and the drive in between, you see Vermont: independence and community; struggle and resilience; progress and opportunity.

It also becomes very clear that the distance between Burlington and Rutland, Manchester and Readsboro, Middlebury and Craftsbury, St. Albans and Richford, can be measured in more than just miles.

Consider the data. Whether it’s housing burden, income,

**PHIL SCOTT** was sworn in to his fourth term as governor of Vermont on Jan. 5, when he delivered this inaugural address to a joint session of the General Assembly.



GLENN RUSSELL/VTDIGGER

Gov. Phil Scott is sworn in for his fourth term.

property value, poverty levels, labor force, or access to broadband, it’s clear some places are consistently doing better than others.

And when you are driving 500 miles in one day, you see this data reflects real communities. In an instant, the view goes from vibrant downtowns, healthy neighborhoods and bustling offices, to tarped roofs, abandoned homes, and shuttered businesses.

My friends, it is up to us to close this gap. Now, it’s not about turning Canaan into Burlington. And no offense to Burlington, but I’m not sure anyone in Canaan wants that.

What towns like Canaan or Dover or Montgomery need from us are more tools and the flexibility to be more vibrant and dynamic.

The work done in this building is felt differently across counties and communities because they all have different assets and attributes — and sometimes not enough of either.

That’s why one size rarely fits all. This session, if we pay more attention to the individual needs of each community, we can close the gap between regions to give all our towns and villages a brighter future.

JUST IMAGINE what it could look like: A future where workers and families from Newport to Newfane have equal access to education, childcare, after-school programs,

quality health care, good jobs, and decent affordable housing. Where vibrant communities include mom-and-pop stores, restaurants, and taverns — and broadband, which some of us in New England might call “wicked fast.”

Where our largest cities and our smallest towns have safe, welcoming neighborhoods, healthy downtowns, and reliable and resilient infrastructure.

A reality where the costs of living and tax burden don’t grow faster than paychecks, so families keep more of what they earn, move up, and enjoy the quality of life they’ve worked so hard for. A better, brighter future in every county, every community and every home.

And it is within our reach.

THIS ISN’T JUST high-flying rhetoric, and here’s why: Before the pandemic, we shored up our foundation by passing responsible budgets and focused on longstanding challenges like workforce and housing. This work — and the course we have set — has put us in an incredible position to make the most of this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity offered by historic federal aid and record state surpluses.

SEE GOVERNOR, C2

VIEWPOINT

## Yes, we got to go home — twice

A community bank leader reflects on what makes Brattleboro special

*Brattleboro*  
AS I PREPARE to retire as Brattleboro Savings & Loan’s CEO, my mind drifts back to when I — along with my wife, Edie, a recovering banker herself — first arrived in Brattleboro, and what brought us here.

Living in southwestern Connecticut, we made the decision to find a better quality of life; we didn’t need two-hour commutes (and that was only 17 miles), nor did we want to spend our lives in an area where

**DAN YATES** is now happily retired as chief executive officer of Brattleboro Savings & Loan.

it seemed that what was most important to people was getting a fancier car or a bigger house or belonging to an exclusive club ... blech.

I got a call one day from a headhunter asking if I knew anyone who might be interested in a job as a commercial lender

in Brattleboro. Having been to the town almost every weekend over the course of several years when I was a teenager, it took me about three seconds to say, “Of course I do — me!”

I STARTED HERE with Merchants Bank (remember them?) on May 1, 1990, and stayed until the fall of 1993 when, kicking and screaming, the bank transferred me to Bradford to run three failed banks it had acquired that summer.



COURTESY PHOTO

Dan Yates

We loved Brattleboro, so at first I said I would not accept this so-called promotion, but two months later I was asked again and was persuaded to make the move.

After two years in Bradford, I went to turn around a bank

in Lyndonville and then spent the better part of a decade in Hanover, New Hampshire, with a community bank there.

But Brattleboro stayed in our minds and hearts until a spring day in 2005, when the opportunity to return and to work at

BS&L was presented to me. It took almost no time for us to say, “Yes, we get to go home!”

AFTER 12 YEARS, things were certainly different in

SEE RETIREMENT, C3



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## Governor

With pandemic recovery funds, we are investing in fundamentals like broadband, water, sewer, and stormwater systems, climate change resiliency, housing, and economic revitalization.

In St. Johnsbury, this means cleaning up brownfields and fixing up vacant rental units for more housing, and water projects to improve health and support economic growth.

Around Brattleboro, this means adding space for small businesses, expanding health care services, and converting college dorms into homes for refugee families.

We have hundreds of projects underway in all 14 counties, and they are making a difference. But it's important we follow through to achieve the brighter future I just described.

LOOK AT THE opportunity we have along the almost-completed Lamoille Valley Rail Trail.

What was just an idea for an unused rail bed has become a substantial, and still untapped, recreational asset. Extending over 93 miles — the longest in New England — it could bring new energy to 18 communities in five counties.

From Swanton to St. Johnsbury, every town along the route has an opportunity to welcome trail users to their country store, brewery, restaurant, lodging, and that new small business that, today, is just a dream.

But here's the thing: The rec path itself is not the answer — it's just an entryway. An opening to explore the towns, villages, and businesses along the way. And cutting the ribbon on the last section of construction doesn't come close to finishing the work.

It's our job to make sure they have all the tools they need to draw those visitors in, keep them coming back, and convince some of them to stay.

TAKE WOLCOTT, for example.

A few years ago, my team was in Lamoille County for Capital for a Day. We met at the town office and heard some locals wanted to open a coffee shop as part of their vision to take full advantage of the rail trail, if it ever got done.

Now, most of us might take the opening of a coffee shop for granted. How hard could it be?

But we learned it's tough to put one in Wolcott. And that's because our well-meaning wastewater regulations make it complicated. And municipal systems, like they have in larger communities, are too expensive.

Now, I'm not saying we should roll back regulations. But we should use the opportunity we have, right now, to help towns like Wolcott build infrastructure they could never afford on their own and solve problems that have stifled their economic progress for far too long.

The basics, like water, sewer, and stormwater, housing, and high-speed internet — those are the sparks that ignite revitalization. But we need to follow through to give more communities what they need, so those sparks don't burn out.

That's why my budget adjustment includes funding to help level the playing field for underserved regions. So rather than wait until the end of the session, we can build on our efforts to strengthen Vermont right now.

THIS WORK is important because stronger, more economically secure communities lead to healthier, safer families.

As we know, we have spent hundreds of millions of dollars to stabilize health care through the pandemic. And the challenges we had before still exist. From workforce shortages to increased demand due to an aging population. And now, we are dealing with inflation.

All of this has led to higher costs, which is a reality we must face. Another is: 12 years after Tropical Storm Irene, we still have not finished rebuilding our mental health system. This has led to fewer options for patients.

And too often, they end up in emergency departments, which are not equipped to care for them, despite the nurses and doctors doing their very best to help. It's a reminder of what happens when we lose focus on the fundamentals and don't finish what we start.

We have important work to do across the entire system to better integrate mental and physical health. But I know, if we make these goals a priority and work together in good faith, we can deliver better access and higher quality at a cost Vermonters can afford.

AND TO RESTORE progress that was halted by the pandemic in a number of areas, we need a shared, community-based approach.

We have the knowledge and have laid the foundation to do it. Vermont set the standard for treating the opioid epidemic as a public health crisis. And now, we're building on it with lessons learned from our nation-leading pandemic response to address overdoses, suicides, homelessness, crime rates, and more.

This approach means agencies and departments are working as one team, shoulder to shoulder with local leaders, federal partners, and community organizations. And using realtime data to focus on the people and neighborhoods that need our attention most.

We are prioritizing prevention, giving kids a healthier start through home visiting, and partnering with pediatricians, so we can identify risks earlier and prevent problems down the road. And we're doing more with our mobile mental health response when those problems do arise.

Together, we made the state's largest-ever investment in substance abuse prevention, which is being deployed as we speak. It's helping community partners give students meaningful things to do — like after-school programs, clubs, sports, and jobs — where they build healthy relationships, explore opportunities, and feel valued.

They are also critical to our treatment and recovery efforts, connecting people to services, sharing life-saving resources, and

FROM SECTION FRONT

supporting families who desperately need our help.

These are proven initiatives, which is why I'll propose we build on them and do more to prevent the destruction these deadly drugs are causing in too many towns, too many cities, and in too many of our homes.

AND WHILE we focus on root causes, law enforcement and accountability must also be part of this discussion. And I believe it has to include a sincere look at well-intentioned reforms that are having unintended consequences.

Whether that's expunging records that could lead to a violent offender getting a gun; policy that has made youth the target of drug traffickers; or divisive rhetoric that makes it difficult to retain and recruit good public servants.

With a more unified approach to health and safety on the ground, we can divert more people off the path to drugs and crime, and solidify our position as the safest, healthiest state to live and raise a family.

ADDRESSING CLIMATE CHANGE is part of this work as well.

This is an area where we share goals but may disagree on how to get there. Still, we've proven we can work together, devoting nearly a quarter-billion dollars over the last two years. This is funding good work to reduce emissions, revitalize old homes, lower energy bills, improve health, and protect communities from flooding.

Our weatherization investments are improving thousands of homes for those who could not afford to do it on their own. And it has helped low-income families each save, on average, over 200 gallons of fuel or propane every year.

But we know people are still hurting and, when you consider kerosene — which many families have to use to heat their homes because they have outside, above-ground tanks — is over \$6 a gallon, these savings add up.

We are also helping homeowners and municipalities convert to energy-saving technologies, efficient renewable systems, and storage capacity to meet the growing demand.

When it comes to transportation emissions, we started laying the groundwork long before Covid, investing Volkswagen settlement funds to expand charging infrastructure and making EV purchases more affordable.

We are electrifying our state fleet, converting to electric buses for public transportation, and testing electric loaders, excavators, and law enforcement vehicles.

We currently have the most public EV charging ports per capita, and we have five times as many EVs on the road as we did when I came to office.

Some of you were here three years ago, when I stood at this podium and talked about how excited I was to see Ford announcing the new EV Mustang and working on an all-electric F-150 truck. I saw it as a game changer, a way to introduce EVs to more people, including those who need heavy-duty vehicles for work and everyday life.

Just over a thousand days later, I'm riding in one of those F-150 Lightnings every single day, though, as you might imagine, I'd rather be driving myself.

But it has been valuable for me to experience this and has opened my eyes to issues we need to address to help transition to this new world.

For example, when traveling around the state, I get to see different levels of chargers, with some faster than others, as well as [to realize] how many we have and where they are.

On one trip, we had planned to power up in Brattleboro. But the only charger fast enough to keep us on schedule had a line of cars waiting, which would have made me late for a few meetings. As governor, I have State Police security, so I got another ride and was on my way. But others don't have that luxury.

Now, to be clear, I still believe EVs are the right way to go. But we have to recognize that many [people] are hesitant because [the technology] needs to be easier, more convenient, and more affordable [for them] to make the switch.

We have made great strides, but we need to make sure we are investing in the fastest chargers available. And with all the new EVs and electric heating and cooling systems coming online, we have some serious work to do to make sure our electric grid can accommodate it.

So, let's continue to build the foundation that will make it possible and practical for Vermonters to make this transition, so we can meet our climate goals.

AND WE NEED to do the same when it comes to housing.

We have invested almost a half a billion dollars in this area over the last two years, and we are seeing some progress. But we won't be able to make the most of this opportunity if we don't address the decades-old regulations that are holding us back.

These were put in place at a time when Vermont was growing at a record pace and the spike in development raised legitimate concerns about preserving farmland and our small-town character.

But now, those regulations are making it more difficult to renovate and modernize housing stock we desperately need. Worse yet, some restrict the ability to build homes that fit the needs of more-diverse or lower-income families.

[These regulations] are threatening the vitality of the very places they were intended to protect.

They empower very small groups of residents to stand in the way of projects — not because of a legitimate environmental threat, but because they simply don't want it in their backyard.

For example, a project to build over 100 units in Middlebury has local support and fits the town plan. But because of the size of the town, it is not exempt from Act 250 — and a single opponent could derail it. This is a much-needed, well-planned project in Addison County's economic center and the type of targeted development we should all support.

Then there is the homeless shelter in Hartford that is being held up with the help of local zoning laws.

And in Castleton, a proposed senior living project has been denied approval under its current plan because local zoning requires a kitchen in every unit.

But the plan includes memory care units without kitchens. This project would let older Vermonters stay in the community they love and free up their larger homes for young families. It would also create desperately needed skilled-nursing beds and give practical training for the nursing students right next door.

It's literally a win, win, win. But now, because it won't work without the memory care units, its future is in question.

Here's the bottom line: the failure to update a system that was meant to curtail development is contributing to the housing crisis we face today.

I know a number of you are working to change this. For any legislators who ran on housing as a priority, I hope you join us at the table. Because in order to make the most of the hundreds of millions of dollars we've invested and build homes as quickly and affordably as we can, we need smart regulations that reflect the realities of today, and we need them this session.

PAIRING DECENT, affordable housing with the best education system in the country is a critical way for us to revitalize every region.

With these tools, we can attract more who want to live, work, and raise families in the healthiest and safest state in the country with the very best opportunities for their kids, from cradle to career.

Now, I know how that sounds. It's a big goal.

But part of what makes me so confident is that we could do it with the \$2 billion we spend today to educate about 80,000 kids.

This year, I'll once again propose continued expansion in child care and pre-K programs. As we recover from the pandemic, let's do more to reverse learning loss, support quality standards, and strengthen the social and emotional health of students and staff.

We will build on our work with Sen. Sanders by devoting federal funds to after-school and summer programs with a focus on trades training. And we'll help schools expand computer science, like cybersecurity and coding, and support scholarships in areas with critical workforce shortages.

From pre-school to after school, tech ed and trades training to adult education, we must continue our work to build a more flexible system — one that gives every child — regardless of where they live — more choices and better outcomes.

*This work takes more than a bumper sticker and good intentions. Because governing is never as simple as a slogan, or the headline tries to make it.*

AS WE THINK about all our priorities, we must address the impacts of inflation.

There's no denying people are facing tremendous cost pressures. Just over the last year, energy costs are up 13%. Car repairs by almost 12%. And basic food costs are up across the board, with chicken, milk, cheese, and potatoes all increasing 13% or more. Just a dozen eggs or a box of cereal can easily cost over \$5.

So I want to be clear: This isn't the time to increase the burden on anyone. And we certainly can't ask lower- and middle-income families to cover the costs for their wealthier neighbors.

We must find ways to achieve our shared goals without adding taxes and fees, because this only increases the cost of living.

That's one reason my administration followed through to create a voluntary paid family and medical leave program.

Now, I know some of you don't think this goes far enough and feel Vermonters can afford another tax. But by doing this without a payroll tax on workers, we are not forcing those who don't need it, and can't afford it, to pay for someone who can.

And importantly, we're getting it done. Next year, employers will be able to give this benefit to their workers with flexibility to cover the costs and customize a plan.

We will be able to see for ourselves how well it works, how much it costs, and who needs our help to level the playing field. We'll learn from it, improve it, and get us all where we want to go faster, with less political conflict, and without putting it on overburdened workers.

It's good, smart, and thoughtful governing, and it's the type of balanced approach we need to consider across the board.

THAT INCLUDES our effort to increase the number of workers and reverse our demographics.

Long before the pandemic, this was our biggest challenge. But the last two years put the number of people leaving the workforce on steroids.

In 2019, we were moving in the right direction but still had about 3,300 fewer workers than we did in 2009. Unfortunately, our most recent data shows a gap of 22,500. That's right. The gap is nearly seven times what it was in 2019.

There is no one solution. That's why we must look at every proposal and understand if, and how, it will increase the number of people working in Vermont or help bring new Vermonters here. It's about staying focused and having the commitment to chip away at this problem.

This is what we have been doing with investments in tech centers, expanding internships and apprenticeships, and building adult training programs that help people learn new skills for better paying jobs. The budget I'll present in two weeks will continue to invest in our workforce.

But we can't just train our way out of this. It's not as simple as just getting the unemployed back to work, because there are currently about three job openings for every one unemployed Vermonter.

Everything I've talked about today — from making Vermont more affordable, building more housing, creating the best education system in the country, and ensuring safe, clean, healthy communities — is necessary to keep and attract more people.

And more people means more workers, more homeowners, more students in our schools, more volunteers in our communities, more customers for small businesses, and importantly, more taxpayers, so we don't need to raise taxes.

So let's continue to make this a priority this session because it's the key to being able to invest in all the things we need and want, and to giving every region of the state more opportunity to grow and prosper.

I'D LIKE to wrap up by going back to the 14-county tour.

We stopped in Island Pond, and there was a guy putting up Christmas lights at the American Legion. He stopped what he was doing and came over to talk. As he came closer, it became clear he wasn't happy — in fact, I'd say he was pretty angry, and he had a lot to say.

He went on to tell me that we — all of us here — are crushing him. That Montpelier could care less about what they did to folks like him, in places like Island Pond.

Now, I tried not to argue with him. He's a Vermonter. I'm the governor. And this is America. He has every right to give me a piece of his mind, and it's my job to listen.

But what struck me — and stuck with me — is that the problems he described, and the pain they caused, are the same things I see.

In a lot of ways, he was right.

Despite our best intentions, his community has fallen behind.

THE DISTANCE between regions, the gap in opportunity, has been growing for decades.

Springfield is a good example. Only 40 or so years ago, it was a worldwide leader in manufacturing, with thousands of great jobs and the highest per-capita income in the state. It's a similar story for Barre, Bellows Falls, Bennington, St. Johnsbury, Rutland, and Newport.

There are many places that — not that long ago — were economic engines for their region. But as the economy has changed and evolved, we haven't done enough to help them adapt.

This work takes more than a bumper sticker and good intentions. Because governing is never as simple as a slogan, or the headline tries to make it.

The good news is, we can help turn these places around.

But we have to remember the decisions we make in this building have real-life consequences on people who don't show up at fundraisers. Who don't have the time to call, write, tweet, or testify in the State House — because they are too busy working, trying to make ends meet, and raise their family.

But they still expect us to look out for them. And when we don't, they lose faith and trust in government.

What we learned through Irene and COVID, is that when we put politics aside, when we focus on the people who need our help most, when we work together to solve problems — we can get the results that make a difference.

And I'm telling you, the challenges that people face in all these struggling communities are just as urgent as any pandemic or any flood.

If you don't think so, talk to the members of the Rural Caucus.

Or let's go visit the American Legion in Island Pond or the Village School in Irasburg. Or other places, like Athens, Corinth, Danby, Isle La Motte, Roxbury, Sheffield, Westmore, or Woodford — and many more like them — [whose residents] need us to hear what they're saying and work together to make real change.

MY FELLOW VERMONTERS: These are big challenges.

But we find ourselves at a rare moment in history, with one-time money that those who came before us could only dream of, to tackle issues we have faced for decades.

This is truly a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. And the only thing that could stand in its way is us.

So let's not squander it.

This year, we can shorten the distance between reality and opportunity; give every community the chance to catch up; to act on a vision for their future; help them see it through; to attract new people and new jobs; put more kids in their schools; restore their downtowns; reclaim their character; and renew their identity.

In this moment, we have a chance to transform what is into what can be; and the only way we can do it, is together.

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LETTERS FROM READERS

Need to post land each year is onerous

Years ago, when I got discouraged trying to move to the country only to have the area gentrified, I realized that Vermont had just about everything I was looking for: enough land for horses, beautiful woods and trails, a sparse rural population, and enough culture and the arts to keep a city person satisfied. What I wanted more than anything was a place that offered safe haven for wildlife and native flora to flourish.

I was surprised to find out the year I moved here that I would be required to post my land every year to keep hunters off of it. That first year, I did so, using the deed map to find all the corners that constituted my property. I didn't do a very good job and even posted a neighbor's tree and got him riled up.

That initial effort was enough to keep me from posting ever again. It is arduous work, time-consuming, and although the posters were up, I'd have to do them all over again, pay the fee, buy the materials, sign the signs, etc., year in and year out. And in a short amount of time, wind and bad weather tore them down anyway.

Signs are also shot at and ripped down by people and when that happens, your land is no longer technically legally posted! Even as a 40-something,

posting was just too hard, and I hoped that my posted land, although now out of date, would suffice to keep hunters off of it with respect for my posted wishes.

Now, 26 years later, I am disabled and absolutely cannot post my land. I am on a lower income so hiring someone to do it is out of the question.

I am truly appalled that Vermont Fish and Wildlife has this much power over me and my property and the wildlife around me — on land which I found, paid for, continue to pay taxes on, and want to keep as a safe place for the wildlife, my pets, and myself.

When I recently emailed Vermont Fish and Wildlife to ask if someone could help me post my land, I was chastised and told that they don't agree with my request to assist with posting.

Maine and several other states ease landowner burden by allowing them to paint a stripe on a tree every few hundred feet to mark that land as posted against hunting: no more annual posting, only to have a disgruntled passerby tear the sign down.

Additionally, Vermont Fish and Wildlife should assist disabled and elderly landowners who cannot physically post whether it is with a sign or a purple paint stripe. The agency should set aside funding to allow disabled landowners to hire

someone to post land since Fish and Wildlife are the ones who are responsible for the current, onerous posting requirements.

The addition of funding would be a huge help to many people like me.

Jane Fitzwilliam Putney

The writer is a leader of the Vermont Coyote Coexistence Coalition ([vermontcoyote.org](http://vermontcoyote.org)).

Lawmakers ignore the very apparent problems of relying more on electricity

As I write this on a Tuesday, thousands of homes in Vermont are still without power from a storm that started the previous Thursday evening.

Pre-storm, Green Mountain Power notified customers that wet snow would be coming and they would be out in force to limit disruptions and fix

downed lines.

At one point, according to their website, 163 of Vermont's 251 towns had outages. People were (and are, as I write this) without heat and water and dealing with food spoiled in fridges and freezers.

Such widespread, long-term outages seem to happen at least once per winter and negatively impact people's lives in fundamental ways.

The push to change home heating systems to electric-igniting pellet stoves and electric heat pumps is incomprehensible when the electric power in the state is so unreliable when it's needed most — in the middle of a storm.

The Legislature has renamed the "clean heat standard" to the "affordable heat standard," but even if the proposal were clean or affordable (rather than relying on coal-powered electricity and raising the price for people who continue to heat with fossil fuels), homes dependent on

electricity for heat are going to be in peril at every long-term outage.

Something that would make people's quality of life better would instead be to increase weatherization in the old homes that most moderate income people live in.

Raise the income limit for households to get free weatherization so that more working people who can't afford or justify a big weatherization loan can get the benefits of insulation and air sealing at no cost. Their homes will be more comfortable and increase in value, and their energy usage will decrease — and they could keep their existing heating systems, putting less demand on our unreliable grid.

In the course of writing this letter, I learned that there was an earthquake in California, with the result of lost lives and 71,000 people having no power with no restoration date predicted. California and Vermont

have both made a pledge not to allow any new combustion-engine vehicles to be sold in the state after 2035.

There's no plan to improve electric supply or reliability. The electric grid is going to face more and more demand, and it will continue to be unreliable. If you go all-electric and the power goes out, you'll have no heat, no water, and no way to leave your desolate, freezing house.

Vermont used to be known as a place where people had common sense. I don't know what has caused our lawmakers to ignore the very apparent problems of relying more on electricity; it's like an Emperor's new clothes situation and we're going to be in big trouble if this push to electrify everything continues.

Erica Walch Newfane

Retirement

FROM SECTION FRONT

Brattleboro. Gone were some of the larger employers, including Vermont National Bank and First Vermont Bank — statewide banks that had been headquartered downtown. I remember them, too. Their seeming hundreds of employees who helped support downtown businesses were also largely gone.

I joined BS&L at a time of real transition, with the changing downtown climate followed soon after with the financial crisis of 2007.

These challenges clarified the direction I could see for our bank: We would support and grow the prosperity of our community.

Since then, we've supported what makes this community uncommon and wonderful.

Consider the Brattleboro Museum & Art Center, the Hatchis, New England Youth Theatre, and New England Center for Circus Arts.

Consider some of our other prized assets, such as the Harris Hill Ski Jump, Landmark Trust (Naulakha), and — Holy Carlos! — what about the Retreat Farm?

WHAT AN AMAZING community his is.

We're not without our challenges but, my goodness, we have something special here that is and should be envied by many.

And, to that point, how filled with gratitude am I to have had the opportunity to live and work here, not once, but twice.

How blessed am I to have developed so many relationships with people here over the years.

How fortunate am I to have been given the chance to make a difference with the help of so many wonderful people whom I get to work with every day.

The years have flown and, while I won't be far away, I will close my thank you by this quote, often attributed to A.A. Milne:

"How lucky I am to have something that makes saying goodbye so hard."

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**Across**

- Bulletproof apparel
- Finger-pointing
- Shows boredom
- Brain injury some ex-NFL players have
- Comic Lange
- Tax review
- Nook selection
- Self starter?
- TRIP ABROAD
- Carrier to Tokyo
- Many, many moons
- Maze target
- Cleaning cabinet solutions
- Bank deposits
- Cabaret punk band the \_\_\_ Dolls
- Summon by a gesture
- "The Cool" rapper \_\_\_ Fiasco
- Personal quirk
- ALL-ROUNDER
- Full of oneself
- Clean up in the tub
- "Law & Order" IDs
- GREEN MILE
- Biased writing?: Abbr.
- Frost flower
- "\_\_\_ a thing"
- Staying power
- Talk, talk, talk
- Arm of Israel
- Egyptian fertility goddess
- Hobbes's owner
- Shining in product names
- TURGENEV
- "I" focus
- Cheers (up)
- Doing things
- Fizzle out
- Sudoku division
- WWI battle area
- Come together
- They, in Tours
- Sub station?
- BARBARIAN
- Excited cook's urging
- Flychicago.com offers info for it
- Holds a meeting
- SEABIRD
- Rocks in a tumbler
- Hardly more than
- At least
- Failed, as a computer
- Implore heartily
- Big smoker in Italy?
- Growing concern?
- "Ali & \_\_\_" (2022 movie)
- Sale stat: Abbr.
- FLOORED
- Outfield material
- Soft-serve selection
- Its capital is Khartoum
- Cheap and kitschy
- 77-Down scores: Abbr.
- Loathed and then some
- Instruction set
- Musical Merman

**Down**

- Smoked an e-cig
- This cule has one
- "Goosebumps" series author
- Pewter metal
- Getting away from the country?
- Sink in a restroom
- Craving
- Boise's county
- Lapel attachment
- List ext.
- "No, the other guy I'm pointing to"
- Outclassed?
- Courts
- Neither partner
- "The \_\_\_ the limit!"
- Deep-fried tortilla
- Campsite holder
- Pencil ends
- Big suit, for short
- Nevada county or its seat
- Sibling's threat
- Chain saw brand
- "Please," in Potsdam
- Aromatic solvent
- "Believe" diva
- "Must. Have."
- Not very much
- Fireplace ledge
- Conger critter
- Big name in hair tonic
- Phrase of repetition
- Margherita pizza herb
- 42-Down description
- Brings to the ground
- Chantilly's department
- Money guarantor, for short
- School members
- Hillary's accomplishment
- Ladies' men
- Trap during winter
- Decaf holder
- Wrigley Field decoration
- Briskly cold
- Munched on
- Director Ferrara
- Jethro \_\_\_
- peanut butter
- In one piece
- Glover of "Atlanta"
- Composer Menken
- Eye part
- "Barton Fink" brothers
- Door in the floor
- Elicit
- Hall of the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame
- Salad plate
- Make a long story short
- Insta pic
- "Gangsta Gangsta" rappers
- Bozo
- Stick (out)
- Praise in verse
- Meow Mix consumer

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**Last issue's solution**  
 "Change of Heart"

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**COLUMN** | *Sports Roundup*

# Colonel girls stop Monadnock, 43-33

The Brattleboro Colonels girls' basketball team ended a frustrating week with a 43-33 win over the Monadnock Huskies on Jan. 7 at the BUHS gym.

It took a strong finish by the Colonels, who scored 24 points in the final quarter, to defeat the visitors from Swanzey, New Hampshire. Ninth-grade guard Reese Croutworst led Brattleboro with 11 points while junior forwards Mallory Newton and Montana Frehsee added eight points each.

Bailee Soucia led Monadnock with a game-high 18 points.

The win helped ease the pain of two losses earlier in the week. A free throw in the final minute by Kamryn Brower was the difference as the Hartford Hurricanes eked out a 41-40 victory over the visiting Colonels on Jan. 3.

Croutworst led the Colonels with 13 points and ninth-grade guard Abby Henry added nine points in a game that was close all the way, but Brattleboro was ultimately undone by an 11-for-23 performance at the free throw line.

On the road against Windsor on Jan. 6, the Colonels lost, 60-25. Sydney Perry had 17 points, 14 rebounds, three steals, and three blocks to lead Windsor. Henry scored six points and Croutworst added five for Brattleboro. The Colonels ended the week with a 3-5 record.

### Girls' basketball

Leland & Gray continues to roll. On Jan. 5, the visiting Rebels took care of Bellows Falls with a 54-42 win. The



**RANDOLPH T. HOLHUT**, deputy editor of this newspaper, has written this column for more than a decade and has covered sports in Windham County since the 1980s. Readers can send him sports information at [news@commonsnews.org](mailto:news@commonsnews.org).

Rebels' big three of Maggie Parker (17 points), Mary Sanderson (12 points), and Hannah Greenwood (10 points) led the way. Eryn Ross scored eight points to lead BF while Delaney Lockerby added six.

Twin Valley tried hard, but the Poultney Blue Devils dominated from start to finish in a 66-6 rout of the visiting Wildcats on Jan. 4.

### Boys' basketball

South Burlington scored 25 points in the first quarter and led 38-24 at the half on the way to a 62-37 win over Brattleboro on Jan. 3. Tyler Bergmans had 23 points and eight rebounds to lead South Burlington, while senior center Paul McGillion led the Colonels with 14 points.

The Colonels bounced back from that loss with a 49-37 win over Mount St. Joseph at the BUHS gym on Jan. 5.

Brattleboro opened the game with an 11-2 run, but MSJ came back and tied the game at 17-17 by halftime. Better defense in the second half, and a strong finish on offense nailed down the win for the Colonels. Senior forward Tate Chamberlin had 15 points to lead Brattleboro, while senior guard Cam Frost

and senior forward Tristan Evans scored 11 and 10 points, respectively. Owen Traynor led MSJ with 13 points.

On Jan. 7 in St. Johnsbury, the Colonels lost a low-scoring affair to the Hilltoppers. McGillion led Brattleboro with 10 points, while Frost scored seven points. Harry Geng and Aiden Brody each scored 11 points as St. Johnsbury eked out a 36-27 win. The Colonels finished a tough week with a 5-3 record.

After eight days off, Bellows Falls pulled off a 48-45 win over White River Valley at Holland Gymnasium on Jan. 7 to improve their record to 3-4. Colby Dearborn and Jamison Nystrom each scored 11 points to lead the Terriers. Walker James chipped in eight points, while Jake Moore added seven points and eight rebounds.

Leland & Gray defeated Arlington, 52-49, in Townshend on Jan. 4, while Twin Valley lost to Long Trail, 63-31, on Jan. 6.

### Girls' hockey

Brattleboro has a new head coach, Connor Little, but the team is still struggling to score goals and win games.

On Jan. 2, the Colonels were shut out by the Spaulding Crimston Tide, 8-0, at Withington Rink. The Tide took a 7-0 lead after two periods and limited Brattleboro to just two shots on goal. Goalie Angela Jobin made 47 saves for Brattleboro, while Spaulding's Rayna Long recorded two saves to earn the victory.

Brattleboro then got shut out by Kingdom Blades in a 12-0 road loss on Jan. 7. Six different players scored, led by



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**Brattleboro guard Abby Henry (3), seen here trying to get off a shot as she is surrounded by Champlain Valley defenders in a Dec. 27 game, scored nine points in a loss to Hartford on Jan. 3.**

Isabela Butler with three goals and two assists and Ella Blaise with two goals and three assists. Blades goalie Taylor Blaise stopped all 15 shots she faced. The Colonels finished the week at 1-5, with four shutout losses so far this season.

### Boys' hockey

After a 3-3 tie with Missisquoi in Swanton on Jan. 2, Brattleboro was blown away by the Hartford Hurricanes, 9-0, on Jan. 4 as the visiting Colonels managed on eight shots on goal in the loss. Hartford goalies Frankie Cushing and Nick Facto combined for eight saves in the shutout victory. Nolan Norlock led the Hurricanes with two goals.

Things didn't get any better for the Colonels on Jan. 6 as they had another 9-0 loss, this time to South Burlington. Will Hershberg and Nick Kelly each scored a pair of goals for South Burlington as Matthew Gordon-Macey made 44 saves in goal for Brattleboro. The Colonels fell to 1-5-1 on the season.

### Vermont State Parks seek public input for parks modernization study

The Vermont Department of Forests, Parks, and Recreation (FPR) is seeking public input and feedback about the park system, its infrastructure, programming, prices, and innovations as part of a modernization study that is currently underway.

This study will provide a comprehensive assessment of the state park system including park amenities, operations, maintenance, revenue, and program delivery. It will identify key challenges, and resources needed to maintain core services and enhance offerings to meet current and future demands.

"Throughout the years, with considerable public support and prudent management, Vermont State Parks have weathered societal changes and economic challenges of all sorts," Director of State Parks Nate McKeen said in a news release. "Now, as we

approach the 100th anniversary of Vermont state parks in 2024, and as park visitation continues to increase, this study will help us create a road map for the future of our state parks."

Input is being collected via a link on the state parks' webpage at [vtstateparks.com](http://vtstateparks.com), and will consist of three ways to provide feedback — a community forum for open dialogue, a category-based ideas page, and a short survey. Additional information about the study and timeline is also available. Input will be collected through Feb. 15.

"The parks enrich the quality of life for Vermonters and visitors, and contribute significantly to community prosperity, tourism, and the outdoor recreation economy," said McKeen. "Because of this vital role state parks play in Vermont; we really encourage everyone to share their thoughts and ideas with us as we help to build a better park system for all."

FPR staff is working collaboratively with park and recreation professionals from BerryDunn, a national consulting firm. The study is scheduled to be completed by early spring, with a final report being issued in May 2023.

### VPA announces playoff schedule

The Vermont Principals' Association recently released the tentative state championship dates for high school basketball, hockey, and bowling.

On Monday, Feb. 27, the Division II, III and IV girls' basketball semifinals are set to be held at Barre Auditorium.

On the same day, the Division I semifinals are set to take place at the University of Vermont's Patrick Gymnasium. The D-II, III and IV semifinals are usually broken into two days of action in Barre.

The D-I girls' basketball championship game is scheduled for Friday, March 3 at UVM, while Saturday, March 4 will be a busy day with the Division II, III and IV girls' basketball championships at Barre Auditorium, the bowling team state championships at

Twin City Lanes in Barre, and the hockey semifinals hosted by the higher seed.

On Monday, March 6, the Division I boys' basketball semifinals are set for UVM and the Division II, III and IV semifinals at Barre Auditorium.

The hockey championships are scheduled for Wednesday, March 8 and Thursday, March 9 at UVM's Gutterson Fieldhouse.

The winter postseason ends on Saturday, March 11, with the D-I boys' basketball championship scheduled to be held at UVM, and the D-II, III and IV championships at Barre Auditorium.

### Senior bowling roundup

The winter/spring season of the Brattleboro Senior Bowling League at Brattleboro Bowl began on Jan. 5 with eight teams that are nameless for now. Teams 1 and 3 opened Week 1 with 5-0 records, Team 7 is 4-0, Team 5 is 3-2, Team 6 is 1-4, and Teams 2 and 4 are 0-5.

Diane Cooke had the women's high handicap game (261) and series (699). Skip Shine had the men's high handicap game (298), while Stan Kolpa had the high handicap series (771). Team 1 had the high team handicap game (1,002) and series (2,709).

In scratch scoring, John Walker led the men with a 603 series that featured games of 245 and 186. Marty Adams had a 602 series with games of 237 and 234, while Chuck Adams had a 601 series with games of 234, 185, and 182.

Shine had a 592 series with a 257 game, while Jerry Dunham had a 552 series with games of 197 and 191. Gary Montgomery had a 545 series with a 191 game, Kolpa had a 534 series with a 186 game, and Fred Ashworth had a 528 series with games of 188 and 180. Warren Corriveau Sr. had a 198 game.

Carol Gloski had the women's high scratch series (527) and Cooke had the high scratch game (190). Gloski also had a 171 game.



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**Bellows Falls guard Jamison Nystrom (2), seen here going up for a basket against Arlington on Dec. 29, scored 11 points to lead the Terriers to a win over White River Valley on Jan. 7.**

Thank!  
you!

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would like to thank  
everyone who helped  
us reach our  
year-end goal!

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