

# MOUNTAIN GAZETTE

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## Westford students help feed community



Westford students line up to carry over 1200 items to the local food shelf. PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

By Phyl Newbeck

Special to the Mountain Gazette

Fifth and sixth graders at the Westford School realize that for the most part, they have a lot to be thankful for. That's why they jumped at the opportunity to do something to help those less fortunate. In November, the students participated in a food drive to benefit the Westford Food Shelf and collected over 1,200 items.

Westford Food Shelf co-founders Julia Andrews and Lauren Curry became worried after their October distribution day when they realized that virtually all of their stock was depleted. Recognizing that you can only send out so many appeals for help, Andrews said the pair decided to do something different. They sent out a note on the Westford Front Porch Forum asking for more creative, large scale measures such as drives for the shelf centered on holiday parties or places of employment. A number of folks responded, but the fifth and sixth graders at the Westford School put

them all to shame.

Andrews was amazed when the kids arrived at the Food Shelf prior to distribution day in three cars filled with food. It took three adults over an hour and a half to sort through everything the kids had brought. There was so much that when patrons came to the church, Andrews urged them to take as much as they could; in essence, do their shopping for the month. In addition to the food brought by the students, there were enough donated turkeys so that all the families visiting the food shelf could have a traditional Thanksgiving dinner.

Gail Piotrowski was the teacher who inspired her charges to get food for the Food Shelf. One day her husband, an employee of Coca-Cola, came home and told her that about the dearth of food at the Chittenden Emergency Food Shelf in Burlington. Piotrowski, a former primary school teacher in Westford, remembered that on the 100<sup>th</sup>

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## Westford – Australian ballots and energy

By Phyl Newbeck

Special to the Mountain Gazette

2009 was a busy year in Westford. The Planning Commission, joined by new member Gordon Gebauer, finished work on a multi-year project revamping the Zoning and Subdivision Regulations which were adopted by the town in July. That project complete, the PC began rewriting the Town Plan, assisted by responses to a survey sent out to residents which had a 27% return rate. The PC received public comment at a hearing in the fall and hopes to send the revised plan to the Select Board at the beginning of 2010. Planning Coordinator Melissa Manka reported that the town has also applied for participation in the National Flood Insurance Program which would provide greater protection for those living in the flood plain.

In May, the newly chartered Westford Energy Committee had their first meeting. Since then they have accomplished a number of tasks including drafting an Energy Plan to be incorporated into the Town Plan. The Committee held two Button Up workshops including one at a monthly luncheon for senior citizens. They are also pursuing a number of grants through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act including a collaboration with the Westford Town Library. Other potential plans include local development of wood chips for the wood-chip fired boilers at the Westford School and Mount Mansfield Union High School.

Even before they were officially chartered, Energy Committee members assisted in writing a Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative grant. On March 20, Governor Douglas announced that the town of Westford was one of seventeen recipients of the grant which was administered by the Agency of Natural Resources. Westford received \$5,580 which went towards weatherization, lighting and HVAC for the town office building. These improvements, which were completed in November, are expected to cut the town's CO2 emissions by three tons on an annual basis, saving Westford 25% or more on heating oil and 20% on electric use.

One major change in Westford is the structure

of Town Meeting. In 2008, voters decided to move from a traditional Town Meeting Day to Australian ballot. Subsequently, the meeting itself was moved to Monday night which has traditionally been the evening for public discussion about ballot items. Polls will still be open on Tuesday, but all discussion and non-Australian ballot voting will take place the night before. In 2009, Westford also completed a reappraisal of homes in time for next April's Grand List. A more welcome change was the Boy Scout project waterproofing the handicap access ramp to Town Hall. A different form of access was improved by putting the Town Newsletter on the town's website. Residents (and non-residents) are encouraged to subscribe to the newsletter electronically and receive a copy in their inbox, rather than cost the town money with a mailing. In other technology news, Comcast is bringing high speed internet to those parts of Westford not serviced by FairPoint. Town Clerk Nanette Rogers said there are still some areas where there will not be coverage, but this is a great improvement from having the entire town as a "cheese hole," lacking high speed service. Comcast expects to have the infrastructure completed by the end of 2009.

Cheryl Dunkley decided not to run for re-election to the Select Board and Bob Bancroft was elected to fill her position. John Quinn took over for Dunkley as Chair. The Select Board decided against adopting a Noise Ordinance for the Town Center and was unable to garner sufficient members to form a new Roads Committee. On a more positive note, in 2009 the Westford Fire Department was able to install their first wet hydrant and soon they will be installing a new dry hydrant at the school.

Thanks to 150 volunteer hours, the Westford Town Library announced that their card catalog is now available on-line. Patron visits were up 20% from 2008, circulation was up 12% and interlibrary loans were up almost 50%. Including those who brought personal laptops to the library, computer use was up a whopping 85%. The latter

Westford continued on page 16

## 2009 in Cambridge

By Katherine Quimby Johnson

Special to the Mountain Gazette

The state of the national and state economy played a significant role in public life in Cambridge this past year. It became the focus of professional life for one particular town resident. In July, Governor Jim Douglas named Richard Westman Vermont Tax Commissioner. Westman's appointment left vacant the seat he had held in the state legislature for 27 years. Following an August meeting of the Republican Party Committee, the names of Juanita Brown, Adam Howard and Mark Stebbins were sent to the governor, who announced Howard's selection on October 7. Howard, the founding partner of Height of Land Publications in Jeffersonville, said that part of his focus will be on infrastructure; including tax policy and energy policy and that he will work to create opportunities for young people to create businesses, in rural as well as suburban and urban areas.

After a decade of discussion and several defeats, Cambridge finally cut the ribbon on a new Town Garage in August. The project came in ahead of schedule and on-time. Speaking at the opening, Select Board Chair Dana Sweet praised general contractor Larry Ruggles of Barnet-based Ruggco,

clerk of the works Tom Barden, and engineer Clarke Elliott. Barden, in reply, said, "The amount of hours the selectmen have spent on this project and the amount of attention they have given this project has been something of real value for the town."

Earlier in the year, as they prepared the town budget, the select board was mindful of taxpayers who had lost their jobs or who were working reduced hours. The \$1,686,810.86 budget was level-funded from the previous year, because, as then Board Chair Bernie Juskiewicz said, "We're trying to keep costs down to the taxpayer." At Town Meeting in March, taxpayers not only approved the budget, but they approved the purchase of a dump truck and excavator, to be paid off over four years.

Following a lengthy Town-Meeting-Day discussion of delinquent taxes, the Cambridge Select Board appointed a committee of residents to develop a set of guidelines and procedures to collect overdue taxes. The committee presented their proposal to the board in November, too late for them to be implemented in the current tax year.

Juskiewicz did not seek another term on the

Cambridge continued on page 16

## Bolton – A year of citizen action

By Phyl Newbeck

Special to the Mountain Gazette

2009 in Bolton began with a community effort to form a neighborhood watch on Notch Road, led by Deborah Shelby. An adjunct to that project was a graffiti eradication effort which was assisted by VTrans. The Chittenden Solid Waste District donated five gallons of "Local Color" paint for one site at the bottom of the Bolton Valley Access Road and another in Jonesville. A group led by Duncan Galbraith successfully painted over the vandalized site on the Access Road and no graffiti has reappeared at either site to mar the Route 2 Corridor.

In March, thanks to the efforts of the Bolton Conservation Commission, a geomorphic assessment was completed for Joiner Brook. The goal of the study, which concluded that the geomorphic condition of Joiner Brook ranges from fair to good, was to assist the Town in analyzing habitat conditions in the watershed, identify potential protection and restoration projects, create a fluvial erosion hazard corridor on the town map, and produce a watershed restoration plan.

In other conservation based news, CRAG-VT (Climbing Resource Access Group of Vermont) was able to purchase Upper West which is also known as Resin Ridge. This popular rock climbing location at the top of Notch Road is approximately 250 feet high and is primarily considered a climbing destination. However, the land is also suitable for other activities such as bird watching, hiking, skiing and snowshoeing, and is home to several rare natural communities. And while many might think of telecommunications towers when they think of a radio station, The Point decided to put up an entirely different structure on top of the Bolton Valley Ski Area when they secured a grant to place a wind turbine atop Ricker Mountain.

Bolton has started the process of looking at

## Jericho – A Year in Transition

By Phyl Newbeck

Special to the Mountain Gazette

There was a great deal of turnover in the Jericho Town Offices in 2009. Todd Odit began work as Town Administrator in November, taking over for Bert Moffatt who had served as Interim Town Administrator for over a year. Several other new faces appeared at Town Hall, as well. Deborah Rackliff became Assistant Town Clerk in May, and Amy Morse took on the job of Co-Financial Coordinator in July. Morse had to pull double duty because her Co-Coordinator, Jenn Rowe, was on maternity leave for part of the fall. Also in July, Cheryl Thomas was promoted to Head Lister. Subsequently, P. Andrew Levi and Lori Dykema rounded out the Lister staff. Brian Stevens, no stranger to Town Hall having served in a number of different capacities, was appointed to the position of Town Treasurer in September.

In May, the Board of Trustees of the Jericho Community Center hosted their annual Green-Up Day Breakfast. Isabella Martin, Bob Smith, Jon St. Amour, and Gaye Symington were honored as

Jericho continued on page 14



A group led by Duncan Galbraith successfully painted over the vandalized site on the Access Road. PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

ways to reconstruct the bottom portion of the Notch Road and will be asking residents to support a \$350,000 bond on Town Meeting Day. The Planning Commission updated their Zoning Regulations paying particular attention to the FEMA flood regulations. Commission members proposed the creation of a small park and ride facility, but the Select Board voted against doing so. The Planning Commission is currently short one member and is always looking for new volunteers.

The Smilie School began the school year with a new Principal, Mary Woodruff, formerly the Principal of Winooski Middle school. Under Woodruff's tutelage, the school instituted a new multi-age classroom structure, grouping students from grades one to four together. The school chefs have also embarked on a program to use as much local produce as possible. Lastly, the Smilie Community Association organized a Clean-Up day and a Harvest Festival, as well as multi-generational activities such as jewelry making, ceramics, baking, and gingerbread house making.

## Capt. Phillips rescue tops Underhill news in 2009

By Ted Tedford

Special to the Mountain Gazette

The country was shocked when Underhill sea captain Richard Phillips' ship was seized by Somali pirates in April and he was held hostage in a small boat by three of the pirates for five days.

Relief swept the nation after U.S. Navy snipers on a ship tailing Phillips' cargo vessel killed the three young pirates. Phillips was unhurt and later returned home to his family.

Phillips' ordeal began when four young pirates boarded the Maersk Alabama in early April off the coast of Somalia where several other ships had been hijacked.

Phillips reportedly told the crew to lock themselves in a cabin on the ship. He gave himself up and was forced into a small motorized boat with three of the pirates. They held him hostage for

Underhill continued on page 13

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# **Bolton Valley**

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**POLICE REPORTS**

Vermont State Police received a call on Sunday, December 10 at 3:00 PM. **Jeffery M. Doremus**, 18, of Jericho, indicated he was travelling west on Plains Road at 30-35 mph down hill around a slight left curve. Doremus then lost control of his 2003 Honda Pilot sliding into a ditch causing the vehicle to roll over onto its side. The vehicle sustain damage to the right side. Doremus was checked at the scene by ambulance personal and was not injured. He was wearing a seat belt. Doremus was issued a VTC for operating too fast for the existing road conditions. CASE#:09A104935 On Thursday, December 10, 2009 at 9:35 AM, **Brent C. Jones**, 40, of Waterville, was traveling east on VT Route 15, Walden, VT, negotiating a sharp curve in the road when he lost control and the 1998 Freightliner tractor trailer overturned. Jones was transporting wood chips. The roads were wet with snow covered edges. Danville Rescue and Walden Fire Department responded. The VT DMV Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Team also responded to the scene. Jones suffered minor scratches to his face. (Case # 09B103998)

On Tuesday, December 08, 2009 at approximately 4:00 PM, Vermont State Police in Middlesex received a report of a **motor vehicle collision involving a train** in the Town of Roxbury, VT. Troopers from the Middlesex barracks responded to the area of Rte. 12A and Oxbow Road at the Roxbury Subdivision railroad crossing where the collision occurred. The railroad crossing is marked with a railroad crossing sign however there are no lights or automatic crossing bars. The collision involved a United Parcel Service (UPS) delivery truck and a New England Central Railroad freight train. The freight train consisted of one engine and twelve freight cars.

The weather was clear and the blacktop roadway surface of Rte. 12A was dry. The gravel roadway surface of Oxbow Road consisted of a thin layer of hard packed snow and was slippery.

The operator of the UPS truck has been identified as Joshua Newton, 28, of Richmond, VT. Newton was wearing a seatbelt at the time of the collision. The operator of the freight train has been identified as Eric Gulbrandson, 29, of Munson, MA.

Investigation indicates that Newton was traveling northbound on Rte. 12A in Roxbury and had stopped on 12A at the intersection of the Oxbow Road to allow a vehicle to turn off the Oxbow Road. Gulbrandson was traveling northbound on the railway at approximately 38 – 40 miles per hour. The railway in this area runs parallel to Rte. 12A. Newton turned left and began traveling west on the Oxbow Road. Based on marks in the roadway, Newton applied his brakes after turning onto Oxbow Road and slid onto the tracks into the path of the freight train. The collision forced the UPS truck in a northern direction and off the tracks. The UPS truck came to rest in a grassy area between the railway and Rte. 12A, approximately thirty feet north of the point of impact. The freight train traveled approximately 900 feet before coming to a stop.

Northfield Ambulance responded and treated Newton at the scene before transporting him to a nearby landing area where Newton was then airlifted by DHART to Fletcher Allen in Burlington, VT with serious injuries. Gulbrandson did not sustain any injuries as a result of this collision.

The UPS truck sustained heavy front end damage and was removed from the scene by LaRoche Towing and secured at the LaRoche facility. The freight train sustained minimal damage to the front of the engine and was operated away from the scene by New England Central Railroad personnel.

As of 11:00 PM, Newton was being treated for his injuries at Fletcher Allen in Burlington, VT. No additional information regarding the medical condition of Newton will be released on this date by Vermont State Police.

In the early morning hours of July 16, 2009 at 11:30 PM, State Troopers were dispatched to the Chittenden Mills Beverage Store in Jericho after a passerby discovered that it had been burglarized. Investigation into the incident revealed that one of the front windows at the store had been smashed which was how the accused gained access into the store. Cigarettes and lottery tickets were stolen during the burglary. Information received during investigation into the incident revealed that **Benjamin W. Trendle**, 18, Essex Jct. attempted to redeem the lottery tickets at the Maplefields Store in Essex a short time after the burglary. Another 15 year old male was implicated as being the person who physically broke into the store and removed the items from within. Trendle, who was 17 at the time of the crime, was cited to appear at Chittenden District Court. The 15 year old was charged as a juvenile. (Case #: 09A102907)

State Police were called to a report of a domestic disturbance on Road 101 in Jeffersonville at approximately 11:00 PM on Monday, December 7, 2009. Investigation found that **Bryce Bartlett**, 52, of Jeffersonville, had assaulted his 16 year old step-daughter upon returning home. Troopers also found that Bartlett was intoxicated at the time. Bail was set at \$500.00 and Bartlett was lodged at the St. Johnsbury Correctional Center on the charges of Domestic Assault and DUI. (Case #: 09A104876)

**NEWS BRIEFS**

**UNDERHILL JERICHO FIRE DEPT.**

By Kitty Clark

**EMERGENCY CALLS:**  
 November 26, 8:09 PM, Responded to a vehicle vs. deer near 212 Vermont RT 15 in Jericho  
 November 28, 12:10 PM, Responded to 25 Jericho Center Circle for a Carbon Monoxide incident  
 November 29, 9:30 AM, Responded Mutual Aid to Cambridge for a structure fire  
 November 19, 4:47 PM, Responded to 9 Jeri Hill Lane for an electrical problem  
 December 1, 9:08 PM, EMS  
 December 2, 10:38 AM, EMS  
 December 2, 3:51 PM, EMS  
 December 4, 1:19 PM, Responded to 42 Vermont RT 15, Jericho for smoke from a pellet stove  
 December 4, 4:02 PM, EMS  
 December 4, 5:25 PM, Responded to 11 Kettle Creek, Jericho for a carbon monoxide incident  
 December 7, 4:06 PM, EMS  
 December 8, 4:36 PM, EMS  
 December 9, 7:10 AM, EMS  
 December 9, 8:07 AM, Responded to a one vehicle roll over

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[www.troyconference.org/jumc](http://www.troyconference.org/jumc) -email: [JerichoUMC@troyconference.org](mailto:JerichoUMC@troyconference.org)

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near 880 Vermont RT 15 in Underhill  
 December 9, 2:38 PM, EMS  
 December 9, 4:31 PM, Responded to the area of Westman Road and Pleasant Valley for power lines down  
 December 9, 4:58 PM, Responded to Mt Vista in Underhill for power lines down  
 December 9, 5:48 PM, Responded to the corner of Vermont RT 15 and Warner Creek for power lines down.  
**SAFETY MESSAGE:** The Christmas Holidays are here. Some things to keep in mind for a safe holiday season are: Make sure your Christmas tree is fresh; shedding needles is a sign of a dry tree. Keep your tree fresh by placing it in a stand that holds water. Place your tree away from direct sources of heat and never place a tree so that it blocks an exit. Always unplug lights before going to bed and never run electrical cords through doorways or under rugs.  
 Avoid hanging stockings near an open flame and never burn paper in a fireplace as this is a major cause of chimney fires.  
**CANDLES:** They are a risky light: Always use stable and secure candle holders. Place them away from a cluttered surface or on the edge of a table, shelf or counters where they could be accidentally tipped over. Always be sure to blow the candles out when leaving a room and especially before going to bed.  
 All of us on the Underhill-Jericho Fire Department wish everyone a very Happy Fire Safe Holiday Season.

**COURT REPORTS**

October 27, 2009, **Carroll N. Stygles Jr.**, 47, Cambridge, VT, charged with DUI, third offense or subsequent, felony, in Williston, VT on July 19, 2009; amended to vehicle operation - careless or negligent, misdemeanor; pleaded guilty; fined \$300, sentenced to six to 12 months, concurrent, suspended, probation; charged with vehicle operation - reckless or gross negligence in Williston, VT on July 9, 2009; pleaded guilty; sentenced to one month, concurrent, suspended, probation.  
 October 29, 2009, **Hannah L. Chouinard**, 19, Jericho, VT, charged with DUI, first offense, in Williston, VT on August 22, 2009; amended to vehicle operation - careless or negligent; pleaded no contest; fined \$300.  
 October 29, 2009, **Nathan Patnode**, 20, Underhill, VT, charged with forgery - utter/publish an instrument, felony, in Essex on May 19; amended to false pretenses or false tokens \$900 or less, misdemeanor; pleaded guilty; sentenced to four to 12 months, suspended but 15 days, probation.  
 November 4, 2009, **Gerald R. Daniel**, 50, Underhill, VT, charged with DUI, first offense, in Williston, VT on August 21, 2009; pleaded guilty; fined \$300, sentenced to three to six months, suspended, probation.

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COMMUNITY COLUMNS

# Transitions

By Suzanne Kusserow  
Senior Guest Columnist Mountain Gazette

Mary Patricia O'Connell Tomasi has left Underhill. Martha, her daughter drove her car packed with things "that will help you feel at home." And Keith, her son-in-law drove his SUV packed with another load of clothes, mementos, Pete's paintings and photos of Underhill places and friends and most importantly, packed with her beloved grandchildren. They will arrive in early evening, at a very pleasant assisted-living apartment, and Pete will spend her first night away from the "gingerbread house" on Pleasant Valley Road. It will be lonely but she will adjust, as she has so artfully done with many ups and downs in her life. And the nearby grandchildren will



Irene Linde,  
Pete Tomasi, and  
Suzanne Kusserow

PHOTO  
CONTRIBUTED

come bouncing in the next day, and she will hug them and remember why it was that she moved: "I want/I need to be near to family."

As long as I have known her, she has always been "Pete".....not the most suitable name for a slim, gracefully-moving young mother, but also somewhat emblematic of the strength with which she faced the death of her husband and moved three kids 'back home' to Underhill. She had lived here before; as a youngster her father felt the pressures of a suburban medical practice, so some respite summers were spent in a small stone house on Bear Town Road.

As is often the case, her kids were her entree into a different life: Johnny stood by the side of the Underhill Central Elementary School soccer field, and my son, Paul, called: "Want to play soccer?" And a friendship was born. Anne Tomasi, Amy Seybolt and my daughter Adrie, became a triumvirate of "A"s. A three some is often not the most peaceful of girlhood numbers, but with them there were no jealousies, no switching of loyalties. It lasts to this day.

Pete's Mom, Mary O'Connell, was a petite anchor for the new family; she was chipper and Irish, warmly and devoutly Catholic, and a role model for growing older with eyes wide open and alert. She taught me much.

Irene Linde, next door, had also lost her husband, and one could not have wished for a better neighbor, friend and comforter. Lu Farmer, farther down the road, with a boisterous set of country-raised and loyal kids, reached out and warmly welcomed. I was bouncing all over town with various small errands, and it was a wonderful rest to join Pete and Mary for a visit and a hot cup of Irish Breakfast tea.

Now, families are all scattered, coming 'home' when they can and ritually hiking the mountain each summer. Pete was lonely and her grandchildren were growing up without her being involved in their daily lives. It was time to go.

She still walks with an elegant gracefulness with, now, a slight hesitancy; her hands still gesture like fluttering butterflies, with, now, a slight shaking added. Her quick soft voice with now a slight piling-up of words, always glows with anecdotes of grandkids. It was time to go.

And an era has passed. Yes, she'll be back at Christmas and probably in the spring, to tenderly lament over her neglected gardens, and certainly, with family as protection, she'll be here for some of the summer. But, even now, only days after her turning the key in her back door, I miss her terribly! And as we, her aging friends in Underhill, turn to our own grandkids for comfort and the daily recitals of their stumbling into maturity, we think of her with both tears and smiles.

God bless you Pete! Love, Sue

# FROM THE COUNTRY STORE Carbon monoxide detectors saved my family

By Jon St. Amour  
Special to the Mountain Gazette

I've come out of my retirement to share a very important story with you all. It's a story about carbon monoxide detectors, and how they saved the lives of me and my family.

On Friday, November 27<sup>th</sup>, we lost power here in Jericho Center at 10:00 at night due to very high winds. We had just installed a brand-spanking new Kohler 17 kw backup generator the week before. It was perfect timing. Just thirty seconds after the power went out, the generator kicked on, powering up some of our vital coolers here inside the store. I was inside the store transferring some Ben and Jerry's ice cream into our big, generator-powered freezer and moving other perishables into our powered walk-in cooler. 11:30 hit, and I finally turned in for the night, or so I thought.

At midnight, after finally dozing off, my wife and I were awoken by a faint beeping somewhere down inside the store. A few seconds later, at least three of our carbon monoxide detectors were beeping like crazy. I got up and ventured down into the store, looking for the originating CO detector (we have five detectors in the store, all hard-wired together, so when one goes off, they all go off). I went into the basement and determined that the detector down there was the source of the alarms. Since they're combination smoke/carbon monoxide detectors, I unscrewed the apparatus and read the directions on the back. The beeping was a fast, four pulse alarm, with red lights. I found that combination on the instructions and it said, "Carbon monoxide warning. Seek fresh air now."

Part of me thought that this couldn't be happening and it was probably a false alarm. The other part of me thought that somehow, our backup generator was the cause of this. I then thought of my wife and four children, sound asleep in their beds. *Time to get out*, I decided. My wife and I quickly roused our children and we shuffled them outside and into our minivan. The kids, initially confused about this (at least one thought it was morning), became excited about this little slumber party in our van. We popped a DVD into the portable player (thank you, Mom, for that gift!) and they snuggled in their blankets.

I ventured back in to get my black lab, Lucy, and after assuring my daughter, Kayley, that her fish and hermit crab would be okay, I went back into the store to call 911. All the while I still wondered if this was a false alarm, and I felt bad that I would be waking up all of our wonderful guys at the fire department for this, in the middle of a Friday night. Chief Randy Clark was the first on the scene and he assured me that we did the right thing, getting outside so quickly. Soon the cavalry arrived, our finest at work. I apologized to as many of them as I could, getting them out here in the middle of the night, but they all looked at me and said, "Don't worry about it!" I realized that this was why they volunteered.

They took an initial reading right away in the store, and they quickly exited the building. There were toxic levels of carbon monoxide already, just two feet inside the store. To myself I said a quick prayer of thanks that we got out so soon. I brought my family to my parents' home for the rest of the night (my kids loved that - slumber party at Nana and Papa's!) The fire department proceeded to take readings throughout the building and they informed me that there were absolutely lethal levels of the gas in the basement, and especially outside near our new generator. Even on the third floor, where we live, the levels were high. I was told that we probably wouldn't have awakened in the morning if not for the detectors. They said that the carbon monoxide detectors saved our lives.

It was determined that our generator, the way it was positioned outside (with the exhaust vent pointing directly at our basement door) and the fact that our basement door was cracked open a few inches was the source of the excess carbon monoxide. The strong winds simply blew the exhaust straight into our building and it took no time for the building to fill up (we have since moved the generator). The men of the Underhill Jericho Fire Department quickly aired out our entire building with big fans and within two hours the building was clear. They were amazing. They got the building aired out and up to speed in time for me to open up for business the next day.

So please folks, if you don't have carbon monoxide detectors in your home, get at least one today. If you only have one, make sure it's in an area where it will wake you up if you're sleeping. If we had just one detector in the basement (two floors down), I might have never heard it going off. The best thing to do is to have at least one in your basement, close to your furnace, and at least one close to every bedroom in your home. The fact that we had five, all hard-wired together, factored in to our quick exit from the building, and ultimately, our survival.

I'm passing along a huge thank you to Chief Clark and everyone from the Underhill Jericho Fire Department for the quick and professional response that night, and for all the other important work they do in our communities. They are fantastic people. Also a big thank you to Jim Adams and members of Essex Rescue who made sure my family and I were all okay. I also say a prayer to Bryan Martin, our former electrician who installed and wired the detectors; he passed away a few years ago. I think he was looking out for us that night. Finally, thank you Mom, for telling me to get some carbon monoxide detectors installed here

## Holiday cheer, and chores

By Sara Riley  
Special to the Mountain Gazette

'Tis the season. As we approach the shortest day of the year, it's good that we're so distracted with decorations, family traditions, entertaining, and thinking of the perfect gift. Without those distractions, we might dwell too much on the gloomy weather, the pell-mell frenzy we are driven to by all the preparations, and the list of things still to do.

Last weekend - the last weekend of late fall, as it turned out - Saturday was all-yard work, all day. We finally got the gutters down. Well, most  
**Holiday cheer continued on page 5**

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## The Mountain Gazette

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Letters accepted by mail or email.

## Sunrise Physical Therapy

## Seasons Greetings

Angela, Danielle, Kari, Pam

644-8011 Jeffersonville

Holiday cheer continued from page 4

of 'em. Our home is about 800' above the height of Pleasant Valley Road, and we sure do get snow. Accumulation is often an elevation event, where the moisture-laden air scuttles across the big lake and hits the big mountain. As the air goes up, it dumps as much precipitation as possible. All winter, the snow slides off the metal roof, tearing the heck out of the gutters on the way. So we take them down, this year just in time.

Also picked up and cleaned up and put away everything loose or that's unused in winter, like the patio table and chairs, all the garden tools, stakes, and cages, and all the blown-about stuff and strewn-about bits of kindling. Brought out the snow shovels, found the windshield scrapers.

Filled the window boxes with greens, and cut two small trees for outdoor decoration. It looked lovely for three days. Today the high wind blew them all down, even the window boxes. Tomorrow I'll set it all up again, and bring home a wreath.

It's a satisfying feeling to have all these chores done. Too bad it isn't all of them! It never is. There is always more to do. This week, like many of us, I'm scrambling to get snow tires after letting myself be lulled by the warm November into neglecting that task. Oops, join the crowd... And the one thing I missed last weekend was putting away the hoses. They are still lying around on the lawn and deck, forlorn and freezing and probably cracking under the cold snow.

Well, nobody's perfect. Things still on my to-do list: Receive, wrap, package, and mail presents to out-of-state family. Finish (I hope) the two presents I'm crocheting. Ready the extra rooms for family coming home for the holidays. Print, address, and mail Christmas and Hanukah cards. Get out all the decorations to make the house festive. Make and freeze cookie dough and other treats, some for home and some for

giving. Get a tree! Trim it, and light the menorah. Wrap all the presents.

Get out the old favorite music, books, stories, and movies. My favorite movie is *Mickey's Christmas Carol*, in which Goofy plays Marley's ghost and has the best line ever: because he neglected his fellow man when he was alive, Marley's ghost must drag the chains he bears "for all eternity!" (Cue little bell, looks at camera) "... Maybe even longer!"

I don't wish for any one season to last for all eternity... maybe even longer but I sure would like to have an extra week or so, say four days before and three days after, without having to account for the time to work or the calendar. Just to relax and enjoy, a little bit more.

But truly, as long as there is one evening spent sipping spiced cider and relaxing with family, while the fire glows in the woodstove and the weather whirls outside - that will satisfy.

Sadly, not everyone has that satisfaction. Here's one suggestion to share the warmth this season: When doing your holiday cards, take one and send it to this address: A Recovering American Soldier, c/o Walter Reed Army Medical Center, 6900 Georgia Avenue NW, Washington, D.C. 20307. Pass this information on - think of how many cards these wonderful special people would get.

Last but not least, a billboard seen by a Vermonter in Texas along the highway said: "Santa Claus is coming to town. Please don't hit him. Don't drink and drive."

HAVE A SAFE AND HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON AND NEW YEAR!

COMING EVENTS

Thursday, December 17

Colchester history with Inge Schaffer, Phoenix Books and Café, Essex Shoppes and Cinema, Essex, 6:30 PM. In her new book *Chronicles of Colchester*, Inge Schaefer, well known locally as the founder of the *Colchester Chronicle*, combines interviews, historical documents and personal research in this series of articles on Colchester's past. This event is free and open to the public. For more information, please contact Michael DeSanto at 802-872-7111.

Coming events continued on page 6

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Coming events continued from page 5

Friday, December 18

**English country dance.** 7:30 to 9:30 PM, Elley-Long Music Center, 223 Ethan Allen Ave., Colchester, VT. Enjoy Jane Austen's favorite pastime. Music by Lar Duggan (piano), Wayne Hankin (woodwinds and more), Laura Markowitz (violin), Ana Ruesink (viola). All dances taught. Casual dress. Come on your own or with a partner. Bring a "finger food" snack to share at the break. For more information please call 802-899-2378, or email [valandtom@myfairpoint.net](mailto:valandtom@myfairpoint.net).

Saturday, December 19

**The Christmas Bake, Craft and Food Sale.** Greek Orthodox Church, Corner of Ledge Rd. and So. Willard St., Burlington, 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM, Greek Pastries, Spinach Pie, Chicken Souvlaki & Lamb Gyro Dinner with Rice Pilaf & Greek Salad. For more information call 862-2155.

Sunday, December 20

**Last Minute Shoppers' Community Breakfast.** VFW Post 6689, 73 Pearl St., Essex Junction, 9:00 to 11:00 AM. Breakfast includes sausage gravy with biscuits and eggs, any style. The cost is \$6.00 for Adults, \$3.00 for children. For further info call the Essex Jct. VFW at 878-0700.

Saturday & Sunday, December 19 & 20

**The Nutcracker.** Saturday 2:00 and 7:00 PM and Sunday 1:00 PM at the Flynn Center for the Performing Arts, Burlington, VT. For tickets (802) 86-Flynn or <http://www.flynntix.org/index.aspx>.

Sunday, January 17

**Colchester History.** Chittenden County Historical Society, Burnham Memorial Library, Main Street, Colchester, 2:00 PM. Paul Engels will better acquaint the listener with the earliest history of Colchester. Some current Colchester residents are descended from people who worked with Ira Allen at his sawmill, and our first representative to Congress, John Law. Free and open to the public. For questions, please call the Library 879-7576 or 425-2634.

ONGOING EVENTS

ADULT ACTIVITIES

The **Essex Art League** holds monthly meetings at the First Congregational Church, 39 Main St., Essex Jct. For information, 862-3014.

**Handbell ringers,** Tuesday evenings, United Church of Underhill. All are welcome at rehearsals. Two ensembles; opportunity for small groups/shorter time periods. We ring a variety of music in a variety of settings and look forward to new faces joining us. Beginners welcome! Call Roger, 899-3106, for information.

The **Vermont French Canadian Genealogical Library** will be open on Tuesdays from 3:00 to 9:30 PM and Saturdays (until May) from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM at our location in the Dupont Building at Fort Ethan Allen, Colchester, VT. We can help you get started or our expanded collection and internet access can help you continue your search. We will be closed December 26 and January 2. [www.VT-FCGS.ORG](http://www.VT-FCGS.ORG) for more info on free classes etc.

**The Eagles Auxiliary #3210** holds bingo at the club house on Rt. 109 Friday nights. Doors open at 5:30 PM. Bingo starts at 7:00 PM. For more info contact Sally at 644-5377.

HEALTH EVENTS & GROUPS

**Alzheimer's Support Group** - Free educational support group series for families coping with a loved one with Alzheimer's disease and related dementias. This series gives caregivers the opportunity to better understand and develop strategies for the future. Held monthly at The Arbors at Shelburne. For more information and to register, contact Nicole Houston, Director of Family Services, The Arbors at Shelburne, 985-8600.

**Overeaters Anonymous** meets 6:00 - 7:00 PM Wednesdays at the Jericho United Methodist Church, VT RT. 15, Jericho.

**TOPS Chapter 145** Jeffersonville meets 6:15 PM on Thursdays at the Eagles Club, Route 109, Jeffersonville. Weigh-in 5:15-6:00 PM.

**Healing Circle Breast Cancer Network,** support group for women with breast cancer, meets first Tuesday of every month at 5:30 PM, Northwestern Medical Center, Conference Room #1. RSVP at 524-8479.

ONGOING EVENTS

**Franklin County Prostate Cancer Support Group,** first Tuesday of each month, 5:15 - 7:00 PM, Northwestern Medical Center Conference Room #2, St. Albans. This support group offers men opportunities to educate themselves and each other; share and learn from each other's experiences; offer support to each other, a spouse or partner; and advocate early detection of prostate cancer. For information, Fern Mercure, 524-0719.

**Statewide Quit Line,** Telephone Smoking Cessation Counseling. Call 1-877-YES-QUIT (1-877-937-7848). Free.

**Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting,** "Keep It Simple" group meets Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, 8:00 - 9:00 PM and Saturdays, 6:30 - 7:30 PM at the United Church of Underhill, Underhill Flats.

**Pilates Classes:** New Wednesday class beginning at MMU at 6:45 PM. Late afternoon classes open to the public offered at Mt. Mansfield UHS, Browns River Middle School, and Underhill ID School. Evening classes at Dakini Studio in Underhill. Check website for new classes in Jeffersonville. For schedule information contact Lisa Timbers at 899-4191 or visit <http://dakinstudio.wordpress.com>

KIDS

**Underhill Playgroup,** kids ages 0-5 with their caregivers are always welcome to join us Fridays from 9:30 - 11:00 AM at Underhill Central School for playtime, crafts, stories, songs and fun! For additional information or questions, please contact Heather Lebeis at 899-4415 or [Underhillplaygroup@yahoo.com](mailto:Underhillplaygroup@yahoo.com).

**Jericho Playgroup,** Monday mornings 9:30 - 11:00 AM at the Jericho Community Center. Starting September 14, following the school calendar. For children from birth to age 5, with a caregiver. Please contact Mariah with any questions at [jerichoplaygroup@hotmail.com](mailto:jerichoplaygroup@hotmail.com) or 899-1750.

**Bolton Family Play Night,** in the Smilie School gym, usually the first and third Fridays, 6:00 - 7:30 PM. Free. Mostly unstructured play with the school's equipment. Contact Tim Grover, 434-4180.

**Kids' Yoga,** 3-5 years & 6 years and up. Toddler tumbling and new moms' groups. The Well, 644-6700.

SENIORS

**Jeri-Hill XYZ Seniors** meet at the Town Hall in Underhill Center on the first and third Wednesday of each month. All seniors are welcome! Dinners are served at 11:30 AM. For information, please call Bette Workman, 899-4446, Loreen Teer, 899-1363 or Doug Keith 899-2582.

**Westford Senior lunches** - Join Westford Seniors for lunch at the Red Brick Meeting House on the Common the second Monday of each month. Lunch is served at 12:00 noon with a short meeting or presentation following. Call 878-7405 or 879-7382 for information or for a ride.

SPORTS ACTIVITIES

**Adult coed volleyball** in Westford, 8:00 - 10:00 PM, Mondays, Westford Elementary School gym. Fun, casual volleyball. \$2 at the door. Call coordinators Jon and Tammy Brown, 872-8333, for information.

**Bolton Men's Basketball.** Tuesdays, 7:00 - 9:00 PM, Smilie School Gym. For adults and young adults age 16 and up. Contact Bill Newton, 434-3348.

**Pilates Classes** offered at Jericho Community Center, Underhill ID School, Mount Mansfield UHS, Cambridge Elementary School and at Dakini Studio in Underhill. Please call Lisa Timbers for more information. 899-4191. [dakinstudio.wordpress.com](http://dakinstudio.wordpress.com).

SUPPORT GROUPS

**Alzheimer's support group,** third Wednesday, 9:30 - 11:30 AM, The Arbors, 687 Harbor Rd., Shelburne. Free education for individuals and families in the early stages of Alzheimer's disease and related dementias. For information and to register, contact Nicole Houston, 985-8600.

**Approach Autism With Advocacy, Recovery & Education (AAWARE)** in the Lamoille Valley, third Sunday, 3:00 - 5:00 PM, Second Congregational Church of Jeffersonville Community Room, Jeffersonville. Special topics, guest speakers, resource information; playroom for kids, fenced side yard for outdoor play. For informa-

tion, Terry Holden, 644-2759 (Jeffersonville) or Tina Karl, 888-3430 (Hyde Park.)

**Veterans Job Networking,** Wednesdays, 9:30 - 11:00 AM, VFW Post, Essex Jct.; 1:00 - 2:30 PM, American Legion Post, St. Albans.

**Eating Disorders Parental Support Group,** third Wednesday, 7:00 - 9:00 PM, Covenant Community Church, VT Rt. 15, Essex Center. For parents of children with or at risk of anorexia or bulimia. We focus on being a resource and providing reference points for old and new ED parents. For information, Peter, 899-2554.

TOWN GOVERNMENT AND ORGANIZATIONS

**Cambridge Area Rotary** meets on the first Thursday of the month, rotating to local restaurants, 7:00 - 8:00 AM. For information, call Anita Lotto, 793-0856, or Chuck Hogan, 644-8134.

**Tim Nulty, Jericho Selectboard member,** at the Village Cup, first and third Wednesdays, 8:00 - 9:00 AM, and at the Flour Shop, second and fourth Wednesdays, 8:00 - 9:00 AM.

**Westford Fire Department,** Mondays, 7:00 PM, at the fire station next to the Town Garage. Volunteer for firefighting, dispatching, radio communications, computer operations, grant writing, equipment maintenance, fire police, education, and much more. For information, email John Quinn, [jquinninv@aol.com](mailto:jquinninv@aol.com).

**Jericho-Underhill Water District** meets first Monday of each month at the United Church of Underhill, Underhill Flats, 7:00 PM. For information, call 899-4076 or 899-3810.

**Jericho Historical Society,** second Thursday, 7:30 PM, Old Red Mill, Jericho.

**Jericho Underhill Park District Board** meeting, first and third Wednesdays, 7:00 PM, Deborah Rawson Memorial Library project room, Jericho. Residents of Jericho and Underhill always welcome. 899-2693 for information.

THRIFT SHOPS AND FOOD SHELVES

The **Heavenly Cents Thrift Shop,** located just east of the Five Corners in Essex Jct. on Rte 15, has a great many ideas for Christmas decorating or gift giving. The hours are from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on Tues. and Wed., 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Thurs., and from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 21. Please check us out.

**Westford Food Shelf,** open on the third Saturday of every month, 8:00 - 10:30 AM, United Church of Westford. All are welcome! Fresh produce, meat, and non-food items available.

First Winter & Holiday Farmers' Market in Westford

The Westford Farmers' Market will hold its very first winter and holiday farmers' market in the Red Brick Meeting House on Route 128 in Westford (opposite the Common). The event will be on Friday, December 11, 2009, from 4 - 7 p.m. and is free.

A variety of local vendors will offer everything from holiday items to farm products, meats, baked goods, condiments and much more. Those who've been to the popular summer market on the Westford Common also know about the delicious prepared food that will be there: European and Asian specialties are prepared freshly to eat in or take home. There will also be artisan crafters: a great opportunity to shop for holiday gifts locally. Alongside bakery classics like pies and cookies there will be some German specialties offered for the first time: Stuten for example, traditional sweet bread made with yeast and raisins, or Stollen, which was first baked in the royal court of Dresden in the 15th century.

Many of Westford's regular summer market vendors' will be there this Friday, so customers can stock up on their favorite foods and even call the vendors for pre-orders. Information on who will be selling is posted on the Westford Farmers' Market Website, [www.westfordfarmersmarketvt.org](http://www.westfordfarmersmarketvt.org), which will be updated continuously.

Of course there's live music as well. Listen to the 'Slick Martha's Hot Club' playing Jazz classics, Paris-style jazz from the 30' and 40' and lively Irish fiddle tunes.

For more information check the website, or email [info@westfordfarmersmarketvt.org](mailto:info@westfordfarmersmarketvt.org).

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LIBRARY NEWS

**DEBORAH RAWSON MEMORIAL LIBRARY, UNDERHILL**

Art for December is artwork by Joan MacKenzie of Pika Works. In the display case look for small inviting works by Kristen Richland. The Board of Trustees will meet Thursday, December 17 at 7:00 PM. If you are interested in running for a seat on the board one position from Jericho and one from Underhill will be up for election. See the town clerk for a petition to run.

The library will be closed December 24, 25 and 26. Our regular hours will resume on Sunday, December 27 from 1:00-4:00 PM. The library will close at 4:00 PM on December 31 and will be closed on January 1. Regular hours will resume on Saturday, January 2, 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM.

Our library cards expire at the end of December. Please stop by anytime during the month to update to a new color card. Just bring your old card with you as we are reusing the barcodes.

The December silent auction item is a collage of snowflake photographs by Stu Hall. Bids will be taken until December 17 at 8:00 PM. This would make a wonderful present. Stop by the library to see the collage and bid.

Looking ahead to January Music Sunday will be January 3 and will feature music by Mt. Mansfield Alumni. Any former students that would like to be part of the group contact Laurel Shelmandine or Holly at the library.

The next game night for adults will be Wednesday, January 13 at 6:30 PM.

The Annual Budget meeting for the library will be Thursday, January 21 at 7:00 PM watch the mail for our budget which will be mailed to all households in Underhill and Jericho. A copy of the budget can be picked up at the library as well.

Thursday, January 28 the library will have a stamping workshop. Make Valentines and learn stamping techniques. Space is limited so call the library to register

**After School Arts and Crafts** - Abby Retzloff will read a story and then assist participants in creating fun and colorful holiday decorations for students in grade 2 and up. Advance registration required. Call to register 899-4962. Thursday, December 17, 3:30 PM.

**Baby Time** - Join Leah Rowe for board books, lap rhymes and songs appropriate for babies 18 months and younger. This is a wonderful time for parents and child care providers to connect with one another and to share ideas. Siblings welcome. Wednesday, December 23 at 10:30 AM.

**Preschool Story Times** - Stories, songs, finger plays, snack and craft for preschoolers and their caregiver. Drop in, no registration needed: Wednesday at 11:00 AM; January 6, 13, 20, and 27; Thursday at 10:00 AM, Jan 7, 14, 21, and 28.

**Evening Story Time for Families** - Parents with older preschoolers and children in kindergarten through second grade are invited to join us for stories, craft and light refreshments. January 7 at 6:30 PM. To register call 899-4962.

Library hours: Tuesday 12:00 – 8:00 PM, Wednesday 10:00 AM – 6:00 PM, Thursday 12:00 – 8:00 PM, Friday 10:00 AM – 6:00 PM, Saturday 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM, Sunday 1:00 – 4:00 PM, closed Monday. For information on any of the library's programs, call 899-4962.

**JERICHO TOWN LIBRARY, JERICHO CENTER**

Thank you to everyone who attended the holiday open house; special thank you to Tracey Campbell Pearson for reading, Dennis for sharing his delicious punch, Bonnie MacLeod for the beautiful harp music, Barb Adams and Patty Carroll for making crafts with the children, and to all the cookie bakers. Also, thanks to the Jericho Center Preservation Association for lighting the tree, and of course to Santa.

Monday, December 21, at 10:30-11:00 AM the library will provide an outreach story time at the Jericho Community Center for the Chittenden East Early Childhood Connection play group. Parents and children ages birth – 5 years and siblings are welcome to join the fun. The theme is snowflakes.

Saturday, January 9 at 7:00-9:00 PM the Jericho Town Library will be holding its fourth annual Contra Dance at the Jericho Community Center. You can bring a partner, your entire family, or come alone. Everyone is welcome, including absolute beginners. No prior experience is needed. Mark Sustic will do the calling and instruction



*Adult Watercolor classes by Kathleen Berry Bergeron beginning the week of January 11. Call for details 899-4628.*

of all dances. The music will be provided by the Fiddleheads. Other musicians with acoustic instruments are welcome to join in with the band. A donation of \$5 per person and \$10 for families is suggested at the door.

Story time including craft and snack is held every Wednesday upstairs at 10:00 AM.

Come share the joy of books, songs, and finger plays. A special thanks goes to Elizabeth Bernstein for continuing to read and Jean Yungfleisch for her wonderful guitar music.

Upcoming themes: Wednesday, December 23, 10:00 AM – Trees; Wednesday, December 30, 10:00 AM – Stars.

Check out the new Jericho Town Library Webpage and Online Card Catalog with pictures of book jackets. Patrons are now able to view the collection consisting of about 7000 items - adult fiction, adult nonfiction, picture books, easy readers, juvenile and young adult and DVDs from a link on the website: <http://www.jerichotownlibrary.org> NOTE: Use Search Library Catalog pull down for title, author, subject, etc. Please contact the library at 899-4686 or email [jerichotownlibrary@gmail.com](mailto:jerichotownlibrary@gmail.com) if any questions when viewing items. We welcome your feedback.

High School students needing to fulfill community service please volunteer at the library when your schedule permits. Your help is really appreciated. Call or stop by.

Story time including craft and snack is held every Wednesday upstairs at 10:00 AM. Come share the joy of books, finger plays, flannel board, and music.

The Board of Trustees meets regularly the first Thursday of the month at 7:00 PM at the library. The public is welcome so join us at our upcoming meetings on January 7 and February 4. The hours for

the Jericho Town Library on the Green are Monday and Friday 1:00-5:00 PM, Wednesday 10:00 AM-12:00 PM and 2:00-6:00 PM, Saturday 10:00 AM-1:00 PM. For more information call 899-4686 or email us at [Jerichotownlibrary@gmail.com](mailto:Jerichotownlibrary@gmail.com).

**WESTFORD TOWN LIBRARY**

Upcoming Events: Saturday, December 19, 6:30pm. **Women's Game Night**. Join this fun and welcoming group for food, laughter and board games. Contact Becky Roy for more info (879-9511). December 24, 25, 31 and January 1 Closed. Happy Holidays.

Beginning Thursday, January 7, 6:45-8:30 PM. Vermont Earth Institute's A Sense of Place Discussion Course *Living in Place* means knowing the uniqueness of the place where you live, consciously trying to satisfy your needs and to find your pleasures in that place, and working to assure its long-term health and vitality for future generations. The group will meet January 7, 14, 21, 28, February 4, 11 and 2/18 co-sponsored by the Westford Conservation Commission and the Library. Call the Library at 878-5639 to register. Books may be purchased for \$25 (checks to Vermont Earth Institute) although the library will have one non-circulating copy available.

Friday, January 8, 6:00 PM, Westford Knitters. All needle-crafters welcome on the first Friday of the month. Contact: Lynn Finnatt 878-9639 or [knittylynnie@gmail.com](mailto:knittylynnie@gmail.com).

Wednesday, January 13, 6:00-7:00 PM, Book Discussion of *The Power of One* by Bryce Courtenay.

Saturday, January 16, 6:30 PM. Women's Game Night. Join this fun and welcoming group for food, laughter and board games. Contact Becky Roy for more info (879-9511).

Friday, January 22, 6:00 PM: Strategy and Board Games for Teens and Adults. Hosted by Matt Taylor.

Friday, January 29, 6:30 PM, Movie Night, Julie & Julia. Rated PG-13. Free Popcorn.

Saturday, January 23, 1:00-3:00 PM. Lego Club. For ages K-4th grade. Please consider donating your extra/unwanted/misc Legos to the Lego Club. You can drop them off at the library.

New Additions to the Collection: Adult Fiction: *True Blue* (Baldacci), *The Scarpetta Factor* (Cornwell), *U is for Undertow* (Grafton). Juv Fiction: *Albert's Alphabet* (Tryon), *Ballet Bunnies* (Goodman), *Boost* (Mackel), *I Completely Know About Guinea Pigs* (Child), *Offsides* (Eskilsen). Juv Nonfiction: *Nic Bishop Marsupials* (Bishop), *Two Bobbies* (Larson), *Peaceful Heroes* (Winter), *Nubs: The True Story of a Mutt, a Marine and a Miracle* (Dennis).

The library is open Wednesday 1:00-7:00 PM, Thursday 10:00 AM-6:00 PM, Friday 12:00-6:00 PM and Saturday 10:00 AM-2:00 PM. Free WiFi is available during these hours. We also have three public access computers plus a computer dedicated to our online catalog. You can access our online catalog from home through our website. We can be reached at 878-5639, [westford\\_pl@vals.state.vt.us](mailto:westford_pl@vals.state.vt.us), and [www.westford.lib.vt.us](http://www.westford.lib.vt.us).

**Local volunteers needed for American Cancer Society Daffodil Days**

For more than 35 years, the American Cancer Society has been sharing hope for a world free from cancer with Daffodil Days®, a beloved program to help raise funds and awareness to fight cancer and to create a world with more birthdays.

The American Cancer Society is currently looking for volunteers – individuals, schools, organizations, and businesses – to participate in Daffodil Days and share the first flower of spring and the hope for a cancer free future. Volunteers are needed to assist in coordinating orders, as well as packing and delivering daffodils throughout Vermont.

Daffodil Days is the perfect way to fight back against cancer in your community, business, school, place of worship, or with friends and family. Only through local support can the Society continue its lifesaving work to help those touched by cancer, empower people to fight back against this disease, and save more lives. The last day to reserve daffodils is March 5; daffodils will be delivered the week of March 22.

To help make a difference in the fight against cancer by volunteering with the Daffodil Days program, contact your American Cancer Society at 1.800.227.2345 or visit [www.cancer.org/daffodils](http://www.cancer.org/daffodils).

**Mountain Gazette Publication & Deadline Dates 2010**

The Mountain Gazette publishes on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month (except January). The deadline for receiving copy is Thursday, a week before publication, at noon. The advertising deadline is Thursday, a week before publication at 5:00 PM.

**PUBLICATION DATE:**

**Thursday,**

January	21
February	4
February	18
March	4
March	18
April	1
April	15
May	6
May	20
June	3
June	17
July	1
July	15
August	5
August	19
September	2
September	16
October	7
October	21
November	4
November	18
December	2
December	16

**DEADLINE DATE:**

**THURSDAY,**

January	14
January	28
February	11
February	25
March	11
March	25
April	8
April	29
May	13
May	27
June	10
June	24
July	8 (3 wks. to next paper)
July	29
August	12
August	26
September	9 (3 wks. to next paper)
September	30
October	14
October	28
November	11
November	24 – the day before Thanksgiving!
December	9

**Christmas Services**

**Sunday, December 20**

**Holiday Concert and Sing-Along with Full Circle**, 4:00 to 6:00 PM, Jericho Community Center - in Jericho Center, just north of the Green. This annual event has become an important part of many people's holiday traditions! Enjoy lovely and lively music, refreshments, and a chance to sing your favorite carols. Suggested donation \$5. Maximum of \$20 for a family. For more information, contact Maeve Kim at 899-4327 or [maevulus@surfglobal.net](mailto:maevulus@surfglobal.net).

**A Festival of Gregorian Chant Seasonal and Organ Music**, St. Michael's College Chapel, Colchester, 3:00 PM. Free will offering for the food shelf. The Vermont Gregorian Chant Schola Dr. William Tortolano, Director.

**Traditional Carols and Popular Holiday Songs**, Jericho United Methodist Church, 71 Vermont Route 15, Jericho, Apple Cider and Baked Goodies will be provided, 4:00 PM. Questions call 899-4288

**Thursday, December 24**

**Christmas Eve Candle Lighting Service of Lessons and Carols** for all ages, Jericho United Methodist Church, Rt. 15, next to the Town Hall, 7:00 PM.

**Christmas Eve Candlelight Services**, United Christian Assembly, 100 Raceway Road, Jericho. 6:00 PM. Everyone is welcome, mulled cider and cookies at 5:30 PM. For more information go to [www.ucavt.org](http://www.ucavt.org) or call at 899-2949.

**Christmas Eve - Holy Eucharist for Children and Families with Christmas Pageant Calvary**, Episcopal Church, RT 15, Underhill, 4:30 PM; Holy Eucharist with Christmas Lessons and Carols at 9:30 PM. For more information contact Karen Floyd, Parish Administrator at 802-899-2326.

**Christmas Services**, Jericho Congregational Church, 3 Jericho Center Circle, Jericho Center, VT. Lessons and Carols with the choirs. December 20 at 8:00 and 11:00 AM. Children's Pageant, Christmas Eve, December 24 that 6:00 PM. Christmas Eve Worship Service at 9:00 PM. Call 899-4911 for more information.

For more information, please contact  
**Brenda Boutin**

**Publisher of the Mountain Gazette**  
6558 VT RT 116, Starksboro, VT 05487

**Phone: 453-6354**

**Fax: 453-2468**

**[mtgazette@earthlink.net](mailto:mtgazette@earthlink.net)**

**Thank You**

## PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

## ENGAGEMENTS

## STEVENS-WILLIAMS

Anne-Marie Cunningham of Williston, VT and Alan Stevens of Jeffersonville, VT announce the engagement of their daughter, Sarah Jean Stevens, to Jerry Lee Williams Sr., son of Judy and the late Roger Williams of Essex Junction, VT. An August 15, 2010 wedding is planned.

## GOSSELIN-CUNNINGHAM

Thomas and Sandra Gosselin of Underhill Center, VT announce the engagement of their daughter, Michelle Gosselin, to Matthew Cunningham, son of Russell and Maribeth Cunningham of Norwood, MA. An October 1, 2010 wedding is planned.

## LUNEAU-HANLEY

Paul and Laura Luneau of Jeffersonville, VT announce the engagement of their daughter, Emily Luneau, to Jesse Hanley, son of Eric Hanley of Jeffersonville, VT and Naomi Fletcher of Chandler, AZ. A wedding is planned for 2011.

## WELCOME HOME

## BOLTON VALLEY

**(Briere)** Lauren (LaRocque) and Ean Briere had a son, Escher Orion, on October 24, 2009 at Central Vermont Medical Center in Berlin, VT.

## JEFFERSONVILLE

**(Martin)** Kimberly (Johnson) and Chip Martin had a daughter, Olive Jayne, on October 8, 2009 at Fletcher Allen Health Care in Burlington, VT.

**(Wescott, Wells)** Michelle (Nolan) Wescott and Conrad Wells had a son, Jack Adam Wells, on October 5, 2009 at Fletcher Allen Health Care in Burlington, VT.

## JERICHO

**(Elsinger)** Jennifer (May) and Eric Elsinger's son, Luke Henry, was born September 30, 2009 at Fletcher Allen Health Care in Burlington, VT.

**(Fox)** Bethany (Royea) and Steven Fox's daughter, Rachel Eliana, was born October 20, 2009 at Copley Hospital in Morrisville, VT.

## JERICHO/BARRE

**(Sicely)** Addison Kirah Isabel Sicely daughter to Michael James and Michelle Lynn (Hall) Sicely of Barre City, VT, was born Thursday, November 12 at 3:27 PM. She was 6 lbs. 13 oz., and 19 inches long, with a head of dark hair and beautiful blue eyes. Her maternal grandparents are Clark and Mary Jerome of Jericho, VT; her paternal grandparents are Kathy and Rick Roberts of Williamstown, VT. Her aunts and uncles- Laura Garrow of New York, Robert and his wife Valeria Garrow of Waterbury, VT, Tiffany and her husband Ken Luker of Mississippi, Kylie Hall of Cambridge VT, Amber Jerome of Jericho, VT, and Jason Sicely of Georgia. Her cousins, Dakota, Aria, Alexis, and Gabrielle Garrow of New York, and Dominique Garrow of Waterbury, VT; plus many other friends and family. She is home in Barre, VT and doing very well.

## JERICHO

**(Bradshaw)** On May 16, 2006 our family welcomed Noah John Bradshaw into our life. Noah was born extremely premature; however had such a strong spirit that he was able to be here with us for almost five months. We were so very blessed to have had the time to get to know him and love him, but in the end his little body was just too weak and we had to let



him go on September 28, 2006. In his memory we planted a beautiful oak tree in Noah's Garden, in Jericho, VT. Now, our family and friends have a constant place of peace to go to and visit him anytime we need to feel his strong spirit lift us up.

Three years have passed since we said goodbye to our darling little boy, and during this time we have struggled to find happiness. Our lives were completely changed by having had and lost Noah...our hearts were filled with a deep sadness, like nothing we have ever known. It was hard to imagine that something could bring us true joy again, but on November 5, 2009, our lives were touched once again by love when our son Henry Neill Bradshaw came into our world. He is a true blessing, just like his big brother Noah. We can't imagine how we got by without him and are so grateful to God for sharing him with our family.

Henry and Noah share two older sisters, Lillian and Abigail Bradshaw, daddy, Chad Bradshaw and mommy Kathleen Neill, great-grandparents, Marie and Bernard Soutiere, grandparents, Herbert and Molly Neill, David Bradshaw and Jeanne Skiffington. They also have many aunts, uncles, cousins and family friends, all of whom have not only shared our joy, but have been of great support and comfort throughout these past three years.

We wish to extend a thank you to the staff at Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center, David's House, Fletcher Allen Health Care, Champlain Obstetrics and everyone who has sent us well wishes and kept our family in their prayers. Life truly is a blessing and love provides hope, with wonderful gifts when you least expect it.

## WESTFORD

**(Day)** Cheryl (Lockerby) and Mark Day had a son, Connor Joseph, on October 6, 2009 at Fletcher Allen Health Care in Burlington, VT.

## JUST MARRIED

## DORTA-MCILWAINE



Amy Dorta, daughter of Angelo and Margaret Dorta of Underhill, VT and Milan, Italy, and Richard McIlwaine, son of Marian Hume McIlwaine and the late Peter McIlwaine of Cushman, County Antrim, Ireland, were united in marriage Saturday, June 27, 2009.

The Rev. Mike Cronogue officiated at the double-ring ceremony at Chapel of St. Michael the Archangel in Colchester, VT.

Moirra Jones Hartsfield was the matron of honor. The bridesmaids were Lisa Paone, Lilli Goldberg, and Colleen Cowhard. Evalyn Scott was the flower girl.

Thomas Crawley was the best man. The ushers were Peter McIlwaine, Seamus McIlwaine, Jonathan McIlwaine, and Colm McIlwaine. Lillian Scott was the ring bearer.

A reception was held at the West Monitor Barn, after which the couple left for Tulum, Mexico.

Mrs. McIlwaine graduated from Mount Mansfield Union High School in Jericho, VT and the University of Vermont. She is a self-employed writer and editor. Her husband is a mason, employed by Layde Construction. The couple resides in Woodlawn, NY.



## ENDRESEN-DOE

Jenna M. Endresen, daughter of Rejeanne Jalbert of Westford, VT and Erik and Teika Taylor-Endresen of South Burlington, VT, and Alexander Matthew Doe, son of Matthew and Beverly Doe of Richmond, VT, were united in marriage Tuesday, September 29, 2009.

Justice of the Peace Bernie Couture officiated at the double-ring ceremony at Trinity Episcopal Church in Shelburne, VT.

Christie Moore-Taylor was the maid of honor. The bridesmaid was Katie Doe.

Josh Russin was the best man. The

usher was Matthew Lewis.

A reception was held at the home of Erik and Teika Taylor-Endresen.

The couple will honeymoon at a later date in Maui, Hawaii.

Mrs. Endresen-Doe graduated from Essex High School and attended Community College of Vermont, and will be pursuing a bachelor's degree in psychology. She is a lease agent at Stony Creek Highlands. Her husband graduated from Essex High School. He is an Airman 1st Class B1 Bomber Maintainer at Ellsworth Air Force Base. The couple resides in Rapid City, SD.

## GAGNER-POPLAWSKI

Sara Gagner, daughter of Bernie and Martha Gagner of Sheldon, VT, and Adam Poplawski, son of Edward and Pam Poplawski of Lakeland, FL, were united in marriage on Saturday, May 2, 2009.

Justice of the Peace John Ferland, uncle of the bride, officiated at the double-ring ceremony at the Unitarian Universalist Church in Burlington, VT.

Abbie Gagner, sister of the bride, was the maid of honor. The bridesmaids were Karen Rainville, Hannah Dubie, and Nicole Gagner. Kaitlyn Poplawski, niece of the groom, was the flower girl. Joey Lynn Poplawski, niece of the groom, distributed the programs at the ceremony.

Stephan Poplawski, brother of the groom, was the best man. The ushers were Doug Vanderlee, Jay Anderson, and Levon Fitzgerald.

A reception was held at the American Legion in St. Albans, VT, after which the couple left for the Outer Banks of North Carolina.

Mrs. Poplawski graduated from Bellows Free Academy of St. Albans and Vermont College of Cosmetology. She works at Indigo Salon. Her husband graduated from Mount Abraham Union High School and SUNY Delhi. He is the golf course superintendent at the Country Club of Vermont.

The couple resides in Bolton.



## PRESCOTT-SPAULDING

Sandra A. Prescott, daughter of Rhoda and William Westbrook of Hyde Park, VT and Wayne Prescott of Cambridge, VT, and Michael J. Spaulding, son of Mary L. Spaulding of Fairfax, VT and John Spaulding of Fletcher, VT, were united in marriage Saturday, July 11, 2009.

Justice of the Peace James Meunier officiated at the double-ring ceremony at the couple's home, where a reception also was held.

Sharon Salls was the maid of honor. Todd Pigeon was the best man.

The couple went deep sea fishing in Maine on their wedding trip. Mr. and Mrs. Spaulding are both self-employed. They reside in Fletcher, VT.

## HOULE-RODRIGUEZ

Shelly Marie Houle, daughter of Robert and Phyllis Houle of Colchester, VT, and Ramon Rodriguez, son of Milagros and Hans Carlos Ruiz of Colchester, VT and the late Otilio Rodriguez of Puerto Rico, were united in marriage on Sunday, October 18, 2009.

Pastor Daryn Ortiz officiated at the double-ring ceremony at the West Monitor Barn in Richmond, VT, where a reception was also held.

Tara Roy was the matron of honor. The bridesmaids were Debbie Houle, Katelyn Roberts, Rebecca Ortiz, Jacinta Leavitt, Erica Small, and Angelica Ingrassia.

Emery Roy was the best man. The ushers were Ben Rodriguez, Jeremy Jackson, Justin Menard, Randy Bishop, Mike Fragano, and

Russ Minter.

The couple honeymooned in St. Martin.

Mrs. Rodriguez graduated from Colchester High School, Champlain College, and Johnson State College. She is a drug and alcohol and mental health counselor at the Howard Center. Her husband graduated from Mount Mansfield Union High School and Vermont Technical College. He is a senior mask layout designer at IBM.

The couple resides in Jeffersonville, VT.

## SMITH-PELLETIER

Brooke Frances Marie Smith, daughter of John and Pat Smith of Sundridge, Ontario, and Jay Michael Pelletier, son of Michael and Shelley Pelletier of Jericho, VT, were united in marriage Saturday, July 19, 2009.

John Twist officiated at the double-ring ceremony at the Inn at the Falls in Bracebridge, Ontario, where a reception was also held.

Emma Smith was the maid of honor. The bridesmaids were Rachel Vieira, Danielle Malone, and Lara Zapata.

Kein Pelletier was the best man. The ushers were Paul Comegno, Todd Grennan, Noah Landis, and David Raso. Nathan Vieira was the ring bearer.

The couple honeymooned at a cottage in northern Ontario.

Ms. Smith graduated from Almaguin Highland Secondary School, McGill University, and earned a Juris Doctor degree from Queens University Law School. She is an articling student at Gowling Lafleur Henderson LLP. Her husband graduated from Mount Mansfield Union High School and McGill University. He is a software test engineer at Oceanwide, Inc.

The couple resides in Ottawa, Ontario.



## OBITUARY



**Ronald Lynn St. Louis**, 55, Bolton, VT, passed away peacefully on Wednesday, December 9, 2009, at Fletcher Allen Health Care in Burlington, VT, in the company of his loving family, after a short but spirited battle with lung cancer. Ron was born February 22, 1954, in Burlington, VT, the sixth of seven children to Eugene and Rita (Hammond) St. Louis, and grew up at 168 North Union Street with his tightly-knit band of brothers. Ron attended Burlington High Technical School and graduated from Rice Memorial High School in 1972, and lived

his life to the fullest. Ron's first daughter, Sarah, was born in 1977, followed two years later by daughter Lynn; son Justin was born in 1983. Ron was married to his soul mate, Katherine Amerio, on Sept. 29, 1990. Ron was also the very proud "Papa" - along with Kathy, or "Neenie" - of four wonderful grandchildren: granddaughter Alexis Donna, age 9, grandson Evan Donna, age 4, grandson Landon St. Louis, age 3, and granddaughter Mackenzie Dyer, age 2. As one of the founding members of the Orange Dog Tavern in Worcester, Ron and his brothers - Gene, Mike, Gary, Jack, and Jeff - developed many characters that brought laughter to anyone that had a slightly twisted sense of humor. Known on occasion throughout the years as "Reverend RNNN", "Roy Music", "W.D. Forté", the narrator of "Scary Deer Camp Stories", "Skippy", and several other roles, Ron's creativity and musicality often meshed together to create hysterical (and slightly off-color) songs, comedy sketches, and birthday roasts for family and friends to enjoy. Phone calls to and from his brothers were immediately recognizable by the greeting: "Ah, Buster!" or "Howdja!" Ron raced stock cars at Thunder Road in Barre from 1993 to 1995, and then served as his son's crew chief at Thunder Road, Airborne Speedway in Plattsburgh, N.Y., and several other tracks in the 2000s. During his driving career, Ron was named the "Favorite Driver" of the Street Stock division at Thunder Road in 1994, gathering some 10,000 fan votes during the summer racing season. Ron came back for one final race in 2003, when he crashed into the wall and spun out in tandem with Justin. After racing, Ron took an affinity to classic cars and hot rods, traveling to many shows around Vermont with Kathy and their grandchildren. He also collected more than 300 rare, antique automobile magazine advertisements, some more than 75 years old, and was especially proud of his collection of Cadillac ads. Most recently, Ron and his brothers Jeff and Jack acquired a collection of "BrotherBuilt" minibikes and created a club called "Merfect Minis". In one final, defiant stunt, six "Merfect" members terrorized a Chittenden County neighborhood in late November aboard the screaming minihawks with mile-wide smiles, less than 24 hours before Ron was prepped by doctors for surgery. Ron's heart, mind, and soul fought his cancer to the end, but his body couldn't quite keep up. He died comfortably, at peace, with his wife and children by his side, and will be greatly missed by many, many people. Ron is survived by his wife Kathy, of Bolton, VT; his children Sarah, of Colchester, VT; Lynn, of South Burlington, VT; and Justin, of Bolton, VT; his four grandchildren; brother Jack and wife Diana, of Burlington, VT; brother Jeff and wife Lynn, of Essex, VT; close family friend Mike Donahue, of Bradford, N.H.; sisters-in-law Sandy, of Burlington, VT; Maris Rock, of St. Albans, VT; and Mary Ellen, of Colchester, VT; and many aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, and friends. He was predeceased by his father Eugene in 1976, mother Rita in 1999, his sister Mary Lou in 1944, brother Mike in 1991, brother Gene in 2002, and brother Gary in July 2009. Ron's family would like to extend its most sincere thanks to his team of doctors and nurses at Fletcher Allen Health Care, Thomas Chittenden Health Care, and beyond, for their many years of kind, attentive, and personal service and care, including, but not limited to Dr. Bruce Leavitt, Dr. Mark Hamlin, Dr. Yolanda Mageto, Dr. Daniel Goodyear, Dr. Steve Mann, Dr. Paul Stanilonis, Dr. Frank Ittleman. Visiting hours will be held on Sunday, December 13, 2009, from 2:00 to 6:00 PM with a service of celebrating his life at 5:00 PM in the Ready Funeral and Cremation Service, South Chapel, 261 Shelburne Road, Burlington. For those who wish, donations may be made in Ron's memory to the American Heart Association, 434 Hurricane Lane, Williston, Vt. 05495 or to the American Lung Association, 372 Hurricane Lane, Williston, Vt. 05495. Burial will be at the convenience of the family. To send online condolences, please visit [www.readyfuneral.com](http://www.readyfuneral.com).

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SCHOOL NEWS

## 2009 saw talks stalled between CESU, unions

By Ted Tedford  
Special to the Mountain Gazette

At year's end, teachers and the support staffs at the nine schools in the Chittenden East Supervisory Union (CESU) remain working while contract negotiations remain stalled.

After negotiations spanning more than 16 months, the Board last May declared it would no longer negotiate with the teachers' union and ordered the 300 teachers back to the classroom. Under state law a school board may legally declare finality and impose a contract on teachers.

The teachers earlier in the year said they would strike if the Board did not negotiate a contract for the 2008-2009 school year as well as one for the 2009-2010 school year.

The Board declined to discuss a contract for 2008-2009, gave the teachers a 3.75 percent raise but stuck with its demand that the teachers return to work. The Green Mountain Chapter of the Vermont Education association dropped its demand for negotiations on a contract for last year, declaring it would take "the high road" by telling its members to return to the classrooms and resume negotiations on a contract only for the present school year. That contract expired last July 1. The Board and the union negotiators remain apart on health care and salary issues.

Negotiations between the CESU Board and the school staffs at CESU's nine schools became deadlocked mainly over salaries in early November after several sessions. The two sides agreed to go to fact-finding and hired Ira Lobell, a seasoned mediator, to attempt to bring the two sides to an agreement. Lobell is the mediator for the Board and the teachers.

The main issue in the school staff negotiations is salaries. The support staff's negotiators sought a 6 percent pay increase, while the Board countered with 1 percent. The support staff includes teacher aides, secretaries, janitors and bus drivers.

The supervisory union includes the six elementary schools in Bolton, Huntington, Jericho, Richmond and Underhill, and Mount Mansfield Union High School in Jericho, Browns River Middle School, also in Jericho, and Camels Hump Middle School in Richmond.

## Cambridge Christmas show a huge success

The 5th Annual Cambridge Christmas Show was another successful evening of fundraising for the Cambridge Food Shelf and CES preschooler Sydney Trutor. Sydney has had medical complications since birth. In fact she was the recipient for the 1st Annual Cambridge Christmas Show, when she was an infant in need of a liver transplant.

Annie Rheume, a Singer/DJ and the evening's host, heard about Sydney's condition 5 years ago and wanted to help get the community behind Sydney. She thought the community would enjoy an old fashion Christmas Variety Show. A singer since she was a child, Annie knew kids had a lot to offer and could help another child in need.

Encouragement from their family and friends gave lots of local kids a chance to shine onstage. Now in its 5th year, this show has seen the development of some kids from timid to quite confident. Local talented adults also participate each year, enriching the program even more. Each year sees returning regulars and welcomes new faces.

Some of the performances this year included Irish Step Dancing, Solos, Duets, Trios, Instrumentalists, French Canadian Clogging, Groups of adorable children singing and, as always, the reenactment of "Twas the Night before Christmas".

The all-volunteer show features 63 performers and another 25 people helped behind the scenes. According to Annie "This show could never work without everyone doing their part". The Cambridge Elementary School gym was transformed into a "theatre" for one evening, complete with scenery, lighting and full sound for 18 acts. Around 300 were in attendance.

"Each year it keeps growing, and I've been told by many it marks the official start of the holiday season for them. It's a tradition!" Annie reported.

"Thanks to all those who came out to enjoy the entertainment, it gave me great pleasure to present a significant contribution to the Cambridge Food Shelf as well as a sizeable sum to the Trutor Family. The generosity of the community is remarkable especially during these tough times. As I always mention at each show - if we all do a little together we can do so very much." Hope to see you December 3, 2010 for the 6th Annual Cambridge Christmas Show.

## Verizon Wireless upgrades 3G Network in Underhill and Jericho

Verizon Wireless is investing in Chittenden County, Vermont to stay ahead of rising demand for wireless voice, 3G multimedia and Internet access. Regionally the company has invested more than \$2.5 billion into its New England network over the past nine years, including more than \$105 million during the first six months of 2009.

Every Verizon Wireless cell site in Vermont is 3G and these upgrades provide increased wireless voice and 3G data coverage to portions of Underhill and Jericho along Vermont State Route 15, as well as the surrounding areas.

"Verizon Wireless' 3G network coverage across New England is unparalleled," said director for Network System Performance for Verizon Wireless, Richard Enright. "We've invested billions of dollars into New England believing that even the most sophisticated cell phone is only as good as the network it runs on. Our continued aggressive network investments provide customers with a 3G network advantage at home and on vacation."

Increased 3G data coverage in Underhill and Jericho allows customers using notebook computers or smartphones the ability to browse the web faster, quickly download and play music, watch streaming video, send emails with attachments, download and play 3D games, video conference with contacts and rapidly share files.

## Prevention and awareness of child sexual abuse talk

A panel of experts from the Clarina Howard Nichols Center facilitated a conversation held at Green Mountain Technology and Career Center on Thursday, December 3 regarding our responsibility as adults in protecting our children, specifically prevention and awareness of child sexual abuse.

Lamoille North Supervisory Union Superintendent Dr. Debra Taylor welcomed the audience of a few dozen comprised of school administrators, teachers, board members, parents, and community members, and acknowledged that the evening's event was a collaboration between the three supervisory unions serving the Tech Center: Lamoille North, Lamoille South, and Orleans Southwest.

Dr. Taylor introduced the staff of the Clarina Howard Nichols Center (Clarina): Executive Director Jane Ralph, Child Advocate Marina Carleton, Direct Service Coordinator Cynthia Trautner, Volunteer Outreach Coordinator Megan Hartigan, and Americorps Outreach Educator, Liz Tedrick-Moutz in addition to Lamoille South Superintendent Tracy Wrend.

The primary message from the experts at Clarina was to talk with your kids. Attendees heard how to talk to children about appropriate and inappropriate sexual behavior, the warning signs of child sexual abuse, what to do if it happens, and how to protect children before it happens. No touch should ever be a secret. There is a difference between a secret and a surprise. While surprises are happy and are eventually revealed, such as a surprise birthday party, secrets are exclusionary. It was made clear that using anatomically correct names for body parts gives kids the vocabulary they need to tell us when they are sexually approached or harmed. Kids need to know they have a trusting adult to turn to for help. And in the event a child does come to you, you must believe them as children just don't make these things up. And assure them that it is not their fault. The old "stranger danger" philosophy is no longer valid as more than 90% of perpetrators are known and oftentimes loved by the victim. Also, "good touch bad touch" discussion may be confusing to a child as the touch, while inappropriate, may actually feel good to a child. Teach children to know that their private parts should not be touched by another child or an adult and

## Vermont expands availability of enhanced driver's license

Vermont residents may now obtain an Enhanced Drivers License (EDL) at the Rutland office of the Vermont Department of Motor Vehicles, which is located at 101 State Place in Rutland. Until now, the only place an EDL was available was in Montpelier.

An EDL provides Vermonters with all the motor-vehicle privileges of a normal driver's license, but it has the added advantage of being recognized by the United States federal government as proper documentation to cross the Canadian border by either land or sea.

"Many Vermonters have inquired about obtaining an EDL, but for many the trip to Montpelier was just too much trouble," said Vermont DMV Commissioner Robert Ide. "Employees at the Rutland office have now received the extensive training necessary to issues this passport-type document."

As of June 1, 2009, all U.S. citizens traveling across the U.S. border by land or water are now required to present proper, federally recognized documents. Although passports are needed to enter and return from most foreign countries, Vermont's DMV has been allowed to issue an EDL for state residents to use whenever entering or returning from not only into Canada, but also Mexico, Bermuda and the Caribbean.

Vermont has issued over 13,000 EDLs since February of 2009, when its program began.

"Enhanced licenses have been very popular with Vermonters, especially those who regularly travel to Canada," Ide said. "We are very excited about expanding our services so Vermonters can now acquire an EDL in Rutland."

To obtain an EDL, Vermonters are required, at a minimum, presentation and verification of a photo identity document, documentation proving the applicant's U.S. Citizenship, proof of the person's social security number, and documentation showing the applicant's name and address.

Officials from the DMV advise Vermonters to call or consult the department's recently updated website to make sure they have the

Vermont is one of four states to an Enhanced Drivers License, along with Washington, New York and Michigan. For more information: visit [dmv.vermont.gov](http://dmv.vermont.gov), or call 802.828.2000 (Montpelier) or 802.786.5815 (Rutland).

Merry Christmas

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to tell a trusted grown up if it happens.

During the discussion, audience members learned the procedure that schools as mandated reporters use when they suspect abuse. The panelists touched upon the signs to watch for in adults who are with children with encouragement to challenge an adult acting inappropriately.

Fortunately, Lamoille County has many resources available to parents. The Clarina Howard Nichols Center, in addition to operating an emergency shelter, provides information and outreach on all kinds of abuse. Visit [www.clarina.org](http://www.clarina.org) or call 888-5256 for more information. Other valuable local resources include the Morrisville office of VT Department of Children and Families, and a special investigation unit out of the State's Attorney's office is charged with handling domestic violence and sexual abuse, in addition to contacting any police station. Also, parents can visit [www.StopItNow.org](http://www.StopItNow.org).

The discussion of the panelists was videotaped by Green Mountain Access TV and will be aired on Comcast Cable Channel 15. Additionally, a DVD of the event will be available at the schools within the region.

This event was made possible by a collaboration between Lamoille North Supervisory Union, proudly serving the students of Belvidere, Cambridge, Eden, Hyde Park, Johnson, and Waterville; Lamoille South Supervisory Union, proudly serving the students of Elmore, Morristown, and Stowe; and Orleans Southwest Supervisory Union, proudly serving the students of Craftsbury, Greensboro, Hardwick, Stannard, Wolcott, and Woodbury.

If you would like more information, please contact Superintendent Dr. Debra Taylor at 851-1178 or email [debra@lnsu.org](mailto:debra@lnsu.org).

## CESU meetings

Monday, December 21, CESU Negotiations committee meeting, 4:00 PM, Central Office, Richmond Town Center.

Monday, December 21, CESU Executive committee meeting, 6:30 PM, Central Office, Richmond Town Center.

Tuesday, December 22, Underhill ID School Board meeting, 7:00 PM, Underhill ID Elementary School.

Tuesday, January 5, Underhill Center School Board meeting, 6:39 PM, Underhill Central School

Thursday, January 7, MMU School Board meeting, 7:30 PM, CHMS.

Wednesday, January 13, Jericho School Board meeting, 7:00 PM, Jericho Elementary School.

Monday, January 18, CESU Executive committee meeting, 6:30 PM, Central Office, Richmond Town Center.

Thursday, January 21, MMU School Board meeting, 7:30 PM, MMUHS.

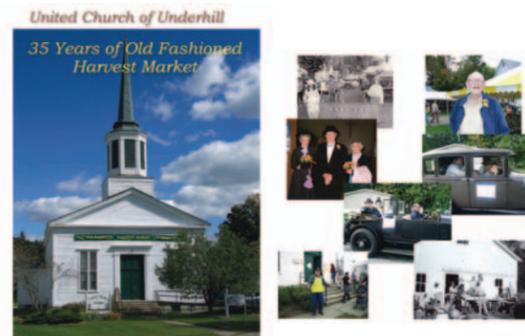
## Vermont at heart of energy debate

Vermont is strategically placed between renewable energy supplies and the markets that need them, Vermont Electric Power Company (VELCO) Vice-President for External Affairs Kerrick Johnson told a group of legislators and policy advocates Dec. 2

New England's demand for new renewable power will triple by 2020 in order to meet self-imposed renewable power portfolio standards. Although Vermont needs renewable energy options, even more of that power is needed for customers in Southern New England population centers. Vermont is surrounded by large scale existing and potential renewable generators, including large wind turbine farms in upstate New York and Quebec, but current transmission grid bottlenecks mean the power cannot get to market without additional infrastructure. Getting that power to customers could require new power lines that may come through Vermont, Johnson said at the Vermont Energy Partnership Forum at the Capitol Plaza Hotel. Public and private companies outside of Vermont have taken an interest in meeting this demand and could propose projects with or without the support of in-state utilities. "Whatever project is proposed, we must ensure that it makes the most cost effective, environmentally sound and energy efficient sense for Vermont," stated Johnson.

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**RICHMOND / HUNTINGTON**

**JUST MARRIED**



**HILL-MOULTRoup**  
Caitlin Jo Hill, daughter of Daniel Hill Cadiz and Phil and Karen Miracle Cadiz of Kentucky, and Benjamin Jeffrey Moultroup, son of Jeffrey and Deborah Moultroup of Richmond, VT, were united in marriage on Saturday, October 3, 2009.

The Rev. Calvin Fowler officiated at the double-ring ceremony at Bull St. Baptist Church in Savannah, GA.

Kelsey Hill was the maid of honor. The bridesmaids were Katie Marshall, Elizabeth Fryman, Cheri Anderson, and Ginny Clagett. Samuel Moultroup was the best man. The ushers were Luke Moultroup, Peter Anderson, and Kyle Yonkman. Rush Clagett was the ring bearer.

A reception was held at Fort Jackson, after which the couple honeymooned in Florida.

Mrs. Moultroup graduated from Savannah College of Art and Design. She works in the architecture department. Her husband graduated from Savannah College of Art and Design. He works at Structured Green. The couple reside in Savannah, GA.

**WELCOME HOME**

**HUNTINGTON**

**(Ayers, Morrison)** Sierra Ayers and Jamie Morrison's son, Gavin Pierce Morrison, was born September 30, 2009 at Fletcher Allen Health Care in Burlington, VT.

**(Bordeaux, Haselton)** Jessica Bordeaux and Duston Haselton had a son, Darien Tate Haselton, at Fletcher Allen Health Care in Burlington, VT.

**RICHMOND COURT REPORT**

October 29, 2009, **David J. Billado**, 50, Richmond, VT, charged with DUI, third offense or subsequent, felony, in Burlington, VT on August 3, 2009; pleaded guilty; sentenced to one to three years.

October 29, 2009, **Stephanie Coursey**, 34, Richmond, VT, charged with aiding in the commission of a felony, felony, in Colchester, VT on July 20, 2009; pleaded guilty; sentenced to three to 10 years, concurrent.

**RICHMOND LIBRARY NEWS**

On Saturday, 7:00 PM, Saturday, December 26, join us for another session of Open Mike. Come to listen, come to perform. This is a very relaxed and fun way to enjoy your neighbors' company.

The library will again be providing space for some of the Celtic New Year performances on December 31, including Celtic dancing, story-telling, Scottish piping and more. Visit [www.acecticnewyear.org](http://www.acecticnewyear.org) for more information on the schedule and performers

Richmond Elementary School is displaying their art in the display case (ceramic goblets) and walls (interpretations of Van Gogh's Starry Night).

On Wednesday, January 13 at 7:00 PM, Margaret Fowle will be presenting a slide program on the Bald Eagle in Vermont, titled: *The Eagle Has Landed*. The program will include information recovery efforts in Vermont such as progress with nesting pairs, habitat issues, and population levels. Co-sponsored with the Green Mountain Audubon Society.

Richmond is a participant in the Home Card System with 15 other libraries, including Jericho, Williston, Hinesburg, Huntington, Essex, Colchester, Milton, South Burlington, Shelburne and others. Just present your current library card for borrowing privileges.

Remember, you can renew items even when we're not open. Just leave a message at 434-3036 with your name and the titles you'd like to renew. We'll renew items for an additional two weeks.

**STREGA NONA TICKETS:** We're having a drawing for a pair of tickets to see Tomie dePaola's *Strega Nona* on the Flynn MainStage, January 10 at 3:00. It doesn't cost anything to register; just put your name and phone number in the box on the youth circulation desk on the second floor. The drawing will be held Monday, January 4.

**SPECIAL VINS STORYTIME:** The Vermont Institute of Natural Science will do a special Animal Tales storytime (for ages 2-6) on Monday, January 11 at 10:30 AM. Hear a story that includes animal culture, history, and science. Then get to handle some live turtles. Registration is required.

**NEW ADULT ITEMS:** Some recent titles: *Breaking the Rules* by Barbara Taylor Bradford, *Broken Jewel* by David Robbins, *Black Friday* by Alex Kava, *Dawn Light: Dancing with Cranes and Other Ways to Start the Day* by Diane Ackerman, *Change in Altitude* by Anita Shreve, *An Echo in the Bone* by Diana Gabaldon, *Knit the Season* by Kate Jacobs, *The Lacuna* by Barbara Kingsolver and many other fiction and non-fiction titles.

**NEW CHILDREN'S BOOKS:** Picture books: *Applesauce Season* by Eden Ross Lipson, *Jeremy Draws a Monster* by Peter McCarty, *Imogene's Last Stand* by Candace Fleming, *Stretch* by Doreen Cronin, *Zero is the Leaves on the Tree* by Betsy Franco, *My Uncle Emily* by Jane Yolen, *Snow Trucking and Truckery Rhymes* by Jon Scieszka, *There Was an Old Monster* by Rebecca Emberly, and *What's Inside: Fascinating Structures Around the World* by Giles Laroche.

Intermediate readers: *In Too Deep (39 Clues)* by Jude Watson, *Dodgeball Chronicles* by Frank Cammiso, *Judy Moody and Stink: The Mad, Mad, Mad, Mad Treasure Hunt* by Megan McDonald, *Septimus Heap Magyk Papers* by Angie Sage, and *The Wyrms King (Beyond the Spiderwick Chronicles, book 3)* by Holly Black and Tony DiTerlizzi.

Young Adult: *Exposure* by Mal Peet, *Crocodile Tears* (Alex Rider) by Anthony Horowitz, *Leviathan* by Scott Westerfeld, *Skeleton Key (The Graphic Novel)* by Anthony Horowitz, and *Cyrano* by Geraldine McCaughrean.

**STORTIMES:** Toddler time (for ages 18 months to 3 years) is on Wednesdays at 10:30 AM. Storytime (ages 3-5) is on Mondays at 10:30 AM. Pajametime (ages 2-6) with Douglas is on Mondays at 6:30 PM. No registration is required.

Please check the library web page at [www.richmondfreelibraryvt.org](http://www.richmondfreelibraryvt.org) for complete descriptions of new adult materials and up to date information on events.

Hours: Monday 10-8; Tuesday 1-6; Wednesday 10-8; Thursday 1-6; Friday 10-6; Saturday 10-2, [www.richmondfreelibraryvt.org](http://www.richmondfreelibraryvt.org).

**Vermont Electric Coop receives two awards from Lamoille County United Way**



The United Way of Lamoille County presents the staff of Vermont Electric Coop (VEC) with two awards for their support of the agency last year. VEC received the awards for their participation in the United Way campaign, including helping with the Firewood Project and increasing their payroll campaign by 174%. PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

**ART / MUSIC / THEATER**

**ART**

Janice Solek-Tefft and Kenneth Tefft: "Seasons," pastels, oils, and watercolors that depict Vermont and it's beauty. December 1 through February 4 at **Phoenix Books Art Gallery** in the Essex Outlets at Lang Farm, Essex, Vermont. Info, 872-7111.

The Vermont Ski Museum is looking for **artwork submissions** for its 4th Annual Vermont Antique Nordic Ski Race, which will take place at the Trapp Family Lodge in Stowe on Sunday, January 10, 2010.

The winner of the contest will have their artwork displayed on the event posters, t-shirts and promotional materials and will receive a 2-night stay in an Ultra Deluxe Room at the Mountain Road Resort in Stowe.

**Bryan Memorial Gallery** presents "Hello, Dolly," a complementary doll event in conjunction with its current exhibition HELLO, DOLLY; HELLO, TEDDY. The presentation includes a lecture on the history of dolls given by Donna Toneatti at 1:00 PM, and a verbal doll appraisal by Mary VanBuren-Swasey for all guests bringing their dolls, 2:00 - 4:00 PM. Both events are free of charge and open to the public. Both speakers are members of the Green Mountain Doll Club.

Bryan Memorial Gallery is located at 180 Main Street, Jeffersonville, VT 05464, 802-644-5100, [www.bryangallery.org](http://www.bryangallery.org). Gallery hours are 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM, Thursday - Sunday, and by appointment at any time.

CEIJA STOJKA exhibition now - January 3, 2009, **West Branch Gallery**, Stowe. A Holocausts Thank You to America, called "Live- Dance- Paint." It's a traveling exhibition of works by Austrian Romani ("Gypsy) Holocaust survivor, painter, singer and writer Ceija Stojka. The show includes works about Stojka's life before, during, and after the war, as well as large floral paintings. I'm enclosing a press release to tell you more about it, and attaching images of two paintings (of many.) included in the show.

**MUSIC/DANCE**

**12/18/09**

English Country Dance with **Val Medve** and friends (teachers) and **Lar Duggan, Wayne Hankin, Laura Markowitz and Ana Ruesink** from 7:30pm to 9:30pm at the Elley-Long Music Center in Colchester. Bring finger food snacks to share at the break. Contact [www.peter.burragene.net/](http://www.peter.burragene.net/)

dance, [valandtom@myfairpoint.net](mailto:valandtom@myfairpoint.net) or 899-2378.

**Mark Struhsacker** at 8pm at Stone Grill in Morrisville. **Gordon Stone Band** at the Brewski in Jeffersonville. Contact 644-6366 or [www.gordonstone.com](http://www.gordonstone.com)

**12/19/09**

A Celtic Christmas Concert featuring **Will Burhans, Tim Cummings, Dominique Dodge, Joanne Garton, Myles Matteson and Sam and Paula Guarnaccia** at 7.30pm at the Charlotte Congregational Church in Charlotte. Benefits a TBA charity. Contact [timotyos@gmail.com](mailto:timotyos@gmail.com)

'Deep Midwinter: Songs from Winter's Heart' concert and CD release featuring **Social Band** at 7:30pm at the Unitarian Church in Burlington. Contact [www.socialband.org](http://www.socialband.org)

**Gordon Stone Band** at the Brewski in Jeffersonville. Contact 644-6366 or [www.gordonstone.com](http://www.gordonstone.com)

**12/20/09**

Irish Session hosted by Allen and Jamie from 3pm to 6pm at the Bee's Knees in Morrisville. Last Sundays. Contact [www.thebeesknees-vt.com](http://www.thebeesknees-vt.com) or [jamieregman@yahoo.com](mailto:jamieregman@yahoo.com)

'Deep Midwinter: Songs from Winter's Heart' concert and CD release featuring **Social Band** at 4pm at the United Church of Hinesburg. Contact [www.socialband.org](http://www.socialband.org)

**12/31/09**

First Night. Burlington with **Steve Gillette and Cindy Mangsen, Young Tradition Showcase (McFadden Academy of Irish Dance, Rehana Pothiwala, Hannah Beth Crary and Latimer Hoke), Gordon Stone Band, the Starline Rhythm Boys, Tim Jennings and Leanne Ponder, Rik and Bec, Mayfly** and much more. Contact 863-6005 and [www.firstnightburlington.com](http://www.firstnightburlington.com)

**THEATER**

**Shelburne Players** is still looking for the right combination of male actors for their spring play "Born Yesterday". Further auditions will be held at Shelburne Town Center at 5420 Shelburne Road in Shelburne on Saturday, December 12 from 10:00 AM to noon. Directed by Beth Curtis, the comedy by Garsen Kanin will be performed at Shelburne Town Center on April 16, 17, 18, 22, 23 and 24, 2010. For more information please contact Beth at 999-7782, or email her at [bcurtis5440@yahoo.com](mailto:bcurtis5440@yahoo.com). You can also contact Sue Martin at [smartin455@yahoo.com](mailto:smartin455@yahoo.com). More details are available at [www.shelburneplayers.com](http://www.shelburneplayers.com).

**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**

**UCS board in favor of second phase Governance Report**

**To the Editor,**  
I would like to thank Robert Letovsky for his column concerning the activities of the Underhill I.D. school board. In this column he notes that the I.D. board decided not to move forward with the study to merge the Underhill I.D. (UID), Underhill Central School (UCS) and Jericho Elementary School (JES) districts into one district. The other two school boards were in favor of moving forward. While not speaking for other board members, I wish to explain why the Underhill Central School board was in favor of having the second phase of the Governance Report done.

The three boards hired the Vermont School Boards Association to study the issue of merging the three districts. Laura Soares issued her Phase I Governance report in August of 2008. In this report two possible scenarios were given. The one that was of most interest was Scenario One. This option had all three schools remaining open and all continuing to teach kindergarten through grade four. The estimate for the possible savings for this scenario was \$334,853 per year. Assuming that this savings was proportional to enrollment, the savings would be about \$170,000 for JES, \$85,000 for UCS and \$80,000 for UID. The UCS board felt that these potential savings warranted going forward with Phase Two. Phase two of the study would have cost a total of \$5,000 or \$1,250 for both UCS and UID and \$2,500 for JES.

The full report is available at the office of Chittenden East (434-2128) and at Underhill Central School (899-4676)

Tony Julianelle, Underhill

**Health care cost**

**To the Editor,**  
If you're like me, you believe when government decides to do something it should do it well. Because the Catamount health care program has been left solely to the private insurance companies, taxpayers and small businesses are throwing away millions of dollars a year. It's time to stop this waste.

Three years ago, the Legislature considered and rejected a public Catamount option to compete against Blue Cross/Blue Shield and MVP. Consider our experience since then.

**RICHMOND POLICE REPORT**

After an investigation by Richmond police, **Peter Chaplin**, 25, Richmond, VT was arrested and charged with petty larceny and possession of stolen property, Richmond Police Officer Sarah Messier reported. The property stolen, in September of this year, was a digital camera from the home of one of Chaplin's friends. Chaplin was jailed at Chittenden Regional Correctional Facility for violating probation stemming from an earlier charge of assault in Richmond.

**James Kilpeck** was arrested for Driving Under the Influence by Officer Anderson of the Richmond Police Department on Friday, December 11, 2009 after driving erratically on RT 2 in the Town of Richmond.

In 2006 the Legislature's health care consultant projected the unsubsidized premium for Catamount would be \$279 per month. Because reimbursements would be tied to Medicare rates, he projected an annual growth rate in premiums of 3.5% to 4.5%.

However, since Catamount began in 2007, we've had a very different experience. The premium awarded to BC/BS and MVP for 2008-09 was \$393/month, a whopping 35% more than worst-case projections. And just three months ago, MVP announced it was requesting a shocking 31% increase for 2009-10.

I expect you'll agree with me that a competing public Catamount option would not have the gall to seek a 31% upcharge over worst-case projections.

Worse yet, the privatized Catamount experience is totally inconsistent with trends in health care spending:

BISHCA's January 2009 health expenditure survey pegged Vermont's 2007 growth in health care spending at only 4.5%.

A June 2008 article in the New England Journal of Medicine reported the per person cost of Massachusetts' Commonwealth Care was \$352.43 a month, compared to the \$393.11 allowed for Catamount, despite the fact Massachusetts' per capita health costs are above the national average, while Vermont's are 90% of national.

Finally, a study of President Obama's original health care proposal conducted just months ago by the Lewin Group put the 2009 cost of an unsubsidized single premium for a policy comparable to Catamount at \$298/month - a level comparable to Dr. Thorpe's estimate adjusted by his worst-case rate of growth.

I hope Congress will learn from Vermont's experience and include a public option its reform plan. If not, here in Vermont we'll need to revisit a public Catamount option to save millions for taxpayers and businesses. We literally cannot afford not to.

Tim Ashe, State Senator

**Please give generously**

**To the Editor,**  
Imagine if you were in the position of having to decide between getting your needed medications or putting food on your table. Imagine if you had no means to heat your home. Imagine if you

Letters continued on page 13

**SCHOOL NEWS**

**Saxon Hill School to hold Open House**

In anticipation of Fall 2010, Saxon Hill School will hold an open house on January 16 from 9:30-11:30 AM. Come explore our amazing learning space. Director of Education, teaching staff, and member families will be on hand to answer questions. Saxon Hill School is Vermont's first parent-cooperative preschool offering three NAEYC accredited programs, including kindergarten, for children age 3-5. For more information about Saxon Hill School or the open house, please contact Nancy Koenig Peckham at 899-3455 or [registrar@saxonhillschool.org](mailto:registrar@saxonhillschool.org).

**Underhill** continued from page 1

five days before U.S. Navy Seals aboard a U.S. Navy ship tailing the Maersk Alabama and the small boat shot and killed the three pirates and rescued Phillips unharmed. In the meantime, Phillips' crew regained control of the ship.

During the standoff, Underhill residents were treated to a full-court media press as hordes of reporters and TV crews with satellite dishes on huge vans descended on this small town. At first they parked on a private road across from the Phillips' home until Phillips' wife Andrea and family asked State Police to remove them. They moved their rigs to Moore Park across from the Town Hall, but continued to stake out the Phillips home from across River Road. Reporters and TV camera crews slowed curious passersby for several more days until Phillips was rescued. Then the news muse moved them on to the next big story. Underhill became a sleepy village again.

Earlier in the year, the Underhill School Board joined the Jericho

and Underhill I.D. School Boards in criticizing Governor Douglas for urging school board statewide to level-fund their budgets and delay going to the voters to act on their budgets for the next school year.

All three chairmen of the school boards said they were required by law to submit a budget to voters at annual school meetings in March. Jericho submitted a budget 1.7 percent higher than the year before, while Underhill Town School Board's budget went up 6.9 percent, reflecting the first payment on a bond issue for renovations at Underhill Central School. The I.D. budget increase was set at 1.5 percent. All three budgets were approved by voters at March Town Meeting. In Underhill, voters approved nearly \$12,000 to launch the Central school's first foreign language program.

At its March Town Meeting Underhill voters honored former veteran town clerk Louella Lamphere for her long service to the town. Mrs. Lamphere, now 93, served as town clerk for 21 years

and, with the late Marion Fay were the first women to be elected to the Select Board. Voters approved a \$1.5-million town budget, less than 1 percent over the previous budget.

On a warm, sunny August day Alec Grab smiled with satisfaction as his efforts to raise money for Vermont Special Olympics succeeded beyond his expectations.

The 11-year-old son of Andy and Sue Grab of Irish Settlement Road had worked all spring and part of the summer to line up cyclists who signed up donors who would pledge money at so much a mile. With the help of his parents and a fund-raising official from Vermont Special Olympics, Alex arranged a three-mile loop for what he called "Alec's Bike Fundraiser to Benefit Vermont Special Olympics." He also got permission to use the school and its parking lot for the ride, got volunteers to man points along the ride for the safety of the bikers, arranged for prizes and an assembly after the race.

After all the pledges and money were turned in, Alec had raised more than \$3,400 that far exceeded the \$700 he had raised on his first bike ride effort the year before.

That same month, the Underhill Select Board signed a contract with the Chittenden County Sheriffs Department to do traffic patrols in town. Board members were concerned that State Police were unable to provide the town with adequate coverage because of short-staffing at the Williston State Police Barracks.

Before she resigned her position as town administrator and planning administrator, Chris Murphy arranged for several grants totaling \$43,000 used to improve town roads and conduct research into so-called "ancient roads," that still exist but are not used or roads that past Select Boards declared were no longer part of the town road system.

Murphy resigned in October to become administrator of St. Albans Town. She had held three posts in Underhill for four and a half years. She also was zoning administrator until that position became a separate job.

The Select Board hired Faith Brown as interim administrator and planner. Brown had been interim president and chief operating officer for the Vermont Community Foundation in Middlebury before being hired by the Underhill Select Board.

Underhill resident Barbara Brody was honored with the prestigious Richard Kaywood Memorial Award for her long service to improving driver education programs in the nation's high schools. At a People's Academy assembly in Morrisville in September, an earlier presentation of the award to her was repeated as students and staff looked on. She had previously accepted the award at a ceremony in Charlotte, NC by the American Driver and Traffic Safety Education Association and Prentice-Hall publishers.

**Winter Wellness**

December is the darkest month of the year and for many, it is one of the busiest. December also marks the beginning of winter. Many enjoy the activities of winter sports. Winter is a time of year when we spend more time indoors due to shorter days and cold, wet, windy weather. So what can be done to promote health during the dark days?

Maintaining healthy dietary habits provides the body the proper fuels for health. Eat food in its natural state — i.e. Not processed. Processing robs food of nutrients, and often adds artificial products such as flavors, colors, and preservatives that have to be detoxified by the body. Be sure to consume a balanced diet rich in colorful fruits and vegetables. Fruits and vegetables are loaded with vitamins, minerals antioxidants and fiber. Use healthy fats—unprocessed. Extra virgin olive oil is always a good choice. Meet daily needs for protein with foods such as eggs, fish meat, dairy, legumes and nuts.

Nutritional supplementation can be beneficial during the dark days. Vitamin D is produced by the body when bare skin is exposed to sunlight—something we don't do during the winter in Vermont. Vitamin D helps boost immunity and mood both of which can be challenged at this time of year so supplementation of 2000 I.U. day is recommended. St. John's Wort is an herb that can improve Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD) — a condition, common in the winter, characterized by lethargy, the "blues" or "blahs", and cravings for carbohydrates. Both Vitamin D and St. John's Wort can improve SAD.

Getting adequate sleep is essential to winter wellness. Aim to rise and shine at the same time each day. Most Americans do not get enough sleep.

Sleep requirements vary from person to person but studies show most people do not get enough. If you need an alarm clock to wake up, you probably are not getting enough!

Daylight is important to health. As mentioned, it is necessary for the production of Vitamin D. Daylight is a factor in the development of melatonin—a hormone involved in the regulation of sleep/wake cycles and improves immunity.

Maintaining physical activity is critical to health. Getting outdoors improves mood, increases the development of Vitamin D., Metabolic rate (the rate calories are burned) increases after exercise reducing the risk of winter weight gain. Exercise maintains muscle mass and helps you stay connected with your community. There are many ways to enjoy the outdoors during winter: skiing, skating, snowshoeing, ice fishing, etc

If the weather is not cooperating, visit a health club; use the gym, pool, basketball or tennis courts, for example. Yoga is also an indoor activity that keeps: you moving, peaceful, stretched out (vs. stressed out) and balanced—A skill useful during snowy, icy winter.

Chiropractic can help you stay well in winter. Chiropractic enhances the function of the nervous system so the body functions optimally. Well adjusted bodies are less likely to be injured when shoveling or playing in snow.

Winter is a special time of year with unique health challenges. You can take steps to maximize your health by making lifestyle changes. Incorporate healthy habits such as adequate sleep, healthy eating, time outdoors, lots of exercise and chiropractic, to achieve winter wellness.

Mary H. Kintner, chiropractor and yoga instructor practicing in Jericho, VT

**Letters** continued from page 12

were a child who doesn't get to eat on the weekends. Imagine if you had nowhere to sleep tonight. These are some of the very real problems that we see at United Way every day.

More than 4,000 people were helped through United Way donations last year alone, some of them are our friends, neighbors and perhaps even family members.

I realize many of us are facing financial pressures of our own. Some people have been significantly affected by our economy, while others haven't felt much of a difference in their daily lives. Those that haven't should feel very fortunate. I would like to ask that if you are in a position to be able to do so, please consider giving to United Way. Every little bit helps, and the need has never been greater.

Dawn Archbold, Executive Director  
United Way of Lamoille County

**Wanted to say Thanks**  
To the editor,

I want to thank the Stowe Republicans, with special thanks to Rep. Heidi Scheuermann and Town Chair Rob Roper for hosting our State Tax Commissioner, Rich Westman, at the Commodore Inn last Tuesday night. Westman's message was one every Vermonter should hear. He lays out in stark and easy to understand terms just how the taxing and spending policies of Montpelier have really brought Vermont to a financial crisis of huge proportions.

Two things were pretty clear. We can't accept business as usual from our legislators, and we all need to brace ourselves for some difficult decisions in 2010 and be prepared as citizens and voters to make some serious changes. The special interests are lined up and ready to fight to keep their piece of the pie. If we don't stand up for ourselves, we're going to end up with the short end of 26% increase in the property tax.

The most alarming thing I heard was the statement that the legislature, controlled by Democrats since 2005, has neither a plan nor the stomach to deal with the spending shortfalls and lack of tax capacity in the system. Just as the failure to act in a meaningful way in 2009 has made this coming year's problems much worse, failure to act again in 2010 might just make or financial situation irretrievable.

We all have a responsibility to get informed and to make sure we know what our leadership is doing. I would encourage everyone who has a chance to see Commissioner Westman's report, and to contact their own Representatives and especially Speaker of the House Shap Smith of Morrisville, and Senator/Appropriation Chairwoman Susan Bartlett of Lamoille County and ask them what they are planning to do about the tax and spending crisis when they return to Montpelier in November. For all of our sakes, the answers better be good.

H. Sheppard, Jeffersonville

**Thank you and just a little more information**  
To the Editor,

I want to thank the Mountain Gazette for thinking of our family for the December 3 issue, in which they highlighted families who have overcome challenges, and in our case, having a child with Down syndrome. Sadie is truly special, and I was happy to share our experience in this way.

I'd like to add some information that didn't make it into the article, which I hope will give a fuller picture of our family and our experience.

Because the article was reporting on my perspective as a mother, there was not much mention of my husband Steve, but he is also very much involved in Sadie's life. Also part of our family, are Steve's grown daughters, Bridget and Hannah, whom the younger girls adore. (And Sadie is very proud to say she now has a brother-in-law, Bridget's husband Mike.)

Readers unfamiliar with homeschooling might assume that we were dissatisfied with Jericho Elementary School, which was why we were homeschooling Sadie. We have several reasons for choosing home education, but this is not one of them. Because JES has been such a significant part of Sadie's life, I just want to clarify that we have had a very positive experience there. They were wonderful to her and did a tremendous job. In fact, she still goes to JES for speech therapy, and they have been very accommodating.

Although, as mentioned in the article, developing friendships is a challenge for Sadie, there have also been children who have taken the time to get to know her and have shown kindness toward her. This wasn't apparent from the article, and I just wanted to acknowledge those children because this has also been part her experience. One particular friend named Ann has a special gift for understanding and enjoying her. Sadie has touched the hearts of many people; one favorite babysitter chose Special Education as her major because of knowing her.

The article began by saying that I was unprepared for what to expect because I declined prenatal testing, which would have told me my baby had Down syndrome. True, we didn't know what to expect, but I wouldn't say we were unprepared. In fact, Steve and I had the attitude of "we can do this" and had plenty of time to learn about Down syndrome while Sadie was a baby. And we are still learning! No prenatal test or book on the subject can prepare you for the love you will have for your special child or the joy she will bring into your life.

Again, I appreciate the Mountain Gazette inviting us to share our story, and I hope this additional information is helpful toward understanding the experience of having a child with Down syndrome.

Eileen Haupt, Jericho

**The Mountain Gazette will take a break after the December 17 publication. The next paper will arrive on January 21, 2010 with deadline of January 14, 2010. Plan your ads and articles accordingly. Email: [mtgazette@earthlink.net](mailto:mtgazette@earthlink.net) or call 802-453-6354.**

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Art and Artisan

sandwich boards missing

Both last year and this some of their beautiful, hand-built wooden sandwich board signs were removed from their locations and they would really like them returned. Anyone who is aware of their whereabouts to call or email Laurel Shelmandine at 802.899.5433 or email [Lshelmandine@yahoo.com](mailto:Lshelmandine@yahoo.com).



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Jericho continued from page 1

exemplary community citizens. The Community Center Board also hosted a Garden Tour in June, and a Historic Buildings Tour in October; the former attracted roughly 100 people and the latter even more than that. The Community Center's Concert on the Green in July featured the Woods Tea Company. Unfortunately, rain moved the event indoors to the Jericho Congregational Church. The year ended with the traditional tree lighting on the Green in Jericho Center.

In April, Jericho formed an Energy Task Force, and Valerie Wilkins and Ann Gnagey were elected Co-Chairs. The Task Force put on a tour of energy efficient buildings in October, followed by a Button Up Workshop at the Deborah Rawson Memorial Library. Also in April, residents of Jericho, Underhill and beyond celebrated the safe return of Captain Richard Phillips of Underhill with a rousing party at Mills Riverside Park. The Park celebrated itself in August; ten years to the date that the Jericho Underhill Land Trust successfully purchased the land to conserve it in perpetuity as a community gathering place. The Land Trust continued its work by preserving a parcel called the Gateway which will provide better access to the already conserved Wolfrun Natural Area. The committee in charge of Mobbs Farm drafted the first comprehensive management plan for that popular recreation area. It was adopted by the Select Board in June.

New Unified Regulations (a combination of Zoning and Subdivision Regulations) were adopted by the Select Board in August after years of work by the Planning Commission. The regulations changed the River District to an overlay, updated the other overlay districts, renamed the Conservation District the Forestry District and moved some private homes out of that district, created some specific use standards, modified Planned Unit Development dimensional requirements to encourage preservation of open space by clustering housing, and increased density in the Village Center Districts. The Regulations completed, the Planning Commission began work on updating the Town Plan and reviewing the boundary lines of the zoning districts. Several members of the Planning Commission met with their Underhill counterparts to design a 2010 visioning session regarding the Riverside/Underhill Flats area.

The composition of the Select Board remained the same although the Board decided to try something different by taking turns serving as Chair rather than have one person for the full year. Glenn Hayes joined the Planning Commission, and on the Development Review Board, Anne Wulffraat moved from a full position to an alternate one while Kevin Spensley and Bob Desaro exchanged their alternate hats for full seats on the Board.

Jericho was the recipient of a number of grants including a streetscape project and Safe Routes to Schools in Jericho Corners, a sidewalk in Riverside, one planning grant to look into the possibility of a sidewalk connecting MMU to Jericho

Center and another to look into the feasibility of a boardwalk connecting Varney Road to the Center. A committee tasked with



At Mount Mansfield Union High School (MMU), the National Guard has almost completed work on new athletic fields in a project assisted by members of the teams who will benefit from their work. PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

looking into the boardwalk idea hired a wildlife consultant to study the potential impact on habitat. In addition, Jericho received a grant from VTrans to replace signage on Lee River Road and a Better Backroads Grant for a variety of repaving and culvert jobs. In July, the Ethan Allen Firing Range broke ground on a new Readiness Center. Thanks to the efforts of volunteers and Librarian Donna Malinoski, the Jericho Town Library was able to complete the work of cataloging its entire

collection on-line in 2009. The Library also launched a new website at [www.jerichotownlibrary.org](http://www.jerichotownlibrary.org) where the card catalog, new acquisitions, a community newsletter and a calendar of events can be found. The Library's summer reading program featured forty different events attended by almost 1,000 people. The Teen Advisory Board helped with the cataloging, assisted with a Snowflake Bentley birthday party, applied for a grant which allowed them to host children's book author Anna Dewdney, and held their third annual Thanksgiving puppet show. Last but not least, the library obtained federal non-profit status.

The Deborah Rawson Memorial Library became a Master Gardener Site in 2009. In addition, the library inaugurated several new programs for adults including a Mystery Book group, and a game night. The Library continues to co-sponsor an Italian Movie Night with the Vermont Italian Cultural Association, and an annual bird walk/talk with the Jericho Underhill Land Trust. The Library also hosted a variety of writing workshops, book discussions, author presentations, and First Sunday concerts. A grant from the Winnie Bell Learned Foundation allowed the Library to host three sing-alongs for children. Children also got to enjoy a monthly family yoga program in the spring; visits from Cullie, a golden retriever on whom they practice their reading skills; and several sessions of Baby Time. Other children's programs were presented by Audubon Vermont, Magician Tom Joyce, Outreach for Earth Stewardship, the Traveling Story Teller, author David Martin, and the Very Merry Theatre. The summer reading program featured 29 events with a total attendance of 788 children.

A number of new businesses opened in Jericho including Momentum Physical Therapy and the Busy Chef, while the Welcome Kitchen moved to a new location. Another local business, Its Arthur's Fault, received national acclaim with a story in Wine Spectator Magazine, and a listing in the New York Times Holiday Gift Guide. Residents watched in wonderment as all kinds of renovations were made to The Village Cup which will soon feature dinner service in addition to the café and bakery. The bad news included some house break-ins and two broken plate glass windows at Chittenden Mills which is in the process of changing ownership. Ray Ely purchased the convenience store and plans to re-open on December 16th. Police thwarted a planned robbery at the Chittenden Bank, and a bomb threat at Browns River Middle School turned out to be a hoax. Jericho resident Tom Bevins won the Death Race in Pittsfield, and Jamey Driscoll excelled in cyclocross racing while taking a full course load at UVM.

Principal Victoria Graf said that in 2009, Jericho Elementary School (JES) implemented a new program, Investigations II, as part of the math curriculum. Another focus during the year was improving students' writing skills with emphasis on responding to writing prompts. In the field of science, instruction has been expanded to include more inquiry-based lessons. In May, musician Jon Gailmor came to JES for a week-long residency funded by Partners in Education and the Vermont Council on Arts. The week ended with an evening performance at the high school which included a song written and performed by JES teachers. Lastly, the school renovated both the student bathroom and the lavatory used for public meetings. As part of the Safe Routes to School program, the town upgraded a path off Griswold Street which allows students to walk and bike to school without travelling on Route 15. Browns River Middle School (BRMS) won their fourth Peerless Flock Trophy for having the most participants at the Penguin Plunge which raises money for Special Olympics. This is hardly the only charitable event the school takes part in; BRMS student Emma Phalen was named March of Dimes Ambassador for the state and the school's Community Service Team prepared meals for guests at the Ronald McDonald House in Burlington. A group of parents hosted an International Festival in March and a student group called Student Voice started a radio station which plays during lunch hour in the cafeteria. Browns River switched from a traditional report card to a standard based one, and welcomed a new administrator, Kevin Hamilton to replace the retiring Sandra Gillim. Teacher Joyce Babbitt made statewide news by inspiring students (and teachers and parents) to participate in National Novel Writing Month. BRMS students also excelled in athletics with both Boys and Girls Cross Country teams finishing first at the county-wide championships.

At Mount Mansfield Union High School (MMU), the National Guard has almost completed work on new athletic fields in a project assisted by members of the teams who will benefit from their work. In other athletic news, the Boys Cross Country team won the State Championships. Various other school groups had great successes over the year including the Choir which will be performing at Carnegie Hall in the spring, and the SHAPE club which raised money to award grants to several in-school and outside organizations. A record number of students from Westford which does not have a designated high school, opted to attend MMU instead of Essex High School. MMU now offers a journalism class which produces an on-line student newspaper. Principal Jen Botzjoins is proud of the fact that 105 MMU students took AP courses, representing 12% of the student body. In addition, 30% of the senior class is taking at least one AP course. Lastly, she noted that in 2009, the school had half the number of discipline incidents as four years ago.

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**Keep your holiday spirit out of the landfill!**

Between Thanksgiving and New Year, an extra million tons of trash are thrown out each week. Here's how YOU can reduce waste during the holidays:



**The best things in life aren't things: Give an experience!**



**Use recyclable wrappings.**



**"Wrap" gifts in reusable baskets or bags.**



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**Reduce**

- **Rechargeable batteries**—40% of battery sales occur during the holidays. Cut the waste and go for the rechargeables!

**Recycle**

- **NON-metallic paper, boxes, and cards**—Bows, ribbons, and metallic and plastic wrappings must be disposed of in your household trash.
- **Electronics**—Bring them to any CSWD Drop-Off Center.
- **Old Christmas trees**—Used as **Yule Fuel** to generate heat and electricity! Accepted at Drop-Off Centers in Essex, Milton, Richmond, So. Burlington, Williston & the McNeil Wood & Yard Waste Depot (no tinsel, ornaments, stands, lights, garland, or wreaths).

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SENIOR NEWS

RECIPES BY MARIAN TOBIN



Brussels sprouts with bacon

- 1 lb Brussels sprouts
- ¼ lb. bacon
- ½ cup finely chopped onion
- 2-3 tablespoons butter
- Salt and pepper to taste

Trim and wash sprouts. Steam or blanch until barely tender. Cook bacon until crisp. Drain bacon bits; discard all but 2 tablespoons fat. Add onion; cook until wilted and lightly browned. Add Brussels sprouts and reheat adding 2-3 tablespoons butter if desired. Add bacon toss together and season to taste.

A Snowbird's Packing List

Although significant snowfall is arriving a bit late this year, the annual migration of snowbirds to southern locations is still certain to occur, if not already. While veteran snowbirds likely have their packing routine down to a science, it may be prudent to review some items which may not make the obvious list, but which are essential in the event of an emergency.

1. List of Important Names & Numbers. Perhaps the mere existence of a mobile phone can satisfy this item, but it may be helpful to have a back-up list as well, particularly if you want to include telephone numbers for parties not on your phone's contact list, such as utility companies and neighbors.
2. Advance Directive or other health care proxy. A properly executed Vermont Advance Directive should be honored by another state, so it should be portable. However, it must be available to even be considered! There are several options – you may (a) have the document on you at all times; (b) have an ID card on you which acknowledges the document and indicates its whereabouts; (c) provide your named agent(s) with an original or valid copy; or (d) register the document for free with Vermont's Advance Directive Registry. The Registry is still a fairly new offering for Vermonters and allows residents to store their directives on a secure electronic database for ease of access in an emergency. Once the document is registered, the registrant will actually receive a wallet ID card as well as instructions for accessing the database and making changes. For more information, see <http://www.healthvermont.gov/vadr/index.aspx>.
3. Durable Power of Attorney. As with the Advance Directive, the ease of access to a financial power of attorney may be helpful in an emergency. Because of the power of this document and the potential for its abuse, this may not be something appropriate to carry around or to even provide in advance to your agent. However, it may be prudent to advise your agent of its location or with the name of your attorney who has a copy. Another consideration for traveling snowbirds is the ease of its use outside Vermont. While all states have some form of Power of Attorney, the laws regarding its signing formalities and enforcement do vary. Again, Vermont documents should be honored in other states, but sometimes it helps ease the process if the document also satisfies the laws of the "foreign" state. For example, our law requires only 1 witness and a notary public, whereas some other states require 2 witnesses and a notary. To make the foreign state more comfortable honoring a Vermont document (which they may not realize is valid), it may make sense to conform to the other state's laws as well. In some instances, it may be appropriate to actually execute 2 documents – 1 for each state. Bottom line: if you spend a fair amount of time in 2 states (like many snowbirds do), you should consult with attorneys in both states to ensure you are planning properly for an emergency in either state.

While this list is certainly not exhaustive, it should highlight some items to better prepare snowbirds for their months away from home. And while you're gone, we'll try to enjoy the snow and keep our envy in check!

Jennifer R. Luitjens is Certified as an Elder Law Attorney (CELA) by the National Elder Law Foundation, a non-profit organization accredited by the ABA. She lives in Jericho and practices in South Burlington with the Jarrett Law Office. This article is for informational purposes only and is not intended to constitute comprehensive or specific legal advice. The author stresses the need to engage appropriate legal and financial professionals when devising your individual estate plan.

CVAA Senior Meals

The Champlain Valley Agency on Aging offers an ongoing series of special meals for groups of seniors at a variety of restaurants in the area. The schedule is listed below. All seniors are welcome to join the group and enjoy lunch with neighbors and friends. Participating seniors must be at least 60 years old, or the spouse of someone at least 60 years old. Suggested donation for meals is \$3 at Covenant Church and United Church; for meals at other sites, \$5. Transportation may be available if needed. Reservations are required for these meals and may be arranged ahead of time by calling 865-0360.

Thursday, December 17 – Holiday Inn, Harper Room, 11:00 AM check in, 11:30 AM lunch. Turkey buffet.

Friday, December 18 – United Church, Hinesburg, 12:00 noon. Chicken & biscuits, mashed potatoes, mixed vegetables, Jello cake.

Monday, December 21 – Covenant Church, Essex Ctr., 12:00 noon. Hot turkey sandwich with gravy, cranberry sauce, peas, whole wheat bread, bananas

Monday, December 21 – Papa Nick's 3:00 PM. Turkey dinner.

Tuesday, December 22 – Ponderosa, Williston, 11:00 AM check in, 11:15 AM lunch. All you can eat buffet.

Wednesday, December 23 – Dutch Mill, Shelburne Rd., Shelburne, 8:45 AM check in, 9:00 AM breakfast. Order breakfast off the menu.

Thursday & Friday, December 24 & 25 – HOLIDAY NO MEALS SERVED

Monday, December 28 – Covenant Church, Essex Ctr., 12:00 noon. Spaghetti and meatballs, garden salad, Italian bread, oatmeal cookie.

Tuesday, December 29 – Pizza Putt, So. Burlington, 10:30 AM check in, 11:00 lunch. Lasagna, salad, beverage, dessert.

Wednesday, December 30 – Ponderosa, Williston, 11:00 AM check in, 11:15 AM lunch. All you can eat buffet.

Thursday, December 31 – Dutch Mill, Shelburne Rd., Shelburne, 8:45 AM check in, 9:00 AM breakfast. Order off the breakfast menu.

In addition, CVAA-sponsored meals for seniors are offered on an ongoing basis at the following establishments. Tickets must be presented before ordering. For details about the special ticket program, call 865-0360.

A.J.'s Kitchen, 85 Main St., Essex Jct. – open menu; tickets limited. Sunday-Tuesday, 5:00 AM – 2:00 PM, and Wednesday-Saturday, 5:00 AM – 8:00 PM.

Bridge Street Café, Richmond – breakfast, lunch, or dinner (ordered before 5:30 PM) Monday-Thursday. Regular menu excluding shrimp, steak, and some specials.

Dutch Mill, Shelburne Rd., Shelburne – Tuesday-Sunday, 7:30 AM – 2:00 PM.

Old Yankee, 4A Jericho East, Jericho. Meals Wednesday-Sunday, 3:00 – 5:00 PM. Order off senior menu.

Pizza Putt, Airport Parkway, So. Burlington – lunch or dinner, seven days a week. Choice of spaghetti with marinara sauce or baked ziti with tomato sauce and cheese, salad, garlic bread or roll, soda, coffee, or milk.

Ponderosa, Williston – lunch buffet, 11:00 AM – 4:00 PM, Monday-Friday. Tickets are limited.

Operation Seniors supporting soldiers

As the New Year approaches, Vermont is saying good bye to many of our citizens who serve as members of the National Guard. Neighbor to Neighbor (N2N) AmeriCorps members at Champlain Valley Agency on Aging (CVAA) and local seniors want to make sure soldiers will be able to have some comforts from home.

N2N members are kicking off *Operation Seniors Supporting Soldiers*, a donation drive to collect items to put into care packages for our deployed National Guard troops. The donation drive is connected to the National Day of Service on Martin Luther King Jr. Day. In 1994, Congress issued a National Call of Service Day in King's legacy—asking volunteers to take action in their communities.

According to the USO's general list for items for care packages, soldiers would like Energy Bars, Chewy Bars, Hard Candy (No Chocolate), Instant Drink Mixes, Instant Soup Mixes, Microwave Popcorn, Mints, Board Games, Batteries of any size, CDs/DVDs/videogames (for any game console), Magazines (nothing inappropriate), unscented personal items (i.e.: shampoo, deodorant, and body wash), baby wipes, and tweezers.

During December and early January, donations will be accepted at these locations throughout Addison, Chittenden, Franklin, and Grand Isle counties: Kinney Drugs on Shelburne Road, St. Albans Coop on Federal Street, St. Albans Free Library (starting in January), Pierson Library in Shelburne, Eagles Club in Vergennes, Ilsley Public Library in Middlebury, the Alburgh Public Library, and St. Paul's Cathedral Church in Burlington.

On Martin Luther King Jr. Day, January 18, 2010, Neighbor to Neighbor AmeriCorps members and seniors from Addison, Chittenden, Franklin, and Grand Isle counties will meet at the Winooski Senior Center at 9:00 AM to assemble the care packages.

In addition to collecting donations, N2N has set up work sessions to sew "cool ties," which contain water-absorbing granules and are worn around the neck to provide all day cooling relief through evaporation. Sewing work sessions will be held at Care Partners in St. Albans, Senior Community Meal at Vergennes Eagles Club, and Senior Community Meal at the South Hero Congregational Church. For more details on days and times contact N2N at CVAA at 1-800-642-5119.

For more information on the *Operation Seniors Supporting Soldiers* project call 1-800-642-5119.

CVAA is a private non-profit United Way organization dedicated to helping people age with independence and dignity. CVAA is the resource on senior issues for the Champlain Valley. CVAA provides Case Management, Meals on Wheels, Successful Aging Programs and support to seniors age 60 and older in Addison, Chittenden, Franklin and Grand Isle counties and their caregivers. For information about services available for seniors 60 and older, call the Senior Helpline at 1-800-642-5119 or go to [www.cvaa.org](http://www.cvaa.org).

Visit a Senior neighbor during the holiday season. Remember you're next in line.



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**Cambridge** continued from page 1

Select Board. Bill Sander, long-time Jeffersonville representative, Jeffersonville Village trustee, and Cambridge representative on the Lamoille Union Middle and High School Board, was elected to the vacant seat on the select board. At the first Select Board meeting after Town Meeting, Dana Sweet,

a long-time board member, was elected Board Chair. In other town news, in August representatives of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) visited Cambridge to offer technical assistance and to see how the community was dealing with the issues of flooding and flood insurance

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in particular. In a related matter, later in the fall the Select Board discussed proposals that would install flood gauges in both the Lamoille and Brewster Rivers, in order to measure not only the height of the water, but to see what impact the Brewster River has on the Lamoille, after the two meet. The arrival of winter brought the return of holiday lights to the two villages. The persistence of Ray Saloomy, chair of the Smugglers Notch Area Chamber of Commerce, the support of the Select Board and the trustees of both Cambridge and Jeffersonville, and the effort of the

Road Crew, came together with the services of CVPS linesmen and some mild early winter weather. The lights were on before Thanksgiving.

**The Schools**

In March the Cambridge School Board presented taxpayers with a budget that increased by 1.23%, resulting in a Homestead Tax Rate that was a slight decrease from the previous year's \$1.324. Voters approved that budget, even as several advised the board to ask teachers to pay a larger percentage of their health insurance premiums or to take a smaller pay increase. Before the board began to draft the budget for the 2010-11 school year, they heard a presentation from the State Department of Education that suggested level funding the budget for the coming year. Even so, it is likely that the property tax rate will increase, due to falling state revenues and the fact that the Common Level of Appraisal represents a three year average.

The Board approved contract negotiations for the current year in the fall, just in time to begin negotiations on the next contract. They are also still in negotiations over the building project that was completed during the 2005-06 school year.

Unlike many school districts in the state, Cambridge is not seeing a drop in student numbers. Instead, those numbers are currently holding steady. Small class sizes continue to be the rule for grades K-2, with the numbers rising to 18-25 students in grades 3-6. At a joint information meeting in March, the public discovered that the class sizes then shrink when their students move up to Lamoille Union Middle School. At that meeting, Chris Hinds, LUMS principal, announced that eighth grade students now have the option to take Algebra or Geometry, a foreign language, and Band or Chorus, rather than only one of the above. At the same meeting, LUHS Principal Brian Schaffer announced that the school is developing a certification process so that students will be required to demonstrate proficiency in reading, writing, and computation before they may graduate. Joe Teegarden, director of the Green Mountain Technology and Career Center announced the addition of a program in electrical technology.

Students at Cambridge Elementary School continued to perform well when compared to their Vermont peers. The interventions developed to address a sudden drop in student writing performance on the 2007 test proved effective when 68% of students met or exceeded the standards.

**Achievements**

The Cambridge Fire Department received four of the six top honors bestowed by the Vermont State Firefighters at the annual conference in August in Bennington. The naming of Chief Alan Cary as Robert S. King Fire Chief of the Year bore special significance because King was the founding chief of the Cambridge Fire Department. In addition to the award given Cary, 16-year-old Corey White was named Charles Taylor Youth Firefighter of the Year, Brian Durrett received Vermont State Firefighter of the Year, and Dan Wyckoff was awarded Vermont State Line Officer of the Year.

Individual recognition for accomplishment went to Peter Ingvaldstad, the recently retired director of the ski school at Smugglers' Notch Resort, who received the 2009 Lifetime Achievement Award

from the North American Snow Sports Journalists Association in March. Late in the year Ingvaldstad became director of the Lamoille Valley Mentoring Partnership.

Noreen Jessiman, an early literacy reading and math support instructor at Cambridge Elementary, was named Master Teaching Fellow through the Robert Noyce Teacher Scholarship Program at the National Science Foundation. The scholarship supports Jessiman's participation in the Vermont Mathematics Initiative at the University of Vermont and will result in her receipt of a master's degree at the end of the three-year program.

The Bryan Memorial Gallery celebrated an achievement of a different sort—it's 25th year in operation. The year-long series of exhibits is closing with a seasonal exhibit called "Hello Dolly! Hello Teddy!" that will end on December 30.

**Community Service**

Cambridge has a long history of responding to those in need and 2009 was no different. Whether it was American Legion Post 35 marking its 90th year of supporting veterans by donating blanket warmers to the Veterans' Hospital in White River Junction and helping Legion members who are ill, or whether it was the Cambridge Area Rotary organizing a "Pumpkin Chuckin'" to benefit the Lamoille Family Center, members of Cambridge's many community organizations offered their time and services to those less fortunate.

Throughout the individuals took the initiative as well. In the spring, David May organized a bottle drive through his employer, DEW Construction Corp, to raise funds to purchase a customized wheelchair for Matthew Mazzola, a quadriplegic whose father lives in Hyde Park. May, a member of the local Eagles Club who became involved in the effort when that club received a letter from Matthew's father, also helped the Cambridge Cub Scouts organize several fundraisers to benefit Mazzola.

As the Vermont National Guard shipped out for state-side training prior to their deployment to Afghanistan, various groups and individuals around the state began an effort to bring the Guardsmen home for Christmas. Don Gandini, a veteran of the armed forces and a long-time employee of Three Mountain Equipment sports shop at Smugglers' Notch Resort collected nearly \$500, most of it from Smugglers' employees. The funds were delivered to the Vermont National Guard Charitable Foundation before Thanksgiving.

Friends, relatives, and fellow parents from the school community all rallied to help the family of four-year-old TJ White when the preschooler required an emergency bowel resection in the fall. Parents of the Poker Hill School in Underhill provided three-course meals, others sent books and videos, cards, and words of support and caring.

Much may have changed physically in the town of Cambridge since Clark Dodge was born on the farm where he still lives. The antenna T-Mobile proposed installing on the Madonna Base Lodge and the company's proposed installation of a cell tower on the Nuzzo farm may represent new technological developments. However, the town remains a tightly knit community dedicated to making its resources stretch and to helping those in need.

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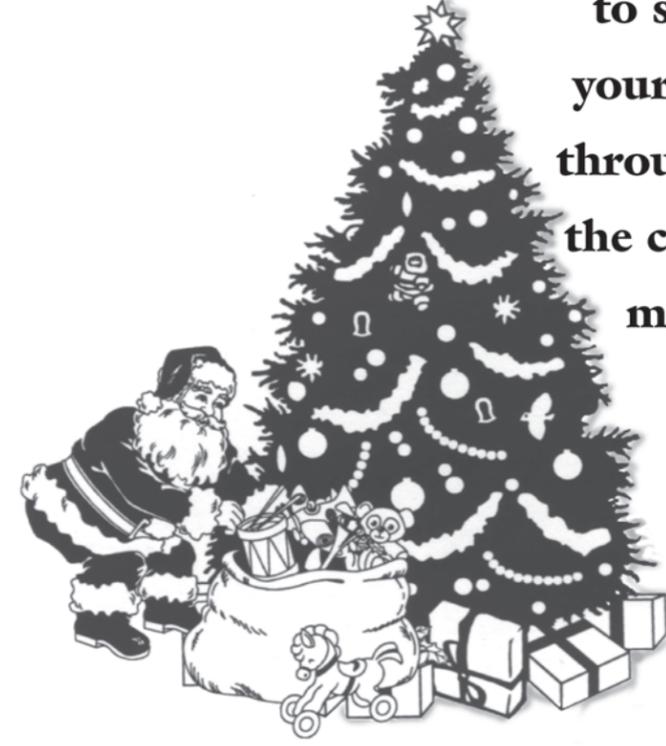
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**Westford** continued from page 1

number was helped by the addition of a third public access computer, made possible by a donation from Rovers North. A grant from the Winnie Belle Learned Fund allowed the library to distribute Toddler Totes to kids who attended Story Time, as well as children of new library patrons. The library also received \$15,000 in grant money to renovate the building to make it more energy efficient through additional insulation, energy efficiency windows, a vapor barrier and new siding. Excitement came to the Westford School in May

with a visit from Secretary of Education Arne Duncan. In November, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> graders banded together to collect over 1,200 food items for the Westford Food Shelf. The School hired several new teachers for preschool, special education and music, as well as a new athletic director. In addition, they were able to bring back Gail Piotrowski, a former primary school teacher, to provide instruction to 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> graders. The school was also able to purchase a new computer cart and several interactive "smart boards."

**Food shelf** continued from page 1

day of school, the primary school children used to gather 100 items for the Westford Food Shelf. However, the 100<sup>th</sup> day doesn't come until February and it occurred to Piotrowski that with Thanksgiving coming up, the need for food was pressing in Westford as well as in Burlington. She talked to her classroom teammates, Loretta Grant and Kurt Sherman, and they agreed to see if their fifth and sixth graders would be interested in helping the Westford Food Shelf in November.

Piotrowski reported that the kids were excited about the idea. They broke the two grades into four teams and had a friendly competition over which team could bring in the most food. Piotrowski started with a chart that went up 200 items, but soon realized she would have to expand on that. Every day the kids put items in their team box and entered their numbers on the chart. The final total was 1,222 items of food gathered by 54 students. Initially, the teachers had planned to bring the food to the Food Shelf themselves, but the students were so enthusiastic, that they wanted to take part. The boxes were emptied into bags and a line of kids marched, ran, sang and danced their way to the church (with the occasional bag bursting along the way). Once inside, when they saw the floor covered with food items, the students talked about how good they felt about helping others.

Piotrowski said she was impressed at how much thought the students put into choosing items; they

were clearly not just taking unwanted canned goods out of their pantries. One student bought some baby food, explaining that the food shelf might be visited by a mother with young children. Another brought maple syrup on the theory that "older people like pancakes" and seniors on fixed incomes might need some assistance. The food drive took place over a period of three weeks and Piotrowski said she was pleased at some of the lessons learned by the kids. The drive coincided with discussions in her social studies class about hunger and malnutrition in other parts of the world due to drought, land use or politics. "It all tied together," she said. Watching the students' generosity also moved Piotrowski and her husband to buy some turkeys for the food shelf to add to her student's donations.

Andrews said the number of households served by the Westford Food Shelf has stayed steady at roughly 25 families. She has noticed that virtually all of the newer patrons report that they or someone in their family has recently lost a job. In addition, she has seen that more and more patrons are filling their bags instead of just taking a couple of items. "The food shelf is completely dependent on the kindness of those in town," said Andrews, "and it's truly heartwarming to see kids taking the lead with this donation. The people who came to the food shelf in November were completely blown away by how much we had to offer. It made such a difference for so many people."

LEGAL NOTICES

OFFICIAL WARNING

ANNUAL MEETING
JERICHO UNDERHILL PARK DISTRICT

The legal voters of the towns of Jericho and Underhill in the County of Chittenden and the State of Vermont are hereby warned and notified to meet at the Deborah Rawson Memorial Library (project room) in Jericho, Vermont on Wednesday, January 20, 2010 at 7:00 PM to act on the following articles:

- Article 1. Election of a Moderator
Article 2. Act on Report of Trustees
Article 3. Shall the District authorize the Trustees to borrow money for the temporary needs of the District?
Article 4. Adoption of a budget of \$27,850.00
Article 5. Other business thought proper when met.

Dated at Jericho, Vermont, December 10, 2009

Livy Strong Chair
Katie Bourque Vice-Chair
Fred Lawrence Treasurer
Carol Lee Mason Secretary
Franco Gatti
Marshall Breakstone
Carol Smith

TOWN OF JERICHO DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Jericho Development Review Board will hold a public hearing on Thursday, January 14, 2010 at 7:00 PM in the Jericho Town Hall to consider the following:

- A request by Jolley Associates to reconsider an application for Conditional Use and Site Plan Review of an employee parking lot under Title 24 §4442(d). Said property is located at 345 Vermont Route 15 in the Village Center District.
- A request by Terrence and Arlene Moore for an amendment to a previously approved subdivision/PUD consisting of 7 duplexes and 6 single-family homes. Said property is located off Packard Road and Black Walnut Lane in the Village Zoning District.

All interested persons may appear and be heard. Written materials may be viewed in the Zoning Office during regular business hours. Seth Jensen, Town Planner, Town of Jericho.

HELP WANTED

Two positions on the Board of Trustees for the Deborah Rawson Memorial Library are available for candidates. One from Underhill, one from Jericho. Please contact your Town Clerk if interested in running for election.

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

TOWN OF BOLTON
DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD

The Bolton Development Review Board will hold public hearings on January 27, 2010 beginning at 6:30 PM, at the Bolton Town Office, 3045 Theodore Roosevelt Highway (RT 2), to consider the following application:

An application filed by Charmaine & Kenneth Godin for a Minor Subdivision. Applicants seek approval for a 3 Lot subdivision of 2.2 acre parcel with three dwellings. The property, located at 14 Hummingbird Lane (Bolton Tax map # 15, ID # 4110014, GL# 03009.000.), is located in the Rural I and Rural II zoning districts

As the 2.2 acre parcel is considered pre-existing, (legally in existence as of the effective date of the Bolton Land Use & Development Regulation), this application will be reviewed as a minor subdivision under Article XI, § 6.5 (Final Subdivision Review) and applicable sections of Article VII (Subdivision Review Standards) of the Bolton Land Use & Development Regulation.

Participation in the hearing process is required to appeal a decision of the Development Review Board. Plans and information for these applications may be viewed at the Town Office during regular business hours.

Miron C Malboeuf
Zoning Administrator
TOWN OF BOLTON

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

Town of Underhill
Development Review Board (DRB) Hearing
Monday, January 4, 2010 at 6:30 PM
Hearing to be held
at the Underhill Town Hall, Underhill Center, VT

The DRB will hold a preliminary hearing on the application of Robert and Patti Danis for a 4-lot subdivision of property they own at 898 VT Rte. 15 (VT898) in Underhill, Vermont. This property is located in the Rural Residential zoning district. This hearing will begin immediately following the preceding hearing scheduled for 6:30 PM.

A copy of this application and additional information may be obtained at the Underhill Town Hall. Comments and questions may be addressed to: Zoning Administrator, P.O. Box 32 Underhill Center, VT 05490 or to underhillzoning@comcast.net.

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OFFICIAL WARNING

ANNUAL MEETING
JERICHO UNDERHILL LIBRARY DISTRICT

The legal voters of the towns of Jericho and Underhill in the County of Chittenden and the State of Vermont are hereby warned and notified to meet at the Deborah Rawson Memorial Library in Jericho, Vermont on Thursday, January 21, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. to act on the following articles

- Article 1. Election of a Moderator
Article 2. Act on Report of Trustees
Article 3. Shall the District authorize the Trustees to borrow money for the temporary needs of the District?
Article 4. Adoption of a budget
Article 5. Other business thought proper when met

Dated at Jericho, Vermont, November 20, 2009

Mary Bassett, Chair [Signature]
Ann Broekhuizen [Signature]
Mary Jane Dickerson [Signature]
Bev Frank [Signature]
Bernadette Howard [Signature]
Dan Novembrino [Signature]
John Panner [Signature]
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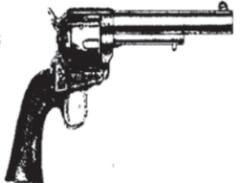
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# NEWS AND EVENTS for CESU Families

## CECP HERO OF THE MONTH

MARIE THOMAS

Marie Thomas is the President of the Board of Directors of the Our Community Cares Camp, a summer day camp for 40 Richmond children and youth ages 5-14 years old. The OCC is a non-profit camp serving low income families. Marie is committed to making sure these kids get a quality program with healthy meals and opportunities for fun and creative activities in a safe and supportive environment. As one board member stated, "The camp wouldn't exist without Marie". The CECP is proud to be one of the camp's many partners, and we want to thank Marie for her advocacy and commitment to creating meaningful summer experiences for area youth!!

## YOUTH RISK BEHAVIOR SURVEY RESULTS

There is so much information to glean from this survey. Here are some of the highlights from our district. I invite you to check out the entire document on the [cecpvt.org](http://cecpvt.org) website.

### TOBACCO

Regarding tobacco use, we are holding steady at 21% of our 8<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders reporting having ever smoked a whole cigarette. Keep in mind that this statistic was 32% in 2003 and 26% in 2005. The good news is that less young people are smoking cigarettes. The bad news is that as this trend occurs, the tobacco companies are finding new ways to push their addictive products. Tobacco and nicotine now come in forms you can suck and swallow as well as chew and smoke.

### ALCOHOL

Regarding alcohol consumption, fewer students are getting their alcohol from home! Nice going parents. Of the number of students that reported having consumed alcohol within the past 30 days, 16% of the girls and 17% of the boys reportedly got it from home. This is opposed to 26% and 21% in 2007.

Another promising statistic is the number of seniors that reported having consumed at least one drink of alcohol within the past 30 days. In the past 3 surveys (2003, 2005, 2007) nearly 60% of seniors said they had consumed alcohol within the past 30 days. In 2009, 34% of seniors said they had.

We have also been extremely concerned with binge drinking rates (had 5 or more drinks in a row within a couple of hours during the past 30 days) among seniors. 44% of the senior class reported bingeing in 2003, 35% in 2005, and 42% in 2007. This year, it had dropped to a record low of 19%.

Alcohol use seems to be declining and we have reason to be proud of our students, however, far too many are still drinking alcohol. When they do, they are breaking the law and increasing their risk of adult alcohol dependence.

### MARIJUANA

Let's admit it, we have a problem here. 20% of our 8<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade students said they used marijuana 1 or more times during the past 30 days. That's one out of five. 23% of 8<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade students said that within the past 30 days they had ridden in a car or other vehicle driven by someone who had been smoking marijuana. That's nearly one out of four! This drug, more than any other is surrounded by the "it's harmless" myth, and holds an attraction for many Vermonters, young and old alike. It may be our district's, and indeed our state's greatest substance abuse challenge.

Read next month's newsletter for YRBS information on a variety of other drugs as well as what students are telling us about violence and safety, sexual behavior, body weight and nutrition, physical activity, and assets.

## STUDENTS ATTEND VKAT TRAINING

The 5<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> grade Vermont Kids Against Tobacco (VKAT) groups from Camels Hump and Browns River Middle Schools



**CESU Student Assistance Program Counselors: Lynn Butler-Dube (Brown's River and Camel's Hump Middle Schools) and Sara Mabley (MMU).**

were represented by three students from each school on November 19 at the 16<sup>th</sup> annual Vermont Kids Against Tobacco training held at the UVM Davis Center in Burlington. The all day training provided opportunities for students to increase their leadership skills, learn about tobacco, alcohol and other drugs, and acquire tools for enacting change in their communities. The participating students will present key points of the training to the rest of the VKAT group members who will then develop a plan to disseminate the information to their peers through lunch or classroom activities. If you have any questions about the VKAT program, please contact Lynn Butler-Dube, Student Assistance Counselor at Camels Hump and Browns River Middle Schools.

## NEWS FROM THE COORDINATOR

It's December already?? Wow. More than any other month, I believe December is a month full of contradictions. It's a time of darkness and light. It's a time of reflection and impulsivity. We celebrate Peace on Earth with frantic activity. It's a time of giving and receiving. It is a time of joyous celebrations as well as avoidable tragedies. MADD (Mothers Against Drunk Driving) estimates that "each year nationally, more than 1,000 people typically die during the time between Thanksgiving and New Year's in drunk driving crashes" (MADD 2006) Because of increased consumption of alcohol and an increase in the number of special events and parties, drinking and driving is more prevalent during this time frame.

The CECP wants to encourage everyone to celebrate! Celebrate your family and friends, your community, your work, your spirit, celebrate Vermont, celebrate the snow, the time off, the flannel sheets, the dog, the sun, the frozen earth, the apple pie, the gifts, the pink cheeks!! And to make it possible to do it again next year, please be mindful of these safety tips:

- If you drink, don't drive.
- Designate a driver before you arrive at an event or party.
- If hosting a party with alcohol, don't serve anyone under the age of 21 and offer to provide a ride home or a place for guests who drink to sleep.
- Educate family, friends and coworkers about the risks of drinking and driving.
- Protect yourself and passengers by wearing a safety belt at all times.
- Be mindful of weather conditions and the weather forecast.
- If possible, avoid driving during the late evening, early morning hours on holidays like Christmas and New Years.

Wishing you all a Joyous Holiday Season full of Heartfelt Celebrations.... Happy New Year 2010!!

Barbara Pawluk



The CECP would like to thank Clark's Trucking for recently promoting Red Ribbon Week!! PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

## ALCOHOL, KIDS AND THE HOLIDAYS

Holiday parties and family get-togethers are integral parts of the holiday season. When alcohol is present, you may be asking yourself if it's okay to allow your teenager to have a drink to celebrate the occasion. Some parents feel that "teaching teens to drink responsibly" will lead to more thoughtful and less destructive behavior. Others believe that allowing their teenager to drink at home will make it less likely that their teenager will drink elsewhere. Current research, however, proves otherwise (SADD).

• **Teens who are allowed to drink at home are significantly more likely to drink with their friends.** 57% of teens who reported their parents allow them to drink at home also drink with their friends compared with 14% of teens who reported their parents do not allow them to drink at home also drink with their friends (SADD).

• **Teens are twice as likely to binge drink and use alcohol within a 30-day period if their parents or friends' parents provided alcohol at their home for a party** (Journal of Adolescent Health, 2004).

• **65% of underage youth who drink get alcohol from family and friends** (Century Council).

*Why is this concerning?*

• Young people who start drinking under the age of 15 are four times more likely to develop alcohol dependence than those who begin drinking at age 21. The risk for abuse and dependence decreases steadily and significantly with each increasing year of age of drinking onset (NIDA).

• Alcohol use by teens affects still-developing cognitive abilities and impairs memory and learning (SADD).

• Teens who drink are more likely to commit or be the victim of violence (including sexual assault) and to experience stress, depression, and suicidal thoughts (SADD).

• Allowing a teenager to drink at home is allowing him/her to break the law.

*What can parents do?*

Talk with your teenager about alcohol use, set clear expectations for behavior and enforce consequences for violating the rules (SADD). Be a resource for your teenager by initiating honest, non-judgmental conversation. Be curious about your child's experiences or ideas rather than lecture. The car is a great place to talk with your child, but keep it short. Research suggests that an average child's attention span (in minutes) is about as long as the age of the child. And last but not least, be a positive role model.

• 7 in 10 high school teens rate their parents the most influential in their decisions not to drink (Teens Today).

• Parental objection is the second most important reason kids give for not using alcohol (NIAAA).

Have a safe holiday season.

Sara Mabley

Student Assistance Counselor

858-1636; [sara.mabley@cesu.k12.vt.us](mailto:sara.mabley@cesu.k12.vt.us)

**We'll pay to hear what you have to say.**

Answer a few simple questions anonymously online to help our community strategize against underage and binge drinking, and then enter to win:

### Spa Day For Two

If you're a parent of a high school student and you live in a community served by the Chittenden East Supervisory Union (Bolton, Huntington, Jericho, Underhill and Richmond), go to [cecpvt.org](http://cecpvt.org) to take the survey and enter to win.

### \$250 Gift Card

If you're age 21-25, and attended Mount Mansfield Union High School or currently live in a community served by the Chittenden East Supervisory Union (Bolton, Huntington, Jericho, Underhill and Richmond), go to [cecpvt.org](http://cecpvt.org) to take the survey and enter to win.



No purchase necessary. Must be a Vermont resident 18 or older to enter. Winner responsible for all taxes. Complete rules can be found at [cecpvt.org](http://cecpvt.org) or by calling (802) 434-1912. We appreciate your support!

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For more quit tools or to sign up to have FREE nicotine gum, patches or lozenges delivered right to your home visit [VTQuitNetwork.org](http://VTQuitNetwork.org) and click on Year Quit. Your Way.  
For a little extra help call: 1-800-QUIT-NOW (784-8589).

This message brought to you by the Chittenden East Community Partnership

## Promoting safe and drug-free communities

serving the communities of the Chittenden East Supervisory Union: Bolton, Huntington, Jericho, Underhill and Richmond



The mission of the Chittenden East Community Partnership is to create and promote a safe environment with and for our youth, free of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs and violence, in our schools and communities.

**Contact Informaton:**  
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