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Essex chef hosted at White House

By **JASON STARR**
The Essex Reporter

Michelle Obama went all out to welcome young chefs from around the country to the White House last week, and Essex 10-year-old Laura Printon was among them.

Printon was the Vermont winner of a contest sponsored by Mrs. Obama's "Let's Move" healthy eating campaign and the recipe website, epicurious.com. In May, Printon submitted her recipe for "backyard garden salsa tortillas," and a week after her 10th birthday in July, she found out she would be heading

on a free trip to Washington D.C., for a formal dinner with other winners from around the country.

Printon and her mother, Cathy, describe the Aug. 18-20 trip in awestruck terms. Fifty-four kids and their families were treated like heads of state in the White House, entering the dining area to Marine band music and media photographs, having their names announced, eating meals prepared by the White House chef, and meeting the president and first lady.

It was the first official state dinner at the White House hosted just for kids, they were told.



"My favorite part was the hug from the first lady and shaking hands with President Obama."

Laura Printon

"My favorite part was the hug from the first lady and shaking hands with President Obama," Printon said.

A Founders Memorial School student, Printon started her backyard salsa garden two years ago in response to a doctor's suggestion to go to a gluten-

free diet. The garden produces tomatoes, green peppers, onions and cilantro that Printon has been making into a salsa.

When mom Cathy saw a note in a White House e-mail newsletter about Mrs. Obama's call out for a healthy lunch

— See **PRINTON** on page 2a



President Obama is photographed by Essex resident Cathy Printon last week as he greets her daughter, Laura, at the White House.

Photo contributed

Curriers remembered at memorial service

"Their spirits are here with us. We pray that the healing can begin."

Marilyn Chates
Bill Currier's mother

By **KELLY MARCH**
The Essex Reporter

Friends, family members, co-workers, and neighbors of Bill and Lorraine Currier paused in the entryway of the Essex Alliance Church to take in a large photograph of the couple centered amid a display of collages and flower arrangements before entering the church for their memorial service last Saturday.

The service included music, prayers, reflections and a slideshow celebrating the lives of the couple that was abducted from their Colbert Street home last June and subsequently killed in what Chittenden County State's Attorney T.J. Donovan deemed "a random act of violence."

"Their spirits are here with us," reflected Bill Currier's mother Marilyn Chates. "We pray that the healing can begin."

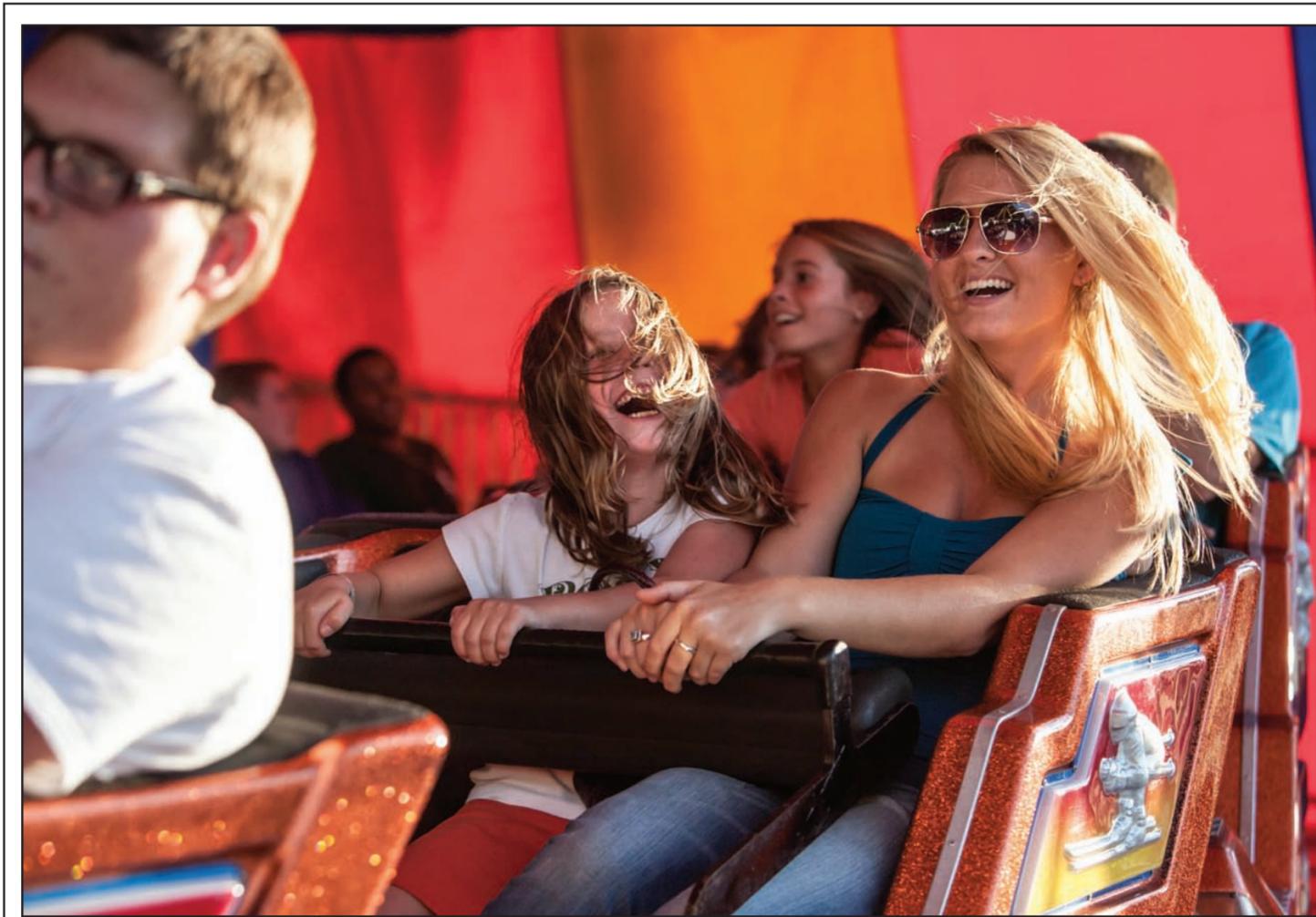
The Currier's family organized the memorial service as a way to honor the couple's memory, but also as a way to thank the community for their support over the last year.

"We can't thank you enough for all of your support," Chates said, noting that the influx of calls, cards, prayers and blessings from the community were a source of comfort for the family during a trying time. "Thank you from the bottom of our hearts."

Friends expressed their gratitude for having the chance to know the Curriers, and vowed to remember them for their mutual work ethic, kindness and love of animals.

For those wishing to honor the Curriers who could not make the service, the family has asked for responses to this random act of violence with random acts of kindness.

The suspect, so far unidentified by authorities, believed to be responsible for the death of the Curriers is being held in custody in another state. Federal investigation into the case is continuing, with assistance from the Essex and Vermont State Police.



It's a family aFair

The Champlain Valley Fair began last weekend in Essex Junction under clear skies and warm temperatures. The fair runs through Sept. 3.

ABOVE: Angel Billado and Alexa Gillis of Colchester whirl around a turn on the Himalayo ride. RIGHT: Fabienne Nadeau of Williston rides the bumper cars. FAR RIGHT: Charlotte Coutu of Essex plays in the Lucky Ducky concession. See page 8a for more. Photos by Oliver Parini



Chamber of commerce: Build Circ A

By **JASON STARR**
The Essex Reporter

With IBM's recent application for new commercial and industrial development on 60 acres on the Essex Junction side of its campus, direct access from IBM to Interstate 89 will be more important than ever.

That's the conclusion of Lake Champlain Regional Chamber of Commerce President Tom Torti and Greater Burlington Industrial Corporation (GBIC) President Frank Cioffi as expressed in an Aug. 13 letter to Vermont Agency of Transportation Secretary Brian Searles and Michele Boomhower of the Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission.

The IBM-interstate connection was to be the job of the once-planned Circumferential Highway. That project — a beltway around Burlington featuring a new exit on the interstate in Williston and circling around north through Colchester — was removed from consideration by Gov. Peter Shumlin last year, who instead directed state planning and construction resources to smaller road projects that could alleviate Chittenden County traffic congestion.

Among the smaller projects are the Circumferential Highway segment involving a new bridge over the Winooski River and the segment that would install a new connection to Interstate 89 to primarily serve

— See **CIRC A** on page 3a

IBM-town negotiations continue on police facility

IBM and the Town of Essex are closing in on a lease agreement for land the company owns on Maple Street where town officials hope to locate a new Essex Police Department headquarters.

The Essex Selectboard received an updated cost estimate for a one-story, 18,000-square-foot building during their meeting last week. The \$6.15 million estimate did not include "site acquisition" costs that have been the subject of a series of closed door selectboard meetings. Permitting costs also remain an unknown addition to the current cost estimate.

The building is planned as a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED)

Silver certified building with solar panels atop the roof. A State of Vermont energy grant program would cover half the solar installation costs, according to Assistant Town Manager Trevor Lashua, putting the payback period for the town resulting from energy cost savings at five to seven years.

"This is a super-efficient thermal building envelope," Lashua told the board. "It should be easier to heat and easier to keep cool."

The police are currently crammed into a sub-standard facility shared with the town

— See **FACILITY** on page 3a

Q&A

With ...

David Keenan
of Keenan's Lock & Key, Essex

Open from 7 a.m.-9 p.m. seven days a week is not what most people consider easy work. But Dave Keenan, of Keenan's Lock & Key, considers himself semi-retired with those hours. "I don't do 24-hour a day work any longer," said Keenan. "If you call me after 9 p.m., you're going to get my answering machine; but call me when I'm working, and I'm happy to help."

Keenan has run a locksmith business out of his home at 15 Tanglewood Drive in Essex (as well as his white van) for the past 40 years. He specializes in auto and residential locks.

"For the first 18 years it was sort of a sideline business because I was in the life-insurance business for that period time," Keenan explained. "After 18 years in the insurance business, I decided to move along and do something in which I was truly my own boss; I dropped the insurance business and accelerated my lock-smith business."

Keenan moved to Essex Junction from Brandon, Vt. in 1950. He went through all his schooling in Essex, and graduated EHS in 1967. He continued on to graduate from the University of Vermont in 1968, and join the service.

"The last unit I was in, during my time in the service, was a nuclear weapons unit," said Keenan. "Security tends to be a little tight in that type of unit; we had a battalion locksmith who I got very close to — we chatted a lot — and when I decided to get out of the Army in 1972 I took some courses in locksmithing."

That was the same year that Keenan opened his business in Essex.

Keenan recently reflected on his career as a locksmith and as a business owner in Essex.

Q: Why did you become a locksmith?

A: I've always liked stuff mechanical to begin

with, but what appealed to me the most was that I could truly be my own boss. I could set my own hours and if I ran into someone I didn't want to do business with, well that's one of the beauties of free enterprise: if you don't want to do business with someone, you are free to enterprise with someone else. Also coming up with ingenious solutions to problems sometimes is really appealing to me.

Q: How do you use the locksmithing knowledge you've acquired over the past 40 years?

A: I've been at this for a long time, and now it is nice to be able to pass along some of the lessons that I've learned over the years to those who are younger in the trade. I participate in an online forum for locksmiths. For example, I chatted with a young man in California this morning and helped him solve a problem, which is nice.

Q: How has the lock industry changed in the past 40 years?

A: Forty years ago electronic locks were something only seen in movies. Today, there are a lot more companies making locks that have electronics in them. I, being semi-retired now, have not gone into the field of electronic-locks simply because it is impossible to carry out what needs to be done in that area on top of what I am already doing. There is a section of electronic locks that I do participate in, which is the chip-key for cars.

Q: What is a common locksmith request?

A: When somebody moves into a new house, and they don't know who has the old keys. Usually they call me up and want to have the locks replaced. Unless there is something drastically wrong with the



David Keenan

Photo by Oliver Parini

locks, that is unnecessary; you can simply re-key it so the new keys work and the old keys do not — this is far cheaper than replacing the whole lock. If you had to replace the spark plugs on your car, would you sell your car instead? That's the equivalent; re-keying a lock is like changing the sparkplugs in a car.

Q: How have you found Essex as a business owner for the past 40 years?

A: The location is good because it's almost in the center of Chittenden County. My shop, except for the one that rolls around on four wheels, is my home. I have not been affected by the changes in the zoning laws because my shop has been there since 1972 and it's been grandfathered through every change in zoning laws. I think the foresight of the selectboard to say, 'OK existing places are grandfathered of any changes' says a lot about the government of Essex.

Q: What are your locksmith specialties?

A: One of my specialties is chipped-keys. Car dealers will tell you they are the only ones who can program keys, but that's not the fact. I can program most keys; although there are a few brands that I can't.

Q: Why do you not do all types of locks?

A: Nearly 25 years ago, about nine members of the Green Mountain Locksmiths Association — of which I'm a member — got together over coffee and decided that the locksmith business was really becoming far too complicated for one person to do everything. We pretty much agreed that those who tried to do everything pretty much ended up being mediocre at most things. So we decided at that point that it would be smarter for each of us to specialize and refer business around. That way if a customer called me and needed to open a safe, which is something I don't do, I could refer them to someone in the association who does; and the guy who does work on safes doesn't necessarily do work on cars, so I might get a referral from him.

There are about five of us who are still in business who were at that meeting 25 years ago. We refer business around on a regular basis; that way the customer gets someone who knows what he or she's doing.

— Elsie Lynn

Editor's Note: For more information call David Keenan at (802) 878-4694.

Out of the Hunt

In unofficial results, local fails to advance from primaries

Chittenden County state Senate candidate Peter Hunt won the day in his hometown of Essex during Tuesday's primary elections, but appeared out of the running for advancing to the general election in countywide voting as of press time.



Peter Hunt

Hunt, the former Essex state representative and former principal of Hiawatha Elementary School in Essex Junction, garnered 1,079 votes in Essex in the Democratic primary. But rivals Tim Ashe, Phil Baruth, Sally Fox, Ginny Lyons, David Zuckerman and Debbie Ingram were the top vote-getters, according to several Burlington-based media reports Tuesday night.

Only the top six of 12 Democratic candidates advanced to the general election in November.

A total of 1,649 votes

were cast in Essex in absentee and live voting Tuesday at Essex High School and Essex Middle School out of roughly 15,000 registered voters. Voters chose whether to vote in the Democratic, Republican or Progressive primary upon entering the voting booth.

In the Democratic nomination for attorney general, T.J. Donovan outlasted incumbent Bill Sorrell in Essex by a 751-681 vote margin. The race was too close to call statewide as of press time, with Sorrell reportedly holding a 400-vote lead late Tuesday.

In Essex's uncontested party primary nominations for state representative, Tim Jerman was the top Democratic vote-getter with 595, Linda Waite-Simpson had 498, Debbie Evans had 432 and Martha Heath had 143. In the Republican state representative primary, Linda Myers got 70 votes and Paul Dame got 65. All will advance to the general election.

— Jason Starr

Taxes due Sept. 17

The first installment of the 2012 Village of Essex Junction/Essex Junction School District Property tax bills is due by Sept. 17, 2012. Payments may be made at either the Village office, 2 Lincoln Street, or the Town office, 81 Main Street. Drop boxes are provided at each location. For questions about the tax bill, or if residents need a copy of their bill, call the Village Treasurer's office at 878-6951. Payments received or postmarked after the due date are considered delinquent and will be charged 8 percent penalty and .5 percent interest. Additional 1 percent interest will be added the first of the month thereafter.

PRINTON

from page 1a

recipe, she encouraged Laura to build a meal around the salsa. Laura added tortillas, chicken, black beans and cheese to create "backyard garden salsa tortillas."

She submitted the recipe online, one of roughly 1,200 to submit nationwide. Finalists' recipes were made by White House staff and

sampled by officials from the departments of education and agriculture. The meals were judged on healthiness, taste, affordability and how fun they are to make.

The contest was part of Mrs. Obama's mission to "change the way a generation of kids thinks about food and nutrition," according to the letsmove.gov website.

Part of the fun of the trip was meeting the 50-plus other 8- to 12-year-old winners and traveling with them on a sightseeing tour of Washington D.C., the day before the state dinner. The kids received a recipe book with all the winning recipes.

"Kids bond so easily," Cathy said. "Within about 10 minutes they were all talking about their recipes and their states and the things they like to do."

A surprise of the trip was meeting President Obama. He entered the formal dinner about mid-way through and congratulated all the kids with a hand shake.

"They just thought about every detail and it was so well done," Cathy said. "It was such a positive experience."

Since winning, Printon's salsa has been in high demand in her Essex Town neighborhood. It's also drawn the attention of Essex Town School District food service director Bonnie Szwarkowski, who plans to incorporate the salsa into school lunch this year.

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HowardCenter energy reduction project exceeds first-year target



Senator Patrick Leahy and IBM Senior Location Executive Janette Bombardier recognize HowardCenter sites, each represented by a staff member, that received awards for their dedication to a yearlong energy efficiency project. Photo contributed

By **KELLY MARCH**
The Essex Reporter

An IBM-sponsored program to help HowardCenter reduce its annual energy and fuel use by 5 percent exceeded its goal in one year, project leaders announced during a celebratory event at the Baird School Gymnasium in Burlington last Friday.

HowardCenter, a non-profit organization that provides support services to over 15,000 individuals throughout Chittenden County and beyond, received a quarter of a \$100,000 grant from IBM last year to implement an energy management system developed in the company's Vermont facility. The rest of the energy efficiency grant — one of 10 Centennial Grants awarded to projects around the world to mark IBM's 100th anniversary — benefited the Vermont State College system.

"We knew the energy management practices we employed at our site could benefit other organizations," said Janette Bombardier, Senior Location Executive for IBM in Vermont. "This project provides a model for energy management that can benefit other Vermont organizations, especially as the state prepares to take advantage of

the smart grid."

Working with IBM, HowardCenter created the HowardCenter Excellence in Energy Efficiency (HCE3) program. With assistance from HowardCenter's 1,000 employees, over 100 IBM volunteers and supporting organizations such as Vermont Gas, Burlington Electric Department and ReSOURCE, 30 energy efficiency projects have been completed in HowardCenter's 59 buildings around the state since June 2011.

In one year, HowardCenter has achieved a 7.6 percent reduction in energy and fuel use, a reduction that cut the nonprofit's annual energy bill by \$23,000. This reduction in energy usage, roughly 146,000-kilowatt-hours, is equivalent to the amount of electricity necessary to power a standard laptop continuously for 468 years.

"You did it the right way," said Senator Patrick Leahy, reflecting on the success of the partnership during Friday's celebration. "You relied on ideas generated by your staff, best practices and both large and small efficiency methods. You have to remember that a lot of small efforts add up to large ones... Think here at the HowardCenter of all the

thousands of people who will learn (from this project)."

The savings were achieved through a number of collaborative initiatives, including the formation of a HowardCenter "green team" to promote energy saving behaviors throughout the organization, the creation of a database for tracking utility usage in each facility, the weatherization of residential buildings, and the identification of thousands of dollars in energy efficiency rebates.

"HowardCenter and its employees really stepped up to the energy savings challenge, and the fact that we beat our goal is a testament to the dedication and involvement of our entire team," said Todd Centybear, executive director of the HowardCenter. "This effort brings a number of benefits: we become a more green organization, we set an example for what others can do, and we save money that can be redirected to our core mission of improving the well-being of individuals and families."

HowardCenter will continue its effort to reduce energy and fuel usage in the future, and has set a reduction goal of 3 to 5 percent for the coming year.

CIRCA

from page 1a

IBM's needs. The Essex and Williston selectboards were given a choice in June which of the two segments to pursue and chose the Winooski River bridge segment, originally known as Circ B.

The GBIC and chamber of commerce disagree.

"We're trying to make the case for them to look at segment A again," said GBIC and chamber government affairs director Dawn Francis. "We really want to emphasize the fact that there is a lot of development potential on that parcel of (IBM) land. We would like them to think about looking at easier access for that parcel to I-89 ... It's a significant parcel for the region."

IBM's proposal for new commercial and industrial development is focused on an unused parcel across from Albert D. Lawton School and next to Maple Street Park on Maple Street. The company presented plans to the Village of Essex Junction Planning Commission in April, describing a business and industrial park where it

would lease land to businesses needing a location, and the leasing businesses would construct their buildings. The parcel would expand IBM's relatively new (since 2008) effort to create what it's calling the "Champlain Valley Technology and Innovation Park."

Francis said Monday that the GBIC and chamber of commerce had not heard a response from Searles or Boomhower. She said the two entities would follow the work regional and municipal planners are doing to come up with traffic solutions in lieu of the Circumferential Highway, of which both were "ardent supporters."

"We understand, however, the limited resources and hurdles that remain to construct the (Circumferential Highway). Therefore, We have been supportive of the past year's efforts to build more narrowly focused projects in proximity to the circ in order to advance critically needed improvements to our transportation infrastructure," Torti and Cioffi wrote in their letter to Searles and Boomhower.

They identify IBM and

Saxon Hill in Essex as among the few places in the county that can handle industrial development.

"(The IBM) site provides a perfect example of smart growth, as it is a densely developed area with adequate support infrastructure to provide a major employment hub within the context of our broader regional sustainability planning and development goals," Torti and Cioffi continued. "We believe that improved highway access ... is critical to maintain the economic viability of the campus and the region, while preserving the character of local communities."

"We question the wisdom and effectiveness of only a bridge over the Winooski River in reducing current and future traffic issues in Williston and Essex, without improved access to Interstate 89."

Copied on the letter are the members of the Williston and Essex selectboards. Francis said she expects the two boards to meet with representatives from the chamber and GBIC in the near future about their difference of opinion.

ESSEX

TRIVIA

So you think you know Essex? We want to hear from you!

Heart and Soul of Essex will pose a different question about Essex each week until Sept. 25. Answer on-line at www.essexreporter.com/heart-soul-of-essex, heartandsoulofessex.org or look for ballot boxes at: Brownell Library, Essex Free Library, Farmer's Market, Sand Hill Pool, Maple Street Park, Bagel Market and the Town and Village Offices.

The correct answer will appear in the Essex Reporter and online. All those who submit correct answers to The Essex Reporter will receive a free online subscription. A grand prize will be given to the person with the most correct answers at the Heart and Soul of Essex Launch Party on Sept. 25 at the Champlain Valley Exposition.

The correct answer will appear in the Essex Reporter and online. All those who submit correct answers to The Essex Reporter will receive a free online subscription. A grand prize will be given to the person with the most correct answers at the Heart and Soul of Essex Launch Party on Sept. 25 at the Champlain Valley Exposition.



Heart and Soul of Essex is a citizen led initiative that received a planning grant from the Orton Family Foundation to understand local history, identify common values and search for a unified vision.

Trivia brought to you this week by The Essex Reporter. Interested in sponsoring Essex Trivia? Contact us at 802 878-5282

This Week's Question:

What is the name of the road off of which the old Burlington and Lamoille rail depot is located (long since converted into a residence)?



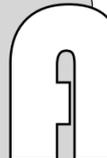
Last week's question:

Which one of the first six settlers of Essex best fits this description: fun-loving former Green Mountain Boy known for his wit and rhymes (particularly when "engaged" with Santa Croix rum) and skills as a wheelwright though he "never plied his trade steadily"?

- a) Samuel Smith
- b) William Smith
- c) Jonathan Winchell
- d) Dubartis "Barty" Willard
- e) Floyd Elmer Buck, Jr.

Answer:

d) Dubartis "Barty" Willard



FACILITY

from page 1a

offices at 81 Main Street, with the detectives working out of a separate office on the other side of town. The building would unite all departments under one roof, provide greater security for transporting and detaining arrestees and include a community room for general citizen use.

The selectboard plans to ask Essex voters for more than \$6 million in borrowing authority to fund the facility as part of the Nov. 6 election. A committee of

citizens that studied potential locations for the facility over the past two years is preparing brochure materials and a video to explain the project to voters. Town officials hope to further finalize the cost estimate — settling on the cost of the land through negotiations with IBM — before presenting information to voters about the property tax increase that would be associated with the borrowing.

The new facility would be built with room to grow on the 3.4-acre site and designed to suit the Essex Police Department for the next 40 years.

— Jason Starr



Congratulations to **Dan Goodrich, of Essex**, for finding all six pairs of sunglasses in the August 2, edition of The Essex Reporter. Goodrich is this month's winner of a new Essex Reporter t-shirt!

Look for the next Get In The Hunt contest on Thursday, Sept. 6

The Get In The Hunt contest publishes on the first Thursday of the month. All entries receive a free online subscription, and a drawn winner receives an Essex Reporter t-shirt printed by Humble Screen Printing in Colchester.

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Voted BEST Chinese Buffet in Yankee Magazine, 2012

OPINION

Perspective

Study ranks Vermont as stingy place. Are we really?

By EMERSON LYNN

Vermonters give an average of 2.8 percent of their discretionary income to charity, making us one of the stingiest states in the union, according to a national study conducted by the Chronicle of Philanthropy.

Our cellar-dwelling neighbors are close by. New Hampshire is the stingiest at 2.5 percent, and the rest of New England fills in the bottom six positions nationally.

The correlation, according to the study, is tied to religion. Utah, heavily Mormon [72.6 percent consider themselves religious] ranks first, with its residents giving 10.6 percent of their income to charity. Utah was followed by Mississippi, Alabama, Tennessee and South Carolina.

Vermont, according to various polls, is among the least religious states with 23 percent considering themselves religious. This secular inclination is shared in Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Maine and New Hampshire.

The conclusion would be a very negative one, if the headline accompanying the study were the extent of the information provided. Vermonters could only conclude that they give less to charity than people in most other states, making us a selfish lot.

Further, according to those who interpret such studies, nine of the 10 "least generous" states voted for Barack Obama in the last election, and eight of the 10 "most generous" states voted for John McCain.

So, Republicans are giving because they are religious and Democrats are stingy because they are not? Godless New Englanders care less about their fellow man than Southerners who are devout?

Let's dig a little deeper, which isn't difficult.

When the task is taking care of children, Vermont ranked third nationally in a

national study released earlier this month. Mississippi — which ranked second nationally in its charity — ranked 49th. In fact, of the first eight top slots, New England states claimed six of them. We take care of our children.

When the task is personal health, Vermont always ranks among the top five states, often number one. Mississippi almost always ranks at the bottom, as do most of the states ranked high as "most charitable."

When the task is educating our children, again, Vermont ranks at the top, Mississippi at the bottom, along with many of the other "religious and giving" states.

In other words, the level of one's donations and one's devoutness isn't a good marker of a state's charity toward itself or its citizens. The goal should be to provide the necessary resources that enable the general population to prosper. It's an egalitarian approach that essentially creates a rising tide to lift all boats. That is not accomplished through individual giving, it's accomplished through established and dependable sources of collective giving — otherwise known as taxes.

It's more than a little annoying to read the stories that accompany such studies. For a state like our own, which has a deserved reputation for its independence and caring for its own, it's a bit jarring to have others depict us as stingy and uncaring.

If taking care of our children the way we do is stingy, then guilty as charged.

If stressing the importance of education is stingy, then sign us up.

If focusing on the health of our citizens is stingy, then bring it on.

Somehow, or another, we think the Great White Buffalo would approve.

Emerson Lynn is publisher of the St. Albans Messenger.

Notes from the Newsletter



Each week in our e-mail newsletter, we pose a question to subscribers about current Essex issues. A sample of their answers will be published here on the Opinion page.

Visit www.essexreporter.com to sign up for the newsletter.

Q: Should the town and village combine the duties of the town manager and the village manager into one umbrella position for both municipalities?

A: This is an intriguing opportunity. I lived in the town for 17 years and have now resided in the village for 11 years. I can attest to the fact that Essex Junction and Essex Town are different communities. My concern is that Essex Junction, which is the smaller of the two both geographically and budget-wise (Essex Junction: \$3-plus million; Essex Town: \$13-plus million), maintain it's individuality, identity and community spirit under a shared manager.

Perhaps a solution to my concerns would be to have an assistant manager for the village. I want to

state clearly that I do support shared services for both entities. It makes a ton of sense to combine recreation departments, libraries, and public works departments. The devil is in the details! Thoughts?

**Bridget Meyer
Essex Junction**

**A: YES!
Charlee Day
Essex Junction**

Letter to the Editor

Kindergarten entrance waiver unfair

I am writing this letter in hopes that future parents will have a better experience when interacting with the Essex Junction School District. I have just completed the Kindergarten Waiver Process and I have felt frustration every step of the way. I was hesitant to share this frustration earlier because I did not want it to influence my daughter's acceptance into Kindergarten. Aside from the fact that I am disappointed with the decision that has been made, I was taken aback at the lack of professionalism I experienced.

I have been an educator for over 10 years and I am very familiar with appropriate parent communication. One of the most important factors when responding to parents is time. I have had to push for each step of this process to happen. Information/questions were not answered in a timely manner. Our paperwork was misplaced. It took Erin Maguire, Executive Director of Support Services, two weeks to schedule an assessment with the Learning Curve. A delay I was surprised to learn was not because of the Learning Curves

availability (as I was led to believe by Erin). I have had to contact Principal Thomas Bochanski in order to hear back from Erin.

I was also concerned with confidentiality during this process when Erin called me on Friday evening while driving with another person in her vehicle. She was responding to a voicemail I had left at 8:30 a.m. that day asking if the committee had met yet. Her response was she did not think my daughter had met the necessary testing criteria. I was discouraged that I could not inquire into Samantha's performance because she was driving at the time and I was taken aback at how this information was being shared so casually.

It seemed that the multiple letters of recommendation from Samantha's pediatrician and varied education professionals were not being taken into account. This concerned me because it became evident that this process did not look at the whole child. Decisions were being made based on this unachievable assessment threshold of performing in the 97th percentile. Students needing to achieve 97% (GE end of kindergarten) in order to enter kindergarten confused me because I am trying to have my daughter enter kindergarten not first grade.

Any concerns I shared were met with a wall of memorized statistics. I did not feel I was being heard and found this entire process to be policy oriented and not child oriented.

My husband and I chose to live in Essex Junction for a number of reasons; the school district being one of them. With three children in our family, we want them to have a great school experience. I would have preferred not to have had my first experience as a school age parent be a negative one.

I am writing this in hopes that changes are made. Steps need to be taken to correct how information is shared and the overall professionalism/confidentiality of the staff. I would suggest that parents who enter this process be given a rough timeline. This would benefit both the district as well as the parents. Parents want what is best for their children and the unnecessary delay this process has taken leaves parents with very little time to make arrangements for the fall.

I was told that this process is "not for the families." If this is true then who is the Essex Junction School District here for?

**Kimberly Chittenden
Essex Junction**

Reassuring gun owners in the massacres' aftermath

By FREDRIC NEUMAN

We are once again suffering through the aftermath of senseless gun-related massacres. And, once again, we are engaged in a debate about the role of guns in our society.

As a psychiatrist, I have very little to say about the motives of the young men accused of these crimes. There will always be young men who feel resentful and alienated, and who feel ineffectual; and a few of them will reach out to avenge themselves upon anyone within reach. But out of the great number of men who feel disenchanting with their lives, only a very few will commit mayhem. I am not optimistic about any conceivable screening program or strategy that will allow us to locate these individuals before they do damage.

As for the rest of us, I am disheartened to see us enter the same sterile debate about controlling or not controlling the purchase of guns. Those people who own guns, and for whom guns are important, will not

regard these horrendous incidents as reason for their giving them up. Once again, we hear the mantra, "Guns don't kill people, people kill people." Knives don't kill people either, people do. Even atom bombs don't kill people unless someone presses the button.

The people who wield the knives, and shoot the guns, and set off the bombs are the ones who are responsible. But a deranged person with a gun, or half-dozen guns, can do a lot more damage than someone with a knife.

There are now the usual impassioned pleas for better gun control laws. On rare occasions, in the wake of a particularly horrifying event, laws such as the assault weapon ban are, indeed, passed, only to lapse later on. The political trend is toward fewer controls. Guns are now permitted in more and more places. The Colorado massacre has already been attributed by some as too few people carrying weapons!

It is pointless to argue about whether or not guns are dangerous. They surely

are. Studies have shown that a gun in the home, rather than protecting the family, increases the chance of someone dying violently.

But gun owners think that handled properly — in their hands — they are safe. An analogous situation comes up in people who are afraid to fly. They think they are safer in a car where they are in control. Yet, the fatality rate per mile is ten times higher driving in a car than flying in an airplane. People overestimate the degree of control they have over events.

I have seen fatalities occur in a family dispute because of the presence of a gun. So, I have a dislike for guns. But I think the time has come to stop deriding those who think differently.

It is pointless to attribute malignant intent to the gun lobby or the National Rifle Association. They could not exert the influence they have without the earnest support of many thousands. Those who want to control the sale and use of guns must understand that the people who do not want to give up their guns — and who are afraid, against all evidence that someone is trying to take them away — feel that these guns are part of who they are. They will not let someone encroach upon their gun rights, because all the things they believe in are at stake. Or so it seems to them.

Gun owners tend to see themselves as independent and self-reliant and not easily intimidated. Owning a gun is part of that. It is a very American way of thinking. It is one of a

number of ways of being American.

But they feel besieged. Their attitude about guns is under attack along with many other seemingly unrelated cultural issues. In order to enlist their help in solving these problems, they must be reassured. They must see that they are understood.

I think our goals now should be to limit the use of very powerful weapons and to try to devise ways of better educating gun owners to the psychological risks of owning guns. The NRA has programs to encourage drug safety. They should be enlarged to deal with these other considerations. After all, the number of people killed by handguns far exceeds the numbers killed by assault weapons.

I think there are ways of reassuring gun owners so that they are not so intransigent about any gun controls whatever; but any change must start with respecting the way they think and live. When they are attacked, they become more afraid of the "slippery slope" whereby any limitation on guns threatens them. If they are honored for being the self-reliant, independent, and courageous men and women they strive to be, I hope the possession of guns will not matter quite so much to them.

Fredric Neuman M.D. is the Director of the Anxiety and Phobia center at White Plains Hospital in White Plains, N.Y. He blogs for Psychology Today and can be contacted at www.fredricneumanmd.com.

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The Essex Reporter makes every effort to be accurate. If you notice an error, please contact us at 878-5282, or by e-mail at news@essexreporter.com. Note "correction" in the subject line.

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Obituaries

PHILIP JOSEPH POULIN

ESSEX — Philip "Phil" Joseph Poulin, 74, passed into the loving arms of his Heavenly Father on Friday, Aug. 17, 2012, in Burlington Health and Rehab Center. He was born in Vergennes on Feb. 8, 1938, the son of J. Alexander and Zenaide M. (Bisaillon) Poulin. He attended Cathedral Grammar School and graduated from Cathedral High School, Class of 1956. On Sept. 12, 1964, Philip married his beautiful bride, Beverly Gokey, at St. Pius X Parish. They would have celebrated their 48th anniversary. Phil was a member of the Vermont Army National Guard and St. Pius X Parish. He owned a small construction company and built many new homes in Chittenden County. He had a love for being outdoors. During the winter he loved catching perch while ice fishing, and traveling through the forest behind his home on his snowmobiles. He spent Sunday afternoons or evenings watching the New York Giants or the Boston Red Sox. Philip was a member of Sports and Fitness Edge in Essex for more than 20 years, where he would run/walk or lift weights on a daily basis. Watching the Mass on EWTN twice a day was his passion, he was a man of incredible faith. During his sickness he never complained. If asked, "How are you doing?" he would always indicate he was "fine." An incredible man filled with peace. During the last three months, he brought laughter and smiles to the nursing staff at the hospital and nursing homes by randomly singing, "You are my sunshine, my only sunshine, you make me happy when skies are gray, you'll never know dear how much I love you, so please don't take my loved ones away" (revision made by Phil).

Philip is survived by his remarkable wife, Beverly (Gokey), who unselfishly and lovingly took care of him through the many years of his illnesses; son, Kevin Poulin and daughter-in-law, Lori, of Eatonville, Wash.; daughter, Lisa Butkus of Essex Center; eight grandchildren, Daija Heyward, Kaleb, Joshua,

Kovi and Kiana Poulin, and Mikayla, Kaitlyn and Noah Butkus; sister, Francois Ryan; sister-in-law, Gisele Loranger; sister-in-law, Audrey Fleming; and numerous nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his brothers, Marcel, Fernand, and Jean-Paul Poulin; sisters, Sr. Marie Florence Poulin, RSM, Sr. Marie Georgette Poulin, RSM, Lucille Poulin, Sr. Marie Therese Poulin, RSM; sister-in-law, Patricia Poulin; and brother-in-law, Bernard Ryan. A special thank you to Dr. Diane Rippa, staff at Alderbrook Family Health, Fletcher Allen Health Care, Green Mountain Nursing Home, VNA, Burlington Health and Rehab, Carol Leo and Hugh Ross for providing Phil communion on a weekly basis. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on Tuesday, Aug. 21, 2012, at 11 a.m. in St. Pius X Parish, Jericho Road (Rte. 15), Essex Center. Interment followed in Mountain View Cemetery, Essex Center. There were no visiting hours. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions in Philips name may be made to The American Diabetes Association, 1 Kennedy Drive, South Burlington, VT 05403.

REGINALD F. PACKARD

ESSEX JUNCTION — Reginald Francis Packard, 74, passed away after a short illness, on Aug. 16, 2012. He was born on Aug. 17, 1937, in Burlington, son of the late William and Lillian (Jones) Packard. He served in the Air National Guard and retired from IBM.

He is survived by his children, Reginald Packard and wife, Kelly, of Va., Gina Lamperelli and husband, Alberto, of Conn., Robb Charbonneau and wife, Ginger, of Va., Nicholae and Wallace of Fla., and Valerie of Vt.; brother, Lawrence Packard and wife, Joann, of Essex; eight grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; several aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews and cousins. He is also predeceased by his wife, Frances (Ladieu) Packard; and brothers, Richard and Bill Packard. Visiting hours were held on Wednesday, Aug. 22, 2012, from 5 to 8 p.m. at A.W. Rich Funeral Home - Essex Chapel, 57

Main Street, Essex Jct., VT 05452. A funeral service was held on Thursday, Aug. 23, 2012, at A.W. Rich Funeral Home - Essex Chapel at 2 p.m. Burial followed in the family lot in Mountain View Cemetery, Essex Center. The family invites you to share your memories and online condolences by visiting www.awrichfuneralhomes.com.

BILL AND LORRAINE CURRIER

ESSEX JUNCTION — The families of William and Lorraine (Arnold) Currier hosted an hour of remembrance on Saturday, Aug. 25, 2012, at 2 p.m. at the Essex Alliance Church, Old Stage Road, Essex. All were invited to share memories of Bill and Lorraine and gave thanks for having had them in our lives. A reception followed the service in the Church's fellowship hall. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made for a bench to be placed at the bus stop at Brownell Library on Lincoln Street in Essex Junction, in their memory (Bill and Lorraine Currier, c/o New England Federal Credit Union, P.O. Box 527, Williston, VT 05495); or to the charity of one's choice.

RUTH FORBES

ESSEX JUNCTION — Ruth Coburn Forbes, 82, of Essex Junction, died Wednesday, Aug. 8, 2012, following a brief illness. She was born Sept. 12, 1929, to Clarence W. Coburn and Hazel Wood Coburn. Ruth attended West Fairlee grade schools in Vermont, and assisted her parents in the operation of their general store. She graduated from Bradford Academy in 1947 and earned her liberal arts (B.A.) degree from the University of Vermont in 1951. Ruth was a member of the Gamma Phi Beta sorority, and embodied that organization's creed: "Love, labor, learning and loyalty." Subsequent to the passing of her husband, Huzon Dawson Forbes, in 1966, she worked as a librarian at Overlake Day School in Burlington. Following the closure of the school in 1969, Ruth accepted a new librarian position at the Essex Junction Educational Center while attending the Simmons College summer school graduate program.

She completed her Masters degree in Library Science (M.L.S.) from Simmons College in 1972, was appointed head librarian at E.J.H.S shortly thereafter, and held that position until her retirement in 1991. During the course of her life, Ruth taught Sunday school at the First Congregational Church in Burlington, served as a member of the Essex Green Townhouse Association Board of Directors, and contributed to the activities of the Lake Fairlee Association and the West Fairlee Historical Society. She derived her greatest rewards from her relationships with friends and family, and the companionship of animals both adopted and shared over the years. She possessed a resilient and persevering spirit, coupled with the qualities of veracity, compassion and courage reflected both in her eyes and smile.

She is survived by her son, David Coburn Forbes and his life partner, Lisa J. Johnson, of Essex Junction. We wish to express our deep gratitude to the Visiting Nurse Association of Chittenden and Grand Isle counties, the Noyana singers (VNA Hospice of the Champlain Valley), and to the men and women of the Pillsbury Manor South assisted living facility, whose care and companionship provided support and solace throughout the duration of her tenancy. A private graveside service will be held at the Post Mills Cemetery on Sept. 1, 2012, at 2 p.m. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations in her honor be made to the Morris Animal Foundation (<http://www.morrisanimalfoundation.org/>); or the Lake Fairlee Association (<http://blog.lakefairlee.org>)

LIZA MARY ALLEN

BURLINGTON — Liza Mary Allen, of Burlington, was born June 20, 1913, in Hadath El Jebbe, Lebanon, the daughter of Boutrous and Maura Al Khoury Alam. She was the last survivor of 15 siblings who settled in Lebanon, United States, Canada and South America. Her father was the village priest (allowed in the Catholic Maronite rite) and ministered to his parishioners until the age

of 103. In 1933, Daniel Allen returned to his home village of Hadath from Vermont to marry Liza, and they honeymooned by touring the Middle East and Europe on their trip back to the U.S. Daniel predeceased her in 1957.

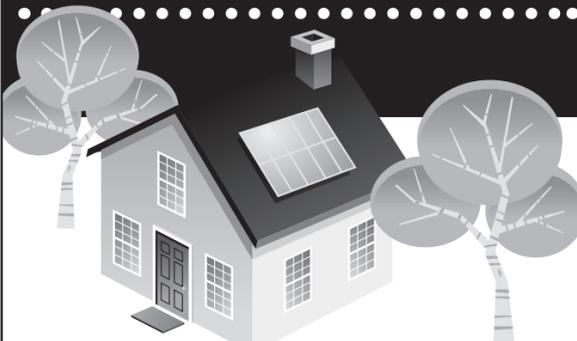
Liza was proud of her heritage and participated in Burlington's active and tight-knit Lebanese society and was a longstanding member of the Ladies of Mount Lebanon Society. As an immigrant, she would always say she appreciated the United States as the greatest nation and now America was her country. When she was in her late fifties and early sixties, her indomitable spirit took her on two tours of Europe and North Africa by herself, visiting many countries that included Spain, Portugal, Italy and Morocco. In later years, she was a member of the Athena Club, the Grange, and several senior organizations. She enjoyed bridge games and bowling, both of which she took up late in life, but her greatest joys were family (especially grandchildren and great-grandchildren), many friends, Lebanese cooking, and entertaining. When her husband was ill in the 1950s, Liza decided to find a job and with no sales experience and heavily accented English, convinced the manager at J.C. Penney to give her a chance as a sales clerk. She proved to be a natural at clothing sales. Her eye for fit and style and

a direct and honest match to the customer, moved her up to a job at Magram's Fashion Shop, where she became a star sales person. She loved the work, her workmates and her clients, who came from all of Vermont and as far as New York state and Montreal and who became good friends. Liza always looked forward to going in to work and only disabling arthritis could force her reluctant retirement.

Liza lost a son, Peter, in his early childhood, but is survived by three sons and their wives, Simon and Martha of LaMirada, Calif., Frederick and Patricia of Northport, N.Y., and Michel and Sylvia of Essex Junction; one grandson, Dan; and three granddaughters, Lisa and David Hayner, Nadine Allen, and Nicole and Jim Modico. She also leaves eight great-grandchildren, Devan, Hayden, Amanda, Joseph, Nick, Cassandra, Michael, and AnnaClaire; and many nephews and nieces around the world. Many thanks to the staff at the Ethan Allen Residence and especially those at Birchwood Terrace Healthcare for the compassionate care they provided to Liza in her last year.

A Memorial Mass will be celebrated on Saturday, Sept. 8, 2012, at 12 p.m. at St. Anthony's Catholic Church (corner of Pine Street and Flynn Avenue), followed by a reception at the parish hall. Arrangements are in the care of the Ready Funeral & Cremation Service South Chapel, Burlington. To send online condolences to the family please visit www.readyfuneral.com.

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Obituary Submission Guidelines

We welcome submitted obituaries. Send obituaries of 500 words or less to news@essexreporter.com. Photos are encouraged. Obituaries are subject to editing. Please submit obituaries no later than Thursday at 5 p.m. for publication in the following week's edition.

We also offer the option of paid space if you prefer a longer or unedited obituary. Paid obituaries are marked with a diamond symbol. Contact ewing@essexreporter.com or 878-5282 x 208 for more information.

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Essex Area Religious Directory

ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH, 95 Allen Road, South Burlington will begin winter worship hours on Sunday, September 9. The Holy Communion service will begin at 10:00 a.m. There will be one service only. On the first Sunday of each month there is a contemporary worship service with Holy Communion. Sunday school is at 9:00 a.m. Ascension Lutheran Church, 95 Allen Road, South Burlington, VT 05403, (802) 862-8866, church.office@alcvt.org, www.alcvt.org

CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH- (Fundamental-independent.) 61 Main St., Essex Junction, 878-8341. Pastor James Gangwer. Sunday School 10 a.m. Worship Service 11 a.m. Sunday evening worship 6:30. Wednesday evening youth groups; Awana, Pro-Teens and Prayer meeting 7 p.m.

CHRIST MEMORIAL CHURCH- Route 2A, Williston, just north of Industrial Ave. Wes Pastor, Senior Minister, 878-7107, Proclaiming Christ and Him crucified Sundays at 8:15 a.m. and 10:15 a.m. www.cmcvermont.org

DAYBREAK COMMUNITY CHURCH 67 Creek Farm Plaza, Colchester VT. 05446 802-338-9118 www.daybreakvermont.org or brentdaybreak@gmail.com Sunday Service at 10:30am Lead Pastor, Brent Devenney

ESSEX ALLIANCE CHURCH- 37 Old Stage Road in Essex Junction. Sunday morning services at 7:45, 9, 10:15 and 11:30 a.m. Phone: 878-8213. www.essexalliance.org

ESSEX CENTER UNITED METHODIST CHURCH- Please join us for worship that combines the best of traditional and contemporary music and spirituality. We are a safe and welcoming space for all people to celebrate, worship, ask questions, and put down spiritual roots. Sunday worship 9:00. Nursery available. We offer a variety of small groups for prayer, Bible study, hands-on ministry, and studying contemporary faith issues. 119 Center Rd (Route 15) Essex Center. Rev. Mitchell Hay, pastor. 879-8304

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF ESSEX- 39 Main Street Essex Junction, VT 05452 Telephone 878-5745 Fax: 872-8236 Email: welcome@fcej.org Rev. Mark Mendes, Senior Pastor; Rev. Ryan Gackenhimer, Associate Pastor. Sunday worship services: 9 a.m. Communion first Sunday of every month. Junior High Youth Group meets regularly Sundays from 12-2 p.m.; Senior High Youth Group meets regularly Sunday evenings from 5 to 7 p.m. Adult Choir, Junior Choir, Cherub Choir, Handbell Choir, Men's Choir, Ladies Choir.

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH- (ELCA)-273 VT. Rte. 15 - Between Jericho and Underhill - 899-3932. Sunday Worship - 9:00 a.m./Sunday School for all ages - 10:30 a.m. gslcvt@myfairpoint.net All are welcome. Rev. Dan Steinbauer, Interim

GRACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH- 130 Maple Street, Essex Junction. 878-8071. 1 mile south of the Five Corners on Maple Street / VT. Route 117. Worship Sundays at 9:30 a.m. with concurrent Church School Pre-K to High School. Handicapped-accessible facility. Adult Study Group Sundays at 11:00 a.m. Adult Choir / Praise Band / Women's Fellowship / Missionally active. Korean U.M.C. Worship Sundays at 12:30 p.m. Come explore what God might be offering you!

HOLY FAMILY- ST. LAWRENCE PARISH- Pastor: Reverend Charles H. Ranges, S.S.E. Rectory Address: 4 Prospect Street. Phone: 878-5331. Holy Family Mass Schedule: 28 Lincoln Street. Sundays, 8 a.m., 11 a.m. & 7:30p.m.. St. Lawrence Mass Schedule: 158 West Street. Saturdays, 4 p.m. and Sundays, 9:30a.m.. Sacrament of Reconciliation: St. Lawrence, Saturdays, 3:15-3:45p.m. and by appointment. Daily Mass, 8:30a.m.@Holy Family Church.

ISLAMIC SOCIETY OF VERMONT- 182 Hegeman Ave, Suite 1, Colchester, VT 05446. Join Imam Islam Hassan (imam@isvt.org) for the five daily prayers. Timings at ISVT homepage www.isvt.org The call for Friday Jumah prayers is exactly at 1:00PM followed by Khutbah and prayer. Additional Friday night lectures between Magrib and Isha prayers. Weekend Islamic classes on Sundays 9:45AM-1:30PM for all children 4 years and older during the school year. Interested non-members always welcome. (802) 655-6711 or salam@isvt.org or Facebook.

MT. MANSFIELD UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP- Visit www.mmuuf.org. Services are held at 9:30 a.m. on the second and fourth Sunday of each month from September through June. 195 Vermont Route 15, Jericho (the red barn across from Packard Road). 899-2558

ST JAMES EPISCOPAL CHURCH- 4 St. James Place (Gate F to the Fairgrounds) Essex Junction 878-4014 http://www.stjamesvt.org. Services: 8:15 am Holy Eucharist Rite II without music. 9:30 am Holy Eucharist Rite II with music. 10:30 am coffee hour.

ST. PIUS THE TENTH CHURCH- 20 Jericho Road, Essex, 878-5997. Pastor: Rev. Richard W. Tinney. Masses: Mon.-Thurs. 8:30 a.m.; Saturday 4:30 p.m., Sunday 8:30 and 10:30 a.m. Confessions Sat. 3:30 p.m. 4 p.m. www.together.net/~stpius

ST. THOMAS CHURCH- 6 Green St., Underhill Center. Father Charles R. Danielson, Parish Priest. Weekend Masses: Saturday-4:30 p.m., Sunday-8:30. Daily Masses: Check with www.stthomasvt.com or call 899-

CALENDAR

30 Thursday

Actors/volunteers needed. The Essex Community Players are seeking anyone interested in acting and assisting with the Oct. 13-20 production of Ira Levin's thriller *Deathtrap*. Contact Art Kilmer: 802-291-0341 or cakilmer@comcast.net. Visit: www.essexplayers.com

31 Friday

Blue Moon Owling. A "Nature at Night" presentation, followed by a twilight-into-night ramble under the full August moon. It's the second full moon this month, which makes it a Blue Moon as well. Best for older kids and anyone comfortable in the evening forest. Please wear quiet outdoor shoes. Flashlights should be covered with red plastic, if you wish to bring one. Suggested donation: \$5. Pre-registration recommended. Birds of Vermont Museum, 900 Sherman Hollow Road, Huntington, 7:15-9 p.m. Contact: 802-434-2167

Live United celebration breakfast. Registration deadline: Aug. 31. Event date: Sept. 7. Sheraton Burlington Hotel & Conference Center, 870 Williston Road, South Burlington, 7:45 a.m. Contact: laurie@unitedwaycc.org or 802-860-1677

Five Corners Farmers' Market. Stop by your local farmers market for dinner, shopping and entertainment. This week entertainment by Splendid Strings. Lincoln Place, Essex Junction, 3:30-7:30 p.m. Contact: 5cornersfarmersmarket@gmail.com

September

1 Saturday

Garlic festival. Live music, kids' activities, over 140 vendors, fresh garlic, herbal products, garlic chocolate fudge, garlic ice cream and more. Free parking. Admission: \$5. Through Sept. 2. Camelot Village, Route 9 West, Bennington, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Contact: 802-447-3311 x14.

Waitsfield craft fair. Features local artists from Chittenden County, live music, demonstrations and food. Rain or shine. Through Sept. 2. Admission: \$4. Kenyon's field, Rte 100, just North of Waitsfield Village, Mad River Valley, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Contact: 1-802-496-3409 or www.madrivercraftfair.com.

2 Sunday

Reception. "Painter of Light." L. Michael Labiak's watercolor and oil landscapes of the New England area. Exhibit runs through Oct. 7. Emile A Gruppe Gallery, Jericho Center, Jericho, 1-4 p.m. Contact: 899-3211.

3 Monday

Chicken BBQ. Hosted by the Underhill Jericho Fire Department. Browns River Middle School, Jericho, 11:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Contact: 802-355-9919

4 Tuesday

Preschool Playgroup. Sign up begins. For ages birth through five years. Essex Junction Recreation and Parks Department, Maple Street, 9:30-11 a.m. Follows school calendar. Contact Saramichelle: 872-9580

5 Wednesday

Presentation. "Automobile Travel in Vermont in the Early 1900's." Charlie Thompson and Wendell Noble, members of the Vermont Auto Enthusiasts, will offer a look at roads, cars, and how drivers might find their way around the State in the first three decades of the last century. Free and open to the public. Refreshments to follow. Milton Historical Society, 13 School Street, Milton, 7:30 p.m. Contact: abelisle2@comcast.net or 802-363-2598.

6 Thursday

Auditions. Through Sept. 7. Shelburne Players will be holding auditions for their Spring 2013 play, *Lucy Maude Montgomery's "Anne of Green Gables."* There are a number of roles for young and old alike. Performance dates are April 12, 13, 14, 18, 19 and 20. Shelburne Town Center, Shelburne, 6-9 p.m. Also Sept. 9, 1-4 p.m. Contact Sue: shelburneplayers@aol.com

EHS College Application Program. Mandatory for seniors applying to any type of college or technical program following

SEPT
7-8

NIGHTMARE VERMONT

AUDITIONS

Nightmare is looking for leading men and women, physical actors and dancers for its 2012 show. Seeking intensity and physical expressiveness. Stage combat training, intense scenarios, and warm (weird) community offered.

Nightmare is an indoor, interactive, theatrical Halloween event anticipating 3,000 patrons this year. Auditorium, South Burlington High School, 7-9:30 p.m. Sept. 8: 2-4:30 p.m. Contact: 802-598-9859 or pathin@gmail.com. Visit: www.nightmarevermont.org

high school. Topics include fall college visits, requesting transcripts, application tips and deadlines, essay writing. Q & A session about the college application process to follow. Auditorium, Essex High School, 6:30 p.m.

Presentation. "Birds and Wildlife of India." Share the rich colors and deep mystery of birds and other wildlife of India. Jim Andrews, teacher and herpetologist, and Kris Myrick Andrews, gardener and artisan, are both experienced birders with stories to tell about their recent travels to the East. Suggested donation: \$10. Birds of Vermont Museum, 900 Sherman Hollow Road, Huntington, 6:30-9 p.m. Contact: 802-434-2167

7 Friday

South End Art Hop. Featuring open studios, arts extravaganza, Kids Hop, demos, workshops, outdoor sculpture, performance art, Strut Fashion Show and live music. Through Sept. 9. Various times and locations in the South End, Burlington. Visit: www.seaba.com.

First Friday Art Walk. Over 40 galleries and art venues stay open late to welcome walkers and share our art scene. Check out www.artmapburlington.com to see a list of participating venues. City-wide, Burlington, 5-8 p.m. Contact: 802-264-4839 or info@artmapburlington.com.

Auditions. The Vermont Choral Union a cappella ensemble seeks enthusiastic, experienced basses and tenors to join their mixed-voice choir for concerts in early December and April/May during the coming season, singing music from the 15th to 21st centuries. Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, 20 Pine St, Burlington, 5:30-8 p.m. Also Sept. 8, 9:30 a.m.-12 p.m. Contact Jeff: 802-989-7355 or director@vtchoralunion.org to schedule an audition time.

8 Saturday

Concert. The Liberty Belles Woodwind Quintet will perform traditional woodwind quintet literature. Free and open to the public. Ethan Allen Homestead Museum, Burlington, 4 p.m. Contact the Colchester office: 338-3480.

The Kelly Brush Century Ride. Benefits adaptive athletes and supports spinal cord injury prevention. Riders can choose from 25, 50 or 100 miles, with options to ride 65 or 85 miles. Visit: www.kellybrush-foundation.org

Performance. ME2/strings debut concert. Music Director Ronald Braunstein conducts this new string orchestra in their debut performance. The program includes *Cantus in Memory of Benjamin Britten* by Arvo Pärt, *Holberg Suite* by Grieg, and the *Serenade for Strings* by Tchaikovsky. Ticket price: \$25, \$20, and \$15. Recital Hall, University of Vermont, Burlington, 8 p.m. Tickets: www.FlynnTix.org or 802-863-5966.

SEPT 6

COLLEGE APPLICATION PROGRAM FOR SENIORS

Mandatory meeting for all seniors applying to any type of college or technical program following high school.

Topics include fall college visits, requesting transcripts, application tips and deadlines and essay writing. Q&A session about the college application process to follow. Auditorium, Essex High School 6:30 p.m.

Heritage festival. Arts and crafts from the eighteenth century including demonstrations of cooking and crafts as well as performances by folk singers, a fife and drum corps and a performance by the Vermont National Guard's Woodwind Quintet. Free and open to the public. Ethan Allen Homestead Museum, Burlington, 1-5 p.m. Contact: 865-4556

Bottle drive. The 8th graders of Essex Junction will collect and earn funds for their Apr. 20-26, 2013 Washington D.C. Trip. Collection times: 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Drop off location: Essex Discount Beverage, Essex Town 9 a.m.-2 p.m. If you have a large quantity for pick-up, contact: 879-2941.

Bridge Street Block Party. Celebration of community-resilience, post-Irene. Bridge Street, home of Vermont's oldest still-in-use covered bridge, will be closed to traffic for local bands, community organizations, kid's activities and food-vendors. Open to the public. Bridge Street, Waitsfield, Mad River Valley, 3-10 p.m. Contact: mkeough@madrivervt.com or gaelan@onepercentfortheplanet.org

Trail ride. Eight or sixteen mile trail ride with a buffet picnic lunch served on a grassy lakeside site at Eagle Camp. Good Hope Farm, South Hero, 9 a.m.

Stand Up Paddle event. Live music, food, demos, clinics and recreational races. All proceeds go to the Floating Classroom Program. Lake Champlain Sailing Center, Waterfront Park, Burlington, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Contact: 802-863-3929 x106

"Bombino." Free and open to all ages. Presented by St. Michael's College. McCarthy Arts Center Recital Hall, 1 Winooski Park, Colchester, 6 p.m.

9 Sunday

Concert. The Concert Band will perform "Red, White & Blue, The Colors of America in Music." Featuring patriotic American favorites including Sousa Marches, as well as other American musical favorites. Free and open to the public. American Legion Post 5, Brattleboro, 1 p.m. Contact the Colchester office: 338-3480.

"Run for the Lake." A 5k road race and 2k walk that runs along Lake Champlain. Entry fee: \$0 until Sept. 7, after is \$25. Benefits Lake cleanup. The first 100 registered will receive a long sleeved t-shirt. Georgia Beach, Georgia, 9 a.m. Registration info: Active.com or Northern-LakeChamplain.com.

Small farms food fest. Featuring farm vendors and products from Shelburne Orchards. Entrance fee: \$5. Donations of nonperishable foods will be collected for local food shelves. Route 7, Shelburne Orchards, Shelburne, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Contact: 985-2753

Performance. "The Chosen" by Aaron Posner and Chaim Potok will be performed by Theatre Kavanah, a new performance group devoted to exploring the intricacies of the Jewish experience. Each performance will be followed by a "talk back" with the actors and director. Also Sept. 10, 7:30 -10 p.m. North End Studios, 294 North Winooski Avenue, Burlington, 1:30-4 p.m. and 7:30-10 p.m. Contact: theatrekavanah@gmail.com

Reception. Vermont Photo Group. Fine art photographers display their new work featuring landscapes and images in nature. Come meet artists and enjoy refreshments. Exhibit through Sept. 29. Pickering Room, Fletcher Free Library, 235 College Street, Burlington, 1-3 p.m. Contact: 802-865-7211

Ongoing

Bingo. Sponsored by the Whitcomb Woods Residents Association. Whitcomb Woods, 128 West Street, Essex Junction. Mondays at 6 p.m. Contact: 879-1829.

Call for entries. "Make Your Pet a Star!" calendar photo contest. Benefits the Franklin County Humane Society. Entries accepted Sept. 1-30. \$10 donation per entry. Visit: www.franklincountyhumane.org

Call to artists. "Hot and Cold" exhibit is looking for 2D and 3D media that explores all interpretations of this pair of opposites. Through Oct. 31. Artists' Mediums, Williston. Visit: www.artistsmediums.blogspot.com/p/1.html

Cell Phones for Soldiers. Local residents can support these collection drives by donating their old cell phones at A. W. Rich Funeral Home, 57 Main Street, Essex Junction. Collections accepted 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Contact: 849-6261.

Colchester Farmers' Market. 4-7 p.m. each Wednesday at the Burnham Library Green on Main Street in Colchester, rain or shine. Enjoy prepared foods, fresh produce, artwork, jewelry and more. Contact: colchesterfarmersmarket@gmail.com

Computer classes for adults. Classes begin on Sept. 10. Includes classes on digital

CALENDAR

photos, MS Word, Facebook and Fundamentals. The Pines Senior Living Community, Aspen Drive, South Burlington. Register: 802-864-1502

Divorce Care Support Group. The 13-week group for men and women. Sept. 12-Dec. 12. Wednesday evenings. Essex Alliance Community Center, 37 Old Stage Road, Essex Junction, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Contact: 802-425-7053.

English as a Second Language Classes. Improve your English conversation skills and meet new people. Wednesdays. Pickering Room, Second Floor: Intermediate/Advanced. Administrative Conference Room: Beginners. Fletcher Free Library, Burlington, 7-9 p.m. Contact Elena Carter, FFL Outreach Department: 865-7211.

Essex Art League. Meets the first Thursday of the month. A yearly calendar of meetings is available on the Essex Art League's website: www.essexartleague.com. Congregational Church, Main Street, Essex Junction, 9-11 a.m.

Essex Rotary Meeting. Essex Rotary Meetings are held on Wednesdays at 12:10 p.m. at The Essex. Serving the communities of Essex, Essex Junction, Jericho and Underhill.

Every Woman's Craft Connection. Twice a month on Thursday evenings. Essex Alliance Church Community Center, 7-9 p.m. Contact Deb Schonberg: 879-5176.

Exhibit. Vermont Photo Group. Fine art photographers display their new work featuring landscapes and images in nature. Through Sept. 29. Pickering Room, Fletcher Free Library, 235 College Street, Burlington. Contact: 802-865-7211

Exhibit. "Migration Ahoy!" Art installation on birds, migration, and woodcarvings. Through Sept. 30. Dorothy Alling Memorial Library, 21 Library Lane, Williston.

Exhibit. "Mobile-o-graphy" is a display of amusing and eclectic photographs taken from mobile phones. Through Sept. 23. Darkroom Gallery, 12 Main Street, Essex Junction.

Exhibit. "The Collier Classification System for Very Small Objects." Things big enough to be seen by the naked eye but no larger than 8 by 8 by 20 millimeters. Brian Collier. Through Oct. 15. Durick Library, St. Michael's College, Colchester. Contact: 802-654-2536

Family Support Group. Outright Vermont holds support group meetings for family members of youth going through the process of coming out. One Sunday evening and one Wednesday morning each month at Outright Vermont. Contact: 865-9677.

Final Cut Pro Open Lab. Saturdays. Three tracks of exercises for beginners, intermediates and advanced users. Complete each track and advance according to comfort level. Vermont Community Access Media, 208 Flynn Avenue 2-G, Burlington, 2-4 p.m. Contact: 802-651-9692 or www.vermontcam.org.

Genealogy. Let the experts find that missing ancestor. Resources available for New England and New York. Vermont Genealogy Library, Hegeman Avenue, Fort Ethan Allen, Colchester, Tues: 3-9:30 p.m. and Sat: 10 a.m.-4p.m. Contact: 802-238-5934 or <http://www.vt-fcgs.org>.

Intro to digital video editing. Free. Vermont Community Access Media, 208 Flynn Avenue 2-G, Burlington. Second and fourth Saturdays. 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Contact: 802-651-9692 or www.vermontcam.org.

Italian conversation group. Open to all interested in learning/hearing the Italian language. Room 101, St. Edmunds Hall, St. Michael's College, Colchester. Every second and fourth Wednesday of the month, 7-9 p.m.

Lupus Support Group. Third Saturday of the month. Brownell Library, Kolvoord Community Room, Essex Junction, 9:30-11:30 a.m. Contact: vtlupusgroup@yahoo.com.

"Music, Art & Tea." Every Sunday. Free music and art exhibits in a historic tearoom at Fisk Farm. No reservations required. Fisk Farm, 3849 West Shore Road, Isle La Motte, 1-5 p.m. Contact: 928-3364.

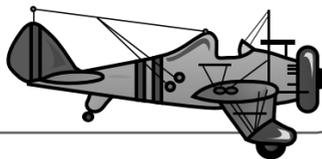
Music and dance. "Shake Your Sillies Out" with Derek Burkins. A weekly music time where kids can enjoy familiar songs and dance around. Free. Run Sept. 10-Nov. 12. JCPenney court, University Mall, South Burlington, 10:35 a.m. Contact: 802-863-1066 x11.

Open Media Workshop. Three tracks of exercises for beginners, intermediates and advanced users. Complete each track and advance according to comfort level. Free. Vermont Community Access Media, 208 Flynn Avenue 2-G, Burlington. Saturdays, 2-4 p.m. Contact: 802-651-

SEPT 8

FUN FLY

Watch model aircraft flights, participate in a few contests and learn about Radio Controlled airplanes and helicopters. Food will be sold around noon. Proceeds will be donated to the Essex Dog Park. 218 Browns River Rd. Essex Center, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.



9692 or www.vermontcam.org.

Poetry Writing Group. First and third Thursday of the month. Share poems with a group. Led by Janie Mardis, a social worker and lecturer at UVM. Champlain Senior Center, 241 North Winooski Avenue, Burlington, 1-2 p.m. RSVP: 802-658-3585.

Preschool Playgroup. Tuesdays and Thursdays. For ages birth through five years. Essex Junction Recreation and Parks Department, Maple Street, 9:30-11 a.m. Follows school calendar. Contact Saramichelle: 872-9580

Toy Library Playgroup. Fridays. Ages birth

through five years. Memorial Hall, Essex, 9:30-11 a.m. Contact Lauren: 878-6715.

Weight loss support group. Monday meetings. Cafeteria, St. Joseph's School, 20 Allen Street, Burlington, 6:15-7:30 p.m. Contact: 655-4102 or TOPSGroup2@gmail.com.

Welcome Baby Playgroup. Wednesdays. Ages birth to two years. MoveYou Fitness Studio, Essex, 9:30-11 a.m. Follows school calendar. Contact Lauren: 878-6715.

VCAM Access Orientation. Free. Vermont Community Access Media, 208 Flynn Avenue 2-G, Burlington. Mon.-Fri. 10 a.m.-10 p.m., Sat. 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Contact: 802-651-9692 or www.vermontcam.org.

Vendors wanted. Antique dealers, artisans, crafters, quilters and food vendors needed for the Enosburg Annual Harvest Festival on Sept. 15. Rental space \$25 for the day. Contact: 933-4503 or 933-7843.

To submit your calendar event go to:
www.EssexReporter.com/submit

Local Libraries

Aug. 30
Brownell Library
closed 9 a.m.-1 p.m. for Team Building

Aug. 31
Drop-in story time. Kids of all ages are welcome to drop in to listen to picture books and learn finger plays and action rhymes. No registration required. Brownell Library, Essex Junction, 10-10:30 a.m.

Sept. 3
Brownell Library
Closed for Labor Day

Sept. 4
Registrations for Fall story times. New this year: babies welcome at Tuesday Story Times. Regular attendance is encouraged. Adults are welcome to join at all Story Times. Literacy tips are shared to use with kids at home. Brownell Library, Essex Junction. Contact: 878-6956.

Story time signups begin. Essex Free Library is hosting a variety of ten-week session story times this Fall geared toward different age groups. Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10:30-11:30 a.m. Call to register. Essex Free Library, Intersection of Routes 15 and 128, Essex Center. Contact: 802-879-0313 or essexfreelibrary@essex.org

Sept. 5
Readers Theatre Rehearsals for Bull Run. An information session to learn about the Bull Run Readers Theatre process and performance. Rehearsals will be every Wednesday throughout Sept. and Oct. with a final performance on Wed. Oct. 24 at Memorial Hall. Open to readers/actors from Middle School age-Adult. Brownell Library, Essex Junction, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Contact: 878-6955.

Sept. 7
High School Book Lust Club. Chat with Kat about books you lust after and books you loathe. All high schoolers welcome. Snacks provided. Brownell Library, Essex Junction, 3-4:30 p.m. Contact: 878-6955.

Songs and Stories. Matthew Witten performs songs about our world and tells adventurous tales. Open to all ages. No registration required.

Brownell Library, Essex Junction, 10-10:45 a.m. Contact: 878-6955.

Ongoing events
Adopt a Beanie Pet. Want a pet of your own? Adopt one of our cute critters for a week. Keep a daily journal to share with the library. Sign up at Youth Desk. For grades 2 and up.

Knitting. Project finishing night. First Thursday of the month. All levels of proficiency welcome. Brownell Library, Essex Junction, 6:30 p.m. Contact: 878-6955.

Mount Mansfield Scale Modelers. Informal gathering of model enthusiasts. All skill levels welcome. Third Thursday of each month. Kolvoord Community Room, Brownell Library, Essex Junction, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Contact: 878-0765.

Summer Reading Program for Adults. "Between the Covers" begins with the Summer Solstice. Reading lists available and a Raffle Sign-Up on each library visit. Brownell Library, Essex Junction

September exhibits at Brownell:
Kolvoord Room—Kristin Baillif Mixed Media Girls
Glass Case—Star Wars Realia
Large Lobby Table—Tales of Space, Stars and Galaxies Far Away
Small Lobby Table—Forbidden: Books They Don't Want You to Read
Downstairs—Learning: Your Way



New Salon coming soon on Main Street in Essex Jct!

Salon Stylz

Chair Rental Available. Call Kimberly at 752-0368 for more information.

Want to share your event? Publish it in your local paper

Now On The Web!
www.EssexReporter.com

essex cjc
community justice center

Reparative Board Coordinator

The Essex Community Justice Center is seeking community-oriented individual who can provide leadership and support to a well-established and strong group of Reparative Board volunteers. The Reparative Board Coordinator will create schedules, screen clients, and staff Reparative Board meetings. Experience in a volunteer setting and excellent communication skills are essential. Knowledge of and experience with restorative justice, dynamics of offending, process of change, criminal justice and corrections systems preferred. This position is part-time and evening work is required. If interested, please email a cover letter and resume to Kate@essexcjc.org by September 14, 2012. No phone calls please.

Chittenden County Home · Williston
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AUCTION

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Champlain Valley Fair

Photos by Oliver Parini



Fair-goers get a thrill on the Full Tilt ride on the opening weekend at the Champlain Valley Fair on Sunday evening.



The Flying Wallendas juggle with torches.



The Flying Wallendas perform on the tightrope.



60's and 70's tribute band, Mellow Yellow, performs on stage.



Brian Chase of Woodsville, NH gets his portrait drawn by Amanda Hackart at Caricature Cartoons.



RIGHT: Fair-goers walk through the scores of concessions and rides.



Undefeated champs

Essex All-Stars win state championship

The Essex 9-10 Softball All-Stars recently wrapped up an undefeated season, becoming district champions. They then went undefeated in the state tournament to become Vermont state champions for the fourth consecutive year.

The following is a rundown of the district and state tournament games:

District 3 Tournament:

Game 1: Essex 6, Northwest 2

Northwest led 1-0 after two innings. In top of the third, Abbey Gleason was hit by a pitch to lead off the inning. Kirsten Appenzeller followed with a walk. Abi Johnson bunted to load the bases and then Kaylan Ferreira drilled a base hit to right field, driving in two runs. Madison Catella reached on an error to re-load the bases and Jamie Moring followed with a grand slam to right field for a 6-1 lead. Abbey Gleason pitched the complete game striking out eight batters while allowing only two runs for the victory.

Game 2: Essex 18, St. Albans 2

After a scoreless first inning, Essex scored three runs in the second, three in the third, one in the fourth, two in the fifth and nine in the sixth inning. The team combined for 10 hits and 18 runs led by Abi Johnson and Madison Catella with two hits each. Abbey Gleason pitched five complete innings, striking out seven and allowing only two runs. Abi Johnson closed out the final inning.

District 3 Championship Game: Essex 16, Fairfax 4

Essex jumped to a quick 5-1 lead in the first inning on six walks with no hits, with all of the runs scored on stolen bases. In the second inning, Essex added four more runs on four walks and a base hit by Abbey Gleason.

The Essex bats came to life in the third inning. Abi Johnson and Kaylan Ferreira started the inning with base hits and Madison Catella followed with a three-run homerun. The next batter, Jamie Morin, hit another home run to give Essex a 13-4 lead after three innings. Essex added three more runs in the fourth on base hits by Kirsten Appenzeller, Kaylan Ferreira and Jaida Luck. Abbey Gleason was the winning pitcher with six strikeouts in fourth innings.

Vermont State Tournament:

Game 1: Essex 12, Lyndon 3

Essex lead 3-2 after four innings before breaking things open with four runs in the fifth inning and five runs in the sixth inning. In the fifth inning, Kaylan Ferreira led off with a walk. Madison Catella had a base hit and Jamie Morin walked to load the bases. Kristy Svarczkopf hit into a fielders choice with Kaylan out at home. Amy Gilbert walked to drive in one run and Abbey Gleason followed with a double to drive in three more runs. In the sixth inning, Abi Johnson led off with a bunt single, Kaylan Ferreira walked and Madison Catella hit a double to drive in Abi. Jamie Morin singled to drive in two



The Essex 9-10 Softball All-Stars gather on home plate after wrapping up an undefeated state championship tournament with an 18-2 victory over Mt. Abraham for the title. (Left to Right) - Front Row: Kirsten Appenzeller, Madison Catella, Kristy Svarczkopf, Abbey Gleason, Abi Johnson, Megan Racheck, Jamie Morin, Grace Wiggert, Amy Gilbert, and Kaylan Ferreira. Back Row: Coach Ron Johnson, Manager Jim Svarczkopf, and Coach Dave Appenzeller. Not pictured: Jaida Luck, Dana Melita, Coach Kerry Svarczkopf, and Coach Kymmie Svarczkopf.

runs and Kristy Svarczkopf drove in a run with a single to left. Abbey Gleason picked up her fourth victory pitching the complete game and striking out 11 batters.

Game 2: Essex 20, Mt. Abraham 9

Essex used a 20 hit, 20 run attack to defeat Mt. Abraham. The team was lead by Madison Catella (5-5 with a double), Kirsten Appenzeller (4-4 with four runs scored), and Abi Johnson (3-5 with three runs scored). Abi Johnson pitched the complete game for the win, striking out seven batters.

Championship Game: Essex 10, Mt. Abraham 2

Essex took the title with an eight hit, ten run attack led by Kaylan Ferreira (2-3, two runs) and Jamie Morin (2-3, two runs) to defeat Mt. Abraham. Abbey Gleason pitched the complete game allowing only two hits and two runs while striking out 11 batters for her fifth victory of the season.



ABOVE RIGHT: Madison Catella scores a run against Mt. Abraham in Game 2 of the state championship tournament where she went 5-5 with a double.

BELOW: Kirsten Appenzeller smashes the ball, where she went 4-4 with four runs scored against Mt. Abraham. Photos contributed



SPORTS SHORTS

Joe Gonillo



By the time you read this, school will be back in session. Many have had a beauty of a run for the last 70+ days. I have gotten a summer vacation my entire life, and I will always cherish it. People talk of changes in education. Going more days of school is clearly not the answer in my opinion, as students and teachers need a break after over 10 months of instruction and instructing.

Anyway, the Champlain Valley Fair rolled into town with a bang last weekend, closing out the summer yet again and ushering in a new school year. Our high school sports teams are getting close to their season debuts and many teams scrimmaged last week. Middle school sports are slated to kickoff this week and next.

Football

The football team will start its season this Friday night at home against Brattleboro. Kickoff is slated for 7 p.m. The team scrimmaged Burlington High School and Milton High School last Saturday for their final tune-up. Lots of fans will be in the stands, so come out early. Hornet football nation can look forward to the return of the "Voice of the Hornets," the "Pastor of Disaster" (his college football name) Scott Slocum in the announcing booth.

The JV team plays Tuesday, September 4 against Colchester High School at 6 p.m. The freshman play Wednesday, September 5 in St. Albans. The team thanks you for your support in their GOLD CARD fundraiser.

Boys Soccer

The varsity and JV boys' soccer teams begin play next week on Tuesday at Harwood. The freshman boys will play in a scrimmage/jamboree at CVU on Saturday. MMU and BFA will also compete.

Girls Soccer

The varsity girls' soccer team will host its annual jamboree this Saturday. Games will be at 10, 11:30, and 1 p.m. Teams participating are CVU, BFA, Milton, Northfield, and MVU. Each team will play three games. The Boosters' Snack Bar should be up and running.

The varsity and JV teams traveled to Hanover, New Hampshire last week. The varsity team whipped the Marauders 3-0 as the Macfarlane girls, Alex (1) and Erin (2), took care of the scoring. Essie Fiore and Julia Quackenbush split time in goal. The JV's played well, especially in the second half, and won 5-0. Their success was attributed to team play and fitness. The running schedule put together by Coach O'Neil last week is paying off. Both teams begin their season on Wednesday, September 6 against BFA.

The JVB/freshman squad will play in a scrimmage/jamboree in St. Albans this Saturday.

Field Hockey

The field hockey team played well in their scrimmage against Rice last week. The girls have 18 players, with five seniors, seven juniors, five sophomores, and a freshman. The varsity and JV teams will open play on Wednesday against Mt. Abe. The freshman will play at CVU the same day.

Cheerleaders

The cheerleaders began practice last week. They have a long season in front of them, but are rounding into shape.

Zumbathon

Saturday's Zumbathon fundraiser was a huge success for a second year in a row. Each fall team had a sign-up table,

Regal coach takes gymnasts to new heights

By KELLY MARCH
The Essex Reporter

Regal Gymnastics' 3-month-old facility on Corporate Drive in Essex Junction is an incarnation of owner Erika Reeves' vision. The building, which was built from the ground up over the last year, includes a competitive and recreational gymnastics facility, a bistro, a two-story castle for birthday parties, a licensed preschool, a dance studio, a children's play area, and an exercise facility.

"I wanted this to be a place where people could leave every single day feeling like they had a great time," Reeves explained.

After finishing construction, Reeves and her husband, co-owner Tom Reeves, decided that the only thing keeping the facility from being truly 'regal' was a high-level gymnastics coach. That changed when they hired seven-time national coach Paul Beach.

Beach, a Dallas-native, moved to Vermont and began coaching Regal gymnasts in June. After spending three weeks interviewing at highly ranked gyms across the country and deciding to accept a position in Chicago, Beach accepted

"I have a goal of making it to the Olympics within eight years. That's a story I want to be able to tell."

Paul Beach, Gymnastics coach

a last minute offer to interview at Regal.

Beach recalls being blown away by the caliber of Regal's gymnastics facility - a sprawling room with two in-ground trampolines, two in-ground pits, three spring floors, a 50-foot in-ground tumble track into a pit, two vault tables, six balance beams, parallel bars, high bars, and several video delay TVs, among other features—but he wasn't sold on Vermont gymnastics in general.

"It took awhile to convince me to come to Vermont because there isn't a history of high level gymnastics here," Beach explained. "I really came around to the idea because I bought Tom and Erika as people; I bought their vision. I knew if they built this facility, sparing no expense, that they were the type of people who really would push the boundaries of the gymnastics tradition here."

If Beach came to Vermont because he bought the Reeves' vision, they brought him to

Vermont because they bought into his program.

"Vermont has never seen a program like Paul's before," Erika said. "He's been here for three months now and you can already see an unbelievable difference in the level of gymnastics at Regal. Parents have said they can't believe how far their child has come in such a short amount of time."

How did Beach, who has led athletes to college scholarships and the Junior Olympic National Championship, get interested in gymnastics? A crush.

"I got involved with the sport originally because I liked a girl," Beach quipped. "I decided I would take up gymnastics, get to know her better and learn how to do flips in the end zone."

An All American in three sports during his high school and college career, Beach never excelled in gymnastics (and he didn't get the girl), but he has nonetheless made a name for himself as a coach.

"I was fortunate to have the opportunity to work as an assistant to some of the best head coaches in the country," Beach said. "After working with Steve Rybacki (of the U.S. Women's National Team) and Kim Zmeskal (World All-Around Champion in 1991 and co-owner of Texas Dreams Gymnastics), I developed my own program by drawing on what I learned from each of their training methods, schedules, programs and styles. I owe the great success I've had with my program to the experiences I was able to have with those coaches."

Beach has set a high bar for his team of gymnasts at Regal. He has aspirations of competing in regionals and nationals within a year or two, and making it to the Junior Olympics within eight years.

"Vermont has never had a level 9 or level 10 qualifier, and we feel like we can make that happen in a year or two, and then keep it going on a consistent basis," Beach explained. "I have a goal of making it to the Olympics within eight years. That's a story I want to be able to tell."

SPORTS

TESTing the limits

Essex swimmers break six state records

Nine swimmers on the Town of Essex Swim Team (TEST) broke state records during the Vermont Swim Association's state championship on August 4-5 in White River Junction, propelling the team to its second place finish.

Kira Hancock broke the state record in each of the four individual events in which she competed. Hancock's events, each in the girls' 15-16-year-old division, were the 50-yard freestyle, 100-yard freestyle, 200-yard freestyle, and 100-yard backstroke. Her greatest record-breaking margin was in the 200-yard freestyle event, where she topped the previous record of 1:58.64 by 1.69 seconds.

Colchester-resident Erik Linseisen added another state record to TEST's list after finishing with a time of 34.09 in the boys' 8-and-under 50-yard freestyle, breaking the previous record by .68 seconds.

Liam Chisholm, Oliver Austin, Christopher Davis and Jacob Crock of the 10-and-under boys' 100-yard freestyle relay team shattered the previous record, which had held up since 1993, by 2.4 seconds with a time of 57.09.

The championship meet marked the end of a successful season for TEST under the guidance of coach Peter Picard and assistant coach Rebecca Anderson.

The following details the record-breaking performances of TEST swimmers during the championship meet:



The 2012 Town of Essex Swim Team

Photo contributed

Swimmer	Event	Time	Delta from previous record
Kira Hancock	15-16 50-Yard Freestyle	24.55	-0.08
Kira Hancock	15-16 100-Yard Freestyle	53.08	-0.39
Kira Hancock	15-16 200-Yard Freestyle	1:56.95	-1.69
Kira Hancock	15-16 100-Yard Backstroke	59.07	-0.92
Eric Linseisen	8&U 50-Yard Freestyle	34.09	-0.68
Liam Chisholm Oliver Austin Christopher Davis and Jacob Crock	10&U 100-Yard	57.87	-2.4

Essex Junction native hired as SMC assistant coach

St. Michael's College men's soccer head coach Wade Jean recently announced that Essex Junction native Blake Schill '11 will join the Purple Knights as an assistant coach for the 2012-2013 season.

Schill played for Jean as a first-year at St. Michael's in 2007, and will head into this season as a first-time college coach.

A two-time all-region player and a captain for the Purple Knights as a senior, Schill was lauded as a National Soccer Coaches Association of America (NSCAA) All-East Region selection and a Northeast-10 Conference all-league pick as both a junior and a senior. During his final season, he was chosen to compete in the New England Intercollegiate Soccer League (NEISL) All-Star Game at Harvard University.

During his career, which stretched from 2007 to 2010, Schill made 63 of his 67 appearances in the starting lineup while notching 12 goals and four assists. Four of his goals stood as game-winners. He helped the Purple Knights go 33-24-14 in those four seasons, with 18 victories coming in NE-10 play. St. Michael's qualified for the NE-10 Tournament during the 2007 season.

A Dean's List student, Schill majored in business administration and served on the College's Student-Athlete Advisory Committee. Since 2011, he has been the program's Soccer Alumni Committee captain, leading communication efforts between alumni.



Essex Junction native Blake Schill, who was recently hired as an assistant coach for the Purple Knights for the 2012-2013 season, heads a ball during his soccer career at St. Michael's College. Photo contributed

SHORTS

from page 1b

and one more table was available for those who wanted to donate to winter or spring sports. Thanks to the athletic department for its help and to the all-star Zumbathon instructors: Lynne LaBonte, Tory Couture, Jen McKenzie, Abby Rice, and Heather Garrow. Money was raised and

thousands of calories were burnt away. What a great event! Thank for your support.

Summer wrap-up

What a trade the Red Sox and Dodgers pulled off last weekend. Looks like Gonzalez and Crawford turned out to be busts in Bah-ston. Beckett looked awful all season. So with the Sox floundering under .500 this late in the year for the first time in years, new management decided

that it was time to cut the ties, cut salaries, and look in a new direction. They got some nice young players in return and took millions off their books for the coming years. Not all manager Bobby V's fault as he has not thrown a pitch of K'd all year. I am glad he's managing as that takes him off of ESPN on Sunday night. I hope he's there another season. Enjoy your Labor Day weekend!

Zumbathon



Participants of the Essex High School Athletics Department's Zumbathon fundraiser dance to the music in the gym last Saturday. Photo contributed



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The Vermont 4-H State Horse Show results

The Vermont 4-H State Horse Show, held July 12-15 at Addison County Fair and Field Days in New Haven, attracted 111 competitors from 19 4-H clubs. The show featured over 100 English and Western riding classes. Gymkhana champions were Kassidy Wyman (Cambridgeport, Beginner Champion); Arin Kenyon (Chester, Beginner Reserve Champion); Harley Stocker (West Rutland, Junior Champion); Holly Reglarz (Junior Reserve Champion); Karli Knapp (Townshend, Senior Champion) and Kayla Royce (Townshend, Senior Reserve Champion). 4-H division champions were: Faith Ploof (Essex, Beginner Champion); Kassidy Wyman (Cambridgeport, Beginner Reserve Champion); Emma Pearson (North Hero, Junior (13 and under) Champion); Connor Jenny (Essex, Junior Reserve Champion); Allison Bachman (Ira, Senior (14-18) Champion) and Jennifer Dickinson (Colchester, Senior Reserve Champion). Top winners in English riding classes for each division were: Kassidy Wyman (Cambridgeport, Beginner Champion); Arin Kenyon (Colchester, Beginner Reserve Champion); Olivia Peer (West Rutland, Advanced Beginner Champion); Hallie Donegan (Shelburne, Advanced Beginner Reserve Champion); Betsy Coburn (Castleton, Junior (13 and under) Champion); Julia Neeld (Williston, Junior Reserve Champion); Allison Bachman (Ira, Senior (14-15) Champion); Katelyn Patenaude (Derby Line, Senior (14-15) Reserve Champion); Emilie Schweikert (Underhill, Senior (16-18) Champion) and Kiley Baillargeon (Colchester, Senior (16-18) Reserve Champion). In the Western riding division, top riders were: Alyssa Noyes (Athens, Beginner Champion); Elayna Jennings (



Starry Nights Club (Chittenden County) stands with the 4-H State Horse Show Club Class Award. Pictured: Meaghan Hughes (Jericho), Kaelyn Jenny (Essex), Alexis Walker (Essex), Jolene Fontaine (Leader, Jericho), Kira Clokey (Jericho), Bridgette Charlebois (Jericho), Carly Jenkins (Jericho), Cara Turnbull (Essex), Emma Pearson (Grand Isle), Julia Neeld (Williston), Hannah Lang (Essex), Connor Jenny (Essex). Photo contributed

New Haven, Beginner Reserve Champion); Alex Coyle (Ferrisburgh, Advanced Beginner Champion); Anna Willenbaker (Ferrisburgh, Advanced Beginner Reserve Champion); David Gringeri (West Haven, Junior (13 and under) Champion); Catherine Thrasher (Rupert, Junior Reserve Champion); Kennedy Mitowski (Rutland, Senior (14-15) Champion); Gia Gould (South Burlington, Senior (14-15) Reserve Champion); Chantel Charlebois (Jericho, Senior (16-18) Champion) and Jessica Bachman (Ira, Senior (16-18) Reserve Champion).

In addition to riding classes, the event featured a special division for kids without horses who competed in quiz bowl, judging and general knowledge contests. Winners in the

Horseless Division were: Emma Cushman (Barre, 8-10 year old Champion); Carly Jenkins (Jericho, 8-10 Reserve Champion); TJ Beaumier (Fairfax, 11-13 Champion); Sophia DeDell (Woodstock, 11-13 Reserve Champion); Jen Carp (Colchester, 14-18 Champion) and Brittany Alvarez (Rutland, 14-18 Reserve Champion).

Other awards presented at the show included outstanding 4-H member awards presented for overall achievement in the University of Vermont Extension 4-H Horse Program (Jessica Bachman, Ira; Amy Blazej, Windham; Julia Dockum, Fair Haven). Top honors in the 4-H Club award category went to the Starry Nights 4-H Club of Chittenden County.

Eighth-graders collect bottles for 2013 D.C. trip

The eighth-graders of Essex Junction will be holding a bottle drive on Saturday, Sept. 8 from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. to help earn funds for their April 20-26, 2013 Washington D.C. Trip. Eighth grade students will be collecting redeemable cans and bottles in both Essex

Junction Village and in Essex Town. Donations (designated as donation to the eighth grade trip) may also be dropped off at Essex Discount Beverage in Essex Town on Sept. 8 from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Call Peter Gustafson (879-2941) if assistance is needed.

Champion riders



The Vermont Horse Show Association (VHSA) held a show on Aug. 12 at Northwestern Riding and Driving in North Fairfax. Local winners, pictured from left to right, were: Junior Western Champion – Connor Jenny, Essex; Junior English Reserve Champion – Alexis Walker, Essex; Senior English Champion – Kira Clokey, Jericho; and Adult Western Champion – Jolene Fontaine, Jericho (not pictured.) Photo contributed

Winooski Conservation District looks to improve streamside buffers

Earlier this year, the Winooski Natural Resources Conservation District (WNRCD) received funding from the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation's (VTDEC) Ecosystem Restoration Program for a project aimed at improving streamside riparian buffers throughout the Winooski River watershed. Riparian buffers are an important component of riverine ecosystems and serve many functions, from pollutant mitigation to stream bank stabilization. Ensuring that riparian buffers are well established has been a core objective of the District for over 70 years.

"Establishing or maintaining a forested buffer should be a top priority for any landowner adjacent to a stream, river or lake," says Justin Kenney, District Manager of the WNRCD.

"When you look aerial photographs taken after Tropical Storm Irene, it's very obvious that places lacking significant forested buffers had a lot more scour than areas where buffers were well established. In a flood situation, native trees and shrubs hold the soil together, slow rushing water, and catch debris. It's a natural form of flood mitigation."

Under normal conditions, buffers serve other important functions as well. They are used as wildlife corridors for birds and mammals, soak up incoming pollutants, provide shade for fish and other aquatic species, and add a beautiful aesthetic to the landscape. "Buffers are the working class of the environment. They do a great deal of work with little reward or recognition," says Kenney.

WNRCD is looking to plant a

minimum of five acres of forested riparian buffer this year and are partnering with interested landowners who see a need on their river, lake or stream-side property. This spring the District got a good start on their goal by planting about three acres of native trees and shrubs in riparian areas. Kenney says, "The funding from the Ecosystem Restoration Program makes the establishment of a buffer a very easy process for landowners. They simply need to agree to a minimum buffer width of 35 feet and the District develops a planting plan, secures the trees, and plants them all at no cost to the landowner."

If interested in learning more about how to establish a forested riparian buffer, call WNRCD at (802) 828-4493 x11 or email justin.kenney@vt.nacdnet.net.

Engineering projects challenge students

In its 22nd year, the 2012 Aiken/TASC (Technology And Science Connection) Challenges, co-sponsored by The Aiken Lecture Series, offer middle and high school students two hands-on challenges:

- 1) design a transportation vehicle powered by human energy that can deliver supplies and/or travel through courses, and
- 2) create a video related to the importance of alternative transportation.

These events will be held on Saturday, Dec. 1, 2012 in the tennis court area of the UVM Patrick Gym and prizes will be awarded to teams with the best videos, the best transportation time, most product delivered and shortest time through an obstacle course.

The Aiken/TASC Challenges are designed to encourage middle and high school students to explore sustainable engineering technology. Teams of middle and high school students (two to six members per team) are encouraged to compete in the five Aiken/TASC Challenges on Saturday, Dec. 1.

Final rules for the 2012 Aiken/TASC Challenges can be found at: www.cems.uvm.edu/TASC/2012/ Teams must register by Oct. 31, 2012.

EHS college application program to be held for seniors

A college application program will be held for seniors at Essex High School on Thursday, Sept. 6 at 6:30 p.m. in the EHS auditorium. It is mandatory that seniors who are considering applying to any type of college or technical

program following high school attend this meeting. Topics to be covered include fall college visits, requesting transcripts, application tips and deadlines, essay writing, plus time for students to ask questions about the college application process.

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Fairfield church building to the East Fairfield Community Center Meeting House Committee. Respectively submitted, Cyndi Newett, Sharon Evans, Sharon Lawyer United Church of Bakersfield and Fairfield Board United Church of Bakersfield and Fairfield P.O. Box 215 Bakersfield, VT 05441

YARD SALE BIG GARAGE sale in Essex. 51 Sandhill Road. Sept. 1, 2 and 3. Men's stuff: camping, tools, hunting, fishing and

golf. **NEIGHBORHOOD GARAGE SALE.** Sat., Sept. 1, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Hanley Lane, Essex (Off Osgood Hill Road) Home School items, craft supplies, misc. furniture, girls 20" bike, American girl dolls, dishes, books, and much more Contact: 879-0665.

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August 20-26, 2012

Monday, August 20

0518 Vandalism on Countryside Dr.
 0839 Burglary alarm on Brigham Hill Rd.
 1045 Noise complaint on Main St.
 1124 Vandalism on Main St.
 1433 Suspicious circumstances on Lida Dr.
 1835 Juvenile complaint on Center Rd.
 2103 Burglary on West St.
 2315 Noise complaint on South St.

0639 Noise complaint on Thasha Ln.
 0825 Trespass on Maple St.
 1155 Larceny on Pearl St.
 1248 Suspicious person on River Rd.
 1435 Credit card fraud on Acorn Cr.
 1455 Shoplifter on Pearl St.
 1611 Motor vehicle complaint on Tamarack Dr.
 1705 Identity theft on Osgood Hill Rd.
 1716 Disturbance on Main St.
 1825 Late reported hit and run accident on River St.
 1843 911 hang up on Pinecrest Dr.
 1952 Suspicious circumstances on Pearl St.
 2314 Noise complaint on Park St.

Saturday, August 25

0145 Suspicious vehicles on Kiln Rd.
 0246 Motor vehicle crash on Jackson Hts.
 0732 Found bicycle on Educational Dr.
 0845 Burglary alarm on River St.
 0920 Burglary alarm on Towers Rd.
 1151 Suspicious person on Lincoln Pl.
 1220 Domestic complaint on Upper Main St.
 1233 Burglary alarm on Wildwood Dr.
 1355 Suspicious activity on Glenwood Dr.
 1431 Domestic animal complaint on Center Rd.
 1501 Motor vehicle complaint on Summit St.
 1507 Disturbance on Pearl St.
 1540 Intoxication on Pearl St.
 1603 Suspicious circumstances on Pearl St.
 1951 Domestic animal complaint on Logwood Cr.
 2002 Assist rescue on Main St.
 2003 Intoxication on Pearl St.
 2040 Noise complaint on Hiawatha Av.
 2231 Disturbance on Pearl St.

Sunday, August 26

0012 Assist fire department on Park St.
 0023 Noise complaint on Main St.
 0040 Agency assist in Colchester
 0141 Suspicious persons on Chelsea Rd.
 0238 Juvenile alcohol violations on Old Stage Rd.
 0316 Home invasion on Chelsea Rd.
 0850 Domestic animal complaint on Abare Av.
 1039 Suspicious activity on Lincoln St.
 1223 Motor vehicle complaint on Upper Main St.
 1419 Domestic complaint on Railroad Av.
 1506 Motor vehicle crash on Pearl St.
 1537 Domestic complaint on Center Rd.
 1627 Motor vehicle crash on Pearl St.
 1722 Suspicious person on Pearl St.
 1805 Juvenile complaint on Main St.
 2001 Motor vehicle complaint on Maple St.
 2030 Burglary alarm on Educational Dr.
 2054 Noise complaint on Pearl St.
 2203 Juvenile alcohol complaint on Pearl St.
 2220 Suspicious activity on Cushing Dr.

For more information about these and other incidents, visit www.epdvt.org/EssexPoliceCrimeReports.
 Sex Offender Registry info: <https://secure.vermont.gov/DPS/sor/agreement.php>

Tuesday, August 21

0120 Suspicious activity on Weed Rd.
 0154 Noise complaint on Sydney Dr.
 0407 Motor vehicle crash on Old Stage Rd.
 0727 Assist State Police in Jericho
 0903 Motor vehicle crash on Pearl St.
 0921 Stolen vehicle on Pearl St.
 1001 Welfare check on South Summit St.
 1033 Harassing phone calls on Greenfield Rd.
 1417 Trespass on Pearl St.
 1651 Suspicious person on Creek Rd.
 1721 Burglary on Railroad Av.
 1934 Motor vehicle complaint on Pearl St.
 2019 Noise complaint on River Rd.
 2118 Burglary alarm on Pearl St.

Wednesday, August 22

0054 Larceny on Pearl St.
 0457 Burglary alarm on Kellogg Rd.
 0735 Domestic animal complaint on Pearl St.
 0847 Late reported hit and run accident on Tamarack Dr.
 0951 Motor vehicle complaint on Gentes Rd.
 1014 Larceny on West St.
 1109 Late reported hit and run accident on Susie Wilson Rd.
 1218 Vandalism on Greenfield Rd.
 1227 Larceny on Educational Dr.
 1230 Domestic complaint on Winterlane Cr.
 1419 Intoxication on Center Rd.
 1740 Burglary alarm on Founders Rd.
 1811 Hit and run accident on Center Rd.
 1933 Burglary alarm on New England Dr.
 2020 Suspicious activity on Colchester Rd.
 2121 Wild animal complaint on Sugartree Ln.
 2152 Fireworks complaint on Lost Nation Rd.
 2359 911 hang up on Sydney Dr.

Thursday, August 23

0849 Motor vehicle crash on Pearl St.
 0938 Wild animal complaint on Jericho Rd.
 1024 Suspicious circumstances on Sugartree Ln.
 1036 Found bicycles on Pioneer St.
 1233 Domestic animal complaint on Athens Dr.
 1313 Road rage on Countryside Dr.
 1346 Larceny on Maple St.
 1500 Domestic animal complaint on Lost Nation Rd.
 1535 911 Hang up on Pearl St.
 1616 Burglary alarm on Curve Hill Rd.
 1725 Shoplifter on Pearl St.
 2230 Theft of services on Upper Main St.
 2258 Noise complaint on Saybrook Rd.

Friday, August 24

0230 Burglary alarm on Allen Martin Dr.

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Troopers at the Champlain Valley Fair for traffic safety education, recruiting efforts

Traffic Safety and the Office of Professional Development joined forces over the weekend at the Champlain Valley Fair to promote Operations Summer H.E.A.T. and recruit potential new Vermont State Police troopers.

To help combat the epidemic of serious and fatal crash rates of 2012, the Vermont State Police through funding from Governor Highway Safety Program (GHSP) kicked off 63 days of Operation Summer H.E.A.T. (High Enforcement Area Team) on July 4; which will culminate on September 3, 2012.

"With just over a week remaining for Operation Summer H.E.A.T., we wanted to make sure our message continued to

be loud and clear to the motoring public," said Lt. John Flannigan, Vermont State Police Traffic Safety Commander. "We take traffic safety seriously, and want all Vermonters to make it home safe on our roadways. Slow down, arrive alive."

So far this year 53 people have died in traffic crashes on Vermont roadways. At least 13 of the deaths were alcohol related, and 22 victims were unbelted vehicle occupants.

To make sure there is adequate staffing in the coming years, the Vermont State Police are looking to recruit potential new troopers. Meet recruiters at the Champlain Valley Fair, or contact recruiting@dps.state.vt.us.



PAID ADVERTISEMENT

Gay Pride – A Biblical Perspective on Homosexuality

An Old Testament prophet once said of the inhabitants of Jerusalem, "Were they ashamed when they had committed abomination? No! They were not at all ashamed; nor did they know how to blush" (Jeremiah 6:15, all Bible quotations taken from the NASB). The people's conscience was seared; they lost their sense of shame. As in the days of Isaiah, their moral standard became so base that evil became good while what was good became evil (Isaiah 5:20).

It is tragic when this happens to any nation! Yet, it is happening now, in our society. No longer is it disgraceful to divorce because you have grown tired of your marriage or for the unmarried to be sexually active. Abortion has become an acceptable form of birth control, and homosexuals have "gay pride." Yet, no one blushes! Those who do and who also speak out against such things are vilified.

As the disciples of Jesus Christ survey the moral landscape, they often ask, "Can it get any worse?" Admittedly, the moral depravity that we are witnessing seems to be at an all time high. Never before have the citizens of this country been so open and shameless about their wickedness. However, it could be worse; and, there have been times in other cultures when it was.

• The Greco-Roman World

In the Greco-Roman world, every type of sexual perversion was practiced with approval:

- 1) Fornication was associated with religion, especially in the cities Corinth and Ephesus, where the temples of Aphrodite and Diana were located.
- 2) Sexual relationships between men and boys were considered by "enlightened society" to be the most ideal course of nature; it was set forth as mentoring and affection. In one of his dialogues Lucian makes Lycinus relate: "It were better not to need marriage, but to follow Plato and Socrates and to be content with the love of boys" (The Laphiths 39). In another dialogue, Lucian brings on the stage the figure representing Socrates. "I am a lover of boys," he says, "and wise in matters of love." "What is your attitude to pretty boys? he is asked, "Their kisses," he answers, "shall be the guerdon [reward, KM] for the bravest after they have done some splendid reckless deed" (Philosophies for Sale 15, 17).

Regarding homosexuality, the British historian Edward Gibbon wrote: "Of the first fifteen Emperors, Claudius was the only one whose taste in love was entirely correct." Of Julius Caesar one report says, "In his youth he was sleeping with the wives of some of the most important gentlemen in Rome and the famous beauties of his time. Rumor whispered that he often also slept with their husbands as well. As with many ambitious men, beds were stepping stones in his career" (Luigi Giorgio Barzini, From Caesar to the Mafia: Persons, Places and Problems in Italian Life [New York, 1971], 15-16).

According to William Barclay, sexual purity "... was the one completely new virtue which Christianity introduced into the pagan world" (Flesh and Spirit [Grand Rapids, 1962], 27). This was no easy task, for there was no strong body of opinion against sexual immorality. "To the Greco-Roman world immorality in sexual matters was not immorality; it was established custom and practice" (Barclay, 28).

• Homosexuality and the Teaching of Christ

When Jesus sent forth his apostles into the world with the gospel (Mark 16:15-16), immorality in sexual matters was not considered immorality. Yet in this gospel Jesus teaches against every form of sexual immorality, including heterosexual fornication and adultery as well as male and female homosexuality. Regarding homosexuality, the Lord teaches that as a result of exchanging light for darkness, of substituting the truth of God for a lie, God gives men and women "over to degrading passions." This is explained as women exchanging "the natural function for that which is unnatural" and men abandoning "the natural function of the woman" and burning "in their desire toward one another, men with men committing indecent acts and receiving in their own persons the due penalty of their error" (Romans 1:18-27).

In a letter to Timothy, Paul writes that God did not make law "for a righteous person, but for those who are lawless and rebellious, for the ungodly and sinners, for the unholy and profane, for those who kill their fathers or mothers, for murderers and immoral men and homosexuals and kidnappers and liars and perjurers, and whatever else is contrary to sound teaching, according to the glorious gospel of the blessed God" (1 Timothy 1:9-11).

Speaking of the judgment which fell upon Sodom, Jesus (through Jude) reminds us that this happened (in part) because they "indulged in gross immorality and went after strange flesh" (Jude 1:7). Homosexual theologians argue that their sin was that they desired to have sex and had sex with angels. "While this would surely be going after 'strange flesh,' there is one rather obvious problem with this idea. The men of Sodom did not know... (that Lot's) visitors were angels. They believed them to be mere men, like themselves [Genesis 19:4-5, KM]" (James R. White & Jeffrey D. Niell, The Same Sex Controversy [Minneapolis, 2002], 48-49).

Relying on the context of Jude 1:7 and of Genesis 19, the expression "went after strange flesh" is a description of how God perceives homosexuality. The word "strange" refers to that which is contrary to nature. God prescribes that the natural desire of a male is for the female and not for another male. Homosexuality is a desire for "strange flesh" – flesh that God did not create males to desire. As the angels who did not remain in the place where God intended, but abandoned their created purpose (Jude 1:6), the men of Sodom and Gomorrah also abandon the natural to pursue the unnatural. By destroying their cities they became an example of God's disapproval of homosexuality and of what happens to those "who would live ungodly lives" (2 Peter 2:6-8).

Finally, the Lord utters this warning to the Christians at Corinth: "... do you not know that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived; neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor homosexuals, nor thieves, nor the covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers, will inherit the kingdom of God" (1 Corinthians 6:9-10). "Do not be deceived," says the Lord, by persuasive words that faith suffices without holiness of life. Let no one lead you astray with persuasive words, saying that the Christian lives his life has no bearing on his security with Him. "Do not be deceived.... homosexuals ... will not inherit the kingdom of God."

Can it be any clearer? Homosexuality may be an alternate lifestyle in the 21st century, but with God it is still a sin; and, like all sins, it will keep one from inheriting the kingdom of God. Those ministers claiming to speak for the Lord, but who say otherwise are deceivers; they do not speak "the utterances of God" but "from their own inspiration" (1 Peter 4:11; Ezekiel 13:2, 17). Like false prophets of old, these individuals are wearying the Lord with their words saying, "Everyone who does evil is good in the sight of the Lord, and He delights in them" (Malachi 2:17) Listen! By encouraging the wicked not to turn from their wickedness so that their souls may be saved, you will share in their fate. For not only are those who practice sin worthy of spiritual death, but so are those who give hearty approval to it (Romans 1:32).

• Hope for the Homosexual

God's love for the homosexual is no less than His love for the thief and the drunkard, the liar and the gossip, the fornicator and the adulterer. He sent Jesus into the world and then revealed His life and teachings, His death and resurrection from the dead through the gospel in order that you and I might be saved from our sin (Romans 1:16). The gospel of grace teaches, "do not be deceived.... homosexuals ... will not inherit the kingdom of God." However, many tell us that homosexuals cannot change! With respect to homosexuality, this is Satan's most successful lie. However, like all of his lies, the Bible refutes this one too.

Some of the Corinthian Christians were homosexuals before their conversion. "Such were some of you," says the apostle, "but you were washed [literally, you washed yourselves], but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, and in the Spirit of our God" (1 Corinthians 6:11). The past tense "such were some of you" should not be ignored! Paul is not addressing "homosexual Christians," any more than he is addressing "Christian idolaters" or "Christian adulterers" or "Christian swindlers." He is addressing former homosexuals who are now Christians. A transition had taken place through their faith and obedience to the gospel.

They "were washed" of their former sins by the blood of Christ in the waters of baptism (cf., Acts 18:8). According to the Bible, water baptism for penitent believers is "for the forgiveness of sins." Peter taught this in Acts 2 when he answered the question asked by believing Jews, "what must we do" to be saved (vss. 36-37). Here is how he answered: "Repent, and let each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins" (vs. 38; cf., Acts 22:16).

Upon hearing the gospel of grace, many of the Corinthians believed in the Lord Jesus, repented of sins and were baptized in water. It was then that God sanctified and justified them. Through their obedient faith in Christ, they underwent a change so great that they could now look back upon lifestyles that were no longer theirs.

Do you want the freedom that belongs only to the children of God? We encourage you then to do what the Corinthians did to obtain the freedom in which they could say: We were fornicators, adulterers, and homosexuals; we were idolaters, thieves, covetous, drunkards, and swindlers. If we can be of any assistance to you in this matter, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Kieran Murphy

info@miltonchurchofchrist.com

Who Are We?

Have you heard about the church meeting on 59 Middle Road in Milton? Perhaps you have seen our sign and wondered: "What is the Church of Christ? What denomination is it associated with?" If you are among the many who have visited our web site (<http://miltonchurchofchrist.com>) or who have telephoned 893-4825 to listen to ONE GOLDEN MOMENT (a daily Bible message), then you already know something about us. However, for the rest of you, here is a brief explanation.

The congregation is composed men and women who believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God and who seek to serve Him as He reveals Himself through His inspired spokesmen in the New Testament scriptures. As a result, we are simply Christians. Though we wear no name but Christ's (Christian), we confess that we have not attained to everything this name represents. As members of His church, we do not claim to be the only Christians, but we do try to be Christians only. For we are fully convinced from the apostolic writings that believers in the first century were not members of different denominations, but were united in one body, practicing one faith and under one source of authority - the Lord Jesus (Ephesians 4:4-6).

We invite you to join us in "being diligent to preserve the unity of the Spirit" (Ephesians 4:3-6). How? By refusing to believe or practice anything in religion not authorized by Jesus in His written word. His word admonishes those who believe in him not to go beyond "what is written" (1 Corinthians 4:6); it warns that those who do not abide in His teaching do not have God (2 John 9). Thus, all matters pertaining to justification, doctrine and godliness must be settled with a "thus says the Lord," a book, chapter and verse from the Bible. This is in keeping with the words of the apostle Peter, who wrote: "Whoever speaks, is to do so as one who is speaking the utterances of God" (1 Peter 4:11).

Jesus said of certain ones in His day: "But in vain do they worship Me, teaching as doctrines the precepts of men" and, "Every plant which My heavenly Father did not plant shall be rooted up" (Matthew 15:9, 13). Realizing these principles remain as true for us as they were for the people of God under the Law, we have made no attempt to start a "new" Church; but through faith we believe that God adds all the saved to the church which His Son died for - the church of God (Acts 2:47; 20:28). Anywhere and in any century men and women allow their hearts to be led by God's word ALONE, the church of Christ will flourish and the Churches of men will diminish.

The people who meet at 59 Middle Road in Milton belong only to Christ! Would you like to learn more? Please visit one of our weekly assemblies. We meet each Sunday at 9 a.m. for congregational worship and at 10:30 a.m. For Bible study (for all ages). We also meet on Wednesdays at 7 p.m. for Bible study. If you prefer a private meeting where you can ask questions about us and/or where we can study God's word in a serious, yet relaxed atmosphere let us know.

We look forward to meeting you and sharing with you the reason for the hope within us (1 Peter 3:15).

Volunteers

By SUE ALENICK
United Way Volunteer

The listings below are a sample of the 300+ volunteer needs from more than 200 agencies found on-line at www.unitedwaycc.org. More information available at 860-1677, Mon.-Fri. from 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

EAT WELL, AGE WELL — RSVP is looking for volunteers with an interest in nutrition and healthy aging to help seniors find ways to eat better. If you are age 55 or older, you can become a Nutrition Corps Outreach Volunteer. Reach out to your peers to talk about the importance of healthy aging and how a federal nutrition assistance program can help seniors afford fresh, healthy foods. Men and those living outside of Burlington are encouraged to apply. Volunteers will be trained to help guide their peers through the application process. Flexible weekday scheduling, 1-5 hours a week.

HORSE LOVERS' SPECIAL — CHAMP (Champlain Adaptive Mounted Program) in South Hero needs volunteers to lead horses during lessons. Training will begin in September for Monday, Wednesday, or Saturday shifts.

GOING! GOING! GONE! — Vermont Youth Conservation Corps will be holding its annual Online Holiday Auction to support youth programs and offer more jobs to Vermont's young adults. Volunteers are needed to help secure donations for the auction through phone calls and in-person visits. Training provided. Flexible weekday scheduling.

VIDEO PRODUCTION — Channel 17 is in need of volunteers to fill several important positions: Community Program Producers will be able share ideas and document community events for broadcast. Training on equipment is provided. A LIVE Show Camera Operator will learn studio TV skills through hands-on production of "Live @ 5:25." Volunteers choose one weeknight shift and learn how to run cameras and direct various hosted shows. Flexible Tuesday-Friday scheduling, 1 hour per week.

DATA ENTRY — NFI Vermont, Inc., is looking for a volunteer in their South Burlington office to help the Development Coordinator with a data entry project. Flexible weekday scheduling, 3 hours per week.

EVENT PLANNING — Railroad Avenue Recess is seeking volunteers from Essex to participate in community building and event planning activities. The group meets once a month usually Friday mornings and welcomes new faces!

COMPUTER COACH — Mercy Connections needs a computer coach to help their professional staff become more comfortable and confident with their Microsoft skills. Volunteer will guide the staff into a more technological phase with basic file management, Excel, Word and Outlook skills. Tuesday and Thursday afternoon scheduling, 1 hour per week.

SPREAD THE WORD — Alzheimer's Association is planning is their 2012 Walk to End Alzheimer's and needs volunteers to help distribute posters and brochures across the region. Flexible scheduling.

FAITH COMMUNITY LEADER — Green Mountain Habitat for Humanity is seeking a chair for their Congregation Relations Committee whose mission is to support and strengthen their connections to all faiths in the community. This volunteer would be an active member of the Board of Directors, lead regular committee meetings with congregations' representatives, etc. Flexible scheduling, 10 hours per month, 3-year term.

Pet of the Week

Buddy

2 year-old Neutered Male

REASON HERE: Owner could not afford to care for him.

SUMMARY: Buddy boy is the class clown among our canines. Just try not to laugh at him. Know what he'll do? Give him a new toy and he'll sit on it. He really will! And he wants to be friends with everyone, the popular guy! He is so in demand at the play yard, it's frankly hard for us to keep up with his engagements. Of course, when you're having so much fun goofing off, it can be tough to concentrate on one's studies ... But Buddy does want to graduate from dog training school. He really does. And he needs a straight man (in the comedic sense) to help him get there. Will you be the Abbott to his Costello? We promise you won't get pie on your face ... just a huge grin!



Humane Society of Chittenden County
802-862-0135

FOOD

Blueberry buckle



Photo by Emily Cohan

9-12 servings

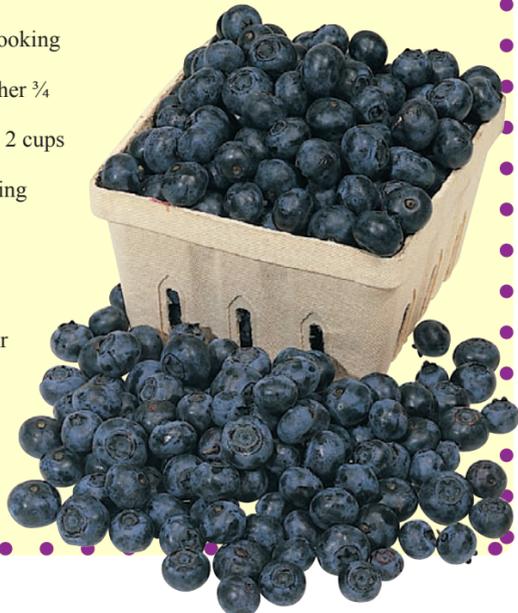
Ingredients:

- ¾ cup organic cane sugar
- ¼ cup unsalted butter, softened
- 1 large egg
- ½ cup milk
- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 2 tsp baking powder
- ½ tsp salt

- 2 ½ cups fresh blueberries
- ½ cup organic cane sugar
- 1/3 cup all-purpose flour
- 1 tsp ground cinnamon
- ¼ cup unsalted butter, softened

Method of preparation:

Preheat oven to 375 F.
Coat an 8-by-8-inch pan with cooking spray.
In a medium bowl, cream together ¾ cup cane sugar, butter and egg.
In a separate bowl, stir together 2 cups flour, baking powder and salt.
Stir into sugar mixture, alternating with milk.
Fold in blueberries and spread evenly in baking pan.
For topping: Combine ½ cup cane sugar, 1/3 cup flour, cinnamon and butter, using your fingers or a pastry blender.
Sprinkle over cake batter.
Bake for 50-55 minutes.
Remove from oven and cool slightly on wire rack before serving.



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Owner: Mike Isham
www.ishamfamilyfarm.com



By PAMELA COHAN
For The Essex Reporter

Summertime! The word resonates with so many wonderful thoughts, but I associate summer with berry picking. If you are fortunate enough to have visited a little slice of heaven in Williston, then you have most likely happened upon Isham Family Farm.

Originally established as a dairy farm in 1871, the fifth-generation farm has diversified extensively over the past 10 years. Maple syrup, sweet corn, an abundant supply of succulent berries, pumpkins, wreaths and Christmas trees are available seasonally, but the berry bushes are what attract my attention.

Four different varieties

of high bush blueberries are grown, and are available for picking in July and August. Raspberries are available for picking in July and then again in September and October. If you are lucky, you'll discover delicious, plump blackberries in August as well.

I recently had the opportunity to speak with Mike Isham, proprietor of this peaceful, meticulous jewel. His farm operates on the honor system, which Mike feels is a Vermont tradition that should never fade away.

Q: What makes Isham Family Farm unique?

A: I keep our farm clean and beautiful. There is a lot of upkeep, but everyone can tell I have a love for the farm. I make use of technology and installed solar panels to work with our environment.

Q: Why is farming rewarding for you?

A: Diversification is the reward for me in farming. There is something different every day and I enjoy

knowing that. We originally produced only dairy, but now we offer a variety of products from three different types of berries to corn, maple syrup, Christmas trees and more. In the mid 1800s our two barns were brought together and I recently refurbished the 200-year-old barn to host parties and weddings.

Q: What are some important lessons you have learned about farming?

A: Hard work pays off and nothing worthwhile is easy. The only challenges I have encountered are physical and I have learned that with age come challenges. I think it's important to give yourself a goal that's hard to reach, and this will keep you going for a long time.

Q: How else have you diversified?

A: There's an agricultural center called 'Just Dancing' on the farm now, and it's nice to have here. I built a greenhouse this past winter and Sabrina moved her business from her home. I realize how important it is to work together.

Q: What is your ultimate goal?

A: My ultimate goal would be to have an indoor farmer's market for 6-8 months of the year. It would be a lot of work to establish the vendors, but I would really like to try. I would also like to find an organic farmer to grow strawberries on the farm. There will always be more things I will want to do.

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Come Sea What's for Dinner!

One year after Irene, FEMA, state and locals continue to support Vt.'s covered bridges

One year after Tropical Storm Irene, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the State of Vermont and local communities continue to support recovery of Vermont's Irene-battered covered bridges.

"The devastation to so many of Vermont's covered bridges, which are such important remnants of the past, is heart-wrenching," said FEMA Deputy Federal Coordinating Officer Steve Ward. "FEMA is honored to be involved in the process of restoring eligible covered bridges to as close to their pre-storm conditions as possible."

FEMA will cover 90 percent of eligible recovery costs for qualifying bridge projects. Under the federal Public Assistance cost-share program, storm-impacted towns will fund five percent of the nonfederal share of recovery costs; as part of Vermont's Emergency Relief and Assistance Fund, the state of Vermont will contribute five percent.

After nearly one year since Irene, some of Vermont's storm-ravaged portals to the past have reopened, and many are scheduled to reopen.

Bowers Bridge, Brownsville

On Saturday, Aug. 4, a celebratory crowd gathered at Bible Hill Road on Mill Brook in West Windsor. The group watched as a reconstructed

Bowers Bridge, a beloved local relic, reclaimed the spot it had occupied for 92 years before Tropical Storm Irene.

During the storm, Irene-powered flood waters thrashed hay bales against the wall of the single-lane timber truss bridge, uprooting it from its historical location and washing it about 150 yards downstream to where it came to rest in a field. Rushing water eroded the south abutment of the bridge, including the foundation base.

Built 45-feet-long in 1919, Bowers Bridge is an example of English engineering known as tied arch construction. The technique involves butting two low, wooden arches, one on either side of the bridge. Steel rods drilled through the arches support the bridge's roadbed.

Brown Covered Bridge, Shrewsbury

Irene caused a high velocity flow of the Cold River in Shrewsbury, where the Brown Covered Bridge had carried Upper Cold River Road traffic over the river since 1880. River overflow caused extreme erosion to the bridge's 131-year old cedar plank siding.

A FEMA video titled "It is Our Bridge" tells the bridge's story, including first-hand accounts from residents like Shrewsbury's Department of Emergency Management Director Irene Gordon.

"I was impressed

with the background and knowledge of the FEMA people that came here," Gordon said. "The engineer was quite knowledgeable and very thorough in her investigation. She made sure she saw everything that needed to be seen - even crawling under the bridge to make sure she knew what the abutments were, what different materials would be needed and what needed to be done to restore the bridge to its pre-storm condition."

Bartonsville Bridge, Rockingham

Reconstruction of Bartonsville Bridge is expected to continue into November. Fast flood waters of the Williams River clobbered the Bartonsville Bridge, which was once one of the world's oldest and longest.

The lattice-style bridge was built 15-feet-wide and 157-feet-long in 1870 to carry Pleasant Valley Road over the Williams River. It was one of the longest town lattice-style covered bridges in Vermont before Tropical Storm Irene.

To raise funds to help cover some of the recovery costs, the town of Rockingham held a barbecue at the site where Bartonsville Bridge stood before Irene. The event, was held on Aug. 28, which also marked the one-year anniversary of the storm.

Irene anniversary: farm recovery fact sheet

Agricultural Damage Assessments

USDA Farm Service Agency and UVM Extension January 2012 report (www.uvm.edu/vtvegandberry/Pubs/ImpactIreneVermontAgriculture.pdf)

Damage reported on over 17,000 acres of crops and nearly 9,100 acres of farmland (some overlap).

Estimated value of crop losses and crop land damage:

at least \$20 million dollars statewide.

476 farmers in Vermont reported losses as a result of the storm.

Recovery: The Vermont Farm Disaster Relief Fund

The Vermont Farm Disaster Relief Fund (VFDRF) was established by the Vermont Agency of Agriculture in partnership

with the Vermont Community Foundation to address the critical needs of Vermont farms that sustained damage from Tropical Storm Irene and to help them return to full production. The grants from this fund were a lifeline that allowed farmers to continue, an important economic consideration in a state where food production is our second largest manufacturing industry.

Total contributions to the VFDRF as of Aug. 1, 2012 approached \$2.5 million.

A total of 198 farmers have been awarded almost \$1.9 million from the fund over five separate grant rounds. A sixth round is in progress.

Grants reached 42 percent of the farms that reported losses in the storm. The VFDRF committee is reaching out to those farmers who registered damage with the USDA Farm Service Agency but who have not yet applied to the fund.

The average grant size is just over \$7,900; some farmers received multiple grants.

The VFDRF funded about 30 percent of the total needs and losses reported in these applications.

From the beginning, it's been the strategy of the fund to hold some money in reserve to address the longer-term needs of farmers.

Recovery: USDA Programs

The USDA's Farm Service Agency, through its numerous programs,

Rotary guest speaker



Paul Cillo, President and Executive Director of Public Assets Institute, was the guest speaker at Rotary last Wednesday. Club members and guest filled the room to hear facts on health care reform. More information is at www.publicassets.org.

Photo courtesy of Finest Image Photography

Births

Cade Joseph Barcomb was born on Aug. 9, 2012 at Fletcher Allen Health Care to parents Kaley Smith Barcomb and Dennis Barcomb of Essex Junction.



Achievements

Molly J. Cogdill, daughter of Louise Cogdill of Essex, graduated from Essex High School this summer. Molly plans to attend the University of Rhode Island this fall.

Eliza Eve Blanchard, of Essex Junction, graduated from Vassar College in Poughkeepsie, N.Y. with a bachelor's degree during the 148th commencement ceremonies held on Sunday, May 20.

Cara McSoley, of Essex Junction, graduated from Roger Williams University in Bristol, RI during commencement ceremonies held on May 19. McSoley received a Bachelor of Arts in Communications.

restoring damaged farm land, repairing buildings and equipment, replacing lost feed, and strengthening resilience are all challenges these businesses face.

Remaining and ongoing recovery-related farm needs are being assessed by the USDA and the Agency of Agriculture. The Agency is hiring a case manager specifically to help farmers determine what damage still needs to be addressed and assist them with finding available resources. The one-year position is funded by donations, including a grant from the VFDRF.

The round is open to first-time applicants and farmers who have already received grants from the fund. Selected farmers will receive grants the second week in September.

Irene anniversary: farm recovery stories

The following farmers sustained damage from Tropical Storm Irene and have received funding from the Vermont Farm Disaster Relief Fund to help them through the recovery process. Their names, numbers, and stories are shared with their permission.

Adam's Berry Farm Chittenden County (Burlington)

Adam's Berry Farm has grown organic berries for 10 years on a 10-acre plot of land in the Intervale Center. Ninety percent of the farm's harvested berries are sold

within 10 miles of the farm. Although Irene's floodwaters caused significant damage, the blueberry plants bloomed again this season and the farm was able to offer a pick-your-own season. Replanting is underway and Adam and the farm's supporters anticipate a more varied harvest in the years to come.

Jersey Girls Dairy Windsor County (Chester)

The Jersey Girls Dairy was established in 1999 by Lisa Kaiman, a native of Princeton, New Jersey by way of UVM. Lisa currently milks 24 registered Jerseys, raises some of the calves for veal, and some heifers to keep the herd in balance. After the storm, Lisa lost milk, feed, and fencing. Although she's received assistance and has been working hard to recover, she anticipates that it will be difficult for her to find and pay for good-quality feed for her animals through the upcoming winter.

Sunrise Orchards Addison County (Addison)

Sunrise Orchards is a 200-acre, family owned and operated, wholesale apple farm devoted to growing quality apples for Vermont and the Northeast region. About 130,000 bushels of apples are harvested at the Orchard each year. Tropical Storm Irene knocked over an estimated 1,500 trees; many of those were braced and stabilized this past fall and are now bearing fruit.



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