

A FREE PUBLICATION

HAPPY Father's DAY

Next Issue: Tuesday, June 17
Deadline: Thursday, June 12

TRENDY TIMES

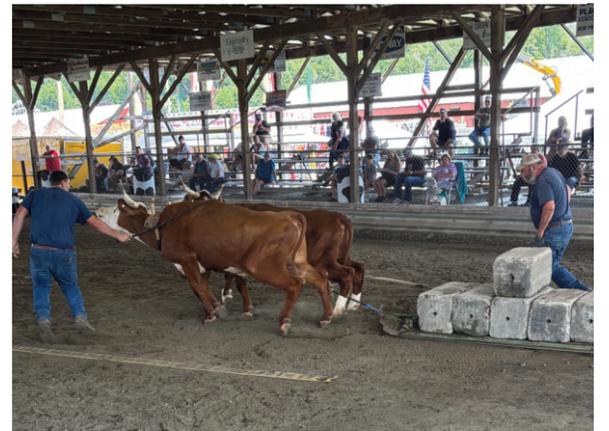
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Website: www.TrendyTimes.com

June 03, 2025 VOLUME 16, NUMBER 19



Father's Day Pulling Event



Looking for something special to do for Father's Day weekend? Bring Dad to the North Haverhill Fairgrounds for the annual Father's Day pulling event. Saturday, June 14 will feature both tractors and oxen, while Sunday, June 15 is filled with horses and ponies.

The Ox pulling on Saturday will feature five classes

of oxen as these beasts of burden show off their strength as they drag increasing weights on the stone boat. They do this task inside the covered Bishop Arena which means they will go on no matter what the weather may be outside. This is also great for the fans who can watch while staying dry and/or staying

out of the hot sun. Meanwhile on the other side of the fairgrounds multiple classes of tractors will be pulling a transfer sled down the 300' clay track. Rain date for the tractors will be Sunday, June 15.

Sunday the 15th will definitely see plenty of horses and ponies as they take over the Bishop Arena. There will be two

classes of ponies and three for the horses as they also pull increasing weights on the stone boat.

All the livestock will all be housed in the brand new horse barn or the existing Haynes Barn, so be sure to go take a look at the new facility. There will also be food available for purchase on the grounds so you

can make a full day of the experience.

Pulling starts each day at 9:00 am with a gate admission of \$10.00 per person with a healthy portion going to premiums for the days participants. The North Haverhill fairgrounds are located at 1299 Dartmouth College Highway (Route 10) in North Haverhill, NH 03774.

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TRENDY Dining Guide



Tuttles Family Diner, By: April Dyke

Well, as you can tell, I had a delightful partner in crime for lunch. If you don't know or have not met Josh, who is the (well has been for a while) owner at wykr/kingdom radio. You need to for sure he is quite the character and quite a delight and if you ever get to hear us on the radio Friday mornings first thing please do so it's every other Friday before our publication date. We decided to have a business meeting and chose, of course titles family diner as our meeting spot. As

a I - ways, very, very Homie and wonderful atmosphere. We sat at one of the tables so we had more room in back of us was the board that tells us what the specials are. And we both chose to select something off that instead of the menu. He got water. I got Coke and a glass of water. He decided to go with the seafood salad sandwich and tater tots. I went with the chicken cordon bleu sandwich with onion rings as people came in and out. We both knew a lot of of them so chatted with a

few of the regulars. When our food came out, we were both pleased with what we chose. Very very delicious as always. I decided to be nice and get the bill this time. I unfortunately did not keep the receipt but I do know it was less than \$30 as I have said before this is a diner type atmosphere with a bakery on the other side so he ended up grabbing a dessert. Which was a brownie I believe. So we went up to the register which is right in front of the door and I paid. We decided we

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FRIDAY NIGHTS STARTING @ 5pm \$28.

needed to do this again soon. We said goodbye to everybody and took her exit and he had to go back to work and I had errands to run. But if you ever get a chance and haven't yet, please stop Tuttle's family diner is definitely one of a kind with a great atmosphere. I hope everybody has a great couple of weeks and enjoys

Father's Day to all those fathers out there whether you're a step or an unofficial step as I always called it you deserve to be loved and appreciated that day also. I want to give a special Happy Father's Day to the man that didn't have to, but chose me and my brother you did a great job Dad aka Gary Scruton love you so much.



OBITUARY:
Alice Jean Dean,

pleasures and special traditions. She loved attending country concerts, often accompanied by her daughters. One of her favorite places was Old Orchard Beach in Maine. She made it a point to take her daughters camping every year at Bayley's Campground when they were younger. In quieter moments, Alice enjoyed relaxing at home playing computer games.

Alice Jean Dean, 74, of Woodsville, NH, passed away peacefully on May 26, 2025, at Grafton County Home, with family by her bedside, following a brief diagnosis of pancreatic cancer.

Born on October 30, 1950, in Woodville, NH, Alice was the beloved daughter of the late Lawrence and Virginia (Gravett) Woods. She was raised in Bath, NH, where she developed her lifelong dedication to caring for others.

After graduating from high school, Alice began her career as a Licensed Nursing Assistant (LNA) at Grafton County Home, where she served residents for 15 years. She later brought her skills to Glenclyff Home for the Elderly, continued with private caregiving, and eventually joined Alice Peck Day Memorial Hospital, where she worked until her retirement.

Outside of her work, Alice found joy in simple

Alice was predeceased by her parents and her brother, Michael Woods.

She is lovingly remembered by her two daughters, Lisa Murray of Wells River, VT, and Crystal Green and husband Charlie of Bath, NH; her five grandchildren: Alexa, Billy, Avery, Benjamin, and Alaina; and her great-grandchildren: Peyton, Zayden, Oliver, Ella, and two more little ones expected later this year.

A private celebration of life will be held at the family's convenience.

To offer the family an online condolence, please visit www.rickerfh.com Ricker Funeral Home & Cremation Care of Woodsville is assisting the family with arrangements.



OBITUARY:
Mary Ann Louise Hazen,

any job there. She had a strong work ethic that was seen throughout the community. She would often go in early and work off the clock, "so that things would get done and run smoothly."

ments, or wherever else they needed to go. She would also help people clean their homes if they were not able to do it themselves. She always showed up to gatherings early to help the hostess set up. Helping people gave her satisfaction and joy.

Bradford, VT – It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of Mary Ann Louise Hazen, a loving mother, grandmother, and friend. She passed away on May 21, 2025, at the age of 78, after battling Lewy Body Dementia.

Mary Ann was born on October 12, 1946, the firstborn to William and Marion Hazel (Anderson) Hazen of Piermont, NH. Growing up in Piermont, Mary Ann fondly remembered horseback riding and playing with the bear cubs her father would raise. Her fondest memory was of one bear cub gently touching her face with its claw.

Mary Ann attended Orford High School and graduated in 1965. After her high school graduation, she attended cosmetology school. She did not pursue this as a career but used the skills to help friends and family. She found employment at the P&C grocery store chain in Bradford, VT, where she worked for over 40 years. In that time, the store became Grand Union and eventually Hannaford. Mary Ann loved store work, knew the ins and outs of the store, and could do

On March 12, 1983, she was baptized as one of Jehovah's Witnesses. She loved the Bible truths that she got from the Witnesses, like learning what God's original purpose was for mankind, how paradise was lost, and how it will return. She loved learning that God wants all humans to know this and benefit from it. For this reason, she would spend time in the ministry, telling these Bible truths to as many as possible.

One of Mary Ann's favorite things to do was to move. She enjoyed looking for different places to live, packing and unpacking, and the thrill of starting over anew. She moved over 20 times, often getting her good friend, Karlette, to help her relocate, with lots of laughs along the way.

Mary Ann's favorite thing to do was to help people. While living in Wells River, she would go out after a snowstorm to clean off her elderly neighbors' cars, so that it would be easier for them to start their day. She would chauffeur her neighbors to the grocery store, doctor's appoint-

Mary Ann was predeceased by her three brothers, Bill, Bruce, and John Hazen. She is survived by her son, James Hazen, and his wife Sonya, of Bath, NH; her two beloved grandchildren, Noah Hazen and Tristan Hazen; two nieces, Amy Adams and Tara Hazen; a nephew, Joshua Hazen; and countless friends.

The Hazen family would like to thank the staff at the Margaret Pratt Community and the staff of BAYADA Hospice for the excellent care they gave Mary Ann and also for the warmth they showed to the family in her final days.

A memorial service will be held at the Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses, 431 Rum Hill Rd, Bath, NH, on Sunday, June 8, 2025, at 3:00 pm.

To offer the family an online condolence, please visit www.rickerfh.com Ricker Funeral Home & Cremation Care of Woodsville is assisting the family with arrangements.

Willing Workers Society of Sugar Hill
Lupine Market
Saturday, June 7th
9 am - 2 pm
at the Meetinghouse,
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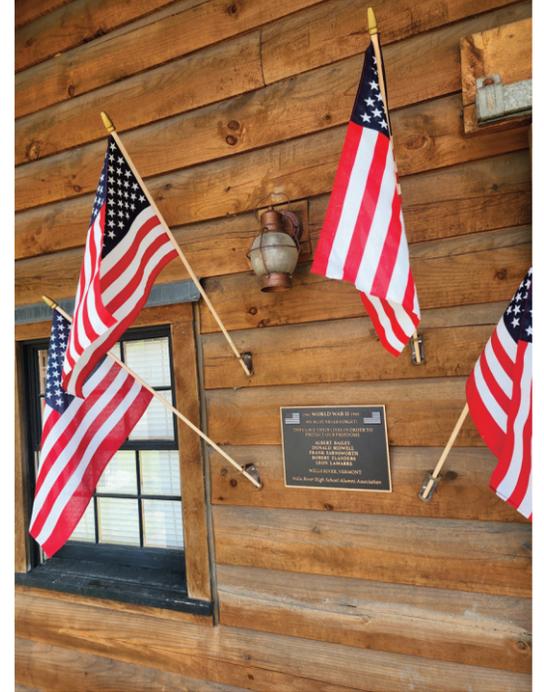
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Memorial Day

In September of 2023 Wells River dedicated its World War II Memorial, after a long process led by the Wells River High School Alumni Association. It was always the hope that a regular Memorial Day service would be established and this year it was. The joint program of the church and the Wells River Action Program (WRAP) saw a small group gather at the Welcome Center for readings and remembrances concluding with dropping 5 flowers into the Wells River to honor the 5 men who never came home.

Photos by Rev James Merriam

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FLAG DAY



Ceremony
Saturday, June 14, 2025
6:00 PM

Ross-Wood Post #20 American Legion Home,
4 Ammonoosuc Street, Woodsville

Ceremony to be held outside in the parking lot (weather permitting). The public is welcomed to observe the ceremonial disposal of used and worn flags. Please bring any **US Flags** you wish to have properly disposed.

A Smoked Brisket Dinner
will also be served by the Auxiliary.
Price by donation.

Seating will be available outside or upstairs for non-members or bona-fide guests.



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Willing Workers Lupine Fair

Come and join the Willing Workers on Saturday, June 7 at the Sugar Hill Meetinghouse, 1448 Route 117, Sugar Hill, New Hampshire from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. for a day of food, fun and handmade items, and gently used treasures for sale.

The Annual Lupine Weekend, traditionally the first week of June, attracts visitors touring the roads in the area looking for the showy displays of lupines in bloom.

Stop into the Meetinghouse for a snack, a beverage and some wonderful locally made items.

The day's special dessert will be homemade strawberry shortcake!

The Society's members have been preparing handmade items all winter.

Fresh baked goods will be available for on site or take away.

Who knows what you will find at the Meetinghouse from the attic's treasures? The Attic is currently stocked with books, tableware, small appliances, decorative pieces and much more. There is an ever changing variety of items available.

The sale will run rain or shine from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Cash, credit cards or checks are acceptable forms of payment.

The Willing Workers Society, founded November 10, 1920, is a non-profit, non-sectarian charitable organization whose purpose is to foster a spirit of helpfulness throughout the community. Check out their website at: www.thewillingworkers.org

Come listen to April every other friday morning on WYKR for the latest news in Trendy Times

NOTED SPEAKER REBECCA RULE TO TELL STORIES IN ORFORD ON JUNE 12



Rebecca Rule, noted NH author and presenter for the New Hampshire Humanities Council, will speak at the Orford Historical Society's Annual Meeting and Presentation. The event will take place at the Orford Congregational Church on Main Street in Orford, on Thursday evening, June 12 with a brief business meeting starting at 6:30 pm, providing updated from various committees and covering plans for the exhibits and upcoming programs for 2025.

Immediately following at 7:00 pm, Rebecca Rule will speak on the topic "That Reminds Me of a Story," sponsored by the NH Humanities Council. She will tell some of the funniest stories she's collected in New England over the course of 3 decades of spinning and gathering yarns, and she will invite our local audience to share our own stories of life growing up in rural NH. These stories carry forward our identity, our local history, culture, and what matters most to us.

You may also know Rebecca as the host of NHPTV's Our Hometown, a series featuring a different town each time, with stories told by those who live there and love it best. Her motto is: Whatever you do, make it a good story!

Rebecca Rule is the author of many books for children and adults including: The Iciest, Diciest, Scariest Sled Ride Ever; and Moved and Seconded: NH Town Meetings. That is another whole story in itself!

Her presentation on June 12 is a special treat. As many people in the area already know, the budget for the NH Humanities Council for next year has been severely cut – this may be one of only a few "Humanities-to-Go" programs offered over the next couple of years. Come join us, and hopefully, be ready to share your own stories!!

DI/Karaoke
Weddings
Special events
Birthday parties
Cookouts
N' just for the hell of it

Tommy
603 348 2067



OBITUARY: Amy Ann Spisak (Arents),

51 years, John Paul Spisak, and by a brother, Kenneth "Sonny" Arents, who died fighting for our country. She is survived by her Connecticut family; daughter, Deborah Sommo and husband Ronald "Buddy" of Preston, CT; 3 grandsons, Ron Sommo and wife Stephanie, Matt Sommo and wife Nisha, and Vincent Sommo and wife Brionna; 3 amazing great-grandsons, Dominic, Jameson, and Landon Sommo; and brother, Richard "Dick" Arents, of Hamden, CT. Amy is survived by her VT and NH family; daughter, Jacqueline (Clement) Lamothe and husband Rod Stewart, of Bethlehem, NH; 4 grandchildren, Les Clement and wife Anna, Auntie Ash Lamothe, Samantha Marceau and husband Tennyson, and Cheryl Lamothe; and 3 beautiful great-grandchildren, Marley, Max, and Makia Clement.

A graveside service will be held at 11 AM on Saturday, Sept. 27th, 2025, at the Monroe Village Cemetery. Following the service, family and friends will have a celebration of life at Amy's home in Monroe, NH. To offer the family an online condolence, please visit www.rickerfh.com Ricker Funeral Home & Cremation Care of Woodsville is assisting with arrangements.

Monroe, NH. – Amy Ann Spisak (Arents), 87, of Littleton Road, died on Tuesday, May 13, 2025, in Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center. Amy passed peacefully in her sleep.

Amy was born in New Haven, CT, on August 5th, 1937, to Kenneth and Mabel (Clark) Arents. Amy lived and grew up in Hamden, CT. She got married on April 4th, 1959, to John Paul Jack Spisak. Together they raised 2 daughters, as well as owned and operated their own bar, "John Paul's Pub" in West Haven, CT. After making life-time memories and friends, like "The Superettes," they sold the bar and moved to Monroe, NH.

Amy spent her days working at Merry Meadow's Farm as a cook, where she retired at a young age of 75 years old. She enjoyed spending time with her husband, Jack, at The American Legion Post #20 of Woodsville, NH. She loved gardening, visiting friends and family in CT, playing cribbage, riding her golf cart like it was a Batmobile, and watching her favorite sports teams, the NY Yankees and NY Giants.

Amy had 7 grandchildren that she was very close to. She was awarded the nickname "Big D" when she became a great-grandmother to 6 children who love her so deeply. Even though she stood 5 feet tall, you could point her out in the crowd with her unique style of clothing and hats! She was loud and the life of the party!

Amy was predeceased by her husband of

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EVERY SUNDAY

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NEKCA Mobile Food Shelf,

Baldwin Memorial Library, Wells River

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Saturday mornings at 9:00-10:30 AM

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FOLK MUSIC JAM - 1st and 3rd Saturdays at

10am, Pope Library (Community Center) in

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"Back porch style", sit in a circle and take

turns choosing a tune/song. Listeners welcome.

For more info or to confirm date contact (library) 802-684-2256

or (Vicki) 802-535-6069.

Upcoming Events

Haverhill Rec

Acoustic Music Jams The jams are once per month, held at the Clifford Memorial Building

65 South Court St. Woodsville from 12-3.

July 6

August 10

September 7

October 5

November 2

December 7

Lisbon Area Historical Society

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June 4

10am-12pm

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2025

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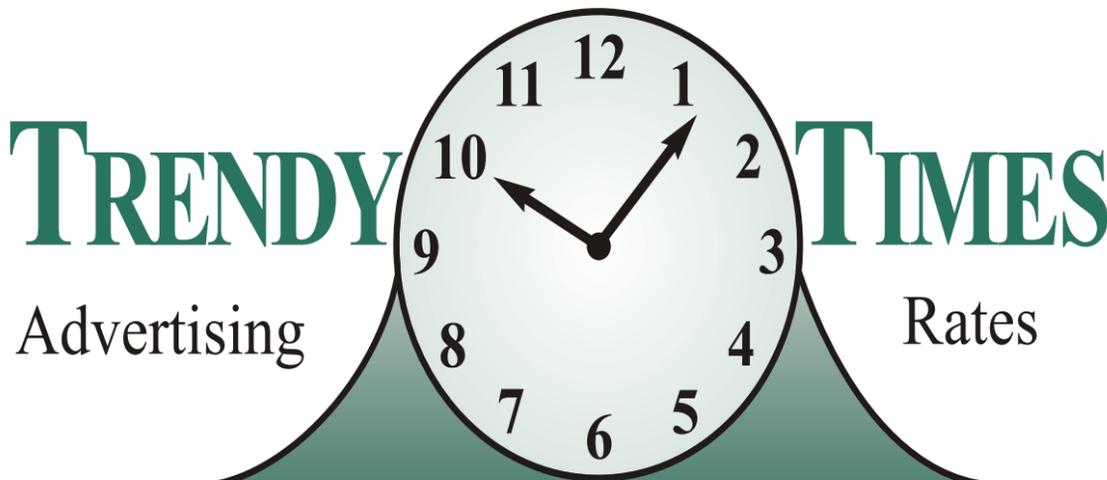
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Half Page - color: \$265

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4"x 2" or 2"x4" - 13 issues \$225/B&W \$250 color
Includes One Dining Guide Review

4"x 2" or 2"x4" - 6 issues \$125/B&W \$140 color

April Dyke, Owner

Office: 603-747-2887

Cell: 802-461-9886

Email: April@trendytimes.com

www.trendytimes.com

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Pricing Effective, February 22, 2023

Personal Ads

(non-business type)

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Business Classifieds:

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Services, etc.

for up to 30 words

\$10.00 for 2 issues

\$20.00 for 5 issues

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**Each column will
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**This is a 1 column
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**This space
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**That equals
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or \$34⁰⁰
in Color**

Woodsville High School News



Woodsville High School proudly recognizes Cody White, a graduating senior and four-year member of the WHS JAG (Jobs for America's Graduates) program, for his dedication, creativity, and outstanding accomplishments.

Cody joined the JAG program as a freshman and quickly made an impression with his remarkable talents in both music and photography. Known for his vibrant personality and strong presence in the classroom, Cody often brought joy to his peers by sharing his singing voice during class and contributing original photographs that showcased his keen artistic eye.

In the fall, Cody will be attending the Maine College of Art & Design, where he will major in Photography. His commitment to creative expression and storytelling through images has positioned him well for success in the visual arts field.

"Cody has always been a bright light in the classroom," said Mrs. Jill Nichols, WHS JAG Senior Career Specialist. "His artistic spirit and willingness to share his talents have inspired others. I have no doubt he will thrive in his next chapter."

The WHS JAG program, a part of Jobs for America's Graduates – New Hampshire, is designed to help students develop the skills and experiences necessary for success in education, careers, and life. Cody's journey is a testament to the program's impact and to the strength and creativity found within the WHS student body. Woodsville High School and the entire JAG family congratulate Cody on his achievements and wish him continued success in all his future endeavors.



Woodsville High School is proud to recognize Natalie Therrien as this week's JAG Senior Spotlight, honoring her outstanding leadership, dedication, and commitment to excellence throughout her time in the Jobs for America's Graduates (JAG) program.

Natalie began her JAG journey as a sophomore and quickly emerged as a strong and dependable leader. Now, as a senior, she serves as Co-President of the WHS JAG Chapter, setting an example for her peers and representing the best of what the program stands for.

"Natalie is a natural leader — focused, determined, and compassionate," said Mrs. Jill Nichols, WHS JAG Senior Career Specialist. "Her presence uplifts our chapter and sets the tone for excellence."

Looking ahead, Natalie plans to continue her path of service by pursuing a degree in Criminal Justice at NHTI. Her passion for justice and community service will no doubt lead her to make a lasting impact in the field.

Please join the WHS community in congratulating Natalie on her achievements and wishing her continued success as she embarks on this next chapter.



Woodsville High School is proud to announce that Dylan Marshall, a member of the Class of 2026, has successfully earned his CompTIA Security+ Certification, a highly respected credential in the field of cybersecurity.

The Security+ certification, issued by CompTIA, validates core knowledge in areas such as network security, compliance, operational security, threats and vulnerabilities, and application, data, and host security. It is recognized globally by employers and is a major achievement for professionals and students alike.

"Dylan's commitment to his learning and future is inspiring," said Mr. Hayden Coon, Principal of Woodsville High School. "He's a perfect example of what it means to take your education into your own hands and run with it."

Dr. Mroczko added, "This is a real-world credential that reflects not only Dylan's skills but also his ambition. It's exciting to see students achieving at this level while still in high school."

Earning this certification while still a student showcases Dylan's focus, dedication, and readiness for a successful future in the fast-growing field of information technology and cybersecurity.

Woodsville High School commends Dylan for his outstanding achievement and looks forward to watching his continued success.



Woodsville High School is proud to announce Dylan Marshall as the April Student of the Month. Dylan has been recognized for his exceptional dedication to both his academic and career goals, as well as his positive character and work ethic.

Dylan is currently pursuing his interests in Information Technology, while maintaining a strong academic performance and participating in school athletics. He is actively gaining real-world experience through an internship at Riverbend, where he demonstrates maturity, focus, and a commitment to quality work. He is already preparing for a summer internship with the same employer, a testament to his initiative and career-minded outlook.

In addition to his technical skills and academic strengths, Dylan is admired by both staff and peers for his quiet politeness, kindness, and genuine curiosity to learn more. He approaches every assignment and project with focus and a desire to improve—setting a strong example for his classmates.

Woodsville High School is proud to celebrate students like Dylan who embody Engineer Energy and continue to represent the values of respect, responsibility, and perseverance. Congratulations, Dylan, on this well-deserved recognition!



Woodsville High School is proud to shine this week's JAG Senior Spotlight on Natalie Langille, a compassionate and quietly influential member of the WHS Class of 2025.

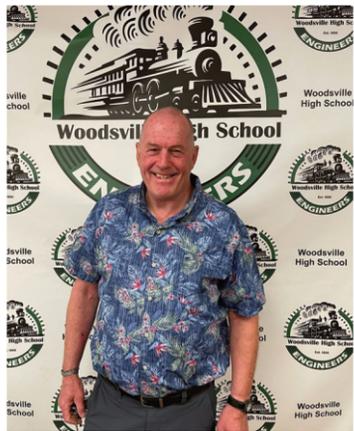
Natalie joined the Jobs for America's Graduates (JAG) program as a freshman and has been a steady source of humor, empathy, and support ever since. Known among her peers for her kindness and her willingness to offer thoughtful advice to underclassmen, Natalie has been a consistent example of leadership through compassion.

Now, Natalie is taking her passion for helping others to the next level. She will be attending Colby-Sawyer College to study Psychology, with the ultimate goal of becoming a Psychiatrist.

"Natalie has always had a natural gift for connecting with others," said Mrs. Jill Nichols, JAG Senior Career Specialist. "Her empathy, wit, and determination will make her an incredible mental health professional someday."

Woodsville High School is proud to celebrate Natalie's achievements and her bright future. Her positive presence will be deeply missed, but we know she's headed toward a path of purpose and impact.

Congratulations, Natalie Langille — your heart and dedication inspire us all.



Woodsville High School is proud to recognize and celebrate the retirement of one of its most respected and beloved staff members, Mr. Mike Strauch, who has served as Dean of Students for the past 11 years.

Throughout his tenure, Mr. Strauch has been a steady, compassionate presence in the school community. Known for his quiet strength, unwavering patience, and deep care for every student, he has helped guide countless young people through both challenges and triumphs.

But Mr. Strauch's role at WHS has gone far beyond job titles. He has been, in the words of Principal Hayden Coon, "the jelly to my peanut butter, the Luigi to my Mario, the Robin to my Batman, and maybe even the Elf to my Buddy—depending on the day."

"Mike has been my right hand, my steady presence, and my trusted friend," said Principal Coon. "His dedication to our students and his loyalty to this school are unmatched. I simply could not have asked for a better partner in this work."

Whether offering a calm voice in a difficult moment or sharing stories about his latest mountain biking adventure, Mr. Strauch brought not only professionalism but genuine heart to WHS. His legacy is etched into the very culture of the school—a legacy of compassion, teamwork, and what we proudly call Engineer Energy.

Woodsville High School wishes Mr. Strauch a joyful and well-deserved retirement. His presence will be deeply missed by students, colleagues, and the entire school community.

Thank you, Mr. Strauch, for everything. You've truly left your mark.



Woodsville High School is proud to shine the spotlight on Ms. Janitta Richardson as she celebrates her well-earned retirement. A long-time Instructional Assistant and dedicated Class of 2025 Advisor, Ms. Richardson has made a profound and lasting impact on students, staff, and the entire WHS community.

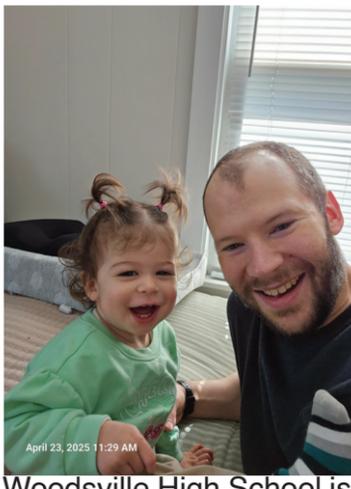
Known for her infectious laugh, unwavering support, and heartfelt dedication to helping students succeed, Janitta has been a cornerstone of warmth and positivity in the halls of WHS. Her influence extends far beyond the classroom.

"Janitta has been more than a colleague—she's been a daily dose of joy and a true partner in making WHS feel like family. Her laughter and heart will be missed every day," — Tonya Gardner, Instructional Assistant

"Janitta brought warmth, wit, and a steady hand to our halls. She's been a constant source of support for students and a valued member of our WHS team. Her presence will truly be missed," — Principal Hayden Coon

Whether mentoring students or lending a hand wherever needed, Ms. Richardson exemplifies the spirit of Engineer Energy and leaves behind a legacy of care, encouragement, and resilience.

Thank you, Ms. Richardson, for the many years of inspiration and joy. Your WHS family wishes you nothing but the best as you begin this exciting next chapter.



Woodsville High School is proud to recognize Mr. Tuite, our dedicated Digital Learning Lab (DLL) teacher, in this week's Staff Spotlight.

Mr. Tuite plays a vital role in supporting students across all grade levels as they navigate online coursework, recover credits, and build independent learning skills. Known for his calm demeanor, tech-savvy problem-solving, and steady presence, Mr. Tuite has become a trusted guide and mentor in the DLL room.

In a recent photo captured for the spotlight, Mr. Tuite is pictured with his daughter — a touching reminder that behind every great educator is also a proud parent and role model.

"Mr. Tuite is one of those staff members you can count on for anything," said WHS Principal Hayden Coon. "His knowledge, calm demeanor, and dedication to student success make him an essential part of our school community."

Whether it's troubleshooting a Chromebook issue or encouraging students to reach their academic goals, Mr. Tuite approaches each day with care, patience, and professionalism. WHS is proud to celebrate his continued contributions to our students and school culture.



Woodsville High School is proud to recognize three outstanding students who were honored at the 2025 North Country Scholars Breakfast, hosted by North Country Education Services (NCES) and the North Country School Administrators Association.

This annual event celebrates the top academic and technical education students from across the region's twelve high schools. Representing WHS were:

Sebastian Restelli, Valedictorian

Hunter Duvall, Salutatorian

Paige Royer, Outstanding Career & Technical Education Student

"These students exemplify what it means to be an Engineer," said Principal Hayden Coon. "Their dedication to learning, leadership in our school community, and commitment to their futures is something we are incredibly proud of."

📸 Pictured left to right in the photo: SAU 23 Superintendent Dolores Fox, River Bend Career and Technical Center Director Brian Emerson, Sebastian Restelli, Hunter Duvall, Paige Royer, and WHS Principal Hayden Coon.

📷 Photo credit: Laurie Restelli

Woodsville High School congratulates Sebastian, Hunter, and Paige on this well-deserved recognition and wishes them continued success in their academic and career pursuits.



Woodsville High School is proud to congratulate the talented student team behind "The Solver Squad", a fun and suspenseful parody of Scooby-Doo packed with mystery and wacky hijinks!

Student filmmakers Bryson McKean, Aidan Smith, Brooke Thompson, Abigail Laplant, and Emma Cote took center stage at the 2025 Cohase Chamber of Commerce Annual Film Slam, bringing home an impressive eight awards, including:

- 🏆 Best Direction
- 🏆 Best Screenwriting
- 🏆 Best Editing
- 🏆 Best Use of Line
- 🏆 Best Use of Prop
- 🏆 Best Use of Sound
- 🏆 Best Ensemble
- 🏆 First Place – Student Division!

Their creative short film, "The Solver Squad", showcased incredible teamwork, originality, and technical skill—highlighting the best of WHS student talent and collaboration.

🎬 Watch their award-winning film here:

📄 <https://youtu.be/WBm32mL64RY>

Woodsville High School celebrates the success of these young filmmakers and applauds their hard work and achievement. We can't wait to see where their creative journeys take them next!

Missing from the filmmakers photo are... TJ Quigley, Ayla Burbank



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OBITUARY:
Virginia Marie

Swenson,

Newbury, VT – Virginia Marie Swenson, a community stronghold and a beacon of love, peacefully departed this world on May 26, 2025, surrounded by her family.

Born in Worcester, MA on October 24, 1935, to Carl and Rhoda Hogle, Ginny's story is one filled with love, dedication, and community.

Virginia is survived by her brother Robert Hogle and her sister, Charlotte (Hogle) Tremblay; her beloved children, Carl Swenson, Sr. and wife Seher of Palm Bay, FL; Robert Swenson and wife Melanie of Fairlee, VT; David Swenson and wife Elizabeth of Montpelier, VT; Karen (Swenson) Clements and husband Frederic of Newbury, VT; and Allen Fuller and wife Virginia of Newbury, VT; along with 13 grandchildren and 23 great-grandchildren. She is pre-deceased by her husband Richard (Dick) Swenson.

On November 28,

1953, Dick and Ginny embarked on a lifelong journey together in marriage that spanned 70 years. She moved with Dick from Massachusetts to Newbury, VT in 1954 where they raised their kids while running a successful dairy farm on Route 5. The couple also ventured into entrepreneurship, establishing the Swenson Insurance Agency in 1960.

Devoted to her family and community, Ginny dedicated her life to others. Whether it was attending sports activities, plays, musical concerts, dance recitals, or hosting family and holiday celebrations, her family and community were always front and center in her life. At family gatherings she could often be found singing at her organ or playing the accordion surrounded by her children and grandchildren. A longtime member of Eastern Star and an active member of the Newbury Congregational Church, Ginny was known for her baking and welcoming nature – and was a sought-after meet-

ing host due to the many baked treats she would have on hand. She served on numerous town and church committees and was active in the Busy Bees 4-H club in Newbury.

In the summer she and Dick ran the couple's sweet corn and vegetable stand, chatting with visitors and locals alike. She also enjoyed traveling and meeting new people, spending winters in Florida with their cherished camper and friends.

Ginny deeply cared for the friends and family in her life, and the community she served. Their door was always open and the cookie jar always full for visitors, providing a safe space filled with laughter and love.

A service to celebrate Ginny's life will be held on July 10, 2025, at 10 AM at First Congregation Church of Newbury, 4915 Main Street South, Newbury, VT followed by interment at Oxbow Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, the family kindly requests that donations be made in Ginny's honor to Newbury Women's Fellowship PO Box 165 Newbury, VT 05051.

To offer the family an online condolence, please visit www.rickerfh.com Ricker Funeral Home & Cremation Care of Woodsville is assisting the family with arrangements.

Ricker Funeral Home

Rose Marie Welch, 82, passed away peacefully in her sleep on April 11, 2025, while residing at the Grafton County Nursing Home in New Hampshire. Calling hours will be Friday, June 13, 2025, from 5-7 PM at Ricker Funeral Home & Cremation Care of Woodsville, 1 Birch St., Woodsville, NH. There will be a graveside service for Rose on June 14 at 10 AM at the Ladd Street Cemetery in Haverhill, New Hampshire.

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Douglas M. Riggie Sr., 84, died on Monday, January 6, 2025, at his home in Woodsville, NH. Carol Ann Riggie, 79, died on Wednesday, February 3, 2021, at her home in Woodsville, NH. There will be a graveside service for Doug and Carol on Saturday, June 14, 2025, at 1 PM at Pine Grove Cemetery, Swiftwater Rd, Woodsville, NH.

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Mary Virginia Williams passed away peacefully on Saturday, December 21, 2024; she was 80 years old. A graveside service will be at the Peacham Village Cemetery on Saturday, June 14, 2025, at 12 PM, officiated by Rev. Dr. Robert Potter and Rev. Dr. Jeffery Potter. A Gathering of friends and family will be held at a camp on Harvey's Lake, please call 813-362-9540 to RSVP.

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LETTERS

(and even some real words)

From The Editor

To The Editor

I have been in this community for more than four years now and I never heard a word about Cottage Hospital or even saw some glossy advertisement highlighting all the great things about it. One day I was going to my doctor's appointment across the street and I noticed it out of the corner of my eye. My initial thought, if I am being honest, was this "I hope I never need to go in there". Then I needed Hernia Mesh removal surgery and I would have to face my fear. Like most things in life we fear when I faced it, it was not like my mind imagined. Instead I encountered not a medical beast with three heads but an exceptionally run institution on every level. The people were very friendly and helpful and the adherence to protocol was like no

other. Keep in mind I have lived all over the country and have either worked in or been a patient at some of the most highly regarded Hospitals this great country has. I.E. The Mayo Clinic, Ochsner Foundation, etc. So here is the point.....Stop hiding Cottage....Please work to improve your image in the community. People deserve to know the great things you are doing..... And to the members of this community.... Talk it up....be proud of it..... Having a community Hospital of this caliber in your own back yard is a great asset..... Stop taking it for granted....Support it in any way you can. As the great wisdom suggests the lamp is meant to be put on the stand not hidden.

Peter Eichler
Newbury, VT

Peter,

First let me welcome you to the community. It is good to have someone like you go out of their way to compliment Cottage Hospital.

Unlike you I have known about Cottage Hospital my entire life. I was born at the old Cottage Hospital. I spent time in the new one when I had my tonsils removed as well as when I was fighting pneumonia, both being many, many years ago, and both at the new, current, location.

I have also had the occasion to visit the hospital for other reasons. The two that stand out the most were both for my wife, Janice. Once when she broke her ankle. Upon arrival at the hospital and after initial examination, they knew that the "repair" was beyond their capability and sent her off to Dartmouth Hitchcock. The second occasion was when she suffered a mild stroke. This required an overnight stay. In both circumstances the staff on duty handled the circumstances in what I perceived to be a very proper manner in order to offer the best care possible.

I am thrilled that we have such an asset in our community and hope they can continue to flourish in the world, and the area in which we live.

Gary Scruton, Editor

To the Editor:

As our current Government's ongoing stupidification and exploitation continues unabated, this open-minded (AKA 'WOKE') citizen is curious how much longer our self-serving and grifter president will be allowed to feed on the substance of our nation so he can regurgitate it for his own deranged MAGA vision (AKA 'Profit'). Then again, I'm biased because I'm afflicted with 'Reality Acknowledgment Syndrome', a cognitive condition evidenced when an informed person's awareness of facts, truth and reality override any inherent gullibility to accept blatant BS from a traitorous paranoid and/or his sycophants. Of course the MAGA diehards prefer the term 'Trump Derangement Syndrome' because it allows them to play the 'Poor, Persecuted Me' card when confronted with relevant criticisms - not unlike the term 'Liberal Media' coined by racist Alabama governor George Wallace during the desegregation era to counter his critics. This tantrum-inspire deflection method was continued by Nixon during his Watergate scandal, later used by the younger G. Bush during the debacle that was the Gulf War, and recently im-

plemented by foes of the non-existent 'Critical Race Theory' in the wake of the Black Lives Matter movement. It seems to me that after spending a few months harassing schoolchildren and educators with their own insecurities and ignorance regarding American History, under Trump and his loyal Trump-A-Lumpas the deluded CRT's prior mantra of 'Education not Indoctrination' has morphed corrosively into 'Eradication not Education'.

When the most important word to a politician is 're-election' it's understandable that so many fellow Americans would rabidly hitch their futures to a man whose delusions of grandeur offer so much potential personal gain. But it also seems to me (There goes that WOKE thing again) that if the majority of the Republican Party truly prefer this current self-destructive status quo and intend to drag our entire nation into that toxic gutter, that the very least they can do is demonstrate more transparency with the Americans they're screwing over:

1. Change their party's symbol from the elephant to the more-appropriate ostrich, an animal who similarly ignores reality by cramming its head into orifices where the sun

don't shine.

2. Accept the fact that no amount of Trump meme coins, crypto, cheesy AI trading cards, Oval Office gold baubles, fake bibles in/out of public schools, whiny election-denial lies, multi-million-plus dollar military parades, and not one image of Trump's scowling, jaundiced, wrinkled 'face' plastered on gigantic banners in public places or on vainglorious portraits desecrating the White House will EVER make ANY positive difference in the QOL of our average citizens. To wit...

3. Be honest with the NEXT unborn generation of American youth by giving them a moniker appropriate to the challenges they'll face after the Republican theft of basic human and health rights such as access to vaccines, fluoride, clean drinking water, ignorance-free schools staffed by properly-educated teachers, life-saving medical research, women's reproductive rights, FEMA disaster relief, etcetera ad nauseum - call those unfortunate future fellow citizens what they'll REALLY be under Trump and his loyal cabal of cowards - 'Generation Abandoned'.

Sean P. Keating
Woodsville

Sean,

I certainly hope, and must trust, that our next generation is not abandoned. I also hope, and trust, that the American people will pay attention to the happenings in our country, our state, locally, and even around the world in order to make an informed decision the next time the opportunity arises to vote for the person of your choice for whatever

office they aspire to hold. That means that we, the people, can not be the proverbial ostrich. That we must be aware of our surroundings. That we must stand up and speak out when needed And that we must always show up to vote when asked to do so. It is our right, our privilege, and our duty to ourselves and to those that follow after us.

Gary Scruton, Editor

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To the Editor,

I would like to respond to letters to the Editor from Rachael Booth and Richard Roderick in the May 6 edition.

First Rachael:

Does she really feel that Flag Day celebrations for the 250th Anniversary of the United States Army should be canceled simply because it happens to fall on President Trump's birthday? How absurd!

Now on to Richard:

Richard stated that Trump constantly lies, that if his lips are moving, he's lying.

That makes Trump well qualified to be an anchor on CNN. CNN and those similarly aligned politically have been lying to us for years. I have provided some examples below.

First, CNN lied about Russian Collusion. Not only that, but they spent 4 excruciating years repeating the lie. That's no accident, no slip of the lip. Consider that on the day after the 2016 election, when the Country was stunned that Clinton was defeated by Trump, Brooke Baldwin went on CNN with Chris Cuomo sitting to her left and said, "We did all we could to help her (Clinton) win. We

gave her a pass". She was telling the Country that it wasn't their fault that Clinton lost. But it may have been CNN's fault. All of CNN's polls showing Clinton with a 97.8 or 98.9% chance of victory could have only decreased the motivation for Democrats to get out and vote. That would explain the huge increase in Democratic voters from 2016 to 2020. After the 2016 election loss Democrats realized that elections are won by voting on Tuesday, not by protesting on Wednesday, and they avoided making the same mistake in 2020.

With Baldwin's statement she inadvertently tipped her hand. She told us that CNN is full left, fully partisan, and actually the DNCNN, the Democratic National Committee News Network. So, what was NOT mentioned on CNN on the day after the 2016 election? Russian Collusion. Why not? If it was real, it would have been completed, so why didn't CNN report it as the reason for Trump's victory? Because the likes of CNN never expected Trump to win (they were 98.9% sure of a Clinton victory) so they didn't have a cover

story made up yet to explain a Trump victory. Then they tortured us with 4 long years of a fake story that never went anywhere because there was no there there. No Who, What, When, Where, How, or Why. Nothing. No explaining which states were flipped from blue to red by Russian Collusion. (This is a necessary component of the story and FYI, New Jersey went for Clinton so Russian Collusion did NOT affect New Jersey. So where did it have an effect?) No details given, just 4 years of suggestion and innuendo. Then, once Biden won the 2020 election, the Russian Collusion story faded away with no resolution. Are they serious? They led us on for 4 years just to drop us like a bad date. It's no wonder that CNN is falling fast.

The second big lie was Hunter's laptop. While CNN and Democrats denied that there was any truth to this story, Trump and Fox News, who were accused of being fake news by the likes of CNN, stayed on this story and it turned out to be true. Oops, CNN, caught lying again.

The third lie is Joe Biden's cognitive decline. CNN and the Democrats that control them continued to maintain that Joe Biden was sharp as a tack, until the truth became too obvious for most to tolerate. Most, not all. Joe Scarborough of MSNBC said that Biden was so sharp he had Joe Frazier's left hook. Jake Tapper of CNN went so far as to criticize Lara Trump for suggesting that something was wrong with Joe Biden. He accused her of criticizing Joe Biden's stutter (she didn't) as a way to deflect the conversation from the problem that anyone with two eyes and a brain could see. That is the extent to which CNN has gone to promote and protect the Democrats regardless of the facts, and viciously attack anyone who asks a question or makes an observation that they don't like.

If CNN is telling the truth, which is rare, it is a coincidence and nothing more.

Finally, last year Joe Biden was asked if he would pardon his son, Hunter. He said, "No." His reasoning was that he trusted the Judicial process.

Later, he did pardon

Hunter, and his reason was that he did NOT trust the Judicial process. Um, what happened in between there that made Joe lose trust in the Judicial process (led by his DOJ)? Or was he just lying from the beginning?

In summary, Trump has his flaws, we all do. He often talks too much and doesn't know when to stop promoting himself. But when it comes to integrity, anyone who supports CNN or the Democrat Party has no room to criticize, and Trump has done something rare in American politics. He is putting maximum effort into doing exactly what he said he would do, which is why 77 million Americans put him in the White House.

Democrats need put all their effort into rebuilding their Party in the mold of what it used to be 30 years ago if they want to have a chance of winning in 2028. Fighting against what Americans want isn't going to cut it.

Greg Kouba
Lindenwold, New Jersey

Greg,

Growing up our family got one TV channel. (Yes, I said one) It was in the days before cable and the only channel we could watch was the CBS affiliate out of Burlington, VT, WCAX. That meant that the evening news was Walter Cronkite. Times have certainly changed. Now there are a host of news channels, as well as sports, movies, reruns, old shows, and the list goes on. It means that there is such a variety that in order to stand out a channel must do something unique. I would dare say that both CNN and Fox News have done just that. They have found a base and are playing to it. I see nothing wrong with that manner of approach. In fact I would dare say we are all guilty of the same thing. Have you ever said something to another person in order to get them to like you? Or at least to tolerate you and keep listening? We have all done it.

The solution? Get your news from more than one source. Just like getting an estimate on a repair to your car or home, you don't settle on the first quote. You look around a bit., gather some information and then make an informed decision. It is our job as voters to be informed before going to vote.

Gary Scruton, Editor



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Adam W. Smith

To the Editor,

I have served as the Grafton County register of deeds since 2011. It has been a rocky road as I am outspoken and passionate about what I do for the people who own an interest in real property in this beautiful county. I also have far too much experience in the handling of bullies.

I have experienced difficulties with the entrenched administration who hold power over the part time elected officials who control policy.

The audio of the 4/22/25 and 5/13/25 meetings of the board of commissioners is incredibly telling and can be requested by contacting the county administrative assistant. Transparency has never been a strength of these commissioners as neither of the two with the new four-year terms mentioned that fact in their campaign materials. The longest serving commissioner possesses one strength, as she is a retired Dartmouth Freshman English Professor. She relies on this singular

strength in the role she plays as editor in chief, producing minutes edited with her heavy hand thick with her narrative spin which creates the illusion of her possessing actual substance, selectively eliminating opposing views and statements which conflict with her goals.

The heat has become overwhelming in their kitchen and the chairman has unilaterally removed the link to internet access to real time meetings. They will not revisit the subject until after the annual budget has been discussed and passed and the commissioner vote to approve the controversial courthouse design has passed. They depend on the hard-working people of the county being too occupied with their lives to pay attention. Need I say more?

Kelley Monahan
Grafton County Register
of Deeds

Kelley,

Rules are made for a reason. Sometimes the rules are made by those in charge for themselves. Sometimes the rules are made for the benefit of the voters. And sometimes the rules are made for the benefit of those paying the bills. There are also rules made by a higher power that covers many groups.

Since the pandemic many groups have gone to allowing for internet access to meetings. Sometime just to watch and hear, sometimes participation is also allowed. But I believe that there is no state regulation that makes a requirement, one way or the other.

When it comes to the bottom line budget I will simply remind the readers that it is our county delegation (elected NH State Representatives) who vote on the proposal from the commissioners. They are the only ones that can vote yes or no. So if you want input, contact your local rep and let them know your opinion. It may not sway them one way or the other, but that is our system of government.

Gary Scruton, Editor

Dear Editor,

Thank you so much for your acceptance of my article on stormwater's effect on our water quality. I wrote this article for my Dual Enrollment Southern New Hampshire University class that I am currently taking through Blue Mountain Union School. This section in our class, called Campaign for a Cause, is centered around researching local issues and advocating for change. To write this article, I used the following web-based sources: <https://www.lcbp.org/get-involved/learn/reduce-runoff/> https://gmwea.org/files/GMWEA_PFAS_One_Pager_March2022.pdf <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F1AmrRpGKoU>

I also interviewed Harry Shepard who is involved in the Green Mountain Water Environment Association, and who has been working in the town of Stowe, Vermont's water quality office before he could drive.

If you need any additional information, please contact me at lydia.clough@oesu.org or my teacher, Leah Gawel, at leah.gawel@oesu.org. Thank you for your consideration,
Lydia Clough

The following is my op-ed:
Is Stormwater Really That Big of a Deal?

The pollution affecting all Vermont's water, espe-

cially Lake Champlain, has increased in recent years. So much of this pollution is blamed on the farmers, but have you noticed that the little rustic farms, so characteristic of Vermont, are slowly dying off and fading into the past? If the farms are slowly fading but the pollution is becoming more of a problem, something clearly doesn't add up.

The majority of water pollution stems from stormwater. Stormwater itself is not what is causing the pollution; however, it is all the pollutants, which are dragged along when it runs off impervious surfaces (hard surfaces that don't allow water to soak into the ground). Although many of the people who live in these urban areas want to deny the fact that their beautiful, newly sealed driveway is causing a small portion of Vermont's water pollution, the fact is that it really does have a roll to play in the pollution of Vermont's waters, especially the ones near cities and towns.

This is a generational problem, though, not entirely our fault and not solvable overnight. However, this problem demands that we act now to control stormwater before it spirals even further out of control.

But what can we do about this huge, seemingly unsolvable problem? Rain barrels are an easy solution. They catch the water that flows off of your roof and into a gutter sys-

tem. Although this solution may involve spending money, it's definitely a worthwhile investment as it will help control the stormwater and therefore limit the pollution flowing into our beloved waterways.

Another feasible option is something you can encourage your whole town to participate in. Building a pond! For example, Middlebury College built a retention pond to control the stormwater flowing off the impervious surfaces on the campus, and it has effectively allowed water to slowly soak into the ground and filter through the soil before it drains into the waterways of Vermont.

The preservation of Vermont's water comes down to us. For generations, many people failed to recognize the significant impact stormwater has had on Vermont, but we can think about it now. We can make a difference. Even though the problem is not entirely our fault, we can begin the important task of providing support for the people fixing our water quality.

Lydia Clough is a current junior at Blue Mountain Union School in Wells River. Her father is a civil engineer technician and the inspiration for her interest in water pollution.

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Homemade Apple Pie

Hello hello my fellow chefs. Well let's get this recipe started, here is what to buy and how to make it. By the way I find that using the variety of apples in your pie always comes good.

Preheat oven to 350 degrees

Ingredients

1 Package Pillsbury Pie Crust (you can certainly make your own if you want I choose the Pillsbury)

8 Large Apples (I used Cortland, Macintosh and Delicious) that is what I had so use what you have.

1 Cup sugar
3/4 Cup Flour

1 Tbsp. plus 1 tsp Cinnamon

1 tsp salt

3 Tbsp cold butter cut in small quarters

Milk to pat on hands and pat on top crust

Peel your apples and slice and put in large bowl. In medium bowl put your dry ingredients and whisk together the sugar, flour, cinnamon and salt. Pour over the apple slices and mix well. I tossed mine with my hands that I way you can make sure every apple gets covered. Put your bottom crust in your pie plate. Spoon the bowl of apples into the crust. Dot with butter cubes and

put top crust on. Pour a little milk in your palm wetting both hands press lightly over your mound of apple shapes Seal edges with a fork or do your own edge !!!

Put it in the oven and bake for 45-50 minutes or when brown. That's it! Well folks I hope you enjoy this recipe. It's easy peasy and very "Delicioso ".

Serve alone or with ice cream, I chose with ice cream. If you have any questions please call Gary and I will help you out. Until next time I'm signing off, Sincerely, Cin Pin



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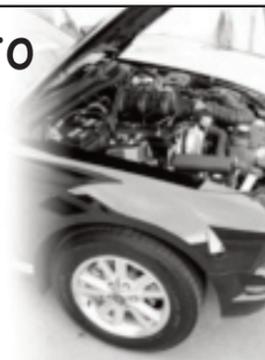
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