

THE CABOT CHRONICLE

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Vol. 19, No. 7

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P.O. Box 245, Cabot, Vermont 05647

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July 2026

CELEBRATING 250 YEARS OF INDEPENDENCE CABOT, VT!

Saturday, July 4

Parade stepping off at 11 am sharp

NEW PRIZES for best entries

\$1500, \$1,000 & \$500!

Pre-register your entry at CabotVermont.org

Rummage Sale, opens at 8am, Cabot School Gym

9am-2pm

Used Book Sale, Food vendors, Family activities,
Historical Society exhibits & Music

Event parking at the Elm Street field.

Shuttles will operate from 9 am to 2 pm.

Elder & handicapped parking at Cabot School, Gym Rd.

Visit **CabotVermont.org** for more information.



*The Cabot 4th of July celebration is possible with support from the
Cabot Community Association, Cabot Fire Department and the Town of Cabot.*

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LEGISLATIVE REPORT: Happy Fourth!

by Representative Gregory Burr, Caledonia-Washington District



Act 73, the education transformation act that was signed into law by Governor Phil Scott last July, saw some significant updates and changes this past legislative session. Bill H.955 went back and forth from the House and Senate and finally a conference committee and was voted out by the House on May 29. I voted yes to support the bill. All in all, middle ground was found to find cost savings but keep decision making local and voluntary. The bill created regional CESAs, or Cooperative Educational Service Areas, to share services such as special education and transportation costs. Additionally, voluntary merger committees are formed this fall to study unified union school districts. Districts will vote on proposed mergers on Town Meeting day in 2028. The bill sets spending thresholds of 18% above the state average and creates a path for a foundation formula in 2029. The foundation formula is a system of state funding based on how many students are attending the school with additional "weights" that factor the specific needs of students and circumstances of schools. This is in contrast to budgets voted on by individual schools that are then supplemented by the state. Towns that offer public tuition (choice) are still preserved in the new system. Ultimately, the goal is to curb spending and increase quality outcomes for students. The Rural Community School Alliance supports the bill as passed and I am hopeful the Governor will sign it into law soon.

The repeals made to Act 181 were a great success this session and I was grateful to participate as best I could.

Thanks to the voice of many Vermonters, including a pivotal speech given by Ian and Caitlyn Ackermann on the Statehouse steps, the Road Rule and Tier 3 portions of Act 181 were repealed. This means that the opportunity to build on your land will largely remain unchanged. Unless you have a major development project that triggers Act 250, you only need to go to the town zoning administrator to apply for a permit. (Septic systems still need state permitting.) Had Act 181 gone through without change, the process for building would look drastically different, requiring permitting through the Act 250 process. I was able to bring two floor amendments which passed the House that allow farms to construct facilities for social, recreational, and educational events without needing an Act 250 permit. The other modified the language in the "smart growth principles" of our regional planning commissions to include homesteading, small scale agriculture and forestry, and supporting housing in a list of types of development that the commissions shall support. The day we repealed 181 was my favorite day at the legislature to date.

There are so many changes to law that were made during the two years that I have had the privilege to serve as representative for Cabot, Danville, and Peacham. All those that increased the rights and privileges of people in our state and reduced the burden of taxes on our people; all those that freed our economy to grow and protected our vulnerable; all those that recognized the blood, sweat, and tears that it takes to make a life here - those I supported and those I intend to make all the more.

Here's to independence and to freedom and unity!

gburtt@leg.state.vt.us

Standing Ovation to Karen Mueller-Harder Cabot Community Service Award 2026

Presented by Thomas Dunbar, Cabot Thespian & School Science Teacher at Cabot High School Graduation June 12, 2026

For several decades the Cabot School Board and Select Board have, each year, jointly recognized a Cabot resident whose volunteer efforts over a number of years have made Cabot a better place to live.

This year's recipient of the Cabot Community Service Award has spearheaded for many years two community endeavors that add so significantly to the vibrancy of life in Cabot.

First, is the opportunity she's provided for monthly dances at the Willey Building, complete with live music and dance-calling that ensures that all ages and abilities can feel welcome and participate. People come from near and far to dance, and Cabot residents benefit from a joyful, inexpensive activity close to home.

Second, each year she organizes and directs dramatic productions in the CSPAC that (again) draw in a wide range of folks of all ages and experience, and gives acting opportunities to thespians young and old not found anywhere else on such a local level. Each spring,



Photo by Seth O'Brien.

audiences enjoy the results of months of planning, auditions, rehearsals, set work and final production.

Cabot has benefited so much from the skills, enthusiasm and steady guidance of this generous individual. With great appreciation, this year's Cabot Community Service Award is awarded to Karen Mueller-Harder.

Cabot Church Clock Repairs

by Paul Wade



Original directions for caring for tower clock.

The June issue of the *Cabot Chronicle* described repairs of the Cabot Church clock that resulted in only three faces working. The front, facing the Common, still had a problem needing a lift to repair.

Dunham Brothers Painting came to the rescue with their lift and fixed the



Synchronized clock faces.

front face recently, while I was away. THANKS.

Last week, the clock team synchronized the repaired front face with the other three, as shown in the photo. Now Cabot time is available to all – pay no attention to the time on your cellphone.

The clock requires winding weekly, according to the original directions which are still posted inside the clock tower. Tim Perry is currently the master winder.

TOWN OFFICE CLOSED

Thursday, July 2, 2026
for Holiday



CABOT ARTS SHOW AND TELL

Taking July Off

THE CABOT CHRONICLE

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Cabot Chronicle Mission Statement: The Cabot Chronicle is a home-delivered newspaper devoted to telling the story of the Cabot community.



School Board Update: Late June

by Chris Tormey, Cabot School Board

Much of the discussion at our June 22 school board meeting focused on the specifics of the school reform legislation recently passed by the VT Legislature (H955) and its impact on Cabot School.

The board was briefed on the key features of the new law by Margaret MacLean, a veteran teacher and school administrator from Peacham who also serves on the steering committee of the Rural Schools Community Alliance, a group of over 100 Vermont school boards (including Cabot's) and selectboards whose mission is to ensure that the interests of Vermont's rural schools and communities are included in changes to Vermont's school funding and governance laws.

Among the features of H955 highlighted by Margaret:

- School District boards are required under the law to meet with neighboring districts to STUDY the pros and cons of merging into larger unified districts, but they are not NOT REQUIRED to merge.
- Cabot is part of a large "merger study area" that spans from Danville in the north to Bradford in the south, and includes five preK-12 school districts as well as several preK-8 and prek-6 school districts.
- Cabot may choose to form a smaller merger study committee with school districts closer to it (potentially Danville and Twinfield).
- These merger committees will meet from October 2026 to September 2027. If the committee agrees that a merger would be beneficial, the voters in each of the school districts within that potential new merged district will vote in March 2028 on whether to actually form that new district. The voters decide whether to merge or not.
- Beginning in the 2029-30 school year, H955 states that a new school funding process shall go into effect. Under this process, rather than voters in individual districts deciding each year how much funding to provide their school, the State of Vermont would provide a "foundation grant" of funding for

every student enrolled. However, Margaret stressed that a number of things need to happen first before that new funding process goes into effect, and that school districts shouldn't assume at this time that it definitely will.

After Ms. Maclean's presentation, the Board discussed the best course for Cabot to take in the next several months, given the small number of students projected to be taking classes at Cabot High School during the 2026-27 school year. Board members also reviewed a first draft of an analysis of the relative costs and savings that would result if Cabot High School were to close and Cabot's high school-aged students were to be tuitioned out starting with the 2027-28 school year. The board agreed on the following course to follow:

- Use a retreat this July to nail down specific information which should be shared with families and community members about Cabot School's options.
- Get that information out to voters in August, and schedule at least one community forum in September to further explain/answer questions about the various options, including closing the high school and/or merging with another district(s).
- Circulate a community survey in September to get community input on the best path forward.
- Use the survey results to decide if scheduling a town-wide vote in November would be advisable.

.....Also, the board agreed to modify the language of Policy F27 dealing with "Communicable Disease Mitigation for Students and Staff" to make it clear that the Cabot School Board and administration will follow guidance from the VT Department of Health in mitigating communicable diseases at school. The Department of Health's current guidance recommends but does not require the use of masks in Vermont schools.

As always, please feel free to reach out to any school board member if you have questions or need more information about matters school-related.



CABOT MENTORING

by Mark Christensen,
Cabot Mentoring Coordinator

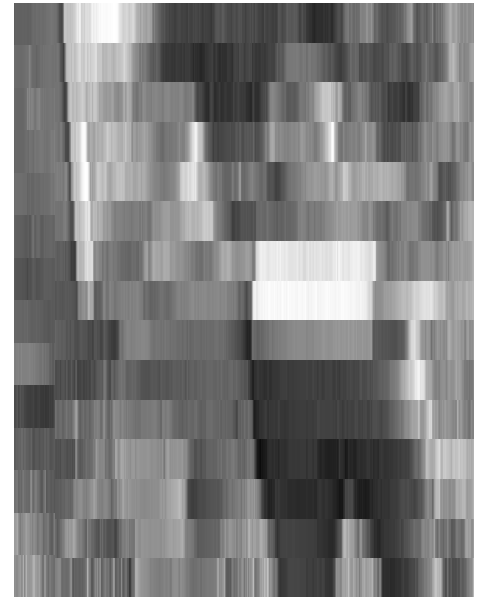


We're pleased to announce that the 2026 Ride the Ridges (RTR) scholarship has been awarded to Cabot High School graduate Thomas (Tommy) Brink.

Tommy will use the scholarship funds to further his post-high school education.

The 13th annual Ride the Ridges fundraiser event will be held September 13, 2026. Each year cyclists flock to Cabot from around the country (and from Canada) to participate in this exciting bicycle gravel ride event which is held in Cabot to raise money for the Cabot Mentoring Program. Funds raised are also used for scholarships, a bicycle loan program and, this past December, holiday food boxes donated to families of Cabot youth.

If you would like to be involved with this effort to support local youth, Cabot Mentoring and Cabot Ride the Ridges welcomes volunteers. The RTR needs help with their fundraiser event and the mentoring program needs adults to work with youth. So there are multiple ways to help out!



Mark Christensen presenting the 2026 Ride the Ridges Scholarship to Cabot High School Graduate Thomas Brink

Please contact us if you would like to learn more:

Cabot Mentoring:
Phone: 802-595-1130,
Mark Christensen,
Cabot Mentoring Coordinator
Email: cabotmentoring@gmail.com
Website: cabotmentoring.org

Cabot Ride the Ridges:
<https://www.ridetheridges.com/>
<https://www.bikereg.com/cabot-ride-the-ridges>

FREE SUMMER WORKSHOPS OPEN FOR ENROLLMENT!

*Division of Health Promotion and Disease Prevention,
Department of Health, State of Vermont*

My Healthy Vermont offers free, statewide programs for people looking to build skills to manage their health and feel better day to day. Join an upcoming workshop to learn practical strategies, connect with others, and get encouragement every step of the way. Workshops are held online using Zoom and open to people in VT 18 and older.

UPCOMING WORKSHOPS:

High Blood Pressure Management
Starting 6/30/26 and 8/4/2026

Chronic Disease Self-Management
Starting 7/9/2026

Diabetes Prevention
Starting 7/13/2026

Quit Smoking
Starting 7/8/2026, 7/10/2026,
7/14/2026 and 7/15/2026

To learn more or register:
Visit: MyHealthyVT.org
Call: (802) 859-5913

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COMMUNITY COMMENTARY

The views, opinions and information expressed in the Community Commentary, are solely those of the writer and not necessarily those of this newspaper or its affiliates.

An Open Letter to the Cabot School Board June 8th, 2026 "Educators are not Community Health Experts"

Dear Ellen Cairns,

Thank you for engaging in conversations regarding the impact of Covid policies on our students. I've been waiting six years for these conversations to begin. By addressing the unprecedented acts committed during Covid, we can now begin the healing process.

I was particularly impressed with your comment about the impact of Covid on learning, which was quoted in the Cabot Chronicle's May issue. You are correct, the "pandemic" had a negative impact on student learning in many places, not just Vermont.

To be clear, though, it was not the virus that has had a long-term impact on student learning- it was the response measures imposed by the school districts. The forced isolation, testing and quarantining of healthy people, the physical and emotional impacts of face masks and the inhumane imposition of social-distancing and remote learning.

These practices went on for two years - that is an incredibly long time in a child's development, impacting numerous milestones along the way.

Please remember, all of these measures were optional. Many schools around the country and around the world did not impose these practices, and their students fared much better in the short and long-term.

Another comment you made was also very important. While considering Policy F-27, which would allow the district to impose all of these same experimental and damaging measures again in the future, you remarked on the health department's ability to revoke recommendations if they find evidence of harm. (May School Board Meeting, end of recording)

Last spring I submitted an information request to the Vermont Department of Health in order to learn what evidence they have that face masks are safe and whether they received any complaints of harm.

They have no scientific evidence that masks are safe for school-age children. Neither does the Agency of Education, the CDC or the WHO. That is because conducting such a study would be unethical. For the same reason, you will also never find a study which demonstrates that a 30' slide in the playground is safe. Nobody would allow you to conduct such a study because, based upon everything we already know, it would be too dangerous to even try it.

As for evidence of harm, the department of health received plenty. Letters poured in from parents, teachers and community members citing the known and experienced harms.

For example, here is a letter from a parent: "I urged my 15 year old son to write this email but he insisted that 'no-one cares what kids think' about the pandemic. I disagree but understand his sentiment - they have had no say or con-

trol over their circumstances at school... "...masking is not harmless for kids. My son is a high school sophomore and has never been to his school without a mask. It has been harder to make friends and he sees no point in participating in class in a mask. He struggles to understand his teachers and constantly thinks they are angry just because he can't read their expressions. Teachers have done a heroic job but the kids are constantly scolded for chewing food with their mask down or letting it slip beneath their noses. "Exhaustion, anger and sadness have set in for many kids around masking and we are the families who have supported the idea from the start."

The Department of Health received a pile of similar emails, including references to credible research on the subject: "Critically for children, the WHO Advice on Masks also describes in detail the many potential harms of mask wearing, including: '[I]ncreased risk of self-contamination due to the manipulation of a face mask and subsequently touching eyes with contaminated hands; potential self-contamination that can occur if nonmedical masks are not changed when wet or soiled. This can create favourable conditions for microorganism to amplify; potential headache and/or breathing difficulties, depending on type of mask used'; 'development of facial skin lesions, irritant dermatitis or worsening acne, when used frequently for long hours'; 'difficulty with communicating clearly'; and general 'discomfort,' among others. "How will our children learn and thrive when their communication is hampered, their heads ache, and they are generally uncomfortable?" None of these emails received a response which addressed their concerns or provided evidence to support the department's recommendations.

My request to you and the other members of the Cabot School board is to honor your responsibility, as elected officials, under the Constitution, to provide a check-and-balance for our school community.

As you stated at your last meeting, none of you are community health experts. Putting the decision of whether to require and enforce "recommendations" on to school boards is unfair. Recommendations and requirements are two very different legal distinctions with very different resulting culpability and responsibility.

If the Health Department feels they have enough evidence to determine that there is a need to impose such health measures in the future, then they should make that decision themselves. They already do so with school vaccination requirements and other health measures which they enforce in community settings across the state.

The CCSU school board has received ample evidence that the "health measures" you chose to impose on students and staff during Covid were harmful. I have sent you videos of two parents who spoke at a school board meeting in 2021 (#1 & #2) and shared examples of the emails the CCSU received demonstrat-

ing harms from masking and the lack of appropriate response to such complaints.

There is much more evidence to consider, and I would welcome a complete review of the district's implementation and enforcement of health department recommendations during Covid.

Superintendents, school nurses and even the health commissioner himself, as an MD, are not trained in how to devise and implement environmental mitigation measures.

I can arrange a consultation with an expert who is trained in school mitigation measures to protect medically vulnerable students. She is eager to speak with you and answer your questions: Masks in Schools: Appropriate Special Education Accommodations with Megan Mansell.

In light of your acknowledgment of the continuing damage that students are experiencing as a result of the school's previous implementation of these measures, I feel it is entirely inappropriate for the school board to decide they are competent and willing to impose such recommendations again in the future. Please decline to adopt any policy that permits the school district to become enforcers of public health "recommendations."

I welcome the opportunity to bring light and healing to this subject. Thank you for your honest engagement in these conversations.

Sincerely,
Amy Hornblas, Cabot Resident
Evidence-based Health Educator
Author of The Vermont Mask Survey
References available at AmyVT.com



Where in the World is the Cabot Chronicle?

Paddington Station



Pinky (Deanna) VanSchagen at Paddington Station, London

Wiley Building Lift Restored and Operational June 15

by Jeanne Johnson

Work went on for weeks in the bottom of the Wiley Building, updating components of the town hall lift. Work stopped multiple times to wait for parts, but the task is finally done and State inspection is complete.

Lift refurbishing, along with other improvements in the Wiley Building and wastewater plant, was paid for by a grant secured by former Town Clerk Betty Ritter. Betty was hoping to see the work done before her departure, but time ran out. Betty speaks highly of the assistance she received from Sam Lash of the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission. The grant Sam and Betty developed brought about half a million dollars in infrastructure improvements to Cabot. The lift upgrade cost about \$40,000, and is critical to meet requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act and facilitate movement into and throughout the building of heavy items like office equipment, musical instruments and library books.

The new setup doesn't look all that different – you still need a key and you must keep the button pressed while the lift moves to the level requested. But the components are all brand new.

The key to access the lift is available from the town clerk's office or library. Ring the doorbell at the back entrance of the building if you want to have the key brought to you at the door.

The button marked 1 is for the Town Clerk, Listers and Zoning offices; 2 is the main entrance level; 3 is the Library and Meeting Room; and 4 is the Auditorium.



Betty showing off new lift control panel.



New lift call button pad—turn the key and push the button.

Wake Boats Correction

by Jeanne Johnson

Members of Joe's Pond Association have identified inaccuracies in the June Cabot Chronicle Article: The headline "No Wake Boats" in June's *Cabot Chronicle* and aspects of the accompanying article were incorrect. Vermont's revised Use of Public Waters (UPW) rules distinguish between the "vessel" and the "activity." The state has NOT implemented a blanket ban on wake boats themselves; rather, it has placed strict limitations on "wakesports"—activities that use ballast systems to create an enhanced, artificial wave.

If a body of water—such as Joe's Pond—no longer has an eligible "wakesports zone", wake boats are still permitted. They may continue to be used for a variety of legal activities, including cruising, fishing, waterskiing, tubing, and wakeboarding, provided that they are not using ballast tanks or bags to create an enhanced wake. When operating without ballast, these vessels must be operated under standard motorboat rules, which include adhering to the 200-foot safety offset from other lake users.

Essentially, wake boats remain welcome on Joe's Pond, but "surf mode" and other high-wake activities are prohibited. Additionally, all ballasted vessels remain subject to mandatory decontamination protocols—specifically draining and flushing systems with hot water—before entering or leaving any body of water to prevent the spread of invasive species.



ADVICE FROM THE TREE WARDEN

by Roland Payne, Jr.
Cabot Tree Warden

Summer is in full swing, and the 2026 Fourth of July celebration is only a couple of days away. Hopefully, we enjoy pleasant weather as we celebrate our nation's 250th anniversary. I would like to wish everyone a safe and festive Fourth of July!

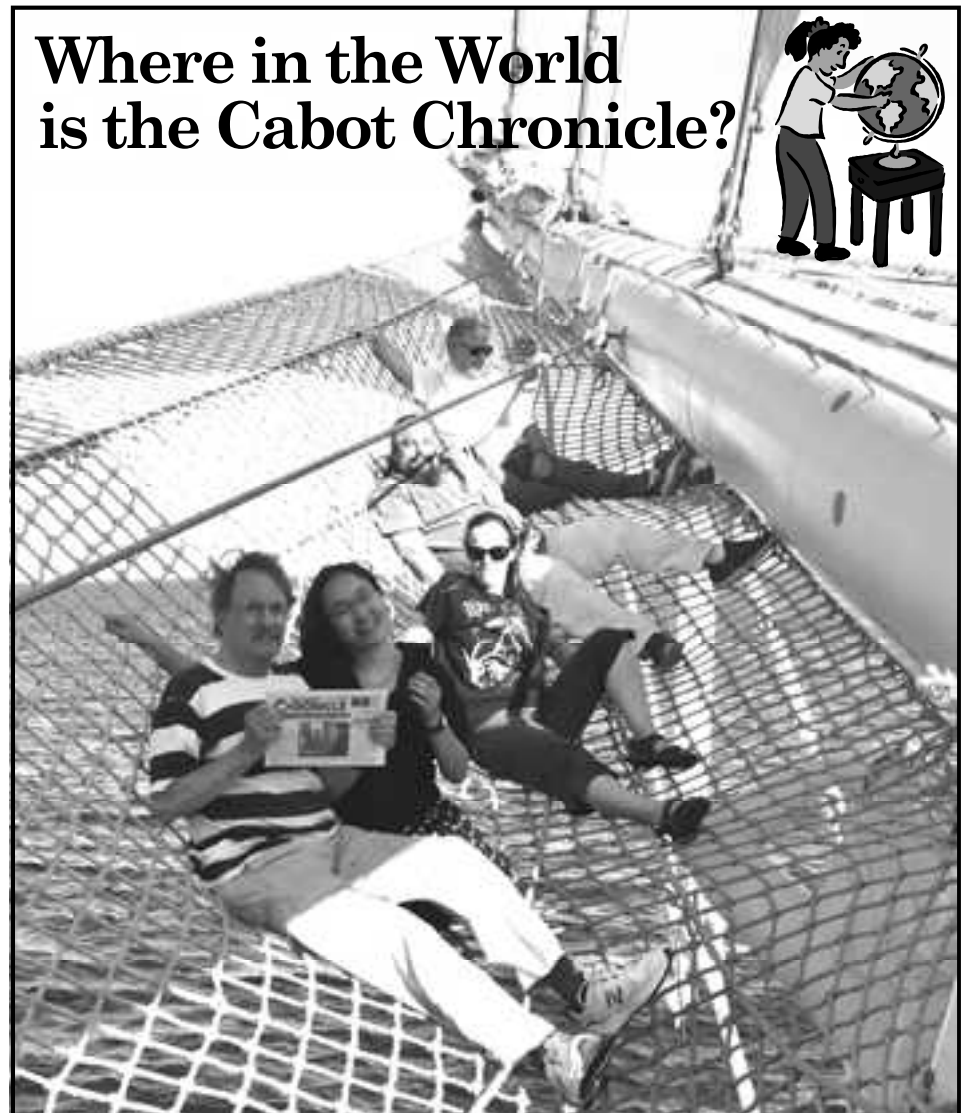
June marks the start of the annual flight season for the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) when the invasive beetle emerges from infested ash trees and spreads to new hosts. On its own, EAB typically advances no more than a mile per year. Unfortunately, it is highly adept at hiding in firewood and other untreated wood, allowing it to travel far greater distances when transported by people. Vermont saw this firsthand in 2018, when EAB-infested trees were discovered on a property in the Town of Orange. The insect was believed to have arrived in a load of firewood brought in from out of state. In the eight years since that initial detection, EAB has spread to all fourteen Vermont counties. With the infestation now widespread, the focus has shifted from eradication to slowing the pest's advance and managing its impacts.

This spring, the first round of roadside ash tree removals took place

throughout Cabot. All ash tree limb wood was chipped on site to prevent it from being taken and used as firewood—a key step in reducing accidental spread. Larger tree stem sections were left for property owners to use as firewood or to decompose naturally. Leaving ash where it is cut remains one of the most effective practices for limiting EAB movement. The removal of ash trees along Cabot's roadsides will continue for many years. Approximately 2,300 ash trees over six inches in diameter remain within the town right-of-way. As the new budget year begins in July, another round of trees will be selected for removal, with priority given to those in declining health or with structural defects. EAB activity has already been confirmed in three areas of town, identified by Matt Peters during the Conservation Committee's Natural Communities study. It is likely that the insect has spread beyond those initial sites in the time since the survey. Later this summer, I will be conducting roadside assessments to look for additional signs of infestation. If you see a black Subaru Crosstrek with its hazard lights on driving slowly, it is probably me surveying roadside the ash trees.

Stay rooted,
Roland Payne
Cabot Tree Warden

Where in the World is the Cabot Chronicle?



Chip Taylor: My travel friend Suzie Lee and I are enjoying the Chronicle while relaxing on the netting on either side of the bowsprit of the Royal Clipper, the World's largest passenger carrying sailing vessel. Where are we? Somewhere in the Alboran Sea off the coast of Spain. It's the westernmost part of the Mediterranean Sea. Others in our group (The College of Curiosity) are awaiting their chance to also read the Chronicle.

Through The Cabot Chronicle, the CCA promotes their mission to enhance the quality of community life for those residing, doing business, and visiting Cabot, VT. One aspect of that mission is to empower Cabot residents to participate in the governance and management of our town.

The Chronicle is dedicating a staff writer to cover selectboard and other meetings, for the purpose of keeping community members informed about issues discussed at meetings they might not be able to attend. Most meetings are available via Zoom for those who would like to listen in person. Instructions for joining meetings virtually through Zoom are posted regularly on Front Porch Forum, or you can call the Town Clerk's office for details at 563-2279. Digital Recordings of selectboard meetings are available on the Town website, CabotVT.US by clicking on "Selectboard Meetings."



SELECTBOARD UPDATES

A Letter to Our Readers

by Frank Kampf

I want to let all of our readers know that I believe strongly in community service, and have felt the best use of my time was writing articles for the Chronicle about the Selectboard and School Board meetings.

After six years of doing this job, I realized that I really needed a break. The deadline of writing articles, along with the time demand of attending all the meetings, has recently overloaded my daily life. I have too many irons in the fire, so to speak.

I plan to take the summer off to enjoy a much needed vacation and time with my grandchildren. I hope to start attending board meetings again in September, and write articles for the October edition.

Time can only tell what the future holds.

Sincerely,
Frank Kampf, Staff Writer

June Selectboard Meetings

by Jeanne Johnson, in the temporary absence of Frank Kampf, Staff Writer

The Selectboard met June 2, 4 and 16. Many topics were discussed over all three meetings and major conversations are summarized here. Full meeting minutes and recordings are available at Cabotvt.us under "Selectboard."

POLICY/ORDINANCE REVIEW

Ethics Investigation and Enforcement Policy

Changed to "policy" from "ordinance" because it only affects employees of the town, not the public. Selectboard needs to designate recipients of ethics reports/complaints.

Dog Ordinance

The board discussed reducing impoundment period from ten to five days, at which time, if the owner has not claimed the dog and paid all fees, anyone can claim the dog or it will be transferred to a humane society. Recommended increase in fines to \$100 for first offense, \$200 for second offense, third offense no more than \$250 and total not to exceed \$700. Checking with humane societies to ensure suggested fees are reasonable. Recommended fees are comparable with other towns, and will need to be paid before dog is released from impoundment. The authority to enforce the ordinance lies with the selectboard. The board approved recommended fees; ordinance will go through the public hearing process in a few weeks.

Key Box/Knox Box Ordinance

The board discussed updating the Knox box ordinance to reflect modern practices and ensure better access for emergency services. They agreed to have Liz Wilkel rewrite the ordinance to remove outdated language and integrate new information about Knox boxes. Liz presented a draft at the June 16 meeting which has been reviewed by the fire chief. There are about 14 lock boxes in town; four at the creamery, two at the

school, one at the Willey Building, plus the sewer plant, Neighbors in Action and residential ones.

Grant Policy

Because of tight deadlines and reflecting the selectboard's fiscal responsibility, the Planning Commission has been taken out of the process. If facing a short turnaround time, the selectboard may call an emergency meeting to take action. The board approved moving to next stage of adoption.

Litter/Trash Policy

This issue has arisen with no action in the past. Gary Gulka presented research on existing ordinances from other municipalities. Mike Hogan will develop a draft policy to establish what it could look like and who would enforce it; looking for a policy that is manageable and sustainable. The board considered adding a second bulky disposal day, one in spring and one in fall. Cost to the town for bulk removal days was \$2,000 in 2023; has risen to \$3,100 in 2025. Junk cars come under the state junkyard rules.

Policies/Ordinances considered for update will be available for review on town website prior to scheduled action by community.

RESILIENCY HUB GRANT AWARDED

Lori Augustyniak reported that Cabot has received a resiliency hub grant for \$45,640 from Vermont Center on Rural Development (VCRD) Resilient Communities Program to help with climate-related disaster preparedness and community resilience building. Cabot Community Association will work with the Resiliency Task Force and Emergency Management Director to prepare for flood recovery, power outages and extreme weather events. More information available at <https://www.vtrural.org/climate-economy/resilient-communities/>. A work plan is due August 15. Laura Cavin Bailey of

VCRD briefed the selectboard via Zoom on the process to brainstorm opportunities, determine actions for the future and establish priorities. Reference was made to the VCRD Community Visit of 2012, report with goals and action steps available at <https://www.vtrural.org/cabot/>.

FLOOD MITIGATION UPDATE

Gary Gulka provided an update on flood mitigation efforts, reporting that the task force evaluated seven sites and narrowed it down to two viable options for relocating the Cabot Garage, with construction costs estimated at around \$2 million per site, not including site development or land acquisition costs. \$2 million is also the projected cost for the actual flood mitigation work on the current site of the Cabot Garage. The team will explore debris management upstream and potential grant opportunities.

WATER METER UPDATE

Fred Ducharme reported that almost all outdated meters have been replaced with the modern models. Testing has been conducted to ensure they can be read from off the property; Town Treasurer will learn how to import the data and create bills.

FIRE DEPARTMENT EQUIPMENT

Fire Chief Deasy reported the life expectancy of a tanker truck is 20 years, and Cabot's is 27 years old. Upcoming emission regulations in 2027 are expected to increase the cost of a new one by about \$30,000. Dean suggested placing an order now for a new cabin chassis to lock in a lower purchase price than can be expected in the future, no funding is required at this time, and the order may be cancelled if necessary with no

penalty. It takes two years to build, allowing time to build up the sinking fund without obligating any money now. The tanker will be close to 30 years old by that time. Budget discussion revealed an \$8,000-\$11,000 savings in the fire department budget this year due to a decision to change insurance policies, and \$40,000 in the equipment sinking fund. The chief said he is trying to plan equipment replacement costs that don't hit the town budget all at once.

The board discussed funding options for replacing radios, with two choices: borrowing CCIF funds beginning January at 5% interest, costing \$14,000/year or Vermont Bond Bank, which next cycle will open in December, at 3% interest over 40 years. It was agreed to pursue the bond option, with plans to put this on a September agenda and begin the process of retaining bond counsel and applying. Besides the radio purchase, the bond bank will be important for future projects. The current radio price is good through 2028. Peggy Miller has applied for a Motorola grant, and the town will continue applying for grants for apparatus and radio replacement costs.

FOURTH OF JULY FESTIVITIES

Lori Augustyniak updated the selectboard on event plans. There will be a military flyover for the parade; Bobby Searles contacted business owners and parade prizes have been raised to \$1,500 first place, \$1,000 second place and \$500 third place. There are new activities July 3 under the tent, including music, magic and food, and parking and traffic management strategies with the help of volunteers and law enforcement were reviewed.

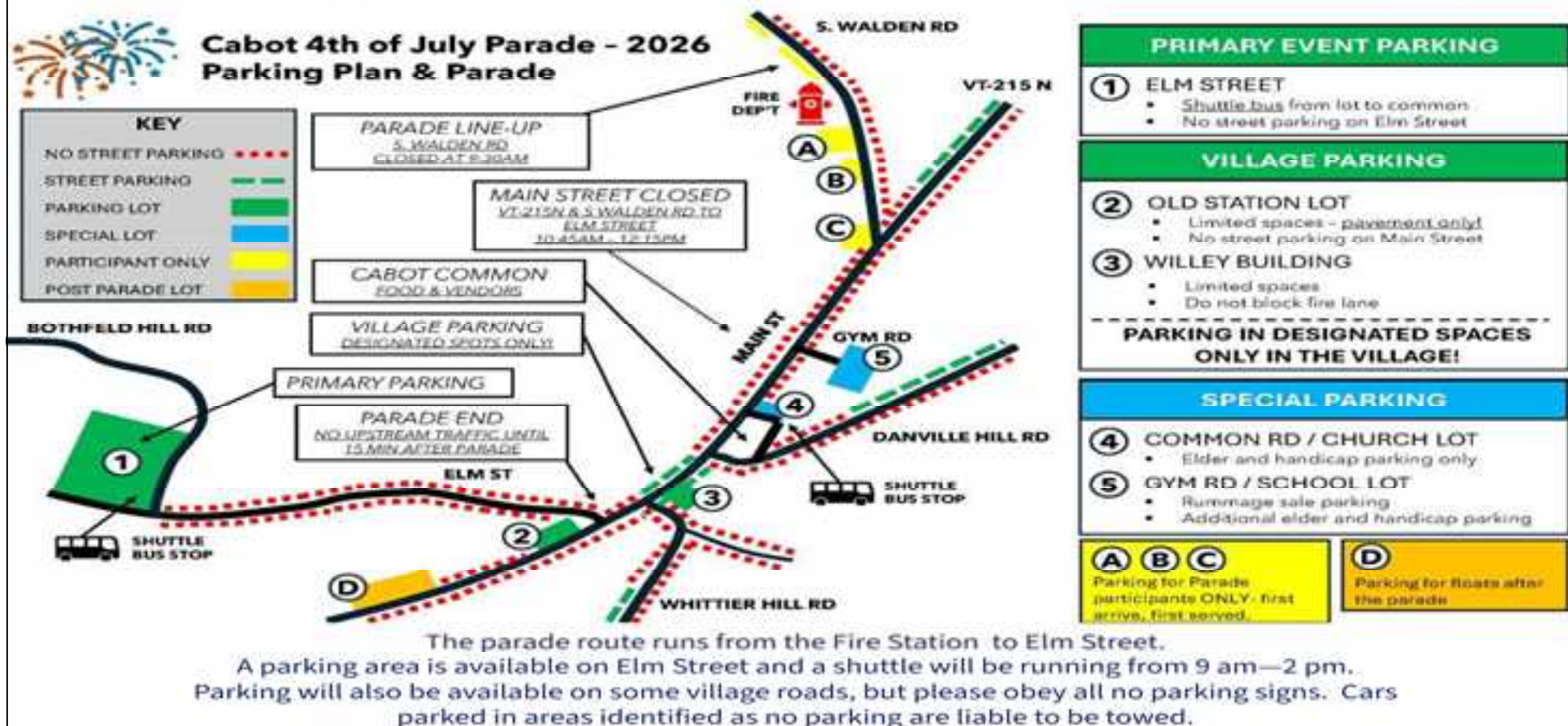
Osprey Nest



A nesting osprey. Photo by Rollin Tebbetts

Plan ahead for a great holiday in Cabot

Cabot 4th of July Parade - 2026 Parking Plan & Parade



CABOT'S VETERANS

We want you!
WITH THE VETERANS FLOAT
FOR THE CABOT
FOURTH OF JULY PARADE

Celebrating the 250th Anniversary
of the Declaration of Independence

SATURDAY, JULY 4, 2026

Meet at the CABOT'S VETERANS float at the fire building
on South Walden Road no later than 10 a.m.
Grab a seat on the float or walk behind the Veterans banner
Call Jack at 802-595-1675 with questions

CELEBRATING 250 YEARS OF INDEPENDENCE & AGRICULTURE!

Join our parade contingent to show
the strength, diversity and pride of Cabot farms.

Pre-register your entry for the parade at
www.CabotVermont.org/July4
or the Town Clerk's Office

Visit CabotVermont.org for more information
or contact Sandy Pond.

Bald Eagle in Flight



Photo by Rollin Tebbetts

CABOT FOURTH OF JULY THROUGH THE YEARS



July 4th Celebration, 1900

Bessie Blair collection

This 1900 Fourth of July celebration took place on Cabot's common. They celebrated with a baseball game on the common, a band, speeches, and quite possibly a parade. —Photo from Cabot Oral History collection

by Jane Brown

When I was growing up, the Fourth of July was not especially significant for me. I lived on a farm on Cabot Plain and looked forward to my city cousins arriving each summer, and if they arrived around the Fourth, they'd have colorful boxes of firecrackers and sparklers with them. The youngest of us were allowed to wave a sparkler around in the semi-darkness, always with lots of adult supervision, while the older boy cousins and my uncles had access to firecrackers that they set off under tin cans to see whose flew highest into the night air. Sometimes they set off more powerful blasts or a rocket that zoomed high overhead and exploded with a big boom – and that would send my grandfather abruptly into the house. He was not a fan. He not only feared for the nearby farm buildings and hayfields, but he also didn't like startling the farm animals; and on a personal level, all the noise interrupted his routine which followed the "early to bed, early to rise" rule for bedtime.

Most years, we didn't pay much attention to the Fourth. There were family gatherings if it fell on a weekend, maybe a picnic if it fell on a Sunday; and occasionally someone produced a few firecrackers, but mostly it

was just another day – cows had to be fed and milked, chores done, loads of hay brought in.

However, when my father, who was born in 1906, grew up on that same farm, the Fourth of July was a big event for the Cabot Plains community, at least for a few years. During the weeks prior to the big night, all ten Bolton kids and their neighborhood friends (nearly every family had six or a dozen youngsters in those days) collected scrap wood and hauled it to the highest point around – a pasture hill-top on our farm overlooking Joe's Pond. It was our "night pasture" when I was growing up, a remarkable pinnacle of bare ledges with deep marks left by the iron wheels of military wagons that had struggled northwest to reach Cabot Plain on Bayley's effort to reach Canada in 1776. It was a fitting place to celebrate those hardy patriots who served in the Revolution. With much of the route of that old military road on the Bolton property, that was probably my first history lesson, diligently passed on to me and my cousins by our grandfather.

On the night of the Fourth, neighbors arrived on the open knoll in buggies or on foot. Most lived on or very near the route of the old military road – the Maynards, Gambles, Stones, and Barnetts came from the



Barre Kiltie Band, July 4th, 1921

In 1921, Barre's Kiltie Band marched in the July 4th parade. Here they are heading up Main street in front of what is now Harry's Hardware. —Photo from Cabot Oral History collection.

western end, the Roys, Grays, Macks and Burtnetts trudged up the road from the east. They came with blankets and sometimes baskets of food to share, and as the last rays of sun disappeared in the west, the pile of wood – sometimes eight or ten feet high, was set ablaze. The adults chatted while

watching the roaring blaze, and youngsters frolicked in the flickering shadows of the big fire. The gathering was probably more about coming together as a community than celebrating the nation's independence.

(see, "Cabot Fourth", page 9)



Cabot Historical Society

Open every Saturday 1:00-3:00 p.m. until fall

Open 4th of July

For access during other times, call

802-793-4534

802-426-3388

YOU'RE INVITED!
Join us at our
FUNDRAISER!
ON THE 4TH OF JULY CELEBRATION!

Fun for the whole family!
Enjoy bounce houses, a dunk booth, snow cones, popcorn, cotton candy, games, and more!

We'll be open before the big parade, take a break during it, and re-open right after, so stop by throughout the day!
Support Cabot School and come have some fun!

THURSDAY, JULY 4TH - CABOT COMMON
10:00 AM — 2:00 PM

Questions? Contact: jennifer.tidd@ccsuvt.net

CELEBRATING 250 YEARS OF INDEPENDENCE!

Friday, July 3
6-10 pm

Dance Party & Magic

Under the Tent on the Common
Join this FREE Independence Day pre-party for
Cabot residents of all ages featuring



With hot dogs sales to benefit Cabot School.

Cabot Fourth

(continued from page 8)

Years later I learned that campers on Joe's Pond – only a few at that time had cottages, but many tented on Flint's Point on the east shore – looked forward each year to the big fire on top of the hill above the west shore of the pond. There were celebrations on Flint's Point in those years; on the west shore where the Joe's Pond Association pavilion is today. The Flints first opened their farmland for a park in the late 1800s but it wasn't until the early 1900s that summer cottages began to be built. There were large gatherings at Flint's Point for baseball games, band concerts, and dancing. The sound of music could easily be heard at the bonfire on the hill across the pond, entertaining Cabot Plains neighbors as it mingled with the crackling of the big fire.

In the years immediately following the signing of the Declaration of Independence, the Fourth of July was remembered with reverence. There were long speeches by statesmen, hymns, prayers, and band concerts. However, after the Civil War, joyful, noisy "Callithumpian" parades became more common, even reaching some larger communities in Vermont. These boisterous parades featured large puppets designed to poke fun at the so-called elite, politicians, or other officials. They were noisy, and bands played a mix of marches and popular tunes of the day.

In Boston, around the end of the 19th century, some socially elite men formed a military style group, "The Ancient and Honorables," and marched in a parade. This very soon became "The Ancient and Horribles"

when non-socialites dressed in silly costumes and marched in noisy disarray to mock the "Honorables." By the 1870s, Vermont had picked up the practice and today nearly every town has some kind of parade or celebration with good-natured, noisy, often off-beat participants.

Cabot had its own style of celebrating the Fourth. In his memoirs, Rev. Fred Blodgett recalled attending a picnic in the maple grove at the Stone farm on Cabot Plain, in about 1885. There was also a baseball game and a band concert. Other years, there were baseball games on the village common, parades, marching bands, and speeches by prominent townspeople or politicians.

During the years of WWI and WWII, Cabot suspended big celebrations on the Fourth, but when Hernon Foster was president of the PTA in the late 1940s and needed to raise money, he revived the parade and Homer Darling, who lived in the lower village, roasted beef in a firepit which was served to about 800 people on the common. It was such a success there has been a parade and festivities in Cabot Village every year since.

Cabot's Fourth of July celebration is widely known and well attended. This year's celebration of the 250th anniversary of our nation's independence will be even bigger. It will begin on Friday, July 3rd at 6 p.m. with a softball game, a 3-on-3 basketball tourney, food, magic, and fun until 10 in the evening. On Saturday July 4th, the parade moves down Main Street at 11 a.m. and promises to be bigger and better than ever, always with a definite nod to callithumpian ways, and possibly some good-natured spoofing, "Ancient and Horribles" style.



Also in the 1921 parade, Frances Malmquist and Olive Smith shared a ride on Olive's horse. –Photo from Cabot Oral History collection.



View of Joe's Pond from the hilltop on the Bolton farm where the Cabot Plains neighbors had their traditional bonfire. This photo was taken in the 1940s. The bonfires took place about three decades earlier when the hillside was clear-cut pasture. -- Photo from Jane Brown's collection.



Recent parades have featured several bands, along with many floats and spoofs. In 2014, Anthony Pollina marched while campaigning (successfully) for re-election to the Vermont Senate from Washington County. He ran as both an Independent and a Democrat. – Photo from Jane Brown's collection.

There WILL Be Fireworks at Joe's Pond!!

by Jeanne Johnson

Don't necessarily expect it to happen again, but it looks like there will be fireworks at Joe's Pond on the occasion of the country's 250th anniversary.

Joe's Pond Association members' Eurasian Watermilfoil (EWM) battle is their highest priority. At the same time, the cost of fireworks has skyrocketed (did you see what I did there?), forcing the decision to cancel the traditional Joe's Pond Association-sponsored fireworks display. But I'm told that property owners just couldn't let the 250th go by quietly, and have privately raised funds for one last blast.

As usual, the show is scheduled for dusk on July 3, with a rain date of July 5. The display will be from the same location as the past couple of years - on the Route 15 side of the middle pond, and can be seen from along Route 2 and Route 15 as well as the public beach in West Danville. Boats should not go into the two smaller ponds where there are large patches of EWM.

THANK YOU, JOE'S PONDERERS!!



America's Time Capsule Will Be Buried July 4 in Philadelphia and remain sealed until 20276

The United States' official time capsule, known as America's Time Capsule, is part of the America250 initiative, commemorating the nation's 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence. It will be buried at Independence National Historical Park in Philadelphia on July 4, 2026, and is designed to remain sealed for 250 years, until 2276.

Design and Preservation

Unlike traditional box-shaped capsules, this time capsule is a precision-milled stainless steel cylinder engineered to withstand underground conditions for centuries. A metal bell jar cover creates an air pocket to prevent water intrusion, ensuring long-term preservation. The design was developed in collaboration with the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), the Library of Congress, and the National Park Service.

Contents

The capsule will include contributions from all 50 states and U.S. territories, as well as letters from every living president. Notably, the Library of Congress is contributing a molecular data storage device: a tiny metal pellet containing synthetic DNA encoded with digital copies of historical items, such as:

- Thomas Jefferson's rough draft of the Declaration of Independence
- Francis Scott Key's handwritten lyrics of "The Star-Spangled Banner"
- The 1791 L'Enfant plan for Washington, D.C.
- Digitized 1890 Native American audio recordings in Passamaquoddy
- The Blackwell's Kinfolk family tree
- The Annals of the U.S. Congress from 1789 to 1824

Synthetic DNA allows extremely high-density storage—about nine terabytes per cubic millimeter—and is highly durable, capable of lasting thousands of years with minimal maintenance

Significance

America's Time Capsule is congressional-mandated and represents a national effort to preserve a snapshot of American life, culture, and governance in 2026. It is intended to provide a clear, authentic window into the nation's values,



achievements, and identity for people in 2276. The project also symbolizes unity, with contributions from every state, territory, and branch of government, reflecting the collective story of the United States.

Public Engagement

The capsule will be dedicated during the July 4, 2026, celebrations, alongside nationwide events including concerts, fireworks, and community gatherings. While the capsule itself will be sealed, the celebrations aim to engage Americans in reflecting on the nation's history and future.

Vermont's Contribution

Vermont sent an ornament with an image of Mount Independence, a land formation used during the Revolutionary War; an ornament honoring the Revolutionary War battle at Hubbardton, the only battle fought on what would become Vermont soil; an ornament commemorating the state's Old Constitution House; and an ornament commemorating the Battle of Bennington.

More information is available at <https://america250.org/time-capsule/>

Cleaning the Monument on the Common - Bucky



Bucky Dunham donating time and equipment to clean the monument on the common in time for July Fourth festivities. Fred Ducharme photo.

988

SUICIDE & CRISIS LIFELINE



2026 REPORT LAUNCH & FILM SCREENING

Vermont Works for Women, the Vermont Commission on Women, and the Vermont Women's Fund, in partnership with Hula, invite you to the launch of the **2026 Women Work & Wages Report**. The new report explores factors affecting women's economic success in Vermont.



In addition to the report launch, a panel discussion, and networking time, we will screen *No Country for Mothers* a new documentary exploring the culture wars surrounding American motherhood.



Tuesday, July 14, 2026



Hula, 50 Lakeside Ave. Burlington



2 - 6 PM



**PURCHASE TICKETS (\$15) AT
[HTTPS://GIVE.GOFUNDME.COM/VWFHULA](https://give.gofundme.com/vwfhula)**



- Reelect -
Greg Burt



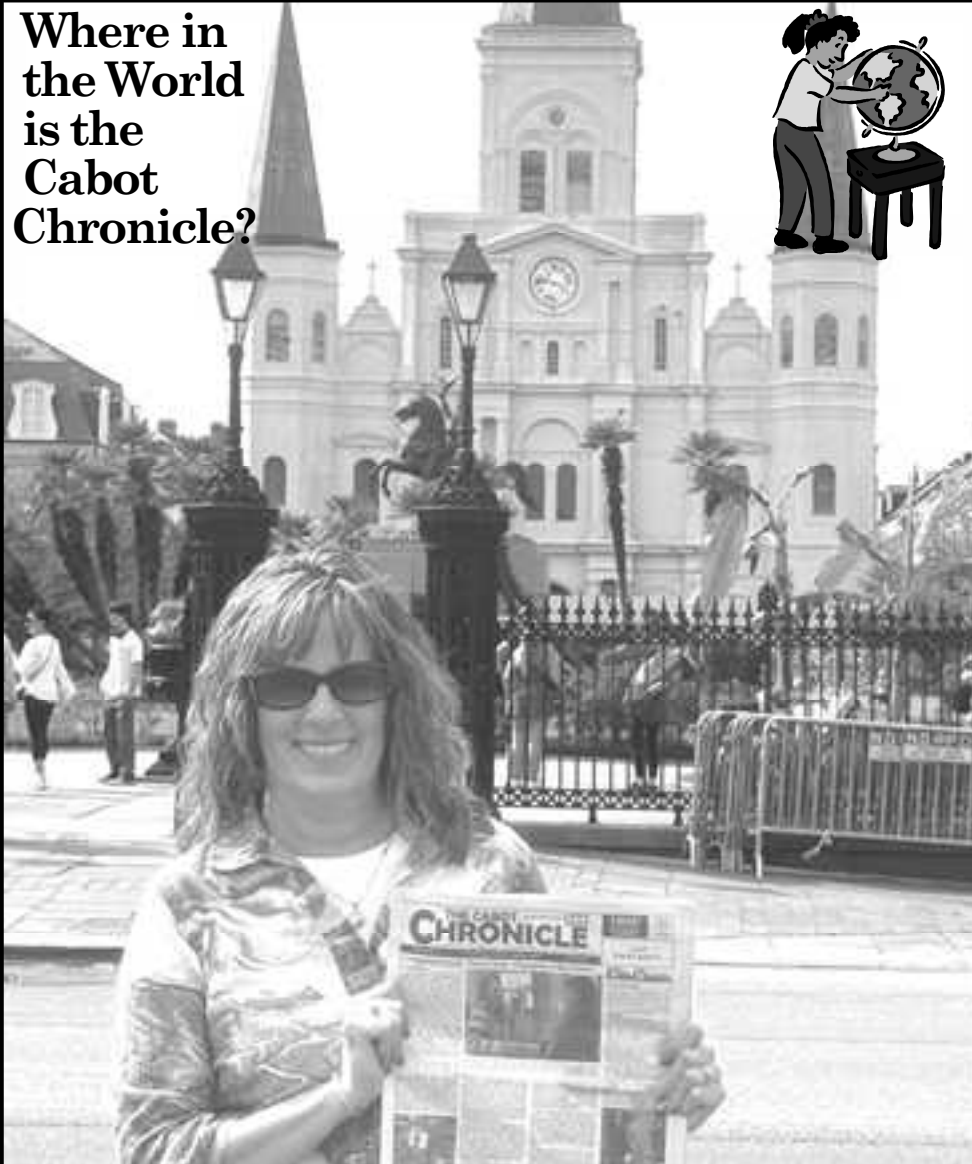
for State Representative
Cabot - Danville - Peacham



I will continue to -
Make our state a more affordable place to live
Help businesses thrive
Make Vermont attractive for jobs, housing, and economic growth
Make working farms and forests a priority for our economy and quality of life
Work to decrease Healthcare costs

Paid for by the Burt Election Committee- gregburt.com for more info

Where in
the World
is the
Cabot
Chronicle?



Jenn Gochey in New Orleans, between beignets and Hurricanes.



Receive emergency, weather, traffic,
and other alerts from state and local
responders.

Two easy steps!

1

Scan QR code or go to
VTALERT.GOV

2

Create an account to receive alerts by app,
phone, text, email, or
TTY/TDD devices.



Scan here!

Alert examples:

- Evacuation information
- Chemical spills
- Shelter-in-place orders
- Severe weather
- Boil water advisories
- Roadway interruptions

VT-511 Traffic Alert: Windham County

Please click here to confirm receipt

VT-511 Traffic Alert - Windham County

Traffic Description: Incident - New
TRAFFIC ALERT: A rolling roadblock will be employed
between 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. on I-91 southbound
between exits 6 & 5. Motorists should
expect minor delays.

Traffic Alert Start Time: Fri 10/20/2023, 10:00 AM

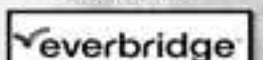
Anticipated End Time: Fri 10/20/2023, 2:00 PM

Note: Anticipated End Time will not always be known.
Click here for all State of Vermont road closures

For assistance with your account please
contact the VT-Alert Administrator via
email at: DPS.VTALERT@vermont.gov



Powered by:



Tree Dedication at Joe's Pond



(L to R) WDCC President, Deb Stresing; Secretary, Chris Burns; Treasurer, Wendy Hutchins; Garey Larrabee's daughter Jenny, and granddaughters Alyssa and Ava

by Deb Stresing, West Danville
Community Club President

On June 9, 2026, the West Danville Community Club (WDCC) proudly dedicated a flowering crabapple tree in memory of Garey Larrabee. For the last 75 years, there have been countless numbers of community volunteers to keep a public beach at Joe's Pond, but history tells us we may not have had this space if it weren't for Garey.

We can thank the history book "West Danville, Vermont Then and Now, 1781-2021" (co-Authored by Cabot's Jane Brown) for describing the many times, usually due to financial woes, that Joe's Pond Beach was in trouble of closing.

In 1984, Garey secured a federal



grant of \$48,000 to improve the beach. He oversaw the development of a grassy area for picnic tables, a sandy beach, a parking area and a bathhouse with electricity.

Years later, however, another lack of funding led the town to consider closing the beach again. Garey had already formed a Community Club to beautify the tourist Park & Ride area and in 2005 the West Danville Community Club was officially formed to take care of the Beach.

And today, the Beach is the gem of the community to be enjoyed by all.



CABOT VERMONT ANNUAL EVENTS 2026

Saturday, July 4, 2026
INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION

Tuesday, August 11, 2026
STATE PRIMARY ELECTION

Saturday, September 12, 2026
**CABOT UNITED CHURCH
HARVEST SUPPER**

Sunday, September 13, 2026
RIDE THE RIDGES

Saturday, September 19, 2026
CABOT BULK DISPOSAL DAY

Saturday, September 26, 2026
**CABOT FALL FOLIAGE, CHEESE &
CULTURE FESTIVAL & TURKEY DINNER**

Tuesday, November 3, 2026
STATEWIDE GENERAL ELECTION (mid terms)

Wednesday, November 11, 2026
CABOT VETERANS DAY LUNCH

Sunday, December 6, 2026
CABOT COMMUNITY MEMORIAL TREE

**Friday, Saturday & Monday
December 11, 12 & 14, 2026**
TOY AND WARM CLOTHING SHARE

Saturday, December 12, 2026
**CABOT HOLIDAY FESTIVAL
& OUTDOOR MARKET**

Friday, December 25, 2026
**CABOT COMMUNITY
CHRISTMAS DINNER**



CABOT PUBLIC LIBRARY NEWS

LIBRARY HOURS: Monday noon - 6 pm, Tuesday 10 am - 6 pm, Wednesday 11 - 6 pm, Thursday noon - 6 pm, and Saturday 9 am - noon. Curbside library service is still available during regular library hours. **All programs are free and all are welcome!** For added programs and updates, check cabotlibrary.com & FPF. If you have a program suggestion, question or would like to volunteer, please email aman-daotto.cabotlibrary@gmail.com

Summer Programming - This year's theme is *Unearth a Story*. We're excited to dig into great books, uncover hidden histories, and explore the past through fun programs and activities. **All programs take place at the Cabot Rec Field Pavilion unless otherwise noted.**

Summer Reading Program (ages birth - 18) - **June 18 - August 13**- Visit the library to choose a reading challenge for a chance to earn prizes - it's easy! **Get ready to read!**

Unearth a Story Reading Challenge - Pick up your reading chart and stickers. Read or be read to for 15 minutes a day for 15 days. Earn a T-shirt, book and an additional prize.

1000 Page Club - Pick up your reading chart. Read 1000 pages to earn a book and an ice-cream voucher for the Cabot Village Store.

Tuesdays with Teens (ages 5+) - **Tuesdays in July - 4 - 5 pm at the library** - Join our teen employees for an hour of fun crafts, activities and games.

Story & Activity Time (ages Birth - 7+) - **Wednesdays in July - 10:30 am - noon at the Cabot Rec Field Pavilion** - Join Amanda Otto, teens Amyra Simmons and Freya Van Deusen, and special guests for stories, songs, crafts and activities! Stay after for snacks and more active play on the slip and slide, swing sets, sandbox and fields. Stay tuned for added descriptions!

7/1 - Tugboat Story & Activity time with Captain Ben

7/8 - Four Winds Nature Institute will bring seasonally appropriate loose parts, science tools, a mud kitchen and more to help nurture a sense of wonder, place, and well-being!

7/15, 7/22 & 7/29 - Enjoy fun programs designed by teens Amyra & Freya

VINS - Birds are Dinosaurs - Thursday, July 2 - 6 pm - Cabot Rec Field Pavilion - Find out what 65 million years of evolution turned the dinosaurs into-birds! Celebrating "Unearth a Story" with Vermont Institute of Natural Science (VINS), you'll meet live birds of prey and learn all about their dinosaur ancestry. We'll explore the ways modern birds became masters of the air and understand the immense timescale over which these dinosaur-descendants adapted!

Book Sale - July 4 - 9 am - noon - Outside at the Willey Building - Browse through hundreds of used books at the annual Fourth of July book sale.

This event is organized by the Friends of Cabot Library and is held annually outdoors in front of the Willey Building. Proceeds support library programs and other library needs. **Book donations are being accepted during regular library hours starting June 1, with a limit of 2 boxes per patron.** All items must be clean, in good condition, and free from mold, mildew, or damage (no ripped pages, torn covers, or odors). Please call the library if you need assistance bringing books indoors.

Dungeons & Dragons Camp with Losada - (ages 7-10) - July 6, 7 & 8 - 3:30 - 5 pm at the library - Join this three-day camp to learn the basics of how to play the most widespread tabletop role-playing game and find your love for D&D! Learn what ability checks, expertise and advantages on dice rolls are. This program is designed for new players with minimal to no experience. **Registration required - please email to sign up!**

TBD - July 9 - 6 - 7:30 pm - Join us for an evening of fun led by our teen employees. More info coming soon!

Botanical Printmaking on the Cabot Trails - July 16 - 6 - 7:30 pm - Join Hard-pressed Community Printshop on the Cabot Trails for a fun evening of botanical printmaking! We will identify and select common plants along the trail and make simple and striking relief prints for participants to take home. Meet at the back of the Willey Building. Please contact the library with any accessibility questions or concerns. *This program is co-sponsored by Cabot Trails*

Cabot Book Group - Thursday, July 23 - 2 - 3 pm - at the library - July's book selection is *Theo of Golden* by Allen Levi. One spring morning, a stranger named Theo arrives in the small Southern city of Golden. He doesn't explain much about where he came from or why he's there—but when he visits the local coffeehouse, where pencil portraits of the people of Golden hang on the walls, he begins purchasing them, one at a time, and giving each portrait to the person depicted. In exchange, he asks only for the person's story. And so portrait by portrait, person by person, secrets are revealed, regrets are shared, and ordinary lives are profoundly altered. A story of giving and receiving, of seeing and being seen, *Theo of Golden* is an unforgettable novel about the power of generosity, the importance of connection, and the quiet miracles that happen when we choose kindness and wonder. Email cabotlibrary@yahoo.com for more info and to be added to the book group email list.

TBD - July 23 - 6 - 7:30 pm - We're digging up something good - check back soon!

DinoMan - Thursday, July 30 - 6:30 pm - Cabot Rec Field Pavilion - Have no fear, DinoMan is here! Stomp to the Rec Field - you'll be taken on a magical trip throughout the Mesozoic era, with merry mayhem, magnificent props, and enormous inflatable dinosaurs.

StoryWalk (all ages) - **July - August** - Bring the kids and head to the Cabot Rec Field Pavilion to enjoy a stroll and a story. Begin at the woods edge near the sandbox and follow around the perimeter of the field. Please pack it in, pack it out.

Vermont State Parks and other centers are open for your summer enjoyment! Call or email to borrow these passes: **Vermont State Park Pass** - Free entry up to eight people in one vehicle to a Vermont State Park - day area; **Fairbanks Museum & Planetarium** - Free Family Admission; **Historic Sites pass** - Free entry up to eight people in one vehicle for Vermont State Historic Sites; **The Old Stone House Museum and Historic Village** - Free access to campus, buildings and museum tours; **ECHO Lake Aquarium and Science Center** - \$7 admission per person valid up to four guests; **Vermont History Museum/Vermont Heritage Galler-**

ies - Free museum admission for one family; **Craftsbury Chamber Players** - Free tickets for Summer Concert Series.

Thanks so much to our library subs Marianne Robotham, Grace Hoffman, Vicki Palmer, and Billie O'Connor and to our program volunteers and collaborators Losada Stoddard, Kerri Moll and K9 Member Rudy, and to the students who helped at the library during June Term! Additional thanks to the Wiswell Foundation for sponsoring our Teen Employee Program - we are excited to welcome Tom Brink, Freya Van Duesen and Amyra Simmons to the team! We are so grateful to our Library Trustees who provide support and direction: Angela Ogle, Leah Sare, Kurt Steinert, Erin Ruddell, and Taeryn Robbins.

See you at the library!
Kathleen Hoyne - Library Co-Director
Amanda Otto - Library Co-Director
Christina Sacalis - Assistant Librarian



Twin Valley Senior Center

P.O. Box 152
East Montpelier,
VT 05651
802-223-3322
Director@twinvalleyseniors.org

Meals on Wheels!

Shaw's GIVE BACK WHERE IT COUNTS Reusable Bag Program begins on July 1. Every \$3.00 GIVE BACK WHERE IT COUNTS Reusable Bag sold **throughout July 2026** at the Montpelier Shaw's location will give back \$1 to TVSC.

Learn & Play Canasta!

10:15 AM - Noon
2nd and 4th Mondays of each month

Looking for a fun way to stay sharp and socialize? Join us to learn and play Canasta, a classic card game that combines skill, strategy, memory, and teamwork. Whether you're brand new to the game or already know the basics, Canasta is a wonderful way to keep your mind active while enjoying friendly competition and laughter. No experience necessary - everyone is welcome!

Volunteer Meals on Wheels Substitute Drivers Needed

Twin Valley Senior Center is seeking caring volunteers to help deliver Meals on Wheels to seniors in our communities. Just a small amount of your time can make a meaningful difference by providing both a nutritious meal and a friendly check-in. Interested in volunteering? Contact us at 802-223-3322 for more information.

Thrive & Connect Resource Fair

Tuesday, August 18
11:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Join us for an afternoon of connection, information, and community! Meet representatives from local organizations and services that support health, wellness, independence, and quality of life. **FREE Lunch Provided.** Discover valuable resources, ask questions, and connect with programs designed to help you thrive.

Mark Your Calendar

THRIVE AND CONNECT: A RESOURCE FAIR

on Tuesday August 18, 2026 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Free Lunch for vendors and attendees: grilled hot dogs, chips, drinks, cookies

Assorted vendors - CVCOA, Claudia Pringles, Esq. DNR/DNI; AARP; Efficiency Vermont; Vermont Department of Health for emergency preparedness; The Health Center, including free blood pressure screenings; Mitzvah Fund; HomeShare Vermont.; and more.



CABOT COMMUNITY FUND

Funds Available for Community Organizations

The Cabot Community Fund (CCF) allows the CCA to support community-based projects and events that further the mission of the CCA. The CCF is funded by the generous support of the Cabot Creamery and other donors.

Funds are awarded to non-governmental organizations. Examples of previous awards include expenses of Cabot Arts-sponsored community performances, Cabot Night at Mountaineers games and Little League uniforms.

Guidelines and application form is available at:

<https://cabotvermont.org/community-grant-fund/>

Upcoming Events at the Jaquith Public Library

Upcoming July Events at the Jaquith Public Library

All events are free and held at the library (unless noted otherwise)

122 School St. RM 2,
Marshfield, VT 05658

For more info: 802-426-3581 or email: jaquithpubliclibrary@gmail.com or www.jaquithpubliclibrary.org

Summer Story Time & Playgroup Morning Program with Nicky Auerbach for Kids Birth to Age Seven Fridays through July 31 from 10:30 AM to 12 PM

Join Nicky for fun activities based on the theme, “Unearth a Story”. Story time and snacks followed by activities. Wear clothes you don’t mind getting wet and messy! Nicky has a Master Degree in education and loves to create fun learning opportunities for children. Older siblings are welcome to tagalong.

Join us for Summer Fun Nights For people of all ages on Wednesdays at 6:30 PM

We have great presenters to amaze and amuse us all!

July 1 - Dog Agility with Cyn Drinkwine: Local dog trainer, Cyn Drinkwine, will demonstrate some tricks with her dogs and then help you teach your dog some fun and impressive tricks, so please bring your well-behaved dog – on a leash, please!

July 8- The Marshfield Monarchs 4-H Club Presents: 4-H kids will share what 4-H is all about and present some projects we’re working on this year. Visit with live farm animals like goats, sheep, chickens and rabbits. Maybe you’ll be inspired to start your own 4-H group.

July 15 - Dinoman: Dinosaur tracks lead right to your library! Have no fear, Dinoman is here! With magic, merry mayhem, and magnificent props, the audience is taken on a trip throughout the Mesozoic era.

July 22 - Alyx the Magician: Nationally touring comedy magician, Alyx Hilshey, is a Vermont family favorite who has amazed audiences of all ages from Vancouver to England and everywhere in between; prepare to laugh, smile, and experience wonder.

July 29- Watershed Education with the Lake Champlain Watershed Basin Program: An interactive demonstration of how different types of pollution work their way through our watershed and ways to stop the pollution from occurring. Land, water, and human actions are all connected. We have a role to play in pollution prevention.

Summer Concert Series on Thursdays from 6:30 to 8:30 PM

Come on down and hear some music, visit with neighbors, dance, try your luck at a 50/50 raffle, buy some baked goods and books and join the fun. If you don’t have time to pack a picnic, you can buy your dinner from the **Tiny Cabin Kitchen.**

July 2 - Ernest James Zydeco Band: “Ernest James, a singer and dazzler on accordion, delivers zydeco good times and harrowing blues” -Downbeat Magazine

July 9 - A2VT: Representing Somalia, Congo, Tanzania and Burundi and currently living in Burlington, Vermont,

A2VT synthesizes their native African musical and dance roots with Western pop and Hip-Hop sensibilities.

July 16 - Faerie Godbrothers: The Faerie Godbrothers bring their unique blend of classic covers and imaginative originals to the stage in an unforgettable live music experience.

July 23 - Organized Dead: Organized Dead is an instrumental brotherhood of musical explorers centered around two entities that have changed the course of American music: The Grateful Dead and the iconic Hammond 3b organ.

July 30 - Honeybee Steelband: Honeybee Steelband presents a pollinator-friendly concert, featuring special appearances by Aro Venio, the Rebops, and more!

August 6 - Michael Arnowitz Jazz Band: Pianist Michael Arnowitz’s ImproVisions Jazz Quartet brings together outstanding creative musicians to perform acoustic jazz full of improvisational interplay and musical conversation.

Freedom and Unity: Keeping the Promise of Democracy in Vermont Marshfield Historical Society's commemoration of the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence Friday, July 17 from 6:30-8:00 p.m.

With funding support from Vermont Humanities, author and illustrator Dan Nott will explore his immensely popular comic book *Freedom and Unity: A Graphic Guide to Civics and Democracy in Vermont*. Nott's work simply, but powerfully, illustrates the unique ways in which Vermonters breathe life into the state's motto “Freedom and Unity.” We practice democracy not only at election times, but in living our lives within our communities.

Local leaders will share their own stories of why they undertake certain responsibilities for community functioning--the cornerstone of democratic expression. We invite participation by all our other neighbors, too. Can you contribute your own descriptions for how you make democracy real--such as helping dig someone out of a snowbank or bringing a bowl of soup to an ailing neighbor? Do you belong to a local service group? Such a variety of examples of democracy realized person by person!

These reminders of democracy in action are a fitting way to commemorate the Declaration of Independence, its signing and the subsequent 250 years of our democracy. The event is free and open to the public. For more information, please call: 802-454-1680.

Crankie Performance and Workshop with Delia Robinson

Saturday, July 18 from 1:30 to 3 PM

After a short Crankie ballade performance, Delia will teach participants how to create their own crankie scroll and a small cardboard crankie theater. A crankie is a box with a window through which one sees portions of a panorama painted on a scroll. The long picture sequence is cranked past the viewing window, like a pre-industrial movie. Music or narrative may be included. Crankie creators will be invited to perform their

crankie shows at an event in August.

Delia Robinson is a visual artist, writer, researcher, and singer, who has worked in painting and mixed media, ceramics, large-scale sculpture, and storytelling in different forms including crankie shows.

Participants must be at least 12 years old. The number of participants will be limited. Please RSVP at jaquithpubliclibrary@gmail.com or 802-426-3581.

Summer Reading Challenge Win prizes and a book Starting on June 15

Here’s how:

1. Come to the library and sign up to read! We will give you a reading log and stickers so you can keep track of your own progress.
2. For every 15 minutes you read, or are read to, put a sticker on your reading log. Jot down the title of your book.

Earn 50 stickers—win a prize, a book and a voucher for a free maple creemee from the Marshfield Village Store.

Art Show Opening: ANIMALS

Sunday, July 19 from 2 to 4 PM

The next show in the Jaquith Library gallery is **ANIMALS**, with small sculptures, drawings, and paintings of our fellow creatures on planet earth. This is a group art show with the artists: Linda Mirabile, Emilia Olson, Anne Davis, Delia Robinson, Georgia Landau, Susan Bull Riley, Helen Rabin, Janet Van Fleet, Cynthia Ross, David Klein, and Juliana Fechter. Refreshments will be served.

All Hands Together! Community Crafting Group

NEW TIME: Tuesdays from 6 to 7:30 PM

Bring your knitting, crocheting or whatever craft you are working on or start a new project. All ages are welcome if they are old enough to sit and work on a craft. Knitting and spinning maven Donna Hison from Marshfield, is the host of the group.

Drum Circle with Jean Jacques Maury

Friday evenings from 6 to 7 PM

Interested in a drumming circle? Come enjoy this free series for all ages and abilities. We will explore technique, patterns, and a common vocabulary to describe rhythm. No prior experience is needed or expected but you do need a drum - specifically a frame drum preferred. The purpose is to have fun playing as a group and learn a few things along the way based on a structured, coherent and practical approach. It will also be a practice - of connecting with an ancient, universal, and beautiful instrument which has been shared by all cultures over millennia - and of connecting body and mind into rhythm. Please register in advance by emailing: jean0jacques@yahoo.com or call the library: 802-426-3581.

The Marshfield Resilience Hub Farmers Market

Saturdays from 10 AM to 1 PM through October

Join us every Saturday at the Old Schoolhouse Common for local food and craft vendors, live music, and free community led Skill Shares. Vending space

is free, so let us know if you are interested in applying as a vendor, leading a class (we provide a small stipend), or playing music on the gazebo stage. To reach out send us an email: marshfieldrh@gmail.com or call the library at: 802-426-3581.

We have a Tool Lending Library!

The Marshfield Resilience Hub, Cooperation Vermont and the Jaquith Public Library have established a Tool Lending Library. We are accepting donations of good condition tools, kitchen equipment and gardening tools. In addition to tools, we loan computers, DVD players, makerspace kits, games, puzzles, wood moisture meter, air tester, all are available for checkout!

The Marshfield Community Garden Needs You!!

The Marshfield Community Garden is seeking committed volunteers to help weed and harvest the garden. If you are interested, please contact the Jaquith Public Library at 802-426-3581 and we will add you to our garden email list.

Did you know you can visit a museum, go for a swim or hike at the Vermont State Parks, and visit a historical site all for free?

The Jaquith has free Vermont State Park and museum passes for one- and three-day loans. You can use the Vermont State Park Day Pass in any of the state parks. The museums you can visit include: ECHO (\$7 charge per person up to 4 people), Vermont Historical Museum, Shelburne Farms Museum, Fairbanks Museum, Birds of Vermont Museum, Vermont Granite Museum, and the Vermont State Historic Sites. We also have \$1 discount coupons for the Montshire Museum. The Montshire Museum has a “Warm Welcome” program with \$3 admission for VT and NH residents with an EBT card, adult Medicaid card, or a free/reduced price school meals letter with a limit of six visitors. You can call ahead to reserve any of our museum and state park passes.

Just Food Hub Fundraiser

The Jaquith Library is raising money by collaborating with Just Food Hub, a profit-free, volunteer-run Coop in Marshfield that helps raise funds for organizations and groups. To order items such as coffees, teas, chocolate, hot sauces, Palestinian olive oil, nuts and dates etc. go to: justfoodhub.us/jaquith-library. You can ask Just Food Hub to put together a gift basket for you or you can make your own.

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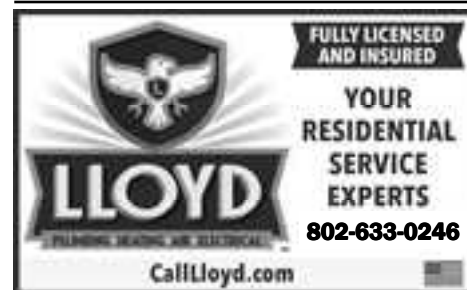


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9 Tips for Keeping Cool Without AC

by Matthew Smith, Efficiency Vermont

With hot and humid temperatures in the forecast, Efficiency Vermont is sharing some tips to keep a home or apartment cool without air conditioning. We also have rebates offering up to \$150 off a window AC unit that can help make air conditioning more affordable. And our rebates for heat pumps (which both heat and cool a home) range from \$375 to \$2,200.

You can read these tips on Efficiency Vermont's website (EfficiencyVermont.com, or read them below.

1. Open your windows at night. In Vermont, temperatures drop during the

night. Take advantage of cooler summer evenings and open your windows to promote a cross-breeze. This can also help you sleep better! Don't forget to close the windows and blinds before things get too hot in the morning.

2. Close your window coverings. Summer sun delivers heat right through your windows. Block the heat with shades or blinds during the sunniest hours to keep your home cool without AC. This is a passive, or "natural" cooling method.

3. Insulate and air seal your home. Many of the things that help keep your home warmer in the winter also help keep your home cooler in the summer. If you feel the temperature extremes in both

seasons, consider a weatherization project.

4. Bake and wash at night. Large appliances give off significant amounts of heat. Wait to turn on your oven, range, dishwasher, and clothes washer until evening hours when temperatures are cooler. Also, consider hanging laundry outside to dry.

5. Fire up the grill! If you can, take your cooking outside. If hot food is in order, fire up the grill instead of turning on the oven. Instead, plan for grilled dishes and salads to avoid generating more heat in the house.

6. Install an exterior window shade. Installing an awning, pergola, porch, or shade trees by your west windows will shield your home from hot afternoon rays. Direct sunlight is like a heater in the cool-

ing season!

7. Use your fans in the right places. Fans keep air moving around, rather than cooling the air. Blow air directly on people to get a cooling effect or set up your fans to draw in cooler air from the outside to the warm areas.

8. Use your exhaust fans. Exhaust fans in your kitchens and bathrooms capture hot air before it mingles with your house air and contributes to overheating.

9. Set your ceiling fans to rotate counterclockwise. In the summer, the fan blades should rotate counterclockwise (as you look up at it) to push the air straight down. Increase the fan speed on the hottest days.

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July 7th and 21st
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BINGO

July 2, 9, 16, 23, 30
Open at 5 pm, starts at 6 pm

Community Dinner

July 18th
4:30 to 6:30



Cabot Summer Music Series - 2026 on the Cabot Village Common

Tuesday Evening Concerts from 6 - 7:15pm

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June 30th Chickweed - Jazz/Blues + Latin (Stag & Thistle)

July 7th Bob and Sarah Amos - Bluegrass and Folk (JDK BBO)

July 14th New Lost Nation - Oldtime String Band (Spicey Spoke)

July 21st Christine Malcolm & Sweet Cicely Country/Bluegrass (Hook & Peel)

July 28th Colin McCaffrey Band Country, Bluegrass & Swing (Mexico Authentico)

August 4th Chad Hollister + Primo Pop, Rock & Folk (Maharaja Spice)



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