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Notes from editor (not for publication):

HEADLINE ELEMENTS:

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Around the Towns

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TEXT BODY:

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Christian Science Thanksgiving Day church

service

BRATTLEBORO — The community is invited to the
annual Thanksgiving Day service at First Church of Christ,
Scientist, 57 Putney Rd. across from the town common. All are
welcome.

The hour-long service starts at 10:30 a.m. Thursday, Nov. 27, and includes readings from the Bible and *Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures* by Mary Baker Eddy, plus hymns and a time for Thanksgiving testimonies. The service will also be available via a Zoom link at csbrattleboro.org.

Annual book sale and gift basket raffle at Brooks Library

BRATTLEBORO — Brooks Memorial Library's annual holiday book sale takes place Friday, Nov. 28, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Saturday, Nov. 29, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Shoppers will find cookbooks, children's books, history books, poetry, fiction, nonfiction, coffee table art books, and much more. Most books are \$2 or less. There will also be a raffle for gift baskets with a variety of themes. Raffle ticket prices are 1 ticket for \$2 and 3 tickets for \$5. The book sale will continue through the end of the year during regular library hours.

This annual sale is sponsored by the Friends of Brooks Memorial Library, and all proceeds go to support library programs including the teen program, summer reading programs, many of the evening talks, the Library of Things, and museum passes. Proceeds also support online programs, including language learning programs, movie streaming, access to newspapers and magazines, and much more. For more information, call 802-254-5290 or visit brookslibraryvt.org.

Black Friday Trail Day at Vermont Museum of Natural History

MARLBORO — Volunteers will be conducting a few hours of Black Friday (light) trail work, on Nov. 28 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Vermont Museum of Natural History, 117 Adams Crossroad. Organizers suggest this could be the perfect antidote to standing in lines and stressing out for the sake of consumer culture!

The plan is to finish up the Beaver Loop and do a little landscaping around the accessible trail. Hand tools (especially

44 rakes, clippers, or loppers) and a pair of gloves are all that's
45 needed. They'll supply additional tools, warm drinks, and snacks.
46 Find out more at Facebook "Black Friday Volunteer Trail Day" or
47 contact Michael Clough at
48 Michael.Clough@vermontmuseum.org.

49 ***Taking Solace series looks at dealing with***
50 ***holiday grief***

51 BRATTLEBORO — This month, Center for Solace
52 (formerly Brattleboro Area Hospice) and Brooks Memorial Library
53 began the "Taking Solace" series, a collaboration on the first
54 Wednesday of each month in the library's Community Room,
55 from 6 to 8 p.m.

56 On Dec. 2, the topic will be "Navigating Grief During
57 Holidays." Participants will explore this universal topic: whatever
58 one may celebrate, losing or missing a loved one at holidays (or
59 birthdays and other milestones) can certainly compound one's
60 grief. How do we hold space for that added emotion, as well as
61 honor the lives of those we've lost?

62 No RSVP required, join us in the Community Room
63 upstairs at Brooks Memorial Library. To find out about further
64 topics, follow Center for Solace or Brooks Memorial Library on
65 Facebook, or go to centerforsolace.org or brookslibraryvt.org.

66 ***West River Radio Club hosts ham radio license***
67 ***testing***

68 TOWNSHEND — The West River Radio Club will offer
69 testing opportunities for those who are ready to obtain or upgrade
70 their FCC license Saturday, Dec. 6, at 10:30 a.m., in the Wolf
71 Building at the Grace Cottage Hospital complex, 185 Grafton Rd.

72 Persons wishing to take any exam need to RSVP and
73 bring the following: the FRN number obtained prior to the exam
74 at bit.ly/842-radio, two pieces of identification (one with a
75 photo), pencils and calculator (not on a cellphone), any prior
76 radio license, and \$15 (cash or check).

77 After testing will be the club's holiday potluck luncheon.

78 For more information and/or to RSVP, contact Mary Peterson at
79 802-258-3921.

80 ***Dummerston Cares offers smoke, carbon***
81 ***monoxide detectors for homes***

82 DUMMERSTON — Once again, residents have an
83 opportunity to keep themselves and their families safe from house
84 fires. Dummerston Cares is continuing to accept requests for its
85 "Raise the Alarm" program, through a partnership with the
86 Dummerston Volunteer Fire Department (DVFD).

87 If you're a Dummerston resident living in an owner-
88 occupied, single-family home, you are eligible to receive smoke
89 alarms (with 10-year batteries) and carbon monoxide detectors.
90 These safety devices and the installation by trained DVFD
91 firefighters are free.

92 Sign up for upgrading current devices or installing first
93 devices can be arranged by leaving name and phone number on
94 the Cares Message Line at 802-257-5800. A Cares volunteer will
95 be in touch to complete the application. Installations take place
96 on Saturdays between 9 a.m and noon and usually take less than
97 30 minutes.

98 ***State warns of scammers targeting***
99 ***3SquaresVT recipients***

100 WATERBURY — The Vermont Agency of Human
101 Services' Department for Children and Families (DCF) have
102 issued a warning that there are scammers calling and messaging
103 some recipients of 3SquaresVT food assistance, telling them that
104 their EBT Cards are "locked" and asking them to call a number to
105 verify eligibility.

106 DCF's Economic Services Department (ESD), the
107 administrators of the 3SquaresVT program, said in a news release
108 they "will never text or call people with this message." They
109 advise to hang up on suspicious calls and contact ESD at 800-

110 479-6151 to verify your account. EBT cardholders can check
111 their balance at ebtedge.com or by calling 1-800-914-8605.

112 If anyone has been a victim of this scam, they should
113 contact ESD at 800-479-6151 or call 2-1-1 and ask for their local
114 Community Action Agency. Older adults can call The Helpline at
115 800-642-5119.

116 ***Farm Pets of Windham County calendar now*** 117 ***on sale***

118 BRATTLEBORO — Windham County Natural Resources
119 Conservation District's "Farm Pets of Windham County" calendars
120 are now for sale. Each month showcases a farm in Windham
121 County, notes important dates, and provides a cute pet photo.

122 Calendars are available at Everyone's Books and online
123 at bit.ly/842-cal. Online orders need to be in by Sunday, Dec. 14,
124 to ensure calendars will be sent out the week of Dec. 15.

125 ***Our Place seeks donations for its Holiday*** 126 ***Basket Program***

127 BELLOWS FALLS — Our Place calls this "basket season,"
128 because they prepare the ingredients for a complete holiday meal
129 to be shared with those in need. While some items in the baskets
130 are donated, Our Place says they spend thousands of dollars to
131 round out the ingredients making each meal complete.

132 To give the gift of a holiday meal to a deserving family,
133 contributions can be made online at [ourplacedropincenter-](http://ourplacedropincenter-bloom.kindful.com)
134 bloom.kindful.com. While they are asking for gifts of \$100 to
135 fund each basket, they says any amount is appreciated and
136 helpful.

137 ***SEVCA launches end-of-year appeal***

138 WESTMINSTER — Southeastern Vermont Community
139 Action (SEVCA) is launching its annual year-end appeal that is an
140 integral part of funding for the organization that allows them to
141 support individuals and families across Windham and Windsor
142 counties.

143 As rising housing costs, higher utility bills, and food
144 insecurity continue to strain Vermonters. SEVCA remains a trusted
145 anchor organization—providing a range of support from
146 emergency help when the ground shifts to long-term support that
147 helps people build stability.

148 “This fall, we’ve seen how quickly stability can crack —
149 one unexpected bill, one lost paycheck, and the ground shifts
150 beneath an individual or family’s feet,” Executive Director Joshua
151 Davis said in a news release. “In moments like these, having
152 somewhere steady to turn makes all the difference.”

153 For this year’s appeal, SEVCA said it has received a
154 \$25,000 challenge grant from the Thomas Thompson Trust
155 (thomasthompsontrust.org). The grant unlocks once SEVCA raises
156 \$50,000 in community support. For a safe and secure way to
157 contribute, visit sevca.org/donate.

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VIDEO:

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LOGLINE (SOCIAL MEDIA):

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