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HEADLINE ELEMENTS:

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Holiday doings around the region

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TEXT BODY:

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BMH Auxiliary hosts annual Celebration of Lights

BRATTLEBORO — Continuing a 29-year holiday tradition, the Brattleboro Memorial Hospital Auxiliary will hold its annual “Celebration of Lights” fundraiser now throughout the month of December.

Employees and patients of Brattleboro Memorial Hospital (BMH), as well as members of the public, are invited to participate. Donations are just \$10 per light, and can be made in memory of, or in honor of, any individual (or individuals) of the donor's choosing.

Donors will also have the option to publicly dedicate the lights they purchase by asking to have their honoree(s) included on a list of names that will be displayed in the lobby of BMH's main hospital entrance lobby. If requested, a postcard will also be mailed to the honoree(s) or their families.

Lights will appear on a holiday tree that will be on display in the wooden gazebo located in front of the hospital's Ronald Read Pavilion. Funds raised through the Celebration of Lights will be used to benefit various projects at BMH. Donation forms can be obtained by emailing JoAnne Rogers at jrogers@bmhvt.org.

The BMH Auxiliary is a group of women and men who support the hospital's mission to provide quality, community-based health services delivered with compassion and respect.

Elks host holiday shopping fair

BRATTLEBORO — The Brattleboro Elks present their holiday shopping fair Saturday, Nov. 29, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., at the Elks Home, 59 Putney Rd.

There will be artisan gifts and decor, a bake sale, and raffles. Proceeds will benefit Silver Towers, the Elks' summer camp in Ripton for people with disabilities.

Santa visits Londonderry on Dec. 5

LONDONDERRY — Santa is coming to Neighborhood Connections' offices in the Mountain Marketplace, 5700 Route 100, Friday, Dec. 5.

There will be a tractor parade and tree lighting at 5:30 p.m., followed by "Santa's Open House" at 6 p.m. with hot chocolate and goodies for all, as well as games and craft tables

43 for elves of all ages. Dress warm and be prepared to have a great
44 time welcoming in the holidays.

45 ***Festival of Trees in Vernon***

46 VERNON — The Governor Hunt House Community
47 Center, 322 Governor Hunt Road, presents its annual “Festival of
48 Trees” Dec. 5–7. This fundraiser for the Community Center is sure
49 to delight, with something for everyone.

50 Come see the decorated historic Hunt House, an exhibit
51 from the Vernon Historians, decorated trees, raffles for tree
52 decorations and prizes, and special events for all children, from
53 toddler to grandparents. Admission is \$10 with candy cane and
54 coffee/hot cocoa included. Numerous trees have been sponsored
55 by local businesses and decorated with gift cards and gifts.
56 Ornament making is offered (\$5) and there is a Pickle Hunt with
57 prizes for the kids.

58 Special events start with a town-wide light display Friday
59 at 4 p.m. On Saturday, there will be “Storytime with Santa” at
60 noon and cookie decorating with Mama T of Mama T’s Sweet
61 Spot at 1 p.m. Snowmobile rides will be offered on Sunday from
62 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. All proceeds from the Festival of Trees go to
63 support the community building efforts of the Friends of Vernon
64 Center.

65 ***Holiday bazaar at Centre Church***

66 BRATTLEBORO — Centre Congregational Church, 193
67 Main St., invites you to a Holiday Bazaar Friday, Dec. 5, from 5
68 to 7:30 p.m., and Saturday, Dec. 6, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

69 Enjoy homemade soup on Friday and breakfast waffles or
70 a light lunch on Saturday. Both days feature a holiday festival of
71 music, a cookie table, a children’s craft table, and a selection of
72 quilts and needlework, wreaths and swags, decorative crafts,
73 artisan greeting cards and jewelry, books, and artwork.

Free kids holiday bazaar at Whitingham

Library

JACKSONVILLE — On Saturday, Dec. 6, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., the Whitingham Free Public Library presents a free kids' holiday shopping bazaar at the library on Route 100. All ages are welcome.

There will be crafts and snacks as children decorate gift bags and shop for gifts for their family and friends. Shopping is free, with all items donated by the community. Adult supervision is required for young shoppers. Call the library at 802-368-7506 to make an appointment.

Holiday bazaar at All Souls Church

WEST BRATTLEBORO — The annual "All Souls Unitarian Universalist Holiday Bazaar" will take place Saturday, Dec. 6, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., at the West Village Meeting House in West Brattleboro.

The bazaar will feature artisan wreaths and ornaments, handmade and decorated; as well as traditional holiday baked goods, including gluten-free; and other edibles, such as jams, jellies, chocolates, and baking mixes.

Also planned are a gift emporium featuring handcrafted items and a raffle of gift baskets. A silent auction includes a handcrafted cherry table by woodworker Bruce Berg and a weekend getaway in Maine. A holiday brunch of quiche, fruit, and pastries will also be available.

The bazaar will include an Art Gift Sale, with paintings and photographs by local artists, all reasonably priced for holiday gift-giving. Calendars and greeting cards featuring these artists' works will also be available. For more information, call 802-254-9377 or visit ascvt.org.

Grafton Library hosts Gingerbread House

Extravaganza

GRAFTON — The "Gingerbread House Extravaganza" returns to the Grafton Public Library Saturday, Dec. 6, from 10

108 a.m. to 3 p.m., as part of the village-wide “Grafton Winter
109 Festival.”

110 The library is seeking gingerbread makers, expert and
111 beginner alike. Whether to show off culinary skills or for a fun
112 family project, the library says it would be delighted to display all
113 creations.

114 For more information about submitting a gingerbread
115 house, visit graftonpubliclibrary.org, email
116 librarian@graftonpubliclibrary.org, or stop by the library, (204
117 Main Street, Grafton, VT). Submission forms are available on-line.
118 Send them by Nov. 29, so the library will know how many
119 houses to expect. Finished houses may be dropped off the week
120 of Dec. 1, in preparation for the big day.

121 Gingerbread houses will be on public display from 10
122 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Dec. 6, with a silent auction of the gingerbread
123 creations to benefit the library held during the event.

124 ***Holiday craft fair in Wardsboro***

125 WARDSBORO — On Saturday, Dec. 6, from 10 a.m. to
126 3 p.m. at Wardsboro Town Hall on Main Street, there will be a
127 holiday craft fair.

128 Local vendors will have handmade items, including jams
129 and jellies, Maybelle Farms woolen items, crocheted hats,
130 jewelry, potholders, and aprons, along with baked goods and
131 handmade wreaths by Scout Troop 428. There will also be a raffle
132 to win an item donated by the vendors.

133 Santa will be coming to the Wardsboro Library at noon.
134 Bring the kids and remember to stop by the fair either before or
135 after. Visit bit.ly/842-wards for more information.

136 ***Putney Central School hosts winter craft fair,*** 137 ***bake sale***

138 PUTNEY — The halls of Putney Central School, 182
139 Westminster West Rd., will be filled with holiday cheer on
140 Saturday, Dec. 6, as the school hosts its “Winter Craft Fair and
141 Bake Sale” from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the school gymnasium.

142 The event brings together local artists, makers, and
143 neighbors for a day of shopping, food, and community
144 connection. Visitors can browse handmade crafts and gifts, eat
145 hot soup, chili, and other homemade dishes, and support
146 meaningful programs that make a difference for students.

147 The Putney Central Intensive Services (I.S.) Program will
148 also host a bake sale during the event, with all proceeds going
149 toward materials that support its life skills curriculum. The I.S.
150 Program helps students with specialized needs learn essential
151 everyday skills — like self-care, communication, and
152 independence — while fostering inclusion in the wider school
153 community.

154 Together, the Craft Fair, Raffle, and Bake Sale raise funds
155 to support both the Winter Sports Program and the I.S. Program,
156 helping ensure that every student can grow. For more information
157 or to sign up as a vendor, contact Kevin Hadsel at
158 khadsel@wsesdvt.org.

159 ***Winter craft market and café in Guilford***

160 GUILFORD — The Broad Brook Community Center
161 (BBCC) invites everyone to join them for a festive celebration of
162 local art, creativity, and community at their annual Winter Craft
163 Market & Café Saturday, Dec. 6, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the
164 Center.

165 Upstairs, one can explore an array of handcrafted works
166 by local artists and makers. Downstairs, the Broad Brook Café,
167 hosted by Mary Wallace Collins, will offer lattes, cappuccinos,
168 homemade soups, fresh-baked bread, and an assortment of sweet
169 treats, with all proceeds benefiting BBCC.

170 There will also be silent auction for one of their historic
171 four-seater wooden benches. Don't miss the chance to take home
172 a piece of Guilford history! All proceeds from the auction support
173 BBCC.

174 ***Gingerbread house decorating party***

175 WEST DUMMERSTON — Get into the holiday spirit at
176 our annual gingerbread house decorating event at the
177 Dummerston Community Center, 150 West St, on Saturday, Dec.
178 13, from 2 to 4 p.m.

179 This year's event will benefit Lydia's Friends — the
180 supporters of the Lydia Taft Pratt Library. This festive gathering is
181 fun for the whole family. Cost is \$20 per house. Space is limited,
182 so call or text 802-380-7935 to reserve your house.

183 ***Holiday market in Jamaica***

184 JAMAICA — One of Jamaica's favorite winter traditions
185 — the "Jamaica Holiday Market" — is set for Saturday, Dec 13,
186 and Sunday, Dec. 14, from 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., at the Town
187 Hall on Route 30.

188 Town Hall will be filled with the scent of fresh baked
189 goods, and tables will be lined with the work of local
190 craftspeople who have spent all year creating something special
191 for this market. Visitors will find original paintings and artwork,
192 fiber arts, pottery, jewelry, local herbal treasures, candles, baked
193 treats, felted art, and other treasures and gifts.

194 This year, there will be a Hot Cocoa Bar, complete with
195 marshmallows, whipped cream, and seasonal toppings. Proceeds
196 will benefit the Jamaica-Wardsboro Food Pantry. For more
197 information, visit bit.ly/842-jam.

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