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HEADLINE ELEMENTS:

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1 Around the Towns

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3 TEXT BODY:

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4 ***S'mores with Santa at Living Memorial Park***

5 BRATTLEBORO — The Brattleboro Recreation & Parks

6 Department presents "S'mores with Santa" Saturday, Dec. 6, from

7 1 to 2:30 p.m. on the Lower Softball Field at Living Memorial

8 Park.

9 This is a free event open to children of all ages, with free  
10 popcorn, hot chocolate, and s'mores to all kids while supplies

11 last. This event will provide a great opportunity for families to  
12 take their own photo with Santa and his friend, the elf. For all  
13 programs, events, facility information, and more, visit the Rec.  
14 Dept. webpage at [brattleboro.org](http://brattleboro.org).

15 ***Holiday bazaar at Guilford Church***

16 GUILFORD — Guilford Community Church will hold  
17 their “Holiday Bazaar” Saturday, Dec. 6, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
18 with handcrafts, sweets and baked goods, and decorated wreaths.  
19 The raffle table will feature an American Girl doll and  
20 accessories, a gift basket of Vermont products, a handmade quilt,  
21 and other items from Vermont artisans.

22 The kitchen will serve breakfast baked goods, quiches,  
23 and hearty soups, as well as coffee, tea, and cider. All proceeds  
24 from the Bazaar benefit the church, which supports numerous  
25 local programs and organizations serving the wider community.

26 Directions to 38 Church Drive: from Interstate 91 Exit 1  
27 in Brattleboro, go south on Route 5 to just past the Guilford  
28 Country Store, take a left onto Bee Barn Road, and then another  
29 left onto Church Drive. For more information, contact the church  
30 office at 802-257-0994 or [guilfordchurch@gmail.com](mailto:guilfordchurch@gmail.com).

31 ***Soup & Stories in Londonderry***

32 LONDONDERRY — The Vermont Workers’ Center will  
33 host a “Soup & Stories” event at Neighborhood Connections,  
34 5700 VT Route 100, Saturday, Dec. 6, from noon to 2 p.m. This  
35 event gathers community members over soup and salad to share  
36 experiences with health care and concerns about access to care,  
37 including cuts to Affordable Care Act subsidies and Medicaid.

38 There will be information about the latest proposals for  
39 the ACA, Medicaid and SNAP and ways to move forward toward  
40 a more just and accountable healthcare system. For more  
41 information or to RSVP, e-mail [windham@workerscenter.org](mailto:windham@workerscenter.org) or  
42 call 802-257-4436.

43                   ***Christmas bazaar in Westminster***

44                   WESTMINSTER — The Women's Fellowship of First  
45                   Congregational Church of Westminster presents its annual  
46                   "Christmas Bazaar" Saturday, Dec. 6, from 9 am-2 pm, at the  
47                   church at 3470 Route 5.

48                   The Christmas Shop will be open and will include crafts,  
49                   candles, gifts, handmade items, attic treasures, and homemade  
50                   baked goods. Tickets will be sold for their choice raffle with  
51                   locally donated gift options. At 11 a.m. Santa will visit. Children  
52                   of all ages are invited to do a craft project and have their photo  
53                   taken with Santa. Also, the Christmas Café will be open for lunch  
54                   with soup, chili, sandwiches, and beverages.

55                   ***A Jane Austen Holiday at the RFPL***

56                   BELLOW FALLS — Celebrate a "Jane Austen Holiday"  
57                   at the Rockingham Free Public Library (RFPL) on Saturday, Dec.  
58                   6, from 11 a.m. to 1 pm., with Regency-inspired celebration of  
59                   fun and elegance.

60                   In honor of the 250th anniversary of Jane Austen's birth,  
61                   the Friends of the RFPL invite all to a delightful celebration filled  
62                   with Regency-era (1811–1820) activities.

63                   The Ukulelians will provide spirited tunes. There will  
64                   also be a demonstration of period dance steps, a featured favorite  
65                   in the plots of Jane Austen's six celebrated novels, including *Pride*  
66                   and *Prejudice*. There will also be demonstrations of crafts and tea  
67                   party foods of the era.

68                   Gingerbread cookie decorating in the Youth Department  
69                   will start at 11:30 a.m. Winning tickets for holiday raffle items  
70                   will be drawn at the end of festivities. All are invited. Dressing in  
71                   Regency-era best is encouraged. For more information, call 802-  
72                   463-4270, visit [rockinghamlibrary.org](http://rockinghamlibrary.org), or stop by the library at 65  
73                   Westminster St.

74                   ***Service of Lessons and Carols at St. Michael's***

75                   BRATTLEBORO — A "Service of Lessons and Carols"

76                   will be offered Sunday, Dec. 7, at 4 p.m., at St. Michael's

77                   Episcopal Church, 16 Bradley Ave.

78                   In addition to singing Advent carols with the  
79                   congregation and listening to biblical readings for the season, the  
80                   St. Michael's choir will be singing a diverse set of old and new  
81                   Advent anthems by Rutter, Sirett, Jakobs, Gorecki (in Polish!), and  
82                   premiering a brand new Advent anthem composed by Music  
83                   Director Keane Southard with words by St. Michael's Assistant  
84                   Priest, the Rev. Adwoa Wilson.

85                   Southard will direct the choir, which will perform  
86                   between nine distinct scriptural readings delivered by members  
87                   of the St. Michael's community. Although the event is free, St.  
88                   Michael's will be taking an offering to support the Beloved  
89                   Community Church's winter shelter.

90                   St. Michael's church is ADA compliant. For more  
91                   information, call 802-254-6048.

92                   ***Townshend hosts Holiday Festival on Dec. 7***

93                   TOWNSHEND — Townshend invites all townspeople  
94                   and neighboring communities to join their "Holiday Festival" to  
95                   celebrate the season Sunday, Dec. 7, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in  
96                   the village center.

97                   A Craft Fair will be open downstairs in the Town Hall,  
98                   while upstairs, there'll be a Festival of Trees, presented by  
99                   Townshend Public Library. In the same space, from noon to 2  
100                   p.m., music will be offered by Justice Chickens: fiddler Laurie  
101                   Indenbaum and Ben Hemmendinger, who plays accordion and  
102                   guitar.

103                   At 1 p.m. (weather permitting), festival goers can watch a  
104                   parade of horses from Townshend and neighboring towns.  
105                   Festively attired horses and riders will begin parading at Leland  
106                   and Gray Union Middle/High School and travel up to Valley  
107                   Village before returning to the school.

108                   Santa Claus visits the Town Hall at 2 p.m., and there will  
109                   be cookie decorating and a holiday craft project, plus cookies  
110                   and cider for everyone to enjoy. The public is welcome to this  
111                   free event.

112                   ***Author event in Marlboro***

113                   MARLBORO — On Sunday, Dec. 7, at p.m. at the  
114                   Marlboro Community Center on South Road, anthropologist  
115                   Carol Hendrickson will talk about her new book, *Why Draw?*  
116                   *Drawing Ethnographic Fieldnotes*. The book is dedicated to  
117                   Marlboro College, and the talk will highlight the role that college  
118                   trips, fellow travelers, and students on campus played in her  
119                   insights on drawing, sensing the world, and writing different  
120                   chapters.

121                   Hendrickson will have some of her field journals with  
122                   her, and attendees are encouraged to bring their own  
123                   illustrated journal or notebook to share. Refreshments will be  
124                   served. This event is presented by the Marlboro Town Library.

125                   ***Senior lunch in Dummerston***

126                   DUMMERSTON — Evening Star Grange and Senior  
127                   Solutions will hold their only “Senior Lunch” in December on  
128                   Wednesday, Dec. 10, with takeouts available between 11:30 a.m.  
129                   and 1 p.m., and an in-house meal served at noon.

130                   The December menu includes baked ham, scalloped  
131                   potatoes, corn casserole, and marinated carrots, with gingerbread  
132                   for dessert. The vegetarian option is quiche. Reservations are  
133                   encouraged and may be made by calling the grange at 802-254-  
134                   1138. Leave name, phone number, number of meals desired, and  
135                   whether meals are for eating in or taking home.

136                   A donation of \$4.00 for those 60 and over eating in-  
137                   house and \$5 for those 59 and all take-outs is suggested. Senior  
138                   lunches will return to its regular schedule of second and fourth  
139                   Wednesdays in January.

140 **SEVCA seeks tax volunteers**

141 WESTMINSTER — Southeastern Vermont Community  
142 Action (SEVCA) seeks volunteers to join their free Volunteer  
143 Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program this coming tax season.  
144 Volunteers help neighbors in Windham and Windsor counties file  
145 their taxes, homestead declarations, and property or renter credit  
146 claims. No experience is needed, free training is provided, and  
147 flexible schedules are available.

148 A volunteer does not need to be a “tax person” to help.  
149 VITA needs greeters, intake volunteers, general support, and  
150 certified tax preparers. Foreign language and ASL skills are  
151 especially appreciated. For more information, visit  
152 [sevca.org/volunteer](http://sevca.org/volunteer), or contact Emily Strasser at  
153 [estrasser@sevca.org](mailto:estrasser@sevca.org), call/text 802-428-3032.

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