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Notes from editor (not for publication):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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S'mores with Santa at Living Memorial Park

BRATTLEBORO — The Brattleboro Recreation & Parks

Department presents “S’mores with Santa” Saturday, Dec. 6, from
1 to 2:30 p.m. on the Lower Softball Field at Living Memorial
Park.

This is a free event open to children of all ages, with free
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.

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.

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 or
42 call 802-257-4436.

Christmas bazaar in Westminster

WESTMINSTER — The Women’s Fellowship of First Congregational Church of Westminster presents its annual “Christmas Bazaar” Saturday, Dec. 6, from 9 am-2 pm, at the church at 3470 Route 5.

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

A Jane Austen Holiday at the RFPL

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

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

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

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

Service of Lessons and Carols at St. Michael's

BRATTLEBORO — A “Service of Lessons and Carols”

will be offered Sunday, Dec. 7, at 4 p.m., at St. Michael's Episcopal Church, 16 Bradley Ave.

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

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

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

Townshend hosts Holiday Festival on Dec. 7

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

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

At 1 p.m. (weather permitting), festival goers can watch a parade of horses from Townshend and neighboring towns. Festively attired horses and riders will begin parading at Leland and Gray Union Middle/High School and travel up to Valley 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 bringing 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, or contact Emily Strasser at
153 estrasser@sevca.org, call/text 802-428-3032.

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