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Notes from editor (not for publication):

#### HEADLINE ELEMENTS:

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Around the Towns

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#### ***Brooks Memorial Library seeks trustee***

BRATTLEBORO — The **l**Board of **l**ibrary **t**rustees of  
Brooks Memorial Library seeks an enthusiastic and dedicated  
library user to fill a three-year position on the board. Candidates  
must be residents of Brattleboro and should have an interest in  
maintaining a strong and visionary library in town.

The board, which numbers nine trustees, meets at the library at 4:45 p.m. on the second Tuesday of the month. Members are asked to chair or serve on two or more committees that convene as needed.

For more information on the library, visit [brookslibraryvt.org](http://brookslibraryvt.org), and click on "About Brooks," where library history, the most recent strategic plan, Trustee agendas, ~~and~~ minutes, and committees' minutes are available. Applicants should send a letter or email and resume describing their interest in serving on the Library Board no later than ~~Monday~~, Dec. 22, ~~2025~~, at 9 p.m. at either [trustees@brookslibraryvt.org](mailto:trustees@brookslibraryvt.org) or Trustee Position, Board of Trustees, Brooks Memorial Library, 224 Main St., Brattleboro, VT 05301.

### **Senior meal in Halifax** ~~<br>~~

WEST HALIFAX — On Friday, Dec. 19, volunteers will serve the monthly senior meal at the Halifax Community Hall, 20 Brook Road. The menu will feature carrot soup, ham with applesauce, scalloped potatoes, roasted mixed vegetables, bread, and dessert.

~~Come at~~ Socializing begins at 11:30 a.m. ~~to socialize and enjoy with~~ an appetizer. The main meal will begin around noon. A suggested \$4 donation (\$5 for those younger than 60 years old) will help to support the Halifax Senior Meal. Community Hall is wheelchair-accessible, including an accessible bathroom. ~~If you have questions or if~~ For more information, or if a large group plans to attend, call Bettye at 802-368-7797.

### **Holiday caroling with a pro-democracy twist**

BRATTLEBORO — ~~Join in a fun afternoon singing~~ Holiday carols ~~in~~ will be sung in downtown Brattleboro on Saturday, Dec. 20. ~~Meet-Interested carolers should meet~~ at noon outside of Market on Main (formerly Sam's Outdoor Outfitters) at 74 Main St., ~~and to~~ stroll along Main Street up to Pliny Park. ~~Feel-~~ All are welcome to find the carolers along the way and join in. "We will sing 'til we've had enough fun," said organizers in a

news release. “Bring your voice, enthusiasm, and warm holiday attire.”

Musicians are welcome to join in. Organizers will provide copies of traditional carols, plus some with a pro-democracy twist to the lyrics. This is a family-friendly event sponsored by Indivisible Brattleboro. For more information, email [indivisiblebratt@gmail.com](mailto:indivisiblebratt@gmail.com).

### ***‘Solstice Puzzlepalooza’ at RFPL***

BELLOWS FALLS — On Saturday, Dec. 20, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., join the Rockingham Free Public Library (RFPL) for a cheerful Solstice Puzzlepalooza event. ~~Θ~~All are welcome on the (almost) shortest day of the year, ~~come and do~~ jigsaw puzzles about winter and light surrounded by sparkles and community.

~~Enjoy cozy~~ Refreshments and “puzzle positivity” ~~to greet the winter together~~ provided, said organizers in a news release. ~~Bring your~~ Puzzlers may bring their own puzzle or borrow one of the library’s.

The Solstice Puzzlepalooza event is part of RFPL’s Rockingham “Gathers” program, made possible by a 2025 AARP Vermont Winter Placemaking Grant. Rockingham Gathers is a series of programs and activities RFPL is organizing this winter to support “creative, inclusive programming that fosters community connection and combats social isolation among older adults during the coldest months of the year.”

RFPL is one of eight organizations from across Vermont to receive this grant. For more information about this and other programs, call 802-463-4270, visit [rockinghamlibrary.org](http://rockinghamlibrary.org) or stop by the library at 65 Westminster St.

### ***Yuletide caroling at Rockingham Meeting***

#### ***House***

ROCKINGHAM — The Rockingham Historic Preservation Commission invites everyone to gather for Yuletide caroling at the ~~h~~Historic ~~br>~~ Rockingham Meeting House on

Sunday, Dec. 21, at 1 p.m. ~~This beautiful and historic building provides a perfect setting to celebrate the season and bring the community together in song.~~

Participants are encouraged to dress warmly, said organizers, “as the Meeting House is unheated — aside from the warmth of shared voices, good cheer, and perhaps a wool sweater or blanket.” Song lyric sheets will be provided, and celebratory cider and donuts will be served following the caroling. For more information, call 802-463-3964, ext. 1112.

### ***Winter lights event debuts Dec. 21 in Guilford***

~~<br>~~

GUILFORD — The Guilford Recreation ~~at~~ Commission ~~is excited to invite you to participate in a brand-new~~ for their “Winter Lights” event, ~~for~~ marking the Winter Solstice Sunday, Dec. 21, ~~2025~~, at 4:30 p.m.

~~Join them as the~~ They’ll greet the shortest day of the year ~~is greeted~~ with lanterns and illuminated wooden sculptures made of scrap wood and reclaimed materials along Guilford Center Road from the Broad Brook Community Center (BBCC) to the Guilford Free Library. All are welcome to bring ~~your own~~ lanterns and illuminated outfits.

The event will begin ~~at 4:30 p.m.~~ with warm drinks, snacks, and face painting. Around 5 p.m., there will be a guided precession from the BBCC to the library and back to the BBCC. Shared performances and group singing follow at around 5:30 p.m., with a Bal Folk Dance with Eloise & Co. (upstairs) at 6:30 p.m.

~~If you are~~ Those interested in donating materials or volunteering in anyway, ~~may~~ may contact Uriel Najera at [townclerk@guilfordvt.gov](mailto:townclerk@guilfordvt.gov) with the subject “Winter Lights,” or call 802-254-6857, ext. 107.

**Rec. Dept. offers *additional* Open Gym *&and***

***Game Room, public skating during holidays***

BRATTLEBORO — The Brattleboro Recreation & Parks

Department will be offering additional Open Gym & Game Room hours at the Gibson-Aiken Center on Main Street Dec. 26, 29, and 30, and Jan. 2, from 1:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. for grades K—12.

Open Gym & Game Room is a free program for children of all ages. It is a supervised program with a *varietychoice* of activities *to choose from*. Along with basketball, there is foosball, air hockey, pool, arts and crafts, Lego's, and more. Feel free to check them in with the Recreation & Parks Staff or stay and play with them.

In addition, the Recreation & Parks Department will be offering additional public skating on Dec. 26, 29, and 30, and Jan. 2, from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. *In addition, t*There will be free public skating from 6 to 9 p.m. on Dec. 31. Skate rentals are available for \$3. Note that the Gibson-Aiken Center will be closed at noon on Christmas Eve, closed all day on Christmas Day, and closed all day on New Year's Day. The Nelson Withington Skating Facility will be closed on Dec. 24 and 25.

***Dummerston Historical Society 2026***

***calendars now available<br>***

DUMMERSTON — The Dummerston Historical Society's 2026 calendars *are now available*, *featuringe* 13 color images from Dummerston *nn<br>*photographers. *You can pick up* *e*Calendars *may be picked up* at the Dummerston Town Office, during the Society's open hours on Sundays, *orand* by visiting [dummerstonhistorical.society.org](http://dummerstonhistorical.society.org).

The cost is \$15. *P-and p*roceeds help support programs, exhibits, and the upkeep of the Society's schoolhouse in Dummerston Center. Also available are *T*t-shirts (\$20) and hats (\$25) *that* *featuringe* the West Dummerston Covered Bridge. For information, email [gailsvt@gmail.com](mailto:gailsvt@gmail.com).

## ***Sign up for VTAlert to receive emergency info***

WATERBURY — Vermont residents can receive emergency and other notifications specific to their town with VTAlert. Vermont Emergency Management administers VTAlert, and the state of Vermont uses VTAlert for several purposes.

Individuals can register for a free account at [vtalert.gov](http://vtalert.gov).

The user decides what alerts they want, how they want them delivered, and for what area. Towns use the system for road closures, boil water notices, burn bans, town-specific disaster resources, and other issues that arise. The service is free. For more information, go to [vem.vermont.gov/vtalert](http://vem.vermont.gov/vtalert).

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158

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