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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 **Brooks Memorial Library seeks trustee**

5 | BRATTLEBORO — The board of library trustees of
6 Brooks Memorial Library seeks an enthusiastic and dedicated
7 library user to fill a three-year position on the board. Candidates
8 must be residents of Brattleboro and should have an interest in
9 maintaining a strong and visionary library in town.

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

14 For more information on the library, visit
15 brookslibraryvt.org, and click on "About Brooks," where library
16 history, the most recent strategic plan, Trustee agendas, and
17 minutes, and committees, minutes are available. Applicants
18 should send a letter or email and resume describing their interest
19 in serving on the Library Board no later than Monday, Dec. 22,
20 2025, at 9 p.m. at either trustees@brookslibraryvt.org or Trustee
21 Position, Board of Trustees, Brooks Memorial Library, 224 Main
22 St., Brattleboro, VT 05301.

23 ***Senior meal in Halifax***

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

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

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

37 BRATTLEBORO — ~~Join in a fun afternoon singing~~
38 holiday carols ~~in~~will be sung in downtown Brattleboro on
39 Saturday, Dec. 20. ~~Meet~~Interested carolers should meet at noon
40 outside of Market on Main (formerly Sam's Outdoor Outfitters) at
41 74 Main St., ~~and~~to stroll along Main Street up to Pliny Park. ~~Feel~~
42 free~~All are welcome~~ to find the carolers along the way and join
43 in. "We will sing 'til we've had enough fun," said organizers in a

44 news release. "Bring your voice, enthusiasm, and warm holiday
45 attire."

46 Musicians are welcome to join in. Organizers will
47 provide copies of traditional carols, plus some with a pro-
48 democracy twist to the lyrics. This is a family-friendly event
49 sponsored by Indivisible Brattleboro. For more information, email
50 indivisiblebratt@gmail.com.

51 **'Solstice Puzzlepaloza' at RFPL**

52 BELLOWS FALLS — On Saturday, Dec. 20, from 11 a.m.
53 to 1 p.m., join the Rockingham Free Public Library (RFPL) for a-
54 **cheerful** Solstice Puzzlepaloza event. **>All are welcome** on the
55 (almost) shortest day of the year, **come and do jigsaw**
56 puzzles about winter and light surrounded by sparkles and
57 community.

58 **Enjoy cozy r**efreshments and **"puzzle positivity"** **to**
59 **greet the winter together****provided, said organizers in a news**
60 **release. Bring you****Puzzlers may bring thei****r own puzzle** or borrow
61 one of thei**r library's**.

62 The Solstice Puzzlepaloza event is part of RFPL's
63 Rockingham **"Gathers"** program, made possible by a 2025 AARP
64 Vermont Winter Placemaking **g****rant**. Rockingham Gathers is a
65 series of programs and activities RFPL is organizing this winter to
66 support "creative, inclusive programming that fosters community
67 connection and combats social isolation among older adults
68 during the coldest months of the year."

69 RFPL is one of eight organizations from across Vermont
70 to receive this grant. For more information about this and other
71 programs, call 802-463-4270, visit rockinghamlibrary.org or stop
72 by the library at 65 Westminster St.

73 ***Yuletide caroling at Rockingham Meeting***

74 ***House***

75 ROCKINGHAM — The Rockingham Historic
76 Preservation Commission invites everyone to gather for Yuletide
77 caroling at the **h****istoric****
****R**ockingham Meeting House on

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

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

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

88

89 GUILFORD — The Guilford Recreation~~al~~ Commission ~~is~~
90 ~~excited to~~ invites ~~you to~~ participants in a brand-new ~~for their~~
91 "Winter Lights" event, ~~for marking~~ the Winter Solstice Sunday,
92 Dec. 21, ~~2025~~, at 4:30 p.m.

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

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

105 ~~If you are~~Those interested in donating materials or
106 volunteering in anyway, ~~may~~ contact Uriel Najera at
107 townclerk@guilfordvt.gov with the subject "Winter Lights," or call
108 802-254-6857, ext. 107.

109 | **Rec. Dept. offers ~~additional~~ Open Gym &and**

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

111 | BRATTLEBORO — The Brattleboro Recreation & Parks

112 | Department will be offering additional Open Gym & Game
113 | Room hours at the Gibson-Aiken Center on Main Street Dec. 26,
114 | 29, and 30, and Jan. 2, from 1:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. for grades K—
115 | 12.

116 | Open Gym & Game Room is a free program for children
117 | of all ages. It is a supervised program with a ~~variety~~choice of
118 | activities ~~to choose from~~. Along with basketball, there is foosball,
119 | air hockey, pool, arts and crafts, ~~Lego~~^ss, and more. Feel free to
120 | check them in with the Recreation & Parks Staff or stay and play
121 | with them.

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

130 | **Dummerston Historical Society 2026**

131 | **calendars now available
**

132 | DUMMERSTON — The Dummerston Historical Society's
133 | 2026 calendars ~~are now available~~, featur~~ing~~ing 13 color images
134 | from Dummerston~~n~~n
photographers. ~~You can pick up~~
135 | ~~e~~Calendars may be picked up at the Dummerston Town Office,
136 | during the Society's open hours on Sundays, ~~or~~and by visiting
137 | dummerstonhistorical society.org.

138 | The cost is \$15. ~~P~~And ~~p~~roceeds help support programs,
139 | exhibits, and the upkeep of the Society's schoolhouse in
140 | Dummerston Center. Also available are ~~I~~T-shirts (\$20) and hats
141 | (\$25) ~~that~~the West Dummerston Covered Bridge. For
142 | information, email gailsvt@gmail.com.

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

144 WATERBURY — Vermon residents can receive

145 emergency and other notifications specific to their town with VTz
146 Alert. Vermont Emergency Management administers VTzAlert, and
147 the state of Vermont uses VTzAlert for several purposes.

148 Individuals can register for a free account at vtalert.gov.

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

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