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Notes from editor (not for publication):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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Free yoga class at RFPL

BELLOWS FALLS — On Saturday, Jan. 10, at 11 a.m. the Rockingham Free Public Library, 65 Westminster St. will offer a free hour-long yoga class led by Yoga on Main of Saxtons River.

This class will be at the library and all are welcome. No yoga experience is necessary, and newcomers to yoga are welcome and encouraged to attend. The library will provide all

11 necessary equipment, but participants are welcome to bring their
12 own yoga mats, if they would like. Attendees are invited to stay
13 for snacks and hot beverages afterwards.

14 This event is part of the Rockingham Gathers initiative
15 and is made possible by a 2025 AARP Vermont Winter
16 Placemaking Grant. For more information about this and other
17 programs, call 802-463-4270, visit rockinghamlibrary.org, or stop
18 by the library.

19 ***Puzzle challenge at Grafton Public Library***

20 GRAFTON — The Grafton Public Library on Main Street
21 will host a jigsaw puzzle challenge on Sunday, Jan. 11, from 3 to
22 4:30 p.m. Participants may register individually to join a team, or
23 register a team of no more than three people for an afternoon of
24 friendly, competitive puzzling.

25 Each team receives the same 500-piece jigsaw puzzle.
26 The puzzle challenge will be timed — each team has 60 minutes
27 to work on their puzzle. The library has four puzzles available —
28 enough for 12 people to participate. Small prizes and bragging
29 rights will be awarded. Light snacks and refreshments included.
30 Registration is required at librarian@graftonpubliclibrary.org or
31 802-843-2404.

32 ***Senior meal in Dummerston***

33 DUMMERSTON — Evening Star Grange will have its first
34 Senior Lunch of the year on Wednesday, Jan. 14, with take-outs
35 available between 11:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. and in-house serving at
36 noon. The menu will be meatloaf (meat or vegetarian), mashed
37 potatoes, and buttered broccoli-cauliflower mix, with a fruit
38 dessert.

39 Reservations are highly recommended and can be made
40 by calling the Grange at 802-254-1138. Leave name, the number
41 of meals, phone number, and whether eating in or taking away. A
42 donation of \$4 for those 60 and above eating in and \$5 for those
43 59 and younger and all take-outs is suggested.

Windham County NAACP hosts Freedom Fund brunch

BRATTLEBORO — Windham County NAACP will host its annual Windham County Freedom Fund Brunch on Saturday, Jan. 17 — Martin Luther King Jr. weekend — at 10:30 a.m. at the North Barn of Retreat Farm on Route 30.

With a theme of “Strengthening the Power of Community,” the organization will honor Vermont Senator Joe Major (D-Windsor); Etan Nasreddin-Longo, who holds a doctorate of philosophy from Univ. of Chicago; Mikaela Simms, chief diversity officer of the Brattleboro School District; Windham County Sheriff Mark Anderson; and Laiba Eager, a student at Brattleboro Union High School.

Ticket prices are \$25 student/discount, \$45 brunch, \$75 brunch and NAACP membership. For tickets, go to windhamnaacp.org.

Windham County NAACP focuses on support and advocacy for BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and People of Color) communities throughout the state, including health and education legislation and criminal justice reforms, and brings together faith communities in support and solidarity.

AARP Tax-Aide program begins soon

BRATTLEBORO — Beginning early February and continuing through mid-April, AARP Foundation is providing free tax assistance and preparation through its Tax-Aide program.

AARP Foundation Tax-Aide is a volunteer-based tax preparation service. Volunteers are trained and IRS-certified every year to ensure they understand the latest changes to the U.S. Tax Code.

Tax-Aide will have two sites available again this year:

- Brattleboro Senior Center, 207 Main St., from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. on Thursdays, beginning Feb. 5. Call 802-257-7570 to schedule an appointment.

77 • The Brattleboro VFW, 40 Black Mountain Rd., from
78 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. on Mondays, beginning Feb. 2. Call 802-
79 302-3734 to schedule an appointment.

80 Tax-Aide has two options for providing taxpayer
81 assistance with filing federal and Vermont income tax returns for
82 the Brattleboro area: One may file in-person, where taxes are
83 prepared and filed by IRS-certified counselors while the taxpayer
84 is present. Or, one may drop off documents and interact with IRS-
85 certified Tax-Aide volunteers in two short, in-person meetings to
86 exchange paperwork. The taxpayer returns later in the day to
87 complete the process.

88 Assistance will also be available for filing Vermont
89 Homestead Declaration, Property Tax Credit, and Renter Credit
90 Claims. For more information about AARP Foundation Tax-Aide,
91 including services available, and which documents you need to
92 file, visit aarpfoundation.org/taxaide or call
888-227-7669.

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