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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 ***Homelessness Awareness/Action Day is Jan. 22***

5 BRATTLEBORO — Vermont's annual Homelessness

6 Awareness/Action Day takes place statewide ~~on~~ Thursday, Jan.

7 22. ~~T~~, when the community is invited to attend a vigil ~~that day~~ at

8 4 p.m. at Pliny Park in downtown Brattleboro to honor the lives

9 affected by homelessness, to stand together for change, and to

10 celebrate compassion and connection.

11 The event will include a ceremony of remembrance of
12 those who have died unhoused; a call to action; singing, and
13 shared reflections. After the vigil, participants are invited to join a
14 candlelight procession followed by refreshments at 69a at 134
15 Elliot St.

16 Organized by the Community Homelessness Strategy
17 Team of the Housing Coalition of Southeast Vermont in
18 collaboration with the Housing and Homelessness Alliance of
19 Vermont, this vigil will bring together homeless and formerly
20 homeless Vermonters, service providers, homelessness and
21 housing advocates, faith communities, and other concerned
22 citizens from Windham County.

23 There will also be a flag display of flags on the lawn of
24 the Brattleboro Municipal Center, representing the number of
25 individuals in Southern Windham County who were unhoused
26 during 2025. The flags will be put in place on the morning of Jan.
27 22, and remain for a week.

28 **Zara Bode's Little Big Band hosts free concert
29 at Retreat Farm**

30 BRATTLEBORO — Zara Bode's Little Big Band performs
31 classic American swing "to delight the ears, eyes, and feet" in a
32 free concert on Thursday, Jan. 22, from 5 to 8 p.m., at the Retreat
33 Farm's North Barn.

34 Inspired by the American radio hits of the '30s and '40s,
35 the Little Big Band features top shelf chanteuse Zara Bode (of
36 Signature Sounds artists The Sweetback Sisters) and a sizzling
37 horn section led by clarinetist and arranger Anna Patton. Over the
38 years, organizers says, the Little Big Band has become a local
39 favorite, digging into the classics with aplomb and affection.
40 There will be food by Jamaican Jewelz, and drinks available from
41 the Thirsty Goat Bar.

42 For more information, [go to visit retreatfarm.org/zara-](http://retreatfarm.org/zara-bodes-little-big-band)
43 bodes-little-big-band. This show is a part of the Retreat Farm
44 Winter JazzJazz Series in collaboration with and curated by the
45 Vermont Jazz Center.

46 ***Brooks Library hosts healthcare, food***

47 ***assistance info session***

48 BRATTLEBORO — The Vermont Workers' Center is
49 hosting drop-in hours at the Brooks Memorial Library upstairs
50 cECommunity meeting room, 224 Main St., Mondayon, Jan. 23,
51 and Friday, Feb. 6, from 2 to 4:30 p.m. to help people understand
52 and navigate changes to SNAP, Medicaid, and Medicare.

53 Therey will sharebe information about the changes,
54 including the SNAP work requirements and exemptions, and on
55 the rights of individuals currently on or applying for these
56 programs. Workers' Center members can work with people onget
57 assistance to submitting applications and other paperwork. For
58 more information, email windham@workerscenter.org or call
59 802-257-4436.

60 ***Learn about HomeShare Vermont at RFPL***

61 BELLOWS FALLS — Stop by the Rockingham Free Public
62 Library on Saturday, Jan. 24, at 10:30 a.m. to learn about the
63 shared living program nowavailable in the area.

64 For over 40 years, HomeShare Vermont has been
65 matching people who have room in their homes with those
66 seeking an affordable place to live for over 40 years. They
67 conduct background and reference checks and then help create
68 compatible matches. Their service is availablenow in Windham
69 County through a partnership with the Windham & Windsor
70 Housing Trust.

71 HomeShare hosts can ask for rent and/or help with
72 household tasks, such as cooking, yardwork, housekeeping,
73 snow removal, pet care, or running errands. For guests, this is an
74 affordable alternative to renting. The session will be led by
75 HomeShare Vermont's Ric Cengeri. Refreshments will be
76 provided. The event is freeand open to the public. To learn more,
77 visit homesharevermont.org.

78 **Center for Solace offers green burial**

79 **information session**

80 BRATTLEBORO — On Monday, Jan. 26, from 5:30 to 7
81 p.m. at the Brooks Memorial Library upstairs community meeting
82 room, Center for Solace (formerly Brattleboro Area Hospice) will
83 present information and answer questions about after-death care
84 and currently available green burial options in the Brattleboro
85 area.

86 Learn about safe and legal options for caring for a loved
87 one after their death, and local, accessible ways to access green
88 burial. Center for Solace volunteers will be on hand to welcome
89 the public and discuss their work.

90 This event is free and the public is encouraged to attend.
91 For more information, call 802-257-0775 or email
92 info@cfsolace.org.

93 **Senior meal in Dummerston**

94 DUMMERSTON — Evening Star Grange and Senior
95 Solutions will present their second luncheon of January on
96 Wednesday, Jan. 28, at the Grange Hall in Dummerston Center.
97 Take-outs will be available from 11:30 a.m. until 1 p.m., with in-
98 house seating at noon. The menu includes pulled pork on a bun,
99 vegetarian tortellini and spinach bake, cole slaw, and winter
100 squash, with banana cake for dessert.

101 Reservations are highly recommended to aid them in
102 making enough food. Call the Grange at 802-254-1138 and leave
103 your name, telephone number, the number of meals you need
104 desired, and whether you they are for eating in or taking it home.
105 For those 60 and above, a donation of \$4 is suggested. For those
106 59 and younger and all take-outs, a \$5 donation is suggested, but
107 no one will be turned away as long as they have food while there
108 is food.

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BIO/COATTAIL:

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LINKS:

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VIDEO:

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LOGLINE (SOCIAL MEDIA):

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