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Notes from editor (not for publication):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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Gallery Walk features international face

painting

BRATTLEBORO — Au pairs from Italy, Germany, and the Czech Republic will be offering free face painting for kids at Brattleboro Gallery Walk Friday, May 1, from 5 to 7:30 p.m. Cultural Care will be on the lawn in front of Centre Congregational Church, 193 Main St., as part of Gallery Walk's new event, "Big Blanket Super Picnic."

Ann Newsmith, local coordinator for Cultural Care Au Pair, will also be available to talk with parents about the benefits of hosting an au pair and the process of applying. Cultural Care is the largest au pair organization in the U.S. and works through local representation in southern Vermont to help families assess whether the program is a good fit and to assist in matching families with just the right au pair.

Families provide room, board, and a welcoming environment to a young person from another country in exchange for flexible, live-in childcare. Not only convenient, hosting an au pair is often more cost-effective for families with multiple children, compared to daycare or a nanny. For more information, contact Newsmith at 802-257-4710 or ann.newsmith@lcc.culturalcare.com, or visit culturalcare.com/LCC/annsmith.

'Welcome Spring' crafts fair at All Souls

Church

WEST BRATTLEBORO — "Welcome Spring," a craft fair featuring works by the crafters of All Souls Unitarian Universalist Church, will be held outdoors Saturday, May 2, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., rain or shine.

Reflecting the UU principles of respect for the environment and green lifestyles, the organizers for this fundraiser have selected many recycled and up-cycled materials to repurpose, some fun and whimsical, others decorative or downright useful. Among the items for sale are totes of various

38 sizes, flowered wreaths, fairy houses, decorative table mats, as
39 well as many baked goods, jams, plants for inside and out, and a
40 raffle baskets.

41 A light lunch and snacks will be available for purchase.

42 All Souls UU Church is located in the West Village Meeting
43 House, 29 South St., up the hill from the West Brattleboro Fire
44 Station. For more information, visit ascvt.org, or call 802-254-
45 9377.

46 ***Volunteers needed in May for native garden*** 47 ***plantings***

48 GRAFTON — The Nature Museum at Grafton has Native
49 Pollinator Garden Planting Days scheduled for two Saturdays,
50 May 2 and 30, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Organizers say this is an
51 excellent opportunity to learn about habitat restoration, native-
52 plant gardening, and climate-forward stewardship while co-
53 creating a space for people and pollinators to enjoy for years to
54 come.

55 We'll begin transplanting plants from our holding beds
56 and integrating locally sourced native plants into our re-designed
57 garden space behind the museum. Interested volunteers are
58 encouraged to register at bit.ly/863-transplant.

59 ***Song Fest in Westminster May 2***

60 WESTMINSTER — Everyone is welcome to come sing a
61 song (or just sing along) on Saturday, May 2, from 4 to 6 p.m, at
62 the Butterfield Library on Route 5. Local musician and WOOL-
63 FM radio host and director, Don Dawson, will emcee.

64 The Kurn Hattin Children's Choir will open with "Take
65 Me Home, Westminster," and local musicians, including Ron
66 Bos-Lun, Tom Griffith, and the Orchard Hill Band will offer songs
67 about Westminster and Vermont life in general.

68 Everyone is invited to bring a song, whether original
69 about Westminster or a song that echoes what we know about
70 our hometown. Refreshments will be served. Email Lise Sparrow
71 at lisesparrow@gmail.com if you'd like to sign up to sing or for

72 more information. This event is sponsored by the Westminster
73 Inclusion Committee and the Butterfield and Westminster West
74 libraries.

75 ***Free community breakfast buffet in West B***

76 WEST BRATTLEBORO — A free community breakfast
77 buffet will be served Sunday, May 3, from 8 to 9:30 a.m. at First
78 Congregational Church, 880 Western Ave. The buffet menu
79 includes scrambled eggs, sausage, and apple pancakes, served
80 with Vermont maple syrup. Both wheat and gluten-free muffins,
81 sweet breads, fresh fruit, and hot and cold beverages will also be
82 served.

83 All food will be cooked and served fresh. All are
84 welcome to enjoy some homecooking. Donations accepted. For
85 more information, call 802-254-9767.

86 ***Tree planting in Rockingham, Chester***

87 The Windham County Natural Resources Conservation
88 District has two tree-planting operations planned in the coming
89 days. Volunteers are needed Thursday, May 7, from 9 a.m. to 3
90 p.m., to plant trees along Rum Brook in Rockingham; and
91 Saturday, May 9, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., in Chester.

92 Volunteers can join either planting session for as long as
93 they are able. No prior experience is needed. Leaders from the
94 Conservation District will provide know-how, swag, and snacks.
95 If you have a favorite shovel, feel free to bring it along. To RSVP
96 or get event updates, visit windhamcountynrcd.org and click on
97 “Upcoming Events.”

98 ***Free trees for Brattleboro residents***

99 BRATTLEBORO — Brattleboro residents are eligible to
100 receive free trees to plant in their yards through the Community
101 Canopy Project, a program of the Arbor Day Foundation.
102 Residents can reserve up to two free trees at
103 vtcommunityforestry.org/trees. The online sign-up process guides
104 participants to the best locations to plant trees. Residents can also
105 sign-up by calling the Arbor Day Foundation at 855-234-3801.

106 Four species are available: flowering dogwood, red
107 maple, red oak, and river birch. Trees must be reserved in
108 advance and must be picked up on Saturday, May 16, 10 a.m. to
109 noon, at the Brattleboro Public Works garage, 211 Fairground Rd.

110 The tree giveaway is being coordinated by the
111 Brattleboro Tree Advisory Committee and the Vermont Urban &
112 Community Forestry Program, a partnership between the Vermont
113 Department of Forests, Parks, and Recreation and University of
114 Vermont Extension.

115 ***Dummerston library seeks book donations***

116 WEST DUMMERSTON — Dummerston Community
117 Center & Library, 150 West St., welcomes book donations for
118 their upcoming “Geranium Festival, Silent Auction & Book Sale”
119 Saturday, May 16.

120 Donations may be dropped off during open hours:
121 Mondays and Wednesdays, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Tuesdays and
122 Thursdays 1 to 7 p.m., and Saturday 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

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