

# TOWNS

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## Community Calendar

**Burlington Web Site:**  
[www.ci.burlington.vt.us](http://www.ci.burlington.vt.us)

### Charlotte

**Planning Commission:** 7 p.m. Thursday, Town Hall.  
**Charlotte Web Site:**  
[www.charlottetvt.org](http://www.charlottetvt.org)

### Chittenden Central Supervisory Union

**Essex Community Educational Center U46 School Board:** 6 p.m. today, Essex High School library. Budget work session.

### Chittenden East Supervisory Union

**Bolton School Board:** 7 p.m. today, Smilie Memorial School.  
**Jericho School Board:** 7 p.m. today, Jericho Elementary School.

### Chittenden South Supervisory Union

**Shelburne School Board:** 7 p.m. Thursday, Shelburne Community School cafeteria. Budget presentation.  
**Williston School Board:** 6 p.m. Thursday, Central School. Budget discussion.

### Colchester

**Saturday Stories:** For children of all ages, 10 a.m. Burnham Library. 878-0313.  
**Colchester Web Site:**  
[www.town.colchester.vt.us](http://www.town.colchester.vt.us)

### Essex

**Merger Task Force:** 7 p.m. today, Lincoln Hall Conference Room.  
**Winter Parking Ban:** Midnight to 7 a.m., through April 1.  
**Essex Web Site:**  
[www.essex.org](http://www.essex.org)

### Essex Junction

**Holiday Tree Pick Up:** Through Friday. Leave undecorated tree on the green space next to curb.  
**Winter Parking Ban:** Midnight to 7 a.m., through April 1.  
**Essex Junction Web Site:**  
[www.essexjunction.org](http://www.essexjunction.org)

### Hinesburg

**Planning Commission:** 7 p.m. today, Town Hall. Community forum on village growth. Drinks and desserts provided.  
**Hinesburg Web Site:** [www.hinesburg.org](http://www.hinesburg.org)

### Milton

**School Board:** 6:15 p.m. Thursday, Elementary School District Training Room. Tech center resolution, budget discussion.  
**Milton Web Site:**  
[www.milton.govoffice2.com](http://www.milton.govoffice2.com)

### Richmond

**Planning Commission:** 7 p.m. today, Town Center.  
**Richmond Web Site:**  
[www.richmondvt.com](http://www.richmondvt.com)

### Shelburne

**Natural Resources and Conservation Commission:** 7 p.m. today, Town Center Meeting Room 2.  
**Planning Commission:** 5 p.m. Thursday, Town Center Meeting Room 1. Work session on town plan update.  
**Historic Preservation and Review Commission:** 8:30 a.m. Thursday, Town Center Meeting Room 2.  
**Winter Parking Ban:** Midnight to 8 a.m., through April 1.  
**Shelburne Web Site:**  
[www.shelburnevt.org](http://www.shelburnevt.org)

### South Burlington

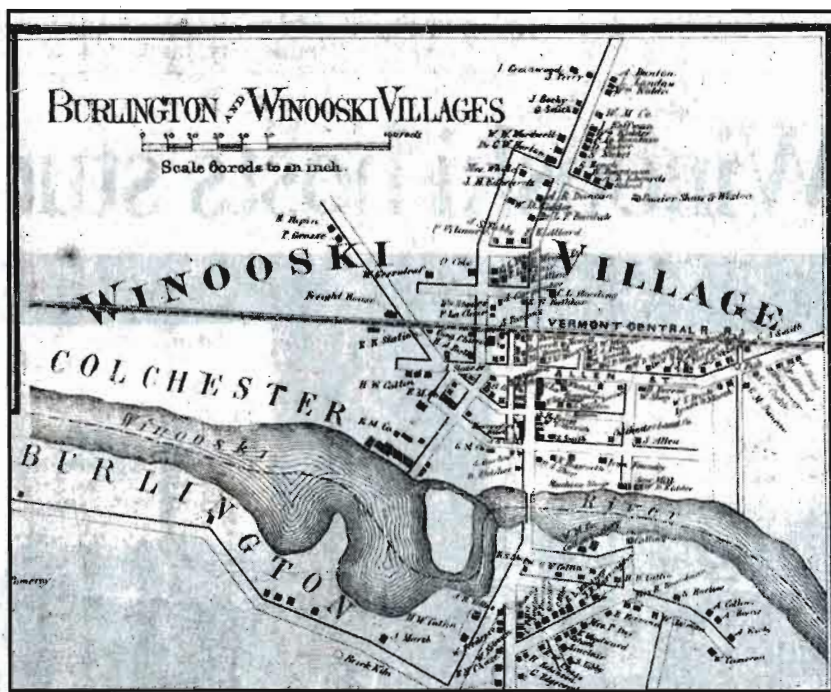
**U.S. 21 Public Meeting:** 7:30 p.m. Jan. 24, City Hall. Discuss ideas for better travel on U.S. 21 between Williston and Burlington.  
**South Burlington Web Site:**  
[www.sburl.com](http://www.sburl.com)

### Williston

**Selectboard:** 7 p.m. Thursday, Town Hall.  
**Selectboard:** 7 p.m. Monday, Town Hall.  
**Williston Web Site:**  
[www.town.williston.vt.us](http://www.town.williston.vt.us)

### Winooski

**Winter Parking Ban:** Midnight to 6 a.m., through March 15.  
**Winooski Web Site:** [www.onioncity.com](http://www.onioncity.com)



Maps courtesy of David Allen

## 19th century meets 21st

### New Hampshire man puts 1850s Vermont maps on CD-ROM

By Rick Burnham  
 Free Press Correspondent

A New Hampshire man is using modern-day technology to offer Vermonters a detailed look into the past.

David Allen of West Chesterfield is selling CD-ROM versions of 1850s Vermont maps, complete with detailed illustrations of the road systems, homes and businesses of that era. The maps also include many of the homeowners' names.

Allen has completed scanning 11 Vermont maps, in addition to most of the New Hampshire maps and about half of those from Massachusetts. The CD-ROMs, each one featuring a different Vermont county, are available for \$30. Allen said he is giving a complete set to Vermont Historical Society.

Allen, who owns a land-surveying business but calls himself a "map-maker," said he came upon the idea of scanning the maps by chance.

"I was out hiking in a nearby state park and came upon a foundation where a home once stood," he said. "Someone I knew had a photograph of an old map of the area, and I was able to see who lived in the home. I thought at the time that it would be cool to be able to print several copies of the map and make them available."

Years later, the advent of computer technology made that dream come true, and Allen embarked on a mission to document portions of 19th century New England, a task that he said has not been easy. The wall-sized maps, each one about 5-foot-square, take considerable time to properly transfer.

"With computers you can make really nice color copies, and the CD-ROM format makes it easy to make multiple copies," he said; "but there is also a lot of work to it. The 11 maps of Vermont consist of about 500 separate scans."

Those scans, which Allen said took about a year to complete, were well worth the effort, he said.

"They are very beautiful maps," Allen said. "Back then, they only had black and white printing, so each town on each map is hand-colored in a different shade. So what you have is a patchwork of different colors, each one varnished."

Although many of Vermont's 14



PETER HUOPPI, Free Press

David Allen of West Chesterfield, N.H., scans an 1850s map of Windsor County at the Vermont Historical Society in Barre last month. Allen is selling CD-ROMs of the maps.

### Old Vermont maps

- **MAPS:** CD-ROMs of the Vermont maps are available for \$30 at several Vermont bookstores, including North Country Books and Borders Books & Music in Burlington, Bear Pond Books in Montpelier and Book King in Rutland.
- **ON THE WEB:** <http://Old-Maps.com>
- **VOLUNTEERS:** David Allen is looking for volunteers to help index the family names on the maps. For more information, contact him at Old Maps, P.O. Box 54, West Chesterfield, N.H., 03466, or call (413) 772-2801.

counties have their own disc, a few are combined, Allen said. Franklin and Grand Isle counties are on one map and Essex, Lamoille and Orleans counties are included on another.

Some of the discs for the larger counties, those with as many as 25-30 municipalities, had to be divided into as many as 50 scans, each one with a detailed look at an individual village or town. The scans are saved as PDFs, which Allen said are compatible with virtually any com-

puter system.

Finding the maps also proved to be quite a task, he said. He found five original maps at an antique dealer in Rye, N.Y., and four more at the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C. Allen gained access to the final two at the Vermont Historical Society.

Paul Carnahan, Vermont Historical Society librarian, said putting the maps on disc is a great idea.

"It will give so many more people access to them," he said. "The origi-

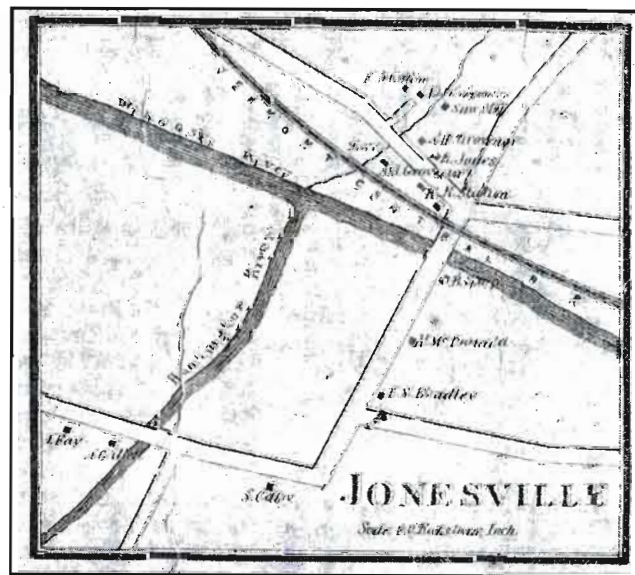
nals are big and easily damaged. This way people can see them right on their computer screens. People like them because they can get an idea of who may have lived in their home, or who a particular street or hill is named after."

Allen said the maps are a gold mine of information about 1800s Vermont, adding that he came across a few interesting details while producing the discs.

"I was struck by all the odd businesses labeled on the old maps," he said. "There were all kinds of mills, and one town had a starch factory."

The maps have generated considerable interest from historians, Allen said, along with amateur genealogists.

"I get e-mails from people all over saying what a wonderful thing this is," he said. "Many comment that they had a distant relative who lived in Vermont and are excited about seeing if they can find information about them on the maps."



### SOUTH BURLINGTON

## Music appreciation workshop to be held Thursday at library

Free Press Staff Report

A series of free music appreciation workshops sponsored by Vermont Humanities Council and the South Burlington Community Fund continues Thursday at 7 p.m. at the community library.

Each session is led by Lois

Price, who teaches music appreciation at Champlain College and teaches private flute classes. She is the artist contract administrator for the University of Vermont Lane Series and the flutist in the Windsong Quintet.

This year's sessions con-

tinue the alphabetical series of "Lifelong Learning: Opening Ears to Music with 'E-F-G's.'" The workshops focus on the emotions in music and the music of France and Germany. The program continues Feb. 2, March 2 and March 30.

The Vermont Humanities

Council is a private non-profit organization affiliated with the National Endowment for the Humanities. To learn more about the council or to find out about other events, visit [www.vermont-humanities.org](http://www.vermont-humanities.org) or call 888-3183.

The South Burlington

Community Fund supports community lifelong learning programs.

For more information, call Louise Murphy at 652-7076 or go to the South Burlington Library Web page at <http://sbcl.sbschools.net/>. The program is free and public. Tea and refreshments are served.