QUARTERLY ISSUES AND PROGRAMS

ISSUE _____ (See Cover Sheet)

WDE	V-AM/FM <u>X</u> WCV	<u>T_X</u>	RVNN	N-7AM	RVNN-8AM		
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Radio Vermont News

Untitled

The federal building -- which housed the Montpelier post office -- remains closed, with no immediate plans for reopening.

City residents have been getting their mail at a mobile location in a parking lot almost three miles away on River Street. Sending packages requires getting in the car and going to a nearby post office like East Montpelier.

Montpelier City Manager Bill Fraser tells WCAX news they are hearing complaints from residents about the inconvenience and questions about what's next for the federal building.

(101823SOT Bill Fraser)

Steve Doherty with the Postal Service says that according to the federal General Services Administration, work to repair the building will take until late next year.

(101823SOT Steve Doherty)

With the reopening of the Cambridge post office earlier this week, Johnson and Montpelier are the only remaining post offices in temporary locations out of the six impacted by flooding.

QUARTERLY ISSUES AND PROGRAMS

ISSUE _____ (See Cover Sheet)

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Radio Vermont News



Radio Vermont > Tuesday ANS - 10/10/2023 > B4 VHS reopens

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The Vermont Historical Museum will reopen to the public today.

The Museum, Housed in the Pavilion Building at 109 State Street in Montpelier, has been closed since floodwaters entered the building July 11th.

To celebrate the reopening, museum admission will be by donation on October 10th.

Admission is waived for one day, and visitors are encouraged to donate an amount they are comfortable with.

Visitors to the museum can see the following exhibits:

"A Stitch in Time", an exhibit about the history of costume that looks at how the garments of the past inform the fashions of today.

"Fancy Goods" an exhibit by the Middletown Springs Historical Society newly installed in the Local History Gallery.

"Calvin Coolidge: Vermont's President": an exhibit from the Calvin Coolidge Presidential Foundation that celebrates the centennial of his administration.

"Freedom & Unity", the museum's permanent exhibit, a chronological exploration of Vermont's history, from its indigenous inhabitants to the modern day.

On-site programming will resume, which includes school visits, homeschool programming, and talks by scholars and authors.

There is more info at vermont history dot org

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QUARTERLY ISSUES AND PROGRAMS

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Radio Vermont News

New Text Document

With the future of Montpelier's post office in limbo over three months after it flooded, there's a push to keep postal workers warm this winter.

With the federal building closed, operations are split among locations in Essex, National Life Group, and out of a truck on the Barre-Montpelier Road. Postal workers at that site have resorted to building outdoor fires to stay warm while people pick up their mail. Now, Bourne's Energy and the Vermont Fuel Dealer's Association donated a propane heater to keep them warm. Postal workers Randy Boucher and Wendy Gillander told WCAX they're very grateful.

102123SOT Montpelier postal workers

There's no timeline yet as to when postal workers will be moved inside. In the meantime, people in Montpelier have to send their packages from other USPS locations.

QUARTERLY ISSUES AND PROGRAMS

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Radio Vermont News



Radio Vermont > Monday ANS - 10/23/2023 > B4 BEGAP Signup ends t oday

Versions

1. 10/23/2023 4:03:13 AM - Lee Kittell - TRT 00:00:40 V

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A reminder that the Business Emergency Gap Assistance Program application portal closes at 5 p.m. today.

All applications must be completed and submitted by then, including those that are currently considered incomplete.

Please check the portal. If your application is visible that means it is incomplete. Please open it and take the necessary steps to complete it.

If it isn't visible, that means your application has been properly submitted and is under review, awaiting review, or has been approved.

You will receive a status update once that review is complete.

The deadline to apply for FEMA assistance and SBA disaster loans for physical damage from flooding that occurred in July is October 31st.

The deadline for SBA loans for organizations in Addison County is November 13th.

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QUARTERLY ISSUES AND PROGRAMS

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Radio Vermont News



Radio Vermont > Wednesday ANS - 10/25/2023 > B13 Barre Flood Plan

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The city of Barre may do a complete redesign of its north end neighborhood after July's flooding devastated the city.

State officials want to focus on ways to rebuild in a way that might prevent that sort of damage again.

Governor Phil Scott introduced plans at the Barre city council meeting before the Agency of Natural Resources gave the presentation.

The plan includes up to four times the amount of housing, including multi story - duplexes and condos. Scott suggests building single-family homes on higher ground, so there would be green space to store the water, and be an easier cleanup.

He says it's critical the plan doesn't result in Barre having less housing. Under this plan - Scott says there would be voluntary buyouts - so people wouldn't have to give up their homes if they did not want to.

Here's Vermont Chief Recovery Officer, Doug Farnham

(102523SOT Doug Farnham)

One of the city's top goals is to find federal funds for the work. Presenters don't have an estimate on cost, but it is expected to be expensive.

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QUARTERLY ISSUES AND PROGRAMS

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Radio Vermont News



Radio Vermont > Wednesday ANS - 10/25/2023 > B16 State Buildings Reopen

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More Vermont state buildings clobbered by this summer's flooding are back open.

The Supreme Court and the Pavillion building reopened this week. The tax department at 133 State Street is expected to be open before January.

Four buildings - the Welcome Center, Arts Council, Auditor's Office, and Green Mountian Care Board will remain closed for the foreseeable future.

The total damage is expected to cost over \$100 million, but Vermont Buildings and General Services Commissioner Jennifer Fitch. leaders say they won't ask lawmakers to fund repairs to the complex next session.

(102523SOT Jennifer Fitch)

At the same time, engineers are beginning to plan how to comply with new floodplain regulations requiring all utilities to be above the floodplain.

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QUARTERLY ISSUES AND PROGRAMS

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Radio Vermont News



Radio Vermont > Friday ANS - 11/3/2023 > B13 Morrisville Flood Damage Estimate

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1. 11/3/2023 11:55:58 AM - Lee Kittell - TRT 00:00:35 V

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The July flooding that left Morrisville Water & Light customers without water for a week also brought heavy damage to its infrastructure, causing nearly \$3 million in damage.

MoVille Water & Light's general manager, Scott Johnstone t ells the News and Citizen efforts to try to deter future flooding would cost at least another \$1 million.

The Federal Emergency Management Administration is expected to pay 75 percent of the costs for flood recovery, but the utility will be on the hook for the rest, and the costs will go to ratepayers.

Johnstone said the state won't let the utility raise its rates to cover expenses incurred in one-time events, and it already raised them last spring.

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QUARTERLY ISSUES AND PROGRAMS

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Radio Vermont News



Radio Vermont > Friday ANS - 11/10/2023 > B13 FEMA Closes

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FEMA on Thursday closed its final Disaster Recovery Center in Vermont, in Barre.

While there has been significant progress over the last four months to get the hardest-hit communities back on their feet, some say there is still a long way to go.

Officials say only about five people a day have been visiting lately.

It's been a hub of information for flood victims in Central Vermont, where people could have questions answered by a FEMA representative, file appeals, and get other advice.

While staff have packed up, officials say they are still available online or over the phone.

At its peak, there were over 400 FEMA officials across Vermont. There are still about 250.

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