

WEATHER

High 18
Low 5



LEGISLATURE 2019

Pot debate taking shape

By **STEPHEN MILLS**
STAFF WRITER

MONTPELIER — The Senate Judiciary Committee is expected to submit a bill this week calling for the legal sale of cannabis in Vermont with a 10-percent tax.

The Senate bill could be introduced as early as Tuesday,

according to committee members. But the bill will not recommend funding for a roadside test for driver impairment, or education for youth and adults — something the committee said should be determined by Appropriations committees. That could prove to be a major stumbling block for

Republican Gov. Phil Scott and House representatives who have rejected previous bills without a roadside test or support for education initiatives.

In a brief statement, Scott's communications director, Rebecca Kelley, confirmed the governor's stance: "The governor has been

consistent in his position on this issue — while he's not opposed to legalization, he believes it's important to get it right. That means having measures in place to be able to test impairment on our roadways and ensuring adequate prevention

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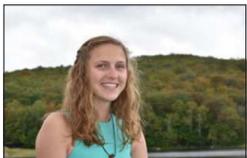
SPOTLIGHT



Election 2020

On MLK Day, Sen. Kamala Harris, D-Calif., is the latest Democrat to announce a presidential run.

B4



Positive impact

A local Girl Scout and National Guard member is honored for the mentoring program she created.

A3

Closed season?

A petition is being planned for a closed season on coyote hunting.

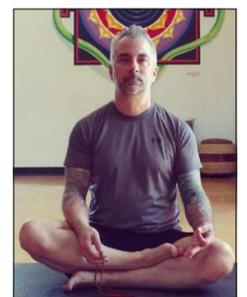
A3

Plans are OK'd

Officials approve final design plans for Park Street in Brandon.

A2

HOT SPOT



Today
MEN'S YOGA

Every Tuesday, \$10 per class/\$8 members, 6:30 p.m. Studio Serpentine at Cobra, 56 Howe St., Rutland, 772-1011.

ONLINE

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LOTTERY

■ **JAN. 21, 2019 DRAWS**
Midday: 9-3-1 and 9-3-0-8
Evening: 4-9-3 and 5-8-8-9
New York State
1-0-2LS3 and 2-5-1-3 LS12

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Brenda Bacon cleans off over a foot of snow from her Subaru on Monday in Fair Haven following the weekend's snowfall.

ROBERT LAYMAN / STAFF PHOTO

Frigid air, winds sweep region

By **HOLLY RAMER**
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CONCORD, N.H. — Falling temperatures replaced the weekend's falling snow Monday as bitter cold and gusty winds swept across the eastern United States.

The National Weather Service had forecast that temperatures would be more than 20 degrees below normal across the Northeast, with wind gusts up to 30 mph and

wind chills approaching minus 40 degrees Fahrenheit in northern New York and Vermont.

Atop the Northeast's highest mountain, the temperature fell to minus 23 degrees Monday morning and dropped to minus 31 later in the afternoon, according to the Facebook page for Mount Washington Observatory, in New Hampshire. Wind chills were hovering around minus 80.

In New York, Coast Guard crews moved quickly to rescue a 21-year-old man left stranded on an island in the Navensink River after his small boat broke down. The Coast Guard said two members waded through 34-degree water to bring the man to safety. The air temperature was 7 degrees degrees with 30 mph wind.

The weather contributed to multiple deaths over the long Martin

Luther King Jr. holiday weekend. In suburban Chicago, the temperature was about 14 degrees Sunday when a 12-year-old girl died after a snow fort collapsed on her. Police in Arlington Heights, Illinois, said Esther Jung had been playing with another girl outside Rothem Church. Their families began looking for them about

See Cold, page A10



Former Bennington County representative Kiah Morris, right, captures the attention of the crowd gathered for the Women's March rally at the Vermont State House in Montpelier on Saturday.

JOSH KUCKENS / STAFF PHOTO

WOMEN'S MARCH

Vt. rally draws hundreds

By **ERIC BLAISDELL**
STAFF WRITER

MONTPELIER — Despite facing single-digit temperatures, hundreds of people turned out to support women, people of color and other groups while also protesting President Donald Trump.

Women's March Vermont held a rally Saturday at the State House where people held up signs saying things like "Keep your laws off my body" and "When injustice becomes law, resistance

becomes duty." Amanda Garces is a member of the Vermont Coalition for Ethnic and Social Equity in Schools. She is also an immigrant from Colombia.

She said she was at the rally to talk about a 14-year-old girl who was crossing the Arizona border with Mexico when she died.

"It took three weeks for her remains to be found," Garces said. "I am standing here for her and for the 7,000 migrants that have

died crossing the border."

Parts of the U.S. government are currently shut down over a dispute between Trump and Democrats in Congress over funding for a border wall between the U.S. and Mexico. Garces said she was also at Saturday's rally because she is afraid that people may not have noticed the people who have died crossing the desert to get to the U.S. She said people may

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VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ACT

Shutdown puts funds in jeopardy

By **KATE BARCELLOS**
STAFF WRITER

In December, the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) expired and was not reauthorized, threatening organizations and services for victims of domestic and sexual violence around the country with a loss of funding through federal grants.

"Its original intention was to improve criminal justice and community response for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault," said Avaloy Lanning, director of the NewStory Center in Rutland. "(But) they couldn't get their act together. If it doesn't get reauthorized, it could be pretty devastating."

Though there remain spending bills on the tables of the House and Senate to extend VAWA until Feb. 8, the longest-running government shutdown in history prevented the act's re-authorization and may prevent many of those organizations from receiving their next reimbursement

checks. "VAWA covers a lot," Lanning said. "Much of our funding is federal pass through money, and we can apply directly for some federal grants. Some money is direct money from the feds, and some money comes direct from the feds, through the state."

Lanning said the NewStory Center provides the initial funding for every service they provide, whether it's 24-hour emergency services, access to victims' advocates, help with relief from abuse orders, warm beds and meals from their food shelf, or sexual assault exams and help finding employment and education.

The Center then applies for grant funding at the end of every quarter. Lanning said the Center has been told it'll receive funding for the previous quarter but there's no guarantee regarding the next one.

"Everything we're doing now, starting Jan. 1., all the

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