

GREEN BUILDINGS

11:20 AM, Vermod Model Vermod: Net-Zero, Carbon-Free Living – Ashley Andreas & Steve Davis; 50 min. Learn how zero-energy, carbon-free, modular homes are designed, built, and made affordable to working class Vermonters. Learn about our HVAC systems, solar technology, and building envelope, made for Vermont climate and a carbon-free, solarized future.

Ashley is Vermod's Home Ownership Adviser and an Environmental Justice Advocate. She holds an A.S. in Business and is currently studying STEM with a focus in Environmental Science. Ashley is most passionate about the building science of Green Homes and making these homes accessible to middle and low-income people.

ashley@vermodhomes.com; <https://vermodhomes.com/>

Steve Davis is the founder and visionary of Vermod Homes. As CEO of the company, you can find him working on job sites and lending expertise as a developer and tradesman in design, systems, and production. Steve has been a huge advocate for workforce and affordable housing in his community. steven@vermodhomes.com;

<https://vermodhomes.com/>

11:20 PM, Barn Waterless Composting Toilets for Your Off-Grid Home – Jason Kass; 50 min. Ever think of having your own off-grid backup toilet, or maybe are you thinking of building a Tiny House in the woods but don't want the expense of a septic system? Waterless composting toilets are a great alternative. Jason will also discuss the non-profit work TFP does in developing countries to bring hygienic sanitation to those in need of non-polluting toilets as an alternative to flush toilets which pollute local water resources.

Jason Kass, founder of Toilets for People (TFP), a non-profit/social business that designs and sells affordable composting toilets, will teach you how TFP makes our signature product, the TFP Composting Toilet.

jason@toiletsforpeople.com; www.toiletsforpeople.com

11:20 PM, CSA Shed Living off grid: tiny house to McMansion – John Blittersdorf; 50 min. A discussion on off-grid living at all levels. How is it different from living on the grid?

Having lived off-grid for 40 years at all levels of technology and comfort, John Blittersdorf has gained an insight of what is involved with off-grid living, and the different paths people can take for the end result they are looking for. His first cabin had one solar panel, a couple of batteries and a few fluorescent lights and he now has a 1600 sf house with all the amenities. He is a NABCEP Certified Solar PV Professional responsible for over 400 PV installations in VT, NY and NH. john.blittersdorf@gmail.com; www.facebook.com/cvsolar/

12:50 PM, Packing Shed Hemp: The Building Material the Green Industry Has Been Waiting For – Bob & Alex Escher; 50 min. The passing of the 2018 Farm Bill reintroduced hemp back into the market place after being deemed illegal for 80+ years because of the politically motivated misplaced connection to its cousin marijuana. We will explain the properties of hemp and discuss how this simple plant with 25,000 uses will re-build farming communities and rewrite the rules of sustainability in the construction, textile, medical and plastics industries.

Recipient of the first permitted hemp structure in Denver (2017), Bob hails from an impressive family of builders and engineers whose projects include New York's original Yankee Stadium and Switzerland's Gotthard Tunnel. A practicing architect in Dorset Vermont for over thirty years, his firm features a national portfolio of completed projects in numerous states including New York, Virginia, Florida, New Jersey, Massachusetts and Vermont. While Escher Design is focused on developing a cost effective, hemp prototype that highlights the importance of indoor air quality and the healthy-living lifestyle, Bob is determined to create much needed building protocols and national certification standards in accordance with the American Society for Testing Materials (ASTM).

bob@escherdesigninc.com; www.escherdesigninc.com

Alex Escher; Director of Project Development for Escher Design and Principal Partner at Hemp Hollow Consulting, discovered a passion for innovation, cutting-edge green technology and entrepreneurship shortly after graduating from the College Conservatory of Music in Cincinnati. Intrigued with the far-reaching applications of the sustainable, carbon neutral properties of industrial hemp, he joined Escher Design, Inc. and launched Hemp Hollow Consulting to research and develop a standardized, cost effective hemp-based building system. A natural entrepreneur, he is collaborating with local farmers and businesses to identify bottlenecks and to establish a reliable, global supply chain for the green building sector. aescher100@gmail.com; www.Alexescher.com

2:00 PM, Barn Cold Climate Heat Pumps: Select and Operate for Efficiency – Li Ling Young; 50 min.

About 10 years into the adoption of heat pumps to decarbonize building energy a lot has been learned about new high-performing technologies coming on line, and how to adjust your existing heat pumps for better comfort and savings.

Li Ling Young is a Senior Energy Consultant with VEIC. Through Efficiency Vermont she has supported hundreds of residential projects from design through construction for healthy, comfortable and affordable homes. With a focus on existing homes Li Ling works to grow the Zero Energy Homes industry: transforming our housing stock through efficiency improvements, electrification and renewable energy. lyoung@veic.org; www.encyvermont.com

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4:00 PM, Barn Energy Meets History: Rehabbing an Historic Farmhouse into a Net-Zero Energy Green Home – Paul and Joanne Coons; 50 min. Learn about the interesting adventure of Paul and Joanne Coons who restored an early 19th century farmhouse in Clifton Park that now uses 21st century renewable energy technology. Paul Coons (plc359@yahoo.com) retired from the NYS Office of Mental Health as Director of Environmental Health and Safety. Paul has since been General Contractor to restore an 1852 house, 1856 fire damaged store and apartments and his current 1830 home working to make each one energy efficient and using renewable energies. Joanne Coons (j.coons@hvcc.edu) is currently an adjunct professor at Hudson Valley Community College, TEC-SMART facility teaching Photovoltaic Theory and Design and Maintenance and Installation. Locally, Joanne advocates for sustainability as a member of the Town of Clifton Park's GREEN (Government Re-Thinking Energy & Environment Now) Prior to her current endeavors, she taught high school biology, Earth Science and Environmental Science for 28 years.