



'Showing up'

Two county natives return to THT with a revamp of a popular two-person work. See Arts + Leisure.



Aiming for 4

Another local field hockey team is seeking a repeat title, this time at the college level. See Page 1B.



Winter guide

Everything you need to know about local cold-weather fun is in our special pullout section.

ADDISON COUNTY INDEPENDENT

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Photo by Buzz Kuhns

Curtain call

Local high school students with a dramatic flair are on stage this month performing wonderful musicals — in person! They are all wearing masks but their sincerity shines through. Pictured above are players in Mount Abraham's "Beauty and the Beast" rehearsing for a show this Thursday, Friday and Saturday; shown from left are Abby Johnson and Sean Davison in background, as well as Bella Bluteau, Evan Jennison, Elena Bronson, Kami Clodgo and Greta Jennison. Below left, Peyton Paquette listens to Olivia Brooks in a scene from "Bye Bye Birdie" at Vergennes Union High School this past weekend. Right, Abigail Sunderland and Robbie Kite star in the Middlebury Union High School production of "The Sound of Music" this weekend. See more photos on Pages 4A, 10A, 11A and 15A.



Photo by Phil Gramling

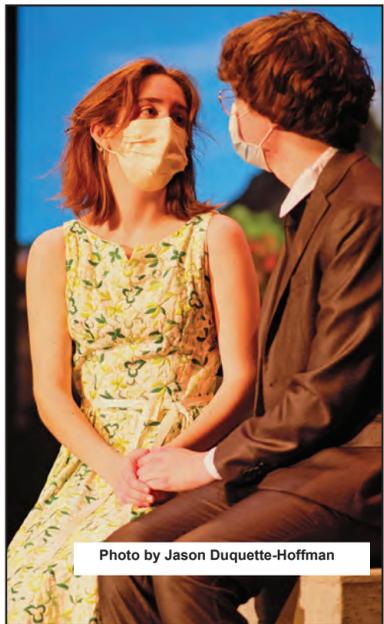


Photo by Jason Duquette-Hoffman

Leahy to step away after his eighth term

Dem is longest serving U.S. Senator

By LOLA DUFFORT and SARAH MEARHOFF
VtDigger.org

MONTPELIER — After eight terms and nearly five decades in office, U.S. Sen. Patrick Leahy is retiring.

Vermont's senior senator announced his decision during a press conference at the Statehouse Monday morning, in the same room where he announced his first Senate campaign as a 33-year-old Chittenden County state's attorney in March 1974. In attendance Monday were



SEN. LEAHY

numerous reporters and supporters, and at his side was his wife, Marcelle Leahy.

"While I will continue to serve Vermont, Marcelle and I have reached the conclusion that it is time to put down this gavel," Leahy said. "It is time to pass the torch to the next Vermonter who will carry on this work for our great state. It's time to come home."

At the close of his speech, his supporters gave him a standing ovation. (See Leahy, Page 16A)

Summer debut eyed for passenger train

Stop set for Middlebury, Vergennes

By JOHN FLOWERS

MIDDLEBURY — The long-absent refrain of "all aboard!" is expected to ring out once again at new passenger train stations in Middlebury and Vergennes in about seven months, according to Vermont's top rail official.

Dan Delabruere, Rail and Aviation Bureau director with the Vermont Agency of Transportation,

said he's confident the new Rutland-to-Burlington extension of the Ethan Allen Express will commence rolling in "late June or early July" of 2022. The new service will restore a passenger rail option in Addison County following a multi-decade hiatus, and will give folks boarding in Middlebury and Vergennes service north to Burlington, and south to Burlington. (See Passenger rail, Page 16A)

Porter completes transition to new health record system

By JOHN FLOWERS

MIDDLEBURY — Most Addison County residents were still fast asleep at 5 a.m. on Saturday, Nov. 6, when Porter Medical Center completed one of the most Epic transformations in its 96-year history.

That's when Porter officials and a group of consultants flipped the switch on the institution's final transition to a new Epic electronic health record system, an undertaking several years in the making. Among other things, the system will allow for more efficient care. (See Medical software, Page 8A)

'Gotta Go' card gives links to vital services

By JOHN FLOWERS

MIDDLEBURY — Being homeless can be terrifying enough — not knowing where your next meal is going to come from, nor where you're going to seek refuge

from the elements during a long, cold Vermont winter night.

Organizations like the John W. Graham Emergency Shelter in Vergennes and the Charter House in Burlington have been instrumental in providing services. (See Gotta Go, Page 9A)



By the way

The Starksboro Library is looking for a pair of teens to volunteer to re-shelve books. This job requires good attention to detail and the ability to lift heavy boxes. (See By the way, Page 8A)

MAUSD gives towns say on school closures

By CHRISTOPHER ROSS

BRISTOL — After nearly a year of debate over the issue of whether "repurposing" schools is tantamount to "closing" them, the Mount Abraham Unified School District board approved a measure Monday night to bring some clarity to the issue.

The measure, proposed by board member Sandy Lee of Lincoln, stipulates that the word "closure" will be defined to include any decision that would take all K-6 students from one town school and reassign them to another.

As a result of this expanded definition of "closure," the five MAUSD member towns of Bristol, Lincoln, Monkton, New Haven and Starksboro will have more local control over the fate of their elementary schools.

The MAUSD's articles of agreement, which were approved last year, were amended. (See Closing schools, Page 14A)

Deer hunters smiling at local weigh stations

Numbers solid for rifle, archery & youth seasons

By ANDY KIRKALDY

ADDISON COUNTY — Once again, the region's deer hunters appear to have gotten off to a successful start in 2021, although it looks like they might not be on a pace to set a record annual harvest for the fourth straight season.

As of this past Monday, hunters had taken 595 deer to be weighed at Addison County's seven wildlife reporting stations.

That number includes 203 bucks taken on this past Saturday and Sunday, the opening weekend of the state's 16-day rifle season; 121 brought down during Youth and Novice Hunting Weekend on Oct. 23 and 24, the second-highest local total on record; 202 deer killed in the first portion of the bow season (Oct. 1 to Nov. 12); and 67 taken in the first portion of the muzzleloader season (Oct. 28-31).

Still remaining to add to the county total are the final 14 days of rifle season (which wraps up Nov. 28), the muzzleloader season that will run from Dec. 4 to 12, and the remainder of the archery season, which runs from Nov. 29 to Dec. 15.

In the previous highest overall seasons, 2020 and 2019, the opening weekends of rifle season saw 146 and 276 deer taken, respectively. Therefore it is difficult to predict how this season will turn out, but 2021 could land in the middle to upper end when considering the total number of deer killed in each of the last five autumns. Here is a chart the Department of Fish and Wildlife compiled over the past five years:



JOE FORTUNE BROUGHT IN THIS 132-POUND, 6-POINT BUCK TO NEW HAVEN'S RACK 'N REEL TO BE WEIGHED ON TUESDAY. THIS DEER, SHOT NEAR KINGSLAND BAY IN FERRISBURGH, WAS FORTUNE'S FIRST BUCK IN SIX YEARS.

Independent photo/Andy Kirkaldy

- In 2020, 1,745 deer (647 rifle, 105 youth/novice, 528 archery, 464 muzzleloader).
- In 2019, 1,324 deer (594 rifle, 142 youth, 258 archery, 330 muzzleloader).
- In 2018, 1,345 deer (571 rifle, 110 youth, 274 bow, 390 muzzleloader).

- In 2017, 1,189 deer (554 rifle, 110 youth, 161 bow, 264 muzzleloader).
 - In 2016, 1,064 deer (573 rifle, 94 youth, 206 bow, 191 muzzleloader).
- Department of Fish and Wildlife officials
(See Deer hunt, Page 13A)

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MAUSD board turns away distraught parent

By CHRISTOPHER ROSS

BRISTOL — Mount Abraham Unified School District Board chair Dawn Griswold refused to convene an executive session Monday night to hear testimony from a distraught parent who alleges her child was sexually harassed at Bristol Elementary School.

Griswold said she couldn't convene an executive session because it was too late to alter the meeting's agenda. After conferring with Superintendent Patrick Reen in private, and trying unsuccessfully to reach the school board's attorney, she suggested the

"I should be able to feel like I can have a voice and be able to find out how on earth do I even get my message to you (the school board). Because if it's this hard to even get my message out, then how will it ever get fixed?"

— Bristol parent at MAUSD School Board meeting

parent come back another time.

The parent had filed a formal complaint with the school district on Nov. 10, requesting an investigation into what she alleges were "unwelcome sexual advances, physical assault and other contact of a sexual nature" experienced by her child and at

least four other children at the school.

According to the complaint, Bristol Elementary staff were made aware of the issue in September and a school counselor assured the parent the school was "aware and mindful of the need to supervise this situation during

recess."

But more incidents were reported by multiple students in November, the complaint states. As a result, the parent said, her child has expressed concerns about returning to school.

Frustrated with the response she received from district administrators, she appealed to the school board.

"When I saw the placeholder (for an executive session) on the agenda, I thought, 'Maybe that's my chance, to be able to come and express something that I really, really need to talk to all of you' (See MAUSD parent, Page 8A)

Council reviews plans to stop sewer overflows

By ANDY KIRKALDY

VERGENNES — Engineers last week put on the table Step 1 in Vergennes's effort to keep dirty sewerage from overflowing into Otter Creek.

Hoyle, Tanner & Associates presented the Vergennes City Council a preliminary five-year plan to, at least in part, control what they are now calling the city sewer system's "Sanitary Sewer Overflows" into Otter Creek.

That recommendation is part of a larger plan that could cost \$30 million and require system users to pay for a bond of between \$13 million and \$20 million, depending

on final cost estimates and state and federal funding levels. A vote is expected at some point next year.

Other elements will include:

- A complete upgrade of the failing wastewater treatment plant on the west bank of Otter Creek.
- An upgrade of the Macdonough Drive pump station, which is at times overwhelmed after heavy rains, thus causing the sanitary sewer overflows, or SSOs.
- The addition of a second pipe under Otter Creek between the pump station and the treatment plant.

The Hoyle Tanner representatives did talk about the Macdonough

Drive pump station at the Nov. 9 meeting, which was labeled as a discussion of "Long Term Control Plan - Focused on Elimination of the Sanitary Sewer Overflow" in their PowerPoint presentation.

The engineers focused a significant part of their suggestions on what the city could do in the next five years and could largely be funded by the city's forthcoming \$3 million American Rescue Plan Act grant, which is earmarked to deal with the SSO issue.

Hoyle Tanner and city and state officials will agree on that Long Term Control Plan, which will obligate the city to follow the steps it

outlines to solve its SSO problems. The city for several years has been operating under a state order to stop the overflows.

After some confusion it appeared that \$3 million could fund the cost of completing the five-year part of the Long Term Control Plan, at least as it pertains to the collection system.

Those so-called short-term projects include replacing three deteriorating 1,000-foot stretches of sewer lines, establishing a sump-pump disconnection program (Hoyle Tanner and earlier studies have identified the city's many (See Sewer, Page 3A)



SARAH BRIGGS, EXECUTIVE Director of the Middlebury Studio School, shows off the organization's new classroom space in the Marble Works complex. The new location will host the school's fine arts classes, while the organization will maintain its thriving clay offerings at 2377 Route 7 South.

Independent photo/John Flowers

New Middlebury Studio School space is welcoming to emerging artists

By JOHN FLOWERS

MIDDLEBURY — The Middlebury Studio School's longtime quest to bring arts education back to the downtown has come to fruition, with the opening of a new branch in the Marble Works complex.

The new studio opened this month at 63 Maple St., in a spot most recently occupied by End of Life Services. It will host all of the studio school's non-clay classes, which run the gamut from basket weaving to painting. Meanwhile, the school's clay courses will continue to be housed in the nonprofit's 2377 Route 7 South location.

"People have been coming in and saying, 'Wow, it looks great; I can't wait to take a class in here,'" Middlebury Studio School Executive Director Sarah Briggs said of the new spot. "I encourage people to come and check it out, or write to me. I think when people see the space, they'll want to take a class in here. It's a lovely place to be."

Middlebury Studio School (MSS) was founded in 2009 by staff, instructors and friends of the former Frog Hollow Craft Center. George Dorsey acquired the former craft center space that year and allowed the studio school to operate in the lower level of the building at a favorable rent until 2015, when the MSS moved to Route 7 South.

Studio School programming quickly grew at the new location, and at an offsite painting/drawing studio the organization runs off Halladay Road. During its first

year in 2009, the MSS served 516 adults, children and teens. By 2019, that number had more than doubled to 1,185 clients, taught by more than 20 artist-educators.

The space crunch prompted school officials to scour the area for additional space. MSS leaders have yearned to recapture a downtown presence, which they reasoned would provide greater visibility and ready access via public transportation. The Marble Works spot is convenient to Tri-Valley Transit's bus system, and a mere stone's throw away from a new passenger rail platform off Seymour Street.

Securing a downtown Middlebury spot has historically been difficult. There was a time when downtown storefront vacancies were few and far between, with rents outside a small nonprofit's price range.

But the stars aligned for Middlebury Studio School this year, when:

- Around a dozen downtown vacancies emerged in wake of the pandemic and the rail tunnel construction project.
- The Better Middlebury Partnership launched a "Kick Start" program offering around \$20,000 in financial aid and support services to qualifying businesses seeking a downtown presence.

The studio school was one of six business ventures to land a Kick Start grant. The financial assist has allowed the studio school to expand in a more measured fashion than if it had

(See Studio, Page 8A)

College workers get special bonus

By CHRISTOPHER ROSS

MIDDLEBURY — Middlebury College informed its faculty and staff last week that they would get two extra holidays this year and one-time bonuses to be paid in December.

The announcement, which was sent out on Nov. 10 by Vice President for Human Resources Caitlin Goss, acknowledged some of the challenges and upheavals that have emerged since the pandemic arrived in Vermont more than 20 months ago.

"It's OK to feel like these are complicated times, they are," Goss wrote. She added it's also OK to "turn off your camera to stretch or eat an apple ... have pets, partner, kids, or housemates crash your zoom call ... wonder why you have to be at the office every day when others work from home ... do the work that gives you energy ... remember why you love to work here, forget why you love to work here ... have the time to space and dream."

At the same time, "actions matter," Goss wrote. "First step: two extra days off and a \$1,500 bonus in December."

Bonuses will be made available just prior to winter break to benefits-eligible employees who started at the college before July 1, 2021, and will be prorated based on workweek hours.

With 1,212 workers associated with its Vermont campus — 1,144 full-time and 68 part-time, according to Director of (See College bonus, Page 3A)



Otter family fun

OTTER VALLEY UNION High School's Walking Stick Theatre will stage "The Addams Family" this Thursday through Sunday. Directed by Jeff Hull, the show features a 30-person cast, plus crew and a 15-person pit orchestra. Pictured from a dress rehearsal early this week are Eliza Norford as Morticia dancing with Gunnar Tinsman as Gomez.

Independent photo/Angelo Lynn

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White stuff in the air

SNOW GEESE FLYING over Addison this week make the whole scene look like a snow globe.

Photo by Jeannette Armell

Sewer

(Continued from Page 2A)

basement sump pumps as major contributors to the problem at the Macdonough drive pump station), and studying whether some of the wastewater could be diverted from the station via a gravity-feed system from higher ground.

The confusion came from differing price tags for the sewer lines. According to the PowerPoint presentation, the total cost of those projects and a couple other details would run “\$3,880,000- \$4,525,000.”

Of that, \$3.5 million to \$4 million would go to replacing the three sewer lines, which Hoyle Tanner had identified as those allowing the most stormwater to infiltrate the system.

Councilors Ian Huizenga and Mel Hawley, who as city manager oversaw line replacement projects, said they were not pleased with those estimates.

“Something is funny with these numbers,” Hawley said. “I’ve never spent a dollar a foot for sewer pipe in my life.”

Hoyle Tanner engineer Jennie Auster and Marisa DeBiao spent a few minutes trying to explain the estimates. Then the third member of the team pointed out the draft Long Term Control Plan they had crafted actually used \$2.21 million as an estimate.

Hawley responded: “You’re getting the numbers to go in the right direction. Let me just say that.”

Hoyle Tanner engineer Jennie Auster then focused on the ARPA funding and how it could help the city meet what it must promise the state in the Long Term Control Plan, a second draft of which was due late last week.

“Regardless, there’s a \$3 million grant that will go toward the collection system,” Auster said. “What is obligated in the long-term control plan is to do three segments, and what that costs probably remains to be seen. It sounds like we need to coordinate on that... But the more important piece is doing three segments is feasible within the zero-to-five years.”

The council and the engineers on Nov. 9 also discussed the possibility of creating more overflow storage at the Macdonough Drive pump station, the possibility of upgrading the station’s pumps, the need for two more sewer line segments to be replaced and more testing to be done on other segments, how a sump pump ordinance could provide help for some owners and the need for general public education on the issue.

A session at the council’s Nov. 23 meeting will focus on the wastewater treatment plant.

Bristol appoints new treasurer

BRISTOL — Bristol’s new treasurer, Anthony Delmonaco, officially started working for the town on Monday.

“Anthony and his wife, Martha, currently live in South Burlington,” Bristol Town Administrator Valerie Capels said in her Nov. 6 report to the selectboard. “He brings a combination of academic and practical experience that will be an asset to the position and the town.”

The selectboard officially appointed Delmonaco to a one-year term at its Nov. 8 meeting.

He replaces Jen Stetson Myers, who served the town as both treasurer and delinquent tax collector for 10 years, until her departure on Oct. 8.

The town interviewed four

candidates for the job, out of an unspecified number of candidates, and recommended two to the selectboard, including Delmonaco.

He worked part-time in the town office last week, while wrapping up his former employment, and started working fulltime for the town this week, according to Capels.

Delmonaco’s duties will include keeping track of town funds, receipts, investments and disbursements, as well as tax bills and tax collection. And — because the selectboard in early October combined both of Myers’s old positions into one — the treasurer will also be responsible for delinquent tax collection.

College bonus

(Continued from Page 2A)

Media Relations Sarah Ray — Middlebury College is the largest employer in Addison County.

Combined, employee bonuses next month will represent a sudden infusion of well over \$1 million into the local economy. “We are happy to recognize and thank employees who have been supporting Middlebury, in all our locations and in so many ways, in these complicated times,” Goss told the *Independent* in an email Wednesday morning.

“This is the first step as we build a robust people-centered strategy and we will continue to seek big and small opportunities to recognize, reward and support all employees in our community.”

COVID DEFICITS

Like other institutions of higher education, Middlebury College has struggled financially through the pandemic, though a massive reassessment of its workforce, which concluded in 2019, may have better positioned it to weather the storm.

Middlebury ended that year on a positive note. After analyzing the local and regional employment market, the college increased salary-range minimums for a

number of positions, and gave automatic pay raises to nearly 80 employees already in those positions.

But then the pandemic arrived, and on March 10, 2021, more than 2,000 students departed from campus.

Within days, college officials developed a short-term workforce plan they believed reflected the institution’s values: continue paying employees for as long as possible and keep finding work for them wherever possible.

In April the college announced that students would finish the spring 2020 semester remotely.

Financially, with expected student refunds, slower fundraising and other losses, the college was

looking at a \$13 million operating deficit for the year, and officials were warning of a FY 2021 deficit of more than \$30 million.

That month, President Laurie Patton reduced her salary by 20% and senior administrators reduced theirs by 10 to 15%, to be reevaluated on a month-by-month basis.

In FY 2021, which ended this past summer, Middlebury College lost \$15 million in tuition revenue from its Schools Abroad

and Language Schools programs, and another \$10 million from its undergraduate program, but a “shift in spending practices” — including a hiring freeze — and some federal reimbursement led to a smaller than anticipated deficit: only \$11.9 million, according to a report last month from Executive Vice President for Finance and Administration David Provost.

ENDOWMENT GAINS

At the same time as the college was operating at a significant deficit, its endowment was growing at a record pace.

“Like other higher education institutions, Middlebury experienced significant growth in our endowment this year, with an overall increase of 37.4 percent over the previous year, or \$398.3 million,” Provost wrote in his Oct. 25 report to the college community. “The endowment now stands at \$1.5 billion, compared with \$1.1 billion in the previous fiscal year.”

The gains, Provost said, “will ensure that we can spend more on financial aid for our students and continue to provide the high-quality education and instruction that they deserve. The majority of these funds are being directed back to our students in the form of financial aid, instructional support, and student services support.”

Endowment gains at Middlebury and other institutions have sparked a great deal of public conversation, Provost acknowledged, but he believed they needed to be put into context.

“As we’ve shared before,

(Middlebury) had a history of overspending in previous years,” Provost wrote. “Since then, we have focused our financial efforts on making Middlebury financially sound, being more inclusive of all constituencies in our deliberations about the budget, and better aligning our finances with our mission and long-term goals.”

BIG GIFTS

Earlier this month the college announced it had received two gifts totaling \$20 million.

Ted and Kathy O’Connor Truscott from the class of 1983 donated \$10 million to “create an endowed professorship in Black Studies, expand financial aid for undergraduate and graduate students, and provided unrestricted support for institutional priorities,” the college announced on Nov. 2.

A second \$10 million gift, made anonymously, will be used to renovate the Christian A. Johnson Memorial Building, which was built in 1968 as an interdisciplinary center for the fine arts, and which currently houses the college’s Architectural Studies Program and its Department of studio art.

The gift will also be used to fund a program of study for a new museum on campus. As previously reported in the *Independent*, the museum has been proposed for the spot now occupied by Battell Hall, which will be torn down sometime after 2023 completion of a new 284-student dormitory.

Editor’s note: Christopher Ross is married to an employee of Middlebury College.

“We are happy to recognize and thank employees who have been supporting Middlebury, in all our locations and in so many ways, in these complicated times”

— Vice President for Human Resources Caitlin Goss

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Editorial

Sen. Patrick Leahy
'A legacy impossible to match'

The tributes started flowing moments after Sen. Patrick Leahy's historic announcement Monday that he would retire after his current term ends in 2022, that it was time, he said, "to put down this gavel. It is time to pass the torch to the next Vermonter who will carry on this work for our great state." He paused for a moment that seemingly took in the past 46 years of his senatorial career, then added softly, "It's time to come home."

His Senate colleague Bernie Sanders said Leahy has been "a towering figure as chairman of the Agriculture Committee, the Judiciary Committee and the Appropriations Committee... He leaves a unique legacy that will be impossible to match."

Vermont's lone congressman Peter Welch said Monday was an "historic and bittersweet day... it is hard to imagine the United States Senate without Patrick Leahy. No one has served Vermont so faithfully, so constantly, so honestly, and so fiercely as Patrick."

Republican Gov. Phil Scott praised Leahy's "leadership and experience." "It is thanks to him and the funding he has secured for our state," Scott wrote, "that Vermont is in a position to come out of this pandemic stronger than before and tackle big challenges from broadband and infrastructure to the opioid crisis. We are indebted to him."

And Lt. Gov. Molly Gray said in a written statement that Leahy has been an "inspiration" to her. "Over the past five decades, when at times our nation's moral compass has wavered," Gray wrote, "Senator Leahy has remained steady, standing by Vermont's values and working to ensure our nation respects and protects those values. From human rights and civil liberties to international engagement and humanitarian relief, Senator Leahy has served as Vermont's and our nation's North Star."

Vermont's journalists shared their personal stories of Leahy as well. Long-time editorial writer at the *Rutland Herald*, David Moats, recalled that "two of the causes that Leahy takes greatest pride in are his work to help land mine victims around the world and to curb the export of land mines. He is also author of what is known as the Leahy Law, which curtails military assistance to nations guilty of human rights violations."

"Politicians choose the issues they will focus on," Moats continued. "Leahy had nothing to gain politically by devoting himself to the welfare of children whose legs have been blown off. He did not choose issues that the high rollers with the big bucks would reward him for."

My brother, Emerson Lynn, long-time publisher of the *St. Albans Messenger* and still its editorial writer, notes that while the impact of Leahy's influence has been "monumental" for Vermont in terms of sheer dollars into the state, his influence is greater at the local level.

"What's little understood, or appreciated, is that his influence goes far beyond what you read in the newspapers, or watch on a screen," Lynn wrote. "One of the hallmarks of the Leahy years is the quality of the staff around him, and the relationships he's built in every single Vermont hamlet. For half a century he has insisted on hiring the best and the brightest among us, understanding that progress comes program by program, person by person, layer by layer, and that it cannot be done alone."

"Whereas Mr. Leahy is identified with causes such as banning the export of land mines, presiding over an impeachment proceeding, aiding the unsung cause of our dairy farmers, championing our civil liberties, and advocating for human rights around the world," Lynn continued, "the real work, the nitty-gritty of a senator's existence, takes place at the local level, through his staff. Every day... Mr. Leahy and his staff, for example, are responsible for taking an eight-person immigration office in St. Albans and expanding it to a service that eventually employed over a thousand people. People haven't a clue as to his influence in each of our cities and towns. They couldn't know. It happens in ways large and small, with programs unknown, and programs that involve countless thousands — like the SNAP program, or fighting for the health of Lake Champlain."

"Suffice to say that," Lynn added, that "yes, it's always healthy in a democracy to pass the torch to a new generation of leaders, but, in the case of Mr. Leahy, it's also important to acknowledge the massive contribution he, and his staff, have made... It's almost mathematically impossible for Vermont to ever again experience the sort of seniority we have now; we should be thankful... for the leadership Mr. Leahy has provided."

From my own perspective, Vermont journalists are privileged to have such close personal access to our congressional and state leaders. For the past 37 years of my writing editorials for the *Addison Independent*, Sen. Leahy has been that steady voice of reason and guidance; a source to trust at the national level, to sort fact from fiction. When he voted against invading Iraq, because, as he said, he had read all of the intelligence and came to the conclusion there were no weapons of mass destruction as President George W. Bush alleged, he could be believed. When he shares insights into issues, and the politics around them, it's always to build your knowledge and create a better sense of understanding, not to undermine or discredit opponents. In a word, his integrity has been the touchstone of truth telling from which Vermonters, perhaps particularly Vermont journalists, could be grounded.

As for his ability to bring federal funds to strengthen our communities, as president of the Moosalamoo Association for the past few years, our board has seen first-hand his willingness to fund needed renovations of the mile-long Robert Frost Interpretative Trail in Ripton to make it universally accessible with a long-lasting composite boardwalk at a cost of over \$650,000 (far beyond our ability to do on our own). But also to help fund mountain bike trail upgrades within the Moosalamoo National Recreation Area's 70 miles of trails, restore bridges wiped out by Tropical Storm Irene, upgrade signage and other improvements that had languished for years for lack of funding. Leahy had helped establish the MRNA back in 2006, when he and Sen. James Jeffords, along with then-Congressman Sanders, established the MNRA as part of the Vermont Wilderness Act, and since then it has become a hidden recreational jewel within Addison County.

As further testament to his enormous influence on Vermont's outdoor recreational economy, on Nov. 10, Sen. Leahy was chosen as the Vermont Outdoor Business Alliance first recipient of the group's Trailblazer Award, recognizing the senator's "life-time of work" in supporting outdoor recreation.

The praise for Leahy's years of accomplishments and service, for the moment, overshadow the impending loss of his presence in the nation's capital — a dread that's hard to deny. And yet Leahy spoke, as Moats wrote, "with hope about the new generation of leaders ready to take on the fight. The problems are numerous and grave — climate change, immigration, racial justice, economic inequality. But Leahy has shown how to fight that fight with honesty and dignity... He'll be going home soon. He has earned it."

Angelo Lynn

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In the limelight

VERGENNES UNION HIGH School ninth-grader Elsa Michaels strides across the stage in her role as Mrs. Mae Peterson in "Bye Bye Birdie" at VUHS this past weekend. See more photos on Page 15A.

Photo by Phil Gramling

Making connections on the road

The other night I was listening to the radio while washing dinner dishes. The Unite the Right rally in Charlottesville was in the news again. In a civil trial, a jury will decide whether or not organizers of this event are responsible for the violence that ensued.

I was on the road in August of 2017 when this story broke. My mind returns there ...

Rick and I are making our way home from Denver, enjoying daily stops I map out for us. Last night we made it to South Bend, Indiana. This morning, groggy from going through two time zones in two days, we roll into the hotel dining room at 9:20, ten minutes before the kitchen closes. I gather tea and oatmeal while Rick grabs coffee and an omelette along with a complimentary USA Today, and we find a seat.

The rally in Charlottesville is the focus of the morning news on a small television set bolted to the wall. I was already shaken by the initial horrific story while driving east out of Gary on the interstate yesterday. The newscaster on our car radio told of hundreds of racist and antisemitic white nationalist and white supremacist groups gathering and marching across the University of Virginia campus. With tiki torches held high, they were at this moment chanting, "You will not replace us. Jews will not replace us. White lives matter."

As a Jew, hearing these words shakes me to my core. It is the first time in my life an antisemitic rally of this scope has occurred in the United States.

On the road, moving from one reality to the next, the horror seems somehow less real, as if it all might disappear with a new time zone, a new location. But it

doesn't.

And now, I'm not yet awake enough to assimilate more of it, how one neo-Nazi white supremacist drove his car into a crowd of peaceful counter-protesters, killing Heather Heyer and injuring eight others.

A woman monitoring the breakfast buffet walks by, and I return to this moment. She's a woman of color about my age. We strike up a conversation. I explain

that I slept in due to the time change driving east and wonder when other guests typically dine. She tells me that business folks can request service as early as 5:30 a.m., which requires her to arrive considerably earlier than that. She's in the habit of rising by 1:30 a.m. most mornings.

I can hardly imagine waking up that early even once. I realize at our age she's still working hard, while I'm retired and vacationing. I wish she could be relaxing at home or enjoying visits with her grandchildren, not making breakfast for me.

Between her work in the kitchen and dining areas, we continue our exchange. We appreciate each other's hair and skin tones. She compliments me on my silver white waves, I appreciate her close-cropped golden curls against her bronze complexion.

We become two women of a similar age sharing our stories. We venture into more personal topics, her involvement with the local church, our drive West to visit grandchildren. She continues returning to the kitchen, then reappears. Is the radio too loud? she asks. She's listening while working so has it turned up

(See Ways of Seeing, Page 8A)

Ways of Seeing

By Alice Leeds



Sizing up the races for governor

Voters in all six New England states, as well as New York state, will elect governors in 2022.

Connecticut Democrat Ned Lamont and Vermont Republican Phil Scott received praise, and high approval ratings, for their response to COVID-19 in 2020 and early 2021. Lamont announced his campaign for a second term last week, and Scott is likely to run for a fourth term, although he may not make an announcement for several months. Recently, both Lamont and Scott have come under criticism, from different perspectives, for their response to the virus.

Lamont has been dubbed "King Ned" by opponents of vaccination mandates for state employees and by parents who object to mandatory mask-wearing in schools. In Vermont, legislators and public health advocates want Scott to reimpose mask mandates and other mitigation measures in light of the state's high case load in the last two months. Currently, both Lamont and Scott would be considered favorites for re-election, although in Scott's case by less than the 40-point margin by which he won a third term in 2020.

New Hampshire Republican Chris Sununu announced last week that he would seek re-election to a fourth term as governor rather than run for the U.S. Senate as a challenger to Democratic Sen. Maggie Hassan. Sununu said he would prefer to be a governor and get things

done in Concord rather than go to Washington and talk. With Sununu's approval rating strong, he is likely to be re-elected, although Democrats will try to recruit a candidate who can make the race competitive.

Maine's Democratic governor Janet Mills will seek a second term in 2022. Her Republican opponent is likely to be Paul LePage, a populist before Donald Trump came on the scene, who has already served as governor for two terms. In both 2010 and 2014, LePage was elected with less than 50 percent of the vote, because the anti-LePage vote was split between Democratic and third-party candidates.

Although Maine uses ranked-choice voting for federal elections, state elections are decided on a plurality winner basis. Until we know whether Mills and LePage will be joined by other candidates — such as an anti-Trump center-right contender, and a Green or other candidate to the left of Mills — the Maine campaign will be a challenge to analyze.

Since Massachusetts extended its governor's term to four years, no Bay State governor has won three consecutive terms. (Michael Dukakis served three terms as governor, but they were not consecutive.) Republican Charlie Baker has not yet said whether he will run for a third term, but he is raising money for a campaign. Baker (See Davis, Page 8A)

Politically Thinking

By Eric L. Davis

Letters
to the Editor

Pupil weighting recommendations in question

In December a group of eight legislators will present pupil weighting recommendations as instructed by the legislature. Weighting is used as part of the state's school funding formula. The Task Force will be using the work of a December 2019 UVM Report that focused on pupil weighting factors in Vermont and elsewhere around the nation.

Many Vermont stakeholders (representatives from many Vermont school districts, legislators, and various educational organizations) deemed Vermont's current weighting formula to be out of date, thus the search for a more equitable formula. I'm not so sure this goal is attainable. There could be a better way. Here's some background.

Pre-1997 all Vermont public schools were funded through the local property tax system. Budgets were approved and the tax rate against the town's grand list (total property values) was set to raise the needed money. The 1997 court case Brigham vs. Vermont changed all that. The Vermont Supreme (See Pupil spending, Page 5A)

Veteran shares experience as a combat medic

For Veterans Day I would like to share with you one of my experiences as a medic who served 15 consecutive months in a combat zone.

This happened two days after our convoy was hit by an explosive device where several members were injured.

The day is hot, about 115 F, midday as we pull up to an informant's house, situated around a small courtyard with local national children playing. We are a small contingent of five vehicles, one single platoon of about 25 members. Everyone is fully geared with approximately 60 to 100 pounds of full battle gear, ammunition and weapons. I am equipped with extra medical gear and the only medical expertise on site.

We position our vehicles to scan and cover each sector and provide cover as the leadership enters the building.

I remain inside my vehicle for about five minutes, but it's really hot inside so I decide to get out and check on those that are in and outside the other vehicles.

(See Veteran, Page 5A)

Eagle field hockey title so much more than a game

Winning a state championship is a thrill of a lifetime. Repeating that feat is incredibly rare, but winning four in a row is nearly unheard of! While credit can go to the athleticism of some uniquely talented, fast, gritty girls for the Mount Abe field hockey team's recently won fourth state title, the credit really goes to a program that is uniquely designed to build powerful women who believe in themselves.

Molly Laurent and Txuxa Koncez have started every game for four years, playing every 7v7 overtime and every shootout. For the last three years they played without ever getting a sub. This year nine of the 11 girls on the winning varsity team never came off the field during regular season or playoffs, never got a sub, never got a break. Not one of them would ever complain. Instead they would all tell you, it makes them fit for playoffs. While three periods of this year's championship were really tight back-and-forth field hockey, the fourth quarter was all Eagles. Why? Because everyone else gets tired, Eagle hockey players don't get tired, don't lose steam, don't back down. They run as fast in overtime as they do in the first few minutes of the game. Their coaches make sure of it!

Freshman year, Molly and (See Field hockey, Page 4A)

Pupil spending

(Continued from Page 4A)

Court felt there was too wide a gap between funding in more affluent, property rich towns and cities, with large grand lists, versus smaller more rural communities with modest grand lists. The court determined there was not enough funding equity and stated that the state should take over funding for public education.

So now, the state sets the tax rate on homestead and non-homestead properties to raise money for the statewide public education bill. Included in the state's funding formula is a weighting formula that assigns values to the number of pre-K and secondary school students, economically disadvantaged kids, and new English learners in each school district. Grants are also doled out for special education, transportation and small schools.

The Pupil Weighting Task Force's job is to evaluate the state's current grant and weighting funding programs and come up with something better, fairer, than what is applied today. Theoretically a new weighting formula that will lead to better student outcomes. Will their recommendation be fairer and lead to better schools?

When the state decided to act on the court's recommendation and take over school funding, parents and local citizens influence on public education policies was

diminished. When we think about the needs of school's students, who better to figure that out than local school boards, teachers, and parents in each school. Let's have the state devise the weighting information from the work local citizens and school staff does in creating their plans and budgets. Our communities should be telling the state what weighting is needed for their school. It is troubling that an eight-person task force can assign a statewide monetary value to students from economically challenged families or any other social category.

The 2019 UVM Report, that was to serve as a valuable research tool for the Task Force, also pointed out the difficulty in developing fair pupil weighting. Neither Vermont's stakeholders nor those states that employ weighting, offered a clear pathway in developing weighting fairness. Weighting priorities vary in stated opinions and in fact.

There is also a possible funding problem. What happens, as a result of the new pupil weighting approach, when some districts receive less dollars (this would translate to a higher tax rate than previous years) while other districts receive greater state funding (lower tax rate)?

The goal of the pupil weighting task force is to recognize the differences in school's student population and create a weighting

formula that can translate appropriate money to equalize school opportunity for excellence. There are plenty of studies that enumerate the main factors that go into creating excellent public schools. None of these studies point out special weighting funding factors. The factors that come up repeatedly in these studies refer to administrative leadership that forge an inclusive culture, family and community involvement, clear educational goals and standards, a feeling of security for students and staff, and students being treated with respect, to name just some. These factors are created locally by school boards, staff, and the community.

Funding schools for their unique needs should be done from the bottom up, local schools dictating funding priorities, not the state. According to a recent VTDigger article, school officials, when asked by the folks in the Education Committees how can we help in the coming legislative session, legislators were told not to take any new action. Educators want time to deal with previous years mandates and legislation. This sounds like a good idea.

**Fred Baser
Bristol**

Editor's note: The writer is a former state representative in the district including Bristol, Starksboro, Monkton and Lincoln.

Letters to the Editor

United Way of Addison County offers thanks

On behalf of the 30 nonprofits that United Way of Addison County (UWAC) funds, I would like to thank the towns that have waived the petitioning process for organizational town funding requests. In addition to the health-related concerns nonprofits face during this time, the workforce shortage has increased the challenge of collecting signatures. Businesses and organizations across our region are short-staffed, having difficulty hiring, and/or their workload has increased substantially due to the pandemic. There simply are not enough boots on the ground to meet the demand. Many social service staff have been pulled from their regular duties to fill a gap created by

the increased needs caused by COVID-19.

Under normal circumstances, many organizations struggle to meet the petitioning requirements each year; each town has different standards, signature rules, and application procedures. The steps to request funding can be daunting.

While we are making significant progress towards rebuilding our communities and returning to normal, many emergency operations, services, and programs are still hard at work. The people leading this work must have the opportunity to remain focused and continue to provide the essential support and services our communities need to get through this difficult time. UWAC wants

to recognize the community leaders who have allowed local organizations to remain steadfast in their mission to secure the health and safety of all people in Addison County by removing the obstacle of signature requirements for funding requests. This action may seem like a small gesture, but it provides great capacity for local nonprofits to achieve positive outcomes. Thank you.

If you are curious if your town has voted to waive the petitioning process, you are welcome to contact me directly.

With gratitude,
**Jesse Brooks,
Director of Advocacy
United Way of Addison
County
Middlebury**

Shorthanded shops need kindness and patience

As we are all aware, nearly every store, shop or restaurant we go into is shorthanded. The long lines and low stock issues will surely get the better of all of us before the end of the year. Remember that the cashiers or waitstaff are most likely getting late breaks or having to

forego them altogether. Some are staying hours longer to take care of the customers, out of commitment to where they work and to not leave their coworkers to go it alone. While places are trying to hire more staff they certainly don't wish to lose the dedicated employees they have

because of customer abuse. As you use services, go into stores and restaurants, please take a breath and remember we are all human. Kindness and patience will get us all through.

**Elizabeth Herriman
Middlebury**

Field hockey

(Continued from Page 4A)

Txuxa supported a cast of incredible seniors who taught them the game, but most importantly taught them the grit of Eagle hockey. After the freshman state championship, Molly and Txuxa promised their coaches at the banquet that they were going to get four, which at the time seemed more like a dream than an attainable possibility. They decided then that they were going to be part of Eagle hockey history. Their championships have all been different. One year they were clearly the superior team. Last year they were clearly the weaker team who would not give up and fought through two overtimes to win in a shootout. This year, they were just going to win, plain and simple, and they did so with true class.

How does this kind of athletic success happen? A community at Mount Abe that is dedicated to a program. I will never forget my shock when, at the first game

freshman year, the assistant principal, Justin Bouvier, announced the starters and sang the anthem. When he sang, every other team (soccer and football) stopped wherever they were in their drill or practice and faced the flag proudly. While the anthem plays our opponents all stand in a line waiting for the game to start. Eagle hockey players line up, hook arms with their coaches, and have a routine of tapping each other's feet and swaying as one unit before they start their game. Justin has announced every home game since and proudly sang the anthem at their final championship. Dedication! When the championship game comes, fire trucks and police cars escort the buses out of town to head to UVM to play their game with the community lined up to send them off. Those same fire trucks meet them back to bring them home. We live in a community dedicated to our girls!

But really why do they win?

Head coach Mary Stetson. Plain and simple. She has taken a community that has long been dedicated to Eagle hockey, and along with her a squad of powerful assistant coaches has created legendary teams. She is focused on making our girls great people. Eagle hockey is the only girls' program at Mount Abe that is coached exclusively by women. It is coached by athletes who are all moms, and all fully dedicated to Eagle hockey. They coach field hockey, but they really coach the girls to be confident, powerful women who work to their full potential every day.

This magical group of seniors, Molly, Txuxa, Carly, Abby, Natalie and Maddie will now move on to other great things, but no one can ever take away their epic experience, their four-peat! Most importantly no one can ever take away the confidence, power and grit that they gained from being part of Eagle hockey and the community that supports it.

**Julianna Doherty
Middlebury**

Editor's note: The writer, who recently moved to Middlebury, is the mother of Eagle field hockey player Txuxa Konczal.

Veteran

(Continued from Page 4A)

Double-checking that everyone has water and is keeping hydrated, looking for signs of any heat injury, but everyone checks out, I decide to get back in the vehicle even though it is like sitting inside an oven.

Another 10 minutes pass. The children are no longer playing in the courtyard.

As I was looking out my tiny oven window, A single shot rang out.

Someone yells, "Sgt. Horner is down!!!"

I turn to look through the windshield as he was two vehicles ahead of us, I see him laying flat on the ground.

Instinct tells me to get to him ASAP, but as I step out, my driver pushes me back in and tells me to wait, he will pull up alongside to provide cover (he saved my life in that moment.)

We get to SGT Horner, he is unresponsive, I start evaluating his vitals, he is gone. His eyes are red, pupils dilated, blood still pumping from the gunshot wound just above his sternum.

I try to suppress the bleeding, maybe we can save him I think to myself,

Then a second shot rings out. It ricochets off the ground in between me and my driver.

The squad then starts to return fire, but I can't tell who is shooting or where it is coming from, I am hard focused on SGT Horner, but he is gone, and I cannot save him. I do not want to accept that fact and I try to treat his wounds, the order is given to evac the area and get him into a vehicle.

SGT Horner is 6'4", about 220 pounds of dead weight. We don't have an ambulance, we have to get him into the back door of an up-armored Humvee as we are being fired upon by an unknown number of combatants from an unknown direction.

It seemed to take forever, but we were able to extract and get back to the base, with SGT Horner's body.

I remember how it smelled, like copper, sweat and burning plastic. Emotionally disconnected as I had just spoken to him 10 minutes prior. Feeling like a failure because I was unable to save him. Heart pounding as it tries to regulate the adrenaline coursing through my veins. Hands shaking as the emotions get turned back on ...

That was June 1, 2007, and it

comes back to me in full spectrum vision and feeling anytime I hear unexpected close proximity firearm discharge, fireworks or the like.

I share this story so that those who are unaware might become aware of how much veterans sacrifice for you to be able to live the life you want. Think about that when you are enjoying your "freedoms" and perhaps consider those around you when you do. Not everyone enjoys hearing your firearm practice on a beautiful sunny afternoon.

The best way to say thank you to the men and women who served is by showing some consideration and understanding, and as a veteran, that would be the best thank you I could ever get.

**Michaelyn McKay
Starksboro**

Editor's note: The letter writer served a 15-month tour with the U.S. Army in the Iraqi Freedom campaign from 2006 to 2008. She was a medic assigned to the 127th MP company, and retired as a staff sergeant in 2013. Staff Sgt. McKay noted that her story is one of many, many experiences veterans have endured along the path of service to the country.

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ADDISON COUNTY

Obituaries

Sheila Anne (Clark) Foote, 86, of Cornwall

CORNWALL — Sheila Anne (Clark) Foote died peacefully on Nov. 13, 2021. She was born June 9, 1935.

Sheila grew up in Vergennes, Addison and Shoreham and settled in Cornwall and lived there all her married life with her husband Arlyn. Sheila was a wife, mother, a grandmother, great-grandmother and great-great-grandmother. She was a musician, a craftsman, a bookkeeper for the farm. She could do just about anything with her hands, including playing the piano, the church organ, knitting, crocheting, baking, caning chairs, wallpapering and even small home improvement projects.

She was a faithful church member at the Cornwall Congregational Church, playing at the organ or bells or singing in the choir for decades. She was known for her apple pie, chicken pie and strawberry shortcakes. While serving there as Church secretary, preparing the bulletin and typing reports, she also was a vital member of committees and supported the many ministers,



SHEILA ANNE (CLARK) FOOTE

church dinners and community outreaches. Sheila was a member of the Ethan and Mary Baker Allen Chapter of the D.A.R. and served in leadership capacities on the state and local level.

She is predeceased by her parents, one brother, Lyman, and a sister, Linda. She leaves three daughters and their families: Barbara and Michael Hennessy of

Cornwall; Carol and Lyle Willey of Bakersfield and Judy and Gary Bushey of Cocoa Beach, Fla.; grandchildren Michelle Ochoa, Katie Sarkis, Sarah Jo Marcotte, Jared Willey, Luke Willey, Robert Willey and their spouses; twelve great-grandchildren and two great-great-grandchildren; and several nephews.

The family would like to thank the staff at Helen Porter Nursing Home, Elderly Services and At Home Senior Care in Middlebury for their care and attention to Sheila in her final years.

A graveside service will be held at the Evergreen Cemetery for the immediate family.

Donations can be made in Sheila's memory to: Elderly Services, 112 Exchange St., Middlebury, VT 05753; Helen Porter Rehabilitation and Nursing, Office of Development, Memory Care Unit, 115 Porter Drive, Middlebury, VT 05753; or At Home Senior Care, P.O. Box 30, Bennington, VT 05201.

Online condolences at www.sandersonfuneralservice.com

Chester Lee Bodette, 94, of South Burlington

SOUTH BURLINGTON — Chester Lee Bodette, 94 years old, formerly of Logwood Street in South Burlington, died on Nov. 9, 2021, at UVM Medical Center from complications from many years with diabetes.

Chester was born March 6, 1927, in Middlebury, Vt., to the late Charles and Beatrice Bodette (Severy). He attended high school in Middlebury and later received his GED while in the service in 1949. Chester married the love of his life, Rhea Laroque, on Jan. 27, 1951, in Middlebury.

Chester enlisted in the U.S. Army Air Force in 1944 during World War II and was called to active duty in 1945. He was stationed in Germany and worked as an aircraft mechanic crew chief and flight engineer. In 1948 he arrived in Japan and became part of the 39th Fighter Squadron. He was assigned as crew chief for the American P-51 D. He was also part of the 35th Fighter Group Ski Team. In 1956 Chet enlisted in the Vermont Air Guard, becoming a proud Green Mountain Boy. He retired as Chief



CHESTER LEE BODETTE

Master Sergeant from the Vermont Air National Guard after more than 37 years of military service.

Chester is survived by his children: Linda Ashton (David), Ann Parent (Charlie), Susan LaMoy (Brent), Scott Bodette (Gayle) and Lee Bodette (partner Jessica); grandchildren Christy Gedney (Jeff), Lindsay Bergeron (Corey), Cory Bodette, Stacy

Bodette, Desiree Richard (Sean), David Ashton (Shannon), Katrina Parent (partner Brady), Jason Couture (Pamela), Kathy Gregoire, John Bodette (partner Erin), and Gregory Bodette; and many great-grandchildren.

He is also survived by his brothers Davis Bodette and Bruce Bodette (Jeannine), and sister Audrey Newton. Chester also leaves special friend Mickey O'Brien and special niece and nephew Elaine and Michael Newton.

Chester was predeceased by his wife of 66 years, Rhea; his parents, Charles and Beatrice Bodette; his stepmother, Katherine Bodette, and his sister, Jaqueline Severance.

Visiting hours will take place on Friday Nov. 19, 2021, from 4-7 p.m. at the Ready Funeral Home South Chapel, 261 Shelburne Rd in Burlington. A graveside service with military honors will take place on Saturday Nov. 20, 2021, at 11 a.m., at Resurrection Park Cemetery on Hinesburg Road in South Burlington. Please visit www.readyfuneral.com to place on-line condolences. ☐

Ethel Anna Kellogg, 81, of Salisbury

SALISBURY — Ethel Anna Kellogg, age 81, passed away Monday, Nov. 15, 2021, at her home in Salisbury.

Ethel was born in Washington, D.C., on Jan. 21, 1940. She was the daughter of William and Alice (McClanahan) Tabler. She grew up in Maryland Park, Md., where she received her early education and graduated from Suitland (Md.) High School, class 1958. Ethel came to Vermont in 1971 and made her home in Leicester. She has been a resident of Salisbury since 1984. She was a loving housewife and homemaker who enjoyed family gatherings and spending time with her grandchildren. She loved to crochet and watch her Yorkie, Phoenia.

She is survived by her husband,



ETHEL ANNA KELOGG

John Kellogg of Salisbury, whom she married in Brandon, on Dec. 23, 1971; one son, John Kellogg Jr. of

Orwell; three daughters, Vicki and Ralph French of Leicester, Cheryl and Rick Pixley of Vergennes, and Pennie Beach and Skip Stevens of Whiting; one sister, Rosie Burnham of Waldorf, Md.; eight grandchildren, P.J. French, Lacey French, Tonya French, Matt Fuller, Nathan Hansen, Kayla Pixley, Kyle Pixley and Ashley Hansen; and four great-grandchildren, Madison French, Ella French, Kouper Devoid and Jamison Bessette. Several nieces, nephews and cousins also survive her. She was predeceased by her parents and seven siblings, Robert, Russell, George, Howard, Dorothy, Edith and Marguerite.

The funeral service will be held on Saturday, Nov. 20, at 11 a.m., at the Miller & Ketcham Funeral Home in Brandon. The graveside committal service and burial will follow, in the family lot at Holman Cemetery in Salisbury. Those wishing to pay their respects are asked to wear a face covering.

Memorial gifts in lieu of flowers may be made, in her memory to Addison County Home Health & Hospice, P.O. Box 754, Middlebury, VT 05753.

Arrangements are under the direction of the Miller & Ketcham Funeral Home in Brandon. ☐

Thomas "Tom" Pierce, 76, of Rochester

ROCHESTER — Thomas "Tom" Pierce, 76, of Rochester died peacefully at his home on a sunny Nov. 8 with his wife Ann "Sandy" by his side. He and Sandy were married 47 years, and he told her recently that marrying her was the most important thing he ever did.

Tom was born on March 16, 1945, at Mary Hitchcock Hospital in Hanover, N.H., to Margaret and Leslie Dean Pierce. Following the death of his mother in 1953, Tom's Aunt Helen Pierce moved back to Rochester to help raise Tom and his older sisters. Tom and Helen had a very special relationship until her passing in 1984. Tom lived in Rochester most of his life and considered his community a large extension of his family.

Tom graduated from Rochester High School in 1963. He attended Rochester Institute of Technology for a short while before he was drafted into the Army in 1966. He was stationed in Germany for two years.

Upon returning to Vermont, Tom worked for CVPS as a lineman, where in 1970 he was seriously injured while at work. Tom would battle the effects of his injuries for the rest of his life, but he never complained. He rarely asked for help, and he surprised everyone who knew him with his ability to overcome adversity and his positive outlook.

Tom met Sandy while he was in high school, but it wasn't until 1974 that he and Sandy married. They celebrated in Rochester and took their honeymoon at the Lake Mansfield Trout Club, one of Tom's favorite places. In 1975-6, Tom and Sandy built their home on Bethel Mountain in Rochester where he lived until the end.

In 1980, Tom and Sandy purchased the Rochester Electric Light and Power Company from the Pierce family estate. Rochester Electric was founded in 1897 by the Pierces and remained in the family until Tom and Sandy sold it to CVPS in 2006. Tom and Sandy



THOMAS "TOM" PIERCE

owned and operated the small utility that served only Rochester for over 36 years. They did this with the support of Richard Curtis and Frank Severy, both of whom Tom loved very much.

Upon retiring, Tom and Sandy explored the entire country and beyond in search of pristine rivers for fly fishing and gold panning, antique car shows, and to visit friends and family.

Tom had so many interests and hobbies. He loved Vermont and to be outdoors. He hunted, fished, split wood, drove his old cars with the top down, skied, hiked, and shaped the landscape with his tractor(s). Tom also enjoyed following the passions of his children and grandchildren from basketball games and soccer matches to musical performances; he wanted to be there. Tom had a passion for antique vehicles and spent a great deal of time researching, collecting, and restoring his old cars.

Those who knew Tom will recall his incredible sense of humor and aptitude for a practical joke. The stories are endless, and it's impossible to think of Tom (even in his passing) without smirking just a little bit. We would be remiss if we didn't try to get you to laugh upon reading his obituary. Tom loved to tell of Veron Lyon petting a skunk, thought to be a kitty cat. On the basketball court he was notorious for grabbing the shorts

of the shooter about to jump — you can imagine the result. He often recalled the wet chickens he introduced to his daughter's tented birthday sleepovers. Annually, he turned the house into a deer camp and would send his buddies on wild deer chases around the property. His inherited baldness was a trademark, the brunt of many jokes; and many will remember the silly hats he wore with artificial hair on top.

Tom is survived by his wife and their children: Dean Pierce (Ioana) of Knoxville, Tenn., and Andrea "Andy" Murray (Chris) of Middlebury, Vt.; and three grandsons: Pierce Murray, Jackson Murray, and a namesake Thomas Pierce.

Tom is also survived by his high-spirited big sisters and brothers-in-law: Nancy and Charlie Woolley and Judy Pierce and Bill Harvey and their children and grandchildren, as well as Sandy's brother and sister-in-law Jon and Karen Bindrum and their sons Jeremiah and Adam.

Tom will be missed terribly by his immediate family and his many, many cousins and friends.

The Pierces are incredibly grateful for the friendship and care of Jan McCann, Maritza Martinez Corro, Jakey Twitchell, and Ashley Kelley. Thank you also to Dr. Erwin Lange, HOPE, Granville First Response, and WRVA for their kindness and responsiveness.

Aspirited celebration of Tom's life is being planned for Summer 2022 and will be open to the community. In lieu of flowers or other gifts, please consider a contribution in Tom's name to the Yellow House Community of Middlebury, www.yellowhousecommunity.com, the Quintown Senior Center https://seniorcenter.us/sc/quinn_town_center_for_senior_citizens_hancock_vt, or Pierce Hall Community Center <http://www.piercehall.org/>.

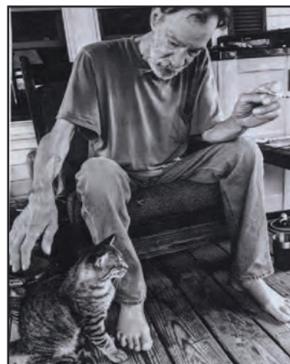
Online condolences may be left at www.dayfunerals.com. Arrangements are by the Day Funeral Home in Randolph. ☐

Darrell Jarrett, 64, of Vergennes

VERGENNES — Darrell Jarrett, aged 64, passed away Sept. 25, 2021, at home listening to his favorite music, completely at peace.

He was a man that loved music and had a love for life that was uncommon. He had a life that was tough, but his perseverance always saw him through the trials and tribulations of life. He was always there for his friends. His commitment to his friends was beyond just a word of bond, but his actions showed his true devotion to his friends. He saved his best friend Bob's life after he had a stroke, and took care of him in the hopes that he would get back on his feet. After his best friend's passing he lived with Mike and began to live a much easier life.

The fondest memories of DJ are defined by his love for things funny and inappropriate. He loved being outside, soaking up the sun while listening to his favorite music. Music was very important to him, and in his later days he picked up guitar and developed a love for the



DARRELL JARRETT

instrument that went just beyond playing, but also to modifying his instruments and learning all the geeky details of his guitars.

Visiting hours will be held on Tuesday, Nov. 23, from 5 to 7 p.m. at Brown-McClay Funeral Home in Vergennes. In lieu of flowers please donate to your local homeless shelter. To send online condolences to his family please visit www.brownmcclayfuneralhomes.com. ☐



GARY RUSSELL CHANDLER

Gary Russell Chandler, 67, of Leicester

LEICESTER — Gary Russell Chandler, 67, passed away unexpectedly in the home he shared with his son John and his family on Nov. 7, 2021. He was a devoted grandfather and spent the majority of his life on farms all around Addison county.

He was born May 5, 1954, in Middlebury to Viola Booska and Stanton Chandler.

He is survived by his son, John Chandler; daughter-in-law Megan Dupoise-Chandler; graddaughters Idaylia and Chloe Dupoise-Chandler; his daughter Michelle Chandler and granddaughter Madison J. Schunk; and many brothers and sisters.

He was predeceased by sons Keith Chandler (1995) and Edwin (Eddy) Chandler (1992); and his parents, Stanton and Viola Chandler. ☐

Obituary Guidelines

The Independent will publish paid obituaries and free notices of passing. Paid obituaries cost 25 cents per word and will be published, as submitted, on the date of the family's choosing. For those who do not wish to purchase an obituary, the Independent offers a free notice of passing up to 100 words, subject to editing by our news department. Photos (optional) with either paid obituaries or free notices cost \$10 per photo. Obituaries may be emailed to obits@addisonindependent.com.

Submissions must be received by 11 a.m. on Wednesday for publication in the Thursday paper and 11 a.m. on Friday for Monday's paper. Email obits@addisonindependent.com or call 802-388-4944 for more information.

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ADDISON COUNTY

Obituaries

Barbara Hammerlind, 69, of Cornwall

CORNWALL — Barbara Hammerlind passed away unexpectedly and peacefully with family at her side. She felt no pain and did not suffer. Barbara passed surrounded by love from this world only to be embraced in the next by the loving arms of her recently departed husband. She devoted her life to the noble call to heal others; she will forever be missed.

She was born Feb. 25, 1952, in Lewiston, Maine, to Emma Hendricks and Erick Arnold Hammerlind.

She is survived by her sons, Erick and Casey Costello; her daughter, Emma Hammerlind-Costello; and her stepson, Austin Wheeler.

She was predeceased by husband of many wonderful years, Richard Wheeler; brothers Wesley Bennett Jr. and Richard Bennett; and her parents.

A memorial service will be held Jan. 8, time and location to be determined.

In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made to: The of Counseling Service of Addison County and Homeward Bound: Addison County's Humane Society in honor of her deep passion for dogs.

"Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand." Isaiah 41:10



BARBARA HAMMERLIND

Christine A. Huedorfer, 78, of Salisbury

SALISBURY — Christine A. Huedorfer, 78, passed away on Sunday, Nov. 14, 2021, at the McClure Miller Respite House surrounded by her loving family.

She was born on Feb. 10, 1943, in Brooklyn, N.Y., the daughter of John and Theresa (Stankiewicz) Colford.

After an internship at Wall Street, Christine started her career at Irving Trust in New York City. An unexpected encounter re-united her with former beau Paul Huedorfer, and they were married on June 21, 1964. Together, they enjoyed frequent trips from the city to the ski slopes of Vermont, where they eventually settled down to start a family. Christine celebrated 25 years at IBM as an executive secretary before retiring and working part-time at the National Bank of Middlebury.

Christine was a social butterfly who enjoyed cooking, canning, and flower gardening. She especially



CHRISTINE A. HEUDORFER

loved being by the ocean, toes in the sand. An avid reader and a natural entertainer, she loved watching her grandsons' sporting events.

She is survived by her daughters, Karen Riley (Michael), of Biddeford, Maine, and Ingrid Kaufmann (Brandt), of Bridport; by her brother, John Colford (Rose);

and by her three grandsons, Evan Riley, Karl Kaufmann, and Nikolaus Kaufmann.

She is predeceased by her parents and by her husband, Paul Huedorfer, who passed away on March 3, 2013.

Calling hours will be held on Saturday, Nov. 20, 2021, from 2-4 p.m., at the Sanderson-Ducharme Funeral Home in Middlebury.

A Memorial service will be held on Sunday, Nov. 21, 2021, at 2 p.m., at the funeral home, located at 117 South Main Street, Middlebury. COVID restrictions apply, masks are required.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks for donations to the McClure, Miller Respite Home at Development Office, UVM Health Network — Home Health & Hospice, 1110 Prim Road, Colchester, VT 05446.

Arrangements are under the direction of the Sanderson-Ducharme Funeral Home. Online condolences at www.sandersonfuneralservice.com.

Medical software

(Continued from Page 1A)

the new system will finally consolidate all phases of Porter operations under one software package, thus allowing patient records to be shared seamlessly between all providers in the University of Vermont Health Network (UVMHN), of which Porter is an affiliate.

Two of the most important byproducts of the Epic conversion: Porter physicians will spend less time tracking down patient records from multiple sources and thus have more time to provide direct care, and health care consumers will now be able to access inpatient and outpatient medical and billing information through MyChart, the network's online patient portal.

"We feel really fortunate here to have this technology and have this access," Dr. Anna Benvenuto, Porter's chief medical officer, told the *Independent*. "Many small hospitals — unless they're part of a bigger network — just can't access Epic. So it's a real benefit here at Porter to be able to have access to a cutting edge, top-of-the-line health record."

Also going live with Epic on Nov. 6 was Central Vermont Medical Center in Berlin, Vt. The

expansion adds surgical services, rehabilitation, inpatient hospital, and emergency department visits into Epic — and allows providers to have secure and up-to-date access to patient medical records across UVMHN affiliates. This second-phase launch is a key component in the network's recently released Access Action Plan to increase timely access to care for patients across the region.

"The importance of having transitions of care — whether it be going over to Porter, going to UVMHC, a specialist appointment, an outpatient procedure — all of that is now on the same platform, and we have the ability to have the continuity of care across transitions, which is so critical."

—Mary Jane Nottonson
Chief Administrator
Helen Porter
Rehabilitation and
Nursing

Benvenuto reflected upon what has been a sometimes arduous but worthwhile journey for Porter and Epic. "Phase one" implementation at Porter Medical Center two years ago encompassed outpatient practices, but still left the institution with multiple electronic health record systems, including for Helen Porter Rehabilitation & Nursing.

"We continued to be in this state where there would be a medical record for the Emergency Room, one for the clinic, one for the inpatient units, and then another one for Helen Porter," she said. "So as people moved through their phases of care, there would be so much — from a provider standpoint — double-work and a lot of confusion, because you would have to check multiple

places and then try to make sure you have the right information."

Having disparate medical records outlets also made it "really clunky for patients," Benvenuto acknowledged. "They had to be patient with us, as we often asked them the same questions over and over again, to make sure we had things like their medication list correct, or, 'What happened when you were in the ER?' or 'What happened at Helen Porter?'" It was not always easy to see what had happened to them when they'd received care."

This confusion prompted some patients to ask, "Aren't you all part of the same organization?" Benvenuto recalled.

Mary Jane Nottonson is the top administrator at Helen Porter. She expects Epic will be a game-changer for the organization's patients and staff. She explained Helen Porter patients — consisting of nursing home residents and those rehabbing from surgeries — sometimes require visits to Porter Hospital, local physicians' practices, the UVM Medical Center and other network providers. Until recently, not all of those entities could easily share a patient's medical records.

That's no longer a problem. "The importance of having transitions of care — whether it be going over to Porter, going to UVMHC, a specialist appointment, an outpatient procedure — all of that is now on the same platform, and we have the ability to have the continuity of care across transitions, which is so critical," Nottonson said. "To me, (Epic) really strengthens the health network and the role of skilled nursing across the network."

Epic is not just convenient to those accessing patient data

at stationary computers. It's transferrable to special iPhones, called "Rovers," that allow Porter staff to track a patient's location, medical history, medication list, etc.

"It really allows caregivers to seamlessly provide care while they're on the move," Benvenuto said. "If you watch our care team in action at Helen Porter and at Porter, they're moving all the time and are taking care of a lot of different, complex patients. It allows them to have a device in their hand to be able to easily document administering medications, vital signs, make quick assessment notes, while they're at the patient's bedside — which is 'best practice.'"

The Rover is also helpful to Porter's transport and facilities teams. Instead having to use overhead pages or a paging service, the Rover helps track when a patient room needs attention, signaling when someone leaves the ER or the medical-surgical area.

A lot of hard work led up to the Nov. 6 "go live" for Epic, Benvenuto noted.

Patient information contained in prior electronic medical systems

had to be painstakingly transcribed into the Epic version. The former records systems will continue to exist — and can still be accessed by Porter officials — until contracts with their software providers expire, according to Benvenuto.

She praised all those responsible for implementing Epic — including Porter staff — for their hard work spanning many months. Benvenuto recalled one consultant telling her, "I've done over 150 go-lives, and this is the one that was the smoothest, and people were engaged and ready."

Those helping with the transition have remarked on "how positive and collaborative (Porter) staff has been," Benvenuto said. "They've been so excited about how engaged (our) people are — and how well they're treating each other in this time of incredible change and stress."

She added her own voice to that chorus. "Our system is stressed; we're dealing with COVID pressure, staffing pressure, exhaustion, burnout," Benvenuto said. "This is a huge project we've asked our managers and leaders to get ready,

and our staff to do something new. We've had an incredibly high census this week on top of the go-live, and people are just happy and calm and feeling supported, and using the system very well."

How long might it be before Epic becomes obsolete?

A long time, Benvenuto believes. "Epic is really the gold standard and industry leader for health care," she said. "I can't imagine going to something different; it would take a lot for us to undergo this. This was many years of planning and preparation, a multi-million-dollar project that is not yet complete for the entire health network. So there would have to be a really compelling reason to do something different."

Elizabeth Rogers is Director of Communications and Engagement Strategies for Elizabethtown Community Hospital, another UVMHN affiliate that is next on the Epic transition list. She said she hopes the process goes as smoothly for Elizabethtown as it did for Porter.

"At the start of the process, I think people feel really nervous and feel this is a great big change and a lot of work," Rogers said. "But what's really exciting for me, being a part of the next wave, is to see Porter and their staff being united around this exciting opportunity to increase efficiencies, but more importantly, to spend more time with patients."

Reporter John Flowers is at johnf@addisonindependent.com.

ADDISON COUNTY School News

VERGENNES — Fourteen students were inducted into the Otter Valley Chapter of the National Honor Society at Vergennes Union High School on Wednesday, Nov. 17. The traditional candlelight induction ceremony was attended by parents, relatives, friends of inductees, teachers, administrators and school board members.

Mykenzie Duffy, president of the Otter Valley Chapter and a VUHS senior, led the ceremony and administered the National Honor Society pledge to reaffirm the members' commitment to the high standards of the honorary organization: scholarship, character, leadership and service to others. Travis Scribner was the guest speaker. A reception followed the ceremony.

New members inducted from the VUHS Class of 2022 were Ryley DuBois, Jade Edwards, Bradley Kutchukian, Jonah Mahe and Felicia Poirier. The new members from the Class of 2023 were Jackson Bennett, Raia Bryant, Frances Eckels, Reece Germander, Parker Kayhart, Jasmine Little, Avry O'Brien, Carlyn Rapoport and Shamus Rooney.

Current members of the class of 2021 are Mykenzie Duffy (president), Kaitlyn Little (vice president), Olivia Brooks (secretary), Allison Croke (treasurer), Alisdair Chauvin, Ila Collette and Clarinda McAllister.

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By the way

(Continued from Page 1A)

alphabetize on the fly. It's a good way to get out of the house and gain letters of recommendation. And it's even good exercise. The adults who work at the library are flexible, kind people who understand the desire to fly before you can drive. To learn more check out starksborovt.org/library.

Are you looking for a good cause to support for the holidays? Junebug's "Cozy Kids" program needs you. Junebug is a nonprofit resale shop for babies, kids, teens and moms-to-be in Middlebury's Marble Works shopping complex.

Each fall, Junebug teams up with local schools and childcare providers to offer new, high-quality outdoorwear for families in need. It costs about \$100 to outfit one child with a new coat, snow pants, boots, hat and gloves, and there are a few ways you can help to support this monumental effort. If you like to shop, head over to Junebug's "Signup Genius" website at tinyurl.com/58dk3w32, where you can choose a child for whom to shop. No time to shop? Junebug also accepts monetary donations at its 211 Maple St. location or online at tinyurl.com/4wsfnwed. To learn more call the store at 802-388-1055.

State revenue numbers for the month of September show Vermont's General, Transportation and Education Fund receipts were a combined \$222.6 million, or 1.8% below monthly consensus expectations. However, cumulative revenues remain 3% above expectations for the first four months of the state's fiscal year. General Fund revenues collected for September totaled \$136.4 million, or \$4.2 million below the revenue target. The Transportation Fund was slightly below expectations for

the month, bringing in \$25.2 million. Fiscal year-to-date, the T-Fund has brought in \$100.2 million, which is \$450,000 below the consensus cash flow target. Meanwhile, the Education Fund was \$530,000, or 0.9%, above the September consensus target. Sales & Use taxes remain below expectations for September and the fiscal year, though Meals & Rooms taxes have "more than filled the gap" as tourists have returned to Vermont and the hospitality sector continues to recover from its pandemic malaise, according to state officials.

MAUSD parent

(Continued from Page 2A)

about," the parent told the school board near the end of Monday night's meeting, after Griswold had declined to hold the executive session. "But instead, it's all politics and this and that, and I don't even have a chance to talk about what I really need to talk about. I shouldn't have to come back."

The parent began to weep. "I should be able to say it now, when it matters," she continued. "And that is the problem. As a member of the public it should be very clear how to get the help that you need. In schools it should be very clear how kids can get the help that they need."

She acknowledged the school board has constraints.

"But I should also be able to feel like I can have a voice, too, and be able to find out how on earth do I even get my message to you," she said. "Because if it's this hard to even get my message out, then how will it ever get fixed?"

At a school board meeting last month, the board invited a parent to share her concerns during a pre-planned executive session as an alternative to speaking about her child during the public comment period, which Griswold said was not allowed.

Board member Krista Siringo of Bristol alluded to that instance during the board's self-evaluation process at the end of Monday's night's meeting.

"I don't understand..." Siringo said, but then trailed off. "I mean, I think it's really hard to be here and hear these things and not have any opportunity to get any info, and it puts board members in a really not very nice position. And I don't know why we didn't have ... why that wasn't thought about. And I'm frustrated by that."

TOUGH YEAR

The district, like many around Vermont and the rest of the nation, has been struggling with behavior issues as students return to school on a full-time basis after remote or hybrid learning during the first year of the pandemic.

In October, Bristol Elementary teachers appealed to the school board for help with unsafe working conditions after an incident involving a student resulted in heavy damage to a classroom there.

Earlier this month, a Mount Abraham Union High School student was taken to UVM Medical Center after a physical attack by another student in the school.

School officials have pledged more resources and help for students in need, but some district residents are wondering why these incidents keep happening.

At Monday night's meeting, Bristol parent Bill Mount raised concerns about yet another incident at the high school, involving what he described as one student's intentional public humiliation of another student in the school cafeteria.

"We're going on a month since that first meeting regarding a violent outburst at Bristol Elementary School," he said, and "parents have yet to hear any clarification or implemented planning that would address the original two-day event, and certainly nothing to address these new events."

The Bristol parent who tried to speak directly to the MAUSD board Monday night told the *Independent* she would try again, and hoped she would be given the opportunity to be heard at a special executive-session-only school board meeting scheduled for Wednesday, Nov. 17, after the deadline for this edition.

But Griswold told the *Independent* on Wednesday morning that "the meeting scheduled tonight is for another issue and we can't hear from" the parent for a procedural reason. The special meetings are warned for "Confidential attorney-client communications" and "a grievance hearing."

Also on Wednesday morning, Assistant Superintendent Catrina DiNapoli notified the parent that she had received the Nov. 10 formal complaint and that the district had opened an investigation into the allegations, to be conducted by Bristol Elementary Principal David Wells and School Counselor Laura Emilo.

IT'S EVERYWHERE

The Agency of Education is well aware of heightened behavior concerns, AOE Coordinator of Behavioral Supports Tracy Harris told the *Independent* earlier this month.

"It's a statewide concern," Harris said. "Students and families are in crisis, and the pandemic has exaggerated the traumas that people were dealing with pre-pandemic."

If Harris could wave a magic wand she would "let people know that we're not talking about bad kids," she said.

"These are the same kids we've always been teaching, loving, going to church with. They're struggling."

And schools are understaffed, she said.

"If we had the staff we used to have we'd be better able to cope with the behavior issues we're seeing."

Reach Christopher Ross at christopherr@addisonindependent.com.

Studio

(Continued from Page 2A)

had to take on all the costs itself.

"We're so grateful to the Kick Start award, because it's relieved the pressure of us having to fill our schedule with a ton of classes right away," Briggs said. "So we're able to add them as we have quality instructors who are available, assess the needs of the community and see what they want, and then add the classes."

Briggs and her colleagues toured every available downtown space before selecting the Marble Works.

"We landed on this one because it checked a lot of boxes for us," she said.

NEW SPACE FOR ARTISTS

She explained the 63 Maple St. spot is adorned with large windows that shower sunlight into a large conference room that will serve as the classroom-studio. The building is one story and therefore accessible to all, with two ADA-compliant restrooms. It's served by ample Marble Works parking. The new space also features two offices and a large storage room for MSS's abundant art supplies inventory.

Other advantages of the new location: It's fronted by a charming garden that can host after-school art classes for kids, and is very close to the Marble Works' Riverfront Park, offering stunning views of the Otter Creek Falls. Briggs anticipates it'll be a favorite spot for studio school artists to set up their easels and canvases.

Non-clay classes this fall and winter will include pastel, oil and acrylic painting for kids and adults; figure drawing, featuring a live model; book-making; basket weaving; digital photography;



MIDDLEBURY STUDIO SCHOOL'S new studio in Middlebury's Marble Works neighborhood has great light in the classroom-studio, where classes in painting, drawing, fiber arts and more will be taught. The news space also is accessible to all, has ample parking and a large storage room.

fiber arts; Chinese painting; and a series of one-off specialty workshops on weekends. Check out the full slate of offerings at middleburystudioschool.org.

Individual class dates/times will vary, based on the schedules of the teachers and the needs of the students, according to Briggs. Right now, a lot of students are requesting after-school and evening classes, she said.

Tuition prices vary based on the number of classes and the art supplies required for the course in question.

Briggs will be based at the new Marble Works location, though she'll visit MSS's Route 7 South home two or three times a week

to network with educators and students.

"I love going in and seeing people's progress on their work, dropping in to classes to say hello, and making sure our clay studio manager (Kathy Clarke) has all the support she needs," she said.

Demand continues to soar for MSS classes — both clay and non-clay. It should be noted the people have the option of in-person or online courses. Teachers can check out webcams that film from above, allowing the students at home to see the teachers and their work.

"There's definitely a mix of comfort, with COVID," Briggs said. "Some people are so ready

to get back into it, and others are still timid. We have a mask policy (indoors), and we try to spread out. I'm open to any suggestions from people about what might make them feel more safe."

Mary Lower, an artist, educator and chair of the MSS board, is pleased with how the search for new space turned out.

"Over the years, with our move from downtown Middlebury to Route 7, we became a little more isolated," she said. "It's really exciting to have a space back in the downtown, to make those connections and be closer to other arts organizations and events."

Anyone wanting to inquire about specific MSS offerings should email Briggs at info@middleburystudioschool.org.

Reporter John Flowers is at johnf@addisonindependent.com.

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Ways of Seeing

(Continued from Page 4A)

a bit. We don't mind, we assure her. Still groggy, I don't fully absorb how deeply she is attending to the morning news.

Heading east on Interstate 80, I reflect on our brief conversation, which now feels somehow incomplete. I wonder what I could have said to express solidarity in response to the racist, antisemitic events in Charlottesville without sounding patronizing. The isms we face are different, yet both

involve oppression. As a white person, I enjoy more privilege, which carries responsibility. I didn't know how to put all of this into words.

Then I recall our final interaction. "I guess I shouldn't have complained about getting up at 7:30," I had confessed as we cleared our plates.

She had faced me directly yet without anger and responded. "That's right. You have nothing to complain about."

Davis

(Continued from Page 4A)

would be opposed in the Republican primary by populist right-winger Geoff Diehl, who has already been endorsed by Trump.

Although several Democrats have already announced their candidacies, the strongest potential contender, Attorney General Maura Healey, has not yet declared her intentions for 2022. If Healey runs, she would be the favorite to win in November, but only if Baker were to be defeated in the Republican primary. Massachusetts law allows independents to vote in primaries, so if Baker runs, his primary campaign would be geared to independents as much as to Republicans.

In both Rhode Island and New York, Democratic lieutenant governors who became governor earlier this year will seek election to the office in their own right.

Kathy Hochul became governor of New York when Andrew Cuomo resigned in the face of allegations of harassment and unwanted sexual advances, while Dan McKee became governor of Rhode Island when Gina Raimondo joined the Biden Administration as Secretary of Commerce.

Hochul and McKee will have to win renomination in competitive Democratic primaries, against large fields including, among other candidates, statewide officers such as the attorney general in New York and the secretary of state and the treasurer in Rhode Island. With plurality-winner rules in place, Hochul and McKee could win these primaries with less than 50 percent of the vote.

Eric L. Davis is professor emeritus of political science at Middlebury College.

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access

Gotta Go

(Continued from Page 1A)

House Coalition's warming shelter in Middlebury provide the homeless with some solid options in the face of hunger and freezing temperatures.

But where can those, who have the least, go to find employment opportunities, a free meal, health care, or simply a restroom when it's late at night and everything is closed?

Those are some great questions, and members of the Middlebury Area Homelessness Task Force decided to answer them — along with many others — and place the responses on small laminated flyers that will be distributed to homeless individuals and families this fall and winter. They're called "Gotta Go" cards, linking holders to a panoply of services running the gamut from local food shelves to public transportation.

Laura Asermily, a former Middlebury selectperson and member of the Homelessness Task Force, said the impetus for the Gotta Go cards came from homeless persons and the human service agencies that assist them. It began as an effort to let people know simply where to find a restroom when they're out and about in Middlebury (see related story on this page).

And task force members thought, "Why stop at restrooms?"

"There was also the need to do a simple resource card that went beyond that, that addresses some of the other basic needs — like community meals and access to Charter House — and to do it in a simple, user-friendly format," Asermily said.

She drew inspiration from a warming shelter resource card she found at the Ilsley Library earlier this year.

"I showed it to (warming shelter Director) Heidi (Lacey), and she said the information was dated," Asermily recalled. "Then I said, 'Let's work on a new one.'"

She checked in with local nonprofits — like Helping

Overcome Poverty's Effects and the Turning Point Center of Addison County — to see if they had generated resource cards or brochures of their own. Sure enough, they had, as had several other organizations, including Porter Hospital.

Asermily was finding pages upon pages of material to borrow from. She and her colleagues knew they needed to condense it to make it more user-friendly for folks needing a single, versatile resource guide.

The task force took on the Gotta Go assignment this past July and spent more than three months compiling information and refining it. The completed card features a map of downtown Middlebury, as well as a page of service destinations with their addresses and phone numbers.

By JOHN FLOWERS

MIDDLEBURY — Restrooms. When you gotta go, you gotta go, and Middlebury residents and officials have long lamented the paucity of public restrooms in Addison County's shire town.

Well, the Middlebury Area Homelessness Task Force is trying to build momentum for introducing a full-service restroom (meaning plumbed, ADA-accessible, with sink) — perhaps in conjunction with a welcome center — in the downtown area that would be open 24/7, throughout the year.

Middlebury currently has public restrooms in its municipal building and the Ilsley Public Library, both off Main Street. In addition, there's a portable outdoor toilet in the Middlebury recreation park. There were additional portolets behind Ilsley and in the Marble Works complex (near Noonie's Deli), but they were recently

removed for winter maintenance.

Though helpful, the few remaining public toilets (except for the rec park portolets) are only open during business hours. And, Asermily noted, "People don't know they're there," due to a lack of signs.

So task force members, in the short term, want to get more signs to direct people to the few public toilets. In the long-term, they want to see a new committee formed to promote a full-fledged public restroom in the downtown, available at all hours of the day.

Asermily is intrigued by the example set by Portland, Ore. That city has drawn rave reviews for its "Portland Loo," which can be seen at portlandloo.com. It's a plumbed, stand-alone restroom made of metal, graffiti-proof wall panels and open grating that allows one to see if, and how many, people are inside (for security reasons).

Asermily conceded the Portland Loo isn't cheap — upwards of \$100,000, along with monthly maintenance costs. But she said the town could apply for grants to offset some of the expense.

"Where would we put it? We don't know yet; we just know that the town needs (another public restroom)," Asermily said.

Task force members had hoped the town would purchase the former Bourdon Insurance building at 48 Merchants Row, something the selectboard considered earlier this year. The board earlier ordered an appraisal of the now-vacant structure with the idea of potentially acquiring it for an economic development project. Asermily and her colleagues believed the former Bourdon building could host a public restroom and welcome center. But the selectboard decided against acquiring it.

Need an appointment at the Open Door Clinic, where can you wash clothes or get a shower, how

an abusive relationship? Gotta Go can guide you.

An initial run of 500 Gotta Go cards was printed and distributed early this month, thanks to a \$500 contribution from the United Way of Addison County. The organization will also support an imminent second printing of around 2,000 cards, according to Asermily.

Every agency featured on the Gotta Go card has received a batch of them to distribute to clients, Asermily said. The cards are also available at such commonly frequented places as the Ilsley Library, Middlebury's police department and town offices, Addison County Sheriff's Department, Middlebury Regional EMS, the town's recreation facility, convenience stores, Tri-Valley Transit, area consignment stores like Neat Repeats and the state offices at South Village Green.

The Gotta Go card will be an ever evolving resource, Asermily noted. Featured organizations will occasionally alter their charitable programs and the time/dates on which they're offered, she reasoned. So Gotta Go has gotta pivot to reflect those changes so that vulnerable people get the most accurate info possible.

Heidi Lacey is executive director of the Charter House Coalition. She and her staff and volunteers assist scores of homeless people at the Charter House warming shelter.

"The Gotta Go card is a quick, fairly easy-to-use reference for really anyone looking for help," she said. "It's true that it was crafted with our homeless neighbors in mind, but in reality, it provides for all persons seeking help with a variety of needs. The card allows for immediate contact, even after hours, by including the option of the statewide 2-1-1 service. Addison County is rich with service agencies and providers; use of this card will surely get folks connected to the right resources, even if referrals are the outcome."

She believes warming shelter guests will actively use it.

"The card is easy to carry and is being made accessible at appropriate locations," she said. "Ease of access allows a person to seek help as needed and this is a discreet way to get the word out. We have already heard mention of it by persons seeking emergency shelter and have had two new households take advantage of our takeout community lunch program. In these cases, connections begin and services can commence."

Task Force member Mary Chapman knows firsthand what it's like to be homeless. A lengthy illness depleted her income and

savings in 2018, to the extent she lost her apartment and needed help from John Graham Housing & Services. She was put up at a local motel for a while until she was able to get back on her feet.

Chapman is now committed to helping others who are unhoused.

"It's been a privilege for someone who's been homeless before to be part of (the task force), and to see so many community members come together to support us," she said. "It's been very humbling, and I'm grateful for the experience."

Chapman believes Gotta Go will be useful for people in crisis.

"As someone who has dealt with a lot of government information and bureaucracy, the paperwork is overwhelming," she said. "I think it could benefit the community having this card ... Because I grew up in the area, I knew the services that were available. If you come from middle class and are homeless, you don't know where to turn. You're not going to know where to go."

Like Lacey, she believes people from all walks of life, and particularly visitors, will find the card useful.

"We have a lot of tourism in Middlebury," she noted. "It would be nice to know some of these things."

Reporter John Flowers is at johnf@addisonindependent.com.

THE MIDDLEBURY AREA Homelessness Task Force has devised a "Gotta Go" card to help the homeless, visitors and locals easily identify and access vital services. The other side of the card features a map of downtown Middlebury that points out locations of individual services.

"A lot of the work became compiling, reviewing and updating the information and coming up with a 'Gotta' card that could be reviewed by everyone (for accuracy)," she said. "And that's what you see in the final product."

do you access local food shelves and where can you get clothing? Gotta Go has it covered. Need to use a restroom, receive emergency mental health counseling, need to borrow a cell phone to contact service providers, or need to escape

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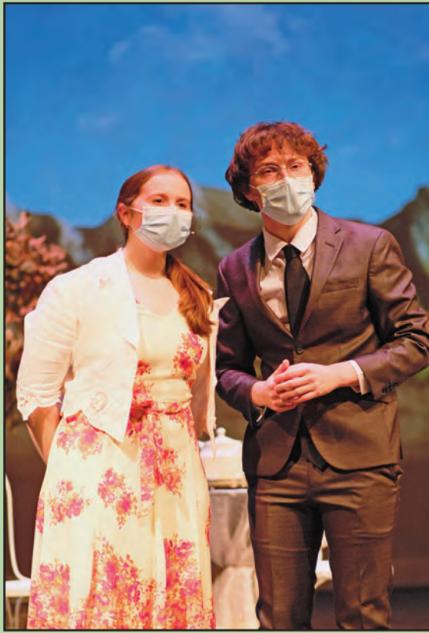
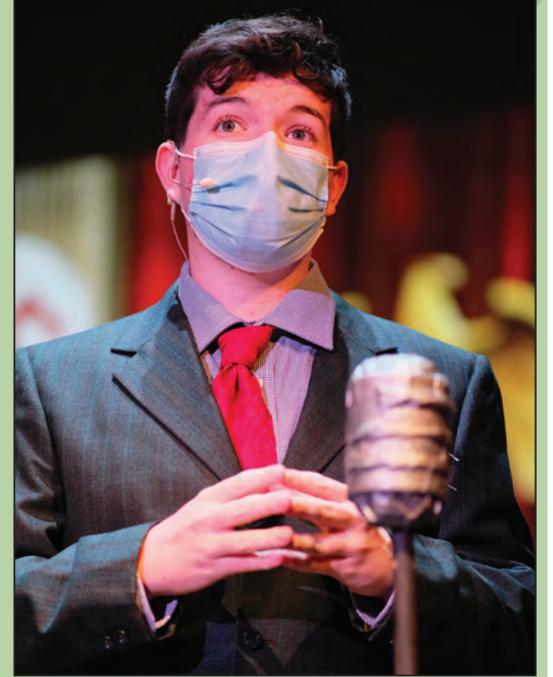
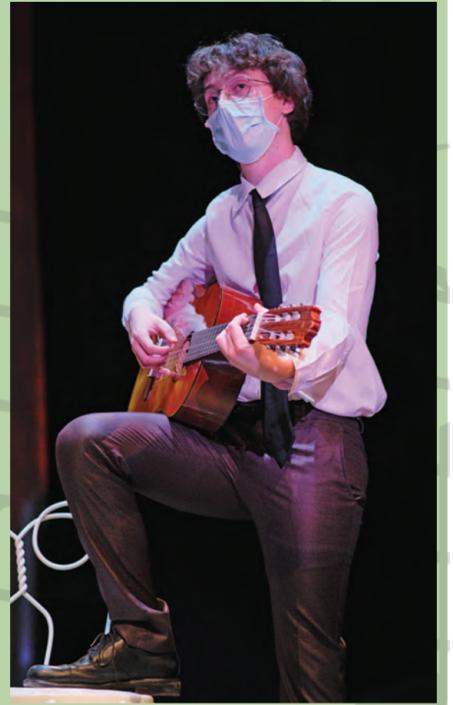
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The Sound of Music

MIDDLEBURY UNION HIGH SCHOOL'S auditorium will be filled with the Sound of Music this weekend from Thursday through Saturday. Picturde clockwise from top left are: Abigail Sunderland as Maria, Robbie Kite as Georg; Owen Hamilton as Max; Camilla Blanco, Paige Hescocock, Cathy Dyer, Orlinne Maceno and Camila Adelman wondering how to solve a problem like Maria; Thomas Wolosinski, Sunderland, Kite and Hamilton; Clara Chant, Avery Hamilton and Sunderland; Von Trapp children singing; Zora Duquette-Hoffman as the Mother Abbess; Amanda Kearns as Baroness and Kite; the Von Trapp children sing "So Long, Farewell."

photos by Jason Duquette-Hoffman



Beauty and the Beast



TECH CREW MEMBER Andrew Lester attaches a mic to actor Hannah Gallivan.



MOUNT ABRAHAM'S ANNUAL fall musical this year is "Beauty and the Beast." The show runs this Thursday, Friday and Saturday at the Mt. Abe auditorium in Bristol. Beast, above, played by Sean Davison, looks very pensive.

Members of the Cast practice an ensemble number.



LEFOU, PLAYED BY Sarah Heath, left, and Gaston (red coat) played by Harrison Bruhl, contemplate the situation. Beast (Davison) and Belle (Abby Johnson) prepare to dance.

Photos by Buzz Kuhns

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Addison County Farm Pages

Apply for funds to help protect our watershed

GRAND ISLE — The Lake Champlain Basin Program (LCBP) seeks proposals for projects that support local watershed groups and provide opportunities for informing and involving the public in Lake Champlain outreach initiatives in the Lake Champlain watershed. The Program anticipates awarding up to \$240,000 to local organizations,

municipalities, and educational institutions.

Current grants will be awarded in the following categories:

- Organizational Support – small grants (up to \$4,000 per award)
- Education and Outreach Implementation grants (up to \$15,000 per award)

Eligible organizations include colleges, universities, schools; nonprofit organizations including watershed groups; and non-federal/non-state government agencies.

Eric Howe, LCBP Director, said, “Our Congressional delegation has been very responsive to the actions needed to improve the Lake Champlain watershed and specifically in assisting the LCBP with providing support to the boots on the ground organizations. These groups find new partners every day to implement projects in neighborhoods, municipalities, on farms, along rivers, and even in

higher elevation forested areas.”

Since 1992, LCBP has awarded more than \$17 million dollars to more than 1,500 projects in New York, Vermont, and Québec. Local organizations play a critical role in implementing projects on the ground to achieve water quality and habitat protection goals. Recent projects supported by the Education and Outreach and Organizational Support local grant program include:

- Zoological Society of Granby, A “Spiny” Project: An Outreach and Stewardship Program using the Spiny Softshell Turtle as an Ambassador of Lake Champlain.
- BluSeed Studio, Multi-Cultural Interpretations on how Pollution Impacts the Lake Champlain Watershed.
- Northern Forest Canoe Trail, Hands-on Stewardship Projects for Students and Volunteers Along the Winooski, Mad, and Saranac

Rivers.

• Franklin County SWCD, Forestry Best Management Practice Education and Implementation.

• Lake George Association, Science From Your Sofa.

Education and outreach grants and organizational support grants help the LCBP achieve our goals of Opportunities for Action. This year LCBP anticipates awarding nearly \$500,000 by May 2022 in these categories, with an additional outreach RFP to be issued in the next few weeks.

Projects located in the New York, Québec, and Vermont portions of the Lake Champlain basin will be eligible for consideration in this grant opportunity. Grant guidelines, applications, and electronic application submission links for each category can be found on the Lake Champlain Basin Program’s website at lcbp.org/grants.

ACORN seeks to aid value-added producers with new grant money

The Addison County Relocalization Network (ACORN) was one of eight project proposals to share \$324,467 in Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food & Markets grants to help fruit, vegetable, and value-added producers increase consumer access to locally produced food.

These grants were funded through the USDA Agricultural Marketing Service’s Specialty Crop Block Grant Program.

The ACORN group received \$58,300 to increase wholesale market opportunities for specialty crop farms in the Addison County region.

Report eyes food insecurity

The Vermont Sustainable Jobs Fund recently highlighted the outline of an important plan on how to ensure food security in the Green Mountain State.

The Vermont Food System Plan Issue Brief on Food Security defines food security as existing when all people, at all times have access to sufficient, safe, and nutritious food that meets their dietary needs and preferences. Household food insecurity is the result of socioeconomic factors and encompasses the lack of food, the lack of nutritionally adequate food, and factors that impact the accessibility of available food (e.g., transportation). The public food assistance system (i.e., the Charitable Food System) is effective but not adequate to eliminate food insecurity. Tools do exist to help planners and towns with food supply and access planning, but these are newly available, and more training, dissemination, and promotion of food security planning tools are needed.

Going forward Vermont needs to create municipal, state, and regional plans to both address food security more comprehensively in times of normalcy, and to better prepare for emergency food supply chain disruptions, such as those that occurred during the COVID-19 pandemic and will increasingly occur through climate change.

Key Points:
• Socioeconomic factors limit food security in Vermont, (wages, cost of living, skill and time for preparing foods, ethnic and

gender inequalities).

• Federal agricultural policies and subsidies, have made low-cost, processed food more available while healthy food is harder to access.

• There is currently no coordinated effort to plan for the effect emergencies have on the local food supply and food security.

• Farm viability efforts are not able to ensure a diversity of food production for Vermonters’ dietary needs.

• Planning efforts for emergencies have the potential to ensure food access and security.

• Utilization of charitable and federal nutrition programs can be increased through outreach and funding increases.

• Food assistance models in other states have housed programs under a single agency which could provide more efficiency in administration and in linking food access to local food production.

• New England-wide efforts are underway to increase regional agricultural self-reliance and disaster preparedness. Increased funding would help these efforts succeed.

Recommendations include funding a research project to better understand food insecurity in Vermont; creating a food security plan for Vermont that would coordinate investment and implementation across sectors; creating state-level food security policies, procedures, and plans.

See the full plan online at vtfarmtoplate.com/plan.



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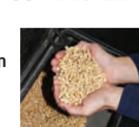
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Deer hunt

(Continued from Page 1A)
 said they were not surprised to see lower archery numbers this year. In an email last week F&W Deer Project Leader Nick Fortin explained what's happening, pointing to the weather and ample food supply.

"Archery and the early muzzleloader season will be down considerably from 2020. Some of that is probably pandemic-related (fewer hunters with less free time), but the warm weather and abundant fall foods (apples, acorns, beechnuts) haven't helped either. The deer didn't want to move, and they didn't have to," Fortin wrote.

Local weigh station operators also noted the pace picked up later in the archery season after the first frost.

The *Independent* will publish full Youth Hunting Weekend, archery and muzzleloader results next week.

Four bucks taken over opening weekend of rifle season weighed more than 200 pounds. Kyleigh Dubois shot the largest in Addison and took it to West Addison General Store to be weighed, a six-pointer that tipped the scales at 240 pounds.

New Haven's Rack 'N Reel handled the next two largest bucks, both with impressive antler racks and both shot in Waltham: a 235-pound, 10-pointer that Dylan Barrows brought down, and a 220-pound, 8-pointer that Kelly Kayhart killed.

Aaron Paquette took down a 201-pound, 7-pointer in Ripton that was weighted at Vermont Field Sports in Middlebury.

Other weigh stations are Buxton's Store in Orwell, Lincoln General Store, Green Mountain Trails End in Bristol and C&S Hunting Supplies in East Middlebury.

The hunters that were successful

on opening weekend and weighed bucks at those stations, listed by town of kill and pounds and points, were:

RACK 'N REEL
 Dylan Barrows, Waltham, 235-10; Kelly Kayhart, Waltham, 220-8; Silas Shepard, Lincoln, 196-5; Matthew DeBlois, Ferrisburgh, 191-8; George Roy, Monkton, 191-8; Nicholas Bushell, Charlotte, 185-4; Dale Bushey, Addison, 182-5; Jerad Gorton, New Haven, 181-8; Thomas Murphy, Granville, 180-8; Mason Livingston, New Haven, 179-10; Mercedes Duval, Ferrisburgh, 178-8; and Daniel Bourgeois, Hinesburg, 177-5.

Also, Dean Ouellette, Weybridge, 175-8; Tyler Utter, Bolton, 175-7; Lonie Parker, Ferrisburgh, 173-7; Abigail St. George, Charlotte, 168-7; Robert Karczmarczyk, Ferrisburgh, 167-6; Randall Stearns, Ferrisburgh, 167-

(See Bucks, Page 14A)



OTTER VALLEY UNION High School senior Collin Blier shows off the 5-point deer he killed just before sundown Monday on his grandfather's farm in New Haven during the beginning of Vermont's rifle deer hunting season. Local hunters had a brisk start this weekend.
 Independent photo/Andy Kirkaldy



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Closing schools

(Continued from Page 1A)
by the voters of all five towns in November 2016, are unique among county (and many state) school districts in that they prohibit the closure of a town school without voter approval from the town hosting that school.

YEARLONG DEBATE

That stipulation was put to the test last December when Superintendent Patrick Reen proposed a two-phase plan to address declining enrollment and rising education costs in the district.

In phase one of that plan, elementary students currently attending schools in Lincoln, New Haven and Starksboro would be reassigned to the Bristol or Monkton school. The Lincoln and

Starksboro school buildings would be “repurposed” as “innovation centers” available to all district students. The New Haven school building would be repurposed to accommodate the district central office and a preK program.

Phase two of Reen’s plan calls for merging the MAUSD with the Addison Northwest School District. The theoretical new merged district would have one middle school (likely in what is now Vergennes Union High School), one high school (likely in Mount Abraham Union High School) and an unspecified number of elementary schools.

Reen’s plan drew immediate, sharp criticism from many residents of Lincoln and Starksboro, who insisted that “repurposing” a school

was the same thing as “closing” and would thus require the same voter approval.

The MAUSD hired an attorney who said the school board had the authority to “repurpose” a school without a vote of the town hosting it. The Lincoln selectboard hired an attorney who came to the opposite conclusion.

Debate over the definition of “closure” continued through the spring and summer. In the meantime, the MAUSD board solicited proposals from the community that might offer creative solutions to the district’s fiscal crises. Those are now being considered alongside Reen’s proposal. And the ANWSD-MAUSD Merger Study Committee, which was formed in April, is

assessing the feasibility of phase two of Reen’s plan.

The debate reached a fever pitch in August, when Lincoln voters, feeling their options had been exhausted, approved a plan to withdraw from the MAUSD altogether and form their own independent school district. That plan is in progress but will require approval from the other member towns and the State Board of Education.

In September the Starksboro selectboard sent a letter to the MAUSD board requesting, among other things, assurances that their town would not lose its right to vote on the fate of its school. Without those assurances, the selectboard believed it was likely Starksboro

(See MAUSD, Page 16A)

Bucks

(Continued from Page 13A)

8; Kerry Myers, Bristol, 163-4; James Bahrenberg, Ferrisburgh, 163-11; Joshua Hurlburt, Monkton, 163-10; Kyle Heck, Bristol, 163-8; Glenn Ash, New Haven, 162-7; and Conrad Marsano, Warren, 161-9.

Also, Daniel Stein, Ferrisburgh, 157-7; Meagan Porter, New Haven, 157-5; Ronald Gorton, New Haven, 156-8; Johnathan Hill, Bristol, 155-7; Paul Snyder, Addison, 155-7; Sidney Barbour, Ripton, 153-6; Brett Danyow, Ferrisburgh, 152-6; Riley Coffey, Monkton, 151-8; Christopher Bessette, Ferrisburgh, 150-7; Michael Hurlburt, Monkton, 149-6; Kivlen Benjamin, Bristol, 147-6; and Christopher Hansen, Monkton, 147-8.

Also, Matthew Gordon, New Haven, 144-4; David Bahrenburg, Ferrisburgh, 143-5; Kevin Alexander, Monkton, 141-4; Maxwell Flynn, New Haven, 140-4; Peter Fuller, Middlebury, 140-4; Robert Clark, Bristol, 140-2; Patrick Murphy, Waltham, 139-6; Ashtin Stearns, Ferrisburgh, 138-6; Nathan Bourgeois, Charlotte, 138-6; Derrick St. George, Charlotte, 138-9; Alexis Lathrop, Middlebury, 137-7; and Elijah Duprey, Waltham, 135-3.

Also, Kimberly Kayhart, New Haven, 135-6; Michael Forbes, Bristol, 135-4; Kyle Armell, Charlotte, 134-4; Daren Muzzy, Ferrisburgh, 132-5; Richard Ambrose, Ferrisburgh, 132-5; Scott Bell, Hinesburg, 132-4; Paul Wildasin, Waltham, 130-4; Taylor Bessette, Monkton, 130-4; Michael Lucier, Ferrisburgh, 130-4; Travis White, New Haven, 128-5; Sean Dike Ferrisburgh, 127-5; and Lucas Smith, New Haven, 125-7.

Also, Michele Sullivan, Salisbury, 124-3; Christopher Haines, Monkton, 124-4; Matthew Hunter, Hinesburg, 121-6; Kenneth Perine, Middlebury, 121-2; James O’Brien, Ferrisburgh, 120-6; Joseph Dragon, Ripton, 119-6; Geoffrey Grant, Pantan, 119-6; Ryan Thomas-Danyow, Ferrisburgh, 118-6; Davin Torrey, Ferrisburgh, 118-6; Shawn Freegard, Weybridge, 116-3; Matthew Chandler, Richmond, 114-2; and Chase Stokes, Starksboro, 106-5.

Also, Michael Poirier, Richmond, 105-2; Joshua Cyr, New Haven, 104-4; Jerome Robinson, Bridport, 104-3; John Campbell, Addison, 102-4; Michael Freegard, Goshen, 98-2; Michael Hinsdale, Ferrisburgh, 95-6; Colby Trudeau, Lincoln, 84-2; and John Pickering, Lincoln, 83-4.

VERMONT FIELD SPORTS

Aaron Paquette, Ripton, 201-7; Karl Kelton, Cornwall, 166-7; James Gorton, Middlebury, 165-6; Levi Doria, Ripton, 165-5; Scott Bouton, Middlebury, 164-7; Matthew Cram, Leicester, 160-8; Pierre Laroche, Weybridge, 159-5; Richard Cota, Bridport, 155-6; Kyle Wagner, Bristol, 155-8; and Stephen White, Middlebury.

Also, Philip Cyr, Bridport, 150-7; Harry Mosely, Ripton, 143-7; Colin Clohessy, Ripton, 135-6; Tim Davis, Whiting, 132-6; Lori Brown, Middlebury, 127-3; Kegan Brown, Ripton, 125-2; Tyler Bougor, Middlebury, 125-4; Jordan Broughton, Weybridge, 125-4; William Freegard, Starksboro, 125-2; and Marc McDonough, Ripton, 125-2.

Also, Patrick Whitley, Bridport, 120-5; Jeffrey Smith, Weybridge, 118-6; David Booska, Bristol, 118-4; Diana Pratt-Raymond, Middlebury, 115-3; Savannah Mitchell, Leicester, 114-4; Alfred Pockette, Salisbury, 107-4; Ashley Plantier, Goshen, 105-4; Thatcher Trudeau, Salisbury, 101-4; and Andrew Filion, Salisbury, 100-2.

Hayden Martin, Bridport, 140-4; Trenton Booska, Orwell, 149-8; Dylan Stowe, Orwell, 144-6; Hayden Martin, Bridport, 140-4; Connor Samler, Cornwall, 157-5; Louis Hall, Orwell, 140-7; Wayne Simon, Shoreham, 154-8; Eric Leno, Whiting, 125-5; Wyatt Stearns, Shoreham, 145-4; Wyatt Fourby, Orwell, 140-6; Caleb Wilcox, Orwell, 185-8; and Wyatt Casanelli, Orwell, 168-4.

Also, Doug New, Sudbury, 119-3; Jarod Wilcox, Hubbardton, 135-7; Dan Deforges, Benson, 136-4; John Steffan, Shoreham, 173-7; David Fletcher, Sudbury, 165-6; Laura Ellis, West Haven, 152-7; Ed Bell, Orwell, 160-7; Jacob Clifford, Orwell, 140-8; Brian Barber, Shoreham, 185-8; Alex Wigginton, Orwell, 158-4; Jeremy Audet, Orwell, 145-6; and Brian Wilson, Orwell, 155-9.

Also, Brian Ketcham, Sudbury, 175-8; Kevin Brown, Orwell, 120-6; James Hanson, Hubbardton, 160-7; Alayna Bruno, West Haven, 170-7; Evelyn Palmer, Orwell, 170-5; Jeff Williams, Whiting, 147-8; Tom Williams, Whiting, 137-4; Silas Myrick, Bridport, 190-7; Phil Wagner, Bridport, 128-3; Jeremy Quenneville, Orwell, 134-4; Casey Barry, Bridport, 142-7; and Adam Sears, Sudbury, 167-7.

Also, Carol Quenneville, Whiting, 140-4; Jason D’Avignon, Orwell, 110-3; Steve Rheume, Bridport, 145-6; Bob Almeida, Orwell, 186-7; Bret Williams, Sudbury, 115-5; Brodie New, Sudbury, 130-6; Levi Booska, Orwell, 145-3; Andre Fletcher, Orwell, 170-8; Cory Steady, Cornwall, 142-4; Steve Senesac, Orwell, 176-7; and Dominic Cillo, Hubbardton, 115-7.

LINCOLN GENERAL STORE

Travis Manning, New Haven, 110-4; Brett Combs, Lincoln, 125-4; Nathan Perry, Starksboro, 180-10; Nathaniel Reynolds, New Haven, 181-8; Adam Whitcomb, Bristol, 147-7; Carolyn Brown, Lincoln, 169-7; Victor Atkins, Starksboro, 179-7; and Joseph Hagan, Lincoln, 141-3.

Also, John Peck, Ripton, 128-2; Jody Atkins, Bristol, 158-8; Adam Donnelly, Lincoln, 116-2; Peter Moyer, Starksboro, 140-6; Bradley Thompson, Monkton, 154-8; Sarah Acker, Lincoln, 157-7; Justin Huizenga, Monkton, 141-7; and Margo Casco, Lincoln, 131-2.

WEST ADDISON GENERAL STORE

Eli Cyrs, Ferrisburgh, 125-5; Gary Grant, Bridport, 122-5; Kenneth Sullivan, Pantan, 145-5; Quinton Brown, Shoreham, 160-9; Kyleigh DuBois, Addison, 240-6; Christian Leggett, Cornwall, 150-8; Carter Leggett, Bridport, 140-7; and Andrew Nolan, Addison, 135-7.

Also, Sully Andrews, Shoreham, 115-6; Chris Mulliss, Addison, 137-4; Richard Roorda, Addison, 140-4; Wendy Mason, Shoreham, 150-5; Aiden Putman, Pantan, 140-3; Chris Bingham, Middlebury, 120-4; William Veldman, Addison, 100-3; and Christopher Payne, Bridport, 15-6.

C&S HUNTING SUPPLIES

Cory Newton, Ripton, 136-4; Peter Mackey, Ripton, 166-8; Richard Miller, Middlebury, 146-4; Nolan Warner, Middlebury, 156-4; Donald Brown, Ripton, 125-4; Douglas Butler, Middlebury, 153-4; and Jill Butler, Middlebury, 139-4.

GREEN MT. TRAILS’ END

Tina Thompson, Bristol, 163-7; Martin Landon, Weybridge, 120-5; Rick Marcelle, Monkton, 112-3; Larry Marcelle, Bristol, 122-4; Timothy Bouvier, Waltham, 159-7; Pamela Lathrop, Starksboro, 146-7; Kyle Bartlett, Bristol, 127 spikehorn; and Matthew Hecklinger, Monkton, 135-6.

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FIRM King Set.....\$899	EXTRA FIRM King Set.....\$1799	King Set.....\$999	King Set.....\$999	King Set.....\$1799	King Set.....\$1799
Beautyrest HARMONY LUX	Beautyrest BLACK	Beautyrest BLACK	Beautyrest L-CLASS PLUSH	Beautyrest BLACK	Beautyrest L-CLASS MEDIUM PILLOW TOP
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Full Set.....\$1499	Full Set.....\$2749	Full Set.....\$2249	Full Set.....\$2249	Full Set.....\$2459	Full Set.....\$2459
HARMONY LUX™ Queen Set.....\$1999	C-CLASS™ Queen Set.....\$2999	Queen Set.....\$2399	Queen Set.....\$2399	Queen Set.....\$2599	Queen Set.....\$2599
PLUSH King Set.....\$2499	MEDIUM King Set.....\$3839	King Set.....\$3039	King Set.....\$3039	King Set.....\$3199	King Set.....\$3199
Beautyrest BLACK	Beautyrest L-CLASS EXTRA FIRM	Beautyrest L-CLASS EXTRA FIRM	Beautyrest L-CLASS EXTRA FIRM	Beautyrest L-CLASS EXTRA FIRM	Beautyrest L-CLASS EXTRA FIRM
Twin XL Set.....\$1619	Twin XL Set.....\$1619	Twin XL Set.....\$1619	Twin XL Set.....\$1619	Twin XL Set.....\$1619	Twin XL Set.....\$1619
Full Set.....\$1949	Full Set.....\$1949	Full Set.....\$1949	Full Set.....\$1949	Full Set.....\$1949	Full Set.....\$1949
L-CLASS™ Queen Set.....\$2099	L-CLASS™ Queen Set.....\$2099	L-CLASS™ Queen Set.....\$2099	L-CLASS™ Queen Set.....\$2099	L-CLASS™ Queen Set.....\$2099	L-CLASS™ Queen Set.....\$2099
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BYE BYE BIRDIE

Vergennes Union High School Music Department put on the 1960s production of "Bye Bye Birdie" on Nov. 11, 12 and 13.

PHOTOS BY PHIL GRAMLING



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Lions Club

Memory Tree

The Middlebury Lions Club informs those who wish to memorialize the names of their deceased relatives and friends on this year's "Christmas Memory Tree" that they may do so by the donation of a dollar for each name and forwarding the names to the:

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U.S. Sen. Patrick Leahy is embraced by his wife, Marcelle, after announcing he will retire at the end of his term during a press conference in Montpelier on Monday, Nov. 15.

Photo by Glenn Russell/VTDigger

Leahy

(Continued from Page 1A)

ovation and he hugged Marcelle. Upon his retirement in January 2023, Leahy will close a 48-year career in the Senate that began, as he said Monday, “in the aftermath of a constitutional crisis” in 1975. With the country “broken by the Watergate scandal, the resignation of President Nixon and an endless war,” Leahy famously began his tenure casting the tie-breaking vote to end the Vietnam War.

From there, he forged his political legacy as an environmental conservationist in the Agriculture Committee, advocate for women and LGBTQ+ people in the Judiciary Committee and fiscal guardian for small states like Vermont in the Appropriations Committee.

1ST OPEN SEAT SINCE 2006

The longest serving senator in Vermont history and fifth-longest serving senator in U.S. history, Leahy’s retirement will have profound implications for the

political landscape at home and in Washington. His retirement opens the door to Vermont’s first open congressional seat in 15 years, during an election cycle where Democrats and Republicans will be fighting tooth and nail to clinch a Senate majority.

While his longevity in Congress has helped give the tiny state of Vermont an outsized influence on the national stage, it has also created a political bottleneck back home.

Many would like to see a changing of the guard, and the opportunity for new leadership. But plenty fear the state will lose out on funding when Leahy, now 81, steps down.

When there was last an open Senate seat in Vermont’s delegation in 2006, then-U.S. Rep. Bernie Sanders decided to vacate his seat and make a play for the upper chamber. His successor in the House, Democrat Peter Welch, who has held Vermont’s lone at-large congressional seat for the last 14 years, is widely expected

to follow in Sanders’s footsteps and run for Leahy’s now-open seat.

Vermont is also the only state in the country that has never sent a woman to Congress, and there is enormous political pressure — particularly in Democratic circles — to change course.

Three Democratic women are already considered top contenders in a congressional race: Vermont Senate President Pro Tem, Becca Balint of Windham County; Lt. Gov. Molly Gray; and Sen. Keshia Ram Hinsdale of Chittenden County. All three have suggested that if they run, they would not challenge Welch.

Balint and Ram Hinsdale both declined to specify any intentions to run. Gray said she wouldn’t make any announcements before Thanksgiving.

Gov. Phil Scott, a Republican who enjoys extraordinarily high support among Democrats, is certain to face strong pressure to throw his hat in the ring. On Monday a spokesperson

for Scott responded to VTDigger via email, “No chance! Governor Scott has been clear that he is not running for the U.S. Senate or House next year. That has not changed.”

HOW VERMONT REACTED

In a written statement Monday, Sanders commended his colleague’s work throughout his many years and several chairmanships in the Senate, calling him “a towering figure as chairman of the Agriculture Committee, the Judiciary Committee, and the Appropriations Committee.”

“I know I speak for all Vermonters in expressing the deep gratitude we feel for the extraordinary role that Pat Leahy has played in representing Vermont in the U.S. Senate for the last 46 years,” Sanders said. “He leaves a unique legacy that will be impossible to match.”

Welch said in a Monday statement that it was “a historic and bittersweet day,” and “it is hard to imagine the U.S. Senate without Patrick Leahy.”

“No one has served Vermont so faithfully, so constantly, so honestly, and so fiercely as Patrick,” he said. “Patrick’s life as our longest-serving senator has been dedicated to serving Vermont, always putting Vermonters and their values and aspirations first. Patrick loves Vermont and

Vermonters love Patrick.”

In a written statement, Scott said Leahy’s “leadership and experience has ensured our state is well represented in Congress.”

“It is thanks to him, and the funding he’s secured for our state, that Vermont is in a position to come out of this pandemic stronger than before and tackle big challenges from broadband and infrastructure to the opioid crisis,” he said. “We are indebted to him.”

Gray said in a written statement that Leahy is an “inspiration” to her, and that he has “served tirelessly with an increasingly rare humility, compassion and commitment to service, good government and meeting human needs.”

“Over the last five decades, when at times our nation’s moral compass has wavered, Sen. Leahy has remained steady, standing by Vermont’s values and working to ensure our nation respects and protects those values,” she continued. “From human rights and civil liberties to international engagement and humanitarian relief, Sen. Leahy has served as Vermont and our nation’s north star.”

LEAHY’S LEGACY

Leahy was in the national limelight when he presided over the second

impeachment trial of President Donald Trump earlier this year. As former chair of the Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry Committee, he oversaw the expansion of school lunch programs and benefits for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, commonly known as SNAP. As former chair of the Judiciary Committee, he played major roles in the confirmation processes of federal judges, as well as the reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act.

But the depth of his influence comes chiefly from his place within the all-powerful Appropriations Committee. He became a ranking member of the panel in 2017, and this year, after Democrats took the Senate, he finally became its chair.

Balint told VTDigger that even once Leahy retires, his impact will continue in Vermont because the federal dollars funneled into the state under his chairmanship are “going to be invested in things that are going to be Leahy’s legacy until the day I die.”

“We’re going to be able to see his work visibly in communities around the state,” she said. “His impact is going to be felt long after he leaves that chamber for the last time.”

Passenger rail

(Continued from Page 1A)

south to Rutland and New York City.

“It’s going to be a great benefit to the western part of the state to get the Ethan Allen running ... to Vermont’s largest city, where it’s really needed,” Delabruere told the *Independent* on Monday. “All the college kids in Middlebury and Burlington are now going to be able to take advantage. This is going to get people a direct connection from downtown Burlington to NYC, without even getting in a car.”

State officials had hoped to get the Ethan Allen extension operating this year, but VTrans has experienced significant delays in getting some of the supplies needed to upgrade the rail line. Particular irksome to Delabruere has been the absence of track switches to ready the Burlington railyard for the train.

“We have to put in an extra track at the Burlington railyard in order to store the Amtrak train overnight,” he explained. “When you add one track, you have to slide a bunch of other tracks over and adjust the yard. We ordered a bunch of new switches for the yard to make this happen. But what would normally take three months to order switches and get them in, we ordered them six months ago and we still don’t have them.”

The COVID-19 pandemic has caused a lot of delays in the business and transportation industries. Production tapered off during the crux of the pandemic. Production is now back in swing, but orders have exceeded available product.

“What I can’t control is when those switches arrive,” Delabruere said. “We’re now getting a forecast that it’s going to be sometime in the winter. Well, once you get them in the winter, you can’t do anything with them until the spring.”

It’s clear that Addison County’s two passenger rail hubs will be ready.

Middlebury’s new passenger rail platform — which hugs the tracks between Seymour Street and the Marble Works complex — is nearing completion. It includes a 300-foot deck and a 200-foot canopy, with lighting.

“There are some finishing touches that shouldn’t affect anything, as far as next summer,” Delabruere said.

Meanwhile, Vergennes will be served by a newly remodeled train depot and new platform at the Ferrisburgh Park and Ride off Route 22A, near Route 7.

“Vergennes is actually done; we’re ready to go,” Delabruere said. “The only thing left to do there is to find a station agent to occupy the building. Other than that, we’re physically ready to go.”

Other upgrades left to be completed include:

- A siding project in Pittsford to buffer the passenger rail line from freight activity associated with the Omya crushed marble plant in Florence.
- Reconstruction of the railroad crossings at Burlington’s King Street and Maple Street, and reconstruction of the bike path located between those same two streets.

“As soon as I can get all those (rail) switches done, we can finish up the final work on all things that go through Maple and King streets,” Delabruere said.

“Everything is hinging on getting these switches.”

BUYING A TICKET

The real portend of rail service is already getting some folks excited about buying tickets. That’ll have to wait for a while, according to Delabruere. Fare prices have yet to be finalized for the Rutland-Burlington extension of the Ethan Allen Express, but he assured that a ticket won’t cost any more than \$18 for one-way travel within Vermont.

The days of buying those tickets from a train station office are long over; you’re going to have to buy yours online. For years, the stations had automated ticket stands, but they’ve fallen out of favor, according to Delabruere said.

“They were costing Amtrak a lot of money to maintain and no one was actually using them, because smartphones were quicker,” he said.

Passengers will either make reservations on their home computers and print out their tickets on paper, or do it on a smartphone that can then be scanned on the train. Customers will also be able to buy their tickets on the train, using an ATM/debit or credit card. No cash accepted.

Delabruere said around \$100 million in state and federal funds will have been spent during the past 12-15 years on rail upgrades associated with the Ethan Allen’s Rutland-Burlington extension.

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MAUSD

(Continued from Page 14A)

would pursue the same path as Lincoln.

All year long, at least a few Lincoln and Starksboro residents have showed up regularly to school board meetings, often communicating their towns’ concerns during the public comment periods.

One of them, Herb Olson of Starksboro, thanked the board Monday night for passing the measure.

“It’s a big weight off of my back, and I think it will be for other community members,” Olson said.

MORE IMPORTANT ISSUES

On Wednesday morning, Olson and Nancy Cornell, on behalf of the Starksboro Save Our Schools Committee, sent the *Independent* a statement applauding Monday night’s decision, but pointed out there “there are still important issues to address.”

First, they said, in the event that a merger between the ANWSD and MAUSD is approved, “new articles of agreement might very well not allow for a town vote before the elementary school located in the town is closed.”

They also raised concerns about moving entire grades from one school to another, especially since Reen “has proposed sending 6th graders to middle school in Vergennes as part of a merger” — something last night’s measure did not address.

“If the MAUSD Board (or the MAUSD-ANWSD Merger Study Committee) has compelling reasons to recommend that any town’s

elementary program be closed, or to recommend a significant change to the program such as reconfiguring the grades in an elementary school, surely the Board should be able to make the case to the voters of the town, and should let the voters decide,” Olson and Cornell wrote. “If the recommendation makes educational sense; if it is truly in the best interest of children, then it should be an easy sell to voters. If the voters disapprove, perhaps it was not such a good idea after all.”

BOARD DISSENT

The MAUSD board on Monday was not unanimous in its approval, however, and some board members expressed concern that it would limit the district’s options.

“We are precluding flexibility and relying on a single town, potentially, to shape the future of the entire district, and I don’t think it’s equitable to subject the other four towns to what one town might vote,” said Kevin Hanson of Bristol, who has been a vocal supporter of Reen’s proposal.

As it stands now, that proposal could not be implemented without the approval of voters in Lincoln, New Haven and Starksboro.

The MAUSD board expects it will begin comparing and discussing Reen’s and various community proposals sometime next month.

The ANWSD-MAUSD Merger Study Committee is aiming to complete its work in time for a potential vote in November 2022.

Reach Christopher Ross at christopherr@addisonindependent.com.

- School News
- Legal Notices
- Classifieds
- Police Logs

Of lost ice and changing seasons: observations from the outdoors

I don't remember the exact year when I first drilled holes in the ice and set up tip-ups, beginning a longstanding tradition of ice fishing in Maine the first few days of every new year. It was some time in the mid-1980s while I was still single.



MATTHEW DICKERSON

And actually, I didn't even drill the holes. Our Maine neighbor Milton Mills drilled them for us with his power auger. He also lent us

some of his extra tip-ups, shared his bait with us, and (most importantly) mentored my father and I on where to put those tip-ups, how deep to drop our bait, and how to pull in fish.

And we pulled in lots of fish. Fresh trout and salmon to start a new year. Which is why within a couple years I started my own collection of tip-ups, and why three and a half decades later it's still one of my favorite New Year's traditions. Even though I still don't own a power auger — just a hand

(See Dickerson, Page 2B)



MIDDLEBURY FORWARD KATIE George goes on the attack during the Panther field hockey team's 2-0 NCAA D-III tournament win on Sunday over Tufts. George scored in Middlebury's 5-1 win on Saturday over Endicott.

Independent photo/Steve James

Panthers top Tufts, to head to final four

By **ANDY KIRKALDY**

MIDDLEBURY — The first time the Middlebury College field hockey team met Tufts this season on the Panthers' home turf, they allowed the Jumbos to score a late goal to force overtime. Only an Erin Nicholas goal in extra time preserved Middlebury's unbeaten record.

After the top-ranked Panthers defeated visiting Tufts, 2-0, in an NCAA Division III quarterfinal on Sunday, that undefeated record remains intact — at 20-0.

And Middlebury avoided the same mistake it had made on Oct. 10, when the Panthers and Coach Katharine DeLorenzo said they became too conservative with a late lead.

Instead on Sunday they pressured the Jumbos with the tactics that had allowed them to control the game to that point and added a second goal on a Nicholas penalty stroke.

"We continued to attack. We continued to switch the field even if sometimes it meant we were an inch in front of our own goal," DeLorenzo said. "We continued to attack the whole field."

Sophomore forward Audrey Lazar, who buried a Nicholas assist in the second quarter to give Middlebury the lead, put it simply.

"One of our favorite sayings these days is, 'The best defense is offense,'" Lazar said. "They can't score if they don't have the ball. So lead."

(See Panther, Page 3B)



PANTHER FORWARD AUDREY Lazar controls the ball on Sunday during the Middlebury field hockey team's 2-0 NCAA D-III tournament win over Tufts, a result that propelled the Panthers into this weekend's final four. Lazar's second-period goal was the game-winner on Sunday.

Independent photo/Steve James

Midd football wraps up season with setback

MIDDLEBURY — The Middlebury College football team dropped its season finale on Saturday, falling to visiting Tufts (4-5) by a score of 34-27. The Panthers closed out their campaign with a 3-6 record after seeing a two-game winning streak snapped.

Tufts jumped on the scoreboard first, 6-0, with a 10-play, 82-yard drive finished off with a three-yard Mike Pedrini run.

In the second quarter, Tufts took advantage of an interception at its own 24. On the next play, Michael Berluti tossed a TD pass to Jackson Butler to make it 13-0.

On the ensuing possession, Panther QB Will Jernigan capped off an eight-play, 75-yard drive with a 13-yard scoring run to make it 13-7. With 7:19 left in the first half, Peter Scibilia punched for a score that knotted the game at 13-13. Punter Cole Crider's 37-yard run on a fake punt helped set up that touchdown.

On their next possession another Jernigan run gave the Panthers their first lead at 20-13. The Jumbos responded with a 26-yard

(See Setback, Page 3B)



MIDDLEBURY QUARTERBACK WILL Jernigan beats a trio of Tufts defenders to the corner of the end zone to score one of his two rushing touchdowns during the Panthers' home game on Saturday. His scores weren't enough to prevent the visiting Jumbos from prevailing, 34-27.

Independent photo/Steve James

Sports this winter: fans and masks

By **ANDY KIRKALDY**

ADDISON COUNTY — All local high school sports will occur this winter, according to a Nov. 3 agreement among 16 northwestern Vermont school districts that include those in Addison County, but masks will be required for spectators, coaches and participants in most of the sports.

The member districts of the Champlain Valley Superintendents Association (CVSA) also "strongly recommend that all eligible student-athletes get vaccinated," calling vaccination a "proven mitigation strategy (that) will ultimately ensure athletes can stay in school and compete safely throughout the season. If an athlete is vaccinated, they will not be required to quarantine should an exposure occur."

The CVSA also states that its planned "Test to Stay" program would only allow unvaccinated athletes to practice with their teammates, but would not "enable involvement in interscholastic competition (i.e., games, meets or competitions)."

Masks will be required for all athletes, coaches, referees, officials and spectators during practices and competitions whether they are vaccinated or not.

The only exceptions are indoor track participants if they are maintaining social distancing, and wrestlers, gymnasts, and dance and cheer team members during competitions.

Spectators will be allowed, according to the CVSA, "as long as compliance with protocols are followed." If they are not, schools could limit or ban spectators. The only exception to masking will be to allow eating in a designated area.

Fans might also be required to sit in designated areas to allow for contact tracing to be performed later by the Department of Health.

If school facilities allow, locker rooms can be used by both home and away teams this winter.

Score BOARD

COLLEGE SPORTS

Field Hockey

NCAA D-III Regional at Midd

11/13 Midd vs Endicott	5-1
11/13 Tufts vs New Paltz	5-2
11/14 Midd vs Tufts	2-0

Women's Soccer

NCAA D-III Regional at Misericordia

11/13 Midd vs Lynchburg	3-2
11/14 Misericordia vs Midd	3-0

Men's Soccer

NCAA D-III Regional at Franklin & Marshall

11/13 Midd vs SUNY-Oneonta	1-0
11/14 Midd vs Franklin & Marshall	2-0

Football

11/13 Tufts vs Midd	34-27
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Women's Basketball

11/13 Midd vs Clarkson	87-29
11/14 Midd vs Keene	84-74 (OT)
11/16 Midd at Union	Postponed

Men's Basketball

11/14 Midd vs Wentworth	73-56
11/16 Keene vs Midd	86-77

Schedule

COLLEGE SPORTS

Field Hockey

NCAA D-III Final Four in Hartford, Ct.

11/20 Midd vs Rowan	11 AM
11/20 Trinity vs Johns Hopkins	2 PM
11/21 Final	1 PM

Men's Soccer

NCAA D-III Sectional at Amherst

11/20 Amherst vs Cortland St.	11 AM
11/20 Midd vs John Carroll	1:30 PM
11/21 Final	1 PM

Women's Basketball

11/20 Skidmore at Midd	2 PM
11/23 Midd at Castleton	7 PM

Men's Basketball

11/19 Midd vs Anna Maria at Bridgewater State	7:30 PM
11/20 Midd vs TBD at Bridgewater	TBD
11/23 Johnson at Midd	7 PM
11/28 Endicott at Midd	1 PM

Men's Hockey

11/19 Midd at Bowdoin	7 PM
11/20 Midd at Colby	3 PM

Women's Hockey

11/19 Conn at Midd	7 PM
11/20 Conn at Midd	3 PM

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Women's soccer bested in NCAA second round

By ANDY KIRKALDY
DALLAS, Pa. — Host Misericordia blanked the Middlebury College women's soccer team on Sunday, 3-0, in a second-round NCAA Division III tournament game, ending a season in which the Panthers had come on strong after a slow start.

The setback left the Panthers with a 13-4-3 record that included a NESCAC playoff championship, a first-round NCAA tournament win, and a 10-game unbeaten string that ended on Sunday.

But despite a few good moments, the Panthers struggled to create consistent offensive threats against Misericordia, which ended its regular season ranked No. 4 and improved to 20-1 with Sunday's victory. Misericordia outshot the Panthers, 23-12, and many of the Panther shots came from long range. An injury that starting Middlebury forward Joely Virzy apparently suffered in Saturday's game didn't help matters. Misericordia also piled up a 10-2 advantage in corner kicks.

The Cougars' Emma Sweitzer opened the scoring with 3:00 left in the first half. Sweitzer took a through ball from Emma Przyhocki and ripped a left-footed shot from 15 yards just inside the right post.

The Panthers had a golden opportunity to tie the game 13 minutes into the second half, when Gretchen McGrath sent a cross to Eliza Van Voorhis, but Van Voorhis's left-footed volley was just wide left.

Sweitzer made it 2-0 with just under 24 minutes remaining, picking off a failed Panther clear and drilling another left-footed shot home from the top of the box. With 12:15 to go, Michaela Fasolino provided the final goal with a bending shot from 20 yards out. Sydney Poppinga made 10

saves for the Panthers, while Alexis Benedetto made five for the Cougars.

On Saturday, the Panthers got past Lynchburg, 3-2, in their first-round game when Lucy Patten slammed home an Ellie Bavier feed from the right side with 3:01 remaining to snap a 2-2 tie. It was Patten's first goal of the season, and Van Voorhis set up Bavier's run. Lynchburg finished 15-6.

The Panthers controlled most of the game, taking a 2-0 first-half lead and hitting posts twice in the second half before the Hornets converted their only two good scoring chances to knot the score.

McGrath made it 1-0, 13:32 into the game. She took a long serve from Panther back Elise Morris at the top of the box, spun around a defender and finished high into the left side of the net from about 16 yards out.

Eliza Robinson made it 2-0 on a corner kick in the 22nd minute. Bavier served low to the front post, and McGrath touched it to Robinson about 10 feet out from goal. Robinson one-timed a shot high inside the right post.

In the 66th minute of the second half, Robinson hit the left post from close range on a Bavier cross from the right, and the Hornet defense blocked Sophia Cole's rebound bid. Shortly afterward, Fanny Lodge broke in on goal from the left side, but her low, 15-yard bid banged off the far post.

At 71:15, a loose ball after a Lynchburg free kick bounced to Emily Santana just inside the box, and she rifled a shot into the right side of the goal. Nine minutes later, Santana took a Sydney Dombrovskis feed from the left, and from the top of the box she left-footed a blast inside the right post to briefly tie the game.

The Panthers outshot Lynchburg, 17-6. Poppinga and Lynchburg keeper Jade Lecklider each made two saves.



Regional runners

TWO CROSS COUNTRY athletes from Addison County ran in Saturday's New England Championship Race in Thetford. North Branch School ninth-grader Estella Laird, right, placed 33rd out of 259 runners with a time of 20:51.8 over the 5-kilometer course. The Lincoln resident was the sixth Vermont runner across the finish line. Middlebury Union High School seniors Ella Landis, left, finished 200th in 23:17.1 after becoming the first Tiger to qualify for the regional championship in a decade. The last MUHS runner to compete was Emily Anderson, daughter of Tiger Coach Chris Anderson, in 2011.

Laird photo by Matt Landis; Landis photo by Sullivaneventphotography.com

Panther cross-country teams earn NCAA bids

WATERFORD, Conn. — The Middlebury men's and women's cross country teams both finished second in their respective NCAA

Regional meets held on Saturday in Waterford, Conn., results good enough for each Panther team to earn at-large invitations to this Saturday's NCAA Division III Championship Meet in Louisville, Ky.

The winners of each of 10 regional meets earned automatic bids into Saturday's championship event, and another 22 men's and women's teams, including the Panthers, also received invitations.

The 12th-ranked Middlebury men were second out of 26 teams at this past Saturday's regional. Top-ranked Williams won the

event with a score of 54, followed by the Panthers (68), Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (82), Vassar (121) and Amherst (129).

Alexander Kessler led Middlebury, placing seventh in a field of 174 runners. He covered the 8-kilometer course in 25:14. Drew Donahue (25:27), Alec Girona (25:29) and Max Cluss (25:32) finishing 11th, 12th and 13th, respectively. Quinlan McGaugh rounded out the scorers for the Panthers in 25th in 25:51.

The 15th-ranked Middlebury women's cross country team edged Amherst by three points to

claim second place. Sixth-ranked Williams took home top honors with 90 points, followed by the Panthers (99), the Mammoths (102), Smith (134) and Mount Holyoke (139).

Middlebury's Cassie Kearney finished second in a field of 172 runners. She completed the 6K course in 21:46. Bea Parr (22:44) finished 16th in 22:44. Kate Kenny (21st) and Morgane Orcutt (26th) finished in 22:51 and 23:08, respectively, and Nicole Johnson (23:26) was 34th as the final scorer for Middlebury.

WELLNESS Directory

Practitioner of the Week

Donna Belcher, M.A., psychologist-master, has been in private practice in Vermont for 34 years. She has felt privileged to work with a wide variety of people. She has experience with such challenges as: depression, anxiety, grief, chronic illness, divorce, caregiver burnout, work stress, mid life transitions and developing a deeper connection with creativity and life purpose.



Donna Belcher, MA Licensed Psychologist - Master, Psychotherapy & Hypnosis

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Dickerson

(Continued from Page 1B)
crank one which gets very tedious if the ice is thicker than about four inches — I now own enough tip-ups that I can have a couple of my sons or daughters-in-law join me.

Ice fishing wasn't the only thing I learned from Mr. Mills. He used to keep records of what date the ice first formed on the lake in the early winter, and what date it went out in the spring. Back in the '70s and '80s, we were nearly always skating on the lake by Christmas Day and there was never a question of whether we'd be able to ice fish on New Year's Day. I still remember what a shock it was one year in the late 1990s when we showed up at the lake on Dec. 25 and found that it still had open water. Although the ice would start to form the next morning, it wasn't thick enough by New Year's Day for any ice fishing. What a disappointment!

Weather varies from year to year, of course. I could easily have written it off as one anomalous warm year. But, as I said, Milton Mills kept careful records. He had the ice-out dates recorded for the past 50 years. Five decades of data. He was an archetypal Mainer: a good storyteller (if you could get him going), but for the most part, a person of few words. But he did tell me that the average date of first ice at the start of winter had shifted two weeks later than in it had been in the middle of the 20th century, and that spring ice-out was two weeks earlier. Four less weeks of ice each year on average than 50 years ago. And that was over 20 years ago. It's gotten worse since then.

I was pondering this for two reasons. First, I'm hoping to ice fish in Maine on New Year's Day in 2022. The second (and more important) reason is that the recent

U.N. Climate Summit in Glasgow has been in the news. Climate change isn't new news to me. Just as I'm not quite sure what year I first went ice fishing, I also can't tell you what year I first starting hearing about climate change, and when I first started paying closer attention. But I'm sure by the mid-1990s I was aware enough of the science to be taking it seriously.

I also know that my participation in outdoor sports played a significant role in helping me take it seriously — in helping me understand the implications in a more personal and visceral way. My experience missing out on ice fishing because there was no ice, and hearing Milton Mills share with me his long years of experience was one moment when it became more real. Another was my first and only trip to the Arctic, and hearing from another person with few words but long years of experience.

That person was a bush pilot named Eric. We learned about his blunt manners and few words on the day we landed in Kotzebue, Alaska, on a small commercial flight. We'd hired Eric to fly us by bush plane up to a camping spot on a west-flowing Arctic river. Our trip was delayed by fog, so we spent about half the day waiting around his hanger for the weather to clear. After hours of hearing nothing from him, he suddenly jumps up and tells us (in about eight words) to grab our gear (he had a more colorful word for it) and head out on the runway. It was time to go.

Three days after dropping us off, he's landing his bush plane on the little gravel beach to pick us up after we'd camped there for three nights. What brought us to that particular spot was one of the largest open pit heavy metal mines

in the world, 30 or so miles to the east at the head of the watershed of the river where we'd camped. We'd hired Eric not only to drop us off and pick us up, but to do a flyover of the mine so we could see it first-hand and get photos.

When Eric asked us whether we'd found any spawning sea-run Dolly Varden char in the river, and we responded that the schools hadn't come through, our previously quiet pilot responded quite colorfully. "Everything's messed up," he said. (Except he didn't say, "messed.") He then went on quite a rambling complaint about how the seasons for everything from the salmon runs to the caribou migrations — seasons which had been relatively stable for decades, and which the native peoples of that region had learned to count on, and plan their lives around — had for the past several years been experiencing dramatic changes due to changing climate and all of the corresponding conditions related to climate.

The primary story we had come to Alaska to research and write about was the impact of mines, and especially open pit heavy metal mines like the one we visited by that Arctic river and like the proposed Pebble Mine down in the Bristol Bay area of Alaska we had visited the previous week. And that was an important story, certainly. But climate change would prove to be the far more important story. One that is hard to miss if you pay attention to the world around you.

But unlike other stories we only listen to, it's one we need to become characters in ourselves. A lot more of our outdoor stories are going to have less happy endings as they get wrapped up in that bigger story. Just how unhappy those story endings are will depend on a lot of us.



PANTHER PUNTER COLE Crider stiff-arms a Tufts tackler during his 37-yard run on a second-quarter fake punt during Middlebury's home football game on Saturday. Crider's run came on a fourth-and-four play in Panther territory and helped set up the Panthers' second touchdown, which tied the score at 13-13. Independent photo/Steve James

Setback

(Continued from Page 1B)

TD pass from Berluti to Billy Dunn, and it was 20-20 at the half.

Tufts scored on its first two possessions of the second half, Jumbo back Tyler Johnson ran for nine- and six-yard scores as Tufts established a 34-20 advantage.

The Panthers answered with 14:55 remaining in the fourth quarter by going 75 yards in 11 plays over

3:17 to score with a Jernigan pass to Donovan Wood from nine yards out. But the Panthers could not mount another serious threat.

Jernigan completed 13 of 34 passes for 149 yards, but tossed two interceptions. Jernigan also rushed for 132 yards on 20 attempts, topping 100 yards for the third straight game. Wood caught six passes for 84 yards. Jack Pistorius topped the Panthers

with 11 tackles, while Nate Stewart posted 10 stops and a pass breakup.

Berluti went 18 for 31 passing for the Jumbos for 217 yards. Tyler Johnson carried the ball 19 times for 120 yards. Philip Lutz made seven catches for 70 yards. Defensively, Matty Drouillard recorded 12 tackles, while Brandyn Jones had five tackles, three pass breakups and an interception.

Panther men advance in NCAA tournament

LANCASTER, Pa. — The Middlebury College men's soccer team won an NCAA Division III Regional this past weekend and will compete this coming weekend for a chance to advance to the tournament's final four. The 12-4-3 Panthers will head to familiar ground — NESCAC rival Amherst College will host the Sectional at which they will compete.

Middlebury will take on John Carroll University (14-3-2) at 1:30 p.m. on Saturday, after host Amherst (14-2-2) faces SUNY-Cortland (18-2-1) at 11 a.m. The winners will meet at 1 p.m. on Sunday, with the victor advancing to the final four in Greensboro, N.C., on Dec. 3 and 4.

This past weekend the Panthers opened on Saturday by defeating SUNY-Oneonta, 1-0. A Shane Farrell goal with 3:05 remaining was the game-winner.

Farrell's goal came in transition after the most dramatic of Panther goalie Ryan Grady's five saves.

Oneonta capitalized on a Panther turnover at midfield to set up Jeremy Pantoni at the top of the Middlebury box. Pantoni turned and rifled a shot on goal, but Grady dove to his left to knock the shot away at 86:36.

The Panthers countered quickly and sent the ball to Andrew Juarez just over midfield, and he carried it down the left side. Juarez split the Red Dragons' defense with a pass to Jordan Saint-Louis at the left corner of the Oneonta box. Saint-Louis beat one defender and then laid the ball back across the goal. Farrell ran onto the service and one-timed it home for the game's only goal.

Nate Hanna made six saves for Oneonta, which finished 10-4-3.

On Sunday the Panthers outplayed fourth-ranked host Franklin & Marshall (15-4-1) in a 2-0 victory in the Regional final.

The Panthers struck at 29:29 with a Ben Powers goal after a corner kick. Casey Lund gathered a loose ball on the right and bent a

cross that Powers tucked under the crossbar and just past the fingertips of Diplomat goalie Sam Altman Farrell.

Nearly 10 minutes later, Grady made his only save of the half on a header from Kane Feudtner.

Shortly after halftime the Panthers doubled their lead at 49:27 when Saint-Louis scored with an assist from Brendan Barry. Saint-Louis's goal was his team-best seventh.

Franklin & Marshall looked to cut the deficit late in the match, but Grady made a diving stop to his right on a penalty kick attempt by A.J. Kopacz with 1:55 left to preserve the shutout.

That was Grady's second and final save on the day and gave him 12 shutouts this fall, moving him into a tie for second on Middlebury's single-season list. He remains in the top-10 in Division III in goals-against average (0.35) and save percentage (.897). Altman Farrell made nine saves for the Diplomats.

Midd volleyball falls in tourney

HOBOKEN, N.J. — The Middlebury College volleyball team won one NCAA Division III tournament match before falling on Saturday, 3-0, to second-ranked host Trinity University (Texas) in the second round. The 21-6 Panthers defeated Stevens Institute of Technology, 3-1, on Friday.

The 21 wins are the program's most wins since 2012 and included a program-record 14-match win streak to open the season. The Panthers were making their first trip back to the NCAA tournament since 2016.

Middlebury jumped out to a 12-9 edge in Saturday's opening set, capped on a kill by Corley Doyle, but the Tigers tallied eight unanswered points fueled by four service aces from Nadia Kern to take a 17-12 advantage. The Panthers responded with a 7-1 run, taking a 21-19 edge highlighted by a pair of kills from Lucy Ambach, but could not hold the late lead despite a kill from Laney Sullivan, and fell, 25-23.

The next two sets were not as close, as Trinity claimed 25-17 and 25-18 wins, even though an Avery

Tuggle kill helped the Panthers take a 5-1 lead in the third set.

Laney recorded a team-high eight kills, and Maggie Wise tallied seven. Gabbie O'Toole dished out a match-high 34 assists, while Kelly Ferrero dug up 15 balls.

Against host school Stevens (26-6) the Panthers prevailed 25-18, 20-25, 25-19, 25-21.

Wise led all players with 18 kills and dug up a team-leading 18 balls. O'Toole had a match-high 36 assists, while Ferrero had 15 digs. Ambach led all players with seven blocks, while Doyle had six.

Panther

(Continued from Page 1B)

that's the mentality." The Panthers had easily gotten past Endicott on Saturday, 5-1, in their opening tournament game after taking a 4-0 halftime lead.

The Panthers will head this weekend to Hartford, Conn., for the final four, which their NESCAC rival Trinity will host. They will meet No. 4 Rowan (18-2) at 11 a.m. on Saturday, while No. 10 Trinity (15-5), will face No. 2 Johns Hopkins (21-0) at 1:30 p.m. Middlebury has met only Trinity among those teams this fall, winning 4-2 and 4-0.

The Panthers will be seeking a perfect season and the program's fourth straight NCAA title. Nicholas, one of several Panthers along for the first three, said they have faith in their ability to keep winning and in their process.

"We are confident in ourselves. We are confident in our preparation. So it's a week of practice, and then it's do everything we can to be confident on the day of the game," Nicholas said. "And then see what happens."

TUFTS GAME

Sometimes stats are misleading. This one is not: Tufts didn't put a shot on Panther goalie Grace Harlan during Sunday's game, nor did the Panthers allow a penalty corner.

Credit belongs to defenders Charlotte Marks, Riley Marchin and Joan Vera. Marks in the middle in particular excelled at knocking down aerials from the Tufts end with Jumbo forwards running behind her, when a miss would have led to a breakaway. Midfielders Amy Griffin and Katherine Lantzy also played key roles defensively.

The Panthers dominated possession with their tactics and skill.

DeLorenzo said the Panthers were both patient and fearless in moving the ball against the Tufts high-pressure tactics, particularly in moving the ball back to defenders to reset the attack.

"We really recycled the ball well when we didn't have a path forward," she said. "I think we saw a really exciting, up tempo offensive game from Middlebury."

The best chances in the opening quarter both came from Nicholas,

but Tufts goalie Sam Gibby made a pad save on one long blast in the seventh minute and kicked away a low reverse-stick bid.

Lazar's goal came with 3:59 to go in the second period. She carried along the right end line and fed Nicholas cutting in from the top of the circle. Nicholas took a touch and returned the ball to Lazar, who dove to reach it and flicked it across the goalmouth and inside the left post. It was her 14th of the fall.

"I managed to slip it through a bunch of defenders and hoped and hoped it got through," Lazar said.

A minute later, Jumbo forward Kylie Rosenquest made a strong run into the Panther circle, but

Panthers were going to win their 28th straight game, claim their 47th in a row at home field, and head to the final four.

"We're going to go there undefeated, and we're going to do the very best we can," DeLorenzo said. "But we weren't going to stay home today."

SATURDAY GAME

The Panthers advanced to Sunday's Regional final by coasting past Endicott (14-7) on Saturday, 5-1. After Middlebury took a 4-0 advantage into halftime, DeLorenzo subbed freely in the second half.

Middlebury's Griffin scored 2:27 into the game. Isabel Chandler controlled the ball near the left post before spinning and finding Griffin near the top of the circle. From there, Griffin ripped a shot into the left side of the cage. The Gulls had one opportunity in the period, but Marchin caught Emily Lamasona from behind to thwart a breakaway bid.

The Panthers put the game away with three goals in less than four minutes in the second quarter.

The scoring binge began at 8:11 on a penalty corner, when Katie George, at the left post, tipped in a diagonal pass from Lantzy.

Marchin made it 3-0 just over two minutes later. Lantzy fed Marchin in the circle to the left of the stroke line, and her reverse-stick shot found the cage's left side; it looked like Gull goalie Taylor Farrin might have been screened. With 4:22 left before halftime, Sadie LeStage chipped a pass from Lilly Branka inside the left post on another penalty corner to make it 4-0.

In the third period, Nicholas made it 5-0 by reverse-sticking home a loose ball from near the stroke line.

Endicott's Sydney Poulin converted on the Gulls' only penalty corner with 5:44 to go in the game. Poulin took the insert at the top of the circle and drilled a shot inside the left post. Harlan made two saves, while Farrin made 14 for the Gulls.



NESCAC PLAYER OF the Year Erin Nicholas moves down the field during the Panther field hockey team's 2-0 NCAA D-III tournament win over Tufts. Nicholas had a goal and an assist as the Panthers advanced into the final four, where they will seek their fourth straight title. Independent photo/Steve James

Marks dispossessed her. It was as good a chance as Tufts got.

The Jumbos did a better job of disrupting the Panthers in the third period — the only quarter in which Middlebury didn't manage a shot at goal. That changed in the fourth, when the Panthers launched five of their 13 shots and Gibby made two of her six saves.

But Gibby had no chance at 9:49, when Nicholas whipped her penalty stroke into the left side of the cage. That was Nicholas's 24th score of the season.

After that, it was just a matter of time before it became official the

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Saturday, November 20
Public Skating 7:00 pm-8:30 pm

Sunday, November 21
Public Skating 2:30 pm-4:00 pm

Tuesday, November 23
Public Skating 9:00 am-11:00 am

Thursday, November 25
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Friday, November 26
Stick & Puck 3:30 pm-5:00 pm

Saturday, November 27
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Wildlife feed is plentiful

MONTPELIER — Vermont Fish and Wildlife is reporting that several important fall foods for wildlife are abundant this year following last year when many foods were lacking.

Fish and Wildlife staff survey mast stands around the state each fall season, and last year they documented that many important berry and nut species were lacking. The lack helped cause a dramatic increase in the number of bears

harvested in the hunting season due to the bears searching widely for alternative foods, including corn.

Results for this year are markedly different, with most species of nuts and berries available to wildlife and some, such as apples, choke cherries and mountain ash berries being very abundant. Acorn numbers were the highest in 20 years. It was a good year in most areas for beechnuts, for although many of the beech stands surveyed contained abundant nuts, other stands contained few or none.

"The great variation in beechnut numbers between sites that were sampled was a surprise to us as we had predicted it to be an excellent year for beechnut production following such poor numbers last year," said State Wildlife Biologist Jaclyn Comeau who was recently chosen to fill the position of Black Bear Project Leader.



MOUNTAIN ASH BERRIES and acorns are some of the fall foods enjoyed by wildlife this year. Photo/John Hall, VF&W

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community calendar

nov 18 THURSDAY

Age Well Holiday grab-and-go meal in Vergennes. Thursday, Nov. 18, 10:45 a.m., St. Peter's Parish, 58 S. Maple St. Menu: roast turkey with gravy, mashed potatoes, stuffing, carrots, cranberry sauce, roll, pumpkin pie and milk. If saving for Thanksgiving, please plan to freeze the meal. Pre-order by Nov. 11. Call Michelle at 802-377-1419. Open to anyone age 60 and over. Call Tri-Valley Transit (TVT) at 802-388-2287 if you need a ride or a meal delivery. TVT requires a minimum 48-hour notice.

American Red Cross Blood donation in Bristol. Thursday, Nov. 18, noon-5 p.m., American Legion, 56 Airport Dr. Donors of all blood types — especially type O — and platelet donors are urged to make an appointment to give now to help meet the needs of patients. Schedule an appointment now by using the Red Cross Blood Donor App, visiting RedCrossBlood.org or calling 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767).

"VSAC Shows You How" webinar. Thursday, Nov. 18, 6-7 p.m., Zoom and Facebook. VSAC experts walk you through how to complete the Vermont State Grant application, question-by-question. We'll also show you how to apply for any of the 120+ VSAC-assisted scholarships. Register at tinyurl.com/VSAC-Nov-Webinar.

"Beauty & The Beast" musical on stage in Bristol. Thursday, Nov. 18, 7 p.m., Mount Abraham Union High School Auditorium, 220 Airport Rd. Come and see the classic Disney musical performed on stage. Tickets for in-person reserved seating are \$12 adult/\$10 children under 12 and senior 65+ from \$12-\$40 for online streaming. Purchase tickets at bit.ly/mtabemusical or at the door.

"The Sound of Music" musical on stage in Middlebury. Thursday, Nov. 18, 7 p.m., Middlebury Union High School auditorium, 73 Charles Ave. The hills are alive with this classic Rodgers and Hammerstein musical. Tickets will be sold online this year. Please visit showtix4u.com/event-details/58310 to get yours.

"Showing Up" on stage in Middlebury. Thursday, Nov. 18, 7:30 p.m., Town Hall Theater, 68 South Pleasant St. Growing up in small-town Vermont, Miranda Ferriss Jones and Vanessa Dunleavy starred in high school musicals and dreamed of making it to Broadway. Life took them through New York stages, success and disappointment, the loss of old dreams and the creation of new ones. And through it all their friendship endured. Now they're returning to their hometown to work with Doug Anderson, artistic director of Town Hall Theater, on a new musical that tells their story. Tickets \$20, available at townhalltheater.org, 802-382-9222, or the THT Box Office Mon-Fri, 12-5 p.m.

nov 19 FRIDAY

Vergennes Rotary Holiday Lighting Contest. Friday, Nov. 19-Friday, Dec. 10. Categories include: Most lights — the Clark W. Griswold-like display you can see from out space; best storytelling scene — the display that shows your holiday story; and Most Festive — show Vergennes your best holiday spirit. More info at VergennesRotary.org.

Age Well Holiday grab-and-go meal in Starksboro. Friday Nov. 19, 3:30 p.m., Starksboro Baptist Church, Route 116. Menu: Roast Turkey with gravy, mashed potatoes, stuffing, carrots, cranberry sauce, roll, pumpkin pie and milk. If saving for Thanksgiving, please plan to freeze the meal. Pre-order by Nov. 11. Call Michelle at 802-377-1419. Open to anyone age 60 and over. Call Tri-Valley Transit (TVT) at 802-388-2287 if you need a ride or a meal delivery. TVT requires a minimum 48-hour notice.

Food distribution in Bristol. Friday, Nov. 19, 5-6 p.m., St. Ambrose Church, 11 School St. Have A Heart food shelf will distribute food to those in need. Curbside pick-up only. Unvaccinated people need to mask. Newcomers always welcome. No sign up — just show up. See you there.

"Beauty and the Beast" on stage in Bristol. Friday, Nov. 19, 7 p.m., Mount Abraham Union High School Auditorium, Airport Rd. See Nov. 18 entry.

"The Sound of Music" on stage in Middlebury. Friday, Nov. 19, 7 p.m., Middlebury Union High School auditorium, 73 Charles Ave. See Nov. 18 entry.

"Showing Up" on stage in Middlebury. Friday, Nov. 19, 7:30 p.m., Town Hall Theater, 68 South Pleasant St. See Nov. 18 entry.

nov 20 SATURDAY

Holiday Bazaar and bake sale in Monkton. Saturday, Nov. 20, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Friends Methodist Church, 78 Monkton Ridge. Handcrafted gifts, attic treasures, fresh homemade doughnuts, homemade chocolates, pies, whoopee pies, cookies and other goodies too good to pass up. Hearty split pea & ham, chicken vegetable soup or chili to go. Call 802-453-2870 for more information.

Holiday Craft Fair in Brandon. Saturday, Nov. 20, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Otter Valley Union High School, Route 7 South. More than 80 vendors will be set up with their beautiful items to sell. The concession area will be open with delicious food. The halls, gymnasium and cafeteria will be buzzing with loads of holiday cheer. Free Parking, Free Admission. Remember to wear a mask.

Legos and Duplos play in Vergennes. Saturday, Nov. 20, 10:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Bixby Memorial Library, 258 Main St. The library will provide the Legos and Duplos, while the kids provide the

imagination. All materials will stay at the library, so bring a camera to capture your masterpiece. Free.

"Beauty and the Beast" on stage in Bristol. Saturday, Nov. 20, 2 and 7 p.m., Mount Abraham Union High School Auditorium, Airport Rd. See Nov. 18 entry.

"The Sound of Music" on stage in Middlebury. Saturday, Nov. 20, 2 p.m., Middlebury Union High School auditorium, 73 Charles Ave. See Nov. 18 entry.

"Showing Up" on stage in Middlebury. Saturday, Nov. 20, 2 p.m., Town Hall Theater, 68 South Pleasant St. See Nov. 18 entry.

Auditions for "The 39 Steps" in Middlebury. Saturday, Nov. 20, 3-5:30 p.m., Conference Room, Ilsley Public Library, 75 Main St. The Middlebury Community Players is calling for auditions for their February production of Patrick Barlow's adaptation of "The 39 Steps."

Four actors play all roles to create the themes and characters of Alfred Hitchcock's groundbreaking spy masterpiece movie of 1935. All those attending auditions will be required to provide a negative COVID test within a few days of auditions plus proof of vaccination. Masks and safe distancing required.

Bingo in Vergennes. Saturday, Nov. 20, 5 p.m., St. Peter's Parish Hall, 58 S. Maple St. Doors open at 5 p.m., Bingo starts at 6 p.m. This is a family friendly event. All cash prizes, 50/50 raffle. Refreshments sold. Sponsored by St. Peter's Cemetery Committee for cemetery improvements.

nov 21 SUNDAY

Champlain Valley Fiddlers in Middlebury. Sunday, Nov. 21, 11 a.m.-4 p.m., VFW, 530 Exchange St. Refreshments available, 50/50 raffle, door prize, open mic. Two boxes of items — one for a man, one for a woman — will be raffled off.

"Street Gang: How We Got to Sesame Street" on screen in Middlebury. Sunday, Nov. 21, 2 p.m., Town Hall Theater, 68 S. Pleasant St. MNFF Select's second installment in its Humans and Animals: Shared Experiences, Intersecting Worlds series goes inside the hearts and minds of the Sesame Street creators, artists, and educators who established one of the most influential and enduring children's series in television history. Free and open to all. Series pass (7-film package), \$105/single tickets \$16/children under 12 \$7, available at townhalltheater.org. All attendees 12 and over must be vaccinated and all attendees, including children under 12, must wear masks while inside the theater.

Auditions for "The 39 Steps" in Middlebury. Sunday, Nov. 21, 3-5:30 p.m., Conference Room, Ilsley Public Library, 75 Main St. See Nov. 20 entry.

nov 22 MONDAY

Age Well in-person senior luncheon in Middlebury. Monday, Nov. 22, 11 a.m., Rosie's, Route 7 South. Doors open at 11 a.m., meal served at 11:30 a.m. Menu: Rosie's famous chicken and biscuits with vegetables, coleslaw and fruit crisp for dessert. Advanced reservations only by Thursday, Nov. 18. Call Michelle to reserve at 802-377-1419. \$5 suggested donation does not include gratuity. Open to anyone age 60 and up and their spouse of any age. Free ride may be provided. Call TVT at 802-388-2287 to inquire. Please stay home if you don't feel well or have been in contact with someone who has tested positive. Masks are encouraged unless seated and eating.

Addison County Right to Life meeting in Bristol. Monday, Nov. 22, 6:30 p.m., First Baptist Church of Bristol. Bi-monthly meeting. All members of Addison County Right to Life are invited to come.

nov 26 FRIDAY

Holiday craft fair in Bridport. Friday, Nov. 26, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Masonic Hall, Middle Rd. More than 50 crafters with handcrafted, quality merchandise at country prices.

nov 27 SATURDAY

Holiday craft fair in Bridport. Saturday, Nov. 27, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Masonic Hall, Middle Rd. See Nov. 26 entry.

Small Business Saturday in Bristol, Middlebury and Vergennes. Saturday, Nov. 27, downtown. Shop local and enjoy the holiday cheer in you local community.

nov 29 MONDAY

Book group discussion in Lincoln. Monday, Nov. 29, 7:30 p.m., Lincoln Library, River Rd. This month's library book group will be reading "We Love You, Charlie Freeman" by Kaitlyn Greenidge. Contact the library at lincolnlibraryvt@gmail.com to participate.

nov 30 TUESDAY

Board Game Fun in Vergennes. Tuesday, Nov. 30, 3:30-4:30 p.m., Bixby Memorial Library, 258 Main St. Drop in to Bixby's Community Room to join in for some board game fun. Choose from Yahtzee, Bananagrams, Chutes and Ladders, Candy Land, UNO, Battleship, Sorry!, Serpentes, Dominoes, card games and more. Free.



B-I-N-G-O

THE FUN STARTS AT 5 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 20, at St. Peter's Parish Hall in Vergennes with family friendly Bingo, refreshments, 50/50 raffle and more, all to raise funds for the St. Peter's Cemetery Committee.

Photo/Metro Creative

dec 1 WEDNESDAY

Age Well grab-and-go meal in Middlebury. Wednesday, Dec. 1, 11:30 a.m., VFW, 530 Exchange St. Drive up, check-in, and stay in your car for contact-free pick up. Menu: chopped beefsteak with gravy, baked beans, Italian vegetables, dinner roll, oatmeal raisin cookie, and milk. Call Michelle to reserve by Sunday, Nov. 28, at 802-377-1419. Open to anyone age 60 and up and their spouse of any age. Free ride or pick-up and delivery may be provided. Call TVT at 802-388-2287 to inquire. TVT requires a 48-hour notice.

dec 2 THURSDAY

Virtual 2021 Legislative Briefing with the Addison County and Vermont Chambers. Thursday, Dec. 2, 10 a.m.-noon, Zoom. Join us for an informative discussion about the issues faced by Vermont businesses in the year to come. Free for members, \$15 for non-members. More info email Amy at events@addisoncounty.com. Register at tinyurl.com/Chamber-legislative-discussion.

dec 3 FRIDAY

Age Well grab-and-go meal in Starksboro. Friday, Dec. 3, 3:30 p.m., Starksboro Baptist Church, Route 116. Drive up, check-in, and stay in your car for contact-free pick up. Menu: chopped beefsteak with gravy, baked beans, Italian vegetables, dinner roll, oatmeal raisin cookie, and milk. Call Michelle to reserve by Sunday, Nov. 28, at 802-377-1419. Open to anyone age 60 and up and their spouse of any age. Free ride or pick-up and delivery may be provided. Call TVT at 802-388-2287 to inquire. TVT requires 48-hour notice.

"A Christmas Carol" on stage in Middlebury. Friday, Dec. 3, 7 p.m., Town Hall Theater, 68 S. Pleasant St. Join in a new holiday tradition as the Middlebury Acting Company presents the Charles Dickens classic in an original adaptation, true to the novella, which deftly integrates Dickens's witty, pointed and socially conscious narrative with the heartwarming and familiar journey Ebenezer Scrooge makes from profiteer to philanthropist. Tickets pay-as-you-can, general admission, can be purchased in advance on a pay-as-you-can basis at different price levels (make your price choices when ordering). Available at townhalltheater.org, 802-382-9222, or the THT Box Office Mon-Fri, 12-5 p.m. Masks and COVID vaccinations required. Unvaccinated youth under age 12 may attend wearing masks.

Broadway Direct in Vergennes. Friday, Dec. 3, 7:30 p.m., Vergennes Opera House, 120 Main St. Broadway Direct returns to the live stage. Bill Carmichael, (known to us as Bill Walsh) is pulling together the annual show, which is expected to sell out yet again. Doors and cash bar hosted by Bar Antidote/Hired Hand opening at 6:30 for general seating. Tickets \$10. More info at vergenesoperahouse.org.

LIVEMUSIC

Emily Sunderman quartet in Middlebury. Thursday, Nov. 18, noon, St. Stephen's Episcopal Church.

Snake Mountain Bluegrass on stage in Brandon. Saturday, Nov. 20, 7:30 p.m., Brandon Music.

ONGOING EVENTS

Book Club for adults in Vergennes. 2nd Tuesdays, 6 p.m., Bixby Memorial Library, 258 Main St., 802-877-2211.

Bristol Historical Society. Thursdays, 7 p.m., Howden Hall, 19 West St.

Cribbage in Middlebury. Fridays, 1-3 p.m., Sept. 17-Dec. 17, Ilsley Public Library. Anyone can play, no experience required.

Drop-in Bridge in Middlebury. Tuesdays, 3-5 p.m., Ilsley Public Library, Jessica Swift Community Meeting Room. Join fellow bridge enthusiasts for a game. All skill levels welcome.

First phase of Vergennes rec pavilion nears finish

By ANDY KIRKALDY

VERGENNES — The first phase in building a 9,600-square-foot roofed pavilion in the Vergennes recreation area off East Street is all but complete.

That phase was installation of a concrete slab large enough to support the planned 60-by-160-foot structure, city Parks and Recreation Committee Chair Kathy Rossier told the city council on Nov. 9.

“This slab is ready to house the pavilion,” she said.

The pavilion, designed to be 17 feet high to allow basketball, is behind the city’s skate park and hut and tennis courts, to the east of Vergennes Union Elementary School. The new slab expands upon what was the city’s skating rink and basketball courts.

But Vergennes Parks and Recreation Committee members envision it as much more.

According to a handout they gave to the council in the spring, “This proposed pavilion will create a hub for outdoor recreation in our community. This would be a place for athletic activities, educational workshops, picnics,

parties, performances.”

The pavilion could also host classes and programs for the school next door. The Addison Northwest School District board and the city council recently agreed to swap small pieces of land to allow the pavilion to be built as designed.

Soon, Rossier told the council last week, the slab will provide the home for its traditional cold-weather use, skating.

“We’re just waiting for the temperatures to reach freezing, and we’ll flood the lining,” she said.

The first phase cost about \$300,000 and received a major boost from a \$191,900 donation from Ferrisburgh’s Hoehl Foundation. City contributions and rec committee fundraising, including a benefit concert on the site, met that grant’s required match of \$95,950 and allowed the work to be completed.

Rossier said the companies involved in the project — Parent Construction of Hinesburg, J.P. Carrara & Sons, Otter Creek Engineering, Peck Electric and Artisan Engineering of Shelburne — were considerate with their

pricing and/or donation of design and engineering expertise, helping to keep costs in line even with materials and labor expenses rising.

Another factor in controlling were the dozen volunteers who have helped with a number of tasks along the way, Rossier said. For example, on Sept. 25 a half-dozen volunteers removed a roof overhang from the skate hut that would have jutted over the pavilion’s footprint.

Overall, the project’s first phase included removing the existing asphalt, leveling the site with a new stone base, installing insulation and a vapor barrier, and then pouring the concrete over reinforcing rebar. The final of three visits to perform that task was ongoing last week. A conduit for electricity was also installed.

Parent Construction was also grading the site last week and will return to finish that task in the spring, when seeding and mulching the area will also be done.

Next, Rossier told the council, will come the final phase, putting up the pavilion at a cost of between



THIS DRONE PHOTO shows work in progress to prepare a concrete slab that will support a covered, 9,600-square-foot pavilion in the Vergennes recreation area. That work was being wrapped up last week. The slab will get a liner and serve as a skating rink this winter, and the pavilion will be a multi-season home to educational and entertainment events as well as recreation.

Photo courtesy of Michael Daniels



WORKERS LAST WEEK put the finishing touches on this concrete slab to the rear of the Vergennes recreation area off East Street. It will replace and improve upon the city’s former outdoor skating rink this winter, and plans call for it to eventually support a 9,600-square-foot covered pavilion for basketball, pickleball and a variety of community events.

Independent photo/Andy Kirkaldy

\$400,000 and \$500,000. She said the rec committee had one estimate for a prefab open building at the low end of that range, and another at the higher end.

Rossier clarified for the *Independent* the next day why the committee had not simply gone with the lower estimate. She said committee members were not convinced the bids were similarly comprehensive, and they wanted to follow up with the lower bidder. “We’re still asking that \$400,000 guy if it was apples-to-apples,” Rossier said.

Rossier also told the council that representatives of the Hoehl Foundation recently visited the site and told the rec committee they would at least welcome another grant application. The committee will apply in December and hope for an answer by early spring.

Rossier said the committee would be looking for other federal, state and foundation grants, and seek individual donations to help make the pavilion become a reality.

SKATE PARK

Meanwhile, the rec committee has received two grants to help

refurbish the skate park, and an outside group of volunteers helped spruce up the park on Sept. 28. The park has recently been offline due to construction next door.

On that day a dozen volunteers from Abercrombie & Fitch’s corporate headquarters in Columbus, Ohio, cleaned and painted the skate park elements, cleaned its asphalt surface, and sanded and stained the benches near the skate park and tennis courts, Rossier said.

At the same time Abercrombie & Fitch also donated \$7,500, with no strings attached, to the city’s recreation department.

Still due for the skate park is a resurfacing of its asphalt in May and the addition of another element, at a combined cost of a little more than \$12,000, plus the skate hut needs rewiring and cosmetic work.

Rossier said the rec department has also been awarded a Building Better Communities Grant from the state, one that requires a 50% match and will fund half the cost of the skate park work. She added the local match can

from three sources: \$2,400 from a GoFundMe effort organized by a skateboarder, a \$1,500 donation from an individual, the Abercrombie and Fitch gift, and city funds.

The rest of the company’s donation will be put toward scholarships to rec department programming and possibly some of the work to the skate hut, Rossier said.

City Manager Ron Redmond also outlined \$19,900 of electrical service upgrades needs for the recreation area that are unmet, including a new transformer to be installed by Green Mountain Power and 220 feet of electrical conduits. He suggested the city’s Water Tower Fund be tapped, but councilors said they wanted to review the health of that fund before they made a decision.

As the meeting discussion wrapped up, Mayor Matt Chabot said he was grateful for the rec committee’s efforts, especially on the pavilion.

“You are all to be congratulated for every aspect of this,” Chabot said.

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK FROM AREA HIGH SCHOOLS

Mt. Abraham Union High School

Carly Rougier

Carly Rougier is Mount Abraham Union High School’s Student of the Week. The daughter of Jennifer and Corey Rougier, Carly lives with her mom in Vergennes and her father in Monkton. Her brother, Ryan, is in the Air Force in New Mexico.

Carly has flourished at Mt. Abe, attaining highest honors both for her academics and her work habits while taking the school’s most challenging classes. Her teachers find her diligent, independent and self-motivated, as well as caring and kind. She is a member of the National Honor Society and a member of the Eagle Challenge, which she began in 9th grade but ended after 10th grade because of COVID-19. She has also completed the criteria required for this extended learning opportunity.

She hasn’t limited herself to academics either. She has participated in the school’s Spring musical and Mt. Abe’s Environmental Action Group. She is also a member of Mt. Abe’s championship field hockey team, and the Mt. Abe/Vergennes cooperative lacrosse team. She has been a member of YoungLife since 9th grade, as well. Carly says she has always had an ambition to work. She has kept herself busy with jobs babysitting and house cleaning, as well as working at Basin Harbor and Charlotte Berry Farm. She was also able to find time to volunteer with Mt. Abe’s summer field hockey program, helping coach younger players, and with YoungLife.

During the winter off-season she enjoys going to the gym, skiing and playing field hockey.

While she doesn’t have much free time, Carly also just enjoys spending time with her family, trying new things and seeking out new places with her friends.

Carly says high school has taught her a lot about herself and how she learns as an individual. She’s realized that she really does love to learn, and has grown a greater appreciation for the education she has been provided. Learning is not linear, she says, and people should not expect perfection in the beginning because they will limit their capacity to improve.

After high school, Carly plans to attend a four-year institution and then go on to earn her master’s degree, possibly as a physician’s assistant, so that she can help people.



Carly Rougier
MAUHS

Otter Valley Union High School

Evan Thomas

Otter Valley Union High School has selected Evan Thomas as its Student of the Week. Evan lives in Sudbury with his parents, Calli and Brian Thomas. His younger brother, Owen, is in grade 10 at OVUHS.

Evan has excelled at Otter Valley with a full plate of academics and sports, consistently making honor roll while taking advanced classes and playing three sports. He won the 2021 Heisman High School Scholarship Award for OVUHS was one of the two Vermont State winners. His course load includes AP courses and other advanced classes. Evan is also known for his leadership skills. He earned the OVAA Citizenship Award in 2019 and the OVTA Citizenship Award in 2020. He was also chosen to be an Otter Valley Mentor to help be a positive role model for middle school students.

Evan loves to play soccer. He has played varsity for three years, earning Slate Valley League Honorable Mention for soccer in grades 11 and 12. This year his teammates chose him as team captain. When not on the soccer field Evan focuses his athletic talents on basketball and lacrosse.

In the summer Evan has volunteered for many different programs, including summer camps for both Brandon and Leicester towns and Brandon’s annual summer carnival. He brings in a little cash by working construction for his father’s business, Black Diamond Builders. Athletic activity takes up a lot of his free time. He loves to play pick-up basketball with friends, and play soccer and lacrosse as well. Spending time with family and friends is always a plus, as is playing with his dog.

Evan is a believer that hard work pays off. “With playing three sports, I don’t always have a ton of time, but I try to focus really hard to have good grades,” he says. “Everybody can be lazy sometimes, but hard work will pay off like it has for me. My advice for other students is to always work hard and try your best with everything you do in life and it will eventually pay off!”

Upon graduation Evan hopes to attend a smaller college in the Northeast. He isn’t sure yet what he wants to study, but everyone at Otter Valley is sure that if he puts his usual amount of effort in, he will do well in whatever he decides to pursue. Good luck, Evan!



Evan Thomas
OVUHS

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Best of Luck to All Addison County Students!
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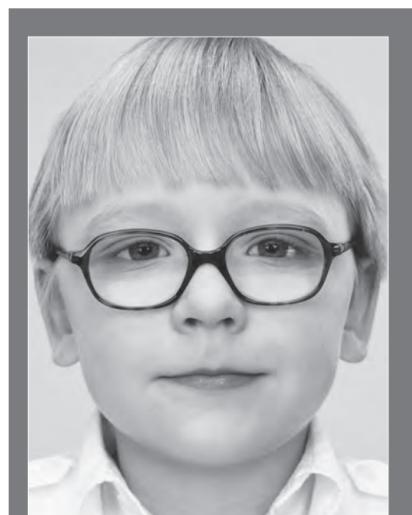
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CLASSIFIEDS

Public Meetings

AL-ANON OFFERS HELP and hope to anyone who has been affected by a loved one's drinking. Middlebury hosts online meetings, Sunday nights at 7:15 pm and Wednesdays at 1:30 pm. Visit vermontalcoholateen.org for the link and list of other meetings in the region. If you'd like to speak to an Al-Anon member, call our answering service (866-972-5266) and an Al-Anon member will call you back.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS in person meetings are suspended until further notice. For a list of local virtual meetings visit <http://bit.ly/district9aa>. For more information visit <https://aavt.org/> or call the 24 hour hotline at 802-388-9284.

VERGENNES FREE THINKERS Founded in 1935 on the principle of one alcoholic helping another to achieve sobriety, A.A. is an effective and enduring program of recovery that has changed countless lives. A.A. has always been committed to making its program of recovery available to anyone, anywhere, who reaches out for help with an alcohol problem. The Vergennes Free Thinkers meeting was created in January of this year to maintain a tradition of free expression, conduct a meeting where alcoholics may feel free to express any beliefs, doubts or disbelief they may have, to share their own personal form of spiritual experience, their search for it, and/or their rejection of it, without having to accept anyone else's beliefs or having to deny their own. Meetings are held with a high regard for compassion and inclusion without judgment or exception. If you think we can help, please join us on Thursdays at 6pm by contacting Vergennesfreethinkers@gmail.com for Zoom and in-person meeting information.

FIND IT IN OUR CLASSIFIEDS HERE OR ONLINE!

Public Meetings

THE TURNING POINT CENTER of Addison County is temporarily closed. Due to COVID-19 we are now holding our meetings online. For up-to-date information on how to access recovery services remotely please visit <https://turningpointaddisonvt.org/covid-19-page-2/>.

VERMONT SUPPORT LINE Are you struggling with a challenging situation? Do you have feelings of sadness, loneliness, isolation, anger, or depression? You don't have to face it alone. Talk with a caring person who understands what you're going through today by calling or texting the free and confidential Pathways Vermont Support Line available 24/7 at (833) VT - TALKS.

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AMERICAN FLATBREAD MIDDLEBURY Hearth is hiring! Offering good compensation, respectful co-workers, and great food. We are hiring for multiple full time and part time positions including bar leadership, daytime prep and evening shifts. Ample opportunities for growth in a positive work environment. Please stop in for an application or email Joe at joe@americanflatbread.com. EOE.

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COMMERCIAL PLUMBING COMPANY looking for qualified Plumbers, Apprentices and Mechanical Insulators for ongoing and upcoming projects in Chittenden County and beyond. Transportation required. Must work well in a team atmosphere as well as independently. Benefit Package include: Mileage reimbursement, Health and Vision Insurance, Paid time off, Holiday Pay, 401K Retirement Plan with company match, Training and Apprenticeship Programs. Women and minorities encouraged to apply. EOE. Send resume to: Thomas Mechanical, Inc., 90 Ethan Allen Drive, So. Burlington, VT 05403 or email to: ldavis@tmi-vt.com.

Help Wanted

DENTAL OFFICE SEEKING per diem hygienist in Vergennes to fill in periodically. Please email your CV and availability to droongalton@yahoo.com.

Help Wanted

FULL-TIME PRESCHOOL TEACHER WANTED. Looking for a great opportunity? We are a small 4 STAR program housed at Bridge School looking for a full-time teacher. Our emphasis is on nature, community, and interpersonal

Help Wanted

relationships. Because we are a small program, we can offer more individual attention and lower staff-to-child ratios. Experience with this age, preschool license and degree preferred, but not necessary. Sign on bonus for qualified teacher. Send resume with three references to emilyambert@bridgeschoolvermont.org or to Bridge School Preschool, 1469 Exchange Street, Middlebury, Vermont, 05753. For questions, call 388-3498.

Help Wanted

HIRING PER DIEM Alyssum is a peer-run alternative mental health respite program in Rochester. Hiring Per Diem, paid training, with room to grow. Seeking kind, nonjudgmental people who can use their lived experience with mental health to support others. Good listening and communication skills, ability to self-reflect and interact with a broad spectrum of worldviews/experiences/opinions are essential. Must be available to work evenings, awake overnights and weekends. More info: www.alyssum.org. To apply, send resume and cover letter (outlining your personal experience with mental health and why you want to work here) to information@alyssum.org.

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HVAC FIELD INSTALLERS AND SHOP FABRICATORS Sheetmetal Specialists in HVAC, Inc. has an immediate opening for shop fabricators and field installers. Sheet metal mechanics, laborers, apprentices and fabricators welcome to apply. Candidates must have a valid drivers license, possess great work ethic and ability to work as a team in a fast-paced environment. Competitive hourly wage based on experience. Sheet metal fabricator- no experience necessary. We offer great benefits including: 100% health premiums, 401k, paid holidays, paid time off. We are an EOE. Please call 802-863-9577 for an interview.



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If you have a Bachelor degree in a related human services field, 2 years of supervised social work experience working directly with individuals; effective verbal and written communication skills, bilingual abilities are a plus; proficiency in Microsoft Word, e-mail and internet; exceptional organizational skills and attention to detail; a valid driver's license, a clean driving record and access to reliable transportation; we'd like to hear from you!

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To apply: Please send resume & cover letter to clerk-treasurer@pantonvt.us or mail to Town of Panton, 3176 Jersey St., Panton, VT 05491. Visit pantonvt.us/jobs for job description.

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<input type="checkbox"/> Free**	<input type="checkbox"/> For Rent	<input type="checkbox"/> SUVs
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<input type="checkbox"/> Garage Sales	<input type="checkbox"/> Wood Heat	<input type="checkbox"/> Boats
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Addison Independent CLASSIFIEDS

Help Wanted

Help Wanted



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- 2 NEEDED

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Competitive pay and paid training are offered. Three references are required.

Please respond as soon as possible—positions open until filled.

Contact: Anne Gleason;
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81 Water Street; Middlebury, VT 05753
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For Rent

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Help Wanted

Goodro Lumber Kitchen Bath & Flooring Center is seeking a self motivated, creative individual as a Kitchen & Bath designer/assistant at our Rte. 7 south Middlebury store.

20/20 Kitchen design skills are preferred but we are willing to train an individual who has proficient computer skills, great work ethic, self motivated people person. Wages will be based on experience in the industry and skills.

Applicants can apply on line by sending resumes to brian@goodrolumber.net and cc/timc@goodrolumber.net or dropping off at the Kitchen Bath & Flooring Center 3255 Rte. 7 South, Middlebury or the Lumber Yard at 388 East Main St. East Middlebury VT

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BRANDON ROOM for rent. 802-417-4057.

DRY, WINTER/SUMMER STORAGE SPACE in Addison. Available storage space in my barn for summer/winter storage. The barn is structurally sound and weather-tight with electricity. No heat or running water. The barn is also available for lease. The entrance door measurements are 8' wide by 7' high. For more info: 802-363-3403 or rochon_m@yahoo.com.

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VERGENNES SHARE TIDY home w/ man in his 60s, an avid cook & reader. \$550/mo. plus help w/ snow removal. Must be cat-friendly! Shared BA. 802-863-5625 or HomeShareVermont.org for application. Interview, refs, background checks req. EHO

12' X 24' STORAGE SPACES in Brandon. Call 802-349-4212.

Help Wanted

VERGENNES SHARE TIDY home w/ man in his 60s, an avid cook & reader. \$550/mo. plus help w/ snow removal. Must be cat-friendly! Shared BA. 802-863-5625 or HomeShareVermont.org for application. Interview, refs, background checks req. EHO

For Rent

VERGENNES VALLEY VIEW APARTMENTS is currently taking wait list applications. Occupants must be 62+ years of age. No smoking/ No pets. Income limits apply - Rent based on income. Equal Housing Opportunity. 802-247-0165 TTY: 800-253-0191 www.SummitPMG.com.

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Real Estate

LAND FOR SALE 6.8 acres of hillside hunting land and wood lot in Salisbury, Vermont. Remote but close to Rt. 7. This is not a primary residence building site. Assessed for \$34,000.00. Asking \$24,000.00 for serious, cash-only buyers. Call 802-349-7431 and leave a message and I will return the call.

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Help Wanted

VERGENNES SHARE TIDY home w/ man in his 60s, an avid cook & reader. \$550/mo. plus help w/ snow removal. Must be cat-friendly! Shared BA. 802-863-5625 or HomeShareVermont.org for application. Interview, refs, background checks req. EHO

Att. Farmers

FOR SALE: SAWDUST delivered. 85 cubic yard loads. Call Paul for pricing. 802-623-6731.

HORSE BLANKET WASH and repair. Accepting non-leather (for now) horsewear of all kinds for cleaning and repairing at my Weybridge location. Call or text Sue Miller at 802-377-5945 or email svdwmiller@icloud.com with "horse" in the subject line for more information.

SMALL SQUARE BALES \$3.50. Excellent round bales \$30.00. Call 802-377-5455.

WHITNEY'S CUSTOM FARM WORK Pond agitating, liquid manure hauling, drag line aerating. Call for price. 462-2755, John Whitney.

Wanted

OLD GUNS WANTED
Rifles, Hand guns, Shot guns
Top prices paid.
P: 802-775-2859
C: 802-236-7213



For breaking news and updates wherever you are!
[facebook.com/addisonindependent](https://www.facebook.com/addisonindependent)
twitter.com/addyindy

Help Wanted

VERMONT SOAP
SOAP FOR THE PEOPLE

Apprentice Soap Maker

Vermont Soap is looking for an attentive, reliable and responsible person with basic math skills to learn the art of crafting bar soap. Must be a team player and want long term employment. This is a full time position with paid vacation time, paid holidays, 401k with employer match, and more!

Please send cover letter and resume to nichole@vermontsoap.com.

Public Notices Index

Public Notices for the following can be found in this **ADDISON INDEPENDENT** on Pages 9B, 10B & 11B

116 Self Storage (1)	New Haven (3)
Addison County	Ripton (1)
Courthouse (1)	Shoreham (1)
Bridport (3)	Tri-Town Water District (1)
Ferrisburgh (1)	Vergennes Pantown Water District (1)
Lincoln (1)	
Mount Abraham Unified School District (1)	

TOWN OF BRIDPORT PLANNING COMMISSION

Residents and non-resident property owners of the Town of Bridport are hereby warned to appear at the Bridport Town Office at 7:05 PM on **December 14, 2021** to the application **Randy and Jean Quesnel** The applicant requests Subdivision.

Interested person(s) may forfeit the right to appeal the decision of the Town of Bridport Board of Zoning Adjustment if they fail to participate by attending and speaking, submitting a signed letter of concern or are represented by an authorized person.

Steven DeCarlo
Zoning Administrator

NOTICE OF TAX SALE TOWN OF BRIDPORT

Property: Hemenway Road, Bridport, Vermont
Owner of Record: Joseph Gleason

The resident and nonresident owners, lien holders and mortgagees of lands in the Town of Bridport, in the County of Addison and State of Vermont, are hereby notified that the taxes assessed by such Town for the years 2019 and 2020 remain, either in whole or in part, unpaid on the following described lands in such town, to wit:

A parcel of land consisting of 149.50 acres, more or less, with all improvements thereon, located on Hemenway Road in, Bridport, Vermont, designated as parcel 12-020, and being all and the same lands and premises described in the Warranty Deed of Jeanette M. Schofield to Joseph H. Gleason, dated October 2, 2000, and recorded in Book 49 at Page 122 of the Bridport Land Records.

Subject to and benefited by all easements, rights of way, permits, and restrictions of record.

Reference is made to said instrument and its record and all prior instruments and their records for a more particular and complete description of the above-described lands and premises.

So much of such lands will be sold at public auction at the Bridport Town Office, 82 Crown Point Road, Bridport, Vermont, a public place in said Town, on Tuesday, November 30, 2021, at 1:00 P.M., as shall be requisite to discharge such taxes with costs, unless previously paid.

Dated at Bridport, Vermont, this 4th day of November, 2021.
Katie King
Collector of Delinquent Taxes
Town of Bridport

WARNING ANNUAL MEETING OF THE VERGENNES-PANTON WATER DISTRICT, INC. DECEMBER 14, 2021

The legal voters of VERGENNES-PANTON WATER DISTRICT, INC. are hereby notified and warned to meet at the V.P.W.D. office building on Canal Street in the City of Vergennes in said District, on the 14th day of December, 2021 at 7:00 P.M. in person to transact the following business to wit:

ARTICLE I: To elect by ballot the following officers:
(a) a moderator
(b) a clerk
(c) a treasurer

ARTICLE II: To hear and act upon the reports from the officers of the VERGENNES-PANTON WATER DISTRICT, INC.

ARTICLE III: To have presented by the Board of Commissioners of the VERGENNES-PANTON WATER DISTRICT, INC. their estimate of expenses for the ensuing year and to appropriate such sum as it, the VERGENNES-PANTON WATER DISTRICT, INC. deems necessary for said expenses together with the amount required to pay the balance, if any, left unpaid expressing said sum in dollars in its vote.

ARTICLE IV: To establish salaries for the Commissioners and other elected officers of the Water District.

ARTICLE V: To see whether the voters of said Water District will authorize its Board to borrow money pending receipt of water rents, by issuance of its notes or orders payable not later than one(1) year to date.

ARTICLE VI: To transact any other business proper to come before said meeting.

Dated at Vergennes, Vermont, this 11th day of November, 2021
Maria L. Brown, Clerk
VERGENNES-PANTON WATER DISTRICT

MAUSD

BRISTOL * LINCOLN * MONKTON * NEW HAVEN * STARKSBORO

Custodians - 1st & 2nd Shift

MAUSD is looking for 1st and 2nd shift custodians. Our ideal candidates perform routine custodial services in our District buildings providing a safe and clean learning environment for students and staff. Training is provided as experience is not required. Our schedule offers some flexibility.

We are also looking for part time custodians. These schedules are flexible and are ideal for individuals looking to enter or reenter the workforce.

MAUSD offers a competitive salary and benefits package that includes paid time off, retirement options, health and dental insurance.

Apply in person or at schoolspring.com or send resume and/or application to MAUSD, 72 Munsill Avenue, Suite 601, Bristol, VT 05443.

MAUSD is an Equal Opportunity Employer



WE KEEP IT REAL IN ADDISON COUNTY



REAL syrup, real news.

DAKIN FARM

WHAT VERMONT TASTES LIKE

FULL AND PART TIME HOLIDAY POSITIONS

Are you looking to make extra money and want to work with a great, experienced team? Dakin Farm is currently seeking applicants to join our team of skilled staff for our busy upcoming holiday season.

We have both full and part time positions in our Warehouse, Mail Order Packing Department, and Specialty Food Production. We offer competitive wages, generous employee discounts, and hours that meet your schedule.

Please stop by our retail store: **5797 Route 7, Ferrisburgh** to complete an application, or call us at **1-800-99DAKIN**. Email your resume to tdanyow@dakinfarm.com.

It's against the law to discriminate when advertising housing

It's against the law to discriminate when advertising housing. Its easier to break the law than you might think. You can't say "no children" or "adults only."

There's a lot you can't say.

The Federal Government is watching for such discrimination.

Let us help you sift through the complexities of the Fair Housing Law. Stay legal. Stay on the right side of the nation's Fair Housing Law.

Call the Addison Independent at (802) 388-4944.
Talk to our sales professionals.

ADDISON COUNTY INDEPENDENT
VERMONT'S TWICE-WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

Public Notices

continued from Page 9B

STATE OF VERMONT SUPERIOR COURT PROBATE DIVISION ADDISON UNIT DOCKET NO. 21-PR-04191 IN RE THE ESTATE OF MELISSA NORRIS NOTICE TO CREDITORS

To all interested persons:
The following person has been appointed as Administrator:

Norris, Matthew A.
PO Box 1, New Haven, VT

No will has been admitted for probate. This court appoints you to administer the estate according to the Will and Codicil(s), if any, and the laws of the State of Vermont. You shall file with this Court within 60 days of this appointment an inventory of all the real and personal property of the decedent. You shall serve a copy of this inventory on all parties entitled to notice in this matter. The Court, upon your motion, may extend the filing date of the inventory for an additional 60 days.

Within one year, and annually thereafter, and at such times as the Court may require, you shall file with the Court a true account of your administration.

You shall perform all your duties according to the Rules of Probate of Procedure and the laws of the State of Vermont.

Eleanor W. Smith
Superior Court Judge
Probate Division

Publication: Addison Independent
Publication Date: 11/18/21
Address of Probate Court:
Addison Probate Court, 7 Mahady
Court, Middlebury VT 05753

NOTICE OF SELF-STORAGE LIEN SALE 116 SELF STORAGE, BRISTOL, VT

Notice is hereby given that the contents of the self-storage unit listed below will be sold at public auction by sealed bid at the 116 Self Storage facility. This sale is being held to collect unpaid storage unit occupancy fees, charges and expenses of the sale.

The entire contents of the self-storage unit listed below will be sold, with the proceeds to be distributed to 116 Self Storage for all accrued occupancy fees (rent charges), attorney's fees, sale expenses in relation to the unit and its sale. Any proceeds beyond the foregoing shall be returned to the unit holder.

Contents of the unit may be viewed on 12/17/2021 commencing at 10 a.m. Sealed bids are to be submitted on the entire contents of the self-storage unit. Bids will be opened one-quarter of an hour after the unit has been viewed on 12/17/2021. The highest bidder on the storage unit must remove the entire contents within 48 hours after notification of their successful bid. Purchase must be made in cash and paid in advance of the removal of the contents of the unit. A \$50.00 cash deposit shall be made and will be refunded if the unit is broom cleaned. 116 Self Storage reserves the right to accept or reject bids. **Unit 77**

TOWN OF SHOREHAM REQUEST FOR BIDS BUTTOLPH ROAD CULVERT REPLACEMENT

Sealed bids from pre-qualified contractors shall be accepted until **December 16, 2021, at 1:00 pm** at the Shoreham Town Office, 297 Main Street, Shoreham, VT 05770 for the construction as follows:

Type of Construction: Replacement of an existing steel arch culvert with a new 14 foot span by 8 foot high precast concrete box culvert.

Location: Buttolph Road, Shoreham, Vermont

Contract Completion: Completion time for the project will be calculated as calendar days from the date specified in the "Notice to Proceed" as follows: 75 calendar days for substantial completion, 105 calendar days for contract completion. Note: This project has permit restrictions and work in the stream is only allowed between July 1 and October 1. The owner will clear large trees outside of any time of year restrictions.

Obtaining Plans: Non-returnable plans may be obtained from the Issuing Office, Reprographics, 450 Weaver Street, Suite 1, Winooski, VT 05404, (802)862-2051.

Engineer's Estimate: \$250,000-500,000.

Pre-Bid Conference: December 2, 2021 at 10:00 am at the Shoreham Town Office, 297 Main Street, Shoreham, VT 05770

Standard Specifications: This contract is governed by the Vermont Agency of Transportation 2018 Standard Specifications for Construction.

Questions: During the advertisement phase, all questions shall be addressed solely to Tim Knapp, PE, at Dufrense Group, tknapp@dufrensegroupp.com.

Plans, specifications and proposal may be seen at the Shoreham Town Offices.

Complete bid instructions will be posted on the town's website shorehamvt.org and the Vermont Bid Registry.

TOWN OF BRIDPORT NOTICE OF TAX SALE

Property: 2813 Hemenway Road, Bridport, Vermont
Owner of Record: Martha C. Orvis and David J. Knauss

The resident and nonresident owners, lien holders and mortgagees of lands in the Town of Bridport, in the County of Addison and State of Vermont, are hereby notified that the taxes assessed by such Town for the years 2019 and 2020 remain, either in whole or in part, unpaid on the following described lands in such town, to wit:

A parcel of land consisting of 2 acres, more or less, with all improvements thereon, located at 2813 Hemenway Road, Bridport, Vermont, designated as parcel 08-037, and being all and the same lands and premises decreed to Martha C. Orvis and David J. Knauss by Decree of Distribution in the Estate of Carol C. Knauss, dated September 5, 2019, and recorded in Book 93 at Page 500 of the Bridport Land Records.

Subject to and benefited by all easements, rights of way, permits, and restrictions of record.

Reference is made to said instrument and its record and all prior instruments and their records for a more particular and complete description of the above-described lands and premises.

So much of such lands will be sold at public auction at the Bridport Town Office, 82 Crown Point Road, Bridport, Vermont, a public place in said Town, on Tuesday, November 30, 2021, at 1:00 P.M., as shall be requisite to discharge such taxes with costs, unless previously paid.

Dated at Bridport, Vermont, this 4th day of November, 2021.

Katie King
Collector of Delinquent Taxes
Town of Bridport

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

ADDISON COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION REVIEW OF THE ENHANCED ENERGY PLAN PORTION OF RIPTON'S MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN

The Addison County Regional Planning Commission's (ACRPC) Energy Committee along with the Ripton Planning Commission will meet in a hybrid format for a joint public hearing on **December 14th, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.** The Town of Ripton has requested that ACRPC review its Enhanced Energy Plan, which is included as an Appendix of the Town Plan, to determine whether it meets the determination standards outlined in 24 V.S.A. §4352. ACRPC shall review the Ripton Municipal Development Plan to determine whether the Plan:

(1) meets the Energy Planning Standards for Municipal Plans as published by the Vermont Department of Public Service required prior to issuing a determination of energy compliance (24 V.S.A. §4352, as noted above).

At the same time, ACRPC shall conduct a municipal consultation with the Town of Ripton regarding its planning processes pursuant 24 V.S.A. §4350. Copies of the Ripton Municipal Development Plan, including its Enhanced Energy Plan can be found on the Ripton website: <https://www.riptonvermont.org/> and the ACRPC website: <https://acrpc.org/>

Join Meeting: Ripton Zoning Board & Planning Commission
Tuesday, Dec 14, 2021 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM (EST)

In person location: Ripton Community House, 1311 VT Route 125, Ripton VT 05766

Meeting link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/853004781>

Join meeting by phone: 1-929-205-6099

Meeting ID: 853004781

Questions, please call either:

Maddison Shropshire, Energy Planner
Addison County Regional Planning
Commission 1-802-388-3141

Michael J.Cummings
or Carrie Herzog, PC Co-Chairs
1-802-388-2266

Mt. Abraham Union Middle High School Bristol, Vermont

Lobby and Bathroom Renovation Project Request for Qualifications TXC #A2021007.10

REQUEST FOR GENERAL CONTRACTOR QUALIFICATIONS RENOVATIONS TO MT. ABRAHAM UNION MIDDLE HIGH SCHOOL

Notice is hereby given that the Mount Abraham Union Unified School District is soliciting Qualification Statements from General Contractors interested in bidding for a renovation project at the Mt. Abraham Middle High School in Bristol, Vermont.

The main components of the Project include renovation of the lobby and (4) first floor group bathrooms. The project includes insertion of a partial second floor, railings new curtain wall and storefront and new entry canopy. The bathroom renovations will include new floor and wall tile, new doors, plumbing fixtures, piping, ceilings, and lighting.

The estimated construction budget is approximately \$1.5 to \$2m. The project is expected to bid in March 2022. Construction is to commence May 2022 and is to be completed by August 15, 2022.

Interested General Contractors may obtain information packets containing submission requirements by contacting Joel Fitzgerald, Facilities Director, at joel.fitzgerald@mausd.org

Five copies of completed Qualification Statements addressed to Joel Fitzgerald, Facilities Director, must be received no later than 3:00 PM, December 6, 2021 at the offices of Mount Abraham Union Unified School District, 72 Munsill Ave, Suite 601, Bristol, VT 05443

One additional copy should be addressed to Stephen Poston, Project Manager, TruexCullins, 209 Battery St., Burlington, VT 05401 and must be received by the same deadline.

Email questions only concerning the RFQ may be directed to Stephen Poston at sponst@truexcullins.com.

Based on the review and evaluation of the qualification statements, a short list of General Contractors will be selected for inclusion in the bid process. Selected General Contractors will be notified by December 13, 2021.

TOWN OF LINCOLN NOTICE OF TAX SALE

Property: 4063 South Lincoln Road, Lincoln, Vermont
Owner of Record: Shelley Solworth

The resident and nonresident owners, lien holders and mortgagees of lands in the Town of Lincoln, in the County of Addison and State of Vermont, are hereby notified that the taxes assessed by such Town for the years 2015, 2017-18, 2018-19, 2019-20, and 2020-21 remain, either in whole or in part, unpaid on the following described lands in such town, to wit:

A parcel of land consisting of 18.2 acres, more or less, with all improvements thereon, located at 4063 South Lincoln Road, Lincoln, Vermont, designated as parcel 361301112.000, and being all and the same lands and premises described in the Warranty Deed of Richard L. Pedrick and Louise E. Pedrick to Shelley Solworth, dated December 11, 1975 and recorded in Book 30 at Page 101 of the Lincoln Land Records.

Subject to and benefited by all easements, rights of way, permits, and restrictions of record.

Reference is made to said deeds and their records and all prior deeds and their records for a more particular and complete description of the above-described lands and premises.

So much of such lands will be sold at public auction at the Lincoln Town Office, 62 Quaker Street, Lincoln, Vermont, a public place in said Town, on Tuesday, November 30, 2021, at 9:00 A.M., as shall be requisite to discharge such taxes with costs, unless previously paid.

Dated at Lincoln, Vermont, this 4th day of November, 2021.

Nancy Stevens
Collector of Delinquent Taxes
Town of Lincoln

STATE OF VERMONT

Superior Court
Addison Unit

Civil Division
Docket No. 4-1-20 Ancv

COLONIAL SAVINGS, F.A.

Plaintiff,

v.

KRISTIN SMITH (WILSON) as executor of the
ESTATE OF MICHAEL R. SMITH

OCCUPANT residing at 1667 Dog Team Rd, New Haven, VT 05472

Defendants.

NOTICE OF SALE

According to the terms and conditions of the Judgment and Decree of Foreclosure by Judicial Sale (the "Order") in the matter of Colonial Savings, F.A. v. Kristin Smith as executor of the Estate of Michael R. Smith, et al., Vermont Superior Court, Addison Unit, Civil Division, 4-1-20 Ancv, foreclosing one mortgage given by Michael R. Smith and Debora Ose, to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Union Bank, dated August 26, 2015 and recorded in Book 83, Pages 458-464 of the New Haven Vermont Town Clerk's Office Land Records, presently held by the Plaintiff, Colonial Savings, F.A., via Assignment of Mortgage Agreement dated February 08, 2019 respectively, the real estate with an address of 1667 Dog Team Rd, New Haven, VT 05472, will be sold at public auction at 10:00 am on December 14, 2021 at the location of the Property.

Property Description. The Property to be sold is all and the same land and premises described in the Mortgage, and further described as follows:

Being all the same lands and premises conveyed to Michael R. Smith and Deborah Ose by Warranty Deed of Lorraine K. Titus dated August 26, 2015 and recorded at Volume 83, Page 457 of the New Haven Land Records.

Being all the same lands and premises conveyed to Lorraine K. Titus and Jeffrey P. Titus (now deceased) by Warranty Deed of Mitchell Weinberger, dated June 29, 2006 and recorded in Book 69, Page 219-220 of the New Haven Land Records.

The herein conveyed parcel, including a residence and other improvements, is more particularly described as follows:

Beginning at a 1" metal pipe set flush to the ground, marking or witnessing the southwesterly corner of the herein conveyed parcel, being located approximately 1.5 rods easterly of the centerline of the pavement of State Aid road No. 5 ("Dog Team Road", so called); said metal pipe marks or witnesses the northwesterly corner of lands of Jeffrey & Alice New;

Thence proceeding N 84° 37' 40" E, 163.43 feet to a 1" metal pipe set in a mound of stones situated in the westerly bounds of lands of New;

Thence proceeding on two (2) courses along said lands of: (1) N 06° 47', 66.39 feet to a 1" metal pipe, the northeasterly corner of the herein lands; thence (2) S 88° 05' 30" W, 162.5 feet to an upright stone located approximately 1.5 rods easterly of the center of said State Aid Road No. 5, marking or witnessing the northwesterly corner of said LaFave lands;

Thence proceeding southerly along the easterly side of said highway, a tie line from said upright stone of S 05° 40' 50" E, 76.2 feet to the 1" metal pipe at the place of beginning.

The above described bounds contain 0.27 acres, be the same, more or less. All bearings used in the above description are turned from and are relative to the 1972 Magnetic bearing of a recovered line as displayed on a 1992 map entitled "A Map of Portions of Lands Previously Conveyed to ANTHONY P. & MARY G. NERI. New Haven, Vermont", prepared by Kenneth G. Weston, L.S., and dated October 7, 1992. The deed from LaFave to Weinberger incorrectly referred to a survey dated September 12, 2000. No such survey was completed for filing in the land records.

This conveyance also includes any and all rights, title and interest the grantor may have in and to the easterly one-half of the right-of-way of said State Aid Road No. 5 as it abuts the above-described parcel. The herein Grantor makes no warranty as to the status of dimensions of said right-of-way. This conveyance is also subject to any and all utility easements and rights-of-way.

Terms of Sale. The Property shall be sold "AS IS WHERE IS", to the highest bidder for cash or wire funds only. The sale of the Property is subject to confirmation by the Vermont Superior Court, Civil Division, Addison Unit. The Property is sold subject to unpaid taxes, municipal assessments, and superior liens, if any.

The public sale may be adjourned one or more times for a total time not exceeding 30 days, without further court order, and without publication or service of a new notice of sale, by announcement of the new sale date to those present at each adjournment or by posting notice of the adjournment in a conspicuous place at the location of the sale.

Mortgage Property Deposit. \$10,000.00 to be paid in cash or by certified check by the purchaser at the time of auction, with the balance due at closing. The balance of the purchase price for the Property shall be due and payable within the latter of 10 days from the date of confirmation of said sale by the Vermont Superior Court, Civil Division, Addison Unit, or 45 days from the date of public auction. If the balance of the purchase price is not paid within the period set forth herein, the deposit shall be forfeited and shall be retained by the Plaintiff herein as agreed liquidation damages and the Property may be offered to the next highest bidder still interested in the Property.

The mortgagor is entitled to redeem the Property at any time prior to the sale by paying the full amount due under the mortgage, including the costs and expenses of the sale.

Other terms to be announced at the sale or inquire at Schiller, Knapp, Lefkowitz & Hertz, LLP at 518-786-9069.

Dated: November 3, 2021

Daniel N. Young, Esq.
Partner
Attorney for the Plaintiff

STATE OF VERMONT SUPERIOR COURT PROBATE DIVISION ADDISON UNIT DOCKET NO. 21-PR-06238 IN RE THE ESTATE OF SARAH P. MARSHALL NOTICE TO CREDITORS

To the creditors of the estate of Sarah P. Marshall late of Orwell, Vermont.

I have been appointed to administer this estate. All creditors having claims against the decedent or the estate must present their claims in writing within four (4) months of the first publication of this notice. The claim must be presented to me at the address listed below with a copy sent to the Court. The claim may be barred forever if it is not presented within the four (4) month period.

Dated: November 15, 2021

Mark S. Young
P.O. Box 38
Orwell, Vermont 05760-0038
802-989-0523

Publication: Addison Independent
Publication Date: 11/18/21
Address of Probate Court:
Addison Probate Court, 7 Mahady
Court, Middlebury VT 05753

PUBLIC NOTICE

Full Passport Service

Addison County Courthouse
The Addison County Clerk located in Frank Mahady Courthouse is available to accept passport applications and provide passport photos.

REGULAR HOURS

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday
9am to 1pm

Wednesday 12:30pm to 4:30pm

APPOINTMENTS REQUIRED.

FACE MASKS REQUIRED.

(even if vaccinated)

802-388-1966

addisoncountyclerk@gmail.com

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TOWN OF NEW HAVEN DEVELOPMENT REVIEW BOARD

The New Haven Development Review Board will hold a public hearing on Monday, December 6, 2021, at 7:00 pm, at the Town Office located at 78 North Street in New Haven, Vermont.

Purpose of the hearing:

To hear a request from Timothy Bouton and Barbara Torian of 181 South Street, New Haven (2021-DRB-15 SD), to subdivide a 2.42 +/- acre parcel located at 181 South Street to create two new parcels: Lot 2 will be 1.1+/- acres and include the existing garage; Lot 3 will be 1.31 +/- acres.

To hear a request from John Roleau of 88 Town Hill Road, New Haven, VT (2021-DRB-16-SK) for a variance to build a 10-foot chain link fence with shielding on the north side of junkyard located at 90 Town Hill Road.

To hear a request from John and Margo Roleau to build a fire escape stairwell to the second-story window on an apartment building (2021-DRB-17-SK) located at 57 Main Street, New Haven (parcel i.d. #196), in compliance with federal egress requirements.

Applications are scheduled to be heard in the order they are listed above. However, interested persons should refer to the Board's agenda that will be posted for changes. All the above applications are available for review at the Town Office. Interested persons are invited to attend the hearing or send a representative. Pursuant to 24 VSA §4464(a)(1)(c) and 4471(a), participation in this local proceeding is a prerequisite to the right to take any subsequent appeal.

Peggy Connor
Zoning Administrator for the Town of New Haven
Dated: November 10, 2021

TRI-TOWN WATER DISTRICT NO. 1 P.O. BOX 85 BRIDPORT, VERMONT 05734-0085 802-758-2202 tritownwater@gmavt.net

The Legal Voters of Tri-Town Water District No. 1, a municipal corporation, are hereby warned and noticed to meet at the business office of Tri-Town Water District No. 1 at 14 Crown Point Road in Bridport, VT on December 7, 2021 at 7:00 PM to transact the following business:

Article 1. To elect the officers for the ensuing year

- Moderator
- Clerk
- Treasurer

Article 2. To hear and act upon reports of the District.

Article 3. To see if the District will authorize the Board of Water Commissioners to borrow money to pay debts and expenses in anticipation of revenue receipts, if necessary, for the ensuing year, said money to be paid to its Treasurer.

Article 4. To approve projected budget for the 2021-2022 fiscal year.

Article 5. To transact any other business thought proper to be done at this time.

Tri-Town Water District No. 1
Mark Pumligia, Clerk-Treasurer

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
ADDISON COUNTY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
REVIEW OF THE ENHANCED ENERGY PLAN PORTION
OF THE NEW HAVEN MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN

The Addison County Regional Planning Commission's (ACRPC) Energy Committee along with the New Haven Planning Commission will meet in a hybrid format for a joint public hearing on **December 13th, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.** The Town of New Haven has requested that ACRPC review its Enhanced Energy Plan, which is included as an Appendix of the Town Plan, to determine whether it meets the determination standards outlined in 24 V.S.A. §4352. ACRPC shall review the New Haven Municipal Development Plan to determine whether the Plan:

(1) meets the Energy Planning Standards for Municipal Plans as published by the Vermont Department of Public Service required prior to issuing a determination of energy compliance (24 V.S.A. §4352, as noted above).

At the same time, ACRPC shall conduct a municipal consultation with the Town of New Haven regarding its planning processes pursuant 24 V.S.A. §4350. Copies of the New Haven Municipal Development Plan, including its Enhanced Energy Plan can be found on the New Haven website: <https://www.newhavenvt.com/> and the ACRPC website: <https://acrpc.org/>

Join Meeting: New Haven Planning Commission
 Mon, Dec 13, 2021 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM (EST)

In person location: Town Office, 78 North St, New Haven, VT 05472
 Meeting link: <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/436967469>

Join meeting by phone: +1 (646) 749-3122
Access Code: 436-967-469
Meeting ID: 436-967-469

This meeting is hosted by GoToMeeting. Please use the meeting link above to download the GoToMeeting App prior to the event.

Questions, please call either:
 Maddison Shropshire, Energy Planner
 Addison County Regional Planning Commission
 388-3141
 Maggie Eaton, New Haven Planning Commission
 453-3685

TOWN OF FERRISBURGH
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT
DECEMBER 1, 2021

A public hearing before the Zoning Board of Adjustment of the Town of Ferrisburgh will be held at the Town Clerk's Office on Wednesday, December 1, 2021 to consider the following:

7:00 PM Call to order and approval of minutes from November 3 meeting.
 7:05 PM Application No. 21-168 (Solomon) for conversion to year-round occupancy; property ID # 12/01/05; 964 Arnold Bay Road; Shoreland (SD-2) district; conditional use.
 7:45 PM Other business.

The above file is available for inspection at the Town Clerk's Office. Persons wishing to appear and be heard may do so in person or be represented by an agent or an attorney. Communications about the above hearings may also be filed in writing with the Board or the Zoning Administrator.

PLEASE NOTE: Participation in the local proceeding is a prerequisite to the right to take any subsequent appeal.

911 hang-up calls end up aiding city residents

VERGENNES — Two 911 hang-up calls reported to Vergennes police last week yielded real emergencies.

On Nov. 11, Vergennes police responded to a Walker Avenue residence after the first of the two calls and discovered the hang-up call had been placed by a highly intoxicated individual. Police and Vergennes Area Rescue Squad personnel decided the individual required treatment at Porter Hospital, and VARS provided the ride.

On Nov. 13, police responded to another call from a Walker Avenue residence and were again soon joined by VARS. Police said the resident was experiencing a

Vergennes Police Log

second call after they'd been notified. VARS again took the individual to Porter Hospital.

Between Nov. 8 and 14, Vergennes police also conducted 12 motorized patrols, a foot patrol and a VIN inspection; responded to a false alarm; and:

- On Nov. 8:
 - Handled a three-car crash without injuries on Main Street.
 - Were told that two cameras and other equipment valued at \$7,000 were stolen from the trunk of a car parked on Main Street.
 - At the Main Street station, helped Vermont State Police evaluate a driver for possible drug impairment.
 - Helped state police at an incident on Route 7 in Ferrisburgh.
- On Nov. 9:
 - Served court documents to an

individual on Cataract Place.

- Heard a complaint from a New Haven Road resident related to a longstanding boundary dispute.
- Received a complaint about speeding on Pantown Road during early morning hours.
- Checked the welfare of a resident of Main Street at the request of a doctor's office; police said he was OK.

On Nov. 10, helped Middlebury police make an arrest in a domestic assault case.

On Nov. 11:

- Ticketed a commercial truck for speeding and other violations at a Main Street traffic stop.
- Helped state police deal with the alleged kidnapping of a man's daughter. Troopers pulled a Connecticut car over with the daughter in it on Route 7 in New Haven and returned her to her

father, who had been following the car, and city police backed them up. City police said they were uncertain if it was an actual kidnapping case.

On Nov. 12, heard that two pickup trucks were regularly speeding together on Comfort Hill during the early evening; police said they'd look into it.

On Nov. 14:

- Helped a Ferrisburgh resident find the status of a spouse who had been transported to the hospital.
- Heard from an East Street resident that a snowblower and wheelbarrow had been stolen; her husband told police they didn't own any such items.
- Dealt with a two-car crash on Main Street near Monkton Road.



BIANCA PERTA



LEWIS CREEK ASSOCIATION is looking to remove old abutments in Hollow Brook above Sugarhouse Lane in Starksboro to help alleviate flooding and improve water quality in the area.

Photo credit: Jessica Louisos

Cooperative effort focuses on water quality

River group, landowners working together to preserve river, protect property

By KATE KELLY, Lewis Creek Association

STARKSBORO — Lewis Creek Association (LCA) and landowners have partnered to plan to improve water quality and reduce flooding risk in the Hollow Brook area near Lazy Brook Mobile Home Park on Hollow Road in Starksboro. In this area, Hollow Brook comes down off Lincoln Hill and the Hinesburg Town Forest, and historically has spread out into the lower elevation wetlands.

In these "alluvial fan" areas, streams often drop their sediment and move around over time. However, in this particular location, past agricultural practices (straightening/berming along the stream) and development combined to push and constrain the stream into its current location. There was an old bridge crossing the brook near the mobile home park, which has left concrete in and

near the brook; this constricts the brook and has caused floodwaters to leave the stream and flood the neighborhood.

Upstream, runoff from the roads focused water and sped it up coming down the steep slopes, which has caused major erosion, and dumped much sediment in the brook. At Sugar House Lane, the double culvert is too small, so has blocked fish passage and increased upstream flooding risk.

Hollow Brook feeds into Lewis Creek in the northwest corner of Starksboro, just south of Tyler Bridge Road in Hinesburg, and Lewis Creek eventually drains into Lake Champlain. Lewis Creek is impaired for E. coli bacteria in stretches; we hope to maintain water quality in Hollow Brook so that it doesn't contribute to harmful algal blooms and fish die-offs in Lake Champlain.

You can learn more about the

problem and what landowners can do to improve water quality in a brief 17-minute presentation LCA's website at lewis creek.org/water-quality-videos. These include things like slowing water down, spreading it out, and sinking it in to the ground ("the three S's" that are central to LCA's Ahead of the Storm program. You can learn more about the Ahead of the Storm program at lewis creek.org/ahead-of-the-storm).

It is crucial that we all do our part to improve water quality in small ways, in order to improve Lake Champlain's water quality and beauty, and to protect the animals and plants that live in our rivers and streams.

Jessica Louisos and Claire Nauman of SLR designed two projects: removal of the old bridge abutments and concrete in the brook (which will help minimize the risk of flooding in the mobile

home park in the future) and a new bridge for the Sugarhouse Lane crossing. Lewis Creek Association consulted with the town road crew and Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission to help address the runoff coming from Lincoln Hill Road and causing major erosion.

Next steps include obtaining funding for the final design and permitting of the bridge abutment removal and culvert replacement, and then hopefully completing those projects. Together, they will help improve water quality, habitat for fish, and flood resiliency.

Reach out to Kate Kelly, 802-488-5203 or lewis creekorg@gmail.com, with any questions. Funding for this grant came from a VT Department of Environmental Conservation grant to Watersheds United Vermont, with a subgrant to LCA.

Higher level of 3SquaresVt benefits extended

WATERBURY — The Department for Children and Families announced today that many 3SquaresVT households will continue to receive a higher benefit in November and December. This extra help is part of the federal Coronavirus Relief Bill. It will not permanently change a household's monthly benefit. It is a temporary increase from the federal government to help those affected by the pandemic.

Households at a zero benefit will not receive a benefit. Everyone else will receive the maximum benefit for their household size.

Maximum Allotments:

- 1 person = \$250
- 2 people = \$459
- 3 people = \$658
- 4 people = \$835
- 5 people = \$992
- 6 people = \$1,190
- 7 people = \$1,316
- Each additional person =

+\$188

Households already at the maximum allotment will receive an additional \$95. All other households, except for those receiving a zero benefit, will receive at least \$95 as their maximum allotment benefit.

3SquaresVT households don't need to do anything to receive this increased benefit. If eligible, they'll automatically receive it the same way they receive their

benefits now — on an EBT card, through direct deposit, or by check.

If eligible in Oct. 2021 benefit will be available on Nov. 13 by EBT, Nov. 16 by direct deposit, or when check arrives. For those eligible in Nov. 2021, benefit will be available on Dec. 15 by EBT, Dec. 20 by direct deposit, or when the check arrives.

Learn more about 3SquaresVT at dcf.vermont.gov/benefits/3SquaresVT.

Monkton

Have a news tip?
 Call Liz Pecor at 453-2180

NEWS

MONKTON — The Monkton Friends Methodist Church Holiday Bazaar will be held Saturday, Nov. 20, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Stop in and buy some luscious hand-made chocolates, tasty bake sale items and don't forget those famous homemade doughnuts (if you're lucky enough to get there at the right time, they may still be warm!).

You may also like to take out some homemade soup and/or chili to enjoy at home or to take to someone who would appreciate the treat. Then you can check out the craft and attic treasure section to possibly find those special holiday gifts or something for yourself.

This is the perfect time of year to take advantage of this annual event. All are welcome.

The Russell Memorial Library will host a Story Hour on Saturday, Nov. 20, from 10 to 11 a.m. with a craft for children also. All are welcome. Don't forget that the library is now located by the church in Monkton Ridge.

Holiday hours for the library are as follows: Closed on Thursday, Nov. 25, and Friday, Nov. 26, for the Thanksgiving Holiday. The library will be open on Saturday, Nov. 27, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. as usual.

BSA Troop 525 Boy Scouts will once again be selling Christmas

trees and wreaths this year at (the north end) 265 Mountain Road in Monkton. Sales will start on Nov. 22 and continue until all are sold. Regular staffed hours will begin Nov. 27 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. from Nov. 22 to Nov. 27 you can pick out a tree or wreath under the self-serve honor system. You will find a box to deposit your payment in. You may also use the self-serve offer during off regular hours the rest of the time. Prices are as follows: Regular 6- to 8-foot tall trees, \$45; trees taller than 8 feet, \$50; regular wreaths, \$20; large wreaths, \$30. If you choose to buy a tree or wreath or both, Troop 525 appreciates your support.

Come check them out. If you have questions or should need assistance please call 802-989-3993.

The Monkton Recycling Center has changed the date for recycling in December because Christmas falls on the fourth Saturday, which is the normal recycling day. The second Saturday in December, which is Dec. 11, will still be open for recycling. The change will be to Dec. 18, which is the following week for the next recycling date. The recycling center will not be open on Christmas Day. Please mark your calendar for this change. The center will still be open from 9 a.m. to noon on both dates. Happy Holidays!

Greentree Real Estate welcomes Lincoln native back home

MONKTON — Bianca Perta has joined the ranks of Monkton's Greentree Real Estate. A Lincoln native, Perta spent more than a decade in New York City, attending Barnard College and working primarily in finance. She says she is excited to return to her

home state. Perta brings with her diligence and dedication polished by her years in a business culture. This experience coupled with a love for community and relationship building will be a great asset to the business's customer-focused

service at Greentree Real Estate, company officials said in a press release.

Perta looks forward to reconnecting with fellow Vermonters and welcoming newcomers. She will use her professionalism and warm

personality to guide both buyers and sellers toward their perfect homes. She is at 802-453-5984 or bianca@vermontgreentree.com. More info is online at vermontgreentree.com.

Vermont State Police remove impaired drivers from road

ADDISON COUNTY — Vermont State Police removed a number of impaired drivers from the road in recent actions.

The first incident involving an Addison County driver took place

DUI citation. On that Monday at a few minutes before 7 p.m. troopers responded to the report of the crash in Addison on Route 22A near Whitford Road.

Police report that Jason Marshall, 28, of Waltham was driving a Mitsubishi

Vt. State Police Log

Galant northbound on Route 22A in Benson and stopped a car driven by Caleb Hall, 22, of Orwell. After the trooper detecting indicators of impairment, the trooper screened Hall and then cited him for driving under the influence of drugs and for driving with a criminally suspended license.

On Nov. 8 a car vs. tractor crash on Nov. 8 netted another driver a

farm equipment being towed by a northbound tractor. The Mitsubishi sustained extensive damage; the tractor sustained minor damage and its driver was uninjured. Marshall, who was reportedly not wearing a seatbelt, was transported by ambulance to Porter Medical Center for possible minor injuries. Suspecting Marshall was impaired, troopers later met with him at the hospital, where a sample of his blood was drawn.

State police then cited Marshall for DUI and issued tickets for driving with a suspended license and misuse of plates, and they released him to a sober family member.

A section of Route 22A was closed to traffic while authorities investigated the crash and removed the vehicles.

Later that same Nov. 8 night, at 10:23 p.m. troopers stopped a car on Route 7 in Ferrisburgh and after

detecting signs of impairment in the driver cited Daniel Guertin, 35, of Burlington for driving under the influence of drugs.

On Nov. 11 at around 9:30 troopers observed a motor vehicle violation on Monkton Road in Vergennes and stopped the car on Main Street. Police ended up citing Travis Norris, 23, of Shoreham for DUI.

Separately, on Nov. 12 at 6:49 p.m. state police went to look into a report of a one-car crash on Tatro Road in Starksboro. Police said an eastbound car left the road, hit a tree and ended up sitting in the westbound lane. Police identified the driver as a 73-year-old Colchester man. During the investigation, they uncovered evidence that 69-year-old Stuart Morrow of Shelburne had driven to the scene of the crash, and that he was intoxicated while making that journey, so police cited Morrow for DUI.

Finally, on Nov. 13 at just before 12:30 a.m. Vermont State Police went to the site of a crash on Hemenway Road in Bridport. Troopers report that the car Jonas S. Hastings, 26, of Bridport was driving left the road, overturned and stopped upside down in a ditch. Police found Hastings at a Bridport home, screened him and cited him for DUI, leaving the scene of an accident, and negligent driving.



CLIMATE CHANGE PROTESTERS tried to rally Vermonters on Saturday with the display of banners on the Lake Champlain Bridge demanding more action than was produced by the COP26 international climate summit.

Signs signal change on Champlain

ADDISON — Activists from the group Extinction Rebellion Vermont, many from the Champlain Valley branch, braved the wet November weather this past Saturday to hang two banners on the Lake Champlain Bridge that shared their displeasure with what they called the disappointing results of the COP26 climate summit, which wrapped up in Glasgow, Scotland, over the weekend.

One of the banners quoted Swedish climate activist Greta

Thunberg, who said the event was just a lot of talk: “Blah, blah, blah.”

“The climate crisis and ecological collapse first predicted by scientists more than 30 years ago is already upon us, but the institutions meant to lead and protect us have consistently failed to institute the changes needed to preserve a stable climate and functioning ecosystems,” said a press release explaining the protest. It urged Vermonters

push for an immediate transition away from fossil fuels; an end to habitat destruction and unsustainable agricultural and forestry practices; and an embrace of renewable energy and an equitable, democratic and regenerative economy.

Group spokesman Dan said the protesters spent less than an hour with hanging banners due to cold wind and rain, “But we felt even a brief statement after the dismal failure of COP26 was needed,” he added.

MARKET REPORT ADDISON COUNTY COMMISSION SALES

RT. 125 • EAST MIDDLEBURY, VT
Sales for 11/11 & 11/15, 2021

BEEF	COST		
	LBS.	/LB	\$
R. Scholton Quarry Rd	825	.74	610.50
Kayhart Bros	1430	.725	1036.75
H. Degraff	1240	.66	818.40
Gosliga Farm	1685	.63	1061.55
Blue Spruce Farm	1615	.60	969.00

CALVES	COST		
	LBS.	/LB	\$
Kayhart Bros	106	2.00	212.00
UVM-Cream Farm	89	2.00	178.00
D. Williams	88	2.10	184.80
Barnes Bros	97	1.80	174.60
Tudhope Farm	95	1.25	118.75

Total # Beef: 189 • Total # Calves: 198

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Pedestrian hit on Middlebury crosswalk

MIDDLEBURY — Middlebury police responded to a report of a vehicle striking a pedestrian in the crosswalk at the North Pleasant Street/Seymour Street intersection on Nov. 10. Police said the pedestrian sustained minor injuries and was taken to Porter Hospital by Middlebury Regional EMS.

In other action last week, Middlebury police:

- Served court diversion paperwork to three juveniles who had been using marijuana and causing trouble in the Schoolhouse Hill Road area on Nov. 8.
- Took a suicidal man to Porter Hospital for a mental health evaluation on Nov. 8.
- Located and returned to Porter Hospital a patient who had left the campus without permission on Nov. 8.
- Responded to a noise complaint at a South Pleasant Street residence on Nov. 8.
- Served a no-trespass order on Nov. 9 to a man who wasn't wanted at an Exchange Street business.
- Responded to a report of potentially rabid coyotes in the Water Street area on Nov. 9. Police said they found no animals there upon their arrival.
- Assisted Shafer's Deli with people who had allegedly refused to leave the establishment when asked on Nov. 9.
- Received a report of an intoxicated man at the homeless shelter on North Pleasant Street on Nov. 9.
- Received a report about a man allegedly trying to pass forged court documents in the Seminary Street area on Nov. 9.
- Cited Stephan M. Belanger, 28, of Middlebury for domestic assault in the presence of a child, following

an investigation in the Court Street area on Nov. 10.

- Responded to a report of a two-car, head-on collision with injuries, on Route 7 North on Nov. 10. Police said they continue to investigate whether one of the drivers might have been impaired at the time of the crash.
- Assisted local parents with a juvenile son who was having a mental health crisis in the Buttolph Drive area on Nov. 10.
- Received information about potential drug activity in town on Nov. 10.
- Contacted three youths who had been seen smoking marijuana in a pull-off on Schoolhouse Hill Road on Nov. 11.
- Were informed on Nov. 11 that someone had thrown a rock at the windshield of a vehicle parked on East Main Street on Nov. 11.
- Were asked to mediate a dispute between Court Street neighbors on Nov. 11.
- Cited John Hegarty, 32, of Middlebury for an alleged violation of a no-stalking order on Park Street on Nov. 11.
- Notified Vermont State Police on Nov. 11 about a series of alleged incidents involving members of the Middlebury Union Middle School community away from the school campus.
- Investigated a truancy complaint involving a Middlebury Union High School student on Nov. 11.
- Conducted a welfare check on Nov. 12 at a Jackson Lane residence at the request of the Vermont Department for Children & Families.
- Issued court diversion paperwork on Nov. 12 to a minor who had attempted to purchase alcohol at a Court Street business.
- Investigated a reported fight that had occurred at MUHS on Nov. 12.

Middlebury Police Log

Responded to a report of a downed power line on Ossie Road on Nov. 12.

- Removed a downed tree from the intersection of Quarry Road and Case Street on Nov. 12.
- Assisted a local woman whose boyfriend had refused to leave her residence on Nov. 12.
- Responded to a noise complaint in the Weybridge Street area on Nov. 13.
- Responded with MREMS to the Main Street area to care for a person who was feeling suicidal on Nov. 13.
- Investigated the report of the theft of a sign from the South Main Street area on Nov. 13.
- Were informed of vandalism and graffiti at a Route 7 South business on Nov. 13.
- Responded to a report of a homeless person having overstayed their welcome at an Exchange Street business on Nov. 14.
- Responded to a report of a gunshot heard near the Champlain Farms store off Court Street on Nov. 14.
- Assisted Middlebury Regional EMS with an unresponsive woman at the Residence at Otter Creek retirement community off Lodge Road on Nov. 14.
- Helped a person who was experiencing a mental health crisis in the North Pleasant Street area on Nov. 14.
- Received a report that someone had stolen a vehicle from a Court Square parking lot on Nov. 14. Police said it turned out the vehicle hadn't been stolen, but rather borrowed by the owner's family member.
- Controlled traffic on North Pleasant Street on Nov. 14 while Middlebury firefighters dealt with a telephone pole that was on fire.
- Investigated a domestic disturbance in the East Main Street area on Nov. 15. Police said a man involved in the case was taken into custody for a mental health evaluation.

Over \$48K awarded in 'Spark' grants

MIDDLEBURY — The Vermont Community Foundation recently announced that its Spark Connecting Community grant program has awarded \$48,080 to 17 nonprofit organizations for projects focusing on creative placemaking in communities across the state.

The grants are made in partnership with several generous fundholders who contributed through Giving Together, a program at the Community Foundation that shares grant proposals with fundholders and donors to provide an opportunity to co-fund projects. Two of the grants will be serving folks in Addison County and Brandon.

The local recipients of Spark Connecting Community grants are: Five Town Friends of the Arts received \$3,000 to support Five Town Art Spark: Igniting the Arts and Culture in Bristol and Surrounding Towns (STAS). STAS

will provide artistic and cultural events, including free concerts, poetry and art-making workshops, and historical presentations in Bristol during the winter months, providing social opportunities and exposure to the arts.

Otter Valley Unified Union School District received \$3,000 to support the OV-Explores Afterschool Program, which will provide students a chance to explore their creativity through a variety of activities, including marital arts, maker time, broadcast club, robotics, and more.

Spark Connecting Community is a competitive grant program at the Foundation that puts building and nurturing community front and center. The Community Foundation aims to support the work happening throughout Vermont's 251 towns that builds social capital. These grants — where a small amount can make

a big difference — are intended to light the spark that keeps Vermonters healthy and happy.

“COVID-19's impact on museums, art centers, downtown associations, and local gathering spaces has been severe, yet organizations have demonstrated remarkable creativity and resiliency,” said Sarah Waring, vice president for grants and community investments at the Vermont Community Foundation. “We're thrilled to show our support by dedicating this round of Spark to projects that use arts, design, and cultural activities to strengthen community identity. Enormous thanks to our fundholders who helped grow the number of grants to support hundreds of individuals from around the state.”

The Spark Connecting Community program will reopen in 2022. Visit vermontcf.org/spark for more information.

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The Addison
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November 18, 2021



Miranda Ferriss Jones and Vanessa Dunleavy will return to the Town Hall Theater in Middlebury on Nov. 18-20 to present their musical "Showing Up."

PHOTO / CINDI DUFF

'Showing up' takes the stage in Middlebury

They say "third time's the charm" right? Let's hope so.

Addison County natives Miranda Ferriss Jones and Vanessa Dunleavy are coming back to the Town Hall Theater in Middlebury, on Nov. 18-20, to finally perform their musical "Showing Up."

"Showing Up" first took the stage at the Town Hall Theater in November 2019. That was a workshop that drew prolonged standing ovations — and a lot of passionate comment.

BY **ELSIE**
LYNN PARINI

"The audience was completely absorbed in the piece," said director Douglas Anderson. "They sensed how unusual it was — a truly delightful musical, entertaining in every way, that explores serious women's issues."

With the comments from the workshop Dunleavy and Jones dove into an intense revision of the show. However, their dreams for performing the piece were dashed in March 2020, when everything shut down due to COVID.

"It felt like the world was about to start burning," said Jones, on a break from rehearsals last week. "It was sad to cancel the show, but it also felt like the only option

morally; it just was not the time for it."

With a 20-month gap the duo has had time to really invest in the show and are excited to bring something to the stage that is "completely different."

"Our voices have grown in strength and beauty," Jones mused with a hint of humor. "We've even become more attractive. Yes, there have been a lot of changes — but just because Vanessa has a giant-ass belly, don't expect her to be too different — the heart of the show is still what it has always been about, and that's friendship."

SEE MUSICAL ON PAGE 3

North Branch School educator to read new book

Local writer and educator Tal Birdsey will be reading from his new book, "Hearts of the Mountain: A Teacher, Adolescents, and a Living School."

The reading, at Tourterelle Restaurant in New Haven, is scheduled for Sunday, Nov. 21, 4:30-6 p.m., and is open to the public.

For 21 years, Birdsey has been the head-teacher at The North Branch School, an independent school for students grades 7-9 in Ripton.

The new book dives deep into a year of learning and living at the small school, which is nestled in the woods and mountains near Robert Frost's summer home.

"Hearts of the Mountain: A Teacher, Adolescents, and a Living School," published by Vermont's Green Writers Press, details a magical and

thrilling year of learning in the school.

In novelistic detail, Birdsey sketches an utterly unique entity: an independent and virtual one-room middle school in the Green Mountains of Vermont. It's a deep look into an intimate, wild and unpredictable year of learning, in and out of the classroom, with a diverse collection of funny, profound, troubled and hopeful adolescents.

Birdsey published his first book about the North Branch School, "A Room for Learning: The Making of a School in Vermont," in 2009, from St. Martin's Press.

"If education interests you — if kids interest you — this is a magical story," writes Vermont author Bill McKibben.

For more information or to RSVP, email rosemarymconvay@gmail.com.



North Branch School Headmaster Tal Birdsey, left, stands with the "Burning School" sculpture to which students attach mementos, including letters, old ticket stubs, favorite poems and lyrics, artwork and report cards. Students and alumni of the Ripton middle school then burned the sculpture as part of a yearly tradition to start the school year.



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MUSICAL

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Yes, you caught that right. Vanessa is approaching her third trimester and going strong. She also got married and moved from Brooklyn to Middlebury during the pandemic. Change... you can say that again!

"We had been working non-stop on this musical since we started in 2017 and our friendship had taken a backseat," Dunleavy reflected. "It was so nice to just be friends for that time; it felt like a really necessary break that allowed us to have more confidence in ourselves and each other."

"We have had some hard stuff to work through," said Jones, as she touched Dunleavy's forearm and gently pushed shoulder-to-shoulder. "As we continue to get closer, I have more trust in you, more confidence in you and am more impressed by you."

Jones, who is the composer and lyricist, plays the role of "Miranda" and Dunleavy is the writer and plays the role of "Vanessa." Together they work with Anderson and Simon Broucke, who is the orchestrator and also an Addison County native.

"Miranda is the composer who I've worked with the most since graduating college," Broucke said, Columbia (2019). "It's been a

— details —

What: "Showing Up," a musical

Where: Town Hall Theater, Middlebury

When: Thursday and Friday, Nov. 18-19, at 7:30 pm, followed by a 2 p.m. matinee on Saturday, Nov. 20.

Tickets: Visit townhalltheater.org, call 802-382-9222, or come to the THT Box Office (Mon-Fri, 12-5 p.m.) Tickets are \$20.

joy to watch this develop. I'm really excited. I think this musical is something really incredible.

"This piece is very producible," Broucke added. "It's very easy to put on, which means it can be put on anywhere. I could imagine this musical off Broadway, on Broadway, as a thesis project... anywhere really."

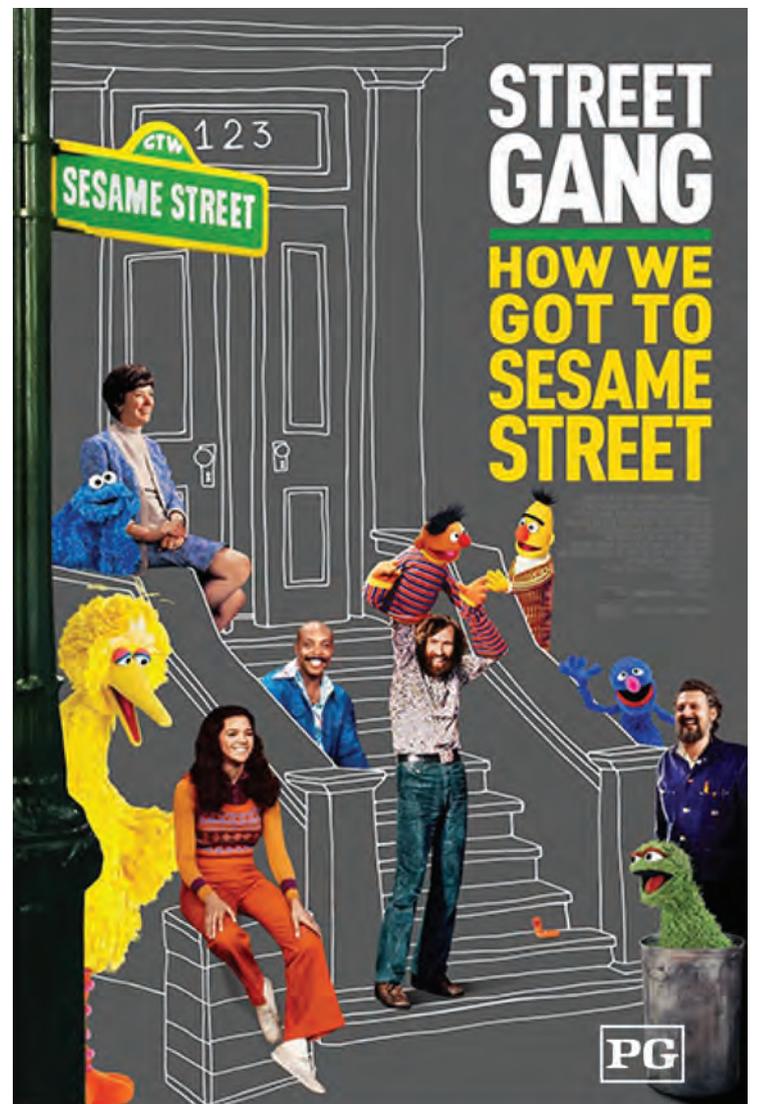
"For the performances coming up Nov. 18-20 we're investing in a three-camera shoot," Dunleavy explained. "We're going to take that footage around and see where it goes from there. We'd love to take it to New York City and at least do a reading there. We're open and eager for more opportunities to perform this."

But one day, both actresses know that this will be beyond them. And they've written it to preserve and honor the integrity of the piece as it goes forward.



Vanessa Dunleavy and Miranda Ferriss Jones first workshopped their musical "Showing Up" at the Town Hall Theater back in November 2019. The duo is finally bringing their finished piece back to the Middlebury stage.

PHOTO / CINDI DUFF



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FILM SCREENING

'STREET GANG: HOW WE GOT TO SESAME STREET' PREMIERES IN MIDDLEBURY

MNFF Selects, the monthly screening series presented by the Middlebury New Filmmakers Festival, will host the Vermont premiere screening of the entertaining and revealing documentary "Street Gang: How We Got to Sesame Street," on Sunday, Nov. 21, 2 p.m., at Town Hall Theater in Middlebury.

The film invites viewers to go inside the hearts and minds of the Sesame Street creators, artists, and educators who established one of the most influential and enduring children's series in television history. Directed with a sure hand by Marilyn Agrelo, and incorporating exclusive behind-the-scenes footage and over 20 original interviews, "Street Gang: How We Got to Sesame Street" introduces audiences to a gang of visionaries who set out to entertain and

educate young minds by harnessing the power of television using furry characters, catchy songs and a diverse cast. The film is rated PG.

Now having reached its 52nd anniversary and maintained its status as a transformational program, Sesame Street, first seen on public television on Nov. 10, 1969, has a rich and singular history that the film lovingly explores.

"Buoyed to a tremendous degree by the participation of series creators Joan Ganz Cooney and Lloyd Morrisett, spy legends in the '90s, Street Gang traces the earliest origins of the Children's Television Workshop and the then-revolutionary aspirations to use television — and specifically the visual language of commercial television — as a teaching tool for kids," reported



Daniel Fienberg in the Hollywood Reporter. "But let's be more precise than that, because the initial goal was to use this nascent show as a teaching tool for inner-city kids — and namely, minority kids. There was never a second in the history of the beloved show in which progressive values and diverse, ideological message-building weren't the absolute core building blocks of its DNA."

"'Street Gang' enlarges our view of the fabulous cultural phenomenon that was Sesame Street," said MNFF Artistic Director Jay Craven. "Jim Henson and his collaborators transformed

SEE FILM ON PAGE 8

REVIEW

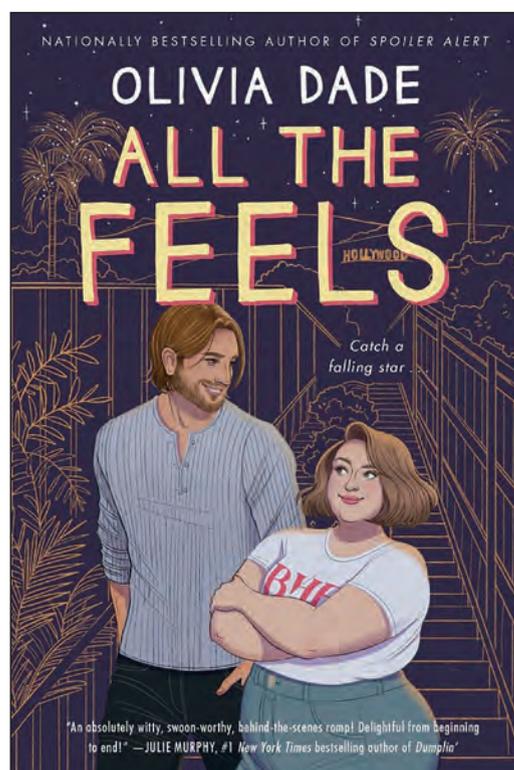
BOOK

12

POPULAR ROMANCES THIS FALL

ALL THE FEELS — BY OLIVIA DADE

(Avon Books)



Romance novels, as a genre, are enjoying a resurgence — the guarantee of a happy ending can make the experience of reading one very relaxing and enjoyable in stressful times. This romance, which does include a fair number of spicy love scenes, is modern and fresh, and feels very much like a current rom-com movie. Set in Hollywood and its environs, the story centers on a rakishly handsome leading man and a deliciously cute, but unlikely, love interest. Lauren is hired to watch over Alex, to keep him out of trouble and not in violation of his movie contract, but the constant togetherness, coupled with a strong immediate attraction, turns this business relationship into anything but. Their banter, their playfulness, their constant teasing of one another gives way to an honest recognition of and appreciation for the other's true nature and heart. This enthusiastic romp of a romance novel is dedicated to "all the little girls who learned to stay quiet and not take up space in the world. May you find your inner harpies and demand your due, at long last" and it is a perfect introduction to the themes of body positivity, self-discovery, healing and growth. It's a gem, a funny, sparkly gem.

— Reviewed by Jenny Lyons. Connect with her on Instagram @jennysbookshop to find more great book reviews and recommendations. Look for these titles and more at your local bookstore.

A Lot Like Adiós, by Alexis Daria

If the Shoe Fits, by Julie Murphy

The Dating Playbook, by Farrah Rochon

While We Were Dating, by Jasmine Guillory

The Love Hypothesis, by Ali Hazelwood

The Ex Hex, by Erin Sterling

The Charm Offensive, by Alison Cochran

The Royals Next Door, by Karina Halle

Battle Royal, by Lucy Parker

The Shaadi Set-Up, by Lillie Vale

It Ends with Us, by Colleen Hoover

The Love Con, by Seressia Glass

UPCOMING MUSIC

COME TO LISTEN TO SNAKE MOUNTAIN BLUEGRASS AT BRANDON MUSIC ON NOV. 20

Snake Mountain Bluegrass is gearing up to perform toe-tapping bluegrass at Brandon Music on Nov. 20, at 7:30 p.m.

The group is known for their vocal, instrumental and original songwriting talents, plus a great sense of humor and onstage banter. Snake Mountain Bluegrass were scheduled to perform at Brandon Music last year but with the impact of Covid the venue was shuttered making their return is even more welcome.

Founding members Gregg Humphrey (guitar and vocals) and Mike Connor (banjo and vocals) are joined by Earle Provin (mandolin and resonophonic guitar), and their new bass player Glenn Goodwin. Retired Middlebury College Professor, Humphrey and Middlebury former construction company owner, Connor, formed Snake Mountain Bluegrass about 30 years ago. At the time, they were both living near Snake Mountain and someone asked them what style of bluegrass they played. "Snake Mountain Bluegrass," was their immediate response and the name has been theirs ever since.

Concert begins at 7:30 p.m. Concert tickets are \$25. A pre-concert dinner is available for \$35. Reservations are required for dinners and recommended for the show and can be made online at brandon-music.net. Venue is BYOB. Call 802-247-4295 or email info@brandon-music.net for reservations or for more information.



Snake Mountain Bluegrass will perform at Brandon Music on Nov. 20, at 7:30 p.m.

MICHELE FAY BAND RELEASES NEW ALBUM

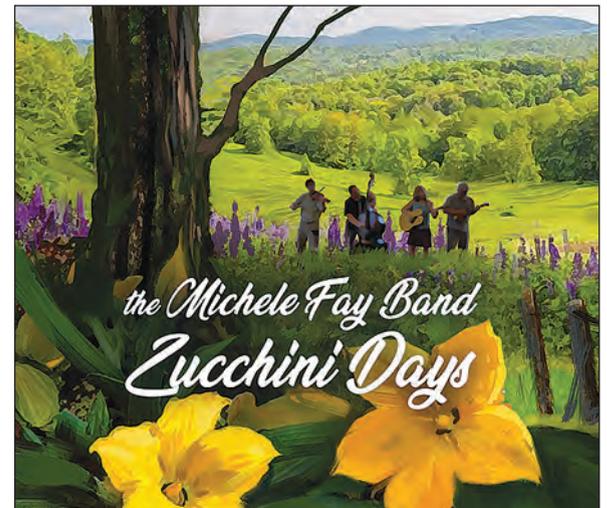
After seven long years, the Michele Fay Band is finally releasing its newest cd: "Zucchini Days."

Why zucchini? A majority of the songs were composed during the late summer months, including the title track, which is actually a cheerful instrumental on the five string banjo.

Except for one traditional tune, the songs on this album are penned by singer-songwriter Michele Fay, of Addison County. With a slight country ring, these songs include topics such as: childhood homes, railroads, love lost, life gained. All tunes are sung with Fay's authentic, crystal clear voice. Joining her in this latest creation are several stringed instrumentalists who provide a homey feel to the recording: Mike Santosusso on upright bass and tight harmony vocals, Fay's husband, Tim Price, on mandolin and guitar, and both Kalev Freeman and Freeman Corey on fiddle.

Renowned Vermont musician and record producer, Colin McCaffrey, has refined this album with some additions of his own, including dobro and electric guitar. And finally, the mastering took place in the studio of Lane Gibson of Charlotte.

Catch the Michele Fay Band live (and pick up a copy of their new album) at the Brandon Town Hall on Saturday, Nov. 20, at 7 p.m., and at Brandon Music on Saturday, Dec. 4, at 7 p.m. Both events will require indoor masking. For more information visit michelefayband.com.





MIDDLEBURY ACTING COMPANY PRESENTS

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A CHRISTMAS CAROL

ADAPTED AND DIRECTED BY GARY SMITH

DECEMBER 3-4 & 9-11, 7PM
DECEMBER 5 & 12, 2PM

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CALENDAR

NOV. 18-DEC. 4
2021

THURSDAY, NOV. 18

NOON CONCERT SERIES IN MIDDLEBURY.

Thursday, Nov. 18, noon, St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, on the green. As part of St. Stephen's free concert series Violinist Emily Sunderman and her string quartet, featuring Sasha Antohin on violin, Sam Liebhaber on viola and Chelsea Robinson on cello, will present a program: "Death and the Maiden and other light fare."

"BEAUTY & THE BEAST" ON STAGE IN BRISTOL.

Thursday, Nov. 18, 7 p.m., Mount Abraham Union High School Auditorium, 220 Airport Rd. It's time for Mt Abe's fall musical. Come and see the classic Disney musical performed on stage. Tickets for in-person reserved seating are \$12 adult/\$10 children under 12 and senior 65+/from \$12-\$40 for online streaming. Purchase tickets at bit.ly/mtabemusical or at the door.

"THE SOUND OF MUSIC" ON STAGE IN MIDDLEBURY.

Thursday, Nov. 18, 7 p.m., Middlebury Union High School auditorium, 73 Charles Ave. The hills are alive with this classic Rodgers and Hammerstein musical. Tickets will be sold online this year. Please visit

showtix4u.com/event-details/58310 to get yours.

"SHOWING UP" ON STAGE IN MIDDLEBURY.

Thursday, Nov. 18, 7:30 p.m., Town Hall Theater, 68 South Pleasant St. Growing up in small-town Vermont, Miranda Ferriss Jones and Vanessa Dunleavy starred in high school musicals and dreamed of making it to Broadway. Life took them through New York stages, success and disappointment, the loss of old dreams and the creation of new ones. And through it all their friendship endured. Now they're returning to their hometown to work with Doug Anderson, artistic director of Town Hall Theater, on a new musical that tells their story. Tickets \$20, available at townhalltheater.org, 802-382-9222, or the THT Box Office Mon-Fri, 12-5 p.m.

FRIDAY, NOV. 19

"BEAUTY AND THE BEAST" ON STAGE IN BRISTOL.

Friday, Nov. 19, 7 p.m., Mount Abraham Union High School Auditorium, Airport Rd. See Nov. 18 entry.

"THE SOUND OF MUSIC" ON STAGE IN MIDDLEBURY.

Friday, Nov. 19, 7 p.m., Middlebury Union High School auditorium, 73 Charles Ave. See Nov. 18 entry.

"SHOWING UP" ON STAGE IN MIDDLEBURY.

Friday, Nov. 19, 7:30 p.m., Town Hall Theater, 68 South Pleasant St. See

Nov. 18 entry.

SATURDAY, NOV. 20

"BEAUTY AND THE BEAST" ON STAGE IN BRISTOL.

Saturday, Nov. 20, 2 and 7 p.m., Mount Abraham Union High School Auditorium, Airport Rd. See Nov. 18 entry.

"THE SOUND OF MUSIC" ON STAGE IN MIDDLEBURY.

Saturday, Nov. 20, 2 p.m., Middlebury Union High School auditorium, 73 Charles Ave. See Nov. 18 entry.

"SHOWING UP" ON STAGE IN MIDDLEBURY.

Saturday, Nov. 20, 2 p.m., Town Hall Theater, 68 South Pleasant St. See Nov. 18 entry.

AUDITIONS FOR "THE 39 STEPS" IN MIDDLEBURY.

Saturday, Nov. 20, 3-5:30 p.m., Conference Room, Ilsley Public Library, 75 Main St. The Middlebury Community Players is calling for auditions for their February production of Patrick Barlow's adaptation of "The 39 Steps." Four actors play all roles to create the themes and characters of Alfred Hitchcock's groundbreaking spy masterpiece movie of 1935. All those attending auditions will be required to provide a negative COVID test within a few days of auditions plus proof of vaccination. Masks and safe distancing required.

SNAKE MOUNTAIN BLUEGRASS ON STAGE IN BRANDON.

Saturday, Nov. 20, 7:30 p.m., Brandon Music, 62 Country Club Rd. Always a firm favorite, Snake Mountain's "toe-tapping tunes combine the best of modern and traditional bluegrass" with harmonies and songs that vary in tempo from hard driving 'breakdowns' to softer, folk-type arrangements. Tickets \$25. Pre-concert dinner available for \$35. Reservations are required for dinners and recommended for the show and can be made on-line at brandon-music.net. Venue is BYOB. Call (802) 247 4295 or e-mail info@brandonmusic.net for reservations or for more info.

SUNDAY, NOV. 21

"STREET GANG: HOW WE GOT TO SESAME STREET" ON SCREEN IN MIDDLEBURY.

Sunday, Nov. 21, 2 p.m., Town Hall Theater, 68 S. Pleasant St. MNFF Selects' second installment in its Humans and Animals: Shared Experiences, Intersecting Worlds series goes inside the hearts and minds of the Sesame Street creators, artists, and educators who established one of the most influential and enduring children's

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE



top pick

WELCOME WINTER WITH WARREN MILLER'S "WINTER STARTS NOW" ON SCREEN THURSDAY, DEC. 2, AT 6 AND 9 P.M., AT TOWN HALL THEATER IN MIDDLEBURY. TICKETS \$21.

series in television history. Free and open to all. Series pass (7-film package), \$105/single tickets \$16/children under 12 \$7, available at townhalltheater.org. All attendees 12 and over must be vaccinated and all attendees, including children under 12, must wear masks while inside the theater.

AUDITIONS FOR "THE 39 STEPS" IN

MIDDLEBURY. Sunday, Nov. 21, 3-5:30 p.m., Conference Room, Ilsley Public Library, 75 Main St. (See Nov. 20 entry).

BOOK READING IN NEW HAVEN.

Sunday, Nov. 21, 4:30-6 p.m., Tourterelle, 3629 Ethan Allen Hwy. Local writer and educator Tal Birdsey will be reading from his new book, "Hearts of the Mountain: A Teacher, Adolescents, and a Living School." For twenty-one years, Birdsey has been the head-teacher at The North Branch School, an independent school for students grades-7-9 in Ripton. The new book dives deep into a year of learning and living at the small school. Open to the public.

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 1

FROM "LITTLE JERUSALEM" TO THE "LOST MURAL": PRESERVING JEWISH & IMMIGRANT HERITAGE IN MIDDLEBURY.

Wednesday, Dec. 1, 7 p.m., Isley Public Library, 75 Main St. In 1885, a group of Lithuanian immigrants settled in Burlington's Old North End, where they transplanted their religious traditions and culture. Archivists Aaron Goldberg and Jeff Potash describe the "Lost Mural," a rare survivor of the lost genre of European painted synagogues and tell the story of conserving the mural in Burlington. Attend this talk in the Jessica Swift Community meeting room. Masks are required regardless of your vaccination status.

THURSDAY, DEC. 2

WARREN MILLER'S "WINTER STARTS NOW" ON SCREEN IN MIDDLEBURY.

Thursday, Dec. 2, 6 and 9 p.m., Town Hall Theater, 68 S. Pleasant St. The 72nd annual ski and snowboard film from Warren Miller Entertainment will chase winter from coast to coast with friends old and new in the places that keep our spirits high no matter what life throws at us. COVID vaccinations and masks required. Tickets \$21, available at townhalltheater.org, \$22 day of show.

FRIDAY, DEC. 3

"A CHRISTMAS CAROL" ON STAGE IN MIDDLEBURY.

Friday, Dec. 3, 7 p.m., Town Hall Theater, 68 S. Pleasant St. Join in a new holiday tradition as the Middlebury Acting Company presents the Charles Dickens classic in an original adaptation, true to the novella, which deftly integrates Dickens' witty, pointed, and socially conscious narrative with the heartwarming and familiar journey Ebenezer Scrooge makes from profiteer to philanthropist. Tickets pay-as-you-can, general admission, can be purchased in advance on a pay-as-you-can basis at different price levels (make your price choices when ordering). Available at townhalltheater.org, 802-382-9222, or the THT Box Office Mon-Fri, 12-5 p.m. Masks and COVID vaccinations required. Unvaccinated youth under age 12 may attend wearing masks.

KRAMPUSNACHT IN ROCHESTER.

Friday, Dec. 3, TBA, Spice Studio, 482 South Main St. The return of live celebration of light and dark with more stories, music and TWO (count them) two Krampus. Masks and vaccination required. Show will also be streamed.

BROADWAY DIRECT IN VERGENNES.

Friday, Dec. 3, 7:30 p.m., Vergennes Opera House, 120 Main St. Broadway Direct returns to the live stage. Bill Carmichael, (known to us as Bill Walsh) is pulling together the annual show, which is expected to sell out yet again. Doors and cash bar hosted by Bar Antidote/Hired Hand opening at 6:30 for general seating. Tickets \$10. More info at vergennesoperahouse.org.

SATURDAY, DEC. 4

"A CHRISTMAS CAROL" ON STAGE IN MIDDLEBURY.

Saturday, Dec. 4, 7 p.m., Town Hall Theater, 68 S. Pleasant St. See Dec. 3 entry.

KRAMPUSNACHT IN ROCHESTER.

Saturday, Dec. 4, TBA, Spice Studio, 482 South Main St. (See Dec. 3 entry).

CLOUDBELLY IN LINCOLN.

Saturday, Dec. 4, 7:30 p.m., Burnahm Hall, 52 E. River Rd. The Ripton Community Coffee House presents Signature Sounds recording artists Cloudbelly, a collaboration of Anand Nayak and Corey Laitman. Admission at the door \$10-\$20. Details at www.rcch.org. The concert will also be livestreamed.

THE MICHELE FAY BAND IN BRANDON.

Saturday, Dec. 4, 7:30 p.m., Brandon Music, 62 Country Club Rd. Original and Americana music that brings forth a comfortable groove of folk, swing, and bluegrass-influenced songs that are woven seamlessly together. Tickets \$25. Pre-concert dinner available for \$35. Reservations are required for dinners and recommended for the show and can be made on-line at brandon-music.net. Venue is BYOB. Call (802) 247 4295 or e-mail info@brandonmusic.net for reservations or for more info.

MCTV SCHEDULE Channels 1071 & 1091		MIDDLEBURY COMMUNITY TELEVISION: P.O. Box 785, Middlebury, Vt. 05753		Please see the MCTV website, www.middleburycommunitytv.org, for changes in the schedule; MCTV events, classes and news; and to view many programs online. Submit listings to the above address, or call 388-3062.	
<p>MCTV Channel 1071</p> <p>Friday, Nov. 19</p> <p>5 a.m. Rochester Area Climate Initiative</p> <p>7:30 a.m. Congregational Church Service</p> <p>9 a.m. Montpelier Happy Hour</p> <p>10 a.m. Selectboard, Gov. Scott Weekly Update</p> <p>3:30 p.m. Lifelines</p> <p>4 p.m. Memorial Baptist Church Service</p> <p>5:30 p.m. Energy Week</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Middlebury Edition with Robin Scheu</p> <p>7 p.m. Cannabis Control Board (CCB)</p> <p>Saturday, Nov. 20</p> <p>6:30 a.m. Rochester Area Climate Init.</p> <p>9 a.m. Energy Week</p> <p>10 a.m. Selectboard, The News Project</p> <p>3:30 p.m. Montpelier Happy Hour</p> <p>4 p.m. Memorial Baptist Service</p> <p>5:30 p.m. Eckankar</p> <p>7 p.m. Catholic Mass</p> <p>7:30 p.m. Energy Week</p> <p>8:30 p.m. Las Promesas De Dios</p> <p>9 p.m. Gov. Scott Weekly Update</p> <p>Sunday, Nov. 21</p> <p>12 a.m. Rochester Area Climate Init.</p>	<p>5 a.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs</p> <p>9 a.m. Catholic Mass</p> <p>9:30 a.m. Las Promesas De Dios</p> <p>10 a.m. Energy Week</p> <p>11 a.m. Memorial Baptist Service</p> <p>12:30 p.m. Montpelier Happy Hour</p> <p>1 p.m. Gov. Scott Weekly Update</p> <p>4 p.m. Congregational Service</p> <p>5:30 p.m. Eckankar</p> <p>7 p.m. Catholic Mass</p> <p>7:30 p.m. Rochester Area Climate Init.</p> <p>Monday, Nov. 22</p> <p>12 a.m. CCB</p> <p>6 a.m. Public Affairs</p> <p>10 a.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs</p> <p>2 p.m. Rochester Area Climate Init.</p> <p>3:30 p.m. Las Promesas De Dios</p> <p>4 p.m. Gov. Scott Weekly Update</p> <p>6 p.m. Lifelines</p> <p>8 p.m. Green Mountain Care (GMC)</p> <p>Tuesday, Nov. 23</p> <p>12 a.m. GMC Board</p> <p>9:30 a.m. Eckankar</p> <p>10 a.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs</p> <p>3 p.m. Energy Week</p> <p>4 p.m. Congregational Service</p> <p>6 p.m. Montpelier Happy Hour</p> <p>7 p.m. Selectboard (LIVE),</p> <p>Wednesday, Nov. 24</p> <p>12 a.m. Rochester Area Climate Init.</p> <p>7:30 a.m. Memorial Baptist Service</p>	<p>9:30 a.m. Catholic Mass</p> <p>10 a.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs</p> <p>5 p.m. Energy Week</p> <p>7 p.m. Selectboard</p> <p>9 p.m. Lifelines</p> <p>10 p.m. Gov. Scott</p> <p>Thursday, Nov. 25</p> <p>5 a.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs</p> <p>8 a.m. Congregational Service</p> <p>10 a.m. Gov. Scott</p> <p>12 p.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs</p> <p>5 p.m. The News Project</p> <p>8 p.m. Energy Week</p> <p>10:30 p.m. Eckankar</p> <p>11 p.m. Public Affairs</p> <p>Channel 1091</p> <p>Friday, Nov. 19</p> <p>5:30 a.m. State Board of Education</p> <p>10 a.m. ACSD & HCC School Boards</p> <p>4:30 a.m. Monuments, Memory and Loss</p> <p>5:30 p.m. All Things LGBTQ</p> <p>6 p.m. Sheldon Museum Talk</p> <p>8:10 p.m. Growing Bright Futures</p> <p>9 p.m. Monuments, Memory and Loss</p> <p>10:30 p.m. Yestermorrow Speaker Series</p>	<p>Saturday, Nov. 20</p> <p>5 a.m. All Things LGBTQ</p> <p>6 a.m. Sheldon Museum Talk</p> <p>7:40 a.m. Growing Bright Futures</p> <p>8:30 a.m. Yestermorrow</p> <p>9:30 a.m. ACSD, HCC Boards</p> <p>12:35 p.m. Weatherizing Your Home</p> <p>4 p.m. Kids Yoga</p> <p>4:25 p.m. Yoga with Liza Eaton</p> <p>5:30 p.m. All Things LGTQ</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Growing Bright Futures</p> <p>7 p.m. Weatherizing Your Home</p> <p>Sunday, Nov. 21</p> <p>5 a.m. All Things LGBTQ</p> <p>6 a.m. Monuments, Memory and Loss</p> <p>7 a.m. Kids Yoga, Yoga</p> <p>8:30 a.m. Growing Bright Futures</p> <p>9 a.m. Yestermorrow</p> <p>11 a.m. Sheldon Museum</p> <p>1 p.m. School Board Meetings</p> <p>5:30 p.m. Monuments, Memory and Loss</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Dr. John Campbell, COVID Lectures</p> <p>Monday, Nov. 22</p> <p>5 a.m. Author Talk</p> <p>11 a.m. Chair Yoga</p> <p>12 p.m. Growing Bright Futures</p> <p>3 p.m. Yestermorrow</p> <p>4 p.m. Abled and On Air</p>	<p>6 p.m. Sheldon Museum</p> <p>8 p.m. School Board Meetings</p> <p>Tuesday, Nov. 23</p> <p>9:30 a.m. Yestermorrow</p> <p>10:30 a.m. Monuments, Memory and Loss</p> <p>11:30 a.m. Growing Bright Futures</p> <p>12 p.m. All Things LGBTQ</p> <p>1 p.m. Sheldon Museum</p> <p>4 p.m. COVID Lectures</p> <p>6 p.m. School Board Meetings</p> <p>Wednesday, Nov. 24</p> <p>5 a.m. COVID Lectures</p> <p>7 a.m. Local School Boards</p> <p>12 p.m. Sheldon Museum</p> <p>3:30 p.m. All Things LGBTQ</p> <p>4:30 p.m. Growing Bright Futures</p> <p>8 p.m. Monuments, Memory and Loss</p> <p>9 p.m. Growing Bright Futures</p> <p>Thursday, Nov. 25</p> <p>12 a.m. State Board of Education</p> <p>6 a.m. All Things LGBTQ</p> <p>7 a.m. Yoga</p> <p>10 a.m. Jurassic Park Re-Make</p> <p>12 p.m. Monuments, Memory and Loss</p> <p>1 p.m. Local School Boards</p> <p>5:30 p.m. All Things LGBTQ</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Growing Bright Futures</p> <p>8 p.m. Yestermorrow</p>	

Cosmic Forecast

ARIES: March 21-April 20. A bevy of ideas and tasks are bouncing around in your head this week, Aries. You may have to find a way to quiet your mind so you can focus on what needs to get done.

TAURUS: April 21-May 21. Taurus, a benefit to having so many close friends in your life is you always have a buddy you can call when you need someone to hear your side of the story.

GEMINI: May 22-June 21. Gemini, even after a big shakeup in your routine, it seems like things at work are more of the same. You may need to start looking for opportunities elsewhere for stimulation.

CANCER: June 22-July 22. Perfection only exists in your mind, Cancer. Change your views on how everything needs to be perfect to be successful and you will sleep a bit easier this week.

LEO: July 23-Aug. 23. Leo, obstacles are a part of life. The way you approach them and your attitude can go a long way toward helping you work through difficult situations.

VIRGO: Aug. 24-Sept. 22. Your curiosity will pique this week when inspiration flows, Virgo. A new creative project could be on the horizon. Friends are supportive of your efforts.

LIBRA: Sept. 23-Oct. 23. People may be apt to judge you by the company you keep, Libra. However, once others get to know you, they will discover how you march to the beat of your own drummer.

SCORPIO: Oct. 24-Nov. 22. Scorpio, you may have an opportunity to enjoy some time to yourself this week. The alone time can be a great way to work through new ideas.

SAGITTARIUS: Nov. 23-Dec. 21. Don't let someone whose maturity level is beneath your own bother you, Sagittarius. Take the high road and others will notice and respect you for it.

CAPRICORN: Dec. 22-Jan. 20. You may have plenty of free time on your hands this week, Capricorn. If you do not want to fill it by being productive, then bask in your ability to kick back and relax.

AQUARIUS: Jan. 21-Feb. 18. Aquarius, even though you are full of vitality and ready to begin something new, this may not be the week for it. Hold off a little longer; the right time will present itself soon enough.

PISCES: Feb. 19-March 20. This week serves as a starting point for new adventures in your life, Pisces. Keep your eyes peeled for the opportunities coming your way.

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Thanks-for-giving

Take time to appreciate your blessings.
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November 22, 23, 24



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Closed Sunday



"Street Gang: How We Got to Sesame Street" will screen on Sunday, Nov. 21, 2 p.m., at Town Hall Theater in Middlebury.

FILM

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

children's television - and also puppetry, supporting troupes across America in a revival of this terrific art form. And Sesame Street endures — Big Bird made news just last week when the moment of Bird's

vaccination set off political reverberations across the country. What other '60s TV star could do that?"

"MNFF Selects is delighted to present the Vermont premiere of this endearing, family-friendly film at the start of the Thanksgiving holiday season," noted Lloyd Komesar, MNFF Producer. "We think it perfectly embraces this year's Selects theme of illuminating the deep and lasting connections between human beings and animals whose lives are so intimately intertwined, even when the animals are colorful furry puppets."

MNFF Selects Passes, covering the entire series of seven films, are still available for \$105. Individual Adult tickets to each film are \$16. Youth 12-17 tickets are \$11. Children Under 12 tickets are \$7. Both the passes and tickets can be purchased via middfilmfest.org or townhalltheater.org, by phone at 802-382-9222 or in person at the THT box office — open Monday-Friday, 12-5 p.m.

The MNFF Selects Series will be adhering to the following simple and safe Covid protocol: All attendees 12 and over must be vaccinated and all attendees, including children under 12, must wear masks while inside the theater.



read the STARS

and the newspaper

Enlightening news for you every Thursday!

FAMOUS BIRTHDAYS

NOV. 18 — Wilma Mankiller, Chief, Cherokee Nation (d)
NOV. 19 — Barry Jenkins, film director (42)
NOV. 20 — Nadine Gordimer, writer (d)

NOV. 21 — Ken Griffey Jr., Baseball player (52)
NOV. 22 — George Eliot, writer (d)
NOV. 23 — Robin Roberts, broadcaster (61)
NOV. 24 — Arundhati Roy, novelist, writer (60)



THE BIRD'S EYE VIEW



Issue 42 Fall 2021

NEW FACES WELCOMED TO MT. ABE IN VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS

By **Txuxa Konczal**

Mt. Abe added many new staff members in art, special education, science, guidance, and health and wellness departments. This year, new teachers are faced with additional challenges, as they assist in reintegrating students into full time, in-person learning again.

Upon entering **Toria Lajoie's** health classroom, you feel the calm, welcoming energy. Students were at tables arranged in a horseshoe, while Lajoie was patiently supporting one student. Even after only a few weeks of school, Lajoie has clearly created a safe haven for students. Sophomore Sarah Heath said, "Ms. Lajoie has worked hard to make sure we are comfortable in her classroom, especially since health can



be an uncomfortable subject." Lajoie is a member of the health and wellness department, a subject she believes is of utmost importance, as "there is no place to make a greater impact on a student than in health education."

She added, "I have an almost obsessive passion for health and wellness." This connection to her field promises an investment in the education of her students. Health is a vital subject in this day and age, especially as the world experiences a global pandemic, and Lajoie said that a focus on emotional well-being is key, "which

it always should be, but we now are forced to focus on emotional health." Lajoie is one of a few Mt. Abe teachers who teaches middle school and 10th grade health. This age gap is significant in terms of emotional and physical development. While potentially daunting, Lajoie seems to be ready to face this challenge.

Matt Hildebrand

is a new addition to Mt. Abe's special education department. Originally from Connecticut, he attended high school in Hartford before receiving a bachelor's degree from Susquehanna University, where he also played baseball. He earned a master's degree from American International College in Massachusetts. Hildebrand noted that because much of his family works in the education system, it was in his blood to become an educator. His choice to enter a specific career in special education originated from a relationship with his sister-in-law, who has a sister with Down's syndrome. When talking about her, Hildebrand said, "She has strengths that so many other people don't." The appreciation and respect for these strengths made his choice to enter the special education field understandable. The global pandemic has greatly impacted all areas of education, but special education has been one of the hardest hit. Hildebrand recognizes this, and added that now



they have to make up for time lost during remote learning. One key way to do this is to foster positive relationships between educator and student. Hildebrand says that open communication will support his journey to creating functional bonds. Hildebrand has found that "Mt. Abe has a welcoming atmosphere."

While teaching wasn't always on **Ryan Strobel's** career trajectory, he has found a place in Mt. Abe's educational community. Hailing from Maine, he attended St. Michael's College with no clear path, and described himself as "floundering" there. It was a ceramics class that sparked a previously-unknown passion, and following that class, he knew he would pursue the fine arts. He devoted himself to a career in art. Strobel would gain a graduate degree in art before joining a fast track program to gain a certificate in special education. Education seemed to be a good career for



Strobel, but art was his passion. He went on to gain a certificate in fine arts education. Strobel also described Mt. Abe as having an extremely welcoming community. His favorite part of teaching is

having the ability to share something he loves with his students. **Erin Nunnick** joined the middle school, teaching science on Team Endeavor. Nunnick grew up in Vermont, then
(See *New Faces*, Page 3)

By **Jazzlynn Senecal**

Jill Paul is very happy she works in a school, because she has always wanted to work with children. "Watching students explore, ask questions and delight in their learning and successes is amazing to be a part of," she said. She works with students in many different classes. She worked in the elementary school for 25 years, but now she works at Mt. Abraham, with 9th graders and 12th graders. Paul attended the University of Vermont and received a BS in Early Childhood Education. When asked about her favorite class, she said, "Math. I had some really good math teachers and they made it fun and exciting to learn."



Connor LeBlanc is a new math teacher. His favorite subject in school was math, and he learned a lot from his teachers, who were understanding. He said, "Math was easy for me to learn." LeBlanc teaches 7th and 8th grade math. When asked if he was happy he became a teacher, he answered, "It is extremely rewarding to interact with kids and teachers." LeBlanc went to college at the University of Vermont and studied Middle School Education, with a major in Math. Clearly, LeBlanc loves math and loves his job teaching math even more.



Ruth Barack-Lamberson's favorite class in school was Anatomy and Physiology, because she "learned about the human body and how it is all connected." She teaches 7th, 8th, and 9th graders now. Before that, she taught preschool. She is very happy with her career choice. "I love being a teacher. I love working with kids," she added. Barack-Lamberson went to the University of Wyoming and got degrees in psychology, elementary education, and early childhood education. She now teaches literacy classes to her students. Reading, writing and listening skills are some of the areas she works on. "In my classes, we do a lot of playing, because I believe people learn to do things through play," she explained. She really enjoys working with many different ages.



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XC COACHES SWITCH IT UP

By **Dustin Lavigne**

The Mt. Abe Cross Country team headed into the 2021 season with a new head coach. The team gained a new generation of runners, and almost all runners from the previous year came back, all gunning for seven varsity spots, in order to run in the state championship race.

Last year's high school coach was Karyn Norwood, but she stepped down and became the middle school coach. The previous middle school coach, Eva Friend, became the high school cross country

(See *XC Coaches*, Page 6)

UVM INTERNS EXCITED TO BE BACK

By **Sam Schoendorf**

With school returning to a sense of normalcy, the new UVM interns are excited about returning to high school and feeling hopeful about solo teaching in the spring.

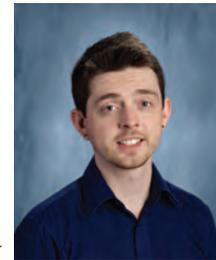
Ben Currotto

has been interning with Vicki Bronson for the past few weeks. When asked about his experience thus far, he said, "So far, so good. It's been fun getting to know the students." This fall, the interns are mostly observing, but as the year goes on, they will get more responsibilities and in the spring, they will all be solo teaching for about a month. Currotto added, "I feel like anybody feels when they start out at a new school... nervous." Currotto had worked as an educator at an independent school for over a decade before returning to school to become an English



teacher. He has an undergraduate degree in English, a master's degree in environmental science, and is currently working on getting a master's degree in education. His favorite part so far has been "being in class again. I used to teach at an independent school, but this last year I was not teaching, so I've really missed being in class with students."

Michael Bieth is also interning with an English teacher, Lisa Gryzb. The first weeks have been "really good. I've been really taking advantage of the opportunity to observe." After taking classes for a year, he said, "It's nice, because I took all these classes and now I can actually see it in action." He's learned a lot since being here, especially



(See *UVM Interns*, Page 3)

OPINIONS

SCHOOL IN U.S. IS VERY DIFFERENT THAN SPAIN

By Joane Kapanaga

Schools around the world have all been designed with the same purpose: teaching and providing knowledge of all types to students, but this doesn't mean that all the schools are identical. As a Spanish exchange student, I have noticed some divergences between the schools of my home country and in my host country.

Schools in the United States are known for their unique school dances and iconic yellow buses, as well as their strong sports programs, as seen in Hollywood movies. Spanish schools are not as romanticized as North American schools, but instead are famous for having good math and science programs. Before I came here, my classmates and family members told me that the educational program in the United States was less demanding than in Spain, but in my personal experience, that has not been the case. The clearest contrast is the acceptance of the LGBTQIA+ community. For example, asking someone for their pronouns and the name they want to be called by in each class, or hanging pride flags in classes is common. These things are really important and should be copied in every school, all over the world.

Furthermore, in Spanish schools, we are always in a class with the same people, and the teachers are the ones that relocate. In Spain, we just have one class subject where we can choose between three electives, but here, students can choose almost every subject they want to enroll in and they are the ones that move between classrooms. Both of the methods can be effective, but COVID-19 makes sharing classes with different people more difficult, which reminds me of another difference. During COVID in Spain, we still went to school every day, and here, they had some online classes during the week.

In the United States, parents do not have to pay for their children to participate in athletics, as they are run through the school. In Spain, sports are totally separate from school and parents must pay in order for their children to participate. Lunch at Mt. Abe is free and students have the opportunity to have complimentary breakfast, too. In Spain, however, there is no breakfast option, and all students have to pay for lunch. Free lunch should be expanded to Spain because many families face difficulties paying their bills due to COVID-19 and the financial crisis.

Finally, both U.S. and Spanish schools have exchange students from all over the world, but the U.S. is more popular than Spain for exchange students.

TRUCKS OR CARS: WHICH ARE BETTER?

By Evan Oberle

Everybody has opinions about almost everything, but especially in the debate between cars and trucks. There are many advantages and disadvantages between the



LET'S RETHINK HOW SOCIAL MEDIA IS USED

By Aidan Harris

Let's face it, social media is creating major problems in American politics. Throughout the 21st century, Americans have become more divided than ever. Politics have become so divisive that it is almost impossible to have a civil discussion about beliefs and ideas with someone who has opposing views. Our Congress is virtually non-functioning, because nobody cooperates. There is a major factor that can be traced back to the start of this mess: the advent of social media.

Before social media, Americans got their news from newspapers and TV, sources that attempted to hold true to facts. But along came social media, where everyone is the "reporter" and facts and reality don't matter anymore, because it's public domain. Anyone can go online and say something that isn't supported by facts or figures, then that gets shared to millions of other people who don't know how to weed out truth from fiction. In a recent YouGov poll reported by *USA Today*, at least 50% of people who voted for Trump in 2020 believe in the conspiracy theory group known as QAnon, or Q. According to their followers, Q is a "prophet" who started a movement on social media, founded in the belief that Donald Trump was sent to us by God to defeat pedophile Democrats in the federal government, and he would be re-elected because it was God's will. Obviously, Q and their followers ended up being wrong, because Trump is no longer president. A large number of people who participated in the January 6th capitol riots were photographed waving flags and wearing clothes with the letter Q on them. QAnon is just one example of how a gathering of impressionable people can be corrupted by fake news on social media and whisked into a violent frenzy.

IMPACT OF 9/11 BROUGHT TO LIGHT AGAIN ON 20TH ANNIVERSARY

By Essence Calderon Melendez

September 11 was a day that changed many people's lives. I wish it was a change for the better, but it will forever be one of the hardest days in our history.

One bright sunny morning in 2001, everything was going as it normally would in New York City with people rushing to work, and early morning traffic, the hot cups of coffee being poured. It seemed like any normal day, until the sounds of a plane crashing into a building filled the air. In that moment, everyone knew the World Trade Center would no longer stand. Normally, no one would even notice a plane going overhead, they were so busy worrying about their own lives, but everyone noticed. Along with the sound of the plane soaring through the air came the explosion as it crashed into the first tower. Everyone was in shock and the air was full of smoke and burning papers. The firemen were already on their way.

People had no idea that day would be the last that they saw their friends,

Social media has muddied the waters in terms of reality. Your far right uncle at Thanksgiving used to be just some loudmouth. Now he has the ability to spread his message to others online. It's making Americans more and more radicalized, and this goes all the way up to the top levels of government. Hypothetically, somebody could post a story about how Nancy Pelosi is a lizard person. That gets shared with people who share it with others, until lots of people start to actually believe it. Then people get elected to seats in government who either believe in the conspiracy, or have to pander to their constituents who believe it. For example, Georgia representative Marjorie Taylor Green, who has posted conspiracy theories about the government while in office, and other crazy stories on social media, serves in the House of Representatives which is a position of power, so the conspiracy theorists feel that their beliefs are validated. It's a feedback loop that doesn't end, and it mostly comes from the right. Yes, there are people on the left who say or post inaccuracies, but the right has given way to people who believe in Jewish space lasers and crazy governmental deep state conspiracies. Americans need to re-evaluate how we use social media and do a better job of weeding through what is true and what is false. On top of this, we need to make sure that social media companies such as Facebook are held accountable for the spread of misinformation.

Sadly, it isn't just social media. Cable news has become toxic and misleading as well. News organizations such as OAN (One America News network) and FOX are also incredibly irresponsible given the influence they have. Personalities such



co-workers, and family members. 9/11 will forever be a day in which we lost many kind souls, a day we lost part of what we called home. Mornings in New York are always busy, with the sound of cars driving by and beeping their horns, but at 9:03 on that morning, they heard the first plane crash into what we knew as the World Trade Center. According to Wikipedia, in the end, 2,996 people died that day. 50,000 people worked there and around 40,000 people passed through the complex. Out of the people who were on the 70th floor and above, only 20 survived.

Survivors from 9/11 still have a hard time talking about their experiences, just as anyone would. William Jimeno was a police officer, and on 9/11 he and his team were called to the twin towers to help. He explained that he "made a promise to

because of the size, or really any job that doesn't require you to be driving all day. With a truck, you can do much more with it than a car, such as towing trail-



two, but which one is really better?

Trucks are definitely better for work-related use, depending on your job. Cars are usually better for getting you to work at an office job



by Dakota Catella '24

as Tucker Carlson can really cause harm when they spread misinformation. This was blatantly evident during the pandemic. There was so much contradicting information going around about wearing masks and COVID-19. Because of that, wearing a mask became a political issue instead of a safety issue. According to the *Washington Post*, YouTube suspended OAN in late 2020 for peddling false information about COVID-19 and mask safety. The Capitol Riots might also be partially blamed on news organizations like FOX and OAN, stoking fear into Americans who watch those programs. Misinformation can lead to panic, which in turn can lead to violence.

Just like social media, news organizations need to pull their audiences back into reality and stop creating public safety issues. Our democracy depends on it.

protect and serve the people of the United States." Jimeno was one of the many police officers working on the 70th floor up. Along with 20 other people, he survived that tragic day. Jimeno was trapped under the collapsed north tower for a total of 13 hours. When he least expected it, he was pulled out of the rubble. In Mossy Oak's youtube video "Honor: Will Jimeno: One of the last survivors on 9/11" Jimeno talks about his experiences on the day of 9/11 and he goes on to say that it would affect him for the rest of his life. He said, "Looking at the New York skyline and not seeing the twin towers can still be hard to this day."

This year is the 20th anniversary of when the World Trade Center collapsed. All of the loss and tears, will forever be some of the most painful reminders of that day. I might be young, but because of the education that I have access to today, I was able to do research and learn more about this event in the United States' past.

ers, campers, and just about anything you can fit in the bed of it. On the other hand, cars are usually more reliable, get better gas mileage per gallon, and can get you into smaller spaces.

Read the rest at: <https://sites.google.com/a/anesu.org/brds-eye-view/>

ONE TEACHER'S JOURNEY FROM STUDENT TO TEACHER AT MT. ABE

By **Dakota Catella**

Addie Thompson graduated from Mt. Abe and has worked here for ten years.

Thompson became an English teacher because ever since she was a child, she loved to read, even when she wasn't supposed to be reading. She said, "I became an English teacher because I had a teacher in first and second grade who I really loved, and she encouraged me to use my love for reading to teach other people to love it, too."

Thompson decided Mt. Abe was where she wanted to work because she's connected to the community. When she finished college, she started looking for a job, but there weren't many teaching positions open. The principal at Mt. Abe contacted her about a position, so she



ended up working as a learning commons teacher, teaching many different subjects. When a teaching position opened up a few years later, she officially became a teacher. Thompson explained, "I came here because I love the community and the school is neat, but I also feel like I brought something with me that I was missing as a kid."

Shannon Catella is a former student who said, "Addie Thompson talked to us like adults, instead of talking to us like we were kids." She really enjoyed how Thompson planned her classes to make them more interesting, and how when she read a book to the class, they were able to listen along or read the same book by themselves. Thanks to Thompson, Catella felt as though she learned how to write

better analytical essays, and reading the assigned books was engaging.

Sophomore Josie Wagers is a current student in Thompson's English 10 class who said, "Since joining Addie's class, the learning has been immediate." The assignment Wagers liked the most so far was the short films that they watched. Wagers added, "I like this class because it helped me learn a lot more about writing, and mostly, it has been fun so far."

Teacher Vicki Bronson has known Thompson since she was her student in 9th grade English several years ago. Bronson explained, "Addie was a happy and positive student and is still that way as a teacher." While Bronson hasn't observed Thompson teach, she has heard from students that her expectations are clear when she posts work and if students are struggling, she will always help them. Over the

TEACHER FEATURES

years, Bronson has noticed that Thompson has gotten more confident in her teaching abilities and she added, "Addie knows what she likes to teach, which shows that she has grown as a teacher because those are probably things she's good at teaching." Bronson added, "I think she has a stronger sense of classroom discipline because when you're a new teacher, you want to be friends with the students a little more and sometimes that can make behavior issues challenging."

Thompson is an inspiration to a lot of people and helps her students to better understand the work, even if that means she had to stay after school to help them.



by **Helen Kihm '24**

stone and worked on becoming a teacher. He moved to Vermont and immediately took up residence at UVM and started taking education courses. When asked if he enjoyed teaching, Williams said, "My job is never finished. I don't think it can be. It's generally just working with people, with staff members and students and helping people. It's just a good feeling."

Students were all eager to speak about his teaching. Junior Dustin Lavigne was in Williams' Foundational Science class his freshman year and his chemistry class sophomore year. "He is a great man who taught very well. He was really laid back," said Lavigne. Williams valued his students. "He cared about students as individuals and took the time to check in on everyone," added Lavigne. Sophomore Reese LaLiberte shared similar sentiments, saying, "I thought he was a great teacher. A lot of the tests were open book, so I really appreciated that."

There you have it, the story of one man's journey from England to a small, rural high school in Vermont filled with experiences and opportunity.

I SEE LONDON, I SEE NEW GUINEA, BRISTOL IS NOT THAT BIG OF A CITY

By **George Collette**

Michael Williams has had quite the ride on his journey to becoming one of Mt. Abe's most well-liked science teachers.

Born and raised in Sheffield, England, Williams was a solid student. As per usual in the UK, Williams graduated secondary school at 16 and then did his A schooling (preparation for college) at his high school in Sheffield. He went on to study Marine Biology for 3 years at the University of Newcastle. "It was nice having the freedom of university," he said in a thick British accent. "The university I went to

had a ship, so I spent quite a lot of time out at sea. I did a lot of surveying and there was a colony of seals nearby, so I did a lot of work with seals." He went on to get his Master's in Ecology Conservation and Biology at Queen's University in Belfast, Ireland.

While attending university, Williams struggled getting a job that pertained to his studies. He worked as a bartender, bouncing from pub to pub before landing a gig with



a nonprofit called ORCA. "It was based around whales and dolphins," he said. "As a wildlife officer for them, I worked on passenger ferries that went from Portsmouth, England, to Spain, then the year after that, it went from Newcastle to the Netherlands." Williams revealed that his worst experience was related to quarters.

He said, "I had the worst cabin on the boat. It was right next to the engine, so you have the noise and the heat from the engine. I think there was a little carbon monoxide in there... not ideal."

After his stint with ORCA, Williams set his sights on the Pacific and moved to New Zealand. While there, Williams worked in a university bookstore, then a sportswear store, then back to another bookstore. Williams then moved to Australia, where he struck out looking for a wage. Fed up with the Pacific, Williams went back to England, where he found a gig as an ecologist. "So I used to go out to building sites and do a lot of ecological surveys. I did a lot of bat surveys and I surveyed newts or protected species of birds, things like that." It was at this point that Williams put his nose to the grind-

know her students well enough to be able to assist them in creating a personalized plan for their future. Stebe was up for the challenge, and her strategy is simple: listen, and apply her own knowledge. Senior Molly Laurent said, "She is a very good listener who has been really understanding and patient with me in my journey of applying to college."

Josh Solomon is a familiar face, as he was Dana Dewitt's teaching intern in the 2020 school year. Dewitt said that Solomon was "a fabulous student teacher." Solomon graduated



from Colgate University, then attended UVM to earn his master's degree. Solomon is a middle school science teacher on Team Summit. He has a personal attachment to science, as he has a deep connection to the natural world and travels to Alaska annually. Of his rapport with students, DeWitt said, "He was seen as more of a co-teacher than a student teacher, well-respected and well-trusted by students." Solomon appreciates how different every day is in the classroom, and brings positivity to his class. Dewitt raved, "We are lucky to have him as a teacher here. He thoroughly plans units, and is eager to teach." Solomon enjoys the freedom that comes with teaching, especially summer vacation.

Mt. Abe is extremely fortunate to welcome these new teachers, as their impact has been positive, and immediate.

NEW FACES

(Continued from Page 1)

moved to Boston to work as a mechanical engineer and sustainable building consultant. In this job, it became clear to Nunnick that the most rewarding parts of her job were teaching and mentoring. An opportunity to move back to Vermont began her transition to teaching. She gained a master's degree in education from UVM.

Allison Stebe is the new high school guidance counselor, replacing longtime counselor Alan Kamman for students with last names H-S. Stebe grew up in a family of teachers, and knew she wanted to work with students, but not as a teacher. Counseling provides her the opportunity to "help students in all areas of their lives." Stebe has found the career to be very



rewarding, and she specifically loves to see where students end up post high school. Stebe worked at Middlebury for 12 years prior to coming to Mt. Abe. Originally from Massachusetts, she came to Vermont to attend

St. Michael's College, where she got a degree in Psychology. She attended UVM to gain a master's degree in school counseling. Mt. Abe has proved welcoming to Stebe, who said, "Everyone is so friendly and nice." She faced the daunting challenge of assisting seniors with their future planning. In just a few months, she had to get to

UVM INTERNS

(Continued from Page 1)

about his own temperament and dealing with stress. The biggest challenge so far has been "the obvious one with COVID and having to deal with all those changes that come with it. Having to wear a mask and having to remind kids to wear their masks." His favorite part has been getting to know the students, because a lot of them are funny. He also really enjoys the beautiful drive here.

Max Schindler, an intern in the history department, has been working alongside Scott Beckwith. He graduated from Brown University with an undergraduate degree and previously worked



in journalism in Palestine/Israel. He says it has been fun for him to return to high school. It has also been refreshing to see teachers hang rainbow flags and talk about their identity. When asked about what he learned so far, he said, "That teaching has really shifted in the last decade or two; that when I was in high school, most of my classes were lecture-based" and now they're discussion-based. His biggest challenge has been trying to keep kids engaged, "Because if students are bored, it's as if we aren't there." His favorite part has been working and teaching with Beckwith because he's excited to teach and Beckwith is an inspiration. "He is another gay man who is a great role model to have," he added.

These 3 interns are excited about their future career where they can teach and shape the next generation. **Look for the feature article about the other three UVM interns in our January issue.**

ART & POETRY...



by Brigette Giron '25

SILENCE by Hazel Stoddard '25

Shingled shack in
Dappled sunlight

That comes from the trees,
And the drooping moss

Singing swallows,
Perched on a vine

That glides over branches,
And the spongy ground

Soft steady wings
Creaking forest
Rustling leaves
Trickling stream

Silence.

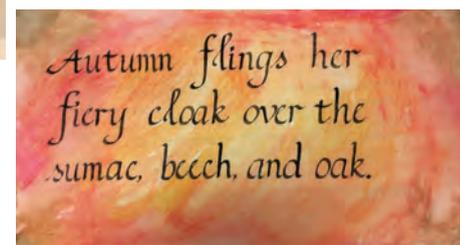


by Nola Roberts '25

Check out more pottery on pages 3 and 7...

I WAS by Ruby Hellier '25

When I was little
I was fire,
I was alive with energy
willing to go, do, fly.
I was witty and loud
The scream of a howler monkey
I was a strawberry
with hair like a tomato
and cheeks like a cherry
I was little but big
I was shared
I was funny and alive
I was dirty in the fields
I was spunky and wild
I was quick and quiet,
sneaky and noisy
I was a talker who didn't like to talk
when I was little.



by Justin Bolduc '22



by Kelsey Roscoe '25

MIDDLE SCHOOL



by Clark Crary '27

By Avah Murray '26

I am from stargazing under the moon,
Trying to find shooting stars
on warm summer nights.
Catching fireflies with your brother

I am from "don't get mud on the floors"
or "Be home before it gets dark" with
Meatloaf and mashed potatoes waiting
For you when you get back.

I am from an old town with an old church and
Library, painted white with flakes slowly coming off.
Along with a small elementary school.
And dirt roads everywhere.

I am from a small blue house with a wooden porch,
And a rocky driveway and lilac bushes on either side of
The doorway. With trees all over in the yard.
And a loving family waiting for me at home.



by Blake Allen '27

by Nathan Lester '26

The aliens were all around us. They looked like the ones from Space Jam, the 1996 version. This time, instead of taking talent from NBA players they took control over three politicians. Those politicians were Bernie Sanders, Donald Trump, and the third was Joe Biden. They challenged Kim Jong-Un, Vladimir Putin, and me to a civil debate for leadership of our planet.

I wasn't too fond of my teammates. They kept talking in different languages, but when I got a translator they were just talking about world domination. So it looked like it was up to me to defend the planet from the aliens who had taken over three American politicians. Kim Jong-Un and Vladimir Putin were really butting heads, and they couldn't work together. Since the aliens took over politicians with different views, they had a difficult time working together as a group, and arguments began to brew among the American politicians.

They argued about everything from taxes to free college to foreign relations. I realized that I didn't need to do anything but allow the aliens to continue to argue. Eventually, the aliens became so annoyed with the politicians that they decided to leave the Americans and leave Earth. I was awarded a Nobel prize even though I didn't do anything.



by Wyatt Giroux '27



by Orion Yates '27

By Liam Lazare '26

I am from oversized raindrops, I am from when it rains it pours.
I am from hurricanes blowing off my neighbor's roof.
I am from strong and bendy palm trees,
I am from a tidy uniform from a private school,

I am from low tide,
I am from walking out to the deep,
I am from helping baby turtles cross the street,
I am from multi colored sunsets

From a constant breeze, from exotic fruits,
From living 5 minutes away from the beach,
From fish and chips in the afternoon,
From going to surfing competitions on stormy days.

From finishing every crumb on my plate.
From living close to all my family,
From spicy traditional food,
From a thick accent and if not surrounded by you will forget.
From crazy spicy sour sweet candies.

From finding shells on the beach,
From being able to see 20 feet out underwater
From water trampolines on the ocean
From late boardwalk walks

From soccer and basketball,
From mid summer car rides at night
From our lake house when only good memories are created.
I am from fun
summer sleepovers.

I am from Barbados



REVAMPED *ONE DAY AT A TIME* IS WORTH YOUR TIME

By Essence Calderon Melendez

One Day at a Time is an old TV show that was remade in 2017 with a family full of Latinas and Latinos. Throughout the show, they bring their culture to everyone who is watching, and share what they learn. It's amazing to see the community that's created along the way.

Something considered "not a crowd pleaser" to the audience is some of the actions of Schneider, who is a middle-aged white man played by Todd Grinell. Over the course of the show, he comes to be "part of the family" and he does many things to prove his commitment to them and show that they're his family. Marcel Ruiz stars as Alex, the 12-year-old son and beloved brother, and when he begins talking to his mom about the recent experiences he has been having at school related to racism, Schneider makes some unnecessary comments about how he understands what Alex is going through. This bothered me personally, as well as other viewers, because one of the main issues we have in America today is that people who are not considered people of color or minorities are preaching how they understand the struggles that people of color and other minorities go through. The irony that this show is trying to point out is a good way to show people how it can really affect someone.

Although this tends to bother me and may well bother other viewers, I recom-

mend watching *One Day at a Time*, solely because it has many valuable lessons that teenagers should be learning. 2021 has

been a very hard year for many people and even though *One Day at a Time* might be an older show, the advice it gives can last a lifetime, and it made a difference that has meant the world to me. Although this show might have its flaws, it makes up for it with the comedy, romance, and friendship that are created along the way.

Through the show, many of the characters went through changes that reflected on the rest of the family, but because of the overwhelming support system it can tend to cause drama. In the end, each of the characters learned a lesson about themselves as individuals. This helps teach viewers that what's best for you might not be best for the ones around you, but at the end of the day, the most important person is you.

The original version of *One Day at a Time* was based on a primarily white cast, whereas the newer version is based on how different types of people have different things that they tend to struggle with. These two shows are very different, not only because of the cast, but the time and environment. The newer version of *One Day at a Time* is filmed in Los Angeles, while the 70s version was filmed in Hollywood. Even though they are both very different, they have one thing in common, they care about family.



YOU SHOULD READ *WHEN BREATH BECOMES AIR*

By Dakota Catella

When Breath Becomes Air is Paul Kalanithi's *New York Times* bestselling memoir, about dealing with the struggles that come with having lung cancer. Kalanithi's story was unique and engaging, because of the way he battled his disease until the end and never gave up.

This book was very educational, but also interesting, because of the way Kalanithi talked about how his life changed after he was diagnosed with lung cancer. On page 22, he describes how when he was in the patient rooms, he was no longer a doctor: "I received the plastic arm bracelet all patients wear, put on the familiar light blue hospital gown, walked past the nurses I knew by name, and was checked in to a room—the same room where I had seen hundreds of patients over the years." This quote represents how he can't believe that he has this terminal disease, and how it's him that has it. Also on page 22, he said, "In this room, I had sat with patients and explained terminal diagnoses and complex operations; in this room, I had congratulated patients on being cured of a disease and seen their happiness at being returned to their lives; in this room, I had pronounced patients dead." When I read this sentence, I felt like that's how he felt; he was just another patient, not a doctor.

Books that make the reader have strong feelings are some of the best. When Kalanithi talked about how he had worked for years, and then was promoted to a neurosurgeon, it's sad to think that he worked



so hard, for cancer to ruin it.

At the end of the book, Kalanithi could no longer write, so his wife Lucy added a few paragraphs about her experience of being a caregiver for him and being there through Paul's life and death. On page 151, she explained, "It never occurred to me that you could love someone the

same way after he was gone, that I would continue to feel such love and gratitude alongside the terrible sorrow." I really liked how Lucy explained in great detail what it was like to care for someone with a terminal disease.

If you like romance books, then this is not the book for you, but if you're looking to read a really good memoir about lung cancer, then you should read *When Breath Becomes Air*.

BOTH ARE GOOD, BUT *HUNGER GAMES* MOVIES ARE BETTER THAN BOOKS

By Jazzlynn Kate Senecal

The Hunger Games movies are better than the books because the scenery in the movie gives me a clearer picture of what the setting of Panem looks like. Panem is a make believe city where the story takes place.

The Hunger Games is a story of love, in the book and in the movies. Katniss Everdeen is the leader of the team, and she is a hero. She saves people from getting killed by President Snow, who is the villain in *The Hunger Games*. President Snow tried to kill



ASSASSIN'S CREED VALHALLA: THE HONEST REVIEW

By Hunter Collins

Assassin's Creed Valhalla is an open-world RPG (role-playing game) that starts you off in a beautiful landscape in Norway, but it can be glitchy if your game isn't optimized. You will have to watch a couple of cutscenes and do a tiny bit of gameplay before you can choose your character, whose name is Eivor. You can choose to be a boy or a girl just like in the previous *Assassin's Creed* games.

Once you start off in your world, you immediately notice how nice the world is. You will also notice how many frames per second, or FPS, your computer can output. Norway, which is the first map, makes your FPS drop, so you might have to change some settings. The landscape can be very detailed, so it doesn't load everything and the spots that don't load become bland masses you can walk through.

There is a lot to do in this game: tons of areas to explore and quests to do. Also, the multiple maps the game offers are pretty big. You will have yourself invested in this game for hours on end and forget about time. The fighting can be a little bit



buggy and strange, and your character may also jump on random things when you don't want to, which becomes frustrating.

The pros of the game: it's fun, has a great story, there is lots to do and explore, and it gives you lots to think about and has some difficult choices. Some of the "wealth" that you have to collect makes you use your brain to try and

figure out how to get it. (Wealth is gold bars that you can collect throughout the different sections of the maps.) The cons: some quests take forever to get to, fighting can be very buggy, your character jumps to where you don't want it or just didn't jump in the first place, and being thrown for no apparent reason.

My honest advice: if you want to spend the money and time on this game, then it is definitely worth it. Overall, this is a good game that is definitely worth a play and some time, especially if you are into open-world RPGs, and if you like to fight, it has plenty of action for you. I'd score it an 8.5/10 because of the bugs and things that become frustrating. Most people that play this game will enjoy it, but it's not for everyone.

FRENCH CORNER: UNE CRITIQUE DE LE FILM *VISAGES VILLAGES*

By Desmond Carrico

Le film, *Visages Villages*, s'agit de l'idée que chaque personne qui compose la société est importante, spécifiquement, les gens en France rurale, les places que plus des gens regardent pas. Le directrice, Agnès Varda, est une artiste magnifique, particulièrement dans le film. JR est le photographe du film, qui colle les visages des gens qu'elle Agnès et JR rencontrent, à les mettre sur les lieux qu'ils représentent. Les deux voyagent en France rurale, et ils apprennent à connaître les plus petits personnages français.

Nous aimons *Visages Villages* en partie parce que le film a un très important message. Les deux personnes principales ont beaucoup de connaissances qui se rencontrent dans le film. Les personnes qu'ils rencontrent ont beaucoup d'expériences très différentes, et très intéressantes. C'est très intéressant aussi de voir la passion que les personnes ont pour leur travail, par exemple le fermier des chèvres, un ouvrier d'usine, et une serveuse.

The film, *Visages Villages*, is about the idea that every person who makes up society is important, specifically, the people in rural France, the places where most people don't look. The director, Agnès Varda, is a magnificent artist, especially in the film. JR is the photographer of the film, who glues the faces of the people Agnès and JR meet, and puts them on the places they represent. The two travel to rural France, and they get to know the smallest French people.

We liked *Visages Villages*, in part because the film has a very important message. The two main characters meet many people, and show their meetings in the movie. All these people have very different experiences, and they are all very interesting. It is also very interesting to see the passion the people have to their work, for example the goat farmer, the factory worker, or the waitress.



and one girl survive the Hunger Games. Katniss and Peeta were the winners.

There is more romance in the movies than the books, which I like. There was more kissing between Katniss and Peeta in the movie. They also kiss in the book, but not as much as in the movie. There is also some romance between Gale and Katniss, who kissed in the movie and the book. The movies are better because it seemed like there was more romance in the movies.

After reading the book and watching the movie *The Hunger Games*, I give the book 4 stars and the movie 5 stars.

REVIEWS

SPORTS

IN MY OPINION: THE NFL AND VACCINATION

By Hayden Barrows

The debate over whether or not to get the COVID vaccine as a professional athlete is a difficult one. Some sports leagues are requiring players and staff to get the vaccine because COVID is a serious disease that can lead to death and the vaccine is one way of controlling it.

The NFL has been the spotlight of the vaccine conversation. Players have spoken out multiple times, sharing their opinions about whether the vaccine should be required or not. Some players believe that they are being misinformed about the vaccine. A lot of teams have come out and stated that the player's vaccination status is a determining factor. Players and coaches should be allowed to make their own decisions, but must also understand that the team wants what is best for the organization. One Buffalo Bills player has expressed his opinion about the league trying to require the vaccine for all staff members and players. He also tweeted that he is willing to pay for away tickets for fans not wanting to get vaccinated in order to attend games at their home stadium.

I have always been pro-choice, meaning that everyone should be able to make their own decisions about their own body, and the vaccine should be part of that as well, but COVID can spread very quickly, and getting the vaccine can prevent it from spreading so rapidly.

There has been substantial evidence that the team's leaders take into consideration when assessing each player's vaccination status. Teams don't like players that carry extra baggage, and not having the vaccine poses a greater risk for a player to get Covid-19. Also, your vaccination status can determine the amount of distraction involved with the players and the team.

The NFL is proposing to the players union that all unvaccinated players get tested weekly instead of bi-weekly, which

(See NFL, Page 7)



GIRLS' SOCCER IS ONLY TEAM WITH TRYOUTS THIS FALL

By Joane Kapanaga

This year, the girls soccer team had 52 athletes try out for a spot on Junior Varsity and Varsity and as the maximum number of players they could accept were 40, girls' soccer was the only team that had to do tryouts this fall. The athletes felt different emotions about that, including stress, happiness, and sadness... and the coaches felt the same range of emotions.

Illia Dennison is a senior that got selected for the Varsity team. She plays both center and striker and she wanted to get on the team because she "loves" soccer and she plays it in school and on a club team as well. "I feel like it improves me," she added. "I enjoyed the tryouts. It was nice to be out on the field with people I go to school with, but I didn't enjoy the pressure about cuts," she explained. Dennison felt that the best part of the tryouts was finding out that she was on the team, but she also said the worst part was having so many girls feeling sad "because they didn't get the team they wanted." She agreed that tryouts are necessary, because there

are people with different skills and levels. Finally, she said she was really happy with the team and that as a senior, this was her last year here, but if it wasn't, she would definitely do the tryouts again.

Freshman Ruby Hellier made the JV team. She usually plays defense and she agreed with Dennison and enjoyed the tryouts, but also said they were a little stressful and difficult. "The worst part of the tryouts was when I pulled my quad," she remembered. In her opinion, the best part of the tryouts was when they posted the list, and she realized she was on the team. Like Dennison, Hellier thought tryouts were necessary because it shows who really wants to be on the team. She was happy with the results, and she is thinking of trying out next year, too.

Bonnie Huizenga is the coach of the JV team. She said that the number of athletes that participated in tryouts was "great on one hand but unfortunately was too many to keep to have the programs be successful." She mentioned that having to make the cuts was the worst part of



JV Girls' Soccer Team, coached by Huizenga

the program. "As a coach, I try to keep as many on the team as possible. That being said, I also have to teach and prepare my athletes for the next level with workable numbers," Huizenga said. Finally, she said that her team was "a very good and competitive team" and that she was excited for their season.

Tryouts were difficult and stressful, not just for the athletes who wanted to join the team, but also for the coaches. But it was worth it, because most of the people were happy with the results and excited about the season.

IN MY OPINION: FIELD HOCKEY COACHES DRIVE THE TEAM'S SUCCESS

By Txuxa Konczal

Mt. Abe field hockey has proved itself dominant in the last two decades, winning a total of 11 championships since 2000. As a member of the Eagle field hockey team for 4 of those championships, I attribute our success to the dynamic, multifaceted nature of the coaching staff.

The Eagle program is led by Mary Stetson, or Stets, as we all call her, along with 5 assistant coaches. Each assistant coach brings their own knowledge and expertise, and are unified under head coach Stetson. Stets has designed a tried and true program. From the first day of preseason to playoffs, every practice, pregame, and team bonding event is planned by Stets and the coaching staff to generate success. Preseason is an intense mix of fitness and skill work that allows our team to enter the regular season fit and with improved skills, able to focus on strategy. Fitness is never forgotten, and I have lost count of the times Stets said, "We will be the fitter team." Even with small roster numbers, we have maintained the ability to outrun our opponents. Fitness work-



Coaches giving feedback at halftime PC: Mark Bowvier

outs are varied to keep practices engaging. Practices are designed in a dynamic manner, with one drill building on the previous one, allowing us to build our skills in pieces. This strategy gives us a strong foundation of skills which is essential to our success. Every practice is followed by a conversation where Stets makes sure we never forget her support. In games, half time is a balance of constructive criticism and positive observations.

Stets understands that success also comes from mindset, and team dynamic. The phrase "next time" is common vocabulary for Eagle field hockey players. Stets is never disappointed with a mistake,

but reminds us to go for it "next time." Before every game, a quote appears on the front side of our lockers, a message from Stets to focus on the game at hand. At the beginning of every season, players are assigned secret pals, a partner on the team who writes their counterpart a note to help inspire them pregame. This incites team bonding and interconnectedness. Weekly team dinners also build a positive team dynamic because they help the team make connections off the field, that we can then carry over onto the field.

Working alongside Stets are 5 assistant coaches: Jen Myers, Kayla Bassett, Lucy Pellegrini, Lisa Roscoe and Trisha Vincent. Jen was an Eagle field hockey player and won 4 championships as a player herself. She brings extensive knowledge to defense coaching. She works with, and advocates for defensive players all season. Jen implements a simple and effective defensive strategy, and in my four years as a varsity player, I have not seen the plan change at all. While she is a strong coach in terms of experience and knowledge, she is also key in supporting us as players. As a freshman, I had only been playing the sport

(See Field Hockey, Page 8)

XC COACHES

(Continued from Page 1)

coach. It was sad to see Norwood go, but Coach Friend stepped up and has become an amazing coach, mentor, and friend.

Coach Friend really challenged us this year, because she knows that the cross country team will be a great team in the future. I enjoy her coaching style, because she pushes us, but also gives us fun days before a race, with kickball, capture the flag, and zombie tag. These days really help boost her athletes' morale, and it gives them time to relax and destress. Some athletes might not enjoy her coaching style, because they don't want to be pushed. I enjoy winning, and you can't win without being pushed, and there's always going to be someone better than you. For example,

the reason CVU is so good is because each athlete is pushed to their full potential, and that's Coach Friend's goal, too.

Karyn Norwood is the middle school cross country coach, which is perfect for her, because she's a middle school teacher, so she already has a strong connection with her runners. She's also super cheery and has tons of energy, which matches the middle school runners. She's also an amazing coach, because she's always positive, and is very invested in each runner. I didn't do cross country in middle school, because I wanted to focus on basketball, but Norwood convinced me to join high school cross country when I was a freshman. Coach Norwood is really good at recruiting, because she's one of the more popular teachers, and she gives off a very positive, and welcoming attitude. She started Friday

fundays, because our teams' races were on Saturdays.

The high school coaching change made for a rocky start, because there was a different coaching style, but after a couple of practices, the whole team got in a groove, and figured everything out. The first week was tough, because Coach Friend pushed us really hard, because many team members were out of shape, and didn't run over the summer. I pushed through, and at the end of the first two weeks, team captains were decided. Noah Engvall, Abigail Johnson, Sean Davison, and I were appointed team captains. I was not expecting to be appointed co-captain, but I expected the other three. They are all great leaders and talented athletes who are also super positive and kind.

This year's varsity cross country team

is one of the best we've had in previous years, and our varsity team is all running in around the same times. The girls varsity team is also exceptional, and possibly better than the boys varsity team. Their team dynamic is what really sets them apart from everyone else. They are small, but very close, and crazy good athletes. Estella Laird, their fastest runner, is only a freshman this year, but she has proven that you can't mess with her. She is currently ranked 5th in the state of Vermont. Without Abigail Johnson's leadership the girls varsity team wouldn't be at the position they are. This year's cross country season has been a rollercoaster ride, but has also been my favorite season so far. That's thanks to Coach Friend, my three co-captains, the boys varsity and junior varsity team, and finally the girls team.

SURVEYS

SURVEY REVEALS DREAM VEHICLES DIFFERENT THAN REALITY

By Evan Oberle

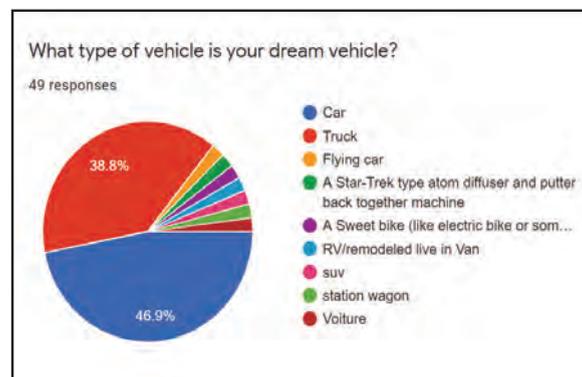
Everyone has a dream in life, and some people's dreams include a certain vehicle. A recent survey of 10-12th graders and faculty and staff at Mt. Abe invited people to think about their dream vehicle, and 49 students and staff members responded.

The results of this study showed that cars were way more popular than trucks and SUVs among respondents. Although cars were more popular for dream vehicles, trucks were still up almost 20% over owning a truck for a current vehicle. Out of all the brands of vehicles, Ford was one of the most popular brands on the list of dream vehicles at 26%. A majority of the people said that they can see themselves owning their dream vehicle, with only 17 of 49 saying they didn't expect to own their dream vehicle.

When asked what type of vehicle they own, nearly 60% said a car, while less than 50% said their dream vehicle was a car. Dustin Corrigan teaches P.E. and has 2 cars, but his dream vehicle is a truck because "I'd like to be able to plow my own driveway rather than have to contract someone else to do it every year and be at their mercy whenever a heavy snow comes. I'd also like to be able to tow a decent-sized trailer, camper, boat, etc."

Almost 70% said that they see themselves owning their dream vehicle and when asked how they would own it, senior Harrison Bruhl said his dream car was a Rimac Nevera, and he added, "Aim for the stars. I might not ever get my 2.4 million dollar electric hypercar, but with that goal, I'll at least get something cool." Senior George Collete said his dream car was an El Camino but said he'd "probably never" own it, because "something tells me I'm gonna be broke."

The most popular dream vehicle brand was Ford with almost one quarter of all the votes. A majority of people voted for Ford trucks because of the looks and towing capacity that comes along with them. Most people's reasons for wanting a Ford truck were "I like the style," and "Tows a lot," or "They are cool." The most popular vehicle brand owned currently is Ford. People's responses were "because I bought it," and "It was a hand me down," and "It has four wheel drive," and "It's reliable."



ART TEACHER VOTED FAVORITE OVERALL IN POLL

By Dustin Lavigne

A recent survey asked the students of Mt. Abe to choose their favorite teacher based on each department, and also their all around favorite teacher. Over 120 students responded to the survey.

Students in grades 7-12 voted on their favorite teacher in the English department, and with 20.6% of the votes, Kelly Osborne-Steff had the most votes. Freshman Brailey Livingston voted for Osborne because "she always made the class funny and also made jokes to keep us entertained." Osborne had 2 more votes than runner-up Addie Thompson with 18.6% of the votes. Sophomore Lexi Keith voted for Thompson because "she is kind, funny and supportive, and she can take a joke."

Students also voted for their favorite Social Studies teacher, and with 20% of the votes each, Karyn Norwood and Jessica Little tied. Little is a high school teacher, and Norwood is a middle school teacher. Their former or current students all said about both of them: "She's nice," and "She's involved," and "She's funny." The runner-up in Social Studies was Megan Hendee with 17.4% of the votes, and she recently became a teacher at Mt. Abe, so she's made quite a name for herself. Senior Creed Stillwell chose Hendee because: "She's a super nice person and I've heard great things about her as a teacher."

The students voted Michael Williams as their favorite Science teacher with 29.5% of the votes. Senior Justin Bolduc

STUDENTS AND STAFF SHARE INSIGHTS ABOUT EFFECTS OF COVID

By Nolan Valkyrie

In a recent survey on the effects of COVID, 118 students and staff members responded and shared their opinions.

When asked if they thought COVID would last this long, 60% said no, 33% said yes, and 7% said other. Sophomore Connor Meacham said, "Yes, because the flu is still a problem." Sophomore Luke Mayer said, "No, because we have a vaccine." When asked if COVID made an impact on their lives, 77% of respondents said yes and 23% said no. Social Studies teacher Jordan Lea said, "Yes, because it completely altered my family's schedule, and added lots of stress."

When asked if they believe in vaccinations, 91 out of 116 people said yes. Junior Addison Mayhew added, "I can understand why some people may not want to receive a vaccination, but I do not accept people not taking this seriously and taking the precautions to protect themselves and others. The vaccination is a good way to do this because it provides better protection against the virus."

Most did not like hybrid learning last year. In fact, 71 out of 116 people said they did not. Eighth grader Emily Sherman said, "It was nice to be able to do work on my own time, but it sucked when I had a question, because I would have to email the teacher and it would take hours for them to respond."

Of the 116 people who

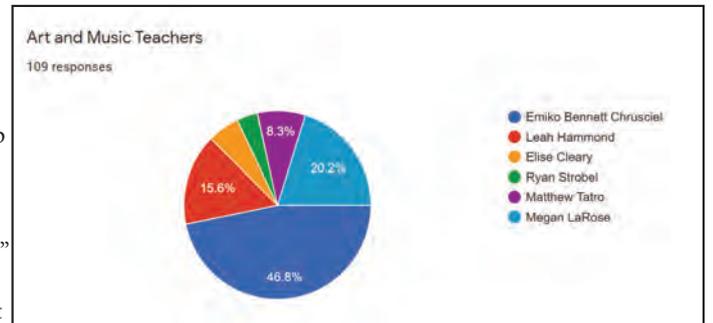
had this to say about Williams: "He's my advisor and really chill." The runner-up was Katie Hamm with 17.1% of the votes, and students said she was "helpful" and "welcoming."

Emily Ringquist

was voted favorite teacher in the Math department, and she had a total of 26.5% of the votes. Rory Hendee, a 9th grader, voted Ringquist as her favorite Math teacher, saying "When I was in 7th grade, I struggled a lot in math. I stayed after school some days to get some extra help. I had Mrs. Debiasio as a teacher, but Ms. Ringquist was the teacher who really helped me through 7th grade. For some reason, I wasn't understanding my other teacher, but Ms. Ringquist did an amazing job helping me understand what I was struggling with." The runners-up were John Foster and Robert Maurer who each garnered 15.3% of the votes.

Students voted on their favorite Physical Education teachers, and Jeffrey Stein received the highest percentage of votes, with a total of 48.3% of the votes. Freshman Ryan Cross voted for Stein because "he made class fun and listened to what we wanted to do." Jordan Vickers was the runner up with 27.6% of the votes.

Matthew Brown was voted the favorite Design and Tech teacher with



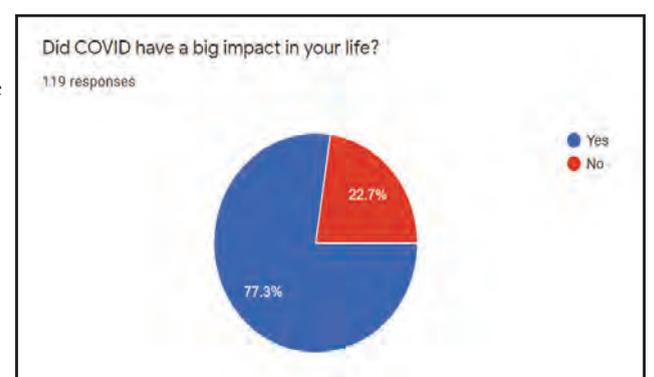
almost half the votes. Junior Kayden Matis said, "Mr. Brown's class was one of my first classes here and I have fond memories of using the sphero drones out in the halls." Jeffrey Stetson was the runner up with 34.5% of the votes. A lot of people enjoyed both Brown and Stetson, and it was hard to decide which one they enjoyed the most.

Last but not least, for the Art and Music teachers, Emiko Bennett Chrusciel had 46.8% of the votes. Gretchen Toy, an 8th grader, voted for Chrusciel, because, "This person gets things done and has really fun class projects." The runner up was Megan Larose with 20.2% of the votes.

When asked who was the favorite teacher overall at Mt. Abe, Chrusciel won again. Sophomore Carley Cook explained, "Ms. Emi because she is also my lacrosse goalie coach and she forms bonds with most of her students and always welcomes you into her classroom." Karyn Norwood was a close runner-up, because students love that she's "kind" and "brings joy into the room" and "is super energetic."

responded, 80 said COVID made learning more difficult. Sophomore Joanna Toy said, "It was difficult in its own ways, but sometimes it was easier. Math teacher Ryan Farran said, "Learning is built on relationships and trust, and it was harder to connect with people remotely." Freshman Shaylee Briggs said, "I got way less done and it was harder."

Nearly 75% of respondents were glad to be back in school full time, even with masks. Eighth grader Riley Abbott said, "I was kinda glad to see some friends, and meet new friends, and to learn, but I liked it hybrid." P.E. teacher Dustin Corrigan added, "I'm glad to be back in-person with all my students. I am finding some



of my larger class sections challenging. I had almost no student behavior issues last spring when we were hybrid and it was a really great learning environment in our building for everyone. With all students back, managing student behavior is more difficult and it's been more challenging for teachers to maintain a good environment for learning and enforce safety guidelines, like mask wearing."

NFL (Continued from Page 6)

is something that should be accepted to ensure the safety of the players even more.

The NFL has also expressed concern about the recent surge in cases involving the Delta Variant, because the symptoms are different from the other variants. I thought the league was going to take more actions, but nothing has really changed with its protocols. I think the league should not require the vaccine, but should incorporate more consistent testing to prevent the disease from spreading rapidly.



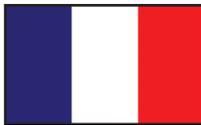
by Joe Darling '24

FRENCH CORNER: VISAGES VILLAGES PROJECT

By Cassandra Guillemette '23

Madame Warden est la directrice de Mount Abraham et elle est très importante pour notre école. Elle a commencé à Mount Abe en 2019 après avoir été enseignante pendant 7 ans ailleurs. Elle a adoré le rôle de leader comme prof, ce qui l'aide à décider de devenir directrice d'école. Madame Warden adore la communauté dans l'école et les relations que les profs peuvent avoir avec les étudiants. <<Je suis convaincu que les adultes dans le bâtiment se soucient profondément des élèves et de leur apprentissage. Et c'est pourquoi les relations sont si fortes dans toute notre école.>> Un jour pour Madame Warden n'est jamais simple. Elle est toujours très occupée et travailleuse. Elle rend notre école meilleure tous les jours et est très importante pour toutes les personnes.

Ms. Warden is the principal of Mount Abraham and is very important to our school. She started at Mount Abe in 2019 after being a teacher for 7 years. She loved the leadership role as a teacher, which helped her decide to be a principal. Ms. Warden loves the community in the school and the relationships teachers can have with students. "I believe that the adults in the building care deeply about the students and their learning. And that's why the relationships are so strong throughout our school." A day for Ms. Warden is never easy. She is always busy and hardworking. She makes our school better every day and is very important to all people.



By Jessie Nault '22

Elle s'appelle Vicki Bronson et elle enseigne beaucoup de classes d'anglais à Mt Abe. Madame Bronson travaille à Mt Abe depuis environ 30 ans, mais pour 4 ans entre son temps à Mt Abe, elle a travaillé à Missisquoi. Madame Bronson a décidé d'être professeur parce qu'elle a eu un prof de poésie à Middlebury College pendant sa deuxième année à Middlebury. Son prof l'a inspiré à enseigner l'anglais parce qu'elle a voulu inspirer les autres comme son prof avait fait. Madame Bronson a été sauveteur et a travaillé à Wendy's pendant l'université et le lycée. Madame Bronson a eu sa certification pour enseigner juste après l'université, donc elle a commencé à enseigner immédiatement. Madame Bronson a une fille, Elena qui est dans sa dernière année de lycée, et un mari qui enseigne à Mt Abe aussi. Elle a été l'entraîneur de course à Mt Abe mais pas maintenant.

Her name is Vicki Bronson and she teaches many English classes at Mt. Abe. Ms. Bronson has worked at Mt. Abe for about 30 years, but for 4 years between her time at Mt. Abe, she worked at Missisquoi. Ms. Bronson decided to become a teacher because she had a poetry professor at Middlebury College during her second year at Middlebury. Her professor inspired her to teach English because she wanted to inspire others like her professor had done. Ms. Bronson was a lifeguard, and she worked at Wendy's during college and high school. Ms. Bronson got her teaching certification right after college, so she started teaching immediately. Ms. Bronson has one daughter, Elena, who is in her final year of high school, and she has a husband who used to teach at Mt. Abe. She used to coach cross country at Mt. Abe, but not anymore.



By Addison Mayhew '23

Annette est un gardien qui habite à Vergennes, travaillant à Mount Abe. Surtout derrière les scènes tâches, elle est une travailleuse acharnée et une personne très humble. Elle travaille autour de l'école, nettoyant les poubelles, aspirant les couloirs, balayant et nettoyant les sols, et bien d'autres encore qui contribuent à améliorer notre école. Elle est plus gentille et elle contribue beaucoup dans la communauté de Mount Abe par son travail. Elle a travaillé comme gardienne pendant de nombreuses années avant de trouver Mount Abe. Il y a quelques années, elle a postulé pour ce travail, et elle y travaille depuis. En dehors du travail, elle aime passer du temps avec sa famille et ses amis, y compris ses petits-enfants. Elle aime aussi lire et jouer au bingo, entre autres activités. Elle est l'une des nombreuses gardiennes extraordinaires qui s'occupent de notre école

Annette is a custodian living in Vergennes who works here at Mount Abe. Mostly in behind-the-scenes tasks, she is a humble hard worker. She does work around the school, taking care of trash, vacuuming, sweeping and mopping, floor washing, and so much more to improve our school. She is very kind and contributes greatly to our community through her work. She worked as a custodian for many years before she found Mount Abe. A number of years ago she applied for the job, and she has been working here ever since. Outside of work, she enjoys spending time with her family and friends, including her grand-children. She also loves reading and playing bingo, among other activities. She is one of the many amazing custodians who look after our school.



ADVICE WITH A SIDE OF HUMOR

By George Collette

People keep asking me for advice, so here it is for some of the more common questions I've gotten over the years.

What do I do if a teacher doesn't like me?

Suffering Sophomore

This is a great opportunity to both practice some people skills and possibly gain a new friend. Start out by asking about them... where they are from, what job they had as a teen, the most idiotic thing they've ever done. They are undoubtedly going to ask about you. Keep your answers short and witty, really find out who they are. Turn in your work. I know it seems obvious, but teachers really appreciate it if you respect them both academically and as a mentor. Overall, just be there. If they've had a rough day, give them space. If they've had a good day, ASK THEM ABOUT IT. Remember dates that are important to them, and let them know that you remembered.

What's the best time to move about the school in order to avoid seventh graders?

Baffled Junior

That's a great question, and there's a very simple answer: you can't. They are everywhere, there's no escape. Don't even try running, you'll only end up disappointed and tired. My advice: While you can't escape them, you can limit your interactions. Take a stairwell that will have fewer 7th graders, like the one behind the library. Big ol' group of them running down the hall you're in? Slip into an empty classroom and find another way through. Most of the classes at Mt. Abe are interconnected, so you can pretty much get from one end of the building to the other with little hall time. If worse comes to worst and you

can't avoid a hallway filled with screaming 12-year-olds, take a deep breath and pray to whoever will listen. Hold your chin up and speed walk like a 40-year-old at Costco.



How do I ask out a friend?

Confused 9th grader

Oh boy. I'm usually not the type to give relationship advice, but if you're worried about what the outcome is going to be, then I have but one thing to say, STOP. No matter what scenario you find yourself playing over and over in that brain of yours, it won't be that bad. I can't even fathom the amount of times I've seen friends ask out friends. If things don't go as planned, or one party isn't on board with the idea, the next day, you may have to clear the air (usually with moderation of some type) and then boom! Back to the way things were. Whatever you do, if things don't work out, don't be bitter. If they don't want to be more than friends, take it in stride, accept the fact you have a good friend and move on. If they feel the same way and you start courting, then congrats, you two are beautiful together! RAH RAH for the power couple! On the off chance things don't work out, take the same advice given above for those who didn't want to go out in the first place. Just keep your wits about you and don't be heartless.

Well, that's our time! As Kelsey Grammar used to say, "This is Doctor Frasier Crane, signing off." If you have questions, you can reach me at 22collg@mausd.org

Check out more advice at: <https://sites.google.com/alanesu.org/brds-eye-view/>

FIELD HOCKEY

(Continued from Page 6)

and is able to assist in improving the depth of our defense. Success is not only measured in championships, and the success of the Eagle Field Hockey program can also be measured in the connections made during our years as field hockey players. I can say with certainty, field hockey has become a family for me. I will forever be thankful for the years I had as an Eagle hockey player, and will be even more thankful to the coaches who gave me the opportunity to grow as an athlete and a person, because the memories and positive experiences will last a lifetime.

for a year, and joining seasoned players on varsity was daunting, but Jen never let me forget how she believed in me, support that made my experience so positive. Kayla Bassett, another former Eagle player, focuses on the forward line. She shares her knowledge and demonstrates her skill at many practices. Kayla brings an unmatched competitive spirit to practice. Lucy Pellegrini (or Ms. P) was the former head coach, and now coaches the goalies. Having a goalie coach ensures that our goalies are given training while the rest of the team works on skills that do not involve shooting. Ms. P has a vast knowledge of goalkeeping, but also bestows wisdom on the entire team. Ms. P has been a part of the Eagle field hockey team for over 3 decades. The fact that she has been involved in field hockey for so long means her experience is unmatched. She has seen just about everything, and can teach us anything. Lisa Roscoe is the head coach of the junior varsity team, but when her team is not playing, she is supporting our varsity team. Trisha Vincent is a newer addition to the coaching staff, but her impact has been immediate. She played defense,



Graphic by Bruce Babbitt

The Bird's Eye View

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Hunter Collins Jazzlynn Senecal Nolan Valkyrie Sam Schoendorf
Essence Calderon-Melendez Aidan Harris Jonah Jennings



ACROSS

- 1. German philosopher
- 6. A type of stock trading (abbr.)
- 9. Cincinnati ballplayers
- 13. Deerlike water buffaloes
- 14. Island
- 15. Jewish calendar month
- 16. Round Dutch cheese
- 17. Unstressed syllable of a metrical foot
- 18. A restaurant needs one
- 19. Decent behaviors
- 21. Groans
- 22. Works hard
- 23. Upset
- 24. A sound made in speech
- 25. One point east of due south
- 28. Boxing's GOAT
- 29. Whittles
- 31. Tailless amphibian
- 33. Surrounded
- 36. Doesn't stay still
- 38. Copycat
- 39. Four-door car
- 41. Morally correct behavior
- 44. Something that is owed

- 45. Pasta needs it
- 46. Ant-Man's last name
- 48. Bravo! Bravo! Bravo!
- 49. Small period of time (abbr.)
- 51. Woman (French)
- 52. On or around
- 54. Fencing swords
- 56. Fonts
- 60. A command in the name of the court
- 61. Sprays with an irritant
- 62. Georgetown athlete
- 63. Dry or withered
- 64. Sign of injury
- 65. Tracts of land (abbr.)
- 66. 365 days
- 67. Physique
- 68. Icelandic poems

DOWN

- 1. Bodily substance
- 2. Internal
- 3. Provoke or annoy
- 4. Type of lounge chair
- 5. Losses
- 6. Makes less severe
- 7. Identifies a thing close at

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- hand
- 8. Group of blood disorders (abbr.)
- 9. Rebuilt
- 10. Ancient Greek City
- 11. American investigative journalist
- 12. Partially melted snow
- 14. Take shape
- 17. Mexican beverage
- 20. Patti Hearst's captors
- 21. Jacobs and Summers are two
- 23. Disfigure
- 25. Scientists' tool (abbr.)
- 26. Ill-mannered person
- 27. Overhang
- 29. Famed rat catcher
- 30. Passover feast and ceremony

- 32. Equal to 10 meters
- 34. Central processing unit
- 35. Chinese native religion
- 37. Unfermented juices
- 40. "To the __ degree"
- 42. Frozen water
- 43. Medieval circuit courts
- 47. 1,000 cubic feet (abbr.)
- 49. Gossipy
- 50. Shopping is one type
- 52. Palmlike plant
- 53. Partner to "oohed"
- 55. Welsh name meaning "snow"
- 56. Popular Mexican dish
- 57. It helps power devices
- 58. Reddish-brown wildcat
- 59. Impertinence
- 61. Legal financial term (abbr.)
- 65. Atomic #52

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Sudoku

Each Sudoku puzzle consists of a 9x9 grid that has been subdivided into nine smaller grids of 3x3 squares. To solve the puzzle each row, column and box must contain each of the numbers 1 to 9. Puzzles come in three grades: easy, medium and difficult.

Level: Medium

This week's puzzle solutions can be found on Page 22.

Stay Sharp

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Homeward Bound
Addison County's Humane Society



PETS IN NEED HOMeward BOUND

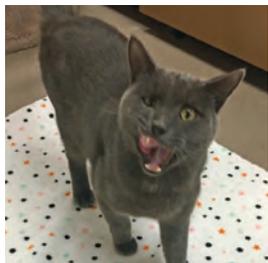
Addison County's Humane Society

Irish is a spring-loaded pupper with the most loving personality. He has a ton of energy and needs an owner who is down for play and adventure time. He wants to cuddle, snuggle, and wiggle the whole day through. He has a significant prey drive for small animals – he wants to hunt – so absolutely no small animals or cats in the home. He has never been socialized with dogs and has shown that he is not currently safe to introduce to other dogs. He needs a home where he is the only pet. He loves the car, attention, drive-throughs, and every single human that he meets. Look at his face....he is the cutest!



Radke came to us after living a very limited life. He had low exposure to the world due to a sheltered lifestyle and is startled by loud noises and fast movements. For this reason, homes with small children wouldn't be appropriate for him. He needs a calm and relaxing retirement with lots of love and yummy food to make up for his previous more marginalized lifestyle. Another calm dog may be okay for him, but he doesn't have clear dog-to-dog experience. He lived with a cat, but spent most of his time on a front porch. He is very timid, but loves nothing more than human affection.

Baba is an absolute stud. He is a lover and a great companion. He loves food and is crafty when it comes to getting extra treats. He was previously an indoor/outdoor cat and would like to continue this lifestyle. We are unsure about his interest in cats and other dogs, but he adores his humans for sure.



Carson is 13-years old and 16 pounds of pure love and affection!



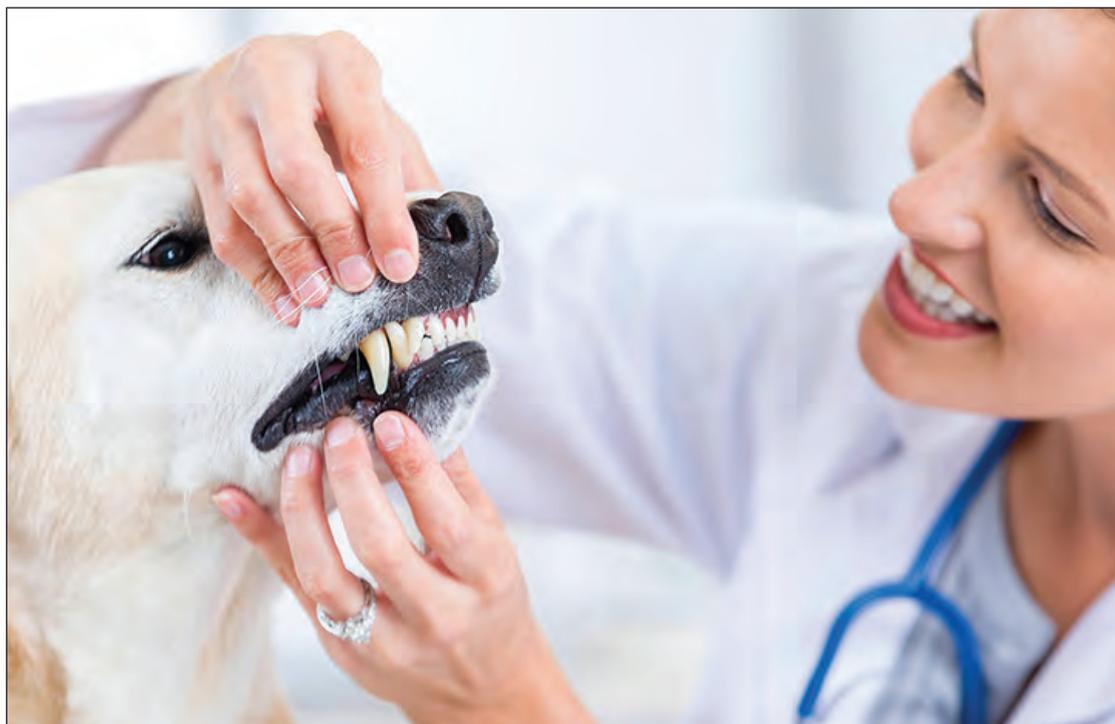
He was surrendered to the shelter when his owners could no longer keep him. He loves to eat! Food is this guy's best friend, whether it's wet food, dry, or just some treats - he is happy! He likes to lay in the cat tree or sprawl out on the floor for belly rubs! Yes, that's right...belly rubs just like a dog would like! He would do well in a home with other cats, dogs, or kids. Call today to take Carson away!

Hello, I am Flopsy! I have a ridiculously cute dark spot on my nose that wiggles up and down when I sniff, which is pretty much all the time. I really like to have a big space for adventures! I run, zoom, climb, dig, jump, play with toys, and eat snacks. When I'm in my cage I don't have as much room to do all these things so please make sure I have a playpen to spend time in. I am looking forward to being litterbox trained. I might seem shy, but if you are very gentle and patient with me you'll find I love getting pats. Give me some time and I will become a loving member of your family!



Hello, I am Mopsy! I am super soft and I LOVE head scratches. I am a curious bunny and would like to say hello every single time you walk by my cage. I like to have lots of time in a playpen or bigger play area to stretch my legs and have zoomies & adventures. I am not litterbox trained yet but I hope to be once I am neutered. I love to chew on things, climb, jump, run, and play with toys. I might be a little bit nervous when I first meet you, but when I settle into your routine, I will melt your heart!

Call or check our website. We may have a pet for you.
388-1100 | HomewardBoundAnimals.org
236 Boardman Street | Middlebury, VT



Make vet visits easier for all involved

People often get anxious about visiting the doctor, and the same can be said for pets. According to the online animal resource Top Dog Tips, a lot of dogs and cats have serious anxiety about going to the vet.

Veterinarian visits typically happen once per year, and the earlier your pet can become more comfortable and acclimated to the process, the better it will behave during each subsequent visit. The following are some steps pet owners can take to make vet visits go smoothly.

Handle your pet frequently.

Teach your pet to accept

touching of the paws, ears, mouth, tail, legs, and stomach. Regular sessions petting and touching your pet may make him or her more comfortable when the vet has to do so.

Consider waiting outside.

Research from Companion Animal Psychology says 30 percent of dogs are highly stressed while sitting in the waiting room of the vet's office. It can be hectic in the waiting room, with lots of new smells, people coming in and out and animals with all sorts of energy. If waiting rooms put your pet on edge, wait outside.

Associate the carrier with

comfort. If you pull out the crate only when the pet will be going to the vet, the animal will soon associate it with negative experiences. Instead, use the crate frequently and rely on treats so that the dog or cat sees it as a safe and fun space to spend its time. Take frequent car rides to different destinations so pets don't associate car rides with vet visits.

Find the right veterinarian.

Interview several vets to find an office and staff who love interacting with your pet and can make him or her comfortable.

Stay relaxed yourself.

Pets can sense their owner's energy. If you are worked up and anxious, then your animal may feed off of those feelings. By remaining calm, you can help keep your pet calm.

Do a fun or practice visit.

Acclimate the pet to the vet's office with a trial run. This way he or she can interact with the vet and learn the smells and sounds under less stressful conditions. This is a great way for the pet to have a positive initial experience with its new vet.



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THE HOME

A LOOK INSIDE ADDISON COUNTY HOMES FOR SALE

Ranch in East Middlebury offers easy living

This is a nicely maintained ranch in the lovely small village of East Middlebury. Some of the great features in this home are beautiful hardwood floors, newer windows, an updated bathroom, a 5 year old roof, a lovely back porch, and a full basement that used to have a large family room. Easy living on one floor with the potential for additional space in the basement. This property is a short drive to ski and hiking trails, as well as in to Middlebury.


**Champlain Valley
Properties**

*This week's property is managed by Champlain Valley Properties.
More info at champlainvalleyproperty.net.*





Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Vermont Realty Group



We are pleased to welcome Jeff Olson to our office.
 Cell phone (802) 989-9441 • Email: jeffolson@vtregroup.com



JEFF OLSON

If you are looking for a residential or commercial property, Jeff Olson, Broker/ Realtor® and Certified Buyer Representative, is eager to help you find just the right one, and he is equally eager to help you sell the property you own. An experienced property manager, he can also help you keep your rentals in good shape and fully leased. A resident of Addison County for more than three decades, he knows the area and real estate market well. He also has special expertise working in Rutland, Windsor, Washington, and Chittenden Counties in conjunction with Fannie Mae.

Jeff comes to Berkshire Hathaway Home Services after a successful business and sales career, including a stint with a company he co-founded that later sold its main product line to Thomson/Reuters. Ever the entrepreneur, Jeff has founded or co-founded 4 companies, including the recently sold Addison County Real Estate, and he currently oversees a small portfolio containing both commercial and residential properties. He honed his sales skills selling books for the New England Press, power equipment for Country Home Products, and publishing services for many companies. He lives in Weybridge with his family. In his spare time, he enjoys hiking and Nordic skiing, improving his skills in beer making, and training his bulldog, Finney. He volunteers with Meals on Wheels, and he is a board member with the Addison County Economic Development Corporation. He is also a deacon at the Weybridge Congregational Church, and he serves as chair of the Weybridge Planning Commission.

Whether you're looking for your first home, a business to buy, or an estate on the lake, Jeff will do what it takes to ensure you are well satisfied with the outcome.



We had so much fun at this year's Spooktacular event!

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BRISTOL, VT
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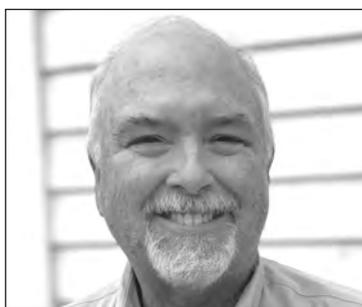


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MLS #4890121 | \$329,000
 4BDM | 2BA | 2304 SF | 1.07 AC

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MLS #4890387 | \$785,000
 2BDM | 1BA | 1048 SF | 0.20 AC

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Making the best of a small dining space

Some homeowners may aspire to have expansive dining rooms replete with seating for 12 beneath a stunning chandelier. That kind of space certainly makes hosting dinner parties easier. However, modern homes typically have small dining rooms that require homeowners or renters to be resourceful when entertaining guests.

Hosts may not be able to expand their dining spaces, but there are some clever ways to maximize every inch of a small dining room and even some smart solutions for those who don't have dining rooms at all.

Create the illusion of more space. Eating areas can be made to feel larger with a few tricks. A mirror on the

wall will reflect light and make the room appear larger. In addition, a large-scale patterned floor or oversized artwork on the wall may make the room appear more spacious.

Maximize seating. Chairs can take up a lot of room in a dining space. To maximize seating availability in smaller dining rooms - or in spaces where you need to create a seating area — look to built-in banquettes or bench seating. These ideas can help create an instant cozy nook and save on space in the process.

Let space lead furniture choices. Depending on the size and shape of the room, select a table that will fit comfortably. A round, pedestal table may take up



less real estate in a smaller room than an oblong or rectangular one. Also, if you have a narrow, galley-type dining space, select a narrow table and low-profile chairs. Again, benches may work well in narrow spaces.

Utilize the kitchen island. Many modern homes have no dedicated dining rooms but kitchens that open up to living rooms. Homeowners with kitchen islands can

utilize large islands as dining areas, and they're easy places to enjoy casual meals when stools are pulled up to the island.

Install a drop-leaf table. Drop-leaf tables do for dining spaces what Murphy beds do for guest rooms. A wall-mounted drop-leaf table can be dropped down for entertaining and folded back up when the space needs to be repurposed.

Lighten up the color palette. Make dining spaces seem larger with brighter colors. Brightly colored decor, furniture and flooring can do the trick.

Invest in storage pieces. A simple buffet can store silverware, table cloths, wine glasses, and more, but also serve double-duty as a bar or server for a buffet.

— MetroCreative

Wishing You a Warm & Wonderful Thanksgiving



From the team at Champlain Valley Properties (L-R): John Snyder-White, Brenda Jaring, Nancy Foster, Diana Berthiaume, Heather Foster-Provencher, January Stearns.



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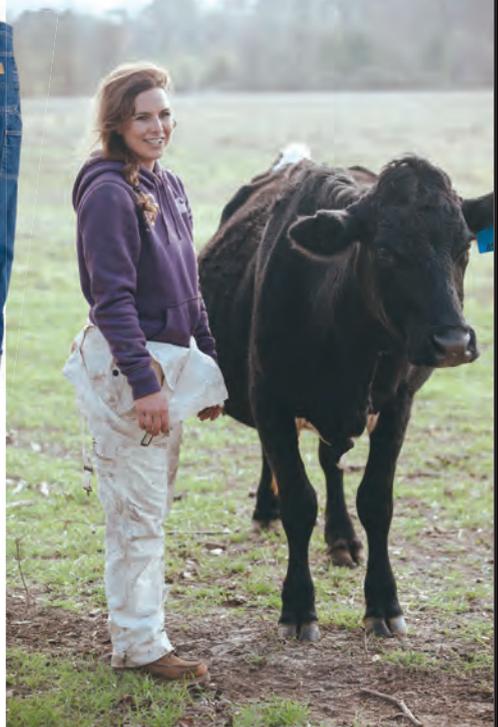
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Check next week's paper for Black Friday and Small Business Saturday Deals!

AGWAY Middlebury Agway Coupon
20% off your pet toy purchase
now through 11/24/21
Offer valid on in-stock items only — while supplies last. Cannot be combined with any other sale or offer, or used for items already on clearance.



Sale prices on in stock items only

MIDDLEBURY AGWAY

338 Exchange St., Middlebury • 802-388-4937

MiddleburyAgway.com

Monday - Friday 8-6
Saturday 8-5 • Sunday 9-4

Closed Thanksgiving
Open Black Friday reg hours as well as Small Business Saturday.



YOUR YARD, GARDEN AND PET PLACE™