



New canvas

A Middlebury student is using the college's recycling silo for artistic inspiration. See A+L.



Family fun?

Yes. Couples and cousins enjoy time together at the Demo Derby. See Page 1B.



Film Festival

Everything you need to know about Middlebury's cinema fest is in the program inside.

ADDISON COUNTY INDEPENDENT

Vol. 77 No. 33

Middlebury, Vermont ♦ Thursday, August 17, 2023 ♦ 94 Pages

\$1.50



Field Days' iron warrior

ADDISON COUNTY FAIR and Field Days is a lot of fun, but when it comes to competitions many of those who take part turn a little serious. Shown here is Kristina Buzeman of Addison taking part in the Ladies Skillet Toss on Wednesday, Aug. 9, winding up and chucking the Lodge cast iron skillet for distance. For the second year in a row, Buzeman won! See more photos from Field Days on Pages 4A & 10A, and results from some of the competitions on Pages 8B & 9B.

Independent photos/Steve James

New law makes sheriffs accountable

By JOHN FLOWERS

MIDDLEBURY — Vermont's sheriffs and their deputies have long been deployed to look after the public.

Now a new state law that recently took effect will ensure Vermonters will now have more oversight over their county sheriffs.

Bill S.17 — now known as Act 30 — mandates increased transparency and more financial

accountability for the state's 14 sheriff's departments — including Addison County's.

The push for reforms comes after several high-profile cases of confirmed or suspected wrongdoing in a handful of sheriff's departments — including a high-profile case here in Addison County.

In June of 2022 former Addison County Sheriff Peter

Newton was charged with two counts of sexual assault, one count of domestic violence and one count of unlawful restraint. Those charges stemmed from a reported domestic disturbance at his Middlebury home during the early morning hours of Feb. 26, 2022. Newton, who pleaded not guilty to the charges, was barred from personally providing law enforcement services, but

continued to sign contracts as sheriff through the balance of his elected term. He did this in spite of being asked to resign by the county's legislative delegation and Gov. Phil Scott. His trial is still pending.

In a three-way race, Mike Elmore was elected the county's new sheriff this past November; Newton did not seek re-election.

(See Sheriffs, Page 9A)

Inflation, flooding hamper charitable food efforts

By JOHN FLOWERS

MIDDLEBURY — Inflation, housing instability and the rising costs of fuel have all contributed to unprecedented use of the Middlebury food shelf at Helping Overcome Poverty's Effects (HOPE) this summer.

And record rainfall this summer

is taking a toll on some local fruit and vegetable crops, which doesn't bode well for HOPE's annual gleaning effort that adds nutritional value to the diets of low-income residents who depend on charitable food programs.

HOPE Executive Director (See Gleaning, Page 13A)

\$600K grant helps city shelter fulfill its mission

By JOHN FLOWERS

VERGENNES — John Graham Housing & Services (JGHS) has won a \$596,731 grant through the Vermont Housing Opportunity

Program (HOP) to increase its support not only for houseless individuals and families, but also for the advocates who assist them.

(See Shelter, Page 12A)



Upside down

A STREET PERFORMER who goes by the name Snap Boogie entertains the crowd by busting some break dancing moves during Foodaroo at Middlebury's Marble Works on Sunday evening. See more photos from the event on Page 15A.

Independent photo/Steve James

Thank you, Vaneasa Lincoln celebrates longtime owner of general store with party, tributes

By MARIN HOWELL

LINCOLN — It's often said that actions speak louder than words. The old saying certainly rang true this past Saturday in Lincoln, where residents decided to show their appreciation for longtime Lincoln General Store owner Vaneasa Stearns by throwing an

extravagant surprise party in her honor, complete with a Mardi Gras parade and fireworks display.

The celebration attracted well over 200 of Stearns's friends, family members and Lincoln residents who have been touched by her work in and outside of the

(See Stearns, Page 13A)



LINCOLN GENERAL STORE owner Vaneasa Stearns hugs friend and fellow Lincoln resident Ruth Shepherd, who helped coordinate this past Saturday's surprise party that celebrated the longtime shop owner and her contributions to the town.

Photo courtesy of Beth Duquette

Film festival offers varied lineup

9th annual event to add a cinematic spark to Middlebury

By JOHN FLOWERS

MIDDLEBURY — The ninth annual Middlebury New Filmmakers Festival (MNFF9) will host a record number of movie makers during its Aug. 23-27 run. This year's crop of 82 visiting filmmakers hail from as far away as Indonesia and as near as here in Vermont — home to Mount Abraham Union High School grad Sierra Ulrich, whose documentary "Joonam" is one of the most highly

anticipated offerings at MNFF9.

Downtown Middlebury will, on a small scale, play its annual, late-summer role of "Hollywood East" for an eclectic collection of newly minted filmmakers, established stars and movie fans.

MNFF9 will boast 118 films — a mixture of features and shorts — that'll be screened at six Middlebury venues: Town Hall Theater, the Marquis Theatre (two screens), Middlebury College's

Dana Auditorium and Twilight Hall, and the Swift House Inn (outdoors). The festival will kick off at 11:30 a.m. on Wednesday, Aug. 23, with several offerings, followed by an opening night program: 6 p.m. screening at THT flowed by a 9 p.m. party at the Swift House Inn. Special tickets have already been sold for those events.

The next four days will offer (See Film, Page 12A)



Members of Gov. Phil Scott's administration will visit Middlebury this Friday, Aug. 18, to speak with Addison County (See By the way, Page 14A)

Index

Obituaries..... 6A & 7A
Classifieds 12B-13B
Service Directory 10B-11B
Entertainment..... Arts + Leisure
Community Calendar 4B
Arts Calendar Arts + Leisure
Sports 1B-3B



7 18122 07300 9

Council picks educator to fill opening

By ANDY KIRKALDY

VERGENNES — The newest Vergennes City Council member is Emily Rossier, an educator who also has experience working in city government in Troy, N.Y.

The council at its Aug. 8 meeting appointed Rossier, 44, to replace

Zoe Kaslow, who stepped away from the board to pursue a graduate degree out of state. Rossier was the only candidate who submitted a letter of interest before that Tuesday's deadline.

Rossier, 45, will serve until Town Meeting Day in March, when she

can choose to run for a full term. She told councilors at their Aug. 8 meeting she was excited to join the council and believes in "civil discourse" in which all points of view are heard.

"I appreciate government and (See Rossier, Page 9A)



One diner to go!

MASTERTSON EXCAVATION OF Bristol made quick work of the former diner building on Merchants Row in Middlebury this past Friday morning. The crew started knocking down the three-room structure at about 7 a.m. on Aug. 11 and had completely flattened the building within two hours. Company owner Josh Mastertson drove the excavator and said he took special care not to damage the neighboring Grace Baptist Church. Town Hall Theater, which has owned the structure since 2018, cleared the site in order to expand the theater to make way for more rehearsal and storage space that will enable THT to become a regional performance hub.

Independent photos/Steve James



Woman seriously injured in boating DUI case

PANTON — A Pantan farmer was arrested Sunday evening after an incident in which, according to Vermont State Police, he was driving a boat on Lake Champlain and struck his sister-in-law, who was swimming. Police characterized the injuries sustained by Lydia Vorsteveld, 61, of Bridport as “life-threatening.” At a few minutes before 8 p.m.

on Aug. 13, troopers were called to a boating accident in the Arnold Bay section of Lake Champlain. Lydia Vorsteveld was air lifted to the University of Vermont Medical Center for immediate treatment of her injuries. Police investigated and said they determined that she was swimming in Arnold Bay when she was struck by a vessel being

operated by Gerard J. Vorsteveld, 49, of Pantan. While speaking to Gerard, troopers observed indicators of impairment, so they took him to the Vergennes Police Department, where he was evaluated by a drug recognition expert. After receiving the DRE’s assessment, state police cited him for boating under the influence. Gerard

Vorsteveld is scheduled to answer the charge in Addison Superior Court, criminal division, on Oct. 16. Lydia Vorsteveld is married to Gerard’s brother Andre, a Bridport dairy farmer. State police were assisted on scene by members of Vergennes Area Rescue Squad and Charlotte Fire and Rescue.

City officials foresee FY23 to have surplus

By ANDY KIRKALDY VERGENNES — Although an audit that has just begun will tell the final story, the just-concluded Fiscal Year 2023 (FY23) will almost certainly end in the black, City Manager Ron Redmond and Treasurer Angela Bolduc told the city council last week. The numbers are still somewhat fluid, Bolduc said. She told the council at its Aug. 8 meeting she believed there would be a fund balance of \$10,000, not counting delinquent tax collections that are still coming in that could add another roughly \$30,000 or more. “I do believe we’re going to end on a positive note,” she said.

Redmond told the council that those delinquent tax collections have gone well once city officials reached out personally to those in arrears to work out payment plans. He said one owner of a property who had not made payments since 2014 had begun doing so. Redmond estimated collections could soon reach up to \$35,000. Their positive assessments came after budget sessions in May and June during which both officials told the council they were not certain the year would end without a deficit. “It’s looking a little bit better than we thought,” Redmond said. The council also last week dealt

with a number of other items, but postponed a ceremony to honor three members of the Vergennes Fire Department’s Technical Rescue Team — Captain Liam Casey and firefighters Steven Sickles and Ben LaFlam — who had gone above and beyond the call of duty when they volunteered to help out Berlin and Montpelier citizens and businesses during the worst of the July flooding. At the Aug. 8 meeting, the council also: • Discussed with City Clerk Penny Austin a proposal to update the format of the city’s annual meeting, a plan that was met with general approval by the council.

It called for nonprofits seeking support on the city ballot to streamline their pitches into “up to five bullet points” that could be included in a city-generated PowerPoint presentation. The proposal also calls for the city manager to present “an overview of the state of the city via PowerPoint,” and department heads to “provide quick breakout reports as appropriate,” to be followed by citizens being allowed to ask questions of city officials. • Discussed members’ and city hall employees’ goals moving forward. Among a longer list, they highlighted as priorities updating (See City budget, Page 3A)

Rt. 116 culvert found, water woes remain

Still no disaster declaration for county

By JOHN FLOWERS MIDDLEBURY — As the Independent went to press on Wednesday, there was still no official word on whether Middlebury or all of Addison County would be included as part of a flood-related disaster declaration that would qualify our area for substantial federal aid for damage to public and private property. Here was the latest at press time: Addison County Regional Planning Commission Emergency Management Planner Andrew L’Roe noted Gov. Phil Scott’s efforts to have FEMA combine Middlebury’s Aug. 3-4 flash flood with other flood damage the county sustained in July, believing this would present a damage total high enough to qualify for the agencies Private and/or Public Assistance programs. As it stands, only nine of the state’s 14 counties are covered under a federal disaster authorization from President Joe Biden in July. Local officials continue to wait for news from FEMA on whether Scott’s request has been successful. Meanwhile, residents along part of the Route 116 corridor in Middlebury continue to be under a boil water order in the wake of the Aug. 3 flood’s destruction of a large box culvert near Dow Pond, and town officials aren’t yet able to say when the issue will be resolved. The boil water order applies to Case Street residents north from Jehovah’s Witness Church,

Butternut Ridge, Mead Lane and Lindale Trailer Park. The town continues to offer free water to affected residents at the Middlebury Police Department. Middlebury Director of Public Works Planning Emmalee Cherington on Wednesday said that it appears the Vermont Agency of Transportation has secured a replacement box culvert from New York state. This would allow for a shorter replacement schedule than if a new culvert had to be poured and left to cure. But Cherington explained an additional 45 feet of culvert will still need to be made, though the 80 feet from New York will allow for at least one lane of Route 116 to open. “The plan is to begin installing the lower section of the box and then install the replacement waterline,” Cherington said. “I believe the project is still a bit hung up in permitting and right of way but should proceed quickly once that is resolved.” In a related development, members of Gov. Scott’s administration are scheduled to receive local flood-related feedback on Friday, Aug. 18, from 2-3:30 p.m., in the large conference room at the Middlebury Town Offices at 77 Main St. It’s being billed as a listening session — a time for individuals, businesses, nonprofits and town officials to informally discuss flooding issues with state officials. Reporter John Flowers is at johnf@addisonindependent.com.

Midd housing plan starts taking shape

By JOHN FLOWERS MIDDLEBURY — Developers of a proposed 200-unit, mixed-income housing project off Middlebury’s Seminary Street Extension said they’ll file their preliminary plans with the town’s Development Review Board before the end of this month as part of a timetable that could lead to a spring 2024 groundbreaking. Summit Properties is proposing the project on 35 acres of Middlebury College-owned land. The new neighborhood just outside the village would include a combination of rental and for-sale homes, running the gamut from affordable to market rate. Summit officials have been applying for subsidies through various state and federal agencies to maximize the number of affordable and “missing middle” (aka, workforce housing) units within what’s being called the Stonecrop Meadows development. Summit COO Zeke Davisson recently shared some news regarding subsidies. He said the company has received a \$1.25 million Community Development Block Grant, \$1 million of which will be earmarked for installing Stonecrop Meadows infrastructure. The remaining \$250,000 will be invested in phase two of the project: A building that will house rental housing for families. “We were hoping to present our preliminary zoning plan by the end

of August,” Davisson said. “But we’re having some conversations with the town and are waiting on a few consultants just to finalize some of the planning. But we’re almost there, and it will happen in the next few weeks.” Phase two of Stonecrop is still more than a year away. Davisson and his Summit colleagues are most preoccupied with phase one, which will involve 45 for-sale duplexes and townhomes. Davisson said he’s pleased with the way Stonecrop — a major planned unit development — is coming together. “The two biggest funding pieces have come into place and have been catalytic for the program as a whole,” he said. “The financing and permitting timelines don’t always align, so we’re sort of at the mercy of the slowest. But everything that we’ve done with the town so far has been great. It’s felt very collaborative.” Along with the Community Development Block Grant, the other “catalytic” funding piece for Stonecrop was a \$6,075,405 grant through the Vermont Housing Finance Agency. That will help subsidize the costs for around 35 of the missing-middle housing units that’ll be part of phase one of Stonecrop. Those who qualify for the subsidized units would be looking at \$291,000 for a two- (See Stonecrop Meadow, Page 3A)



MIDDLEBURY
NATURAL
FOODS
CO-OP



AALV
New Farms for
New Americans

\$3.00

AALV'S
New Farms for
New Americans
DONATION

(limit one per customer)
(Expires Thursday, 8/24/23)



Vermont
Flood
Relief

Your Co-op supports
more than 400 Vermont
farmers & food producers.

Help us help them by redeeming
both coupons for a donation
on your behalf.

To see this
week's sales visit
middlebury.coop/shop

Consider joining our team,
scan or go to:
middlebury.coop/careers





MIDDLEBURY
NATURAL
FOODS
CO-OP



NOFA-VT
Association of Vermont
Farmers

\$3.00

Farmer
Emergency Fund
DONATION

(limit one per customer)
(Expires Thursday, 8/24/23)

9 Washington St | 802.388.7276
middlebury.coop





9 Washington St | 802.388.7276
middlebury.coop

Rivers’ E. coli levels explained

Per River Watch sampling rain probably behind spike

By MARIN HOWELL

ADDISON COUNTY — Samples collected by the Addison County River Watch Collaborative on Aug. 8 found extremely high concentrations of E. coli bacteria at recreation sites in the Middlebury and New Haven rivers.

However, ACRWC Executive Director Matt Witten said the abnormal readings were likely a result of the timing of the group’s sampling and not indicative of a larger trend. Witten noted rainy conditions on the morning of the group’s sampling meant that runoff was still entering the stream while samples were being collected.

“It just so happens that when we sampled ... between 7 and 9 a.m., there was a very steep spike in the flow of the New Haven River, meaning that just as we were sampling, whatever rain we had gotten just a few hours before, that was entering the river and making the river rise significantly,” Witten said.

River Watch volunteers collect samples at 98 sites in Addison County watersheds, measuring E. coli bacteria, total phosphorus levels, pH and water temperature.

“We caught the storm on its rising limb, which is ideal for finding what sort of pollution is coming in on that pulse, but it’s extremely rare to be able to pinpoint it like that.”

— Matt Witten

On Aug. 8, the collaborative collected samples for E. coli at Bartlett Falls in Bristol, DeMers Park in New Haven and the Route 125 bridge at the bottom of the Middlebury Gorge in East Middlebury.

The health-based safety standard set by the Vermont Department of Health for swimming is 235 organisms per 100 milliliters of surface water. The samples collected by River Watch volunteers on Aug. 8 found 2,420 (or greater) organisms per 100 milliliters of surface water at DeMers Park, 1,986 organisms at Bartlett’s Falls and 1,733 organisms at the Route 125 Bridge.

While the abnormally high E. coli concentrations have understandably raised questions from Addison County residents, Witten explained those samples

were collected as a pulse of runoff was swiftly filling the New Haven River.

“We caught the storm on its rising limb, which is ideal for finding what sort of pollution is coming in on that pulse, but it’s extremely rare to be able to pinpoint it like that,” he said.

Witten added drier conditions prior to the group’s sampling could have also contributed to the amount of contaminants entering local streams on Aug. 8.

“What we found is that especially since there hadn’t been much rain before that, it gave the pollutants time to accumulate before then, especially E. coli,” he said.

Witten said it’s important to note that the three recreation sites the group sampled are generally compliant with the state standard.

“What we were getting last week, normally they’re not even in the double figures, sometimes they’re a single figure. For the most part, in Bristol and the East Middlebury Gorge, I would say with confidence, looking at the last 20 years of data, if you’re not catching them immediately after a storm, they’re usually very safe to swim in,” he said.

Witten added the collaborative only monitors for E. coli once



RIVER WATCH VOLUNTEERS collect water samples in the upper New Haven River on Aug. 8 to monitor E. coli concentrations, as well as other parameters like phosphorus and nitrogen. Samples collected by the group that day found abnormally high levels of E. coli in local streams, though not something to be too concerned about because the spike was likely due to the timing of the group’s sampling.

Photo by Seth Blackman

a month and is not intended to provide regular recommendations regarding the safety of local recreation sites.

“We are not at all a go-to

organization for determining ‘today is this swimming hole safe.’ We’re looking at general trends and the general trend over the last decade is that the Bartlett Falls and

the Middlebury Gorge have been extremely safe for swimming, E. coli wise,” he said. “(The group’s sampling) is like an occasional checkup, it’s not a diagnosis.”

Stonecrop Meadow

(Continued from Page 2A)

bedroom home and \$336,000 for a 3-bedroom home, according to information provided by Summit back in March.

Back in March Summit filed its sketch plan for Stonecrop Meadows. The preliminary plan will essentially lock in the layout of the proposed development, according to Davisson. The plan will also detail the infrastructure (roads, sidewalks, etc.), while inviting conversations about phasing of the new housing and whether the town can take over some or all of the Stonecrop roads — provided they are built to Middlebury DPW standards.

The final Stonecrop plan submission will include architectural details, a lighting plan and other project nuances that will need to satisfy town officials before Stonecrop Meadows can get a green light, Davisson noted.

So when might customers be able to get in line for a phase one home, assuming the project is green-lighted?

“We’ll likely begin pre-sales of the for-sale units during the first half of 2024,” Davisson said, “with the affordable rentals following that in 2025.”

Demand for affordable housing in Addison County has been

acute since before the COVID-19 pandemic. There are currently 491 affordable housing units in the county, with no vacancies. On average, around 40 affordable apartments become available each year through the Addison County Community Trust. The Trust each year receives 350-400 applications for that housing.

HOUSING IN DEMAND

But there’s also a tremendous thirst for market-rate homes in the county and indeed statewide, according to longtime local real estate broker Amey Ryan. Ryan, who acquired Middlebury’s IPJ Real Estate in 2014, and has been closely following trends in the housing market.

Only a few months ago, Addison County counted around 22 residential properties on the market, “which was abysmally low,” Ryan said.

There are now what Ryan referred to as “46 actively listed properties that are listed in the residential category.” But there’s a caveat; not everything listed in the residential category is a house for sale, she said.

For example, the residential real estate listings can sometimes include seasonal cottages, which aren’t part of the year-round housing stock many buyers are

looking for.

“We definitely have more buyers than inventory,” she said. “We have folks who have come to Vermont to look for a house, they’ve maybe made some offers, gotten beat out or lost out, and have maybe changed their mind and gone back to a plan of renovating the house they live in... And, of course, then they might be stuck waiting for a contractor.”

Ryan is speaking with two people right now who’d like to put their respective homes on the market — contingent on their ability to relocate to smaller digs in Middlebury, ideally a condo or small house.

“And that sort of thing doesn’t seem to exist right now,” she said of available smaller abodes.

Still, there are small signs the real estate market is starting to soften.

“Buyers don’t seem to be quite as frenzied as they were before,” Ryan said. “They’ve now seen this market for a couple of years and watched things happen. So, if someone overprices their house, the buyers are less inclined to acquiesce to that pricing strategy.”

Still, there will always be some properties that will draw interest, Ryan said.

“There are those properties that are in ‘slam-dunk’ neighborhoods

or areas of town, proximity to amenities,” she said. “When those properties come onto the market

and are priced appropriately, there are multiple offers and they usually sell for something over the

asking price.”

John Flowers is at johnf@addisonindependent.com.

Elderly Services

Fall Community Education Series

Join us at the Middlebury Congregational Church!

Session 1: Aging in Addison County: Services and Help

Are you wondering what services will be available for yourself or for an elder in your life? We will review the variety of helping options for aging individuals and answer questions about cost and affordability.

Presented by Eileen Lawson
Geriatric Social Worker, Elderly Services
Date: Tuesday, September 26, 4:30-6:00 p.m.

Session 2: My Reflections on Living with Dementia

Jane Dwinell will read from her recently published book and take your questions. There are 13,000 people over age 65 in Vermont currently with a dementia diagnosis. It is a disease that touches everyone, yet there remains a stigma around talking about it. Jane’s husband Sky did what he could to erase that stigma. He died in 2021, and since then Jane has been continuing the work that he started.

Presented by Jane Dwinell, author of Alzheimer’s Canyon: One Couple’s Reflections on Living with Dementia.
Date: Tuesday, October 3, 4:30-6:00 p.m.

Session 3: Telephone and Computer Scams that Target the Elderly

Falling victim to a telephone or computer scam can happen to anyone, but members of our elderly community are the most vulnerable. Learn specific strategies you can use to keep yourself or your loved ones from becoming victims of this type of scam.

Presented by: Chief Tom Hanley
Middlebury Police Department
Date: Tuesday, October 17, 4:30-6:00 p.m.

Session 4: Does Your Loved One Have Memory Loss?

Families have many questions when a relative is forgetful. When do I intervene? What is the right approach? We will discuss tips for everyday living with a person who has memory loss.

Presented by: Joanne Corbett
Clinical Social Worker, Elderly Services
Date: Tuesday, November 7, 4:30-6:00 p.m.

Register now
802.388.3983

Elderly Services

Supporting Elders and Families since 1981
112 Exchange St., Middlebury, Vermont

802-388-3983
www.elderlyservices.org



Sessions are free and open to the public and will be held at the Middlebury Congregational Church.

To RSVP or learn more, call Eileen Lawson at Elderly Services: 802-388-3983

<http://elderlyservices.org/esi-community-education-fall-23/>

City budget

(Continued from Page 2A)

the city’s winter parking ordinance, creating a procurement policy for city employees, and updating the city’s personnel policies.

• Heard from Redmond that a first batch of state- and grant-funded new signs would arrive later this month — four welcome signs at points of entry into Vergennes. Other new

signs will show up probably this coming spring, he added.

• Also heard from Redmond he had preliminary talks with state officials about the future of state-owned land in Vergennes. He was told the state might be interested in dedicating at least some of the land for use as housing, he said.

• Discussed filling out the ranks

of the committee that will work with Redmond and Police Chief Jason Ouellette to enhance relations between the city’s police department and its residents. Councilors and Redmond want to ensure a cross-section of the city is represented on that committee. “We’re looking at some creative ways to recruit,” Redmond said.

Addison County’s Hometown Dealer



36 Boardman St.,
Middlebury VT 05753
802-388-6718
gstonemotors.com



2149 Rt 7 South,
Middlebury VT 05753
802-388-9961
stonedjr.com

Editorials

Ilisley: The nut of the question

Very few things worth accomplishing come without substantial effort. That’s most easily seen on a personal level. Whether it’s a do-it-yourself home improvement project, passing a test at school or advancement at work, a personal best in some athletic goal, or a career laddled with honors, the effort spent to accomplish any goal gives meaning, purpose and satisfaction to the achievement.

The same can be applied to communities, though getting everyone to agree on the same priorities can be a challenge.

Middlebury has witnessed many significant challenges and accomplishments in recent years: relocating and building a new wastewater treatment plant; rebuilding the police and fire department buildings (and the town shed on Route 7 south before that); building the Cross Street Bridge; siting and building a new municipal building and creating what was at the time a controversial roundabout, as well as a new park where the old building stood (all of which now receive lavish praise); and most recently replacing the two decaying railway underpasses on Main Street and Merchant Row and renovating Triangle Park with a railway tunnel that has turned that part of the Town Green into a well-used, aesthetically pleasing park with dynamic uses.

Add the renovations of the Town Hall Theater, Lazarus Park, and Riverside Park along the Otter Creek to the footbridge, and we realize how these systematic improvements have led to a dramatic improvement of Middlebury’s downtown.

Along the way there have significant costs and controversy spurring many battles, but the town persevered and the results have been exciting, game-changing, and overwhelmingly positive, even if not always perfect.

It’s an apt definition of progress. The proposed reimagining of Middlebury’s Ilisley Library presents the next challenge — and opportunity — for the town.

That more than 225 people attended last Wednesday’s two-hour presentation by three architectural firms on how they might renovate the facility is encouraging. It shows a high level of community interest and a solid core of supporters. And few residents disagree with the intent: the need to renovate the 100-year-old building is undisputed to anyone who has taken a tour of the facility.

But as Selectboard Chairman Brian Carpenter said at Wednesday’s gathering, the estimated \$15 million price tag is a concern. It was a statement meant to bring that hard reality into a meeting that was otherwise filled with excitement and promise. Critics of Carpenter’s comments take offense at his timing and suggest they were inappropriate in that setting. On the contrary, cost assessment is always an appropriate matter to recognize. Perhaps those comments could have been said more subtly, but it’s just as true project supporters are perhaps overly defensive. Carpenter has said the town is supportive of the library and the need for renovations, but as with other past projects, always with the caveat of how much the town can afford.

No doubt the renovation and expansion will be a hefty lift. Not included in Carpenter’s projections, however, will be reductions from grants being sought, a fund-raising campaign, and any other financing that can be accrued. Those numbers will be known later this fall and a closer dollar amount to raise through taxation, following revisions to the project, will be presented for a bond vote at Town Meeting next March.

Leading up to that vote, the nut of the question is this: Is the benefit to the community worth the sacrifice? The first task is to select an architectural firm to help the town imagine how a renovated library can enhance the community’s quality of life and perhaps spark economic development in that area of the downtown. Then it’s up to the library board and promoters to make that case; for the selectboard to remind us of other pressing obligations while recognizing this project’s value; and for residents to define the community aesthetic they want to embrace.

Let’s engage in that conversation with open minds, a sense of imagination and opportunity, and understanding of the impacts all around.

Angelo Lynn

118 films in your backyard

Next week for five days, Aug. 23-27, Middlebury is home to a growing film festival that features 118 films from more than 50 countries.

If you haven’t been to the Middlebury New Filmmakers Festival, or haven’t for a few years, it can be overwhelming to decide what to see. To that end, the *Addison Independent* helps produce a MNFF9 program that identifies which films play where, and when, along with a brief description. It’s included in today’s *Addison Independent* and online.

While the program adds a lot to the films, it’s still tough to decide what to see, so here’s a tip: Just pick a film or two on an early day of the festival and go. Attend the conversation, or Q&A, with the director or film producer afterward. Know upfront that not every film is a homerun, but that’s part of the allure and experience. It’s not Hollywood. Some films are rough; the messages still raw; the performances and sets are building blocks for filmmakers getting a handle on their craft — and in that process, genius is discovered and honed.

As a viewer, it’s entertainment, but also an adventure. In short, if you were going to spend one or two of those five nights at home watching TV in relative isolation, do yourself a favor — experience the art of filmmaking. Buy a ticket, be part of an active audience, expose yourself to new ideas. It’s bold, out-of-the-ordinary, fun — and it’s right in your backyard. It’s the best adventure for the price you’ll find anywhere.

Angelo Lynn

Take-away from 4th indictment

Trump’s fourth indictment is the most revealing and comprehensive. It’s also the most worrisome for ex-president Trump and his cohort of accomplices. That’s because the charges tell the full story of how Trump and many others actively sought, just as a criminal gang might do, to subvert the laws of Georgia through criminal actions. If convicted, even if Trump is elected president, he can’t pardon himself from those state charges.

For Vermonters watching this sad spectacle of our democracy under attack by Trump and his Republican supporters, one takeaway is to ask if Vermont’s laws around racketeering, and election laws in general, are tough enough. Georgia’s laws are uniquely written to ferret out such injustice on this particular charge and may serve as a roadmap for Vermont and other states as the country heads into an era of increasing partisanship and anti-democratic behavior.

Angelo Lynn

ADDISON COUNTY
INDEPENDENT

Periodicals Postage Paid at Middlebury, Vt. 05753

Postmaster, send address change to Addison Independent,
58 Maple Street, Middlebury, Vt. • 802-388-4944 • Fax: 802-388-3100 • Web: www.addisonindependent.com
E-Mail: news@addisonindependent.com • E-Mail Advertising: ads@addisonindependent.com
Editor/Publisher: Angelo S. Lynn

Published every Thursday by the Addison Press, Inc. Member Vermont Press Association; New England Press Association; National Newspaper Association.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES: In State – 6 Months \$36.00, 1 Year \$50.00, 2 years \$90.00 • Out of State – 6 Months \$44.00, 1 Year \$60.00, 2 years \$110. All print subscriptions include online access. Discounted rate for Senior Citizens, call for details. 802-388-4944. Online Only – 1 Week \$5.00, 1 Month \$6.00, 5 Months \$25.00, 1 Year \$44.00.

The independent assumes no financial responsibility for typographical errors in advertisements but will reprint that part of an advertisement in which the typographical error occurred. Advertiser will please notify the management immediately of any errors that may occur.

The Addison Independent USPS 005-380

Eyes on the prize
LEICESTER SEVEN-YEAR-OLD Luke Quesnel is focused in the pedal tractor pull competition this past Thursday at Addison County Fair and Field Days. It paid off — he won his group in a pull-off against his cousin Celia Barnes of Cornwall.

Independent photo/Steve James

Why you should watch ‘Barbie’

“This movie is going to change my life,” my 15-year-old daughter stated confidently.

I looked over to where she sat in the passenger seat, swathed in an oversized pink sweatshirt. I was taking her to meet a friend, with whom she would watch the new “Barbie” film. The film that would, apparently, change her life.

I’m getting used to hyperbolic statements from my teenagers, but I still tend to pause and assess the underlying intent before I respond.

Is she being serious? Sarcastic? Humorous? Dramatic? If you see me looking confused for the next decade or so, this is why.

“Well, that sounds really... exciting,” I responded slowly. “Although in my experience, life change is a slightly...longer process.”

“Well, this movie’s going to change my life,” she asserted. “When you pick me up, I’ll be a different person.”

When I picked her, she still *looked* the same.

“So?” I asked, “How was it? Did it change your life?”

“It DID!” she gushed. “And — oh my gosh — Mom! She says your speech! America Ferrara, who plays the mom in the film! You’ve said those exact same things!”

“Uh oh. What speech is that?” I wasn’t optimistic about a maternal speech in a film that, as far as I knew, was geared towards teenagers. (I’m also not anxious to be defined by many of the speeches I make to my children.)

“You know, the one about how it’s okay to just want to be a mom, and all that,” my daughter said breezily.

“You HAVE to see it, Mom!”

I ended up watching “Barbie” the very next night, with my two youngest daughters. And then, although I rarely see any movie in the theater *once*, I went back a week later and watched “Barbie” a *second* time, because my husband needed to see it.

For those of you who live in seclusion, “Barbie” is a movie directed by Greta Gerwig. It features the eponymous doll, launched by Mattel in 1959. In the film, a stereotypical Barbie (and her boyfriend, Ken) travel from Barbieland to the Real World and back again, and the film has much to say about what it is to be female, male and human.

“What did you think? Did you love it?” my daughter asked me after my first viewing. We were standing in the kitchen, and I was still shaky

after crying through approximately the second half of the film.

“I did. I loved it.”

“You’re going to write about it, aren’t you?” she asked.

“Oh, I don’t know. I don’t think I have anything else to add. It’s pretty perfect just the way it is. What would I write other than, ‘Go see it?’”

“Yeah, that’s true,” she mused. “How does it feel to have your entire life’s work summed up in a single film?”

So, dear reader, here I am saying, “Go see the ‘Barbie’ movie. Please.” In my opinion, it is a remarkable contribution to our ongoing cultural dialogue, and it (See *Clippings*, Page 8A)

Clippings

By Faith Gong

‘Climate chaos summer’ persists

As I sat down to the task of writing this column, I wondered whether I could write about anything other than water. But there’s an old writer’s adage that you “write what’s in front of you.” At the moment, what is in front of me runs (literally) from soaking wet to persistently damp. Regular readers will remember that in my June column I was primarily worried about wildfire smoke and its physical and spiritual effects. Then came July.

The harsh reality is that this summer is emerging as a no-holds-barred Climate Chaos Summer. The rain throughout Vermont is that unwelcome visitor that refuses to leave regardless of invitations that begin with coy politesse and progress to utter desperation. “Who cares what you think?” the rain seems to say, “I’m going to hang around indefinitely. If you ask me to leave one more time, I’ll drop six inches of rain over Middlebury in a matter of hours.” Yes, friends, it was quite possibly All My Fault.

If I were living in Arizona, however, I would be jumping for joy should something resembling a rain cloud appear in the heavens. Anything to break the relentless heat. By 4 p.m. today (Aug. 8) it will be 107 in Phoenix. Believe it or not, that is calm, cooling news. In the month of July, residents of greater Phoenix endured 31 consecutive days of 110 degrees Fahrenheit

or higher. Stepping imaginatively into the shoes of my Arizonan brothers and sisters, I can see myself trapped for an excruciatingly long month between two impossible choices: stay inside or venture out into a kind of heat that is not just oppressive, but deadly. It goes without saying that these two choices are only available to those who are privileged enough to have some kind of temperature control in their homes. For some, there is no choice. If I lived in Phoenix, things would not be going well for me, even in the

most air-conditioned contexts. By comparison, life in Vermont feels soggly sane.

It is good to start your day in a state of gratitude and I do — and usually in ways that are more creative and affirming than “at least I’m not in Phoenix.” Indeed, the worse things get, the more I tend to up my gratitude practices. I have

been well taught by any number of spiritual guides (including my sheep) that beginning one’s day with gratitude is a wonderful way to stay open to the beauty before us, behind us, above us and all around us. Beginning the day with gratitude is a central concept in religious practices from the Navajo/Diné Blessingway Prayer (that I have just evoked) to the ancient Jewish practice of beginning the day by uttering blessings of gratitude. You start by expressing gratefulness that (See *Ways of Seeing*, Page 7A)

Letters
to the Editor

Rogers Road
needs attention

In regard to the traffic and speed of cars on Rogers Road, I have concerns for the safety of residents on said road. There are at least three who have mobility issues. It is a challenge to cross the road to my mailbox!

A survey was done in 2005. The results of said survey indicated a total of 955 vehicles passing in a 12-hour period, 664 northbound and 291 southbound. Nothing much has changed.

Perhaps disabled or no thru traffic signs would be helpful.

The other solution would be to make the street a dead end as it was when we purchased our home in 1979.

Barbara Ringey
Middlebury

Imagining fair
of the future

People love going to the Addison County Fair. Hundreds of people work very hard behind the scenes to make it happen. Thousands come to have fun and celebrate agriculture in Addison County. But agriculture and the fair both run on fossil fuels. Can we imagine a “green” Addison County Fair of the future and begin to bring that to a reality?

Right now, almost all of the equipment that is exhibited and used at the fair run on fossil fuels, as do the big rigs that bring the draft horses, the pick-ups that haul the trailers, the cars that we love to see in the Demolition Derby and the smoke belching tractors in the tractor pull. The multitude of roofs that span the fairgrounds have not a single solar panel on them (as far as I could tell). No public transportation brings people to the fair.

As the climate warms and the rains continue (and the mud gets worse), can we start working toward making this fair that so many people love the Fair of the Future?

I don’t know whether electricity or some type of hydrogen fuel will power our big rigs of the future, or if people would stand for a tractor pull without the noise and smoke of today — but I do know that making changes for the betterment of our world starts with imagination and asking “What if ...”

Ed Blechner
Addison

Ilisley project
costs clarified

Last Wednesday, about 250 people attended an event at the Town Hall Theater to see design ideas for a renovated and expanded Ilisley Public Library from three Vermont architecture firms. The excitement at the event was palpable as community members reviewed the creative conceptual designs and imagined how our beloved and well-used public library could be improved to meet 21st-century needs.

Unfortunately, toward the end of the event Brian Carpenter, Chair of the Middlebury selectboard, made some misleading assertions about the potential fiscal impact of the building project. His claims, which are repeated in the *Addison Independent* article about the event, are premature and presented without proper context. We are members of the Ilisley 100 Project Committee and are writing as individuals, not on behalf of the Committee, to set the record straight about where things currently stand with the financial details of the project.

The architecture firms that submitted design ideas were asked to work with a budget of approximately \$15 million, which is the estimate the Committee determined would meet the programmatic and structural needs of a new library. However, it is very early in the process and that budget could change as designs are modified, “must-haves” prioritized, and funding options fully explored. While it’s very likely that a sizable portion of the project will need to be funded by a taxpayer-financed (See *Hardy letter*, Page 8A)

THE 9TH ANNUAL

MIDDLEBURY
NEW FILMMAKERS
FESTIVAL

WEDNESDAY-SUNDAY
AUGUST 23-27

Instagram Facebook Twitter MIDDFILMFEST

HONOREE EVENTS



DIRECTOR, PRODUCER & WRITER
ALEXANDER PAYNE
FRI 8/25, SAT 8/26, SUN 8/27



DIRECTOR & CASTING DIRECTOR
RISA BRAMON GARCIA
THU 8/24, FRI 8/25



DIRECTOR
JOHN SLATTERY
SUN 8/27



DIRECTOR, WRITER & CINEMATOGRAPHER
SU FRIEDRICH
SAT 8/26, SUN 8/27



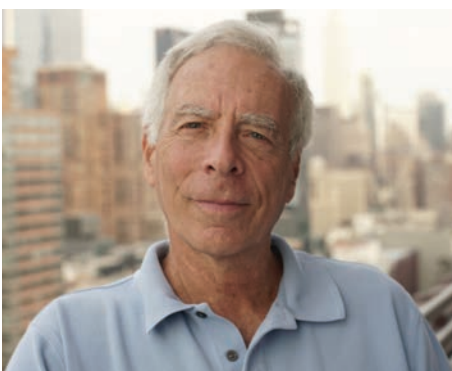
PRODUCER & DIRECTOR
BETH LEVISON
FRI 8/25, SAT 8/26



DIRECTOR & CINEMATOGRAPHER
YONI BROOK
THU 8/24



DIRECTOR & PRODUCER
BARBARA KOPPLE
THU 8/24



DIRECTOR & PRODUCER
MARC LEVIN
THU 8/24

PARTIES, PARTIES, PARTIES



SHELDON MUSEUM
THURSDAY
NIGHT PARTY

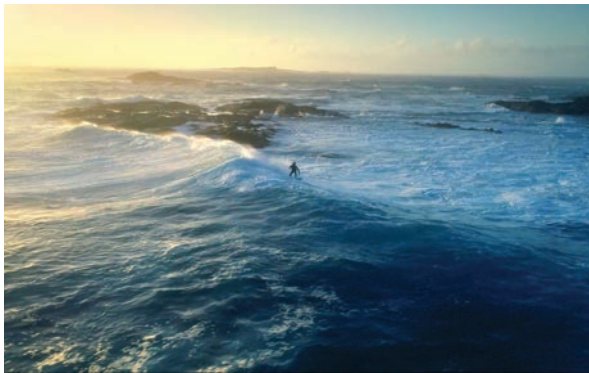


AMERICAN FLATBREAD
FRIDAY NIGHT
PARTY



51 MAIN
SATURDAY NIGHT
PARTY

120+ FILMS, 80 FILMMAKERS



WED 8/23
SAVAGE WATERS



THU 8/24
FIRE THROUGH DRY GRASS



THU 8/24
BLACK BARBIE: A DOCUMENTARY



THU 8/24
THE SECRET SONG



THU 8/25
SHUDDERBUGS



FRI 8/25
IMMEDIATE FAMILY



FRI 8/25
DINDIN



SAT 8/26
JOONAM



SAT 8/26
**PINBALL: THE MAN WHO SAVED
THE GAME**



SAT 8/26
A REVOLUTION ON CANVAS

GET YOUR PASSES & TICKETS NOW! PLUS TRAILERS & SCHEDULE

middfilmfest.org

PRESENTING
SPONSOR



MEDIA
SPONSORS



ADDISON COUNTY
INDEPENDENT



ADDISON
COUNTY

Obituaries

John Joseph “Jack” Barnes, Jr. 90, of Harwich Port, Mass.

HARWICH PORT, Mass. — John Joseph “Jack” Barnes Jr., 90, of Harwich Port, Mass., passed away peacefully on Aug. 4.

Jack was born to John J. Barnes Sr., and Mary Loretta Perry Barnes in New London, Conn. on Nov. 8, 1932. A remarkable educator and advocate, Jack began teaching in a two-room schoolhouse in Glastonbury, Conn., after graduating from teachers college. His career in education included years as a teacher, a principal in Hartford, Conn., and Marblehead, Mass.; a curriculum coordinator in Hingham, Mass.; and a superintendent in Cheshire, Conn., and Barre, Vt. After retiring formally from his Barre superintendency, he served as interim superintendent in Randolph, Vt.

Jack loved children, and they were drawn to him; that connection led to his long and distinguished career in education. Jack’s many civic contributions included years of service to the Rotary Club, serving as an officer and participating in two service trips to Honduras, where club members brought medical supplies and worked to build a school. Jack delighted in time spent with his family, friends, and his many Labrador retrievers. Jack was proud of his Irish heritage



JOHN JOSEPH “JACK” BARNES JR.

and traveled to Ireland to trace his roots. He also enjoyed camping, singing with barbershop quartets, and tinkering in his garage.

Jack is survived by his loving wife of 65 years, Kathleen Marie Wall Barnes, of Harwich Port; daughters Kristine Marie Barnes Kirkaldy (Andrew) of Middlebury, Vt., and Mary Alicia Barnes (Russell Wright) of Natick, Mass.; sons Timothy John Barnes (Tamara) of Portland, Conn., Matthew Aaron Barnes (Rachel) of Chatham, Mass., and Mark Andrew Barnes (Ericka) of Middletown, Conn.; siblings James Barnes (Anne) of



Hardwick, Mass., Catherine Barnes Geary (Stephen) of Falmouth, Mass., Michael Barnes of East Bridgewater, Mass., Patrick Barnes (Carolyn), of Fort Myers, Fla., and Maureen Barnes of New York City; nine grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews.

A celebration of life will be held at Nickerson Funeral Home, 87 Crowell Road, Chatham, Mass., on Saturday, Sept. 9, at 3 p.m. In lieu of flowers, please make a donation to Cape Cod Alzheimer’s Family Support Center in Brewster (www.alzfamilysupport.org) or The Rotary Foundation (rotary.org).◇

Laurent “Larry” M. Lussier Sr., 81, of Cornwall

CORNWALL—Laurent “Larry” M. Lussier Sr. of Cornwall died on Friday, Aug. 11, 2023, at Porter Medical Center in Middlebury. Larry was born on Aug. 23, 1941, in Brandon, Vt., the son of Frank and Dorothy (Blaise) Lussier.

He attended Cornwall rural elementary schools and Middlebury High School and was a parishioner at St. Mary’s Catholic Church.

Larry married Carolyn LaPete on July 16, 1966. They were married for 57 years.

Larry worked for several local employers including Polymers Plastic, Inc., CPC of VT, Simonds

Precision, and Forrest Lowell Auctions. He owned and operated Larry’s Cab Service in the 1980s. Larry also worked for Call a Cab, Addison County Community Sales, and operated Larry’s Painting.

Larry is predeceased by his parents; by his four brothers, Marcel, Frank Sr., Henry, and Paul; and by several aunts, uncles, and nephews.

He is survived by his wife, Carolyn Lussier of Cornwall; his children, Monica Lussier of Brandon, Laurent Lussier Jr. of East Middlebury, Michelle Thompson of Cornwall and partner

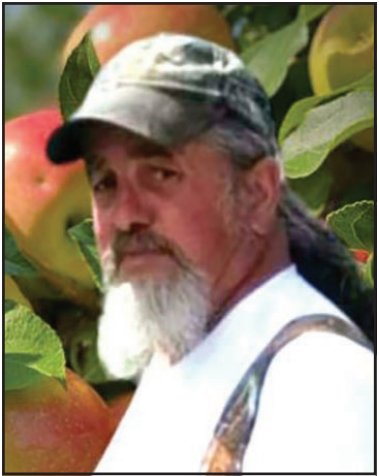
Scott Goodhue of Castleton; also by his sister, Bea McAdams of Montpelier; by five grandchildren, Ashley, Gary, Benn, Rachal, and Jacob; one great-grandson, Hunter Warner, and several nieces and nephews.

A Mass of Christian burial will take place on Aug. 23, 2023, at 11 a.m., at St. Mary’s Church in Middlebury.

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

William John Ambrose Sr. celebration of life

FERRISBURGH — William John Ambrose Sr., of Ferrisburgh, Vt., died Jan 31, 2023. His family and friends will be gathering to celebrate his life on Saturday, Sept. 2, at 3 p.m. at the VFW Hall at 530 Exchange Street in Middlebury. The celebration will include an order of service, with music, poem, prayer and song. Those attending are requested to share memories



BILL AMBROSE SR.

or bring a dish for everyone’s enjoyment. We invite you to share photos and memories in his honor. For inclusion in the memorial display, please email them to rambros19@msn.com. Interment will be the following week at Gage Cemetery.◇



CAROL MARIE MORRISSEY

Carol Marie Morrissey celebration of life

BRISTOL — The family of Carol Morrissey, who died Dec. 13, 2022, invites you to join in a celebration of her life on Aug. 25 at 3 p.m. at the Mount Saint Joseph Cemetery, 7026 Plank Rd, Bristol, VT 05443. There will be a gathering to share food, photos, stories, and memories following at the Burnham Hall, 52 E. River Rd, Lincoln, VT 05443. Please email photos of Carol that you would like to share to joannig63@gmail.com.◇

ADDY WEBSITE

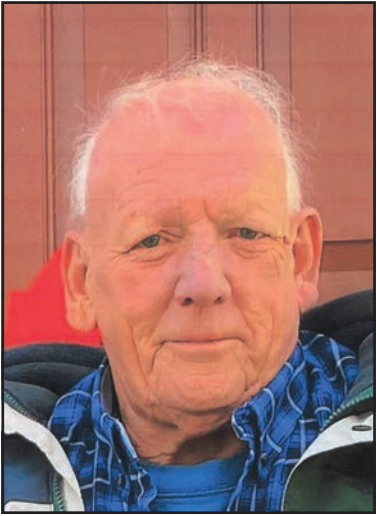
www.addisonindependent.com

David Francis Forrest, 71, of Shoreham

SHOREHAM — David Francis Forrest, age 71, passed away Saturday, Aug. 12, 2023, at Porter Medical Center in Middlebury.

Dave was born in Middlebury on Jan. 10, 1952. He was the son of Francis and Geraldine (Ferguson) Forrest. He grew up in Middlebury, where he received his early education, and attended Middlebury Union High School. He joined the Vermont Army National Guard in 1970 and served for six years. He was employed as a Veterinarian Assistant for Middlebury Large Animal Clinic for over 25 years.

Being mechanically inclined, he established Dave’s Repair. He preferred to work on large equipment and farm machinery, but could fix just about anything. He was forced to retire in 2020 due to illness. He was an avid deer hunter and loved backyard barbecues and hanging out with friends. In his earlier years he enjoyed



DAVID FRANCIS FORREST

snowmobiling and ice fishing.

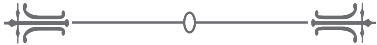
He is survived by his wife, Robin (Audet) Forrest of Shoreham, whom he married in Orwell on July 24, 1987; one daughter, Lauren Michelle Plouffe and her husband Pierre of Bridport; a

brother, Robert Forrest of Brandon; two sisters, Patricia Roberts and Kathy Tarbell and her husband Jeff, all of Brandon; his mother, Geraldine Kingsbury of Rutland; a grandson, Calvin Plouffe, and two granddaughters, Renee and Nora Plouffe, all of Bridport. He was predeceased by his father, Francis Forrest; a brother, Gary Forrest; stepfather, Phillip Kingsbury; and father-in-law, Magloire Audet.

The graveside committal service and burial will take place on Aug. 26, 2023, at 11 a.m., at St. Genevieve Cemetery in Shoreham. Rev. Luke Austin, pastor of St. Mary’s Catholic Church in Middlebury will officiate.

Memorial gifts in lieu of flowers may be made in his memory to the Shoreham First Response Squad, P.O. Box 202, Shoreham, VT 05770.

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



Roger Charles Currier, 82, of Weybridge

WEYBRIDGE — Roger Charles Currier, age 82, passed peacefully, with family by his side, on Friday, Aug. 11, 2023, at his home in Weybridge.

Roger was born in Orwell on Sept. 3, 1940. He was the son of Charles and Grace (Perkins) Currier. He grew up in Whiting, where he received his early education. Roger spent his earlier years on the family farm in Whiting. He later began working as a welder for Polymer Plastics/Specialty Filaments in East Middlebury. He retired in 2006 following 35 years of service. He enjoyed hunting and fishing and tending his property, especially his garden. He loved going to the tractor pulls at Addison County Field Days.

He is survived by his partner in



ROGER CHARLES CURRIER

life of 50 years, Charlene Hier of Weybridge; two daughters, Heather Betourney and her husband Jason



Paul John Morse, 72, of South Starksboro

SOUTH STARKSBORO — Paul John Morse, 72, passed away Thursday, Aug. 10, 2023, at his home in South Starksboro.

He was born Nov. 6, 1950, in Colchester, the son of the late Robert and Clarabelle (Haskins) Morse.

Paul loved working on old tractors, especially John Deere tractors.

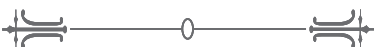
Paul is survived by his wife, Pamela Morse; son Paul John Morse

II; daughter Porcia (Gus) Palmer; brother David (Mary) Morse; twin sister Pauline (Leonard) Cotnoir; Cousin Pete (Carol) Williams; special grandchildren Dominic, Brooke, Aaron, Carson Kandzior, Chad, Corey, and Craig Shepard; the A-Team; cousins, nieces, nephews, and many special friends. Paul was predeceased by his half-brother, Robert Morse Jr.

Visiting hours will be held Saturday, Aug. 19, from 9 to 11

a.m. at Brown-McClay Funeral Home in Bristol followed by a burial at Maplewood Cemetery in Huntington. A celebration of life will be announced at the funeral home.

In lieu of flowers contributions may be made to the American Heart Association or Parkinson’s Foundation. To send online condolences to his family please visit www.brownmccclayfuneralhomes.com.◇



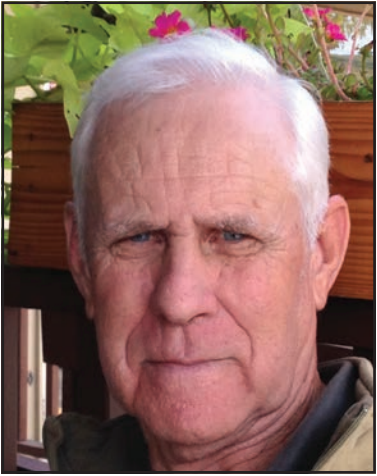
Kurt F. Kaufmann, 84, of Addison

ADDISON — Kurt F. Kaufmann, 84, of Addison passed away peacefully Wednesday, Aug. 16, 2023, from Alzheimer’s. Kurt was born on June 17, 1939, in Port Jervis, N.Y.

Kurt was a man of great character and known for his unwavering dedication to his family and for many years, his dairy farm in Shoreham.

He is survived by his wife of 60 years, Sandra Kaufmann; their four children and their spouses, Larry Kaufmann of Shoreham, Michelle Elithorpe (Scott) of Shaftsbury, Eric Kaufmann (June) of Weybridge and Brandt Kaufmann (Ingrid) of Bridport; brother, Walter of Mt. Airy, N.C.; and sister, Anna of Taylor, Pa. He is also survived by his eight grandchildren: Kyle, Sarah, Amy, Lance, Karl, Trey, Nikolaus and Mason, and well as nine great-grandchildren and many nieces and nephews.

Kurt enjoyed being outside and observing the beauty and details of nature. He would often bring home his discoveries to share with family and friends.



KURT F. KAUFMANN

In lieu of flowers, donations in Kurt’s memory can be made to Helen Porter Nursing Home or Addison County Home Health and Hospice.

Calling hours will be held at Sanderson Funeral Home in Middlebury on Saturday, Aug. 19, from 10 a.m.-noon.

Arrangements under the direction of Sanderson Funeral Home. Online condolences at www.sandersonfuneralservice.com.◇



CHRISTOPHER LEE SUMNER

Christopher Lee Sumner, 41, of Rutland

RUTLAND — Christopher Lee Sumner, 41, passed away Saturday, July 29, 2023 in Rutland. He was born on March 22, 1982, in Middlebury, the son of Joey and Cindy Hibbard Sumner.

He enjoyed the Demolition Derby at Addison County Field Days. He enjoyed being a mechanic, and he also liked tractors.

Christopher is survived by his parents Cindy and Joey Sumner; his brother Patrick Sumner; his daughter’s mother Nikki Smith; his daughter Aalyah Smith; grandmother, Yvette Rivers; and two aunts, Lisa Rivers and Penny Rivers. He was predeceased by his grandfather Ralph Rivers.

Visiting hours will be held on Saturday, Aug. 19, from 2 to 4 p.m. at Brown-McClay Funeral Home in Vergennes.

To send online condolences to his family please visit www.brownmccclayfuneralhomes.com.◇

DON’T MISS OUT!
www.addisonindependent.com

FUNERAL
MEMORIAL
SERVICE
CREMATION
PRE-PLANNING
SERVICES

**BROWN-McCLAY
FUNERAL HOMES**

BRISTOL **VERGENNES**
802-453-2301 802-877-3321
brownmccclayfuneralhomes.com

Celebrating 93 years | 1930 - 2023

**CLEGG'S
MEMORIALS**
Family owned and operated
Addison County's ONLY full
service monument company

EXPERIENCE | QUALITY | VALUE
If you want a monument - get it from a monument dealer!

WE DO OUR OWN
Drafting • Lettering • Sandblast
Cleaning • Foundations
Setting • Restoration

57 Main St., New Haven | 802-453-3433
CleggsMemorials.com | info@cleggsmemorials.com

**Sanderson
FUNERAL SERVICE, INC.**
117 SOUTH MAIN ST.

Peace of Mind
*is Knowing Your Loved One
Never Leaves Our Care*

**Affordable Cremation
& Burial Plans**

The only on-site crematory in Addison County.
Locally owned & operated by Walter Ducharme

Sanderson-Ducharme Funeral Home
117 South Main St. Middlebury, VT
802-388-2311
sandersonfuneralservice.com

Letters to the Editor

Financial take on library project was inappropriate

I attended the August 9 event for Ilsley Public Library’s planned renovation/expansion. I was impressed with the amount of work and effort the Project 100 Team and IPL Trustees put into the program. I found the evening to be well organized with useful information. The ultimate purpose of the event was to share information with the Middlebury community, offer more ways for community members to share their thoughts and priorities with the team, and launch the project off on a positive note.

I thought Joe McVeigh and Dana Hart did an excellent job narrating the state of IPL facilities as well as explaining to the audience the thoughtful approach and work that has already been done. Followed by an overview of the projected timeline for the future.

The three architecture firms all

gave fantastic presentations. I had already spent a significant amount of time looking at the drawings to gather my own thoughts and opinions. Yet, the presentations given last night added to my understanding and helped me immensely.

One of the things I appreciate about this community is how we come together to solve problems and try our best to make our solutions a good fit for as many as possible. However, I found Brian Carpenter’s words at the end of the event to be wholly inappropriate. They were contrary to the intent of the event and showed Mr. Carpenter to be ignorant of the important role libraries play in any community and particularly ours. The negative words delivered at the end of something that should have been celebrated did nothing to recommend Mr. Carpenter’s

ability to read the room or, frankly, support our community.

While I appreciate the shock value of the price tag for this project, and understand completely the selectboard’s job to be financially responsible with taxpayer monies, that does not mean the selectboard can stick their heads in the sand. I would encourage Mr. Carpenter and all the selectboard to start using the library and spending time there to see just how vital IPL is to the community. I think once a true understanding of the important role IPL plays in Middlebury is known, the selectboard will earnestly get behind this project.

Renee Ursitti
Middlebury

Editor’s note: Renee Ursitti is a librarian at Ilsley Public Library and is writing this letter as a community member, not in her role as librarian.

A poetic look at the recent flood-driven challenges

I have no right to complain

I have no right to rage about the rain trickling into my dry cellar floor when houses ransacked by the flood, the floorboards, couches caked in mud, appliances, albums, heirlooms loved all heaped in piles outdoors remind me that I have no right to complain.

I have no right to whine about the weeds thriving while my zinnias are not blooming when ravaged crops of corn and hay, the verdant stalks now brown and grey, and next-year’s seeds all swept away, the end of season looming convict me that I have no right to complain.

I have no right to gripe about the grass incessant in its constant need for mowing when farmers look over a field, the barren rows washed of their yield, they pray for their land to be healed while my lawn keeps on growing and tells me that I have no right to complain.

I have no right to moan about the mud swallowing my parked car at the fair when shops and restaurants were deluged and snow shovels had to be used to scrape away the muck that oozed through books and silverware O teach me that I have no right to complain.

Suzanne Rood
Vergennes

Ways of Seeing

(Continued from Page 4A)

your soul has returned to your body, which is to say: you wake up, you realize that you are not dead, you give thanks. Gratitude begins with the basics and the blessings in the daily prayer book include blessings for the gift of sight, the gift of strength against weariness, even the gift that your basic bodily functions are reasonably intact. Ancient wisdom teaches us not to take anything for granted.

But even with these gratitude practices, I am making my way through the summer in a state of ambient grief. Climate grief is a bit like the many rain clouds of this wet Vermont summer: grey, persistent, sometimes tear-filled, always hovering. While the June wildfire smoke certainly got to me, the heartache amped up in early July. In the midst of our first flood event, I was poised to go to Massachusetts and was already two days late. When I-89 finally opened up and it was deemed safe to travel, I threw a bright yellow life jacket into the back seat of my car. I wryly wondered if this would become a common travel strategy. The sun was out, the valleys shimmered with an iridescent green and the village of Hinesburg looked all shined-up and post-card perfect as I started my journey.

Then came Richmond. Where you would normally find the Park and Ride, there was an enormous,

brown lake. Cars were scattered everywhere, water rising to the rooflines. Five minutes later, I encountered the Winooski river. Was this wild muddy torrent even a river? I experienced it as a crazy, high-tide ocean forcing itself through a very narrow flume. Luckily, I saw it from what some highway official had deemed “a safe distance.” My nervous system felt otherwise.

Further down the road, I gazed on houses and fields, all flooded, mostly lost. Home. Food. These are the essentials that keep us warm, healthy and happy. Overnight, they were gone. “This is terrible. This is terrible.” I repeated to myself over and over until I made it past Barre and into New Hampshire, where the sun and some semblance of exterior normalcy returned.

But interior normalcy is another matter. For weeks, I have felt like Coleridge’s Ancient Mariner, needing to tell and retell the tale of my Massachusetts journey should I encounter someone who maybe wants to hear it (most people don’t). “If I’m feeling this way,” I wonder aloud, “What must it be like for the citizens of Barre whose homes have been entirely decimated?” But the reality is that I have the luxury to feel this grief because I am not pumping water out of my basement and wondering if my home will be condemned or make me sick from

mold. In the midst of emergencies, you basically cope and leave the feelings for later.

Am I beyond grateful that my own home and family were unscathed by the first flood, and the second and the third? Absolutely. The Buddhist teacher and activist, Thich Nhat Hanh, was famous for reminding his students to celebrate each day that starts without a toothache. In a similar vein, I daily celebrate the miracle of every ordinary, unflooded summer morning. But when you’ve been working on climate issues since the late 1980’s some days are harder than others. You wonder if you have made a difference. Or enough of one. You wonder what’s around the corner: next week, next summer, in another few years.

What to do? Rise, bless, thank. Help, work, bless and thank again. Rest. Protest. Play. Hug a sheep. Buy a sump pump. Check on a neighbor. Look for the helpers. Laugh at something. Repeat. Those are my strategies. And don’t forget to vote.

Rebecca Kneale Gould is a writer and Associate Professor of Environmental Studies at Middlebury College, focusing on comparative religion and the environmental humanities. She lives in Monkton where she tends — and is tended by — a small flock of adorable sheep.

Explaining skepticism

16th in a series

The terms skeptic and skeptical are commonplace in our ordinary discourse, so one might think that they hardly require definition. A skeptic is a doubter, and “skeptical” denotes an attitude of mind to doubt things in general.

Most of us are selectively skeptical. For example, we are or should be skeptical of any sales pitch, for it is evident that the person making it has no interest in enlightening us, but only in selling us something that we might or might not need. We are also or should be skeptical of claims made by certain politicians who are accustomed to telling lies. Liars must not be trusted.

Skepticism is also a major post-Socratic philosophical tradition. Its founder was Pyrrho of Elis (360–270 BCE). Pyrrho travelled in the train of Alexander the Great east to Persia and India, where he encountered “Gymnosophists,” naked philosophers, who discarded all the trappings of civilized life as detrimental to pure thought.

Returning to Greece, Pyrrho began to teach philosophy. Unlike Epicurus and Zeno, he established no school. Rather he propagated his philosophy by preaching and engaging in dialogue and debate in public places. He denied that we are capable of distinguishing between good and evil, right and wrong, true and false, and doubted that we could ever be sure that anything at all really exists.

In a brief biography, Diogenes Laertius writes, “He led a life consistent with this doctrine, going out of his way for nothing, taking no precaution, but facing all risks as they came, whether carts, precipices, dogs or what not, and leaving nothing to the judgment



The History of Philosophy
by Victor Nuovo
Middlebury College professor emeritus of philosophy

of the senses.” Diogenes adds that he was kept out of harm’s way by his friends.

In this respect, he was a consistent skeptic. He did not dogmatically deny the possibility of knowledge. He presented arguments designed to refute all claims to knowledge, and not knowledge only, but also belief. His goal was life without belief.

And what sort of life is that? Pyrrho and his successors claimed that it is a complete indifference which leads to tranquility, peace of mind. In this respect, ancient skepticism appears to be more of a religion than a philosophy. Some interpreters liken it

to Buddhism.

The philosophical value of skepticism lies not so much in its lifestyle, but in the means by which philosophical skeptics established and defended their point of view. Pyrrho and his followers were well versed in the doctrines and arguments of the other philosophical schools: Platonic, Aristotelian, Epicurean and Stoic, whose proponents they labelled “Dogmatists.” Their arguments were not based in ignorance, but on wide knowledge and logical sophistication. The point of their skeptical arguments was to demonstrate that our cognitive faculties are incapable of knowledge, and that what we take to be knowledge or believable hypotheses do not add up to a coherent picture of the world. Their skeptical arguments are worthy of consideration, for they challenge our ordinary beliefs about the nature of things around us and our capacity to know them.

Their aim is to build an unbridgeable divide between appearance and reality. Seeing

may be believing, but if the ideas in our minds do not correctly represent things as they really are, how can we even know to correct them? Besides, we have only our own minds to count on. Others may see things differently from us. Objects that seem heavy to one, may seem light to another; cool to one and warm to another. Moreover, we humans are not the only animals that have the sense of perception. Birds, squirrels and turtles have it as well, but suppose they see things differently? Truth is said to be in the eye of the beholder, but then is it really truth? In sum, all things are relative, and we are caught in a labyrinth of relativity.

The philosopher David Hume (1711–1776) studied the arguments of the ancient skeptics very carefully, and used them to establish his own skeptical position. But he also offered a reprieve from the skeptical dilemma. In the end, nature is always at hand to rescue skeptical philosophers from the hazards of their philosophical doubt. For they will come to realize that if their viewpoint were universally accepted “all life must perish.” “All discourse, all action would immediately cease; and men remain in total lethargy, until the necessities of nature, unsatisfied, put an end to their miserable existence. It is true, so fatal an event is very little to be dreaded. Nature is always too strong for principle.” But nature may someday annihilate us.

Postscript: The primary source of Pyrrho’s skeptical arguments is Sextus Empiricus, “Outlines of Pyrrhonism.” However, it is not available in an affordable edition. Diogenes Laertius (180–240 CE), mentioned above, was an ancient historian and biographer who wrote what has become an indispensable source for the study of ancient philosophy: “The Lives of the Eminent Philosophers.” It is available in a new English translation, published by Oxford University Press. It is a good read. Visit your local bookshop.

Elderly Services classes next month

MIDDLEBURY — Elderly Services will be hosting a Community Education Series of four informative presentations this fall on topics of importance to both area elders and their families. The series will begin on Tuesday, Sept. 26, and run until Tuesday, Nov. 7. All programs will be held from 4:30 to 6:00 p.m. at the Congregational Church in Middlebury and are free and open to our entire community.

Session 1, on Sept. 26, will be “Aging in Addison County—services and help” and will be led by Eileen Lawson, a geriatric social worker with ESI. Lawson will review the variety of helping options for aging individuals and answer questions about cost and affordability.

Session 2, on Oct. 3, will be “My reflections on living with Dementia” presented by Jane Dwinell, author of: “Alzheimer’s Canyon: One Couple’s Reflections on Living with Dementia.” During this presentation, she will read from their recently published book, tell their story, and take your questions. There are 13,000 people over age 65 in Vermont currently with a dementia diagnosis. It is a disease that touches everyone, yet there remains a stigma around talking about it. Sky, Jane’s

husband, did what he could to erase that stigma. He died in 2021, and since then Jane has been continuing the work that he started.

Session 3, on Oct. 17, will be “Telephone and Computer Scams that target the elderly” presented by Middlebury Police Chief Tom Hanley. Falling victim to a telephone or computer scam can happen to anyone — but members of our elderly community are the most vulnerable. Chief Hanley will provide his perspective on this issue and specific strategies you can use to keep yourself or your loved ones from becoming victims of this type of scam.

Session 4, on Nov. 7, will be “Does your loved on have memory loss” presented by Joanne Corbett, a clinical social worker with Elderly Services. She will discuss tips for everyday living with a person who has memory loss.

To RSVP or learn more, call Eileen Lawson at Elderly Services at 802-388-3983.

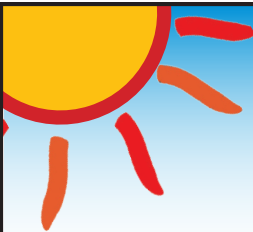
ADDISON COUNTY Obituaries

Thomas Jackson, 62, of Cornwall

CORNWALL — Thomas Jackson, 62, of Cornwall, a beloved member of our community, died Aug. 11, 2023, after living for three years with brain cancer. A full obituary will be published in the next edition of the *Addison Independent*. A gathering to celebrate Thomas’ life will take place on Aug. 26. Details will be posted at www.caringbridge.org/visit/thomasjackson11.

OBITUARIES


Can be found on Pages 6A and 7A.



Orwell, VT Homeowner Recommends Bristol Electronics

When I made the decision to install solar panels to power my small farm and residence, there was no doubt that I would turn to Bristol Electronics for help. Having worked with Chris and her team for satellite television service, I was confident that the same professionalism, expertise, quality workmanship, competitive price structure, prompt and courteous service, and continued support would be forthcoming. Such was the case and I couldn't be more satisfied with the result.

Kent Anderson – Orwell, VT



802 . 453 . 2500
BristolElectronicsVT.com
FREE SITE EVALUATIONS

You Don't Have to Spend \$5,000

for a quality hearing aid from us



- 3-year Warranty
- Lifetime Service
- **FREE** Cleaning
- **FREE** Hearing Test

FREE estimate on upgrade (\$2500 value)

Advanced Hearing Technologies
802-233-2345
www.advancedhearingofvermont.com
bernie344@gmail.com
Marble Works, 63 Maple Street, Middlebury, VT

Clippings

(Continued from Page 4A)

handles potentially divisive topics with humor, intelligence, and heart.

I’m aware that some people disagree with this assessment. The controversy over “Barbie” has been confusing to me. As far as I can tell, it centers around the movie’s claim that we live in a patriarchal society, and that manufacturing plastic women in a variety of skin tones and professional outfits hasn’t been enough to win greater equality for actual women.

I’m confused because I should think it’s fairly obvious that we do, indeed, live in a society in which being male tends to confer political, professional, and economic power. One-hundred percent of U.S. Presidents — and the vast majority of leaders in other fields — have been male. U.S. women earn 82 cents for every dollar men make — a statistic that hasn’t changed much over the past 20 years. And the song “Push,” sung un-ironically by Matchbox 20 and again by the Kens in “Barbie,” did indeed top the charts in 1997. (Chorus: “I want to push you around/Well I will, well I will/I want to push you down/Well I will, Well I will/I want to take you for granted.”) I recall being vaguely disturbed by those lyrics back when the song seemed to be playing everywhere, but in my youth I reasoned, “Well, it’s popular, so it must be okay.”

Those are just facts. You may disagree on why gender gaps persist, or what they mean, or point out valid complexities within the data; these are interesting conversations to be had. But simply stating that maleness has historically been rewarded in our society doesn’t seem like it should shock anybody into burning Barbies in protest. That it has reveals a great deal about our country’s current tendency to politicize everything, and to define ourselves as right in contrast to “the other side” — who are, of course,

always wrong.

What surprised me about “Barbie” was how balanced and gentle it was in its assessment of gender dynamics — when, frankly, it didn’t need to be as nuanced. Yes, it mocks an over-the-top stereotype of toxic masculinity, but it’s also unsparing in its critique of the impossible standards imposed on women — in the name of feminism. America Ferrara’s by-now famous speech (which I have never actually delivered, but I’m honored that my daughter thinks I have) is a perfect summary of the female experience, but another moment that gave me chills was when Ken’s macho mask cracks as he lashes out at Barbie: “*You failed me!*” The audience feels the complex and ugly honesty of his statement as we see Barbie’s face fall in recognition of that truth.

The film leads us gently into a larger truth: *We have all failed each other*. No group of people should *ever* be treated as second-class citizens. Furthermore, when we require any group, male or female, to be all things simultaneously — tough and tender, thin and healthy, a perfect parent and a high-achieving professional — everybody loses. The wonderful thing about being human is discovering who we are as individuals, and a healthy society should celebrate how our differences enable us to work together in community with other unique individuals. If everyone must be all things, we end up as competitive pretzels.

The one issue I have with “Barbie” is that the final solution arrived at by the citizens of Barbieland feels more like revenge than reconciliation: Helen Mirren’s voiceover declares that the Kens will now have as much power in Barbieland as women have in the Real World. A movie that’s been so thorough in acknowledging the humanity in everyone can — and should — do better than this.

Haven’t we learned from history that the solution to injustice isn’t just flipping the script so that the oppressed become the oppressors? True change takes radical grace, which is present everywhere else in “Barbie” except this moment.

But more than gender roles, “Barbie” is about what it means to be human. I don’t know whether this was Greta Gerwig’s intent, but the film is basically a retelling of “The Velveteen Rabbit,” Margery Williams’s classic 1922 children’s book about a stuffed rabbit who longs to be real. But instead of being loved into reality by a young boy, Barbie is loved into reality by a middle-aged mother. (Therefore, instead of scarlet fever being the precipitating crisis, it’s menopause and cellulite.)

“Barbie” is not, at its core, a film for teenagers; it’s a film for middle-aged women. It’s for those who are grappling with whether our lives have meaning, with why our teenaged daughters won’t cuddle with us anymore, and — yes — with those pervasive thoughts of death. (From the moment when Barbie interrupts a dance party with, “Do you ever think about dying?” I knew this film understood my soul.)

The great good news is that “Barbie” makes a clear-eyed tally of the human condition, and — cellulite, patriarchy, and death notwithstanding — lands squarely on the side of humanity. It’s one of the most joyfully life-affirming films I’ve seen.

Go see it. Please. It just might change your life.

Faith Gong has worked as an elementary school teacher, a freelance photographer, and a nonprofit director. She lives in Middlebury with her husband, five children, assorted chickens and ducks, one feisty cat, and two quirky dogs. In her “free time,” she writes for her blog, The Pickle Patch.

Hardy letter

(Continued from Page 4A)

bond, the Ilsley 100 Team is working to secure as many other funding sources as possible in order to reduce the share that must come from a bond.

Additionally, as is explained in the article, Chair Carpenter did not acknowledge that the majority of local property taxes are school taxes, thus citing a 15% increase is a scare-tactic meant to mislead the public. The impact of a bond on taxpayers will depend on the actual terms of the bond and specific circumstances for individual residents.

Ilsley Library Director, Dana Hart, has been diligently applying for numerous state, federal, and private grants. We have engaged a fundraising consultant and will be pursuing donations both large and small, including through exciting naming and community participation projects. We will seek support from neighboring towns where residents are regular users of the library and examine the potential for using other state and local revenue sources, such as ARPA funding and local option tax revenues, like the Cross Street

Bridge project did. Finally, we hope to partner with Middlebury College, because a vibrant college town must include a strong public library. The portion to be paid via property taxes is simply unknown at this time.

Our fiscal analysis also acknowledges that a newly renovated building will actually be cheaper for the Town to operate, as energy and maintenance costs would be significantly reduced. Further, with over 94,000 annual visits to the Ilsley Library, it is a major driver of downtown economic activity, a figure that will certainly increase as more people are drawn to a new and improved library facility and programming space.

After a design firm is chosen and plans evolve with community input and further analysis, we will be able to release more detailed financial information. Based on the feedback received about the designs, enthusiastic attendance at the event, and the considerable work that has already been done, there is strong community support for the Ilsley Project. It will be crucial for the Middlebury

selectboard to work collaboratively with the Ilsley 100 Project Team, the design firm chosen, and other project partners so that the financial package and goals of the project can be realized. Given that Chair Carpenter has publicly expressed his skepticism toward the project, other members of the selectboard must step up publicly to ensure that the work moves forward. We are confident that a majority of the board supports our community through a renovated and expanded Ilsley Public Library, and we need their vocal leadership now more than ever.

We hope community members can build on the excitement of last week’s event to envision what a new and improved Ilsley Library could mean for our downtown and community. Reach out to members of the selectboard and let them know you support Ilsley Library, and stay tuned for more ways you can be involved with the design work, fundraising, and community engagement.

Thanks for your support, and we’ll see you at the library!

Ruth Hardy, Amy Mincher
Middlebury

The Genocide against the Tutsi, a brief history

Fifth in a series

I took a walk away from Kagugu, best known for its large, gated houses, a pleasant area in the quiet of early morning, and headed towards the other extreme — mud houses, dank alleys, women along the red dirt street selling small green peppers strewn on blankets in the dust.

I ventured away from the main road in between tight homes straddling crevices scarred by rain and into fields where kids played barefoot with toys made of sticks and rubbish, and men cut away the dry earth into blocks later to be the foundation of a house or an outbuilding. I took a wide turn towards a distant cattle farm because I wanted to see how it compared to Vermont’s farms. I’ve raised cows and wanted to see how it’s done in Rwanda.

I was greeted with waves and smiles by the men and women moving slender cattle and cleaning a paddock. As I made my way back to the busier side of this neighborhood, I found myself before the farm’s large iron gate. It was the way to the main road, and it was locked.

A slight man suddenly appeared. He had dark slacks and a short white sleeve shirt. One arm was cut off at the shoulder, the other was cut off mid-forearm. With this arm he dexterously unlocked the door and pulled it open. He smiled as I approached.

“Murakozé,” I said. Thank you.

We stared at each other as I passed. His eyes were blood red and deep yellow, distant and sorrowful. I wanted to ask — I still want to know — but my anthropologist friends would have warned me not to go about it in a way that comes across as me getting something from him, instead of the inverse. I let it go, smiled, and moved on. But his image remains a fixture in my mind.

The Genocide against the Tutsi (we never say the Genocide in Rwanda; it is insulting, and not accurate, actually), is palpable throughout the country — burial sites scar the countryside. The Kigali Genocide Memorial contains the story. When I visited the Memorial’s burial grounds behind the museum, I passed a woman in tears praying. She was for me the density of this history.

Even in the Rwandan General Studies Curriculum for all grade levels there is a mandate for “peace and justice education, which was absent in the pre-Genocide Rwandan curricula, and which could be said to have enabled to a certain extent the Genocide against the Tutsi.” The study of the Genocide alongside other atrocities such as the Holocaust is vital to Rwandan education. In other words, this will not happen again.

My thoughts drift to the U.S. and Florida’s whitewashing of slavery, and how much healthier and approachable — and unifying — Rwanda’s path is.

The seeds for the Genocide were sewn even before colonization, which accelerated this brutal tragedy. During the 1890s a period of centralization took hold, which had four general characteristics: central political control became more homogeneous, which gave way to an almost modern state,



HECTOR VILA
Education in Exile:
Afghans in Rwanda

whereby local situations, even disputes vanished; the central court of the King tightened political authority; the double process of local and central strengthening of authority enabled the court to eliminate the last remaining Hutu principalities; and, the relations of personal dependence became increasingly feudalized.

The King granted land for grazing, which was also done through Tutsi lineage. The land could also be held as clanic undivided property, introducing *ubuletwa*, forced labor, as an extension of land contracts.

This is important in pre-colonialized Rwanda because what is in place is “a centre versus periphery affair and not a Tutsi versus Hutu” situation. Gérard Prunier tells us in “The Rwandan Crisis: History of

the Germans against them. The Catholic Church also hated King Musinga because they believed he reeked of paganism. Musinga was exiled to Kamembe. This is important because young Mutara III Rudahigwa converted to Catholicism, dressed in western clothes, drove his own car, and was monogamous. Loved by the Church, he could be exploited by the Belgians and Catholics.

Massive conversions to Catholicism began in 1927. Rwandans understood that the Belgian administration was converting the country according to the white man’s terms. The Tutsi realized that these developments wouldn’t necessarily be bad for them.

“Rwandese society under the influence of the church,” writes Prunier, “became, if not truly virtuous, then at least conventionally hypocritical.” Christianity was trans-ethnic, although definitely Tutsi-dominated during the colonial years. The Catholic Church wet the seeds of discontent, preferring the European-like features and intelligence of the tall, slender Tutsi. The Church divided the society.

Thus, says Prunier, “through the actions, both intellectual and material, of the white foreigners, myths had been synthesized into a new reality.” The minority Tutsi was preferred to the majority Hutu. Although Rwanda was certainly not a place of bucolic harmony and peace, there was no history of systematic violence between Hutu and Tutsi. Colonialism and the Church exploited the Tutsi and the Hutu, and lit the fuse.

The relentless, brutal killing of the Genocide, between April 7 and July 15, 1994, during the Rwandan Civil War (sometimes conflated wrongly with the Genocide, adding to the complexity and confusion that still to this day remains), was more to “upbraid a certain vision [Hutu and Tutsi] have of themselves, of the others and of their place in the world than because of material interests,” which can always be negotiated. This is what made the killing relentless — ideas cannot be negotiated and tend to be pursued to their logical conclusions, however horrible and brutal.

Genocide.” Even though most of the King’s agents were Tutsi, their “victims,” the newly “controlled,” were both Tutsi and Hutu. The Tutsi and Hutu identities were not hard, unchanging categories, but the newly integrated elites, when co-opted by the monarchy, turned these identities into faithful servants of a new order. This is important to keep in mind as Rwanda experienced a great transformation from 1860-1931, giving birth to its modern society.

The German presence (1884-1919) capitalized on this existing structure and inaugurated a policy of indirect rule, “which left considerable leeway to the Rwandese monarchy,” says Prunier, which means that the pre-colonization structures and methods continued unabated. The Germans, however, could not really modify Rwandese society in depth and to their liking. It was over by 1916, and Germany maintained only a slight presence.

The Belgians stepped in with a strong colonial policy that was implemented between 1926 and 1931 in a series of measures that came known as “les réformes Voisin” after the governor, Charles Voisin. One of the strongest measures was to consolidate chiefly functions into a single hand. “Thus, the Hutu peasants, who before had cleverly manipulated one level of chiefly authority against the other, now found themselves tightly controlled by one chief only, whose backing by the white administration was much more efficient than the loose support the traditional chiefs used to receive from the royal court,” Prunier explains.

Sensing global support of the Belgian administration, the Tutsi felt they could slowly modify traditional land and contractual rights in their favor. Belgian legislation helped. The state could control all Hutu holdings. This was not forgotten and during the 1959 revolution, Tutsi houses were burnt to the ground. But western capitalism had already taken hold creating an atmosphere of individualization and privatization, putting folds onto an anxious society. Tutsi, closer to the levers of power, were the beneficiaries. The seeds of violence were sewn.

In 1931, Mutara III Rudahigwa replaced his father, King Yuhi V Musinga, who was hated by the Belgians because he fought with

the Germans against them. The Catholic Church also hated King Musinga because they believed he reeked of paganism. Musinga was exiled to Kamembe. This is important because young Mutara III Rudahigwa converted to Catholicism, dressed in western clothes, drove his own car, and was monogamous. Loved by the Church, he could be exploited by the Belgians and Catholics.

Massive conversions to Catholicism began in 1927. Rwandans understood that the Belgian administration was converting the country according to the white man’s terms. The Tutsi realized that these developments wouldn’t necessarily be bad for them.

“Rwandese society under the influence of the church,” writes Prunier, “became, if not truly virtuous, then at least conventionally hypocritical.” Christianity was trans-ethnic, although definitely Tutsi-dominated during the colonial years. The Catholic Church wet the seeds of discontent, preferring the European-like features and intelligence of the tall, slender Tutsi. The Church divided the society.

Thus, says Prunier, “through the actions, both intellectual and material, of the white foreigners, myths had been synthesized into a new reality.” The minority Tutsi was preferred to the majority Hutu. Although Rwanda was certainly not a place of bucolic harmony and peace, there was no history of systematic violence between Hutu and Tutsi. Colonialism and the Church exploited the Tutsi and the Hutu, and lit the fuse.

The relentless, brutal killing of the Genocide, between April 7 and July 15, 1994, during the Rwandan Civil War (sometimes conflated wrongly with the Genocide, adding to the complexity and confusion that still to this day remains), was more to “upbraid a certain vision [Hutu and Tutsi] have of themselves, of the others and of their place in the world than because of material interests,” which can always be negotiated. This is what made the killing relentless — ideas cannot be negotiated and tend to be pursued to their logical conclusions, however horrible and brutal.

This is by no means the complete history of the complexities that became the Genocide. It is, nevertheless, a primer hopefully demonstrating, once again, how colonialism used a modernizing society and imposed German, Belgian and Catholic primacy onto an evolving, anxious society and set it on fire. Rwanda’s history is consistent with the histories of colonialism.

As a side note, in the Genocide Museum, I spent quite some time examining the language of politicians and their manipulations of the press, critical in animating unfounded hatred — mythic narratives that led to violence. I replaced Rwanda for the U.S., and changed Rwandan names in the press with U.S. names, and suddenly before my eyes there was the ultra-right media in the U.S., though the mainstream — MSNBC/CNN/NTYT/WP, et al. — are not blameless here. The language of the Genocide is interchangeable with our current U.S. political-media language, our perverse environment. It’s uncanny and frightening because we don’t have machetes, we have the AR-15s.

In a *Washington Post* story (Aug. (See Villa, Page 9A)

SUNSHINE = HAPPINESS SALE!

2015 TOYOTA TACOMA
DB Cab, 4X4, SR5, Auto, V6, Only 110k miles!
\$24,995

2012 TOYOTA HIGHLANDER
SE, AWD, Leather, Sunroof, 171k miles
\$12,995

2014 FORD EXPLORER
4X4, XLT, Leather, Sunroof, 105k miles
\$16,995

2018 KIA SEDONA
SX Limited, Leather, Loaded, 91k miles
\$24,995

2015 TOYOTA COROLLA
LE, 4cyl, Auto, Loaded, 91k miles
\$13,995

WIMETT TRADING COMPANY

CARS AND TRUCKS

802 465 4688

AFFORDABLE, SAFE & RELIABLE USED CARS AND TRUCKS

We also buy cars, locate specialty orders & consider consignments
Call Dave for an appointment

Wimett Trading Company
at the Big White Barn in Leicester

Michael Jackman, 51 Years Experience
David Wimett, 38 Years Experience
Mark Grant, 10 Years Experience

802-465-4688

2668 Route 7 • Leicester, VT 05733 • wimetttradingco@gmail.com

Registration is open!

Counseling Service of Addison County

CSAC Bocce Tournament

Sept. 30, 9:30am-12:30pm, Midd Rec Park

Register at www.csac-vt.org

Want to volunteer or sponsor?
Email btarallo@csac-vt.org

Marquis sponsor

The Richards Group
FINANCIAL, INSURANCE & HR SOLUTIONS

Pallino sponsors

Langrock
SPERRY & WOOL

Morgan Stanley
THE STOTZ BROSCIOUS GROUP
AT MORGAN STANLEY

Premier Volo sponsor

M&T Bank

KBS
Kittell Brannagan & Sargent

University of Vermont
HEALTH NETWORK

Porter Medical Center

Sheriffs

(Continued from Page 1A)

In Franklin County, state police are investigating the new sheriff, John Grismore, after auditors expressed concern about the department’s finances while he was its chief deputy. In Caledonia County, auditors found that Sheriff Dean Shatney, before leaving office in February, gave himself and his entire staff bonuses totaling \$400,000.

And in Bennington County Sheriff Chad Schmidt acknowledges spending much of his time in Tennessee since the COVID-19 pandemic reached Vermont in 2020 while collecting fulltime pay as sheriff, and he also faces allegations of a conflict of interest over having department vehicles washed at a business owned by a county assistant judge.

“There have been a number of examples of problematic behavior from sheriffs around the state,” said state Sen. Ruth Hardy, D-Middlebury, who was a lead sponsor of S.17.

She said the Newton case was a “big catalyst for me” to pursue the bill.

“What he is alleged to have done, and what the evidence points to him having done, is criminal, horrible behavior — particularly for a law enforcement officer. Allegedly using his office in order to take advantage of, and what it seems like assault a woman, is beyond the pale,” she said.

“We looked at both the behavior of sheriffs themselves and also the financial mismanagement of sheriff’s departments,” Hardy said. “We looked at the instances around the state of misbehavior and tried to address all of them.”

NEW MANDATES

- Act 30 calls for:
- Conflict-of-interest requirements for sheriffs and their deputies. Hardy cited the hiring of relatives as an example of a potential conflict.
 - Sheriff’s departments to provide law enforcement and security services to county and state courthouses under a single, statewide contract.
 - Sheriffs to maintain a record of their work schedules.
 - The Vermont Sheriffs’ Association and the Vermont

Department of State’s Attorneys and Sheriffs to return next year with a proposed uniform policy on bonuses, as well as fuller discussion on compensation. Sheriffs and deputies within each department are paid salaries, plus bonuses.



Sheriff’s departments could be funded in a way that “sort of encourages policing for profit. It created this sort of incentive of poor financial oversight — a ‘slush fund mentality,’ for lack of a better term.” — Sen. Ruth Hardy

left with kind of a financial mess. That’s what we saw in Orange County. We’re trying to address that transition period with more strict financial oversight requirements.”

Hardy said that prior to passage of S.17, sheriff’s departments could be funded in a way that “sort of encourages policing for profit,” Hardy said. “It encouraged sheriffs to go out and get a bunch of (service) contracts ... Then they use the 5% provision to provide themselves bonuses or buy things for the department. It created this sort of incentive of poor financial oversight — a ‘slush fund mentality,’ for lack of a better term.”



“Overall, I think having a little more accountability never hurt anyone; it’s just getting everyone on board with that when there hasn’t been accountability for a while with sheriff’s departments.” — Addison County Sheriff Mike Elmore

5% provision, Anderson said, “We remain vigilant that ill-conceived or undeveloped policy can drastically hamper a department’s ability to even operate. We have yet to see the full effects of S17. Vermont sheriffs are open to discussion about fair, appropriate compensation, but it cannot be at the detriment of the communities we serve or our employees.”

Elmore said he has invested and

will continue to invest sheriff’s department contract revenue back into his force.

“All the money we bring in, I believe, needs to go right to equipment for the officers, cruisers, training — stuff to help the department function,” he said. “I didn’t feel like me taking 5% of what we were making, just to benefit me, would help the department run well.”

In the meantime, S.17 “does continue to allow bonuses, but they’re capped,” Hardy said.

Elmore said he has no problem with the mandates.

“Overall, I think having a little more accountability never hurt anyone; it’s just getting everyone on board with that when there hasn’t been accountability for a while with sheriff’s departments,” he said.

INAPPROPRIATE FEES

The law also mandates sheriff’s departments to assist individuals with a relief from abuse order to retrieve personal belongings if asked and if within the sheriff’s county to do so without charging a fee for the service.

“Sheriff’s departments were charging victims of domestic violence a fee for when a sheriff was required to help them move out of a residence,” Hardy said. “We eventually said, ‘This is not OK; you can’t charge for this. The Vermont State Police and municipal police departments don’t charge for this, and you can’t either.’”

Elmore said his deputies receive relatively few requests to monitor moves related to relief from abuse (RFA) orders.

“I get the idea behind it,” he said. “The state doesn’t want to put the burden on the people going through the RFA process, but who’s responsible for taking care of the (financial) piece of it? The worry is, is the state going to continue to find things for us to do without necessarily having funding for it. It’s a step the VSA wants to make sure doesn’t lead to other things that are unfunded.”

The new law also calls on various law enforcement and judiciary stakeholder groups to report to the Legislature this fall with recommendations on potential changes to sheriff’s department funding, operating procedures, training protocols and range of duties.

Anderson hailed provisions of the new law that he said address issues that have occurred “through the transition of some prior sheriffs.” He specifically said the law should result in:

- “Improved transparency and process regarding a department’s financial assets and disbursements.”
- Better tuned audits for transitions.
- The repeal of archaic laws.
- A shift in resources to help support departments with policy development.

- More clarity on the “variety of complex issues that recognize decades worth of decisions and deferrals of decisions that have brought us to this point.”

MORE TO BE DONE

Anderson said the VSA supported the version of S.17 that passed out of House Government Operations & Military Affairs. He said the association later opposed an 11th-hour legislative amendment that it viewed as “harmful to a sheriffs’ ability to hire and retain employees. While we opposed the amendment, there was no time left in the session to resolve the temporary provision.”

Anderson said he’s disappointed that the VSA had to spend a lot of time bringing the Legislature up to speed on what sheriff’s departments do, which left less time to work on the essence of S.17. But he believes the VSA accomplished at least part of its mission.

“What was underlined during various committee hearings is sheriffs’ services, regardless of which county, are highly sought after by local, regional, and state entities but often with limited or no resources committed. We look forward to continuing our work in future sessions,” he said.

Overall, Anderson said he believes “S17 has taken steps toward restoring public confidence, and quite frankly we need to focus on the safety of the public we serve as we see increases in shootings and violent crimes. Talking with members of the public, there is serious concern throughout Vermont about an individual’s safety.”

Elmore said while he believes S.17 could use more work, he appreciates “the idea behind it, because there are definitely some things that needed to change with the oversight of sheriff’s department, given some of things that have gone on in departments around the state.”

Hardy cautioned that Act 30 isn’t a catch-all. The new law still doesn’t address the issue of firing a Vermont sheriff. The only way to remove a sheriff from office is a complex impeachment process through the state Legislature. Hardy promised legislation calling for a Constitutional amendment that would make it easier to dismiss a sheriff, state’s attorney, assistant judge and probate judge.

A Constitutional amendment must start in the state Senate, where it must pass that chamber by a two-thirds majority, then it must clear the House. The 2025 state Legislature (both House and Senate) would then have to endorse the amendment, whereupon it would be put to Vermont voters in November 2026.

“It’s a long haul,” Hardy said. “S.17 was just a first step.”

Reporter John Flowers is at johnf@addisonindependent.com.



EMILY ROSSIER

Rossier

(Continued from Page 1A)

democracy and the potential of that,” she said. “I appreciate how we govern.”

Rossier graduated from Vergennes Union High School before earning a degree from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. She was recently hired by the Addison Northwest School District as the VUHS high school and middle school Student Health & Safety Coordinator.

Rossier formerly taught science at the VUHS alternative education program, the Walden Project, and her career also includes work with Up for Learning as a program director, Northlands Job Corps as a career transitions services specialist, and as a middle school math teacher at the North Greenbush, N.Y., school. She has training in restorative practices and youth mental health.

As she noted in her letter of interest for a position on the council, Rossier also has experience specifically relevant to serving on that board.

“I worked as the confidential secretary to the Troy City Council president compiling meeting agendas, packets and minutes,” she wrote. “I previously worked in a similar capacity in the planning & engineering departments for planning & zoning board meetings. In that role, I also organized a collaborative \$2 million federal grant application for residential lead paint remediation.”

Rossier told the *Independent* she’s coached youth basketball and helped organize this past June’s Vergennes Pride Event that included a gathering on the VUHS lawn and a march to the city green.

Rossier, a single mother who returned to live in her hometown eight years ago, emphasized in her letter of interest that she believes all her background has prepared her to serve:

“I have a diverse professional journey in areas of science education, health, human resources, government, and the alleviation of homelessness. I have the skill, experience, and motivation to effectively mobilize communities to visionary action. The Vergennes community has my commitment as the place where I would like to continue to innovate, learn and serve.

“Vergennes is a community that I hold dearly,” she added. “As a teacher at VUHS, I have worked with teens who excel in the conventional system and those on the verge of dropping out. I successfully obtained \$25,000 in grant funding from the Vermont Agency of Education to bring together a diverse group of youth and adults to advance student-centered learning at VUHS.”

She wrote in conclusion, “I would love to bring my different experiences and perspectives to help make informed decisions for our city.”

And what do we make of the Trump mantra, “If you go after me, I’m coming after you,” another gross and perverse statement easily found in the Genocide’s media blitz?

Can we learn something from Rwanda? I hope we can, but I’m not holding my breath. Can we learn something that will prevent us from creating yet another museum devoted to death and destruction? Or are we beyond learning at this stage? I fear the answer.

Villa

(Continued from Page 8A)

12), for instance, “Michigan state Rep. Matt Maddock (R) warned supporters at a recent fundraiser at his home that a ‘civil war’ would break out or that people would get shot if the government continued to target conservatives, according to audio of the event obtained by the *Messenger*, which first reported the remarks.” This is a statement that could be found numerous times in the archives of the Genocide against the Tutsi.

ADDISON COUNTY School Briefs

Emerson College student Sean Dougherty of Orwell has

had a busy spring with roles in “Cabaret,” “The Loyals” and other student-written short plays. Dougherty is a Writing, Lit & Publishing major.

Dog Days Estate

Antiques + Sidewalk Sale

10 Green Street, Vergennes, Vermont

Friday, Saturday, Sunday.

August 18, 19, 20. 8am-5pm.

Glassware, Electric Full Size Bed, Rugs, Paintings, China, Walnut Armoire, Stoneware, Oliver Collectible Toy Tractors, Dressers, Sawbuck Table, Asian Prints, PA Dry Sink, Set of 15 Press Back Chairs, Lamps, Drop Leaf Tables, Dining Tables, Iron Patio Chairs, German Walnut MCM Cabinet, Clothing, Secretary/Bookcases, Mirrors, Sofas, Toolbox, Seth Thomas 4" Regulator, Frame Pile, Baskets and on and on ad infinitum.....

cash, check, credit card, venmo

Stone Block Antiques

Come into Nino's and tell us what you did at the fair.

Let's keep the fun going!

Starting August 14th, come into Nino's Pizza.

The first 200 participants get a coupon for a slice and a soda or \$5 off any one pie.

Limit 1 coupon per person Offer good 8-14 thru 9-2

21 Macintyre Ln, Middlebury, VT / (802) 388-7755 / ninosmiddlebury.com

Hours: Monday 11:00 to 3:00, Tuesday - Saturday 11:00 - 8:00, Closed Sundays

ADVERTISE Email us at: ads@addisonindependent.com

SUMMER Sidewalk Sale

Aug 17-19th

DOWNTOWN MIDDLEBURY

participating merchants include:

EVERYTHING NICE	GREEN MOUNTAIN ADVENTURES
SWEET CECILY	THE STONE MILL PUBLIC MARKET
VERMONT BOOK SHOP	BUY AGAIN ALLEY
VERMONT'S OWN	MIDDLETON
ELLI PARR BOUTIQUE	PARLOUR
ADDISON WEST	FLORA
THE MIDDLEBURY SHOP	DANFORTH PEWTER

DISCOUNTED ITEMS INCLUDING HOUSEPLANTS, HOME DECOR, ARTISAN ITEMS, CHRISTMAS, BOOKS, CARDS, READING ACCESSORIES, CANDLES, CLOTHING, WOODWORK, JEWELRY, ACCESSORIES, BEAUTY PRODUCTS, OUTDOOR GEAR, GAMES AND MORE!

plus... SPEND AT LEAST \$25 IN PARTICIPATING STORES TO ENTER TO WIN \$100 OF MIDDLEBURY MONEY!

Experience MIDDLEBURY VERMONT



Field Days 2023

THE 75TH ANNUAL Addison County Fair and Field Days last week saw more than the usual amount of rain, which created tremendous mud pits where the parking usually happens. Rain aside, thousands of people enjoyed the many aspects of the summer ritual. Shown clockwise from above are: Owen Cash of Ripton cranking in the pedal tractor pull; a pair of Chianinas bulls competing in the Oxen Pulls; 5-year-old Becca Carpenter of Orwell enjoying her turn on the pedal tractor; Emily Haskell, sister of Whiting's Elizabeth Curran, and an unnamed woman in a pink hat letting the metal fly in the skillet toss; Connor Hillman earning 2nd place on his pedal tractor; and kids line up for prizes after the pedal tractor competition. See you in New Haven next year!

Independent photos/Steve James





TAMMY SHATTUCK, LEFT, and her assistant, Jenna Fyfe, are ready to hand out more fried food at their booth on the first day of Field Days last Tuesday.

Independent photo/Sophia Afsar-Keshmiri



THE CURDEOUS COW owner Cassandra Wagner shows off her product as she wraps up a second day of frying cheese curds at Field Days last Wednesday.

Independent photo/Sophia Afsar-Keshmiri

Fancy fried foods featured at Field Days

By SOPHIA AFSAR-KESHMIRI

NEW HAVEN — Last week, Tammy Shattuck, 50, introduced Field Days fairgoers to her fried pies at her treat's debut at the event.

The North Clarendon resident transformed this classic fork-and-knife-dessert into a mobile handheld, with all of the wonderful pie parts intact, but contained within a more petite semicircle pie-crust package.

It was perfect for strolling the muddier-than-usual fairgrounds, peering over fences at animals or watching the demolition derby.

Shattuck's mobile alternative for a sweet fair snack beats the classic and challenging-to-eat fried dough in the convenience category. After receiving the treat in its parchment paper sleeve, I was thankful I

Tradition of gun raffles continued at the fair

By AMELIA SEEPERSAUD

NEW HAVEN — Amidst all of the excitement of the annual Addison County Fair and Field Days, the Paquette Building hosts a variety of different local Vermont organizations and businesses.

Though firearms are not physically allowed into the fair, during Field Days last week groups were allowed to hold gun raffles open to everyone in attendance. This year two groups in particular hosted in the building held such gun raffles: the Vermont Traditions Coalition (VTC) and the Vermont Trappers Association (VTA).

VTC had three gun raffles going and one large raffle selling at \$100 a ticket for an ATV. Altogether at the fair they sold about 600 tickets for the gun raffles and about 20 for the ATV. The gun raffle was open to anyone at the fair who was interested and eligible to own a gun. They don't verify eligibility or run a background check themselves as they sell each ticket. According to VTC Treasurer Michael Bard, "When they win the raffle, the transfer will go directly through a firearms dealer, and they do all the background checks."

wasn't experimenting with tactics to eat a traditional slice of sweet and sugary pie. I watched one fairgoer employ the "hold-the-parallel-plate-edges-and-nibble-the-front" technique, only to eventually be forced to slide the snack forward.

Shattuck was inspired to sell these handheld fried halfmoons — filled with your choice of apple, caramel apple, cherry, strawberry rhubarb, apricot raspberry, blackberry, blueberry, raspberry or peach — after her brother revealed the pie-cooking tactic he saw elsewhere. "They did out West," she said.

Shattuck assured a tentative customer that they are "absolutely" tastier than your average pie.



VERMONT TRADITIONS COALITION Treasurer Mike Bard, left, and Executive Director Mike Covey were happy to talk to folks at Field Days about their organization, but they also were raffling off guns to get people to stop at their booth.

Independent photo/Steve James

The Vermont Traditions Coalition is primarily a volunteer coalition made up of different Vermont organizations that align with each other's goals. As their website states they're a group "working to protect their cultural heritage."

"We work in the legislative and regulatory processes," Mike Covey, the group's executive director, said, "advocating for hunting, fishing, trapping, snowmobiling, forestry, public land access, public land management. All the things that kind of connect Vermonters to the

landscape."

VTC Treasurer Bard explained that the organization's goals at the fair were to fundraise and also to let people know what they're about. For Bard, the ability to talk with people at Field Days was the most significant incentive for being there.

"If we didn't sell a single raffle ticket but we spoke to a lot of people, we'd have done a good job," he said.

The winners for VTC's raffles will be announced on Sept. 31 and for VTA's raffle on Sept. 24.

And so (fried cheese curds) was a huge part of my childhood," Wagner said.

At Wagner's stand, a rectangular chalkboard adorning her businesses name, The Curdeous Cow, listed the various dipping sauces she offers: marinara, maple syrup, homemade ranch, homemade spicy ranch or homemade creamy horseradish.

She said kids usually opt for the maple syrup option.

These beer-battered fried nuggets have their origins at Rodgers Farmstead in Berlin. Wagner noted that this is where she sources her curds, and wanted to ensure that their home got a shoutout.

On the first day of Field Days, which kicked off on a rainy Tuesday, Aug. 8, she wasn't sure if she'd be taking her stand to any more events. But by the following evening, about midway through the G. Stone Motors Demolition Derby, business was booming and it was looking like her fried pies have a bright future at other fairs.

Among the food booths another featured fried snack was also inspired by the West.

Cassandra Wagner, 28, from Richmond, was selling fried cheese curds with just one more Field Days under her belt than Shattuck. She sells at Vermont events similar to Field Days.

"I'm from Wisconsin originally.

Grow your money with our
special CD offering

7-MONTH CD
4.15% interest rate
4.24% APY*

Minimum of \$50,000 to open. Penalty for early withdrawal.
Interest rates are as of 07/20/23 and may change at any time.

*Annual Percentage Yield

Stop by to
take advantage
of these
new rates!



National Bank of Middlebury
Serving Vermont Communities Since 1831

EOE FDIC EQUAL HOUSING LENDER

nbmvt.com • 877-508-8455 • NMLS# 403372

Woofstock

Walk for the Animals!

Saturday, September 9, 2023

You don't want to miss our post-walk
doggie dip in the town pool!

Memorial Sports Center, Middlebury

10:30 am: Registration
11:30 am: Walk
12:00 pm: Doggie Pool Party!

Registration details:
Dogs welcome!
Adults: \$20
Youth: \$10
Children 5 and under are free.

For details and to register visit:
www.homewardboundanimals.org

Great prizes for top youth, adult, and team fundraisers!
Everyone who raises more than \$50 receives a Woofstock 2023 T-Shirt
and all participating dogs will receive a special bandana!



Presented by:
Champlain CONSTRUCTION
MIDDLEBURY, VERMONT
802-388-2652

Media sponsors:
92.1 WVTM
Addison County's Radio Station
LOCAL 44
FOX WFFF
LOCAL 22
abc WVVY
ADDISON COUNTY INDEPENDENT
Serving Addison County, VT., since 1946

Shelter

(Continued from Page 1A)

The HOP program is a major source of funding for emergency shelters and affordable housing programs throughout Vermont. HOP-funded services connect households with a range of benefits and services — including physical, mental and behavioral health — and remove barriers to help households secure and maintain a home.

At JGHS, the funding will help ensure its shelter will remain open and staffed 24/7, thanks to employee raises and more resources for shelter operations, utilities, repairs and maintenance.

Today’s JGHS is an outgrowth of the John Graham Emergency Shelter, established at 69 Main St. in Vergennes as a tribute to the late John Graham, who was a tireless advocate for Addison County’s most vulnerable residents. During the past 42 years, the organization has created 36 emergency shelter beds, seven affordable housing properties and 20 affordable apartments.

John Graham Shelter used to simply provide short-term stays and food for houseless persons. It has grown into more of a full-service entity that helps its guests secure the resources, education, counseling and other tools they need to hopefully exit the cycle of homelessness — permanently.

To that end, JGHS has a staff of 14 full- and part-time employees. That staff includes service coordinators, a program manager and shelter coordinators (some of whom work weekends and evenings). JGHS Executive Director Susan Whitmore added a few staffers when she took the helm of the organization in May 2021.

“The staff was stretched pretty thin,” she recalled. “We made a valiant effort to fund the additional staff positions through foundation and private funding ... But (the budget) is like walking on a tightrope. So we’re really grateful for the HOP funding.”

Whitmore promised some of the HOP resources will allow JGHS to give modest pay raises to staff. She noted human services workers are typically under-paid, which contributes to frequent turnover.

“People can make more working at Dunkin Donuts,” she said of some entry level jobs in the field.

“We have trouble being fully staffed,” Whitmore continued. “(A wage increase) helps us become more competitive in attracting



SUSAN WHITMORE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF JOHN GRAHAM HOUSING & SERVICES

employees and retaining our staff. Our biggest concern on a daily basis is staffing the shelter.”

JGHS service coordinators are paid on a scale of \$24-\$30 per hour, to start. Night managers and shelter coordinators are paid at a base hourly rate of \$16.50, according to Whitmore.

“We’re hoping to get them up to \$18,” she said.

This isn’t the first time JGHS has received HOP funding. The Vergennes nonprofit applies for this key revenue source each year, never knowing exactly the amount it might receive. Any HOP grant money helps JGHS cover annual spending of around \$1.3 million.

Fortunately, this year’s HOP grant represents a 34% increase compared to what the nonprofit received for fiscal year 2023. It’s also the largest HOP grant that JGHS has ever received, according to Whitmore.

Addison County has earned a reputation for having a coordinated network of social services. When a household asks for help, a variety of housing service providers collaborate to ensure that a person or family not only finds a shelter bed, but support services. Those in need get a “housing assessment,” which places them on a priority list for a local, affordable rental unit (if any are available). The list prioritizes people, in part, based on any disabilities, families with young children, and those who might be fleeing domestic violence.

SHELTER IS FULL

It used to be that John Graham Shelter would see fewer guests

during the summer, as some houseless persons elected to camp outdoors instead of staying in a more regimented setting.

Not this summer.

The shelter is currently completely full, with 15 families on the waiting list, according to Whitmore. There’s a household residing in each of the building’s nine bedrooms. Guests — which currently include five children — share a living room and kitchen, which is without a stove right now.

“We have three microwaves set up in the kitchen right now,” said Whitmore, who’s seeking grant money for a new stove and refrigerator.

Addison County’s housing shortage is contributing to longer stays at the shelter. Guests used to stay an average of 30-60 days — a number that has inflated to 200, with some guests staying for a year or more, according to Whitmore.

“And these are people who have approved vouchers to use at an apartment, if they can find one,” she said. “It’s just that we can’t find a place for them. People are having to be parked at shelters for a longer period of time.”

Guests follow different life journeys that lead to JGHS. In general, some guests are dealing with a substance use disorder. Others are dealing mental health issues. Still others are down on their luck, are fleeing an abusive partner, are refugees, or all of the above.

But all tend to have one thing in common, Whitmore believes.

“There’s no one that hasn’t had significant trauma or traumas that have led to them being without a home,” she said.

For more information on JGHS, visit johngrahamshelter.org.

Reporter John Flowers is at johnf@addisonindependent.com.

Film

(Continued from Page 1A)

an abundance of movie options, coupled with special events, Q&As with movie directors and honored guests, parties and awards.

Lloyd Komesar and Jay Craven — producer and artistic director, respectively, of MNFF9 — have been among the few constants during the nine-year run of a festival that seems to reinvent itself annually.

“Each year begins with a lump of clay; we don’t know how we’re going to sculpt it,” said Komesar, who spent nearly 30 years as a sales, research and distribution executive in the film and television industry, including with the Walt Disney Company in New York and Los Angeles.

“The joy of it, from beginning to end, is that the festival takes place right before our eyes,” he said. “We don’t wear blinders; we are open to films about things we’ve never seen before, from places we had no experience with. I am never jaded by the process because it’s a constant revelation.”

Craven’s experience in film and the arts goes far beyond MNFF. He’s an internationally known filmmaker in his own right, and is approaching his 49th season of presenting performing arts in the Northeast Kingdom.

“Every performance remains fresh to me,” he said.

He likes the way MNFF temporarily transforms the county’s shire town in late August.

“The town takes on this special glow for me,” he said.

As does the festival content. “Every festival is entirely different, by virtue of the group of people who come together,” he said. “So much of this experience is about interaction with the filmmakers and the audience members. The films themselves ... are distinctly different than any previous year. It remains fresh. What powers that for us is the sense of discovery that audiences have in approaching the material and in encountering the filmmakers. There’s nothing really repetitive about it.”

Clearly, the quality of this year’s submissions and the lifting of COVID restrictions in most parts of the world has contributed to the heightened interest in this MNFF. Komesar anticipates the festival will have sold upwards of 200 passes by the end of this week, with more sales expected right up until the Aug. 23 opening.

“People tend to buy (passes) late,” he said. “We use 200 as a benchmark. It’s a very good number of us.”

Komesar on Monday placed advance sales to individual films at about 100. He noted tickets have only been available since Aug. 9, and he expected that number to exceed 150 tickets by week’s end. So that’s 200 passes for the entire festival, and 150 tickets for

individual films.

“That’s pretty robust,” he exclaimed. “Last-minute ticket buying usually comes in strong.”

SOME FILMS OF NOTE

One of the hottest tickets so far? Ulrich’s “Joonam,” a feature length documentary. Komesar said demand has been so high — particular from folks in the Bristol area — that Marquis Theater managers have agreed to screen the film simultaneously on both the theater’s screens at 11:30 a.m. on Saturday, Aug. 26.

Here’s the tag line for the film: “Spurred by a provocative family memory and a lifetime of separation from the country her mother left behind, a young filmmaker delves into her mother and grandmother’s complicated pasts, and her own fractured Iranian identity.”

Also generating particular interest: “I am a Noise,” directed by Miri Navasky, which takes a look at the 60-year career of legendary singer-activist Joan Baez, offering “an honest look back and a deep look inward as (Baez) tries to make sense of her large, history-making life, and the personal struggles she’s kept private.”

Attendees will partake in a live Zoom Q&A with Baez following the screening on Thursday, Aug. 24, at 7:15 p.m.

Additionally, ticket sales have been surging for “Little Richard: I Am Everything,” which “tells the story of the Black queer origins of rock ’n’ roll, exploding the whitewashed canon of American pop music to reveal the innovator — the originator — Richard Penniman.”

If you’re planning on buying individual film tickets the day of the screening, bear in mind that demand is typically higher for “prime time” (7:15 p.m.) showings. And Komesar explained pass holders get first dibs on seats.

As previously reported, this year’s crop of MNFF honorees and special guests will include Alexander Payne (for Sustained Excellence in Directing), Beth Levinson (for Sustained Excellence in Documentary Filmmaking), Risa Bramon Garcia (for Sustained Excellence in Casting), Su Friedrich (for Sustained Vision and Excellence in Experimental Filmmaking), Yoni Brook (for Innovation in Documentary Filmmaking), and John Slattery (for Sustained Excellence in Directing and Acting).

Each of these honorees will be saluted with not only an award, but with screenings of some of their work, and they’ll participate in Q&As with Craven. These Q&As have become a popular feature of

MNFF, and Craven will be busy in that regard this year. Owing to the stellar turnout of filmmakers at MNFF9, more than 90% of the 118 films in this year’s festival will get a Q&A, according to Komesar.

“If you’re an audience member, it’s a highly enriching experience,” he said of the post-film conversations. “If you’re a filmmaker, beyond screening your film, you have an opportunity to talk with a knowledgeable moderator and directly to the audience — and reap the benefit of being more engaged.”

In addition to reduced COVID anxiety and eager travelers, there’s another reason for the big turnout of film representatives this year: The availability of travel assistance. Festival organizers raised \$10,000 this year to help offset some of the traveling expenses for incoming movie reps, hailing from the U.S., as well as Lebanon, Argentina, Great Britain, Puerto Rico and, of course, Indonesia.

In all, 15 of the 82 visitors are receiving MNFF travel fund money, according to Komesar, who said another \$10,000 will be raised for the same purpose for MNFF10.

“It increases the geographic diversity of our festival to bring in people from other countries, or distant points in the U.S.,” such as the West Coast and Minnesota, he said.

As has been the case for most editions of MNFF, many Addison County lodgers, restaurants and retailers will see an uptick in business during the festival. Komesar said 15 local businesses are offering discounts to customers with an MNFF9 pass or participant’s badge.

County residents are hosting 75 festival visitors this year. Many of those hosts are located within walking distance of downtown Middlebury.

The recently expanded Ethan Allen Express passenger train will be ferrying several MNFF9 guests into Middlebury from the New York City area, Craven noted.

Komesar and Craven are excited for this year’s festival and are already looking forward to next year. The window for MNFF10 submissions opens on Jan. 2.

“We never know what will be submitted,” Komesar said. “It never gets old.”

For all things MNFF9 — including details on tickets, festival honorees and the films themselves — go to midffilmfest.org. And see the official program inside this edition of the *Independent*.

Reporter John Flowers is at johnf@addisonindependent.com.

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.

My office is currently open for telephone, online, and in person appointments.

Most insurances now cover telephone and video.

Somaworks • Middlebury, VT
802-388-3362

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

WANT TO ADVERTISE IN THIS
Directory?

Contact us for information: advertising@addisonindependent.com or call 802-388-4944

A Center for Independent Health Care Practitioners

"Wellness is more than the absence of illness."

50 Court St • Middlebury, Vt 05753

Donna Belcher, M.A.	802-388-3362
Licensed Psychologist - Master	
JoAnne Kenyon	802-388-0254
Energy Work	https://joanne.abmp.com
Nancy Tellier	802-989-8046
Ortho-Bionomy®	
Hyla Dickinson	802-989-2969
Therapeutic Massage, Lymph Drainage	
Craniosacral & Visceral Manipulation	
Annie Field, LICSW	(802) 989-9054
Early Childhood Social & Emotional Health	

ADDISON COUNTY School Briefs

Three local students have been named to the dean’s list at St. Lawrence University in Canton, N.Y.: Mt Abe graduate **Isaiah DiNapoli**, Bristol, English; and MUHS grads **Lena Sandler**, Cornwall, Psychology; and **Brynn Kent**, Middlebury, Environmental Studies and religious Studies.

A number of locals students were named to the dean’s and president’s lists at Northern Vermont University for the spring 2023 semester. With GPAs between 3.5 and 3.9, **Gwendalyn Zeno** of Starksboro and **Audrey Tembreull** of Vergennes were named to the dean’s list. GPAs of 4.0 landed **Luke Bergmans** of Ferrisburgh, **Lauren Burg** of Granville, and **Adam Palmer** and **Amie Whitcomb** of Starksboro to the president’s list.

PICK-YOUR-OWN & FARMSTAND
OPEN DAILY from 9 – 5
through the end of October.

Check our website and social media for up to date info on what's ready to pick!

Fresh apple cider and apple sauce, cider donuts, pies, maple syrup and other Vermont products in our farm stand.

We look forward to sharing our beautiful ridge with views of the Green and Adirondack mountains!

1307 North Bingham St., Cornwall, VT **SUNRISEORCHARDS.COM**



HAND-PAINTED FLAGS ADORNED the town of Lincoln this past Saturday when residents celebrated Lincoln General Store owner Vaneasa Stearns with a surprise party in her honor.

Independent photo/Marin Howell

Stearns

(Continued from Page 1A)

general store she began running 32 years ago. Throughout the night, attendees shared their gratitude for Stearns and her many contributions to the town through skits, songs and countless stories.

“As I look out at all who have gathered, I see a mountain community with less than one degree of separation, thanks to you Vaneasa,” Lincoln resident Elise Brokaw said on Saturday. “You’ve answered small and big questions, you’ve found our missing dogs, connected us with the help we needed, checked for lice on our kids’ heads and provided decades of unconditional love and listening.”

THE EARLY DAYS

Stearns has owned the shop at 17 East River Road since 1991, though she’s been tied to the town for much longer. She grew up in Lincoln, relocating briefly during college and then to work as a buyer for a department store based in Burlington.

Around 30 years ago, Stearns approached the former owners of the Lincoln General Store during a visit to her hometown.

“I stopped at the general store and said, ‘if you ever think of selling, just tell my parents because I’d love to own this someday,’” she told the *Independent*.

Someday ended up coming sooner rather than later. The owners were interested in selling the shop and began discussions with Stearns to do so.

Stearns, 26 at the time, was pregnant with her eldest child. She officially took over ownership of the shop right around the time her daughter, Alyssa, was born, and she began juggling the responsibilities of caring for a newborn and a new business.

Stearns and her husband Dan were also working to build a home in Lincoln that year. She said she’d often work on painting and sanding at night after her daughter had gone to sleep and then wake up early the next morning to run the store.

“I was young, I had a lot of energy,” Stearns recalled. “It was

just this juggling game, and we made it all work. I don’t look back and think ‘how did we do it,’ because it didn’t seem hard, it just seemed like it flowed.”

She noted that she also had welcomed support from nearby family.

“My parents lived in town, and Dan’s parents were living in Middlebury. I had an abundance of grandparents,” Stearns said. “It was the first grandchild on both sides of the family, so I had a lot of hands reaching out for Alyssa. It was wonderful that I had that.”

Over the years, Stearns has offered her own set of helping hands to the Lincoln community. Her work at the store has far exceeded connecting residents’ with the goods they need.

She’s helped hunters weigh deer, turkeys and bears during hunting seasons, offered directions and information to visitors passing through town, and in the early days of the COVID-19 pandemic developed a plan to ensure residents received groceries even when they couldn’t venture out to purchase food themselves.

Stearns said throughout her work at the Lincoln General Store, the part she’s enjoyed most has been getting to know the community.

“Hands down, the most rewarding thing is how people just let me into their lives,” she said. “I’ve been a part of everyone’s lives. I’ve watched children wait for school buses, and now they have kids of their own and have returned to Lincoln to raise their families.”

After 32 years helming the general store, Stearns, 57, plans to begin transitioning away from her work at the shop, a decision that’s been spurred on by an ongoing health issue.

SATURDAY’S CELEBRATION

Lincoln residents this past fall began thinking of ways to celebrate Stearns and thank her for all that she’s done for the town. Lincoln Town Clerk Sally Ober said a group of around 15 community members formed a committee to organize the planning process. Saturday’s

celebration was the culmination of a months-long effort, supported by donations of food and time from community members.

“It’s just been so much fun dreaming of ways to honor her,” Ober said of the celebration. “We all just love and appreciate her more than I think anyone realizes. She might not know, but this was our opportunity to tell her.”

Many partygoers took advantage of that opportunity, sharing with Stearns and those in attendance their stories and gratitude for the general store owner.

Lincoln Volunteer Fire Company Chief Dan Ober told the crowd on Saturday a story from his time spent fixing up his home on Creamery Street back in 1994. He explained that in order to get water for mixing plaster, he needed to collect it from a well in the basement of the house.

One day the well casing collapsed while Ober was collecting water, sending him tumbling down the 16-foot well. He recalled climbing out of the well, soaking wet and bleeding from injuries sustained in the fall.

“This was before cell phones, before phones, and I didn’t know what to do. So, the obvious thing was to walk to the Lincoln General Store, and they would take care of me,” Ober told the crowd.

He said that Stearns sprang into action when he arrived at the store, bandaging him up and helping tend to his injuries.

“I’m bleeding there and telling her the story of how I fell into the hole. It got quiet, and I remember her looking at me and saying, ‘Well, well, well,’” he recalled with a laugh. “To this day, I still think that was just a great line.”

Other community members shared stories of Stearns’s famous pranks and commitment to helping others. Among those to speak on Saturday was Stearns’s eldest daughter Alyssa, who thanked the Lincoln community for how it has supported her mother through early challenges like the 1998 flood and more recent obstacles like the COVID-19 pandemic.

“I haven’t had a chance to speak publicly about this, how much I appreciate you guys rallying around your small community store and supporting my mom and coming to get the majority of your groceries

(See Stearns, Page 14A)

“BREATHTAKINGLY BEAUTIFUL.” – NPR

“A FRESHNESS RARELY SEEN ON SCREEN.” – NY Times

“Mosher’s Kingdom County was situated as much in the soul as on any map.” – Boston Globe

WHERE THE RIVERS FLOW NORTH

**STARRING RIP TORN
TANTOO CARDINAL
MICHAEL J. FOX**

**FILM SCREENING AND TALK BY
FILMMAKER JAY CRAVEN**

**7:30 PM, SAT, AUGUST 19
FERRISBURGH TOWN HALL**

TICKETS \$10 AT THE DOOR.

Photo courtesy of Beth Duquette

Gleaning

(Continued from Page 1A)

Jeanne Montross reported the nonprofit’s food shelf served 974 people in July, which she called an “all-time high.” During her 23 years leading the organization, she recalled a previous high of around 800 monthly food shelf users.

“We’ve been spending more money on food than we ever imagined, thanks to increased prices as well as demand,” she said.

And Montross doesn’t see the demand abating.

“It started kicking in during the winter and spring,” she said. “We saw an increase in numbers. Now it’s a real swell.”

She pointed to recent, dramatic bumps in food prices. Rents and mortgages have also become more expensive. Folks are looking ahead to winter heating expenses.

Montross stressed that many seeking HOPE assistance these days are employed.

“They’re finding that \$16-\$20 per hour is not a livable wage,” she said. “All our people are really, really stretched thin with their budgets. We’re having many families coming in who are new to us, people who haven’t needed the food shelf before.”

Income-eligible households are invited to visit the HOPE food shelf once a month to pick up around four days of groceries, according to Montross. The HOPE headquarters at 282 Boardman St. also stocks surplus food items — ranging from produce to breads — in its lobby that people can sample on a daily basis.

While HOPE tries to ensure local folks don’t go hungry, she acknowledges, “We know people need more food. We want to provide more food. Our struggle has been, ‘Do we allow people to come more than once a month? And the answer is no, that would be too much traffic for our people to manage. So we’re trying to give them more food while they’re here.”

Montross thanked community members who’ve been helping HOPE with the food burden. She was particularly effusive in her praise for an anonymous contributor who this spring financed 4,000 food gift cards to Shaw’s and Hannaford supermarkets. Families already using the food shelf were eligible for a \$25 food card per household member.

“It’s been an efficient and empowering way for people to obtain more food,” she said of the food card program, which is ending this month.

HOPE has in the past given out a smattering of food cards during the holiday season, to help families ensure a more bountiful table on Thanksgiving and Christmas. But this is the first time the nonprofit was able to dispense this kind of food aid on a grand scale, as a supplement to its limited food shelf reserves.

Also of great help have been schools, civic groups, businesses and individuals who conduct food drives to help re-stock the HOPE food shelf. More of those drives will get under way this fall.

“People have been so grateful,” she said of recipients.

With the food card resources running out, HOPE will now pivot to stocking more food in-house, through gleaning, purchases and donations.

“We’re talking to stores about buying by the case,” Montross said.

“Unfortunately, the volume that would be needed to open our own wholesale account is way beyond what we can do — even with our numbers.”

Some of HOPE’s most acute food shelf needs right now include cold and hot cereals, bottled fruit juices (large containers), canned fruit (except for peaches), baked beans and canned pasta. Check HOPE’s Facebook page for more details.

Food donations can be brought to HOPE during business hours or dropped into donation bins at local grocery stores.

VISITING TOWNS

Officials realize it’s tough for some people to get to HOPE, so the organization has been taking its services on the road.

This year, HOPE has been offering occasional off-site food distributions, thanks to generous

support from the Middlebury Rotary Club. Distribution events have thus far occurred in Shoreham and Starksboro, with a Pantown visit in the works. These events are staged at a central spot in a community — such as at the local school — where there’s ample parking for people to come, load up groceries, and leave. Receiving households — which can come in from surrounding communities — must first fill out an application.

“It also reduces our carbon footprint,” Montross noted. “We take one truck and trailer out there, and people don’t have to come all the way in.”

It should be noted that HOPE also delivers food to homebound, frail and elderly folks in the county. The organization has nine delivery routes.

“It easier for one person to load their vehicle and go on a route and take the food out, than it is for all of those people to be coming in here,” she said. “It reduces traffic in (HOPE’s headquarters) and avoids wasting car fuel. It’s a hit, and it’s really effective.”

GLEANNING PROGRAM

Ann Freund is HOPE’s director of food programs. One of her main duties is coordinating a massive gleaning program through which HOPE receives thousands of pounds of fresh veggies and fruit each year. Some of that is surplus food that the approximately 15 area growers allow HOPE and its volunteers to pick or pick up. In other cases, HOPE pays for specific crops to round out its charitable food reserves, according to Freund. Participating growers include the Golden Russet (Shoreham), Elmer (Middlebury), Lalumiere (Ferrisburgh) and Old Road (Granville) farms.

Last year, HOPE’s gleaning program yielded around 38,000 pounds of produce and fruit, according to Freund.

But rainy weather has been an enemy of the gleaning program this year, leaving officials doubtful about

(See Gleaning, Page 14A)

RAIN, RAIN, GO AWAY

HARE AND THE DOG

Legendary
WINE • BEER • SPIRITS

260 Court Street, Suite 3
Middlebury, VT
(former location of Olympia Sports)
www.Hare.dog | (802) 458-8060

SUBSCRIBE

Subscribe online at addisonindependent.com

or fill out this form and mail it with payment

Questions? CALL SADIE TODAY!

ADDISON COUNTY INDEPENDENT
58 Maple St., Midd., VT 05753
802-388-4944 ext 104

Name _____

Address _____

Town _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone Number _____

Email address _____

Are you a senior (65+)? Yes ☐ No ☐

Sign me up to auto renew Yes ☐

IN STATE \$50/year 65+ \$45/year	OUT-OF-STATE \$60/year 65+ \$55/year
---	---

Online access FREE with all print subscriptions!

Method of Payment:

Check Enclosed \$ _____

☐ Visa ☐ MC ☐ Amex ☐ Discover

Card # _____

CCV _____ Exp. Date _____

By the Way

(Continued from Page 1A)
residents and municipal officials about the July/August flood damage. They'll be available in the large conference room in the Middlebury Town Offices at 77 Main St., from 2-3:30 p.m. This meeting is being termed a "listening session," providing time for individuals, businesses, nonprofits and town officials to informally discuss flooding issues with Scott Administration officials.

Gov. Phil Scott recently announced two initiatives to support cleanup efforts in Vermont following this summer's severe flooding. On Saturday, Aug. 26, Green Up Vermont — with support from the state and other partners — will hold a statewide Clean Up Day that will operate like the annual May Green Up Day. Also, the state is finalizing a plan to assist those living in mobile homes destroyed by flooding to safely take down and remove condemned structures, at no cost to the flood victim. That effort is being boosted by a \$250,000 contribution from Subaru of New England. For Clean Up Day, orange bags (instead of the iconic green variety) will be distributed around Vermont. A special webpage has been set up on greenupvermont.org to help towns communicate their needs and for volunteers to find efforts. Green Up Vermont is also encouraging the use of its app to allow coordinators to communicate broadly the specific details and needs for each area. The Green Up Vermont app can be downloaded on iPhone and Android phones.

In another flood-related announcement this week, Gov. Scott and the Vermont Agency of Transportation confirmed changes to statewide vehicle incentive programs for residents whose personal vehicles have been damaged by flooding. This is an effort to provide increased financial support to households affected by this summer's flooding, and also to help spark the transition to plug-in electric vehicles. VTrans is offering a

package of incentives for income-eligible Vermonters, including up to \$5,000 for swapping a gas- or diesel-powered vehicle for cleaner transportation options. "As our agency works relentlessly to restore the state's infrastructure and improve mobility throughout, we also recognize the devastating personal losses sustained by Vermonters during the recent flooding," said Transportation Secretary Joe Flynn. "We hope these incentive changes will make a difference in curbing the worst effects of climate change and a big difference in the lives of residents still struggling to get back on their feet." For more information visit driveelectricvt.com.

A business and an individual with strong Addison County connections will be honored by Vermont Businesses for Social Responsibility (VBSR) at its 21st annual awards ceremony and dinner on Oct. 5 in Waterbury Center. The statewide nonprofit business association, which "leverages the power of business for positive social and environmental impact," will hand out four awards in all. Weybridge business "Bee the Change" will receive the VBSR Innovation and Inspiration Award, while Jed Davis, vice president of Strategic Engagement and Sustainability for the Agri-Mark/Cabot Creamery Co-operative, will receive the Terry Ehrich Award for Lifetime Achievement. Agri-Mark/Cabot, of course, operates a major cheese plant on Exchange Street in Middlebury. Honorees were selected "for their achievements in championing new ideas and initiatives, leading by example, and developing successful socially responsible organizational models," according to VBSR.

Green Mountain Power is alerting customers about a surge in scam calls. The scammers claim to be from GMP, demand immediate payment over the phone and threaten power shutoffs if customers don't

pay right away. GMP urges customers to hang up on these scammers. Officials are also stressing electric company customers should not engage with the caller or call back any number provided. GMP also asks those who have received a scam call to contact GMP Customer Service at 888-835-4672 to report it and any details about the call — such as the number it came from, the caller's name, and what the caller said. Customers are also encouraged to report this scam to the Vermont Attorney General's Consumer Assistance Program at 800-649-2424 (in state) or 802-656-3183, or online at ago.vermont.gov/cap.

Average gasoline prices in Vermont have risen 0.8 cent per gallon during the past week to \$3.78, according to GasBuddy's survey of 626 stations. Prices are 19.6 cents higher than a month ago, but 53.2 cents lower than a year ago. The cheapest station in Vermont sold at \$3.51 earlier this week, while the most expensive was \$3.99. The national average price rose 2.5 cents in the past week to \$3.82, up 29.1 cents from a month ago.

Each year, Medicare estimates that it loses \$60 billion because of fraud, errors and abuse. Community Health, which delivers primary care services to Rutland County and southern Addison County, is partnering with the Vermont Senior Medicare Patrol and the Community of Vermont Elders to help prevent, detect and report Medicare fraud. Community Health officials said the best way to protect yourself against healthcare and Medicare fraud is to report suspicious phone calls, ask your healthcare provider if you have questions or concerns about Medicare statements or billing, and, above all, don't give out any personal information. If you have any questions, or suspect fraud, call Vermont Senior Medicare Patrol at 802-229-4731 or toll free at 1-888-865-2683.



Delicious
JOSHUA KAHRS, 8, of West Addison and his cousin Heera Rim, 7, who is visiting from Los Angeles, enjoy smoothies they helped create in a stall at Sunday's Foodaroo in Middlebury.
Independent photo/Steve James

Stearns

(Continued from Page 13A)
and just be there to lift her up," she said.

She acknowledged the sacrifices her mother has made in running the store over the years, as well as the welcoming environment the general store owner has sought to create in her shop.

"My mom's mission and what I feel she values most about the store to make everyone from all walks of life, every tax bracket, every race, every political view, every belief, to feel welcome when they walk into the store," she said. "The amount

of times she's brought home people that needed a warm and safe place for the night or got stuck on Thanksgiving and ended up at our table, I couldn't even count. She frequently calls to tell me about the most amazing person she met or talked to, and I can't fathom how many lives she's touched throughout the years, but I know ours are better for knowing her."

Even after the tributes were finished and the crowd dispersed for dinner, attendees on Saturday made their way to Stearns to share their appreciation for her work and visit

with the general store owner. Stearns said while the larger crowd felt somewhat daunting, she enjoyed the opportunity to connect individually with the familiar faces that have made their way into her store over the years. "When I was speaking with people I could kind of black out everything that was going on around me and just talk with people like they were right across the counter, and it was just a really, really great evening. There was not one bad thing about the whole evening," she said.

Gleaning

(Continued from Page 13A)
reaching last year's yield.

"The crops aren't as healthy as they sometimes are due to the weather, and as a result there's not as much produce available," Freund said. "I think it's a pretty tough year across the board, for farmers. (Local) farmers remain optimistic, and that's all you can do. I believe farmers in Addison County feel fortunate they didn't have total crop loss, that there are still some crops

to harvest. But it hasn't been an easy season — except for blueberries. I think it's been a good season for blueberries."

By contrast, floodwaters on July 10 and 11 did an estimated \$2 million in damage to crops at Burlington's Intervale Center.

Lately, HOPE has been gathering such in-season crops as summer squash, zucchini, green beans, potatoes, lettuce and beets. The gleaning generally extends into October, according to Freund.

"One of the challenges of the weather is that it's made it harder to get onto the fields," Freund said. As challenging as the food picture is right now, Montross is equally worried about the future. "We're concerned about having enough food for the winter," she said. For more information on HOPE, check out hope-vt.org. Reporter John Flowers is at johnf@addisonindependent.com.

If you're not sleeping, maybe you're doing it wrong.

Simmons Beautyrests are designed to bring you better quality sleep - so you'll have more energy the next day.

All Simmons' mattresses are built so well you never have to flip them for the life of the mattress.

Beautyrest

MAUI™

MEDIUM

Twin Set.....\$849

Full Set.....\$949

Queen Set.....\$999

King Set.....\$1399

Beautyrest

CAYMAN™

EXTRA FIRM

Twin Set.....\$895

Full Set.....\$1095

Queen Set.....\$1299

King Set.....\$1699

Beautyrest

BLACK™

C-CLASS™

FIRM

Twin Set.....\$3199

Full Set.....\$3599

Queen Set.....\$3899

King Set.....\$4799

Beautyrest

BLACK™

L-CLASS™

MEDIUM

Twin Set.....\$2599

Full Set.....\$3099

Queen Set.....\$3299

King Set.....\$4099

Beautyrest

BLACK™

L-CLASS™

Pillow Top

Twin XL Set.....\$2999

Full Set.....\$3299

Queen Set.....\$3599

King Set.....\$4399

Beautyrest

BLACK™

C-CLASS™

MEDIUM

Twin Set.....\$3199

Full Set.....\$3599

Queen Set.....\$3899

King Set.....\$4799

Beautyrest

BLACK™

L-CLASS™

FIRM

Twin Set.....\$2299

Full Set.....\$2799

Queen Set.....\$2999

King Set.....\$3799

WOODWARE

www.woodwarevt.com

Route 7 South • Middlebury VT • Hours: Monday-Saturday 9-5, Closed Sundays

1-800-261-WOOD

802-388-6297

• **FREE** Delivery

• **FREE** Set-up

• **FREE** Removal



Fabulous Foodaroo

THE ANNUAL FOODAROO event in Middlebury brought good eats and entertainment to Middlebury this past Sunday with some 3,000 people attending. Pictured, clockwise from top-left: Joshua Kahrs, 8, takes a ride on the blender bike, as does his cousin, Heera Rim, 7, and also 6-year-old Keaton Stine; Kristie Armstrong delivers style and sass along with her cotton candy; two girls lock arms as they savor ice cream cones; two Viva El Sabor chefs work a flat-top grill; DJ and Swift House co-owner Serena Kim keeps the music flowing; and 8-year-old Hudson Archambeault shows his vertical leap while snatching a \$20 bill from the outstretched hand of street performer Snap Boogie.

Photos by Steve James and Jason Duquette Hoffman






Luscious Lattes
made to order and
made just for you :)



OPEN 7 DAYS
TUES-SAT 7AM-4PM
SUN-MON 8AM-2PM

14 College St, Middlebury, VT | (802) 388-3371 | OtterCreekBakery.com

ADVERTISE Email us at:
ads@addisonindependent.com



VERMONT
ASSOCIATION OF
CONSERVATION
DISTRICTS

Conservation Program Assistant

Have administrative skills and experience? Join the State's climate resiliency efforts to expand climate smart practices on Vermont's farms and forests!

The Vermont Association of Conservation Districts (VACD) seeks qualified applicants for a full-time **CONSERVATION PROGRAM ASSISTANT position**. This position supports the work of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) by providing organizational assistance to NRCS staff in order to support and advance assistance programs offered by USDA and NRCS to Vermont's farm and forest landowners. This position will be located at the Middlebury, VT NRCS Field Office. The Program Assistant (PA) will work in conjunction with NRCS Field Office staff to implement USDA Farm Bill conservation programs and will be responsible for accurate documentation and tracking of applications, contracts, and financial records utilizing customized software and for maintaining ongoing communications with customers.

Excellent verbal, written, computer, and customer service skills required. Ideal candidate will have demonstrated administrative skills and experience supporting organizational operations, and will be well organized and able to work independently with accurate attention to detail. An Associate Degree is required. A Bachelor's degree with an interest in conservation is preferred. Starting salary is \$18.06 per hour and includes yearly salary advances, health benefits, employer contribution 401K plan and a generous sick, holiday and vacation leave package.

Visit www.vacd.org for detailed job description. Send resume, cover letter, and contact information for three references by August 22nd to: Amanda Harris at amanda.harris@vacd.org or to VACD, PO Box 889, Montpelier, VT

EOE

FESTIVAL PROGRAM

THE 9TH ANNUAL
**MIDDLEBURY
NEW FILMMAKERS
FESTIVAL**

WEDNESDAY-SUNDAY
AUGUST 23-27, 2023
middfilmfest.org

DON'T MISS THIS YEAR'S
MNFF PROGRAM
INSIDE
THIS EDITION OF THE PAPER.

1. PULL IT OUT
2. BROWSE AND PLAN
3. BRING IT WITH YOU
TO THE FESTIVAL!

ENJOY!

- School News

• Legal Notices
- Classifieds

• Police Logs



MARCI WHITNEY CLIMBS out of her disabled vehicle in her first — and she says only — Field Days Demolition Derby drive. Whitney said she dished out a couple hits and enjoyed the Aug. 9 experience, but once was enough.

Demo Derby a friends and family affair

Young couple, members of extended family enjoy smashing good times

By SOPHIA AFSAR-KESHMIRI
NEW HAVEN — After motor enthusiasts waited an extra day for the popular G. Stone Motors Demolition Derby at Field Days, which was postponed due to rain, on Wednesday, Aug. 9, Moriah Sullivan Hebert opened the event by singing the National Anthem for the fifth year.

Unlike the previous four times,

after she hit her last note, the 23-year-old scurried down the steep stairs from the announcer's box, through the spectator stands, across the muddy grounds and hopped into a rare spot of bright pink in a row of automotive lemons adorned with less eccentric hues.

Then she competed in the first heat.

Hebert Sullivan and the other

drivers ran in a demo derby that may appear violent, but is no exception to the family-friendly spirit Addison County Fair and Field Days is known for. In the moments leading up to the first round of smashing, crashing, chasing and clanging, love pervaded the pit.

Friends chatted and brothers joked. While Hebert Sullivan was

getting ready to sing, her husband, Tyler Hebert, 26, was enjoying some pre-competition camaraderie.

Hebert Sullivan's pink car, which had "Flower Power," scrawled on its side, sported a drawing of its namesake attached to the roof.

Meanwhile, although this was Hebert Sullivan's debut derby, it wasn't her car's: It had run in a

(See Demo Page 3B)

2023 Addison Fair & Field Days Demolition Derby Winners

4 Cylinder Feature

- First = #22 : Gary Grant
- Second = #Hog Wild : Ethan Gevry

6 Cylinder Feature

- First = #13T : Timothy Whitney Jr.
- Second = #717 : Tyler Hebert

Third = #7 : Grady Clark

SUV Feature

- First = #Kid Dynamite : Brent Warren
- Second = #59J : Josh Parker
- Third = #137 : Randall Reynolds

Mini-Van Feature

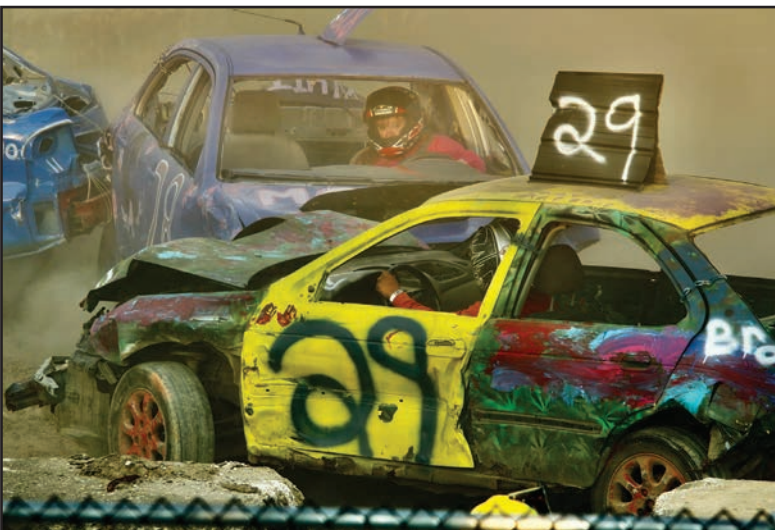
- First = #96 : Chance Mahoney
- Second = #47W : Tim Whitney Sr.
- Third = #21VT : Desiree Boivin

Pickup Truck Feature

- First = #21 : Jay Smits
- Second = #22 : Jacob Sturtevant
- Third = #Wild Child : Dustin Tierney



THE WILDFIRE DRIVER lives up to the car's name with some aggressive driving during the Demo Derby 6-cylinder heat on Aug. 9



THE NO. 29 CAR takes a pounding from a competitor during a Field Days Demo Derby heat on Aug. 9.



CLOUDS OF DUST and steam are a common sight after a major blow is delivered at the Field Days Demo Derby, as was the case on Aug. 9.



ANOTHER ROUTINE PART of the Field Days Demo Derby is the removal of vehicles that didn't make it to the end of the heat. Here the cleanup crew takes care of Tyler Hebert's pickup truck.

Independent photos/Steve James



TWO VEHICLES, OR more accurately what's left of them, run — or maybe limp — side by side in the 4-cylinder heat on Aug. 9 during the Field Days Demo Derby.

Ripton's Harrington reaches for the sky in Italy mt. races

FONTE CERRETO, Italy — Ripton's Baxter Harrington had some impressive results as he represented the United States at the 2023 World Junior Skyrunning Championships in Italy this month.

A rising senior at Middlebury Union High School, Harrington, 17, competed along with fellow Vermonters Heidi Haraldsen of Waterbury and James Underwood of Woodstock, in addition to 11 other American runners, among 226 athletes from 31 countries.

It was Harrington's first experience as a runner on the international stage. The World Youth Skyrunning Championships consisted of two races; a Vertical Kilometer, or VK, and a 15-kilometer Skyrace. The 3.8K VK race, run Aug. 4, stretched over rugged mountains with a vertical climb of 1,033 meters, with the highest elevation over 7,000 feet. The Aug. 6 Skyrace featured 1,300 meters of vertical climb.

Baxter finished 19th in the VK and 25th in the Skyrace. The Skyrace included the VK and

another 10k over mountains and finished on steep downhill.

"I was happier with my VK, I don't think the heat affected me as much as my Alaskan teammates," Harrington said. "I bonked a little during the Skyrace, I just could not get enough fuel."

The U.S. Youth Skyrunning Team is coached by Ripton resident Ryan Kerrigan, who in the winter coaches the Frost Mountain Nordic ski team at the Rikert Nordic Center, assisted by his father, John Kerrigan.

"It is tough racing overseas. You have to deal with the time change, changes in diet, language and culture," Ryan Kerrigan said. "It was a great learning experience for Baxter."

John Kerrigan said he and Ryan were pleased with Harrington's attitude, performance and results.

"He finished in the top half of an elite field of runners," John Kerrigan said. "All three Vermont kids seemed to perform better than most of our athletes from the Far West. I guess we just build them tougher in Vermont."

"All three Vermont kids seemed to perform better than most of our athletes from the Far West. I guess we just build them tougher in Vermont."

— John Kerrigan



BAXTER HARRINGTON, REPRESENTING the U.S., keeps a few steps ahead of a Hungarian runner in a mountain race at the 2023 World Junior Skyrunning Championships in Italy at the beginning of the month. With 226 athletes from 31 countries, Harrington, a Ripton resident, placed 19th in one race and 25th in the other.

The coaches said this skyrunning experience should prove to be a great prep for the fall high school cross country season.

At the 2023 World Youth

Championships on Gran Sasso in Italy, the 14 Americans had an impressive 6th place finish. Spain, host team Italy, Japan, Norway and

(See Race Page 2B)

Triathlons draw over 300

SALISBURY — On Sunday more than 300 athletes entered two Vermont Sun triathlons held at Branbury State Park. In the Lake Dunmore Olympic distance triathlon — a 1,600-yard swim, 28-mile bike ride, and 6.2-mile run — the overall winners were Moretown's Lance Parker, 29, and Burlington's Elsa Chinburg, 18.

Kevin Bouchard-Hall, 41, of Elizabethtown, N.Y., and Julia Koch, 34, of Taftsville claimed first place in the shorter Vermont Sun Sprint triathlon, a 600-yard swim, 14-mile bike ride and 3.1-mile run.

The competition in the Olympic race was stiff as it drew many elite triathletes. Parker finished the swim in 11th place, trailing the defending champion, Burlington's Abe Rogers, 50, by more than five minutes.

But Parker had the day's fastest bike ride by far, averaging nearly 25 mph on the hilly two-lap course around Lake Dunmore (1:08:29 split time). He caught Rogers halfway through the second lap to take the lead, and then cruised to a comfortable victory with the day's fastest run time (38:26) to win in 2:15:28.

Rogers held off Middlebury's Kyle Friis, 37, for second place, finishing in 2:18:43, with Friis coming in at 2:19:59. Friis was 2:30 behind the lead in fourth place after the swim, but had the second-fastest bike ride (1:13:29)

and run (39:58) times. Parker, Rogers and Friis were the class of the Olympic race; the fourth-place finisher was over eight minutes further behind Friis.

In the women's Olympic race, Chinburg, like Parker was not dominant in the water; she exited the lake 5:30 behind the leader. The similarity continued as she posted the fastest women's bike ride by four minutes (1:20:43) to take the lead halfway through her ride. She then had the best run (43:32) by a full three minutes to cruise to the win in 2:34:40.

Isabella Olgaard of Brooklyn, N.Y., was second in 2:41:27, and Molly Purvis of Burlington picked up third in 2:42:41.

Middlebury's Steve Hare, 66, won the 65-to-69 age group by 21 minutes and finished 12th overall in 2:36:01. Lila Cook Yoder, 17, of Middlebury won the women's 15-to-19 age group and finished 10th overall among the women.

In the Sprint triathlon the top four women were separated by just 30 seconds. Koch's second-best bike time (41:29) put her in the lead after being only 20th after the swim, but to win she had to hold off Montpelier's Mairaed Harris, a former Middlebury resident who was 1:40 behind at the start of the run and closed to within 25 seconds to settle for second in 1:19:41, just 25 seconds behind Koch's time of 1:19:16.

Kate Colbert of Charlotte was

(See Triathlon Page 2B)

The Rotarians, COVID and a Colossus

So I was scheduled to regale the Rotarians with baseball tales at their breakfast meeting at Rosie's last week. They gave me 20-25 minutes to do so. That's not much time but the compensation was grand (free breakfast!), so I was happy to do it. I'll sing for my supper (bark for my breakfast?).

When the time came, I couldn't make it. COVID! I was a scratch.

Rotarian impresario John Barstow found a pinch hitter for me: Alex Wolff, 36 years at *Sports Illustrated*, a senior writer, much decorated. In his 20 minutes, on the spur of the moment, Alex brought some coherence to the crazy college (DI) sports landscape.

Those Rotarians have a deep bench!

Here are the observations I had planned to make in my 25 minutes with the Rotarians at Rosie's.

The Impossible Dream

John told me that one Rotarian had suggested I talk about the "Impossible Dream" Red Sox season of 1967. That was 56 years ago! But reminiscing is what I do, so I have personal memory of that exciting season. Not a particularly good one though.

It was called "impossible" because it was just that — improbable in the extreme. The year before, '66, the Red Sox had a bad team, finishing ninth in the 10-team American League, 26 games behind pennant-winning Orioles. (The only good thing about that year was that the Yankees were even worse, finishing dead last, tenth, 26 and a half games out!)

On the last day of the '67 season,

the Red Sox, Tigers, and Twins were all tied for first place (90-71). The Tigers lost and the Red Sox defeated the Twins 5-3 and "pandemonium ensued." In the World Series, the Red Sox and Cardinals battled through seven games with the Cards prevailing, as their great pitcher, Bob Gibson, on three days' rest, bested Sox ace Jim Lonberg, pitching on two days' rest, 7-2.



Sports (Mostly) **KARL LINDHOLM**

It was a fabulous summer, but I pretty much missed the whole thing. Four days after I graduated from Middlebury College in June of 1967, I found myself, hot and miserable, at Fort Polk, Louisiana, in Basic Training in the U.S. Army. In October, during the World Series, I was at Fort Sam Houston in San Antonio, Texas, at medic school.

On the day of Game Seven, I went AWOL from training and watched, furtively, that climactic game at the PX, where it was on TV to very little interest in Texas. Every time the door opened at the PX, I expected a couple of MPs to come in and grab me by the collar and haul me off.

I didn't think they'd take me to the brig, but I thought I'd get some nasty duty as a result of my absence, probably in the aptly named mess hall.

Nothing happened. I wasn't even missed. That was it for me, the Impossible Dream season, one

game, a loss. Suffice to say, that disappointment in '67 made even more delicious the miraculous 2004 Curse-busting Red Sox World Series win over the Cardinals (and the Yankees!).

The Best Ever?

On July 26, just a couple weeks ago, Shohei Ohtani pitched a nine-inning complete game win, throwing 111 pitches, giving up just one hit to the Detroit Tigers in the first game of a doubleheader. Not a single Tiger even reached third base. It was a terrific performance, his ninth win of the season.

Then Ohtani started the second game as the designated hitter, batting second, and hit two home runs in an 11-4 win. The second home run, traveled 435 feet, was his 39th, and led the major leagues at the time.

Nobody does that! Nobody has ever done that.

Not even Babe Ruth.

Ohtani is often compared to Ruth. The Babe too was a great pitcher and a great hitter in his 22-year career: a great pitcher for the Red Sox early on, a great hitter for the Yankees after his sale in 1919. Only in 1918 and 1919, however, did he attempt to do both in the same season, like Ohtani.

Also, keep in mind, Ruth played during baseball's segregation, never played in official games against his great contemporaries of color, never faced Satchel Paige, Smokey Joe Williams, or Bullet Joe Rogan, never had Willie Mays, Oscar Charleston, or Cool Papa Bell chase down a long drive to the wall.

This season, as a hitter, Ohtani leads the American League in home

runs with 41 and is one of four AL players batting over .300 (and is in the top five in the other major offensive statistical categories). He has the highest OPS (on base percentage plus slugging) in the Major Leagues (1.073).

As a pitcher, he has 10 wins and 5 losses (the third-most wins in the AL), his earned-run average is 3.17, third-best in the AL. His fastball has been clocked 102.5 mph and averages 97. He's 6'4" tall, weighs 210 pounds, and runs like the wind. He leads the Majors in triples (7) and has 17 stolen bases.

He is referred to as a "unicorn" He is indeed a mythical creature, but he is hardly fantastical. He walks among us. Like Babe Ruth, he is a colossus.

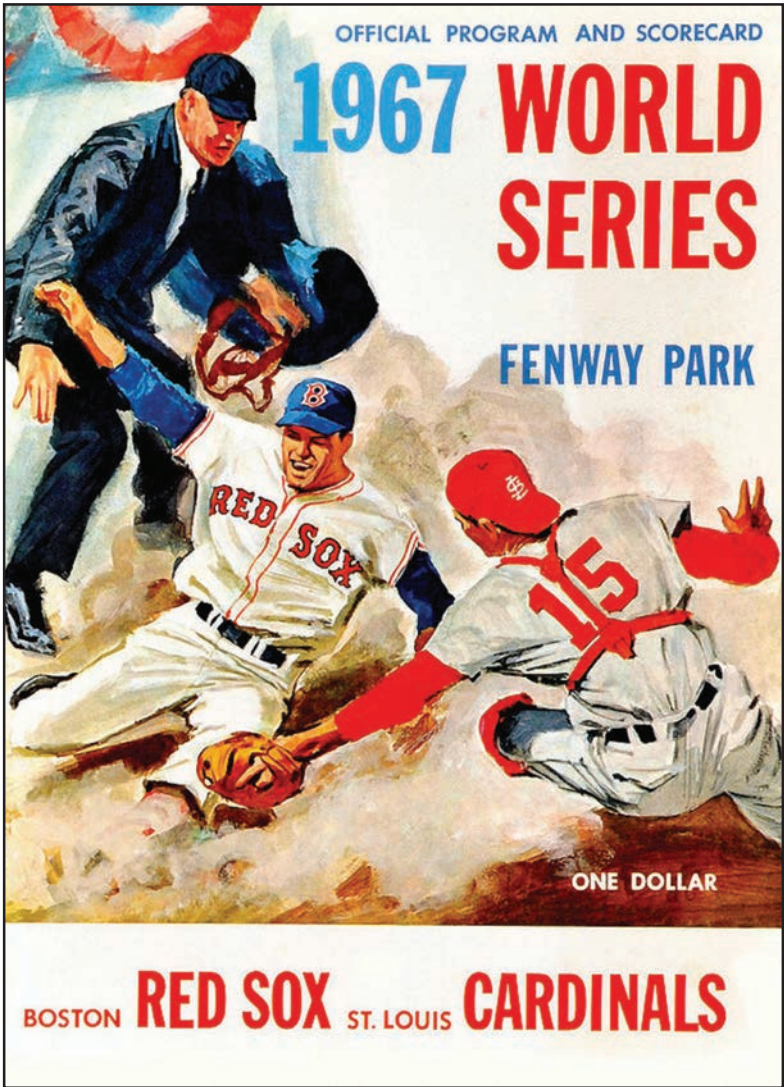
My message to the Rotarians, and all: Make it a point to see him play (on television, at least) if only to be able to say you have.

The Remarkable 2023 Season

If Barstow had not already given me the hook, I was going to urge any Rotarians whose ardor for the game had waned to check back in. The game at the highest level is being revived by the changes that have been introduced this year, restored to the game you loved.

MLB games are a half hour shorter — 2:40 this year as compared to 3:11 just two years ago, 2021. They are now about the same length they were in 1984 (2:39). It remains to be seen what the effect of these changes will be: Can baseball attract a younger and more diverse fan base? Attendance is up 9% this year.

The Last Shall be First; the First Shall be Last: The Baltimore Orioles



are loaded with young talent and are the best team in the American League, the same Orioles who lost over 110 games two years ago. The Texas Rangers lost 102 games in 2021 but have restocked and are headed to the postseason under old guy manager Bruce Bochy (68). The teams that spent money like water (Mets, Padres) have struggled. I would have given the Rotarians

my assessment of the Red Sox ... ah, but that can't be done in 25 minutes.

We'll have to schedule another breakfast for that.

Karl Lindholm can be contacted at lindholm@middlebury.edu.

Race

(Continued from Page 1B)

Great Britain rounded out the top five.

Although the young American team did extremely well, they have a way to go to catch the Spanish, their coaches said. American youth runners train in isolation. Most of the young USA runners hail from

the isolated parts of the country; the Chugachs of Alaska; the Wasatch, Tetons, Cascades and Sierras in the West; and the Green Mountains of Vermont. In most cases the first time they get to run with other young like-minded young mountain junkies is at the World Youth Championships.

The Spanish, Italians and Japanese train together year-round, and they have a paid staff of coaches and trainers. Spain has mountain academies with a skyrunning focus for high school age students. Japan brought five coaches, three masseuses and a medical doctor to the races this year.



ONETIME MIDDLEBURY RESIDENT Mairead Harris, now of Montpelier, runs a blazing 6:52-per-mile pace in the anchor leg of Sunday's Vermont Sun Sprint Triathlon to earn second place in the race.

Photo by Pat Hendrick Photography

Triathlon

(Continued from Page 1B)

third in 1:19:43, while 66-year-old veteran triathlete Donna Smyers of Adamant claimed fourth in 1:19:47.4.

On the men's side in the sprint triathlon, Bouchard-Hall finished the swim in second and then had the best bike ride (he holds the bike course record time) by averaging 27.5 miles an hour to take a commanding lead. His winning time of 1:01:22 was over four minutes faster than second-place finisher Sean McLoughlin of Burlington (1:05:33).

Top local times included Zara Daly of Middlebury, who was fourth in the women's 40-45 age group in 1:31:10. Catherine Monroe, also of Middlebury, was sixth in the 25-29 group in 1:36:05. Angayla Vasilon, 40, of Middlebury was eighth in the 40-44 group in 1:46:22.

Salisbury's ageless triathlete, Jeff Schumann, 67, placed fourth overall in 1:14:05. He had the third-fastest swim and fourth-fastest bike ride to win his age group by 41 minutes. David Monroe of Middlebury was second in the 35-39 age group in 1:22:01.

There were also many first-time recreational triathletes in the sprint triathlon. Their goal was to simple have a goal to help motivate themselves to get or

stay fit. The August event was a way to celebrate their fitness by finishing a triathlon.

Complete results and splits for Sunday's races can be found at vermontsun.com. The events benefit the Brandon Fire department, Middlebury Union Middle School cross country, the Lake Dunmore/Fern Lake Association and Branbury State Park.

Overall, the weather conditions for this summer's triathlons have been challenging. The May Half-Marathon and 10K and 5K runs were held in 40-degree weather with a 25 mph north wind. The June Triathlons had driving rains, 50-degree weather, and a chilling 20 mph north wind that caused swells of over two feet on the swim.

The July race was only the second event Vermont Sun has had to cancel in its 38-year history, a decision due to a 100% prediction of thunderstorms as well as ongoing road closures and flooding throughout Vermont. The other cancellation was due to Tropic Storm Irene arriving on a race day in 2011.

Sunday's race also had predictions of thunderstorms at the start. Organizers chose to go forward with the race, and fortunately the weather turned out OK, if still far from ideal.

Vermont Sun has set the 2024 dates for its 39th season: May 12, half marathon, 10K and 5K; June 16, Sprint and Olympic Triathlons (State Championships); July 14, Sprint and Paddle Triathlons; and Aug. 11, Sprint and Olympic Triathlons.

At the start of this past Sunday's award ceremony, Hall of Fame Triathlete Donna Smyers surprised Hare, the Vermont Sun owner and race director, by presenting him with the USA Triathlon "Spirit of Multisport" award. The award from the sport's national governing body is given for acts of sportsmanship and leadership in Multisport.

Noting that Hare remains the only triathlon race director in the state, Smyers noted:

"His high quality races are safe and kept at a low cost so many athletes can participate in them. Due to his races, the people of Vermont can qualify for age group national championships without leaving the state. Other races in Vermont have shut down over the years. Steve could let it go, like so many others, but he persists and deserves recognition for his longstanding commitment to keeping triathlon in Vermont. His safe and user-friendly triathlons, have introduced many athletes to the sport."

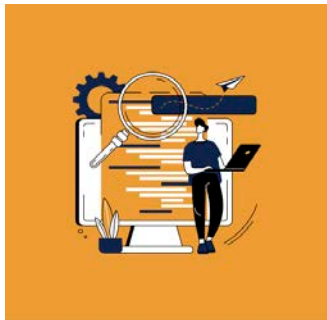
INDEPENDENT DIGITAL marketing

DIGITAL DOESN'T HAVE TO BE HARD

Here at the *Addy Indy* we have always seen it as our job to help connect your business with its clients.

As times change and technology evolves, pairing digital services with your print advertising campaigns is the best way to quickly & efficiently connect with the community.

Independent Digital Marketing can help you better reach our region with:



ONLINE ADVERTISING



DIGITAL DIRECTORY MANAGEMENT



WEB DESIGN & DEVELOPMENT


CONTACT US TODAY TO GET STARTED!

802-388-4944

digital@addisonindependent.com

addisonindependent.com/independent-digital-marketing





QR CODE

SCAN ME



NEW this year

5k

MIDDLEBURY AREA LAND TRUST

20th Annual

TAM TREK

19mi | 10k | 5k TRAIL RUN/HIKE

2mi FUN RUN/WALK

SEP 17 2023

\$5 off registration

use code: LOVETHETAM

www.maltvt.org/tam-trek



MORIAH SULLIVAN HEBERT and husband Tyler Hebert support each other after Sullivan Hebert's first run in the Field Days Demolition Derby this past Wednesday. Sullivan Hebert's Flower Power car was knocked out in the first heat, but Hebert raced to second place in the 6-cylinder feature.

Independent photo/Sophia Afsar-Keshmiri

Demo

(Continued from Page 1B)
previous demolition derby.
Getting ready for this new driving experience was easy for novice demo derby competitor. She said her derby prep included "thinking to myself do the opposite of what you ever want to do on the road."

Although she was knocked out early in the first heat, her car, so smashed that it looked like the back half had been removed, never lost its rooftop decoration, which poked through the cloud of dust stirred up by her fellow participants.

Sullivan Hebert summed up her inaugural ride:

"Love the experience, a little sad at myself because I felt like I should have been in there longer. I had a lot

more to give, but my car didn't.

Then she echoed the words of many demo derby drivers:

"But next year, I feel like I'll be back and better than ever."

Actually, when she laid eyes on what would become her first demo derby car, Sullivan Hebert was not so enthusiastic, according to her husband.

"That car came about, and she was mad at me for buying more cars," Hebert said. "And I somehow talked her into running it, and she loved it. She wants more."

Now she's hooked, he said.

"She wants to get another car for next year. So that's a win," Hebert said.

And that wasn't Hebert's only

success of the night; he placed second in the 6-cylinder feature.

While it was his wife's debut derby, Hebert's came when he was only 16; the minimum age to participate.

"This is definitely one of the things he's passionate about," Hebert Sullivan said of her husband.

When asked what he enjoys about the event, Hebert said, "The adrenaline ... that's the majority of it."

"And, however, watching everybody come around, helping everybody else out," he added.

The couple, who live in Bristol and recently used the fairgrounds for a second celebration of their union, wasn't the only family competing.

Brothers Caleb and Isaac Whitney from Brandon, who are 18 and 16 years old, respectively, both had cars in the pit, along with five other family members: two other brothers, their cousin and their aunt.

It was Isaac's first time competing. "We've watched it our entire lives," said Caleb, who signed up for the first time last year.

It was Caleb's older brother Greg who cost him first place in his first derby: "Lost to my older brother,

who got first all because my car caught on fire."

"We brought 11 cars to the demo," according to their aunt Marci Whitney, 42, of Cornwall, who also competed for the first time this year.

"Figuring one of us should at least be able to place," Caleb quipped.

His prediction came true. His uncle, Marci's husband Timothy Whitney Sr., and their son, Timothy Whitney Jr., both placed; they drove to second in the mini-van feature and first in the 6-cylinder feature, respectively.

Tim Sr. inspired Marci to give the derby a try as a driver.

"I have watched my husband Demo for over 20 years," she explained when asked what made her decide to compete.

However, the 2023 derby marked both her debut in and retirement from the sport. She says she will not drive again.

"I didn't finish great but I accomplished what I went for. I hit hard, and I can check it off my bucket list," she said. "The family is what makes it so much fun. We are very close family, and this gives us another reason to get together."



A FRUSTRATED DRIVER walks away from his disabled 24X car after a heat at the Field Days Demo Derby on Aug. 9.

Independent photo/Steve James



THE WHITNEY FAMILY made a big dent at last week's Field Days Demolition Derby with seven members rumbling through the competitions. Timothy Whitney Jr. won the 6-cylinder feature and his dad, Timothy Sr., was second in the minivan bout. Shown from left, the Whitneys are Daniel, Timothy Jr., Timothy Sr., Marci, Greg, Isaac and Caleb.

Independent photo/Sophia Afsar-Keshmiri



A COMPETITOR LITERALLY and figuratively displays "Bad Intentions" during a Field Days Demo Derby heat on Aug. 9.

Independent photo/Steve James



CODY CURTIS OF Vergennes was back at the Field Days Demolition Derby this year to compete for a second time. Curtis first decided to participate in 2022 after being diagnosed with brain cancer two years ago. Before last Wednesday's contest he said, "I'm gonna give it all. I'm gonna try to bring a trophy." Then, just a day before his 33rd birthday, Curtis won his heat in the derby, with "my frog (decoration) in my passenger seat."

Independent photo/Sophia Afsar-Keshmir

Politano, Mastalos net club titles

MIDDLEBURY — Continued rain caused the Ralph Myhre Golf Course to be closed for several days during the past week, but some competitions were held between the showers.

Lucas Politano, Eva Mastalos and Kyle Kelton were the big winners at this past weekend's annual Club Championships.

Politano won the men's Championship Flight, with Paul

Fine-Lease in second and Jack Breault in third.

Mastalos won the Women's Flight, with Mary Stetson taking second and Giselle Lafleche finishing third.

Kelton won the men's Senior Flight, with Dale White the runner-up and John Myhre in third.

In the Men's First Flight, Steve Ogden prevailed, followed by Shane Lawton and Uwe Luksch in second and third, respectively.

In regular Thursday Men's League play last week, the team of Eric Bergland, Matthew Biette and Tom McGinn prevailed as Biette recorded the day's low net score of 71.

The threesome of Dan Small, Jim Johnston and Ken Roth finished second, and the trio of Mike Adams, Allen Smith and Marsdin Van Order took third.

Don't sweat staying cool.

Stay comfy and reduce carbon emissions with a centrally ducted heat pump. Leases start at \$82/month. (PRICES MY VARY)

vgsvt.com/heatpumps

VGS

ReEnergized

MIDDLEBURY
MAPLE
RUN
2023

Vermont's "Sweetest" Half Marathon!

HALF MARATHON,
RELAY & 3-MILE FUN RUN
SUNDAY NOV 5, 2023
MIDDLEBURY, VT

What makes it so sweet?

- Beautiful, scenic routes with views of the Green Mountains and Adirondacks.
- A mix of trail (10%), paved (45%), and dirt roads (45%) for the half marathon; all paved for 3-mile fun run.
- USATF-certified course that is well supported, with rolling hills and foliage views.

Well Organized, Great Swag, Inspiring Music On Course, Post-Race Breakfast

Top Finishers Receive Vermont Maple Syrup!

Registration is open at

MiddleburyMapleRun.com

Sweet socks for ALL registrants!

Shoreham Congo Church to host breakfast, Sept. 2

SHOREHAM — Celebrate Labor Day Weekend by coming to Breakfast at the Shoreham Congregational Church on Saturday Sept. 2, from 8 to 10 a.m. Feast on plain or blueberry pancakes or French toast with Vermont maple syrup, sausages, home fries, quiches, and

beverages. The cost is only \$10 for adults, \$5 for children, and \$30 for families. It is a chance to enjoy good food as you chat with your neighbors and friends.

Please bring a non-perishable food item or paper product for the Food Shelf to help those in need.



Fresh and flaky croissants to start your day out right.



OPEN
MON 8AM-2PM
TUES-SAT 7AM-2PM
CLOSED SUNDAY
51 Ossie Rd, East Middlebury, VT | (802) 989-7220 | OtterEast.com



Addison County Parent/Child Center
info@addisoncountypcc.org • addisoncountypcc.org • 388-3171

- Community Playgroups
- Parent Education Classes
- Home Visits
- Pregnancy Prevention Programs
- Parent Training & Child Center

Helping Young Families Get The Right Start

A 44-Year Middlebury Tradition of Trusted & Caring Dental Excellence!

\$0 Cleanings!

For most insured patients. Call for details.

Further Heightened Sterilization Standards



1330 Exchange Street, Suite 107
• Middlebury •
802-388-3553
MiddleburyDentalVT.com

Welcome Before & After Work or School!


RESEARCH STUDY

August 2023 www.nenpa.com/screener

Newspaper Readers Needed!

Do you read a newspaper on a regular basis?

The New England Newspaper & Press Association is conducting a study to learn readers' views about which qualities separate good newspapers from great ones.



If selected, you'll receive \$100 for sharing your time and opinions in a 3-hour study.

For more information visit
www.nenpa.com/screener
or email info@nenpa.com.

Reader Comments

Here's what one reader has to say about us!

A subscriber from Bristol writes:

"Life source for our communities!! Thank you."

Quotes are taken from reader comments submitted with subscription renewals.



ADDISON COUNTY INDEPENDENT

community calendar

aug 17 THURSDAY

Fiber arts demonstration in Middlebury. Thursday, Aug. 17, 1-3 p.m. Henry Sheldon Museum, One Park St. Bruce Yelton will demonstrate hand carding, spinning and the natural dying process with wool. He comes from a long line of textile workers; in his first job after college he worked in the craft industry, winning several awards. After his retirement in 2015, Bruce returned to his passion for the fiber arts and enjoys sharing his skills with others. Free with museum admission. For more information visit henrysheldonmuseum.org/events or call 802-388-2117.

HOPE Food Truck in Shoreham. Thursday, Aug. 17, 2-3 p.m., Shoreham Congregational Church, 28 School St. The HOPE Food Truck will offer free, non-perishable items as well as available fresh produce on a first-come first-served basis to low-income people in the Shoreham area. Supplies from all major food groups will be available. If you have a neighbor who is unable to come during this time, you may pick up food for them. Please bring your own bags.

Nonsense Concert in Lincoln. Thursday, Aug. 17, 7 p.m., Lincoln Library. Local folksinger Ted Wesley will provide an exploration of the fantastical verses of Edward Lear and Lewis Carroll set to original music for voice and guitar by Wesley. Bring a blanket or a chair as this event will take place on the porch. In case of rain, this presentation will be held inside the library.

"Arms and The Man" on stage in Middlebury. Thursday, Aug. 17, 7 p.m., Town Hall Theater, 68 S. Pleasant St. THT Young Company Classical presents an all-female identifying production of Bernard Shaw's "Arms and the Man." Set in the 1890s, this delightful and satiric comedy presents and ensemble cast and a world filled with juicy characters and fast-paced comic banter. Tickets \$15 adults/\$10 children 12 and under/\$25 generous to benefit THT's scholarship program. More info at townhalltheater.org.

Bristol Historical Society Meeting in Bristol. Thursday, Aug. 17, 7 p.m., Howden Hall, 19 West St. Noted civil war historian Howard Coffin will speak on "Vermont's Remarkable Sharpshooters." Vermont sent far more sharpshooters to the Union armies than any other state, on a per capita basis. Sharpshooters from this state played a little-known but major role at Gettysburg, the great Union victory that changed the Civil War's course. More information at 802-453-3526 or dear4@gmavt.net.

aug 18 FRIDAY

George Matthew carillonneur in Middlebury. Friday, Aug. 18, 3 p.m., Middlebury College Chapel, 75 Hepburn Rd. Matthew, carillonneur at Middlebury College and Norwich University, will perform in the Middlebury Chapel's bell tower, soaring high above the College campus. The melodic sounds of the carillon bells are a staple of summer life on the Middlebury College campus. Bring a lawn chair or a blanket! Free.

Push to the Pavilion concert in Vergennes. Friday, Aug. 18, 5-8 p.m., Veterans Memorial Park, 43 East St. Live music featuring the Pavilion Rock Band, raffles with great prizes, and food vendors.

"The Ten Commandments" on screen in Brandon. Friday, Aug. 18, 7 p.m., Brandon Town Hall, 1 Conant Sq. Long before Charlton Heston played Moses in Technicolor, director Cecil B. DeMille filmed this silent blockbuster on a grand scale. Many say it surpasses the remake. See it for yourself as we celebrate the 100th anniversary of the film's original release. Free will donation.

"Arms and The Man" on stage in Middlebury. Friday, Aug. 18, 7 p.m., Town Hall Theater, 68 S. Pleasant St. See Aug. 17 listing.

aug 19 SATURDAY

Green Mountain Club hikes in Addison County for Long Trail Day. Saturday, Aug. 19. Take part in hikes in Middlebury, Lincoln, Ripton, and Buel's Gore. See details about the hikes online at gmcbreadloaf.org.

Green Mountain Club Long Trail Day Burnt Hill hike in Ripton. Saturday, Aug. 19, Burnt Hill Trailhead. Join GMC Breadloaf for 5-6 miles of moderately challenging hiking. Depending on time and participation, this can include an out and back to Boyce Shelter and/or Silent Cliff. Moderate pace, leaving mid-morning with the goal of being off the trail at 3:30 p.m. Contact leader Ken Corey at kencorey53@gmail.com or 802-349-3733 for information or to register. More at gmcbreadloaf.org.

Town-wide yard sale in Bridport. Saturday, Aug. 19, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., locations around town.

Pollinator Pathway brochure and seedling giveaway in Bridport. Saturday, Aug. 19, 9 a.m.-noon, 4409 Town Line Rd. Bridport Blooms garden volunteers, part of Pollinator Pathway of Addison County, will have a display with brochures on gardening for pollinators, native flower seedlings to give away, and a free raffle.

For the Luv of Dogs (And Cats too!) Car Show in Brandon. Saturday, Aug. 19, noon-5 p.m., Estabrook Park. Amazing cars and trucks. Delicious food. Incredible vendors and a giant basket raffle. Music, of course, because no event in Brandon happens without great music. Help raise money for the Rutland County Humane Society. \$20 entry to show, free admission for spectators!

Mount Independence-Hubbardton Military Road Car Tour in Hubbardton. Saturday, Aug. 19, 10 a.m.-1 p.m., Hubbardton Battlefield State Historic Site, 5696 Monument Hill Rd. Jim Rowe, historian of the Crown Point Road Association, is your leader to look at the Hydeville Branch of the 1776 Mount Independence-Hubbardton Military Road. Meet at the Hubbardton Battlefield with your own vehicle for orientation. The tour will travel north from Hydeville through west Castleton to eastern Benson.

Mushroom exploration Walk in Orwell. Saturday, Aug. 19, 1-3 p.m., Mount Independence State Historic Site, 472 Mt. Independence Rd. Mushroom expert Meg Madden leads a walk to look for and learn about mushrooms on Mount Independence. Limited to 20 people. Wear comfortable walking shoes and dress for the weather. Included in regular museum admission. Call 802-948-2000 to reserve your spot.



Nighttime is for insects

PERHAPS A BLACK light will draw one of these giant leopard moths to Salisbury Community School on the evening of Friday, Aug.25, when Middlebury College entomologist Greg Pask will be on hand to teach participants about nighttime insects.

Photo courtesy of Jim Andrews

aug 20 CHICKEN BBQ in Ferrisburgh. Saturday, Aug. 19, 4:30-7 p.m., Ferrisburgh Fire Station, Route 7. It's time again for Ferrisburgh Fire Dept.'s annual BBQ with Jerry's famous recipe. Take out only. Dinner, \$15, includes half a chicken, baked beans, coleslaw, roll and cookie. Rain or shine. Questions? Call Travis at 802-989-1870.

aug 20 SUNDAY

Town-wide yard sale in Bridport. Sunday, Aug. 20, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., locations around town.

Slide Out of Summer in Brandon. Sunday, Aug. 20, noon-4 p.m., location TBD. An afternoon of fun with water slides, food, vendors and information booths. Celebrate the end of summer and the return to the craziness that is the school year. Everyone is welcome to join in the fun. Free admission. Free Parking.

Healthy Bodies family event in Middlebury. Sunday, Aug. 20, 3 p.m., Middlebury Rec Center, 154 Creek Rd. You are important and so is your health. Participate in fun, play-based activities for children, try a yoga or Zumba class, and ride a smoothie bike. Cost \$10 adult/\$5 child/under 2 free. Proceeds will go towards purchasing a cargo van for pop-up children's events around Addison County.

Addison Town Historical Society picnic in West Addison. Sunday, Aug. 20, 4 p.m., Bodette's Grove, 7242 Route 17W. A short business meeting followed by the picnic and socializing. Recent donations to the Historical Society will be on display. Bring artifacts to identify. Geoff and Sue Nelson will provide hamburgers, cheeseburgers, hot dogs, rolls and condiments. Please let them know your preference by Aug. 17 at gsnelson@gmavt.net or 802-759-2399. Bring something to share for potluck, plates, cutlery, napkins and beverage. There are some seats and tables, or bring your own seating. Rain date Sunday, Aug. 27, 4 p.m.

aug 22 TUESDAY

Reasons To Be Cheerful discussion series "How Loggers Helped Environmentalists Save A Spectacular Canadian Rainforest" in Middlebury. Tuesday, Aug. 22, 11:30 a.m., Ilsley Public Library, 75 Main St. Using articles from Reasons To Be Cheerful's project, We Are Not Divided, all are invited to discuss and celebrate these uplifting stories. Stop in to pick up a hard copy of this week's article or read it on the Reasons To Be Cheerful website.

Milk & Honey Guild meeting in Middlebury. Tuesday, Aug. 22, 6:30 p.m., American Legion, 49 Wilson Rd. Guest speaker Sandra Palmer, a certified quilt appraiser, will be offering quilt appraisal services at our October quilt show. This presentation will explain the appraisal process and why it's important to have treasured quilts appraised by a certified appraiser. Doors open 6 p.m., meeting starts 6:30 p.m. Guests welcome. \$5 fee.

aug 23 WEDNESDAY

Middlebury New Filmmakers Festival opening night in Middlebury. Wednesday, Aug. 23, 7 p.m., Town Hall Theater, 68 S. Pleasant St. MNFF's opening night will feature the film "Dusty & Stones" by Jesse Rudy, a beautiful documentary intimately chronicling the remarkable ride of cousins Gazi "Dusty" Simelane and Linda "Stones" Msibi, a determined duo of struggling country singers from the tiny African Kingdom of Eswatini (known as Swaziland at the time of filming) who

long for their big break. More info and tickets at townhalltheater.org/event/middlebury-new-filmmakers-festival-opening-night.

aug 24 THURSDAY

Middlebury New Filmmakers Festival in Middlebury. Thursday, Aug. 24. See Aug. 23 listing.

HOPE Food Truck in Shoreham. Thursday, Aug. 24, 2-3 p.m., Shoreham Congregational Church, 28 School St. Free non-perishable items as well as available fresh produce available on a first-come first-served basis for those in need. Supplies from all major food groups will be available. If you have a neighbor who is unable to come during this time, you may pick up food for them. Please bring your own bags.

"DC League of Superheroes" on screen in Bristol. Thursday, Aug. 24, 8 p.m., Bristol town Green. Part of Bristol Rec's Movies in the Park After Dark. Free. Rain location Holley Hall.

aug 25 FRIDAY

Middlebury New Filmmakers Festival in Middlebury. Friday, Aug. 25. See Aug. 23 listing.

Street dance in Vergennes. Friday, Aug. 25, 7 p.m., City Green. Kick off the eve of Vergennes Day by dancing the night away to the sounds of The Hitmen. Free.

Artist reception and talk in Bristol. Friday, Aug. 25, 5-7 p.m., Art of Main, 25 Main St. Come see the work and meet printmaker Carol McDonald and potter Kileh Friedman. Free.

Nighttime insect viewing in Salisbury. Friday, Aug. 25, 8-9:30 p.m., Salisbury Elementary School, 286 Kelly Cross Rd. Join the Salisbury Conservation Commission and Middlebury College entomologist Greg Pask for an evening of moths and other fascinating insects. Come after the sun goes down and stay as long as you'd like. We'll use black lights to attract the night-active insects to white sheets in the woods. Feel free to bring a flashlight or headlamp, and no bug spray please (we're trying to attract the bugs!). Event may be cancelled due to inclement weather conditions. But light to moderate rain is OK.

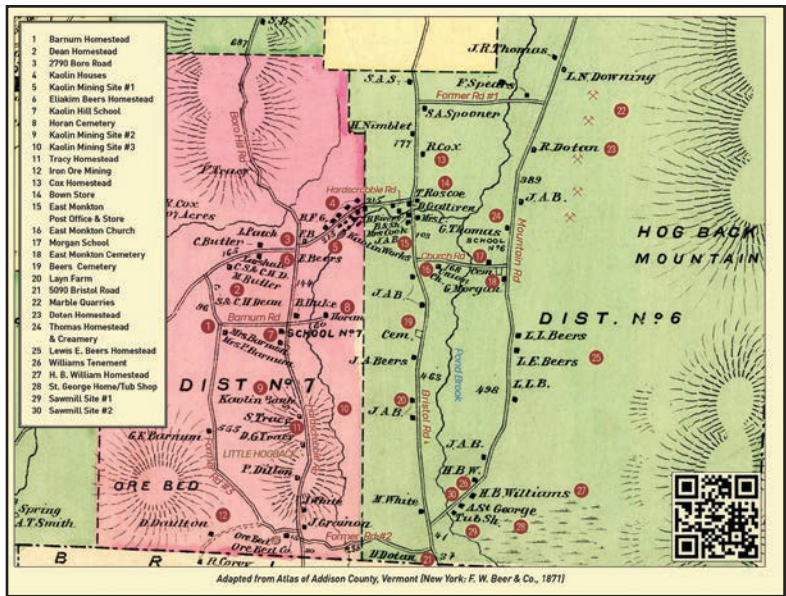
aug 26 SATURDAY

Middlebury New Filmmakers Festival in Middlebury. Saturday, Aug. 26. See Aug. 23 listing.

Vergennes Day race in Vergennes. Saturday, Aug. 26, 8:30 a.m., 43 East St. The Little City is hosting its 42nd Annual Vergennes Day Race. Sign up to walk a 5K, or run a 5K, 10K or 15K. The 15K begins at 8:30 a.m., and the 5K and 10K begin at 9 a.m. More info at runsignup.com/Race/VT/Vergennes/VergennesDayRace2023.

Used Book Sale in Vergennes. Saturday, Aug. 26, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Bixby Memorial Library, 258 Main St. Books will be on the front lawn (weather permitting) and also downstairs in the Otter Creek room of the Bixby. Plenty of room for browsing. Choose from a large variety of fiction, non-fiction and children's books.

Vergennes Day in Vergennes. Saturday, Aug. 26, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., City Green. At the 41st annual Vergennes Day, see more than 55 crafters and vendors, live music on the bandstand, pancake breakfast at the fire station, children's venue and more, including Little City Race, Lions Club chicken BBQ, and merchant sales throughout downtown.



EAST MONKTON IS the subject of a new book “East Monkton, Vermont: A History of Its Land and People,” by local authors Candace Polzella, Cindy Walcott and Lauren Parren. A book launch will take place on Sunday, Aug. 20 a 1 p.m. at the East Monkton Church, 405 Church Rd.

Map courtesy of Lauren Parren

New book offers a glimpse into East Monkton history

MONKTON — A new 55-page book called “East Monkton, Vermont: A History of Its Land and People,” has just been published by the Monkton Museum and Historical Society. A kick-off event to celebrate the book will be held on Sunday, Aug. 20, beginning at 1 p.m. at the East Monkton Church on 405 Church Road in Monkton.

It has taken authors Candace Polzella, Cindy Walcott and Lauren Parren over a year to research and compile a fascinating tale of this gem of a hamlet, hidden in plain sight in Monkton. Readers will learn about the period before written history, the early settlement by people of European descent, the natural resources found here, the importance of farming, and especially the deep community connections among the families who lived here. It

has over 150 endnotes to entice historians who’d like to gather more information.

The kick-off will include the release of the booklet at 1:30, a self-guided tour of the East Monkton Church any time between 1 and 3:30 p.m., an invitation to contribute to a puzzle about why we save the past, any time between 1 and 3:30 p.m., and — back by popular demand — a tour of the East Monkton Cemetery at 2 p.m., which not only includes stories of some of our ancestors, but also how to care for plots and headstones in any cemetery.

Print copies of the booklet will be available for purchase. A free copy of the map with a QR code to the free version of the booklet on the monktonhistory.org site will be offered to all who attend.

scrapbook

ENGAGEMENTS

Elmore, Ringey

BRANDON — Chad Ringey and Kimberly Elmore of Brandon, VT, are overjoyed to announce their engagement to be married. As their fairytale love story continues, they are excited and grateful for the love and well wishes of family and friends. May God bless this union as their adventure unfolds.

Ringey is the son of Bill and Dotty Ringey of Leicester. Elmore is the daughter of George and Marge Elmore of McCormick, S.C., and Dan and



CHAD RINGEY AND KIMBERLY ELMORE

Ruth Roy of Palm Coast, Fla.

A winter wedding in Brandon is planned.

Library expansion talk draws hundreds

By JOHN FLOWERS

MIDDLEBURY — More than 200 people packed into Middlebury’s Town Hall Theater on Wednesday, Aug. 9, to listen to three design teams share their ideas on how the Ilsley Public Library could be renovated and expanded at its 75 Main St. site. Ilsley officials will now huddle to pour over all the available documents and public input before recommending the hiring of one of

the three teams to bring the library renovation/expansion design to its conclusion.

Ilsley officials are poised to make that recommendation to the Middlebury selectboard at its Aug. 22 meeting.

Joe McVeigh, leader of the Ilsley 100 Project Team, said 227 people attended the Aug. 9 meeting, which featured presentations by these three Vermont-based teams: gbA Architects and Planning, Vermont Integrated Architecture, and a collaboration of Wiemann-Lamphere Architects and ReArch Company.

The *Independent* shared details and images of all the design concepts in its July 27 and Aug. 3 editions. But Ilsley leaders have cautioned that the final library project design could look *nothing* like any of the images that people saw at the Aug. 9 showcase.

All three competing architectural teams have recommended preserving the original, 1924 Ilsley building while removing the subsequent ’77 and ’88 additions to make way for new construction.

But the teams’ plans vary in terms of building footprint, architectural flourishes and verticality of a newly imagined Ilsley. The submitted conceptual images range from two to four stories, and there’s roughly a 5,000-square-foot difference between the smallest and largest design offering.

Team representatives offered commentary as their designs splashed across a big screen in the THT on Aug. 9. You can see a full video of the 1 hour, 47-minute presentation at middleburycommunitytv.org.

All three groups received a \$5,000 stipend for their work in devising conceptual images of how the Ilsley Library’s growing programming could be accommodated within roughly 24,000 square feet, at a cost of around \$15 million. These and other big-picture parameters — such as the decision to keep the library at its present location — were previously endorsed by both the Ilsley board and the town selectboard.

Ilsley leaders have for at least the past five years been seeking solutions to current deficiencies within the library building. The current library building affords inadequate and poorly configured space that isn’t meeting the community’s service expectations, Ilsley leaders say.

It has low ceilings and support columns; has a poorly lit and under-sized children’s area that suffers from ground water leaks, mold and a broken wastewater system that causes offensive odors; needs better amenities for teens and ’twens; and has resources that aren’t

accessible to some individuals who are physically challenged.

Folks who attended the Aug. 9 presentation were vocal in their appreciation of the work the three teams submitted.

“THT was filled to capacity with an encouraging and enthusiastic crowd,” McVeigh said, adding the event “had terrific energy.”

Middlebury resident Mike Roy was one of those in attendance.

“I was thrilled with the turnout, because it suggested to me that there’s a ton of support, interest and excitement about the possibilities of doing this renovation and adding onto the building,” Roy said. “That was a real good sign.”

He was also pleased to see out-of-town users represented at the gathering and said the Ilsley has become a magnet for attracting visitors to the community who also shop, dine and do business in the shire town.

“It’s going to make the downtown even more attractive and vibrant,” Roy said of the Ilsley project.

Among the featured speakers

was selectboard Chair Brian Carpenter, who told the crowd he values the library and believes it’s due for an overhaul. But he cautioned the project would not come cheaply. He said he hopes the town can find diverse revenue streams to underwrite the library makeover, noting a \$15 million bond would be tough for local taxpayers to absorb.

He asked locals in the crowd if they “would be willing to accept a 15% tax increase for the next 20 years to fund this?”

He did not explain to the audience where that 15% figure came from, and some in attendance said it was misleading. It certainly dampened the mood of the proceedings.

No one kept an official tally of the straw poll, but a number of hands went up.

“As a selectboard member, we have a responsibility to try to be fiscally responsible and we will be grappling with that over the coming months along with all the bills that we’re getting from the (rain) storms,” Carpenter told the crowd. “So we ask for your support, we also ask for your understanding that the library, it’s huge for us, and we really want to and need to get this done. There’s a lot of challenges that we’re trying to balance. It’s a function of trying to balance and keep everybody whole.”

EXPLORING THE TAX IMPACT

Asked to elaborate on his assertion of a 15% tax rate for a \$15 million bond, Carpenter referred to information he got from Town Manager Kathleen Ramsey. He offered the following:

“Last time Kathleen looked at costing for us in December, every \$1 million of bond cost (a penny) on the taxes, so \$15 million would be very close to \$0.15. Interest rates have gone up since that time, our municipal tax is approximately \$0.87, and the cost of completing the project is likely to be greater than \$15 million, so I feel 15% was a conservative figure we’d be lucky to achieve if we have to bond for 100% of the project. Hence, we are trying to be methodical and seek all funding avenues.”

Carpenter acknowledged he was referring to a possible 15% increase in just the municipal property tax rate. Middlebury’s overall tax rate

includes a residential education property tax rate of \$1.676 per \$100 of assessed property value and a non-residential rate of \$1.6565. So, a full two-thirds of Middlebury’s total residential property tax rate is associated with public education expenses.

Ken Perine is a member of the Ilsley 100 Project Team. He said he believes “a dollar and cents estimate of a tax increase is much more understandable than a percentage increase of the town taxes, since most taxpayers look at their entire tax bill (town tax plus education tax) when thinking of tax burden,” he said. “And of course, that dollars and cents estimate will vary depending on the assessed value of the real estate being taxed.”

McVeigh and his colleagues are confident of finding other resources to draw down the property tax impact for Middlebury residents.

Asked if he thought neighboring communities could be asked to help defray the cost of the Ilsley project given that some of their citizens benefit from Middlebury’s library, Carpenter replied, “That’s not something I see as feasible. I believe local option taxes and state and federal dollars are how greater communities pay for shared services.”

Middlebury already has a local option tax that’s helping to pay for its Cross Street Bridge.

So what’s next?

“The most optimistic scenario is one where we have the schematic designs completed in the fall, we have a positive read on the amount of private funds we might raise, we have positive responses from our grant applications, and the selectboard is fully behind us in terms of a bond vote,” McVeigh said.

“If all of those stars align, we would hope to have a successful bond vote in March of 2024 and then break ground next summer or early fall. If we don’t see \$15 million, we will consult with the selectboard and continue to brainstorm for other sources of funding, and perhaps even wrap the library project into the idea of developing the space behind the library, to see if we can find some synergies there.”

Reporter John Flowers is at johnf@addisonindependent.com.

Lincoln

Have a news tip?

Call Dawn Mikkelsen at 453-7029

NEWS

LINCOLN — The library’s Pop-In People sessions wrap up on Wednesday, Aug. 23, with a celebration from 3 to 5 p.m. Paul and Ginny Curtis will bring their antique truck and help celebrate the end of the summer program

with old fashioned games and ice-cream making. There will be a raffle and prizes for participants.

SAVE THE DATE

Taco Tuesday is back at Burnham Hall on Sept. 12 from 5 to 6:30 p.m. or until sold out. The third annual

Taco Tuesday will feature red beef, green chicken, mushroom and squash-based veggie, plus all the flavors and all the salsas. This food fest is a fundraiser for Burnham Hall. No suggested donation, pay what you can.

Until next time ... With The New Day Comes New Strength And New Thoughts. Happiness Is A State Of Mind. What We Know Matters, But Who We Are Matters More.



2023 Garden Game

The Game is ON!



We received four exceptional Garden Game entries this week. Starting us off was a respectable red tomato from **Joel Schwartz** and young gardener **Sawyer**. At 15” around, it takes the top spot! **Linda Miller** brought in the first green bean of the season measuring 9” long. Linda held the star position briefly until **Tom Schildkamp** brought in his Seedway green bean and eked out a win by a mere .5”! Rounding out the week was a hefty 12.5” C onion grown by frequent GG participant, **Ed Blechner**. The first of its kind this year, Ed’s allium is in the lead.

The game is heating up!
What will you bring in next?

Play the Garden Game!

Do you have veggies to share in our pages? We welcome entries from any of the below categories. Bring your entry into our office between 9am and 4pm Monday-Friday and we’ll measure it and snap a photo. Each week we’ll publish new entries and update our frontrunners for each category in the contest. At the end of the season, each category winner* will be eligible to receive a gift certificate from our Garden Game sponsor, Middlebury Agway.

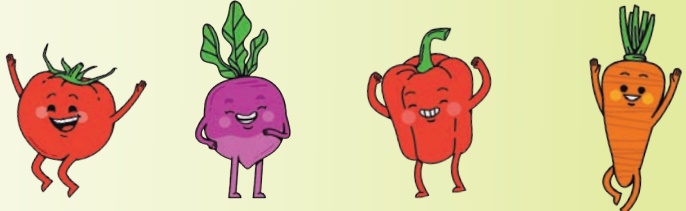
*Please note: Each individual is eligible to win one gift certificate, even if they win multiple categories.

ADDISON COUNTY
INDEPENDENT
Serving Addison County, VT, Since 1946



CATEGORIES & FRONT-RUNNERS:

- **Asparagus** (length x circumference) - Matt Vogel & Raissa Venables, 45” x 2”
- **Beet** (circumference) - Willamina, 8”
- **Broccoli** (diameter) - Ted Foster, 11.5”
- **Cabbage** (circumference)
- **Cantaloupe** (circumference)
- **Carrot** (length x circumference)
- **Cauliflower** (diameter)
- **Corn** (length x circumference)
- **Cucumber** (length x circumference) - Joel Pominville, 19” x 6”
- **Edible Leafy Greens** (length x width - leaf only) - Gary Miller, 21” x 7.25”
- **Eggplant** (circumference x circumference) - Willamina, 18” x 10.25”
- **Fennel** (length x circumference)
- **Green Bean** (length) - Tom Schildkamp, 9.5”
- **Kohlrabi** (circumference)
- **Leek** (length x circumference)
- **Melon** (circumference)
- **Onion** (circumference) - Ed Blechner, 12.5”
- **Parsnip** (circumference)
- **Potato** (length x circumference)
- **Pepper** (circumference x circumference) - Gary Miller, 11.75” x 13.75”
- **Pumpkin** (circumference x circumference)
- **Radish** (circumference)
- **Rhubarb** (length) - Barbara Pelton, 27.75”
- **Rutabaga** (circumference)
- **Summer Squash** (length x circumference) - Ella & Lydia Bearor, 10” x 10.5”
- **Sunflower** (diameter)
- **Tomato** (circumference) - Joel & Sawyer Schwartz, 15”
- **Turnip** (circumference)
- **Winter Squash** (length x circumference)
- **Zucchini** (length x circumference) - Ella & Lydia Bearor, 11.5” x 8”



Goat farmers

(Continued from Page 6B)
the winter.

Eventually, Tup’s Crossing hopes to run two herd groups on 18-month lactation cycles, alternating kidding between fall and spring, which would provide the farm with a more steady milk supply throughout the year.

“I actually get paid more for my milk that’s produced in the winter, so I’d rather have an animal that produces more consistently throughout the year, or can lactate for a longer time, than have an animal that dumps a ton of milk in the spring and on paper looks like she made me a lot of money because she made this many pounds, but really that was all in May or June, which is when I get my lowest pay price,” Menguc said.

Blue Ledge Farm is also interested in the benefits of a more consistent milk flow. The farm makes more than 10 varieties of goat cheese, and Sessions said a steadier milk supply could benefit that production.

“My wholesale buyers need cheese year round. I don’t want to make most of my cheese in the spring and then have nothing in the winter,” she said.

Tup’s Crossing has already begun running a portion of its herd on an 18-month lactation cycle with moderate success. However, Menguc said in order to make it a sustainable practice, the farm needs to continue collecting production and milk quality data from a larger pool of does and introduce genetics specifically adapted to persistent lactation into its herd.

COLLECTING DATA

The Dairy Farm Innovation & Alternative Management grant will allow Sessions and Menguc to check both of those boxes.

“This grant helps us to collect data on production over a year, comparing four groups with various lengths of lactation so we will be



HOLLY MENGUC

able to compare apples to apples in terms of economic implications of an annual dry time and production peak versus a longer lactation without a peak, for example,” Sessions said.

With funding from the grant, Sessions and Menguc have been conducting monthly milk tests at their farms, collecting milk quality and production data amongst the different herd groups.

Session said one of the data points the pair will monitor is the somatic cell count in the milk produced by various groups.

“I was always told that you have to breed your goats back every year in order to get the high quality milk you need for cheese-making, which is low somatic cell,” she said. “I wanted to really track what the somatic cell count difference was and if the quality of the milk declines over a longer lactation. So far, it doesn’t seem to be.”

Menguc has found the same to be true on her farm. The pair has also been monitoring the production of the four groups and milk components like butter, fat and protein.

The grant funding will also be used to purchase the superior extended lactation genetics of European goat herds. Through artificial insemination, those genetics will be

incorporated into the herds at Tup’s Crossing and Blue Ledge Farm this fall.

Menguc noted there’s currently no veterinarian in Vermont trained to conduct artificial insemination for goats, but the grant will pay for a veterinarian at Tufts University in Massachusetts to visit the two farms in September.

Sessions explained the genetics the farmers selected are taken from does that have excelled at a 700-day lactation cycle, or around two years of milking.

“Those genetics are a little more refined in Europe, because they’ve been farming in this way with goats for some time,” she said. “We plan on sharing these genetics with other goat farmers. It’s an opportunity to improve the genetic pool in the whole area.”

The farmers will also share the data they collect over the course of their work with the grant with other goat farmers in the region.

“I feel excited to really have these records that we will open up with anyone that wants to know more,” Sessions said. “The opportunity to have data is valuable.”

While still in the process of conducting their research, Menguc and Sessions are both optimistic about the benefits extended lactation could bring to their farms.

“Extended lactation should result in longer lifespans for the goats; decreased labor demands on the humans; less kid goats flooding the market each spring; lowered oil, diesel, electricity demands each spring (associated with kidding); and, hopefully, a more consistent year-round milk check, allowing us to maintain current herd size without additional growth. All of this creates a more sustainable and resilient dairy business,” Menguc said.

Sessions echoed that enthusiasm.

“I’ve been in this field for over 25 years, and I want to leave the industry better than I found it. I feel as though this is a step in the right direction,” she said. “I would be really excited if this meant that fewer people and animals got burned out both emotionally and physically by the demands of modern agriculture. I feel excited that this could improve the lives of farmers and animals alike.”



AFTER ACCEPTING THEIR ribbons at the 2023 Multi-County 4-H Dairy Show, July 15, winners of the Holstein breed championships pause for a photo with Elizabeth Menard, show judge and former dairy 4-H’er from Franklin. They are (left to right): Emma Deering, Middlebury, the Junior and Grand Champion; Brailey Livingston, New Haven, Reserve Junior and Reserve Grand Champion; and Kylee Shepard, Panton, Honorable Mention Junior and Honorable Mention Grand Champion.

Photo by Martha Seifert/UVM Extension 4-H

Dairy show

(Continued from Page 6B)

of the animal. For these classes, the judge evaluated the animals on physical structure, condition and overall appearance.

Local winners, listed by breed, were as follows:

Ayrshire: Junior Champion and Grand Champion: Bella Roell, New Haven, with her winter calf; Reserve Junior Champion and Reserve Grand Champion: Colin Chamberlin, Addison, with his fall calf; Honorable Mention Junior Champion and Honorable Mention Grand Champion: Caroline Compagna, Whiting, with her fall calf.

Brown Swiss: Junior Champion and Grand Champion: Taryn Burns, Whiting, with her fall calf; Reserve Junior Champion and Reserve Grand Champion: Tenley Chittenden, Whiting, with her winter calf.

Guernsey: Junior Champion and Grand Champion: Tom Allen, Ferrisburgh, with his winter calf; Reserve Junior Champion and Reserve Grand Champion: Sophia Roleau, Bristol, with her winter calf; Honorable Mention Junior Champion and Honorable Mention Grand Champion: Sophia Roleau, Bristol, with her fall calf

Holstein: Junior Champion and Grand Champion: Emma Deering, Middlebury, with her fall calf;



ELIZABETH MENARD, JUDGE for the 2023 Multi-County 4-H Dairy Show (left), poses with the Junior Fitting and Showmanship Champions at the July 15 event in New Haven. Capturing championships were (left to right): Junior Champion Showman Taryn Burns, Whiting; Reserve Junior Champion Showman Caroline Allen, Ferrisburgh; and Honorable Mention Junior Showman Champion Colin Chamberlin, Addison.

Photo by Martha Seifert/UVM Extension 4-H

Reserve Junior Champion and Reserve Grand Champion: Brailey Livingston, New Haven, with her fall yearling; Honorable Mention Junior Champion and Honorable Mention Grand Champion: Kylee Shepard, Panton, with her winter calf

Jersey: Junior Champion and Reserve Grand Champion: Caroline Allen, Ferrisburgh, with her spring yearling; Reserve Junior Champion and Honorable Mention Grand Champion: Tom Allen, Ferrisburgh, with his winter yearling; Honorable Mention Junior Champion:

Roxanne Griffin, Ferrisburgh, with her winter calf; Senior Champion and Grand Champion: Torrey Hanna, Addison with her two-year-old cow; Reserve Senior Champion: Mackenzie Chase, Bristol, with her two-year-old cow

The event was organized by Martha Seifert, University of Vermont (UVM) Extension 4-H educator for Addison County. The Franklin and Addison County 4-H Foundations supported this event with 4-H parents Trent and Abby Roleau, Bristol, who donated and cooked hot dogs for the crowd.

Farming is a big job.
They’re built to make
it look easy.

SSV75 & R640 Durable Kubota engines Comfortable cabs

More acres. More work to do. Kubota equipment is more than ready for it. Stop by your local dealer for a great deal on Kubota wheel loaders and skid steers today.

• SSV75 skid steer delivers outstanding productivity and comfort

• SSV75 vertical lift is designed to deliver exceptionally long reach

• R640 wheel loader offers superior comfort, easy operation and power

• R640 cabin designed for high visibility

Together we do more.®

MIDDLEBURY | ST. ALBANS | DERBY | BERLIN | ESSEX

champlainvalleyequipment.com • 802-388-4951

KubotaUSA.com

© Kubota Tractor Corporation, 2023. This material is for descriptive purposes only. Kubota disclaims all representations and warranties, express or implied, or any liability from the use of this material. For complete warranty, safety, incentive offer and product information, consult your local dealer or go to KubotaUSA.com.

Be a MEMBER,
not just a NUMBER.

— Middlebury, VT

— 802-388-7917

— co-opinsurance.com

—

At Co-op, we’re member owned and member committed. Since 1915, we’ve been providing protection for individuals, farms, and businesses with a large network of local agents, fast and fair claims service, loss control expertise, and affordable rates. At the Co-op, you’re a member, not just a number.

CO-OPERATIVE
INSURANCE
COMPANIES

HOME • BUSINESS • AUTO • FARM

Middlebury, Vermont • 802-388-7917 • co-opinsurance.com

MEMBER OWNED. MEMBER COMMITTED.



2023 Results

Ox, pony, horse pulling

NEW HAVEN — Below are the results from the ox and pony pulling competitions held at the 2023 Addison County Fair and Field Days, Aug. 8-Aug. 11. The horse pulling competition was called off.

Ox Pull results

2000 Class: 1. Tucker Hicks, Charlemont, Mass., Cooper and Mick, 4,500 lbs.; 2. Tim Patton, Springfield, N.H., Hercules and Buck; 3. Gary Gaylord, Rensselaer Falls, N.Y., Pete and Bill; 4. Brian Patten, Springfield, N.H., Rock and Rebel; 5. Scott Spencer, Benson, Rip and Rowdie; 6. Sullivan Mullen, Tunbridge, Homer and Boone.

2400 class: 1. Scott Spencer, Benson, Maverick and Goose, 5,500 lbs.; 2. Tucker Hicks, Charlemont, Mass., Buck and Charger; 3. Nick Stone, Barnard, Zeb and Bear; 4. Gary Gaylord, Rensselaer Falls, N.Y., Spring and Fall; 5. Layne Mullen, Tunbridge, Hank and Hooker; 6. Tucker Hicks, Charlemont, Mass., Cooper and Mick.

2800 class: 1. Scott Spencer, Benson, Junior and King, 6,000 lbs.; 2. Tim Patton, Springfield, N.H., Huck and Hero; 3. Brian Patten, Springfield, N.H., Crew and Gus; 4. Tucker Hicks, Charlemont, Mass., Buck and Charger; 5. Nick Stone, Barnard, Zeb and Bear.

3200 Class: 1. Brian Patten, Springfield, N.H., Jack and Boomer, 6500 lbs.; 2. Ryan Hicks, Charlemont, Mass., Scott and

Joker; 3. Tom Mullen, Tunbridge, Mike and Tyson; 4. Tim Patten, Springfield, N.H., Huck and Hero; 5. Brian Patten, Springfield, N.H., Crew and Gus.

Free-For-All Class: 1. Brian Patton, Springfield, N.H., Doc and Clyde, 17500 Lbs.; 2. Brian George, Fairlee, Charlie and Casey; 3. Tucker Hicks, Charlemont, Mass., Spike and Spike; 4. Brian George, Fairlee, Tater and Navy; 5. Brian Patten, Springfield, N.H., Stub and Hog; 6. Bryan Mollison, Savoy, Mass., Odin and Thor.

Pony Pull Results

1800 Class: 1. Palmer and Hewes, Benson, Archie and Tom, 5,000 lbs.; 2. Tracy and Spaulding, Bethel, Major and Dan; 3. Dean Gonyaw, Glover, Jake and Candy; 4. Tanner and Son, Brownington, Jake and Jack; 5. Elvin Switzer, Sutton, Smokey and Sonny.

2200 Class: 1. Tracy and Johnson, Bethel, Colonel and Rex, 5,500 lbs.; 2. Tracy and Spaulding, Bethel, Doc and Jack; 3. Roaring Brook Farm, Barton, Bell and Judy; 4. Palmer and Hewes, Benson, Spike and Tom; 5. Roaring Brook Farm, Barton, Rock and Bonnie; 6. Robert and Karen Chamberlain, Woodstock, Archie and Hank.

Free-For-All Class: 1. Doug Conley, Glover, Amos and Frank, 4,500 lbs.; 2. Roaring Brook Farm, Barton, Bell and Judy; 3. Tanner and Son, Brownington, Jake and Jack; 4. Roaring Brook Farm, Barton, Rock and Bonnie.

Home and Garden

NEW HAVEN — Every year, the Home and Garden Departments at Addison County Fair and Field Days host amateur competitions in five areas in the Frances Monroe Building. This year, the competition had more entries in almost every department than it

has had for years. The Monroe Building was filled with many beautiful exhibits.

In addition to prizes offered by local businesses and individuals, two special awards are granted annually. Since 1974, the best (See Home and Garden, Page 9B)



Put on a show

LORRYN TRUJILLO, RIGHT, of North Clarendon with her calf Ellie May, proudly accepts first place for Senior Fitting and Showmanship on Thursday at Field Days. This is one of the big awards at Field Days. Also shown is second-place finisher Brailley Livingston of New Haven, Dairy Superintendent Robin Severy, left, and judge Reid Lundy on the right.

Independent photo/Steve James

Dairy Fitting and Showmanship

NEW HAVEN — Below are the results from the Dairy Fitting and Showmanship competition at the 2023 Addison County Fair and Field Days, held Thursday, Aug. 10.

NOVICE CLASS (never shown before)

8-year-olds: 1. Sophee Shepard; 2. Ella Pope; 3. Lacey Barber; 4. Elizabeth Fay; 5. Normandie Cesario; 6. Peyton Anderson; 7. Kendall Thompson.

Pope Family Award — Novice Class A Showmanship: Champion, Sophie Shepard; reserve, Ella Pope.

9-11-year-olds: 1. Boston Wilbur; 2. Dayton Needham; 3. Isabelle Fay; 4. Logan Kirkpatrick; 5. Mia Mitchell; 6. John Belter; 7.

Poet Dole.

Dan Huestis Memorial Award — Novice Class B Showmanship. Champion, Boston Wilbur; Reserve, Dayton Needham.

Novice Intermediate & Senior Class: 1. Alyssa Warren.

Novice Intermediate & Senior Class — Tenacity Award: Alyssa Warren.

Junior Division

9-year-olds: 1. Rowdy Pope; 2. Sophia Roleau; 3. Thomas Allen; 4. Paige Chamberlin; 5. Sutton Chittenden; 6. Olivia Tudhope; 7. Desire Plouffe.

10-year-olds: 1. Caroline Compagna; 2. Gracelynn Barber; 3. Elianna Venables-Vogel; 4. Sophia Stocker; 5. Camille Plouffe.

11-year-olds: 1. Greyson VanderWey; 2. Tenley Chittenden; 3. Colton Butler; 4. Jordan Hutchins; 5. Payton Lucas; 6. Renee Plouffe.

Milk and Honey Genetics Award — Champion Junior Showmanship. Champion, Greyson VanderWey; Reserve, Rowdy Pope; Honorable Mention, Sophia Roleau.

Intermediate Division

12-year-olds: 1. Caroline Allen; 2. Ava Wood; 3. Collin Chamberlin; 4. Kylee Shepard; 5. Roxanne Griffin.

13-year-olds: 1. Bella Roell; 2. Taryn Burns; 3. Lola Rollins.

14-year-olds: 1. Hailey Chase; 2. Jayden Ploof; 3. Samuel Luis; 4. Christopher Brown.

Tristan Quinn Memorial Award — Intermediate Showmanship: Champion, Caroline Allen; Reserve, Ava Wood; Honorable Mention, Bella Roell.

SENIOR DIVISION

15-year-olds: 1. Hailee Allen; 2. Noa Sauve; 3. Peyton Ball; 4. Ruby Hubbell.

16-year-olds: 1. Brailley Livingston; 2. Isabella Wilbur; 3. Emma Deering; 4. Mackenzie Chase.

17-year-old and over: 1. Lorryn Trujillo; 2. Michael Plouffe; 3. Morgan White.

Higher Award — Senior Showmanship: Champion, Lorryn Trujillo; Reserve, Brailley Livingston.



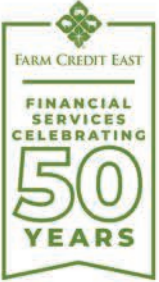
TAX PLANNING BUILT TO SAVE YOU MONEY.



Our ag tax specialists deliver money-saving strategies.

The taxes you owe don't have to be a surprise – at least not with a defined tax strategy from Farm Credit East. Our ag tax specialists can work with you to develop a tax strategy that minimizes the taxes you pay. Contact the tax specialists at Farm Credit East for a plan that works for you.

farmcrediteast.com
800.562.2235



- Loans & Leases
- Financial Record-Keeping
- Payroll Services
- Profitability Consulting
- Tax Preparation & Planning
- Appraisals
- Estate Planning
- Beginning Farmer Programs
- Crop Insurance



Bubble boy

SIX-YEAR-OLD OWEN CASH of Ripton cavorts in bubbles at the Addison County Fair and Field Days on Thursday before competing in the pedal tractor pull in which he placed second in his age group.

Independent photo/Steve James

Dairy Conformation

NEW HAVEN — Following are the results from the Tuesday, Aug. 8, Dairy Conformation competition held at Addison County Fair and Field Days.

SPRING CALF

Ayrshire: 1. Blue Spruce Ringer Rain, Paige Chamberlin; 2. IBG Genetics Reagan Tea, Boston Wilbur.

Brown Swiss: 1. Cher-Mi Cliff Adira, Olivia Tudhope; 2. Iroquois Acres C Trinket, Rowdy Pope; 3. Ruthless Skyhigh Ruthy, Jayden Ploof; 4. Perry Brook Biniam Karat, Mia Mitchell.

Holstein: 1. Woodlawn Unix Darling, Elizabeth Fay; 2. Woodlawn Tatoo Whitney, Isabelle Fay; 3. Robeth Loyall Petticoat, Hailey Allen; 4. Chalker Farm Shine Diamond, Peyton Ball; 5. Wyn Sum Doc Blink, Logan Kirkpatrick; 6. Daisey, Peyton Anderson; 7. Iroquois Acres Tattoo Alice, Ella Pope; 8. Basil, Normandie

Cesario.

Jersey: 1. Four Hills Boomerang Marvelous, Sophee Shepard; 2. A&B Downtown Nashville, Poet Dole; 3. Viper, Kendall Thompson; 4. Daisy, Desire Plouffe; 5. Grace, Renee Plouffe.

FALL CALF

Ayrshire: 1. Blue Spruce Ringer Hummer, Collin Chamberlin; 2. Sunrise-Ridge Ring-Fio Mystic, Caroline Compagna.

Brown Swiss: 1. Bromley Rampage Elli Mae, Lorryn Trujillo; 2. Random Luck Prem Pippa-ET, Tenley Chittenden; 3. Perry Brook Lover Me Good, Taryn Burns.

Guernsey: 1. Gateway Ladys Man Sparkle, Sophia Roleau.

Holstein: 1. Blue Spruce Believe Alliah, Emma Deering; 2. Four Hills Unix Chil Out-ET, Jayden Ploof; 3. Robeth Doc Perywinkle, Hailee Allen; 4.

Carpdsdale-J Milk Truck-ET, Ava Wood; 5. Show Bros Showtime Dancer-Red, Christopher Brown; 6. Everywind Gal Chief Kenebek, Hailey Chase.

Jersey: 1. Surprise, Colten Butler; Four Hills VIP Gala, Bella Roell; 3. JX Capaldi Mocha-P, Renee Plouffe.

WINTER CALF

Ayrshire: 1. Four Hills Player 70409, Bella Roell; 2. IBG Genetics Reynolds Linda Mitchell, Morgan White; 3. RVDL Ringer Blair, Dayton Needham.

Brown Swiss: 1. IBG Genetics Tank La Sangria, Isabella Wilbur; 2. Perry Brook Elisium Lizzo, Tenley Chittenden; 3. Shelburn Derring Eleanor, John Belter; 4. Plouffe Rampage Malibu, Michael Plouffe; 5. RVDL Famous Malibu, Brailley Livingston.

Guernsey: 1. Uno's Drone (See Dairy Conformation, Page 9B)



2023 Results

Dairy Conformation

(Continued from Page 8B)

Unhinged-ETV, Thomas Allen; 2. Gateway Helious Sweetie, Sophia Roleau.

Holstein: 1. Lylehaven Pern Lashes, Greyson Vander Wey; 2. Four-Hills Warr 7039-Red, Kylee Shepard; 3. Romilda, Payton Lucas; 4. Compagna Doc Tangerine, Caroline Compagna; 5. Enter Entertainer Modela, Lucey Barber; 6. J.J., Gracelynn Barber.

Jersey: 1. Heath's KR White Wedding-ET, Roxanne Griffin; 2. RVDL Kia Rock Royal-Pyrite, Brailey Livingston; 3. WF Dixon Saratoga, Elianna Venables-Vogel; 4. Sugar bush Fringe rooster, Sutton Chittenden; 5. Plouffe Hill Oliver-P Twinkie, Camille Plouffe.

Spring Yearling

Ayrshire: 1. Four Hills Look at Me 69687, Bella Roell; 2. River Valley Jamaica Letty, Ava Wood.

Brown Swiss: 1. A Joy D Clover, Brailey Livingston; 2. Perry Brook J. Ina Princess, Samuel Luis.

Holstein: 1. Blue Spruce Denver Pinky, Emma Deering; 2. Cookie, Sophia Stocker.

Jersey: 1. SV Heath Andreas Raelynn, Caroline Allen.

Summer Yearling

Brown Swiss: 1. Bromley Rampage Edinburgh, Lorryn Trujillo; 2. Shelburne Omal Yvette 240, Noa Sauve; 3. Daona Sjryker Maple, Alyssa Warren.

Holstein: 1. Everywind-BL Doc Galacara, Christopher Brown; 2. Plouffe Phantom Sparkles, Renee Plouffe.

Jersey: 1. A&B Vaden Peaches, Lola Rollins; 2. Kellogg Bay Fern Majesty, Caroline Allen; 3. Maplecroft Java Chip, Kylee Shepard; 4. Windcrest Lonestar Jam, Ruby Hubbell.

Fall Yearling

Jersey: 1. Four Hills Joel Gryffindor-ET, Kylee Shepard; 2. Apple Valley Chrome Lava, Ruby Hubbell; 3. Blodgett Topaz Nala, Hailey Chase.

Winter Yearling

Brown Swiss: 1. Allandra Rampage Kane, Brailey Livingston; 2. Shelburne Skyhigh Bonnie, Jordan Hutchins; 3. Plouffe Rampage Melody, Michael Plouffe.

Holstein: 1. Nea-Tocht Renegade Bonnie, Greyson VanderWey.

Jersey: 1. Four Hills Gentry Prodigy-ET, Jayden Ploof.

2-Year-old cow

Brown Swiss: 1. Allandra Rampage Marlana, Brailey Livingston.

Holstein: 1. Everywind Galadict Sunilee, Mackenzie Chase.

Jersey: Junior — 1. Cedar Mtn Farm Moonbeam Violetta, Isabella Wilbur. Senior — 1. Blodgett Rex Buttercup, Mackenzie Chase.

3-Year-old Cow

Holstein: 1. Kay-Kowz Pumpkin, Peyton Ball.

4-Year-Old and older

1. Allandra Standout Serena, Isabella Wilbur.

Dam & Daughter

1. Isabella Wilbur; 2. Brailey Livingston.

Produce of Dam

1. Makenzie and Hailey Chase.

4-H Members Herd

1. Brailey Livingston; 2. New Isabella Wilbur; 3. Bella Roell; 4. Jayden Ploof; 5. Kylee Shepard; 6. Renee Plouffe.

4-H Club Herd

1. New Haven Dairy; 2. Kellogg Bay; 3. Mount Independence; 4. Mountain View.

Best of Show

Munger Award — Best Spring Calf of Show: Cher-Mi Cliff Adira, Olivia Tudhope.

Steve Pope Award — Best Fall Calf of Show: Blue Spruce Believe Alliah, Emma Deering; Honorable Mention: Surprise, Colton Butler.

Plouffe Award — Best Winter Calf of Show: Uno's Drone Unhinged-ETV, Thomas Allen.

Brisson's Doana Farm Award — Best Spring Yearling of Show: SV Heath Andreas Raelynn, Caroline Allen.

Perry Brook Farm & Family Award — Best Summer

Yearling of Show: A&B Vaden Peaches, Lola Rollins.

Champlainside Farm Award — Best Winter Yearling of Show: Allandra Rampage Kane, Brailey Livingston.

Audet's Blue Spruce Farm Award — Best Fall Yearling of Show: Four Hills Joel Gryffindor-ET, Kylee Shepard.

Arbutusland Farm Award — Best 2-year-old of Show: RVDL Jrdy Winters Flurry-Red, Brailey Livingston.

Sunset Ridge Farm Award — Best 3-Year-Old of Show: Kay-Kowz Pumpkin, Peyton Ball.

JFT Genetics Award — Best 4-year-Old of Show: Allandra Standout Serena, Isabella Wilbur.

Best Animal Bred and owned by an Exhibitor: Champion: Kellogg Bay Fern Majesty, Caroline Allen; Honorable Mention, RVDL Kid Rock Royal-Pyrite Brailey Livingston.

Arthur B. Williams Award — Members Herd: Brailey Livingston.

Alice Quesnel Memorial Award — Best Dam & Daughter of Show: Isabella Wilbur.

Severy Family Award — Best Produce of Dam of Show: Mackenzie and Hailey Chase.

Mount Independence 4-H Club Award — Best 4-H Club Herd: New Haven Dairy.

JUNIOR CHAMPIONS

Ayrshire: Champion, Four Hills Player 70409, Bella Roell; Reserve, Blue Spruce Ringer Hummer, Colin Chamberlin; Honorable Mention, Four Hills Look At Me 69687, Bella Roell.

Brown Swiss: Champion, Bromley Rampage Elli Mae, Lorryn Trujillo; Reserve, Random Luck Prem Pippa-ET, Tenley Chittenden; Honorable Mention, Cher-Mi Cliff Adira, Olivia Tudhope.

Guernsey: Champion, Uno's Drone Unhinged-ET, Thomas Allen; Reserve, Gateway Ladys Man Sparkle, Sophia Roleau; Honorable Mention, Gateway Ladys ManSparkle, Sophia Roleau.

Holstein: Champion, Blue Spruce Believe Alliah, Emma Deering; Reserve, Lylehaven Pern Lashes, Greyson VanderWey; Honorable Mention, Four-Hills Warr 7039-Red.

Jersey: Champion, A&B Vaden Peaches, Lola Rollins; Reserve, SV Heath Andreas Raelynn, Caroline Allen; Honorable Mention, Kellogg Bay Fern Majesty, Caroline Allen.

Senior Champions

Brown Swiss: Champion, Allandra Rampage Marlene, Brailey Livingston; Reserve, Cedar Mtn Farm Moonbeam Violetta, Isabella Wilbur.

Holstein: Champion, RVDL Jrdy Winters Flurry-Red, Brailey Livingston; Reserve, Everywind Galadict Suni Lee, Mackenzie Chase.

Jersey: Champion, Cedar Mtn Farm Moonbeam Violetta, Isabella Wilbur; Reserve, Kay-Kowz Pumpkin, Payton Ball; Honorable Mention, Blodgett Rex Buttercup, Mackenzie Chase.

GRAND champions

Ayrshire: Champion, Four Hills Players 70409, Bella Roell; Reserve, Blue Spruce Ringer Hummer, Colin Chamberlin.

Brown Swiss: Champion, Allandra Rampage Marlene, Brailey Livingston; Reserve, Cedar Mtn Farm Moonbeam Violetta, Isabella Wilbur.

Guernsey: Champion, Uno's Drone Unhinged-ET, Thomas Allen; Reserve, Gateway Ladys Man Sparkle, Sophia Roleau.

Holstein: Champion, RVDL Jrdy Winters Flurry-Red, Brailey Livingston; Reserve, Everywind Galadict Suni Lee, Mackenzie Chase.

Jersey: Cedar Mtn Farm Moonbeam Violetta, Isabella Wilbur; Reserve, Kay-Kowz Pumpkin, Payton Ball;.

Supreme Champion of all Breeds

Champion: RVDL Jrdy Winters Flurry-Red, Brailey Livingston

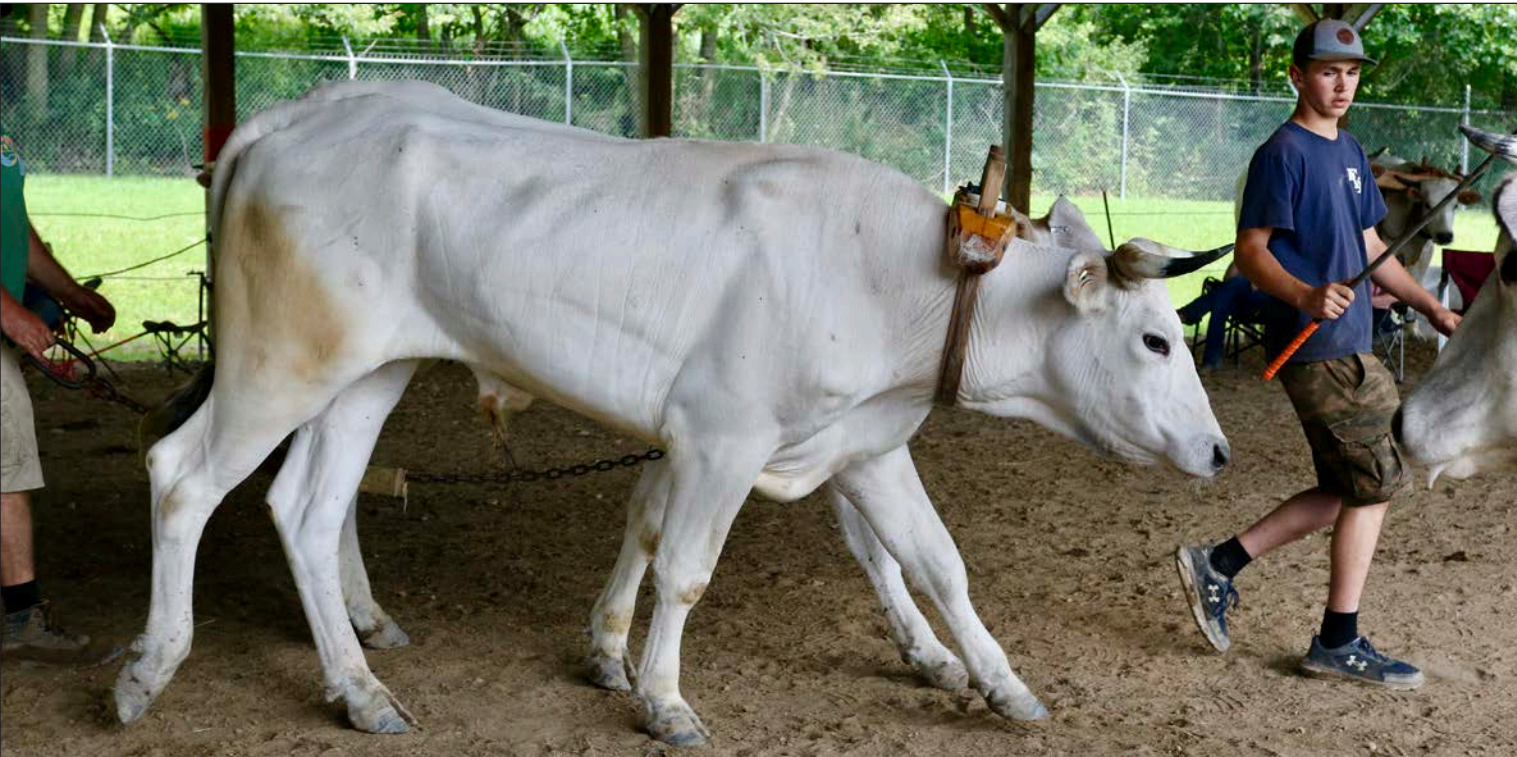
Honorable Mention: Uno's Drone Unhinged-ET, Thomas Allen.



Seen at the fair

YOU CAN CATCH a lot of action at Field Days if you keep your eyes open. The Skillet Toss competition included youth as well as adults, including Calvin Deppman, throwing in the Under-10 contest (top left) and Allison Buzeman, daughter of the two-time champion. Above the brother-sister duo of Connor, 5, and Tatum Hillman, 6, relax after the Pedal Tractor Pull; he looks annoyed because he only earned second in his age group, while she won hers. Below, a pair Chianinas oxen, an Italian breed, walk in unison through the pulling ring.

Independent photo/Steve James



Home and Garden

(Continued from Page 8B)

all-around adult participant in the Foods and Handicrafts Departments is awarded with the Leona Thompson Award, named for long-time Extension Agent Leona Thompson. This year's winner is Mary Howard.

Starting in 2012, the Home and Garden Departments have honored former Director Frances Monroe with an award in her name for a youth 18 and under who has submitted outstanding entries in at least two departments. This year's winner is Normandie Cesario.

Congratulations to these two talented people.

Other winners in the competition include:

Handicrafts

Ervin Henecke award: Alice Smolinsky

Patricia Henecke award: Erin Knight

Outstanding item made from handspun yarn: Marlene Duell

Outstanding felted item: Jeanette VanBueren

Robyn Campbell

Hermit Thrush Fiber Co. award: Hailey Chase

Superintendents' award: Courtney Allenson

Eleanor Boucher award: Nancy Lee Ross

Best sewn item: Joyce Servidio

Best sewn item by youth: Caleb Moran

Most outstanding quilt: Jeanette VanBueren

Most outstanding quilt quilted by a professional: Karen Shaw

Outstanding quilted item: Jeanette VanBueren

Outstanding quilt by youth: Caroline Larocque

Rae Dwight award: Beverly Stearns

Rae Dwight award, youth: Willa Pickens

Rose Ann Farese award: Nancy Lee Ross

Bethany Barry award, beadwork: Corinne Kehoe

VerdMont Button Club award: 1. Julie Hogan; 2. Mary Howard; 3. Julie Hogan

Oxford Co. award: Gail Pope

Jack Brown award: Edward Malzac, Robert Turner

Jack Brown award, youth: Isaac Haskell

Bethany Barry award, recycled masks: Cyndy Witscher

Bethany Barry award, recycled tote: Courtney Allenson

Golden Years award: Mary Howard

Jerry and Cheryl Connor award: Caroline Larocque

Grand Prize: Lauren LaBerge

Art & Photography

Best Entry in Art: Katherine

Moran

Best Color Rendering (Adult): Ellyn Mack

Best Color Rendering (Teen): Katherine Moran

Best Color Rendering (Youth): Abigail Frizzel

Best Black & White Rendering (Adult): Courtney Allenson

Best Black & White Rendering (Teen): Saebryn Carter

Best Black & White Rendering (Youth): Normandie Cesario

People's Choice in Art: Courtney Allenson

Best Folk Art (Adult): Heather Morse

Best Folk Art (Teen/Youth): Kamille Trayah-Pratt

Best Photograph (Adult): Ben Munkres

Best Photograph (Teen): Lily Gordon

Best Photograph (Youth): Walter Armell

Photo Challenge (All ages): Heather Morse

Judge's Choice Photography: Ben Munkres

People's Choice in Photography: Marcie Tierney

Garden Department

Premier Gardener: Hannah Sessions

Outstanding Youth Gardener: Jonah Davis

Flower Department

Best Entry by Youth 4-8: Becca Carpenter

Most Outstanding Exhibit by Youth 18 and under: Hailey Chase

Most Outstanding Exhibitor: Pandora Apuzzo

Most Unique Design by Adult: Susan Carter

Most Outstanding Plant Entry: Debra Taylor

Most Outstanding Entry Adult: Heather Morse

Foods Department

King Arthur Baking Contest, Rhubarb Cake, Adult: 1. Mary Howard; 2. Abi Sessions; 3. Rosemary Zezulinski

Best Honey Baked Goods, Adult: 1. Corinne Kehoe; 2. Kristin Swartzentruber

Canning: 1. Betsy Taylor; 2. Margaret Hough

Monument Farms Prize: Julie Bourgeois

Maple Meadows Best Cake: Perry Lessing

Middlebury Bagel Prize: Mackenzie Chase

Middlebury Natural Foods Coop Prize: Kristin Swartzentruber

Otter Creek Bakery Prize: Deborah Ploof

Superintendent's Award: Heather Morse, Mary Lou Miller

Wanda Goodyear Memorial Baked Bean Contest: 1. Fred Peet; 2. Gavin Greenewalt; 3. January Stearns; 4. Cindy Peet; 5. Matthew Vogel

Thursday & service
Business DIRECTORY

auto body restoration
auto repair
auto sales & leasing
carpentry/contractors

cleaning services
computers
construction
duct cleaning

lawn care
firewood
flooring

AUTO BODY
RESORTATION

HILLTOP WELDING
AUTOBODY RESTORATION



Family owned & operated

Metal Fabrication
Agricultural Repair
Commercial Repair

Auto Body Repair
Rust Repair
Collision Repair

Full/Custom restoration

We accept all major credit cards | We accept Insurance claims
Follow our projects on Facebook

 802-453-7345 | 138 Hunt Road, New Haven, VT

Certified
Collision Experts

 All Makes and Models
Working with all
Insurance companies



(802) 388-9961
Mon-Fri 8am-5pm
2196 Rt 7 South, Middlebury
stonecdjr.com

AUTO REPAIR

Hometown Service from
Your Hometown Dealers!

Factory-Trained Technicians
Servicing all makes
and models





G Stone Motors
36 Boardman St.,
Middlebury
(802) 388-6718
gstonemotors.com

Stone
Chrysler Dodge Jeep Ram
2149 Rt 7 So., Middlebury
(802) 388-9961
stonecdjr.com

REACH THE COUNTY
ADVERTISE HERE
ADDY INDY - 388-4944

AUTO SALES
& LEASING

G STONE MOTORS, INC.
NEW AND USED CARS AND TRUCKS



Fred C. McAtee
Master Certified
Sales Consultant

We will take anything
in trade!

Bus: 802-388-6718
Fax: 802-388-7980
fred@gstonemotors.com
www.gstonemotors.com



36 BOARDMAN ST | P.O. Box 527 MIDDLEBURY, VT 05753

CARPENTRY/
CONTRACTORS

David Walker Construction

298 Biddle Road
Lincoln, Vermont
05443



cell: 802-989-0320
email:
dwconstruction@gmavt.net

Entry Door & Storm Door
Installations
Small Jobs Only • Semi-Retired

CARPENTRY/
CONTRACTORS



Handling all phases of residential & light
commercial carpentry since 1992

Mark Raymond
Middlebury, VT **388-0742**

FULLY INSURED

**Golden Ruler
Construction**
AFFORDABLE & HONEST

Residential & Agricultural Construction

Old Home Renovations • Custom Homes • Barns
Painting: Interior/Exterior • General Repairs

Call Jonathan Hescok
2217 Rt. 74, Cornwall
802-462-3737





VERMONT CUSTOM MOLDINGS


www.vermontcustommoldings.com

**Quaker Village
CARPENTRY**



Siding, Windows, Garages, Decks & Porches
New Construction, Renovations and Repairs

Maurice Plouffe
802-545-2251
1736 Quaker Village Road
Weybridge, VT 05753



fjbuilders.com

• Full service general contractor
• Turn key construction
• Kind knowledgeable staff

One call does it all

Christopher Netelkos
cnetelkos@fjbuilders.com • Sudbury, Vt.

CLEANING SERVICES




**Melissa's Quality
Cleaning Services**

Residential & Commercial
GREAT RATES • FULLY INSURED
Reliable & Thorough

802 345-6257


CHECK US OUT
ONLINE AT
ADDISONINDEPENDENT.COM

COMPUTERS



The PC Medic of
Vermont now offers
both on-site and remote
computer services for
your PC.

Call today to see which
type of appointment
you need, and get your
PC running correctly
again!



For an appointment , call The PC Medic of
Vermont at 802-734-6815
www.pcmedicvt.com

CONSTRUCTION

**Vantage
Point
Homes**



Salisbury, VT
989-3974

New Construction
Additions
Renovations
Project Design

Like us on Facebook! 

DUCT CLEANING



**Specializing in
Duct Cleaning**
And Duct Work
for Heating, Ventilation
and Air Conditioning
We use 5,000+ cfm HEPA
Vacuum Cleaning Systems

We can design, fabricate, seal, insulate, clean,
anything to do with your ducted systems.

Buy Local! 802.989.0396

Commercial/Residential • Owner Operated • Fully Insured • Neat & Clean

FIREWOOD

Are you looking for green or
seasoned firewood?

Well we've got it all right here in Addison, VT!

We cut, split, and deliver hardwood
firewood in 12-24 inch lengths.
And we now offer kiln dried firewood!

Contact us today for a quote!



Gevry Firewood LLC
gevyfirewoodvt@gmail.com
or 802-349-0699

FLOORING



Chris Mulliss
FLOOR & UPHOLSTERY CLEANING

Stripping - Waxing - Buffing
Carpet Cleaning &
Emergency Water Removal



802-759-2706
phone or fax
or
802-349-6050
cell phone

email: cmulliss@gmavt.net
1900 Jersey St., S. Addison, VT 05491

Wales Floors, Inc.

For a free estimate call 877-8323

Fully insured

Custom & non-toxic finishes

Installation refinishing & restoration of
residential and commercial wood floors

Over two decades experience!



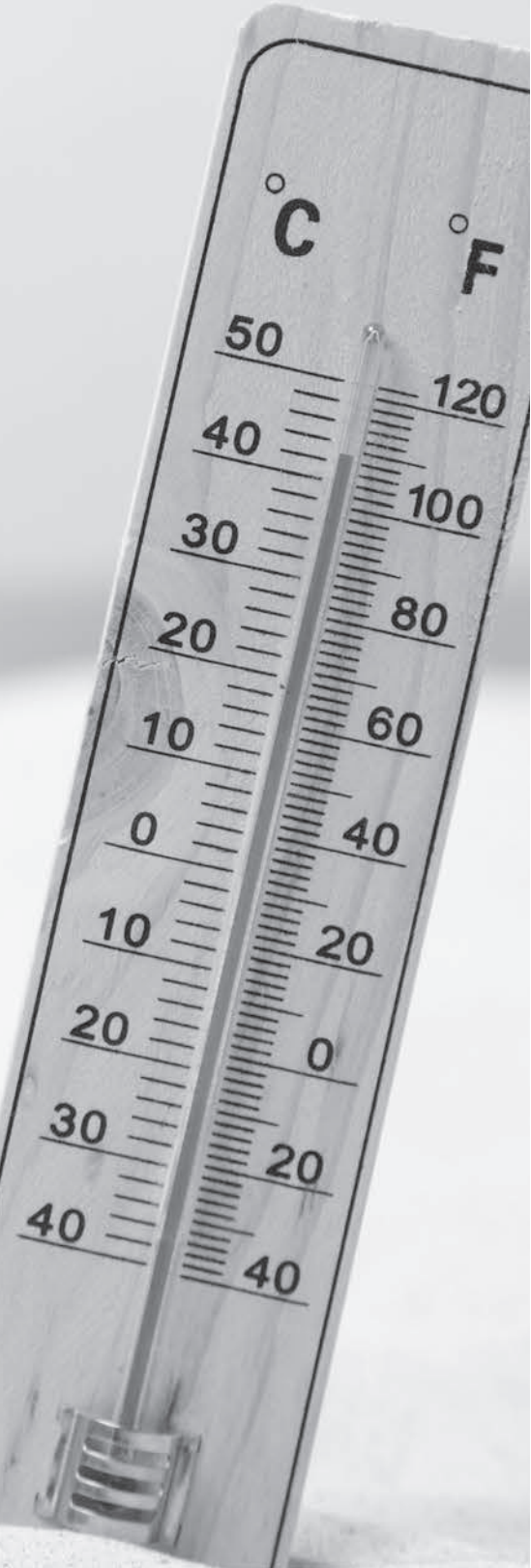




**Reach
more
potential
customers!**

Place your ad in
the Addy Indy!

Temps
Are
Rising!
Advertise
Your Air
Conditioning
& Cooling
Business
Here.



ADDISON COUNTY
INDEPENDENT
CALL 802-388-4944

Thursday & service
Business DIRECTORY


lawn care
masonry
painting
plumbing
property maintenance

renewable energy
roofing
rubbish & recycling
septic & water
siding

stump removal
surveying
taxes
tree service

MASONRY

FINE DRY STONE MASONRY



JAMIE MASEFIELD
CERTIFIED BY THE DRY STONE WALLERS
ASSOCIATION OF GREAT BRITAIN
802-233-4670
jmasefield@gmavt.net



DO YOU CLEAN HOUSES?
YOUR AD SHOULD
BE HERE!

PAINTING

HESCOCK PAINTING



A friendly, professional,
and affordable family business.
Interior Painting
462-3737 or 989-9107
Kim or Jonathan Hescock
hescock@shoreham.net

PLUMBING



Timothy C. Ryan, P.E.
Serving the Champlain Valley
Since 1887
877-3118
Main St., Vergennes, VT

PLUMBING



J.D. Fuller
Plumbing & Heating, Inc.
Repairs • New Installations
John Fuller, Master Plumber • 388-2019

PROPERTY
MAINTENANCE

STEADY PROPERTY MAINTENANCE & EXCAVATION



CHUCK STEADY
Owner
194 Silver Lake Road
Goshen, Vt.
steadymaintenance@yahoo.com 802-247-5475
steadymaintenance.com 802-349-8265

POTENTIAL VIEW



PROPERTY MANAGEMENT
802-349-6163
Residential and Commercial
property maintenance, upkeep and installation.
Providing a comprehensive list
of every possible need with 24/7 response.
Contact us today
for a free consultation

RENEWABLE ENERGY

Go Solar with
AllEarth Renewables

Customer-driven solutions
designed, engineered and built
in Vermont, with over 3,000
installations in the state.
CALL 802.872.9600 x122
allearthrenewables.com




Soak Up The Sun!
Don't spend your hard-earned money
making the hot water or electricity that
you use today -
SOLAR IS MORE AFFORDABLE THEN EVER!
We've been here for you for 51 years -
Let us help you with your solar projects today.


Go Green with us -
Call for a FREE on-site evaluation
802.453.2500
BristolElectronicsVT.com



ROOFING



roofing
Michael Doran
as seen at Addison County Field Days!
• Standing seam
• Asphalt shingles
• Slate
Free estimates • Fully Insured
mpdoransr@gmail.com
Phone (802) 537-3555



Middlebury
Roofing Co.
Slate Roof Specialists
SAVE YOUR SLATE ROOF
Custom Copper • Standing Seam • Shingles
Rubber • Chimneys • Siding • Windows
Senior Discount • Church Discount
Serving Addison County
Call Us Today: (877) 777-7343
middleburyroofing.com
middleburyroofingvt@gmail.com

SEPTIC & WATER



Lincoln
APPLIED GEOLOGY, INC.
Environmental Consultants
Celebrating 36 Years
Environmental Consultants – Licensed Designers
Steve Revell CPG, LD#178 BW
Jeremy Revell LD#611 BW • Tyler Maynard LD#597 B
• Water Supply - Location, Development and Permitting
• On-Site Wastewater Design • Single & Multiple Lot Subdivision
• Property Development & Permitting
• State and Local Permitting
• Underground Storage Tank Removal & Assessment
Toll-Free: 800-477-4384
802-453-4384
Fax 802-453-5399 • Email: jrevell@lagvt.com
163 Revell Drive • Lincoln, VT 05443
www.lagvt.com

SIDING



CLASSIC VINYL
DOUBLE HUNG
Marcel Brunet & Sons, Inc.
Windows & Siding
Vergennes, VT
Siding • Windows
Additions • Garages • Decks
802-316-6060 • rbrunet1@myfairpoint.net • 802-877-2640

STUMP REMOVAL



CRAWFORD'S
STUMP GRINDING
No stump too small.
No stump too large.
Jim Crawford • Whiting • 802-683-0921
crawfordsstumpgrinding@gmail.com
Contact for a free estimate

SURVEYING



SHORT SURVEYING, INC.
Serving Addison County Since 1991
Timothy L. Short, L.S.
Property Line Surveys • Topographical Surveys
FEMA Elevation Certificates
135 S. Pleasant St., Middlebury, VT
802-388-3511
ShortSurveyingVT@gmail.com

LAROSE SURVEYS, P.C.

Ronald L. LaRose, L.S. • Kevin R. LaRose, L.S.
Land Surveying/Septic Design
"We will take you through the
permitting process!"
25 West St. • PO Box 388
Bristol, VT 05443
Telephone: 802-453-3818
Fax: 802-329-2138
larosesurveys@gmail.com


TREE SERVICE

Serving Vermont for over 42 years!
BROWN'S TREE & CRANE SERVICE
FREE ESTIMATES FOR TREE SERVICES
WE HAVE THE RIGHT EQUIPMENT
FOR THE RIGHT JOB – TO GIVE YOU
REASONABLE RATES
Dangerous Trees Cut & Removed
Stumps Removed
Trusses Set
Trees Trimmed
Land Clearing
Reasonable Rates • Year-round Service • Fully Insured
(802) 453-3351 • Cell (802) 363-5619
24 Hour Emergency Service 453-7014
Brownswelding.com


ADVERTISE
YOUR
LANDSCAPING
BUSINESS
WITH US.



JACK OF ALL TRADES?

CALL 802-388-4944 OR EMAIL ADVERTISING@
ADDISONINDEPENDENT.COM TO ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS.



Advertise your business on these pages for under \$10 per week.
Call 802-388-4944 or email advertising@addisonindependent.com for details.

CLASSIFIEDS

Public Meetings

AL-ANON OFFERS HELP and hope to anyone who has been affected by a loved one's drinking. Middlebury hosts an online meeting Sunday night 7:15pm and a face to face one Wednesday at 1:30pm at CVUUS (2 Duane Court Middlebury near the high school) that you can also access by Zoom. Visit vermontalananonlateen.org for links 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 available. 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 802-802-AAVT (2288).

THE TURNING POINT CENTER of Addison County is open for in-person services, Monday through Friday, 10am-4pm, 54A Creek Road, Middlebury. We are available by phone 24/7 at 802-388-4249.

Public Meetings

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 Vergennes-freethinkers@gmail.com for Zoom and in-person meeting information.

Public Meetings

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.

Services

CH DRYWALL and plastering. Call Joe 802-234-5545.

CONSTRUCTION: ADDITIONS, RENOVATIONS new construction, drywall, carpentry, painting, flooring, roofing, pressure washing, driveway sealing. All aspects of construction, also property maintenance. Steven Fifield 802-989-0009.

MELISSA'S QUALITY CLEANING Services. Residential and commercial. Fully insured. Great rates. Reliable and thorough cleaning. 802-345-6257.

Services

ODD JOBS; PROPERTY clean up, junk removal, brush cutting, lawn work. Call us today, we do other jobs too! 802-999-2194, John.

SMALL DAY CARE Infant to Pre-K. Cornwall, VT. Call for more information. 802-989-2092.

Services

WE BUY OLD STUFF Estates, collections, antiques etc. Also hunting and fishing items. Call Erik 802-345-0653.

Free

DIGITAL ACCESS View obituaries, calendar listings and classifieds online at addisonindependent.com. Don't miss out on events, garage sales, or opportunities- check out our free digital listings. Looking to read more? Become a subscriber!

Garage Sales

BRIDPORT TOWN-WIDE YARD SALES August 19th and 20th. 9:00am - 4:00pm. Maps available at sales and Pratt's Store.

Help Wanted ads can be found on Pages 12B and 13B.



Help Wanted

Help Wanted

Help Wanted



Addison County Parent/Child Center

Join the Parent/Child Center Team

We are seeking a van driver/childcare worker who will transport children and their parents and provide childcare at our Center.

Strong candidates must have knowledge of child development, family systems, and adolescent development.

This is a full-time position with generous benefits, total hours negotiable. A clean driving record and experience with children and families a must: a minimum of a Bachelor's degree recommended.

Van driver: 20 hour position

Contact Info: Please contact

Donna Bailey at dbailey@addisoncountypcc.org

Help Wanted

Help Wanted

Help Wanted



Positions offer generous, twice a year bonuses as well as an employee discount on all products!

Warehouse Worker

Loading and assisting with customer orders from the yard, warehouse and store; Stocking shelves and Filling propane tanks. Skills/Qualifications: Ability to lift 50 lbs repeatedly throughout the day. Ability to demonstrate strong organizational skills. Forklift & Skid steer experience preferred. Weekends and dependability a MUST! Preferable age 18+.

Cashier - Customer Service

Immediate Openings available. Must be able to work until 6pm. Weekdays and Weekends a MUST. Up to 40 hours per week. Wage commensurate with experience.

Please send resumes to info@middleburyagway.com or fill out an application at **Middlebury Agway**, 338 Exchange Street, Middlebury VT.

Please no phone calls.

Middlebury Agway 338 Exchange St. - Middlebury, VT.

Help Wanted

Help Wanted

Help Wanted



Are you one of those people who loves organization?

WE WANT TO HIRE YOU!

Here at the Addy Indy, we're looking for a **Circulation / Front Desk Manager.**

A successful candidate will be eager to grow our subscription base and newsstand paper sales, able to manage a multitude of organizational tasks, and provide excellent customer service.

If you are a self-sufficient, independent worker, who will bring a smile to work Mon-Fri, ready to connect with our community and help manage digital and paper subscriptions, we want to meet you!

Ample opportunities for creative thinking, problem-solving and innovation.

Please send a cover letter, resumé and references to:

Elsie Parini elsie@addisonindependent.com

ADDISON COUNTY INDEPENDENT

58 Maple Street • 802-388-4944
ADDISONINDEPENDENT.COM

Swift House Tent Sale

A once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to buy unique, useful, and affordable items from Swift House Inn's collection.

Saturday, August 19, 2023 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Sunday, August 20, 2023 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Please no early birds! We mean it!

No parking at Carriage House of Swift House Inn; please use street parking or the lot for Jessica's across the street from the Inn.

Location:

Under the Tent at 25 Stewart Lane, Middlebury, VT

FOR SALE:

Furniture	Lamps	Decorations
Art	TVs	Plates
Sofas	Appliances	Cups
Chairs	Bric-a-brac	Cutlery
End tables	Tchotchkes	Cub Cadet Zero-Turn

And much more from our attics, basements and barns!

Everything priced to move!

FALL IS COMING & WE'RE HIRING UP FOR OUR BUSY SEASON



Are you in between things?
Saving up for a car, an apartment, a vacation?
Starting over? Looking for your first job?

At Nino's Pizza, you can generate income that fits your schedule and boosts your cash flow.

We offer flexible scheduling, weekly paychecks, short shifts, and daily tips.

Your shift will fly by and you'll have some cash at the end of the day and a weekly paycheck. Plus, there's opportunity for advancement and progressive pay increases based on performance.

We ask you to commit to the schedule you created, show up on time, be prepared for work, and willing to check your drama at the door.

Nino's is a positive, encouraging work environment. It's a learning environment, where we work the problem, not the person. We appreciate what it means to be new and growing.

The pizza is awesome, and the secret ingredient is the people.

Nearly everything is fresh and handmade, so it matters that we care about the food and each other.

Let us help you level up, save up and build a bright new beginning.
Call or text us 802-391-0555 to line up an appointment.

Opportunities

Opportunities

Opportunities

Opportunities

Opportunities

Opportunities

RSVP is Seeking Handmade Hats, Mittens, & Blankets



RSVP of Addison County got hit by recent flooding. We lost all of our handmade items. We are looking for volunteers to make hats (all sizes), mittens (all sizes), and blankets. We can help provide some materials.

If you would like to volunteer, please call us at 802-468-7056.



AmeriCorps Seniors

Addison Independent

CLASSIFIED ORDER FORM

Cash in on our 4-for-3 rates! Pay for 3 issues, get 4th issue free! An ad placed for consecutive issues runs the 4th time for free!

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Or, submit your classified ad on our website: addisonindependent.com

DEADLINE: Monday at 5 p.m.

- 25¢ per word • minimum \$2.50 per ad
- \$2 internet listing for up to 4 issues • minimum 2 insertions

• Special 4 for 3 rates not valid for the following categories: Services, Opportunities, Real Estate, Wood heat, Attn. Farmers, For Rent & Help Wanted

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Notices | <input type="checkbox"/> Work Wanted | <input type="checkbox"/> Att. Farmers |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Card of Thanks | <input type="checkbox"/> Help Wanted | <input type="checkbox"/> Motorcycles |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Personals | <input type="checkbox"/> For Sale | <input type="checkbox"/> Cars |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Services | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Meetings** | <input type="checkbox"/> Trucks |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Free** | <input type="checkbox"/> For Rent | <input type="checkbox"/> SUVs |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lost 'N Found** | <input type="checkbox"/> Want to Rent | <input type="checkbox"/> Snowmobiles |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Garage Sales | <input type="checkbox"/> Wood Heat | <input type="checkbox"/> Boats |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lawn & Garden | <input type="checkbox"/> Real Estate | <input type="checkbox"/> Wanted |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Opportunities | <input type="checkbox"/> Animals | <input type="checkbox"/> Real Estate Wanted |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Adoption | | <input type="checkbox"/> Vacation Rentals |

** no charge for these ads Spotlight with large ✓ \$2

PLEASE PRINT YOUR AD...

Number of words: _____
Cost: _____

of runs: _____
Spotlight Charge: _____

Internet Listing: **\$2.00**
TOTAL: _____

The Independent assumes no financial responsibility for errors in ads, but will rerun classified ad in which the error occurred. No refunds will be possible. Advertiser will please notify us of any errors which may occur after first publication.

Addison Independent CLASSIFIEDS

Garage Sales

DOWNSIZING SALE: Home and workshop items. Antiques & display cases, fabrics, frames. Much more. Saturday Aug 19 8am-3pm. 999 Dog Team Rd, New Haven.

MULTI-FAMILY GARAGE SALE Power & hand tools. Chain saw, housewares, books, puzzles, small appliances, toys, singer sewing machine (almost new). Weighted blanket, outdoor propane turkey fryer, DR sand or fertilizer spreader, holiday sound & light show, kayak carrier, adult clothing and much more! Saturday Aug 19, 8am-4pm. 47 Stone Lane, Bridport.

Garage Sales

MULTI-FAMILY YARD SALE Miscellaneous hardware, radial arm saw, drill press, joiner, band saw, table saw, grinder, filing cabinet, miscellaneous hand tools, DVDs, CD (diverse collection), B & D string trimmer, dehumidifier, computerized exercise bike, pots, houseplants, kitchen stuff, sports equipment, including soccer cleats and baseball items, new briefcase, huge amount of children's clothes from size 2T and up, puzzles, huge selection of books, and many more items! Friday, August 18, 9-5, Saturday, August 19, 9-2 and Sunday, August 20, 9-1. 91 Seymour Street, Middlebury.

Help Wanted

TIRE D OF BEING RETIRED? Limited hours. A&W and Greg's Market. Applications available at Greg's. Pick your own hours.

Lawn and Garden

BRUSH HOGGING & lawn mowing. Reasonable rates. Contact Wayne 802-382-7465.

Vacation Rentals

ADDISON: LAKE CHAMPLAIN waterfront camp. Beautiful views, gorgeous sunsets, private beach, dock, rowboat and canoe included. \$999. weekly, or call for weekends. 802-349-4212, no texts.

For Rent

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.

MIDDLEBURY, OFF CAMPUS HOUSING available. 802-388-4831, AJ Neri Property Rentals.

Help Wanted

Nutrien
Ag Solutions

NOW HIRING!
CLASS A OR B CDL DRIVER
HAZ MAT ENDORSEMENT A PLUS. WE OFFER AN EXCELLENT BENEFITS PACKAGE!
To Apply:
Call 802-759-2022 or stop in at 4923 VT Route 22A Addison, VT 05491

For Rent

ALL REAL ESTATE advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968 as amended which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, national origin, sexual orientation, or persons receiving public assistance or an intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination. This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertisement for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination, call HUD Toll-free at 1-800-424-8590. For the Washington, DC area please call HUD at 426-3500.

SHOREHAM: Single family home. Lakefront 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Screen sun porch, sleeping porch, dishwasher, W/d hookup, garage, Water & rubbish included. \$1250 per month plus deposit. References required. No Pets, no smoking. 802-897-2385.

SUDBURY: Share a home w/ an avid reader in her 60s who enjoys volunteering & classical music. \$500/mo. plus sharing companionship & outdoor chores. Must be cat-friendly! No smoking. Private BA. 802-863-5625 or HomeShareVermont.org for application. Interview, refs, background checks req. EHO.

Help Wanted

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.

VERGENNES: Share a home, walkable to downtown, w/ professional in her 60s who enjoys art, Scrabble & music. Furnished bdrm, bonus sitting room. Two shared baths/shared kitchen. A well-behaved dog would be welcome! \$550/mo. plus utils-share (averaging \$225/mo.). Shared snow removal, gardening, trash delivery. W/D. 802-863-5625 or HomeShareVermont.org for application. Interview, refs, background checks req. EHO

All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968 as amended which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, national origin, sexual orientation, or persons receiving public assistance, or an intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination." This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertisement for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination, call HUD Toll-free at 1-800-424-8590. For the Washington, DC area please call HUD at 426-3500.

Help Wanted

Att. Farmers

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

Help Wanted

Auctions

MARKET REPORT ADDISON COUNTY COMMISSION SALES

RT. 125 • EAST MIDDLEBURY, VT
Sales for 8/10/23 & 8/14/23

		COST		
BEEF	LBS.	/LB	\$	
Barnes Bros	1335	1.35	\$1802.25	
C. Butler	1730	1.10	\$1903.00	
Defreest Farm	1790	1.08	\$1933.20	
Woodnotch Farm	1445	1.07	\$1546.15	
Vorstelvelld Farm	1645	1.05	\$1727.25	
Blue Spruce Farm	1810	1.03	\$1864.30	
J. Fifield	1740	1.02	\$1774.80	
CALVES	LBS.	/LB	\$	
Barnes Bros	87	5.40	\$469.80	
R. Forbes	100	4.80	\$480.00	
A. Brisson	95	4.80	\$456.00	
Champlainside	90	4.50	\$405.00	
B. Livingston	101	4.50	\$454.50	

Total Beef - 197 Total Calves - 318
We value our faithful customers.
Sales at 3 pm - Mon. & Thurs.
call 1-802-388-2661

ETHAN ALLEN HIGHWAY STORAGE NOTICE OF SALE

Tammy Jackson - Unit 81
To be sold at public auction on
August 26 @ 9:00 am
to the highest cash bidder.
All sales are final.
Unit must be broom cleaned.

Public Notices Index

Public Notices for the following can be found on **Pages 13B and 14B.**

Addison Central School District (1)

Addison County Courthouse (1)

Bristol Village Self-Storage (1)

Ethan Allen Highway Storage (1)

Granville (1)

Leicester (1)

Lincoln (1)

Middlebury (1)

Vergennes (1)

NOTICE OF AUCTION STORAGE UNIT SALE

Steve Clark, Unit #6, #32
Irena Hagan, Unit #12, #42
John Wintermote, Unit #19
Location: Bristol Village Self-Storage,
30 Main St., Bristol, VT 05443
Date: Friday, September 15th at 10am

TOWN OF LINCOLN PUBLIC NOTICE

Wednesday, September 6, 2023, beginning at 6:30 pm at the Town Office (62 Quaker Street, Lincoln, VT) and virtually using Zoom.

The Lincoln Development Review Board will hold a public hearing for Conditional Use Application #23-051, as requested by Tom Siegfried of Bag End Builders, LLC on behalf of Peter Halby of Mothership, LLC for a ~1,650 square foot addition to the main house located at 950 Zeno Rd., Lincoln, VT, Parcel I.D. # 12040110.000.

Participation in the local proceeding is a prerequisite to the right to take any subsequent appeal. Please call the Town Office at (802) 453-2980 to arrange a time to view the complete application.

The Zoom link will be included in the agenda which can be found on the Town's website the week prior to the hearing: <https://lincolnvrmont.org/agendas-minutes>

Nicole Lee, Lincoln DRB Chair

TOWN OF LEICESTER NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Leicester Development Review Board will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, August 29, 2023, at the Leicester Town Office at 6:00 p.m. to consider the following application:

(21-23 ZA) Appeal by Kelly Churchill of zoning permit 21-23-ZA issued to Cathy Malloy, Trustee of the Cathy Malloy Revocable Trust. 305 Lakeview Drive, Leicester, VT for the construction of a fence approximately four (4) feet from the Churchill property line at 275 Lakeview Drive, Leicester, VT.

A copy of the permit and the appeal is available for inspection at the Town Clerk's Office, 44 Schoolhouse Rd., Leicester, VT during regularly scheduled hours.

Participation in this proceeding is a prerequisite to the right to take any subsequent appeal.
Jeff McDonough
DRB Chairman

TOWN OF GRANVILLE Invitation to Bid Hazardous Tree Removal

The Town of Granville is soliciting proposals from qualified bidders for a project on Granville Class 3 roads involving 25 to 30 trees marked with orange blazing paint. All work will be completed from the existing road or shoulder and will require removal of the stumps, trunks and branches. Contact the Town Clerk for a general map of locations and pictures.

Bids and proof of insurance must be submitted to Town of Granville (via email: granvilletown@gmavt.net or to 4157 VT Route 100, Granville, VT 05747) no later than Monday, September 11, 2023 by 5:30 p.m. Bids will be opened at the regularly scheduled Selectboard meeting.

The project shall begin after award and must be completed no later than November 15, 2023. All invoices must be submitted and received at the Town Office no later than November 30, 2023.

The Town of Granville reserves the right to refuse any bid that it deems necessary for the best interests of The Town of Granville.
Please contact Bruce Hyde, Road Commissioner at (802) 279-1811 if you have any questions.

CITY OF VERGENNES NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the Vergennes Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on Monday, September 11, 2023, at 5:30 P.M. for the following purpose: Pursuant to 24 V.S.A. §4384, the Planning Commission proposes to amend Section 7.2.8 Northern Gateway District (NG) of the Municipal Development Plan to allow ground-floor residential uses in buildings which do not have direct access to Main Street.

This public hearing will be held as a remote only meeting with participation remotely through Zoom, or by phone. To join the meeting by Computer: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9268360439> Meeting ID: 926 836 0439 Passcode: 907999. To join by phone: Dial 1 (929) 205-6099, passcode 907999.

A copy of the Plan is available for public review in the City Clerk's Office or by contacting Peter Garon, Zoning Administrator at pgaron@vergennes.org.
August 10, 2023

Shannon Haggett, Chair
Planning Commission
City of Vergennes

MAPLEFIELDS

Looking for work in your hometown?

We offer medical, dental, paid vacation, personal time, sick time and 401K for full time positions.

ALL ADDISON COUNTY LOCATIONS CURRENTLY HIRING!
For openings and to apply, visit Maplefields.com



Production Team Members

Vermont Soap is looking for attentive, reliable and responsible people to work in our production department.

This position requires basic computer skills, attention to detail, the ability to sit or stand for long periods of time and the ability to lift up to 50lbs. Must be a team player and also able to work independently.

This is a full time position (Mon-Fri 7-3:30) with paid vacation time, paid holidays, 401k with employer match, and more!

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



We're hiring
and we need...
you!

Paraprofessionals:

- Are essential to our schools!
- Collaborate with teachers and support class instruction
- Support and supervise students with school work, social emotional needs, and play

Intensive Services Paras:

- Provide one-on-one support to a student needing individual services

This could be a great fit if you:

- Love supporting kids!
- Are flexible, energetic, inclusive, and kind
- Have experience with special needs students (but this is not required)

To apply: acsdvt.org/Page/4418 or scan the QRCode which will show all available ACSD jobs:
Questions: 802-382-1281



802.989.7677
46 River Rd., New Haven, VT
SilverMapleConstruction.com



49 Charles Avenue, Middlebury, VT 05753 Tele: 802-388-1274
Business Office: 802-382-1273 | Student Services: 802-382-1287

In our capacity as public schools, the districts of the Addison Central School District are required to locate, identify, and evaluate any child or student from birth and up who may require special education and related services in order to access and benefit from public education.

The Federal Special Education Regulations define a child with a disability as a child having a learning impairment, a hearing impairment including deafness, a speech or language impairment, a visual impairment including blindness, emotional disturbance, an orthopedic impairment, autism, traumatic brain injury, a health impairment, a specific learning disability, deaf-blindness, or multiple disabilities, and who requires specialized instruction and related services.

If you know of a child who lives in the towns of Bridport, Cornwall, Middlebury, Ripton, Salisbury, Shoreham or Weybridge and who might have a disability as described, please contact the principal of your local school district or contact the Director of Equity and Student Services at 802-382-1278.

ARTS + LEISURE

The Addison Independent

August 17, 2023



Artist Wyatt Robinson, a rising senior at Middlebury College, paints his intricate design of Vermont flora and fauna onto the college's Recycling Center silo off Route 125 on the west end of campus. He expects to finish the mural by Aug. 25.

PHOTO / COOKIE TAGER

Natural landscape creeps up side of silo

After two internships, almost a year of planning and one interactive map of Addison County silos, the Middlebury College Recycling Center silo is finally getting a new look that could be an example for other abandoned farm storage structures in Vermont.

A college student this summer is adorning the old silo with an intricately designed

mural of extremely detailed flora and fauna wrapped around the bottom third of the 46-foot circumference structure.

Wyatt Robinson, a Middlebury rising senior

and architecture major, was one of four student-artists to apply for the job painting the silo this summer. Even after he was hired, the Vermont-inspired design continued to evolve. He said it reflects his other artwork.

"I've done a ton of landscape art ... I wanted to stay in that same realm because I know that's my spot. And I think I just like painting natural features, because you can get kind of hyper-realistic and detailed.

"But also there's more room for experimentation and errors because everything is very natural," he continued. "So it doesn't matter if I paint it exactly the way I drew it. I like the adaptability of it."

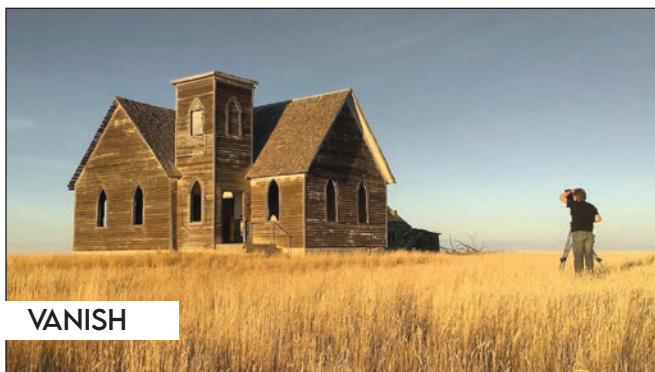
Robinson plans to finish painting the otherwise unassuming structure by Aug. 25.

Middlebury French Language School alumna and project donor Cookie Tager, 80, spurred this project. A funder of Robinson's internship, she has been funding student-internships at the college for eight years. Tager has been anticipating the final product since last summer, when she pitched and sponsored an internship to look at the pre-feasibility of a silo project. The 2022 internship, titled "The Vermont Creative Network Silo Transformation Project Internship," was inspired by the mural on the Bridge School silo on Exchange Street in Middlebury.

SEE SILO ON PAGE 3



JOONAM



VANISH



ROLAND AND MARY

5 diverse Vermont-made films to show at this year's film fest

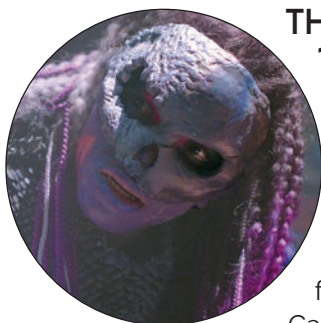
JOONAM

SATURDAY, AUG. 26, 2 P.M.
MARQUIS THEATRE

Spurred by a provocative family memory and a lifetime of separation from the country her mother left behind, a young filmmaker (who grew up in Bristol) delves into her mother and grandmother's complicated pasts, and her own fractured Iranian identity. Directed by Sierra Urlich.

THE BUTTERFLY QUEEN

THURSDAY, AUG. 24,
11:30 A.M.
TWILIGHT HALL



Casey (a sheep farmer/ cartoonist) and Robin (basically a vagabond) are lost in a magical forest, struggling to find Casey's sketchbook so they can get the hell back home. Unfortunately, The Butterfly Queen wants the sketchbook too, and A) she's clever, B) she's desperate and C) she makes the rules.

Directed by Liam O'Connor-Genereaux.

WHITMAN BROOK

THURSDAY, AUG. 24, 9 A.M.
DANA AUDITORIUM

WINNER: Shouldice Family Prize for Best Vermont-Made Film

An abandoned apple orchard, rescued by chance, thrives under the caring hands of the people driven to rejuvenate this Vermont hillside, who encourage the trees to flourish where once they stood bent and broken. A four-season meditation on time, change, loss, and renewal, Whitman Brook offers a glimpse into a world that moves with a different cadence, where we are invited to slow down and recognize the extraordinary. Directed by Ben Silberfarb.



SEE MNFF ON PAGE 10

MORE FILMS

TWO MNFF FILMS FEATURED WITH LIVE ORCHESTRA

The Vermont Symphony Orchestra's (VSO) chamber ensemble, conducted by Matt LaRocca, returns Aug. 25, with its pioneering collaboration with the Middlebury New Filmmakers Festival (MNFF). The screenings will begin at 4 p.m., in Wilson Hall on the Middlebury College campus.

The VSO/MNFF Award for the Best Integration of Music into Film, given exclusively to directors of short films, was conferred last year on "Born Under Punches" (written and directed by Gaoyang Ganjin) and "The Social Chameleon" (Alex Ross). These two films will be shown again at this year's festival, MNFFg, with live orchestral accompaniment by the VSO.

"This year's VSO/MNFF collaboration is especially exciting as we will be featuring films that come from opposite ends of the spectrum. The grittiness and intensity of the live-action 'Born Under Punches' is a perfect pairing to the tender, heartwarming and beautiful animated short 'The Social Chameleon,'" said LaRocca. "During the performance, a VSO chamber orchestra will showcase the beautiful music that makes these films so compelling, dive into creation of the films with the directors and composers, and culminate with a screening of both with live orchestral accompaniment."

Ross will be present at the Aug. 25 concert and will take part in a discussion about his film and the music scores; Ganjin is to be confirmed.

"The Middlebury New Filmmakers Festival treasures its relationship with the Vermont Symphony Orchestra, which began in 2016," said MNFF Producer Lloyd Komesar. "With each succeeding year, the films that the VSO selects and the accompanying scores that are fashioned thrill our Festival audiences. The combination of live music performance overlaid on the screening of these beautiful, creative short films is truly memorable and a singular element of the Middlebury New Filmmakers Festival."

MNFFg festival passholders and Friday passholders can attend the Aug. 25 event for free. For non-passholders, tickets are available via Eventbrite at and at the door. More information can be found at vso.org/events.

SILO

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"It's just something that caught my eye," Tager said.

Rising-senior Shane Silverman, a

political science major, took on the first phase of the project last summer, when he accomplished a bunch of logistical tasks, from contacting artists, town officials, construction people and local experts, to conducting research, to chatting with community members. "I have a little interactive map I made with just about every visible silo in Addison County," Silverman noted.

"There's a lot of them."

Although at the time it wasn't clear whether his work would actually yield a mural, Silverman identified the Recycling Center silo as the most practical pitch-site. Silverman's proposal caught the attention of Middlebury College Innovation Hub Director Heather Lovejoy.

"I loved the idea of working with Shane and a student artist to get some paint on a silo in summer 2023 ... the next logical step was to explore the possibility of an on-campus pilot project flowing from Shane's research," Lovejoy said.

Tager called Lovejoy a force to reckon with in regard to her efforts on the project. "She moves mountains," Tager said. "Heather barreled through these (obstacles)."

An unanticipated obstacle was the unusually wet July and August that Middlebury has seen. While Robinson said the rain has made his job more difficult, he's confident he can finish it by the end of next week.

Robinson has art in his blood. He comes from a lineage of artists, including his father and two grandparents. "My grandmother is a floral painter ... she's been a big inspiration in parts of this design, because I've been doing a lot of flowers," he said. And Robinson's father provided hands-on help.

"We timed it, so that right on the actual day I started painting he was here," he said. "And he was just a great second set of eyes and another perspective on the whole thing. Having him here definitely jump-started the whole thing. It was very helpful."

The design features only a handful of colors.

"I knew I wanted it to mainly be black and white, because I'm most comfortable doing pen and ink drawings ... I just really liked that crisp style you get with that high contrast. But I also for sure wanted there to be some colors," Robinson said.

"I just picked a very small color palette. So I have two greens, two blues, a yellow and a very light

gray," he added.

"And they're mainly devoted to the plants. The animals are going to be mainly black and white. And then just some gray. But I want the plants to be really vibrant."

Lovejoy and the Innovation Hub are fond of the minimal palette. "We thought the black and white color scheme with random color pops would work well throughout the seasons in the silo's setting — from a lush verdant summer to a stark white winter landscape," she said.

Silverman said Robinson's attention to intricate details that borders on perfection is something he likes about the design. "That's the most interesting thing about his style, and it's going to be very interesting to see that ... on such a massive structure," he said.

For Tager, the winning aspect of mural's design is the subject. "What I like about Wyatt's design is that it's his reflection of the natural environment that he's living in," she said.

Robinson says Tager's passion for the project has had a significant impact. "It reinforces the fact that the project is meaningful to at least one person, but the way she speaks about it gives me the faith that a lot more people could potentially enjoy it, because she's so devoted to it," he said.

"I'm just thinking about painting all the time. But she's always thinking about promoting it and raving about it and talking to people about it."

Tager hopes that this isn't the end of the project;



Wyatt Robinson stands in front of the primed area of the Middlebury College Recycling Center Silo at the beginning of his painting project last month. The mural, which is due to be finished next week, has a "rough" top edge, with flora and fauna reaching higher in some places than where the white primer appears.

INDEPENDENT PHOTO / SOPHIA AFSAR-KESHMIRI

she wants it to be a catalyst for more like it. She sees the potential for a silo-mural tourism industry throughout the state.

"I think that once we finish this, it's up to another community to decide that it has income-generating, tourism-generating aspects that are of benefit to them, and that's where it would go."

"BREATHTAKINGLY BEAUTIFUL." — NPR

"A FRESHNESS RARELY SEEN ON SCREEN." — NY Times

"Mosher's Kingdom County was situated as much in the soul as on any map." — Boston Globe

WHERE THE RIVERS FLOW NORTH

**STARRING RIP TORN
TANTOO CARDINAL
MICHAEL J. FOX**

**FILM SCREENING AND TALK BY
FILMMAKER JAY CRAVEN**

**7:30 PM, SAT, AUGUST 19
FERRISBURGH TOWN HALL**

TICKETS \$10 AT THE DOOR.



Point CounterPoint 2023 Summer Faculty Concert Series

Concert times are 7:30pm. Admission is free:

Each concert differs in repertoire, instrumentation, and faculty performers.

Thursday, August 24th —

Salisbury Congregational Church, 853 Maple St, Salisbury

Friday, September 1st —

Champlain Valley Unitarian Universalist Society, 2 Duane Crt. Middlebury

Friday, September 29th —

PCP Alumni Celebration Concert - Salisbury Congregational Church

**Point
CounterPoint**

Partnering with
the Otter Creek Music Festival

Wheelchair Accessible
www.pointcp.com

ART ON EXHIBIT

Henry Sheldon Museum concludes Wednesday's noon gallery series, Aug. 23

Henry Sheldon Museum's Wednesday, Aug. 23, noon gallery talk: "Such Treatises May Be Found Elsewhere": Uncovering Middlebury's Legacy for the Recognition of Native American Voices and Lands."

This is the last presentation in a series of gallery talks that highlight a collage in its current exhibition, "Artists in the Archives: Unseen Neighbors" exploring race, difference, sexuality, and gender.

Professor Marybeth Eleanor Nevins, will present a study in contrast between two early 19th century Middlebury College students: Henry Rowe Schoolcraft and Edwin James. Both were students of natural philosophy professor Frederick Hall. Each, separately, would go on to participate in expeditions west and write accounts of the Native Americans they encountered. Whereas Schoolcraft established a documentary storehouse of



"Otto Council" 1823 (detail).

IMAGE / HISTORYARCHIVE.ORG

folklore and ritual practices, James showed Ojibwe leadership to be active political citizens using eloquence and moral appeal to direct change in their own jurisdictions. James, whose family still runs Monument Farms Dairy in Weybridge, is now the focus of latter-day recognition as an environmental and social justice writer and a fine scholar of Algonquian languages.

Nevins in her talk extends the scale of community represented in Todd Bartel's collage that is included in the Sheldon exhibit, "A Group of Nations Claiming Unity of

Purpose or Common Interest," from Addison County to the United States and beyond.

Nevins is an Associate Professor of Anthropology at Middlebury College and a writer in the Americanist tradition of Anthropology and Linguistics. She is the author of "Lessons from Fort Apache: Beyond Language Endangerment and Maintenance" and "Worldmaking Stories: Maidu Language, Land and Community Renewal on a Shared California Landscape."

For more info visit henrysheldonmuseum.org/events. All talks are free with museum admission and always free for museum members and students.

The Henry Sheldon Museum is located at 1 Park Street in downtown Middlebury. The museum is open Wednesday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; the Research Center is open Thursday and Friday, 1-4 p.m., by appointment.



Basin Harbor

ROCK THE DOCK

THE GOLDEN HOUR SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

Free live music at the North Dock on Wednesdays while summer lasts. The show starts at 7pm.

AUGUST 23: SANCTUARY

AUGUST 30: NEON RAMBLERS



FARRELL

SPONSORED BY:



Find out more at BasinHarbor.com/music



TAVERN
ON THE TEE

Locally-sourced food and delicious cocktails served on the best patio in town with mountain views. Live music on Sundays.

OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK 11 A.M. TO 7 P.M.
317 GOLF COURSE ROAD, MIDDLEBURY, VT

ART ON EXHIBIT

ART ON MAIN

25 Main Street, Bristol

Call 802-453-4032, email aom@gmavt.net or visit artonmainvt.com for more info.

"The Printmaker & The Potter" featuring work by Carol MacDonald and Kileh Friedman. An artist reception and talk will be held on Friday, Aug. 25, from 5-7 p.m. at the gallery. On view Aug. 11-Sept. 5.

DAVIS FAMILY LIBRARY

110 Storrs Ave, Middlebury

Call 802-443-5494 for more info.

"Pop-Up Books." A new exhibit of pop-up books has been installed in the Davis Family Library atrium at Middlebury College. This exhibit was curated by Middlebury College student Anne Lofgren, class of 2023. On view through the summer.

"Infinite Essence." Photography by Mikael Owunna shows Black models photographed in complete darkness with their bodies meticulously adorned with fluorescent paints that glow under ultraviolet light. On view Aug. 8-18.

EDGEWATER AT THE FALLS

1 Mill Street, Middlebury

Visit edgewatergallery.com, call 802-458-0098 or email info@edgewatergallery-vt.com for more info.

"Rejoicing in Color." This solo exhibition of paintings by Philip Frey, continues his exploration of the landscape, coastal Maine and interior spaces that resemble the summer houses that Frey remembers from childhood. Frey has established himself as a leader amongst Maine landscape painters, known for his bold approach to color, dynamic and intentional brushwork and the interplay he creates between representation and the abstract. On view July 22-Sept. 5.

EDGEWATER ON THE GREEN

6 Merchants Row, Middlebury

Visit edgewatergallery.com, call 802-989-7419 or email info@edgewatergallery-vt.com for more info.

"Capturing the Moments," a solo exhibition of new work by Margaret Gerding. Through her skillfully added detail and accents of vivid color the viewer feels the excitement of a fleeting, breathtaking moment in a New England day. On view Aug. 19-Sept. 26.

LITTLE SEED COFFEE

24 Merchants Row, Middlebury

For more info visit littleseed.coffee

"Photography show" featuring photography work from the islands of Hydra and Poros, Greece, by local artists Steven and Kyle Querrey. Work will be on view through September.

SEE EXHIBITS ON PAGE 14



ARIES: March 21/April 20. It is time to recharge your batteries this week, Aries. It may be challenging to slow down, but that is just what you need to do or you are going to run out of steam on your next project.

TAURUS: April 21/May 21. Early on this week you may start out in a bit of a funk, Taurus. That all will change with some words from a friend that will help your mood bounce in the other direction.

GEMINI: May 22/June 21. Gemini, the side of your brain responsible for pragmatism has been working overtime. You are ready to solve any problems and find answers to most questions.

CANCER: June 22/July 22. Cooperation from others has been hard to come by lately, Cancer. That could lead to some conflicts along the way. Collectively you will have to find some middle ground.

LEO: July 23/Aug. 23. You could be focused on things in the past this week, Leo. This could start you on a trek to track down mementos in a home or to visit an antiques shop to make some purchases.

VIRGO: Aug. 24/Sept. 22. Virgo, there is still a lot to learn, but you have the time right now to pay attention to everyone around you to glean what you can. Never stop gathering information.

LIBRA: Sept. 23/Oct. 23. Even if others make suggestions, use your own judgement regarding how to spend time this week, Libra. You may want to eschew all responsibilities for something fun.

SCORPIO: Oct. 24/Nov. 22. Seek new places for any sort of inspiration, Scorpio. You never know what you may uncover unless you visit new places instead of your old haunts. Start exploring this week.

SAGITTARIUS: Nov. 23/Dec. 21. Some outside energy has muted your normally boisterous personality, Sagittarius. You may want to skip out on social scenes and spend some time at home in the coming days.

CAPRICORN: Dec. 22/Jan. 20. Strong opinions rule the day, so convincing others could be especially difficult in the days ahead. Wait some time and then try again, Capricorn.

AQUARIUS: Jan. 21/Feb. 18. Aquarius, there will be some measure of public speaking or performance in your near future, and it is likely giving you a bit nervous. No one will judge you, so try to lighten up.

PISCES: Feb. 19/March 20. Pisces, you could encounter more oddballs than normal in your daily routines. From customers making scenes to quirky coworkers, you might need to be patient and open-minded.

Learn to Knit!
Saturday, September 2nd
2:30-4:30
Visit our site for more information

Tues-Thurs 11am-5pm
Fri 11-7pm, Sat 10am-5pm
Sun 12-4pm • Closed Mon

HERMIT THRUSH
FIBER CO. 25a Main St.
BRISTOL • VT

453-7799
hermitthrushfiberco.com

Middlebury
FLORAL & GIFTS

Sometimes
JUST BECAUSE
is the best reason!

Mon.-Fri. 9-5:30, Sat. 10-2 • Rt. 7 So., Middlebury
802-388-2800 • www.middleburyfloralandgifts.com

Your **local** Source for

- Sewing Machines
- Vacuum Cleaners
- Sewing Machine and Vacuum Service & Repair
- Sewing & Quilting Classes
- Quilting Fabric

QUILTERS' CORNER
MIDDLEBURY SEW-N-VAC
260 Court Street, Middlebury, Vt. 05753
802-388-3559 www.middleburysewnvac.com
OPEN: M-F 10-5 and Saturday 9:30-4

FAMOUS BIRTHDAYS

AUG. 17 — V. S. Naipaul, author, Nobel-Laureate (d)
AUG. 18 — Roberto Clemente, baseball player (d)

AUG. 19 — Coco Chanel, designer (d)
AUG. 20 — Jonathan Ke Quan, actor (52)
AUG. 21 — Joe Strummer, guitarist (d)
AUG. 22 — Kristen Wiig, actor, comedian (50)
AUG. 23 — Jeremy Lin, basketball player (35)

CALENDAR

AUGUST 17-27
2023

THURSDAY, AUG. 17

LECTURE BY JENNIFER FINNEY BOYLAN, "THE HEISENBERG VARIATIONS: INVENTION, REVISION, AND UNCERTAINTY" IN RIPTON. Thursday, Aug. 17, 9 a.m., Little Theater, Bread Loaf campus, Route 125. Part of the Bread Loaf Writer's Conference. Free and open to the public. More info at 802-443-5286.

FIBER ARTS DEMONSTRATION IN MIDDLEBURY. Thursday, Aug. 17, 1-3 p.m. Henry Sheldon Museum, One Park St. Bruce Yelton will demonstrate hand carding, spinning and the natural dying process with wool. He comes from a long line of textile workers; in his first job after college, he worked in the craft industry, winning several awards. After his retirement in 2015, Bruce returned to his passion for the fiber arts and enjoys sharing his skills with others. Free with museum admission. For more information visit henrysheldonmuseum.org/events or call 802-388-2117.

READINGS BY JAY GAO, MICIAH BAY GAULT, AND JOSEPH EARL THOMAS IN RIPTON. Thursday, Aug. 17, 4:15 p.m., Little Theater, Bread Loaf campus, Route 125. Part of the Bread Loaf Writer's Conference. Free and open to the public. More info at 802-443-5286.

MICHELLE FAY BAND AND PIZZA IN GOSHEN. Thursday, Aug. 17, 5-7:30 p.m., Blueberry Hill Outdoor Center, Goshen Rd. Community Pizza night features pizza, soft drinks and live music \$37 per person/\$27 for kids 11 and under/kids 5 and under free. Advanced reservations appreciated. Blueberryhillinn.com/pizza.

NONSENSE CONCERT IN LINCOLN. Thursday, Aug. 17, 7 p.m., Lincoln Library. Local folksinger Ted Wesley will provide an exploration of the fantastical verses of Edward Lear and Lewis Carroll set to original music for

voice and guitar by Wesley. Bring a blanket or a chair as this event will take place on the porch. In case of rain, this presentation will be held inside the library.

"ARMS AND THE MAN" ON STAGE IN MIDDLEBURY. Thursday, Aug. 17, 7 p.m., Town Hall Theater, 68 S. Pleasant St. THT Young Company Classical presents an all-female identifying production of Bernard Shaw's "Arms and the Man." Set in the 1890s, this delightful and satiric comedy presents and ensemble cast and a world filled with juicy characters and fast-paced comic banter. Tickets \$15 adults/\$10 children 12 and under/\$25 generous to benefit THT's scholarship program. More info at townhalltheater.org.

"WALLY'S CAFÉ" ON STAGE IN VERGENNES. Thursday, Aug. 17, 7:30 p.m., Vergennes Opera House, 120 Main St. Middlebury Community Player's Company Be presents this play by Sam Bobick & Ron Clark, a three-character gag-filled comedy about Wally, a man who buys a café on the wrong side of the road that goes to Las Vegas. Show repeats Aug. 18, 19 and 20.

READINGS BY GERARDO SÁMANO CÓRDOVA, PATRICK PHILLIPS, AND TIPHANIE YANIQUE IN RIPTON. Thursday, Aug. 17, 8:15 p.m., Little Theater, Bread Loaf campus, Route 125. Part of the Bread Loaf Writer's Conference. Free and open to the public. More info at 802-443-5286.

FRIDAY, AUG. 18

LECTURE BY TOMÁS Q. MORÍN, "TALKING BACK: HOMAGE AND ITS USES" IN RIPTON. Friday, Aug. 18, 9 a.m., Little Theater, Bread Loaf campus, Route 125. Part of the Bread Loaf Writer's Conference. Free and open to the public. More info at 802-443-5286.

GEORGE MATTHEW JR. carillonneur in Middlebury.

Friday, Aug. 18, 3 p.m., Middlebury College Chapel, 75 Hepburn Rd. Matthew, carillonneur at Middlebury College and Norwich University, will perform in the Middlebury Chapel's bell tower, soaring high above the College campus. The melodic sounds of the carillon bells are a staple of summer life on the Middlebury College campus. Bring a lawn chair or a blanket! Free.

READINGS BY ALICE ELLIOTT DARK AND MATTHEW OLZMANN IN RIPTON. Friday, Aug. 18, 4:15 p.m., Little Theater, Bread Loaf campus, Route 125. Part of the Bread Loaf Writer's Conference. Free and open to the public. More info at 802-443-5286.

ZOE FITZGERALD CARTER AND PIZZA IN GOSHEN. Friday, Aug. 18, 5-7:30 p.m., Blueberry Hill Outdoor Center, Goshen Rd. Community Pizza night features pizza, soft drinks and live music \$37 per person/\$27 for kids 11 and under/kids 5 and under free. Advanced reservations appreciated. Blueberryhillinn.com/pizza.

"THE TEN COMMANDMENTS" ON SCREEN IN BRANDON. Friday, Aug. 18, 7 p.m., Brandon Town Hall, 1 Conant Sq. Long before Charlton Heston played Moses in Technicolor, director Cecil B. DeMille filmed this silent blockbuster on a grand scale. Many say it surpasses the remake. See it for yourself as we celebrate the 100th anniversary of the film's original release. Free will donation.

"ARMS AND THE MAN" ON STAGE IN MIDDLEBURY. Friday, Aug. 18, 7 p.m., Town Hall Theater, 68 S. Pleasant St. See Aug. 17 listing.

"WALLY'S CAFÉ" ON STAGE IN VERGENNES. Friday, Aug. 18, 7:30 p.m., Vergennes Opera House, 120 Main St. See Aug. 17 listing.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

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.					
MCTV Channel 1071 Friday, August 18 Through the Night: Public Affairs 6:30 a.m. Energy Week 7:30 a.m. Congregational Church 10 a.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs 4 p.m. Memorial Baptist Church 5:30 p.m. Selectboard, Governor's Press Conference Saturday, August 19 Through the Night: Public Affairs 7:30 a.m. Gov. Scott, Public Affairs 10 a.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs 4 p.m. Memorial Baptist Service 5:30 p.m. Eckankar 6 p.m. Energy Week 7 p.m. Catholic Mass 7:30 p.m. Gov. Scott 8:30 p.m. Selectboard 10:30 p.m. Dr. John Campbell, Public Affairs Sunday, August 20 Through the Night: Public Affairs 5 a.m. Gov. Scott, Public Affairs 7 a.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs 9 a.m. Catholic Mass 10 a.m. Energy Week 11 a.m. Memorial Baptist Service 12:30 p.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs 4 p.m. Congregational Service		5:30 p.m. Dr. John Campbell 6:30 p.m. Eckankar 7 p.m. Catholic Mass 7:30 p.m. Ilsley Library Expansion Project Presentation Monday, August 21 Through the Night: Public Affairs 8 a.m. Gov. Scott, Public Affairs 10 a.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs 8 p.m. Dr. John Campbell 9:30 p.m. Eckankar 10 p.m. Gov. Scott, Public Affairs Tuesday, August 22 Through the Night: Public Affairs 6 a.m. Gov. Scott, Public Affairs 8:30 a.m. Energy Week 9:30 a.m. Eckankar 10 a.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs 4 p.m. Congregational Service 5:30 p.m. Dr. John Campbell 7 p.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs Wednesday, August 23 Through the Night: Public Affairs 5 a.m. Gov. Scott, Public Affairs 6:30 a.m. Energy Week 7:30 a.m. Memorial Baptist Service 9:30 a.m. Catholic Mass 10 a.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs 5 p.m. Energy Week 7 p.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs		Thursday, August 24 Through the Night: Public Affairs 5 a.m. Dr. John Campbell 8 a.m. Congregational Service 11 a.m. Energy Week 12 p.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs 9:30 p.m. Eckankar 10 p.m. Green Mountain Care Board Channel 1091 Friday, August 18 5 a.m. All Things LGBTQ 6 a.m. Kindergarten Parent Orientation 6:42 a.m. Ilsley Library Expansion 7:31 a.m. GMALL Lecture 12 p.m. Lake Champlain Story Telling 5 p.m. All Things LGBTQ 6 p.m. Fairbanks Museum & Planetarium - Night Owl Club 7:15 a.m. Author Talks and Interviews 8:30 p.m. First Wednesday - Charity and Sylvia 9:43 p.m. Lake Champlain Stories Saturday, August 19 6 a.m. All Things LGBTQ 7 a.m. Night Owl Club 8:15 a.m. Charity and Sylvia 10:10 p.m. Ilsley Library Expansion 12 p.m. Night Owl Club		1:15 p.m. Kindergarten Parent Orientation 2 p.m. GMALL Lecture 3:30 p.m. Ilsley Library Expansion 6 a.m. Music Around Vermont 10:43 p.m. Night Owl Club Sunday, August 20 5 a.m. Music from Around Vermont 7 a.m. Fairbanks Museum & Planetarium - Night Owl Club 11:30 a.m. Our Gardens 12 p.m. Ilsley Library Expansion 2 p.m. School Boards, State Board of Education 5 p.m. Our Gardens 6 p.m. All Things LGBTQ 7 p.m. Save Your Family Treasures 8:04 p.m. Charity and Sylvia Monday, August 21 5 a.m. Lake Champlain Story Telling 7:09 a.m. Civil Discussion - Guest, Rabbi Michael Cohen 7:39 a.m. Ethan Allen Homestead 9:48 a.m. The Tenderbellies at Richmond Round Church 11:30 a.m. The Story Matters 12 p.m. School Boards, State Board of Education 5 p.m. Our Gardens 6 p.m. All Things LGBTQ 7 p.m. Lake Champlain Story Telling		9:30 p.m. Holocaust History - Vermont Holocaust Memorial Tuesday, August 22 5:30 a.m. Chair Yoga 6:30 a.m. Music Around Vermont 8 a.m. Author Talks and Interviews 3 p.m. School Boards, State Board of Education 10 p.m. Music around Vermont Wednesday, August 23 5:30 a.m. The Story Matters: Francois Clemmons 6 a.m. All Things LGBTQ 7 a.m. Author Talks and Interviews 11:30 a.m. Francois Clemmons 12 p.m. Music around Vermont 5 p.m. Lake Champlain Story Telling 7:10 p.m. School Board, State Board of Education Thursday, August 24 7 a.m. Author Talks and Interviews 9 a.m. Yoga 10 a.m. Food & Cooking Programs 12 p.m. School Board Meetings 5 p.m. Yoga 6 p.m. Ilsley Library Expansion 9 p.m. All Things LGBTQ 10 p.m. Ilsley Library Expansion	

READINGS BY MATTHEW BAKER, ERIN BELIEU, AND LAUREN FRANCIS-SHARMA IN RIPTON. Friday, Aug. 18, 8:15 p.m., Little Theater, Bread Loaf campus, Route 125. Part of the Bread Loaf Writer's Conference. Free and open to the public. More info at 802-443-5286.

SATURDAY, AUG. 19

GREEN MOUNTAIN CLUB HIKES IN ADDISON COUNTY FOR LONG TRAIL DAY. Saturday, Aug. 19. Take part in hikes in Middlebury, Lincoln, Ripton, and Buel's Gore. See details about the hikes online at gmcbreadloaf.org.

LECTURE BY ELISA GABBERT, "THE ESSAY AS REALM: ON STRUCTURE AND MOOD" IN RIPTON. Saturday, Aug. 19, 9 a.m., Little Theater, Bread Loaf campus, Route 125. Part of the Bread Loaf Writer's Conference. Free and open to the public. More info at 802-443-5286.

MOUNT INDEPENDENCE-HUBBARDTON MILITARY ROAD CAR TOUR IN HUBBARTON. Saturday, Aug. 19, 10 a.m.-1 p.m., Hubbardton Battlefield State Historic Site, 5696 Monument Hill Rd. Jim Rowe, historian of the Crown Point Road Association, is your leader to look at the Hydeville Branch of the 1776 Mount Independence-Hubbardton Military Road. Meet at the Hubbardton Battlefield with your own vehicle for orientation. The tour will travel north from Hydeville through west Castleton to eastern Benson.

MUSHROOM EXPLORATION WALK IN ORWELL. Saturday, Aug. 19, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Mount Independence State Historic Site, 497 Mt. Independence Rd. Mushroom expert Meg Madden is back to lead another mushroom exploration walk. Look for and learn about mushrooms on Mount Independence. Reserve your space by calling ahead, 802-948-2000. Space is limited. Wear comfortable walking shoes and dress for the weather. Admission \$8 adults/\$1 age 6 to 14/children under 6 free, includes museum and all trails.

LECTURE BY KAMRAN JAVADIZADEH IN RIPTON. Saturday, Aug. 19, 1:15 p.m., Little Theater, Bread Loaf campus, Route 125. Part of the Bread Loaf Writer's Conference. Free and open to the public. More info at 802-443-5286.

READINGS BY MAGGIE MILLNER, MONICA WEST, AND DEAN BAKOPOULOS IN RIPTON. Saturday, Aug. 19, 4:15 p.m., Little Theater, Bread Loaf campus, Route 125. Part of the Bread Loaf Writer's Conference. Free and open to the public. More info at 802-443-5286.

"WALLY'S CAFÉ" ON STAGE IN VERGENNES. Saturday, Aug. 19, 7:30 p.m., Vergennes Opera House, 120 Main St. See Aug. 17 listing.

"WHERE THE RIVERS FLOW NORTH" ON SCREEN IN FERRISBURGH. Saturday, Aug. 19, 7:30 p.m., Ferrisburgh Town Hall, 3279 Route 7. Vermont filmmaker Jay Craven will offer a special screening of his award-winning film with a Q & A to follow. The film tells the story of an old logger, Noel Lord, and his Native American mate, Bangor, who face the extinction of their way of life when the local power company plans to build a giant hydro dam that will flood them off their land. Tickets, \$10, available at unionmeetinghall.org or \$10 cash at door. Light refreshments will be served.

READINGS BY VICTORIA CHANG AND JESS ROW IN RIPTON. Saturday, Aug. 19, 8:15 p.m., Little Theater, Bread Loaf campus, Route 125. Part of the Bread Loaf Writer's Conference. Free and open to the public. More info at 802-443-5286.

TOP PICK

IT'S BREAD LOAF WRITER'S CONFERENCE TIME! CHECK OUT ALL THE FREE READINGS AND LECTURES HAPPENING UP IN RIPTON. MOST ARE FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.

SUNDAY, AUG. 20

LECTURE BY TIPHANIE YANIQUE, "FOR REAL: WRITING CHARACTERS OF COLOR, AND STAYING IN YOUR OWN INTEGRITY OF CHARACTER" IN RIPTON. Sunday, Aug. 20, 9 a.m., Little Theater, Bread Loaf campus, Route 125. Part of the Bread Loaf Writer's Conference. Free and open to the public. More info at 802-443-5286.

CHAMPLAIN VALLEY FIDDLERS FIDDLE JAM IN BRANDON. Sunday, Aug. 20, 11 a.m.-4 p.m., Brandon American Legion, Franklin St. Come and bring your dancing shoes. \$3 cover charge, 50/50 raffle, door prize and refreshments. Know of fiddler? Have them join us.

EXHIBIT TALK IN FERRISBURGH. Sunday, Aug. 20, 1 p.m., Rokeby Museum, 4334 Route 7. Curator John Vincent from A Revolutionary Press will give a gallery talk on Rokeby's new exhibit, "Finding Hope Within: Healing & Transformation through the Making of Art within the Carceral System." On display is artwork created by artists from within a Carceral facility or through collaboration between an artist on the "inside" and an allied artist on the outside who may have access to a wider range of mediums and tools. Each piece speaks to the ideas of healing, forgiveness, and growth. \$5 fee includes museum admission.

READINGS BY SINDYA BHANOO, AMANDA GUNN, AND DAVID TREUER IN RIPTON. Sunday, Aug. 20, 4:15 p.m., Little Theater, Bread Loaf campus, Route 125. Part of the Bread Loaf Writer's Conference. Free and open to the public. More info at 802-443-5286.

"WALLY'S CAFÉ" ON STAGE IN VERGENNES. Sunday, Aug. 20, 2 p.m., Vergennes Opera House, 120 Main St. See Aug. 17 listing.

LOCAL SONGWRITERS' ROUNDTABLE FEATURING ETHAN BRUCE NELSON, NOBLE HIERARCH AND EMILY NELSON IN CORNWALL. Sunday, Aug. 20, 5-7 p.m., 14 Audet Rd. West Cornwall Backyard concert series. No entry fee, freewill cash donation graciously accepted. Shady J's BBQ on site. Music, food and fantastic sunset.

READINGS BY CARL PHILLIPS AND EMILY RABOTEAU IN RIPTON. Sunday, Aug. 20, 8:15 p.m., Little Theater, Bread Loaf campus, Route 125. Part of the Bread Loaf Writer's Conference. Free and open to the public. More info at 802-443-5286.

MONDAY, AUG. 21

LECTURE BY JESS ROW, "THE STRUCTURE OF A STORY COMPARED TO A BUBBLE" IN RIPTON. Monday, Aug. 21, 11 a.m., Little Theater, Bread Loaf campus, Route 125. Part of the Bread Loaf Writer's Conference. Free and open to the public. More info at 802-443-5286.

BOOK LAUNCH IN MONKTON. Monday, Aug. 21, 1-3:30 p.m., East Monkton Church, 4843 Church Rd. Come to the launch of the new 50-page booklet "East Monkton, Vermont: A History of Its Land and People." Festivities include: a self-guided tour of the East Monkton Church, an invitation to contribute to a puzzle about why we save the past, and a tour of the East Monkton Cemetery. The print copy of the booklet will be available for purchase.

READINGS BY RACHEL BEANLAND, JANINE JOSEPH, AND TOMÁS Q. Morin in Ripton. Monday, Aug. 21, 4:15 p.m., Little Theater, Bread Loaf campus, Route 125. Part of the Bread Loaf Writer's Conference. Free and open to the public. More info at 802-443-5286.

READINGS BY VIEVEE FRANCIS AND LAURA VAN DEN BERG IN RIPTON. Monday, Aug. 21, 8:15 p.m., Little Theater, Bread Loaf campus, Route 125. Part of the Bread Loaf Writer's Conference. Free and open to the public. More info at 802-443-5286.

TUESDAY, AUG. 22

LECTURE BY ERIN BELIEU, "FLINGING THE SOUL: ON NEGATIVE CAPABILITY AND THE CREATIVE PROCESS" IN RIPTON. Tuesday, Aug. 22, 9 a.m., Little Theater, Bread Loaf campus, Route 125. Part of the Bread Loaf Writer's Conference. Free and open to the public. More info at 802-443-5286.

READINGS BY JORI LEWIS, JAMES DAVIS MAY, JANIKA OZA, AND CALEB TANKERSLEY IN RIPTON. Tuesday, Aug. 22, 4:15 p.m., Little Theater, Bread Loaf campus, Route 125. Part of the Bread Loaf Writer's Conference. Free and open to the public. More info at 802-443-5286.

READINGS BY JENNIFER GROTZ AND PAUL YOON IN RIPTON. Tuesday, Aug. 22, 8:15 p.m., Little Theater, Bread Loaf campus, Route 125. Part of the Bread Loaf Writer's Conference. Free and open to the public. More info at 802-443-5286.

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 23

LECTURE BY DAVID TREUER, "HOW TO MAKE (THEM) BELIEVE: URGENCY, THE OTHER, AND POINT OF VIEW IN FICTION AND NONFICTION" IN RIPTON. Wednesday, Aug. 23, 9 a.m., Little Theater, Bread Loaf campus, Route 125. Part of the Bread Loaf Writer's Conference. Free and open to the public. More info at 802-443-5286.

"SUCH TREATISES MAY BE FOUND ELSEWHERE': UNCOVERING MIDDLEBURY'S LEGACY FOR THE RECOGNITION OF NATIVE AMERICAN VOICES AND LANDS" IN MIDDLEBURY. Wednesday, Aug. 23, noon, Henry Sheldon Museum, 1 Park St. Marybeth Eleanor Nevins, Associate Professor of Anthropology at Middlebury College, will present a study in contrast between two early 19th-century Middlebury College students Henry Rowe Schoolcraft and Edwin James, who each, separately, would participate in expeditions West and write accounts of the Native Americans they encountered. More info at henrysheldonmuseum.org/ events.

READING BY SIGRID NUNEZ IN RIPTON. Wednesday, Aug. 23, 4:15 p.m., Little Theater, Bread Loaf campus, Route 125. Part of the Bread Loaf Writer's Conference. Free and open to the public. More info at 802-443-5286.

MIDDLEBURY NEW FILMMAKERS FESTIVAL OPENING NIGHT IN MIDDLEBURY. Wednesday, Aug. 23, 7 p.m., Town Hall Theater, 68 S. Pleasant St. MNFF's opening night will feature the film "Dusty & Stones"

SEE CALENDAR ON PAGE 15

FILM SCREENING

Where the Rivers Flow North: A reunion with an old friend

It's been 30 years since I was on the road, touring my film, "Where the Rivers Flow North" — but I'm looking forward to a special screening, 7:30 p.m., Saturday, Aug. 19, at the Ferrisburgh Town Hall.

Back during our initial tour, we played Vermont all winter. We'd just gotten back from our Sundance premiere — and there was lots of snow. But we never cancelled a tour date, even when we played Manhattan during a 16-inch blizzard. Audiences were fabulous — and we didn't have that much Hollywood competition. "Ace Ventura: Pet Detective" was in theaters and pretty big — but that was a mostly different crowd.

Opening night for the film was on all nine-screens, simultaneously, at the Palace 9 in South Burlington. The film's stars, Rip Torn and Tantoo Cardinal, were both there, along with writer Howard Frank Mosher and the musicians from the Ithaca-based Horse Flies, who composed and performed the score and played a steamy dance concert after our screenings — at Burlington's Memorial Auditorium.

I will always remember one story from this Vermont premiere. It involves then-Governor Howard Dean who asked to visit our film set during the time Michael J. Fox was with us. Michael played a pushy power company executive who wants to evict Rip Torn's logger, Noel Lord, from his land.

We were delighted the Governor wanted to



BY JAY
CRAVEN

join us so we cast him and his kids as 1920's extras for a scene outside the St. Johnsbury train station. In it, Michael chews out his hapless underling power dam manager, played by the always-great Bill Raymond. Then Michael muscles his manager's 1927 Packard and drives off with it, leaving his underling in the dust.

The Governor and his kids walked behind Michael while he yelled at Bill Raymond. Michael then jumped in the car and drove off. Everything went OK except that Michael floored the Packard and stripped its gears that were made of a hard canvas. Our fabulous car wrangler, James Warden, popped into action and made a magical fix — and we were back in business for Take Two.

Pressed to tighten our film during the final weeks of editing, we decided the car stealing scene wasn't essential — and we cut it. I worried that Governor Dean would attend the opening and see that we'd cut him out of the film. Then his office called to say he'd be at the screening.

For this gala premiere, we were sold out and needed three 35mm film prints to be able to run the show on all nine screens. The film was to run on "platter" systems in the huge projection booth where our shiny celluloid was suspended in the air between projectors so it could run through one — then another and then another. Film spooled out all over the place during the length of all nine theaters. I'd never seen anything like it.

A problem developed, during the afternoon before our screening. Only two of the three film prints we needed arrived by Fed Ex, from our New York lab. My heart sank, then I remembered that we had one print back in our Barnet office, which was going to be used for the film's release in Japan. I drove back fast to



"Where the Rivers Flow North" will screen at the Ferrisburgh Town Hall on Saturday, Aug. 19, at 7:30 p.m.,

DETAILS

"WHERE THE RIVERS FLOW NORTH"
FERRISBURGH TOWN HALL
SATURDAY, AUG. 19, AT 7:30 P.M.

Based on the novel of Vermont writer, Howard Frank Mosher, "Where the Rivers Flow North," stars Academy Award nominee Rip Torn, Native American actress Tantoo Cardinal ("Dances with Wolves," "Legends of the Fall," Martin Scorsese's "Killers of the Flower Moon"), and Michael J. Fox.

Set in 1927 in Vermont's Northeast Kingdom, "Where the Rivers Flow North" tells the story of an old logger, Noel Lord, and his Native American mate, Bangor, who face the extinction of their way of life when the local power company plans to build a giant hydro dam that will flood them off their land. Lord and Bangor face emotional and physical challenges as they struggle with the power company, Vermont's unforgiving terrain, and their own thorny relationship.

our home office in my '87 Saab to retrieve the print.

I managed to get back to the theater with no more than 10 minutes to spare. The projectionist scrambled to load the print — and the show started on time. The actors went with Bess and me, from theater to theater, making introductory remarks.

Then we came to the theater where Governor Dean and his family were seated. "Guess what?" I said to the full-house crowd. "We cut the scene where Governor Dean and his family appear as extras, with Michael J. Fox."

Dean grimaced and a noticeable groan went up from the audience. "But we have a surprise. Fed Ex failed to deliver all the prints we needed for tonight's show — so we retrieved one print from back in the Northeast Kingdom that's headed to Japan, where we're required by contract to have 12 minutes of Michael J. Fox on screen. So, for this one screening in this one theater — you will see the cut scene restored, with Governor Dean."

A cheer went up.

And so it was, in that one theater, for that one and only U.S. screening — of the Japanese version of the film — the audience saw Michael J. Fox, Howard Dean and the 1927 blue Packard.

PUZZLES

sponsored by SPARROW ART SUPPLY

ACROSS

1. Civil rights organization

5. Calendar month (abbr.)

8. Monetary unit of Burma

11. Twyla __, US dancer

13. Everything included

14. "Antman" actor Rudd

15. Italian city

16. Nowhere to be found

17. Mild yellow Dutch cheese made in balls

18. Turkish officer

20. Perform on stage

21. Ribosomal ribonucleic acid

22. Canadian coastal provinces
25. Furnishes anew

30. Edible mollusk

31. No seats available

32. Garden figurine

33. Two-legged support

38. Rest here please (abbr.)

41. In a silly way

43. One from the Golden State

45. Photographers

48. Native religion in parts of China

49. Dickens character

50. Broadway actress

55. Ancient Greek sophist

56. Undivided

57. Daniel __, French composer
59. Nocturnal S. American rodent

60. Rusty

61. Jewish spiritual leader

62. Patti Hearst's captors

63. Popular global holiday (abbr.)

64. Tall, slender plant

DOWN

1. Defunct US energy company
2. Fellow
3. It's issued from volcanoes
4. Type of acid
5. Winged nut
6. Arouses
7. Things are served on it

1	2	3	4			5	6	7		8	9	10
11				12			13			14		
15							16			17		
	18				19		20			21		
					22	23				24		
25	26	27	28	29								
30								31				
32										33	34	35
					38	39	40		41	42		
					43			44				
	45	46	47									
48						49			50	51	52	53
55						56				57		58
59						60				61		
62						63				64		

			7			9	2	4
			9	3				
				8	6			
	1	5				8		
							7	
	9		5	6				1
3		8						9
2	7							8
			4				3	

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

8. San Diego ballplayer

9. Currency and a Chinese dynasty

10. __ mater, one's school

12. Exclamation that denotes disgust

14. Hairstyle

19. Supreme ancient Egyptian god

23. They __

24. Connecting line on a map

25. Mock

26. One point north of due east
27. Chinese philosophical principle

28. Type of tree

29. Persuade to do something

34. A place for travelers to rest

35. National Gallery of Art designer

36. Panamanian province

37. Field force unit (abbr.)

39. Whalers' tool

40. Simply

41. Nigerian City
42. Not one

44. Obstruct

45. Political plot

46. Manila hemp plant

47. Dough made from corn flour

48. Fishes by letting the bob fly

51. Swiss river

52. Plant that makes gum

53. A French abbot

54. One point east of northeast

58. Get free of

This week's puzzle solutions can be found on Page 11.



52 Main St
Middlebury, VT 05753
(802) 989-7225

Tuesday-Saturday
10:30 AM - 5:30 PM

info@sparrowartsupply.com
sparrowartsupply.com
@sparrowartsupply

SUBMIT YOUR ARTWORK
TO OUR NEXT SHOW!

Dive into the realm of size and scale! We're seeking both monumental masterpieces and tiny intricate miniatures. This theme can also be approached in regard to subject matter, featuring a totally magnified composition or a zoomed out view of the world. We encourage artists to immerse themselves in an artful interplay of dimension, detail, proportion, and point of view. Unleash your creativity with this equally colossal and minuscule prompt!

DEADLINE TO ENTER: SEPTEMBER 3

Enter your work at sparrowartsupply.com

CALL TO ARTISTS CALL TO ARTISTS CALL TO ARTISTS CALL TO ARTISTS

MACRO

micro

CALL TO ARTISTS CALL TO ARTISTS CALL TO ARTISTS CALL TO ARTISTS



Pets In Need HOMeward BOUND

Addison County's Humane Society

Ellington

Ellington is soon to be 10 years old and was brought to us as a stray. She is super affectionate and loves to give kisses! Ellington can be a little shy at first, but quickly warms up. She gets along with cats but is cautious with dogs. She might be okay with a slow introduction to a quiet, cat-friendly dog.



Lightning

Lightning is a big, loveable goof who we estimate to be 7 years old. He was a neighborhood stray after his owner had passed away and was finally caught and brought to us. Lightning is super happy to be indoors and loves the pampering he gets from staff and volunteers. He gets along well with cats and is cautious with dogs, but should be okay with a slow introduction.

Savvy

Savvy is a sweet 1-year-old who was found abandoned with her brother. She quickly comes running for affection and always has a puffy tail even when she is happy. Savvy has not gotten along with cats here at the shelter but might do well with a dog if given the proper introduction.



Ari

Ari is a 3-month-old female rat who is a little shy to new faces, but once she gets to know you she is a loyal, endearing shoulder rider. She is curious and energetic and needs lots of things to climb on in her cage as rats are expert climbers and it helps to release some energy! Ari has not lived with children or other animals aside from

other rats, but she should warm up to kids as long as they are quiet, calm, and slow-moving with her. She loves to cuddle and will nestle up with you. Chewing on her favorite treats such as apple sticks and lava chews is a favorite pastime. Rats are social creatures and need other rats to live healthy lives.

Leah

Leah is a 36-pound Australian Shepherd mix with a sweet personality. She is 2 years old and very energetic. She needs to be with an active family who can provide her with daily exercise. Leah is housebroken and walks well on a leash. She can be shy when meeting new people but will warm up quickly. Leah has lived with dogs and would benefit from being in a home with a dog friend, and is good with cats. She enjoys playing with toys and snuggling with her people. If you are looking for a medium-sized dog to take on outdoor adventures, Leah could be a good fit for your family!



Want to learn more?

Call or check our website. We may have a pet for you!
802-388-1100 | HomewardBoundAnimals.org
236 Boardman Street | Middlebury, VT

MNFF

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

ROLAND & MARY, A WINTER OF TOWING IN THE NORTHEAST KINGDOM THURSDAY, AUG. 24, 9 A.M. TWILIGHT HALL

Explore the lovingly contentious relationship behind legendary Vermont towing company Roland's Wrecker Service. Set to the stark backdrop of a Vermont winter, director Dillon Tanner rides along on calls with his camera as Roland and Mary take an honest look back on the trials of a difficult career, with the unflinching humor

and stubborn independence that pulled them through. Directed by Dillon Tanner.

VANISH — DISAPPEARING ICONS OF A RURAL AMERICA THURSDAY, AUG. 24, 11:30 A.M. DANA AUDITORIUM

A remarkable story of past and present, "Vanish" chronicles the "visual preservation" adventures of fine art photographer, Jim Westphalen, as he travels across the country seeking out and creating stunning imagery of America's disappearing rural structures. Road-trip with Westphalen as he races against time and the unrelenting elements to capture the extraordinary beauty of aging barns, one room schoolhouses, grain elevators, prairie churches and all the classic structures that our country's rural heritage was built upon. Directed by Jim Westphalen.

Four documentaries and a magical drama — all bearing a distinctive Vermont pedigree. The filmmakers for each film will be at the Fest, attending their screening and participating in a Q&A. And you'll find several Vermont-made shorts in the program as well: "Boom & Whoa! The Making of a Community within a Community," "Hormonal," Life In This Body, To Be Fair, White River Land Collaborative - A Seed for the Future and Winter in Vermont. As with the features, all the filmmakers of these shorts will be in attendance at MNFFg.

For tickets, fest passes and more visit middfilmfest.org.

Think of Agway when you think of your pets!

Proud to help you provide quality care for all of your pets, we know your animal companions are a central part of your life!

PET FOOD

ASK ABOUT OUR Pet Food Club
Earn rewards for your purchases!

Quality Brands Including:

Everything you need for pet support!

TOYS & TREATS

Accessories & Grooming Supplies

Leashes • Harnesses
Collars • Clothing
Food Dishes
Storage Bins
Beds & Baskets

Brushes, shampoos, skin treatment, ointments to keep your pets' coats healthy and problem free!

SELF SERVE

DOG WASH

Kennels, Dog Houses & Carrying Cases
Come in and check the variety we have in stock!

Large & Small Animal Products
Feed • Supplements • Training & Grooming Supplies
Cages, Foods, Treats & Bedding
Bird food, toys and cages
Basics for fish, too!

Wild Bird Supplies
Feeders, Seed & Suet, Houses & Accessories.

Join our email list for preferred customer savings!

MIDDLEBURY AGWAY

Open 7 days

338 Exchange Street, Middlebury
388-4937 • www.MiddleburyAgway.com
Mon - Fri 8-6 • Sat 8-5 • Sundays 9-4

YOUR YARD, GARDEN AND PET PLACE™ • www.middleburyagway.com

PROFESSIONAL DOG GROOMING
OVER 20 YEARS EXPERIENCE

Doggone Styles

by Pilar

We treat your pets like family!

\$5 OFF*
FOR ALL CUSTOMERS

802-388-2879
Located in the
Marble Works
Middlebury, VT

Like us on Facebook

*with coupon at time of payment — through 9/15/23

REAL ESTATE

The weather is hot and so is the market. Give us a call and we'll help you connect with Addison County homebuyers, sellers & professionals so you don't miss out on a sweet opportunity.

ads@addisonindependent.com

WE ARE NORTHWEST VERMONT

We take enormous pride in consistently outperforming the market averages - but even more importantly, our clients' expectations with a 99% satisfaction rating.

Contact us today to experience it for yourself.

Cornwall | \$575,000
Chris von Trapp
(802) 846-9525

Shoreham | \$649,000
Michael Johnston
(802) 846-9518

COLDWELL BANKER
HICKOK & BOARDMAN

HickokandBoardman.com/Addison-Love

guiding buyers & sellers
IRENE POOLE, REALTOR®

802-989-5563 | IreneVTRE.com

WALLACE REALTY
48 Mountain Terrace
Bristol, VT 05443
PH 802-453-4670 • FAX 802-453-5898
Visit our websites at:
www.wallacere.com
www.greenbuiltvermont.com

Please call Kelly, Claire, or Tom

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968 as amended which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, national origin, sexual orientation, or persons receiving public assistance, or an intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination."

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertisement for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination, call HUD Toll-free at 1-800-669-9777.

the REAL ESTATE COMPANY of VERMONT

Whether you're looking to sell or ready to buy, let one of our professional and knowledgeable agents get to work *for* YOU!

Jill Fraga
Broker/Realtor®

Danelle Birong
Broker/Realtor®

Orion Lazo
Salesperson/Realtor®

Tammy Petersen
Salesperson/Realtor®

www.theRealEstateCompanyVT.com
THREE MAIN STREET | BRISTOL, VERMONT 05443 | 802.453.6161

PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

AUG. 17, 2023

ADD YOUR PIECE!
BE THE NEXT SPONSOR OF THE PUZZLE PAGE.

EMAIL CHRISTY@ADDISONINDEPENDENT.COM TO FIND OUT HOW.

A	C	L	U		S	E	P		P	Y	A				
T	H	A	R	P		A	L	L		P	A	U	L		
P	A	V	I	A		M	I	A		E	D	A	M		
	P	A	C	H	A		A	C	T		R	R	N	A	
					M	A	R	I	T		I	M	E	S	
R	E	D	E	C	O	R	A	T	E	S					
A	B	A	L	O	N	E		S	R	O					
G	N	O	M	E						B	I	P	O	D	
					R	H	P		I	N	A	N	E	L	Y
					C	A	L	I	F	O	R	N	I	A	N
					C	A	M	E	R	A	M	E	N		
D	A	B	A		P	I	P		E	A	G	A	N		
A	B	A	S		O	N	E			A	U	B	E	R	
P	A	C	A		O	L	D			R	A	B	B	I	
S	L	A			N	Y	E			R	E	E	D		

6	8	3	7	5	1	9	2	4
1	2	7	9	3	4	6	8	5
9	5	4	2	8	6	7	1	3
7	1	5	3	4	2	8	9	6
4	3	6	8	1	9	5	7	2
8	9	2	5	6	7	3	4	1
3	4	8	1	7	5	2	6	9
2	7	1	6	9	3	4	5	8
5	6	9	4	2	8	1	3	7



2744 JERSEY STREET SOUTH, ADDISON
\$284,700

THE HOME

A LOOK INSIDE ADDISON COUNTY HOMES FOR SALE

Unique 1850s farmhouse full of potential

This classic three-bedroom, 1850s Vermont farmhouse is charming. The property is surrounded by open farmland and has lovely mountain views of the Adirondacks and the Green Mountains — there's plenty of space for a garden, too. Located close to Lake Champlain. The rooms in the house are open and spacious; there is one bedroom downstairs and two upstairs with an additional bonus room at the top of the main stairway. The house is in reasonable shape and has had improvements such as a new section of chimney and a full new flue liner, a new septic system to be installed before closing (designed by Jason Barnard). There are good systems in the house with windows that have been replaced, wiring that has been updated, a newer Buderus furnace and plenty of heating zones. This is a home with loads of potential for someone to bring it back to its original glory.


**Champlain Valley
Properties**

*This week's property is managed by Champlain Valley Properties.
More info at champlainvalleyproperty.net.*



EXHIBITS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE MUSEUM OF ART

72 Porter Field Rd, Middlebury

For more info visit middlebury.edu/museum/exhibitions.

"Tossed: Art from Discarded, Found and Repurposed Materials." "Tossed" brings together — both from Middlebury's collection and from other private and public collections — nearly 20 works that make use of discarded materials. On view through Dec. 10.

NORTHERN DAUGHTERS GALLERY

221 Main Street, Vergennes

Visit northerndaughters.com or call 802-877-2173

"Weathering" a solo exhibit by Bonnie Baird. Her show addresses the ways in which we endure and move through the challenges we face, emotional, logistical and other to weather the lives we have carved out in the world. On view Aug. 4-Sept. 15.

PHOTOPLACE GALLERY

3 Park Street, Middlebury

For more info visit photoplacegallery.com.

"Portrait: Self, Others," is a juried photo exhibit featuring portraits, self- or otherwise, that go beyond the surface to explore a deeper vision of the subject and, hopefully, draw an emotional response from the viewer. Juror Elizabeth Avedon selected approximately 35 images for exhibition in the Middlebury gallery, and 40 more for the online gallery. On view through Aug. 30.

SHELDON MUSEUM

1 Park Street, Middlebury

For more info visit henrysheldonmuseum.org

"Artists in the Archives: Unseen Neighbors: Community, History & Collage." Digital collages and three analog format collages by 23 artists from seven countries that reflect upon the idea of community in the 21st-century world are on view. The exhibit also includes displays of recently-discovered and acquired materials highlighting the presence of Native American, African American, and Asian peoples in the Middlebury area. On view May 13-Aug. 26.

"Variety Sew: A Sampling of Textile Tools and Devices." From the collections of the Sheldon Museum comes a plethora of sewing machines, a surfeit of spinning wheels, and a myriad of sewing paraphernalia to discover. Many of these items have not been on exhibit

for decades and have Middlebury and Addison County histories. On view May 13-Sept. 30.

"Stellar Stitching: 19th Century Vermont Samplers."

Features textiles as a learning tool through needlework samplers made exclusively by young girls in the 19th-century depicting alphabets, numerals and decorative elements. On view May 13-Jan. 13, 2024.

SPARROW ART SUPPLY

52 Main Street, Middlebury

Visit sparrowartsupply.com or call 802-989-7225 for more info.

"Faces & Places" featuring artwork by over 50 local artists. Come by to see painting, drawing, sculpture, photography and more. On view July 20-Sept. 2.

SUPPORT THE ARTS

SUBSCRIBE

DONATE

ADVERTISE

ADDISONINDEPENDENT.COM



70 Monkton Rd, Vergennes

This meticulously maintained, 2008-built ranch house in Vergennes offers convenient one-level living, including a large master suite with a private full bath. With a total of 3 bedrooms and 2 full baths, 1829 finished SF and 3658 total SF, there is lots of space for everyone. With motivated sellers and being in a prime location, this home is truly a must see! **\$544,900**

340 West Rd, Whiting

Well maintained 4 Star Energy Plus rated home with 3 bedrooms and 1 and 1/2 bath, with full walkout basement. Sit on the deck and enjoy views of the mountains and wonderful sunsets. Extra garage/barn to store your John Deere lawnmower, cart, and snowblower attachment which COMES with the house! Don't let this one get away from you! Book your appointment today! **\$349,900**



3149 South St, New Haven

Location, location, location! On South St in New Haven on 10+ acres with spectacular sunrises and moonrises over the protected Green Mountain View! Perfectly suited for multigenerational living with an in-law apartment in the walk-out lower level. The gourmet kitchen is all new with quartzite counters and new appliances, a cathedral ceiling, an eat-in dining area, and a bar as well as formal dining and a primary bedroom suite all on the first floor! **\$650,000**

101 Court St, Middlebury

Conveniently located and versatile floor plan this vintage Middlebury building is in the multi-use zone. Completely renovated with heat pumps for your interior comfort and nice big open rooms with plenty of closet space! Bring your imagination for how you'd like this space to work for your needs! **\$368,500**



Looking to see what your house is worth?
Call us for a complimentary
Market Analysis today!



802-388-0505 • 101 Court St., Middlebury, VT • www.midvthomes.com



Bonnie Gridley – Broker
802-349-8646
bgridleyvt@gmail.com



Cory Cheever – Realtor
802-989-0859
cheever.cory@gmail.com



Judy Murdock – Realtor
802-458-7589
judymurdockvt@gmail.com

[f](#) Follow Us!



MIDDLEBURY NEW LISTING!
990 LOWER FOOTE STREET
MLS #4964945 | \$450,000
3 BD | 2 BA | 2616 SF | 0.51 ACRES

Well-cared for and requires minimal maintenance. The roof was replaced a few years ago, siding is vinyl, garage door is new and the lawn is flat! With a conventional floor plan and bonus finished space in the basement (great for a playroom, office, or tv/media room) you'll find it easy to visualize yourself here. The woodstove and hearth is a focal point that offers extra warmth in the winter months. Trees create privacy around your 1/2 acre lot—enjoy it from the back deck. Oversized garage with plenty of storage offers direct entry into the mudroom/laundry area that includes the convenience of a 1/2 bath.



LISTING NOW PENDING

MIDDLEBURY NEW LISTING!
19 OVERBROOK DRIVE
MLS #4964998 | \$350,000
2 BD | 1 BA | 1008 SF | CONDO

Move-in ready with several updates including newer windows, red birch flooring, kitchen (with stainless and granite countertops), bath, heat pumps for heating and cooling, lighting and landscaping!



MIDDLEBURY PRICE REDUCTION!
89 SEMINARY STREET EXT.
MLS #4960560 | **NOW \$725,000**
5 BD | 4 BA | 3489 SF | 2.00 ACRES

Long admired by passers-by, this beautiful home is perched above the road with south-facing views of farm fields and adorned by a large historic barn, and granary shed just waiting for your imagination!



MIDDLEBURY PRICE REDUCTION!
5 COURT STREET
MLS #4922137 | **NOW \$995,000**
COMMERCIAL | 11,484 SF | 0.10 AC

A landmark in downtown Middlebury since 1814, and declared the "handsomest courthouse in the state." Currently used as office space, with many of the original architectural details intact.

ipjrealestate.com

34 Main Street, downtown Middlebury
info@ipjrealestate.com | 802.388.4242



Make the dream of home ownership a reality.
We can help. Contact us today or apply online.
Sharon Brown | Community Lender | NMLS #491713



National Bank
of Middlebury
Serving Vermont Communities Since 1831



nbmvt.com • 1-877-508-8455
Bank NMLS #403372

Let Us Sell or
Find Your Roost!



Roxanna Emilo, Broker/Realtor/Owner
Cell: 802.349.9837
emilovtrealestate@gmail.com

Christine Fraioli, Realtor
Cell: 802.989.2234
Home Office: 802.453.6416
cfvt@gmavt.net

Office: 173 Court St.
Middlebury, VT 05753
Office: (802) 388-4440

EmiloVTRealEstate.com

Thank You!

We do it ALL for you.
Addy Indy readers deserve the best!
That's why we work everyday to bring
you excellent local coverage of our
towns, schools, athletics, businesses,
entertainment and more.

CONNECT WITH US @ADDISONINDEPENDENT

CALENDAR

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

Linda "Stones" Msibi, a determined duo of struggling country singers from the tiny African Kingdom of Eswatini (known as Swaziland at the time of filming) who long for their big break. More info and tickets at townhalltheater.org/event/middlebury-new-filmmakers-festival-opening-night.

THURSDAY, AUG. 24

MIDDLEBURY NEW FILMMAKERS FESTIVAL IN MIDDLEBURY. Thursday, Aug. 24. See Aug. 23 listing.

LECTURE BY VIEVEE FRANCIS, "SHIFTING NARRATIVES IN AFRICAN AMERICAN POETRY: OBAMA, AL GREEN, AND WRITING POST-BLACKARTS MOVEMENT, OR THE AUDACITY OF MY OWN DAMN BELLIGERENCE" IN RIPTON. Thursday, Aug. 24, 9 a.m., Little Theater, Bread Loaf campus, Route 125. Part of the Bread Loaf Writer's Conference. Free and open to the public. More info at 802-443-5286.

"STORIES IN STITCHES: HOW TO READ A SAMPLER" IN MIDDLEBURY. Thursday, Aug. 24, 1-2 p.m., Henry Sheldon Museum, 1 Park St. Ellen Thompson, the Team Leader for the Vermont Sampler Initiative, will focus on what can be learned through studying sampler examples and how the Vermont Sampler Initiative works to fill in the gaps in the historical record of this industry. In connection with the current exhibition "Stellar Stitching: 19th Century Vermont

by Jesse Rudoy, a beautiful documentary intimately chronicling the remarkable ride of cousins Gazi "Dusty" Simelane and

Samplers." Included with Museum admission. Seating is limited. More info at henrysheldonmuseum.org/events or call 802-388-2117.

READINGS BY DARREL ALEJANDRO HOLNES, ALEX MARZANO-LESNEVICH, AND CHRISTOPHER CASTELLANI IN RIPTON. Thursday, Aug. 24, 4:15 p.m., Little Theater, Bread Loaf campus, Route 125. Part of the Bread Loaf Writer's Conference. Free and open to the public. More info at 802-443-5286.

ARTIST RECEPTION AND TALK IN BRISTOL. Friday, Aug. 25, 5-7 p.m., Art of Main, 25 Main St. Come see the work and meet printmaker Carol McDonald and potter Kileh Friedman. Free.

POINT COUNTERPOINT FACULTY CONCERT IN SALISBURY. Thursday, Aug. 24, 7:30 p.m., Salisbury Congregational Church, 853 Maple St. Admission is free, and goodwill donations are gratefully accepted. Each faculty concert differs in repertoire, instrumentation, and faculty performers.

"DC LEAGUE OF SUPERHEROES" ON SCREEN IN BRISTOL. Thursday, Aug. 24, 8 p.m., Bristol town Green. Part of Bristol Rec's Movies in the Park After Dark. Free. Rain location Holley Hall.

READINGS BY SIDIK FOFANA, ELISA GABBERT, AND TANIA JAMES IN RIPTON. Thursday, Aug. 24, 8:15 p.m., Little Theater, Bread Loaf campus, Route 125. Part of the Bread Loaf Writer's Conference. Free and open to the public. More info at 802-443-5286.

FRIDAY, AUG. 25

MIDDLEBURY NEW FILMMAKERS FESTIVAL IN MIDDLEBURY. Friday, Aug. 25. See Aug. 23 listing.

LECTURE BY PATRICK PHILLIPS, "OUT-OF-THE-BODY TRAVEL: THE POEM AS TIME MACHINE" IN RIPTON. Friday, Aug. 25, 9 a.m., Little Theater, Bread Loaf campus, Route 125. Part of the Bread Loaf Writer's Conference. Free and open to the public. More info at 802-443-5286.

READINGS BY SIERRA CRANE MURDOCH, JACOB SHORES-ARGÜELLO, AND MECCA JAMILAH SULLIVAN IN RIPTON. Friday, Aug. 25, 4:15 p.m., Little Theater, Bread Loaf campus, Route 125. Part of the Bread Loaf Writer's Conference. Free and open to the public. More info at 802-443-5286.

STREET DANCE IN VERGENNES. Friday, Aug. 25, 7 p.m., City Green. Kick off the eve of Vergennes Day by dancing the night away to the sounds of The Hitmen. Free.

BURLESQUE FUNDRAISER IN MIDDLEBURY. Friday, Aug. 25, 8-11 p.m., 51 Main St. Help raise money for WomenSafe at this burlesque benefit, featuring performances by Mistress Manifest, Crimson Wilder, and Andro Genderson Starlight. Music by DJ Serena Kim. Photography by Susan Woloohojian. Tickets \$50 general admission includes access to the complimentary dessert bar by Crooked Ladle and standing room /bar seating, \$75 VIP includes access to the complimentary dessert bar by Crooked Ladle, preferred seating and professional photo with Mistress Manifest. Available at otraway.com/no-strings-attached.

READINGS BY GABRIELLE BATES, JENNIFER FINNEY BOYLAN, AND LUIS ALBERTO URREA IN RIPTON. Friday, Aug. 25, 8:15 p.m., Little Theater, Bread Loaf campus, Route 125. Part of the Bread Loaf Writer's Conference. Free and open to the public. More info at 802-443-5286.

TALKING | REAL ESTATE

Whether you own a home or are looking to buy or sell one, here are the latest Good to Know articles for when you're ready to take the next step in finding your Forever Home.

BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY HOMESERVICES VERMONT REALTY GROUP

LATE SUMMER 2023

Choose the Right Size for Your Next Home

Homebuyers are feeling the sticker shock of higher prices, but it's not just inflation. They want bigger homes. In 1949, the average size of a new single-family home was 909 square feet, while homes grew to 2,480 square feet by 2021. But how much living space does a family really need?

To help you choose the right sized home, consider your family's needs. Small children can comfortably share

a bedroom, but teenagers need more privacy. Aging parents are safer in single-level homes or a downstairs living area with a separate entrance. You may need a home office, a playroom for kids, or a bigger kitchen.

Whatever you choose, make sure the layout and square footage also align with how much you want to maintain and pay for utilities.

HOUSING TRENDS, HOMEBUYERS, SMART HOMES



Avoid These 3 Big Mistakes During the New Home Boom

Don't visit builders alone. If you visit builders on your own, make sure you sign the builder's visitor log and include your Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices network agent's name and contact information. They can vet your builder for you and help you negotiate the builder's contract that favors them over your interests.

Don't skip the inspection. Just because a home is new doesn't mean it's without problems. A recent news report found that some homebuilders are "cutting corners" to produce homes faster. Protect yourself by insisting on an

inspection that covers all systems, fixtures and appliances in the home, from the roof to the foundation.

Don't buy the model home. Model homes feature the most luxurious features, which may tempt you into adding upgrades that will increase the cost of your new home. If these upgrades are done before the building process, you'll save money and prevent costly change-order delays

HOMEBUYERS, BUILDERS, MORTGAGE RATES, INSPECTIONS



Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Vermont Realty Group
32 Merchants Row
Middlebury, VT 05753
(802) 388-9836

BRISTOLCORE.ORG/POCOCK-ROCKS



**POCOCK
ROCKS**

LIVE MUSIC
Food & Drinks



**AUGUST
19 | 3-8
PM**

MAIN STREET, DOWNTOWN BRISTOL

LIVE MUSIC:
BUCK THORN HOLLER
LED DEAD RINGERS
THE SILVERBACKS
RICK REDINGTON & THE LUV
BODENBENDER
ATOM & THE ORBITS

DRINK VENDORS:
WILD HART DISTILERY
GROENNFELL MEADERY
ST. JOHNSBURY DISTILLERY
ZERO GRAVITY BEER

FOOD VENDORS:
LULU ICE CREAM
THAI@HOME
KRIS PERLEE
MEDITERRANEAN MIX
MATRYOSHKA'S BAKERY
MO'S BACKYARD BBQ
RAINBOW ICE

**BRISTOL FARMERS
MARKET IS BACK**

**THRU OCT.
9 | MONDAYS
ON THE
BRISTOL GREEN | 4-7
PM**

**LIVE MUSIC, COMPLIMENTARY WELLNESS
CLASSES, FREE FACE PAINTING, FOOD
TRUCKS, ARTISANS, AND FRESH
PRODUCE, MEAT, AND EGGS.**

