

Frost reborn

The iconic poet comes back to life in a performance at the Town Hall Theater. See Arts + Leisure.



Back to lead

Former Tiger all-star field hockey player MaKayla Broughton now takes over as coach. See Page 1B.



New faces

As the new school year starts, see the new teachers and staff in photos on Pages 8A and 13A.

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Some flooding losses are attributed to small rivers

By SOPHIA AFSAR-KESHMIRI

ADDISON COUNTY — Although Otter Creek has been the center of attention for preparing for high waters in Middlebury throughout this soggy summer, the bout of Aug. 4 flash flooding that wreaked

havoc on Addison County was primarily the fault of small rivers that crept, and then sprinted, over edges and into yards, driveways and basements.

“Many (if not all) the major residential flooding in Addison County from both the July and (See *Small rivers*, Page 10A)

County farms see \$3M in damage

Summer rains also causing feed issues

By MARIN HOWELL

ADDISON COUNTY — Heavy rains that hit the state in July alone caused over \$3 million worth of damage to Addison County farms, according to a survey conducted by the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food & Markets this month.

As a result some farmers are already dipping into their winter

feed stores to feed their animals now.

Feed-related issues are on the minds of farmers Brian and Cindy Kayhart, who own Kayhart’s Homegrown Meats in New Haven. Due to excessive rain this summer, they have lost 28 acres of the pasture they use to feed their beef and dairy herds.

“We’re feeding what should be our winter store feed now. What that will mean, I don’t know. I’m hoping to make more,” Brian Kayhart told the *Independent*. “Normally I don’t touch the feed that we’re feeding right now until Dec. 1.”

The recently completed Ag Agency’s Severe Weather and Flooding Loss & Damage Survey was intended to assess the impact that the excessive rain and flooding

that occurred between July 7 and 18 has had on farmers, agricultural businesses and service and nonprofit organizations throughout the state.

The survey tallied 265 responses, with respondents reporting an estimated \$16,063,154 in total losses on over 27,000 impacted acres. Addison County respondents reported a total of \$3,104,455 in estimated losses, more than any (See *County farms*, Page 9A)



Filmmaker

JOHN SLATTERY, BEST known for his gig in front of the camera on the show “Mad Men,” is also quite talented behind the camera. The ninth annual Middlebury New Filmmakers Festival, which wrapped up on Sunday, screened two of his films, the new feature “Maggie Moore(s)” starring Jon Hamm and Tina Fey, and “God’s Pocket” featuring Phillip Seymour Hoffman, John Turturro and Christina Hendricks. Slattery, shown holding his VTeddy award, had a nice engagement with the audience at Sunday’s awards ceremony. See more MNFF photos on Page 14A.

Independent photo/Steve James

THT nets \$1M college gift for its expansion

By JOHN FLOWERS

MIDDLEBURY — Another chapter in a roughly 20-year relationship between Middlebury College and Town Hall Theater was written on Wednesday, Aug. 30, when officials formally announced the educational institution will make a \$1 million donation toward THT’s \$7.5 million renovation/

expansion project at 68 South Pleasant St., which is adjacent to the existing theater.

College President Laurie Patton confirmed the gift at a celebration at THT that included project boosters, theater officials and one of Patton’s predecessors: John McCardell, who was instrumental (See *THT*, Page 9A)

MUMS dean cites racism as a factor in resignation

By JOHN FLOWERS

MIDDLEBURY — Middlebury Union Middle School’s first-ever dean of climate & culture has resigned from her job after only one year. Esther Charlestin, who is Black, cited two alleged, racially-charged incidents — and what she called an “underwhelming” response to those incidents from Addison Central School District (ACSD) — as reasons for her departure.



CHARLESTIN

selectperson, outlined her concerns and decision to leave in an Aug. 28 email to ACSD officials, which she then submitted as a community forum that appears on Page 5A of this edition of the *Independent*. The paper reached out to her for additional insights and comments; Charlestin

said her op ed would best speak to her decision to leave her job. Her responsibilities included handling student discipline, being a student

Charlestin, a former Middlebury

(See *Charlestin*, Page 11A)

Bristol looks to make town parks accessible

By MARIN HOWELL

BRISTOL — Bristol is exploring ways to make three of its town parks easier for all visitors to enjoy. The effort, largely organized by Bristol resident Porter Knight, is aimed at identifying options for making Memorial, Sycamore and Eagle parks more accessible.

In the months ahead, the town

will dive deeper into studying potential accessibility upgrades for the three parks, such as the creation of accessible parking areas, ADA-compliant paths and improved signage.

“The main goal is to have truly accessible recreation on all three of those sites,” Knight said of the (See *Bristol parks*, Page 10A)

Family can’t find a home, buys Ripton’s inn

New owners have roots in Texas and Ukraine

By JOHN FLOWERS

RIPTON — In addition to abundant rainfall, this summer has brought numerous housing inquiries from people seeking to relocate to an Addison County that has few available homes to offer.

The Guilbeau family of Austin, Texas, was among those seeking to lay down new roots in

greener and steeper Green Mountain pastures. And when their search for a conventional home came up empty, they took a novel approach: They acquired Ripton’s 195-year-old Chipman Inn, which they hope will become both their long-term home and a successful business venture.

And in addition to housing the Guilbeaus and what they hope will be a steady stream of guests, the Chipman Inn will also provide haven to a weary traveler from a war-torn land: Ukrainian national Svetlana Osetska, an extended family

member who recently left her homeland in the face of the ongoing Russian invasion.

“Given the circumstances in her homeland, I felt it was right to offer (Osetska) a longer refuge, at least until there’s peace back in Ukraine,” Elizabeth Guilbeau said. “Her presence has not only enriched our lives, but also provided her with a meaningful role and purpose amidst the challenges.”

The Guilbeaus’ trek to cooler climes had been in the works for several years.

(See *Chipman Inn*, Page 16A)



By the way

Labor Day weekend is a biggie for backyard barbecues and other celebratory gatherings at which some folks like to pound down a few cold ones. Be advised (See *By the way*, Page 11A)

Pewter maker is diversifying into pottery

Danforth adds ‘Pizzazz’ to its entrepreneurial portfolio

By JOHN FLOWERS

MIDDLEBURY — Danforth Pewter CEO Bram Kleppner sometimes gets asked to describe how the Middlebury company’s artisans are able to fashion bowls, mugs and other hollowware out of metal.

“When we’re explaining the process of spinning metal on a lathe, what most of us say is, ‘It’s like throwing a pot on a potter’s wheel,’” Kleppner told the *Independent*. “You start with a disc of pewter or a blob of clay, and by applying the right amount of skill and the right amount of pressure in the right places, you sort of magically make it turn into a different shape.”

The pottery analogy will soon carry added significance for Danforth, a nationally renowned manufacturer of handcrafted pewter ornaments, jewelry, frames, vases, drinking receptacles, plates and much more. That’s because the company is acquiring Fair Haven-based Pizzazz Pottery, an enterprise that will relocate early next (See *Danforth*, Page 15A)



DANFORTH PEWTER CEO Bram Kleppner stands inside the former railroad warehouse at 53 Seymour St. that will soon be renovated to host a pottery enterprise operated by Danforth. The company’s plans include marrying pewter with pottery for a new variety of utilitarian and decorative items.

Independent photo/Steve James

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Indispensable scavenger

TWO TURKEY VULTURES prepare to take flight. Perhaps they spotted some carrion nearby. They might not be the prettiest birds out there, but they do possess their own kind of homely beauty.

Photo by Dottie Nelson

Timetable set for superintendent search

By JOHN FLOWERS

MIDDLEBURY — The Addison Central School District (ACSD) board on Monday endorsed a search process and timeline for finding a new, permanent superintendent that calls for a preferred candidate to be identified by the end of this year and begin their duties on July 1 of next year.

The board also committed to tapping a variety of community and school stakeholders to help vet finalists for the job, which has administrative oversight over the ACSD's public schools in Bridport, Cornwall, Middlebury, Ripton, Salisbury, Shoreham and Weybridge, as well as Middlebury Union middle and high schools. But they noted those stakeholders will be prohibited from revealing, to the community at large, the names of any of the candidates who advance to finalist interviews.

And as was the case with its most recent search, which resulted in the hiring of current ACSD interim Superintendent Tim Williams, the

board will wait until its preferred candidate has signed on the dotted line before publicly disclosing their name.

"Having a more public process converts an education leadership position into a political position by opening it up and putting names into the newspaper before the board is done talking with them," ACSD board member Mary Heather Noble said during Monday's meeting, which featured Zoom input from McPherson & Jacobson consultant Judy Sclair-Stein, who will lead the district's search.

"(Publicizing their names) dissuades candidates sometimes from applying. Particularly the kind of candidate you're looking for — an experienced superintendent — he or she is going to think long and hard about applying."

— consultant Judy Sclair-Stein

District officials are hoping that by casting their recruitment net early — these searches typically occur in late fall and winter — the ACSD will enhance its chances of finding a good crop of candidates to succeed former ACSD Superintendent Peter Burrows, who left this summer to helm the Milton, Mass., school system.

Burrows' February announcement resulted in a late

search process for his successor. That search yielded 10 applicants, who were whittled down to two finalists: one who withdrew her application and the other who was not offered the job.

The ACSD regrouped and hired as its interim superintendent Williams — a well-respected, veteran school administrator who served as the Patricia A. Hannaford Career Center's interim superintendent last year.

Here's the timetable the board plans to follow in picking the new ACSD superintendent:

- Post the position on Thursday, Aug. 31. The board agreed to advertise the vacancy in several publications and online venues, including American Association of School Administrators, Education Week Online, Top School Jobs, Vermont 802, SchoolSpring, the National Alliance of Black School Educators, and the Association of Latino Administrators and Superintendents. Posting fees are expected to total around \$1,500.
- Stop accepting applications by Sept. 28.
- Conduct "intensive vetting of candidates, including deep reference checks," from Sept. 28-Oct. 16.
- Reveal the crop of advancing candidates to the ACSD board on (See ACSD, Page 3A)

Locals explore big building decarbonization

By MARIN HOWELL

ADDISON COUNTY — Efforts to reduce the county's greenhouse gas emissions have often focused on transitioning homes and other residential properties away from the use of fossil fuels. Now, a new project spearheaded by the Climate Economy Action Center of Addison County will explore the decarbonization of the county's larger, nonresidential buildings, such as schools, factories and office buildings.

Representatives from the Middlebury, Vergennes and Bristol energy committees are collaborating on the effort. In the coming months, the "Big Buildings Decarbonization" project team will speak with the owners of nonresidential properties to learn more about the challenges and opportunities they see in decarbonizing their buildings.

Ultimately, the team hopes to use what they learn to identify ways to support building owners in their efforts to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions.

"There's not necessarily an agenda of saying, 'You should do this, or you should do that.' The thought is that we want to understand where people's heads are at in terms of what they've already done, what they have in motion, what they're planning to do," said Mike Roy, a member of the Middlebury energy committee and CEAC Board of Directors who is organizing the project.

CEAC is a nonprofit organization that works to support a healthy, local economy while reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in the region. Last year, the organization published a Climate Action Plan for Addison County, which outlined a list of steps community members can take to fight the climate crisis and achieve reductions in local GHG emissions.

Roy noted that achieving those reductions requires a diverse approach.

"We've come to the realization that you have to kind of approach each of the different parts of the economy in different ways. What's true for residences may not be true

for municipalities, versus different types of businesses," he said.

Through the Big Buildings Decarbonization project, Roy and other volunteers are hoping to learn more about nonresidential decarbonization work in the county.

"The idea for this effort is to really try to understand what's happening in this space by talking to the people who are tasked with managing these buildings and making these decisions," Roy said.

Representatives from each of the three committees will recruit volunteers and identify building owners to speak with.

The team will explore literature on nonresidential decarbonization and speak with climate organizations in the state to get a sense of existing efforts and how the project might support ongoing work. Project participants will then organize and conduct interviews with the owners and property managers of nonresidential buildings in their communities.

"The hope is, if we had five people in these three communities, that's 15 people, and if each of us interviewed five people, we would have 75 data points," Roy said. "Then the idea is to step back and say, 'OK, what things did we learn and what are some next steps that might flow from that.'"

The team will use the information it gathers to develop a multi-year plan for supporting building owners in their decarbonization efforts.

Roy said those next steps will be determined by what the team learns, but could include connecting property owners with available resources and incentives.

"With the Inflation Reduction Act, there's a whole bunch of new incentives and tax credits available for a lot of these types of changes. I'm very interested to find out what level of awareness there is of those financial incentives," Roy said. "If we discover that's one of the barriers, that people just aren't aware of those incentives, I can imagine a program of trying to better publicize the existence of these various incentives for doing this work."

Roy said the team also hopes to share the stories of building owners that have successfully transitioned away from the use of fossil fuels.

"There may be ways of documenting success stories and finding ways to get those stories in front of people so they're aware of people in their community that they know and trust that are making these changes and enjoying the results of them," he said.

COLLABORATION

CORRECTION: Our Aug. 24 "By the way" on the Agency of Transportation Vergennes Planning and Environment Linkages Study that is evaluating alternatives to reduce truck traffic on Route 22A through downtown Vergennes gave an incorrect deadline for citizens to weigh in online with their opinions at vergennespel@gmail.com. The correct deadline is Sept. 25. We apologize for the confusion.

In addition to gathering information, Roy sees the project as an opportunity for the three energy committees to collaborate.

"I can imagine if we decide what the plans are for how to move forward, that we would all proceed more or less in the same way. That might be a nice, early example of how we can work together on other challenges that all of our towns face," he said.

Vergennes Energy Committee Chair Cheryl Brinkman said she is excited about the opportunity to work with the other energy committees and hear from community members.

She noted that the Vergennes Energy Committee is a newer group, and that the project will give committee members a chance to engage with the surrounding community.

"It fits nicely into the timing of our energy committee because we're relatively new. We've only been in existence about a year and so this fits into what could be our next project and with outreach that we're hoping to do," she said.

Brinkman added that she's looking forward to working on decarbonization efforts that involve nonresidential building owners.

"I'm actually very interested in reaching out to those buildings that seem to get overlooked," she said. "When it comes to buildings there's businesses, residential and municipal buildings, but there's those other buildings that also require a lot of heating and cooling that I feel tend to get overlooked and left out."

The Bristol Energy Committee is also glad to be a part of the effort,

according to co-chair Richard Butz.

"This is a long-term interest we've had without really time or a vehicle to address it," he told the *Independent*. "We also recognize that unless business and large buildings get involved in this process of decarbonizing, it's going to be very hard to meet our (GHG emission reduction) goals."

He noted that meeting those goals is an urgent matter.

"For most of us who have been following climate change, we really need to act fast," Butz said. "Just take a look at this summer and everything that's happening here and around the country and around the world. We're running out of time, so we've got to do what we can to cut our carbon emissions as quickly as possible."

As the Big Buildings Decarbonization project gets underway, Roy said the team is eager to hear from community members either interested in being interviewed or speaking with building owners. Those interested can find more information about the project and sign-up sheets on CEAC's website at tinyurl.com/bigbuildingsproject.

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ACSD

(Continued from Page 2A)

Oct. 18, from 5-9 p.m., in executive session. This marathon meeting will include video interviews of “short-list candidates” and is expected to culminate in the selection of two to four finalists. The board will also come up with a list of interview questions.

Finalist interviews during the week of Nov. 6 or Nov. 13. These interviews are to include “stakeholder teams,” comprised of students, parents, local educators, school staff and others with a vested interest in the ACSD.

Scclair-Stein said stakeholders will be asked to abide by certain protocols — including that they keep the candidates’ names secret. She acknowledged other states have a policy of disclosing finalists’ names, and noted Florida discloses the names of all its superintendent applicants.

“It dissuades candidates sometimes from applying,” she said of revealing names. “Particularly the kind of candidate you’re looking for — an experienced superintendent —

he or she is going to think long and hard about applying ... They want assurance that unless they become a finalist, their names are going to be kept confidential. Even as a finalist, we don’t want to publish their names.”

Steve Orzech was part of the search for new Career Center Superintendent Nicole MacTavish. He said the input from stakeholders proved very valuable. Scclair-Stein was also the lead consultant for that search.

“The clear, unvarnished feedback we got from the stakeholders’ group was that she did an excellent job reporting on, made the decision we made at the board level so easy... It felt to me we were really hearing the voice of the community,” he said. “It was very thorough and enlightening to hear from the different stakeholders.”

Scclair-Stein stressed that the hiring decision will vest fully with the ACSD board, not the stakeholder groups.

“It’s the most important decision you will ever make,” she said.

• The ACSD board chooses its preferred candidate on either Nov. 9 or Nov. 16. This would allow board Chair Barb Wilson to forge contract details with the finalist.

• Assuming successful negotiations, the board would publicly announce its pick on Nov. 27 or Dec. 11.

In other activity on Tuesday, Williams and ACSD Business Manager Matt Corrente presented the board with a tentative timetable for drafting a fiscal year 2025 budget that will ultimately be decided by voters on Town Meeting Day — March 5, 2024. That timetable calls for the board to receive an initial budget draft and presentation on Oct. 30, followed by revisions and a second draft ready by the board’s Nov. 27 meeting.

The schedules calls for the district’s budget book to be ready on Jan. 8, leading to a Jan. 22 board vote on whether to adopt the spending plan for the Town Meeting Day warning.

Reporter John Flowers is at johnf@addisonindependent.com.

Opera house lands \$330k in grants

By ANDY KIRKALDY

VERGENNES — The Vergennes Opera House All Access Project was awarded two grants last week totaling \$330,000.

The money will go toward the \$1.64 million effort to upgrade accessibility to the theater for all audience members, the stage and green room for all performers, and Vergennes City Hall offices for all visitors.

The larger grant, for \$300,000, was announced in an Aug. 23

press release from the Northern Border Regional Commission (NBRC). The opera house was one of 66 grantees out of 187 applications.

The request was part of the \$43.6 million in “Catalyst Program” grants to organizations and communities in the NBRC member states of Maine, New Hampshire, New York and Vermont. Nearly \$20 million of those funds came from the federal Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, passed in November 2021.

Friends of the Vergennes Opera House (FVOH) President Gerianne Smart also learned late on Friday, Aug. 26, that the Vermont Arts Council awarded FVOH \$30,000 toward the project. Those funds are specifically to go toward the project’s interior elevator that will link the green room below the theater’s stage with both the stage and the audience level. The green room will also be renovated with accessible rest rooms.

“What a great week,” Smart said. The project’s centerpiece is an exterior elevator tower at the end of the alley between city hall and St. Paul’s Episcopal Church. The plan also garnered support in the form of \$500,000 of Congressionally directed spending (known colloquially as an earmark).

Smart said that earmark, arranged

by Sen. Bernie Sanders’s office, made the final cut for the omnibus spending bill that will be considered in Washington, D.C., this fall.

Counting the \$200,000 in grants and donations FVOH had already raised to pay for the design and permitting stages for the project (work mostly done by Middlebury’s Vermont Integrated Architecture), the new grants and the earmark means fundraising for the project has crested \$1 million.

For sure there is still a long way to go for a planned May 2024 groundbreaking, but Smart is confident of success.

“We’re in great shape. We’re over 50% there,” she said. “We keep looking for more funding sources. We’re talking to private citizens now.”

That elevator tower will also include a ground-level entry to

city hall offices on the left side of the building. Currently, there is handicap access through a door at the end of the alley, but those with access challenges still must use a lift to reach the lower level where the city clerk’s and treasurer’s desks are.

Access to the tower and thus the theater will be easier via the alley than the current system. Citizens with access challenges must now be dropped off at the end of a private driveway to the right of city hall. From the driveway, they can either make their own way, or manage with help, along a pathway and then a ramp that runs behind city hall.

The ramp leads to a theater-level ADA platform/opera house entrance at the end of the alley. Whoever has dropped them off, however, must return to their vehicles, leave and find parking elsewhere; there is no parking behind or to the right of city hall.

FVOH is also working with St.

Paul’s leadership in a cooperative effort to improve handicap access via improvements to the alley, according to Smart. A meeting was planned for this past Tuesday.

Smart said FVOH applied for the Northern Borders grant a year ago, but was denied. However, the process proved to be beneficial, thanks to cooperation from NBRC officials.

“When they rejected us last year they told us why. They said, ‘Here’s what you need,’” she said. “It gave us a road map to the success of this final award.”

For example, Smart said, FVOH had to nail down agreements with the city and line up permits to earn the award.

Now, she said, that grant should help with further fundraising.

“It’s a big deal. I don’t know how to stress that enough. One, it puts us in company with many, many other very worthy projects that are making a difference in their communities,” Smart said. “And it telegraphs to the other funders and possible funders out there that we met a very high bar in getting this grant.”

Smart added FVOH has a fundraising project in the works reminiscent of the chair-naming effort of the late 1990s.

Plans are being fleshed out for paving bricks to replace the asphalt in the alleyway between the church and city hall. Smart said FVOH intends this winter to start selling naming rights for each brick.

“That’s going to be a fun project,” she said. “There will be names of people who at this time in the history of the city believed in this project, believed in improving access to all to public spaces, the opera house and city hall, and who believed in the arts.”

Smart was asked when ground might be broken by project contractor Naylor & Breen Builders of Brandon.

“May 6, 2024. Monday. The last show of our 2023-2024 season is Friday, May 3,” Smart said. “We’re ending the season with a big, big show, and then they come in on Monday, and hopefully will have a little silver shovel action going on.”

College students survey LGBTQ+ community

By MARIN HOWELL

ADDISON COUNTY — On paper, Vermont appears to be a fairly supportive place for members of the LGBTQ+ community. The state has enacted comprehensive legislation protecting rights for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and persons questioning their sexual identity and, historically, Vermont has been recognized for the positive environment it’s created for queer individuals in its business climate and small communities.

But how does that reputation of inclusivity compare to the actual experiences of queer Vermonters? That’s the question at the heart of an ongoing oral history project being conducted by Middlebury College students Daisy Kulina and Mat Miranda.

The pair has spent the summer interviewing Vermonters in communities throughout the state, speaking with queer individuals about their experiences to learn more about how well Vermont is actually doing at supporting its LGBTQ+ residents.

Kulina said the students hope to compile their findings into a public product that highlights the experiences of LGBTQ+ individuals in Vermont and sheds light on how communities in the state can better support them.

“Our number one goal is to get a comprehensive understanding of queer experiences to avoid these stereotypes and generalizations that we see Vermont as a safe place for all queer people and enlighten people with the diversity of experiences,” Kulina explained. “We’re seeing with those we’ve interviewed so far that really nobody has the same story, and that the queer experience isn’t the same thing to every single person. All of those different experiences are valuable.”

Kulina and Miranda got the ball rolling on the project earlier this year as part of their work with the college’s Feminist Resource Center at Chellis House and collaborated with professors at the resource center to develop the project.

Kulina said the pair’s work on the project was motivated by an interest in exploring Vermont’s reputation as an inclusive, progressive state.

“We were interested in how that reputation compares to the lived experiences of queer Vermonters. With this project we’re also looking at what factors determine inclusivity and what the actual experiences (of individuals) are,” she explained.

To begin their research, the students reached out to several queer organizations throughout the state, explored the Middlebury College Special Collections and posted on Front Porch Forum to try and connect with members of the LGBTQ+ community interested in participating in the project.

During the past month and a half, they’ve conducted over a dozen interviews with residents in Addison County and other parts of the state, ranging in age from 19 to 78 years old.

Kulina said the pair has enjoyed getting out into the community and hearing individuals’ personal accounts.

“Mat and I go to college in Vermont, but we didn’t grow up here, and we both grew up in pretty conservative places. I’m from

Montana, Mat’s from Florida,” she said. “It’s interesting to talk to individuals from a different background, but also look into this new history that not everyone learns when looking at Vermont’s history.”

PROJECT FINDINGS

The pair has been finding some trends in the interviews they’ve conducted thus far, notably among individuals living in different parts of the state.

“We’re seeing that a lot of people in rural areas are having pushback as queer people, whether that be with their occupation or their activism, rather than folks that live in Burlington,” Kulina said. “We’re definitely seeing that larger, urban areas are perceived as safer for queer individuals than rural areas.”

Kulina and Miranda have also noticed reoccurring themes amongst the different age groups they’ve spoken with.

“Older people from the LGBTQ+ community have had more relative struggle than the younger generations because we see that the older folks were actually part of the queer liberation movement and the nuts and bolts of the marriage equality movement,” Kulina said. “They were sort of the ones doing it to create that safe haven for younger generations of queer folks.”

Kulina emphasized that the students are not looking to draw a conclusion from their research or generalize their findings.

“We think that the issue with misconceptions about different communities, and especially the queer community, is that we have these generalizations. We’re not really interested in making generalizations about the queer community, but amplifying the individual experiences of those queer Vermonters,” Kulina said.

The pair is exploring a format to compile their findings in a way that lets those personal accounts stand on their own, such as hosting a public forum or creating a timeline exhibit for one of the college’s libraries.

“Our goal with this project is that

not only does this get documented in Middlebury (College)’s Archives of Dissent, but that there’s some way for students and queer people and the whole Middlebury community to connect with this,” Kulina explained.

The students are planning to wrap up their research as the fall semester begins next month. Kulina said they’re still looking to conduct interviews before finishing the project and are hoping to hear more accounts, in particular from members of the queer community who are Black, Indigenous and people of color.

“That’s a big hope that we have, to get that experience too, because we’re thinking that the white, queer experiences are going to be different than the queer folks of color in this space,” Kulina said.

In terms of answering the question at the heart of their project, Kulina said the students have found that each individual they’ve spoken with has had a different perspective on how well the state lives up to its reputation of inclusivity.

“No one person we interviewed felt completely safe or completely unsafe. It changes, whether that be in someone’s occupation, or their upbringing or their social circle,” she said. “I think there are a lot of places where safety can be found or not be found and the gist of it is that within all of these areas of life, safety isn’t something that’s guaranteed, unfortunately, for queer people in Vermont.”

The students are hopeful that sharing the stories of queer Vermonters will help start conversations about better supporting the state’s LGBTQ+ community.

“With this (project) we hope to look at what’s going well and what the major themes are that people touched on about what could be improved for queer folks in Vermont,” Kulina said. “Our project is covering the queer experience so that we can get an outlook that is based on lived experiences rather than stereotypes and reputations.”

MUHS

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Editorials

Putting the times in perspective

Sometimes there's a comment, or thought, that realigns one's perspective. For me, that happened Tuesday when former Middlebury College President John McCardell, a professor of history, was guest speaker at a Tuesday luncheon in Middlebury. After an enlightening talk on the Civil War and the period of Reconstruction afterward — a time of extreme antagonism between the North and South — he was asked to transport himself 20 years into the future and look back on today's current strife and put it in historic context.

It was one of those astute questions that doesn't, of course, have a precise answer. It can only be conjecture. But true to form, McCardell's response was insightful, which I'll paraphrase and simplify as such: *Those of us who have lived into our older decades come to see that today's times, however turbulent, may not be as bad, or as threatening to our nationhood, as they seem in the moment.*

Take that thought and extrapolate: Much like we see the riots and upheaval of the late 1960s and early 1970s — a time of great unrest on college campuses focused as they were on protesting the Vietnam war, the draft, the Black Power movement (and more), plus the Watergate scandal and President Nixon's resignation — those decades today don't seem as fraught, primarily because we not only survived, but also prospered.

Suppose, then, 20 years from now, ex-president Trump is a historical footnote in a long-line of national leaders who, as a one-term president, twice impeached and twice defeated by President Joe Biden, stood out as a treacherous leader who threatened our democracy, but ultimately was prosecuted for his misdeeds.

That, of course, is an optimist's perspective. It's what should happen if our democratic system is ruled by rational thought and action. (If Trump were to win the upcoming election, the nation's arc will be forever changed, and these times will be seminal.)

How then do we process these seemingly fraught times with proper perspective? One way is to focus on the positive forces around us. In Middlebury, the Town Hall Theater has launched a \$7.5 million expansion project, and is 73% of the way toward its goal, with a substantial \$1 million gift from Middlebury College. The town also just witnesses a very successful film festival. In Vergennes, the Opera House and city hall received a \$330,000 grant towards its \$1.6 million renovation — improvements long in the making, which will add a sparkle and accessibility to that treasured building. And while Addison County, like the rest of Vermont, was hit by costly flooding, the reconstruction has been going quickly with improvements made to prevent or lessen the damage from future storms.

In short, among all the political firestorms nationally, daily life at home — community by community — is not so bad. Oh, we all have our troubles and we all could do more to assure everyone has equal opportunity, move quicker to combat climate change, and champion education and technical training as the cure-all to most of our ills, but — post-pandemic — when the daily focus is on how our local high school teams will fare this fall, we're doing just fine.

Keep that in mind when you're deciding how you can help the nation through its rough spots along the way.

Angelo Lynn

Hit it out of the park!

This year's Middlebury New Filmmakers Festival knocked it out of the park. Numbers were up in every category: number of film submissions, number of films shown at the festival, number of countries represented, number of filmmakers who attended the festival, number of community businesses and individuals involved in sponsoring the event, hosting parties, and hosting filmmakers in their homes.

Throughout the five-day festival, Middlebury's downtown was hopping with activity from 9 a.m. till well into the evening, with Saturday's affair featuring dancing at 51 Main until almost midnight — a rare occurrence for any non-student crowd in our fair town, which normally is zipped up not long past 9:30 p.m. That, in itself, demonstrates the kind of exciting energy the festival brings to Middlebury for this annual festival, which just completed its ninth year.

Of the more than 125 films presented at the festival's five venues, out of 508 submissions, even the most avid filmgoer couldn't see more than a few handfulls, leaving attendees eager to pursue the films they didn't see — but heard about from others at the festival — on other venues.

According to MNFF co-producer Lloyd Komesar, there are various ways to see some of the films that were missed.

"A good selection of our feature films," he told me, "do obtain some sort of distribution and become available for rent or digital sale on iTunes, Amazon, Vudu, etc. Some may also become available in DVD or BluRay. Additionally, some feature films may end up on a streaming platform like Netflix, HBO Max, Amazon Prime or Hulu. It really depends on the deal reached between the filmmaker and the distributor."

One path to know where a film might be distributed, he said, is on a website called JustWatch, <https://www.justwatch.com/us>. "It is very well curated and highly specific," he said, adding there is also a JustWatch app you can download to your phone.

Short films typically do not get formal distribution, he said, but can be found on Vimeo or YouTube.

If you didn't make it to this year's MNFF, mark out the next to last week of August 2024 on your calendar right now and plan to take in a few of what are sure to be amazing films for the MNFF's 10th season. And here's a tip: buy the festival pass early. Many shows during the evening were sold out, allowing festival passholders admission for early seating, while those hoping to buy tickets for a specific film had to stand in line hoping there would be an open seat.

Having sold out performances is a problem of its own, but such success is a testament to the festival's appeal, which, again this year, received lavish praise from the filmmakers who attended Sunday night's closing ceremonies. Time and again the filmmakers praised the festival organizers for their attention to detail, great venues, swag bags, wonderful hosts who housed some of the filmmakers in their homes, and, in general a community that exhibited a friendliness and warmth they had rarely seen.

With those types of comments coming from so many, it's a festival that is gaining national and international recognition quickly and will put the greater Middlebury-area on the map as a film-festival mecca with all the economic and cultural benefits that may bring. Kudos to the MNFF team for an amazing 9th year, and thanks for all the hard work it takes to put on a first-class show!

Angelo Lynn



Escape plan

THE 19-FOOT-TALL GORILLA "Queen Connie" looms large over Route 7 in Leicester but a bicycle stands ready to whisk away a rider from the stationary concrete primate.

Independent photo/John S. McCright

Climate change affects decisions

I've seen fire and I've seen rain."
— James Taylor, 1970

This summer we've had the chance to see all too much rain, and while we've not seen a lot of fires directly, their smoke has blurred our skies, their destructive potential displayed on our televisions. What next? Where do we go from here?

Arriving in Vermont as a college student around the same time JT was singing that song, I was impressed by the age of the towns and buildings. Not because they were decrepit, quite the opposite. I had grown up in Seattle, a part of our country that was settled long after Vermont. Seattle had grown significantly in the years around World War II, so it was not surprising that most of the buildings I was familiar with were the age of my parents or grandparents. Indeed, the history evident in Vermont's towns and rural landscape drew me to stay in Vermont and make it my home. Certainly, things have changed in our state over the subsequent years. We may have historical districts, zoning regulations, etc., but we are not completely immune to change. I have come to accept these alterations, while not always embracing them.

But change does come, whether we want it or not. Sometimes it comes from giant corporations bringing in big box stores and restaurant chains. Sometimes it comes from Mother Nature, with some help from our human behaviors. It is the latter that I am thinking of right now. I look around our state and think about how we are being impacted, and will be impacted, by our changing climate. How we decide to move forward may partly be dictated by those environmental realities, but

we do have some choice. You may have known someone who bought a lovely, historic farmhouse. Perhaps they knew it had single-pane windows, minimal insulation, and lacked fuel efficiency. Sure, they could tear it down and build something much more practical and energy-efficient. The new building could be attractive in its own way, but there would be a loss in razing that bit of history. Instead, they might find a way to renovate the structure so that it retains much of its original nature yet no longer shares its wintertime heat with the greater environment. Our state is like that farmhouse.

When we look at how we need to build or even relocate our communities in the coming years, we need to balance our history with reality. Our towns were mostly built along rivers. That made sense at the time for many reasons. Now, not so much, yet that is where we have most infrastructure. That is where the higher density zoning is. That is where our picturesque villages lie with their clusters of homes, ancient churches, town halls, and country stores. Whether in a little mountain town or our not-all-that-large state capital, we may need to make some changes.

Re-thinking is not a choice if a community is completely wiped out, as we have seen in places devastated by fires like those in Maui and Greece. Here, at least for the moment, we do have choices. There is some time to plan better for what might well be coming in the next years and decades. What can we save? What should we move? Is there a way to keep our history intact while being practical about what the future will hold? We know we need more housing, not just for

(See *Ways of Seeing*, Page 4A)

Ways of Seeing

By Laurie Cox



Building a case for linguistic justice

When people think about social justice, linguistic justice may not be top of mind. But language is, fundamentally, a socially informed system that reflects peoples' identities. For this reason, we should be as thoughtful about linguistic inclusion as we are about social inclusion, and we should be as mindful about reducing linguistic discrimination as we are about reducing racial, gender and ethnic discrimination.

THE SCIENCE BEHIND ACCENTS.

Everybody has an accent. Even though the popular conception is that those who speak the most proper, standard English don't have an accent while everyone else does, everyone who speaks using consonant and vowels — which is everyone — speaks with an accent of some kind.

Because the standard way of speaking English happens to be the way many white, educated, powerful people speak English, speakers who don't lay claim to those identities or deviate from that way of talking are conceived of as having an accent. Despite the inequitable way accents are popularly understood, accents are powerful tools that people use to understand each other's social identities and positions in society.

LANGUAGE & SOCIAL IDENTITY

The accents that make up a language can reflect fine-grained social memberships. Linguists have

shown that even within one high school, individuals that identify with different social groups, like jocks or burnouts, can take up different accents, indicating they belong to one group and not the other.

Other well-known accents associated with group membership include the "gay lisp" and "Ebonics," though these terms are outdated and don't account for the fact that speakers' accents don't always reflect group membership and that there are a multitude of different ways speakers can indicate their group memberships linguistically — there's not one way to sound Hispanic, for example.

LANGUAGE PERCEPTIONS

In my own research, I've studied the accent differences among native-English speaking Cuban Americans in Miami to highlight that there's not even one way to sound Hispanic in the context of one city, just as there's not one way to sound like a

Vermonters from Addison County.

Despite all the variation in accents that I documented, I also found that populations with less exposure to Hispanic accents associated white-collar, Miami-based, Cuban American speakers with harmful Hispanic stereotypes, assuming they were born outside the U.S., held blue-collar jobs and lived in Texas. Clearly, people's perceptions about others

(See *Hernandez*, Page 4A)

Letters to the Editor

Nuovo's essays are a great read

I'd like to commend the *Addison Independent's* publication of Professor Victor Nuovo's essays. These brief accounts of the descriptions our species devised to explain experience are interesting and delightful.

Thank you.

Paul Sokal
Panton

Debate didn't inspire hope

After reading reports of the Republican debate of last Wednesday night, I am wondering if the rest of the world is laughing hard or afraid of what this once great nation is turning into.

Peter Grant
Bristol

Students ask for electric buses

As members of the Middlebury Union High School cross country and Nordic ski teams, we spend a lot of our time on school buses traveling to and from competitions all over the state. Most student athletes do. We immensely appreciate our bus drivers and all they do for us, and the commitment the school shows to getting teams to and from their events. Without this service, the Nordic ski team would not be able to practice, and the cross-country running team couldn't compete at all.

We want the best for the health of our bus drivers, and as athletes we care very much about our bodies. Having electric school buses would mean that our students' and drivers' health would be better taken care of. The buses we have now are loud, smelly and often place people in contact with toxic diesel fumes. They are not conducive to safe, long-term working conditions, healthy athletes, or a healthy planet.

Using electric buses would be an improvement not only for the people that spend many hours on the buses throughout the year, of which there are many, but for the state as well. Switching from fossil fuel powered buses to ones that run on electricity would significantly reduce Vermont's greenhouse gas emissions and thus help preserve the natural world that we long-distance athletes depend on so much for our sports and our lives. We want the best for our drivers, our teams, our state and our future, and so hope that the Addison Central School District will consider electric school buses a priority in the new school year.

Vivian Ross, Class of 2023
Asa Baker-Rouse, Class of 2024
B Porter, Class of 2024
Henry Weston, Class of 2024
Eva Andrews, Class of 2025
Sarah Benz, Class of 2025
Jessie Bodette, Class of 2025
Keil Broderson, Class of 2025
Håkon Olsen, Class of 2025
Ethan Spritzer, Class of 2025
Mary Harrington, Class of 2026

Good things are happening

With the daily, mostly negative, rhetoric that we seem to be bombarded with, I would like to mention some positive things that have happened over the last two years. Big investments in infrastructure throughout the whole United States — bridges, roads, rail, new water systems, upgrading our energy grid, and more. The business community and all of us have been clamoring for this type of national investment for decades, and it's finally being accomplished.

New investment in building manufacturing here in the U.S. is happening after years of companies building their plants in foreign countries. Microchip manufacturing and electric car manufacturers lead the way, with 375,000 new manufacturing jobs created in 2021 alone. Construction spending for manufacturing facilities has doubled since the end of 2021.

(See *Merriam letter*, Page 4A)

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ACSD must confront racism

I share my story for those who feel invisible, who can't speak because it could jeopardize their jobs, for those whose BIPOC children are struggling and they have no choice but to keep them in our public schools, and for those who have been silenced. You are not alone.

Walking into the role of dean as a black woman, I was able to witness Addison Central School District's systems and experience its cracks.

I was hired as the Dean of Climate & Culture at MUMS in August of last year. My job consisted of overseeing discipline, putting out the day-to-day fires that would arise, communicating with teachers and parents, hosting in-school suspensions, detentions, and ensuring 504 plans were adhered to. Within the first week of the new job, I reviewed the Code of Conduct and suspected many students would not respond well to its punitive nature. I decided instead to collect data throughout the year and let the numbers determine how to adjust the policy for the next school year. I also took note that as a black woman in a predominately white space, it would be in my best interest to strictly adhere to the policy I was given as the area of discipline tends to have so many layers already.

As the person who oversaw discipline for the school, I had good insight on most of the conduct issues our students were presenting and how they were normally handled. This is why during one particular team meeting, I was able to call in teachers who were harping on a

student of color's conduct while failing to acknowledge the white student peers who had exhibited the same behavior. Once I brought it to their attention, there was silence. I realized the lack of tools, awareness, and knowledge around it.

Community Forum

This week's writer is Esther Charlestin of Middlebury, who until recently was Dean of Climate & Culture at Middlebury Union Middle School.

Throughout the year I experienced microaggressions and soon they would grow into full on attacks. One day, I went into the girls' bathroom and saw graffiti on the wall with the words "I Hate (N-WORD) Dean." At first, I assumed the writing was about someone else. Perhaps, I was

in denial. Then it dawned on me that I went by *Dean Charlestin* and I'm black. This message was indeed for me. A few months later, when redirecting a student I was directly called a (F-ing N-word). While leadership had been made aware of the growing racial tension, the response was underwhelming at best. I often felt alone.

Over time, my mental and physical health declined. With numerous hospital visits and my body shutting down, there were many days when I was not able to participate in my children's bedtime and my anxiety was through the roof. I worked in a perpetual state of fear.

During this past summer, I utilized my time away to do some soul searching and realized I love my community and I am invested in it. Every day as Dean, I saw the heart of the staff and loved how they showed up to do the hard work every day. I also realized two things were true at the same time. I loved my community, but didn't trust it. My issue wasn't that these things

were happening, it was the way the school handled it.

There was no policy to rely on to give leaders the direction to support students or staff when racist incidents occurred. I began to wonder if the steps taken after the incidents lined up with Vermont law. I also observed that our teachers, staff, and the administration lack the lens of anti-racism, belonging, and inclusion, as well as the tools necessary to implement restorative measures that can build a healthy community.

As a result of my experience, I ultimately made the decision to leave. I think about the BIPOC people, from the employees to the students, who still attend/work at schools within our district and suspect my story is not an isolated incident.

Through my pain and a desire not to dim my light, I started a company called Conversation Compass, LLC. I serve as a facilitator, moderator and consultant to help individuals, companies, organizations, and school districts unlock understanding through compassion, one conversation at a time. The topics range from strategic development to justice, equity, diversity, inclusion and building a culture of belonging.

As a district we have a long way to go and if it is made a priority — I believe we will get there.

Editor's note: We changed a few words here, for instance, substituting "N-word" for the actual words that the students used. We hope that will convey to the reader the shock of seeing youngsters using vile language directed at an adult administrator while not distracting them by reading certain words completely spelled out in a community newspaper.

Merriam letter

(Continued from Page 4A)
Available jobs are up substantially. Wages are up. Inflation is coming down. The stock market is back up to reasonable returns. Improved relationships with our allies both

in Europe and the Pacific rim, along with a strong defense of our democratic principles against the dictatorships of Putin's Russia and Communist China make the U.S. and the world a safer place.

I understand that we still have large problems to solve, but let's look at the glass as half full and not half empty.

Gardner Merriam
New Haven

Ways of Seeing

(Continued from Page 4A)
that which was recently destroyed, but also for the people who were already without a home or wanting to move here and be a part of our workforce, our economy, our communities. These are going to be tough conversations, and most changes will come with a financial, aesthetic, and even emotional cost.

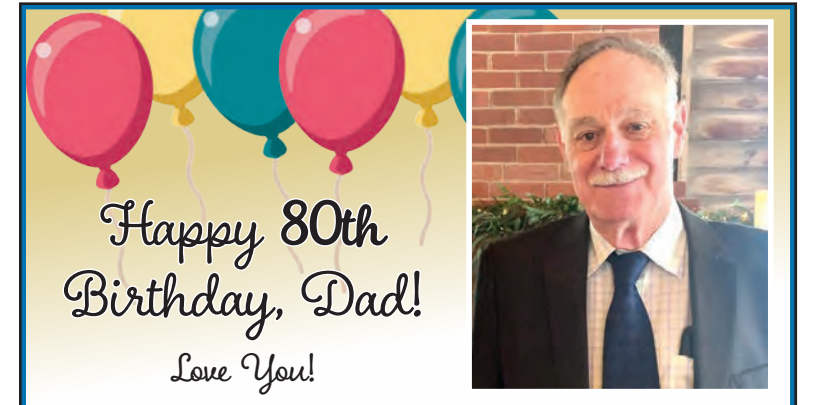
We are hardly alone. Such decisions are happening all over our globe — or not happening until the next natural disaster wipes away the old order. Then, of course, the costs may well be greater. Our ability to discuss and work together to get things done has been one of the significant assets of our small state and communities. This may be one of the biggest challenges we have ever faced, but if we have the will, we can take it on.

May we find a way to guide our

state — this drafty, old farmhouse, perched on the edge of a river — into a new era. May we accomplish what we need to without rancor but working together to solve our problems in the same way people have worked together to clean out the mud and debris, replace the culverts (albeit with larger ones!),

and maintain the roads and the feelings that connect us.

Laurie Cox is a retired school counselor and longtime Ripton Selectboard member. Besides occasional writing she pursues art, gardening, hiking with her dog, and is always striving to build stronger communities.



Hernandez

(Continued from Page 4A)
based on their accents aren't always accurate, even though we are constantly triangulating others' group memberships in part based on the way they speak.

LANGUAGE DISCRIMINATION

Prior research has highlighted the deleterious effects of our linguistic (mis)judgments. Inferring a speaker's race or ethnicity based on their accent over the phone can lead to housing discrimination if real estate brokers assume socioeconomic status or other attributes based on racial or ethnic inferences. People have also been fired from their jobs for having an accent. While clear communication is an important skill for most jobs, research has shown that accented speakers are perceived as less loyal, less intelligent, less credible and less competent, which makes linguistic discrimination all the more insidious.

LINGUISTIC JUSTICE HERE

Knowing that we often attribute characteristics to speakers based on the way they sound, we in Addison County could lead the charge in increasing understanding and inclusion of people who speak with an accent that doesn't sound white, educated and powerful. This applies to everyone from students in our schools to immigrant and migrant communities in our area.

Based on interviews I conducted in Addison Country this summer, I know there's more we could do to support our Hispanic immigrant and migrant communities. Specifically, many women in our area are searching for employment, especially during the winter months.

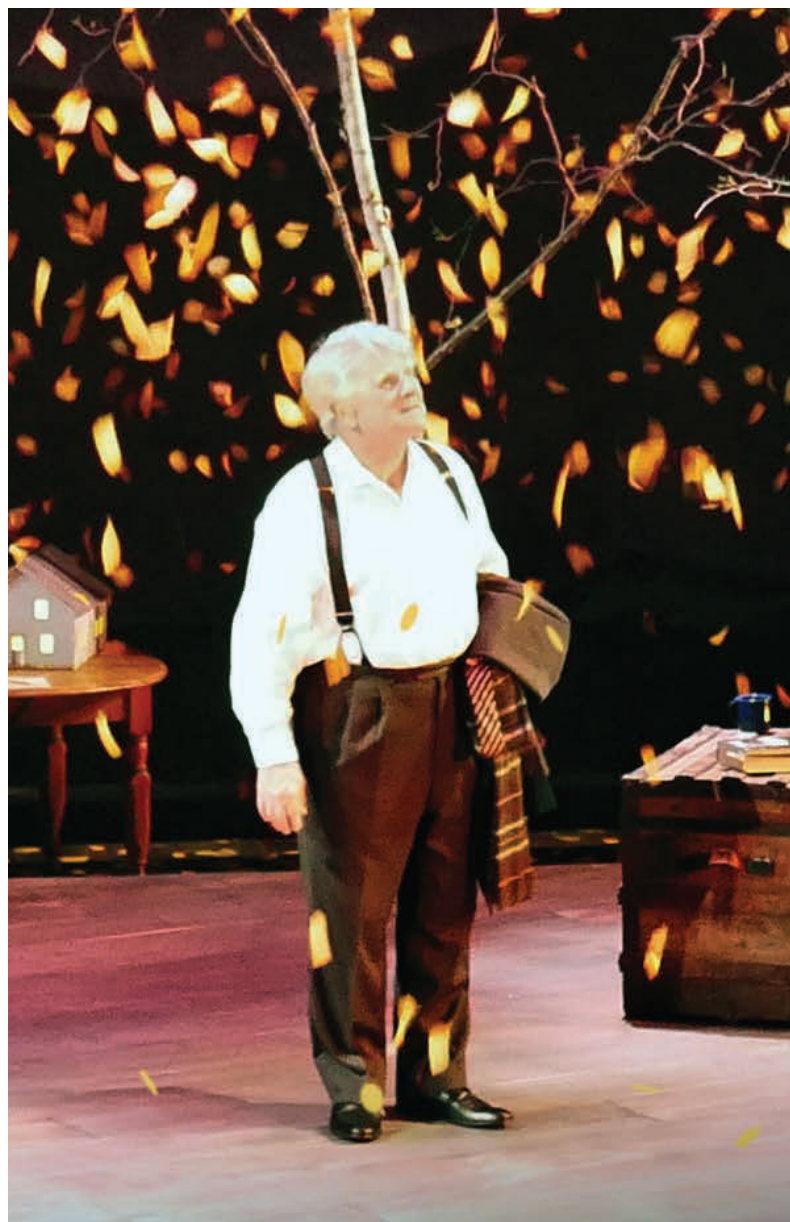
There are plenty of barriers migrant women face in securing employment, including a possible lack of a social security number, transportation options and English language fluency, but we would all benefit from an Inclusive Language Initiative. Organizations like Addison Allies are moving towards

opening a community kitchen to support this population, but before that, women (and men) could help fill staffing shortages, as they are motivated to study English and contribute to the community.

While working with individuals who are learning English, we could apply what we know about our perceptions of accents, taking care not to assume people are less intelligent, loyal or credible based on the way they speak English. Of course, there can be an added challenge of language fluency in the case of English as a second language speakers — anyone who has studied a foreign language in school can empathize with how difficult it can be to express oneself in a second language. But patience, cooperation and kindness go a long way. If you're a business owner

interested in joining the Inclusive Language Initiative, please reach out at the email below!

Alexia Hernandez is a published Linguistics PhD candidate at Stanford University, where she researches Latino varieties of English. In addition to her PhD, Hernandez is pursuing a PhD Minor in Comparative Studies in Race & Ethnicity and a Designation in Cognitive Science. She also serves in a leadership position at El Centro, a campus center for Chicano and Latino students. Before Stanford, Hernandez graduated from Princeton University Phi Beta Kappa and Summa Cum Laude with a BA in Linguistics, receiving multiple awards for her senior thesis research. She can be reached at alexiah@stanford.edu.



Middlebury Acting Company Presents
Emmy Award-winning and Tony nominated actor
Gordon Clapp in:

Robert Frost: This Verse Business

by A. M. Dolan

**FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 8 AT 7:30 PM
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After the Saturday matinee, local Frost biographer Jay Parini will lead a post-show discussion on Frost

Join us for a special reception after the show on opening night: tickets for the show and reception, \$75. For standard ticket options and more info please call 802-382-9222 or go to www.townhalltheater.org



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ADDISON COUNTY

Obituaries

Winifred 'Winnie' Ann Ryan, 81, formerly of East Middlebury

EAST MIDDLEBURY — Our dear mother Winifred "Winnie" Ann Ryan, sadly, passed away on Saturday, Aug. 26, 2023, at the age of 81 in St. Petersburg, Fla. She was a wonderful mother who was always there when we needed her. She also had many friends and was a well-loved member of the community in Middlebury.

Winnie was born in Grand Isle, Vt., on Sept. 17, 1941. She was the daughter of Kenneth and Wilhelmina (Fadden) Poquette. She grew up in Grand Isle, where she received her early education and graduated as Salutatorian, from Milton High School. Winnie worked at Middlebury College for 33 years, culminating as the Administrative Assistant to the Director of the Athletic Department. She moved to Florida in 2018 to be close to family. She enjoyed gardening, cooking, and spending time with family and friends.

She was predeceased by her



WINIFRED "WINNIE" ANN RYAN

husband, Robert Ryan; brother William Poquette; sister Linda Salzbrenner; and grandson Anthony Jarvis.

Winnie is survived by her three sons, Scott Jarvis, Rick Jarvis and Timothy Jarvis; two daughters,

Tamara Tindell and Michelle Sharron; three brothers, John Poquette, Robert Poquette and Kenneth Poquette; two sisters, Annette Duckett and Rebecca Roy; 11 grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren.

A Mass of Christian burial will be celebrated on, Friday, Sept. 8, at 10 a.m., at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Middlebury. Rev. Luke Austin, pastor will be the celebrant. The graveside committal service and burial will follow the mass, in the family lot, at St. Mary's Cemetery.

There will be a luncheon to follow at the American Legion Post 27, Boardman Street, Middlebury, Vt.

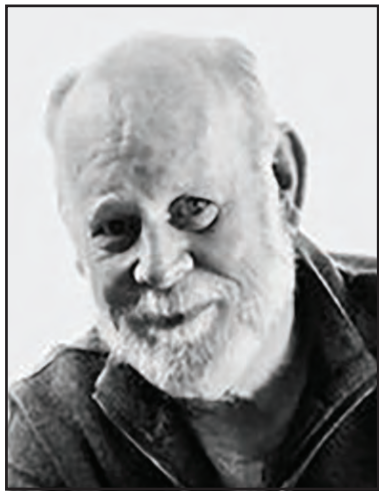
Memorial gifts in lieu of flowers may be made in her memory to: Middlebury American Legion Post 27, P.O. Box 28, Middlebury, VT 05753.

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

Robert Downing Laclair, 70, of Richmond

RICHMOND — Robert Downing Laclair passed away peacefully on Aug. 28, 2023, surrounded by family and friends after a long-fought battle with cancer. He was born in Rutland, Vt., on Aug. 19, 1953, the son of the late Robert Walker Laclair and Rena (Downing) Laclair.

Bob attended Penn State, UVM and Norwich University, where in 1984 he graduated as a civilian with a Mechanical Engineering degree. After graduation he was immediately hired at Simmonds Precision/UTC. He had a long-distinguished career with the company and developed many patents in the aerospace industry. After years as a fun-loving bachelor, he found and married the love of his life, Nancy, in 2011. Together they enjoyed playing golf, cribbage and pool. He was lover of all things mechanical.



ROBERT DOWNING LACLAIR

Bob is survived by his loving wife, Nancy Laclair; stepdaughter Jessica Henderson and partner Dana of Ferrisburgh and her daughter Rachel; stepdaughter

Beth Jackman and husband Jesse of Ferrisburgh, and their children Josie, Emma and Natalie; his sister Patricia Lucas of Williamstown, Vt., and her children, Stephen, Kathryn, Adam and Connor; and numerous great nieces and nephews. He leaves behind many lifelong friends and colleagues.

We would like to thank the staff at UVM medical center, The McClure Miller Respite House and our dear friend Rhonda Fielding for the care and support provided during the last days and hours of Bob's life.

A celebration of life will be held at the American Legion in Vergennes, Vt., on Sunday, Sept. 10, at 1 p.m. In lieu of flowers donations can be made to The American Cancer Society and McClure Miller Respite House. To send online condolences to his family please visit www.brownmccclayfuneralhomes.com. ☐

Paul Richard Meyer, 93, of Middlebury

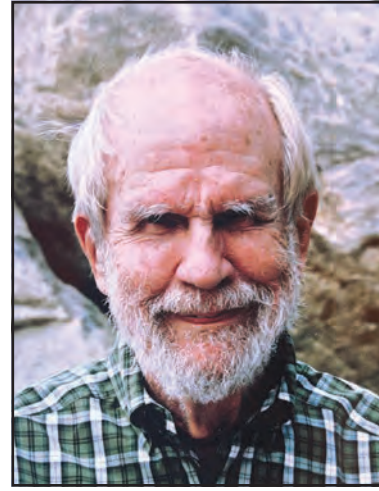
MIDDLEBURY — Our beloved Paul passed away peacefully with his family by his side on the morning of Aug. 24, 2023, at 93. He was born Feb. 2, 1930, in Manhattan, N.Y., to John Henry Meyer and Mildred M. (Heins) Meyer and raised in Yonkers, N.Y.

Paul attended Dartmouth College, earning his undergraduate degree in 1951 and an M.S. in Engineering and Business in 1952. While at Dartmouth, he was awarded the Churchill Prize for outstanding academic achievement and citizenship. He discovered his love of the outdoors and skiing with the Dartmouth Outing Club, where he formed lifelong friendships. In 1952, he accepted a direct commission as a Second Lieutenant in the U.S. Air Force and was stationed in Japan. While in Japan, he made sure to climb Mt. Fuji.

Upon his return to the United States, he worked as an engineer at Eastman Kodak. He left Kodak to attend Columbia University, where he earned a Ph.D. in Mathematics. Paul felt, "You don't choose mathematics, mathematics chooses you." Mathematics remained important throughout Paul's life.

Upon graduation from Columbia in 1964, Paul started as a professor of mathematics at Hunter College and later moved to Lehman College, New York City. He remained at Lehman College until his retirement in 1999. While at Lehman he had visiting appointments at the University of Texas, Austin; the University of London; the University of Padua, Italy; the Indian Institute of Technology in Kanpur, India; and the University of Mexico, where he combined his love of birding with mathematics. Over the course of his career, Paul published 25 mathematical journal articles in topology.

Paul met Mary Ruth Hazelden while working at Kodak and they



PAUL RICHARD MEYER

married in 1955, initially living in New York City and then moving to Yonkers. Together they raised four children: Lisa Meyer (Jeffrey Hughes) of Shelburne Vt., Gretchen Meyer (Raymond F. Gates III) of Cedarburg, Wis.; Peter Meyer (Bonnie Meyer) of University Place, Wash.; and Kristen Stroud (George Stroud) of Mt. Shasta, Calif. Paul generously shared with his family his passion for nature, hiking, skiing, camping, canoeing, and birding in parks and natural areas across the United States.

Paul and Mary separated amicably in 1978. Paul met his second wife, Susan Roney Drennan while volunteering for the American Museum of Natural History's tern project on Great Gull Island and they married in 1997. After Paul's retirement, they moved to Middlebury, Vt. Then, Paul and Susan explored the world while leading National Audubon nature cruises.

Paul reliably shared suitable quotes from Shakespeare, Robert Frost, Thoreau, Charles Darwin and others to enhance any moment or event. His knowledge of and interest in science, literature, current events, history, physics, and numerous other subjects was unbounded. He was especially

passionate about birds and the natural world. He was well known for his "life bird dance."

Paul cared deeply about his family and is survived by his four children and seven grandchildren: Sam Hughes and Julia Richter (Dennis Richter); Sonya Meyer (Nick Schaffer), Naomi Meyer and Monica Meyer (Luke McConnell); and Weston and Owen Stroud; and his great-grandson, Pepin Schaffer. He is also survived by his wife, Susan, and her two children, Matthew Drennan of Bar Harbor Maine, and Maureen Drennan (Paul Gagner) of New York N.Y., and Susan's two grandchildren (Grace and Ava Drennan). Also surviving are three nephews and one niece. He was predeceased by his sister Norma, his brother Kenneth, and his first wife, Mary.

Paul's family wishes to extend their gratitude to the supportive and caring staff at The Residence at Otter Creek who brought much joy to Paul. In addition, the family wishes to thank Deb Wilkinson and Lori Cyr of Taking Care of You for their outstanding service and Addison County Home Health and Hospice, especially, Stephanie Stoddard, his hospice nurse, for the compassionate care and support that they provided to Paul.

As Paul (and Robert Frost) would say:

*"Ah, when to the heart of a man
Was it ever less than a treason
To go with the drift of things,
To yield with a grace to reason,
And bow and accept the end
Of a love or a season?"*

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Vermont Land Trust, local food banks and wildlife conservation organizations.

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

Francis G. 'Butch' Clapper, 78, of Bristol

BRISTOL — Francis G. "Butch" Clapper passed away on Aug. 2, 2023, at Helen Porter Nursing Home in Middlebury, Vt. Butch was born to Frank and Ramona (Dyke) Clapper in Simsbury, Conn., on July 27, 1945. He graduated from Henry James High School in Simsbury in 1964. Butch

served in the United States Air Force stationed at Westover Air Force Base in Massachusetts with an overseas duty assignment in Okinawa. He worked for Brown's Welding in Bristol for over 25 years before his retirement.

Butch is survived by his son, Todd Clapper of Middlebury;

his cousin, Robert Dyke of Middlebury; and his cousin, Nancy (Dennis) Barr of South Woodstock.

Interment will be at the Vermont Veterans Cemetery in Randolph at a later date.

Arrangements are under the direction of Cabot Funeral Home in Woodstock, Vt. ☐

Cathy Fern McCormick, 67, formerly of Ripton

BURLINGTON — Cathy Fern McCormick, 67, passed away on Aug. 20, 2023, at the McClure Miller Respite House in Colchester, Vt. Cathy was born Oct. 1, 1955, in Monterey, Calif., where her parents, Mary (Johnson) McCormick and James V. McCormick, were stationed at Fort Ord. She is remembered for her radiant smile, her ability to build community, her faith, and her fierce loyalty to friends and family.

Cathy was a proud "Army Brat," having moved with her family to many locations across the U.S. and around the world. Cathy's favorite station was Munich, Germany. The family ultimately settled in Lisbon Falls, Maine — the place she would always speak of as her hometown. Cathy met the love of her life and moved to Vermont, where they married and raised a family in Ripton. Cathy's devotion to her children and commitment to quality rural education at the Ripton Elementary School (a poignant topic to this day) are remembered fondly by old friends and former neighbors. The annual Ripton Ridge Run was an important part of her volunteer efforts in the small community that she called home



CATHY FERN MCCORMICK

for decades.

A career employee of the National Bank of Middlebury, Cathy's loyalty to "the bank" spanned customer service, marketing and community development. Whether greeting customers with a smile from the teller line, leading trips with the New Horizons Club, or performing community outreach, Cathy's endearing positivity is fondly remembered by former colleagues.

She continued her legacy of

service to her community with the Middlebury Rotary Club and the United Way of Addison County. After retirement, Cathy returned to Maine for a time to be close to family and her beloved ocean. Friends at St. Matthew's Episcopal Church in Lisbon Falls, Maine, will fondly remember Cathy's companionship. She spent her last years in Vermont living with dear friends at the Heinsberg Senior Center in Burlington, and attending the North Avenue Alliance Church.

Cancer was a thief multiple times throughout Cathy's life — stealing her memory, her independence and many cherished relationships. Cathy was a woman of faith and it was her devotion to God that comforted her through her final days and hours. Cathy leaves behind her children, Emily Merrill of Burlington and Nathan Merrill of Shoreham; sisters Sally Dunn (Floyd) and Rae Johnson in Maine; grandchildren Ariel, Aiden and Oakley; along with many aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews and cousins.

Private services will be held at the convenience of the family. Memorial contributions in Cathy's memory may be made to McClure Miller Respite House.

Please visit awrfh.com to share your memories and condolences. ☐

Obituary Guidelines

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

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



JUNE NADEAU

June Nadeau celebration of life

ESSEX JUNCTION — A graveside service for June Nadeau, who passed away on June 13, 2023, will be held at 10 a.m. on Sept. 16 in the family lot in Bridport Central Cemetery. Please visit awrfh.com to read June's full notice. ☐



BILL AMBROSE SR.

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 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. ☐

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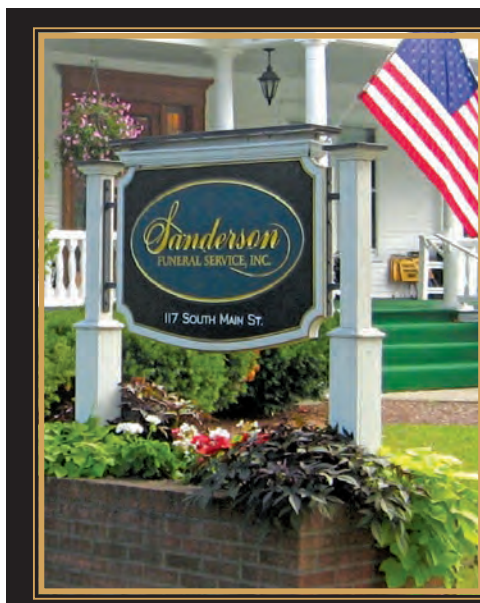
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Edmund Victor Ouellette, 88, of Orwell

ORWELL — Edmund Victor Ouellette, age 88, passed away, surrounded by family, on Monday, Aug. 28, 2023, at his home in Orwell.

Edmund was born in Hubbardton on June 6, 1935. He was the son of Henry and Mary Rose (Preseau) Ouellette. He grew up in Orwell and received his early education in the Sudbury Hill School. Edmund has been a dairy farmer most of his life. He sold his farm in 1987. He continued working with Bud Carpenter in corn sales all around the local area. He enjoyed woodworking. He belonged to the Middlebury Knights of Columbus and the Fair Haven Eagles. He was predeceased by his first wife, Barbara (Taylor) Ouellette in May 1986.

He is survived by his wife, Donna Rae (Carpenter) Ouellette of Orwell, whom he married at St. Paul's Catholic Church in Orwell, on July 22, 1988; three daughters, Brenda Koldys and her husband Tom of Swanton, Joanne Fenton and her husband Mike of Castleton and Marlene McLellan and her husband



EDMUND VICTOR OUELLETTE

Eric of Clarendon; son-in-law Lyman Jerome of Castleton, stepson Russell Nickerson of Worcester, Mass.; two stepdaughters, Dana Booska and husband Jim of Orwell and Kimberly Alexander and husband John of Castleton; three sisters, Alice Brunet of Sudbury, Sylvia Martin of Connecticut and Vivian Larocque of Florida; two brothers, Paul Ouellette of

Vergennes and Emile Ouellette of Virginia. Twenty grandchildren, 26 great-grandchildren and many nieces, nephews and cousins also survive him. He was also predeceased by a daughter, Karen Jerome; a sister, Theresa Mattison; and five brothers, George, Maurice, Fernand, Raymond and Charles Ouellette.

A Memorial Mass of Christian burial will be celebrated on Tuesday, Sept. 5, at 10 a.m., at St. Paul's Catholic Church in Orwell. The graveside committal service and burial will follow the mass, in the family lot at Mountain View Cemetery in Orwell. Following the ceremony, the family will receive friends at the Orwell Fire Station for a time of remembrance.

Memorial gifts in lieu of flowers may be made in his memory to Addison County Home Health & Hospice, P.O. 754, Middlebury, VT 05753, or to St. Paul's Catholic Church, 45 North Road, Castleton, VT 05735.

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

Rwanda proves exception in Africa

Sixth in a series

The Women Deliver Conference in London, 2007, marked the 20th anniversary of the Safe Motherhood Initiative, and brought new ammunition to the case for investing in maternal and newborn health. In 2010, the Conference in Washington, D.C., focused on action; in 2013, it was held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, to galvanize action and accelerate progress to meet the goals of the health and empowerment of girls and women worldwide; in 2016, Copenhagen, Denmark, it was about how to implement the SDGs (Sustainable Development Goals) so they matter most for girls and women, with a specific focus on health – in particular maternal, sexual, and reproductive health and rights – and on gender equality, education, environment, and economic empowerment; and, in 2019, Vancouver, Canada, it concentrated on several issues from health, nutrition, education, economic and political empowerment to human rights, good governance, and girls' and women's agency and equality.

The Women Deliver Conference has a powerful history, though in many places in the world, not least of which is the U.S., women's rights are being challenged.

RWANDA, AN AFRICAN EXCEPTION

Contrary to many African nations, being gay or queer in Rwanda is not illegal. The country is seen as a safe haven by many members of the LGBTQIA community that seek refuge here from violence in their countries of origin. But even if the law is on their side, many gay and queer people still face discrimination in Rwanda, namely when it comes to finding work, as reported in Africanews.

Thus, Rwanda is an *independence movement* in progress, which I will speak about in my next, and final installment.

WD2023 convened 6,000 people in Kigali and 200,000-plus people online through the virtual conference and six-month Global Dialogue leading up to the Conference (60% of the global south contributed). WD2023 is one of the largest multi-sectoral convenings to advance gender equality.

The Conference was held in BK Arena (formerly known as Kigali Arena until 2022), a multi-purpose indoor arena used mostly for basketball and volleyball matches. Built and finished in 2019, it hosts sporting events and concerts. It is the biggest indoor arena in East Africa—it rivals any NBA arena—and is located next to the Amahoro Stadium, with a capacity of 25,000, the largest stadium in Rwanda hosting football (soccer) matches, concerts, and public events.

Attendees occupied every corner of the BK arena, an amazing spectacle. I was impressed that next to every chair in the arena was a bottle of water and a bottle of mango juice—an example of Rwandan generosity.

With sexual and reproductive health and rights at the core, the conference was centered on intersectional feminist principles to address compounding issues impacting girls and women—from climate change to gender-based

violence, to unpaid care work—and collectively identify action and evidence-based solutions.

Yet, the unfortunate reality, according to Sima Bahous, UN Women, is not all rosy. “We see pushback to gender equality and women’s and girls’ rights. It is potent and pervasive,” said Bahous. “We see regression on sexual and reproductive health rights, increased gender-based violence, and discrimination. We see deeply rooted misogyny. In an era of poli-crisis, including climate, conflict, and covid recovery—that power and imperative of equality could not be more urgent.”

The theme of WD2023 was Spaces, Solidarity, and Solutions. The conference had five objectives:

- Catalyze Collective Action to Advance Gender Equality (create and align on shared goals to make concrete gains);
- Hold Leaders Accountable (to actionable commitments and support civil society organizations in tracking and sharing progress);
- Empower the Feminist Movement (connect the movement and drive solutions, and foster lasting and diverse partnerships);
- Reframe Who Leads (center grassroots organizations, youth, communities facing systemic discrimination, advocates, and changemakers working on the ground); and,
- Create Space (develop an accessible and open Space while welcoming all allies).

I was the guest of Shabana Basij-Rasikh, founder of SOLA (School of Leadership, Afghanistan). Shabana took part in the opening plenary among an auspicious lot: Dr. Natalia Kanem, UNFPA (UN Population Fund), Senegalese President Macky Sall, Ethiopia’s President Sahle-Work Zewde, and President of Hungary Katalin Novák, a controversial selection given Hungary’s policies of paying couples to have children, seen as a distancing of women from power. (We know of the U.S. right’s taste for Victor Orbán, who really holds the reins of power, with Novák being merely a ceremonial figure; and she delivered the party line: more children needed in Hungary because the population is dwindling, and immigration has been just about eliminated).

Shabana, introduced as perhaps a future president (future recipient of the Nobel Prize is more like it), was the first on the panel to speak after clearly receiving the most robust acclaim from the large audience, and said that everyone knows that she runs a school (SOLA) where the future presidents of Afghanistan will come—and received quite the

applause.

She spoke of two challenges facing Afghanistan, one internal—Afghanistan is the only place “on planet earth,” she said, “where educating girls is illegal (which is embarrassing and shameful to be uttering those sentences.” The other challenge, she said was external, “where the world looks at Afghanistan generalizing the views of (the) Taliban on the population of the country, meaning that there is a misconception that people in Afghanistan, especially men—fathers, sons, brothers—are not ready to see girls in schools.”

Shabana segued into a description of the SOLA admissions process in their second year in Rwanda: for 25 slots for sixth graders, 2000 applications were received from Afghan girls exiled in 20 different countries. This should tell the world, Shabana said, that Afghan families “are ready to support daughters at any cost.”

RIGHTS ARE CHALLENGED

In my mind, there are many places where we can point to where girls’ and women’s rights are being challenged, even thwarted—this includes the U.S., an embarrassment I felt while sitting in the BK arena—but in no other place are women denied human rights to the extent evident in Afghanistan where simply to go a local store can land a woman in prison.

Afghanistan is the canary in the coal mine; it is an example of how the world is changing amidst forceful denials that this is true so we’re hanging on to outdated models, including in the U.S. where institutions are leaking life, thus relevance, as Dan Balz and Clara Ence Morse describe in “American democracy is cracking.” The Washington Post (8/18/2023).

Yuval Noah Harari (*Homo Deus*) tells us that “The main products of the 21st Century will be bodies, brains and minds, and the gap between those who know how to engineer bodies and brains and those who do not will be far bigger than the gap between Dickens’s Britain and the Mahdi’s Sudan.”

WD2023 is an example of Harari’s assessment whereby those comfortable widening the gap between scientifically created progress and those willing to stake their futures on medieval myths—the Taliban, but the U.S. has its own myths—blindly and egotistically threaten the very foundation of humanity.

Reporter’s note: You can view the opening ceremony and plenary at [youtube.com/watch?v=zZRIE6hNQ8](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zZRIE6hNQ8).



HECTOR VILA
The Women Deliver 2023 Conference

Margolis captures simple moments in poetry

Poetry is often about life, and life is what you make of it. So is poetry, and Gary Margolis’s newest book of poems, “What It Means To Be Happy,” is no exception.

As the title implies, the featured collection gives readers Margolis’s understanding of what it means to be happy. However, by no means should this indicate that every single poem will bring a smile to your face.

Some might, such as “When the Kreemee Stand Opens,” about that much-anticipated spring day when Vermonters can savor their first come after a long winter. However, the Cornwall writer, as you’d expect, alluded to the fact that the temperature is likely to match that of the treat.

Some are sure to make you sad,

such as “Children’s Hospital,” from the perspective of a child about to undergo surgery.

And many of the poems will likely do neither. Instead, they steep your mind in mundane day-to-day occurrences, which Margolis makes out to be the unsung heroes of life through his detailed accounts of these simple moments.

This range of feelings that the collection has the possibility to evoke is what unites each of the poems, which tackle a wide range of subject matters.

And it is through this range of emotions, from the extremes to everything in between that we humans can experience over the course of one day, that Margolis

creates a sort of literary mirror for his readers.

This is no more evident than in “Mower’s Symphony #8,” in which Margolis provides readers an intricate account of an episode of grass-cutting. He writes:

“You love mowing, you said, because it’s monotonous”

He further expresses the narrator’s joy in the chore through a metaphor comparing the ruckus it creates to a Beethoven symphony. It might make you chuckle, and in the process tug the corners of your lips just a tad higher.

Even if you don’t have a lawn to mow—I certainly don’t, with my 21 years of wisdom at hand, and I may well never, as Margolis blatantly expresses in a chilling poem titled “Earthlings” that alludes to climate change — my own mundane moments come to mind as I read “Mower’s Symphony”: including soaking up the satisfaction I derive from chopping veggies (even the onions) while cooking dinner; the hiss of my tea kettle once its finished boiling, alerting me that it’s time for a piping hot nighttime cup and a TV show with my wonderful roommates; and listening to music on a Sunday afternoon while I clean up my various messes that have accumulated since the last.

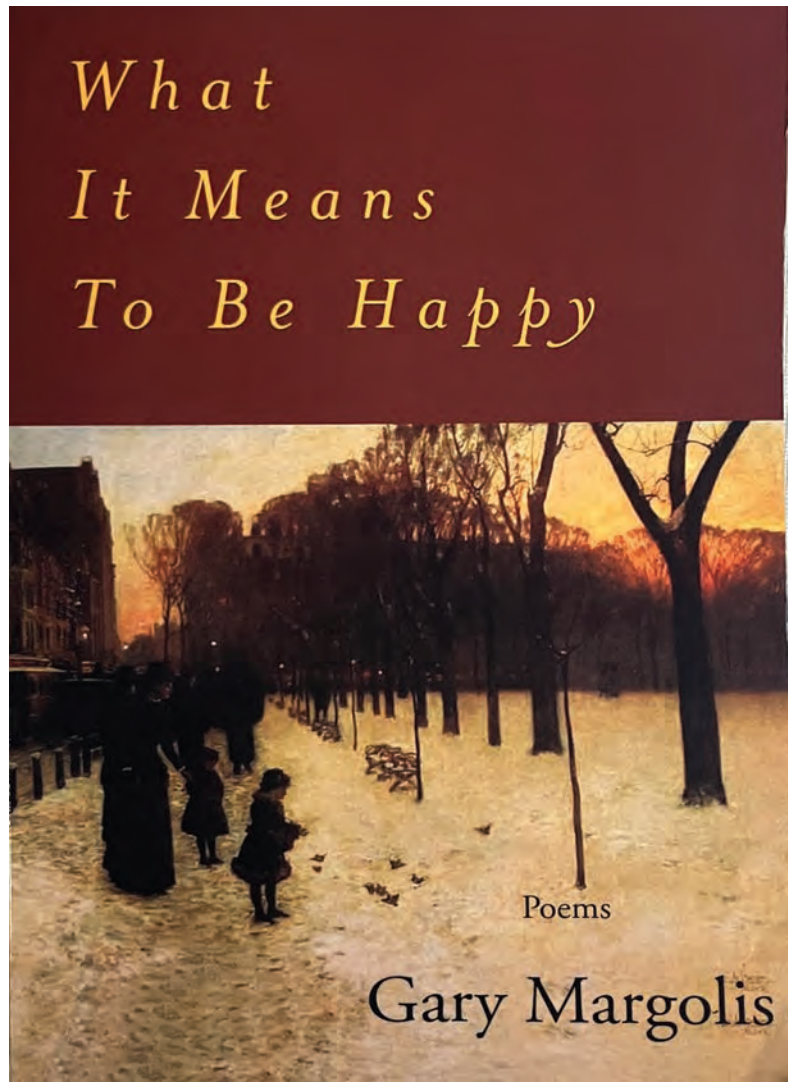
And, the reality is, we all have these mundane moments that curiously bring us peace, maybe even joy, moments that another person may seek to avoid at all costs.

It’s possible that mowing the lawn is the bane of your existence (putting away groceries is mine).

Or maybe you look forward to it every week.

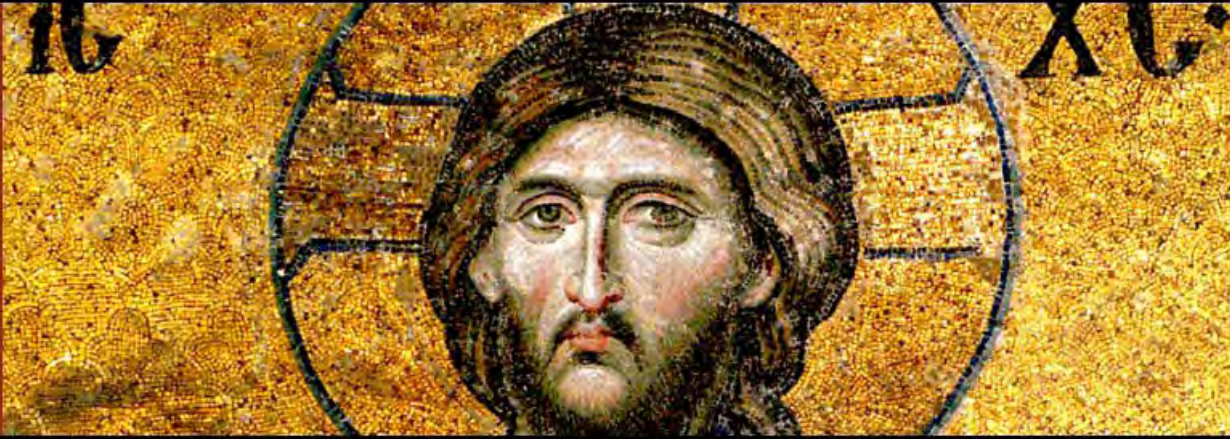
And maybe it’s neither.

Gary Margolis of Cornwall has published several books of poetry, including “Fire in the Orchard,” which was nominated for the 2002 Pulitzer Prize.



St Peter and St Ambrose
Roman Catholic Parishes of Vergennes and Bristol

Catholic Inquiry Classes



St Peter’s Parish in Vergennes will be providing the opportunity to come together in a group setting to learn more about the Catholic Christian faith. Sessions are for those seeking to grow in a better understanding of the Faith, adult Catholics who have not yet received the sacrament of Confirmation, and/or those discerning entering into full communion with the Roman Catholic Church. Sessions are weekly beginning Wednesday, September 13th at 6:30PM.
For further information/registration please contact Fr Steven Marchand at smarchand@vermontcatholic.org or call the parish office at 802.877.2367 – Everyone is Welcome

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ACSD introduces new staff

Officials at Addison Central School District say they are lucky to have several staff moving to new roles within the district and have new faces across the nine schools and the central office. They weren't able to capture all of the new staff in a new teacher day photo, but wanted to welcome all new staff to the district this year:

Kari Aube, Marlies Baird, Katy Bauer, Anthony Bellomo, Savannah Blanchard, Makayla Broughton, Roxie Brouillard, Stephanie Bull, Kimberly Catchpaw, Rachel Cosgrove, Megan Curran, Ida Mae Danforth, Marc Dudsak and Cathy Farman.

And also Samantha Farrell-Schmitt, Connor Foley, Michelle Fongemie, Maddie Fuller, Lexie Grenier, Sam Harlow, Julie Haugan, Marissa Heannings, Tara Huestis, Zach Jerome, Matthew Killkelly, Courtney Krahn, Peggy Leary, Delayah Leavitt, Nicolas



Leslie, Constance MacDougal, Pareja. And also Timothy Porter, Jeffrey Elizabeth Palko and Roberto Rueppel, Emmaleigh Sabol, Calista Sargent, Michael Sassin, Emily Schademan, Catherine Spitzer, Mollie Sprague, Maggie Standley, Tracie Taylor, Wendy Taylor, Mercedes Terrier, Larissa Traverse, Sarah Trudo, Laura Vantine, Katie Willard, and Katrina Yezez.



RNESU welcomes 49 new employees

Rutland Northeast Supervisory Union is excited to introduce 49 new employees who will be working throughout the district in all capacities. All are invited to welcome the following individuals to the Brandon-area schools:

NESHOBE ELEMENTARY
John Aprilliano-Intervention Specialist
Carol Buzby-L/T Teacher: Elementary
Brittney Clodgo-Paraeducator
Anna Cook-Teacher: Elementary
Elizabeth Corey-Teacher: Grade 4
Thomas Darling-Teacher: Elementary

Leah Davis-Teacher: Grade 2
Bianca Madrigal-Paraeducator
Jamie Mahoney-Teacher: Special Services
Georgianna Nop-Teacher: Elementary
OTTER CREEK ACADEMY (Leicester, Whiting, Sudbury)
Jasmyn Carapezza-Paraeducator
Heather Dazzi-Paraeducator
BARSTOW ELEMENTARY
Olivia Bowen-Elementary Teacher
Mary Hitchcock-Teacher: PreK/EEE
Samantha Raymond-Paraeducator

Deborah Poljacik-Paraeducator
LOTHROP ELEMENTARY
Jonathan Davis-Custodian
Natalie Gilliard-Teacher: Special Services
Erica Williams Harryman-Principal
OTTER VALLEY UNION MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL:
Alexandria Brace-Teacher: Special Services
Zachary Brooks-Teacher: HS Social Studies
Erin Cameron-Teacher: Special Services
Courtney Currier-Teacher: Special Services

Joel Jones-Associate Principal
Emerson Doty-Teacher: HS Language Arts
Crystal Eastman-Floating Substitute
Jeremey Everett-Teacher: HS Science
William Gunger-Teacher: HS Social Studies
Cassandra Hayes-Teacher: Special Services
Debra Karpak-L/T Teacher: Health
Larissa McDonough-Social Emotional Learning Professional
Mary Richards-Teacher: HS ELA

Katie St. Raymond-Teacher: HS Alternative Learning
Christina Sweet-Teacher: MS Health
Katie Walleit-School Counselor
Cameron Wescott-Teacher: Choral/Vocal Music
RNESU-DISTRICT WIDE
Stacey Farrington-Home School Coordinator
Laura Jakubowski-Assistant Director of Finance
Aili Jones-School Psychologist
Taylor Lanpher-School Based Mental Health Coordinator
George Smith-Bus Driver
Megan Sheldrick-Paraeducator

Sodbusters to host regional horseshoe championship

BRISTOL — The Sodbusters Horseshoe Pitching Club will host the 85th annual New England Horseshoe Championship Tournament on Labor Day weekend, Sept. 2-3, at the club's courts off Airport Road in Bristol. Friday night kicks off the

weekend with an open double tournament under the lights with music and fun. The tournament officially starts Saturday morning will play continuing until night, and again on Sunday morning until the afternoon with an annual meeting in between the

competitions, which will be organized by classes. The meeting will include induction into the hall of fame, recognition of the most-improved pitchers, etc. and then the business meeting. There will be 150 pitchers playing from the six states of New

England. There will be quite a few of world champions competing for the New England title, Sodbusters organizer Mike Brown pointed out. The last time the tourney was in Vermont was in 2021, and before that it was in 1992 in Bennington.

"This is a unique opportunity for the public to watch horseshoe pitching at their best," Brown said. "We have cadets 12 and under, women, juniors, men and elders pitching away. Kids play in the Saturday morning with the Elder B Class, starting at 8 a.m.

Historical event set this weekend at Mt. Independence

ORWELL — Mount Independence State Historic Site in Orwell, will host its annual "Soldiers Atop the Mount" encampment on Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 2 and 3. This event honors the soldiers who built and garrisoned Mount Independence in 1776-77, 247 years ago, laying the foundation stones of the new United States of America.

Reenactors from the region will be encamped on site. The highlight on Saturday is the popular Baldwin Trail Walkabout, running from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., with experts at stations around the trail and reenactor camp talking to visitors about Revolutionary War subjects specific to those locations. Throughout the day reenactors will demonstrate period life, skills, and military activities and in the afternoon present a woods skirmish, leading visitors to follow the action.

Most activities are outside. Visitors should dress for the weather, wear walking shoes and be prepared to walk around the Baldwin Trail area.

On Sunday morning visit the camps. Mid-day the site will offer a number of short history vignettes presentations and demonstrations.

Event admission is \$9 for adults, \$1 for ages 6-14, free for children under 6, and includes visiting the museum. The museum shop, with an excellent selection of books and other items, will be open. Food and beverages and light snacks are available for purchase both days.

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DB Cab, 4X4, V6, Auto, 167k miles
\$18,995

2017 SUBARU OUTBACK
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Bristol weighing new police station

By MARIN HOWELL

BRISTOL — The Bristol selectboard is continuing to explore the possibility of building a new headquarters for the Bristol Police Department next to the town's fire station and on Monday received initial cost estimates for the project.

Michael Perpall of Cushman Design Group, the Stowe firm that designed the fire station, told the board that a one-story building is likely to cost \$2.6 million and a two-story addition onto the existing fire station is estimated to cost \$3.4 million. Those estimates are expected to increase annually at a rate of 4%.

After hearing the cost estimates and discussing the two options, the board decided it now needs to evaluate how payments on a potential bond for the project compare to what the police district currently pays to rent the department's Munsill Avenue headquarters.

"I think that's the first stage, is figuring out what those numbers are because then we'll see the percentage increase to the police budget for next year and whether we feel that voters would even vote for that," Selectman Ian Albinson said.

The selectboard has been studying alternative locations for the police department since the fall of last year, as the force has outgrown its current location in BristolWorks. Building an addition for the police department onto the fire station has been the preferred option among board members.

Bristol Police Chief Bruce Nason told the board that the board currently cost the police district \$37,350 annually, with an increase of around 3% each year.

The Cushman Design team was tasked with exploring the feasibility of such an addition this past October and in March presented two site plan options to the selectboard.

Those options include a one-story building separate from the existing firehouse. The building would total around 4,050 square feet, a significant increase from the 2,500-square-foot space the department currently uses. The other site plan option is a two-story addition onto the existing firehouse, connected via a second floor "bridge connector corridor." The two-story option is around 5,575 square feet.

Following Cushman's presentation on Monday, the selectboard discussed next steps for its exploration. Board members noted the importance of analyzing the impact of the project's cost on taxpayers, who could field a question regarding the police department as

early as Town Meeting Day next March.

Bristol Police Chief Bruce Nason told the board that rent currently cost the police district \$37,350 annually, with an increase of around 3% each year. Board members plan to evaluate what a potential bond payment would be and how that compares to current rent payments.

TOWN-WIDE EXPANSION

The selectboard has also been considering the separate issue of expanding the police department's service to include the entire town. The department currently serves residents and businesses in the police district, an approximately one-square mile area of what used to be the Village of Bristol.

Board members on Monday determined they will need to gather more information for a town-wide expansion discussion, particularly regarding the service the department currently provides.

"In listening to the rescue squad folks talk about their increase in numbers, I'd be interested to know what Bruce (Nason) is seeing for numbers and what that has looked like over the last couple years," Selectboard Chair Darla Senecal said. "That's information that would be important for people to have talking about going town-wide."

The board on Monday decided that Albinson and Nason will work to gather necessary data moving forward.

THT

(Continued from Page 1A)

two decades ago in securing \$125,000 in college funds to help a local group — headed by current THT Artistic Director Doug Anderson — to acquire the 1884 structure, and later donate significantly more to renovate the facility into the performing- and visual-arts center it is today.

This new \$1 million gift is turbocharging a spirited fund drive that's thus far netted \$5.4 million toward a project that will create a 7,000-square-foot, three-story addition onto the southwest end of THT. The "Town Hall Theater Annex" will include studios for rehearsals, performances,

receptions and arts education. It'll host a scene shop on the sub-level, an educational studio and gallery on the plaza level, and a rehearsal studio and gallery on the stage level. Plans also call for a new outdoor plaza to host mostly free performances, celebrations and to serve as an informal gathering spot for the community.

It's a project that's been in the works for several years, as THT boosters have noted the community's growing thirst for local arts and entertainment programming.

"We're absolutely thrilled and immensely grateful," THT Executive Director Lisa Mitchell said of the college's gift.

"This gift puts within reach of a dream, which is to break ground in November," Anderson said of the massive project, which is currently being reviewed by the Middlebury Development Review Board. "We have a lot of work to do until then. But now we can see (the finish line). Not only do we want to open the annex as soon as possible, we know we will save money if we build now; construction costs are rising. It's a real incentive to all donors. We're in striking distance of the goal, so all hands on deck now to raise that final amount of

money."

Along with being very helpful, the Middlebury College buy-in seemed apropos given the extent to which the institution's faculty and students enjoy performing and displaying artwork at THT, officials said.

"Around 15% of the time, what we're doing involves college students," Anderson said.

"I think the college really looks at THT as another classroom," Mitchell added. "There are some really rich learning experiences that happen here."

The THT-gown relationship has included a summer rental arrangement with the college's language schools, and the building hosts many student musicals. Some college faculty, such as Associate Professor of Theatre Dana Yeaton, stage original dramatic work, dance recitals and other artistic activities at THT. The institution also provides multiple student internships each year.

"There's been a really lovely synergy," Anderson said.

Middlebury College has plenty of state-of-the-art facilities of its own, but Mitchell and Anderson noted those spaces are also in high demand. And students and faculty enjoy seeing their work reach the larger community at THT.

So, when THT boosters floated the idea of a donation to help enlarge and modernize the space, college brass were quick to listen to the pitch. A more robust THT will only strengthen the organization's ties to the college, Mitchell believes.

"It opens up new opportunities for our collaborations and I kind of view this expanded space as an incubator for ideas and art," Mitchell said. "The lower gallery

can be a showcase for student artwork. The plaza can be a showcase for student performances. We're looking to build on the foundation we've developed during the past 15-20 years."

The project also represents an investment in Middlebury, Douglas said.

"The college cares about the community," he noted. "They want a thriving downtown."

As if to punctuate Douglas's point, Middlebury College President Laurie Patton praised the close relationship that has developed between the college and THT over the past 15-plus years.

"Town Hall Theater has provided wonderful experiences for our students, faculty and staff for nearly two decades," Patton said. "One of the things I am most proud of in our vibrant relationship with the town is the level and quality of our artistic partnerships. And Town Hall Theater takes the cake. The theater has hosted Language School programming during the summers, J-Term musical productions for undergraduate students, and is also a strong partner for our Center for Careers and Internships, providing immersive learning experiences for our students in the arts."

"As a way of honoring that great tradition of artistic and educational

partnership," she said, "Middlebury College is thrilled to provide this second million-dollar commitment to support the expansion of Town Hall Theater."

Mitchell said the THT board will meet on Oct. 24 to get an update on fundraising progress. The campaign is currently at 73% of its goal and is hoping to get as close to 100% as possible before pulling the trigger on a construction contract.

"We have two months to narrow the gap," Anderson said, adding that the big donor part of the campaign is still wrapping up (those wanting to contribute \$10,000 and over), while the public phase of the campaign will be starting within the next few weeks.

"I think the college really looks at THT as another classroom. There are some really rich learning experiences that happen here."

— Lisa Mitchell

County farms

(Continued from Page 1A)

other county in Vermont. The survey did not collect farm losses from the wet month of August.

LOSS OF FEED CROPS

Addison County farmers that participated in the survey reported damage on over 14,000 acres, with the most significant being loss of crops meant for feed. The majority of respondents, in both Addison County and throughout the state, said they anticipate experiencing a feed shortage or having problems with feed quality this winter.

The Kayharts grow 30 acres of corn, 200 acres of hay and 70 acres of pasture to feed their 160 beef and dairy cows each year.

Brian Kayhart said excessive rain this summer has prevented him from harvesting hay, which he typically does in mid-July. He noted that this year's corn crop is also poor, likely half of a typical crop at best.

As a result of these feed-related issues, the Kayharts have begun dipping into what is typically the winter feed for their beef herds.

Brian said his farm is trying to avoid doing the same to the feed for its dairy herd.

"The beef feed can tend to be a bit lower quality, which any feed that's out in the fields right now is lower quality because of all the rain and how long it's been sitting there," he explained. "Our hope is the dairy herd will be fine, but the beef herd is where we're taking all the feed from."

Brian said it's likely the farm will need supplemental feed for its herds this year.

"I would be shocked if we don't," he said. "I have 200 round bales

purchased at this point."

The Kayharts have applied for a Northeast Organic Farming Association grant to purchase feed and are hoping to grow more crops to replenish what they've lost.

Brian said the success of that effort will depend on how the weather shapes up in the coming weeks.

"If you get the stuff cut off it's just like your lawn, it'll grow back. The fact that we're sitting right on the first of September, a lot of it depends on how quick you get it off and how long we have before we get to the temperatures where it goes dormant," he explained. "If you had a normal fall, it's possible to get another cut, but it's definitely right on the threshold."

More rain could pose an additional challenge.

"If you have the weather that looks like is coming next week, it's all doable, but if the rain decides to come, we'll have to face that hurdle," he said.

AVAILABLE RESOURCES

The Vermont Agency of Agriculture and the Agency of Digital Services on Friday announced the creation of an online marketplace for farmers and producers looking to buy or sell feed. The platform allows those selling crops like hay, alfalfa and corn to advertise their feed and include details about whether the feed is organic or can be delivered. Farmers use the online feed-finder to browse the availability, locations and pricing of different feed varieties. The marketplace can be found at tinyurl.com/feed-finder.

Other available resources for farmers hurt by July's heavy rains include the Business Emergency

Grant Assistance Program, a new state-run program announced by Gov. Phil Scott and the Vermont Agency of Commerce and Community Development in July.

The \$20 million program offers aid for businesses and nonprofits that sustained physical damage during the July flooding. Businesses are eligible for a grant of 20% of the net documented uncovered damage to their physical property, up to a maximum of \$20,000. \$1 million of the funding from the program will be administered by the Agency of Agriculture and dedicated specifically to agricultural businesses.



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Bristol parks

(Continued from Page 1A)
 project. "That's a big picture goal and certainly not an immediate one, because there's a lot of steps between here and there."

Knight has been thinking of ways to make Bristol's parks more accessible for several years now, an idea that stemmed from her involvement with the Bristol Trail Network. She said that through that work, she became more familiar with the town's parks and noticed how their offerings are often overlooked.

"Memorial Park is so underutilized; a lot of people who have lived in Bristol their whole lives don't even know it exists," she said. "Eagle Park is not very frequently visited. Sycamore Park is a little more commonly used, but still it's a fairly big area and there's so much possibility there."

She began thinking more about ways to make Bristol's parks easier to navigate and enjoy for all visitors. In particular, Bristol's Memorial, Sycamore and Eagle parks each present unique challenges to accessibility for users with varying mobility. Eagle Park does offer an ADA-compliant Universal Fishing Platform, though the platform is currently inaccessible.

"They're these gems that we have. That (underuse) got me thinking about opportunities at those parks to make them both a more used area, but also a more inclusive and welcoming space for people that get around differently," she said.

Along with making it easier for visitors to use Bristol's parks, Knight said she saw the potential economic benefits of making the recreation areas more accessible.

"We know that trails make a community more valuable; it makes the community a more desirable and valuable place to live and increases property values. Also, communities with trails do better, because people come to the communities for the trails and then spend money in the community," she explained. "I started thinking about Bristol as a recreation destination that's more inclusive than just a recreation destination for the most-able people."

PILOT PROGRAM

Knight's accessibility explorations got a boost last

year when the Addison County Regional Planning Commission directed her to the Health Equity and Community Design Technical Assistance Pilot. An offering of the Vermont Department of Health and the Department of Housing and Community Development, the program provides resources and other support for communities looking to develop health community design and placemaking projects centered on equity.

"Trails make a community more valuable; it makes the community a more desirable and valuable place to live and increases property values."

— Porter Knight

'OK, here are some steps that you might be able to take.'

As part of the pilot program, a health survey was distributed to Bristol residents in May, asking respondents about the various aspects that make up a healthy community and about their use of Bristol's town parks.

The questionnaire generated 96 responses, many of which identified town parks as important spaces for community members to be active and social. However, the survey found that half of respondents had never visited Sycamore Park, and more than half had not been to Eagle or Memorial parks. Four percent of respondents said they weren't sure if they'd visited Memorial Park.

The town's participation in the pilot program has also allowed for collaboration with "health equity ambassadors," Vermont residents with special interest or lived experiences related to the program's work.

Knight said she's been able to learn a lot from the ambassadors about how to approach accessibility in a way that is fruitful for community members.

"I was able to connect with a couple of different people to talk about the idea and have them say, 'Well that's a good idea, but did you think about this,'" she said.

"When you are not someone with lived experiences, you make assumptions or call things one thing when that isn't really what it means to someone else. It was a real learning experience for me."

NEXT STEPS

Knight shared an update on her work with the pilot program at an Aug. 14 Bristol selectboard meeting. During that meeting, the selectboard agreed to remain committed to a vision of genuine accessibility for all users at Eagle, Memorial and Sycamore parks.

The board also gave Knight the go-ahead to collaborate with town officials on pursuing a study that would further explore the project. Next month, Knight and Bristol Town Administrator Valerie Capels will begin looking at what such a study could look like and the potential cost.

Knight said that the town could start off with a feasibility study to analyze the possibility of various accessibility upgrades at the three parks, given the challenges presented at each site.

In the months ahead, Knight will also continue her work with the pilot program. Her ongoing collaboration with consultants will include proposing draft signage that could help make the three parks more visible and identifying grant sources that could support studies and any eventual construction.

A portion of the town's ARPA funds could also go towards the project. Funding for engineering studies to explore the creation of handicap accessible trails on town parks was among the 20 projects recommended to the selectboard by the town's ARPA Funding Advisory Committee earlier this year.

Knight's work with the pilot program will also focus on finding ways to engage other stakeholders and boost community involvement in the project. She emphasized that the effort is still in the early stages and that community members are encouraged to reach out with questions and other input.

Knight added that she is heartened by how eager the Bristol community is to get involved in projects like this one.

"I'm always surprised that when you put an idea out there, that people really rally around it and support it," she said. "I'm always incredibly moved by how amazing Bristol is. For me, it always comes back to Bristol being the best town ever."



Perfectly posed

BALD EAGLE SIGHTINGS seem to be happening more and more in Addison County. This majestic fellow was spotted on Lower Foote Street in Middlebury on a recent Sunday.

Photo by Dottie Nelson

Small rivers

(Continued from Page 1A)
 August storms happened along the small streams," said Andrew L'Roe, emergency management planner at the Addison County Regional Planning Commission.

As examples, he pointed to flooding on Lower Notch Road in Bristol, Upper Plains Road in Salisbury, lots of places in Ripton, and many spots in Middlebury, including at 83 Court St.

Carol Harden, vice chair of the Middlebury Conservation Commission, noted that although the streams are small, the flooding can be serious.

"They can do a huge amount of damage, as we now know," she said.

According to L'Roe, their "dispersed and unpredictable" nature can prove challenging for first responders during a storm like the one on Aug. 3 and 4.

"The Middlebury Fire Department was running around the night we had flash floods," he said. "There was flooding in multiple places in town. And you don't know where it's coming."

The unpredictability meant that more help was needed than what Middlebury first responders exclusively could provide.

"That certainly stretches emergency responders," L'Roe said. "We had folks coming in to help from Bristol, Cornwall, Weybridge — all in Middlebury."

Harden noted that at times when they don't warrant the attention of intercounty first responders, small rivers can prove deceptive.

"I think people need to be more aware of the small rivers ... some of these things are dry a lot of the time, or just carry a little trickle, and so we tend to not think about them," she said.

However, she said it's important to understand that their force can quickly become powerful.

An additional concern to consider is that the flow of a small river can be easily halted by accidental dams, resulting in an inevitable big burst that can prove problematic down the road.

"It doesn't take much to block the flow temporarily," Harden said. "If there's a culvert, or even a little bridge, or a tree down across, it only takes a little bit of you know — another tree, trash cans, and trash, some brush, whatever — to create a small dam and actually impound water, and then that usually exceeds the strength of the small dam and

then releases downstream," Harden said.

"And so you get even more than just the rain itself. You can get these extra spurts of water, if it's been held back and then it breaks through."

Harden wants people to appreciate the danger that flooding poses, even if it is just a little stream or brook.

"People need to realize these little streams and even ditches and things can carry a lot of water. And I think as we live in this landscape, we need to just make sure that we give the streams some space," she said.

And although littered throughout the state, the flooding behaviors of small rivers are an ecological challenge that has yet to be widely explored, said Ned Swanberg, regional flood plain manager for the Department of Environmental Conservation. He said small rivers are a leading cause of flooding damages throughout Vermont.

"A lot of the work around consideration of flood hazards has come out of the National Flood Insurance Program. And that has come from a legacy of damage across the country, and particularly around the experience of large rivers," he said.

RIVERS WANT TO MOVE

Because the National Flood Insurance Program maps do not adequately account for this geographic feature, the state has implemented another option for prevention: modification of zoning bylaws to include in river corridors protections to "an area around the stream or river that protects the form of the river as it meanders through the landscape, through the valleys."

"Rivers always want to move," L'Roe explained. Zoning bylaws that implement development restrictions around small rivers could possibly reduce future flood damages of the magnitude experienced on Aug. 3 and 4.

Leaving undeveloped space around the river allows it to pursue a zig-zag path down a valley, rather than flowing straight down. If it is able to zig-zag, the speed of the flow and the power of the river is reduced.

"When the stream channel becomes straightened, much like a skier coming down the mountain, it comes down faster, and it causes more damage, it arrives with more

water and more power, all the way down the hill and into the valley," said Swanberg.

By limiting development near small streams, it's possible to "create protected space where it's still available, so that the river can find its least erosive path down the valley," he said.

The only towns in Addison County that have the "interim" River Corridor bylaws are Lincoln, Ripton, Granville and Orwell, L'Roe said.

"Which also means they're the only towns reimbursed at the maximum post-disaster (Emergency Relief and Assistance Fund) rate (17.5%), which can mean an additional \$50,000 that the town wouldn't have to come up with if they suffer \$1 million-plus in damages," he added.

Pursuing this prevention effort could be in Addison County towns' best interest, financially and otherwise, according to Swanberg and Harden.

Flooding issues aren't going to disappear.

"The more the atmosphere warms up, the more moisture it can hold. And it's not just the atmosphere over Middlebury and Addison County. The whole world has warmed up quite a bit," Harden said.

"As we look around the country and the world, we are seeing rain events that we would have thought were really unusual in the past, and they're kind of all over the place. And they happen more than once. We've had a number of hard rains this summer. So I think in a warming world, this is what we have to deal with in the future."

Swanberg agreed we can expect more of this flooding in the future, so it's important we start thinking as a collective, rather than as individuals.

"It may not always hit in the same place," he said. "We need to be working together on common standards that are going to support all of us. When disasters come, they can be seriously harmful to individuals and families and businesses. But they're also harmful to all of us, as federal taxpayers, as state taxpayers, as community taxpayers," he said.

"We need to be working together to actually reduce our risk. Our risk is not going away anytime too soon."

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Charleston

(Continued from Page 1A)
case manager, facilitating after-school extracurriculars (ranging from sports to club meetings) and generally supporting students and teachers.

"Throughout the (2022-2023 academic) year I experienced microaggressions and soon they would grow into full on attacks," Charleston alleges in her op ed.

"Walking into the role of Dean as a black woman, I was able to witness ACSD's systems and experience its cracks."

She cited two specific incidents, spaced a few months apart, that she said occurred during the late winter/early spring.

The first, she said, involved the discovery of graffiti in the girls' bathroom that read, "I Hate (N-words) Dean."

"At first, I assumed the writing was about someone else," Charleston wrote in her community forum. "Perhaps, I was in denial. Then it dawned on me that I went by Dean Charleston and I'm Black. This message was indeed for me."

The second incident involved allegations of being called an "(F-ing N-word)" by a student she was redirecting inside the school.

"My issue wasn't that these things were happening, it was the way the school handled it," Charleston said. "There was no policy to rely on to give leaders the direction to support students or staff when racist incidents occurred. I began to wonder if the steps taken after the incidents lined up with Vermont law. I also observed that our teachers, staff, and the administration lack the lens of anti-racism, belonging, and inclusion, as well as the tools necessary to implement restorative

measures that can build a healthy community.

"While leadership had been made aware of the growing racial tension, the response was underwhelming at best. I often felt alone," she added.

The *Independent* reached out via email on Tuesday morning, Aug. 29, to MUMS Principal Michaela



"We did investigate and applied appropriate measures against the perpetrators. It was handled at the building level, which is how it should be done."

— interim Superintendent Tim Williams

Wisell, ACSD board Chair Barb Wilson and district interim Superintendent Tim Williams for comment. As ACSD's top administrator, Williams took the lead in providing the district's response.

Williams was already familiar with Charleston's allegations, as she had shared her remarks with him and ACSD board members through an email she'd sent out during the morning of Monday, Aug. 28. The matter wasn't raised at the board's meeting that evening. Charleston offered her correspondence to the *Independent* to run as an op ed late Monday evening after the ACSD board meeting.

It should be noted that Williams only began his tenure with the ACSD on July 1, and thus wasn't on the job when Charleston's complaints were originally raised.

"I really didn't know anything about the situation until I read her email," Williams said.

He said the district has a process for fielding and adjudicating complaints filed by educators. The complainant is first asked to report concerns to their supervisor, with the ability to pursue the matter with higher-placed ACSD officials if unsatisfied with the supervisor's response, Williams said.

"From what I understand, we did investigate, and applied appropriate measures against the

perpetrators," he said. "It was handled at the building level, which is how it should be done."

He said he was unable to share the identities and exact punishment meted out to the juveniles in question, but said, "It wasn't a slap on the wrist; that's all I can say."

The ACSD doesn't have a separate complaint avenue for alleged racial incidents, but Williams stressed the district takes all complaints seriously.

As previously reported by the *Independent*, MUMS was particularly hard hit with student discipline issues and staff turnover during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Some of the more serious incidents have required Middlebury police response. District officials established the dean of climate & culture post as part of a strategy to address student unrest.

Charleston had previously conveyed concerns of being subjected to racial discrimination in the Middlebury area. She stepped down from the Middlebury selectboard last August after being unable to secure a place to live in town after her previous lease had expired.

Charleston told the *Independent* back then that she'd received no call-backs from some prospective Middlebury landlords and home sellers, even though she'd met the income requirements.

"To be honest with you, I've experienced racism, with people who owned property but did not get back to me," she said at the time. "I'm talking 'check in hand, ready.' But they didn't respond."

In January 2021, the Middlebury selectboard formed a Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Workgroup charged with evaluating potential consulting resources to "assist the board with building capacity to engage the Middlebury community in discussions regarding the local impacts of racism."

The workgroup subsequently recommended the town sign a \$32,000 pact with Tabitha Moore Consulting LLC and Lisa Ryan to help municipal and police officials identify and address systemic racism within the town, and engage with the community on issues of racial justice, public safety and law enforcement.

Moore and Ryan last December shared the results of a "Middlebury Racial Equity Survey," and are slated to submit a final report to the selectboard in the near future.

Williams said the ACSD is trying to fill the vacant MUMS dean of climate & culture post. Its long-term status remains uncertain, as of this writing, because it's being funded with a federal pandemic-relief grant that'll expire at the end of this school year.

District officials will be spending the next four months making a lot of tough decisions on a fiscal year 2025 education spending plan, including whether some or all of the grant-funded jobs should be continued at taxpayers' expense. ACSD taxpayers will field the FY'25 spending proposal next March.

What about Charleston? She's just started a company called "Conversation Compass LLC," through which she serves as a "facilitator, moderator and consultant to help individuals, companies, organizations, and school districts unlock understanding through compassion, one conversation at a time."

Charleston concludes her community forum with a message of hope. "As a district we have a long way to go and if it is made a priority — I believe we will get there," she said.

John Flowers is at johnf@addisonindependent.com.

By the way

(Continued from Page 1A)
that Vermont State Police based at the New Haven barracks will join other Addison County local law enforcement in conducting DUI sobriety checkpoints in our area this weekend. The overriding message: Drive safely and if you plan on imbibing, please line up a designated driver.

The Three-Day Stampede Toward the Cure for Cystic Fibrosis had a magnificent, 30-year run in Bristol and raised about \$2.4 million to help fight the genetic disease that affects people the world over, including several people in our county. And the fight goes on, albeit in a more measured way. The 2nd annual Walk-a-thon and 5K run for "The Stampede 2.0" is happening on Saturday, Sept. 23, as a kickoff for the Annual Bristol Harvest Festival. In a way, the CF effort has come full circle; the walk-a-thon was a precursor to the Stampede, which featured a massive lawn sale and other fundraising events for a long weekend each summer. Organizers are hoping for a stellar turnout for this year's Walk-a-thon and 5K run; you can register at threedaystampede.org/5k-registration. It should also be noted that the Stampede organization in June hosted its 2nd Annual Cure Cup (a field hockey tournament). The brainchild of Kayla Flint, that tourney raised \$7,100 for The Cystic Fibrosis Foundation. "We are excited to continue with the new and different fundraising opportunities that we are creating," said event co-organizer Bonita Bedard.

Gov. Phil Scott this week announced "Vermont Strong" license plates are now available for purchase. All proceeds will support victims of the summer's severe flooding. There are two different license plate options. One reads, "We Are Vermont Strong '23" and

the other includes the words, "Tough Too!" The license plates cost \$35 each, and retailers may place bulk orders for resale at their business. The two license plates can also be purchased in-person at all Vermont Department of Motor Vehicle, starting Sept. 1. Online purchases can be made at dmv.vermont.gov/vermontstrong23. Half of the proceeds from the sales will support the Middlebury-based Vermont Community Foundation, which is helping fill gaps in funding needed to address the most significant disaster relief needs of individual Vermonters. The other half will support the Agency of Commerce and Community Development's Business Emergency Gap Assistance Program, which is helping employers who experienced significant flood damage to reopen and reemploy Vermonters. There's also an option to make a direct monetary donation through the DMV website.

The First Baptist Church of Bristol will give community members a chance to meet and greet its new pastor, Isaac Dzomeku, on this Sunday, Sept. 3. On that day, the church will hold its service at 9:30 a.m. on the town green, near the bandstand. For more information, call 802-453-2381.

Average gasoline prices in Vermont have fallen by 0.6 cents per gallon during the past week to \$3.81, according to GasBuddy's survey of 626 stations. That average is 9.4 cents higher than a month ago and 31 cents lower than a year ago. The cheapest station in Vermont sold at \$3.53 this week, the most expensive \$3.92. The national average price fell 4 cents to \$3.78. That's 5.8 cents higher than a month ago and 3.5 cents lower than a year ago.

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Spotlight on Vergennes

Little City dispensary receives warm welcome



ALYSON AND MICHAEL Kennedy in mid-July opened the first cannabis shop in Vergennes, Little City Greens, right in the heart of downtown. They say their Green Street venture has been well received by residents and visitors alike.

Independent photo/Andy Kirkaldy

By ANDY KIRKALDY

VERGENNES — The first cannabis dispensary in Vergennes, Little City Greens, has been open for just about a month, just a few steps from the city green — and it's married owners, Alyson and Mike Kennedy, call it a "Mom and pop shop."

Little City Greens does business in the stone-walled, exposed-beam basement of 7 Green St., until recently the home of Daily Chocolate. The chocolate business retained the same street address, but moved upstairs in the same building.

The Kennedys, Vergennes residents for more than a dozen years, said their new venture has been well received since it debuted in mid-July.

Alyson said their goals for the first couple months were to break even and receive a positive response among their fellow city residents, and so far both those wishes have been fulfilled even without a lot of publicity, such as a grand opening.

"The locals alone have been amazing. We've gotten quite a few travelers, because it's right on a major route," she said. "We just kind of softly opened, and word of mouth got around pretty quickly."

Little City Greens offers a variety of cannabis products: unrolled and pre-rolled flower, edibles such as gummies, tinctures, drinks and vape cartridges, plus related products including a selection of pipes and bongs.

Alyson estimated half of their products are sourced from Addison County, a percentage they hope and expect to increase over time, while all of it is grown in Vermont, either indoors or out.

"We do try to keep it as much Addison County as we can," Alyson said, and they buy from farmers in Ripton, Lincoln, Weybridge and Middlebury.

Visitors to their shop will hear a doorbell that rings automatically to alert the Kennedys of their presence. Usually that will be Mike, who Alyson describes as the store manager and most often works the counter. Alyson said she also works fulltime for a property management firm as well as handles accounting and other elements of Little City Greens' business end.

"He does the fun stuff," she joked. "I handle the nitty-gritty background stuff."

Regular hours are 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesdays through Saturdays. Alyson said she often joins Mike, a restaurant sector veteran, on Saturdays or late afternoons, and she pledges a friendly welcome from either member of a couple that lives close enough to walk to their new shop.

"We're extroverts for sure," she said. "It doesn't feel like work (See Dispensary, Page 13A)

City delays plan to study fire, rescue regionalization

By ANDY KIRKALDY

VERGENNES — The Vergennes City Council once again last week tabled a proposal for a study to be co-funded by Ferrisburgh that would look at the possible benefits of regionalization of the area's fire and rescue services.

Council members agreed that, at their Sept. 26 meeting, they will take up the question of a study estimated in late 2022 to cost \$40,000.

The Ferrisburgh selectboard last year agreed to pay for half the cost of the research, which Vergennes City Manager Ron Redmond recommends should be performed by Municipal Resources Inc. (MRI). Redmond has said MRI has successfully conducted such studies, including in Vermont.

Redmond has also proposed using the infrastructure fund Vergennes voters approved in March, which consists of the city's remaining American Rescue Plan Act funding, to pay for the city's share of the study. Redmond said the final cost could rise due to inflation.

Council members agreed on that funding source, but some — notably Sue Rakowski and Jill Murray-Killon — said they were concerned the city could spend up to \$25,000 and have nothing come of it.

They said the fire departments already have mutual aid agreements and noted the Vergennes Area Rescue Squad operates independently from the municipalities.

"I'd like to hear from the folks that this would impact," Rakowski said. "I'm not entirely sure what the problem is we're trying to solve."

Both said they wanted some assurances the agencies involved would buy into recommendations.

"I just want to make sure we're spending money on something that people are going to have an appetite to follow," Murray-Killon said.

Councilor Cheryl Brinkman pointed out that Ferrisburgh's selectboard members had already approved the funding.

"They must have had some conversations with their fire department," she said. "So we kind of know they have some buy-in."

Deputy Mayor Dickie Austin also spoke in favor of the study, not only because of potential cost savings, but also because it could help resolve the ongoing debate between Vergennes and Ferrisburgh about how the city bills the town for the portion of Ferrisburgh for which it is the first responder.

A four-decade-old agreement uses a ratio of the assessed property value in each of the four communities the Vergennes Fire Department covers (Panton and Waltham as well as the city and much of Ferrisburgh) to determine how much to charge each. But Ferrisburgh has argued city firefighters make more calls in the city than in the territory it covers in Ferrisburgh, and using number of calls to determine Ferrisburgh's share would be more fair.

The study could help the communities "move past the constant conversation about the billing process," Austin said, as well as save money by "limiting redundancies among cooperating agencies."

"It benefits all of us to visit how we can meet those needs," Austin added.

Redmond also said he, City Fire Chief Dave DiBiase, Ferrisburgh Chief Bill Wager, and the previous and current Ferrisburgh selectboard chairs have held a series of meetings in the past year in which they have shown interest in buying in. The current Ferrisburgh chair, Clark Hinsdale, has also in conversations with the *Independent* and in public meetings supported regionalization of services.

Redmond acknowledged the talks among officials have been at informal meetings, and said the council should probably hear more directly from those involved.

"You need to hear the people who say they want it say they want it," Redmond said. "Let's give that a try in the last meeting of September. I think it would be helpful to have someone from Ferrisburgh here."

Mayor Chris Bearor summed up: "We'll get a little more information and come back in September and figure it all out."

Ferrisburgh

Have a news tip?
Email Sally Kerschner at
smwkersch@comcast.net

NEWS

FERRISBURGH — Storytelling with "My Dentist's Son" will be held at the Ferrisburgh Union Meeting Hall on Sunday, Sept. 10, from 3-4:30 p.m. We've all had magical, magnificent experiences that challenge the boundaries of what we believe is "possible." More often than not, when faced with such improbable beauty, we are forced to choose between two worlds: one that is full of magic, and one that is devoid of it. My Dentist's Son is a place for stories that don't fit. A space where these mystical experiences can be shared — big or small — however they appear. For more information on this unique opportunity for personal storytelling, visit www.mydentistsson.com or

visitferrisburghvt.com/community-calendar.

Our area schools are actively preparing for the upcoming academic year that will be full of events and programs to enrich our students' learning experiences. Families and the community are encouraged to follow the schools' websites and other social media to stay informed of school events and to learn how we all can support the education of our community's children. Visit the Vergennes Union High School website to learn how to volunteer for such groups as the Commodore Friends of Music, the Parent Teachers' Group, or the Booster Club: www.vuhs.org. The site for Ferrisburgh Central School, www.ferrisburghcentral.org will have information for parents and families about how to support the many school activities.

On Saturday, Sept. 16, at 8:30 p.m., Rokeby will host the Vermont Astronomy Society to view the night sky. The Society will provide numerous telescopes to share some of the wonders of the night sky, such as details of the moon and major planets, nebulae and the Milky Way. Registration is at the Rokeby website and Rokeby will be in contact if there are changes in the date due to weather. For more information, visit www.rokeby.org or www.vtastro.org.

The Ferrisburgh Conservation Commission is hosting a Bird Walk on Saturday, Sept. 9, from 9 a.m.-noon, hosted by The Bird Diva, Bridget Butler. Meet at the Ferrisburgh Town Offices to organize for transportation to the Little Otter Creek Wildlife Management Area. To learn more or register email Conservation Commission member Jen Cirillo at cirillo.jen@gmail.com.

Ferrisburgh Grange "King Pede" card parties are scheduled for the Saturdays of Sept. 2, 16, and 30 at 6:30 p.m. These get-togethers are held at the Ferrisburgh Town Hall and Community Center and will begin with a sandwich supper and then move on to an evening of fun and games. King Pede is a game that involves "trick-taking" such as in Hearts and Spades or Pitch.

More Ferrisburgh News next week.

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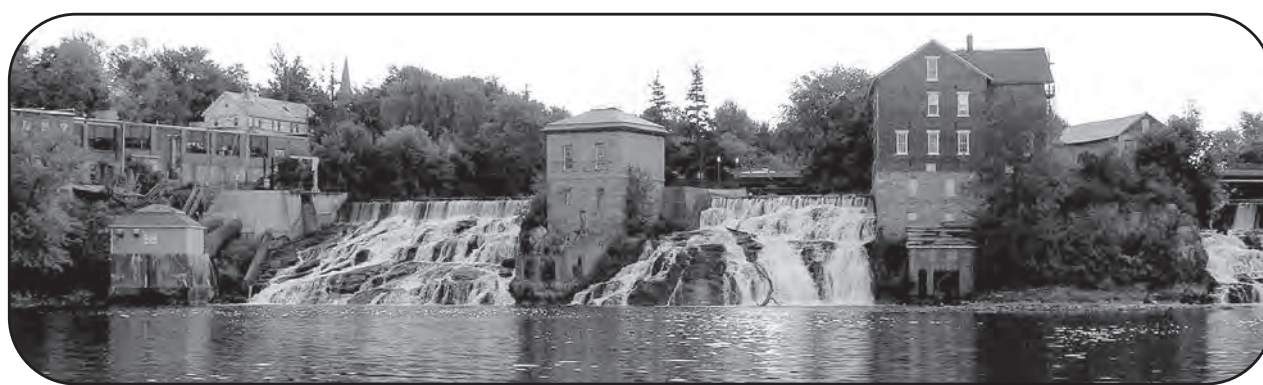
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THE VERGENNES-AREA SCHOOLS in the Addison Northwest School District are welcoming more than 40 new teachers and other staff this school year. Shown in the photo, from left, are: Kneeling: Kim Hunt, Jocelyn Noble, Taylor Krupp, Morgan Kathan; Second row: April Ambrose, Nan Guilmette, Maggie Ahern, Megan Rogers, Randi Barry, Justin Morrison, Sarah Oemcke, Laura Cavazos, Rebecca Edelman, Kathryn Reardon, Camie Thompson; Back row: Irena Pavlin, Chris Melnyk, Jay Stetzel, Emily Rossier.

Photo courtesy of ANWSD

Welcome to the team

Here is the list of all the new ANWSD new staff:

CENTRAL OFFICE

Kimberly Hunt, Coordinator for Equity and Inclusion
Peter Garrecht, Interim Director of Student Support Services
Tim White, Systems Administrator

VERGENNES UNION MIDDLE SCHOOL

Colden Golann, Principal
Nan Guilmette, MS Social Studies
Phoebe de Noronha, Long Term

Sub-English

MS Counselor- Jay Stetzel

FERRISBURGH CENTRAL SCHOOL

Molly Struhammer, Math Interventionist
Michelle Houghton, Literacy Interventionist

Megan Rogers, Grade 3/4 Teacher
Randi Barry, Grade 3/4 Teacher
Jocelyn Noble, Music Teacher

Morgan Kathan, Health and Physical Education

Jamie Bunde, Nurse

Jake Bell, Para Educator

Laurie Eglintine, PK Para Educator

Sierra Bertrand, Support Staff

Allison Eddy, PreK Fusion Site Coordinator

Kristen Fairbrother, Personal Care Assistant

William Thompson, Para Educator

VERGENNES UNION ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Beth Bearor, Assistant Principal
Beth Estey, Child Nutrition Manager
April Ambrose, Grade 2 Teacher
Kathryn Reardon, Grade 6

Humanities
Sarah Oemcke, School Social Worker

Christopher Melnyk, Grade 6 STEM

Laura Cavazos, Grade 2 Teacher

Maggie Ahern, Special Education Teacher

Justin Morrison, Math Interventionist

Taylor Krupp, Grade 2 Teacher

Emily Intemann, Kindergarten Teacher

Linda Larocque, Special Education

Kristin DeGraaf, Para Educator, Fusion Site Coordinator

Rachel Connor, Para Educator

Matthew Hotte, Head Custodian

VERGENNES UNION HIGH SCHOOL

Glenn Story, Drivers Education

Camie Thompson, Walden Science

Alexandria Benfatti, Athletic Trainer

Samuel Pettorini, Mathematics Interventionist

Irena Pavlin, Mathematics

Emily Rossier, Social Emotional Learning Coordinator

Mateo Ellerson, Behavior Interventionist, Beacon Program

Rebecca Edelman, School Counselor

Dispensary

(Continued from Page 12A)
when we come here.”

BUSINESS ROOTS

The couple met while working together in Essex after Mike, a New Hampshire native, completed his degree in marine biology.

Alyson, a Williston native, said they then “traveled for a while before we settled down” in Vergennes, and they now have two sons, ages 9 and 7.

While Mike was already a cannabis user, Alyson said she became a medical user nine years ago. After the birth of their first son, Alyson said what had been lifelong sleep woes became worse.

“I have had sleep troubles my entire life, back to when I was a toddler,” she said. “Once I had my first child I was just anxiety-ridden. I was a new mom. I was overwhelmed.”

Mike suggested cannabis could help, and he was right.

“My husband just decided to grow a little for me,” Alyson said. “He knew it would help me, and it did. I could basically be a better

mother because I could sleep. I could calm down and relax.”

A seed had taken root.

“Once it became legal I hoped more people could benefit from it the way we have,” she said.

The dream blossomed this past February when the couple vacationed in British Columbia, where cannabis sales have been legal since 2018. By this past winter Mike was also ready to move on from the restaurant business, and that trip to Western Canada inspired them to think of their own shop.

“The common use of it up in B.C., really opened our eyes that this could be something we could be interested in,” Alyson said.

When they returned to Vergennes, they at first had trouble finding a spot. But when they learned the Daily Chocolate space was opening up, Alyson said unlike some landlords asked about leasing to cannabis shops, building owner Mark Koenig was not only receptive, but also supportive.

They opened once renovations

were complete. The space is dominated by a large, three-sided central counter stretching out from the back wall, with flower and bong racks and a Buddha statue to the left.

As well as the doorbell, a sign inside greets customers and asks them to wait until their IDs are checked. Once that routine is complete the Kennedys will help guide patrons to products that meet their needs, which can vary.

“We tell them the lay of the land, ask them if there is anything

particular they are looking for. You’d be amazed how many people come in here for a specific reason,” she said. “You can gear them to where they need to go to find what they are looking for.”

For example, she said some customers are looking for better sleep, others for help with stress and anxiety, and still others hope to find relief from pain.

Different strains of cannabis are better suited for each of those goals, Alyson said, and she and Mike can point customers in the

right directions, not only in choice of cannabis, but also in method of delivery.

“Just on the flower bar alone, if someone is in here and they have specific reasons to be here, it tells you what the ... effects of those flowers are going to have,” Alyson said. “Is it going to be relaxing, euphoric? Is it going to be uplifting? And on the bottom it’s going to have a little more if you’re looking for a medicinal use of it: This is what it tends to help with. There’s pain, there’s stress,

there’s inflammatory.”

Critically, Alyson said, they wanted to open their shop in Vergennes, where they could walk to work and serve their community.

“We’ve been in Vergennes for going on 13 years now, and we love it. We absolutely adore this town,” she said. “It had to be here or nowhere at all.”

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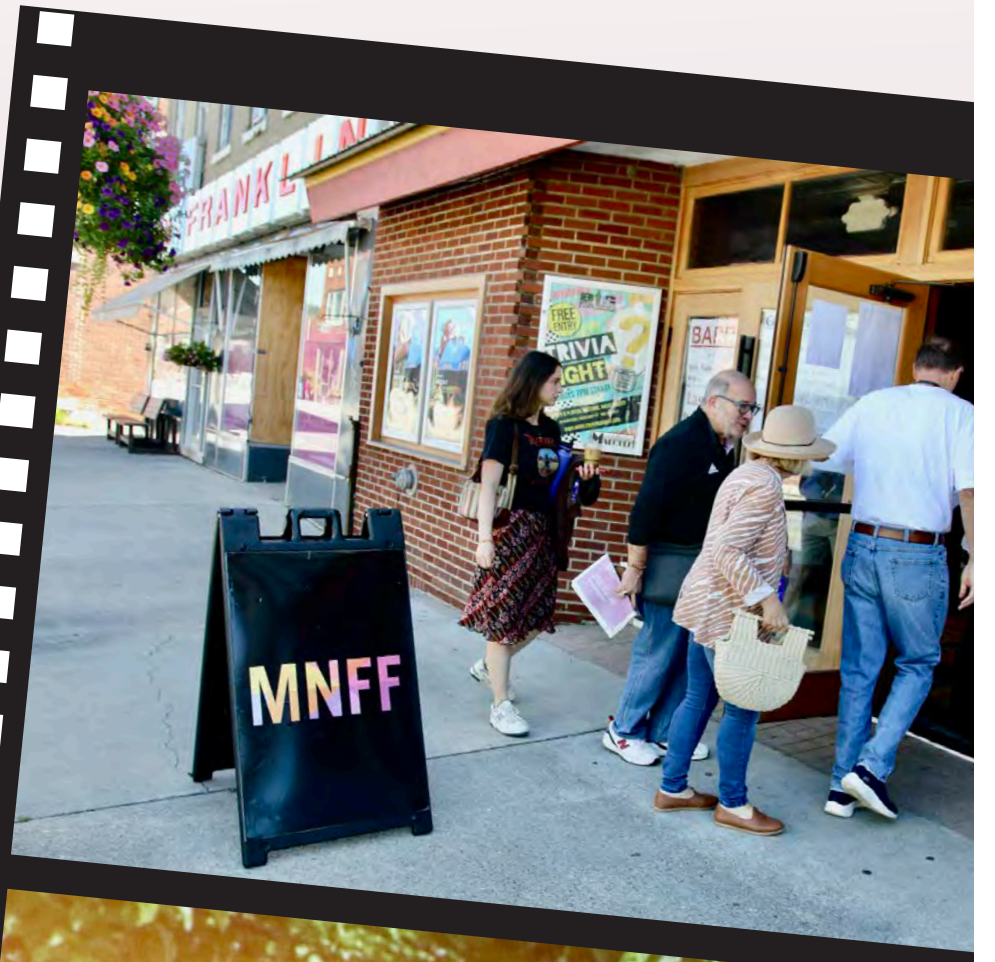
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Number 9

IN ADDITION to the locals who enjoyed the ninth annual Middlebury New Filmmakers Festival from Aug. 23-27, scads of out-of-towners converged on the shire town to watch, enjoy and talk about the 130 films screened over those five days. Shown clockwise from below, moviegoers stream into the Marquis Theater, one of five MNFF venues; "Whitmore Brook" director Ben Silberfarb of Norwich accepts a VTeddy award for the best Vermont-made film; British-Afghan filmmaker Makez Rikweda is interviewed about her film "Fat Girl" by *Middlebury Magazine's* Matt Jennings at the MNFF studio set up in the former stationary store on Main Street; Middlebury College President Laurie Patton is surrounded by MNFF interns and Middlebury students Rachel Peck, John McCulloch and Lauren Sayula; Vermont photographer Jim Westphalen (right) poses with Cornwall farmer Jack Watts, who was featured in Westphalen's documentary "Vanish"; former MNFF interns Siena Caddle, director of the short film "Hormonal," and Annika Ellis, who made the film "Life in This Body," arrive at Town Hall Theater as bona fide filmmakers; novelist Jay Parini (right) interviews Oscar-winning screenwriter Alexander Payne after a screening of his movie "About Schmidt"; filmmakers John Slattery, Bess O'Brien and Jay Craven, who is also MNFF artistic director, hang out; and Alexis Neophytides wins a VTeddy for directing the documentary "Fire Through Dry Grass" about disabled minority artists in a nursing home during the COVID pandemic; it won the Hernandez/Bayliss prize for Triumph of the Human Spirit.

Independent photos/Steve James



Danforth

(Continued from Page 1A)
 year into a soon-to-be renovated former railroad warehouse that's part of Danforth's Seymour Street campus.

Danforth officials say the Pizzazz purchase will do more than diversify the company's retail, wholesale and online offerings. The broader gameplan, according to Kleppner, also calls for carefully marrying Danforth's pewter with its new source of pottery, offering utilitarian and decorative objects featuring the best of both materials.

"You have to do things in the right order, because if you combine the pewter with the (pottery) clay before it goes into the kiln, the pewter melts; it melts at a much lower temperature than what the kilns are fired at," he said. "We're in the early stages of thinking about how we can add metal to fired pottery and make new, cool things."

Having a pottery option should broaden Danforth's customer base, Kleppner believes.

"As much as pewter flows in our veins and we think it's the most beautiful material humanity has ever created, if we're honest with ourselves, we must admit that for some people, silvery gray metal isn't their preferred color or finish. So being able to offer things that are more (diversely) and boldly colored, I think will reach a group of people for whom the things we currently have don't meet their particular desire."

A pottery offering will also create a wider price range for prospective customers, Kleppner noted.

"Making a pewter mug involves a lot of highly skilled steps and our pewter pint mugs (around \$170 each) can be expensive," he said. "If you want to buy four of six, it can be a pretty big price tag. So being able to offer things like mugs and plates at a lower price point, I think will make it interesting for more customers."

Danforth is preparing to renovate its former rail warehouse at 53 Seymour St. to accommodate Pizzazz, its equipment, and four of its five employees who have agreed to make the move to Middlebury, according to Kleppner. The fifth worker happens to be Pizzazz founder/owner Caren Helm, who'll be retiring.

Kleppner said the acquisition of Pizzazz hadn't been pre-planned.

"We had been looking around for someone to partner with, who could make (pottery items) for us," he said. "We chatted with pottery makers throughout the state and visited Pizzazz. We were impressed by their lovely line and their approach. At some point in those conversations, Caren more or less said, 'Instead of buying pottery from us, would you like to acquire the business?'"

"The more we talked about it, the more it made sense as a fun addition to what we do," Kleppner added.

Among other things, Danforth will equip its new pottery space with new flooring and windows, add insulation, wiring and plumbing, add two heat pumps, and install venting and fire tile where the three kilns will go. Danforth will then move about \$50,000 worth of pottery-making equipment into the space, which will afford visitors the same kind of viewing opportunity they currently enjoy of the pewter-making process.

The Middlebury selectboard is supporting Danforth's application for a \$25,000 grant through the Vermont Department of Buildings & General Services to help finance the project.

It's an investment that could pay dividends.

"Danforth sees an opportunity to continue serving (Pizzazz's) current wholesale customers, expand the wholesale sales to Danforth's 1,200 or so wholesale customers, and to add Pizzazz products to Danforth's retail stores, web store, and Amazon store," reads the selectboard's letter of support for the state grant. "Danforth expects adding these new sales channels will grow sales meaningfully — very likely doubling sales — which will drive more hours for the current potters and will let Danforth hire and train new potters."

Danforth officials haven't yet decided whether they'll retain the Pizzazz name for its new pottery offerings. The company will reach out to Pizzazz customers to get their input.

"We'll figure it out as we go," Kleppner said.

More information about Danforth Pewter can be found at danforthpewter.com.



Hello, your majesty

AUDIENCES WITH MONARCHS have been few this summer in Lincoln. This male monarch, seen recently enjoying a sip of Joe Pye Weed, is a welcome sight.

Photo by Dale Cockrell

Feds sanction farm equipment dealer

Whistle blower fired and rehired

By JOHN S. McCRIGHT

BERLIN/MIDDLEBURY — Officials at Middlebury-based Champlain Valley Equipment said they will appeal a recent U.S. Department of Labor decision requiring the farm equipment seller to rehire a fired employee at its Berlin branch and pay him back wages and damages of \$147,000.

On Aug. 24, the DOL announced that in early June 2022 a CVE employee saw the company pumping wastewater from the facility's service bays onto the ground bordering the Winooski River in Berlin. The employee

reported his concerns about the potential harm to the river to supervisors and then to the state's Department of Environmental Conservation.

CVE President Brian Carpenter said the employee had only been working at the company for four months at the time, and the procedure he saw had been company practice for more than 20 years.

"It was graywater," Carpenter said. "Once it got to my level we changed the way we do things, it should have ended at that point."

State environmental officials did investigate, Carpenter said, and they did not cite the company for polluting

Shortly after that, Champlain

Valley Equipment fired the employee and the worker filed a whistleblower complaint with the U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration.

OSHA determined that the company's actions violated the whistleblower provisions of the Safe Drinking Water Act and the Federal Water Pollution Control Act and ordered CVE to reinstate the employee to his former position. The agency also ordered the company to pay the employee \$45,015.72 in back wages, interest on the back wages, \$50,000 in compensatory damages, \$50,000 in punitive damages and the worker's reasonable attorneys' fees.

"The employee had a right

to raise valid concerns about potential environmental harm to the Winooski River, an important water source," said OSHA Regional Administrator Galen Blanton in Boston in a press release.

"We disagree with the accusation," Carpenter said. "The guy only worked for us for four months, we didn't fire him for that. 'We're going to appeal.'"

Carpenter said his managers told CVE employees in Middlebury and the company's other four outlets about the case last week when he found out about the DOL decision.

"We keep people informed because we want everybody to be engaged," he said.

Cornwall man cited for domestic assault

ADDISON COUNTY — A Vermont State Police investigation last week into a reported domestic assault earlier in the month ended with a Cornwall man accused of a felony.

On Aug. 27 troopers from the New Haven barracks were notified of a reported domestic assault that had occurred on Aug. 2 at around 9 p.m. Police alleged that Brad-Leigh Grace, 28, of West Cornwall had threatened a domestic partner with a deadly weapon, and that while doing so, he interfered with that domestic partner's access to emergency services.

At around 8 p.m. the next day, Grace turned himself in at the New Haven barracks without incident. State police cited him for first degree aggravated domestic assault and for interference with access to emergency services.

In another domestic case last week, on Aug. 22 state police reported that on Aug. 15 at a little after 4 p.m. troopers responded to a complaint that Jamey W. Pattison, 35, of Middlebury was in violation of a court order. After investigating, troopers reported that Pattison was at a place off Route 125 in Hancock in violation of final relief from abuse order. Police cited him for two counts of that violation.

As is the case most weeks, Vermont State Police last week cited a number of people for driving on local roads in a state of intoxication.

On Aug. 22 at approximately 10:11 p.m., a trooper saw a violation and stopped the vehicle on Route 7 near Monkton Road in Ferrisburgh. The trooper cited Mark P. Tittmore, 57, of North Clarendon for driving under the

Vt. State Police Log

influence of drugs. State police were assisted by Vergennes police.

The next day, Wednesday, Aug. 23, at about 10 minutes before 5 p.m. state police saw another violation and stopped the vehicle on High Street in Middlebury. Police cited Bruce Jestice, 58, of Ferrisburgh for driving under the influence of drugs, second offense. Vergennes police again provided assistance.

Separately, on Aug. 25 at 1:35 a.m. police checked a vehicle that was suspected to be broken down around Route 7 and Plains Road in Salisbury. While speaking with driver Aleesha Dronia, 26, of Hyde Park, the trooper observed indicators of impairment and screened Dronia for DUI. Ultimately, they cited Dronia for driving under the influence. Troopers were assisted by Middlebury police.

Later on Friday, Aug. 25, at a little before 4:30 p.m., a trooper stopped a vehicle on Lake Dunmore Road in Salisbury after observing a motor vehicle violation. Police cited Kim Schroeder, 62, of Salisbury for driving under the influence, fourth offense.

That night, at five minutes to 11 p.m. on Aug. 25, a trooper stopped a motor vehicle on Route 7 near Old Hollow Road in Ferrisburgh. They identified the driver as an 18-year-old Salisbury resident. While speaking to the juvenile, troopers thought the teen was impaired and screened them for

DUI. Police cited them for driving under the influence, second offense, as well as for enabling consumption of alcohol by two minors. They will answer the charges in Family Court.

Troopers also issued traffic tickets to the juvenile for improper use of flashing signals, being person required to register and driving without insurance. Together those tickets could result in \$544 in fines and four points on their driver's license.

The last drunken driving citation of the week was issued early Sunday morning. At around 1:35 a.m. on Aug. 27, state police responded to a vehicle off Botsford Road in Ferrisburgh. They cited Maureen Stake, 35, of Palatine, Ill., for driving under the influence, second offense.

It was not all arrests and citations for state police last week. On Friday, Aug. 25, at around 1 p.m. state police responded to a tractor trailer crash on Route 22A near North Cream Hill Road in Bridport. Police report that Kelvin Willis, 54, of Augusta, Ga., was driving an International MV607 northbound on 22A when a southbound gray passenger car crossed the center line and entered his lane. Willis said he veered off the road to avoid the passenger car, was unable to navigate back onto the roadway due to a steep shoulder and crashed in a wooded area off the roadway. Willis, who was not injured, told police that the gray passenger car did not stop.

Anyone with information on the gray passenger car, possibly a Honda Civic, is asked to contact Trooper Mae Murdock at the New Haven barracks at 802-388-4919. Troopers were assisted on scene

by the Bridport and Shoreham fire departments, Sheldrick and Sons Towing of Bridport and Central Vermont Truck Repair of Rutland.

Route 22A in the area was completely closed for approximately 45 minutes.

Then on Aug. 28 at approximately 6:04 p.m., troopers responded to a 911 hang-up call from a residence on Elder Hill Road in Lincoln. While on scene, troopers saw Jacob Jimmo, 38, of Lincoln, who was known to have two active arrest warrants. So the troopers arrested Jimmo and lodged him at the Marble Valley Regional Correctional Facility on \$200 bail for each of the two warrants.



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Vermont Brain Bee event date set for Feb. 10, 2024

ADDISON COUNTY — The beginning of the school year is in motion, and the Vermont Brain Bee (VBB) wants to remind students that the 15th Annual VBB is scheduled for Feb. 10, 2024.

On this day, students can demonstrate their knowledge through a competition and a day of exploration crafted for high school

students interested in neuroscience and the brain's inner workings. The event includes oral and practical rounds of competition, plus presentations of case studies.

Students who place top in the Vermont Brain Bee have the opportunity to represent Vermont in the USA National Brain Bee Competition every spring.

The Vermont Brain Bee will take place at the University of Vermont's Lamer College of Medicine.

Further, on Oct. 28, the Vermont Brain Bee is hosting an "ECHO Neuro Fun Day" at the Echo Center by the waterfront in Burlington. We hope you will join us for a day of interactive activities surrounding our senses and Halloween!

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Chipman Inn

(Continued from Page 1A)

"I've wanted to move to Vermont for a while, to live in the New England area and get away from the Texas heat," said Guilbeau, whose family includes husband Christopher and children Ruby (12), Narrah (9), Julien (7).

Christopher is a software developer whose job remains mobile, while Elizabeth has been a stay-at-home mom to their children, two of whom began classes this week at Ripton Elementary School.

They eventually whittled their search down to the Middlebury area, but found few housing options. Elizabeth's eyes ultimately came upon the Chipman Inn for-sale listing, and she was intrigued.

"It was a bit out of our price range," she acknowledged. "But I thought, 'I could run an inn.'"

She and her husband both have experience in the hospitality industry, having worked at restaurants and hosted guided trips in northern Arizona.

"I saw the inn as an opportunity and it also gave me a career path, because I've been looking for my next (professional) step," she said. "The kids are in school now and I wanted to do something."

Elizabeth holds a degree in communications from Louisiana Tech University and believes that will be an asset in promoting the Chipman Inn.

"The innkeeper who was here (Chis Bullock) was so great, but the one thing that might have been lacking was marketing, and I can do that," she said. "I can make the inn better known and more profitable."

The Addison County Economic Development Corp. helped the Guilbeaus put together a financing package to buy the inn. That package includes a \$100,000 loan through the ACEDC's revolving loan fund, which is capitalized by USDA/Rural Development. ACEDC Executive Director Fred Kenney has introduced the family to representatives of Middlebury College, Porter Hospital,

the Addison County Chamber of Commerce, Vermont Department of Tourism and other area innkeepers.

Historically, the Chipman Inn has offered nine guest rooms. It will now offer five, to ensure adequate living quarters for the Guilbeau family of six.

"We've taken over one side of the house and are renting out the other side," Elizabeth explained.

The Guilbeaus plan to continue the inn's long-running tradition as a comfortable, convenient lodging spot for tourists, hikers, skiers and leaf peepers. The inn was built in 1828 by Daniel Chipman, a former U.S. House Representative from Vermont, as well as a founder and professor of law at Middlebury College. The original farmhouse began operating as an inn and public dining room in 1974.

Both the Rikert Outdoor Center and Middlebury College Snow Bowl are not far from the inn, as is the college's Bread Loaf campus.

"I think this has the vibe for people coming for the outdoor experience," Guilbeau said.

Asked what changes she might be contemplating to inn operations, Guilbeau said she'd like to transform the building's taproom into a coffee shop that would also offer beer, wine, tea, hot chocolate, pastries and breakfast tacos. She's looking to make that change sometime next year.

Also on the agenda — convert from door keys to door codes, while streamlining the online reservation process.

"We want to bring more technology" to the operation, Guilbeau said.

OSETSKA AT THE INN

Elizabeth believes she can cover most of the innkeeping bases, with a little help — some of which will be provided by Osetska, whose daughter Lena is married to Elizabeth's brother, Paul Miles. Lena and Paul met and fell in love in Ukraine around a dozen years ago. But as tensions escalated in the Eastern European nation in 2022, Miles and Lena recognized the gravity of the situation and formed an exit plan for her mother, Svetlana Osetska. She landed in Oklahoma several months



RIPTON'S HISTORIC CHIPMAN Inn has new owners. The Guilbeau family, formerly of Texas, acquired the property this past June. Pictured here are inn co-owner Elizabeth Guilbeau, left, and Svetlana Osetska, an extended family member who's helping with inn operations after having left her war-torn homeland of Ukraine.

Independent photo/John Flowers



SVETLANA OSETSKA, A Ukrainian member of the Texas family that recently purchased the Chipman Inn, stands on the stairs at the Ripton lodgings showing the mural she recently painted on the wall. Independent photo/John Flowers

ago, Guilbeau explained.

When the Guilbeaus bought the inn on June 23, they invited Osetska to join them and get a glimpse of a terrain that's perhaps the polar opposite of Oklahoma.

Osetska quickly agreed and hasn't regretted it for a second. She conversed with this reporter with the aid of translation software in her smartphone.

She recounted how several years ago, she dreamed that if she had \$1 million, she'd buy a home surrounded by mountains and forestland. She imagined a place like Switzerland.

"It seemed to me that such a paradise could only be (in Switzerland)," she said. "But when I arrived in Vermont, I realized my dream was here."

Though its terrain still bears scars of recent flooding, Ripton stands in sharp contrast to Osetska's hometown of Dnipro, an industrial city of a million residents in central Ukraine. Dnipro and its airport have sustained multiple airstrikes since the war broke out last year. Rocket blasts injured nine in a city apartment block

this past July. Russian missiles have targeted city infrastructure, as well as industrial and residential areas in the city, according to Osetska.

She spoke solemnly of the impact the bombing has had on her psyche.

"The first two months when I lived in Oklahoma, I shook at every sound. I was scared of everyone and from every thunderstorm. Even when the door is slammed hard, I shudder and am scared," Osetska said. "Although I live in Vermont now and no one shoots, I wonder what is happening in Ukraine and all the people I know there — my loved ones."

Russia's strategy, Osetska believes, includes terrorizing Ukrainians to diminish their appetite for defending their sovereignty.

"The Russians can't win at the front, so they try to intimidate ordinary people who don't fight," she said. "They hope people will demand an end to the war."

She has no idea about the fate of many of her friends, some of whom have scattered across the globe in their quest for safety.

Her time in Vermont has helped numb the pain she's been carrying

around for more than a year.

"Every time we go somewhere by car, I'm surprised I can look out the window and enjoy everything I see," she said. "I've been to several countries in Europe, I've been to Egypt and Israel, but I haven't experienced such pleasure anywhere, just looking out the car window. I have not seen anything like this, anywhere."

A refugee of war, spontaneity and the ability to adapt have become second nature to Osetska. So she's perfectly willing to roll up her sleeves to help take care of the inn. A trained physicist, Osetska's resume also includes stints as an artist and embroiderer.

Her artwork can already be seen in the stairwell leading up to the second floor of the inn.

Osetska's long-term goal is to return to Ukraine, though she's willing to rethink her future as circumstances demand.

For now, she's basking in the glow of her new surroundings.

"For me, this is an amazing adventure," she said. "I believe God doesn't do anything by chance."

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McNamara returns to Midd hockey program

MIDDLEBURY — Former Middlebury College women's hockey standout and program assistant Emily McNamara, the head coach at the Panthers' NESCAC rival Hamilton for the past 11 years, is returning to Middlebury as the assistant coach to Head Coach Bill Mandigo.

Last winter, McNamara, a 2007 Middlebury graduate, was named the American Hockey Coaches Association and United States College Hockey Online Women's Division III Coach of the Year, as well as earning NESCAC Coach of the Year honors for the second time.

Those awards followed a season in which Hamilton made its first NESCAC championship game appearance and reached the NCAA D-III semifinals, finishing with a program-best 22-6-2 record.

McNamara said she is happy to be back in Middlebury, where she assisted Mandigo from 2007 to 2011 before taking over the Hamilton program.

"I am excited for the opportunity to return to Middlebury and work alongside head coach Bill Mandigo," she said.

Mandigo expressed similar sentiments.

"I am very happy to welcome Emily back to Middlebury," he said. "She brings with her a wealth

of knowledge and experience and will be a tremendous addition to the Middlebury women's hockey program."

As a player for the Panthers, McNamara, a defender, helped Middlebury win three straight NCAA titles from 2004 to 2006 and earned a spot on the 2005 NCAA All-Tournament team. In 2005 and 2006 the Panthers also claimed NESCAC crowns.

She finished her career with 22 goals and 44 assists as the team posted a 100-13-3 record. She served as a captain her senior year, and was a member of the NESCAC Winter All-Academic Team and the 2007 winner of the Captain John Owen Memorial Award for dedication and support of the Middlebury women's hockey team. She graduated with a degree in English.

During her years as an assistant, the Panthers compiled a record of 78-20-11, won conference crowns in 2009 and 2011, and made three NCAA appearances, advancing to the semifinals in 2009 and 2011.

At Hamilton McNamara coached three NESCAC Players of the Year, a league rookie of the year honoree, 15 All-NESCAC honorees, and five All-Americans while her teams went 135-95-23 overall.



EMILY McNAMARA



TIGER SENIOR GOALIE Jolee Henderson reaches to make a blocker save during Monday's field hockey practice on the team's home field. Independent photo/Steve James

Former Tiger standout back as coach

MaKayla Foster Broughton takes over reins of MUHS field hockey team

By ANDY KIRKALDY

MIDDLEBURY — A former Middlebury Union High School and St. Michael's College field hockey standout has returned to her Tiger team this fall to take over as its head coach.

MaKayla Foster Broughton, a 2016 MUHS graduate, has been entrusted with getting a program back on track that has struggled in recent years to find its footing in Division I.

Broughton played as a forward on competitive teams during her four-year Tiger career, during which MUHS won three playoff games and reached the semifinal round during her sophomore season.

She capped her high school career by being named to the Vermont Twin-State team and the Metro Conference First Team (her program assistant this season,

Tajah Marsden, shared both those honors).

Broughton then played four years at St. Mike's, starting as a senior and scoring seven goals and assisting one.

Now in her second post as an elementary school educator, this one teaching 4th grade in Shoreham, Broughton's long list of scholastic awards at St. Mike's include making regular appearances on the National Field Hockey Coaches Association's National Academic Squad.

Before this fall, Broughton, 25, who married Jordan Broughton in June 2022, had been commuting to teach in Westford. The move closer to home allowed her to consider heading the MUHS program when another MUHS alum, Brandi Whittemore, stepped down.

"It opened up some time on the schedule," Broughton said.



MAKAYLA BROUGHTON

She acknowledged taking over the varsity job without a lot of coaching experience, although she was a regular at the summer youth clinics operated by the St. Mike's program. But Broughton said MUHS Activities Director Sean Farrell encouraged her to apply, and had been set to mentor young athletes at Westford.

"Coaching has been something I've been wanting to do," she said. "Back in 2020, the time I was student-teaching up in Westford, I went through the Girls On The Run programming, and I was all set to start that program there, and I was super excited, and then the pandemic struck."

"So with the change in job, much closer, and then with the opening here I reached out, and it just kind of went from there."

Broughton, a varsity softball player and basketball player at MUHS, also acknowledged she missed athletics.

"Being back in a sports routine is amazing," she said. "I love the competition and the camaraderie and getting to know people in different ways."

TAKING OVER

She has enjoyed working with the team.

"What I have liked about coaching so far is getting to know the kids. I've liked being able to pop into drills or play with them when they're down a player, just the activity," Broughton said.

She noted the natural connection between her profession and her new part-time position.

"(I enjoy) sharing everything that's in my head from all these years of playing and being able to use it. It's definitely parallel," Broughton said. "It's an easy switch to go from teaching to coaching. It's all a form of teaching."

She sees the difference in learning styles and abilities of pre-teens and teenagers.

"It's really interesting to see how quickly kids grow up and develop their own identity and develop that confidence, and also that ability to understand complex systems," Broughton said. "Games and sports are complex systems, and the girls, even in this one week of preseason, have been picking up on so much."

Broughton said she makes sure to go over the "why, and not just the what" of what she wants the team to do.

"I feel (that approach) quenches people's desire to learn, and that's my goal in both my work environments," she said.

While new to coaching, Broughton feels she has learned from her coaches over the years, from the youth level up through college. For example, she remembers having recently retired MUHS football coach Dennis Smith as a youth softball and basketball coach.

"I remember him saying, 'We leave a place better than we found (See Field hockey, Page 2B)'"

Schedule

HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS

Football

- 9/1 MUHS at Brattleboro 7 PM
- 9/1 OV at Woodstock 7 PM
- 9/2 Spaulding at MAV 1 PM
- 9/8 Burr & Burton at MUHS 7 PM
- 9/9 OV at MV 1 PM

Field hockey

- 9/2 MUHS at Mt. Abe 10 AM
- 9/6 Mt. Abe at U-32 4 PM
- 9/6 Burlington at MUHS 4:30 PM
- 9/7 OV at Rutland 4 PM
- 9/9 CVU at Mt. Abe 10 AM
- 9/9 Fair Haven at OV 11 AM

Girls' Soccer

- 9/1 Peoples at VUHS 4:30 PM
- 9/1 Harwood at Mt. Abe 4:30 PM
- 9/1 OV at Hartford 6 PM
- 9/5 Mt. Abe at Peoples 4:30 PM
- 9/5 VUHS at Enosburg 4:30 PM
- 9/5 MUHS at Montpelier 4:30 PM
- 9/7 VUHS at Hazen 4:30 PM
- 9/8 U-32 at MUHS 4:30 PM
- 9/8 OV vs Proctor (GMUHS) 6 PM
- 9/9 Spaulding at Mt. Abe 11 AM
- 9/9 OV vs L&G (GMUHS) 6 or 8 PM

Boys' Soccer

- 9/1 VJHS at GMVS 4:30 PM
- 9/2 Rutland at MUHS 10 AM
- 9/2 OV vs MSJ (Proctor) 1 PM
- 9/6 MUHS at Spaulding 4:30 PM
- 9/7 Hartford at OV 4:30 PM
- 9/9 U-23 at Mt. Abe 9 AM
- 9/9 Harwood at MUHS 10 AM

Volleyball

- 9/1 MUHS at Missisquoi 6 PM
- 9/5 MUHS at VT Commons 6 PM
- 9/7 Rice at MUHS 6 PM



COLLEGE SPORTS

Field Hockey

- 9/5 Castleton at Midd 6 PM
- 9/9 Amherst at Midd 2 PM

Men's Soccer

- 9/5 Midd at Mt. St. Mary 5 PM
- 9/9 Amherst at Midd 1:30 PM

Women's Soccer

- 9/6 Plattsburgh at Midd 4:30 PM
- 9/9 Amherst at Midd 2 PM

Football

- 9/16 Amherst at Midd 2 PM

Ralph Myhre hosts annual member-guest

MIDDLEBURY — The tandem of John Carver and Paul Fine-Lease prevailed in the Championship Flight of the annual Ralph Myhre Golf Course's Dud Phinney Member-Guest Tournament, which was held from Aug. 25 to 27.

Taking second in the top flight was the team of Kris Kelton and Ross Lengyel, and Brent Raymond and Cam Fitzgerald finished third.

The top teams in the rest of the flights were:

- Flight 2: 1. Dale White and Ben Cadoret; 2. Robert Keiner and Peter Breen; 3. (tie) Christopher Wilson and Nolan Wilson, and Kyle Goodman and Jim Pratt.

- Flight 3: 1. Dan Myhre and Andrew Myhre; 2. Eric Bergland and Mike Sims; 3. Neil Mackey and Bart Frisbie.

- Flight 4: 1. Bob Cameron and Gabe Cameron; 2. Steve Myhre and Larry Provencher; 3. Mike Bordeleau and Pierre Bordeleau.

- Flight 5: 1. Raymond Gale and Rick James; 2. Matt Myers and Jeff Stetson; 3. Ken Hypes and Chris Gordon.

- Flight 6: 1. Patrick White and Kevin Connors; 2. Bruce Costello and Jeff Costello; 3. Brian Dodds and Chip Moulton.

Tying for Medalist honors were Kelly Kelton and Jeff Sherman at 71.

Closest to the Pin winners were: • Friday: Ross Lengyel, Steve Merrill, Nolan Wilson and Paul Fine-Lease.

• Saturday: Kyle Rouse, Larry Provencher, Jim Pratt and Ross Lengyel.

• Sunday: Dale White: Gabe Cameron, Bob Cameron and Tom Anderson.

• Scoring the most Moser Daily Points were on Saturday, Pat White and Kevin Connors, -19; and on Sunday, Bruce Costello and Jeff Costello, -14.

Longest Drive winners were Kirk Goodman (Under 55) and Kit Wilson (55 plus).

The Overall Point Winners were Pat White and Kevin Connors at -31.

The Horse Race winners were



STICKWORK DRILLS LIKE these being run through by two Tiger players on Monday are an essential piece of any field hockey practice. Independent photo/Steve James

Kyle Goodman and Steve Merrill.

OTHER RESULTS

Ralph Myhre members also continued to compete at VSWG State Days, this time recently at The Golf Club at Equinox in Manchester.

Nicole Laberge tied for the ninth best gross score in Flight 3, Eva Mastalos tied for the fourth best gross score in Flight 4, and Giselle Lafèche carded the second best net score in Flight 5.

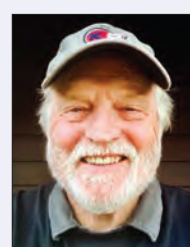
In regular Ralph Myhre Thursday Men's League play on Aug. 24, the duo of Chris Prickett and Tim Etchells prevailed, with the trio of Jim Johnston, Tom Maxwell, and Gary Wright taking second. The threesome of Dick Crumb, Bill Brown, and Uwe Luksch took third. Brown fired the low net score (72), and John Myhre won the closest to the pin contest.

Mind over matter: Chris, Luke and Martin

Satchel Paige supposedly said, "Age is a case of mind over matter: if you don't mind, it don't matter" (actually it was likely Mark Twain who said it first — two American originals).

The sentiment applies to Middlebury athlete Chris Hamilton, who has competed at masters track and field events throughout New England, and in other parts of the country in the past six months.

Just this summer, Chris won the discus throw, a gold medal, at the National Senior Games in Pittsburgh in the 70-75 age group. He also won a silver in the shot put. Winning a gold and silver in Pittsburgh, Chris says, "was the high point of my life. I'm 70, but I felt like a teenager on my drive home."



Sports (Mostly) KARL LINDHOLM

"Two years ago, I weighed 253 pounds and was not very healthy. I thought competing in senior events would be an effective way to get healthy. I lost over 50 pounds and got in shape. Last November, I said 'I'm going all in.'"

He spent the cold weather months in the Arizona desert with his partner of seven years, Kathy Brown, who also serves as his coach. "She's very involved, comes to my practices, and can effectively point out what I'm

doing wrong." Chris competed at the Texas Senior Games in late March, then the Connecticut Games in May, the Nationals in July, and in Maine and New Hampshire in August. His haul for the season was 12 Golds and one Silver.

"I even have a sponsor!" he revealed. It's his 35-year-old daughter, E.V. Hamilton, whom he described as "an all-purpose entrepreneur." The front of the shirt he wears in competition reads "Elmore, VT Air BnB" and the back "Your Ad Here (Cheap)." Not exactly Nike or New Balance, but it'll do.

Chris describes himself as a "10th generation Vermonter," (See Lindholm, Page 2B)

Lindholm

(Continued from Page 1B)

born in Porter Hospital and raised in Cornwall. He played on the basketball team at MUHS and also competed in track and field. When he graduated in 1971, he held the high jump record at 6'1".

Chris has found the whole enterprise of senior sports satisfying. "I am not a particularly social person," he says. "In fact, I can be something of a misanthrope. But I love the camaraderie of senior sports. Everybody has had something, lots of cancer survivors. I've had two spinal fusions. I love to compete, but I love more the camaraderie."

He is especially proud of the silver medal in the shot put he won in the Nationals in Pittsburgh: "I popped a big one on my final throw!"

"I'm happy to be the *second best* over-70 shot-putter in Addison County!"

Second best? Who then is the best shot-putter in Addison County?

Luke Hotte, of course!

Luke, 76, has been the throwing coach for the Middlebury College track and field team for the past 37 years. In 1985, track coach Gail Smith casually asked Butch Atkins, ice rink manager and famous local athlete, if he knew anyone who could coach the throwers in the field events. Indeed he did, remembering the exploits of Luke at MUHS.

And the rest is history!

Martin Beatty succeeded Gail as head coach of track and field in 1988 and inherited Luke. He calls him "the unsung hero of our track and field program, a track and field program that has become a regional D3 power, the 2022 and 2023 NESCAC Women's Track and Field Champions and the 2018 and 2019 NESCAC Men's Track and Field Champions."

"Luke is the best throws coach in the Northeast," Martin asserts. "He has coached more NESCAC champions, New England champions, and All-Americans than I can count. Although he was a great shot put and discus thrower, Luke's knowledge of *all* the four throws is unequaled in this region."

"Proof of that is that he also coached two javelin national champions in Bryan Black '01 and Khristoph Becker '06, as well as several women javelin All Americans, and Minhaj Rahman '19, an All American in the 35-pound weight throw and the hammer throw."

Like Chris, Luke was a local boy. The oldest of nine children, he grew up on a farm in Bridport, attended MUHS, and played football on longtime coach Hubie Wagner's very first team. "I was coached in the shot put by Jimmy Sears," he said. "At first, I couldn't figure it out, but we worked hard in the summer, and I set the state record in the shot put



SENIOR THROWERS: LUKE HOTTE, left, has been coach of the throwing events (shot put, discus, hammer, javelin) on the Middlebury College track and field teams for 37 years. Chris Hamilton, right, of Middlebury won a National Senior Championship discus title in July in the 70-75 age group.

Independent photo/Karl Lindholm

as a senior."

Luke then attended Northeast Missouri State College (why there? "Jimmy Sears's daughter was the secretary to the athletic director!"). He was a top thrower, a conference champion in the shot put. He graduated with a degree in agriculture and education.

Luke's lifetime work has been in the dairy industry. He was employed in Middlebury from 1975 to 2020 by Kraft and then Agri-Mark (to whom Kraft sold out in 1995), testing milk for chemicals harmful to consumers.

"That was his day job," Martin Beatty says. "His love has always been coaching throwers."



LUKE HOTTE INSTRUCTING one of his athletes on the Middlebury College track and field team. Martin Beatty, head track and field coach, calls Hotte "the unsung hero of the program" and "the best throws coach in the Northeast."

Photo courtesy of Middlebury College Athletic Communications

Luke competed successfully in masters events for many years, though it's not easy to get him to discuss his achievements. He especially liked to compete at the Dartmouth Relays, as his close coaching friend and contemporary, Carl Wallin, was the long-time Dartmouth's head coach of men's and women's field.

"I won in my age group," is all he said when I asked about his level of success. He competed well into his 60s, winning shot-put events in regional competition until injuries curtailed his masters activities.

The last 18 months have been difficult for Luke. In late 2021, he was diagnosed with prostate cancer. Weakened by radiation, he contracted COVID, and then long COVID, affecting his lungs. In February, he was not getting any better and tests confirmed he had blood cancer. He was very sick.

Even at his lowest point last winter, he continued to coach. "One of us would meet him at his car with a wheelchair to bring him to the field house elevator," Beatty explained, "and out to the throwing circle in Virtue, where he would video tape and critique every throw."

"I worried and asked him if it were smart for him to drag himself to practice. 'At home, I would be sitting around bored. At practice, I can sit and coach,' he would say."

At present, the cancer treatments are going well, a blessing, and

Luke is getting stronger and feeling more optimistic as the school year approaches.

Chris Hamilton tells the story of bumping into Luke at the Shoreham Service Center a while back. "I was glad to see him because I had a question about my shot-put technique, so Luke demonstrated for me what I was doing wrong and the right way to do it — for about a half hour in the parking lot!"

"He can really communicate. He's a great coach."

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



MASTERS ATHLETE CHRIS HAMILTON unleashes a throw in the shot put. The Middlebury resident finished second in that event at the National Senior Games in Pittsburgh in July.

Photo courtesy of Chris Hamilton



NO PRACTICE IS complete without the athletes running a couple laps, and Monday's MUHS field hockey practice was no exception.

Independent photo/Steve James

Field Hockey

(Continued from Page 1B)

Broughton said. "Games and sports are complex systems, and the girls, even in this one week of preseason, have been picking up on so much."

Broughton said she makes sure to go over the "why, and not just the what" of what she wants the team to do.

"I feel (that approach) quenches people's desire to learn, and that's my goal in both my work environments," she said.

While new to coaching, Broughton feels she has learned from her coaches over the years, from the youth level up through college. For example, she remembers having recently retired MUHS football coach Dennis Smith as a youth softball and basketball coach.

"I remember him saying, 'We leave a place better than we found it.'" Broughton recalled. "And actually I say that all the time in my classroom. Little things like that have really guided me in my own philosophy, and then they just kind of pop out of my mouth when I talk to the girls."

She talked a bit about her own philosophy as she starts her coaching career.

"I believe that all students have the ability to learn, and the same is true of athletes," Broughton said. "We all have these different levels of skillsets. So going into each practice and talking to each one of them and really giving off the belief that they are capable, that's been huge."

Essentially, she wants her athletes to believe in themselves.

"That's a big part of being an athlete, right?" Broughton said. "The other aspect of that is validation. Just based on my own experience when I feel seen, understood and respected, I do my best work. So that's what Tajah and myself are trying to incorporate into the program."

Broughton understands the Tiger program has not set the world afire since early 2010s. Since 2017, MUHS has competed in the Division-II postseason and won four first-round playoff games in five seasons, but not advanced further. And the Tigers have taken their regular season lumps in the

competitive Metro Conference.

And this year's team, while returning a number of players, is still young, with just three seniors and three juniors.

As well as looking for leadership to develop among the more experienced players, Broughton said she and Marsden will be focusing on the basics to create a foundation for sound play.

"It's a fresh start. We've been emphasizing that. Build on what you remember, but let's revamp it so that everybody is feeling like they're capable of learning," Broughton said.

"A big goal has been really honing in on our fundamentals," she added, citing including stick skills, "triangle play," and "knowing what to do with the ball when, as well as communication."

Broughton said she, Marsden and the Tigers had fun in the preseason despite early practices on the college turf when rain made the high school fields unplayable, plus more double sessions than the program has typically held.

"There hasn't been a practice where I haven't really enjoyed it," Broughton said. "Even the girls have said, 'We really like coming to practice.' It keeps me going."



A TIGER FIELD hockey player launches a hard shot on goal during Monday's practice, the team's first on its own field after a week on the Middlebury College turf.

Independent photo/Steve James

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FOR INFO & TO APPLY



community calendar

Leicester

Have a news tip? Call the Addison Independent at 388-4944.

NEWS

LEICESTER — The Leicester Historical Society is sponsoring Prize Bingo on Saturday, Sept. 9, at 1 p.m. at the Senior Center. Refreshments offered and all are welcome.
2023 being an odd-numbered year means local political parties meet to organize. The Republican Party Caucus will be held at 6 p.m. on Monday, Sept. 11, at the white building at the Four Corners, known as the Senior Center. The Democratic Party Caucus will be held on Monday, Sept. 18, at 7 p.m. at the Senior Center.

FRIDAY

sept 1 Bread + Puppet in Hancock. Friday, Sept. 1, 6 p.m., Middlebury College Snow Bowl, 6886 Route 125. Bread and Puppet Theatre kicks off its fall tour at the Middlebury College Snow Bowl. The show will feature a mountainous backdrop and the iconic Bread + Puppet hand-painted bus. This is a spectacle of protest and celebration that addresses the urgent themes of the moment using paper mâché, dance, and a live brass band. Tickets \$20, available at townhalltheater.org.

SATURDAY

sept 2 Labor Day breakfast in Shoreham. Saturday, Sept. 2, 8-10 a.m., Shoreham Congregational Church, 28 School St. Feast on plain or blueberry pancakes or French toast with Vermont maple syrup, sausages, home fries, quiches, and beverages. Cost \$10 adults/\$5 children/\$30 families. 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.

Soldiers Atop the Mount in Orwell. Saturday, Sept. 2, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Mount Independence State Historic Site, 472 Mt. Independence Rd. Reenactors honor the 1776-1777 history of Mount Independence during this living history weekend. Saturday's popular interactive Baldwin Trail Walkabout, 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., features experts at trail stations bringing the site's history to life. Military tactical, annual reading of Declaration of Independence, and camp life and skill demonstrations. Admission \$9. Call 802-948-2000 for details.

Art on the Trail in Bristol. Saturday, Sept. 2, ***RESCHEDULED TO SEPT. 9*** 10 a.m.-noon, Bristol Trail Network. Explore the world of nature and art journaling with BTN Artist-in-Residence Charon Henning. Bring a sketchbook with pens and/or pencils to begin your journal. Free, but registration is required. All ages and skill levels are welcome. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Email oddangellic@gmail.com to register and for workshop location.

Ice cream social and book sale in Middlebury. Saturday, Sept. 2, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Town Office Plaza, Main St. Friends of Ilsley Library kick-off the celebration of Ilsley's 100th birthday. Come shop for books and enjoy a delicious treat from Wilcox Ice Cream.

Collections Corner: Show and Tell in Ferrisburgh. Saturday, Sept. 2, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Lake Champlain Maritime Museum 4472 Basin Harbor Rd. Want to share your own historical items, memorabilia, artifacts and stories with the Museum's team? For this special Collections Corner, the public is invited to bring their own treasures and stories related to Champlain Valley history from home to share with each other and our Collections experts. Free.

Ice Cream Social in east Middlebury. Saturday, Sept. 2, 1-3 p.m., Waybury Inn, 457 E. Main St. All are invited to a free ice cream social. Ice cream by Island Homemade Ice Cream of Williston, and will be accompanied by Waybury-made sweet treats. A sundae bar, cookies, brownies, iced tea and lemonade provided.

SUNDAY

sept 3 Soldiers Atop the Mount in Orwell. Sunday, Sept. 3, 10 a.m.-3:30 p.m., Mount Independence State Historic Site, 472 Mt. Independence Rd. See Sept. 2 listing.

TUESDAY

sept 5 "Six Men who Shaped the American Revolution: The Revolutionary: Samuel Adams" virtual lecture. Tuesday, Sept. 5, 11 a.m., Zoom. Professor Russell Leng gives the first of his six talks on our founding fathers. EastView residents are invited to attend in-person. All others are welcome to attend via Zoom only. There will be time for Q&A following the presentation. Zoom link at tinyurl.com/Six-Men-Leng.

"An Evening of Kindness and Poetry" with James Crew in Middlebury. Tuesday, Sept. 5, 6 p.m., Ilsley Public Library, 75 Main St. Join James Crew, the editor of the best-selling anthologies "The Path to Kindness" and "How to Love the World," which has been featured on NPR's Morning Edition, in the *Boston Globe*, and the *Washington Post*. Crew's own poems have appeared in the *New York Times Magazine*, *Ploughshares*, *The New Republic*, and *The Christian Century*.

Grief support group in Middlebury. Begins Sept. 5, 7-8:30 p.m., Zoom. Facilitated by Taylor Zak, LCSW and Laurie Borden and hosted by Louella Richer, manager of Palliative Support Services at Porter Medical Center. Group meets every Tuesday through Oct. 24. Advanced registration required at lricher@portermedical.org.

THURSDAY

sept 7 Bixby Library donation day in Vergennes. Thursday, Sept. 7, 3-6 p.m., back parking lot, Bixby Memorial Library, 258 Main St. Finished with your summer reading? Donate your used books to the Bixby Library Book Sale. Fiction should be published after 2010 or a popular author, and non-fiction should be current and saleable.

"All About Coyote Families in Middlebury. Thursday, Sept. 7, 6:30 p.m., Ilsley Public Library, 75 Main St. Sophia Parker of Protect Our Wildlife presents their new family-friendly coyote presentation. This event is suitable for the whole family, including children. Participants will learn about coyote families, where they sleep, what they eat and what makes them so special. The presentation will address some of the common myths about coyotes in an effort to help people better understand them and promote coexistence.

FRIDAY

sept 8 Groovin' on the Green in Vergennes. Friday, Sept. 8, 6-9 p.m., City Park, 179 Main St. It's a fun-raising block party and everyone is invited. Dance and groove to the beat of the Little City's own Rehab



There's more to know

LEARN MORE ABOUT coyotes on Thursday, Sept. 7, at 6:30 p.m., when Sophia Parker of Protect Our Wildlife presents their new family-friendly coyote presentation at Ilsley Public Library in Middlebury.

Photo/Wikimedia Commons

Roadhouse. Food trucks by Basin Harbor and Olde World Cook at Strong House Inn; bar by Adventure Dinner. Free.

SATURDAY

sept 9 Lake Champlain Maritime Museum giant Lake Champlain map in Vergennes. Saturday, Sept. 9, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Bixby Memorial Library, 258 Main St. This interactive map inspires students of all ages about our community's connection to Lake Champlain and how we can take care of it.

Monthly Wildlife Walk in Middlebury. Saturday, Sept. 9, 7-9 a.m., meet at corner of Weybridge St. and Pulp Mill Bridge Rd. Otter Creek Audubon Society and Middlebury Area Land Trust invite community members to help survey birds and other wildlife at Otter View Park and Hurd Grassland. Beginning birders are welcome. Come for all or part of the walk. More info at 802-388-6019 or 802-388-1007.

Used book sale in Vergennes. Saturday, Sept. 9, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Otter Creek Room, Bixby Memorial Library, 258 Main St. Enter from the back parking lot. Choose from a large variety of fiction, non-fiction and children's books.

Art on the Trail in Bristol. Saturday, Sept. 9, ***RESCHEDULED FROM SEPT. 2*** 10 a.m.-noon, Bristol Trail Network. Explore the world of nature and art journaling with BTN Artist-in-Residence Charon Henning. Bring a sketchbook with pens and/or pencils to begin your journal. Free, but registration is required. All ages and skill levels are welcome. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Email oddangellic@gmail.com to register and for workshop location.

Prize Bingo in Leicester. Saturday, Sept. 9, 1 p.m., Senior Center, 44 Schoolhouse Rd. Sponsored by the Leicester Historical Society. Refreshments offered and all are welcome.

Bingo in Vergennes. Saturday, Sept. 9, 5 p.m., St. Peter's Parish Hall, 85 S. Maple St. Doors open at 5 p.m., Bingo starts at 6 p.m. A family-friendly event. All cash prizes, 50/50 raffle. Refreshments sold. Sponsored by St. Peter's Cemetery Committee to benefit the ongoing efforts for cemetery improvements.

Takeout roast pork supper in Vergennes. Saturday, Sept. 9, 5-6 p.m., Vergennes United Methodist Church, Main St., across from the Opera House. Takeout only. Preorder only. \$12. Menu includes roast pork, mashed potatoes, stuffing, gravy, vegetable, applesauce, roll and dessert. To preorder call 802-877-3150 before 7 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 7.

"The Freshman" silent movie on screen in Brandon. Saturday, Sept. 9, 7 p.m., Brandon Town Hall, One Conant Sq. Welcome football season with Harold Lloyd's blockbuster hit about a college boy who dreams of gridiron greatness. One of Lloyd's all-time best! Free will donation.

SUNDAY

sept 10 Fundraising breakfast in Bristol. Sunday, Sept. 10, 7:30-10 a.m., Masons Lodge, 4 Elm St. Menu includes homemade corned beef hash, scrambled eggs (or over easy if you ask us to flip them) bacon, sausage patties, sausage links, home fries, pancakes, blueberry pancakes and French toast, all with Vermont maple syrup and Cabot butter, assorted juices, and homemade apple bread pudding. \$9 adults/children under 12 \$5. All profits donated to a person or group in need within the Five Town Area.

Breakfast Buffet in Vergennes. Sunday, Sept. 10, 8-10 a.m., St. Peter's Parish Hall, 85 S. Maple St. Omelets to order, scrambled eggs, French toast, bacon, sausage, fruit, plain and blueberry pancakes, maple syrup, sausage gravy on biscuits, corn bread, home fries, mini muffins, juice, milk and coffee. Adults \$10/children 8-12 \$6/immediate family \$32 (maximum). Offered by Vergennes Knights of Columbus to support their community service programs.

Louisa Burnham, "Women and the Holy Spirit in the Later Middle Ages" in Middlebury. Sunday, Sept. 10, 11:45 a.m., Parish Hall, St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, 3 Main St. Medieval religious figures such as Hildegard of Bingen of Germany and the beguines of northern Europe have long been the subject

of scholarly work and public fascination. Middlebury College Professor Louisa Burnham will speak about two lesser-known women of the Mediterranean world, Guglielma of Milan and Na Prous Boneta, whose identification with the Holy Spirit evoked scandal and persecution in the fourteenth century. Coffee and snacks available.

Tim McKenzie in Bristol. Sunday, Sept. 10, 1-4 p.m., Bristol Trail Network Basin Street Trail. Take a walk and enjoy Bristol's new Music on the Trail series, where you can hear live music at an easily accessible spot on the Bristol Trail Network. Bring a chair or stool if you wish to sit and listen, or simply pause while hiking the trail. There will be signs for "MUSIC!" at entry points to the trail. Look for a small white tent.

"The Farm Boy" on screen in Vergennes. Sunday, Sept. 10, 2 p.m., Vergennes Opera House, 120 Main St. Come see this feature length film written and directed by George Woodard, a World War II era story about a young man who drives milk truck for his father, marries, then leaves for Europe the day after. Tickets, \$12.

"Straight White Men" staged reading in Middlebury. Sunday Sept. 10, 4 p.m., studio, Town Hall Theater, 68 S. Pleasant St. Middlebury Acting Company's 2023 Cutting Edge Staged Play Reading Series continues with this play by Young Jean Lee. When Ed and his three adult sons come together to celebrate Christmas, they enjoy cheerful trash-talking, pranks and takeout Chinese. Then they confront a problem that even being a happy family can't solve: When identity matters, and privilege is problematic, what is the value of being a straight white man?

MONDAY

sept 11 Case Street Cemetery Association meeting in Middlebury. Monday, Sept. 11, 6 p.m., 200 Butternut Ridge Rd. Annual meeting to nomination and selection of officers.

TUESDAY

sept 12 "Six Men who Shaped the American Revolution: The Advocate: John Adams" virtual lecture. Tuesday, Sept. 12, 11 a.m., Zoom. Professor Russell Leng focuses on John Adams in the second of his six talks on our founding fathers. EastView residents are invited to attend in-person. All others are welcome to attend via Zoom only. There will be time for Q&A following the presentation. Zoom link at tinyurl.com/Six-Men-Leng.

WEDNESDAY

sept 13 "Tokyo Stories" on screen in Middlebury. Wednesday, Sept. 13, 11 a.m., Town Hall Theater, 68 S. Pleasant St. THT Great Arts Wednesday series begins with this exploration of one of the world's great art capitals. Based on a major exhibition at the Ashmolean in Oxford, "Tokyo Stories" spans 400 years of incredibly dynamic art – ranging from the delicate woodblock prints of Hokusai and Hiroshige, to Pop Art posters, contemporary photography, Manga, film, and brand-new artworks that were created on the streets. Tickets \$15/series \$74, available at tickets@townhalltheater.org, 802-382-9222, or at the box office, Monday-Friday, noon-5 p.m.

"When Cultures Collide" in Middlebury. Wednesday, Sept. 13, 1 p.m., Ilsley Public Library, 75 Main St. Vermont Humanities Snapshot Series invites you to enter the world of the DeafBlind with Rene Pellerin as he recounts stories from his personal experiences as a DeafBlind person living with Usher Syndrome. *Rene The Unstoppable* uses humor to tell stories of his travels with and without support, frustrations and comic blunders experienced in both the hearing and deaf worlds, and how he's overcome obstacles along the way. In person or available as a live stream at vermonthumanities.org.

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If you have items to donate, please bring them to the church on Sunday Sept. 3 between 10 - 11:30 a.m.
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This has been the summer of the mosquito

My wife recently pointed out to me that there are 45 known species of mosquitos in Vermont. This summer I think I have interacted with all of them. Indeed, I continue to interact with them regularly. Every time I walk out into my garden to weed or harvest beans. A trip into the woods to gather wild blackberries requires armor that would make a knight proud. A permethrin-treated shirt — my normally effective

means of mosquito protection — just doesn't cut it this year. I am getting mosquito bites right through my (supposedly) insect repellent clothing.

Mosquitos, like hundreds of other more popular (though not more populous) species of insects in Vermont, including mayflies, dragonflies, damselflies, caddisflies and stoneflies, begin life as aquatic insects. Their eggs are laid in the water. They hatch from eggs into larvae, which grow into pupae, which eventually move to the surface of the water, spread newly formed wings, and emerge as the blood-sucking adults we've come to know but probably not love.

Most species of mayflies live only a few hours to a day or two in their adult form. They live only long enough to mate, and then they die. They don't eat as adults. They don't even have mouth parts. Mosquitos, by contrast, can live weeks to months depending on the species. Some can even overwinter. (If you find it disturbing to know that there are 45 known species of mosquitos in Vermont, keep in mind that there are over 175 in the United States and more than 3,000 species in the world!)

And whereas Vermont's mayflies, stoneflies and caddisflies

in their aquatic stages generally require clean, cold and well-oxygenated water, and thus are good indicators of the health of a stream, river or pond, mosquitos

prefer stagnant water. Depending on the species, they can breed not only in lakes and ponds, but in temporary puddles of rainwater or little bowls in plants. Or the wheelbarrow you left out a few weeks ago thinking you'd be using it soon for a yard project, but never did because it hasn't



MATT DICKERSON

stopped raining in Vermont since late spring. Which right now seems like some time last century. Whereas most species of mayflies and stoneflies in Vermont live roughly a year in their aquatic stage — and some species of stoneflies spend two years in the water before hatching as adults — mosquitos may need only a month or two, or even as little as a week, to transform from egg to blood-sucking adult. Female mayflies lay eggs and die. Female mosquitos can lay eggs ... and then potentially breed again and lay more. And here's the worst part: Mosquito eggs can lay dormant for years. Even more

places that are generally covered by at least one layer of fabric — I was going online trying to research effective mosquito repellent. Karuna Eberl, a fellow member of the Outdoor Writers Association of America, recently published a helpful piece about current research in mosquito repellents that you can read online at tinyurl.com/MosquitoOuttaHere. But while this article does a good job covering the effectiveness of the repellents, and their safety for humans, it's been much more difficult to find the environmental costs. Unfortunately, the effective "repellents" are also actually "insecticides." This

makes mosquito control one of those "wicked problems" my philosopher friend David O'Hara sometimes refers to, in which there are no perfect solutions; every potential solution comes with real costs. Because at the same time that mosquito populations have exploded this year, both my own anecdotal evidence from my pollinator-friendly backyard and numerous articles I've been reading, have been sounding the alarm for years about the decline in both pollinators (ranging from bumblebees to moths and butterflies) and in the sorts of macroinvertebrates needed not only for healthy streams (the mayflies, caddisflies and stoneflies of the world) but also for healthy forests. And the widespread use of pesticides remains one of the most conjectured causes of this decline.

And so, despite the increase in vector-borne diseases in Vermont, I've continued to rely on my armor when I've headed into the woods to pick wild blackberries or up into the Green Mountain National Forest to catch wild brook trout. The nice thing about the armor is that (unlike mosquito repellent) it also helps protect me from the blackberry thorns. Or at least it does that as well as it protects me from the mosquitos.

Reader Comments

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

A subscriber from Middlebury writes:

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Quotes are taken from reader comments submitted with subscription renewals.



ADDISON COUNTY
INDEPENDENT

Buy Again Alley announces scholarship winners

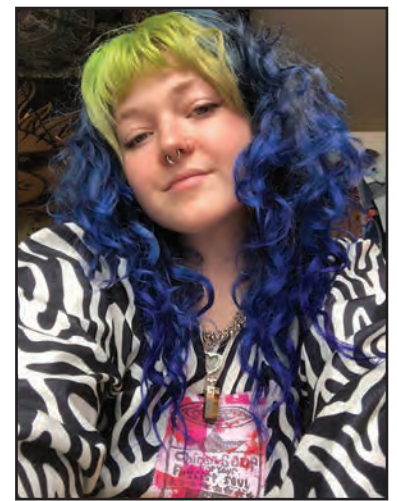
MIDDLEBURY — Buy Again Alley has announced its Scholarship Award winners for 2023. Buy Again Alley is a resale/thrift shop located on Main Street in Middlebury, with a mission to support young adults who seek work training and education outside the traditional college pathway. This year's award winners are Cassidy Quinlan and Thatcher Trudeau.

Kassidy is a graduating senior at VUHS who is currently attending early college at Community College of Vermont, and runs her own sustainable fashion brand, My World. She uses vintage and secondhand fabrics and materials to create one-of-a-kind clothing items. Kassidy plans to use her scholarship to acquire new sewing

skills in the hopes of learning pattern making. She also plans to purchase an adjustable mannequin so she can produce her own designs in more inclusive sizes and upgrade her current sewing machine. You can check out Cassidy's art and clothing on her website www.shopmyworld.org.

Thatcher is currently enrolled in his first year of an electrical apprenticeship program, studying to become a licensed electrician at Vermont Technical College. In addition to his studies, he works full time for Salamander Construction. Thatcher hopes to eventually become a journeyman electrician and plans on using his scholarship to purchase equipment required for his training program.

Buy Again Alley would like to



KASSIDY QUINLAN



THATCHER TRUDEAU

wish Cassidy and Thatcher much luck with their future endeavors. The store managers would also

like to thank Buy Again customers, whose loyal patronage makes the scholarship program possible.

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Lincoln

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 Call Dawn Mikkelsen at 453-7029

NEWS

LINCOLN — It's the start of another school year and with that comes a friendly reminder to please pay extra attention to students walking and biking to and from school. Please be mindful when encountering a school bus as well. If the lights are flashing and the stop arm is extended, please stop. Welcome back to all the returning students

and staff and welcome to all the new students, teachers and staff. Wishing everyone a fun and safe school year.

The Lincoln Community School's mentor program provides all interested students with an opportunity for a one-on-one positive relationship with a safe, responsible and attentive adult community member.

Mentors and mentees share life skills, enjoy common interests and grow together. If you are interested in becoming a mentor to an LCS student, please email mentor coordinator, Anna Howell at ahowell@lincolnsd.org.

REMINDER

The new Burnham Presents music series starts on Saturday, Sept. 2, at Burnham Hall with

Bon DéBarras. Doors open at 7 p.m. and the music begins at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are on a sliding scale general to generous admission \$15-\$25 or pay what you can.

Until next time ... Every Star Shines A Little Differently. Your Big Opportunity May Be Right Where You Are Now. Everything You Need Is Already Within You.



2023 Garden Game

The Game is ON!

We had **NINE** new entries to the Garden Game this week. Starting us off was **Lisa Maloney** with a 16.75" C Mortgage Lifter heirloom tomato. Although it was impressive in size and expressive in shape, Lisa's tomato was not quite plump enough to take the lead. **Randall Fleming** brought in a ruby red fruit, too. At 16" C, Randall's tomato was also just shy of overtaking the existing 17.75" C record. Perhaps a larger edible nightshade is still hidden in the garden?

Next, we had two potato entries. The first was grown by young gardeners, **Ella & Lydia Bearor** measuring 9" L x 5.5" C. That was enough to cinch the lead for a moment before **Ted Foster** brought in a 7" L x 9.5" C tater.

Ted also brought in a 25" C watermelon and 6" C parsnip. Ted takes the top spot in both categories! Current pepper title holder, **Gary Miller**, brought in an even larger pepper entry. At 14" C x 15" C, Gary is still in the lead but with a new record. Gary also brought in a 31" L green bean with a note that the beans are finally producing. I'd say! Gary's bean overtook the previous lead by 21" ... very briefly. In the eleventh hour, **Kanyarat Menard** scraped out a green bean win over Gary by a mere ¼ inch! At 31.25", Kanyarat's bean nabs first place.

The last entry this week was a 21.5" L x 11.5" C cucumber from **Roger Scarborough**. Roger's cuke takes the star position!

What a week of twists and turns. Who will end up winning the Great Tomato Tussle of 2023? Whose bean will reign supreme in the Gigantic Green Bean Battle? Which substantial spud has its eye on the prize? Check in next week to find out who else has thrown their hat into the ring!

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.

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) - Carol Krawczyk, 44.5" C
- Cantaloupe (circumference)
- Carrot (length x circumference)
- Cauliflower (diameter)
- Corn (length x circumference)
- Cucumber (length x circumference) - Roger Scarborough, 21.5" x 11.5"
- 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) - Kanyarat Menard, 31.25"
- Kohlrabi (circumference)
- Leek (length x circumference)
- Melon (circumference)
- Onion (circumference) - Ed Blechner, 12.5"
- Parsnip (circumference) - Ted Foster, 6"
- Potato (length x circumference) - Ted Foster, 7" x 9.5"
- Pepper (circumference x circumference) - Gary Miller, 14" x 15"
- Pumpkin (circumference x circumference)
- Radish (circumference)
- Rhubarb (length) - Lorraine Abramson, 30.5"
- Rutabaga (circumference)
- Summer Squash (length x circumference) - Josh & Aubree Mohan, 21" x 15"
- Sunflower (diameter)
- Tomato (circumference) - Carol Krawczyk, 17.75"
- Turnip (circumference)
- Winter Squash (length x circumference)
- Zucchini (length x circumference) - Josh & Aubree Mohan, 24" x 18.5"



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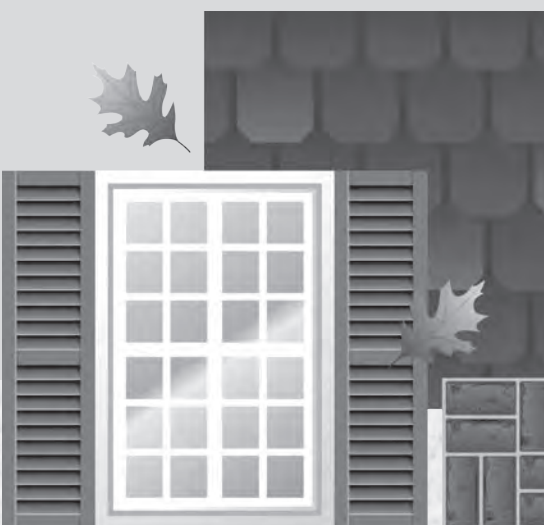
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CLASSIFIEDS

Public Meetings

AL-ANON OFFERS HELP and hope to anyone who has been affected by a loved one's drinking. Middlebury hosts 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://aaavt.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 vergennesfreethinkers@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.

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Help Wanted

Services

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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!

Help Wanted

Free

FREE AIR CONDITIONER, 5,000 BTU. Works well. Paul, 802-388-2812.

Garage Sales

HOUSEHOLDS TO ANTIQUES. No toys or clothes. Items added continually. 767 Field Days Road, New Haven. September 1, 2, 3 and 4, 9am-2pm.

MULTI-FAMILY SALE, tree stands, filing cabinet, tools, housewares, books, plant pots, antiques. No toys or clothes. 8 Forest Ridge Drive, East Middlebury. Saturday, September 2, 9am-4pm.

Help Wanted


Garage Sales

MEGA MULTI-FAMILY SALE. 9/1-9/4, 8am-4pm. Solo stove, mountain bike, decoys, clothes-Bean, Navy, Gap, Burton, Dansk, boots, books. Collectibles, beer steins, pints, shots, Breyer, airplanes, puzzles, jewelry, milk bottles, Christmas motion and much more. 5543 VT Rte 125, Bridport.

MULTI-FAMILY LAWN SALE. Saturday, September 2, 9am-3pm. 619 Basin Harbor Road, Vergennes. Over 100 quality puzzles. Books. Household items, kitchen items. Baby stroller and lots more.

Help Wanted

Help Wanted



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Please no phone calls.

Middlebury Agway 338 Exchange St. - Middlebury, VT.

Help Wanted

Help Wanted

Help Wanted

Help Wanted ads can be found on Pages 7B and 8B.



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Elderwood at Ticonderoga invites you to join our team

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| <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 |
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Addison Independent CLASSIFIEDS

Help Wanted

TOWN OF PANTON ROAD CREW WANTED

\$25-\$27/hour DOE.
Requires CDL, experience operating heavy equipment including plow and wing, mechanical ability, courtesy, and diplomacy. Welding ability desired.

See full details at <https://tinyurl.com/roadcrewjob>

Help Wanted

Garage Sales

SATURDAY, SEPT. 2 and Sept. 3, 8am-4pm. 1020 North Street, New Haven. Lots of household items, Polaris parts and tires. A Tee Ter back exerciser, assortment of fishing lures and rods. Multi-family sale. Something for everyone.

Help Wanted

Garage Sales

SATURDAY, SEPT. 2, 9-3. Tools, nuts, bolts, etc. Ladders, shop vac, camping grill and regular grill, fishing poles and tackle box, garden tools, round patio table and chairs, misc. Kid's chair and swing, toys and puzzles. No early birds. Town Hill Road New Haven.

THIS IS ONE HUGE garage sale. Way too many items to list. Everything from furniture, kitchen items, books, clothing and holiday decorations, etc. etc. Saturday through Monday, Sept. 2-4, 9am-4pm. No checks, cash or Venmo only. 96 Jenna Lane, Whit- ing.

Help Wanted

COMPANION CARE NEEDED IN MIDDLEBURY: We are looking for a licensed (RN, LPN, LVN, LNA, LSW) or other insurance-approved certified caregiver, to provide companion care for my 89-year-old mother who suffers from dementia. Duties include providing companionship, stimulation (reading, attending activities at assisted living complex, etc.) daily walks and meals. She currently lives in independent housing at an assisted-living facility with her husband who is mostly self-sufficient but home-bound by choice. He will be part of meals and in-home interactions. Depending on the shift, duties will also include assisting our mother with bedtime routine and putting her to bed. We are currently looking for Friday and Saturday evening shifts (3pm - 8pm) and Sunday day (10am - 3pm). There is potential for additional hours, including filling in for other caregivers as needed. Family and/or other care team members can cover for time off needs. Contact Meg (209) 613-2672, megmariano@hotmail.com. Competitive

Help Wanted

salary based on experience.
HAPPY VALLEY ORCHARD: is seeking seasonal help for all positions. \$15-18phr. Apply in person, Middlebury.

Help Wanted

✓
TIRED OF BEING RETIRED? Limited hours, A&W and Greg's Market. Applications available at Greg's. Pick your own hours.

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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

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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.

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✓
ATTENTION BREWERS and cider makers! Clean, heavy duty reinforced glass, 5 gallon carboys for sale. \$25 each or 5 for \$100. 22oz. bottles also available. Located in Cornwall. Call Blair 510-205-9064.

For Sale

✓
BRAND NEW 10-POINT M1 Titan Crossbow. Field arrows, practice arrows and target bag included. Paid \$1,200 new. Asking \$800. Call 802-989-5803.

For Sale

✓
WOODSTOVE, HEARTHSTONE. See the fire through the glass. Heats 800-1200 sq.ft. \$200. Paul, 802-388-2812.

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✓
BRUSH HOGGING & lawn mowing. Reasonable rates. Contact Wayne 802-382-7465.

Help Wanted

For Rent

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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.

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The work is not physically strenuous and could be ideal for someone whose afternoons are free. We are a small tight-knit team looking for a positive, hardworking, communicative partner. Forklift experience is helpful, but not necessary, we will provide certified Forklift Operator training if needed. Vermont Driver's license required. Competitive pay from \$15 - \$25 per hour based on experience and abilities.

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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.

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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.

Handmade pizza, with freshly prepared ingredients, by fantastic humans.

We care about you, the food, and each other.

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Help Wanted

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Front Desk Associate

Are you looking for a part-time job?

We are searching for a front desk associate to start right away on Mondays and Wednesdays from 3-7:30 p.m. and on some Fridays. This is a great job for after school or for someone who loves people and wants a few hours during the week!

Join the team at Parlour today!

Please stop into Parlour or email us at parlourvt@gmail.com
57 Main St., Middlebury, VT



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



Vermont State Housing Authority

One Prospect Street
Montpelier, Vermont 05602
(802) 828-3295 • contact@vsha.org

SITE MANAGER - Middlebury

VSHA is seeking applications for a site manager, who will be located in Middlebury, Vermont. This is a hands-on position, managing the operation and day-to-day management of an assigned residential property portfolio. They will interact directly with program participants and will be responsible for orientation, move-out inspections, annual inspections, and rent collection. In addition, they are responsible for such tasks that relate to lease violations, resident disputes and grievances, and budget compliance.

This is a great job that makes a difference in your community. Join the VSHA where our mission is to promote and expand the supply of affordable rental and homeownership opportunities on a statewide basis.

VSHA offers an excellent benefits package including contribution to medical premiums coupled with a funded health reimbursement account, 100% employer-paid dental, life insurance, retirement plan, and a generous time off package.

Visit our website: www.vsha.org for more details and application information.



ACSD

Addison Central School District

Our schools need substitute teachers. You can help!

Substitute Teachers

- Are essential to our schools!
- Help our schools operate at their full potential during staff vacancies and illness.
- Ensure consistency and support for all students.

This could be a great fit if you:

- Love supporting kids!
- Have and want a flexible schedule.
- Are energetic, curious, inclusive, and kind.
- Are considering a career as a teacher or paraprofessional.
- Want to get involved and support our community!

Payscale:
Your rate of pay increases if you commit to consecutive days in a week. Substitutes are paid on half/full day basis.

Licensed Substitute Teachers and ACSD retirees:


- \$160 per day for 5 days
- \$150/day for 4 days
- \$140/day for 3 days
- \$130/day for 2 days
- \$120/day for 1 day

Unlicensed Substitute Teachers:

- \$150 per day for 5 days
- \$140/day for 4 days
- \$130/day for 3 days
- \$120/day for 2 days
- \$110/day for 1 day

School Nurse substitutes begin at \$150/day

To apply: acsdvt.org/Page/4418 or scan the QR Code: <https://www.acsdvt.org/qr>
Questions: 802-362-1281

Town of Middlebury Highway Maintainer II

This is semi-skilled work of moderate complexity in public works maintenance and equipment operation. Work involves performing a wide variety of manual and automotive equipment operation tasks involved in municipal right of way, public infrastructure maintenance and servicing of assigned automotive equipment. Work is performed under direct supervision. Position requires a minimum of a Class B CDL license.

Work is performed in accordance with established routines and procedures, with some limited judgement exercised based upon accepted equipment operation and maintenance practices. Generally, no supervision is given to other employees. Direct oversight is received from a supervisor. Work typically originates from either assignment from a supervisor or due to normal operations involved in public works maintenance. Work is reviewed by a superior through inspection of work in progress or upon completion.

Complete job description and application may be obtained on-line at www.townofmiddlebury.org, at the Municipal Building, 77 Main Street, or by calling 388-4045.



Help Wanted ads can be found on Pages 7B and 8B.

Volleyball nets Mt. Abe for club

BRISTOL — Mount Abraham Union High School this fall is joining more than a dozen Vermont high schools in offering volleyball. It is starting as a club team for students with hopes to ultimately progress to a varsity-level sport.

With its noncontact nature and low equipment costs, supporters say that volleyball presents an excellent new opportunity for Mount Abe students. The introduction of the sport has been brought about by student Page Guilbeault working with the athletic staff. If all goes well, it will follow the other Addison County high school that has just entered the varsity level — Middlebury Union High School (see *Addison Independent*, Nov. 3, 2022, "A Volleyball Adventure at MUHS" by Karl Lindholm).

More than 500,000 high school students across the nation play volleyball, and it's been an Olympic sport since 1964, wowing fans with thrilling back-and-forth rallies, scrambling saves and thunderous spikes.

Unlike some sports that have been traditionally gendered, all are welcome on the volleyball court, which provides an exceptional avenue for high school students to enhance their physical fitness and teamwork.

Volleyball has been wowing fans with thrilling back-and-forth rallies, scrambling saves and thunderous spikes.

The sport demands agility, coordination and speed, encouraging participants to develop these athletic skills through regular practice and matches.

At Mount Abe, the volleyball team will play the traditional six-member game, although many of the skills also translate to the newer game of beach volleyball, played by two-person teams.

And unlike many other sports, it's all about players' skill and strategy — there's no way to buy a better club or racquet to improve your performance.

As a team member you spend most of your time active. Even if you don't touch the ball every time it's on your side of the court, you're moving constantly to be in proper position.

While volleyball does have set

positions on the court, players rotate when points are scored so that you get to play both offense and defense. There's a lot to celebrate every time the ball is put into play or a team scores a point. And if you didn't win that point? The team gathers anyway to encourage each other in the next one.

With such excitement, it's little wonder it's one of the three most popular team sports played in the world for both men and women, along with soccer and basketball, with 200 nations members of the International Volleyball Federation.

Regionally, there's a long

history of volleyball in Addison County and the surrounding counties, with games played regularly both indoors and outside year-round. Monkton, for instance, hosts games three times a week in the summer at its sand court.

Practices for Mount Abe's program begin in early September, led by Athletic Director and Activities Coordinator Devin Wendel and Athletic Trainer Megan Quite, with coaching by Megan LaRose, volunteer coach Elizabeth Guilbeault and assistant Ivor Hughes.

Editor's note: This story was provided by Ivor Hughes.



Advance Auction Notice

Tom Broughton Auctions is back for a limited time. We have been asked to come out of retirement to sell the late Ralph Farnsworth's museum-quality collectibles.

On Sunday, Sept 17th, we will begin to sell the large collection. Auction listing and photos will come the week of the sale.

YOU WILL NOT WANT TO MISS IT!

MARKET REPORT ADDISON COUNTY COMMISSION SALES

RT. 125 • EAST MIDDLEBURY, VT
Sales for 8/24/23 & 8/28/23

BEEF	LBS.	/LB	\$
H. Degraaf	1340	1.30	\$1742.00
Nop Bros & Sons	1280	1.30	\$1664.00
Woodnotch Farm	1205	1.28	\$1542.40
J. Fifield	1795	1.08	\$1938.60
Nea Tocht	1605	1.05	\$1685.25
Deer Valley P'ship	1300	1.00	\$1300.00
Champlainside	1995	1.00	\$1995.00
Correia Family LTD1555	98	\$1523.90	

CALVES	LBS.	/LB	\$
Vorsteveld	86	5.10	\$438.60
Barnes Bros	101	5.00	\$505.00
H. Sunderland	109	4.80	\$523.20
Wilcon Farm	99	4.80	\$475.20
Champlainside Farm	97	4.80	\$465.60

Total Beef - 218 Total Calves - 365
We value our faithful customers.
Sales at 3 pm - Mon. & Thurs.
call 1-802-388-2661

TOWN OF FERRISBURGH Notice of Public Hearing Zoning Board of Adjustment September 6th, 2023

A public hearing before the Zoning Board of Adjustment of the Town of Ferrisburgh will be held at the Town Clerk's Office on Wednesday, September 6th, 2023, to consider the following:

7:00 PM Call to order and approval of minutes from the August 2nd meeting.

1. Application No. 23-087 (Ms. P. Morris) Waiver of side set-back requirements; property ID#: 14/01/38; 1457 Sand Road; Rural Residential (RR-2) district; waiver
2. Application No. 23-092 (Mr. M. Franceschetti) Self-Storage Units; property ID#: 18/21/71; 14 Old Hollow; Highway Mixed Use (HMU-2) district; conditional use
3. Application No. 23-093 (Mr. H. Robare) Temporary Use incidental to construction (Tiny Home); property ID#: 13/01/67.1; Lot E, Spencer Farm Road; Rural Residential (RR-2) district; waiver
4. Application No. 23-094 (Ms. C. Knaf on behalf of Mr. T. Pulsifer) Shoreland, Outdoor Recreation; property ID# 13/01/51.4; 28 Arnold Bay Road, Rural Residential (RR-2) district; conditional use

The above files are available for inspection at the Town Clerk's Office. Persons wishing to appear and be heard may do so in person or be represented by an agent or an attorney. Communications about the above hearings may also be filed in writing with the Board or the Zoning Administrator.

ACT 250 NOTICE MINOR APPLICATION #9A0383 10 V.S.A. §§ 6001 - 6111

George Berkeley, LLC, has filed application #9A0383 for a project generally described as rehabilitation, renovation, and conversion of the existing General Samuel Strong House into a 6-unit apartment building upon an existing ±0.74-acre parcel. The General Samuel Strong House is listed in the National Register of Historic Places. The project is located at 54 West Main Street in Vergennes, Vermont. This application can be viewed online by visiting the Act 250 Database: <https://anrweb.vt.gov/ANR/Act250/Details.aspx?Num=9A0383>.

No hearing will be held, and a permit will be issued unless, on or before Wednesday, September 20, at 4:30 PM, a party notifies the District 9 Commission in writing of an issue requiring a hearing, or the Commission sets the matter for a hearing on its own motion. Any person as defined in 10 V.S.A. § 6085(c)(1) may request a hearing. Any hearing request must be in writing, must state the criteria or sub-criteria at issue, why a hearing is required, and what additional evidence will be presented at the hearing. Any hearing request by an adjoining property owner or other person eligible for party status under 10 V.S.A. § 6085(c)(1)(E) must include a petition for party status under the Act 250 Rules. To request party status and a hearing, fill out the Party Status Petition Form on the Board's website: <https://nr.vermont.gov/documents/party-status-petition-form>, and email it to the District 9 Office at: NRB.Act250Barre@vermont.gov. Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law may not be prepared unless the Commission holds a public hearing.

For more information contact the District 9 Coordinator listed below.

Josh Donabedian
Joshua.Donabedian@vermont.gov
Mail: 10 Baldwin Street, Montpelier VT 05633-3201
Physical: 111 West Street, Essex Junction, VT 05452

TOWN OF BRIDPORT PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The Bridport Zoning Board of Adjustments will hold a public hearing on September 20th at 6pm in the Bridport Town Office, at 82 Crown Point Road, on each and to consider each of the following application(s):

1. At 6:05 PM on Application (#23-36) by Mr. & Mrs. Duddles for the purposes of establishing a maple sugarhouse, retail store selling fruit preserves and associated maple products. Tax ID# 11-071 owned by Mr. & Mrs. Duddles. The property is located at 4163 VT Route 22A, Bridport, VT 05734
2. At 6:30PM on Application (#23-35) by Stephen Hammond for the purposes of operating Vacation Rentals by Owner. Tax ID# 05-018 owned by Stephen Hammond. The property is located at 50 Way Lane Extension, Bridport, VT 05734

Plans and additional information regarding any such application may be viewed at said Town Office or by calling (802) 758-2483, Ext. 2. Participation in the Bridport Zoning Board of Adjustments proceeding is a prerequisite to the right to take any subsequent appeal on any decision of it on an application.

Dinah Bain (Chair)
Cindy Myrick (Secretary)
Michael Wojciechowski (Zoning Administrator)

CITY OF VERGENNES NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the Development Review Board will hold a public hearing on September 18, 2023, at 7:15 PM for the following purpose: To consider Local Act 250 review for application #2023-35 by Cornerstone Solutions LLC related to the project at 1-3 West Main Street. Reviews will consider Article XI.

Please note that the hearing will be held as a "hybrid meeting", with participation either in person, by Zoom, or by phone. The in-person meeting will be held in the conference room at City Hall.

Join by computer: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85906470948>
Meeting password: 656417.
Join by phone: Dial 1 (929) 205-6099; Meeting ID: 859 0647 0948; Meeting Passcode: 656417.
For participants joining by phone:
To raise your hand during the meeting, press *9.
To mute/unmute during the meeting, press *6

If you experience any difficulty in accessing this meeting, contact Zoning Administrator Peter Garon at 802-377-9527.

You must participate in the public hearing either in person or in writing, in order to take any subsequent appeal. The City of Vergennes is an "on the record" appeal municipality with regard to appeals to Environmental Court from Development Review Board decisions. This means that the Environmental Court shall only consider testimony or information provided during public hearings on the application. Interested parties should therefore assure that their participation in the public hearing proceedings is complete and represents the totality of their desired considerations.

A copy of the application is available for public review by contacting Peter Garon at pgaron@vergenes.org.

August 24, 2023
Peter Garon, Administrative Officer

Keep up to date with all the action, read

Arts + Leisure

every Thursday in the Addy Indy!

ALTERNATIVES PRESENTATION MEETING FOR THE FERRISBURGH PEDESTRIAN SAFETY SCOPING STUDY PROJECT

Tuesday, September 5, 2023
in conjunction with the Selectboard Meeting that starts at 6:30 pm at the Town Hall and Community Center



Please join us for a discussion of potential alternatives for sidewalk infrastructure options along sections of Route 7, Little Chicago Road, and Middlebrook Road (highlighted above). We are looking forward to gathering input from the public on their thoughts, interest, and potential concerns with sidewalk alternatives in this area.

If you are not able to make the meeting but would like to provide input or have any questions about the project, please contact Bonnie Barnes, Town representative, at bonnie.barnes@me.com, or Jenny Austin, DuBois & King, Inc., at jaustin@dubois-king.com.

TOWN OF HANCOCK HANCOCK, VERMONT SHAMPENY HILL ROAD CULVERT REPLACEMENT ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Sealed Bids for the construction of the Town of Hancock – Shampeny Hill Road Culvert Replacement be received by the Town of Hancock at P.O. Box 100, Hancock, Vermont, 05736, until 10:00 a.m. local time on Thursday, September 28, 2023 Bids received will be "publicly" opened and read. Bidders providing bids by mail shall allow for delivery time. The Project consists of replacing an eight-foot diameter metal culvert with a 16-foot wide by 5-foot high by 54-foot long aluminum arch culvert with cast in place footings and wingwalls.

Bids will be received for a single prime Contract. Bids shall be on a lump sum and unit price basis, as indicated in the Bid Schedule.

The Issuing Office for the Bidding Documents is Otter Creek Engineering, Inc., P.O. Box 712, 404 East Main St., Middlebury, VT, (802) 382-8522. Prospective Bidders may examine the Bidding Documents at the Issuing Office on Mondays through Fridays between the hours of 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., and may obtain copies of the Bidding Documents from the Issuing Office as described below.

Printed copies of the Bidding Documents may be obtained from the Issuing Office, during the hours indicated above, upon payment of \$100.00 for each set. Checks for Bidding Documents shall be payable to "Otter Creek Engineering, Inc." mailing address: P.O. Box 712, East Middlebury, VT 05740. Upon request and receipt of the document payment indicated above, the Issuing Office will transmit the Bidding Documents. The date that the Bidding Documents are transmitted by the Issuing Office will be considered the Bidder's date of receipt of the Bidding Documents. Partial sets of Bidding Documents will not be available from the Issuing Office. Neither Owner nor Engineer will be responsible for full or partial sets of Bidding Documents, including Addenda if any, obtained from sources other than the Issuing Office. Neither Owner nor Engineer will be responsible for issuing Addenda if any, to parties obtaining Bidding Documents from sources other than the Issuing Office.

Electronic copies of Bidding Drawings and Documents are available upon request to all parties recorded as having officially received the Bidding Documents from the Issuing Office, as portable document format (PDF) files, via e-mail.

A pre-bid conference will be held at 9:00 a.m. local time on Tuesday, September 19, 2023, at the project site, at the intersection of Shampeny Hill Road and Tucker Brook Road. Attendance at the pre-bid conference is mandatory.

Bid security shall be furnished in accordance with the Instructions to Bidders.

Owner: Town of Hancock
By: Dan Perera
Title: Road Commissioner
Date: August 29, 2023

Public Notices Index

Public Notices for the following can be found in this
ADDISON INDEPENDENT on Pages 9B and 10B.

Act 250 (2)	Ferrisburgh (2)
Addison (1)	Hancock (2)
Addison Central School District (1)	Middlebury (1)
Addison County Courthouse (1)	Salisbury (1)
Bridport (1)	State of Vermont (1)
	Vergennes (2)

ACT 250 NOTICE MINOR APPLICATION #9A0227-8 10 V.S.A. §§ 6001 - 6111

Douglas Sweets, LLC, has filed application #9A0227-8 for a project generally described as "partial findings" review under the Act 250 Criteria for development of ±4.16-acre Lot 2 for construction of a ±3,300 square-foot commercial baking facility with a small retail area and one dwelling unit on the second floor. Other proposed improvements include driveway access, parking, sidewalks, and storm-water treatment. Positive findings are requested under the following criteria: 1, 1B, 1C, 1E, 1G, 2, 3, 4, 9F, and 9G. The project is located at the northwest corner of the Route 7 & 22A intersection in Ferrisburgh, Vermont. This application can be viewed online by visiting the Act 250 Database: <https://anrweb.vt.gov/ANR/Act250/Details.aspx?Num=9A0227-8>.

No hearing will be held, and a permit will be issued unless, on or before Wednesday, September 20, 2023, at 4:30 PM, a party notifies the District 9 Commission in writing of an issue requiring a hearing, or the Commission sets the matter for a hearing on its own motion. Any person as defined in 10 V.S.A. § 6085(c)(1) may request a hearing. Any hearing request must be in writing, must state the criteria or sub-criteria at issue, why a hearing is required, and what additional evidence will be presented at the hearing. Any hearing request by an adjoining property owner or other person eligible for party status under 10 V.S.A. § 6085(c)(1)(E) must include a petition for party status under the Act 250 Rules. To request party status and a hearing, fill out the Party Status Petition Form on the Board's website: <https://nr.vermont.gov/documents/party-status-petition-form>, and email it to the District 9 Office at: NRB.Act250Barre@vermont.gov. Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law may not be prepared unless the Commission holds a public hearing.

For more information contact the District 9 Coordinator listed below.

Josh Donabedian
Joshua.Donabedian@vermont.gov
Mail: 10 Baldwin Street, Montpelier VT 05633-3201
Physical: 111 West Street, Essex Junction, VT 05452

CITY OF VERGENNES NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the Development Review Board will hold a public hearing on September 18, 2023, at 7:00 PM for the following purpose:

To consider site plan and conditional use review for application #2023-37 by Sienna Construction LLC for a change of use from a 9-unit multiple-household dwelling to a 10-unit multiple-household dwelling at (0) Armory Lane. Reviews will consider Article VII, Article VIII, and Section 1605.

Please note that the hearing will be held as a "hybrid meeting", with participation either in person, by Zoom, or by phone. The in-person meeting will be held in the conference room at City Hall.

Join by computer: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85906470948>
Meeting password: 656417.
Join by phone: Dial 1 (929) 205-6099; Meeting ID: 859 0647 0948; Meeting Passcode: 656417.
For participants joining by phone:
To raise your hand during the meeting, press *9.
To mute/unmute during the meeting, press *6

If you experience any difficulty in accessing this meeting, contact Zoning Administrator Peter Garon at 802-377-9527.

You must participate in the public hearing either in person or in writing, in order to take any subsequent appeal. The City of Vergennes is an "on the record" appeal municipality with regard to appeals to Environmental Court from Development Review Board decisions. This means that the Environmental Court shall only consider testimony or information provided during public hearings on the application. Interested parties should therefore assure that their participation in the public hearing proceedings is complete and represents the totality of their desired considerations.

A copy of the application is available for public review by contacting Peter Garon at pgaron@vergenes.org.

August 15, 2023
Peter Garon
Administrative Officer



Small town hero

OVER THREE HUNDRED people gathered in Lincoln on Aug. 12 to celebrate longtime Lincoln General Store owner Vaneasa Stearns. The elaborate surprise party was filled with laughter, dancing and tributes to Stearns, thanking the shopkeeper for the many contributions she's made to the community since taking over the store in 1991.

Photo courtesy of David McCuin/Panfoto

City police cite juvenile for embezzling

VERGENNES — Vergennes police on Sunday, Aug. 27, cited a juvenile into Family Court for allegedly embezzling more than \$1,000 from the Maplefields convenience store on Main Street.

Police allege the juvenile former employee of Maplefields stole at least that much from the store in cash and lottery tickets. They said the exact amount taken was yet to be determined, but that it is at least \$1,000, and that the threshold for embezzlement to become a felony is \$100.

Between Aug. 21 and 27, Vergennes police also conducted 15 traffic stops and four motorized

Vergennes Police Log

patrols, fingerprinted nine job applicants, and:

- On Aug. 21 were told between \$6 and \$10 was stolen from a Green Street vegetable stand's payment jar. Police said the stand's owner provided a description of a vehicle, but they have so far been unable to find it.
- On Aug. 22:
 - Took a report that a young woman had been dropped off

- on Macdonough Drive and had no way to get to her out-of-state home. Police soon learned from Northlands Job Corps security personnel that she was a student, and they had picked her up and returned her to her dorm.
- Issued a citation to a Northlands student on behalf of Barre police.
- Helped Vermont State Police deal with an allegedly impaired driver, first backing up a trooper at a traffic stop in the Aubuchon Hardware parking lot, and then helping out back at the station, where a city Drug Recognition Expert (DRE) evaluated the driver and concluded he was impaired.
- Found a troubled juvenile who had fled a city residence in the middle of the night and took the person back home. Police said they found the juvenile hiding behind a city business.
- On Aug. 23:
 - Took a report of a minor two-vehicle accident on West Street.
 - Sent a department DRE to the New Haven state police barracks to evaluate another allegedly impaired driver. The city DRE again concluded the operator was impaired.
 - Responded to a noise complaint of fireworks being set off on Hillside Drive. Police said a city ticket is possible for a repeat offender.
- On Aug. 24:

- Responded to a minor two-vehicle crash at the intersection of Green and School streets.
- Dealt with a woman yelling and swearing in the Kinney Drug Store parking lot. Police said she appeared to be suffering from mental health or substance abuse issues, and when she refused help they elected to give her a ride home.
- On Aug. 25:
 - Went to Alden Place to help Valley Vista staff with a patient who was refusing to leave. Police said that, after she calmed down Valley Vista provided her with a bus ticket, and they drove her to a bus station.
 - Responded to a noise complaint on Hillside Drive and learned the sound was coming from that evening's downtown street dance.
- On Aug. 26 directed traffic for what they said was a busy Vergennes Day.
- On Aug. 27:
 - Cited Jessica Baker, 41, of Pantan for burglary of a Pantan Road car and garage. Police said Baker apparently did not take anything, but unlawfully entered both the vehicle and structure. They also allege home video captured Baker in the act, and that she left her wallet in the vehicle.
 - Asked a person reported to be hanging around the Maplefields' dumpsters to move along.

Middlebury Police Log

MIDDLEBURY — Middlebury police cited Daniel Guyette, 35, of Rutland for sexual assault and resisting arrest, following an investigation in the Elm Street area on Aug. 27.

Police said they took Guyette into custody following a brief foot pursuit. Police said one responding officer sustained minor injuries in connection with the incident and was treated and released from Porter Hospital. Guyette was lodged at the Marble Valley Regional Correctional Facility without bail, according to police.

In other action last week, Middlebury police:

- Investigated a reported water main leak in the Perkins Lane area off Route 116 near the airport on Aug. 21.
- Responded to a reported verbal dispute between some people on the Cross Street Bridge on Aug. 21.
- Cited Martin Cody, 24, of Monkton for driving with a criminally suspended in the Seminary Street Extension area on Aug. 21.
- Were informed that a wallet had been stolen from a vehicle parked off Schoolhouse Hill Road on Aug. 21.
- Received a 911 call from the Exchange Street area from a person who had been experiencing a medical emergency on Aug. 21. Police said Middlebury Regional EMS (MREMS) was sent to the scene.
- Got help for an elderly woman after checking on her welfare on Aug. 21. Police said MREMS took her to Porter Hospital.
- Received a report about unlawful mischief in the Pine Meadows area on Aug. 21.
- Were asked to check on the welfare of a man who had fallen asleep in the Ilsley Library on Aug. 21. Police said the man had left upon their arrival.
- Helped MREMS get inside a residence in response to a medical call on Aug. 21.
- Went to the East Main Street area on Aug. 22 on a report of someone setting off fireworks.
- Launched an investigation on Aug. 22 into the alleged theft of a handgun from a local resident.
- Received a report about illegal dumping in the Court Street area on

- Aug. 22.
 - Received a report of a man allegedly engaged in a lewd act by himself while seated in a car parked off Creek Road on Aug. 22.
 - Received a report about an alleged assault in the Jackson Lane area on Aug. 22.
 - Assisted Vergennes police in the search of a missing person in the Exchange Street area on Aug. 22.
 - On Aug. 23, assisted a parent with child who had been having "violent outbursts."
 - Responded to the Route 7 South scene of a "likely overdose" on Aug. 23.
 - Assisted a Vermont State Police trooper in processing a drunken driving suspect at Middlebury police headquarters on Aug. 24.
 - Herded some loose goats off Munger Street on Aug. 24.
 - Responded to a reported fight at a Bakery Lane location on Aug. 24. Police said some people had been arguing over a marijuana pipe.
 - Assisted a local resident on Aug. 24 concerned about a possible stalker.
 - Helped a driver who had run out of gas on Route 7 South on Aug. 24.
 - Investigated an attempted break-in into a vehicle parked off East Main Street on Aug. 25.
 - Helped a Court Street business in issuing trespass orders to people not wanted on premises on Aug. 25.
 - Responded to a reported verbal dispute between some Jayne Court residents on Aug. 25.
 - Responded, with MREMS, to a report of a person who had sustained a head injury in the Bakery Lane area on Aug. 26. Police said MREMS treated the injured person.
 - Were informed of the theft of an unlocked bicycle from the Mary Hogan Drive area on Aug. 26.
 - Received a report of a dog left alone in a hot car parked off College Street on Aug. 26.
 - Conducted a welfare check at a Jackson Lane residence on Aug. 27.
 - Were informed of the theft of some clothing from Agway on Exchange Street on Aug. 27. Store officials told police they confronted the alleged thief, whom they said refused to return the items and left in a black Jeep.

Public Notices can be found in this **ADDISON INDEPENDENT** on Pages 9B and 10B.

PUBLIC NOTICE
TOWN OF ADDISON

The Addison Planning Commission meeting will be held on Monday, September 18, 2023 at the Town Clerk's Office at 6:30 PM.

- To approve the meeting minutes for August 21, 2023.
- To transact any business found necessary before the board.
- To allow time for public comment interaction at the end of the meeting.
- Continue to work on updating & referencing some sections for implementing Subdivision & Zoning Regulations into the Town Plan for future public hearings.
- Continue working on items that are considered projects in progress at the September Meeting.
- We will review and put together a list of the changes/revisions made to the "Zoning" & "Subdivision" Regulations. We have a rough draft to work from to review the Zoning & Subdivision Regulations.
- Plan to work on definitions and put the rough draft of the Zoning & Subdivision Regulations and continue to work on the Town Plan as a project in process.
- Adjournment — stating time.

We are planning to have a work meeting after the regular monthly meeting on Monday, September 18, 2023 at Addison Town Clerk's Office. We have a three-board meeting planned in September. Plans are to have an added work meeting in September sometime when convenient.

Michael Collett, Chair
Starr Phillips, Secretary
Addison Planning Commission

ACSD
Addison Central School District

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.

TOWN OF SALISBURY
PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The Salisbury Development Review Board (DRB) will hold a Public Hearing in the Town Office (25 Schoolhouse Road) at 6:00 PM on Wednesday, September 20, 2023, to consider the following:
Application 2023-13

An application from Property Owners Paul Vaczy and Hank, Charlotte, Gerrit, and Alida Nop (parcel ID #0905013 and #0914012-2) in connection with a proposed boundary Line Adjustment (Minor subdivision), of 11.54 acres from a 74.98-acre lot, parcel ID #0905013, to a 155 acre-lot, parcel ID #0914012-2. This property affects and is located on the westerly area of Leland Road and the easterly area of Dewey Road in Salisbury and is zoned in the Low-Density Residential District, (LDR).

This application is pursuant to §2.4.3E, §6.0.1(1), & §6.0.1(3) of the Salisbury Unified Development Regulations.

Participation (either oral or written) is a prerequisite to an interested person's right to take any subsequent appeal from the DRB's decision. See 24 V.S.A. §4465(b) and §4471.

These hearings will be conducted with in-person and remote access. Those wishing to participate remotely must obtain the necessary remote access codes. Access codes (for on-line or phone) are available by contacting the Salisbury Town Clerk during regular business hours prior to 3:00 PM on September 19, 2023. The Salisbury Town Office is open on Tuesdays from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM and Thursdays from 11:00 AM to 6:00 PM.

Application materials are available for inspection in the Town Office during regular business hours.

Anna Scheck
DRB Clerk

STATE OF VERMONT
SUPERIOR COURT
PROBATE DIVISION
ADDISON UNIT
DOCKET NO.: 23-PR-03956
IN RE ESTATE OF:
JANE STEIN

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

To the Creditors of: Jane Stein, late of Shoreham, Vermont. I have been appointed to administer this estate. All creditors having claims against the decedent or the estate must present their claims in writing within four (4) months of the first publication of this notice. The claim must be presented to me at the address listed below with a copy sent to the Court. The claim may be barred forever if not presented within the four (4) month period.

Dated: 08/28/23

Executor/Administrator:
Amy R. Menard
One Cross Street
Middlebury, VT 05753
802-388-7966

Publication: Addison Independent
Publication Date: 08/31/23
Address of Probate Court:
7 Mahady Court
Middlebury, VT 05753

TOWN OF HANCOCK, VT
Request for Bids

Seeking bids for two projects to repair flood-damaged roads. Bidding packages available at hancockvt.org or by calling Dan Perera at 802-431-5158.

Full Passport Service
Addison County Courthouse

The Addison County Clerk located in Frank Mahady Courthouse is available to accept passport applications and provide passport photos.

REGULAR HOURS
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday - 9am to 1pm
Wednesday - 8:45am to 4:00pm
Friday - Closed

APPOINTMENTS REQUIRED.
802-388-1966
addisoncountyclerk@gmail.com

TOWN OF MIDDLEBURY SELECTBOARD RETREAT
ROOM 116 – LARGE CONFERENCE ROOM
TOWN OFFICES – 77 MAIN STREET
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2023 - 6:00 P.M.

Also available via Zoom:
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89179993519
By Phone: +1 646-558-8656 (not toll-free)
Webinar ID: 891 7999 3519

For those wishing to watch but not participate:
Selectboard meetings are livestreamed to MCTV's YouTube Channel:
https://www.youtube.com/user/MCTV_Vermont
and also broadcast live on Comcast Channel 1071

AGENDA

6:00 1. **Call to Order
2. *Approval of Agenda
3. *Approval of Consent Agenda
3.a. *Downtown Vibrancy Grant – Supplemental Funding Acknowledgement
3.b. **Placeholder

6:05 4. *Next Steps in Consideration of Library Renovation & Expansion
7:25 5. *Approval of Check Warrants
6. **Executive Session – Not Anticipated
7. **Action on Matters Discussed in Executive Session

7:30 8. *Adjourn

* Decision Item ** Possible Decision

PROPOSED STATE RULES

By law, public notice of proposed rules must be given by publication in newspapers of record. The purpose of these notices is to give the public a chance to respond to the proposals. The public notices for administrative rules are now also available online at https://secure.vermont.gov/SOS/rules/. The law requires an agency to hold a public hearing on a proposed rule, if requested to do so in writing by 25 persons or an association having at least 25 members. To make special arrangements for individuals with disabilities or special needs please call or write the contact person listed below as soon as possible. To obtain further information concerning any scheduled hearing(s), obtain copies of proposed rule(s) or submit comments regarding proposed rule(s), please call or write the contact person listed below. You may also submit comments in writing to the Legislative Committee on Administrative Rules, State House, Montpelier, Vermont 05602 (802-828-2231).

Water Supply Rule.
Vermont Proposed Rule: 23P023
AGENCY: Agency of Natural Resources
CONCISE SUMMARY: The Rule amendment proposes to incorporate by reference the federal Revised Total Coliform Rule, responsible for assessing bacteriological and pathogen vulnerability of all public drinking water systems. It adds a few Vermont-specific topics required by the federal regulation when incorporating by reference as required to be specifically identified in our primacy application to EPA. This amendment also seeks to revise the standards and process for operator licensing/certification to better-protect public health at larger or more complicated public drinking water systems by requiring additional certified staff. It makes minor amendments to the treatment specifications for per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) in drinking water. The rule also provides greater and more uniform protection for isolation distances from public drinking water sources (including wells) by aligning better with existing Wastewater System and Potable Water Supply Rule. There are also a series of minor changes, primarily fixing internal citations.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT: Ben Montross, Agency of Natural Resources, 1 National Life Drive Davis 4, Montpelier, VT 05620, Tel: 802-498-8981 Fax: 802-828-1541 Email: ben.montross@vermont.gov URL: https://dec.vermont.gov/water/laws.

FOR COPIES: Catherina Narigon, Agency of Natural Resources, 1 National Life, Davis 2, Montpelier VT 05620, Tel: 802-261-5487 Fax: 802-828-1541 Email: catherina.narigon@vermont.gov.

ARTS + LEISURE

The Addison Independent

August 31, 2023



Actor Gordon Clapp stars in "Robert Frost: This Verse Business" presented by Middlebury Acting Company at Town Hall Theater from Sept. 8-10.

COURTESY PHOTO

Local poet makes good at Town Hall Theater

Literary historian Kim Roberts recently told the Washington Post that Vermont is the American state with the highest proportion of writers. Some are born here, some move here from everywhere else, including New Hampshire and New Jersey. Robert Frost, Vermont's most famous and iconic resident poet was not a native, but was a Vermonter through and through. If you didn't know him personally when he lived on the Homer Noble farm up in Ripton, come to Town Hall Theater for an unusually alive and faithful resurrection of this iconic figure.

Playwright Andy Dolan's show begins with Robert Frost addressing a live audience on



BY **DAVID**
WEINSTOCK

stage, the same stage, of Middlebury's Town Hall Theater. He is 88.

Frost is played by Gordon Clapp, an Emmy-winning actor and New Hampshire native with a special affinity for Frost. When Clapp found out about the play, he got in touch, and has

been working with Dolan ever since to perfect and present the show.

Clapp's goal is not to imitate Frost's voice or sound. "Frost had a great voice," Dolan explains, "but he was not an expressive reader of his own poems, it was kind of flat. Gordon lives the poems, he's experiencing the stories of the poems as they come out of this mouth, so it's very definitely not a poet reading from a book. He lives those poems right in front of us."

Another local poet (and novelist and scholar) Jay Parini, who wrote the biography Robert Frost: A Life, says "Frost has meant so much

SEE FROST ON PAGE 3

An evening of poetry and kindness with James Crews

The Isley Public Library and Vermont Book Shop will welcome writer and poet James Crews to Middlebury on Sept. 5, for their monthly First Tuesdays event. Crews is the editor of the best-selling anthologies, *The Path to Kindness and How to Love the World*, which has been featured on NPR's Morning Edition, in the *Boston Globe*, and the *Washington Post*. Crews' own poems have appeared in the *New York Times Magazine*, *Ploughshares*, *The New Republic*, and *The Christian Century*. He collaborated with former U.S. poet laureate Ted Kooser on "American Life in Poetry," which reaches millions of readers across the world. Crews holds an MFA in creative writing from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and a PhD in writing and literature from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. He teaches poetry at the



JAMES CREWS

University at Albany and lives with his husband in Shaftsbury, Vt.

Crews will present his new book, *Kindness Will Save the World: Stories of Compassion and Connection*



and Connection, a collection of essays, reflection prompts, and tips to help you learn how to integrate the life-changing practice of kindness into your own routine. He will also read from his forthcoming (Sept. 12) anthology, *The Wonder of Small Things: Poems of Peace and Renewal*. Books will be available for sale and signing.

The event will be held at the Middlebury library, 75 Main Street, from 6-7:15 p.m. Free and open to all.

BOOK REVIEW

'Walk With Me' by Madeleine Kunin

The release of former three-term Vermont Governor Madeleine May Kunin's second collection of poetry, "Walk With Me," is nothing short of an invitation the reader has no choice but to accept. Stepping into the pages, we are caught by the meanderings of the lines, the ebbs and flows of the images, and the inclines and gentle rolling undulations of the stanzas. In the scope of her book, Kunin is not simply taking us on a journey of language, but holds our hand as we crawl into a soft, cushioned space of the poet's authenticity and vulnerability. For 126 pages, we see the world from the end of a line cast far out on the horizon. From this place we are invited to gaze back in bittersweet remembrance and appreciation of a life filled to the brim with intention, warmth, confusion, loss, heartbreak, and growth.

As readers we rise and fall with the rhythm of Kunin's language. Throughout the collection we are guided through mazes of the speaker's memory, finding solidarity in raw, acute moments yet still left on an edge of peeked mystery and nostalgia:

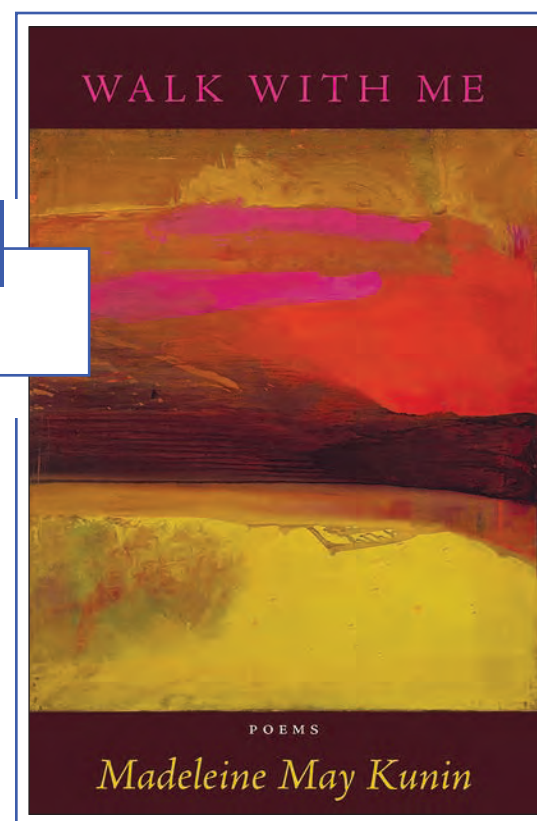
*She, must have been / around my age,
pretty, / Her leg raised high / to step
inside. / The boy at her side / shut the car
door / behind her. / A girl, a boy, a car, at*

Reviewed by
**HALEY
HUTCHINSON**

*night. / Alone, in the dark / my mother
frowned. / I held my breath. (Catskills)*
We sit with the moments she sat
with, bathes in, the ones she still
wishes to have. On the brink of 90
years of life, Kunin opens up the
possibility of aging as a privilege,
introducing the joy of simplicity.
Short poems scattered throughout
the collection highlight this notion.

Cover (p. 38)
*I am swathed in fantasies
when I pull the duvet
up to my chin.
I enjoy them
like ice cream.*

Kunin is honest about her fear of life coming to a close, and acknowledges the plethora of consequences that come with old age from navigating a shifting body and mind, losing love, and feeling utterly alone. But while these realities are expressed, Kunin does not grovel in their depths. Instead, darker emotions are paired with expressions of lightness as seen in the tenderness of *A Hand at My Back*. Kunin writes:
*There was a hand at my back / when
John was alive. / I felt it. / I was loved, / I
was saved / from my own footsteps, / his
matching mine... I remember how free I felt
/ letting go. / Having been loved / made*



me brave. (A Hand at My Back)

We recognize the moments of newly found joy, simple pleasures, fresh and surprising romance, the constant of her relationship with her children, and the connection to place as a grounding element.

A New Love in Old Age (p. 87)
*A new love
in old age.
How can that be?
I am young
open to him surprised at myself,
saying yes, yes
like Molly Bloom*

SEE KUNIN ON PAGE 16

FROST

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

to Vermont. I think of his poems as a kind of field guide to Vermont. No other poet had such a

particular knowledge of the flora and fauna." Middlebury professor Reginald Cook, known as "Doc Cook," told Parini he remembered seeing Frost in the college library, where he had a particular interest in botanical books. "There was a book on molds that really fascinated him, and he knew a good deal about the subject."

The words of the play are 95% verbatim from Frost's writing and recordings, which Dolan transcribed from 200 hours of tapes in library archives. The play begins with Frost sharing some of his greatest hits — "Stopping By Woods on a Snowy Evening," and "Death of the Hired Man," along with his commentary on life and art, what he called "beliefs and wild surmises."

And then he invites the audience back to his cabin in Ripton. The scene transitions to Ripton cabin. Frost takes off his tie and suit coat, puts on his famous blue Keds sneakers, gets a little more comfortable, talks about his family a little

DETAILS

ROBERT FROST: THIS VERSE BUSINESS
Presented by Middlebury Acting Company

FRIDAY, SEPT. 8, 7:30 P.M.
SATURDAY, SEPT. 9, 2 P.M.*
SUNDAY, SEPT. 10, 2 P.M.

*Following the Saturday matinee, stay for a Talk Back session with playwright A.M. Dolan, actor Gordon Clapp, and Robert Frost biographer Jay Parini.

TICKETS:

Assigned Seating
GENEROUS TICKET \$37
STANDARD \$32
STUDENT \$17

Price includes ticket fees.
Call 802-382-9222,
or email tickets@townhalltheater.org
Monday-Friday, 12-5 p.m.



Actor Gordon Clapp, pictured left and below, and Middlebury College Professor and Robert Frost biographer Jay Parini, top right, will give a talk back with playwright A.M. Dolan following the Saturday matinee of "Robert Frost: This Verse Business" presented by Middlebury Acting Company at Town Hall Theater.



bit. Dolan describes the scene: "Maybe we're going to watch the old guy begin another poem. We're right there with him at home — he's got a piece of paper with him. Who knows what's going to happen?"

Art on Main

Labyrinth Walk and Celebration Creating Sacred Space in a Vermont Garden

A fundraiser for Art on Main

Art on Main takes art outdoors for a special afternoon devoted to the new stone path labyrinth recently completed on a beautiful Bristol property. The labyrinth was created for walking meditation, transforming an established circle garden of flowers and vegetables into a meditative and ritual space.

MANY THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS: FARREL-LEA FARM, LIVINGSTON FARM, DUNDON PLUMBING & HEATING, & A FRIEND OF ART ON MAIN

Labyrinth talk and blessing • Spoonful Herbals' hand-crafted mocktails
Celtic Harp by Bo Price • Delicious bites from Lucky Star



Sunday September 10, 2023
1:00 – 4:00 pm
Bristol, Vermont

Tickets in Advance Only \$35

Available at Art on Main Gallery or online at artonmainvt.com

Join a labyrinth walk and celebration in Bristol

Art on Main takes art outdoors for a special afternoon on Sunday, Sept. 10, devoted to the new stone labyrinth recently completed on the beautiful Bristol property of photographer and Art on Main Board Member Anne Majusiak. A long-time gardener, Majusiak transformed an established circle garden of flowers and vegetables into a traditional stone labyrinth designed for walking meditation. This event will open at 1 p.m., with a talk by Majusiak about her journey of creation and will be followed by a blessing of the labyrinth, after which guests will be invited to take their own walks. The celebration concludes at 4 p.m.

As a photographer Majusiak's primary palette is the natural world and her own backyard has provided rich inspiration. A 35-year collaboration between Majusiak and her husband Ken, the property is filled with trees, gardens, a stream and stone walls created primarily by Ken from local stone. Guests will be invited to explore the property while enjoying refreshments and Spoonful Herbal's unique herbal mocktails featuring locally grown or wild-crafted medicinal plants and edible flowers. Delicious bites from Lucky Star Catering and Celtic harp by Bo Price will add to the magic of the afternoon.

A selection of Majusiak's sacred site photographs will be for sale and there will be



Come celebrate the recently completed labyrinth at the home of photographer and Art on Main board member Anne Majusiak. The celebration will be held Sunday, Sept. 10, from 1-4 p.m.

small silent auction of relevant wares for all to enjoy.

Tickets for the Labyrinth Walk are \$35 and

should be purchased in advance at Art on Main, 25 Main Street Bristol, by calling the gallery at 802-453-4032 or under events at artonmainvt.com.

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ALEXANDRA DIETRICH, DIRECTOR
FILIPPO CIABATTI, CONDUCTOR

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INFO: OCMVERMONT.ORG
TICKETS: TOWNHALLTHEATER.ORG

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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. 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.

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.

MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE MUSEUM OF ART

72 Porter Field Rd, Middlebury

For more info visit middlebury.edu/museum/exhibitions.

"Tossed: Art from Discarded, Found and Re-purposed Materials." "Tossed" brings together — both from Middlebury's collection and from other private

SEE EXHIBITS ON PAGE 15

Cosmic Forecast

ARIES: March 21/April 20. Get outside and enjoy as much fresh air and exercise as possible this week, Aries. A weekly outdoors excursion can recharge the batteries and provide some time to reflect.

TAURUS: April 21/May 21. Taurus, it's not possible to have everyone like you all the time. Emotionally it can be difficult to accept that not everyone agrees with your point of view. Be who you are.

GEMINI: May 22/June 21. Someone from your past might come back into your life, Gemini. Keep a lookout for someone who seems familiar, as it can be a way to reminisce for a bit.

CANCER: June 22/July 22. Cancer, start conversations with all the people you meet so you can learn about different backgrounds or cultures. You might learn something you didn't know or try a new food.

LEO: July 23/Aug. 23. Leo, try to work the room when you are thrust into a social situation. You need to be a diplomat or politician if you want to be in good standing with as many people as possible. Put your best face forward.

VIRGO: Aug. 24/Sept. 22. You know who you can trust, Virgo. Stay close to those people for the time being. Some difficulties with family members will arise and you may need to pick sides.

LIBRA: Sept. 23/Oct. 23. Libra, after a whirlwind adventure, you may be glad to be back home. Vacations are nice and relaxing, but soon enough you may crave the familiarity of your own space.

SCORPIO: Oct. 24/Nov. 22. Scorpio, you have a calm energy around you this week. You can rest assured that the people you are dealing with have everything handled. They take care of business.

SAGITTARIUS: Nov. 23/Dec. 21. There is a great opportunity knocking at your door, Sagittarius, so why not seize it? New things can be scary, but you have to dive in right now.

CAPRICORN: Dec. 22/Jan. 20. Take stock of where you want to go in the future and start putting those plans together, Capricorn. You don't have to figure everything out, but try to map out a rough outline.

AQUARIUS: Jan. 21/Feb. 18. You can quickly see when someone is putting on an act, Aquarius. They may say one thing but mean another. This duplicity can be off-putting, but try to get along with others right now.

PISCES: Feb. 19/March 20. Pisces, you are in no danger of not being popular right now, so continue to enjoy all the invitations you receive. You also can be proactive and throw your own party for friends.

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

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FAMOUS BIRTHDAYS

AUG. 31 — Van Morrison, singer (78)

SEPT. 1 — Zendaya, actor, singer (27)

SEPT. 2 — Salma Hayek, actor (57)

SEPT. 3 — Malcolm Gladwell,
author, journalist (60)

SEPT. 4 — Beyoncé, singer (42)

SEPT. 5 — Freddie Mercury, singer (d)

SEPT. 6 — Idris Elba, actor (51)

CALENDAR

AUG. 31-SEPT. 10
2023



THURSDAY, AUG. 31

BOBBIN LACE DEMONSTRATION IN MIDDLEBURY. Thursday, Aug. 31, 1-3 p.m., Henry Sheldon Museum, 1 Park St. Nancy Pecca will demonstrate bobbin lace making and speak about the history of the craft, using examples and antique items. Offered in connection with the current exhibition, "Variety Sew: A Sampling of Textile Tools and Devices." Tickets included with Museum admission, free for members and students.

DANA AND SUSAN ROBINSON AND PIZZA IN GOSHEN. Thursday, Aug. 31, 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.

"CHUCK'S LAST JAM" IN MIDDLEBURY. Thursday, Aug. 31, 7 p.m., Town Hall Theater, 68 S. Pleasant St. Pianist and music educator Chuck Miller has been bringing good music to life in this area for more than a quarter century. He'll be at the keyboard one more time in Middlebury when a number of Vermont's most accomplished jazz musicians, vocalists and others will gather for a performance before he relocates to Florida. More info and tickets, \$20, at townhalltheater.org.

FRIDAY, SEPT. 1

PATTI CASEY & COLIN MCCAFFREY AND PIZZA IN GOSHEN. Friday, Sept. 1, 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.

BREAD + PUPPET IN HANCOCK. Friday, Sept. 1, 6

p.m., Middlebury College Snow Bowl, 6886 Route 125. Bread + Puppet Theatre kicks off its fall tour at the Middlebury College Snow Bowl. The show will feature a mountainous backdrop and the iconic Bread + Puppet hand-painted bus. This is a spectacle of protest and celebration that addresses the urgent themes of the moment using paper maché, dance, and a live brass band. Tickets \$20, available at townhalltheater.org.

LC JAZZ PRESENTS "A TRIBUTE TO ANNA HUSK" IN VERGENNES. Friday, Sept. 1, 7-9 p.m., Vergennes Opera House, 120 Main St. Come enjoy a night of jazz and chocolate, two of Anna's favorite things.

POINT COUNTERPOINT FACULTY CONCERT IN MIDDLEBURY. Friday, Sept. 1, 7:30 p.m., Champlain Valley Unitarian Universalist Society, 2 Duane Ct. Admission is free, and goodwill donations are gratefully accepted. Each faculty concert differs in repertoire, instrumentation, and faculty performers.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 2

SOLDIERS ATOP THE MOUNT IN ORWELL. Saturday, Sept. 2, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Mount Independence State Historic Site, 472 Mt. Independence Rd. Reenactors honor the 1776-1777 history of Mount Independence during this living history weekend. Saturday's popular interactive Baldwin Trail Walkabout, 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., features experts at trail stations bringing the site's history to life. Military tactical, annual reading of Declaration of Independence, and camp life and skill demonstrations. Admission \$9. Call 802-948-2000 for details.

ART ON THE TRAIL IN BRISTOL. Saturday, Sept. 2, 5, 10 a.m.-noon, Bristol Trail Network. Explore the world of nature and art journaling with BTN Artist-in-Residence Charon Henning. Bring a sketchbook with pens and/or pencils to begin your journal. Free, but registration is required. All ages and skill levels are welcome. Children

must be accompanied by an adult. Email oddangellc@gmail.com to register and for workshop location.

COLLECTIONS CORNER: SHOW AND TELL IN FERRISBURGH. Saturday, Sept. 2, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Lake Champlain Maritime Museum 4472 Basin Harbor Rd. Want to share your own historical items, memorabilia, artifacts and stories with the Museum's team? For this special Collections Corner, the public is invited to bring their own treasures and stories related to Champlain Valley history from home to share with each other and our Collections experts. Free.

KING PEDE CARD PARTY IN FERRISBURGH. Saturday, Sept. 2, Ferrisburgh Town Hall and Community Center, 3279 Route 7. A sandwich supper and then on to an evening of fun and games. King Pele is a game that involves "trick-taking" such as in Hearts and Spades or Pitch. This is a game of fun and skill so come prepared to use your strategic thinking.

BON DÉBARRAS IN LINCOLN. Saturday, Sept. 2, 7:30 p.m., Burnham Hall, 52 E. River Rd. Bon DéBarras kicks off a new concert series in Lincoln, Burnham Presents. Bon DéBarras unites the worlds of music, dance and poetry. More info at burnhampresents.org, burnhampresenst@gmail.com or 802-349-3364.

SUNDAY, SEPT. 3

SOLDIERS ATOP THE MOUNT IN ORWELL. Sunday, Sept. 3, 10 a.m.-3:30 p.m., Mount Independence State Historic Site, 472 Mt. Independence Rd. See Sept. 2 listing.

BLUES WITHOUT BORDERS IN CORNWALL. Sunday, Sept. 3, 5-7 p.m., 14 Audet Rd. West Cornwall Backyard concert series — weather permitting. No entry fee, freewill cash donations graciously accepted. Shady J's

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, September 1					
Through the Night: Public Affairs	4 p.m. Political Ancestor	6:30 a.m. Energy Week	12 p.m. Rediscovering Coolidge	12 p.m. Rediscovering Coolidge	
6:30 a.m. Energy Week	5:30 p.m. Congregational Service	7:30 a.m. Memorial Baptist Service	5 p.m. All Things LGBTQ	1:06 p.m. Writing Historical Fiction	
7:30 a.m. Congregational Church	6:30 p.m. Dr. John Campbell	9:30 a.m. Catholic Mass	6 p.m. Author Talks and Interviews	6 p.m. All Things LGBTQ	
10 a.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs	7 p.m. Eckankar	10 a.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs	8 p.m. Civics Education, Why it Matters	7 p.m. State Board of Education	
3:30 p.m. Health Care Today	7 p.m. Catholic Mass	5 p.m. Energy Week	8:45 p.m. All Brains Belong - Brain Club	Tuesday, September 5	
4 p.m. Memorial Baptist Church	7:30 p.m. Health Care Today	7 p.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs	Saturday, September 2	5:30 a.m. Chair Yoga	
5:30 p.m. Selectboard, Gov. Scott	8 p.m. What's Going On?	Through the Night: Public Affairs	6 a.m. All Things LGBTQ	6:30 a.m. Music Around Vermont	
Saturday, September 2	Monday, September 4	8 a.m. Gov. Scott, Public Affairs	7 a.m. School Board Meetings	8 a.m. Author Talks and Interviews	
Through the Night: Public Affairs	Through the Night: Public Affairs	10 a.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs	12 p.m. Rediscovering Coolidge	12 p.m. School Board Meetings	
7:30 a.m. Gov. Scott, Public Affairs	8 a.m. Gov. Scott, Public Affairs	7 p.m. Dr. John Campbell	12 p.m. Howard Coffin: "Calvin Coolidge, The President I thought I Knew"	10 p.m. Civics Education	
10 a.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs	10 a.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs	8 p.m. Health Care Today	1:06 p.m. First Lady Grace Coolidge	Wednesday, September 6	
4 p.m. Memorial Baptist Service	8 a.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs	8:30 p.m. What's Going On?	2 p.m. Writing Historical Fiction	5:15 a.m. Civics Education	
5:30 p.m. Eckankar	9 p.m. What's Going On?	9:30 p.m. Eckankar	4:02 p.m. Rivalry In the Middle East	6 a.m. All Things LGBTQ	
6 p.m. Energy Week	10 p.m. Gov. Scott, Public Affairs	10 p.m. Eckankar	5:05 a.m. Music Around Vermont	7 a.m. Author Talks and Interviews	
7 p.m. Catholic Mass	Tuesday, September 5	Through the Night: Public Affairs	8:30 p.m. Rediscovering Coolidge	11:15 a.m. Civics Education	
7:30 p.m. Gov. Scott	Through the Night: Public Affairs	5 a.m. Montpelier Happy Hour	Sunday, September 3	5 p.m. Rediscovering Coolidge	
8:30 p.m. Selectboard	5 a.m. Montpelier Happy Hour	8:30 a.m. Energy Week	6 a.m. All Brains Belong	6:06 p.m. Writing Historical Fiction	
10:30 p.m. Dr. John Campbell, Public Affairs	8:30 a.m. Energy Week	9:30 a.m. Eckankar	7 a.m. Rediscovering Coolidge	7 p.m. School Board Meetings	
Sunday, September 3	9:30 a.m. Eckankar	10 a.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs	7 a.m. School Board Meetings	Thursday, September 7	
Through the Night: Public Affairs	10 a.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs	1 p.m. Health Care Today	6 p.m. All Things LGBTQ	7 a.m. Author Talks and Interviews	
5 a.m. Gov. Scott, Public Affairs	1 p.m. Health Care Today	1:30 p.m. What's Going On?	7 p.m. Rediscovering Coolidge	9 a.m. Yoga	
7 a.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs	4 p.m. Congregational Service	4 p.m. Congregational Service	8:06 p.m. Rivalry In the Middle East	10 a.m. Food & Cooking Programs	
9 a.m. Catholic Mass	5:30 p.m. Dr. John Campbell	5:30 p.m. Dr. John Campbell	10 p.m. All Brains Belong	12 p.m. School Board Meetings	
9:30 a.m. Health Care Today	7 p.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs	7 p.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs	Monday, September 4	5 p.m. Yoga	
10 a.m. Energy Week	Wednesday, September 6	Through the Night: Public Affairs	5 a.m. School Board Meetings	6:50 p.m. First Lady Grace Coolidge	
11 a.m. Memorial Baptist Service	Through the Night: Public Affairs	5 a.m. Gov. Scott, Public Affairs	9:30 a.m. Food & Cooking Programs	8 p.m. Rediscovering Coolidge	
12:30 p.m. Montpelier Happy Hour - Our	5 a.m. Gov. Scott, Public Affairs		11:30 a.m. Advanced Health Care Planning	9:06 p.m. Howard Coffin	
				10 p.m. All Things LGBTQ	
				11 p.m. Writing Historical Fiction	

BBQ on site. Music, food and fantastic sunset.

TUESDAY, SEPT. 5

"AN EVENING OF KINDNESS AND POETRY" WITH JAMES CREW IN MIDDLEBURY. Tuesday, Sept. 5, 6 p.m., Ilsley Public Library, 75 Main St. Join James Crew, the editor of the best-selling anthologies, "The Path to Kindness" and "How to Love the World," which has been featured on NPR's Morning Edition, in the Boston Globe, and the Washington Post. Crews' own poems have appeared in the New York Times Magazine, Ploughshares, The New Republic, and The Christian Century.

THURSDAY, SEPT. 7

BRETT HUGHES AND MATT FLINER AND PIZZA IN GOSHEN. Thursday, Sept. 7, 5-7:30 p.m., Blueberry Hill Outdoor Center, Goshen Ripton Rd. Bring a picnic blanket or chair and your friends to Blueberry Hill Inn Community Pizza night. Pizza and live music \$37 per person/\$27 for kids 11 and under/kids 5 and under free. Includes pizza and inn-made lemonade or iced tea and live music. Advanced reservations, open the Monday prior to the event, appreciated. More info at blueberryhillinn.com/pizza.

FRIDAY, SEPT. 8

GREEN MOUNTAIN CLUB HIKE IN THE WORCESTER RANGE/STOW/WATERBURY. Friday, Sept. 8. Mt. Hunger, Skyline Trail, and Stowe Pinnacle Beautiful, strenuous 8-mile hike with 2,500 + ft elevation change. Several spectacular viewpoints. Involves a short distance car spot. Contact leader Jennifer Kluever at 907-793-0622 to register or for more information. More at gmcbreadloaf.org.

BLOODROOT GAP AND PIZZA IN GOSHEN. Friday, Sept. 8, 5-7:30 p.m., Blueberry Hill Outdoor Center, Goshen Ripton Rd. Bring a picnic blanket or chair and your friends to Blueberry Hill Inn Community Pizza night. Pizza and live music \$37 per person/\$27 for kids 11 and

TOP PICK

LIKE JAZZ AND CHOCOLATE? YEAH, US TOO! CHECK OUT L.C. JAZZ'S TRIBUTE PERFORMANCE AT VERGENNES OPERA HOUSE ON FRIDAY EVENING. FREE. DONATIONS ACCEPTED.

under/kids 5 and under free. Includes pizza and inn-made lemonade or iced tea and live music. Advanced reservations, open the Monday prior to the event, appreciated. More info at blueberryhillinn.com/pizza.

"ROBERT FROST: THIS VERSE BUSINESS" IN MIDDLEBURY. Friday, Sept. 8, 7:30 p.m., Town Hall Theater, 68 S. Pleasant St. For nearly fifty years, Robert Frost "barded" around the country charming audiences with his celebrated verse and rascally sense of humor. Played by Emmy-winning actor Gordon Clapp (NYPD Blue's Detective Medavoy), Frost's great wit and poetry are heard afresh in this award-winning one-man play presented by Middlebury Acting Company. Tickets \$37 generous/\$32 standard/\$17 student, available at townhalltheater.org.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 9

GREEN MOUNTAIN CLUB HIKE IN FAYSTON. Saturday, Sept. 9. Hike from the Appalachian Gap to Glen Ellen Lodge, a 7-mile hike over rough terrain, moderate pace, climbing over Stark Mountain, 1,500-2,000-foot elevation gain. Bring extra clothing, food and water. Contact Ellen Cronan for registration or information, 908-595-2926. More at gmcbreadloaf.org.

LAKE CHAMPLAIN CHALLENGE RACE IN FERRISBURGH. Saturday, Sept. 9, Lake Champlain maritime Museum, 4472 Basin Harbor Rd. Join the annual rowing crews and other human-powered vessels and compete in this three-mile course at the museum to set the new fastest time for their respective category. After the race, all are invited to a free lunch buffet, hosted by the museum's rowing clubs. More at lcmm.org

BIRD WALK IN FERRISBURGH. Saturday, Sept. 9, 9 a.m.-noon, meet at the Ferrisburgh Town Offices, 3279 Route 7. The Ferrisburgh Conservation Commission hosts The Bird Diva, Bridget Butler for a walk at Little Otter Creek Wildlife Management Area. For more information and to register, email to Conservation Commission member Jen Cirillo, cirillojen@gmail.com.

"ROBERT FROST: THIS VERSE BUSINESS" IN MIDDLEBURY. Saturday, Sept. 9, 2 p.m., Town Hall Theater, 68 S. Pleasant St. See Sept. 8 listing. Talk-back with Jay Parini, Gordon Clapp and A. M. Dolan after the show.

"THE FRESHMAN" ON SCREEN IN BRANDON. Saturday, Sept. 9, 7 p.m., Brandon Town Hall, One Conant Sq. Welcome football season with Harold Llyod's blockbuster hit about a college boy who dreams of gridiron greatness. One of Lloyd's all-time best. Free will donation.

CONTRA DANCE IN CORNWALL. Saturday, Sept. 9, 7-9:30 p.m., Town Hall, Route 30. The Cornwall second-Saturday contra dance is back for a new season. Luke Donforth will be calling, with music by Red Dog Riley. Masks optional. \$5 to \$10 or pay what you can.

SUNDAY SEPT. 10

TIM MCKENZIE IN BRISTOL. Sunday, Sept. 10, 1-4 p.m., Bristol Trail Network Basin Street Trail. Take a walk and enjoy Bristol's new Music on the Trail series, where you can hear live music at an easily accessible spot on the

SEE CALENDAR ON PAGE 14



Point CounterPoint 2023 Summer Faculty Concert Series

Concert times are 7:30pm. Admission is free

Each concert differs in repertoire, instrumentation, and faculty performers.

Friday, September 1st –

Champlain Valley Unitarian Universalist Society, 2 Duane Ct. Middlebury

Friday, September 29th –

PCP Alumni Celebration Concert - Salisbury Congregational Church



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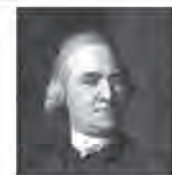
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The Revolutionary:
Samuel Adams
September 5, 11:00 am



The Quiet Politician:
Thomas Jefferson
September 26, 11:00 am



The Advocate:
John Adams
September 12, 11:00 am



The Hero Turned Traitor:
Benedict Arnold
October 3, 11:00 am



The Diplomat:
Benjamin Franklin
September 19, 11:00 am



The Commander:
George Washington
October 10, 11:00 am

For Zoom link, please call the EastView Concierge at (802) 989-7500



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MIDDLEBURY PERFORMING ARTS SERIES REVEALS BLOCKBUSTER SEASON

HIGH-PROFILE EVENTS INCLUDE EMERSON STRING QUARTET, DREAMERS' CIRCUS, AND A NEW WORK BY MIDDLEBURY'S OWN CHRISTAL BROWN

The Middlebury Performing Arts Series will celebrate its 104th season with a diverse group of world-class professional artists on campus for residencies and performances. This high-octane year is one of firsts and favorites.

Among the many premieres and debuts are events that run the gamut from edgy, hilariously rude theater, to profound and personal mixed-media, dance, and music performances, to innovative young musicians, new to Vermont audiences, who are quickly becoming celebrated game-changers.

Several audience favorites will return as well. The season opens with Emerson String Quartet's 33rd and final performance at Middlebury during their farewell tour, and follows next with Dreamers' Circus, who sold out quickly in 2020 and are sure to do so again. Other returning favorites include the Danish, Takács, and Heath Quartets, and cellist

Sophie Shao and Friends.

Tickets go on sale to Performing Arts Series Society members on Sept. 5, at 10 a.m.; to Middlebury College students, faculty/staff, alumni and emeriti on Sept. 12, at 10 a.m.; and the general public on Sept. 14, at 10 a.m., via go.middlebury.edu/tickets or 802-443-MIDD (6433). All events are general admission this year.

2023–24 SEASON LISTINGS

SATURDAY, SEPT. 30 EMERSON STRING QUARTET

One of the world's finest chamber ensembles, nine-time Grammy winners, and longtime friends of our Performing Arts Series, the Emerson String Quartet visits our campus on their farewell tour. For their 33rd and final Middlebury appearance, they'll play quartets by Shostakovich and Ravel, Walker's Lyric for Strings, and our Music Accord co-commission Drink the Wild Ayre by Sarah Kirkland Snider.

7:30 p.m., at the Middlebury Chapel. Tickets: \$25/20/10/5

SATURDAY, OCT. 7 DREAMERS' CIRCUS

This ambitiously inventive Nordic trio is one of the world's most talked-about acts in the acoustic realm. Their hit "The World Was Waiting" feels spot-on, as we've been eagerly awaiting their return ever since their joyous, sold-out Middlebury performance in March 2020, just before the pandemic hit.

Be there to hear their virtuosic and incendiary musical abilities on the fiddle, accordion, piano, and cittern.

7:30 p.m., at McCullough Student Center. Tickets: \$25/20/10/5; streaming tickets: \$15/5

FRIDAY, OCT. 20 MAHANI TEAVE, PIANO

Award-winning pianist and humanitarian Mahani Teave is a pioneering artist who bridges the creative world with education and environmental activism. She is also the only professional classical musician on her native Rapa Nui (Easter Island). Her passion for classical music, her island's culture and environment, and music education for children inspired her to set aside her burgeoning career at the age of 30 and return to Rapa Nui to create its first School of Music and the Arts.

7:30 p.m., at the MAC, Robison Hall. Tickets: \$25/20/10/5



The popular Nordic folk trio Dreamers' Circus will perform Oct. 7 on the Middlebury Performing Arts Series.

PHOTO / KRISTOFFER JUEL POULSEN

THURSDAY, NOV. 9 – SATURDAY, NOV. 11 INSPIRIT DANCE: WHAT WE ASK OF FLESH

The premiere of choreographer Christal Brown's evening-length dance and installation is inspired by the writings of poet Remica Bingham-Risher, as well as Brown's caregiver journey with Alzheimer's and dementia, and her explorations of legacy. This soulful, profound performance is a physical examination of the capacity of human life and the intricacies of the mind.

Nov. 9 and 10, at 7:30 p.m.; Nov. 11, at 2 p.m., at the MAC, Dance Theatre. Tickets: \$25/20/10/5

SATURDAY, NOV. 11 DANISH STRING QUARTET

Named "one of the best string quartets before the public today" by the Washington Post, the Danish String Quartet certainly made an impression when first performing here in 2017: Our sold-out audience gave them a standing ovation before we even hit intermission, and audiences have been asking for their re-engagement ever since. Join us for a mixed program that's worth the wait: works by Purcell, Haydn, and Shostakovich, plus the quartet's acclaimed arrangements of Nordic folk music.

7:30 PM at the MAC, Robison Hall. Tickets: \$25/20/10/5

FRIDAY, DEC. 1 BRANDEE YOUNGER TRIO

This sonically-innovative harpist is revolutionizing her instrument for the digital era. Over the past 15 years, she has worked relentlessly to stretch boundaries and limitations for harpists. In 2022, she made history by becoming the first black woman



The Middlebury Performing Arts Series presents the premiere of Christal Brown's dance work "What We Ask of Flesh" on Nov. 9-11.

PHOTO / JORDAN SAINT



to be nominated for a Grammy Award for Best Instrumental Composition. That same year, she was also nominated for an NAACP Image Award. Her trio's Vermont debut at Middlebury will include jazz standards and original works.

7:30 p.m., at the MAC, Robison Hall. Tickets: \$25/20/10/5; streaming tickets \$15/5

FRIDAY, JAN. 19 AND SUNDAY, JAN. 21 TAKÁCS QUARTET

Now in their 49th season, "the Takács Quartet remains one of the greatest chamber string ensembles we have on the world stage." (Scherzo magazine) Finally we can present their entire Bartók string quartet cycle, delayed from our 100th anniversary season in 2020. This ensemble has always had a particular association with Béla Bartók, the great 20th-century Hungarian composer whose six quartets are among the pinnacles of 20th-century chamber music.

Jan. 19 at 7:30 p.m.; Jan. 21, at 2 p.m., at the MAC, Robison Hall. Tickets: \$25/20/10/5

THURSDAY, FEB. 22 LE CONSORT

The Middlebury Performing Arts Series proudly presents Le Consort on their North American debut tour. Never heard music by Dandrieu, Merula, Guignon, or Elisabeth Jacquet de la Guerre?? Not to worry—Le Consort will introduce you to these unjustly neglected Baroque masters and more, in a program titled "Hidden Treasures of the Baroque."

7:30 p.m., at the MAC, Robison Hall. Tickets: \$25/20/10/5

THURSDAY, FEB. 29 & FRIDAY, MARCH 1 YOUR SEXTS ARE SH*T: OLDER BETTER LETTERS

Award-winning theatre maker Rachel Mars performs a gloriously rude new solo show that unearths the hot-as-hell letters that make sexts blush. Before sexts there were hand-written letters—and loads of them were properly filthy. With the help of the internet, friends, and two sexologists, Mars has unearthed missives

dating back centuries. Contrasting them with contemporary sexts makes for a tender and titillating evening of theatre.

7:30 p.m., at Wright Theatre. Tickets: \$25/20/10/5

SATURDAY, MARCH 2 VOCES8

This 2023 Grammy-nominated British vocal ensemble inspires through their music, offering versatility and a celebration of diverse musical expression. Their performances are praised for meticulous timing and tuning, impressive blend, and radiant sound. BBC Music Magazine declares "Hearing them sing is a joy." VOCES8's Vermont debut program, entitled "20 Songs from 20 Years," features beloved music from across the centuries and pieces by contemporary composers.

7:30 p.m., at the MAC, Robison Hall. Tickets: \$25/20/10/5

FRIDAY, MARCH 8 SMALL ISLAND BIG SONG

This sweeping performance unites the seafaring

cultures of the Pacific and Indian Oceans, a region at the frontline of the climate crisis. Indigenous artists come together with filmmakers and poets to present irresistible oceanic grooves and soulful island ballads collected across 16 countries. Experience the concert event that Billboard calls "one coherent jaw-dropping piece."

7:30 p.m., at McCullough Student Center. Tickets: \$25/20/10/5

FRIDAY, MARCH 29 SOPHIE SHAO AND FRIENDS

Applauded by the New York Times for her "eloquent, powerful" interpretations, cellist Sophie Shao has a gift for assembling impromptu chamber ensembles that are brimming with passion and talent. No season is complete without one of her marvelous performances! The concert program will include Messiaen's Quartet for The End of Time, and Vermont composer David Ludwig's Spiral Galaxy.

7:30 p.m., at the MAC, Robison Hall. Tickets: \$25/20/10/5

SUNDAY, APRIL 28 HEATH QUARTET

The dynamic and charismatic Heath Quartet—our series' first quartet-in-residence—is one of the most exciting British chamber ensembles of the moment, steadily building a reputation for their upbeat and integrated sound. We celebrate our 20th year of support from the Sunderman Family Concert Fund with this free concert, including works by Bach, Haydn, Henriette Bosmans, and Erick Korngold.

2 p.m., at the MAC, Robison Hall. Free, both in person and streaming.



Making a stop on their farewell tour, the Emerson String Quartet will open this year's Middlebury Performing Arts Series on Sept. 30.

PHOTO / JÜRGEN FRANK

ALL EVENTS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. AUDIENCES CAN VISIT THE ARTS AT MIDDLEBURY WEBSITE ([MIDDLEBURY.EDU/ARTS](https://middlebury.edu/arts)), CALL 802-443-MIDD (6433), OR EMAIL MAC@MIDDLEBURY.EDU FOR UPDATES.

PUZZLES

sponsored by **SPARROW ART SUPPLY**

ACROSS

- 1. Midway between east and southeast
- 4. At right angles to a ship's length
- 9. William Penn's business partner
- 14. __ de plume
- 15. Accomplished soccer coach
- 16. Bone cavities
- 17. __ juris: independent
- 18. Popular Philly sandwich
- 20. Northern Ireland county
- 22. Performing artist
- 23. S S S
- 24. Lacks flavor
- 28. Commercials
- 29. Anno Domini (in the

- year of Our Lord)
- 30. Qatar's capital
- 31. Indigenous peoples of Alberta
- 33. Popular footwear
- 37. Indicates position
- 38. Anglican cathedral
- 39. Aircraft part
- 41. Before
- 42. Blood group
- 43. Secretory organ
- 44. Fencing swords
- 46. The small projection of a mammary gland
- 49. Technological advancement
- 50. Male parent
- 51. Dissociable
- 55. More cold
- 58. Cape Verde Islands capital

- 59. Blood disorder
- 60. Creative
- 64. Sun up in New York
- 65. Made angry
- 66. Relieves
- 67. Brooklyn hoopster
- 68. Seasonsings
- 69. Movable barriers
- 70. Attempt

DOWN

- 1. Occur as a result of
- 2. Spiritual essences
- 3. Representative
- 4. Entering
- 5. Nobel Prize-winning physicist
- 6. Midway between northeast and east
- 7. Consumed
- 8. Tablelands
- 9. Kids' craft accessory

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	36			37	
38				39	40							41		
42				43						44	45			
46		47	48				49			50				
51				52	53	54				55			56	57
		58								59				
60	61							62	63				64	
65							66						67	
68							69						70	

7			5	1				
		5		7				6
	8	2	3					5
9	3	7				6	4	
	4				9			
			6					5
		3						2
	6			2	1		9	7

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

- 10. Not known
- 11. Sound directed through two or more speakers
- 12. A major division of geological time
- 13. Wild ox
- 19. Shock treatment
- 21. Turner and Lasso are two
- 24. Genus of flowering plants
- 25. Relating to ductless glands
- 26. Stock certificate
- 27. Satisfies
- 31. Places to enjoy a rest
- 32. Edward __, author and writer
- 34. " __ but goodie"
- 35. One hundredth of a liter
- 36. Shabbiness
- 40. TV personality Roker
- 41. Triangular upper part of a building
- 45. Speed at which you move
- 47. Offend
- 48. A reference point to shoot at
- 52. Forays
- 53. Biblical city
- 54. Blatted
- 56. Northern sea duck
- 57. Shabby (slang)
- 59. Allege
- 60. Tax collector
- 61. Whereabouts unknown
- 62. Chinese philosophical principle
- 63. Indicates equal

This week's puzzle solutions can be found on Page 13.



52 Main St
Middlebury, VT 05753
(802) 989-7225

Tuesday-Saturday
10:30 AM - 5:30 PM

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**SUBMIT YOUR ART,
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For our annual holiday market, we are looking to deck the gallery with all things gifts - fine art, jewelry, pottery, knitwear, prints and posters, and more. We know it feels early, but there are only 10 weeks until our deadline! Happy Making!!

DEADLINE TO ENTER: NOVEMBER 5, 2023

Visit sparrowartsupply.com for more info and to enter!

CALL TO ARTISTS,
MAKERS AND CRAFTERS

Sparrow Holiday Market!

ENTER BY NOVEMBER 5

Americana artist Sarah King performs two Vermont shows

Ripton-based indie-Americana singer/songwriter Sarah King returns to Vermont next weekend for two special performances following her 20-date solo national tour. King will perform a free concert at Burlington City Arts on Friday, Sept. 1, at 6:30 p.m. The following night, King will perform with Anders Osborne at Spruce Peak Performing Arts Center on Saturday, Sept. 2, at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$40-55 and are available at sprucepeakarts.org/events/anders-osborne-duo.

a busy summer," said King, who will release a new single on Sept. 1, and the full album in March next year. "Vermont has been hit hard with weather this summer and being able to come back to share some community time with music is so important to me."

These are her only scheduled Vermont appearances as she heads out on a southeastern solo tour the following week. Need one more reason to go see King sing? She just won the Great River Folk Festival Songwriter Contest in Wisconsin on Monday this week... yeah, she's good!

"I'm excited to return to Vermont for this double-header weekend after such

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Pets In Need HOMEWARD BOUND Addison County's Humane Society

Minnow

Minnow is a super sweet cat who we estimate to be 4 years old. She is very affectionate but takes time to warm up. Minnow needs a slow and patient introduction to a new home and will need some time to adjust. She gets along with other cats, and we are unsure how she feels about dogs.



Olivia

Olivia is a goofy, chatty cat who we estimate to be 6 years old. She is very affectionate but will give a gentle "love bite" when she's had enough. Olivia is playful and loves her catnip. She has been hissy with other cats, and we are unsure how she would be in a home with other cats or dogs.



Ruby

Ruby is a pretty 4-year-old fluff ball who gets along with cats and dogs. She can be super loveable but also likes her independence at times. Ruby loves to play with wand toys and likes treats.



Nala

Nala is a 1.5-year-old Rottweiler/Staff mix. She is 73 pounds of pure love. Nala is a shy girl but loves being around people. She's very fond of food and will sit for treats. Nala startles at loud noises and needs a bit of encouragement to feel confident. With the right harness, she is a pleasant walking buddy and enjoys exploring in the grass outside. Nala has lived with older children and other dogs. If you want a sweet, gentle family dog, Nala is your girl!



Benny

Benny is a handsome, calico-colored, 1-year-old American guinea pig. He has gentle manners and is shy to new faces, but once he gets to know you he loves to cuddle up on your chest and receive loving kisses on the nose. He is a solo guy and doesn't get along with other guinea pigs. He does, however, get along with cats as long as they are pig-friendly and accepting! In his previous home, he lived with cats and dogs and would even snuggle next to his feline friend! He gets along with children, as long as they can respect that loud noises and sudden movements can be scary for a pig. Here at the shelter, he enjoys solving puzzles with his favorite veggies hidden inside. His ideal home would be a peaceful, calm household.



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FILM SCREENING

Get back to school with a silent film screening of 'The Freshman,' Sept. 9

What happens when a first-year student's dreams of college collide with the realities of campus life?

The result is Harold Lloyd in "The Freshman" (1925), one of the most popular comedies of the silent film era. Filled with classic scenes and a great story, "The Freshman" endures as one of Lloyd's most crowd-pleasing movies.

See for yourself with a screening of "The Freshman" (1925) on Sept. 9; kick-off time is 7 p.m., at the Brandon Town Hall and Community Center, Route 7, in Brandon.

All are welcome to this family-friendly movie. Admission is free, with free will donations accepted in support of ongoing Brandon Town Hall renovations.

The screening, the latest in the venue's silent film series, will feature live accompaniment by Jeff Rapsis, a New Hampshire-based composer who specializes in creating music for silent films.

"Put the whole experience back together, and you can see why people first fell in love with the movies," Rapsis said.

"The Freshman," the most successful film of



Harold Lloyd strives for gridiron glory in "The Freshman" (1925). The silent film comedy, regarded as Lloyd's masterpiece, will be shown with live music on Saturday, Sept. 9, at 7 p.m., at the Brandon Town Hall and Community Center, Route 7, in Brandon. Admission is free, with free will donations accepted in support of ongoing Town Hall renovations. For more info, visit brandontownhall.com.

Lloyd's career, was an enormous box office smash. Its release sparked a craze for college films that lasted well beyond the 1920s, and even a popular hit song, the collegiate fox trot "Freshie."

The story follows Lloyd, small town newbie, to Tate College, where he hopes to achieve fame as Big Man on Campus. Instead, his quest to win popularity becomes a humiliating college-wide joke, with Harold getting tricked by upperclassmen into hosting the school's annual "Fall Frolic" at his own expense.

Realizing he's an outcast, Lloyd decides he can make his mark on the college football team, where he holds the lowly position of waterboy and serves as tackling dummy. On the day of the Big Game, can the bespectacled "freshie" somehow save the day and bring gridiron glory to dear old Tate?

For football fans, the film's climactic game sequence was shot on the field at the actual Rose Bowl in 1924. The crowd scenes were shot at halftime at California Memorial Stadium during the November 1924 "Big Game" between UC Berkeley and Stanford University. Other exterior scenes were filmed near the USC campus in Los Angeles.

Beyond its comic appeal, "The Freshman" today has acquired an additional layer of interest in its depiction of college life in the 1920s — a time of raccoon coats, ukeleles, and many other long-gone fads and fashions.

"It was long before television, the internet, cellphones, or Facebook," said Rapsis. "To us today, it looks like college on another planet, which I think adds to the appeal of a film like 'The Freshman.'"

"But at its core, 'The Freshman' is still a great story about people, and that's why it remains such an entertaining experience today, especially when shown as Lloyd intended it," Rapsis said.

In 1990, "The Freshman" was selected for preservation in the U.S. National Film Registry by the Library of Congress as being "culturally, historically, or aesthetically significant," named in only the second year of voting and one of



the first 50 films to receive such an honor.

Lloyd — along with Charlie Chaplin and Buster Keaton — is recognized as one of the silent screen's three great clowns. Lloyd's character, a young go-getter ready to struggle to win the day, proved hugely popular in the 1920s. While Chaplin and Keaton were always critical favorites, Lloyd's films reigned as the top-grossing comedies throughout the period.

Despite the passage of time, audiences continue to respond just as strongly as when the films were new, with features such as "The Freshman" embraced as timeless achievements from the golden era of silent film comedy.

Admission is free, with free will donations accepted in support of ongoing Town Hall renovations. For more info, visit brandontownhall.com and jeffrapsis.com.

NEXT UP IN THE BRANDON TOWN HALL'S SILENT FILM SERIES:

Saturday, Oct. 7, 7 p.m.

"My Best Girl" (1927) starring Mary Pickford, Charles 'Buddy' Rogers. In a big city department store, romance blossoms between a humble stockroom clerk and the store owner's son — who is already engaged! A sparkling "rich man, poor girl" romantic comedy from 1927 starring screen icon Mary Pickford and Charles 'Buddy Rogers,' her future real-life husband. Sponsored by Harold and Jean Somerset; Fyles Brothers, Inc.; and Jeanette Devino.



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LEICESTER NEW LISTING!
332 MOUNTAIN VIEW DRIVE

MLS #4967103 | \$1,595,000
4 BD | 4 BA | 3961 SF | 0.50 ACRES

Stunning renovated year-round Lake Dunmore home nestled among the trees, offering the perfect blend of modern luxury and charm. If you're looking for tranquility and natural beauty, this oasis is sure to create a lifetime of memories. Propane stove in wide-open living area. Screened porch may be converted for three-season living with glass inserts. Gourmet kitchen with views of lake and mountains. Primary bedroom suite with fireplace, en suite bath and walk-in closet. Private dock sits on 174 ft. of lake frontage after a winding descent through the landscape. A well-placed level seating area half way down is a perfect gathering space perched well above the lake.



WALTHAM NEW LISTING!
226 CROSBY HEIGHTS

MLS #4966391 | \$689,000
3 BD | 4 BA | 3701 SF | 10.21 AC

Three full floors of finished living space. Generous mudroom/laundry/pantry connecting the garage to the home. Updated kitchen with new appliances. Primary bedroom suite with walk-in closet, 3/4 bath and an office/study. Built-in storage and extra space for hobbies. Walkout basement includes a small 2nd kitchen for entertaining or guests, as well as an extra set of laundry machines. Garden space, flat grassy areas, patios, decks and a large detached garage provide additional space to provide for your pastimes. The amenities of vibrant downtown Vergennes are just a short drive.



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MIDDLEBURY NEW LISTING!
1 EVERGREEN LANE

MLS #4966285 | \$350,000
2 BD | 2 BA | 2040 SF | CONDO

Light and bright end unit condo with charm and character. Slate floor entry, wide pine board floors, built-ins, skylights, walk-in pantry, new deck surface from which to enjoy the Battell Woods.

CALENDAR

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

Bristol Trail Network. Bring a chair or stool if you wish to sit and listen, or simply pause while hiking the trail. There will be signs for "MUSIC!" at entry points to the trail. Look for a small white tent.

LABYRINTH WALK AND CELEBRATION IN BRISTOL. Sunday, Sept. 10, 1-4 p.m., private garden. Art on Main takes art outdoors for a special afternoon devoted to the new stone path labyrinth recently completed on the Bristol property of photographer Anne Majusiak and her husband, Ken Johnson of A. Johnson Co. This fundraiser for Art on Main will open with a talk by Majusiak about her journey of creation followed by a blessing of the labyrinth, after which guests will be invited to take their own walk in the labyrinth. Guests can also roam the gardens created over a 35-year period by Anne and Ken. Tickets \$35, are limited and available in advance Art on Main, by calling the gallery at 802-453-4032 or online at artonmainvt.com.

"THE FARM BOY" ON SCREEN IN VERGENNES. Sunday, Sept. 10, 2 p.m., Vergennes Opera House, 120 Main St. Come see this feature length film written and directed by George Woodard, a WWII era story about a young man who drives milk truck for his father, marries, then leaves for Europe the day after. Tickets, \$12.

"ROBERT FROST: THIS VERSE BUSINESS" IN MIDDLEBURY. Sunday, Sept. 10, 2 p.m., Town Hall Theater, 68 S. Pleasant St. See Sept. 8 listing.

STORYTELLING IN FERRISBURGH. Sunday, Sept. 10, 3-4:30 p.m., Ferrisburgh Union Meeting Hall, 41 Middlebrook Rd. My Dentist's Son is a place for stories that don't fit. A space where these mystical experiences can be shared — big or small — however they appear. For more information on this unique opportunity for personal storytelling, visit mydentistsson.com or visitferrisburghvt.com/community-calendar.

"STRAIGHT WHITE MEN" STAGED READING IN MIDDLEBURY. Sunday Sept. 10, 4 p.m., studio, Town Hall Theater, 68 S. Pleasant St. Middlebury Acting Company's 2023 Cutting Edge Staged Play Reading Series continues with this play by Young Jean Lee. When Ed and his three adult sons come together to celebrate Christmas, they enjoy cheerful trash-talking, pranks and takeout Chinese. Then they confront a problem that even being a happy family can't solve: When identity matters, and privilege is problematic, what is the value of being a straight white man?



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EXHIBITS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

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. 31.

ROKEBY MUSEUM

4334 Route 7, Ferrisburgh

For more info visit Rokeby.org or call 802-877-3406

"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. On view with regular admission to Rokeby Museum through Oct. 14.

SHELDON MUSEUM

1 Park Street, Middlebury

For more info visit henrysheldonmuseum.org

"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.

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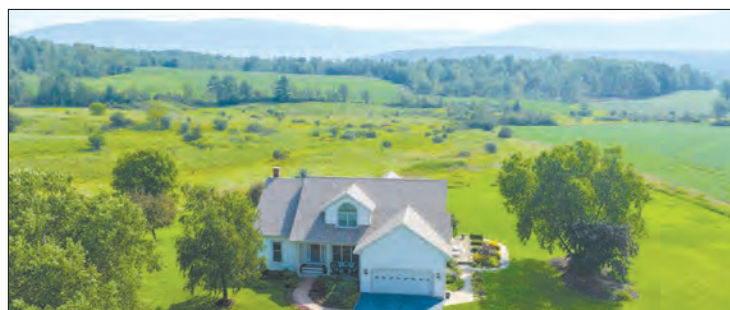
Bristol Village Home

This classic farmhouse has been updated and is ready for your enjoyment! The kitchen is open to the living room with a fireplace. First-floor mud room and full bath as well as a newly created primary suite and 2 more bedrooms on the second floor! Detached 2-car garage has a workspace behind it! **\$459,900**



70 Monkton Rd, Vergennes

With a recent price improvement, this 3-bedroom, 2-bath ranch-style home in Vergennes might be just what you've been searching for. With over 3650 SF inside and a generous, open .55 acre lot, this property has plenty of space for everyone. Schedule a showing today to see all that this wonderful property has to offer! **\$535,000**



3149 South St., New Haven

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KUNIN

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

wearing
hyacinths
in my hair.

"Walk With Me"
is an expression
of life filling up.
Life may have

a timeline, a termination. But what is held in the bucket of living — the first times and mistakes, the growing up and getting old, the falling in and out of love, the laughter and the tears — is what Kunin chooses to cherish. Her poems illustrate that the contents of living are rich and jumbled, thick like stew. Appreciating its taste, its texture, is what makes existence meaningful. Kunin asks herself to slow, to match the pace of winter: *So many more grays ahead. / Don't hurry. / This is your life. / Chew your food slowly. / Look at your footprints in the snow. (Only in December)*

And while "Walk With Me" largely deals with the concept of aging, the poems in this collection do not speak to a single audience. Kunin examines what it means to be a mother in *Mother-Daughter (We talk like girlfriends, sometimes. I forget she's my daughter, when / we share small secrets / about the women and men / who bump into our lives.)*, the importance of finding community in various outlets in *Women's Lunch*, the complexities that accompany sitting alone with the self, and the challenge of navigating life's transitions in *I Look at Photos of Myself*. Importantly, Kunin's work speaks

to a greater theme of loss, expressing an intimate relationship with it. In her poems, she plays with scales of loss from the loss of a family heirloom pin to the larger acceptance of death and losing sense of self as expressed in *Aunt Berthe's Pin*.

Kunin inquires what it means to live a "good life," and wonders if her time on earth has served a purpose. In doing so, the range of the poems in the book highlight the unique definition of self-purpose itself, illustrating the complexity in defining the state of simply *being*. Kunin shows that finding purpose in life is not an end goal, but rather a continual process, one she still contemplates on the eve of her goth birthday:

I went to the plant nursery today / to breathe garden growth / and feed on pinks and reds and gold.. My thoughts are inward, downward, until I take my shovel / scoop earth, / and dig my way out. (Soil)

Only by slowing down, breathing in the surround, may we find peace with ourselves and a greater appreciation for the changing tides of our own bodies, psychologies, relationships, and realities. So open the door, step outside, hold hands, and laugh. Fill up your bones with the biting wind of a Vermont afternoon in March, and feel your middle expand with the warmth of an old friend's embrace. Feel it seep into your skin and smile.

Ending (p. 112)
I would like to probe deep,

*write about life and death,
the meaning of existence.
I should have the answers
by now,
when the end is so near.
I procrastinate.
I tell myself
there is still time
Maybe tomorrow
Or the next day
Or the day after that
to write about the meaning
of life,*

*The meaning of my life.
Have I made a difference?
Have I been kind?
Have I dropped a coin
into a beggar's hand?
Will I be remembered,
and by whom?
For What?
I'm too tired
No more deep questions, please.
Maybe tomorrow,
Or the next day
Or the day after that.*

Haley Hutchinson studies creative writing and psychology at Middlebury College (class of 2023.5). She currently works as an editorial intern at Green Writers Press and has previously worked for New England Review and Stone Pier Press.

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