



Looking at us

A new opera in town considers modern U.S. history and the Vietnam War. See Arts & Leisure.



Rivals routed

The Tiger football team had little trouble at home vs. Rutland last week. See how on Page 1B.



Fall sports

Look inside for rosters, schedules and outlooks for all 26 local high school teams in our new compact seasonal sports report.

ADDISON COUNTY INDEPENDENT

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Middlebury, Vermont ♦ Thursday, September 21, 2023 ♦ 84 Pages

\$1.50

Juvenile shoots and kills Waltham woman in scuffle

By JOHN S. McCRIGHT

WALTHAM — Police have not yet determined whether they will charge a youth in the killing of a Waltham woman during a fight this past Friday.

A juvenile watching a scuffle involving two women in a Waltham home on the evening of Sept. 15, picked up a gun that was apparently dropped by one of the women and shot her multiple times, Vermont State Police report.

Michelle Kilbreth, 48, a resident of McKnight Lane in Waltham, was killed by gunshots to her torso, according to the Chief Medical Examiner's Office in Burlington.

Police have not released the name of the shooter because of his

"Michelle Kilbreth had a heart of gold and would give her shirt off her back for anyone."

— Danielle Wallace

age. State officials rarely release the names of juveniles involved in criminal investigations.

"Only in rare cases does state law permit the sharing of names of juveniles, such as when they are missing persons or have been the victim of a homicide," said Vermont State Police spokesman Adam Silverman. He noted that the investigation remains active and ongoing.

Addison County State's Attorney Eva Vekos will make the call on what charges, if any, are filed in the case, he said.

Silverman reported that Kilbreth got into a physical altercation with another woman who also lived in (See Shooting, Page 14A)



Sunday riders

FOUR LADIES ENJOY a sunny, though not overly warm, afternoon this past Sunday by riding their bicycles through Orwell and Shoreham during ACORN's annual celebration of local foods and fundraiser, the Tour de Farms. See more photos on Page 10A.

Photo by Lee Krohn Photography

MREMS seeks big change in funding

Needs a revenue bump for EMTs

By JOHN FLOWERS

MIDDLEBURY — Middlebury Regional Emergency Medical Services wants to eliminate its annual Town Meeting Day funding requests in the 10 communities it serves.

MREMS, as the county's largest ambulance service is known, would replace that funding with multi-year contracts that will, in the short term, reflect some sizable per-capita rate increases.

This would allow the nonprofit to (See MREMS, Page 11A)

City centenarian talks of well-lived life



KATE CLIFFORD, A Vergennes resident, will celebrate her 101st birthday with family members this Saturday, Sept. 23. She is entertaining when sharing stories of a life of hard work, happy times, and more than a few "ups and downs."

Independent photo/Steve James

Drama, moves, tragedy, happy families all in mix

By ANDY KIRKALDY

VERGENNES — In the course of her almost 101 years on Earth, Vergennes resident Margaret Clifford, better known as Kate, has moved several times, both with her birth family and with her two husbands.

But no circumstances were more dramatic than her family's first move, away from her hometown of Harpster, Ohio, a little more than three years after the now-spry and lucid grandmother of 15, great-grandmother of 24, and great-great-grandmother of four was born on Sept. 23, 1922.

Her very first memories are of the circumstances that led to that move. As Clifford tells it, her long life could have ended then.

"My mother gave me some candy, and was going to put me to bed for a nap. And all of a sudden we had a terrible thunderstorm. And my father owned a garage across the street, and the lightning hit the garage. And then it went up and hit another building at the end of the road. And an old man lived there, and he died in the fire," she said.

"And then the lightning struck our house. It struck my crib, my mother told me. So it's a good thing she didn't put me to bed. I remember that. I (See Clifford, Page 9A)

"Dakin Farms 'wanted to can my baked beans and put my name and picture on the label, and I said no way.'"

— Kate Clifford

Sampling history through embroidery

Sheldon puts out call for girls' samplers

By JOHN FLOWERS

MIDDLEBURY — If you're lucky, you might find one tucked away in a trunk in your attic: A piece of fabric — a square foot in size, give or take — bearing a cross-stitch of alphabet letters, a date, the maker's name and age. Sometimes there's an embroidered bonus of flowers, a home or a rural scene.

It's called a "sampler," and it's more than a family keepsake or conversation piece. It can provide clues in the manner in which its maker — a girl or young woman in a bygone era — was schooled, how she lived and what her interests were.

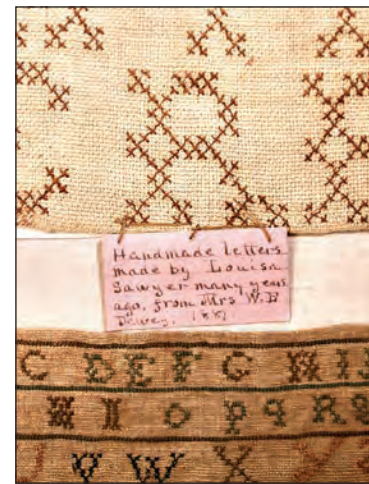
A dedicated group of volunteers is working to capture that history for an enduring archive of Vermont-made samplers, and if you have one, you're invited to bring it to the Henry Sheldon Museum of Vermont History later this month to have it documented and photographed. It's part of the Vermont Sampler Initiative, which has already made considerable headway in its

efforts to create an online database of Green Mountain State samplers, most of them made in the 18th and 19th centuries.

Helping to fuel the sampler initiative is the relative paucity — compared to other New England states — of known Vermont-made samplers, noted Lucinda Cockrell, chair of the Sheldon Museum board.

"There is no mention of samplers from Vermont in the major published books on samplers, and there have been no published articles, monographs, or books focusing specifically on Vermont samplers to help fill that gap," she lamented. "But all of these area museums have these samplers — as do many private individuals — and they tell us a great deal about our early Vermont sisters. Sometimes it's the only evidence we have of these girls."

Middlebury's own Ellen Thompson, a longtime embroiderer and history buff, is team leader of the Vermont Sampler (See Sheldon, Page 14A)



THE HENRY SHELDON Museum of Vermont History is part of a statewide effort to photograph and analyze Vermont-made embroidered samplers, like this one, commonly made by schoolgirls during the 18th and 19th centuries.

Independent photo/Steve James



By the way

Looking to see some vintage cars, crafts and a neat flea market? Find them all this Sunday, Sept. 24, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Addison County Fair & Field Days grounds at 1790 Field Days (See By the way, Page 15A)

Makerspace welcomes all creators

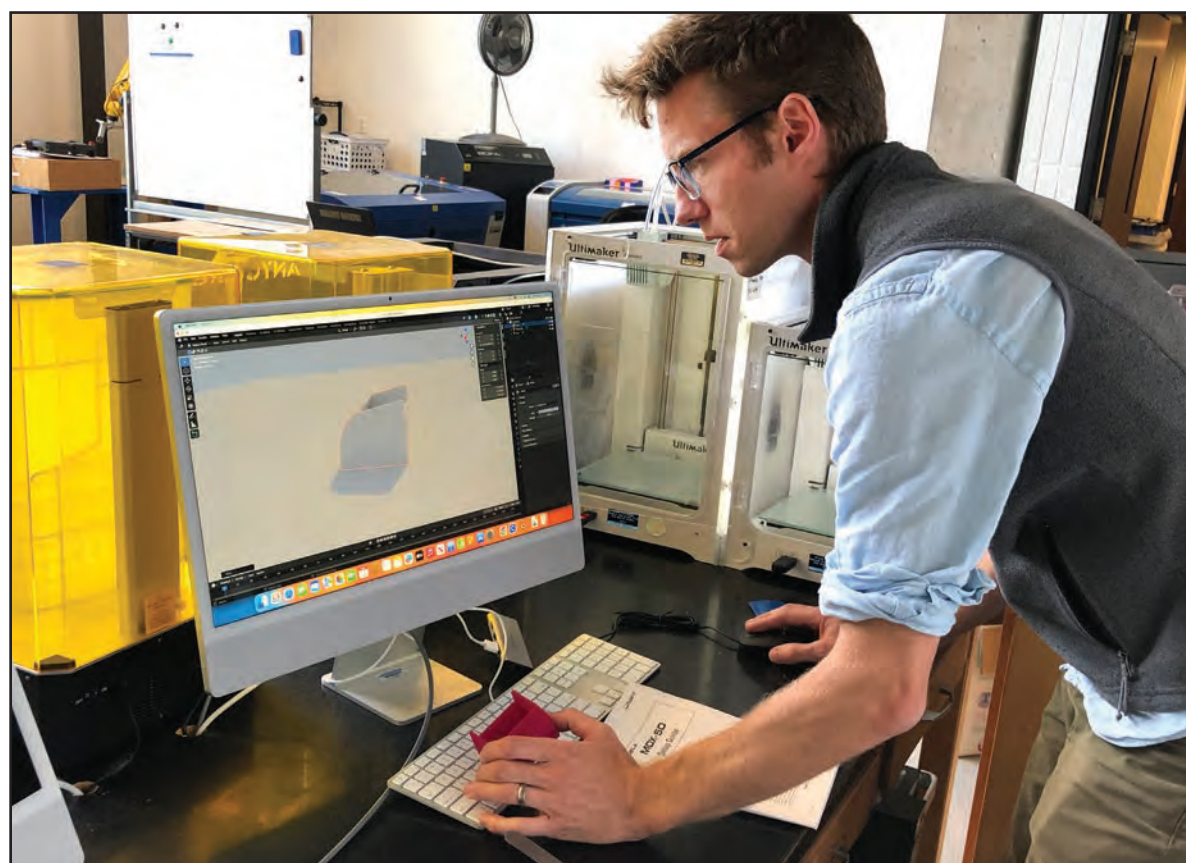
Workshop will offer tools and training

By MARIN HOWELL

MIDDLEBURY — The inventive minds of Addison County will soon have another place in the community in which to unleash their creativity.

The Makerspace at Middlebury College this month reopened in its new home within the Johnson Memorial Building, and members of both the college and broader town community are invited to use the space and the tools it offers to pursue projects they're passionate about.

Daniel Houghton, an industrial design teacher at the college, manages the Middlebury Makerspace. He said he wants (See Makerspace, Page 10A)



MIDDLEBURY MAKERSPACE MANAGER Daniel Houghton tries out one of the workshop's 3-D printers. The makerspace is open to members of the college and broader community and offers a variety of tools and equipment for makers to use.

Independent photo/Marin Howell

United Way seeks \$700k in fund drive

By JOHN FLOWERS

MIDDLEBURY — For the second year in a row, the United Way of Addison County (UWAC) is seeking to raise \$700,000 to support local nonprofits that dispense food, clothing, counseling, childcare and other vital services to area residents in need of assistance.

And United Way officials have their eyes on another goal — a fifth straight year of exceeding their annual fundraising target. The philanthropic organization topped its objective for fiscal years 2020, '21, '22 and '23 — in that last year harvesting \$732,031.

With an FY'24 motto of "United in Purpose," UWAC officials will officially launch this year's campaign with its traditional "Days of Caring" on Sept. 21 and 23. On each of those days, UWAC will match scores of volunteers (See United Way, Page 11A)

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Program for free Covid-19 tests revived

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Free COVID-19 tests will once again be available this fall, according to an announcement from the Biden administration made on Wednesday.

Set to take place ahead of a possible winter surge, the program offers Americans free coronavirus tests sent through the mail. The website for the program, covidtests.gov, will begin accepting orders next Monday, Sept. 25. Households will be able to receive up to four tests.

A byproduct of the program, according to the Department of Health and Human Services, is that it beefs up domestic manufacturing capacity in the event of a serious national outbreak. About \$600 million will fund the purchase of 200 million tests to replenish the nation's

stockpile. The news comes as Vermont has seen a small uptick in COVID-19 cases.

The Vermont Department of Health said the volume of people going to emergency departments due to COVID-like symptoms is lower than the same time of year in 2021 and 2022. Outbreaks and situations of concern in long-term care, corrections and health facilities remains significantly lower than in May 2022, state officials added.

But reports of COVID-19 cases continue to pop up regularly in Vermont and in Addison County. In August, 28 participants in Middlebury College's Bread Loaf Writers' Conference in Ripton tested positive for the disease. Various schools around the county have also reported incidents of COVID-19, though

the state Health Department has not reported any outbreaks in Addison County.

More than 300 cases have been reported in K-12 schools in the Vermont since the beginning of the school year, according to the Department of Health. John Davy, an epidemiologist for the department, told VTDigger that it was "likely an underestimation" of the true burden of COVID in schools since the total would not include people who were not tested or did not report their positive test to the school.

Hospitalization rates for COVID-19 in Vermont are low, with 50 admissions statewide between Sept. 3 and 16. That compares to 16 hospital admissions between July 9 and 22.

Editor's note: VTDigger.org contributed to this report.

City council seeks to fill opening

Four candidates, including former councilors, eye spot

By ANDY KIRKALDY

VERGENNES — For the second time in the past few months, the Vergennes City Council is looking to fill a vacancy after the resignation of one of its members.

Councilor Ian Huizenga announced his resignation in early August. The co-owner and manager of Bar Antidote and the Hired Hand Brewery cited career responsibilities: He has since February also been working for J.W. and D.E. Ryan Plumbing and Heating, and soon will start taking classes — on Tuesdays, when the council meets — to become a journeyman plumber.

"Even without the classes on Tuesdays, I would have been stretched too thin to give Tim (Ryan, the business owner) the attention he deserves, and the restaurant, my staff, the attention they need," Huizenga told the *Independent*. "Then trying to still work on city things, it wouldn't be right."

Huizenga first joined the council after a September 2020 special

election, and then easily won reelection twice, in 2021 and then this spring. He added he feels the goals he targeted when he first ran have largely been met.

"I also feel that we accomplished essentially what we were looking to do. The only reason I ran again was to get the city budget into a working position, and the department heads could plan on it annually," he said. "The police department is in a really great spot. Our wastewater facility, we got that bond through. We got a lot done in a couple years."

Huizenga believes he leaves a strong council.

"We've got a good group there," he said. "It's all in a good spot, and from what I've heard there are a couple people who would be great additions to the council."

At the council's Sept. 12 meeting, Mayor Chris Bearor said four residents had contacted him by that day's deadline to express interest: Former mayor and councilor Mike Daniels, former councilor and current Addison Northwest School

Board member Mark Koenig, Vergennes Energy Committee member Grace Williams, and John Montgomery, about whom no information was available in the Sept. 12 council packet.

Council members agreed to interview publicly the four candidates at their Sept. 26 meeting. They will then discuss the candidates in a closed-door session, with an appointment probably to follow.

Bearor asked each councilor to prepare questions for the prospective new council members. He pledged that at least one question supplied by each council member would be asked of the applicants during the interview session.

Earlier this summer, Councilor Zoe Kaslow stepped away for the board to pursue a graduate degree out of state. At their Aug. 8 meeting, councilors appointed Emily Rossier to replace Kaslow. Rossier was the only candidate who submitted a letter of interest for that opening.

MAUSD looks to fill student support roles

By MARIN HOWELL

BRISTOL — The Mount Abraham Unified School District is looking to fill 16 student support positions that remain vacant.

Among those openings is a new director of safety that would support school leadership with hazing, harassment and bullying investigations and act as the Title IX Coordinator for the district, along with other responsibilities.

MAUSD Superintendent Patrick Reen said for several years the district has leaned on Mt. Abe band director Matthew Tatro, also a part-time officer at the Bristol Police Department, to help with crisis planning and other school-safety related work.

"While the work that has been done has been of very high quality, relying on our band director who already works two jobs to do this very important work is not ideal. Especially in light of recent legislation that has passed that has set clearer expectations for trainings, school security protocols, a required threat assessment team and visitor management practices," Reen told the *Independent*.

The new director of safety

position is intended to take on those crisis planning responsibilities, as well as serve as the district's Title IX coordinator, a role currently filled by the district's legal counsel.

Reen said the new position would also help support building administrators as needed in conducting investigations of hazing, harassment and bullying, which can sometimes require days to investigate a single incident.

"This level of support will help students and staff feel more prepared for emergency

situations and will help improve our response to student misconduct. It will also help building leaders focus more of their time on teaching and learning in their buildings," he said.

A recent focus of the district has been evaluating the systems it has in place for supporting students, an effort prompted by a series of incidents that occurred within the district over the past couple of years — including violent student behavior at the high school and at Bristol Elementary — and raised concerns about the safety of staff and students.

Other vacant student support

positions include eight educational assistant openings. In addition to the director of safety position, there are also seven vacant licensed positions in the district, including special educators, speech language pathologists and social and emotional learning positions.

"The specific challenge is that we have little to no applicants for these positions," Reen said of the vacancies. "There are currently zero applicants for the eight educational assistant vacancies, zero applicants for four of the eight licensed positions with most of the others having one or two applicants since being posted last spring."

The district has made several adjustments to staffing assignments in an effort to continue meeting essential needs while working to fill the open positions.

"It is still a very fluid situation as student needs become clearer and we navigate the occasional hiring of some positions while others leave their positions early and unexpectedly. This is, of course, on top of the usual efforts needed to cover absences due to illness or some other need for leave time with not nearly enough substitutes to meet the need. Nearly every day since the start of the school year has involved some work figuring out how to meet the most essential needs," Reen said.

MAUSD officials are also exploring ways to bring in more applicants for the vacant positions.

"We have been working to improve our situation by significantly raising support staff salaries, our base rate of pay is now \$18.92 with great benefits," Reen said. "We have also found a path for applicants who do not have an associate degree or equivalent to be hired as educational assistants and obtain the required qualification in their first year of employment. We are optimistic this will open the door for an increased applicant pool."

MOUNT ABE DEAN
Mount Abraham Union High School officials are also looking to
(See MAUSD, Page 3A)

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Addison Housing Rocks

THE ADDISON COUNTY Community Trust held its annual community fundraiser and celebration on Friday, Sept. 15, on the Middlebury town green to support its affordable housing efforts. Left, Moira Smiley provided some of the music (along with The Grift); above, the event drew a good crowd for food and drink; right, volunteer Ellen Flight's headgear promoted HomeShareVT.

Independent photos/Steve James

Split DRB decisions for Midd landlord

By JOHN FLOWERS
MIDDLEBURY — The Middlebury Development Review Board (DRB) has agreed with the town's planning and zoning department that landlord Richard Tinsley shouldn't be allowed to use a detached garage/barn at 53 North Pleasant St. as a "recreation room," but that he should be allowed to build a gazebo at his 13 Washington St. Ext property.

Both DRB decisions, on appeal, were of great interest to neighbors of both 13 Washington St. Ext. — which until recently featured Middlebury College student tenants — and 53 North Pleasant St., which is still being rented to students.

It should be noted both DRB decisions are appealable to the Vermont Environmental Court.

It was on Sept. 11 that the DRB took up Tinsley's recreation-room appeal regarding 53 North Pleasant St. The detached barn/garage has historically been used for storing vehicles and tools and as a personal workspace for "light carpentry," the DRB found.

Tinsley had proposed allowing his tenants to use a second-floor loft space as a "rec room," following improvements that would include adding a second stairway, updated

electrical wiring and lighting, and application of fire-retardant paint to the interior wood surfaces.

But Middlebury planning and zoning officials determined the existing garage/barn and use didn't comply with setback requirements, and noted several reports of noise, overflowing parking onto the street, disruptive behavior and other impacts from parties and invited guests at the property.

Tinsley this past November obtained a construction permit from the State Fire Marshall to improve the barn to accommodate gatherings of up to 50 people. But the DRB issued a notice of violation this April 3, stating that as a "recreation room," the barn no longer met the definition of an accessory use: "a use or structure that is incidental and subordinate to the residential use, and which is of a scale, design and nature that will not have an undue adverse impact upon the character of the neighborhood."

Tinsley pursued the recreation room use and filed a zoning permit application on June 26. Town officials denied the request, "because we were unable to identify a use matching the description of 'rec room' that could be approved for this property," they stated in a

Sept. 6 memo to the DRB.

Tinsley's appeal hearing on Sept. 11 drew a vocal crowd, including several neighbors of 53 North Pleasant St. who have complained in the past about noisy, drunken and destructive behavior by student tenants.

Among those present was Kevin McGrath, an immediate neighbor of 53 North Pleasant St.

He provided the board with testimony and photos related to nine documented examples of "general disruptive behavior" between April 2022 and May of 2023 — some requiring police response.

"My family has been greatly, negatively affected by the activities at 53 North Pleasant St. — ever since ownership changed November 2021," he told the board. "I do not support designation of the 2-bay garage at 53 North Pleasant for any such recreational use. In effect, the 'rec center' has been up and running, as a party place, for the past 19 months."

Here are his accounts of two specific parties:

- Friday, April 22, 2022: "Parties using the electric winch in the garage to lift revelers to for those positions." (See Tinsley Page 8A)

MAUSD

(Continued from Page 2A)

hire for a couple of student support positions, including a dean of students job that was reintroduced at the school last year and works to support administrators with student behavior.

Mount Abe Principal Shannon Warden said the school has temporarily filled the role and is looking at ways to fulfill the responsibilities of the position moving forward.

"It's kind of a very unique position and one that we and many other schools have had a difficult time filling just because of the nature of the work," Warden explained. "If we aren't able to find someone suitable, we'll look at how to restructure the responsibilities and if this is something that we can't fill, then looking at what type of role we'd be able to fill."

Responsibilities of the dean

of students include processing referrals, monitoring student attendance and assisting with harassment and bullying investigations. The dean of students also carries the state licensure necessary to serve as acting principal when other administrators are out of the building.

Warden said fulfilling those responsibilities looks different day-to-day, as working with students on referrals can take various shapes depending on the individual.

She noted that positions like the dean of students role can also be difficult for schools to fill.

"I think the challenges that schools are finding right now, particularly middle and high schools, is finding people who the primary focus of their job is supporting students in their social and emotional needs because the demands continue to increase

but the various resources that are available, they aren't as plentiful as they could be or need to be," Warden said. "Those positions, when you're dealing with looking to help students with these complex needs especially coming out of the pandemic, they're very demanding jobs and there's a high burnout rate for those positions."

Other school districts in the county have faced challenges in filling this type of position. Addison Central School District officials are currently looking to hire a new dean of climate & culture at Middlebury Union Middle School, after Esther Charlestin resigned from the post last month. Charlestin had served in the role for one year and cited two alleged racially-charged incidents, as well as what she said was an "underwhelming" response to those events from the school district, as prompting her departure.



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Editorials

The mirror UWAC holds reflects who we want to be

There are some local annual events that are so important they can't be hyped enough. Kicking off the annual United Way of Addison County's fundraising is one of them. The 2024 goal is \$700,000, and the well-versed team will be seeking to make it the fifth consecutive year to top their milestone. With everyone's help, they will.

But don't take anything for granted.

This year's motto, "United in Purpose," is a fitting tribute to the county's ethos and it begins with this weekend's Days of Caring on Sept. 21-23, tapping into a 200-strong workforce ready to help where needed. (See story page 1A.) If you or your business can't contribute to those work hours this weekend, UWAC has established "Days of Action" opportunities throughout the year. Executive Director Helena Van Voorst referred to those days as "microbursts of volunteering." It's a great way for businesses, or individuals, to donate volunteer hours to area nonprofits at times that are most convenient to them. Anyone interested should log on to the UWAC's online volunteer center at tinyurl.com/mu7dyeth.

While volunteer hours are wonderful, monetary gifts are also essential. Last year, 871 households contributed, with 607 in increments of less than \$1,000, 209 donors making gifts between \$1,000 and \$9,999, and 13 donors making gifts of \$10,000 or more. Out of 15,000 households in the county, it would be a great goal to see that number of participating households increase substantially; we can each help do that but not assuming others will pick up the slack to hit the goal, but chip in to be a part of that success.

Addison County businesses are also playing an important role through a UWAC program called "Addison County 365 Business Circle," a group of businesses who contribute between \$1 and \$4 dollars a day to the campaign.

Whatever an individual or business can afford, what's critical is that it's a community-wide effort reflecting the sense that we're all in this — our collective lives — together. Each contribution helps someone in need, which in turn builds a stronger community. And it's not how much you give, but that you do. When we're all in it together and that's the community ethos, our best selves are reflected in the mirror UWAC holds before us.

Angelo Lynn

MREMS changes are needed

It makes sense for the Middlebury-based ambulance service, MREMS, to change its system of funding as recently proposed to the 10-member towns it serves. Rather than be presented as an optional line-item to be funded at Town Meeting, the amount would be incorporated into each town's budget as a contracted commitment, as is currently being done in Middlebury but not the other nine towns.

The reason for the change should be obvious: In an era of rising medical costs and tight employment, MREMS was losing staff, management and volunteers to other similar units that were paying more. To keep a viable force, management needs a dependable revenue stream with the flexibility to respond to the market.

Area communities should embrace the change with open arms. It's a given Middlebury and the nine other communities served by MREMS, as well as the towns served by other ambulance services in the county, need reliable and financially stable ambulance services.

With this new arrangement and commitment, however, should come added transparency of services provided and fuller negotiations with the host communities.

Both Vice-Chair of the Middlebury selectboard Andy Hooper and selectman Dan Brown praised the ambulance service for its past performance but expressed more need for transparency and a collaborative negotiating process. (See story Page 1A.)

"My concern... is that it feels a lot like a municipal service, (but) they have none of the transparency or oversight that we expect from municipal services and entities," Hooper said. Brown added the towns should be "sitting down with each other and talking about this and looking at the contract and discussing the various costs," rather than simply receive a contract to sign.

Both board members are correct, and changes should be implemented going forward, though it's late in the game for current contracts.

At the Sept. 12 meeting, the Middlebury selectboard reviewed a contract from MREMS that increased the per capita fee from \$10 to \$13. That represents a \$34,016 increase, from \$84,960 in fiscal year 2023 to \$118,976 in fiscal year 2024.

The increases represent the rapid changes in a field that used to be comprised of a greater number of volunteers to today's almost fully paid force of 7 full-timers, 35 part-timers and just two volunteers. The most notable jump came in 2021, when MREMS's per capita fee jumped from \$2.50 to \$10, or, in Middlebury's case, from a total assessment of \$21,240 to \$84,960. (Those fees only represent a fraction of the service's \$1.94 million budget for FY24, as it also bills the individual or their health insurance per trip.)

The good news is MREMS provides a good service at a comparatively low rate. Hooper said the local service's rates are "about half" others on the Western side of Vermont, and "a quarter of the costs of the Upper Valley and eastern part of the state," adding he thought the per capita increase was justified. Pay raises for entry level employees of MREMS recently went from \$14.50 per hour to \$16.50.

Nor would increases be expected to be put on hold. Managers said they expect they will need to get closer to \$19 per capita, even though the state average is closer to \$25-\$30 per capita.

Those expected increases are all the more reason to structure a negotiating process that provides greater transparency, along with cost studies and mutual discussions. It's a service we can't do without; the challenge is to keep it as affordable as possible and that will take everyone in the community working together.

Angelo Lynn

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First fall then...

AS IF WE NEEDED another sign that fall is arriving here in Addison County, a seasonal display of plants, and a certain gourd, popped up on the rotary on Main Street in Middlebury late last week, putting us in mind of hot apple cider and warm sweaters. What's your favorite thing about fall?
Independent photo/John S. McCright

Burn victim helped by many in US

In July, I traveled to Mongolia again, hoping to interview the various protagonists in my documentaries. With a translator and a friend, we flew from Ulaanbaatar to the Gobi Desert to visit Nara and her family from our most recent short documentary, "Gobi Children's Song."

In Mongolian nomadic families like Nara's, children stay alone in the ger home while their parents herd camels, horses, sheep, and goats. One day their ger went up in flames, with only two-and-a-half-years-old Sara and baby Nara inside. Sara ran out, then remembered Nara, went back, and dragged her one-year-old sister out through the flames. Both lived, but Nara sustained severe burns.

Half a year later, Nara's aunt, Dr. Solongo, was attending a Nomadic training for the doctors of South Gobi province. During lunch break, she asked me what to do for burn scars.

I casually said, "You can use vitamin E." Then I thought to ask to her why.

She told me about Nara and asked if I would look at her eighteen-month-old niece. When Dr. Solongo moved Nara's dress and leggings aside, I could not have imagined the extent of the burns. From her head to her hands, down the right side of her body and to her toes, I saw scars. A thick, ropey one down her leg prevented her knee from straightening completely. I knew that she would never be able to walk normally without help.

Ways of Seeing

By Sas Carey



It took almost a year of collaborating with a nurse at Shriners' Hospital in Boston before we had the pieces in place to bring her here. The surgeon would donate all the treatments. American Airlines would provide air travel for free. Hospitality Homes would furnish greatly reduced housing for the stay. A translator would travel with her and her mother, Arhan. Many individuals and organizations would donate funds.

They arrived bundled up from the extreme Mongolian winter. Little Nara had developed pneumonia, which needed to be treated before her burn scars could be addressed. During the four following months, she received laser surgery. The Mongolian community in Boston brought food and clothes as the seasons changed.

Nara grew and returned three more times for necessary treatment, since scars do not stretch like skin does. Over these four month stays, she became familiar with many nearby places like the Museum of Science, where she once led me by the hand from exhibit to exhibit. Her doctor said she would need surgery until she stopped growing. But because of COVID she has not yet been able to come for her last treatment.

When we arrive at the Gobi airport, I immediately recognize Arhan and do a double take at Nara. At fourteen, she is taller than I am. With perfect American intonation, she says, "It is so good to see you, Sas!"
(See Ways, Page 5A)

A picky eater grows up ... slowly

As a child, I was a classic "picky eater." When forced to sit through the unbearable tedium of meals, I gravitated toward the kid-friendly yellow foods — macaroni and cheese, mashed potatoes and cheese pizza. I got my nutrients from the handful of raw vegetables I deemed acceptable and the fortified goodness of my morning Cap'n Crunch.

I just wasn't adventurous when it came to food or, for that matter, anything else. Back then, I would no sooner eat Jell-O with chunks of fruit suspended in it than I would run through a sprinkler without wearing a life jacket.

My non-food-related thrill seeking never really blossomed; these days if I'm feeling daring I'll drive into town on less than a quarter tank of gas. But as I got older, I did learn to appreciate, even adore, meals. Over the years I've grown to like all kinds of foods and dishes, even the gross ones like artichoke hearts and sardines.

That's progress for a child who, when faced with a huge Thanksgiving spread, would limit her plate to a buttered roll, a piece of turkey breast and a blob of gravy-free mashed potatoes. (Of course, these were spaced far apart to prevent them from accidentally touching and thus turning instantly lethal).

With the exception of corn on the cob, I hated most cooked vegetables. But maybe that's because, under my mother's hand, veggies met their fate in the pressure cooker, which pummeled them into flaccid



Around the bend

By Jessie Raymond

submission in minutes.

I still remember the one time I, having watched some food show on TV, suggested that she try cooking the broccoli "crisp-tender." I'll never forget the look of confusion and reproach she gave me as she clutched her chest.

Though it hurt her sensibilities, I never learned to stomach my vegetables mushy and gray. To this day, I can't look directly at canned peas.

But as I got older, I did find my tastes shifting. Beginning in my teens, certain foods I had despised my entire life began to appeal to me. I remember the moment when raw tomatoes, which I had until then considered a horror show of competing textures — simultaneously firm, soft, seedy and juicy — suddenly struck me as something I knew I would love.

Over the years, my diet has expanded in unforeseen ways. I started allowing my foods to touch and even mix. I began to crave dark, leafy greens. I chose the crunchy peanut butter. These days diced onions — once the bane of my smooth-food existence — form the basis of almost every meal I cook.

At this point, there are only a few foods I have never come around to: pickles, beets, mushrooms and olives, mainly.

Especially olives. Gah.

My aversion to pickles goes back to my childhood
(See Jessie, Page 5A)

Letters to the Editor

Ferrisburgh also hosted Douglass

I read with interest the article describing Middlebury's celebration of Alexander Twilight and Frederick Douglass and the symposium that will take place later this month. I would like to point your readers north up Route 7 to Middlebury's neighbor Ferrisburgh.

Frederick Douglass spoke in the Ferrisburgh Meeting Hall just days after he spoke in Middlebury and to a far more friendly audience. Called the Great Convention in Ferrisburgh, Douglass and several abolitionist speakers examined enslavement and the anti-slavery movement in the U.S.

Ferrisburgh was the home to Quakers Rowland and Rachel Robinson, radical abolitionists, and religious perfectionists. Rowland and Rachel were among the earliest and most outspoken opponents of slavery in Vermont and the U.S. He worked actively in antislavery societies from the local to the national, she kept their home free of slave-made goods, and together they sheltered dozens of Freedom Seekers from slavery at their farm, now known as Rokeby.

The Rokeby Museum is open through October 14 this year and will reopen in May 2024. Visiting the site is enlightening for all who want to learn more about the history of abolitionist advocacy and action in Addison County. I urge readers to visit and to read more about virtual winter activities at the website <https://rokeby.org/>.

Mary Holland
Bristol
Chair, Rokeby Museum
Board of Trustees

A.I. story erred on burlesque

On Aug. 24, the *Addison Independent* published an article titled "WomenSafe to host burlesque fundraiser."

The article suggests that some individuals may feel that because sexuality and partial nudity are a part of burlesque, that it may be considered an inappropriate choice of fundraising entertainment for a local anti-violence group such as WomenSafe (WomenSafe does not only serve individuals who have experienced domestic violence).

As the organizer of this fundraiser, I would like to correct the misinformation printed in the article as well as educate the community about the art of burlesque (as the onus to educate the public shouldn't fall on the shoulders of the artists).

On Aug. 25, I hosted No Strings Attached: A Burlesque Show and Celebration at 51 Main. This was indeed a fundraiser where all ticket sales were donated to WomenSafe (almost \$3,000) but it was not an event hosted by WomenSafe as indicated in the article's title.

I chose the show name "No Strings Attached" because the experience of Narcissistic Abuse and Partner Violence can leave an individual feeling as though they are a puppet being controlled. "No Strings Attached" alludes to the freedom one feels when they have complete agency over their lives. I was quoted stating the event would not be a "smutty strip club." This quote presented in the context of the article does not accurately represent my views on stripping or sex work. I support individuals who are strippers and sex workers and do not wish to diminish their professions in any way.

Burlesque is an artform associated with mockery. It was my intention that the burlesque show would exemplify the ludicrous nature of not only antiquated but harmful and victim shaming ideas regarding policing the way girls and women dress or conduct themselves in order to maintain their safety from the "male gaze" (During my interview I was blatantly asked by the reporter how I was
(See Gosselin letter, Page 4A)

Ways

(Continued from Page 4A)

In English! She makes me feel like family.

Nara has a wonderful English teacher and uses her mobile phone to watch American movies and study vocabulary. Maybe being nomads helps Mongolians learn and transition painlessly. Today, instead of a ger, her family lives in a brick house.

Nara talks about attending Harvard, a place she once visited. I encourage her. She has an unusual story.

I ask Nara what's different about where she lives.

"When you have a family that supports and loves you, it doesn't matter whether you live in a house or a ger," she answers, as she stands up and walks gracefully across the floor. I find my hand on my heart.

Sas Carey is the director of *Nomadicare.ORG* whose mission is to support and preserve traditional Mongolian nomadic culture through healthcare, films, and stories. She is the director of four feature documentaries and



SAS CAREY MEETS Nara, a Mongolian girl her organization, Nomadicare, helped recover from serious burns, Nara received the burns as an infant. She is now 14.

Photo courtesy of Sas Carey

two shorts and author of *Reindeer Herders in My Heart* and a recent memoir, *Marrying Mongolia*,

available at the Vermont Book Shop, through *Nomadicare.org* and Amazon.

Proper autumn garden care can help pollinators

Fall is the time of year we generally begin to put our gardens to bed. I have recently changed my garden practices considerably since learning that our gardens can be important havens for pollinating insects and other wildlife during every season of the year.

Last year at this time, the Pollinator Pathway of Addison County presented an informative webinar, "Fall Gardening for Pollinators" by Emily May, a Pollinator Conservation Specialist with the Xerces Society. Emily explains the importance of using a light touch when preparing your garden for winter. I highly recommend watching the entire webinar at tinyurl.com/fall-pollinator-strategy.

Here are some important takeaways to get you started:

- Leave the Leaves.** Since many beneficial insects overwinter in the leaf litter, we can manage our leaves by:
 - Leaving a thin layer of leaves on grassy areas.

- Adding layers of leaves under trees, shrubs, and perennials for mulch
- Spreading leaves on vegetable and flowerbeds for soil building, and
- Avoiding shredding leaves since that kills the overwintering insects.

Emily suggests gently raking some leaves to another part of your yard where they aren't in the way. Mowing and bagging leaves is not helpful to the important native insects which overwinter in leaf litter.

Save the Stems. A third of insects overwinter in the stems of perennial plants, so this means it would be helpful if we don't cut back the stems of perennial flowers such as anise hyssop, purple coneflower, sunflower, goldenrod, aster, sumac, and elderberry. These flowers are highly favored by insects in our area. Here is Emily's suggested schedule:

- Fall and Winter: leave dead flower stalks intact (birds

- will love the seeds)
- Spring: cut back dead flower stalks leaving stem stubble at varying heights of 8"-12"
- Summer: new growth hides the stem stubble
- Fall: leave new-growth stems standing.

To prevent diseases, it's important to cut out plants in the Fall that have fungal infections like powdery mildew and early blight as well as apple drops. Bag and dispose of these diseased plant materials instead of putting them in your compost.

And remember, the new look for gardens is more relaxed, casual, and takes a lot less work. A somewhat messier garden provides habitat for the creatures that need it more than we need a pristine landscape.

Questions or information about future presentations can be directed to pollinatorpathway.addisoncty@gmail.com.

Fran Putnam Weybridge

Letters to the Editor

Near drowning shows need for precautions for all

I'm a strong swimmer. My husband is a careful captain. We have a plethora of life jackets on board our pontoon. Unfortunately, they do no good when they are on the boat, and you are in the water. I am writing to implore all boaters to keep your life jackets or vests on — no matter how well you swim!

On Thursday, Sept. 7, the weather was sunny, warm and beautiful at 2 p.m. My husband Bill and I decided to go for a short ride, and swim for one of the last times of the summer. We took out our pontoon from the Champlain Bridge Marina and anchored just north of the Champlain Bridge, south of the Marina. At 3 p.m. the weather began to change, and we decided to go home. On my last swim around the boat, I saw the anchor slip from the bow as the current got stronger and the winds were picking up. Grabbing the end of the rope before it submerged with the anchor, I yelled to my husband to bring the boat over to me while treading water. No biggie, I thought.

Unfortunately, in a series of mishaps, he tried to throw me the life ring attached to the boat, which didn't reach me. The boat began taking off northward, in the current, as he tried to swim southward towards me, with another life ring. It was too late. I was out of reach, and so was the boat. The wind and the current were too strong for him to reach either of us, and he yelled to me to drop the anchor and swim to shore.

About a thousand feet away, I fought the current, keeping my eye on him until he and his white life ring disappeared from my view. I was frantic, thinking the worst.

After making it to shore, yelling for help, two neighbors heard me. Cathie Talbert called 911 and Sara McClallen jumped on her skidoo to search for Bill. Cathie — a renter who had just moved in a week before — gave

me a towel and took me to the Marina in her car. I yelled for Bryan Giroux, the owner, who immediately ran with Ben Teriele, and me following, to his rescue boat, before the emergency crew arrived. We found the pontoon north of the marina, but no Bill.

The emergency crew arrived within seconds. None of us could see him, so we took off in different directions searching where the current might take him? Ben took our boat back to the marina, as Bryan assured me Bill would be fine. Bryan searched from Vermont to New York, to the bridge and back, but we couldn't find Bill.

Finally, we saw the emergency boat's red-light flashing. Driving towards them, someone gave us the thumbs up — and we heard, they found him! He was still trying to swim to shore, exhausted. The sky was darkening, and it began to rain while we were on water. It wasn't until we were all safely on shore, on the dock, and near our truck that the heavens opened, and a deluge of rain poured down so hard you couldn't see three feet in front of you. I could only think, if he were in the water at this time, they might not have found him ...

But we did have angels on both sides, and the emergency crew did find him! While swimming to shore, I was praying for a boat to find Bill, but at the time, no boats were anywhere in sight — it was after Labor Day. The boats that did come later, rescued him, and saved our pontoon.

How do you thank people who save you? This letter seems such a small gesture, but please know our hearts are overflowing with gratitude for everyone involved. And more than any words of thanks can say, please know that you can prevent what happened to us, so no one else will be inconvenienced. Our Coast Guard-approved life vests

just arrived, and we will always wear them from now on. We have a marine whistle in the house that needs to be on our body, and I will purchase more, and keep them on us, whenever in the water! Bill could not be seen from Sara's skidoo, because the waters of Lake Champlain can turn on a dime, into ocean waves! Please be prepared for any situation that could occur in and on water! Great swimmers are no match for Mother Nature! I'm a trauma specialist who didn't have to be traumatized by ignorance. I'm lucky, but my body is still shaking inside, two weeks later. I hope I never have to treat someone for the same mistake. I could have dropped the anchor and swam easily to the boat in that instant. Bill and I are living and still learning together in our 7th decade of life.

I want to take this time to publicly thank my neighbor Paul Miller, EMT who met me at the dock with a hug, saying, "Now it's another story you can tell your grandkids!" And Bryan, and Ben, who didn't think twice before running to our rescue; Bryan kindly telling me later, "It happens to us all!" And Cathie and Sara, for jumping quickly into rescue mode to help a wet, stranded stranger! And the Addison Fire Department and Town Line First Response Team for saving my husband! Words do no justice to show our heartfelt gratitude. Tears still come to my eyes thinking about all your awesome support in our time of need.

Please, everyone who can, donate to these emergency responders of our community who are always available, 24/7, when most of us are busy in our lives, not realizing how many other lives are being saved, every day and every night! And thank you dear readers for listening, caring and donating.

Judith Hancox Bridport

Jessie

(Continued from Page 4A)

and all the times juice from a pickle garnish surreptitiously seeped into the bread of my adjacent bologna-and-mayonnaise sandwich.

The memory of that unexpected bite of pickle-soaked Wonder Bread dissolving on my tongue still gives me shudders. Even now, if I'm served a pickle on my lunch plate, I react with alarm, reflexively flicking it across the table before it has a chance to ruin my sandwich.

But my palate is still evolving.

For example, I recently developed a taste for cooked bell peppers. Once, the limpness that overtook them under heat would have turned me off. But one day this past spring, I got a whiff of fresh pizza topped with green peppers and thought, "I bet that would be delicious."

I was correct. I don't know why my food preferences continue to change, when in all other contexts I'm becoming more careful. (If I'm being honest, driving anywhere on less than a quarter tank of

gas makes me more anxious than giddy.) But it keeps happening; though I've told no one, lately I've found myself growing mushroom curious.

In due time, I may find myself saying, "A side of roasted beets would go great with this." I might reach for a slice of pizza topped with both green peppers and mushrooms. Given enough years, I may start to like everything. Almost.

As pleased as I am with my ever-maturing tastes, I don't see the olive thing ever happening.

Gosselin letter

(Continued from Page 4A) going to protect the performers from the male gaze during the event.), assault and harassment. I also hoped the public would recognize the beautiful likeness of an artform that celebrates self-agency at an event supporting an organization which helps individuals reclaim self-agency.

Burlesque artists develop their own characters and have complete control over their performances. For No Strings Attached, I hired Mistress Manifest, Clover Wilder

(misprinted in the article and PFP as Crimson Wilder) and Andro Genderson Starlight to perform burlesque acts at the event. These artists performed beautifully and created engaging thought-provoking acts that left the audience with goosebumps and in awe. I'm disappointed that the article didn't highlight the character development, humor, parody, athleticism and gender bending nature of burlesque that was shared with the reporter via a post on Instagram by Andro

Genderson Starlight regarding the fundraiser and the two acts they performed.

Gena Mangiaratti of the *Brattleboro Reformer* did a great job informing her community in the article "Burlesque show to bring body positivity, feminism and laughs to Bennington."

I hope that if the *Addison Independent* chooses to report on burlesque events in the future the reporter takes a similar approach.

Bridget Gosselin Middlebury

Letters to the Editor and commentary can be found on Pages 4A, 5A, 7A and 8A.

You asked for it. Our Harvest Pie is back at Nino's!

Get it while you can. We will include it in our case pie offerings.

Order yours to take home. The Harvest Pie is a sensational seasonal favorite. It's garlic based pie with mozzarella, spinach, caramelized onions, beets, and goat cheese topped with a balsamic drizzle.



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ADDISON
COUNTY

Obituaries

Steve Broughton, 66, of Poultney

POULTNEY — Steve Broughton, 66, of Poultney, Vt., passed away unexpectedly on Saturday, Sept. 9. Steve was born in Middlebury, Vt., in 1956, spent time in San Diego, Calif., and found his way back to Vermont, where he eventually married the love of his life, Valerie, in 2000.

In Poultney, Steve was a self-employed builder and was very involved in his community as a Rotarian, with the Chamber of Commerce, PoultneyDowntown Revitalization Committee and the Planning Commission. He was also a veteran of the U.S. Air Force. Steve loved his family: mom, Ann Reba Broughton (passed); sister, Barbara Towne (passed); and his brother, Mike (survived).



STEVEN C. BROUGHTON

When he wasn't working, vacationing in Old Orchard Beach or riding his boat on Lakes Bomoseen,

Dunmore or Champlain, Steve loved the Buffalo Bills and dancing with his wife in their living room.

Steve is survived by his greatest loves: his wife, Valerie; son, Gabriel Broughton; daughter, Kayla Parker; stepdaughters, Erin Johansson and Cali Bird; brother, Mike; and nephews, Ben and Loyal Broughton.

He will be greatly missed.

In lieu of funeral services, there will be a celebration of life for Steve on Nov. 5, at the Tap Room on Lake Bomoseen. Contact Valerie Broughton or Kerrie Munro for further details.

Arrangements under the direction of Roberts-Aubin Funeral Home. Online condolences at www.robertsaubinfuneralhome.com.

Nancy Lorraine (Mahan) Stowe, 93, of Vergennes

VERGENNES — Nancy Lorraine (Mahan) Stowe, 93, passed away at the home of her daughter in Vergennes, Vt., on Sept. 11, 2023.

She was born Nov. 9, 1929, in Lancaster, Mass., to Thomas William Mahan and Mary Anna Josephine (Couture) Mahan. Nancy grew up in hardship during the Great Depression but faced life with courage and found happiness in simple country life. She graduated from Burlington High School, where she walked from her home on St. Paul Street every day with a young man, Richard K. Stowe, whom she married in 1952.

They made their home in Hinesburg, where they raised 11 children. During high school, Nancy was employed at Charlie's Red Hots. After graduation, she worked at the Burlington Free Press as a teletypist, and later at IBM with her husband.

Nancy was a force of nature. She spent her life doing good and volunteering, attending many days at the state capitol advocating for educational rights for intellectually disabled children. She assisted with PTA fundraising, was a volunteer driver for Meals on Wheels, a typist for the Hinesburg Record,



NANCY LORRAINE (MAHAN) STOWE

and a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, where she filled many callings, often at great personal sacrifice.

She loved visitors and opened her modest home to anyone in need. She enjoyed singing, gardening, horses, and her family, and was a beloved mother, daughter, sister, aunt, and grandmother.

She is survived by 10 of her children, Linda (Ralph) Miller of Vergennes, Vt.; Danniell (Pam) Stowe of Provo, Utah; Laurel (Jim) Brady of Mapleton, Utah; Dave (Jane) Stowe of Hinesburg,

Vt.; Robert (Andra) Stowe of Genola, Utah; James (Jill) Stowe of Hinesburg, Vt.; Susan (Greg) Phillips of Washington, Utah; JoAnne Stowe of Hinesburg, Vt.; Christine Stowe of Salt Lake City, Utah; Benjamin (Katie) Stowe of Grain Valley, Mo.; brother-in-law, Harold (June) Stowe from South Burlington, Vt.; sister-in-law, Marjorie (Dave) Thorpe of Meredith, N.H.; and friend, Jean Smith of New Haven, Vt. She leaves 45 grandchildren and 43 great-grandchildren, numerous nieces and nephews, all of whom she loved dearly.

She was predeceased by her husband of 65 years, Richard "Dick" Stowe; her son Timothy; her granddaughter Valerie Stowe; her parents; siblings Madeline Arter, Armand Mahan, William Mahan, Estella Bessette, Rachel Kirkland; and parents-in-law, Karl and Vera Stowe.

Funeral services will be held on Friday, Sept. 22, at 10 a.m., at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Chapel at 133 Valley View, Middlebury, Vt. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Addison County Home Health & Hospice, PO Box 754, Middlebury, VT 05753. ♦

Wayne Franklin Foster, 72, formerly of Middlebury

EAGAN, Minn. — Wayne Franklin Foster, age 72, of Eagan, Minn., sadly passed away on Sept. 11, 2023.

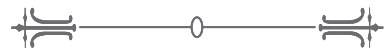
Wayne was born on July 7, 1951, in Middlebury, Vt., to George and Jean Foster. He spent his younger years working on the Foster Brothers Farm with other family members. After graduating as Valedictorian from Middlebury Union High School, Wayne went on to Swarthmore College for his undergraduate studies, and then to Harvard Law School, where he received his Juris Doctor.

After graduating, Wayne relocated to Rochester, N.Y., in 1976 to pursue a legal publishing career at Lawyers Cooperative Publishing. In 1997, he moved to Eagan, Minn., to complete his

nearby 40-year career at Thomson Reuters.

Wayne met his wife of 38 years, Jody Mikasen, while working in Rochester and they went on to have one son, Robert Foster and a daughter-in-law, Amy Vanderlin. Wayne was a proud grandfather to two lovely girls, Mira (6) and Thea (2) and he was frequently drafted to help look after his granddaughters.

In addition to pursuing retirement interests such as reading and keeping track of sports events, Wayne loved bowling, Jeopardy, participating in the family fantasy football league, and sharing his love of music and concerts with his son. He even put up with eight years of Robert's metal band practicing in his basement.



Karen Kohler, age 68, of Shelburne

SHELburnE — Karen Kohler, age 68, of Shelburne, Vt., died peacefully at UVM Medical Center on Sept. 15, 2023, after a year-long battle with cancer.

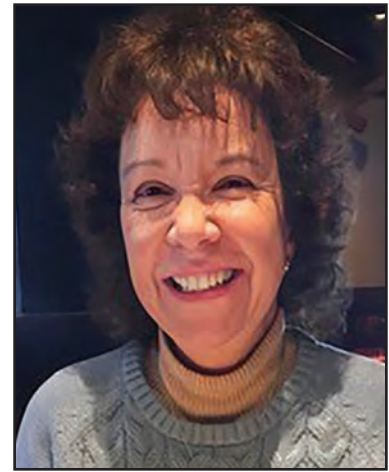
Without a doubt, she had a kind and gentle soul. She is in God's caring hands now and one of His special Angels. We believe that her kind and loving spirit will be looking over her family and friends.

Sweetie, we will miss you greatly. May you Rest in Peace.

Final viewing was held at Ready Funeral Home, 261 Shelburne Rd., Burlington, Vt., on Wednesday, Sept. 20, from 5-7 p.m. The Funeral Mass was held at St. Catherine of Siena Catholic Church, 72 Church St., Shelburne, Vt., on Thursday, Sept. 21, from noon-1 p.m. After the interment ceremonies at the Shelburne Cemetery, the family ask that you join them for a small, informal reception in the church hall.

Karen was born on March 9, 1955, in Boston to the late Raymond and Lillian Haskell. She graduated from Vestal High School, Vestal, N.Y., in 1973. She went on to earn a degree as a Medical Office Assistant from Broome Community College (BCC), Binghamton, N.Y. After several years working in that field, she went back to BCC to earn her degree as a Registered Nurse in 1979. She worked in that profession across various disciplines for over 43 years (both in New York and Vermont) until officially retiring from UVMHC Rehab Unit in November of 2021.

Anyone who met Karen over the years was attracted to her contagious smile, fun nature, and her enthusiastic party-planner spirit for family and friends. She loved working in her home gardens, enjoyed cooking and baking, was



KAREN KOHLER

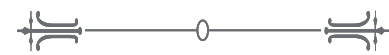
always willing to help and support her family and friends, and loved playing with and going on fun adventures with her grandchildren.

She was dedicated to helping countless patients through their healing process and was devoted to her medical colleagues (nurses, doctors and management). As a result, she made many life-long friends along the way.

In 1979, she married John Kohler at St. Vincent De Paul Blessed Sacrament Church in Vestal, N.Y. They were married for 44 years, where they lived in Endwell, N.Y., until moving to Shelburne, Vt., in 1993.

She is survived by her husband John of Shelburne, Vt.; daughter Melissa Kohler of Waterbury, Vt.; son Ben Kohler of Auburndale, Mass. (daughter-in-law Helen, grandson Alex and granddaughter Ellie); and son Jonathan of Essex Junction, Vt. (daughter-in-law Kassie, grandson Grant and granddaughter Avery), and her blocky headed English Yellow Lab Jake.

She is also survived by: sister Deb Seaman (and husband Mike Seaman of New Tazewell, Tenn.); sister Cindy Simone (and husband

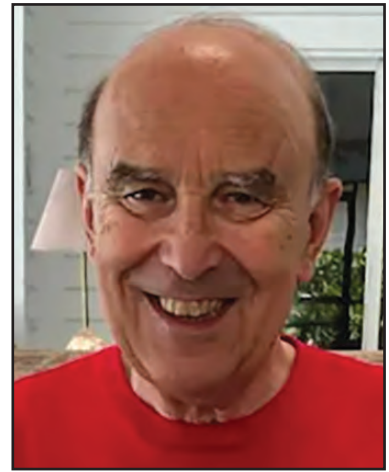


Mark R. Pratt, 85, Middlebury native

NAPLES, Fla. — Mark R. Pratt, 85, died on Sept. 12, 2023, in Naples, Fla.

Born March 31, 1938, in Burlington, Vt., he grew up on a dairy farm, graduated from Middlebury High School and was the first Vermonter to receive a National Merit Scholarship. This enabled him to attend MIT, where he received a B.S. in Chemical Engineering. After active duty service as an officer in the U.S. Army, he earned an M.B.A. from Harvard Business School. He had a 30-year executive career with Exxon Chemical Company. He served on the Boards of Directors of six companies.

After moving to Naples in 2004, he served on the board of directors of the Wyndemere Country Club, was chair of its tennis committee and served on several other club committees. He was a member



MARK R. PRATT

of the board of directors of St. Matthews House in East Naples and was the volunteer coordinator for Guadalupe Social Services in Immokalee.

Mark loved to sing and had a beautiful tenor voice. He sang with

Other family members include Warren and Sally Foster, JoAnne and Ken Meyers, George Jr. and Debbie Foster, many nieces and nephews and their children. Wayne was predeceased by his father, George Foster Sr.; his mother, Jean Foster; his sister Barbara Moodie, and brothers-in-law Floyd Moodie and Dwight Wildermuth.

A visitation will be held at Willwerscheid Funeral Home in St. Paul on Sept. 22, 2023, from 4-7 p.m. A later family memorial service and interment will be held at Mount Royal Cemetery in Montreal, Canada. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Parkinson's Foundation and the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU). ♦

Dennis of Monroe, N.Y.); sister Lisa Distin (and husband Mike of Binghamton, N.Y.); sister-in-heart and lifetime friend Joyce Oziemina (and husband Tom of Apalachin, N.Y.); cousins Josephine DeSalvatore and Lori Inglish (in the Boston area); niece Jessica White (and husband Lt. Col. Mac White of Hampstead, N.C.); her late nephew David Seaman (Kentucky); and her aunt Linda Pantridge (Gulfport, Fla.).

A message from her sisters:

"Dear Sister, we thank you so much for the many years of friendship, celebration, and adventures that you shared with us — the personal gifts you left on our beds, the wonderful meals, the hikes, the shopping, and your homemade jams and breads. You showed us your love in so many ways. You always had such a calming influence on the situations and people you encountered in life — knowing you was its own blessing. God and His angels have now received you into heaven with the knowledge that you lived a life of love, compassion and forgiveness. We will all miss you dearly."

Karen was a longtime supporter of the Vermont Marine Corps League's Toys for Kids program that collected and distributed new toys to needy children during the Christmas season.

In lieu of flowers, please consider making a tax deductible donation in her name to: Toys for Kids of Vermont, P.O. Box 4092, Burlington, VT 05406 or go directly to the Toys for Kids website toysforkidsvt.com, hit the donate tab, and donate via PayPal.

Arrangements are in care of the Ready Funeral and Cremation services. To send online condolences please visit www.readyfuneral.com. ♦

Larry Naylor celebration of life

SALISBURY — The family of Larry Naylor, who died on Sept. 3, 2023, would be honored if you would join them to share some memories and celebrate the life of a wonderful man, on Sunday, Sept. 24, at the Brandon American Legion, 550 Franklin St.

The celebration will begin at 1 p.m. Memories will be shared at 3 p.m. The celebration will conclude at 4:20 p.m.

For online condolences please visit: www.sandersonfuneralservice.com/obituary/larry-naylor. ♦



LARRY NAYLOR



JOHN P. MCWILLIAMS JR.

John P. McWilliams Jr. memorial service

MIDDLEBURY — The family of John P. McWilliams Jr. of Middlebury, Vt., who died July 23, 2023, invites you to attend his Memorial service on Thursday, Oct. 5. The service will be held at 11 a.m. at St. Stephens church in Middlebury and will feature readings from some of John's most cherished writers, with musical selections performed by his son Christopher and his friend Kevin Parizo. Please join us in remembrance of John. ♦

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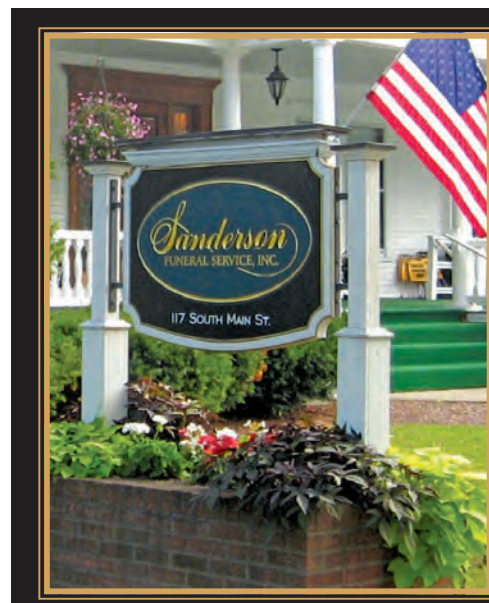
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Mary Lew Collins, 87, of Middlebury

MIDDLEBURY — Mary Lew Collins passed away peacefully on Sept. 13, 2023, at her home in Middlebury. Mary Lew was born Feb. 13, 1936, in Burlington, Vt., to Anthony and Bertha Cassano (Shank) who predeceased her along with her brother, Edwin Cassano of Lunenburg, Mass.



MARY LEW COLLINS

She married her high school sweetheart and love of her life, Robert "Bob" Collins on June 9, 1956, in Burlington, Vt. Mary Lew and Bob shared 53 wonderful years of marriage before Bob passed away in February of 2009. Mary Lew graduated from Burlington High School and attended the University of Vermont before starting her family. She was an avid golfer and also enjoyed dancing with Bob, as well as cooking and socializing with their many close friends. They traveled annually to see their children wherever they were living in the U.S.

In 1967, she was one of six employees who began the Counseling Service of Addison County in the basement of the municipal building in Middlebury. She was very proud of the growth the Counseling Service saw over her tenure, and she retired after

34 years of service in February of 2001. She worked a schedule that allowed her to be home both by the time her children arrived each day after school and in the summers.

After Bob's passing, Mary Lew found companionship in longtime neighbor Ray Cassin. They shared 10 years as partners, and their second loves added much to their lives.

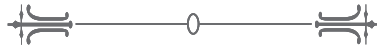
Mary Lew leaves behind three children, seven grandchildren, and nine great-grandchildren, including: Jodi Collins of Weybridge, Vt., her daughter

Chelsey Giuliani and husband David, and their children Lena, Cate and Joseph; her daughter Kenzie Bruch and her son Nick Bruch; Doug Collins and his wife Phyllis of Kirkland, Wash., his daughter Jennifer Brittingham and husband Ben, and their children Madison, Jaxon, Ellison and Cason; son Jason Collins and his wife Hope and their children Davis and Fischer; and Tim Collins and his wife Kate of Wilder, V., and their children Olivia and Lucas.

Mary Lew also leaves behind sister-in-law Nancy Hinsdale of Shelburne, Vt., and special nephews and niece Clark, Mindy and Michael Hinsdale.

Mary Lew will be laid to rest in the Weybridge Cemetery beside her husband Bob following a private burial. A celebration of life will be held Saturday, Sept. 23, from 3-5 p.m. at Middlebury College's Kirk Alumni Center.

Mary Lew's family would like to thank her caregivers from the bottom of our hearts for the compassionate, loving care they provided. Thank you Joanie, Sophia, Angela, Regina, Stephanie, Cheryl, Hannah, Akassa, and Kori. ♡



Walker Earl James, 90, of Orwell

ORWELL — Walker Earl James, age 90, passed away peacefully Thursday, Sept. 14, 2023, at his home in Orwell, Vt.



WALKER EARL JAMES

Walker was born in Middlebury on Jan. 10, 1933. He was the son of Stanley and Dorothy (Walker) James Sr. He grew up in Weybridge, where he received his early education and graduated from Middlebury High School, class of 1951. Walker was the Vermont State President of the FFA from 1951-1952 and the National Vice President of the FFA from 1953-1954. He served in the United States Army Reserve with the 314th Engineers Company.

Walker married Ruth M. Cooke on Aug. 14, 1952, at the Middlebury Congregational Church and started a lifelong journey of dairy farming, raising his family and community service. Ruth passed away on Jan. 18, 2005. His passion for community service included being a member of Independence Masonic Lodge No. 10 of Orwell, a school board member for Fair Haven Union High School, a member of the Orwell Fire Department, Orwell

Selectboard, Vermont League of Cities and Towns, American Legion Post No. 50 of Castleton, and trustee of the First Congregational Church of Orwell.

Walker is survived by two sons, Stephen James of Orwell, with whom he made his home, and Samuel (Barbara) James of West Rutland; and two daughters, Sharon (Andre) Fletcher of Orwell and Suzanne (David) Taggart of

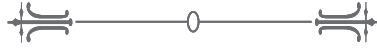
Castleton. Eight grandchildren, seven great-grandchildren and several cousins, nieces and nephews also survive him. He was predeceased by his brother, Stanley James Jr.; daughter-in-law, Lynn James; and second wife, Gloria Schulte.

A celebration of life will be held on Sept. 30, at 11 a.m., at the First Congregational Church in Orwell. Pastor David Anderson will officiate. A private graveside committal service and burial, with Masonic services, will precede the ceremony at Mountain View cemetery in Orwell.

Following the church service, the family will receive guests at the Orwell Town Hall for a time of remembrance.

Memorial gifts may be made to the First Congregational Church of Orwell, P.O. Box 15, Orwell, Vt., 05760, or the Addison County Home Health and Hospice, P.O. Box 754, Middlebury, Vt., 05753

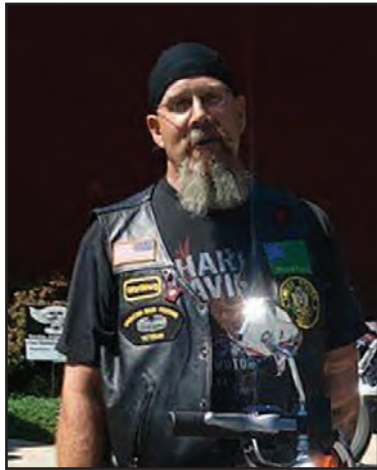
Arrangements are under the direction of the Miller & Ketcham Funeral home in Brandon. ♡



Jeffrey Scott Warden, 61, of Ferrisburgh

FERRISBURGH — Jeffrey Scott Warden of Ferrisburgh passed peacefully surrounded by love at his home on Friday, Sept. 15, 2023.

Jeffrey left his wife Liz (Turpin); sons Jeffrey Jr., Justin, and their son Cooper and daughter McKenzie.



JEFFREY SCOTT WARDEN

Jeffrey loved his family so very much and left us much too early. In addition to Liz and Jeffrey's children, he is survived by Jeffrey Jr.'s wife Rachel and children Celia and Ender, and Justin's wife Airole and their children Evelyn and Lochlin. He is also survived by his father Jim and mother Gloria Warden and sisters Donna Warden and husband Brian Gerhart, Lindsay Warden and husband Erik Hausler, Shannon Warden, and Stephanie Graham and husband Tyrone Williams, and Jeffrey Jr. and Justin's mother Aide Ramirez.

He also leaves behind Liz's family, mother Maryann Turpin, sisters Joanne Turpin and husband Dale Wernhoff, Amy Turpin and husband Mark DeFilippo, Lisa Turpin and boyfriend Mark Robert, and Doris Gallipo and husband Joe Gallipo, as well as many nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his beloved mother, Joan Frescatore Graham; brother Jimmy

Warden; nephew Corey Warden, and father-in-law Joseph Turpin.

Jeffrey began life on Sept. 12, 1962, in Lansdale, Pa. He was the third and youngest child born to James and Joan Warden. He graduated from BFA St. Albans and the Vermont Police Academy. Jeffrey enlisted in the Army right out of high school and continued to serve his country, enlisting in the National Guard twice. The most recent was after 9/11, when Jeffrey volunteered for his deployment to fight in Operation Iraqi Freedom, serving from June 2006 to August

2007. Jeffrey was a proud member of CVMA (Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association), where he was known as "Wardawg" to his brothers and sisters. Jeffrey forged close bonds within the CVMA.

A celebration of life will be held on Sept. 30, from 1-6 p.m. at the American Legion, 50 Armory Lane, in Vergennes. In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to The Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association® Chapter 26-2, 59 Buck Hollow Rd. Fairfax Vt., 05454. CVMA is Vets helping Vets. ♡



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ACSD is doing the work

District taking concrete steps to fight racism

At the Addison Central School District (ACSD), we understand that racism persists. As we shared in recent community messages, and was echoed by the *Addison Independent* recently: It is unacceptable that any of our BIPOC students and staff experience acts of racism. We hear community members calling for us to do better and to respond. We want to share with certainty: We have moved beyond acknowledging the problem. We are committed to doing the work that will make change within our schools.



Community Forum

This week's writer is Timothy P. Williams, Ed. D., the interim superintendent for the Addison Central School District.

In recent years we have advanced diversity, equity and inclusion efforts at ACSD. Many of those efforts have coalesced and strengthened of late, and we would like to take this opportunity to share them openly with our community:

• Response to Rise in Hate Speech Incidents: Last spring, ACSD administrators issued a statement of commitment and engaged outside sources to help us grow. You can view that statement and additional information on our Equity Work page: www.acsdvt.org/district-link/equity-work.

• Strategic Plan: ACSD is currently designing a new, equity-informed strategic plan that will prioritize the success of every student. This work was largely developed by an Advisory Committee and Action Team comprised of diverse students, staff, families and community

members; never before has the district been so intentional about including marginalized voices. More can be found at www.acsdvt.org/district-link/strategic-plan.

• Co-Research for Belonging and Inclusion at ACSD: An action-oriented research project designed in conversation with minoritized communities to effectively invite, elevate and amplify the marginalized student and staff voices of ACSD's Black, Indigenous, and People of Color, for input to inform ACSD's processes and policies. Begun in the fall of 2023,

this work will be led by consultant Rebecca Haslam of Seed the Way and Assistant Professor of Education at St. Michael's College.

• Anti-Bias Leadership for School Principals: Each month, the ACSD Administrative Team will work with Khuram Hussain, vice president of Equity and Inclusion at Middlebury College, to improve our awareness about the impact of implicit bias on the experience of staff and students and to enact culturally relevant and inclusive practices at our schools.

• Middlebury Union High School and Middlebury Union Middle School Affinity Spaces: MUHS piloted this work during the 2022-23 school year. We are looking for facilitators to provide an inclusive space at both MUMS and MUHS for students for one-hour weekly lunch meetings for

students.

• Staff professional development for equity, inclusion and belonging: Specific professional development activities for our 6th- to 12th-grade staff including facilitated staff discussions and training on *Navigating Hard Conversations* and *Building Community* with expert BIPOC consultants and with Khuram Hussain and Justice Elijah.

• Ongoing response to Hazing, Harassment and Bullying (HHB): Ongoing strict adherence to HHB policy and processes, training for administrators, student safety plans, and student consequences to include but not limited to: suspension, restricted schedules, loss of privileges, parent meetings, and restorative processes.

We will be working to supplement this framework with resources for students and staff to strengthen and to deepen their ability to contend with racism and bigotry. We will be expending a fair amount of resources in an effort to improve how we respond to racism and inequity in our schools, and the emerging strategic plan will support those efforts.

There will be some who do not like the positions we are taking; in fact, we have already fielded a few inquiries to that effect. We must not be deterred. Moving forward will require challenging conversations and courageous action to ensure that we live into our values and mission to provide high-quality, equitable and varied learning environments that inspire a passion for learning and growth among our students. We would appreciate your support because we cannot do the work in isolation from our greater community.

Letters to the Editor

Thank you, Woody!

I want to thank Woody Jackson for all of the amazingly beautiful Field Days T-shirts he produced throughout the years. It is a tradition I am sad to see go, as I looked forward to my "fair shirt" every year! I would

be hard-pressed to choose a favorite, they are each so unique and stunning. I'm sure I am not alone in wishing Woody a happy retirement from t-shirt design and thanking him for making Addison County Fair and Field Days extra

special for all of these years. I hope to see a commemorative quilt someday with all of the years displayed.

Hannah Sessions
Salisbury

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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.

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Stray dog, parakeets returned to owners

BRISTOL — Bristol police in recent weeks have helped return multiple animals in the Bristol area to their owners.

A lost dog was found on Lincoln Road on Sept. 4 and turned into the Bristol Police Department.

Police located the animal's family and returned the dog.

On Sept. 7 police helped reunite with their owner parakeets left on Main Street.

Between Aug. 13 and Sept. 9 Bristol police completed 44 foot patrols and two car patrols, conducted 31 traffic stops and checked security at Mount Abraham Union High School 24 times, at Bristol Elementary School 23 times and at local businesses 24 times.

Police also processed 48 fingerprint requests and conducted seven welfare checks.

In other recent activity, Bristol police:

- On Aug. 13 received a report of a disorderly incident on North Street. Investigation is ongoing.

- On Aug. 13 were told of a vehicle operating aggressively on West Street. The vehicle was gone when police arrived.

- On Aug. 15 received a report of an abandoned vehicle on Airport Drive. The owner was located, and the vehicle was removed.

- On Aug. 15 issued a warning to the owner of a barking dog on Plank Road.

- On Aug. 16 responded to a call regarding dogs that were left in a vehicle on Main Street. Police determined the dogs were not in distress but spoke with the owner about the potential danger

of leaving dogs in a vehicle.

- On Aug. 17 investigated a citizen dispute on Main Street and found that no action rose to the level of an offense.

- On Aug. 18 received a fraud complaint on Mountain Street that involved the use of gift cards. An investigation is ongoing.

- On Aug. 23 provided traffic control while the Bristol Public Works Department painted stop lines and pedestrian crossings at the intersection of Main and North streets.

- On Aug. 23 checked on vehicles parked at the Bristol Pond boat launch. Police did not observe any issues.

- On Aug. 24 cited Ashley Pelkey, 35, of Bristol for failing to appear at a court date.

- On Aug. 24 responded to a report of a vacant truck that was stopped in the roadway on Stoney Hill Road. Police located the owner of the vehicle and assisted them in getting fuel to return home.

- On Aug. 25 responded to a two-car motor vehicle crash on Main Street.

- On Aug. 27 were told of a dog off leash on Pine Street. The dog was gone when police arrived.

- On Aug. 28 responded to a two-car crash in a Mountain Street parking lot.

- On Aug. 29 received a complaint of unlawful mischief on North Street. An investigation is ongoing.

- On Aug. 30 observed a vacant vehicle at Sycamore Park after hours. Police planned to contact the owner and advise them of the park's hours.

- On Aug. 31 assisted Mount Abraham Union High School with a truancy concern.

- On Aug. 31 received a fraud complaint involving a stolen check. An investigation is ongoing.

- On Aug. 31 cited Michael Griffith, 49, of New York for driving under the influence following a traffic stop on Burpee Road.

- On Sept. 1 responded to Elm Street for the report of an ATV being operated on the roadway.

- On Sept. 1 investigated possibly threatening messages on Front Porch Forum. Police determined that the communication at that time did not rise to the level of an offense, and an investigation is ongoing.

- On Sept. 2 responded to a report of a family fight on West Street. Police cited Damon M. Key-Clopton, 27, of Burlington for domestic assault.

- On Sept. 2 looked into a report of suspicious activity on West Street. Police located the individuals and determined no action rose to the level of an offense.

- On Sept. 4 helped someone on Main Street obtain mental health services.

- On Sept. 5 responded to a report of assault on West Street. Police cited Jessie Flemings, 40, of Bristol for simple assault.

- On Sept. 5 checked on a vehicle that was abandoned on East Street. Police determined the vehicle was disabled and that the owner was working to repair it.

- On Sept. 6 issued paperwork to a juvenile found in possession of marijuana and tobacco on Airport Drive.

- On Sept. 8 received a report of threatening on South Street. Police planned to cite the involved individual after locating them.

- On Sept. 8 investigated an incident on Rockydale Road involving threatening behavior. An investigation is ongoing.

Tinsley

(Continued from Page 3A)

the second floor via a tire tied to the cable. There was a very large cheering section — encouraging this very boisterous and dangerous behavior. I have this documented on video — chants and all. It was very common to recreate in the garage by using the winch as an amusement ride."

- May 14, 2022: A "huge party. Photos document the day after. Hundreds of beer and other alcohol cans, cups, bottles strewn all over the place — including my yard. Beer-pong table, chairs, trash — other discarded waste."

He presented photos of that party showing on-site tarps that he said tenants used to screen activities in the barn area.

"Around midnight, there were even students drinking on my front steps," McGrath recounted. "I had to ask them to move along."

McGrath said multiple visits from police and discussions with Middlebury College officials have failed to temper the partying atmosphere at the property. He urged the DRB to step in.

"You, the DRB, can do something real, you can do something right," he said. "Please accept the zoning office conclusion that the 53 North Pleasant St. garage, with all its history and scheming, is not fit for any such ambiguous use as 'rec room,' or 'rec center,' or 'rec complex.'"

John Tenny also lives near 53 North Pleasant St. He, too, spoke

of large parties — some allegedly drawing more than 100 people — generating "a great deal of noise and loud music, lots of drinking, urinating and vomiting on neighbors' lawns and gardens, and driving across neighbors' lawns."

Tenny noted an "accessory use" is defined in the local zoning code as being "incidental and subordinate" to the residential use.

"A bar is not an incidental use, a nightclub is not an incidental use and an entertainment center is not an incidental use," he told DRB members. "Yet these uses are exactly what we have seen since the parties began in the spring of 2022."

Neighbor Peter Foreman-Murray said the proposed rec room would exacerbate what he said has already been two years of disruption. He shared two videos of the property that demonstrated the noise and attendance at past parties held at 53 North Pleasant.

Tinsley, who attended the Sept. 11 hearing with attorney Kevin Brown, said there's no basement in the 53 North Pleasant St. house that can be used as a rec room, and argued the garage should instead be able to provide that space for his tenants. He stressed the rec room, as proposed, wasn't meant to be a commercial use.

Brown, among other things, argued that the proposed rec room use is fully consistent with the residential use of the property.

The DRB voted unanimously (7-

0) to uphold the planning & zoning department's denial of the Tinsley rec room permit application.

Less than two weeks earlier, the DRB also held a 7-0 vote — this time, to uphold Zoning Administrator Dave Wetmore's decision this past July to allow Tinsley permission to install a 12-foot-by-16-foot gazebo in the backyard of his 13 Washington St. Ext. property. That property last year drew a lot of neighborhood complaints about student tenants' behavior.

John McPartland, a neighbor of 13 Washington St. Ext., said he's likely to appeal the DRB's Aug. 28 gazebo decision to the Environmental Court. He had requested that three conditions be attached to the gazebo permit: That it be screened to provide a visual and noise barrier, that construction of the structure not impact stormwater, and that college students be excluded from the tenant mix at 13 Washington St. Ext.

Middlebury College has already granted McPartland's third wish. The institution recently reached a "multi-year" agreement with Tinsley to lease 13 Washington St. Ext. to new faculty hires.

McPartland said he's pleased with the new tenant arrangement but is concerned that it could only be a "temporary reprieve" from rental to college students.

John Flowers is at johnf@addisonindependent.com.

Bristol Police Log

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Letters to the Editor

Lessons of 9-11 more important than ever

Each year, good Americans look back on 9-11 with heartbreaking memories, moments of silence, and appeals to teach younger generations about the terror attacks that occurred 22 years ago, or at least they should.

This year, I was sadly disappointed as I pulled into the MUHS parking lot and saw the school's flag at full staff.

I also couldn't help but notice the electronic sign in front of the school. I recalled how they quickly changed the sign to show support for Ukraine, yet there was no mention of 9-11 on this day of remembrance.

Later that evening, I asked my daughter if they mentioned 9-11 in school that day. She replied, "Nope." I was disappointed, but not surprised, by her answer.

I mentioned this experience to a friend who works for a public school in New York State. She told me during their morning announcements they talked about 9-11, how many lives were lost, and had a moment of silence in memory and honor of those who lost.

As 9-11 becomes a historical event for younger generations, it's up to us to pass on the lessons learned and keep the memories of those we lost alive.

It is important for our children to know of the heroic first responders who selfishly rushed into burning, crumbling towers to save lives and ended up losing their own. It is important they know of the heroes of Flight 93 who sacrificed their lives to prevent the loss of so many

more. They should learn about the ongoing physical and mental health effects on those who were directly exposed to the disaster.

It is important we remind our children not only of the lives lost but also to remember how communities across the country came together to care for and support one another. On 9-11, we put our differences aside and became united as a country. This lesson alone is invaluable to our children, given the current division in our country.

I do not know why the schools have forgotten 9-11. I just know we are doing our children a great injustice by doing so. Twenty-two years later, these lessons are more important than ever.

Lisa Busby
 Bridport

Charlestin shows courage in speaking out

Esther Charlestin was incredibly helpful to us last year in helping our son (and us) adjust to Middle School and creating a 504 plan. I know it wasn't always easy! As a family, we are deeply saddened by the experience that she had, but not surprised.

We are aware of much overt racism, and implicit and unconscious bias existing in Vermont. We are also very concerned about how white middle schoolers, who have a natural and age-appropriate irreverent streak, are horribly emboldened by unconscious white privilege to say the stupidest and meanest racist

things. We truly hope that they will be educated away from this "just joking" cruelty that we have observed, and receive well-considered consequences when they do it, so that they learn to never do it again, and most importantly learn to have compassion and supportive interest in all human beings, regardless of racial or cultural differences.

In my work as a mental health counselor in private practice, I have been honored to work with people of color and have seen in-depth the types of struggles they have experienced in the workplace as professionals.

This type of stress is very hard on one's health, and people of color are known to have disproportionate amounts of stress induced illnesses.

As a family, we stand by Esther and offer our support in any way possible for her further endeavors, including her important new company, Conversation Compass, which we believe will do a lot of good for our community and state!

Thank you Esther for your bravery in speaking out and bringing these issues to light.

Willow Broadus
 Granville

Trappers and hunters do the most for conservation

In response to the inaccurate and unfair Sept. 14 letter by Barbara Felitti, who appears to be an anti-everything hunting or trapping person from Protect Our Wildlife.

First: The Fish & Wildlife Board is made up of people with some level of knowledge and concern for hunting, fishing, trapping and conservation. Much like the First Conservationists in this country 100 years ago, hunters, trappers, and fishers are the ones who do the most for conservation and always have. And not like many anti-groups will tell you so they have more animals to go after, but because they care and see what's really happening out there.

Second: The Best Management Practices was never developed to serve European fur markets (most fur today is used for crafts or sold

to China) but to develop the most humane types and use of various traps. The foot hold continues to be the most humane and useful trap still today. It took decades for these methods to develop and are constantly being updated today. I have released bobcats and other animals with no injury from foot hold traps. When properly used, they pose no threat of damage and a non-target animal can be released. Other methods are either deadly to a non-target animal or of limited or no use for some species.

The rabid anti-everything real conservation types with groups like POW have no real facts or science on their side. Most, like the founder of POW, were not even up here when we lost most of the muskrat population to disease caused by overpopulation back in the 1990s because of the

fur market and people stopped trapping them. When you can't even cover the cost of your gas, it's no longer profitable to trap. That is when trapping wildlife for profit really died in this country. Thank God for recreational trapping or we would be having more rabies, more flooded roads and fields and more species dying of disease from over population.

I was fortunate to go on a caribou hunt back in 2004 in northern Quebec. At the time they could not get enough people to hunt them DUE TO OVERPOPULATION AND DISEASE A HERD OF OVER 400,000 WENT TO LESS THAN 10,000 TODAY! Yes I put that in caps to stand out as that is what happens when you do not have proper conservation.

Greg Paulman
 Monkton

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KATE CLIFFORD, SOON to turn 101, poses outside her Vergennes apartment for a picture with the youngest of her eight children, Connie Gilbert, left; one of her 15 grandchildren, Lisa Demilt, right; and one of her 24 great-grandchildren, Juniper Durfee, in Demilt's arms.

Independent photo/Steve James

Clifford

(Continued from Page 1A)

remember that house burning and that old man dying. I stood at the window and watched the fire.”

Between those traumatic first memories and the new ones Clifford will make this Saturday celebrating her 101st birthday with her family, she can offer nearly a century of recollections, many happy, some bittersweet, and some tragic:

A childhood in a big family with a bit of hardship and a little mischief. A first husband lost to a World War II wound, leaving her with five children. A second marriage of 62 years, coinciding with her move to Vermont in 1951, a union that produced three more children. Doing laundry for her own large family in a river. Working hard inside and then outside the home. Three children predeceasing her. Finally, traveling and seeing the world.

“We had a lot of ups and downs,” Clifford said.

YOUTH IN OHIO

While she talked about her life with a visitor in the tidy apartment she calls her

own, she was always quick with a laugh at herself, and her daughter Connie Gilbert, granddaughter Lisa Demilt, and great-granddaughter Juniper Durfee.

After that fateful thunderstorm, her large family — she was a middle child among seven siblings — was OK, as was their home. But her father lost his garage and his business, and the family moved, eventually settling in to Hepburn, Ohio, living with her grandparents, staying until she was about 12.

There she had another brush with death. She remembers wearing a brown checkered dress and falling into a fast-running stream. “And my brother caught me by the dress and pulled me back,” Clifford said. “He saved my life.”

Next came a move to Kenton, a larger Ohio town, and she lived there until the move to Vermont.

Clifford acknowledged that while always a hard worker — a contention backed by Gilbert and Demilt — she was not a dedicated student.

“I could have been better than I was,” Clifford said. “I didn’t pay attention.”

Well, how about her behavior? “I was always getting into a little bit of trouble.”

Clifford called the trouble “not much.” She said her older sister, who in her parents’ view should have known better, would usually face the consequences.

“I would do stuff and blame it on my sister,” she said. “My mother would say we couldn’t go somewhere, and I would coax my sister into going, and she got into trouble.”

She would also collect a nickel from her brothers to complete their paper routes, but only if they paid in advance “so I could buy a bag of candy and eat on the way.” Clifford also collected a nickel and candy from an elderly woman who wanted company while listening to radio shows.

She admits her parents might not have approved of all of her plans, but might also have decided not to pick battles with someone who now admits to being a little headstrong as a youngster.

“Yes. Yes I was,” Clifford said.

Overall, she described her

family’s experience during the Depression as typical.

“Sometimes we didn’t have a lot to eat,” she said. “But we survived.”

WORK & MARRIAGES

After school Kate worked cleaning house and cooking for the grandmother of Illinois U.S. Senator Dick Durbin but turned to waiting tables and did so for a number of years after briefly working at a filling station during World War II, which began when she was 18.

“Back then the gas would gush back out on you if you put it in too fast,” Clifford said. “I got a lot of it on my feet. If anybody struck a match, I would have blown up.”

Four of her brothers served in the war, none being injured. But her first husband, Gale, whom she married when she was 20, was not so lucky while serving in the Pacific theater.

“He was hit over the head, with a gun probably. But that’s what caused him to

die. He lasted quite a few years, but got a tumor from being hit, and that killed him,” she said. “My oldest son was six, and my daughter, the youngest, was five months old. Five kids and a widow at the age of 28.”

She worked nights at a restaurant so she could care for her children during the day.

“It was pretty rough. But a couple weeks later I met my second husband,” she said.

That was Ernest Clifford. And she rebuffed him. Repeatedly.

“He saw me walking down the street and he stopped me and asked, ‘Would you like to sit in my car?’” she recalled. “I said no thank you. Just leave me alone.”

Ernest persisted. After a few months, she allowed him to drive her on two errands, once to place a wreath on her late husband’s grave after a taxi failed to show up, and once to take her to visit her mother in the hospital.

“I said when I come out you don’t need to be waiting. I’ll call a taxi,” she said. “So I did, and he was waiting. I got in a taxi anyway.”

But Ernest eventually won the day.

“Finally I gave in,” Clifford said. They were married in 1951.

Granddaughter Demilt made a point: “He must have really thought something of her to take in five children.”

LIFE IN VERMONT

They moved to Vermont not long after the marriage, and Ernest went to work for Simmonds Precision in Vergennes. Despite his solid career and government support for Clifford’s children from her first marriage because Gale was hurt in the war, money was tight.

They bought a seven-bedroom Ferrisburgh farmhouse that lacked running water and functional utilities.

Hence the laundry in the river, including sheets for eight beds.

“With a scrub board,” Clifford said. “I did that for a long time. Can you imagine?”

They also didn’t own a mop, and Clifford had to “scrub the floor on my hands and knees.”

The family also had a big garden. “I’d freeze a lot, and can a lot,” Clifford said. “It was a lot of hard work.”

She finally put her foot down on the laundry.

“I did graduate from the washboard to a ringer washer. And then it gave out. Finally I got kind of sick of that, and I called Jackman Fuels, and I had them bring me an automatic washer. Well, he (Ernest) was so angry,” Clifford said.

“They sat it in the kitchen, and I wanted it in the basement. Well it sat in the kitchen for a long time, a couple weeks, anyway. Finally, I said, ‘Well, if you aren’t going to set that up, I’m going to call someone in and have someone do it.’ Well that did it. He got it ready for me.”

Clifford said her children made life easier for her.

“They were all close together (in age),” she said. “And they didn’t quarrel, which was nice. They played games together, and played school. And they’d play store. I’d let them get the canned goods out of the cupboard, and I said don’t tear the labels off.”

There were plenty of pluses over the course of a six-decade marriage; Ernest died a decade ago.

“There were happy times,” Clifford said. “We went to Australia, England, the Cayman Islands and Hawaii. We took a lot of trips. But not until all the children were grown. We couldn’t afford to hire a babysitter for all those. But we had a lot of good times. We had a big garden, and every year we’d have a corn roast and invite in a lot of



THIS FAMILY PICTURE shows Kate Clifford and her second husband, Ernest Clifford, with seven of their eight children, five from Clifford’s first marriage, at their Ferrisburgh home. Clifford, 100, said the eighth child was on the way when the picture was taken.

people, all the neighbors.”

Ernest also made home-brewed beer, and they at times sampled that or a sip of whiskey together, she said.

“I wasn’t brought up to drink, but I learned,” Clifford said. “When I married my second husband I guess I wasn’t drinking very successfully, so he said, ‘I’m going to teach you how to drink.’ He did a good job.”

OUTSIDE THE HOME

When her children left the nest, so did Clifford. She cooked at the former Clark’s Nursing Home in Vergennes and at Vergennes Union High School, and for years was a key employee of the former Fishman’s Department Store on the city green.

“She went to Boston with Betty Fishman a few times to buy fashion,” Demilt said.

There were more tough times, too. One son died in a car accident. Two of her children succumbed to cancer, and another is currently undergoing treatment for the disease.

She also thought she lost another son, a medic serving in the Vietnam War after two uniformed men knocked on her door.

“I wanted to know if he was dead or alive, and they didn’t know. They said they would be sending a telegram. I stayed up all night long waiting for that telegram,” she said.

“It never came until late the next day, that he was alive. And they put him back out in the field, and he was shot again. He was shot three times, and they gave him two Purple Hearts. And they didn’t want to give him three Purple Hearts, so they gave him some other kind of medal. Good Conduct, maybe.”

Also on the plus side of the ledger, Demilt and Gilbert praised Clifford’s cooking, noting Dakin Farms once sold her fruitcakes.

“She’s just the best cook ever,” Demilt said.

Clifford said her daughter and granddaughter were biased, but admitted Dakin Farms also wanted to market her baked beans.

“They wanted to can them and

put my name and picture on the label, and I said no way,” she said.

Demilt pointed out Clifford had to be wrangled into talking to the

Independent.

“We’re lucky we got her picture today,” Demilt said. “Can you imagine turning down your picture on Dakin Farms baked beans?”

Gilbert said Clifford also was a talented seamstress.

“She made my first wedding dress, and all my bridesmaid’s wedding dresses,” Gilbert said. “And the flower girl’s.”

“And the cake, too,” Demilt added. “And my wedding cake. It was huge, with a staircase.”

But one recipe Clifford cannot provide is the one for longevity.

“Who knows why we live, and why some people pass away as little children, and let people like me keep on living? It’s a mystery,” she said. “A lot of people have worked harder than I have, and they’re still living, too. Maybe hard work does it. I don’t know. But I can’t tell you.”

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Makerspace

(Continued from Page 1A)

the space to be a resource that everyone feels welcome to explore, regardless of their age or level of experience.

“Making in Middlebury has many layers to it, from absolute beginners to world-class experts. There are a variety of people who live here and have committed their lives to this work,” he said. “The Makerspace is about bringing all of those different layers together so that anyone who knocks on the door can eventually find their way to the subset of making that makes sense to them.”

A makerspace is a collaborative workspace where individuals can share equipment, knowledge and inspiration with one another. Available equipment at the Middlebury Makerspace, located in Johnson 102, includes large graphics tablets, sewing machines, laser cutters, 3-D printers and a robotic arm.

Visitors have full access to any of the tools in the makerspace, though Houghton noted it's important for individuals to know how to properly use the equipment.

“All of this (equipment) here demands training and training becomes that shared vocabulary

that lets us talk to each other as a community,” Houghton said. “I’m working on that exact kind of baseline training so that anyone can come in, find some basic video tutorials, step up to a piece of equipment and, whimsical or otherwise, get something to come out of it.”

“What I’m finding is there’s such a diversity of work that whatever you think a makerspace is is awesome, and somebody else thinks about it different and is doing things that will blow your mind.”

— Daniel Houghton

You won’t find any woodworking machinery in the Middlebury Makerspace, which features equipment that doesn’t make a mess, like sawdust in a woodshop. For those tools the space lacks, Houghton said the Middlebury Makerspace hopes to connect local makers with other workshops in town that offer the equipment they’re looking for.

“We have the potential to unite it with several other spaces in town. There isn’t just the Middlebury Makerspace, there’s The Makery at the Patricia A. Hannaford Career Center, which has been operating for years and is poised to have expanded access to rooms and expanded hours so that more people can get in there,” he said.

The Makery offers its members access to woodworking, sewing and computer and 3-D printing labs at the Hannaford Career Center.

The Middlebury Makerspace plans to collaborate with the

community in other ways as well. Houghton said he’s seeking funding that would allow the makerspace to offer community members stipends to teach workshops, as well as have groups from local schools visit the space.

The workshop has already seen some use from Houghton’s Introduction to 3-D Industrial Design course. A few other makers have wandered into the space to design colorful posters on the graphics tablets or dismantle an e-bike battery in search of a malfunctioning cell.

Houghton has created an Instagram account, @middleburymakerspace, to catalog and promote the different projects that unfold in the makerspace.

“What I’m finding is there’s such a diversity of work that whatever you think a makerspace is is awesome, and somebody else thinks about it different and is doing things that will blow your mind,” Houghton said.

The Middlebury Makerspace is open to college students, staff and members of the larger Addison County community. Interested makers are encouraged to check out the space during an upcoming open house, scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 30, from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

College students, staff and faculty that use the space will have keycard access to the room. Houghton also plans to offer 12 open hours each week, during which anyone can drop by the makerspace.

NEWBIES WELCOME

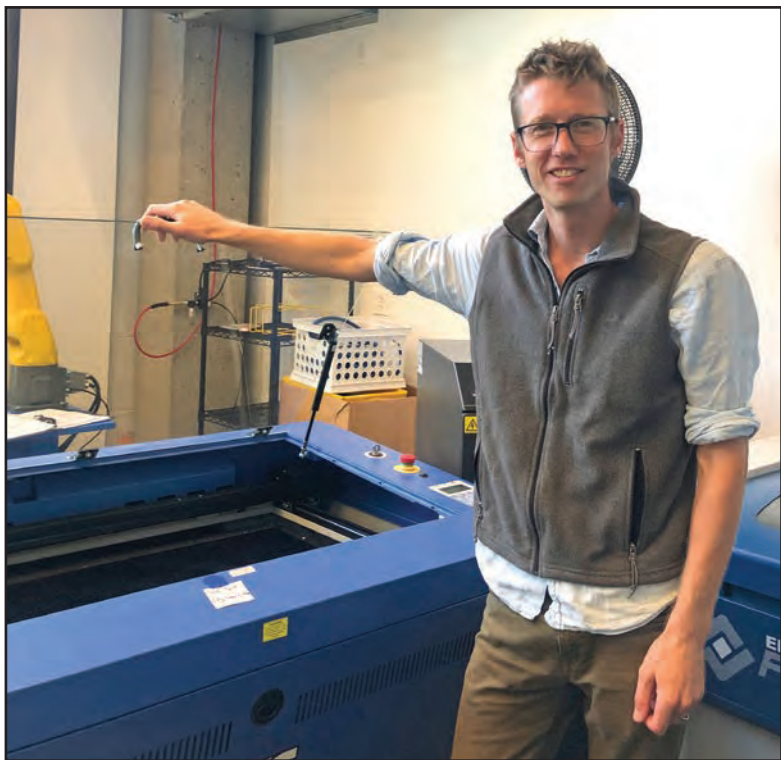
While everyone is invited to use the Middlebury Makerspace, Houghton is particularly interested in making the workshop a welcoming environment to those who are new to the world of making.

“There are strong feelings about whether you belong in a space like this or not,” Houghton said of the makerspace. “Not all of us grew up near tools, and not all of us grew up in a culture of using tools as an extension of our bodies to make things, but all of us can learn how to use tools at any point in our life and experience the profound joy of doing so.”

Ultimately, Houghton would like to see so many makers enjoying the space that it outgrows its one-room workshop in Johnson 102.

“I hope that in a year’s time, it’s absolutely so overbooked that we have to build a new space,” he said.

Those interested in learning more about the Middlebury Makerspace can visit makerspace.middlebury.edu.



THE MAKERSPACE AT Middlebury College recently reopened in the Johnson Memorial Building. Makerspace manager Daniel Houghton, shown checking out a laser cutter, said community members of all ages and experience levels are welcome to check out the space and the tools it offers.

Independent photo/Marin Howell



Ride for food

ACORN’S TOUR DE FARMS, one of Vermont’s oldest cycling farm tours, returned to Shoreham and Orwell for its 15th year of celebrating local food. Awesome weather (finally!) greeted 500 riders who tackled either 10- or 30-mile loops. They had opportunities to stop at eight farms, where they saw the local foods economy at its source and had opportunities to enjoy the wares of 15 local food producers. ACORN raised close to \$40,000, and participating producers sold between \$5,000 and \$10,000 in products. The revenue from this year’s ticket sales will directly support ACORN’s Food Hub distribution center.

Photos by Lee Krohn Photograph



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MREMS

(Continued from Page 1A)

recruit and retain rescue personnel, as well as more promptly replace ambulances and equipment when they become outdated.

If endorsed by selectboards in all 10 towns, the new contract would generate \$50,625 in new revenue for fiscal year 2024 that would help sustain new hourly wage increases recently implemented by MREMS, which has been losing staff to other rescue agencies that are able to pay more, according to MREMS board Vice Chair Ben Fuller.

The recent pay increases guarantee an entry level wage of \$16.50 per hour (up from around \$14.50) and provide similar bumps for more senior and credentialed rescue staff, Fuller noted.

The new contract would result in a \$3 increase (from the current \$10 to \$13) in MREMS's per-capita assessments to the towns it covers: Middlebury/East Middlebury, Salisbury, Ripton, Orwell, Shoreham, Whiting, Bridport, Cornwall, Weybridge and part of New Haven.

A \$13 per capita assessment rate for MREMS would still place it significantly below the current statewide average of \$25-\$30 per capita, according to MREMS Executive Director Kate Rothwell.

Under the new funding scenario, all member towns would be charged the same rate, Fuller stressed. The amount that each town pays might be significantly different, based on their population sizes.

"It didn't seem to be appropriate to negotiate pricing with one town and not the others," he said. "We are going forward with that flat, per capita (rate), because it seems to be the most equitable way to approach it."

"We're going to keep the charges to each town in lockstep," he added.

It should also be noted that MREMS might request additional per-capita assessment increases during the next three years, in order to achieve a level of \$19 per capita — still below the statewide average, but a level that officials believe will allow the organization to remain strong and competitive for staff.

"We'd still be one of the most affordable (rescue services) in the state," said Rothwell.

Fuller said the organization remains committed to looking beyond local taxpayers in building a more solid financial foundation. MREMS's FY'24 budget is \$1.94 million.

"If we can on-board more agencies that we're dispatching for, that would be an additional revenue source that would allow us to minimize any increase to pass on to the towns," Fuller said.

Communities that don't want to go the contract route with MREMS will need to look for a different rescue provider, officials said.

Responding to roughly 3,400 calls per year, MREMS provides 24-hour coverage to the 10 communities it serves. Most of those towns help defray MREMS operating costs through an annual appropriation fielded by their voters on Town Meeting Day.

"We are appreciative of the towns' support of our past funding requests, though we are concerned that many view these critical appropriations as donations," reads an FAQ flyer that MREMS has drafted to help explain its proposed funding shift. "In actuality, our funding request and approval by your town has served as payment for contracted service for your community — the delivery of pre-hospital emergency medical care and ambulance transport by MREMS."

In Middlebury, however, MREMS's annual request (and



FIRST RESPONDERS MARY Miller and Peter Ochs are at the ready with a Middlebury Regional EMS ambulance at Middlebury College soccer game this past Friday. MREMS funds operations in part by covering sporting events, but it is asking towns to pay a bigger share of costs.

Independent photo/John S. McCright

those of other area social service agencies that serve the shire town) is baked into the municipal budget after selectboard review. The municipal budget is decided by local voters at their annual town meeting.

It's an accounting transition MREMS leaders want all its member towns to take.

"The board of directors and management of MREMS have made the decision to formalize the contractual relationship with a dually approved contact, executed by your selectboard and MREMS management," reads a letter the organization sent to leaders in each of its 10 member towns. "Making this change will codify the contractual relationship between MREMS and your community and provide predictability for the annual cost of this contracted service."

MREMS bills patients for services rendered, but it doesn't always receive full compensation. The service answers emergency calls regardless of the patient's financial standing.

"When we get a 911 call, we don't pull into the driveway and ask, 'Can we see your insurance?'" Rothwell said.

The Middlebury selectboard on Sept. 12 reviewed the five-year contract proposal it received from MREMS. It calls for the town to pay \$118,976 for FY'24, which represents a \$34,016 increase from the \$84,960 the town is paying this year.

The proposed deal would automatically renew each year unless MREMS or the town provides two months' notice they'd like to exit the agreement. Also, MREMS would reserve the right to adjust the town's annual payment each year, after giving the town at least 90 days' notice. If notice isn't given, the same contract terms would carry over to the ensuing year.

NOT FIRST INCREASE

It was in FY'21 that MREMS made its last big push to increase its per-capita assessment for rescue services. In that year, it announced a jump from \$2.50 to \$10 per capita. In Middlebury — which generates around 40% of MREMS's annual service calls — the ambulance service assessment

went from \$21,240 to \$84,960 for FY'21.

Middlebury selectboard Vice Chair Andy Hooper said he values MREMS's services and acknowledged the staffing challenges.

"Not only is MREMS's per capita half of the comparables they were citing on the western side of Vermont, it's like a quarter of the costs of the Upper Valley and eastern part of the state. Their employees are not only being poached by places that offer better wages, they're losing to McDonald's," he said.

He added he believes MREMS appears justified in its proposed assessment increases, but said, "My concern that I brought to that meeting is that it feels a lot like a municipal service, and they have none of the transparency or oversight that we expect from municipal services and entities."

The meeting Hooper was referring to was an Aug. 28 gathering at the MREMS headquarters, where representatives of the 10 towns were

invited to learn more about the organization's funding change. Only two of the 10 communities had representatives at the meeting, according to Rothwell.

Middlebury Selectman Dan Brown also praised MREMS, but expressed concern that the organization had simply sent in a contract to sign, rather than engage in negotiation.

"We should be sitting down with each other and talking about this and looking at the contract and discussing the various costs," he said.

How has MREMS been able to stay below the state average assessment of \$25-\$30 per capita? It's been able to diversify revenue sources beyond its function as a 911 response service. For example, MREMS is compensated for providing patient transfers between hospitals, and its communication center dispatches for several fire, first response and EMS agencies. The organization

also derives revenue from standing by at sporting events and running CPR classes. MREMS fundraises and applies for grants to help offset the cost of replacing its ambulances.

Rothwell noted the organization's dispatching will soon take a hit. The University of Vermont Health Network is taking over the majority of Porter Medical Center's dispatching, which MREMS has historically provided.

STAFFING CONUNDRUM

MREMS counts seven fulltime staff, around 35 part-timers (which includes the communications center) and has two volunteers. Rothwell would like to add two or three fulltime staff to the roster. But given the cost of health insurance, she said she might have to instead recruit six or seven part-timers (who don't qualify for health benefits).

It's a staffing conundrum, Fuller acknowledged.

"It would be infinitely better for the organization if we could staff it with fulltime members, rather than try to cobble together schedules with a bunch of part-timers," he said. "But at this point, (health insurance) is cost-prohibitive."

Wages and benefits aren't the only areas in which MREMS has been losing ground. Inflation has been affecting the cost of rescue equipment and vehicles, according to Rothwell and Fuller. The organization has a fleet of four ambulances, which are on a six-year replacement schedule.

"An ambulance that used to cost us \$160,000 to \$175,000 is now approaching \$250,000 and up," Fuller said. "We're committed to a replacement schedule on that apparatus so we can have safe, reliable equipment."

Bristol Rescue Squad serves the five towns of Bristol, New Haven, Monkton, Starksboro and Lincoln. Will Elwell, chief of BRS, said the organization doesn't currently use a per-capita funding system, but appears headed in that direction.

Vergennes Area Rescue Squad currently assesses \$10 per capita within the communities it serves (Vergennes, Addison, Panton, Waltham, Ferrisburgh, parts of New Haven and Monkton), according to VARS Resources Coordinator Jenna Lindemann.

Reporter John Flowers is at johnf@addisonindependent.com.

United Way

(Continued from Page 1A)

with local nonprofits that need help sprucing up their grounds, running errands, painting fences and gardening.

Erin Reed, development & marketing director for UWAC, explained the Days of Caring aren't simply a donation of labor; they also build teamwork among volunteers who see firsthand what local charitable organizations are doing.

As of this writing, around 15 county nonprofits had signed up to tap into an anticipated 200-strong volunteer base — including a bunch of Middlebury College students — ready to take on various jobs.

Reed and UWAC Executive Director Helena Van Voorst are pleased to report that growing interest in charitable work assignments has prompted UWAC to build upon its "Days of Caring." The organization has established "Days of Action," opportunities throughout the year for businesses and individuals to help local nonprofits with their chores.

Van Voorst referred to the Days of Action as "microbursts of volunteering throughout the years."

Among recent "Action" participants: Middlebury's Vermont Cider Co., which offered up some of its employees during a recent, weeklong shutdown of its bottling line. United Way connected the about 10 participating cider workers with jobs at five sites, including the Lake Champlain Maritime Museum, the Little League fields in Vergennes, and at the UWAC office in Middlebury.

"It was great. They were able to learn more about what the UWAC does, and they were able to get out into the community. They were willing to roll up their sleeves and do whatever was thrown at them," Reed said.

Anyone interested in donating time to area nonprofits may log on to the UWAC's online volunteer center at tinyurl.com/mu7dyeth. Any county nonprofit can create an account on the website to convey volunteer options. Reed stressed folks should call UWAC if they don't happen to find anything on the volunteer center that matches their interest.

Along with coordinating volunteers, United Way officials will be spending a lot of time this fall and winter soliciting donations for the FY'24 fund drive. The organization will gladly receive donations through individuals, businesses (including payroll deduction plans), bequests and other modes of giving.

Last year's campaign drew gifts from 871 households (including 92 new ones). Most donations (607) were in increments of less than \$1,000, but 209 donors were able to give amounts ranging from \$1,000 to \$9,999. And 13 givers were able to write checks of \$10,000 or more, according to the UWAC's FY'23 annual report.

"Support from individual donors has been really strong for United Way, and we are building relationships with people in Addison County who are supporting our mission," Van Voorst said. "We'll continue to



HELENA VAN VOORST

lean on that."

Another important source of support for UWAC has been the "Addison County 365 Business Circle," a group of entrepreneurs, business owners and managers who have agreed to donate anywhere from \$365 (\$1/day) to \$1,460 (\$4/day) each year.

It should be noted that UWAC goes beyond extending yearly financial aid to its area nonprofits. It also aggressively applies for grants to tackle issues ranging from dismantling systemic racism to helping people recover from the impacts of natural disasters.

"Part of our mission is to assess what's happening in the community and look for ways to meet needs that aren't being met in other ways," Van Voorst said.

She cited, as an example, UWAC's support for substance use prevention efforts.

The United Way last year secured a \$240,000 federal Sober Truth on Preventing Underage Drinking Act Grant. That award, to be spent in \$60,000 annual increments through September of 2027, will allow UWAC to (among other things)

give each of the county's three local high schools \$5,000 each (for four years) to promote substance-free events for Project Graduations and at other high-risk times for underage drinking.

The grant will also provide \$4,000 annually for the Counseling Service of Addison County's efforts to provide trauma-informed care training youth and families in need of mental health care, according to UWAC Director of Advocacy Sylvie Choiniere.

And, as previously reported by the *Independent*, United Way of Addison County has stepped up to help residents affected by flooding here in July and early August. Individuals can apply for up to \$1,500 to help cover flood-related property damage. As of last week, UWAC's flood relief resources amounted to around \$31,000, thanks largely to funds provided by the Vermont Community Foundation. UWAC had drawn 36 applicants for a total of \$53,000 as of Sept. 12.




Go to unitedwayaddisoncounty.org for information on how to apply for assistance and how to donate to UWAC's FY'24 fund drive and other initiatives.

Reporter John Flowers is at johnf@addisonindependent.com.

"Part of our mission is to assess what's happening in the community and look for ways to meet needs that aren't being met in other ways."

— Helena Van Voorst

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Monkton farmers to help residents grow their own produce

By MARIN HOWELL

MONKTON — Reap & Sow Farm co-owners Matt Lasser and Josh Fisher have spent the past four years tending to a variety of fruits, vegetables, herbs and flowers at their Monkton spread. Now, the duo plans to use their farming expertise to help residents and organizations throughout the state grow their own fresh produce.

The growers have begun offering a service focused on designing, building and maintaining custom gardens for community members. Lasser and Fisher are collaborating on the venture with VT Vineyards, an Underhill business that develops and installs vineyards for commercial and residential grape farmers.

Lasser said the initiative helps achieve a major goal at Reap & Sow Farm: connecting Vermonters with the food they eat.

“We think that’s really important, and that’s been a driving force behind why we started the farm,”

Lasser said. “You kind of can’t get more local than growing it out your back door.”

Lasser and Fisher opened Reap & Sow Farm in 2019, but have spent nearly a decade working closely with produce. Fisher previously worked as a chef at the former Kitchen Table Bistro in Richmond, a farm-to-table restaurant that closed in 2021.

Lasser’s experience has largely consisted of working on farms throughout the country.

“You name, it I’ve probably grown it,” he told the *Independent*. “Before I started Reap & Sow, I made it a point to go work on lots of different farms, growing lots of different things in different contexts. I’ve grown just about every type of fruit I can think of, any kind of vegetable, multiple varieties of every kind of vegetable.”

INNOVATIVE OPERATIONS

Versatility has been a defining characteristic of Lasser and



REAP & SOW owners Matt Lasser (pictured) and Josh Fisher have spent the past four years growing a variety of produce and flowers at their Monkton Farm. The pair now plans to use their farming expertise to help individuals and organizations design, build and grow their dream gardens.

Independent file photo/Steve James

Fisher’s work at Reap & Sow Farm. The pair, both passionate about cooking with the produce they grow, had originally hoped to grow culinary varieties for restaurants. The farm was forced to shift course when the pandemic shut down restaurants in early 2020, and it started offering a CSA program to sell produce directly to consumers.

Lasser said the business partners began tossing around the idea for its newest project last year.

“This winter, when the dust had kind of settled after the pandemic and the past couple of years, we started looking at getting back to the original idea of our business which was to have a farm and then something else,” he said.

The Monkton farmers were also inspired by good friend Stephen Wilson, who runs VT Vineyards with wife Maci Heal.

“We saw that he was having a lot of success with it, and we thought we had all of the skills to do sort of a vegetable garden version of that,” Lasser explained.

The pair has spent the past year developing the idea, which they

officially announced last month. The new project will consist of services in three categories: residential gardens, community gardens and agricultural contracting.

HELP WITH GARDENS

For residential and community garden projects, Lasser and Fisher will start by meeting with clients for a consultation. They’ll tour the land, talk with growers about their specific goals and then create a design based on those conversations.

“Once we settle on a design, we schedule a time to do installation, which would be in the springtime. Then we can come build the gardens, which could be raised beds or in-ground beds or if they want a small orchard, we can plant that for them,” Lasser explained.

After the infrastructure is installed, Lasser and Fisher will begin planting. The pair also plans to offer two types of maintenance for clients once planting is complete.

For individuals living within 75 miles of the Monkton farm, Lasser (See *Gardens*, Page 13A)

ADDISON COUNTY

Agriculture News

VLT promotes good farms with conservation awards

MONTPELIER — Farmers Kara and Ryan Fitzbeauchamp and Sam Rowley have won this year’s conservation awards from Vermont Land Trust (VLT). Farmer and teacher Sam Rowley of the Green Mountain Career and Technology Center received VLT’s Land & Lives Award. Kara and Ryan Fitzbeauchamp of Evening Song Farm in Shrewsbury won the 2023 Eric Rozendaal Memorial Award.

The winners received the awards at the land trust’s annual member meeting in Barnard on September 13.

“We’re delighted to celebrate these farmers and educators who inspire with their care for the land and their mission to connect people to healthy food,” said Tracy Zschau, Interim President of VLT.

Kara and Ryan Fitzbeauchamp of Evening Song Farm received the \$5,000 Eric Memorial Rozendaal Award in recognition of outstanding service to community, land stewardship and innovation. The award is given annually to a farmer who honors the legacy of Monkton’s Eric Rozendaal — a thoughtful, creative, and entrepreneurial farmer.

The Fitzbeauchamps started farming and running a vegetable CSA in Pennsylvania in 2009 before moving to Cuttingsville, Vt., in 2011. Their first farm here was destroyed by Tropical Storm Irene, when Mill River changed course and carved a new riverbed through their vegetable fields. They restarted a few miles away, uphill from the Mill River. They incorporated low-till methods and other practices for soil health on a steeply sloping hillside.

“We’re focused on developing a farm ecosystem that can thrive in a changing climate,” said Kara, “prioritizing the health of the land, farm team, and community for now and into the future. We see the work of farming as climate work and community building, so there is always more to learn, adapt, and experiment with.”

They grow certified organic vegetables and herbs together with a team of farmers and offer a year-round CSA. More than 250 families subscribe to Evening Song Farm’s CSA program. This program includes subsidized low-income shares as well as senior health shares. In addition, they sell to area food co-ops, restaurants and, through grant-funded sales, charitable organizations.

“We feel incredibly grateful to be selected to honor Eric’s important legacy within the thriving Vermont farming community,” said Kara. “Farming has always been about more than food production, and trailblazers like Eric have been models for what new farms can aspire to. We appreciate the support from this grant to augment our ability to serve our community through food and land stewardship. Thank you.”

Farmer and teacher, Sam Rowley teaches sustainable farming to high school students through the Green Mountain Technology & Career Center in Lamoille County. He received the Land & Lives Award. Given by VLT, the award recognizes qualities of leadership, resourcefulness, and inclusiveness that have made an enduring difference in the well-being of Vermont’s land and people.

Sam’s students learn and practice skills with him at Robtoy Farm in Cambridge, which VLT leases to GMTCC. The farm is part of Brewster Uplands, a property with farms and trails that was donated to VLT for all to enjoy.

“Sam is an incredible collaborator and partner,” said Abby White, Vice President of Engagement at VLT. “He adds depth and connection through education, bringing more life and engagement to land that VLT holds for the public good.”

Born in Brattleboro, Sam spent his early years in the Boston area, the Adirondacks, and in Ethiopia. (See *VLT awards*, Page 13A)

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Gardens

(Continued from Page 12A)
and Fisher can provide monthly maintenance.

“We’ll show up and do whatever needs to be done, from weeding to fixing a leak in the irrigation system,” Lasser said. “The other form of maintenance we’d be offering we’re calling Shoulder Season Servicing. We can come in the spring and wake the garden up with whatever it needs, whether that be fertilizer or compost. On the other end of that we’d also offer services in the fall to clean up the garden and kind of put it to bed for the winter.”

In addition to help developing residential and community gardens, Reap & Sow will also begin offering agricultural contracting.

Lasser said the pair will use their equipment and experience building farming infrastructure to help other farmers tackle various projects.

“If a farm wants to put up a new high tunnel or greenhouse, we can do that. We understand that you

don’t always have time to build those things yourself, so we’d like to offer that service to farms by going there and doing that for them,” he said.

On-farm and garden projects will vary in cost depending on what each client is looking for. Lasser said a smaller job consisting of a few raised beds could cost as little as \$2,000, while a larger-scale gardens could total \$20,000 to \$30,000.

The pair is just beginning to connect with potential clients. Lasser said the team is open to working with residents and organizations located throughout the state.

“The projects that we’d be doing regular maintenance on we’d like to keep closer, but we’re ready to travel pretty much anywhere,” he said.

In addition to helping connect Vermonters with their food, the new project is expected to achieve another overarching goal at of

Reap & Sow Farm: remaining versatile.

“We’ve been really focused on only having one source of income, which has always been the growing of vegetables. This allows us to diversify what we’re doing a bit more,” Lasser said.

Like other farms in the county, excessive rain this summer has posed challenges at Reap & Sow and reduced the farm’s yield this growing season. The new project will allow the farmers to expand their offerings beyond growing produce.

“It also helps us stabilize even better than we have been coming out of the pandemic,” Lasser said. “It helps us move toward our eventual goal, which is to buy our own land and have the farm we’ve always wanted.”

Those interested in learning more about the project can find visit www.reapandsowfarm.com/ gardens.



Twice as nice

LIVINGSTON SISTERS KARISSA, left, and Brailey of New Haven show off the plaque they won on this past Saturday: the New England States 4-H Showmanship Senior and Overall Champion at the Big E farm show in Springfield, Mass. The Livingstons posted back-to-back wins — 2022 and 2023 — which might be a first or is at least extremely rare for this caliber of an award. Their names will be engraved side by side on the John W. Atwood Trophy. This is the highest honor in New England 4-H Dairy Showing, and 69 4-H delegates from across five states participated in the event. Also shown are their Jersey heifer named RVDL Kid Rock Royal-Pyrite (or just “Pyrite” for those who know her) and judge Sherri Lloyd.

Immunizations will be available at the Big E this year

SPRINGFIELD, Mass. — The National Grange, in conjunction with its statewide affiliates, announced today that it has arranged to provide several seasonal vaccines for people of all ages who visit the Big E when it comes to Springfield, Mass., for two weeks in September.

In addition to the usual sights and sounds of the annual agricultural fair — live music, diverse food options, rides and farm animals, the Grange is partnering with the American Society of Consultant Pharmacists (ASCP) to bring local pharmacists to educate and administer vaccines. The clinics will offer seasonal vaccines free of charge, however

attendees are encouraged to bring proof of insurance, Medicare, or Medicaid cards.

People are encouraged to visit the Grange tent and speak with pharmacists about the updated vaccines available for the 2023-2024 cold and flu season. As an added incentive, all those people receiving a vaccine will receive a gift card.

The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) recommends the following immunization guidelines:

- Influenza: everyone 6 months and older
- RSV: everyone over age 60 in consultation with their doctor
- Covid-19: 6 months and older

“With more than a million people set to visit the Big E, it’s a great opportunity to reach a lot of people and address their concerns, provide information, and administer vaccines at the beginning of the season,” said Chad Worz, Chief Executive Officer, the American Society of Consultant Pharmacists. “Public health officials have cautioned that we could be facing another tough cold and flu season, and vaccines offer an extra layer of protection.”

The Big E runs from Sept. 15-Oct. 1. Vermont Day is Sept. 23.

The vaccine clinic will be held on the front lawn of the New England Grange Building.

VLT awards

(Continued from Page 12A)
After graduating from University of Vermont with a degree in Plant and Soil Science, Sam lived for a year in Kenya. There, he worked with farmers beekeeping, interned at the Butterfly Centre greenhouse, and visited many Kenyan national parks.

After returning to the U.S., Sam managed the UVM Extension/4H Youth Agriculture Project Farm and worked on small farms in the Brattleboro area before becoming Horticulture Instructor at Windham Regional Career Center. Sam then moved to Lamoille County to

his current position, running the Sustainable Agriculture and Food Systems Program at GMTCC.

“I am delighted to accept this award from a visionary statewide organization acknowledging the life I live as a farmer, teacher and Vermonter,” said Sam.

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Shooting

(Continued from Page 1A)
the neighborhood a little before 7 p.m. on Sept. 15. One source said it appeared to be a long-simmering dispute.

Kilbreth had a handgun in her possession, but at some point she lost her grip on the gun, and the juvenile picked up the weapon and fired it, striking Kilbreth multiple times.

Someone called the authorities, who arrived shortly after, and found Kilbreth dead. A Vergennes police officer was the first on site, and Vermont State Police troopers arrived shortly thereafter. Middlebury police also came to provide assistance.

They gathered evidence, took witness statements from at least some of the estimated 30 people in the area of the shooting, and sent Kilbreth's body to the Chief Medical Examiner's office, where an autopsy on Saturday determined that the death was a homicide.

Since then, people in the Northwest Addison County town and in the area school district are grappling with the killing.

Kilbreth was known by many in the community as a school bus driver for the Vergennes-area schools.

In a message to the Addison Northwest School District community on Sunday morning, Superintendent Sheila Soule called Kilbreth a beloved school bus driver.

"Our school community is in mourning, and our deepest condolences go out to Michelle's family, friends and loved ones," Soule wrote. "Michelle was a dedicated employee who played a vital role in ensuring the safety and well-being of our students during her time with us. Her commitment to her job and the students she served was unwavering, and she will be remembered for her kindness and dedication."

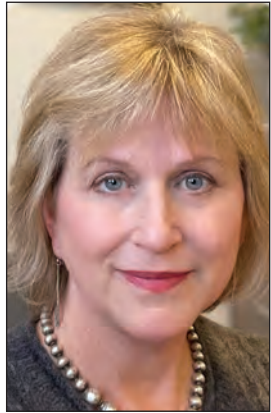
Tributes to Michelle Kilbreth spread through social media this week.

Danielle Wallace, for one, praised Kilbreth for, among other things, teaching a child to swim, ride a bike and skateboard.

"Michelle Kilbreth had a heart of gold and would give her shirt

off her back for anyone," Wallace posted.

The folks at the school bus company, Betcha Transit, wrote that Kilbreth, fondly known as "Shortcake," was a "beacon of joy and kindness in our lives. From the moment you met Michelle, her warm smile and cheerful demeanor lit up every room. She had a heart of gold and a passion for life that was truly infectious."



"Our school community is in mourning, and our deepest condolences go out to Michelle's family, friends and loved ones."

— Superintendent Sheila Soule

People said she loved gardening, kayaking, and pets, especially her beloved dogs. She was New England Patriots fan.

"She was always there to lend a helping hand to her family and friends," the Betcha post said. "Whether it was teaching her niece to swim or assisting her father in building a deck, she was ever-present, spreading her love and support to those she held dear."

A GoFundMe campaign to help defray the expenses of her funeral had received 88 donations, and \$5,870 as of Wednesday afternoon.

A Celebration of Life for Michelle Kilbreth was scheduled at the Vergennes American Legion, 100 Armory Lane, on Sunday, Oct. 8, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The school district is offering support to members of that community who feel they need it in the wake of Kilbreth's death. The ANWSD crisis response team, counselors and community mental health providers are in the schools and available to assist any students or staff who may be grappling with the impact of this tragedy, Soule wrote.

Authorities investigating the killing included members of the Vermont State Police Major Crime Unit, Bureau of Criminal Investigations, Field Force Division, Crime Scene Search Team and Victim Services Unit. Vergennes police also provided their help during the investigation.

State police continue to ask that anyone with information that could assist investigators call the New Haven barracks at 802-388-4919 or provide an anonymous tip online at vsp.vermont.gov/tipsubmit.

Sheldon

(Continued from Page 1A)
Initiative. She recalled leafing through sampler publications and finding a void in the category of Vermont samplers.

"I started out trying to list all of the Vermont samplers I could find, which were mostly at the state's museums," she recalled.

Then, around two years ago, she renewed acquaintances with leaders of a national sampler project. Those folks inspired her to mobilize the Vermont Sampler Initiative, and she's doing a very good job.

Thompson has assembled a group of around 35 volunteers — mostly in the Champlain Valley — who do everything from encouraging Vermonters to scour their homes for samplers, to documenting the sometimes-fragile keepsakes.

And the documentation goes far beyond taking a photo and chronicling each sampler's characteristics. There's sleuthing involved. "Folks are spending hours, even days, documenting samplers, the history of the maker and their families," Thompson said.

"It's an amazing team. We're all putting so much effort into it." Some of that effort has gone into organizing a series of "sampler ID days" that have been paying big dividends.

Back during her solo crusade to document samplers, Thompson found 200 of them. The Vermont Sampler Initiative effort has added 444 samplers to the database just during the first three ID days, held earlier this year in Bennington, Shelburne and Barre. Seventeen museums and historical societies have had their sampler collections documented, while 73 private owners brought their samplers in for documentation.

Addison County steps into the sampler spotlight on Sept. 29 and 30, when the Sheldon Museum hosts the last of the statewide sampler ID days. Sept. 30 will be the day on which area residents are invited to bring in their samplers for identification. The event will take place from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Jessica Swift Room of Middlebury's Ilsley Library. To make an appointment, volunteer, or learn more, send an email to samplersvt@gmail.com.

It remains a mystery how many samplers will tumble from

Addison County residents' trunks, dresser drawers and/or frames. But this much is clear: the Sheldon Museum owns about 25 of them, most of them made by 19th-century Vermont girls (and some from Addison County).

You can check out those samplers — which shed a rare window into the lives of girls and young women of early America — at the museum's current exhibit, titled, "Stellar Stitching: 19th Century Vermont Samplers," on view through Jan. 13, 2024.

Thompson is pleased the Vermont Sampler Initiative has already helped some Vermonters learn more about their samplers — and by extension, learn more about the people who made them.

"Sometimes they don't have a clue about anything more than they inherited (the sampler) or bought it from an antique shop because it appealed to them," she said. "Then there are those who have made a study of samplers and are intrigued by them."

Until the mid-19th century, it was common for schoolgirls to complete a sampler as part of her educational curriculum, according to Thompson.

"It is probably the only historical document made by women that has their names on it. They didn't sign quilts or coverlets. They signed their samplers," she said.

Vermont Sampler Initiative volunteers are currently aware of two collectors in Vermont who own a 170 samplers.

It's always fun to hear from sampler owners who have done their research and can give you the history behind the maker and her family lineage.

"They sometimes come with stories," Thompson said.

She noted Vermont Sampler Initiative volunteers are seeing samplers of different sizes and condition. Some have little more than the alphabet, a signature and a date. Some also offer a location where the sampler was made and a list of the maker's relatives. Others also offer colorful flourishes and designs, depictions of trees, homesteads or baskets of flowers. The most colorful, unblemished samplers with ornate borders and in very good condition can fetch tens of thousands of dollars.

"A lot of them have verses," Thompson said, citing "When this you see, remembers me" as an example. Many of the verses extol

"Samplers tell us a great deal about our early Vermont sisters. Sometimes it's the only evidence we have of these girls."

— Lucinda Cockrell



MIDDLEBURY'S ELLEN THOMPSON is team leader of the Vermont Sampler Initiative, a statewide effort to locate and chronicle all the embroidered samplers that Vermont schoolgirls crafted during the 18th and 19th centuries. Thompson is shown at a Sheldon Museum sampler exhibit on view through Jan. 13, 2024.

Independent photo/Steve James



virtue and the need to be busy and productive.

Nancy Morgan was among those who brought samplers to ID day at the Shelburne Museum this past April. It wasn't a family heirloom; Morgan believes her grandmother bought it at an auction during the 1950s. The sampler, dated 1781, bears the words of a poem and "Brookfield" stitched at the bottom, leading her to believe it was made by a girl in Brookfield, Vt.

Though it has a dark brown background and many stitches have disintegrated over time, Morgan appreciates the sampler and would like to learn more about its maker.

"After the sampler is entered into the database and I can see what (the Vermont Sampler Initiative)

research discovers, I will try to find an ancestor or at least take it to, maybe, a historical society in or near Brookfield," she said. "I was honored that the modest sampler I have will get the attention it deserves and may be on a path to get back to where it rightfully belongs."

Please also note the Rokeby Museum is facilitating an Oct. 3 Zoom presentation titled, "Vermont Sampler Initiative: Uncovering a Rich Heritage," presented by Lynne Anderson, director of the Sampler Archive Project & president of the Sampler Consortium. The program begins at 6 p.m. Register at tinyurl.com/mr2yft2b.

Reporter John Flowers is at johnf@addisonindependent.com.



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By the way

(Continued from Page 1A)

Road in New Haven. The event is called the Snake Mountain Car Show, and it'll be held rain or shine. In addition to cars that'll make your eyes pop, there'll be lots of local handcrafts, including quilts, towels, sewn items, socks, mittens, and crocheted and knit items. Also, jewelry and some of the best maple products and goodies around. And to top it all off, the event will benefit the Brendon P. Cousino Med47 Foundation, which assists area rescue squads with equipment purchases and scholarships. Bring some extra cash because there will be tickets on sale for raffle items and a 50/50 raffle. For more information, contact cmcousino@gmavt.net, or 802-233-8334.

On Sept. 5, Efficiency Vermont launched new flood recovery programs making \$36 million available to assist Vermont homeowners, renters, rental property owners and businesses affected by the summer floods. The programs will help income-eligible Vermonters with costs related to replacing home heating systems, water heating systems, and other home appliances. We also have technical assistance and financial support available to help businesses replace equipment damaged or destroyed by the floods. To find a complete list of Flood Recovery offers from Efficiency Vermont, go to tinyurl.com/5n6t5kfm.

Addison County's unemployment rate rose slightly to 2.1% during the month of

August, up from 1.7% in July, according to the Vermont Department of Labor. The county in August had a labor force of 19,440, with 411 people looking for work. For comparison, the local jobless rate for August 2022 was 2.8%. Meanwhile, Vermont's unemployment rate held at 1.8% in August. The comparable U.S. rate was 3.8%.

Rokeby Museum, an Underground Railroad site and a National Historic Landmark in Ferrisburgh, has openings for three or four new board members, each typically serving a renewable (one-time) three-year term. Rokeby's mission and programs are committed to social justice, diversity, inclusion, and historic preservation and interpretation of the Robinson family's homestead in a historical context. Currently, the museum is looking for trustees with experience in finance, fundraising, marketing and preK-12 education. If interested in joining the Rokeby board, submit an email detailing your interest and areas of strength, a résumé, and any other relevant information to director@rokeby.org by Oct. 9. For more information about Rokeby, visit rokeby.org.

The Bristol 4th of July committee would like your input regarding next year's parade theme. For 2024, the first-place prize for the best float will be \$600, plus \$400 for second place and \$200 for third. And don't forget the bragging rights. Follow this link to give your input: tinyurl.com/mpvjajv9.

The Vermont State Police held its annual awards ceremony at on Sept. 15 at the Statehouse in Montpelier, and one of those honored is a member of the VSP's New Haven barracks. Trooper Joseph T. Szarejko received kudos for his promotion to corporal. Among those present: Gov. Phil Scott, Commissioner of Public Safety Jennifer Morrison and Col. Matthew T. Birmingham, director of the state police.

Middlebury-based Homeward Bound has been running low in its supply of dog treats. These treats are used for training, for helping strays become comfortable with humans, for helping staff and volunteers put on harnesses, and other tasks. If anyone is willing to donate a bag of treats, it would be welcome. "High-value treats" (soft, meat-based) are more useful than biscuit type. Homeward Bound is located at 236 Boardman St.

Average gasoline prices in Vermont rose 0.5 cent per gallon during the past week to \$3.80, according to GasBuddy's survey of 626 stations in Vermont. Prices are 1.6 cents higher than a month ago and 1.7 cents lower than a year ago. The cheapest station in Vermont sold gas for \$3.60 this week, and the most expensive was \$3.90. Meanwhile, the national average price rose 4.6 cents during the past week to \$3.83. The national average is down 1 cent from a month ago and up 19.9 cents from a year ago.



Tons of trekkers

NEARLY 300 RACERS participated in the 20th annual TAM Trek this past Sunday at Wright Park. Muddier-than-usual conditions didn't deter contestants, who helped raise over \$18,000 to support the Middlebury Area Land Trust in maintaining the 19-mile Trail Around Middlebury, fondly known as the TAM. Trekkers of all ages participated in Sunday's races, which included a 2-mile family fun run that included lots of kids, a full 19-mile loop, and 10K and 5K runs. Photos courtesy of Middlebury Area Land Trust



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Back on the bikes

Kelly Brush (front left) starts the 18th Annual Kelly Brush Ride on Saturday, Sept. 9, near the Middlebury College golf course. She is accompanied by her father, Charlie Brush (behind); Ryan Manning (back center); Allie Bianchi (back right); David Hanson (front right); and others. Bikers covered various routes through Addison County of up to 102.5 miles. With 953 riders participating, the event was the largest adaptive cycling event in Vermont with 36 hand cyclists; it raised more than \$1.1 million. The money is used to support the Kelly Brush Foundation's mission of helping people with spinal cord injuries return to sport. With 20 days left to fundraise, the foundation is hoping to reach its goal of \$1.2 million. To donate, go to kellybrushfoundation.org/ride.

Photos by Andrew Bernstein



Wastewater improvements on tap for Collins Aerospace

A government grant will help with the costs

By ANDY KIRKALDY

VERGENNES — Collins Aerospace, which operates a major helicopter systems development and manufacturing facility in Vergennes, will use a \$921,566 government grant to help build a wastewater pretreatment system.

The Vergennes City Council last week formally agreed that the city could serve as a “pass-through” for the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) grant awarded by the Department of Environmental Conservation to Collins.

Collins Senior Principal Engineer and Wastewater Operator Bill Wager — also known in the area as the Ferrisburgh fire chief — told the council at its Sept. 12 meeting that the grant was vital for “our metal finishing wastewater treatment system.”

Currently, he said, the plant discharges about 900 gallons of wastewater used “not only in the metal plating area, but on the production floor as well.” The grant money will allow Collins to almost entirely remove the remaining pollutants in those 900 gallons before the wastewater is discharged into the Otter Creek, Wager said.

Wager added Collins and the facility's previous owners had already over the years been able to drastically reduce effluent, from 90,000 gallons per day 30 years ago to the current level of one-hundredth that amount.

“The company is committed to protecting the environment,” he said.

Some paperwork will fall to city hall. City Treasurer Angela Bolduc told the council she expects to process cost reports on a quarterly basis.

Wager said Collins will try to limit the burden on the city.

“We're going to do the best we can on our end to streamline” the administrative process, he said.

Technically, what the council approved was allowing City Manager Ron Redmond to negotiate and sign a contract with Collins to

handle the funding, which due to state and federal ARPA regulations had to be awarded through a municipality.

That contract was not ready as of the Sept. 12 meeting, but city attorney Ed Adrian said it should be routine, and that he was “looking at it now.”

In other business, the council:

- Tabled until Sept. 26 a discussion of applicants for members on the Community Engagement Committee that will consult with City Manager Ron Redmond and Police Chief Jason Ouellette on the community's relations with the police department. The council agreed it would wait for more applicants than the six who had sent in résumés, and will continue to publicize that interested parties are being actively sought.

Those interested may contact Mayor Chris Bearor at mayor@vergennes.org.

- Heard a wrap-up from Recreation Coordinator Martha DeGraaf of the department's year to date, including the impending completion of a Vergennes Connector Trail link behind city schools, a Youth Fishing Derby in the Otter Creek basin that drew 238 participants, the installation of a disc golf course in Falls Park, planned work to the city pool and to trails around the outdoor classroom area, and additions to the pool area including volleyball and basketball nets, a ping pong table, and chaise lounges.

- Approved a request from Bar Antidote to close School Street between Green Street and the driveway entrance of the Bar Antidote building on Sunday, Sept. 24, for an Octoberfest event.

- Appointed former council and planning commission member David Austin to an opening on the Vergennes Planning Commission.

- Formally supported a Vergennes Partnership application for \$25,000 in funding from the Department of Housing & Community Development's Downtown Vibrancy Fund program.

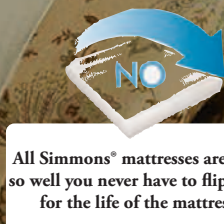
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MUHS runs roughshod over Rutland; Essex visit next

By ANDY KIRKALDY

MIDDLEBURY — With help from a struggling Rutland team, on this past Thursday the host Middlebury Union High School football team bounced back big from its disappointing loss the week before, winning this time by a score of 41-0.

The Tigers outgained RHS in net offense, 317 yards to two, and took charge with three first-quarter touchdowns, all on long

runs by senior back Jackson Gillett.

And while the Tigers, who improved to 2-1, were rolling, RHS was stumbling.

The visitors' first-quarter possessions included a bad snap leading to a nine-yard loss on their first play from scrimmage, three penalties, a backwards pass thrown out of bounds for a loss, a dropped pass, and a one-for-10 passing performance by

beleaguered quarterback Noah Bruttomesso. Rutland lost 18 yards in the period.

MUHS Coach Jed Malcolm said Rutland (1-2 after a 42-0 loss to Concord, N.H., the previous week) was missing players. But he credited his team for coming out strong after its 34-7 home setback to undefeated Burr & Burton the previous Friday.

"We needed to come out to a hot start. I think we knew they

were down a few guys with injuries, and we needed to not get behind the eight ball too early. So we came out, tried a few different things early, and hit on a couple big ones, which always helps," Malcolm said. "And our defense played great all night."

Rutland's woes started with miscues after taking the opening kickoff, followed by a punt to the Tigers on the RHS 49. Before long the Tigers ran a counter play

to the right, and Gillett broke it down the sideline for a 36-yard score. He also kicked the first of his four extra points to make it 7-0 at 9:49.

Rutland moved backwards 15 yards on its next series thanks to a tackle for a loss by linebacker

Angus Blackwell, a pass breakup by cornerback Alex Sperry, a drop and a penalty. The next RHS punt went to the Tiger 47. A Luke Nuceder 15-yard pass to Avery Carl and a 13-yard Gillett run helped move the ball to the RHS

(See Football, Page 5B)



TIGER BACK JACKSON Gillett ran for three long touchdowns vs. Rutland on this past Thursday because of his speed and elusiveness, and because of the kind of blocking he got on this TD run from Tim Whitney (#74) and Aiden LaDuke (#50).

Independent photo/Steve James



THE MUHS PASS rush made life miserable for Rutland QB Noah Bruttomesso in the Tigers' big win on Thursday. Here, Callan Boulanger brings Bruttomesso down.

Independent photo/Steve James

Wins scarce for boys' soccer teams

By ANDY KIRKALDY

ADDISON COUNTY — Local boys soccer teams saw mixed results in the past week. Middlebury tied two games against tough competition, Vergennes lost on the road, and Mount Abraham dropped a home game to a Division I contender.

TIGERS

On Sept. 15 the Tigers settled for a 2-2 tie at Hartford. Eddie Fallis scored both MUHS goals, one assisted by Milo Rees and one on a penalty kick. Goalie Jonathan Kafumbe made six saves.

On Monday the Tigers and visiting Harwood, considered one of the preseason favorites in Division II, duelled to another 2-2 tie in a game rescheduled from Sept. 9. Fallis scored, with an assist from Sam Weenk, and set up an Oscar Drake goal. Kafumbe made seven saves. Coach Chris George noted Fallis had six goals and five assists through four games, and that the Tigers outshot the Highlanders, 18-10.

Matthew Fiaschetti and Caleb Langlais (on a penalty kick) found the net for Harwood, which received six saves from Finn Kramer.

The Tigers carried a 1-1-2 record into a scheduled Wednesday visit to Lake Division rival Milton.

COMMODORES

On Sept. 15 host Fair Haven scored twice in the second half to erase a Commodore lead and prevail, 2-1. Oakley Francis netted a first-half penalty kick for VUHS, and goalie Devin Brisson made six saves.

The 0-2 Commodores were scheduled to host Rice on Wednesday.

EAGLES

On Sept. 15 visiting Division I contender Colchester cruised past the Eagles, 6-1. Demunga Alfani's hat trick paced the Lakers. Liam Lazara scored for Mount Abe with an assist from Judah Jackson.

The Eagles took an 0-2 record into a scheduled Wednesday home game vs Missisquoi.



MUHS FRESHMAN TENNY Laroche goes high over the net to make a hit against Vermont Commons in the Tiger volleyball team's straight-set win on Sept. 15.

Independent photo/Steve James

Girls' volleyball splits matches

By ANDY KIRKALDY

MIDDLEBURY — The first-year Middlebury Union High School girls' varsity volleyball team continued its roll against fellow Division II programs on Sept. 15, before visiting D-I St. Albans dealt the Tigers their first loss on Tuesday in a competitive four-set match.

In this past Friday's match against Vermont Commons, the host Tigers prevailed with relative ease, 25-14, 25-6, and 26-24, in remaining unbeaten at 5-0, a record that includes one win over a D-I opponent, Rice.

There weren't many points won with dramatic spikes, but MUHS played consistently well defensively, and their serves were weapons. In the three sets the Tiger racked up 22 aces, six apiece by juniors Ronan Young and Sara Kent.

Their ace leader for the season to that point was senior captain Sienna Rubright, who in their first four matches had racked up more than 40, according to Coach Bethany Morrissey. Both Morrissey and Rubright

said serving has been a point of emphasis for the program.

"Our serving is really what carries us a lot," Rubright said. "We've worked a lot on serving over the years. We serve every practice. We spend a lot of time making sure we can get it in."

Morrissey explained another, probably more important, element that has let the MUHS volleyball program hit the varsity ground running after one year as a club team and one season as a JV team.

"They love volleyball. Honestly, they just love it. They play any chance they can get. During the summer they go to camps. They play on clubs," Morrissey said. "They just drank the volleyball Kool-Aid, right?"

Establishing the MUHS program at the varsity level was a goal the Tigers are happy to have achieved, Rubright said.

"It's super important. I think it's so cool that we've made it this far, and I'm so proud of how far we've come and how we're doing this season," Rubright said. "I think we're doing so well for it being our first year."

She also theorized why the Tigers have done so well in their first varsity year.

"I think just because we've all played together for three years we all have really great chemistry, and we all know where each other are. And we just work really hard in practice," Rubright said.

The play that allowed the Tigers to win five straight while dropping just one set was on display vs. Vermont Commons, especially in the first two sets on Friday.

Two big service runs helped break the first set open. The Tigers led early, 4-3, when they rattled off six straight points with Young serving, including three aces. Vermont Commons, a team that also looks like it enjoys the sport, closed to within 14-10, but MUHS senior Addison Copeland soon afterward rattled off four aces and also added a kill at the net as the Tigers pulled away to lead 20-11.

Rubright and freshman Tenny Laroche also had kills in the set, Young finished with four aces, (See Volleyball, Page 3B)

Tigers roar at Eagle X-C meet

By ANDY KIRKALDY

BRISTOL — Soggy conditions didn't slow down Middlebury runners noticeably at a cross-country meet hosted by the Mount Abraham Union High School team on Tuesday afternoon.

Tiger runner Baker Nelson won the boys' race, leading five MUHS runners in the top seven as they scored 20 points to outpace Vergennes (40) in second and Mount Abraham (74) in the three-team race.

Grey Fearon was a bright spot for the Commodores, taking second in the race. Jakob Hill led the Eagles by finishing eighth.

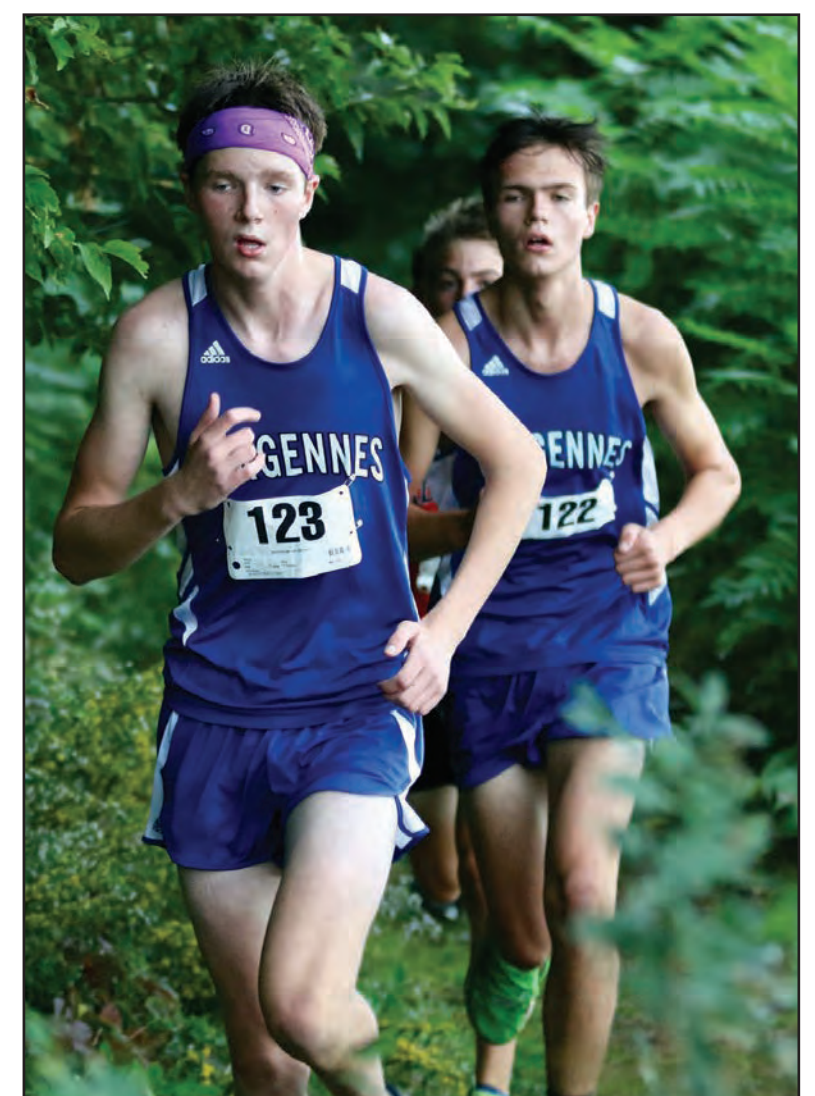
Tigers Beth McIntosh and Ava Schneider ran 1-2 in the girls'

race. The Tigers were the only team with enough runners to score as a group, thus posting a perfect mark of 15.

Mount Abe, VUHS, and Spaulding also competed as individuals. Eagles Isabella Shea and Rhiannon Andrews finished fourth and fifth, respectively, just ahead of top Commodore runner Eleanor Wilkinson-Sachs in sixth.

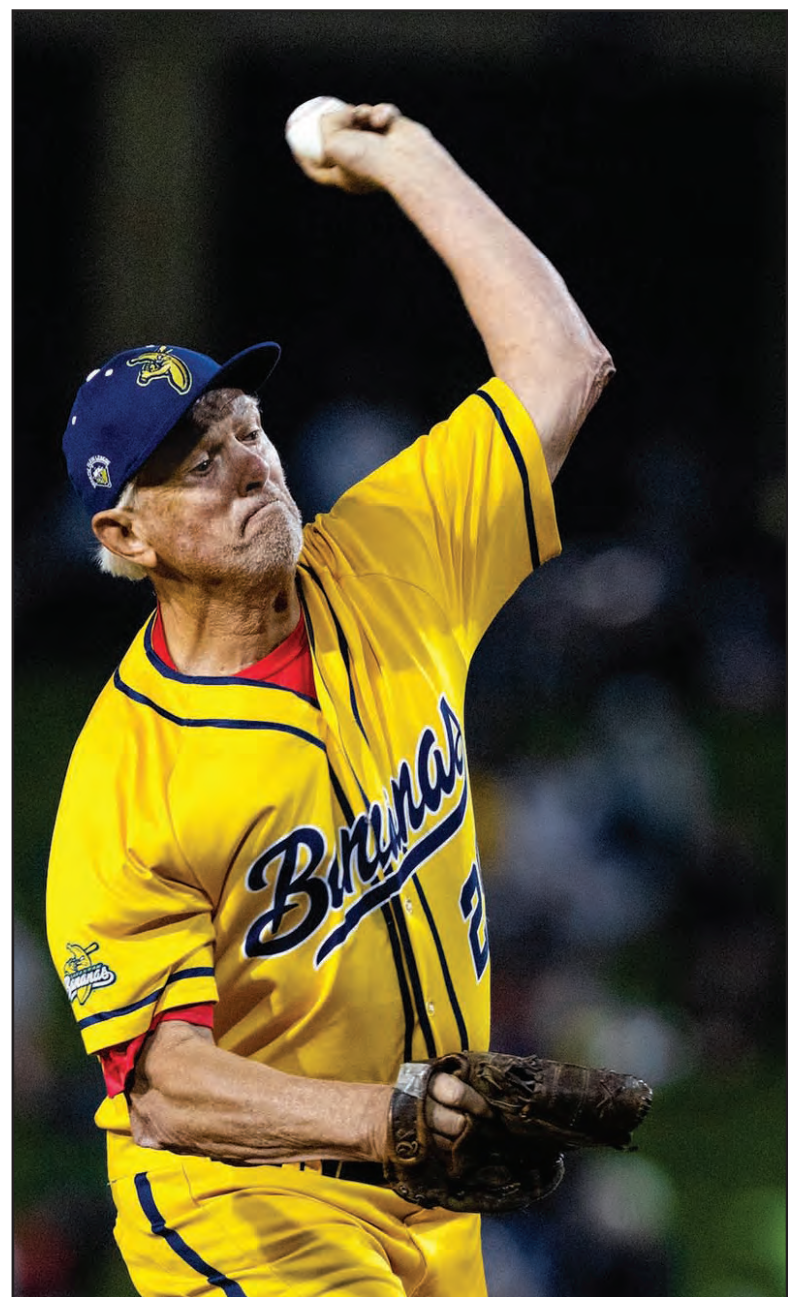
All three local teams will see each other again in Middlebury on Friday afternoon, when the Tiger team will host its first home meet in many years. In the preseason, MUHS Coach Chris Anderson said the program was

(See X-Country, Page 4B)



TWO COMMODORES NAVIGATE through a wooded section of the Mount Abraham cross country course in Bristol during a Tuesday race. The Vergennes Union High School boys' team finished second to the Middlebury Tigers.

Independent photo/Steve James



CRAFTSBURY'S OWN BILL LEE, Red Sox Hall of Famer, delivers a pitch for his club, the Savannah Bananas, this past summer. The Bananas are barnstorming the country, bringing an antic version of the game to fans. The Spaceman and the Bananas are a good match. Photo courtesy of the Savannah Bananas



BILL LEE WILL TALK about baseball with almost anyone; here he is with the columnist in 2022. Photo by Jane Lindholm

Checking in with the peripatetic Bill Lee

I gave Bill Lee a call last week, hoping he was at his home in Craftsbury and we might arrange a visit. I was concerned for his health.

Whenever I have an occasion to call Bill, a part of me hopes he's not available or doesn't pick up because I so enjoy the message that takes us into voicemail. That was the case this time:

He rambled a bit about "found money," and ended with this thought: "I never pitched with money in my pocket. But now I do. You never know when you're gonna need to tip the paramedics!"

Bill was referring to his three recent health scares, two while pitching for the Savannah Bananas and most recently in Worcester, Mass., at Polar Park as he prepared to throw out the first pitch at a WooSox game.

I asked him about these episodes and he jumped on the term "episodes" and told a Rube Waddell story before answering. Bill considers Rube, a Hall of Fame left-handed pitcher and eccentric from the early 1900s, an antecedent.

It seems Rube Waddell was in hot water for a fight he had initiated in a hotel lobby. Naturally, the press asked him questions the next day about "the hotel episode," to which Rube replied, "Nothing to it. In fact, I've never even been in the Hotel Episode. Couldn't find it with a map!"

Bill also believes he is the incarnation of the great Satchel Paige, and other untamed souls of the diamond. The autobiography of the ageless Satch was titled "Maybe I'll Pitch Forever," which aptly describes Bill's expectation as well.

For the uninitiated, Bill Lee, now 76 years old, was an outstanding left-handed pitcher in the Major Leagues for 14 years for the Red Sox and the Montreal Expos, winning 119 games. He is in the Red Sox Hall of Fame. He was given the nickname "Spaceman" for his independent spirit and unconventional views.

Bill has never stopped pitching. Forty years after his last Major League game, he still pitches as often as he can, for anyone who calls and says, "Bill, I need a pitcher." Year after year, he pitches for the Burlington Cardinals in the Vermont Senior Baseball League and on other teams around the country.

He is determined to be well enough to pitch in Arizona in October for the Sacramento (Calif.) Solons as they defend their national 75 and older championship. For me, watching Bill pitch is a joy: he has a rocking-chair motion,

winding up in the old-fashioned way, hands joined overhead, a nice high leg kick still, a drive off his back foot, smooth release and follow through. Apparently effortless. Beautiful.

I don't refer to him as "Spaceman" because my admiration for him is based on his sheer, unsurpassed love of the game, not on his public persona. When I have taught a baseball class at Middlebury College, Bill is my "closer": I bring him in to "teach" the last class and he doesn't disappoint.

Bill Lee and the Savannah Bananas are a natural fit. The Bananas, based in Georgia, are a traveling independent team that aims to entertain the fans with baseball (pretty good baseball too): Bill says "equivalent to Double A") and high jinks. For seven years they played in the Coastal Plain League and won three championships.

Now they play "Banana Ball" year-round. It's baseball with some dynamic twists. Think Harlem Globetrotters. The Bananas bring their own opponents, the

Party Animals; both teams wear brilliantly colorful uniforms, neon yellow (Bananas) and purple (Animals). They feature choreographed dance routines and have their own rules: for example, a batter who hits a foul ball into the stands that is caught by a fan is out!

One cold February day in Vermont in 2022, as Bill explains, "I got a call from Jesse Cole (Bananas founder, owner, ringleader, and impresario), who said, 'I'd like you to come down to Savannah and try out for the Bananas.'"

"I replied, 'I don't try out.'"

"Come down anyway."

"Savannah in February. Vermont in February. It was not a hard decision." That's how Bill became a Savannah Banana.

Bill and Diana, his wife, and I met last week on Wednesday for breakfast at Denny's in Rutland. They were on their way to Cooperstown for a game that afternoon. He was suiting up for a team from Cutler, Maine (near Machias), called the Lobstermen. He thought he might pitch an

inning, "just to loosen up" (Diana rolled her eyes). The Lobstermen are friends Bill made at a Red Sox fantasy camp many years ago.

The next day, Thursday, he was rejoining the Bananas in Syracuse at ATD Stadium, the ballpark of the AAA Mets. He would not be pitching there as Bananas owner, founder, ringmaster, and impresario Jesse Cole has shut him down till he gets a clean bill of health. They sold out the stadium in Syracuse, 11,000 fans. The Bananas are a hit wherever they go.

At Denny's, like the scribes who interrogated Rube, I asked Bill about his "episodes." The first one, in Savannah, was "real serious," Bill admits. On Aug. 21, a year ago, he was warming up in the bullpen at the Bananas home park, Grayson Stadium, preparing to pitch the fifth inning, when he collapsed. His heart stopped and he had to be revived with a defibrillator.

"It was First Responders Night at the park!" he chortled (yes, he chortles). "How about that! The EMTs were over the bullpen fence in a flash!" He was taken to the hospital in Savannah, had a pacemaker/defibrillator implanted — and he was back on the mound last February.

Then, in June, he had another scare, in Indianapolis this time. "Eighth inning, runners on first and third, count was 2-1 . . . and I went down like a sack of cement — and the pacemaker shocked me right back."

He says he's thinking of suing the company: "They robbed me of the right to die on the mound!"

In Worcester, just a few weeks ago, he was just stretching in the outfield preparing to throw out the ceremonial first pitch when he felt woozy and disoriented. At UMass Worcester Hospital, they discovered the real problem: a 95% blockage in the "circumflex artery at the back of the heart."

A procedure there in Worcester on Labor Day took care of some of the problem, but Bill is awaiting an angioplasty and the placement of two stents at Mass General, maybe as soon as next week.

The sooner the better. There's that over-75 tournament in Arizona next month — and word is that the Bananas have scheduled games next summer in Wrigley and Fenway.

Imagine that. Bill Lee back on the mound at Fenway: Irresistible.

Karl Lindholm Ph.D. has come out of his comfortable retirement this fall to teach a first-year seminar, "Segregation in America: Baseball and Race." He can be contacted at lindholm@middlebury.edu.



Sports (Mostly) KARL LINDHOLM



BILL LEE PITCHING for his Vermont club, the Burlington Cardinals, at the ballyard in Charlotte in 2022. In that season, Bill, at 75, threw the most innings of any pitcher in the Vermont Senior (over 35) League using that "old rocking chair motion." Photo by Karl Lindholm

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OV football improves to 2-1

BARRE — The Otter Valley football team rushed past Spaulding on this past Friday, 39-14, to move to 2-1 heading into this Saturday's home game against fellow Division III foe Fairfax.

Isaac Whitney led the OV attack by rushing for three touchdowns, including a 60-yard ramble that wiped out an early 6-0 Tide lead. He added two more scoring runs as OV took a 20-14 halftime advantage.

In the second half the Otters added a touchdown pass from Zachary Dragon to Noah Drew and a Chase Cram TD run in the third quarter, plus another Cram rushing touchdown in the late going.

Keegan Reid intercepted a fourth-quarter pass to provide a defensive highlight for the Otters, and Chase Razanouski caught a two-point conversion pass. Spaulding dropped to 1-2.

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TIGER JUNIOR RONAN Young hits the floor trying to make a dig during the MUHS volleyball team's victory over Vermont Commons on Sept. 15.

Independent photo/Steve James



TIGER JUNIOR MADDIE Klingensmith sends the ball over the net during the MUHS volleyball team's three-set victory over Vermont Commons on Sept. 15.

Independent photo/Steve James

Volleyball

(Continued from Page 1B)
and junior Emma Morrissey and Rubright each contributed one ace.

Young also went on a service run to break open the second set early as the Tigers dominated. She contributed two aces as MUHS went on a 5-0 run to take a 9-4 lead. Later, Morrissey served a pair of aces as the Tigers stretched the lead to 17-5. Kent also served an ace, and Young, sophomore Anna Wolosinski, Rubright and Georgie Kiel contributed kills.

Coach Morrissey experimented with her lineup and Vermont Commons played with grit in the more competitive third set. Commons server Sara Rawal went on an early run as the visitors took a 10-3 lead. Young tapped a kill into empty space to stop the surge, and Kent served four aces to get the Tigers back in the match, down two at 11-9.

Plays by Rubright, Young, Morrissey, Kiel, India Danyow and Marilyn Almeida-Perez helped the Tigers take a 19-17 lead, but serves by Ro Dougherty-Masé and Amelia Foster and a Rawal kill helped Vermont Commons rally to tie the score at 24-24 before the Tigers restored order.

In the final set Kent served four aces, and Young and Laroche one apiece. Young added two kills, and Maggie Klingensmith, Rubright and Laroche one each.

Coach Morrissey would like to see the Tigers win more points by concluding them with kills, but she is confident that will come.

"We're doing everything separate well, but putting it together is that next piece," she said. "I actually think we have some powerful hitters. It's more along putting the whole pass-set-spike thing together."

Rubright said as long as the Tiger continue to have fun, work hard, believe in themselves and support each other, they will just keep improving at details such as those.

"We always try to have fun and keep the momentum up and cheer each other on when we make mistakes so we don't get down on ourselves," he said. "Be confident and have fun. That's our motto pretty much."

VS. ST. ALBANS

Tuesday's match provided a needed test against tougher competition, according to Coach Morrissey, something she expects the team will see more of down the stretch.

"We learned a lot," Morrissey wrote in an email.

The Tigers cruised in the first set, 25-12, but couldn't sustain the momentum, and lost the next three, 11-25, 22-25 and 17-25. That makes a total of four sets in

six matches the Tigers have lost as they fell to 5-1.

Over the four sets on Tuesday, Young led the team with 10 aces, and Morrissey said Aven Fronkovic "had a strong offensive game," with 10 kills in the match.

Coach Morrissey said after the Friday victory she was more concerned about the process than the results.

"We have to remind ourselves of that. They actually started feeling some pressure because of the record," Morrissey said. "And I just said, 'In the beginning of the season, when we all made goals, nobody said to go undefeated.' Everybody said to have fun and play volleyball and get better. So that's happening."

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Panther football takes opener

Middlebury field hockey, men's soccer still unbeaten

MIDDLEBURY — In recent Middlebury College sports action the football team on Saturday made a winner of new Head Coach Doug Mandigo in his debut, the field hockey and men's soccer teams remained unbeaten, and the women's soccer team lost a league game and salvaged a non-league tie over the weekend.

Football

The football team knocked off visiting Amherst, 21-7. The Panthers scored on their first two possessions and did not allow the Mammoths to reach the end zone until the game's final minute.

On the opening drive Middlebury quarterback Cole Kennon tossed a 53-yard touchdown pass to Patrick Jamin.

On their next possession, the Panthers marched 60 yards for the TD, which came on a 3-yard Alex Maldjian run.

The Panthers took over at midfield at the end of the first quarter, and made it 21-0 early in the second period on a 1-yard Ollie Orvis run set up by a 16-yard Kennon pass to Michael Yamin and a 15-yard Maldjian ramble.

Early in the third quarter Amherst reached the Panther 22, but Finn Muldoon broke up a third-down pass, and Dave Filias and Tomas Kenary teamed up to sack quarterback Jack Cox on fourth down. Kenary finished with 4.5 sacks and Filias with 3.5. Later in the period, Panther Sam Wilson picked off a Mammoth pass at the Middlebury 3.

Amherst finally scored at 0:58 of the fourth quarter, when John Collier found Cam Jones with a four-yard TD strike.

The Panthers outgained the Mammoths, 247 yards to 186, including by 112-5 on the ground. Cole finished 11 for 22 for 135 yards, tossing one touchdown and one interception. Carter Stockwell ran 18 times for 65 yards, and Maldjian ran seven times for 35 yards.

The two Mammoth quarterbacks combined to go 24 for 44 for 181 yards. Cole threw two interceptions and was sacked seven times, and the Panthers sacked Cox twice.

The Panthers will visit Wesleyan this Saturday at 1 p.m.

Field Hockey

On this past Saturday, the Panther field hockey team, top ranked in NCAA Division III, blanked host Hamilton, 6-0, getting two goals from Amy Griffin and one apiece from Katie George, Charlotte Marks (a career first for the defender), Caroline Segal and Madaket Rzepka.

The Panthers outshot the Continentals, 23-2, 15-0 in shots on goal.

On Sunday Middlebury turned back a challenge from No. 3 Babson, 3-2. The Panthers earned an advantage of 20-6 in shots at goal (16-3 on goal), but Babson scored first and pulled to within one goal with a fourth-quarter strike.



Babson opened the scoring at 9:38, when Jackie Hill connected on a feed from Sinead Walsh. It was the first goal Middlebury had surrendered in 644:44 of action.

The Panthers responded less than two minutes later when Katie George reverse-sticked in in her own rebound on a play set up by Katherine Lantzy.

Audrey Lazar gave the Panthers the lead with 3:56 remaining in the half, tapping in a Lilly Branka feed at the right post.

Middlebury took a 3-1 lead in the third quarter. Following two of Beaver goalie Bayla Furmanek's 13 saves, Sadie LeStage knocked the second rebound inside the left post.

With 3:08 gone in the fourth period, Panther goalie KK Newton denied a Caroline DiGiovanni breakaway for her only save of the game. The previously unbeaten Beavers made it 3-2 in the late going, when Andrea Marguerite tipped in a Berit Sharrow-launched pass.

Men's Soccer

On Saturday the Panther men's soccer team cruised to a 4-1 victory at Hamilton, taking a 3-1 lead into

halftime. The Continentals held a 22-17 advantage in shots at goal, but Shane Farrell and Kyle Nilsson each scored their first goal of the season to give Middlebury the lead by the 18th minute. Hamilton countered in the 22nd minute, but Luke Madden's third goal of the season restored the Panthers' two-goal lead. Colin Dugan added an insurance goal with about 11 minutes to go. Ryan Grady made nine saves for Middlebury, and Kai Haesslein made six for Hamilton.

On Tuesday the Panthers prevailed in a defensive battle with visiting Endicott, 1-0, on a Jordan St. Louis penalty kick in the 74th minute. Both teams managed just two shots on goal, and Grady stopped both for Middlebury. Endicott dropped to 2-4-1, while Middlebury moved to 4-0-1.

Women's Soccer

The women's soccer team lost one and tied one game over the weekend and will enter this weekend's action with a 2-1-2 record.

On Saturday host Hamilton edged the Panthers, 2-1, despite Middlebury's 20-6 edge in shots at goal. Hamilton took at 1-0 lead on a counterattack at 34:40 of the first half. In the 52nd minute the Continentals added a pad goal off a scramble in the box. In the 75th minute Panther Joely Virzi halved the lead by netting a penalty kick. Hamilton goalie Nieve Tonna made eight saves, and Middlebury keeper Livia Davison made one.

On Sunday the Panthers and host Clarkson (5-0-2) dueled to a 1-1 stalemate, with both teams scoring in the late going, Middlebury in the final two minutes to salvage the tie. Middlebury again outshot its foe, this time by 16-9.

Clarkson took the lead with a Callie Abel goal in the 84th minute, but Gigi Day, from Roshann Purcell, equalized in the 88th minute. The goal came on a free kick, with Day redirecting the service home with her right foot for her first goal of the season.

Molly DiCaprio made seven saves for the hosts, and Davidson stopped five shots for the Panthers.

The Panthers were set to host Castleton on Wednesday.

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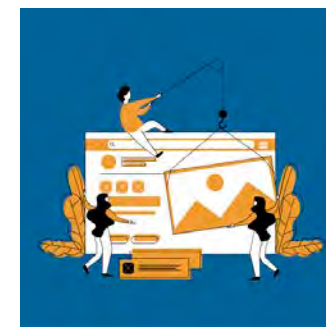
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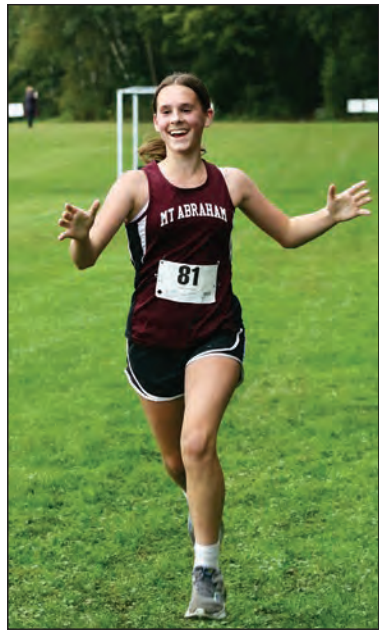
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EAGLE RUNNER RHIANNON Andrews is happy with her fifth-place finish at the Mount Abraham cross-country team's home meet on Tuesday.
Independent photo/Steve James

X-Country

(Continued from Page 1B)

preparing a course that would be based around Middlebury Union Middle School.

BOYS' RESULTS

The top five varsity boys' finishers for each local team and their times on Tuesday were:

1. Baker Nelson, MUHS, 18:05;
2. Grey Fearon, VUHS, 18:40;
3. Kaden Hammond, MUHS, 19:25;
4. Ethan Spritzer, MUHS, 19:36;
5. Matthew Berg, MUHS, 19:54;
6. Calder Rakowski, VUHS, 20:04;
7. Avery Hamilton, MUHS, 20:45;
8. Jakob Hill, MAU, 20:47;
9. Carter McGuire, VUHS, 20:57;
- and 10; Calvin Gramling, VUHS, 21:02.

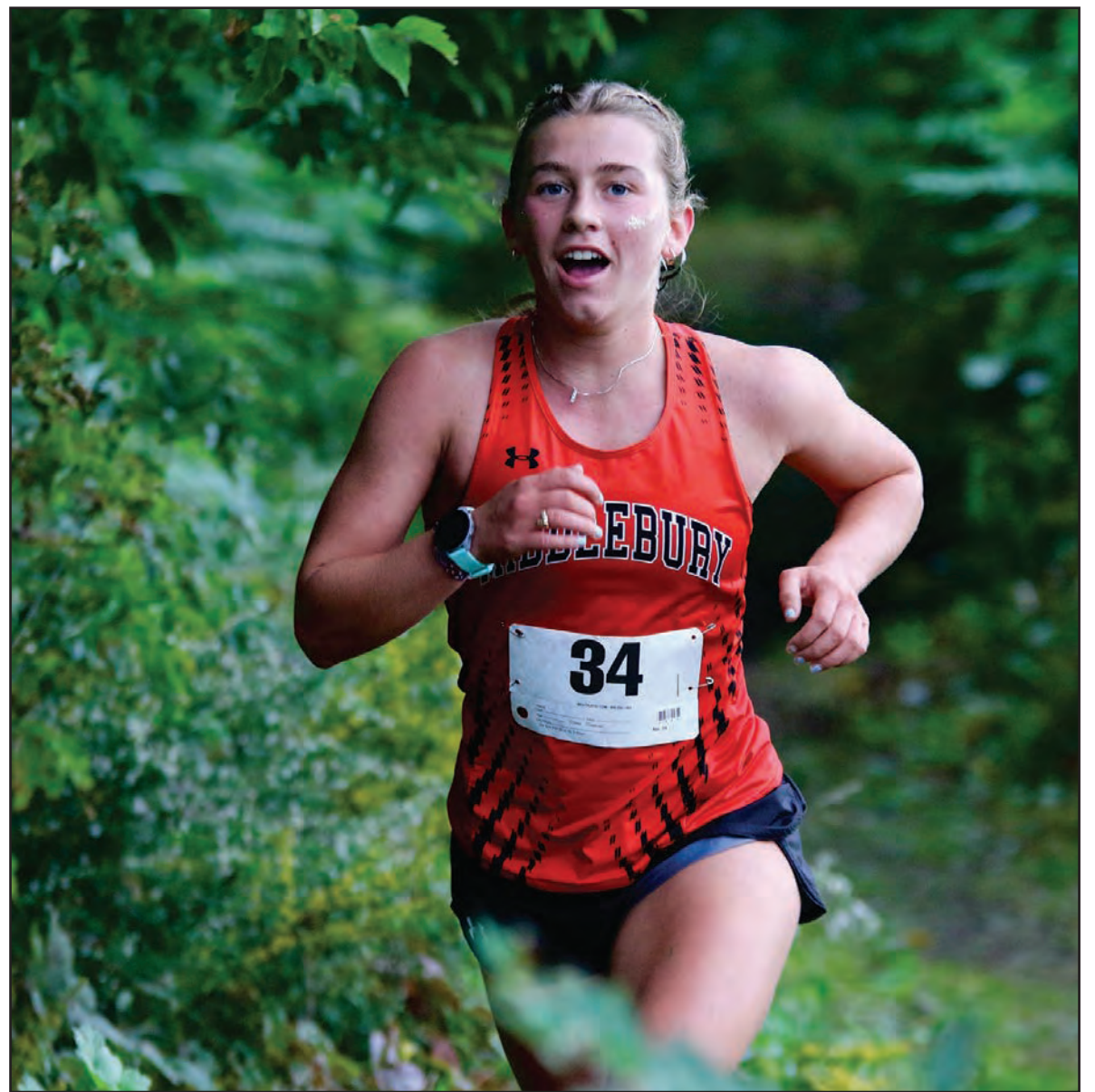
- Also,
13. Brody McGuire, VUHS, 21:44;
 14. Chance Koening, VUHS, 21:46;
 - 17.

- Elliot Senecal, MAU, 22:07;
21. Teagan Obarski, MAU, 23:04;
24. Bennett Eberhardy, MAU, 24:32;
- and 28. Ezaias Herben, MAU, 26:29.

GIRLS' RESULTS

The local girls' finishers and their times at Mount Abe on Tuesday were:

1. Beth McIntosh, MUHS, 21:12;
2. Ava Schneider, MUHS, 21:52;
4. Isabella Shea, MAU, 24:46;
5. Rhiannon Andrews, MAU, 25:01;
6. Eleanor Wilkinson-Sachs, VUHS, 26:44;
7. Beatrice Porter, MUHS, 26:59;
8. Merissa Gordon, MAU, 27:30;
9. Torrey Hanna, VUHS, 27:45;
11. Sarah Benz, MUHS, 30:05;
12. Madeleine Stroup, VUHS, 30:20;
- and 14. Jessie Bodette, MUHS, 34:13.



TIGER RUNNER BETH McIntosh looks relaxed on the way to her win in the girls' race in a cross-country meet hosted by the Mount Abraham team on Tuesday.
Independent photo/Steve James

Girls' soccer teams earn wins

By **ANDY KIRKALDY**

ADDISON COUNTY — In recent local girls' soccer play, Middlebury broke into the win column by taking two out of three, including a win over Otter Valley; Vergennes and Mount Abraham each split a pair of games; and OV bounced back from the loss to the Tigers to post three victories.

TIGERS VS. OTTERS

On Sept. 13 the Tigers pulled away in the second half to defeat host OV, 6-2. The Tigers led by 3-2 at the half on goals by **Jazmyn Hurley**, **Violet Anderson** and **Solstice Binder**. **Alice Charbonneau** briefly tied the game at 1-1, and OV's **Mallee Richardson** made it 3-2 by converting a breakaway nine seconds left before halftime.

Binder, **Anderson** and **Harper Werme** all score after intermission as the Tigers tallied their first victory of the fall after two setbacks. It was also the Otters' first loss after two wins.

On Sept. 15 the Tigers edged host Spaulding, 1-0. **Werme's** first-half penalty kick was the only goal, and MUHS goalie **Kassidy Brown** made 13 saves in the shutout. Two Spaulding keepers

combined on four saves.

On Tuesday host Milton defeated the Tigers, 4-3. Details on the Tigers' scoring and saves were not reported by the host team's coach. The Tigers dropped to 2-3.

COMMODORES

On Sept. 13 VUHS topped host-Fairfax, 2-1 in overtime. **Ava Francis** scored both Commodore goals, the second one coming seven minutes into extra time, and **Faith McAllister** made 10 saves. **Makayla Tobey** made six saves for Fairfax.

On Tuesday visiting Rice dealt the Commodores their first setback, 5-0. **Reese Billings** and **Megan Marroquin** each scored twice for Rice, and goalie **Sunshine Clark** made two saves. **McCallister** and **Quincy Sabick** combined to make seven saves as the Commodores dropped to 4-1.

EAGLES

On Sept. 13 visiting U-32 overcame an early Eagle lead and came away with a 2-1 victory. **Isla Underwood** scored in the first minute for Mount Abe, but **Maia Pasco** scored once in each half for the Raiders. Eagle keeper **Joanna Toy** made seven saves, and Raider

goalie **Yvette Patrella** made six saves.

On Tuesday the host Eagles topped visiting Division I Rutland, 4-2, as **Underwood** scored twice and set up goals by **Natalie Atkins** and **Safoura Camara**. **Charlotte Morris** scored both RHS goals. **Toy** made three saves as the Eagles improved to 4-1, and **Emma Grimes** parried eight shots for RHS.

OTTERS

On Sept. 15 the Otters won at Mt. St. Joseph, 2-0, behind first-half goals from **Brookelyn Kimball** and **Mallee Richardson** and strong goalkeeping from **Linnea Faulkner**.

On Saturday the Otters won the final of Green Mountain's tournament, 2-0, over their hosts. Both goals came in the first half, one from **Mallee Richardson**, assisted by **Allie Charbonneau**, and the other from **Charbonneau**.

On Tuesday the Otters defeated host, **Mill River** 4-0 for their third shutout in three games. They improved to 5-1 behind two goals from **Tegan Boynton** and one each from **Charbonneau** and **Randi Lancour**.

Score BOARD

HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS

Football	
9/14 MUHS vs Rutland.....	41-0
9/15 OV vs Spaulding.....	39-14
9/16 MAV vs Fairfax.....	21-14
Field hockey	
9/14 S. Burlington vs Mt Abe.....	4-0
9/14 MUHS vs Fair Haven.....	0-0
9/15 Rutland vs OV.....	1-0
9/16 OV vs Windsor.....	3-2
9/20 OV at Burr & Burton.....	Late

9/20 Mt Abe at Mt Mansfield.....	Late
9/20 MUHS at Essex.....	Late
Girls' Soccer	
9/13 VUHS vs Fairfax.....	2-1 (OT)
9/13 MUHS vs OV.....	6-2
9/13 U-32 vs Mt Abe.....	2-1
9/15 OV at MSJ.....	2-0
9/15 MUHS at Spaulding.....	1-0
9/16 OV vs GMUHS.....	2-0
9/19 OV vs Mill River.....	4-0
9/19 Milton vs MUHS.....	4-3
9/19 Rice vs VUHS.....	5-0
9/19 Mt. Abe vs Rutland.....	4-2
Boys' Soccer	
9/15 Fair Haven vs VUHS.....	2-1
9/15 MUHS at Hartford.....	2-2
9/15 Colchester vs Mt Abe.....	6-1
9/15 OV vs GM Union.....	2-0
9/16 Leland & Gray vs OV.....	3-2 (OT)

9/20 Missisquoi at Mt Abe.....	Late
9/20 MUHS at Milton.....	Late
9/20 Rice at VUHS.....	Late
Girls' Volleyball	
9/15 MUHS vs VT Commons.....	3-0
9/19 St. Albans vs MUHS.....	3-1
COLLEGE SPORTS	
Field Hockey	
9/16 Midd vs Hamilton.....	6-0
9/17 Midd vs Babson.....	3-2
Men's Soccer	
9/16 Midd vs Hamilton.....	4-1
9/19 Midd vs Endicott.....	1-0
Women's Soccer	
9/16 Hamilton vs Midd.....	2-1
9/17 Midd vs Clarkson.....	1-1
9/20 Castleton at Midd.....	Late
Football	
9/16 Midd vs Amherst.....	21-7

MAV football gets first victory

FAIRFAX — The Division II Mount Abraham-Vergennes cooperative high school football team broke into the win column on Saturday by downing host D-III Fairfax, 21-14.

Quarterbacks **Clark Crary** (who completed 10 of 16 passes for 150

yards) and **Rhett Lathrop** (five of six for 80 yards) each threw touchdown passes, and **Crary** also ran for 60 yards and a TD.

Ian Funke caught a TD pass, one of his five catches for 85 yards, and **Abel Atocha** caught four balls for 65 yards and a touchdown.

Jamison Couture led the MAV rushing attack with 25 carries for 102 yards.

The Eagles will attempt to keep the momentum going with a visit on Friday night to undefeated D-II foe Woodstock.

Schedule

HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS

Football	
9/22 MAV at Woodstock.....	7 PM
9/22 MUHS at Essex.....	7 PM
9/23 Fairfax at OV.....	1 PM
9/29 MUHS at Mt Anthony.....	7 PM
9/30 Milton at OV.....	1 PM
9/30 MAV at Springfield.....	6 PM
Field hockey	
9/22 Essex at Mt Abe.....	4 PM
9/23 MUHS at Colchester.....	10 AM
9/23 Springfield at OV.....	11 AM
9/26 OV at Woodstock.....	4 PM
9/26 Burlington at Mt Abe.....	4 PM
9/28 Mt Abe at Colchester.....	4 PM
9/30 MUHS at CVU.....	10:30 AM
9/30 OV at Brattleboro.....	Noon
Girls' Soccer	
9/21 VUHS at Enosburg.....	4:30 PM
9/22 Mt Abe at Rice.....	4:30 PM

9/23 Fair Haven at OV.....	10 AM
9/23 MUHS at VUHS.....	11 AM
9/26 Woodstock at OV.....	4:30 PM
9/27 VUHS at Milton.....	4:30 PM
9/27 MUHS at Mt Abe.....	4:30 PM
9/29 West Rutland at OV.....	4:30 PM
9/30 Rice at MUHS.....	10 AM
9/30 Mt Abe at Milton.....	10 AM
9/30 Milton at GMVS.....	11 AM
Boys' Soccer	
9/22 Woodstock at OV.....	4:30 PM
9/23 Mt Abe at Rice.....	10 AM
9/23 MUHS at VUHS.....	2 PM
9/26 MUHS at Mt Abe.....	4:30 PM
9/26 Milton at VUHS.....	4:30 PM
9/27 OV at Fair Haven.....	6 PM
9/28 Mt Abe at Milton.....	4:30 PM
9/29 Rice at MUHS.....	4:30 PM
9/29 VUHS at Missisquoi.....	4:30 PM
9/30 Mt Abe at GMVS.....	2 PM
9/30 OV at Mt Anthony.....	11 AM
Girls' Volleyball	
9/21 Randolph at MUHS.....	4:30 PM

9/26 MUHS at Montpelier.....	6 PM
9/28 Harwood at MUHS.....	6 PM
Cross Country	
9/22 Mt Abe/VUHS at MUHS.....	4 PM
COLLEGE SPORTS	
Field Hockey	
9/23 Bowdoin at Midd.....	11 AM
9/24 Bates at Midd.....	Noon
9/27 Midd at Skidmore.....	4 PM
9/30 Wesleyan at Midd.....	Noon
Men's Soccer	
9/23 Bowdoin at Midd.....	Noon
9/24 Bates at Midd.....	1:30 PM
9/30 Wesleyan at Midd.....	Noon
Women's Soccer	
9/23 Bowdoin at Midd.....	Noon
9/24 Bates at Midd.....	Noon
9/30 Wesleyan at Midd.....	11 AM
Football	
9/23 Midd at Wesleyan.....	1 PM
9/30 Bowdoin at Midd.....	1 PM

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FALL

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Addison Independent

GUIDE

Football

(Continued from Page 1B)
24, and from there Gillett broke another play to the right for the score at 6:30.

The Tigers stopped RHS again, but this time stalled near midfield. A Tiger fake punt didn't work, and Rutland had field position; it proved to be the only time in the game RHS ran plays in Tiger territory. The visitors managed one first down (one of two all night), but had to punt, a good one to the Tiger 8 late in the period.

No worries for MUHS: Gillett burst through the right side, cut to the sideline, and left frustrated would-be tacklers in his wake on a 92-yard jaunt that made it 21-0 at 1:59 of the first period.

Gillett, a senior, finished with six carries for 184 yards.

"He's dynamic, and he had some great blocking in front of him," Malcolm said. "He'd be the first one to say that, too. The guys up front were great, and I'll tell you what, the halfbacks, Avery Carl and Gavin McNulty, both blocked really well for him on those particular plays. And once he gets into open space he really turns it on."

The Tigers added two more touchdowns in the second quarter to make it 35-0. At 6:48 Carl punched it in from two yards out,

a score set up by a Gillett 40-yard punt return and by Gillett's 22-yard run to the RHS 2 on a fourth-and-8 play.

After one sack by Kyle Stearns and another by several Tigers moved Rutland backwards on the next RHS possession, a 20-yard Gillett punt return put MUHS on the RHS 30. Jacob Kemp, who saw most of the action at QB for MUHS, hit Gavin McNulty with a 20-yard TD pass at 2:36.

The second half went by quickly as both coaches agreed to running time. Early in the fourth quarter Nuceder hit Carter Paquette in the back of the end zone from a yard out to cap the scoring. Desmond Krakowka blocked the PAT to give Rutland a rare highlight. Strong running by Logan McNulty, including a 35-yard sweep to the RHS 6, helped set up the touchdown.

Rutland ran 16 times, losing nine yards, while Bruttomesso was four for 21 through the air for 31 yards, but was sacked four times for 20 yards in losses. The Tiger front harassed the RHS QB all evening, something Malcolm called a key factor after Burr & Burton QB Jack McCoy had time to pick MUHS apart the week before.

Blackwell, Gillett, Sperry and Tucker Morter broke up passes,

Callan Boulanger added a sack, and Bruttomesso also fell trying to elude the rush.

"Our defensive line really brought some pressure right from the get-go," Malcolm said. "He was scrambling all night."

The coach also praised his offensive front as the Tigers picked up 278 yards on the ground in 30 attempts.

"Joe Bergevin, Kyle Stearns, Beck Besser-Jones, Tim Whitney, Aiden LaDuke, tight ends Angus Blackwell and George Devlin" he said. "The whole O line played really well."

Malcolm would like to see the offense diversify more successfully and the passing efficiency improve: Kemp and Nuceder combined to go three-for-10 for 39 yards. But overall he is happy as the team continues to gel in the early going.

"We're still sort of feeling ourselves out a little bit. We're still becoming a team, so we've got to know where our strengths are. It takes a few weeks to figure out what our strengths are going to be and what we're going to focus on," he said. "I still think defense is what we're going to hang our hat on, and we've got to do multiple things on offense."



TIGER QB JACOB Kemp tosses a pass downfield during his team's big win over Rutland on Thursday. Kemp didn't complete many passes, but one was a touchdown strike to Gavin McNulty.

Independent photo/Steve James



PART-TIME MUHS QB Luke Nuceder connects with Avery Carl for this 15-yard completion in the Tigers' 41-0 win over Rutland this past Thursday.

Independent photo/Steve James

Palmer goes out in style at D. Bowl

WEST HAVEN — Veteran Mike Palmer of Salisbury won Saturday's main event at the Devil's Bowl Speedway, a 30-lap race in the headline Sportsman Modified division.

Monkton's Pat Miner and Whiting's Brent Wilbur also prevailed in undercard events during an evening that saw some series championship point races remain tight heading into this Saturday's season finale of dirt-track auto racing.

In the Sportsman Modified race, Palmer led all but one trip around the Devil's Bowl half-mile oval after taking off from the pole position. New Hampshire's Allan Hammond nosed ahead after a restart on lap 14, but Palmer regained control and never relinquished it.

Palmer announced that he would retire from fulltime racing after his victory, his 25th of his long career at Devil's Bowl Speedway, a number that puts him in the top 20 of the track's all-time win list. His first Devil's Bowl win came on July 27, 1986, and he won a championship in the original Pro Stock division in 1988.

New York driver David Boisclair passed Hammond on lap 24 to take over the runner-up spot. Orwell's Tim LaDuc finished fifth

and holds a 742-727 point lead over Fair Haven's Justin Comes heading into Saturday. Comes finished eighth this past weekend.

Benson's Anthony Ryan scored his season's second victory in a 25-lap Limited Sportsman race. Ryan started fourth and chased early leader Alex Layn of New Haven before taking over on lap 6 and cruising to the win. Layn finished second, and Orwell's Randy Ryan — the winner's cousin — finished fifth.

Randy Ryan holds an insurmountable 113-point lead over Jason Quenneville entering the final race, but Layn, Salisbury's Gary English, and Anthony Ryan are all within eight points of Quenneville for second place in the series point standings.

Monkton's Pat Miner raced to his third victory in the Novice Sportsman division. Miner started 10th and worked his way up before pulling away in the final two laps. Ripton's Donald Williams took third, and Starksboro's Adam LaFountain finished fifth. Hartland's Tyler Travis was ninth, but has a comfortable 48-point margin over LaFountain heading into the finale.

In a 500cc Mini Sprint division 20-lap feature, Chittenden rookie John Carleton, 68, won for the

second time. Carleton held off Bridport's Gage Provencher, 14, for the win, with Provencher settling for second.

Defending champion Logan Denis, 15, finished third, with another former champion, Ray Hanson of Orwell, in fourth. Denis has a 23-point lead over Hanson in the title chase.

Hubbardton's Jacob Demgard was a first-time winner in the Mini Stock division, beating runner-up Jakobee Alger of Orwell to claim the 15-lap feature. Leicester's Levi Cram was fifth. Cornwall's Brian Blake, who was sixth, has a 48-point lead on Brandon's Mark Mahoney, who was 19th, entering the finale.

Bomoseen's Rob Steele won his third straight and sixth overall Crown Vic division race, with Ferrisburgh's Norman Morrill taking second. Steele leads Morrill by 21 points in the inaugural Crown Vic title fight.

Whiting's Brent Wilbur prevailed in the 50-lap race in the Enduro Series. Wilbur led every circuit and escaped from four red flags during the rough-and-tumble race. Bristol's Kevin Pearsall was fourth, and Wilbur has just a six-point lead over Pearsall entering the 100-lap, \$1,000-to-win series finale on this Saturday.

Mixed bag for field hockey squads

ADDISON COUNTY — In limited high school field hockey action in the past week, Middlebury picked up a tie on the road, Mount Abraham lost to a Division I power at home, and Otter Valley split a pair of one-goal games.

All three teams were scheduled to play on Wednesday after the deadline for this issue of the *Independent*.

TIGERS
On Sept. 14 host Fair Haven (1-1) and the Tigers settled for a 0-0 tie in which both teams had chances to score, but strong defensive work and the goaltending of the Tigers'

Jolee Heffernan and the Slaters' **Victoria Kelley** allowed both teams to keep clean sheets. The Tigers survived being a player down for two minutes in the seven-on-seven overtime in what was the first-ever meeting between the two programs.

MUHS took a 1-2-1 record into a schedule Wednesday game at Essex.
TIGERS
On Sept. 14 visiting South Burlington blanked the Eagles, 4-0. Four Wolves scored a goal apiece, and SB goalie Amber Rousseau made three saves. Eagle

goalies **Greta Jennison** and **Rory Hende** combined for 21 saves, and field player **Katie LaBerge** chipped in four defensive saves.

The 1-3-1 Eagles were set to visit Mount Mansfield on Wednesday.

OTTERS
On Sept. 15 host D-I Rutland edged the Otters, 1-0. The Otters bounced back the next day to knock off host D-III contender Windsor, 3-2. Most details on the Otters' efforts on those games were not reported.

The Otters carried a 2-2 record into a Wednesday game at Burr & Burton.



2023 Garden Game

The Game is ON!



There were **four** new oversized entries in this week's Garden Game!

Kicking things off was **Peter Fournier** with a massive 10.5" L x 10" C potato. Like many gardeners in the state this year, Peter's garden has taken a hit. His potatoes are either rotten or huge. Go figure!

Peter's tuber was large enough to overtake the previous record-holder... for a few hours until **Carol Krawczyk** came in with her "big boy". Carol's sweet potato clocked in at 11" L x 10" C. Winning by less than an inch, Carol adds top spud to her long list of titles.

Peter Halpin stopped in with two lengthy eggplants. The largest of these aubergine beauties measured 30" C x 6" C and put Peter in the lead.

Rounding out the week was GG regular, **Gary Miller**. Gary brought in a jaw-dropping 35" L x 5.75" C carrot with a note that his carrots are still growing. Will we see an even larger entry next week!?

Things are cooling off but we've still got plenty of time to round up more Garden Game entries. We hope to see you soon!

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) - Kathy Hodgdon, 18"
- **Broccoli** (diameter) - Ted Foster, 11.5"
- **Cabbage** (circumference) - Carol Krawczyk, 44.5"
- **Cantaloupe** (circumference) - Carol Krawczyk, 16.5"
- **Carrot** (length x circumference) - Gary Miller, 35" x 5.75"
- **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) - Peter Halpin, 30" x 6"
- **Fennel** (length x circumference)
- **Green Bean** (length) - Gary Miller, 34"
- **Kohlrabi** (circumference)
- **Leek** (length x circumference)
- **Melon** (circumference) - Ted Foster, 25"
- **Onion** (circumference) - Carol Krawczyk, 16.75"
- **Parsnip** (circumference) - Ted Foster, 6"
- **Potato** (length x circumference) - Carol Krawczyk, 11" x 10"
- **Pepper** (circumference x circumference) - Gary Miller, 14.75" x 15.5"
- **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) - Theo Venables Vogel, 15" x 22"
- **Zucchini** (length x circumference) - Josh & Aubree Mohan, 24" x 18.5"



Youth waterfowl hunting weekend set Sept. 23 -24

MONTPELIER — Vermont's upcoming youth waterfowl hunting weekend takes place Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 23 and 24. A youngster's first hunt can mark the beginning of a lifelong passion for the outdoors and a commitment to wildlife conservation, and youth waterfowl hunt weekend is designed to do just that.

"Vermont's youth waterfowl hunting weekend helps ensure that young hunters get the quality training and experiences they need for lifelong participation," said Fish and Wildlife Commissioner Christopher Herrick.

"By design, the youth weekend hunt reinforces the route of initiation that is critical in recruitment — learning from an experienced adult role model."

On September 23 and 24, hunters 17 years of age or younger may hunt ducks and geese in the Lake Champlain and Interior Vermont waterfowl hunting zones.

The youth hunter must have a Vermont hunting license and must be accompanied by an unarmed adult, 18 years of age or older, who also has a Vermont hunting license. Youths 16 and 17 years of age must have state and federal duck stamps. All youth hunters must also register with the Harvest Information Program (HIP) in each state that they hunt. This can be done on Vermont Fish and Wildlife's website or by calling toll-free 877-306-7091. The adult may not hunt waterfowl or carry a firearm while accompanying the youth when the youth is hunting waterfowl.

"Vermont's youth waterfowl hunting weekend helps ensure that young hunters get the quality training and experiences they need for lifelong participation."

— Christopher Herrick

Ducks and geese may be taken by youth hunters on Sept. 23 and 24 according to the bag limits set in the 2023-2024 Syllabus of State and Federal Hunting Regulations for Migratory Birds in Vermont, available from Vermont post offices and as a downloadable file from www.vtfishandwildlife.com under Hunt – Waterfowl.



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Reader Comments

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

A subscriber from Ripton writes:

"We value the importance of local news and reporting."

Quotes are taken from reader comments submitted with subscription renewals.



ADDISON COUNTY INDEPENDENT

community calendar

sept 21 THURSDAY

American Red Cross blood donation in Bristol. Thursday, Sept. 21, 12:30-5 p.m. American Legion Bristol Post 19, 56 Airport Dr. Donors of all blood types are urgently needed, and there is an emergency need for platelet donors and type O blood donors. Schedule an appointment to give by downloading the Red Cross Blood Donor App, visiting RedCrossBlood.org or calling 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767).

sept 22 FRIDAY

Knights In Italy Spaghetti Dinner in Bristol. Friday, Sept. 22, 5-7 p.m., St. Ambrose Parish, 11 School St. Offered by the St. Ambrose Knights of Columbus. Menu includes spaghetti with sauce, garlic bread, salad and dessert. Cost \$12/adults/\$6/children 12 and under/\$30 family. Dine-in or take-out. All proceeds will go toward furthering the Knights' mission of aiding the community in a variety of ways including a donation of winter coats to 5-town schools. No pre-order necessary!

Surf and turf dinner in Middlebury. Friday, Sept. 22, 5-7 p.m., VFW, 530 Exchange St. Delicious steak, shrimp, baked potato and green beans. Eat in or take out. Steak \$16/Shrimp \$16/Combo \$18. Open to the public. All proceeds benefit veterans' programs

Teen Back-to-School Bash in Middlebury. Friday, Sept. 22, 6 p.m., Community Room, Ilsley Public Library, 75 Main St. Celebrate the beginning of the school year with Jackbox games, hide-and-seek and a yummy ice cream sundae bar. Bring your own mobile-enabled device to participate. 6th grade and up.

sept 23 SATURDAY

Henry Sheldon Museum Armchair Auction in Middlebury. Begins Saturday, Sept. 23, 8 a.m., online. Support the Henry Sheldon Museum from the comfort of your favorite armchair. The annual online auction runs through Monday, Oct. 2, at midnight. This auction provides support for Sheldon Museum's exhibitions, programming, and community outreach. For more information visit henrysheldonmuseum.org or call 802-388-2117.

Fall plant sale and book sale in Vergennes. Saturday, Sept. 23, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Otter Creek Room, Bixby Library, 258 Main St. Combination plant/book sale sponsored by Friends of the Bixby. Bixby Library will have a large selection of plants — indoor, outdoor, perennials, annuals, herbs, bushes. Some are donations from local nurseries, some are treasures from home gardeners — a wide selection. Monthly used book sale will be going on concurrently.

Big Truck Day in Monkton. Saturday, Sept. 23, 2-5 p.m., Morse Park, Pond Rd. Monkton Scouts host this free event. Come one, come all and enjoy seeing all of the big vehicles.

sept 24 SUNDAY

Snake Mountain Car Show in New Haven. Sunday, Sept. 24, 8 a.m., Addison County Fair Grounds, 1790 Field Days Rd. Come to the second annual Snake Mountain Car Show 50/50 raffle, craft fair, flea market and swap meet under cover. Great food and music. Registration fee \$20 at the gate for entering a car, tuner, truck, antique tractors etc. Visitors free but donations appreciated. Please bring and item for New Haven food shelf. Proceeds of the show benefit the Brendon P Cousino Med47 Foundation. More info at 802-475-2112.

Bingo in Vergennes. Sunday Sept. 24, 2-4:30 p.m., American Legion, 100 Armory Ln. Doors open at 1:30 p.m. 50/50 Raffle. Food available. \$15 per packet for regular games, specials sold separately.

sept 26 TUESDAY

"Six Men who Shaped the American Revolution: The Quiet Politician: Thomas Jefferson" virtual lecture. Tuesday, Sept. 26, 11 a.m., Zoom. Professor Russell Leng focuses on Thomas Jefferson in the fourth 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.

American Red Cross blood donation in Ferrisburgh. Tuesday, Sept. 26, noon-4:30 p.m. Cross Life Church, 1759 Route 7. Donors of all blood types are urgently needed, and there is an emergency need for platelet donors and type O blood donors. Schedule an appointment to give by downloading the Red Cross Blood Donor App, visiting RedCrossBlood.org or calling 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767).

"Renting in VT: Know Your Rights and Sustaining the Rent" in Middlebury. Tuesday, Sept. 26, 5:30 p.m., Ilsley Public Library, 75 Main St. Join CVOEO's Vermont Tenants and Financial Futures programs for a workshop on renters rights and responsibilities and strategies to financially prepare for renting and help meet housing and basic needs. There will be plenty of time for questions and resources to bring home. Presented in partnership with Addison Community Action.

sept 27 WEDNESDAY

American Red Cross blood donation in Middlebury. Wednesday, Sept. 27, 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Middlebury EMS Building, 55 Collins Dr. Donors of all blood types are urgently needed, and there is an emergency need for platelet donors and type O blood donors. Schedule an appointment to give by downloading the Red Cross Blood Donor App, visiting RedCrossBlood.org or calling 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767).

sept 28 THURSDAY

Monkton Natural Resources Inventory mapping project



It's game night

THE RIPTON SOCIAL Committee will host a free game night featuring indoor and outdoor games for all ages plus free refreshments on Saturday, Sept. 30, from 3-7 p.m., at Ripton Community House.

The Game of Checkers, from the series "Landscapes and Interiors," Edouard Vuillard

presentation in Monkton. Thursday, Sept. 28, 7 p.m., Monkton Town Hall, Monkton Ridge. Arrowwood Environmental will give a presentation that summarizes, and discusses the results of this mapping project. Cider and doughnuts. Zoom option at us02web.zoom.us/j/8024533800?pwd=QnI0b20weWxTEhuSmZ2RENyR3ZzUw.

deadline. Sunday, Oct. 1, noon. Do you have a story to tell about a personal experience of loss and grief, of someone who has left this world, and your own healing. Submit it for consideration for Porter Medical Center Palliative Service's "Stories from the Heart," which will be presented live on Oct. 28 in Middlebury. Each story will be no more than 7 minutes in length, a personal and true story told from the heart (rather than read) and include how this experience changed or deepened your life. Five stories will be selected, and those storytellers will be coached to help them prepare for telling their stories before an audience. Submit a written draft, or a well-developed outline, to Priscilla Baker at prbaker223@gmail.com.

Open house and community conversation in Weybridge. Sunday, Oct. 1, 1-4 p.m., Cotton Free Library, 1835 Quaker Village Rd. Come meet with woodblock print artist Matt Brown, Weybridge selectboard leader Megan Sutton, state Sen. Chris Bray, state Rep. Jubilee McGill, and Weybridge storyteller Kate Selby and others. Refreshments will be served. More info call Matt Brown at 603-306-6547.

Neighbors, Food, and Fun in South Starksboro. Sunday, Oct. 1, 2-4 p.m., Jerusalem Community Schoolhouse, 397 Jerusalem Rd. Yard games (corn hole, bocce, giant jenga, etc.), snacks, live music and the opportunity to talk with your neighbors will make for a great afternoon at the historic schoolhouse. See the latest plans for the proposed new Fire Station No. 2. Bring your favorite lawn chair and a food donation for Jerusalem's own Little Free Pantry. More info contact Alan Quittner at 802-453-2732.

sept 29 FRIDAY

"Northern Borders" on screen in Shoreham. Friday, Sept. 29, 7 p.m., Champlain Orchards, 3597 Route 74 W. Kick off the weekend with a family-friendly movie in the cider garden. The orchard is equipped with a 20-foot screen, sound system, projector and, most importantly, a popcorn machine. No tickets are needed; just bring layers for chillier nights and something cozy to sit on. Free. Good for all ages.

sept 30 SATURDAY

2nd Annual Pro-Am Horseshoe and Corn Hole Tournament in Bristol. Saturday, Sept. 30, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Bristol Rec Park, 110 Airport Dr. Join in for a Family Fun Day at the Bristol Recreational Field. Registration 9 a.m., horseshoes 9:30 a.m., Corn Hole 1 p.m. Food and drinks available.

Sampler ID Day in Middlebury. Saturday, Sept. 30, 9 a.m., Ilsley Public Library, 75 Main St. Do you own an American-made schoolgirl sampler or other embroidery? Rokeby Museum and Henry Sheldon Museum want to see it, photograph it and record it in the online National Sampler Archive.

Harvest sale in Orwell. Saturday, Sept. 30, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Orwell Free Library, 473 Main St. Used books, baked goods, soups, pumpkins, gourds, soup, breakfast sandwiches, garden bounty and more will be for sale to benefit the Orwell Free Library.

Bocce tournament in Middlebury. Saturday, Sept. 30, 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Middlebury Rec Park, Mary Hogan Dr. Counseling Service of Addison County's Bocce tournament returns, bringing together local businesses, community members and CSAC friends and families to raise funds for its programs. Teams will vie for bragging rights while raising funds to support community wellness. More info contact Rachel Lee Cummings at 802-388-6751 or rcummings@csac-vt.org.

Pop-up market and free concert in Middlebury. Saturday, Sept. 30, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Triangle Park. Come to this pop-up artisan market on triangle park and town green with vendors, prepared foods and crafts with a free concert by Mal Maiz at 11 a.m.

Community game night in Ripton. Saturday, Sept. 30, 3-7 p.m., Ripton Community House, Route 125, village center. Calling all game lovers! The Ripton Social Committee will host a free game night featuring indoor and outdoor games for all ages plus free refreshments. It's a great opportunity to meet new friends and bond with your neighbors over your favorite board games.

oct 1 SUNDAY

Addison County CROP Hunger Walk in Middlebury. Sunday, Oct. 1, noon, town green. CROP Hunger Walk, a program of Church World Service, invites walkers and donors to raise money for global relief efforts and for local organizations working to address hunger and food insecurity. Registration begins at noon, and a 2-mile walk through town begins at 1 p.m. All are welcome to sign up for the walk and to sponsor a walker with a donation. Forming a team of walkers is encouraged! More info and registration at events.crophungerwalk.org/2023/event/middlebury.vt.
Stories from the Heart call for submissions

oct 3 TUESDAY

Still Hip & Happening in Middlebury. Begins Tuesday, Oct. 3, 10:30 a.m.-noon, Community Room, Ilsley Public Library, 75 Main St. Looking for some conversation, fun, community? Are you "of a certain age" and wondering where your fellows are? Find them at IPL's new program, Still Hip & Happening. Each Tuesday we will gather for myriad activities such as games, puzzles, karaoke, visits from Homeward Bound animals, TED talks, films and more. Coffee and tea available.

"Six Men who Shaped the American Revolution: The Hero Turned Traitor: Benedict Arnold" virtual lecture. Tuesday, Oct. 3, 11 a.m., Zoom. EastView at Middlebury presents the fifth talk in a series by Middlebury College Professor Emeritus Russell Leng. Prof. Leng suggests reading "Violent Ambition: George Washington, Benedict Arnold and the Fate of the American Revolution" by Nathaniel Philbrick if you are interested in advance reading. There will be time for Q&A following the presentation.

"Pizza & Power: Green & Just Electricity for Vermont" in Middlebury. Tuesday, Oct. 3, 5 p.m., Champlain Valley Unitarian Universalist Society, 2 Duane Ct. Eat pizza and learn where Vermont's electricity actually comes from, why changes to current law and energy policies in Vermont are needed to be truly green and just, how this affects ratepayers, and how we can make sure — with your help! — that critical improvements are made this legislative session. Refreshments and childcare provided. RSVP at tinyurl.com/CVUUS-electricity-info.

BE SURE TO CHECK OUT OUR CALENDAR ONLINE
addisonindependent.com

Ecological group to talk about Monkton's habitats

MONKTON — In a presentation sponsored by the Monkton Conservation Commission, ecological consultants from Arrowwood Environmental will talk about the unique natural resources and habitats of Monkton. The presentation will be held on Thursday, Sept. 28, at 7 p.m. at Monkton Town Hall. A Zoom option is also available. Arrowwood will summarize, present, and discuss the results of the Monkton Natural Resources Inventory mapping project and

how it satisfies the forest block integrity and connectivity mapping requirements of Act 171, while also providing the Monkton community and town planners with detailed and up-to-date mapping of wetlands, upland and lowland species, and more. All are invited to attend, learn, and seek information. Cider and donuts will be on-hand. The presentation will be recorded and available on the Monkton town website. A Zoom link for those who wish to attend remotely is at: tinyurl.com/Monkton-Arrowwood.



City swim honors

THE VERGENNES CHAMPS Swim Team was honored on Sept. 12 by the Vergennes city council for a summer season in which the team captured third place at both the Vermont Swim Association and Champlain Valley Swim League meets, earning many individual titles along the way. In the photo left, Vergennes Mayor Chris Bearor, right, honors the boys' 14-and-under relay squad — from left, Clark Crary, Cohen Howell, Noah Smits and Will Clark — which set state records in the 200-yard medley relay and 200 free relay.

Photos courtesy of Amanda Crocker

Lincoln

Have a news tip? Call Dawn Mikkelsen at 453-7029

NEWS

LINCOLN — Take a trip to Marijke's Perennial Gardens with the Lincoln Library on Monday, Sept. 25, at 10 a.m. Marijke Niles, owner and creator of the gardens will conduct a tour of some of her more than 40 gardens on her property. The plantings are wildlife friendly and attract large numbers of birds, bees and beneficial insects. Moose, bobcat, coyote, fox and bear also make appearances. The gardens are low maintenance with a large number of nature-nourishing native plants and hardy succulents. She will also talk about how to prepare gardens for winter.

Sign up is required for this trip as carpooling will be necessary. If you're interested in joining the trip, please sign up at the library or email Wendy at lincolnlibraryvt@gmail.com.

The next concert in the Burnham Presents series will feature Caitlin Canty on Saturday, Oct. 7, from 7:30 to 10 p.m. Caitlin's music carves a line through folk, blues and country ballads. Doors open at 7 p.m. Refreshments will be available by donation. Tickets are on a sliding scale general to generous admission \$15-\$25 or pay what you can.

FROM LINCOLN MENTORS
Lincoln's youth mentoring

program's mission is to match interested kids with trusted, caring and curious adults for one-on-one time together in school and/or out in the community. You may have seen these duos on the trails, at the library, or enjoying a community event together. They provide each other with connections that enhance all participants' lives and strengthen our Lincoln community to boot!

We need more adults who are available and interested in spending an hour a week or 3-4 hours a month at lunch time, after school or on the weekends as a child's mentor. Mentors are well supported by staff, fellow mentors and various mentoring gatherings throughout the year. Curious? Please contact Anna Howell at ahowell@lincolnsd.org or 453-2119. A mentor information evening is coming up on September 29...join us!

REMINDER

The book launch event with author Jackie Tuxill will be held on Wednesday, Sept. 27 at 6:30 p.m. at the library.

Until next time ... With The New Day Comes New Strength And New Thoughts. Turn Your Wounds Into Wisdom. Never Regret Anything That Made You Smile.

The Bixby invites you to engage with nature

VERGENNES — As the air becomes cooler and the leaves turn shades of red and gold, Bixby Memorial Library invites patrons to connect to the Earth at The Bixby Library. This season, The Bixby will host a series of events that will encourage people to engage with nature and support our Earth.

Bixby's book and plant sale kicks off the season on Saturday, Sept. 23, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Both ardent bookworms seeking captivating

narratives or a dedicated gardeners in search of seasonal delights, can find an autumnal treat at the Plant and Book Sale. All proceeds from this event will benefit the Bixby Library.

Vermont Public's gardening guru Charlie Nardozi will be at the Bixby on Thursday, Oct. 5, from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Nardozi brings his expertise in Fall Gardening and Bulb Planting to the Bixby. During this event, he will delve

into essential fall gardening tasks, including perennial flower care, lawn maintenance, composting, mulching, preparing vegetable gardens for winter, and the art of planting spring-flowering bulbs. Be sure to bring your burning gardening questions to the discussion.

Finally, the Bixby will be collaborating with the Addison County Solid Waste Management District to bring you "Vermicomposting: Worms Ate My

Food Scraps," on Tuesday, Oct. 24, from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. The Bixby will host a lesson on composting food scraps with the help of Red Wiggler Worms. These creatures crawl through layers of shredded paper and food waste, eating as they move, and digesting the scraps into nutrient-rich castings. Join us to learn the ins and outs of Vermicompost systems.

More information is available at <https://bixbylibrary.org/>.

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK FROM AREA HIGH SCHOOLS

Mount Abraham Union High School

Abel Atocha

Mt. Abe recognizes Abel Atocha as an outstanding leader and student of the week. Abel resides in Lincoln with his parents, Marion and Steve, brother Lorenzo, and dog Ember. Abel has a passion for learning with a willingness to engage in thoughtful classroom discussion, is kind and supportive with classmates/teammates and is a leader in our community.

As a part of the Mt. Abe community, Abel participates in several sports including football and track. He is a part of EAG — the Environmental Action Group, which focuses on improving the sustainability and environmental consciousness of the Mt. Abe community. He is also a member of the Eagle Leadership Society, which supports several community functions at Mt. Abe to promote a positive school culture, and provides outreach to our academic, athletic and local communities. He was an integral part of creating the Scholars Bowl at Mt. Abe, joining in practices and state competitions. His favorite subjects are English and Spanish. He has a great time in Mr. Shepard's Spanish classes and is currently a DUO for Spanish 5, supporting scholars with their language acquisition and assisting Mr. Shepherd in class. Elected Lieutenant Governor at Green Mountain Boys State, Abel had the opportunity to collaborate with delegates to work on issues relating to Vermont, as well as debating on issues at the statehouse.

Abel says his most memorable experiences at Mt. Abe have come from trying new things, like taking challenging classes, trying to run hurdles for the first time a week before the last state qualifying meet, and joining the football team this summer having not played since 5th grade. "This eclectic mix of new experiences has made me a more well-rounded person," he says. "Meeting and learning from new people has been invaluable to me."

Abel works full-time in the summer at his family's small business, Green Mountain Adventures in Middlebury, both in the store and guiding kids' summer programs. He enjoys spending time outside with friends, hiking with his girlfriend, swimming, skiing and hunting. When he can't get outside he enjoys reading.

We are grateful for Abel's engagement and contributions to our community. We wish Abel all the best with his future plans of attending college after high school.



Abel Atocha
MAUHS

Otter Valley Union High School

Sally O'Brien

Sally O'Brien is Otter Valley Union High School's first Student of the Week for the 2023-2024 school year. She lives in Brandon with her parents and her sister.

Sally has excelled at Otter Valley, making the honor roll and scholars roll throughout high school. She particularly likes her History and Biology classes, and she really enjoys learning with Ms. Callahan. Her awards — the Clarkson Achievement Award, the National Rural and Small Town Recognition Award, and the Society of Women Engineers Merit for High Honor in Mathematics and Science — can attest to her academic ability, and she was inducted into the National Honor Society in recognition of her achievement.

Her extracurricular time at school is taken up by theater and music. She is president of Walking Stick Theater this year. She will be playing Karen the computer in the troupe's production of "Spongebob: the Musical" this fall. She says it is her favorite role so far. Sally also plays tenor saxophone in jazz band. She serves as secretary for her class as well.

In addition to school activities, Sally works as a cashier at Walgreens in Brandon.

When she has free time, Sally likes to spend time with family and friends, go on walks and travel. Her post Otter Valley plans include pursuing a college degree, but she is unsure where as of yet. Wherever she decides to go, we wish Sally well.



Sally O'Brien
OVUHS

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Middlebury

Students of the Week from all area high schools are entered into a raffle to win a \$100 gift card to The Vermont Book Shop. The winner will be chosen at the end of the school year. Students of the Week are chosen by school teachers and administration. Best of luck to all Addison County students!

If you are interested in advertising in Student of the Week contact advertising@addisonindependent.com

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Cheers to the Students of the Week!



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And Duct Work for Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning

We use 5,000+ cfm HEPA Vacuum Cleaning Systems

We can design, fabricate, seal, insulate, clean, anything to do with your ducted systems.

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Commercial/Residential • Owner Operated • Fully Insured • Neat & Clean

FIREWOOD

Are you looking for green or seasoned firewood?
Well we've got it all right here in Addison, VT!

We cut, split, and deliver hardwood firewood in 12-24 inch lengths.
And we now offer kiln dried firewood!

Contact us today for a quote!



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or 802-349-0699

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Chris Mulliss FLOOR & UPHOLSTERY CLEANING

Stripping - Waxing - Buffing
Carpet Cleaning & Emergency Water Removal

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phone or fax
or
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cell phone

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1900 Jersey St., S. Addison, VT 05491



Wales Floors, Inc.

For a free estimate call 877-8323

Fully insured

Custom & non-toxic finishes

Installation refinishing & restoration of residential and commercial wood floors

Over two decades experience!



Reach more potential customers!

Place your ad in the Addy Indy!




Leaves are falling!

Look here first for home winterization help.





ADDISON COUNTY
INDEPENDENT
CALL 802-388-4944

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lawn care
masonry
painting
plumbing
property maintenance

renewable energy
roofing
rubbish & recycling
septic & water
siding

stump removal
surveying
taxes
tree service

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YOUR AD SHOULD
BE HERE!**

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A friendly, professional,
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PROPERTY MAINTENANCE

STEADY PROPERTY MAINTENANCE & EXCAVATION

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Owner

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POTENTIAL VIEW



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making the hot water or electricity that
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SOLAR IS MORE AFFORDABLE THEN EVER!

We've been here for you for 51 years -
Let us help you with your solar projects today.



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as seen at Addison County Field Days!

- Standing seam
- Asphalt shingles
- Slate

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SAVE YOUR SLATE ROOF

Custom Copper • Standing Seam • Shingles
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- Underground Storage Tank Removal & Assessment

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Windows & Siding
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Siding • Windows
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No stump too small.
No stump too large.

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crawfordsstumpgrinding@gmail.com
Contact for a free estimate

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Property Line Surveys • Topographical Surveys
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135 S. Pleasant St., Middlebury, VT
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ShortSurveyingVT@gmail.com

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larosesurveys@gmail.com



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Serving Vermont for over 42 years!

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WE HAVE THE RIGHT EQUIPMENT
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REASONABLE RATES

Dangerous Trees Cut & Removed
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JACK OF ALL TRADES?

CALL 802-388-4944 OR EMAIL ADVERTISING@
ADDISONINDEPENDENT.COM TO ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS.



Advertise your business on these pages for under \$10 per week.

Call 802-388-4944 or email advertising@addisonindependent.com for details.

CLASSIFIEDS

Public Meetings

AL-ANON OFFERS HELP and hope to anyone who has been affected by a loved one's drinking. Middlebury hosts an online meeting Sunday night 7:15pm and a face to face one Wednesday at 1:30pm at CVUUS (2 Duane Court Middlebury near the high school) that you can also access by Zoom. Visit vermontalananonlateen.org for links and list of other meetings in the region. If you'd like to speak to an Al-Anon member, call our answering service (866-972-5266) and an Al-Anon member will call you back.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS in person meetings are available. For a list of local virtual meetings visit <http://bit.ly/district9aa>. For more information visit <https://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.

Services

CH DRYWALL and plastering. Call Joe 802-234-5545.

Help Wanted

Services

CONSTRUCTION: ADDITIONS, RENOVATIONS new construction, drywall, carpentry, painting, flooring, roofing, pressure washing, driveway sealing. All aspects of construction, also property maintenance. Steven Fifield 802-989-0009.

MELISSA'S QUALITY CLEANING Services. Residential and commercial. Fully insured. Great rates. Reliable and thorough cleaning. 802-345-6257.

ODD JOBS; PROPERTY clean up, junk removal, brush cutting, lawn work. Call us today, we do other jobs too! 802-999-2194, John.

Help Wanted

Services

WE BUY OLD STUFF Estates, collections, antiques etc. Also hunting and fishing items. Call Erik 802-345-0653.



Sustainability Program Coordinator For The Vermont RETAIN Grant

Haig Physical Medicine PLC seeks a full-time Sustainability Coordinator for our work with the State of Vermont's federal RETAIN grant, with a task of helping build and sustain efforts that keep people at work despite medical and psychiatric disability. Over the next 1 1/2 years we will build programs in areas of research, education, patient care, consulting, and advocacy.

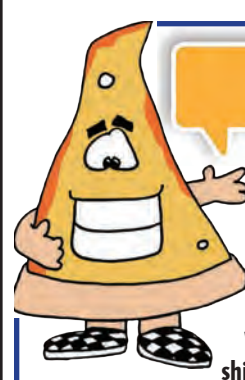
This full-time job requires a minimum bachelors, preferred master's degree in a related area. Important skills include organization, strategic planning, communication, marketing, computer and interpersonal relations. Much work can be done virtually but some travel to our Middlebury office and elsewhere will be required. Competitive salary and benefits.

Haig Physical Medicine PLC encourages applications across age, gender, race, culture and ability. Send cover letter and CV to andyhaig@umich.edu First review deadline is October 15, 2023.

Free

DIGITAL ACCESS View obituaries, calendar listings and classifieds online at addisonindependent.com. Looking to read more? Become a subscriber!

Help Wanted



NINO'S IS GEARING UP! OUR BUSY SEASON IS HERE.

Are you in between things? Saving up for a car, an apartment, a vacation? Starting over? Looking for your first job?

At Nino's Pizza, you can generate income that fits your schedule and boosts your cash flow. We offer flexible scheduling, weekly paychecks, short shifts, and daily tips.

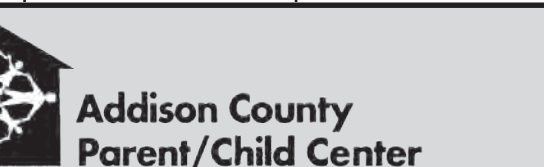
Your shift will fly by and you'll have some cash at the end of the day and a weekly paycheck. Plus, there's opportunity for advancement and progressive pay increases based on performance.

We ask you to commit to the schedule you created, show up on time, be prepared for work, and willing to check your drama at the door.

Nino's is a positive, encouraging work environment. It's a learning environment, where we work the problem, not the person. We appreciate what it means to be new and growing.

The pizza is awesome, and the secret ingredient is the people. Handmade pizza, with freshly prepared ingredients, by fantastic humans. We care about you, the food, and each other.

Let us help you level up, save up and build a bright new beginning. Call or text us 802-391-0555 to line up an appointment.



Join the Parent/Child Center Team we are immediately seeking:

- **Childcare/Parent Educator** to work with our childcare program that supports children, 0-5, and their families. Flexibility and collaboration are a must, total hours negotiable: a minimum of a related Bachelor's degree preferred
- **Van Driver** to transport children, youth and parents to our center from around Addison County. You must have a clean driving record and experience with children and families. This is a 20-hour position, hours split between mornings and afternoons. These positions can be combined; experience with children and families preferred.

Contact Info: Please contact Donna Bailey at dabailey@addisoncountypcc.org

Help Wanted

Help Wanted

Help Wanted



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 ACSO 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 \$140/day



Help Wanted ads can be found on Pages 10B and 11B.

Help Wanted

Help Wanted



Dental Hygienist
Dental office seeking per diem hygienist in Vergennes to fill in periodically. Please send resume to: congaltan@yahoo.com

Opportunities

Opportunities

TOWN OF LINCOLN
Highway Maintenance Worker

The Town of Lincoln offers excellent pay and benefits in exchange for honest, reliable Highway Maintenance Work. We are seeking a person who is at least 18 years old and energetic with a "can do" attitude. You must hold or be able to obtain a valid Vermont CDL Class A or B Driver's license with a clean driving record. [Town will train and cover the CDL cost as necessary]

You must understand basic mechanics, be willing to work long, unpredictable hours, particularly on winter maintenance and have a high school diploma or GED. Preferably you will also have some knowledge and experience operating construction equipment and some experience plowing snow and general road maintenance.

Apply now: admin@lincolnvermont.org or at the Lincoln Town Office, 62 Quaker Street, Lincoln, VT 05443.

Opportunities

Opportunities

Opportunities

Opportunities

Drop-In Assistants

The Teen Center is seeking volunteers or Middlebury College work-study students who are interested in helping one afternoon a week during Drop-In. Drop-In runs every school day from 3:00pm - 6:00pm. Drop-In Assistants spend time with teens in 7th-12th grades, playing video games, making art, gardening, playing basketball, skating on the Mini ramp, or just sitting and chatting.

the TEEN CENTER

To learn more please reach out to Lindsey at lindsey@teencentervt.org.

United Way
United Way of Addison County

Addison Independent **CLASSIFIED ORDER FORM**

ADDISON INDEPENDENT
58 Maple Street, Middlebury, VT 05753
802-388-4944
addisonindependent.com • email: classifieds@addisonindependent.com

Cash in on our 4-for-3 rates! Pay for 3 issues, get 4th issue free! An ad placed for consecutive issues runs the 4th time for free!

Name: _____
Address: _____
Phone: _____
Email: _____

Or, submit your classified ad on our website: addisonindependent.com

RATES

DEADLINE: Monday at 5 p.m.

- 25¢ per word • minimum \$2.50 per ad
- \$2 internet listing for up to 4 issues • minimum 2 insertions

• Special 4 for 3 rates not valid for the following categories: Services, Opportunities, Real Estate, Wood heat, Attn. Farmers, For Rent & Help Wanted

<input type="checkbox"/> Notices	<input type="checkbox"/> Work Wanted	<input type="checkbox"/> Att. Farmers
<input type="checkbox"/> Card of Thanks	<input type="checkbox"/> Help Wanted	<input type="checkbox"/> Motorcycles
<input type="checkbox"/> Personals	<input type="checkbox"/> For Sale	<input type="checkbox"/> Cars
<input type="checkbox"/> Services	<input type="checkbox"/> Public Meetings**	<input type="checkbox"/> Trucks
<input type="checkbox"/> Free**	<input type="checkbox"/> For Rent	<input type="checkbox"/> SUVs
<input type="checkbox"/> Lost 'N Found**	<input type="checkbox"/> Want to Rent	<input type="checkbox"/> Snowmobiles
<input type="checkbox"/> Garage Sales	<input type="checkbox"/> Wood Heat	<input type="checkbox"/> Boats
<input type="checkbox"/> Lawn & Garden	<input type="checkbox"/> Real Estate	<input type="checkbox"/> Wanted
<input type="checkbox"/> Opportunities	<input type="checkbox"/> Animals	<input type="checkbox"/> Real Estate Wanted
<input type="checkbox"/> Adoption		<input type="checkbox"/> Vacation Rentals

** no charge for these ads Spotlight with large ✓ \$2

PLEASE PRINT YOUR AD...

Number of words: _____
Cost: _____
of runs: _____
Spotlight Charge: _____
Internet Listing: \$2.00
TOTAL: _____

The Independent assumes no financial responsibility for errors in ads, but will rerun classified ad in which the error occurred. No refunds will be possible. Advertiser will please notify us of any errors which may occur after first publication.

Addison Independent CLASSIFIEDS

Help Wanted

Help Wanted

Help Wanted

Help Wanted ads can be found on Pages 10B and 11B.

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

EastView AT MIDDLEBURY
Find Your Calling at EastView
Are You Seeking People-Centered Work That Makes a Difference?
Check out EastView at Middlebury - Senior Living in the Heart of Middlebury
<http://www.eastviewmiddlebury.com/join-our-team/>

List your open position here!
Call 388-4944

Help Wanted

Help Wanted

VERMONT SOAP
SOAP FOR THE PEOPLE
Production Team Members
Vermont Soap is looking for attentive, reliable and responsible people to work in our production department.
This position requires basic computer skills, attention to detail, the ability to sit or stand for long periods of time and the ability to lift up to 50lbs. Must be a team player and also able to work independently.
This is a full time position (Mon-Fri 7-3:30) with paid vacation time, paid holidays, 401k with employer match, and more!
Please send cover letter and resume to nichole@vermontsoap.com.

AGWAY
Positions offer generous, twice a year bonuses as well as an employee discount on all products!
Warehouse Worker
Loading and assisting with customer orders from the yard, warehouse and store; Stocking shelves and Filling propane tanks. Skills/Qualifications: Ability to lift 50 lbs repeatedly throughout the day. Ability to demonstrate strong organizational skills. Forklift & Skid steer experience preferred.
Weekends and dependability a MUST! Preferable age 18+.
Cashier - Customer Service
Immediate Openings available. Must be able to work until 6pm. Weekdays and Weekends a MUST. Up to 40 hours per week.
Wage commensurate with experience.
Please send resumes to info@middleburyagway.com or fill out an application at **Middlebury Agway**, 338 Exchange Street, Middlebury VT.
Please no phone calls.
Middlebury Agway 338 Exchange St. - Middlebury, VT.

For Rent

MIDDLEBURY; SEEKING FEMALE to share home w/ well-traveled senior couple. No rent in exchange for providing light cleaning and occasional companionship for gentleman w/ memory loss. Private BA; shared kitchen. Must be dog-friendly! 802-863-5625 or HomeShareVermont.org for application. Interview, references, background checks req. EHO

For Rent

VERGENNES WILLOW APARTMENTS is currently taking waitlist applications for 1 and 2 bedroom apartments. No smoking/no pets. Income limits apply- Rent rate based on income. Equal Housing Opportunity 802-247-0165 TTY: 800-253-0191. www.SummitPMG.com.

Att. Farmers

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

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

Wanted

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

Help Wanted

SHOREHAM: SHARE HOME with sociable senior gentleman who enjoys card games, Wheel of Fortune. No rent in exchange for evening meal prep 3-4 days/week, companionship & light housekeeping. Private BA. 802-863-5625 or HomeShareVermont.org for application. Interview, references, background checks req. EHO

ALL REAL ESTATE advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968 as amended which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, national origin, sexual orientation, or persons receiving public assistance or an intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination. This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertisement for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination, call HUD Toll-free at 1-800-424-8590. For the Washington, DC area please call HUD at 426-3500.

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

For Sale

PLASTIC DOUBLE WALL culvert 2'x6', \$75. Used metal culvert, 18"x59", \$25. Metal culvert, 3'x4", \$50. 240-434-1646.

Lawn and Garden

BRUSH HOGGING & lawn mowing. Reasonable rates. Contact Wayne 802-382-7465.

Vacation Rentals

ADDISON: LAKE CHAMPLAIN waterfront camp. Beautiful views, gorgeous sunsets, private beach, dock, rowboat and canoe included. \$999. weekly, or call for weekends. 802-349-4212, no texts.

For Rent

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

MIDDLEBURY, OFF CAMPUS HOUSING available. 802-388-4831, AJ Neri Property Rentals.

All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968 as amended which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, national origin, sexual orientation, or persons receiving public assistance, or an intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination. This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertisement for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination, call HUD Toll-free at 1-800-424-8590. For the Washington, DC area please call HUD at 426-3500.

Help Wanted

Looking for something different?
Your local newspaper is your BEST RESOURCE for local job opportunities!
Also available online: addisonindependent.com
ADDISON COUNTY INDEPENDENT

MONKTON PLANNING COMMISSION OPEN POSITION
The Monkton Planning Commission (MPC) is looking for an individual to serve out the remainder of a term for the Planning Commission from now until 3/2025. This is an opportunity to serve your town and become involved in its future direction. The Planning Commission meets on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month at 7pm.
To learn more about planning and the Planning Commission in Monkton contact Marilyn Cargill at mcargill@monktonvt.com or Wendy Sue Harper at ws Harper@monktonvt.com, co-chairs. If you would like to be appointed to the Monkton Planning Commission, contact the Monkton Select Board at selectboard@monktonvt.com.

TOWN OF NEW HAVEN PROPERTY TAX NOTICE
Notice is hereby given to the taxpayers of the Town and Town School District of New Haven, VT. It was voted at the 2023 Annual Town Meeting that property taxes are due in the town office by Monday, October 2, 2023.
Property taxes will be considered late if not received in the Town Office by the close of the business day at 5:00 p.m.
POSTMARKS WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED TIMELY. POST-DATED CHECKS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. Checks are deposited the day that they are received. Please allow several days for postal delivery.
Please pay promptly to avoid penalty and interest charges; Interest charges of 1% per month - and 8% penalty fee will be added to any late payments, per State Statute.
If you do not have a bill, or have any questions please call the Town Office @ 453-3516.
Respectfully,
Danielle Hubbell, New Haven, Town Treasurer

TOWN OF LEICESTER NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
The Leicester Development Review Board will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, October 10, 2023, at the Leicester Town Office at 6:00 p.m. to consider the following applications:
(25-23-DRB) Cory and Tammi Lumbr, 108 North End Point for 28' x 32' 2 car garage (setback waiver). Section 2.4.3(e) of the Leicester Unified Regulations. Parcel ID #212146, 108 North End Point, Lake District 2, submitted by Cory and Tammi Lumbr.
Applications are available for inspection at the Town Clerk's Office, 44 Schoolhouse Rd., Leicester, VT during regularly scheduled hours.
Participation in this proceeding is a prerequisite to the right to take any subsequent appeal.
Jeff McDonough
DRB Chairman
09/07/23

Auctions

Advance Auction Notice
Tom Broughton Auctions is back to help sell the late Ralph Farnsworth's museum-quality collectibles.
The next auction is upcoming on Sunday, Oct. 8th when we will continue to sell this 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 9/14/23 & 9/18/23

		COST		
BEEF	LBS.	/LB		\$
Vorsteveld	1905	1.13		\$2152.65
Nea Tocht	1060	1.11		\$1176.60
Conants Riverside	1695	1.10		\$1864.50
Woodnotch Farm	1650	1.08		\$1782.00
Macgaffin Farm	1625	1.08		\$1755.00
Savello Farm	1655	1.05		\$1737.75
Blue Spruce Farm	1550	1.03		\$1596.50

		COST		
CALVES	LBS.	/LB		\$
H. Sunderland	106	5.50		\$583.00
P. Livingston	89	5.30		\$471.70
H. Degraaf	83	5.30		\$439.90
B. Kayhart	89	5.20		\$462.80
Champlainside	97	5.00		\$485.00

Total Beef - 186 Total Calves - 339
We value our faithful customers.
Sales at 3 pm - Mon. & Thurs.
call 1-802-388-2661

CONSIGNMENT SALE!!
ADDISON COUNTY COMMISSION SALES
ANNUAL FALL DAIRY/FEDER SALE
WHEN: 11 AM SHARP - WED. OCTOBER 4TH
WHERE: AT ACCS - BARN - RT 125, EAST MIDDLEBURY, VT
ACCEPTING CONSIGNMENTS NOW!!
OVER 150 HEAD ALREADY CONSIGNED
DON'T MISS THIS ANNUAL FALL SALE. ALL QUALITY CONSIGNMENTS WELCOME
CASH IN ON YOUR OVERSTOCK A MUST SALE TO ATTEND!!!
* FOLLOWING DAIRY *
ALSO CONSIGNING BEEF FEEDERS • ANGUS-HEREFORD & BF CROSSES • ALL BF BREEDS WELCOME!!
For More Info. Call 802-388-2661 (ACCS)
Sale Manager: T.G. Wisnowski & Sons • 802-989-1507
Auctioneer- John Nop
ADDISON COUNTY COMMISSION SALES
www.acccattle.com

Public Notices Index
Public Notices for the following can be found in this ADDISON INDEPENDENT on Pages 11B and 12B.

Leicester (1)	New Haven (1)
Middlebury (1)	Salisbury (1)
Monkton (1)	

TOWN OF MIDDLEBURY SELECTBOARD MEETING
ROOM 116 - LARGE CONFERENCE ROOM
TOWN OFFICES - 77 MAIN STREET
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2023 - 7:00 P.M.
Also available via Zoom:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81506105470>
By Phone: +1 646-558-8656 (not toll-free)
Webinar ID: 815 0610 5470
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

7:00 1. **Call to Order
2. *Approval of Agenda
3. *Approval of Consent Agenda
3a. Approval of Minutes of the September 12, 2023 Regular Selectboard Meeting
3b. Acceptance of Selectboard Subcommittee Meeting Minutes (if any)
3c. Consent Agenda Placeholder
3d. Consent Agenda Placeholder
3e. Consent Agenda Placeholder
3f. Town Manager's Report
• Update on Archives Project
4. **Citizen Comments (Opportunity to raise or address issues not otherwise included on this agenda)

7:10 5. **Agenda Placeholder

7:15 6. *Ilsley Public Library - Renovation & Expansion Project Planning
6.a. *Approval of Agreement with ReArch Company for Preconstruction & Schematic Design Services
6.b. *Approval of Submission of a Grant Application for a Historic Preservation Grant

7:30 7. *Emmalee Cherington, Director of Public Works Planning, with updates & recommendations from the September 14, 2023 Infrastructure Committee Meeting
7.a. *Recommendation Regarding Contracting for the Wastewater Treatment Facility Preliminary Engineering Report: Approval of Termination of Contract with Current Engineering Firm & Approval of Contract with Recommended Firm
7.b. *Agreement with Aldrich + Elliot Water Resource Engineers for Conceptual Stormwater Designs

7:40 8. **Jennifer Murray, Director of Planning & Zoning, Presentation on Bike & Pedestrian Connectivity Scoping Study

8:00 9. *Jennifer Murray, Director of Planning & Zoning, Regarding renewal of the State's Village Designation, Neighborhood Development Area and Downtown Designation, including approval of the Community Reinvestment Agreement for Middlebury's Designated Downtown Area
10. *Approval of Grant Application for the Community Partnership for Neighborhood Development Grant Program in Support of Summit Properties' Development on Seminary Street Extension (Placeholder)

8:10 11. *Contributions to the Vermont Employees Retirement System for Non-Union Employees
12. *Agenda Placeholder
13. *Agenda Placeholder

8:30 14. *Approval of Check Warrants
15. **Board Member Concerns
16. **Executive Session - Anticipated - Real Estate/Contracts
17. **Action on Matters Discussed in Executive Session

8:45 18. *Adjourn

* Decision Item ** Possible Decision



A sign of abundance

A GREAT BLUE Heron fishes in a pond off Route 66 in Waltham last week. Heron sightings are seemingly up in Addison County this summer, a sign that there are plenty of fish. Plenty of water too. No doubt many would say too much.

Photo by Susan Humphrey

City police respond to shooting

VERGENNES — A Vergennes police officer was the first law enforcement official to respond to a home on McKnight Lane in Waltham on Sept. 15 after the call came in at 7:05 p.m. that Friday that a woman had been shot there, as it turned out fatally. McKnight Lane borders Vergennes off Maple Street.

Vergennes police said the city officer took control of a scene that included about 30 onlookers as well as the people in the home where Michelle Kilbreth, 48, was shot multiple times. Vermont State Police allege a juvenile on the scene pulled the trigger during a dispute between Kilbreth and another woman. Police allege the juvenile, whose identity has not been released, used a weapon belonging to the victim.

As well as Vermont State Police, who are investigating the homicide, Middlebury police also helped at the scene, and the Vergennes Area Rescue Squad also responded. City

police referred questions to state police.

In other action between Sept. 11 and 17, Vergennes police conducted eight cruiser patrols, one foot patrol, seven traffic stops, and two VIN inspections; fingerprinted seven job applicants; and also:

- On Sept. 11 took a report that a cellphone had been stolen from a customer at or near a Monkton Road business, but later were told the phone had simply been misplaced and was found.
- On Sept. 12:
 - Conducted two welfare checks, one on a female resident on Hillside Drive and the other on children in a Main Street apartment. In both cases police said the subjects were OK.
 - Helped a citizen jump-start a vehicle on South Water Street.
 - Took a report that a city traffic cone set out on Main Street had been struck by a vehicle and knocked into and broken the window of a

ground-floor apartment.

• Began investigating the theft and illegal use of an electronics benefit card from a Walker Avenue resident.

On Sept. 13 helped state police look for a reportedly suicidal person. A trooper found the woman.

On Sept. 14 dealt with a minor two-vehicle accident at the intersection of Main and Green streets.

On Sept. 15:

- Calmed arguing neighbors on Hopkins Road, a report that originally came in as phone harassment, and on Maple Manor, a complaint originally described as a threat.

On Sept. 16:

- Helped Vermont State Police by supplying a department Drug Recognition Expert at the city station to evaluate a driver suspected of operating under the influence of drugs.

On Sept. 17 looked unsuccessfully for an erratic driver reported near the intersection of Routes 7 and 22A.

Welfare check finds deceased woman

MIDDLEBURY — Middlebury police found a deceased woman inside a Water Street apartment after having been asked by the landlord to check the welfare of the tenant on Sept. 15. Police said they found 40-year-old Anny Jenkins of Middlebury deceased in her apartment.

Investigation into the cause of her death is on-going, but no foul play is suspected, according to police.

In other action last week, Middlebury police:

- Cited Heath N. Bougor, 43, of Middlebury for driving with a criminally suspended license on Washington Street on Sept. 11.
- Responded to a report of a woman yelling under the Cross Street Bridge on Sept. 11. Police checked on the woman, who said she didn't need help.
- Responded to a dispute between some Valley View neighbors on Sept. 11.
- Responded to a bicycle-versus-pedestrian collision, with injuries, on College Street on Sept. 11.
- Helped remove trespassers from a vacant Court Street apartment on Sept. 11.
- Helped a woman who had tipped over her wheelchair near the intersection of Court Street and Mary Hogan Drive on Sept. 11. Police said the woman was uninjured.
- Helped a Court Street business get rid of an unwelcome person on Sept. 12.
- Offered to connect a homeless man with social services after he had reportedly been asking passersby for money on Court Street on Sept. 12.
- Cited Jacob Burmania, 28, of Middlebury for simple assault, following an investigation into an alleged incident in the Valley View area on Sept. 12.
- Conducted foot patrols under the Cross Street Bridge on Sept. 13 and 14. Police have received an increasing number of complaints — including from nearby Mister Up's Restaurant — about some individuals who are camping and congregating there.
- Conducted, on behalf of Middlebury Union High School officials, a welfare check on a local

Middlebury Police Log

parent following a "very heated" meeting about a student on Sept. 13.

• Investigated allegations on Sept. 13 that a Shaw's Supermarket employee had stolen two money orders totaling \$800 and had deposited them at a bank in Rutland.

• Investigated an allegation that someone had stolen a check from an Exchange Street business on Sept. 13. Police said the culprit allegedly altered the check and tried to cash it at a Bristol bank.

• Received a report about an unspecified retail theft from Kinney Drugs on Court Street on Sept. 13.

• Began an investigation into an assault complaint reported by a North Pleasant Street woman on Sept. 13. Police said the woman alleged being "assaulted and terrorized" by a man in her Counseling Service of Addison County-supervised apartment. Police said the woman, who was "emotionally distraught" while making her report, had allegedly threatened staff at the residence and was told to leave. Police said they're investigating the alleged assault and have helped the woman find emergency housing.

• Responded to a noise complaint at the Briarwood Apartments on Sept. 14.

• Responded with Vermont State Police to a single-vehicle crash on Shard Villa Road in Salisbury on Sept. 14.

• Responded to a report of a driver asleep in his car at a Route 7 South intersection on Sept. 14.

• Checked on the welfare of two people found sleeping off Mary Hogan Drive at around 1:30 a.m. on Sept. 15.

• Responded to a trespassing complaint in Court Square on Sept. 15.

• Checked on the welfare of a man who had been walking along Foote Street during the afternoon

of Sept. 15.

• Assisted Vermont State Police, Vergennes police and Vergennes Area Rescue at the scene of a fatal shooting at a Waltham home on Sept. 15 (see related story on Page 1A).

• Facilitated the exchange of property following a family dispute in the Route 7 North area on Sept. 15.

• Checked on a group of people seen loitering behind a closed Park Street business on Sept. 15.

• Helped a couple who had accidentally locked themselves out of their Benedict Lane home on Sept. 15.

• Were asked to probe a "possible domestic abuse" incident at a Case Street home on Sept. 15. Police said the matter is still under investigation.

• Responded to a noise complaint in the South Pleasant Street area at around 11:38 p.m. on Sept. 15.

• Received a report about a man allegedly yelling at Middlebury Natural Food Co-op customers while begging outside of the Washington Street store on Sept. 16.

• Received a complaint about a noisy party in the Seminary Street Extension residence at around 3 p.m. on Sept. 16.

• Investigated a theft complaint at a McIntyre Lane business on Sept. 16.

• Responded to a report of a loud party at 95 Seminary St. Extension on Sept. 16. The party was dispersing upon police arrival.

• Cited Taylor Norris, 32, of St. George for driving under the influence, following a traffic stop on Case Street on Sept. 16. Police said they measured Norris's blood-alcohol content at 0.127%; the legal limit for driving is 0.08.

• Responded to a report of a "confused and frantic" individual trespassing in a Porter Medical Center administrative building on Sept. 17.

• Responded to a dispute between some Route 7 South neighbors on Sept. 17.

• Investigated a report of an injured deer at the intersection of Route 7 and Exchange Street on Sept. 17.

Family Law Clinic offers free services

VERMONT — Legal Services Vermont will offer a free Family Law Clinic for low-income Vermonters on Tuesday, Sept. 26, from 9 a.m. to 12 noon. Over the phone or video conference, a lawyer can answer questions about divorce, parentage, custody, visitation, child support and more.

Those wanting help must have an appointment and space is limited.

Find information about eligibility online at vtlawhelp.org/family.

To make an appointment, call Legal Services Vermont at 1-800-889-2047 and leave a message with your name and

contact number. Please be sure to mention the Family Law Clinic. An advocate will call you back to screen for eligibility and schedule your appointment.

Legal Services Vermont is a nonprofit legal services law firm based in Burlington; it serves all of Vermont.

Troopers handle major, routine incidents

ADDISON COUNTY — Vermont State Police operating out of the New Haven barracks dealt with two violent incidents between Sept. 6 and 19.

In the first incident, Neil A. Abrahamson, 36, of Vergennes was seriously injured when he was hit by an SUV while he was aiding an injured animal on Route 7 late on the night of Sept. 6. Abrahamson was treated at UVM Medical Center, including surgery to repair a fractured pelvis. See a full report in the Sept. 14 edition.

Nine days later, on Friday, July 15, state police were called to McKnight Lane in Waltham after a juvenile watching a fight involving two women picked up a gun dropped by 48-year-old Michelle Kilbreth and shot her multiple times. She died at the scene. See a full report on Page 1A of this edition.

Meanwhile, over that same period, troopers issued several citations for driving under the influence (DUI) and handled a traffic accident near New Haven Junction.

In the first case, troopers stopped a car just after midnight on Sept. 9 after observing a motor vehicle violation on Greenbush Road near the intersection with Stage Road in North Ferrisburgh. After talking with the driver, police cited David Parker, 47, of North Ferrisburgh for driving under the influence. They released Parker to a sober person.

In the second case, almost a whole day later, at around a quarter to midnight on Sept. 9, a trooper stopped a motor vehicle on Mt. Philo Road near the intersection of Old Hollow Road in North

Vt. State Police Log

Ferrisburgh. Police screened Nikolai Pughe, 21, of Charlotte and cited him for DUI.

Also, on Sept. 14 at around 5:30 p.m. a trooper stopped a motor vehicle on Route 7 near Little Chicago Road in Ferrisburgh. Police cited Nicholas Faber, 36, of Vergennes for DUI, and released him to a sober person.

Then on Sept. 16 at a little after 6:30 p.m. state police received a report of a possible impaired driver at the Jiffy Mart in at New Haven Junction. Troopers located and stopped the vehicle on Route 7 near Campground Road in New Haven. They identified the driver at Angela Carroll, 47, of Burlington. While speaking to Carroll, Troopers observed indicators of impairment and screened Carroll for DUI. Police said Carroll briefly resisted arrest but they ultimately took her into custody, took her to the Vergennes Police Department for processing and cited Carroll for driving under the influence of drugs.

Troopers were assisted by Vergennes police.

On the traffic accident front, on Tuesday, Sept. 12, at approximately 11:11 a.m., troopers responded to a two-vehicle crash involving a tractor-trailer on Route 7 at the intersection with Route 17 in New Haven. Police report that Larry Steady, 65, of Richmond was driving a Peterbilt tractor-trailer westbound on Route 17, stopped at the intersection but failed to

yield to a northbound 2023 Toyota Highlander driven on Route 7 by Terence Eagan, 53, of Sudbury. The front-end of Steady's Peterbilt struck the side of Eagan's Toyota and both vehicles ultimately came to positions of controlled rest.

No injuries were reported, though the Highlander was considered a total loss.

Police issued Steady a ticket for failing to obey a stop sign, which carries a fine of \$162 and two points against his insurance.

Finally, also on Sept. 12, Vermont State Police updated a report from last week on a Sept. 3 crash on Route 74 near Doolittle Road in Shoreham. Police said the crash happened when a Middlebury 21-year-old attempted to pass a line of cars. This week police issued a statement saying there was not enough evidence to prove that the Middlebury driver was driving unsafely.

In a separate sphere, state police didn't report this, but a Front Porch Forum post reported that state police are investigating a vandalism complaint in Lincoln. A post by Sarah Farr reported that someone came to private property on Elder Hill Road on Sept. 9 at 12:38 a.m. and used a chainsaw to cut down a post with security/surveillance cameras. Farr asked anyone who had information on this incident to call state police at 802-388-4919 and ask to talk to Sgt. Shaw about case no. 23B500358.

Finally, a trooper stopped a vehicle on Route 7 in Waltham driven by Allan Ayala, 41, of Bristol on Sept. 11 and cited him for driving with a criminally suspended license.

Monkton

Have a news tip? Call Liz Pecor at 802-453-2180

NEWS

MONKTON — The Monkton Scouts are hosting a Big Truck Day at Morse Park from 2 to 5 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 23. You will be able to check out these big rigs, cool cars, radical rides and awesome antiques. You will also get to participate in some field games. Popcorn and lemonade will

be available for your pleasure. If you have something to contribute to the array of vehicles, please contact manginijeff@gmail.com. All are welcome!

The Monkton Museum and Historical Society has published a new booklet called "East Monkton, Vermont: A History of Its Land

and People." This booklet is available in several places. Costing \$12, the black and white copy is available at the Town Clerk's office during regular business hours. A free color map can be found in the boxes next to the Town Clerk's office that supports the text. That map includes a QR code to the digital version. You can access the Monkton Museum and Historical Society's link to it under Publications: tinyurl.com/East-Monkton-book.

Contact Lauren Parren if you have any questions at laurenparren@gmail.com.



For breaking news & updates wherever you are! @addisonindependent

Public Notices

can be found in this ADDISON INDEPENDENT on Pages 11B and 12B.

TOWN OF SALISBURY NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Town of Salisbury is considering making application to the State of Vermont for an Accessibility Modification Grant under the Vermont Community Development Program. A public hearing will be held at 6:30 p.m. on Oct. 10, 2023 at the Salisbury Town Office to obtain the views of citizens on community development, to furnish information concerning the amount of funds available and the range of community development activities that may be undertaken under this program, the impact to any historic and archaeological resources that may be affected by the proposed project, and to give affected citizens the opportunity to examine the proposed statement of projected use of these funds. The proposal is to apply for up to \$150,000 in VCDP Funds which will be used to accomplish accessibility modifications to the following building: the Salisbury Town Hall.

Copies of the proposed application are available at the Salisbury Town Office and may be viewed during the hours of 9-3 on Tuesdays; 11-6 on Thursdays. Should you require any special accommodations, please contact the Town Clerk at 802-352-4228 to ensure appropriate accommodations are made. For the hearing impaired please call (TTY) # 1-800-253-0191.

Legislative Body for the Town of Salisbury

ARTS + LEISURE

The Addison...

September 21, 2023



Brandon Snook (front) and Peter Clark (back) rehearse as the younger and older self of the protagonist Jim Thompson for Opera Company of Middlebury's production of "Glory Denied." The new opera will open at Town Hall Theater in Middlebury on Sept. 27.

INDEPENDENT PHOTO / STEVE JAMES

Glory Denied: New American opera about the history of now

Great opera doesn't need to be *about* anything — sometimes all we crave is unforgettable music and fabulous voices. But Opera Company of Middlebury's "Glory Denied," opening Sept. 27 at Town Hall Theater in Middlebury, offers more and should not be missed.

It is powerfully about the realest real stuff: America, you and me and everyone right now, how Vietnam permanently changed our world and affects us still, far more than we know or like to remember.

"Glory Denied" is a compact chamber opera in two connected acts — no intermission! — which vividly reenacts the memories of Jim Thompson, America's longest-serving



BY **DAVID WEINSTOCK**

prisoner of war, held in agonizing captivity for nine years. Four singers are always on stage, two each representing Jim and his wife Alyce at different moments of life: Younger Jim as a starving and tortured prisoner, wriggles across the floor of his bamboo cage, Older Thompson, returned military officer, his wife Alyce both before and during his captivity, and

Older Alyce after his return.

Thompson came home to a world he barely recognized. Not only had America rejected the war and widely denied its returning vets the glory heaped on World War II's conquering heroes, but Jim also lost his family. His wife Alyce, with four young children and a husband missing in action, had finally moved on.

Soprano Megan Pachecano, preparing to sing Younger Alyce, remembers her own father, whose Marine service in Vietnam left him with lifelong PTSD:

"To me, the music that I'm singing and hearing around me in the harmony of this opera

SEE GLORY ON PAGE 3

Opera Company of Middlebury announces merger with youths

The Opera Company of Middlebury (OCM) is proud to announce the merger of the pioneering teen performance program the Youth Opera Company of Vermont (YOC) with the OCM Education and Outreach division, led by Founder, Executive Director, and soprano Sarah Cullins and Music Director Mary Jane Austin. Going forward, the program will now be known as the Youth Opera Company of OCM. YOC's integration further elevates OCM's 20 year-history as a leader among Vermont arts organizations and opera companies world-wide in offering comprehensive and multi-faceted opportunities for education, participation, professional training, and community engagement. The cast of Youth Opera's current production, "From Spain With Love," includes students from Burlington High School, Rice Memorial High School, Harwood Union High School, Montpelier High School U32 High School, The Pacem School and Norwich University.

"We had always hoped to start a vigorous youth program," said OCM Artistic Director Douglas Anderson, "but until now, we never had someone with the skills to make it work. Youth programs require someone who has mastered not only the art of vocal technique, but who has also mastered the art of inspiring young people. Sarah Cullins is just the person to make this a huge success."

"I HAVE NO DOUBT WE WILL AMAZE OUR LOYAL — AND NEW — AUDIENCES!"

— Sarah Cullins

Cullins, who has assumed the title of Director of Education and Outreach, has been a frequent soloist in OCM productions, a member of the Board of Directors, and Director of the OCM Young Artists Program. She founded the Youth Opera Company of Vermont in 2019, which became an independent nonprofit organization in 2022. Described by Cullins as an "interscholastic varsity opera team," Youth Opera

is a supportive space for singers not only to hone their vocal, musical and dramatic skills, but also to develop a lifelong love of the art form. All participants, whether or not they are aspiring pre-professionals, benefit from the transferable skills taught during YOC programs, such as public speaking, résumé/bio writing and audition training (akin to interview training). With this merger, OCM joins an exclusive international group of companies offering teen programs, such as the Santa



Ambrose Cusick (left) and George Lane (right) cheers during a rehearsal of the Youth Opera Company of Vermont. This teen performance program is merging with Opera Company of Middlebury to create the Youth Opera Company of OCM, led by Sarah Cullins and Mary Jane Austin.

COURTESY PHOTO

Fe Young Voices Program, the Washington National Opera Institute and the Royal Opera House Youth Opera (U.K.).

Opera Company of Middlebury's expanded educational and outreach programs now comprise:

- Opera Under 26: a free ticket program for audience members under age 26 to have access to and be inspired by world class professional opera productions.
- Young Artists Program: a 3.5-week training program for masters' degree level, pre-professional singers during OCM's spring mainstage production.
- Youth Opera Company of OCM: an array of opportunities for singers in grades 8 and higher, such as after-school opera scenes workshop programs, audition techniques masterclasses, summer opera camp, and the Project Serenade summer concert series at long-term care residences and community venues.
- Dido and Aeneas Project: a matchless enrichment opportunity funded by a Vermont Arts Council artist-in-schools grant that brings OCM's expertise into a different Vermont high school each year; OCM's education director collaborates with the school's choral director to engage all choral students to create and perform

their own unique interpretation of Henry Purcell's classic opera. The highly successful inaugural project at Burlington High School in January 2022, will be followed by the project's second installment, at Colchester High School, in January 2024.

"Merging with the Opera Company of Middlebury is thrilling for the teen singers of Youth Opera and for our entire YOC family," explained Cullins. "It's been incredibly inspiring to brainstorm with OCM Artistic Director Doug Anderson about the new training and performance opportunities we can now create for our young local talent as a unified organization. I have no doubt we will amaze our loyal — and new — audiences!"

Both the Opera Company of Middlebury and the Youth Opera Company share important mission tenets, such as engaging local support, fostering emerging talent, and creating exceptional opera. To help fund these educational programs, OCM has launched an "Invest in the Future of Opera" campaign with a goal of raising \$40,000.

In addition to launching Youth Opera initiatives, OCM continues its 20th anniversary season with the Vermont premiere of "Glory Denied" by Tom Cipullo, running Sept. 27-Oct. 1 (see story Page 1).

For more information, contact OCM's Administrative Director Allison Steinmetz or visit ocmvermont.org.

GLORY

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

makes me feel the way that I know my father did," Pachecano said. "The music makes that a visceral experience. And that's art. Art isn't always going to make us bubbly and perky. The point of art is to be a mirror back on society, to let us see and experience what we're all going through."

Her aria "Darling Jim," in the form of a letter she writes him with loving news of home and children, is unforgettable.

Tenor Brandon Snook (Younger Jim) who comes to OCM after five other productions of "Glory Denied," said "It's not your stereotypical opera, but is very conducive to the 21st century musical scene. A lot of contemporary composers like to push the envelope with tonalities and flow, but this isn't like that. As far as the music is concerned, it is easy to listen to. The subject matter, Vietnam, may be something different."

OCM's new motto is "Little State, Big Opera," and the company has attracted unprecedented attention in the opera world. Another "littleness" is also a plus, Town Hall Theater's intimate space and acoustics, with seating for 250 listeners compared to the Met's 4,000. Stage director Alexandra Dietrich, here for her first assignment with OCM, said "It's a perfect venue for this show. The smaller space itself is an exciting place to stage in. That kind of connection with the



"ART ISN'T ALWAYS GOING TO MAKE US BUBBLY AND PERKY. THE POINT OF ART IS TO BE A MIRROR BACK ON SOCIETY, TO LET US SEE AND EXPERIENCE WHAT WE'RE ALL GOING THROUGH."

— Megan Pachecano, soprano

audience is so important."

Editor's note: For more info and tickets visit townhalltheater.org.



Megan Pachecano (top right) and Meredith Lustig (above) play Alyce in Opera Company of Middlebury's production of the new American opera "Glory Denied," which will take the stage at Town Hall Theater, Sept. 27-Oct. 1.

INDEPENDENT PHOTOS / STEVE JAMES



MIDDLEBURY PERFORMING ARTS SERIES
FALL 2023 SEASON



September 30 ■ 7:30 PM
Emerson String Quartet
\$25/20/10/5



October 7 ■ 7:30 PM
Dreamers' Circus
\$25/20/15/10/5
Live and streaming

802-443-MIDD (6433)
go.middlebury.edu/pas



Love abound at this year's Marrowbone performances

MARROWBONE, a theatre of stories in word, gesture and song, is back this year and will take place on Saturday, Sept. 30, and Sunday, Oct. 1, beginning at noon each day, in Lincoln.

Marrowbone took its title years ago from W.B. Yeats:
*God guard me from the thoughts
Men think in the mind alone
He that sings a lasting song
Thinks in a marrowbone.*

Once more, with those words always in mind and marrow, Marrowbone offers scenes of great complexity and depth as well as ones of sweet delight. The theme this year is "Love," in a few of its many more complicated manifestations — and the pieces being performed portray people (and animals) living and reaching out with open hearts towards the wider world.

This will be Marianne Lust's final year as creator of Marrowbone, having mounted it over 20 times since the early 1990s. But fear not, Marrowbone will continue in the exemplary and dedicated hands and hearts of Justine Jackson, Sara Granstrom and Sophie Pickens.



Performances are planned to take place outside in a hidden meadow, with the audience walking a guided path to different scenes coming to life in the autumn woods. Path walk is 1/2 miles long. Kids are very deeply welcome, but this is an adult performance and material is definitely not geared toward children. Tickets and more information are available at marrowbone.org. Shows often sell out, advance ticket purchases are highly recommended.

CELEBRATE INDIGENOUS CULTURE AT THE ABENAKI LAND LINK HARVEST FESTIVAL

The Nulhegan Band of Coosuk, Abenaki Nation and Common Roots invite all to join in a celebration of the harvest of indigenous seeds at the Abenaki Land Link Harvest Festival on Saturday, Sept. 23, at the Wheeler Homestead, 1100 Dorset Street in South Burlington.

At this family-friendly event, visitors can learn more about Abenaki food culture with performances, demonstrations, food tasting, storytelling and more. Nature trails and a children's garden discovery area will both be open to the public and bring your own picnic is encouraged.

Since 2020, the Abenaki Land Link Project has provided Indigenous seeds to over a dozen gardeners, homesteaders and farmers around Vermont who dedicated land to grow and harvest food for Abenaki citizens. This year, the project expanded to include almost 50 growers around the state. The Abenaki Land Link Project is a partnership with the Northeast Organic Farming Association of Vermont (NOFA-VT) and is part of the food sovereignty work of Abenaki Helping Abenaki, a nonprofit organization of the Nulhegan Abenaki Tribe.

This event is free and will be held from 11 a.m.-3 p.m., rain or shine. For more info visit eventbrite.com/e/the-abenaki-land-link-harvest-festival-tickets-709701846327.

OPERA COMPANY OF MIDDLEBURY
CELEBRATING 20 YEARS

GLORY DENIED

MUSIC BY TOM CIPULLO; LIBRETTO BY TOM CIPULLO,
BASED ON THE BOOK BY TOM PHILPOTT

ALEXANDRA DIETRICH, DIRECTOR
FILIPPO CIABATTI, CONDUCTOR

SEPTEMBER 27 - OCTOBER 1, 2023

INFO: [OCMVERMONT.ORG](http://ocmvermont.org)
TICKETS: [TOWNHALLTHEATER.ORG](http://townhalltheater.org)

Free tickets available to people under the age of 26 as well as military veterans and active duty members. For more information, please email us at ocm@ocmvermont.org

TAVERN
ON THE TEE

Locally-sourced food and delicious cocktails served on the best patio in town with mountain views. Live music on Sundays.

OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK 11 A.M. TO 7 P.M.
317 GOLF COURSE ROAD, MIDDLEBURY, VT

Stay Sharp

Exercise your mind.
With the Addy Indy puzzles every Thursday! See page 10.

ART ON EXHIBIT

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 mid-November.

EDGEWATER AT THE FALLS

1 Mill Street, Middlebury
Visit edgewatergallery.com, call 802-458-0098 or email info@edgewatergallery-vt.com for more info.

"Nature's Inner Light," a two-person exhibition featuring new work by Penny Billings and Holly Friesen. Their approach to color, painting style, technique and composition differ but a passion for the New England and Quebec landscape, unite them in this collection. An opening reception will be held on Thursday, Oct. 5, from 5-6 p.m. On view Sept. 9-Nov. 15.

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 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

"The Future Belongs to Ghosts." A solo exhibit by Chelsea Granger, an artist based in Branford, Conn., whose experience of loss and grief inhabits her art. An opening reception will be held Friday, Sept. 22, from 5-7 p.m. On view through Oct. 31.

SEE EXHIBITS ON PAGE 15

Cosmic Forecast

ARIES: March 21/April 20. There is nothing wrong with a bit of self-indulgence, Aries. But you do not want to go overboard with your treats and other must-haves. Moderation is key in everything.

TAURUS: April 21/May 21. You have a no-nonsense bearing that immediately has people drawing close to you and trusting you, Taurus. Put that out in full force as you try to win favor on the job this week.

GEMINI: May 22/June 21. Gemini, don't let your quest for excitement pull you in too many different directions right now. You need to stick to one plan for a certain amount of time and see things through.

CANCER: June 22/July 22. Everyone wants a piece of you right now, Cancer. It is equally flattering and exhausting. You'll have to be choosy regarding where and with whom to dedicate your time.

LEO: July 23/Aug. 23. Listen to the messages swirling around in your head right now, Leo. Your intuition has been on target so there is no reason to doubt yourself now. Keep moving forward.

VIRGO: Aug. 24/Sept. 22. Virgo, is a particular relationship getting too intense for you? It might be the time to ease up a bit and take a step back. Distance could provide the clarity you need.

LIBRA: Sept. 23/Oct. 23. Libra, you do not need to struggle if you simply call in a few favors. Reach out to your network of people and figure out how you can make things work.

SCORPIO: Oct. 24/Nov. 22. Scorpio, do not chase people down, simply wait for them to come to you with your natural magnetism. You don't want to exert energy this week unnecessarily.

SAGITTARIUS: Nov. 23/Dec. 21. Sagittarius, rather than showing people all of your cards, hold some information close to the vest and maintain a bit of mystery. Others likely will be intrigued.

CAPRICORN: Dec. 22/Jan. 20. Capricorn, you may find that things are very profitable for you this week. If you are an entrepreneur, business will be solid. If you perhaps sell on the side, money will flow.

AQUARIUS: Jan. 21/Feb. 18. Aquarius, for quite some time you have been focusing on everyone but yourself. You have to change your ways if you can get the rest and healing that you need right now.

PISCES: Feb. 19/March 20. There is no doubt that you've earned a few commendations, Pisces. But this week you need to accept congratulations without being boastful. Exhibit both humility and pride.

Life's a stitch,
it's time to knit.

Tues-Thurs 11am-5pm
Fri 11-7pm, Sat 10am-5pm
Sun 12-4pm • Closed Mon



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FAMOUS BIRTHDAYS

SEPT. 21 — Stephen King, author (76)
SEPT. 22 — Tatiana Maslany, actor (38)
SEPT. 23 — John Coltrane, Jazz musician (d)
SEPT. 24 — Jim Henson, Muppets creator (d)

SEPT. 25 — Bell Hooks, writer (d)
SEPT. 26 — Serena Williams, Tennis player (42)
SEPT. 27 — Will Sampson, Muscogee Nation painter, actor, and rodeo performer (d)

CALENDAR

SEPT. 21-30
2023



THURSDAY, SEPT. 21

GUIDED HIKE: ROCKY POINT INTERPRETIVE TRAIL IN SALISBURY. Thursday, Sept. 21, 11 a.m., Silver Lake Trailhead, Route 53. An easy-to-moderate out and back trail this is 3 miles long and should take 2 hours to complete. Features a scenic view of Silver Lake and interpretive signs to learn more about the resources in the area. Offered by Branbury State Park/Vermont Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation.

"ATTIC OF DREAMS" PRESENTATION IN MIDDLEBURY. Thursday, Sept. 21, 6:30 p.m., Ilsley Public Library, 75 Main St. Former Shelburne Farms President Marilyn Webb Neagley will present her new memoir, "Attic of Dreams" a lyrical memoir tracing a life of healing from family dysfunction and jumping headlong into a life of natural curiosity, art, and activism. Themes explored include home and community; addiction and secrecy; recovery and restoration; the arts and the natural world; growth and wholeness; and how the changing times and culture are perceived through older eyes. Books will be available for sale by Vermont Book Shop.

FRIDAY, SEPT. 22

GUIDED HIKE: RATTLESNAKE CLIFFS IN SALISBURY. Friday, Sept. 22, 11 a.m., Silver Lake Trailhead parking, Route 53. A moderate out-and-back hike totaling 3.2 miles, this hike features scenic views and a chance to see the cliff-style ecosystems at the top of many mountains in the Green Mountain National Forest. Offered by Branbury State Park/Vermont Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation.

ARTIST'S OPENING RECEPTION IN VERGENNES. Friday, Sept. 22, 5-7 p.m., Northern Daughters Gallery, 221 Main St. Come see work by Chelsea Granger, an artist based in Branford, Conn., whose experience of loss and grief has inhabited her art for the last seven years.

ART OPENING IN MIDDLEBURY. Friday, Sept. 22, 5-7 p.m., Sparrow Art Supply, 52 Main St. Come see

MACRO/micro Sparrow Art Supply's latest exhibit, with work by more than 40 artists exploring dimension, detail, proportion, perspective and point of view.

DAVID FEURZEIG WITH HELEN LYONS AND DAVID OLIVEIRA IN FERRISBURGH. Friday, Sept. 22, 7 p.m., North Ferrisburgh United Methodist Church, 227 Old Hollow Rd. Composer-pianist David Feurzeig is giving 252 free concerts in each of Vermont's 252 towns to confront climate change through the power of community and music. Concerts is free, but any donations given will be accepted for The Climate Mobilization (theclimatemobilization.org). More info at PlayEveryTown.com.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 23

HARVEST FESTIVAL IN BRISTOL. Saturday, Sept. 23, 10 a.m., Bristol town green. The town green will come alive with more than 65 crafters and vendors, various demonstrations, and live musical entertainment on the bandstand throughout the day.

COME DANCE TO JOE & JACKIE IN MIDDLEBURY. Saturday, Sept. 23, 4-7 p.m., Addison County VFW Post #7823, 530 Exchange St. Come dance and enjoy at this open house. Free.

NORTHEASTERN OPEN ATLATL CHAMPIONSHIP IN ADDISON. Saturday, Sept. 23, 10:30 a.m.- 4 p.m., Chimney Point State Historic Site, Route 17. Participate in or watch this annual atlatl championship testing skills in accuracy and distance. The sport of using the atlatl to throw darts is based on the ancient hunting technique. Newcomers to experts welcome. Flint-knapping demonstrations and lessons throughout the day. Call 802-759-2412 to register.

GUIDED HIKE: HOGBACK MOUNTAIN IN GOSHEN. Saturday, Sept. 23, 1 p.m., Blueberry Hill Outdoor Center, Goshen Ripton Rd. An easy 3-mile loop trail that should take 1-2 hours, this trail circles around the peak of Hogback Mountain, features scenic views, and is perfect for viewing the fall foliage. Offered by

Branbury State Park/Vermont Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation.

TOURNESOL IN MIDDLEBURY. Saturday, Sept. 23, 4-7 p.m., Happy Valley Orchard, 217 Quarry Rd. Spend an evening at the orchard listening to music, dancing, and making memories. With genres ranging from folk rock to reggae, jazz and bluegrass, there's something for everyone. Free. Bring your camp chairs. Mountain Mac Cider, doughnuts, a pie and some grub from food vendors available for purchase. More info at facebook.com/mountainmaccider.

BRASS & BBQ IN VERGENNES. Saturday, Sept. 23, 6 p.m., Vergennes Opera House, 120 Main St. Listen to Champlain Brass play Broadway, jazz, and novelty tunes while enjoying a pulled pork buffet by Queen Bee Catering. Tickets \$25 general seating, includes dinner. Cash bar. All proceeds will benefit the All Access Project at the Vergennes Opera House Doors and cash bar open at 5:30 p.m.

DAVID FEURZEIG WITH SOPHIA BOISE IN SALISBURY. Saturday, Sept. 23, 7 p.m., Salisbury Congregational Church, 853 Maple St. Composer-pianist David Feurzeig is giving 252 free concerts in each of Vermont's 252 towns to confront climate change through the power of community and music. Concerts is free, but any donations given will be accepted for the to benefit the Vermont Reptile & Amphibian Atlas (vtherpatlas.org). More info at PlayEveryTown.com.

SUNDAY, SEPT. 24

BEE SKEP-MAKING WITH BARRY IN ADDISON. Sunday, Sept. 24, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Chimney Point State Historic Site, Route 17. Create your own bee skep — for decorative purposes only — with Barry Keegan. \$60 fee includes all materials required and museum admission. Enjoy a relaxing time on Lake Champlain as you learn and create. Pre-registration is required, call 802-759-2412.

FALL IN LOVE WITH OPERA IN NEW HAVEN. Sunday, *CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE*

MCTV SCHEDULE Channels 1071 & 1091		MIDDLEBURY COMMUNITY TELEVISION: P.O. Box 785, Middlebury, Vt. 05753	
<p>MCTV Channel 1071</p> <p>Friday, September 15 Through the Night: Public Affairs 6:30 a.m. Energy Week 7:30 a.m. Congregational Church 10 a.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs 4 p.m. Memorial Baptist Church 5:30 p.m. Selectboard, Gov. Scott</p> <p>Saturday, September 16 Through the Night: Public Affairs 7:30 a.m. Gov. Scott, Public Affairs 10 a.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs 4 p.m. Memorial Baptist Service 5:30 p.m. Eckankar 6 p.m. Energy Week 7 p.m. Catholic Mass 7:30 p.m. Gov. Scott</p> <p>8:30 p.m. Selectboard 10:30 p.m. Montpelier Happy Hour 11:34 p.m. Dr. John Campbell</p> <p>Sunday, September 17 Through the Night: Public Affairs 5 a.m. Green Mountain (GM) Care Board</p>		<p>Wednesday, September 20 Through the Night: Public Affairs 5 a.m. Gov. Scott, Public Affairs 6:30 a.m. Energy Week 7:30 a.m. Memorial Baptist Service 9:30 a.m. Catholic Mass 10 a.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs 5 p.m. Energy Week 7 p.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs</p> <p>Thursday, September 21 Through the Night: Public Affairs 5 a.m. Dr. John Campbell 8 a.m. Congregational Service 11 a.m. Energy Week 12 p.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs 9:30 p.m. Eckankar 10 p.m. GM Care Board</p> <p>Channel 1091 9/15/2023 Friday, September 15 5 a.m. All Things LGBTQ 6 a.m. Music from Around Vermont 12 p.m. Author Talks and Interviews 5 p.m. All Things LGBTQ 6 p.m. All Brains Belong - Book Club</p>	
<p>9 a.m. Catholic Mass 10 a.m. Energy Week 11 a.m. Memorial Baptist Service 12:30 p.m. Selectboard, Gov. Scott 4 p.m. Congregational Service 5:30 p.m. Dr. John Campbell 6:30 p.m. Eckankar 7 p.m. Catholic Mass 7:30 p.m. GM Care Board</p> <p>Monday, September 18 Through the Night: Public Affairs 5 a.m. Montpelier Happy Hour 6:04 a.m. Gov. Scott, Public Affairs 10 a.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs 7 p.m. Dr. John Campbell 9:30 p.m. Eckankar 10 p.m. GM Care Board</p> <p>Tuesday, September 19 Through the Night: Public Affairs 8:30 a.m. Energy Week 9:30 a.m. Eckankar 10 a.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs 4 p.m. Congregational Service 5:30 p.m. Dr. John Campbell 7 p.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs</p>		<p>7 p.m. School Board Meetings Saturday, September 16 4:45 a.m. Music from Around Vermont: Kerubo 6 a.m. All Things LGBTQ 7 a.m. School Board Meetings 12 p.m. All Brains Belong 1 p.m. Music Around Vermont 4 p.m. Bessette Quartet 5:30 p.m. CVSL Championship Meet</p> <p>Sunday, September 17 4 a.m. Music Around Vermont 6 a.m. All Brains Belong 7:30 a.m. School Board Meetings 3:36 p.m. Bessette Quartet 5 p.m. All Things LGBTQ 6 p.m. All Brains Belong 7 p.m. Montpelier Parkapalooza</p> <p>Monday, September 18 5 a.m. School Board Meetings 9:30 a.m. Food & Cooking Programs 10 a.m. Author Talks and Interviews 12 p.m. School Board Meetings 6 p.m. All Things LGBTQ 7 p.m. Music Around Vermont</p>	
		<p>Tuesday, September 19 5:30 a.m. Chair Yoga 6:30 a.m. Music Around Vermont 12 p.m. Author Talks and Interviews 5 p.m. School Board Meetings</p> <p>Wednesday, September 20 5 a.m. Chair Yoga 6 a.m. All Things LGBTQ 7 a.m. Author Talks and Interviews 12 p.m. Music Around Vermont 4 p.m. Moccasin Tracks 4:22 p.m. Moments with Melinda - Guest: Leslie Frye</p> <p>5 p.m. Folz Studio (Episode 1) 6 p.m. School Board Meetings</p> <p>Thursday, September 21 5:30 a.m. Moccasin Tracks 5:52 p.m. Moments with Melinda 6:30 a.m. Author Talks and Interviews 9 a.m. Yoga 10 a.m. Food & Cooking Programs 12 p.m. School Board Meetings 5 p.m. Yoga 6 p.m. Music Around Vermont 10 p.m. All Things LGBTQ</p>	

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.

Sept. 24, 11 a.m., Tourterelle, 3629 Route 7. To celebrate Opera Company of Middlebury's 20th anniversary, enjoy a delicious brunch to the backdrop of OCM's delightful "Glory Denied" cast members, serenading you with their favorite French opera arias, and help raise funds for OCM. Tickets \$125 per person. Limited tickets available.

GUIDED HIKE: ROBERT FROST INTERPRETIVE TRAIL IN RIPTON. Sunday, Sept. 24, 11 a.m., Robert Frost Interpretive Trail, Route 125. Learn about the poet Robert Frost at this poetry-lined trail! This is an easy hike that loops for 1.2 miles and should take about 30-60 minutes. This hike is accessible and usable for wheelchair users. Offered by Branbury State Park/Vermont Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation.

GUIDED HIKE: VOTER BROOK TRAIL IN GOSHEN. Sunday, Sept. 24, 1 p.m., Moosalamoo Campground parking lot, Goshen Ripton Rd. This easy out-and-back hike goes for 2.4 miles and should take an hour to complete. It features scenic views and excellent foliage viewing. Leashed dogs are welcome. Offered by Branbury State Park/Vermont Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation.

ZIG ZAG LIT MAG RELEASE PARTY IN NEW HAVEN. Sunday Sept. 24, 4-6 p.m., Tourterelle, 3629 Route 7. Celebrate local writers and artists at this free event. Come mingle, purchase the new issue, and have a beverage. Reading from the issue begins at 4:30 p.m. More info at zigzaglitmag.org.

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 27

"GLORY DENIED: AN OPERA IN TWO ACTS" IN MIDDLEBURY. Wednesday, Sept. 27, 7:30 p.m., Town Hall Theater, 68 S. Pleasant St. Opera Company of Middlebury stages "Glory Denied," a poignant saga that takes place during the Vietnam War, based on the true story of Col. Jim Thompson, America's longest-held prisoner of war. This moving story tells Thompson's story through younger and older versions of Thompson and his wife, Alyce, who traverse this complex emotional landscape through hope, despair, love, hate, courage and forgiveness. Preshow talk at 6:30 p.m. at Memorial Baptist Church, 97 S. Pleasant St. Tickets \$77/\$67/\$57, including fees. Free for patrons under 26. More info at townhalltheater.org or tickets@townhalltheater.org.

THURSDAY, SEPT. 28

GUIDED HIKE: SILVER LAKE TRAIL IN SALISBURY. Thursday, Sept. 28, 1 p.m., Silver Lake Trailhead parking, Route 53. A moderate loop of 5.3 miles that passes near the Falls of Lana. Enjoy quiet scenery and clear views of the lake as well as a view of the waterfall — if weather allows, wading to the Falls of Lana is a possibility. Offered by Branbury State Park/Vermont Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation.

FRIDAY, SEPT. 29

GUIDED HIKE: MT. MOOSALAMOO IN GOSHEN. Friday, Sept. 29, 10 a.m., Moosalamoo Campground parking lot, Goshen Ripton Rd. Hike to the top of Mt. Moosalamoo. This trail is an easy to moderate out and back, 2.5 miles to the top and a total of 5 miles. Should take 4.5 hours. Hike features great views and good bird-watching opportunities. Offered by Branbury State Park/Vermont Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation.

GREEN HERON IN MIDDLEBURY. Friday, Sept. 29, 4-7 p.m., Happy Valley Orchard, 217 Quarry Rd. Spend an evening at the orchard listening to music, dancing, and making memories. With genres ranging from folk rock to reggae, jazz and bluegrass, there's something for everyone. Free. Bring your camp chairs. Mountain Mac Cider, doughnuts, a pie and some grub from food vendors available for purchase. More info at facebook.

TOP PICK

LOVE BOCCE? HOW ABOUT SUPPORTING THE COUNSELING SERVICE OF ADDISON COUNTY? GREAT! CHECK OUT THE BOCCE TOURNAMENT ON NEXT SATURDAY MORNING AT THE MIDDLEBURY REC PARK.

com/mountainmaccider.

"THE GLASS MENAGERIE" PLAY IN WAITSFIELD. Friday, Sept. 29, 7 p.m., Valley Players Theater, 4254 Main St. The Valley Players present Tennessee Williams's classic of the American theater. This hauntingly poetic play portrays a single mother and her two adult children struggling to get by in Depression-era St. Louis. Repeats Sept. 30, Oct. 1, and the following two weekends. Tickets at theaterengine.com or by calling 802-583-4220. More details at valleyplayers.com.

"GLORY DENIED: AN OPERA IN TWO ACTS" IN MIDDLEBURY. Friday, Sept. 29, 7:30 p.m., Town Hall Theater, 68 S. Pleasant St. Opera Company of Middlebury stages "Glory Denied," a poignant saga that takes place during the Vietnam War, based on the true story of Col. Jim Thompson, America's longest-held prisoner of war. This moving story tells Thompson's story through younger and older versions of Thompson and his wife, Alyce, who traverse this complex emotional landscape through hope, despair, love, hate, courage and forgiveness. Preshow talk at 6:30 p.m. at Memorial Baptist Church, 97 S. Pleasant St. Tickets \$77/\$67/\$57, including fees. Free for patrons under 26. More info at townhalltheater.org or tickets@townhalltheater.org.

POINT COUNTERPOINT'S 60TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION CONCERT IN SALISBURY. Friday, Sept. 29, 7:30 p.m., Salisbury Congregational Church, 853 Maple St. Come celebrate 60 years of Point Counterpoint with this concert and reception.

COMMUNITY DANCE WITH SUE HULSETER IN BRISTOL. Friday, Sept. 29, 7:30-9:30 p.m., Holley Hall, 1 South St. Nationally known dance caller Sue Hulsether will lead a community dance with live fiddle and banjo music Red Dog Riley. Hailing from Viroqua, Wis., Hulsether is a dance caller, teaching artist and musician. Lessons for beginners start at 7:15 p.m. No partner or experience needed. Bring a friend. Masks optional. Pay what you can: \$5-\$10.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 30

GREEN MOUNTAIN CLUB HIKE IN SALISBURY. Saturday, Sept. 30, Rattlesnake Point on Mt. Moosalamoo. Moderate hike of 5.5 miles and about 1,200-ft of elevation gain, 4.5 hours with time to eat at one of two spectacular vistas. May include Lower Cliff and Upper Cliff. Will meet at Silver Lake Parking on Route 53, Lake Dunmore. Contact Susie Davis Patterson at spatters@uvm.edu or at 802-777-1832. Register with leader by night before to get meeting time and place. More at gmcbreadloaf.org.

GREEN MOUNTAIN CLUB TRAIL WORK DAY IN RIPTON. Saturday, Sept. 30, Long Trail. The trail crew will be out for fall clearing and cutting of the Long Trail. We may install

stepping stones/logs or build drainage structures. No experience necessary, just a desire to help, a love of trails and no concerns about getting dirty. A full day is planned. Contact Ellen Cronan at 908-595-2926 for more information. More at gmcbreadloaf.org.

HERITAGE, HARVEST AND HORSE FESTIVAL IN TICONDEROGA, N.Y. Saturday, Sept. 30, Fort Ticonderoga. A full day of autumn fun will be set amidst the fall flowers of King's Garden, a heritage apple orchard, and the mountains and Lake Champlain. Spend the day and discover the important role horses and other working animals played in Fort Ticonderoga's history during demonstrations. Meet Fort Ticonderoga's friendly oxen duo, stroll through Fort Ticonderoga's farmers' market featuring local food, beverages, and crafts, and conquer the six-acre Heroic Corn Maze featuring a new design for 2023.

SAMPLER ID DAY IN MIDDLEBURY. Saturday, Sept. 30, 9 a.m., Ilsley Public Library, 75 Main St. Do you own an American-made schoolgirl sampler or other embroidery? Rokeby Museum and Henry Sheldon Museum want to see it, photograph it and record it in the online National Sampler Archive.

MUSHROOM WALK WITH MEG MADDEN IN MIDDLEBURY. Saturday, Sept. 30, 9 a.m., Wright Park, Seymour St. Ext. Interested in mushrooms that grow in the wild? Join naturalist, mycologist and professional photographer Meg Madden for a curiosity walk along the Wright Park hiking trails. Adult \$15 MALT member/\$20 non-member. Youth (under 18) \$10 member/\$15 non-member. Wear appropriate footwear for walking on the forested paths, dress for the weather, and bring water. More info at maltvt.org/events.

BOCCE TOURNAMENT IN MIDDLEBURY. Saturday, Sept. 30, 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Middlebury Rec Park, Mary Hogan Drive. Counseling Service of Addison County's Bocce tournament returns, bringing together local businesses, community members and CSAC friends and families to raise funds for its programs. Teams will vie for bragging rights while raising funds to support community wellness. More info contact Rachel Lee Cummings at 802-388-6751 or rcummings@csac-vt.org.

MIDDLEBURY POP-UP MARKET AND FREE CONCERT IN MIDDLEBURY. Saturday, Sept. 30, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Triangle Park. Come to this pop-up artisan market on triangle park and town green with vendors, prepared foods and crafts with a free concert by Mal Maiz at 11 a.m.

GUIDED HIKE: ETHAN ALLEN CAVE IN SALISBURY. Saturday, Sept. 30, 1 p.m., Branbury State Park, Route 53. A moderate, 1.5-mile out and back trail — the trail is poorly blazed, so be prepared for muddy conditions.

SEE CALENDAR ON PAGE 14

FREE! **Happy Valley Thrives!**
presents: **Tournesol**
Saturday Sept. 23, 4-7PM
6-member Vermont ensemble
featuring **French and Italian songs**
from the **1940s and 50s, jazz,**
manouche and swing standards!

Plus: Apples, Cider, Donuts, Pies, Grub and Smiles!

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802-377-7402 • Open Daily 7AM-6PM until October 31

UPCOMING MUSIC

Nordic acoustic trio kicks off North American tour at Middlebury College on Saturday, Oct. 7

The inventive Nordic trio Dreamers' Circus returns to Middlebury on Saturday, Oct. 7 to kick off their North American tour. The three multi-talented, multi-instrumental musicians mine their solid backgrounds in traditional and roots music to present a genre-bending amalgam of folk sensitivity, jazz-tinged improvisation, and classical complexity, all distilled through an openness to popular music influences.

The trio's hit "The World Was Waiting" feels spot-on, as Middlebury audiences have been eagerly awaiting their return ever since their joyous, sold-out concert here in March 2020,

just before the pandemic hit. This October's concert will be held in McCullough Student Center's Wilson Hall, and is expected to sell out in advance. The concert will also be streamed for audiences from near and far to enjoy.

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

The story of the trio began late one night in 2009, when Nikolaj Busk pushed open the door of a bar in Copenhagen and chanced upon fiddle player Rune Tonsgaard Sørensen and cittern player Ale Carr playing some traditional Nordic tunes. Spotting a piano in the corner of the room, Nikolaj joined the pair, and within



The popular Nordic folk trio Dreamers' Circus will perform Oct. 7 on the Middlebury College campus as part of the Performing Arts Series.

PHOTO / KRISTOFFER JUEL POULSEN

minutes the three realized a remarkable musical chemistry. Since that first meeting, Dreamers' Circus has toured widely, performing in Scandinavia and throughout Europe, Japan, Australia, and North America.

While based in Scandinavian folk and traditional music, Dreamers' Circus offers performances

SEE TRIO ON PAGE 16

Pianist David Feurzeig plays free concerts in Ferrisburgh and Salisbury with local talent

UVM pianist David Feurzeig is on a mission to give free concerts in all the towns in Vermont — that's 252 concerts if you're counting. Through those concerts, he also hopes to raise funds for conservation projects and confront climate change through the power of community and music.

With this project Feurzig will become the first musician to perform in every Vermont municipality. He is traveling in his solar-charged electric vehicle throughout the state, offering free concerts to bring attention to the interrelated issues of climate and community, and to call into question the normality of long-distance touring and travel, while bringing the joy of music to his audiences.

"I want to support Vermont's local communities with live performance in village centers and downtowns, while fulfilling UVM's mission to serve as a resource for the whole state," Feurzeig said.

Feurzeig will be in Addison County on Sept. 22 and Sept 23 for two of these free concerts. The first will take place at the North Ferrisburgh United Methodist Church, 227 Old Hollow Rd, in Ferrisburgh, on Sept. 22 at 7 p.m.

Soprano and Ferrisburgh resident Helen Lyons will sing Broadway selections by Lucy Simon

and Rodgers & Hart during the Friday concert in Ferrisburgh. Local pianist and composer David Oliveira, a former student of Feurzeig at UVM, will perform two of his own nocturnes on the 22nd. Other pieces are keyed to key dates in Ferrisburgh history: music by the six-year-old Mozart from 1762, the year the town was founded; Schumann dating from 1838, when the Methodist Church was built; and a Joplin rag from 1908, when the church mortgage was paid off! Like every performance on the tour, this one will include its own unique Scarlatti keyboard sonata: Sonata no. 41 for this 41st concert in the project. Other solo pieces will round out the program, including Charles Ives' classic "The Alcotts."

The following day, Feurzeig will perform another free concert in Salisbury. On Saturday, Sept. 23, at 7 p.m., he will perform at the Salisbury Congregational Church/meeting house in the center of town at 853 Maple Street. Donations will be accepted for The Vermont Reptile and Amphibian Atlas.

Feurzeig, a professor of music at UVM since 2008, specializes in genre-defying recitals that bring together music of an astonishing variety of musical styles, from ancient and classical to jazz, avant-garde, and popular traditions. These striking juxtapositions, peppered with informative and humorous commentary, create eye- and



Isn't this Blue-spotted Salamander cute? Come to a benefit concert for the reptiles and amphibians on Saturday, Sept. 23, at 7 p.m., at the Salisbury Congregational Church.

PHOTO / KILEY BRIGGS

ear-opening programs that will change how you hear all kinds of music. Feurzeig also likes to give a local talent the opportunity to join him for one selection. In Salisbury, Middlebury Union High School student Sophia Boise will add her flute playing to Handel's Flute Sonata in F.

Vermont Reptile and Amphibian Atlas coordinators will be at Saturday's concert to meet you and sell their swag (hats, amphibian guides, posters, bumper stickers, and refrigerator magnets). No pressure to purchase anything; everyone is welcome to come and enjoy.

More info at playeverytown.com, playeverytown@gmail.com, 802-434-3819, or follow along on social media @playeverytownVT.

WHAT'S HAPPENING NEXT DOOR

The Glass Menagerie takes the stage in Waitsfield

The Valley Players will present a classic of the American theater this fall, "The Glass Menagerie" by Tennessee Williams. The talented troupe will raise the curtain on nine performances over the weekends of Sept. 29-Oct. 15 at the Valley Players Theater, 4254 Main St., in Waitsfield. Show times will be Fridays and Saturdays at 7 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m.

This hauntingly poetic play portrays a single mother and her two adult children struggling to get by in Depression-era St. Louis.

Amanda Wingfield (played by Kitty Coyne of Waterbury), raised in Southern gentility and abandoned by her husband, now tries desperately to provide for her disabled daughter Laura (Lindsay Repka of Middlebury) and adventure-seeking son Tom (Matthew Grant Winston, Montpelier). In spite of her best efforts, Amanda succeeds

more in distancing her children from her; Laura retreated into her own imaginary world and Tom plots to escape the "prison" he sees himself in. The story takes a turn with the arrival of Jim (played by Michael Smith of Cambridge), a high school acquaintance of Laura's.

Amanda is obsessed with finding a suitor for Laura, who has crippling shyness and spends much of her time arranging her collection of little glass animals. Pressured by his mother to help find a caller for Laura, Tom invites Jim, an acquaintance from work, home for dinner. See what happens then.

Directed by Michael Halloran with Assistant Director Ashley

Hall, the play grapples with questions of family loyalty as well as the fragile illusions we live by, which can so easily be shattered. "Williams, by holding each of his characters up to the light like one of Laura's

"THERE ARE NO VILLAINS OR HEROES IN THIS STORY, ONLY PEOPLE TRYING THEIR BEST IN AN IMPOSSIBLE SITUATION."

— Michael Halloran



Tom (Matthew Grant Winston) remembers the controlling attitude of his mother, Amanda (Kitty Coyne), in a scene from a recent rehearsal of "The Glass Menagerie," which will be performed at the Valley Players Theater in Waitsfield.

PHOTOS / BOBBY KINTZ OF PHOTOS BY KINTZ

glass figurines, presents four characters in conflict both with each other and with themselves, and does it in a compassionate yet unflinchingly honest way," Halloran said. "There are no villains or heroes in this story, only people trying their best in an impossible situation."

Tickets are available through theaterengine.com or by calling 802-583-4220. See more details online at valleyplayers.com.

Don't miss this beautiful production in an intimate setting, with much of the audience seated all around the performers.



The Valley Players will stage Tennessee Williams's "The Glass Menagerie" in Waitsfield for three weekends beginning Sept. 29. The cast includes, clockwise from top left, Matthew Grant Winston as Tom, Kitty Coyne as Amanda, Michael Smith as Jim and Lindsay Repka as Laura.



Jim (Michael Smith) and Laura (Lindsay Repka) contemplate Laura's collection of glass animals in "The Glass Menagerie," a play to be performed at the Valley Players Theater, Waitsfield, Sept. 29-Oct. 15.

PUZZLES

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ACROSS

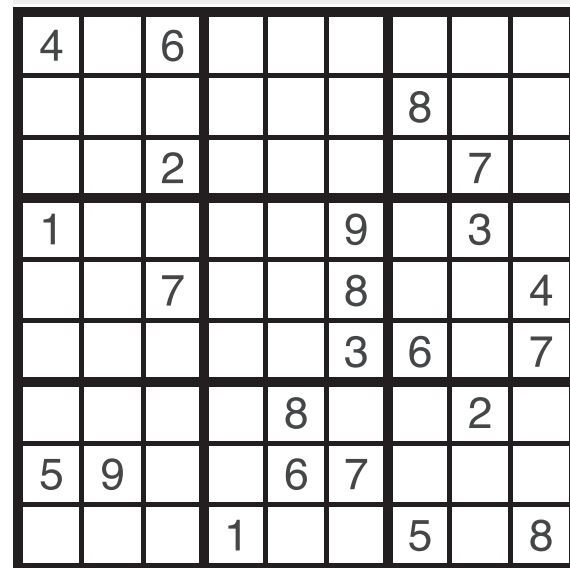
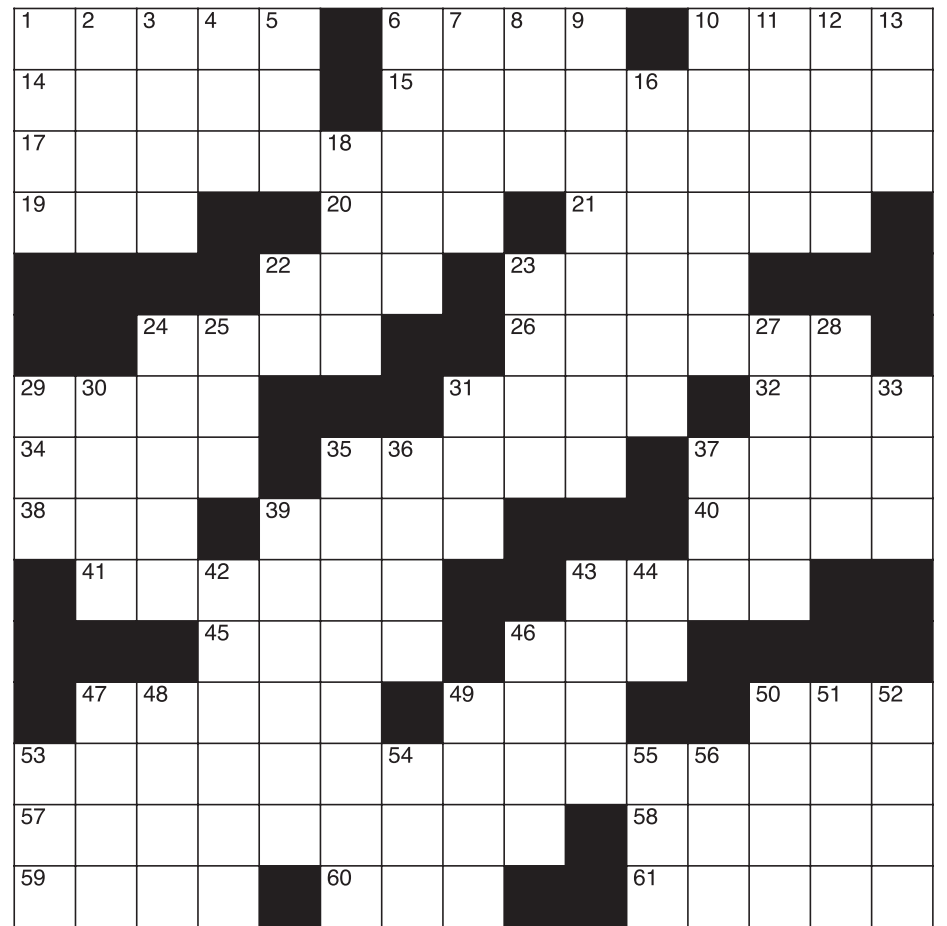
- 1. Type of cat
- 6. Weaponry
- 10. Western Christian Church service
- 14. Significant eruption of pustules
- 15. Baltic nation
- 17. Start of American holiday season
- 19. Unhappy
- 20. Maintains possession of
- 21. Metrical foot of one long and three short syllables
- 22. Mountain pass
- 23. Vestments
- 24. Type of dish
- 26. Escaped quickly
- 29. Zoroastrian concept of holy fire

- 31. Wings
- 32. Political action committee
- 34. Touches lightly
- 35. Stood back from
- 37. Philippine Island
- 38. Popular winter activity
- 39. Type of amine
- 40. Small freshwater duck
- 41. Filled with love
- 43. Without (French)
- 45. Vetch
- 46. Swiss river
- 47. Describes a sound
- 49. Sign language
- 50. Hair product
- 53. Have surgery
- 57. Quality of being imaginary
- 58. Far-right German

- party
- 59. Drove
 - 60. Former French coin of low value
 - 61. Hard, durable timbers

DOWN

- 1. Body art
- 2. Middle East military title
- 3. Actor Pitt
- 4. Container
- 5. Speak incessantly
- 6. Relating to algae
- 7. Jacob __, journalist
- 8. Rock TV channel
- 9. Boat's cargo
- 10. Most wise
- 11. Within
- 12. Chinese industrial city



Sudoku

Each Sudoku puzzle consists of a 9x9 grid that has been subdivided into nine smaller grids of 3x3 squares. To solve the puzzle each row, column and box must contain each of the numbers 1 to 9. Puzzles come in three grades: easy, medium and difficult.

Level: Medium

This week's puzzle solutions can be found on Page 13.

- 13. Scotland's longest river
- 16. Not capable
- 18. Footwear
- 22. Savings account
- 23. Capable
- 24. Vaccine developer
- 25. Tax collector
- 27. Fencing swords
- 28. Native religion in China
- 29. Promotional materials
- 30. A shot in a film production
- 31. Afflict in mind or body
- 33. A passage with access only at one end
- 35. Breathing devices
- 36. Employ for wages
- 37. Kids' TV channel (abbr.)
- 39. Popular Boston song
- 42. Made amends
- 43. Selling at specially reduced prices
- 44. Atomic #18
- 46. With fireplace residue
- 47. Unleavened cornbread
- 48. Draw out
- 49. Southwestern Alaska island
- 50. Where the Pyramids are
- 51. People of Nigeria
- 52. Smaller quantity
- 53. Destroy the inside of
- 54. City
- 55. Chivalrous figure (abbr.)
- 56. No (Scottish)

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COMMUNITY DANCE

Dance with Sue Hulsether in Bristol

On Sept. 29, from 7:30-9:30, nationally known dance caller Sue Hulsether will be leading a community dance in Bristol's Holley Hall with live fiddle and banjo music by Addison County's own Red Dog Riley.

Hailing from Viroqua, Wisc., Hulsether is a dance caller, teaching artist, and musician. Since 2003, she has travelled from coast to coast to lead dances in dance halls, schools, barns, and community centers. Hulsether's influence is wide, with dancers ranging from preschoolers to octogenarians, and in venues as diverse as the sidewalks of downtown Berkeley, a street dance in rural Minnesota, or a summer camp in the mountains of Maryland.

Hulsether recently published "Join Up Hands," a book of simple and accessible longways, circle, and square dances. In addition, the book includes teaching tips, reference material and personal essays on the joy of dance. Lessons for beginners start at 7:15 p.m. No partner or experience needed. Bring a friend. Masks optional. Pay what you can: \$5-10. For more info visit suehulsether.com.



Sue Hulsether will be the caller for a community dance at Holley Hall in Bristol on Sept. 29, from 7:30-9:30 p.m. Pay what you can; come and have fun!

COURTESY PHOTO



Pet of the WEEK

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Pets In Need HOMEWARD BOUND

Addison County's Humane Society



Lucky

Lucky is a beautiful 11-year-old calico looking for her perfect fit. She has proven to be shy and will need someone willing to be patient to slowly build a lifelong bond. Luckily she is very food-motivated and the quickest way to her heart is through frequent treats. Lucky will ask for affection and has a sweet temperament with people. She does not, however, feel the same way toward other cats. Even though she came to us with another cat, she does not seem to enjoy his company. Currently, Lucky is in foster care working on gaining more confidence.



MaVerick

Maverick came to us as an injured farm cat, and he has proved just how resilient he is! He has come a long way down the road of recovery and is healing quickly. He is very affectionate and loves catnip. He does not, however, like wand toys and he will hiss at them. We estimate him to be about 2 years old. Maverick doesn't seem to mind cats and we are unsure about whether he gets along with dogs.



Monty Python

Monty Python is a super sweet, catnip-loving, 9-month-old cat. He is playful and affectionate toward people and other cats. We are still determining whether he gets along with dogs. Monty's skin around his neck is healing from what we think was an allergic reaction to a flea collar. He is on a temporary medication.



Foxy

Foxy is a sweetheart who came to the shelter as a stray. We estimate her to be approximately 4 years old. She arrived with another dog who has already gone to a new home. Foxy is now looking for a place to call her own. Being a hound, she requires a lot of mental and physical exercise. She is extremely affectionate and loves being around people, even though she is quite shy in the beginning. Foxy enjoys long walks and time outdoors. She would make a great pet for an active family and would be fine with a canine friend in the household.



Georgie

Georgie is an active 60-pound Weimaraner/Lab mix. This 1-year-old is looking for a family that can give her a lot of mental stimulation and physical activity. Long hikes and nose work would be excellent activities for Georgie since she can become mischievous when bored. She is shy when introduced to new people, but warms up fast when given treats like peanut butter. Georgie absolutely loves to play fetch with tennis balls! She would do best in a fenced-in yard where she can play and bounce off some of her youngster energy. Georgie is housebroken, crate-trained, and walks well on a leash. She has previously lived with children and dogs.



Want to learn more?

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This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertisement for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination, call HUD Toll-free at 1-800-669-9777.

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MLS No. 4969097 | \$ 625,000



24 Hazel Drive, Bristol

3BR, 2.5BA gambrel farmhouse on 2 acres on the outskirts of Bristol Village. The original 1930s house has been fully modernized. The large kitchen opens nicely to the dining area and living room, and a sunken family room with stone hearth sits at the back of the home. A first floor bedroom includes a ensuite bathroom, and there are 2 BRs and office on the 2nd level. Purchase can include Pine Tree Gardens, with 5 greenhouses and farm store sitting on this property. Other exterior features are a 4 bay garage for the car enthusiast or use as a party barn and the in-ground pool. Be sure to check out the 3-D virtual tour on our website!

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MIDDLEBURY NEW LISTING!
209 DANYOW DRIVE

MLS #4969434 | \$425,000
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CORNWALL NEW LISTING!
351 CROSS ROAD

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3 BD | 2 BA | 1537 SF | 0.60 ACRES

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NEW HAVEN NEW LISTING!
296 KING FARM ROAD

MLS #4969300 | \$925,000
4 BD | 3.5 BA | 3018 SF | 5.90 AC

Post and beam farmhouse with rustic charm & modern amenities. Large back patio & breathtaking views of the sunsets over the Adirondacks. Open floor plan ready to entertain w/ inviting spaces and a cook's kitchen.



CORNWALL NEW LISTING!
740 WEST STREET

MLS #4969708 | \$1,279,000
3 BD | 2.5 BA | 1820 SF | 4.75 ACRES

Amazing views of the Champlain Valley and Adirondack Mountains in this brand new, stunning, efficient contemporary. Thoughtfully designed with seamless flow room-to-room and loads of natural light.

CALENDAR

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

Hike to the fabled Ethan Allen Cave and learn about the Green Mountain Boys, the daughters of the American Revolution, and what the cave really is. Offered by Branbury State Park/Vermont Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation.

COMMUNITY GAME NIGHT IN RIPTON. Saturday, Sept. 30, 3-7 p.m., Ripton Community House, Route 125, village center. Calling all game lovers! The Ripton Social Committee will be hosting a free game night featuring indoor and outdoor games for all ages plus free refreshments. It's a great opportunity to meet new friends and bond with your neighbors over your favorite board games.

TIM BRICK IN MIDDLEBURY. Saturday, Sept. 30, 4-7 p.m., Happy Valley Orchard, 217 Quarry Rd. Spend an evening at the orchard listening to music, dancing and making memories. With genres ranging from folk rock to reggae, jazz and bluegrass, there's something for everyone. Free. Bring your camp chairs. Mountain Mac Cider, doughnuts, a pie and some grub from food vendors available for purchase. More info at facebook.com/mountainmaccider.

KING PEDE CARD PARTY IN FERRISBURGH. Saturday, Sept. 30, Ferrisburgh Town Hall and Community Center, 3279 Route 7. A sandwich supper and then 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. This is a game of fun and skill so come prepared to use your strategic thinking.

"THE GLASS MENAGERIE" PLAY IN WAITSFIELD. Saturday, Sept. 30, 7 p.m., Valley Players Theater, 4254 Main St. See details in Sept. 29 listing.

BLUES WITHOUT BORDERS IN BRANDON. Saturday, Sept. 30, 7:30 p.m., Brandon Town Hall, 1 Conant Sq. Expect to hear covers of blues rock tunes, a few classics, and many new songs from some of today's hottest acts like Danielle Nicole or Beth Hart plus a bit of Blues Without Borders original music. Tickets adults \$8/seniors and students \$7/couple \$14.

EMERSON STRING QUARTET IN MIDDLEBURY. Saturday, Sept. 30, 7:30 p.m., Middlebury Chapel, Hepburn Rd. 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 Middlebury College on their farewell tour. 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. Tickets: \$25/20/10/5 available at go.middlebury.edu/tickets or 802-443-MIDD (6433).



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EXHIBITS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

PHOTOPLACE GALLERY

3 Park Street, Middlebury

For more info visit photoplacegallery.com.

"The Decisive Moment," is a juried photo exhibit featuring images that give us a glimpse of the fleeting magic of a moment. Aline Smithson selected approximately 35 images for exhibition in the Middlebury gallery, and 40 more for the online gallery. On view through Sept. 27.

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.

"Ourselves & Others: Racial Learning with Preschoolers."

This exhibition uncovers new research in the fields of racial and anti-bias learning, which has emerged from the work of early childhood educators and child development experts. On view through Oct. 14.

SHELDON MUSEUM

1 Park Street, Middlebury

For more info visit henrysheldonmuseum.org

"From Homespun to Couture: Fashion in Historic Middlebury,"

curated by Eva Garcelon-Hart, features local advertisements, newspapers, fashion magazines, photographs, trade cards, catalogs, and all manner of documentation from the Henry Sheldon Museum's archives, revealing what Middlebury residents wore, bought, and sold during the 19th and early 20th centuries. On view through Jan. 13, 2024.

"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.

"MACRO | micro," is an artful interplay of dimension, detail, proportion, perspective, and point of view featuring work by over 40 local artists. An opening reception will be held on Friday, Sept. 22. On view through Nov. 4.

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DUNMORE CONDO - Views of Moosalamoo & Dunmore. Summer living.: swim, paddle board, fish, kayak, boat, bike, hike. 444 sq.ft.: open liv/din area, remodeled kit.& shower Bath Parlor stove. 2 BRs & screened porch. Seasonal assoc. includes a great sandy beach, lake side patio and playground area. **Come Look - \$212,000**



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TRIO

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8



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that transcend genres. Nikolaj's background in jazz is evident in his fluid and melodic playing; Ale hails from a well-known family of traditional musicians and teachers in his native southern Sweden; and Rune grew up in a household where traditional dance and music was important, but he also studied classical music. (In fact, Rune will return to Middlebury in November as a member of the world-class Danish String Quartet.)



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Winners of five Danish Music Awards, Dreamers' Circus has a distinctive sound based on virtuosic and incendiary musical ability across a range of instruments that includes violin, accordion, piano, and cittern. The trio was recently named "2023 Artist of the Year" by the Danish national classical radio channel P2 — the first non-classical group to earn that honor — and in 2021 they were awarded the prestigious Carl Prize for Composer of the Year for their album Blue White Gold.



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Catch Dreamers' Circus Saturday, Oct. 7, at 7:30 p.m., at Wilson Hall in the McCullough Student Center. General admission tickets are \$25 for the general public; \$20 for Middlebury College faculty, staff, alumni, and emeriti; \$10 for youth; and \$5 for Middlebury College students. The concert will also be streamed, with a 48-hour window for playback. Streaming tickets are \$15, or \$5 for students. All tickets are on sale at 802-443-MIDD (6433) or middlebury.edu/arts.