



Team building

Caregivers at Porter get into the Halloween spirit with a scarecrow contest. See Arts + Leisure.



Postseason

Two Eagle teams advanced as the high school playoffs arrived on Tuesday. See Sports, Page 1B.



United Way

Addison County depends on the local organization that supports charities. See our pull-out section.

ADDISON COUNTY INDEPENDENT

Vol. 77 No. 43

Middlebury, Vermont ♦ Thursday, October 26, 2023 ♦ 60 Pages

\$1.50

Orchards persevere in spite of weather

Apple crops hurt by rains and frost

By MARIN HOWELL
ADDISON COUNTY — Area orchardists have made the best of what's been a challenging year for Vermont farmers.

Local apple growers have had to battle a late spring frost that decimated young fruit crops in May, as well as excessive rain that drenched the region this summer. While some orchards were spared the worst of this year's weather-related challenges, many growers were left with less fruit to sell this fall.

"It was a year of making the

(See Orchards, Page 8A)

Fixed costs add challenges to ACSD budgeting

By JOHN FLOWERS
MIDDLEBURY — Addison Central School District leaders during the next two months will put their math skills to the test as they try to craft a fiscal year 2025 spending plan that maintains current educational services without breaking Middlebury-area taxpayers.

This past March, residents of

(See ACSD, Page 3A)

MAUSD identifies budget drivers

By MARIN HOWELL
BRISTOL — The Mount Abraham Unified School District Board on Tuesday got a first look at anticipated drivers of the district's spending plan for FY25 and set a goal of limiting the increase in spending per equalized pupil to less than 10% in the upcoming fiscal year.

(See MAUSD, Page 15A)



By the way
The snow hasn't yet started to fly, but it's time to get into winter parking mode. Middlebury police remind you that the town's winter parking ban begins Nov. 1 and lasts through

(See By the way, Page 15A)

Index

Obituaries.....6A-7A
Classifieds.....10B-11B
Service Directory.....8B-9B
Entertainment.....Arts + Leisure
Community Calendar.....6B
Arts Calendar.....Arts + Leisure
Sports.....1B-5B



City specter

MANY HOMEOWNERS AROUND the county, including those at this place on Monkton Road in Vergennes, got in the spirit of the season with Halloween displays that go from humorous to scary to bizarre to ridiculous. This one captures a bit of each and even includes a little wordplay on the sign. See more photos of Halloween displays on Pages 3A and 11A.

Independent photo/Steve James

Climate program gets a boost

College nets \$7M to expand offering

By MARIN HOWELL
MIDDLEBURY — From busy schedules to crippling climate anxiety, there are several potential barriers young activists face when looking for ways to tackle climate change.

Students involved in the Climate Action Program at Middlebury College say the growing offering has helped them navigate such obstacles and enabled them to pursue climate action work they're passionate about. The Climate Action Program, or CAP, supports

students in their efforts to tackle climate change through paid fellowships, connections with Middlebury alumni and a variety of other offerings.

"This program has been helpful in giving me tools and experience to be able to pursue climate action work in the future," said Kamryn You Mak, a Middlebury senior graduating in February who's participating in the CAP. "I have gotten a lot of practice in connecting with people, collaborating and jumping in where it's needed,

helping build a community of intention, support and care, and figuring out where my interests and values are and what work needs to be done in those realms."

The college recently secured \$7 million through a partnership with two charitable organizations — Erol, a philanthropic foundation, and Next World Philanthropies — to bolster the CAP and continue supporting students like You Mak in their climate endeavors.

During the next 10 years, Erol's pledge of \$3 million will be used to support current CAP programming

(See Climate, Page 10A)

Middlebury company fuels resurgence in local manufacturing

By JOHN FLOWERS
MIDDLEBURY — It was a decade ago that Dave Cole, He set up shop in one room at a building at 2106 Route 7 South, once home to Rheume Kitchen & Flooring Center.

"We did our best to heat the space around a couple of computer numerical control (CNC) machines," Cole chuckled.

"And here we are."

Much to his surprise and pleasure, Mechanical Advantage has evolved from a solo operation to a mini manufacturing

(See Manufacturing, Page 8A)

him the confidence to launch Mechanical Advantage LLC. He set up shop in one room at a building at 2106 Route 7 South, once home to Rheume Kitchen & Flooring Center.

"We did our best to heat the space around a couple of computer numerical control (CNC) machines," Cole chuckled.

"And here we are."

Much to his surprise and pleasure, Mechanical Advantage has evolved from a solo operation to a mini manufacturing

(See Manufacturing, Page 8A)

"Our specialty is very complex parts, with high precision. That's kind of what sets us apart from other machine shops."

— David Castle



DAVE COLE, LEFT, founded Mechanical Advantage LLC in 2013. He and Director of Operations David Castle have grown the Middlebury company to 15 workers who are assisting in the manufacture of specialized tools and robotic equipment.

Independent photo/Steve James

City a test case for 'gentle infill'

'Homes For All' project is seeking answers for state's home shortage

By ANDY KIRKALDY
VERGENNES — With affordable and housing a critical need for Addison County and Vermont as a whole, some advocates are working on a plan to expand housing in town centers in a way they say is "gentle."

An Oct. 20 presentation by state officials and architects in Vergennes City

Planning Coordinator Amy Tomasso joined representatives from Utile Architecture & Urban planner Zoë Taft Mueller, and others in leading a "Homes For All" visit to Vergennes to make the case for blending "missing middle housing" into existing neighborhoods.

That meant, they said, adding to those neighborhoods a variety of one-to-four-unit buildings — including small second homes onto existing lots, apartments, duplexes and townhouses — mostly by way of a process called "gentle infill."

(See Homes, Page 13A)

Shelter offers more, limits length of stay

Charter House grows leadership team

By JOHN FLOWERS
MIDDLEBURY — The Charter House Coalition's emergency shelter at 27 North Pleasant St. in the coming months will help its houseless guests tackle the challenges of another cold Vermont winter with warm coats, hearty food, some new self-improvement programs and a first-ever associate director.

The Charter House has also developed a strict length-of-stay guidelines to help motivate guests to become more self-reliant and less dependent on the organization's limited shelter resources.

Issues surrounding Middlebury's houseless population

have started to dominate the town selectboard's agenda. Downtown merchants turned out in force at the selectboard's Oct. 10 meeting to voice concerns about recent acts of vandalism, harassment, theft and other infractions ascribed to some members of the houseless community, which includes an encampment under the Cross Street Bridge off Bakery Lane.

Middlebury has re-energized a homelessness task force to help respond to the campers' needs and hopefully avert future friction with village businesses.

While a lot of the town's focus has been on houseless people dwelling outside of the local shelter,

(See Shelter, Page 12A)

John Graham agency sees demand go up

By JOHN FLOWERS
VERGENNES — John Graham Housing & Services (JGHS) is making repairs and assembling warming kits to better serve houseless folks both inside and outside of its shelter at 69 North Main St. in Vergennes this winter.

Like Middlebury's Charter House Emergency Shelter (see related story, Page 1A), JGHS's 25-bed shelter is currently full and there are 10 households on the waiting list, according to the nonprofit's executive director, Susan Whitmore. JGHS also owns and manages

(See JGHS, Page 12A)



A MASSACHUSETTS COMPANY is studying the feasibility of installing a new plant to create hydroelectric power on the northeast side of the Otter Creek Falls in downtown Middlebury, near the site of the derelict powerhouse on the left side of this image.

Independent photo/John S. McCright

Power generation could return to the waterfall in Middlebury

By JOHN FLOWERS

MIDDLEBURY — Middlebury officials have given a Beverly, Mass., company permission to explore the feasibility of re-establishing “a low-impact hydroelectric power facility” at the Otter Creek Falls.

The town selectboard on Oct. 10 signed a letter of intent with New England Hydropower Company (NEHC) that could someday lead to a hydro facility capable of powering up to approximately 350 homes, according to Chris Conover, NEHC’s chief marketing officer.

Selectboard members have simply cleared NEHC to scrutinize two small parcels of town-owned land that include the former powerhouse on the Marble Works side of Otter Creek, near the base of the falls. This latest hydro exploration is separate and distinct from past efforts by the Holm family to re-establish a hydro operation on their property on the opposite, southwest side of the Otter Creek Falls.

This NEHC inquiry comes five years after Natel Energy and New England Hydro both expressed interest in studying hydropower potential at the long-defunct powerhouse property, which was

once home to the David Page Cotton Mill. NEHC is aware of the historical significance of the powerhouse and the company wouldn’t remove the structure if it were to move forward with a project, according to Conover.

“The idea of (the letter of intent) is we now have a chance to explore that property, working with the town of Middlebury, for the generation of hydropower, which it once was used for,” Conover said during a recent phone interview. “We’ll evaluate it, and if we see any hurdles that prevent it from being built, we’ll all agree it’s not a commercially viable system, and that’s it. Or we might find out it’s wonderful and we’ll start to do things like have a more formal agreement with the town and eventually file for

a full Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) permit... for that site.”

NEHC has already filed a preliminary permit with FERC that, if approved, would give the company three years of exclusive rights to look at the town property in question, according to Conover.

“The idea is that we would be able to re-establish a flow to that side of the creek in order to put in a technology able to generate enough power. We’re exploring how much water we could get over there now, because there’s an existing sluiceway that went to the old powerhouse.”

— Chris Conover, NEHC

Conover said NEHC could begin its study of the potential hydro site as soon as the end of this month.

Reporter John Flowers is at johnf@addisonindependent.com.

“The idea is that we would be able to re-establish a flow to that side of the creek in order to put in a technology able to generate enough power. We’re exploring how much water we could get over there now, because there’s an existing sluiceway that went to the old powerhouse.”

Duguay leaving BMP to join ACEDC

MIDDLEBURY — Longtime Better Middlebury Partnership Executive Director Karen Duguay is stepping down to take a newly created assistant director position at the Addison County Economic Development Corporation (ACEDC).

Duguay has helmed the BMP for more than 10 years. The Partnership is the entity responsible for building community, assisting downtown businesses, organizing events, and marketing Middlebury.

Based in Middlebury, the ACEDC’s underlying mission is to “help businesses in all stages

of growth retain and create good-paying jobs in Addison County. Organized to promote the common business and economic interests of commercial enterprises in Addison County, ACEDC strives to create an entrepreneurial and innovative environment that nurtures businesses to launch, grow, and thrive.”

The *Independent* will have a more thorough report on Duguay’s career transition — including her new tasks at the ACEDC and the major accomplishments she helped forge for the BMP and its members — in the Nov. 2 edition.



KAREN DUGUAY

Lincoln School District launches search

Aims to find permanent superintendent to begin work this January

By MARIN HOWELL

LINCOLN — The Lincoln School District has begun its search for a permanent superintendent to helm the young supervisory district.

A search committee made up of community members and district officials will help facilitate that search over the next month and identify a candidate to begin leading the one-town district at the start of next year.

“Depending on the availability and interest of the candidates, we will hire a new superintendent to begin Jan. 1, 2024, or we will hire an interim for the period January-June 2024, and a permanent beginning July 1, 2024,” Lincoln School Board Chair Jennifer Oldham explained in a recent email to the *Independent*.

The Lincoln School District is in its inaugural year of operation. Earlier this year, the district hired Madelyn Crudo Burke of Mendon to serve as acting superintendent for the district. Crudo Burke will continue to serve in that position until the end of December.

The district recently launched its search for a long-term top administrator. Oldham noted in an Oct. 18 Front Porch Forum post that “due to the quality and interest of applicants for the position” the

district was pivoting its search from seeking an interim candidate to interviewing for a permanent top administrator.

The district’s new superintendent could also help tackle other responsibilities in the central office. The superintendent search is expected to identify ways the top administrator could help cover the responsibilities of the district’s business manager position. The business manager post is a central office position with responsibilities that include finance and HR management and overseeing food service operations.

At the start of the school year, the Lincoln School District was filling its business manager needs with an external consultant and increasing the capacity for existing staff to take on some of the job’s responsibilities. District officials had planned to explore potential overlap between the responsibilities of the superintendent and business manager positions.

“Depending on the skills and interest of the candidates, the superintendent position can be either full-time (encompassing part of the business manager and/or other central office responsibilities) or part-time,” Oldham said.

The district is working with

the Vermont School Boards Association on the search effort and has formed a search committee to consider candidates for the post. The committee is made up of two Lincoln School Board members, four district staff members and seven community members.

Committee members met for the first time on Wednesday, Oct. 25, to discuss details of the search process and establish a pool of potential questions for the group to consider. Over the next month, the search committee will meet three more times. Those meetings will consist of:

- Nov. 1: reviewing community input, determining interview questions and structure, and selecting candidates for first round interviews.
- Nov. 10: conducting the first round of interviews.
- Nov. 15: conducting the second round of interviews and providing a recommendation to the Lincoln School Board.

Oldham said that Lincoln residents will be invited to provide feedback as the search effort unfolds.

“We are distributing a survey to the community to get input on the characteristics and skills people feel are most important in a superintendent,” she said.

State conserves Cornwall parcel

By JOHN FLOWERS

MIDDLEBURY — The Vermont Department of Fish & Wildlife (VDFW) will soon acquire and conserve 91 acres on the west side of Cornwall’s West Street, land that will be added to the already protected Lemon Fair Wildlife Management Area.

The property in question is owned by Betty Lou Gorton. Once the deal is finalized, Fish & Wildlife will conserve and enhance the property’s grassland bird habitat and ensure public access for wildlife recreation such as birding, hunting and angling. State officials are planning to install a small parking lot and kiosk to facilitate public use of the property, according to state officials.

Cornwall selectboard members overwhelmingly supported the Fish & Wildlife-Gorton transaction at their Sept. 23 meeting.

Cornwall Conservation Commission members are also backing the state’s acquisition of the Gorton property. In a Sept. 17 letter to the selectboard, commission Co-chair Mary Dodge said state ownership of the land would “achieve several goals that the (conservation commission) feels are important to the town,” including enhancing trails in Cornwall, adding to the amount of conserved land in town, protecting natural resources and “adding to the spaces that the (conservation

commission) might use for public events,” such as (nature) walks.

The Gorton property will add to an already extensive Lemon Fair Wildlife Management Area (WMA), now consisting of nine parcels totaling 341 acres, primarily in Bridport and Cornwall.

Turkey and woodcock can be found on the upland portions of the Lemon Fair WMA. Breeding ducks in the area include mallards, black and wood ducks, blue-winged teal and hooded mergansers, according to a Fish & Wildlife writeup on the property. Many other species pass through during migration. Great blue and green herons, other wading birds and shorebirds also use the Lemon Fair WMA, particularly when it is flooded.

The rare four-toed salamander may also be found on the WMA, along with more common salamanders such as spotted, northern dusky, red-backed and northern two-lined salamanders. Northern leopard, wood and bull frogs may be found in the Lemon Fair River, along with snapping a n d

painted turtles. Snake species found on the land include the northern water, milk, smooth green, brown and the rarer red-bellied snake.

Anglers can find brown bullhead, northern pike and bass in the Lemon Fair River.

Money for the land will come from the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service and the Vermont Housing & Conservation Board. While the land is being sold into the public domain, the property will continue to generate some property taxes for the town of Cornwall. The Vermont Agency of Natural Resources will make an annual payment in lieu of taxes (PILOT) on the property amounting to around \$1,534, according to Will Duane, a land acquisition coordinator for the Fish & Wildlife. The PILOT payments are based on the property’s listed value and the municipal tax rate during the year of acquisition.

Reporter John Flowers is at johnf@addisonindependent.com.



VERMONT FISH & WILDLIFE is purchasing and conserving a Cornwall parcel along the Lemon Fair River that contains rare species, such as this four-toed salamander, and more common birds and fish.

Photo courtesy of Wikimedia/Brian Gratwicke

CO-OP
MEMBER DEALS

Members
Take An Extra
20% Off

VERMONT
ARTISAN COFFEE
& TEA CO.

Oct 26-Nov 1

Ever wonder what it's
like to own a grocery
store with your friends?
Join our team to find out!
All of our full and part-time staff are also
member-owners of the Co-op!

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

To learn more, scan
or go to:
middlebury.coop/careers

MIDDLEBURY
NATURAL
FOODS
CO-OP

\$3.00
OFF

ANY

LOCAL

COFFEE

(limit one per customer)
(excludes alcohol)
(minimum purchase \$3.00)
(Expires Thursday, 11/2/23)

9 Washington St | 802.388.7276
middlebury.coop

Local projects get tax-credit boost

By JOHN FLOWERS

MIDDLEBURY / VERGENNES — The Agency of Commerce & Community Development (ACCD) on Monday announced more than \$4 million in tax incentives to support 31 rehabilitation and revitalization projects throughout Vermont’s designated downtown and village centers — including three projects here in Addison County.

The Vermont Downtown Board approved a total of \$4.4 million in tax credits that will in part offset the costs of major refurbishments to these Addison County structures:

- Stonecrop Lodge — aka the “Means Mansion” — at 51 Seminary St. Ext. in Middlebury. As previously reported by the *Independent*, Randall and Kathleen Brisson recently acquired the circa 1815 mansion on 3 acres from Middlebury College, and they’ll spend the next two or three years rehabbing the sprawling structure using federal and state tax credits to create three new market-rate apartment units.

Total project cost: \$700,000. Tax credits awarded: \$100,000.

- A duplex at 53 North Pleasant St. in Middlebury. Duplex owner Richard Tinsley will use tax credits to “complete much-needed and code-mandated upgrades, including asbestos remediation, electrical and

plumbing upgrades, resulting in two safe apartment units,” according to an ACCD press release.

Total project cost: \$43,173. Tax credits awarded: \$15,439.

Tinsley has been renting the property to Middlebury College students, some of whom have drawn complaints from neighbors for loud partying. The Middlebury Development Review Board this summer rejected a proposal by Tinsley to establish a recreation room in a detached barn on the 53 North Pleasant St. property.

- The General Samuel Strong House at 54 West Main St., Vergennes. The building was erected in 1796. Vacant for decades, developer David Shlansky has saved the building and will use federal and state tax credits to help redevelop the building into six new apartments in the Vergennes Neighborhood Development Area.

Total project cost: \$754,600. Tax credits awarded: \$75,000.

Gov. Phil Scott said the 31 downtown projects benefitting from the tax credits are expected to help generate more than \$150 million in building improvements and public infrastructure throughout the state.

“These projects support local communities with basic needs — like housing, sites for businesses to grow and healthcare services — which improve the economic vitality of

our community centers,” Scott said through a press release. “In addition, these are the types of programs that align with our recovery and resiliency work from both the COVID-19 pandemic and the devastating summer floods. By strategically using federal and state funds to revitalize communities, we’ll recover faster and build back stronger than before.”

Other properties sharing in the \$4.4 million in tax credits include:

- The 8 through 20 block on Langdon Street in Montpelier, which was severely damaged by July flooding. Scheduled construction will bring three commercial units back online, along with creation of 16 new apartments on the building’s upper floors.

- The shuttered Taftsville Country Store, which will be re-opened. The project includes façade repairs and code-mandated upgrades to the building, which will also house three apartment units.

- The former Caplan’s Building and 560 Railroad St., both in St. Johnsbury. The former will host Northern Express Care after being rehabbed, and the latter will be redeveloped for mixed-use commercial and residential purposes, with nine new mid-market apartments.

Reporter John Flowers is at johnf@addisonindependent.com.



Gruesome grinning pair

TWO SKULLS ON a fence create an eerie atmosphere in this Vergennes yard in advance of Halloween. Trick or treating and other events will be happening from now through Oct. 31, so make sure to keep your eyes out for ghoulies and ghosties out enjoying the spooky festivities.

Independent photo/Steve James

ACSD

(Continued from Page 1A)

the ACSD-member towns of Bridport, Cornwall, Ripton, Middlebury, Salisbury, Shoreham and Weybridge comfortably passed the current (FY’24) budget of \$42,269,305, representing 7.2% increase in education spending compared to the prior year.

District officials are now warning of another substantial increase — with potentially more dire property tax consequences — for the FY’25 budget that will cover preK-12 spending for the district’s seven elementary schools along with Middlebury Union middle and high schools.

Contributing to the district’s FY’25 budget angst is that three variables alone could conspire to increase per-pupil spending by a combined 7.75%, according to ACSD Business Manager Matthew Corrente. He recently presented the board with an early look at those three budget drivers, including:

- A potential 15% increase in district employees’ health insurance costs, which would add 1.75% to per-pupil spending in FY’25.

- Teacher salary increases that are currently being negotiated between the school board and the educators’ union. Corrente said salaries and benefits in year one of what will likely be a three-year contract are “projected to increase by a significant amount.” Every 1% in salary increase requires a roughly 0.5% bump in per-pupil spending, according to district officials. Budget planners, as a placeholder, have plugged in 5% salary increase for educators and support staff next academic year. That would add 2.5% to per-pupil spending for FY’25.

- The absence of federal pandemic-related aid to help sustain the budget. ACSD received \$3.36 million in Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund, known as ESSER,

to pay for a variety of pandemic support initiatives between March 2021 and Sept. 30, 2024. A portion of that money (\$1.3 million) is being used this academic year to fund around 12 full-time-equivalent (FTE) positions, according to Corrente. He noted around 43% of those positions are math/literacy interventionists.

Other covered positions include the MUMS Dean of Climate & Culture, a first-grade teacher, and a literacy coordinator.

Faced with this impending “ESSER cliff,” ACSD officials will need to decide which of those posts to eliminate and which to keep on staff at taxpayer expense.

At this point, ACSD administrators are recommending that taxpayers be asked next year to subsidize 6.5 FTE positions in the student services & special ed category that are currently ESSER-funded.

Transferring \$1.3 million in salary and benefits to the taxpayer-funded portion of the budget would increase per-pupil spending by roughly 3.5%, according to Corrente.

Keeping per-pupil spending in check during the next five years will be crucial, in light of Vermont’s recently enacted Act 127. Among other things, the law updates pupil weights and limits the degree to which homestead property tax rates can increase during fiscal years 2025–2029. It also suspends the excess spending penalty during fiscal years 2024–2029 and the hold-harmless provision and ballot

language requirements during that same period.

At the same time, school districts face a property tax rate increase cap of 5% per year during those five years, as long as they keep per-pupil spending below 10% per year. Districts that exceed 10% will face a state panel and face loss of the tax cap for the remainder of the 5-year period, according to the law.

So, with the ACSD staring at a 7.75% bump in per-pupil spending in FY’25 as a result of just three variables, its budget preparation becomes an even bigger challenge to stay below a 10% increase. Other tax impacts the board will need to consider include a 4.5% bump in student transportation costs; a potential rise in the Patricia Hannaford Career Center tuition rate, a potential influx of tuitioned students from the new, independent Lincoln School District; and school repairs. Corrente isn’t banking on major repairs to school buildings next year, but ACSD voters are likely to field a major renovation bond for some or all of its schools within the next few years. Corrente suggested an investment next year in planning for that future undertaking.

“The first step of that is to work with architects on the conceptual design phase,” Corrente said. “We’re starting to get to the level of thinking that in FY’25, it might make sense to greenlight some of that design work.”

The ACSD board at its Monday

meeting got another update on the FY’25 budgeting process, based on requests from district managers and department heads. Very tentatively, budget planners are forecasting potentially sizable increases in the student services and special education, professional development & curriculum categories, in part due to loss of ESSER funding. Budget planners are simply trying to ensure level services at the district’s nine schools.

Monday’s budget presentation included some “wish list” items, including exploration of a turf field at MUHS. Such a field, according to Corrente, could extend student spring and fall sports seasons because turf can better handle rainfall than a conventional grass field.

“It’s been identified as a benefit to the district,” he said of a turf field that he said could be financed over seven to eight years.

But board members served notice a turf project is unlikely to make the budget cut, giving other competing needs in these challenging financial times.

“I’m surprised to see this (proposal) so prominently displayed,” said board member Lindsey Hescocock, who suggested air conditioning, air quality upgrades and other capital needs should take priority.

STAFF IS 75% OF SPENDING

Board members Monday provided a portend of the tough budget conversations to come, alluding to the few areas in

which major cuts can be realized: Trimming employees. The board in recent years has talked about consolidating schools, but that option doesn’t appear to have traction with this current panel. The town of Ripton engaged in a lengthy struggle to leave the district to avert the potential of being forced to shutter of its small school, but ultimately elected to stay in the ACSD.

Corrente supplied charts showing, among other things, that personnel costs represent more than 75% of the ACSD’s education spending.

Hescocock suggested the MUMS administration — with a principal, a vice principal and a dean — was top heavy.

“I’m surprised that there are three administrators for a school that size (338 students),” she told her colleagues.

Board member Mary Heather Noble encouraged the panel to have the difficult conversations about downsizing.

“The reality is, we will have to do things to cut personnel costs if we’re going to reduce our budget,” she said.

“In order to do that, I think we would need to look at some kind of consolidation, where we’re

looking at the administrative costs,” Noble added. “If you look at the administrative costs of three small schools, just combining a couple of schools, that would change your administrative costs. The sad, frustrating truth is, those are the things we have to be looking at if

we’re really going to be making a real difference in the budget.”

Board member Steve Orzech pointed to inequities he said exist between Middlebury’s Mary Hogan Elementary and its six rural counterparts. He noted the six rural schools are currently educating 358 students, which he said is two fewer than at Mary Hogan. And there are a combined four more teachers, three more administrators and \$800,000 more in education spending in the rural schools than at Mary Hogan, according to Orzech.

“What’s happening right now... is there’s a huge imbalance of resources that are going to the rural schools and not to Mary Hogan,” he told his colleagues. “What kind of criteria do we use to evaluate budgets? What kind of criteria do we use if we’re going to start talking about consolidating facilities? This board has not addressed that yet, and I think it’s incumbent on us to at least start looking at those, through an ad hoc committee or some other discussions, because to anybody who starts adding these things up together, it looks like there’s some inequity going on here.”

Ripton board member Joanna Doria said the board should consider a different response to inequities.

She acknowledged “a need for students to not be so densely populated at Mary Hogan.”

“Back in 2013-14, (then Superintendent) Peter Burrows had a vision for a unified district, one learning community where the antiquated town lines were dissolved and we could actually look at students’ needs and try our best, as a whole district, to meet those needs,” Doria said.

The ACSD board is expected to take up the budget again at its Nov. 13 meeting.

Reporter John Flowers is at johnf@addisonindependent.com.

Be Part of the Adventure!

Call to schedule a test drive on our closed course and learn how to navigate real off-road obstacles.



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

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



Editorials

Homelessness:
Is it the town’s responsibility?

Three weeks ago, a Middlebury-based group of local human service providers revitalized a task force to address the issues around the town’s houseless population. At that first meeting, the group reassessed the current lay of the land and came away with some notable takeaways, including: the problem is likely to get worse, hold criminals accountable, and the town-business community need better lines of communication.

Short-term steps were also outlined, including the need to increase police patrols in the downtown, and expand clinical outreach to the houseless to better understand their needs and develop personal relationships with them.

As an approach to the problem, it’s basic and positive. It’s also fitting. Middlebury has long been a compassionate community which tries to help those in need. But does the approach touch on the heart of what is a community issue?

The houseless problem is more complicated than just providing shelter. The reality, said Middlebury Police Sgt. Vegar Boe, is “you’re going to have people who still need other services,” referring to mental health issues, substance use disorder and employment counseling.

But there are other unique factors with homelessness.

First and foremost, it’s in our face. It’s downtown in public parks and spaces. It can be offensive, destructive and detrimental to the livelihoods of many businesses. It threatens the downtown’s vitality. The petty crimes and annoyances are frustrating and disheartening.

To complicate the issue, local police and town leaders can’t move people off public property without just cause. The citizens, and they are citizens, have a legal right to camp and live under the Cross Street Bridge in Middlebury or in whatever public places they choose that are not otherwise legally prohibited. Nor can they be arrested and detained for civil disturbances such as open containers, public urination or smoking marijuana, even if it is a disturbance to the broader community.

Nor, courts have ruled, can communities designate all public property off-limits to those who are houseless, which, when put another way, adds a new dimension to the issue; that is, courts are really saying communities have a *responsibility* to provide places for the houseless to be.

My hunch is that’s a responsibility most of us have not fully embraced. I say that because to embrace the responsibility would mean being willing to afford adequate systems of care. Ask yourself if you’re willing to pay for housing the homeless, for mental counseling, or their training to get a job? The reality is obvious. Most people just want the problem to go away, and they don’t care how it gets done as long as it does.

It’s an understandable perspective. But it is not a productive frame of mind.

Ironically, it’s the town’s police department — those who most closely deal with the daily frustrations the houseless community presents — who are among the most compassionate. Sgt. Boe has emphasized the town’s approach is to offer a helping hand, rather than a ticket. “We don’t want to be the town where we just ‘move people along.’ We want to give them some options that include help.”

But how does the larger community nurture that better mindset when we seemingly have both hands tied behind our backs and significant threats at our doorstep?

First, don’t despair. Though the task force won’t be able to “solve” the problem, progress will be made. Second, there are reasonable options to mitigate the negative impacts of houseless encampments on public spaces; we need to identify and implement them in socially responsible and legal ways. Third, have a community discussion of just what the town’s responsibility should be. A good start would be to ask the task force to outline a proposed action plan to be reviewed at Town Meeting. It doesn’t have to have a budget or be put to a vote. The simple act of embracing a level of community responsibility, if that can be done, will help lead the community to reasonable outcomes.

Angelo Lynn

Ray of hope, or more chaos?

Out of the chaos of the past three weeks, is Rep. Mike Johnson, the newly elected U.S. House Speaker, a ray of hope that the Republican-led House of Representative can finally govern? Perhaps.

Rep. Johnson, 51, is a social conservative, ardent Christian, who has strong views against abortion and gay rights. He’s that kind of conservative, meaning a religious idealogue. He also has been a solid Trump supporter, including in the effort to overturn President Biden’s electoral victory and supporting Trump despite his sordid and amoral affairs with women, blatant racism, an ignorance of Christianity and fake embrace of it.

With that recent record, one might think Johnson is ill-informed and poorly educated. But he’s not. He graduated with a law degree from Louisiana State University and practiced constitutional law for 20 years. He was first elected to the state’s House of Representatives in 2015, then elected to Congress in 2016 and was elected to his fourth two-year term in 2022. He has won his district by large margins. He says he supports Israel and Ukraine’s fight to preserve their independence. He and his wife have been married for 24 years and have four children. He is described by colleagues as “principled” and “moral.”

It’s a description, and a record, that offers some hope.

It’s too bad that Rep. Tom Emmer, R-Minn., withdrew his party’s nomination to the speakership before Democrats had the opportunity to work with him. He was more moderate and more reasonable, and the best of the candidates seeking the post so far, but that didn’t happen. Johnson is now the man of the hour. It will behoove Democrats in the House to work with him to the extent that budgets can be passed within the next two weeks to prevent a government shutdown and crucial aid can be approved to both Israel and Ukraine.

Of his election to speaker, New York Times reporter Annie Karni summed up Johnson’s unlikely rise to the top. Karni said Johnson, a little-known conservative, made his election look relatively easy “only because Republicans have been worn down over the past three weeks, rejecting three speaker designates, and have finally decided to rally around someone without a big profile, who they view as sufficiently conservative and who they don’t personally despise.”

That’s a low bar to pass and a sad commentary on the state of today’s GOP, but Democrats should give Johnson a good-faith opportunity to lead — and hope for a partner who is at least rational on that side of the aisle.

Angelo Lynn

ADDISON COUNTY
INDEPENDENT

Periodicals Postage Paid at Middlebury, Vt. 05753

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

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

SUBSCRIPTION RATES: In State – 6 Months \$36.00, 1 Year \$50.00, 2 years \$90.00; Out of State – 6 Months \$44.00, 1 Year \$50.00, 2 years \$110. All print subscriptions include online access. Discounted rate for Senior Citizens, call for details. 802-388-4944. Online Only – 1 Week \$3.00, 1 Month \$6.00, 6 Months \$25.00, 1 Year \$44.00

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

The Addison Independent USPS 005-380

In the spirit of Halloween
GLASS WINDOWS HAVE not filled the sills in the old powerhouse on the north side of the Middlebury Falls for many generations, but the three holes in the decrepit structure do serve a purpose during this scary season as they appear to be the eyes and mouth of a face.
Independent photo/John S. McCright

Conflict calls for ‘wakefulness’

The first word of the central prayer of any Jewish liturgy is *shema*, “Listen.” The deep significance of that first word is reflected by the fact that the prayer itself is known as The *Shema*. The word *shema* is sometimes informally translated in ways that call for wakefulness: “Hey! Pay attention! Listen up!” Others prefer to emphasize the kind of attentiveness that can only come from quieting the mind-heart and slowing down: “Shhhh ... calm yourself, take a pause, open your heart so that you can *truly* listen.”

In these unbearably long weeks since Hamas’ October 7 terrorist attacks on Israel, acts of *really* listening to one another have been in very short supply. In large part, I blame our current social media “culture” with its self-perpetuating insistence that everybody immediately respond to the news of the day — and to do so with forceful opinion-giving that will align perfectly with the perceived expectations of the groups with which they identify. My students tell me that they feel a constant pressure to speak up on matters that they haven’t had time to even think through, much less research, for fear of being accused of being silent on the hot issues of the moment. But caving to social pressure and a culture of haste can have grave consequences.

In the immediate wake of the Hamas attacks, a coalition of 34 student groups at Harvard co-signed a shocking letter declaring that they “hold the Israeli regime entirely responsible for all unfolding violence.” Some authors of this letter were clearly operating from this kind of “jump on it now” pressure. That these

students failed to pause and reflect on the influence of this pressure is almost unfathomable to me. I experienced their words as a gut-punch. I felt betrayed by my own *alma mater*. The fact that these were words uttered by student leaders — as opposed to the voice of the institution itself — did little, initially, to ease the pain.

Of course, my own response was, itself, in the heat-of-the-moment. I chose not to announce it to the world. I mostly internalized my anger and my pain, which is never quite as satisfying as letting words fly. After a few days, however, I detected a slight (*very* slight) modulation in my response. I reminded myself that these words were the words of young adults still trying to figure out their way in the world. Students are naturally quick to make judgements, especially when feeling the acute pressure not to diverge from the views of their peers. In the wake of the backlash against them, some Harvard students have clarified that they did not know that certain groups to which they belonged were co-signatories on a letter with which they vehemently disagreed. Some group leaders admitted that they had said “yes” to adding their group’s name without carefully reading the letter itself. Some had not seen or read it at all. At this writing, at least eight groups have retracted their initial endorsements, whether for reasons of conscience or self-preservation is not entirely clear. Some student leaders, however, have flatly denied reactivity and have doubled down on their commitments to the message of the letter.

(See Gould, Page 5A)

Ways of
Seeing

By Rebecca
Kneale Gould

Israel-Hamas conflict affects us all

Editor’s note: Sarit Katzew of Brandon provided the following commentary in response to the Addison Independent’s request for a local Jewish leader’s perspective on the Israel Hamas War. We sought her out because she’s Director of Education/ Program and Outreach Coordinator at Havurah, The Addison County Jewish Community; but she is writing here for herself and not on behalf of Havurah. Her parents were visiting relatives in Tel Aviv when the war started and as of this writing were still trying to get a flight home to the United States.

My younger sister moved to Israel about 12 years ago. She is married to an Israeli (she has dual citizenship) and they have a 1-year-old son. They live in Tel Aviv. My brother-in-law has a large family; I’ve met many of them and am now connected to others through my sister’s marriage. They live in various places but my sister’s in-laws are in Herzeliya.

My maternal aunt made Aliyah at this point around 50 years ago and lives with her husband (native Israeli) on a kibbutz in the North. Their kids/my cousins also live in Israel.

I was born in the United States but my family lived in Israel when I was a child — my father was working on his doctoral thesis and my mother was clergy at a synagogue in Jerusalem (my parents are a Rabbi

and Cantor in the reform movement). I attended the equivalent of pre-k, kindergarten and first grade in Israel and returned to the States in second grade. We left in part due to the onset of the Gulf War.

I’ve been back to Israel over the years many times, studied there in high school, led teen trips there after college and was actually in Israel when Israel Defense Forces soldier Gilad Shalit was kidnapped and held hostage, which led to a war with Lebanon in 2006.

I have many friends, colleagues as well as former students who have in the past or currently do live in Israel.

I woke up Saturday, Oct. 7, to a series of text and WhatsApp messages from my parents and sister beginning at around 2:30 a.m. my time (overnight) and continuing every hour while I was asleep that said things like, “We are alive,” “We are safe. We are still learning about the extent of the war,” and updates about my aunt and uncle who had been visiting Tel Aviv but immediately returned to their kibbutz.

I wasn’t able to reach them at first, calls kept dropping, FaceTime wasn’t going through.

Once I did finally reach my parents during one of our calls, a warning siren went off and they had to retreat to the stairwell. This is standard protocol for buildings without bomb shelters/fortified rooms.

At one point, a rocket hit about three to five blocks

(See Katzew, Page 5A)

Community
Forum
by Sarit Katzew

Letters
to the Editor

Snake Mountain
trail is no more

Snake Mountain, with its glorious views of the Champlain Valley and the Adirondacks beyond, its diverse ecosystems, beautiful trails, and soul-renewing peace and quiet, is a rare jewel. Our favorite approach for walking up the mountain has always been the hiking trail from the east side, which connects with the main trail from the west side a little over halfway to the top.

My husband and I were horrified recently to find that this lovely eastern trail no longer exists. It has been obliterated by a massive new logging road and wide, deep, muddy tracks. The surrounding woods and meadows have been cut, slashed and bulldozed. The beaver ponds and bog have been drained. The operator of a behemoth earth-moving and tree-clearing machine on the mountain said that these activities would probably continue well into next year. This means that that there will be little left of the natural environment on the eastern side of Snake Mountain.

How could this happen to land owned by the people of Vermont in what is designated as the Snake Mountain Wildlife Management Area (WMA)? How could those in charge not see the dark irony in allowing this wanton destruction in a public forest where proudly displayed signs along the trails on both sides of the mountain make these claims?

“Snake Mountain is Vermont’s most visited WMA. Please join us in appreciating all it has to offer, while respecting the land and ecosystems so they can remain healthy for future generations.”

“Snake Mountain’s rare natural communities and species make its conservation critical.”

“Snake Mountain includes some uncommon habitats that host rare ecology. Because of this rarity, it is essential to protect them with minimal disturbance so they can flourish.”

The agency in charge, Vermont’s Department of Fish and Wildlife, espouses “minimal disturbance” and the importance of conserving the biodiversity found on mountains, yet it has opened Snake Mountain to logging. Further, this activity started at the end of Vermont’s wettest summer in memory, which left the ground particularly vulnerable to damage that goes far into the ground, not just across it, from the giant machinery crisscrossing the mountainside. Some research indicated that timber-harvesting rights on this property, apparently established when the state acquired the land, had been granted to A. Johnson Lumber Company of Bristol. Perhaps the state had to convey those rights to get the property. But to judge by the current operation, this seems an unfortunate trade-off. What’s truly inexcusable is that the state is failing to regulate the logging so as to limit the environmental damage it is causing, in accordance with the high-flown language on their signs.

J. Beamish
Orwell

Bat boosting efforts praised

On Sept. 28, 2023, the *Addison Independent* ran an article entitled “Endangered bat habitat conserved.” On Oct. 19, 2023, the paper ran a second article — “Help save our native Vermont bats.” Given my love of bats the articles made me incredibly happy. In fact they made my heart sing. These much maligned, often misunderstood creatures are just another example of evolution’s most divine and brilliant work. By way of evolution bats are able to navigate in a way and time humans are unable to do, despite our purported superior intelligence and problem-solving capability.

Something to consider ... You’re in the middle of nowhere. You have no navigation equipment. Your cell phone has died. You’re really, really hungry. It’s the middle of the night and pitch black. Now what do you do? Not a problem if you’re a bat!

Another thing to consider — bats perform an enormous

(See Wiger-Grohs, Page 5A)

Conservation commissions summit to explore collaboration

Addison County groups will meet to see how they can tackle conservation work together

By **MARIN HOWELL**
ADDISON COUNTY — Addison County’s conversation commissions cover a lot of ground. From conserving and managing land to offering educational opportunities, the groups pursue a variety of projects intended to protect and enrich the natural resources in their communities.

An upcoming gathering of the region’s conservation commissions will, in part, explore ways that the groups could tackle more of that work together.

The Addison County Conservation Commissions Summit will be held on Saturday, Nov. 4, at Bristol’s Holley Hall. It is open to current conservation members, as well as those looking to start a group in their town.

Salisbury Conservation Commission member Heidi Willis is one of the event’s organizers. She said potential collaborations will be a major focus of the gathering.

“The whole purpose of this is to connect folks that are working in conservation commissions, make them aware of what other conservation commissions are doing, and to see if there are areas that people want to collaborate on or share ideas, just to be able to augment the work that the county’s conservation commissions have both in the communities and in the county,” Willis said.

The summit will explore a variety of other topics as well. Willis said that the event will have three sections. During the first, each conservation commission will get a chance to introduce their group and share some of their most recent projects.

Attendees will then split into breakout sessions focused on different topics. Willis said topics will include starting a conservation commission, funding opportunities, hosting educational programs and outreach events, and conducting conservation enhancement projects such as wildlife inventories and habitat connections.

The group will also hear from keynote speaker and state Rep. Amy Sheldon, who chairs the Vermont House Committee on Environment and Energy. Sheldon is also a member of the Middlebury Energy Committee and a natural resource planner.

“(Sheldon) will be, after this summer of unusual weather events, speaking about climate change but also what’s happening at the state level to address climate change and what conservation commissions can do in their own backyard,” Willis said.

Willis noted that the Nov. 4 summit will likely dive deeper into addressing climate change than previous gatherings have. The county’s conservation

commissions have met twice before, with the most recent gathering held at the Addison County Regional Planning Commission’s offices in 2017.

“That was somewhat similar but hopefully this will be a bit more focused on climate change,” Willis said. “In 2017 we were talking about climate change, but it wasn’t as meaningful as it’s going to be now, and so I hope that will provide further incentive for following up and continuing to work together.”

Willis added that while addressing climate change can be a daunting task, working with a group of people collectively engaged in that effort can inspire hope. She said that collaboration is one aspect of the upcoming summit she’s excited for.

“I’m looking forward to seeing old friends and meeting new folks and getting some ideas, and from a practical standpoint figuring out ways that we can keep tough in the future to facilitate collaboration and support each other in the work that we’re doing,” Willis said.

The conservation commission

member emphasized that those interested in starting a commission in their town or city are encouraged to attend the Nov. 4 gathering. Out of Addison County’s 23 municipalities, around half do not have a conservation commission.

“There are a number of towns out there that do not have conservation commissions, so we really want to extend the invitation to folks from those towns too, if they have the inclination or interest in forming a conservation commission, to come and learn and find out more,” Willis said.

The Addison County Conservation Commissions Summit will take place from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Holley Hall on Nov. 4. There is no fee to attend, but any donations will help cover event expenses.

Those interested in attending are encouraged to RSVP via email with their name and town by Friday, Oct. 20. Emails can be sent to Willis at redsprings@myfairpoint.net.

Wiger-Grohs

(Continued from Page 4A)

environmental service. If anyone has had a problem with mosquitos this past summer ... bats are your best friend! Time to put up a bat house! As mentioned in the Sept. 28 article, bats eat “a variety of nighttime insects, moth flies, mosquitoes.” What the articles failed to mention is, “A single bat can eat up to 1,200 mosquito-sized insects each hour. And approximately 6,000-8,000 each and every night ... including crop-destroying insects!”

As was also indicated in the articles bat populations across the U.S. and Canada have plummeted. The first article indicates the major driver for this decline is white-nose syndrome (WNS). But equally if not more importantly population declines are the result of habitat destruction due to urbanization, forestry and conversion of land to agriculture. And ... pesticide and herbicide application kills the insects that bats feed on. And ... most of us realize stress, especially over the long term, has a deleterious effect on our immune system, diminishing our ability to combat infection and disease. Biologists, especially small mammal biologists, are suggesting a similar correlation exists within bat populations ... between stress the incidence of WNS. In other words if your habitat — your home, your young, your food supply — is being impinged upon there is a greater likelihood

you and the other members of the colony will be susceptible to disease.

The efforts of the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department are to be applauded. Except — and this will be denied by all involved — a known, critical endangered bat habitat ... a corridor located the length of Schoolhouse Hill Road, going up onto Forest Ridge Road, and extending through Burnham Woods, onto Munson Road and further west was decimated because of expansion at the local airport. Expansion occurred not because it was needed. In fact, there was never any real evidence presented that any expansion at the airport was warranted. It was all about money. The federal government offered it. The state of Vermont took it. And the town of Middlebury allowed it to happen without any meaningful opposition.

True, recently the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department has been monitoring bat activity along Munson Road. It’s unfortunate, however, that the department has little if any historical data with which to make a meaningful comparison.

To reiterate, conservation of valuable bat habitat by Vermont Fish & Wildlife is laudable. The fact that the same department turned a blind eye to known bat habitat in East Middlebury is not.

Judy Wiger-Grohs
Middlebury

Katzew

(Continued from Page 4A)

from where they were staying and shattered all the windows. Someone I know/work with has a niece who actually lived across from the rocket crash site and decided to evacuate to another city.

I’ve been doing my best to keep in regular contact with my sister and parents but the time difference has made that somewhat challenging. I go long stretches not hearing from anyone. At one point, they received an alert to gather food/water and supplies and prepare to hunker down for up to 72 hours so they decided to go to the in-laws in Herzeliya so as to be together and have access to a proper bomb shelter. They spent three days there. They have since returned to Tel Aviv.

My brother in-law was in army intelligence and he and his siblings are all part of reserves with different roles. His youngest brother is in Special Ops and the family gathers each day eagerly awaiting an update and praying not to see his name in the lists of lost soldiers released daily. My aunt and parents know a couple from a kibbutz who are among those being held hostage.

My parents have spent the bulk of the visit indoors. They had planned to be going to different cities, seeing friends, having meals out, enjoying concerts, arts and culture and haven’t been able to do any of that. Brief walks on high alert with armed family members so the dogs can get some exercise provide brief respite, they volunteered for several hours sorting donated supplies, but mostly are spending lots of time with their grandson, whose nursery has been closed, so my sister and brother-in-law can try to work a little and decompress. Everyone welcomes the fleeting distraction of infant/toddler giggles.

My sister has her son sleep in his stroller so they can carry it down the stairs when the sirens go off hoping he won’t be awakened. Everyone is exhausted — even if at any given moment they are physically safe they are psychologically traumatized. We all are.

My reaction was shock, sadness, an inability to fully process the inhumane scope of the terror attack, but not surprise. Hamas is an evil entity whose main mission is to extinguish

Jewish lives. Beheading babies, burning people in their homes, going door to door and shooting people, kidnapping children, the elderly, raping, torturing, parading desecrated bodies in the streets and celebrating every drop of spilled Jewish blood. It’s barbaric, it’s grotesque, it’s devoid of humanity.

My Facebook algorithm reminded me that 11 years prior to Oct. 7 (to the day) my sister and I had been at a nature party in Israel, dancing with friends. I remember those muddy fields and tents and DJ stands. On Oct. 7, 2023, a similar nature party/music festival was the target of a Hamas massacre. It could have been us praying to make it back home safely.

I think the main thing that is hard for non-Jews to understand is it touches all of us. I don’t know a single Jewish person who doesn’t know someone directly impacted. There aren’t that many Jews in the world. Israel is about the size of New Jersey — but whether you’re religiously observant or secular, Zionist or not, overwhelmingly, Jews are connected to Israel in some way.

There’s a lot of nuance to the history, the conflict, the different narratives and multiple truths one holds at once (even when those things are in conflict) but there’s no nuance to one thing — Hamas = terrorism. Full stop.

There is so much pain and fear right now. Israelis and Palestinians are suffering, the atrocity of nearly two weeks ago is still unfolding in real time — and Jews everywhere are not OK.

Check in on your Jewish friends, colleagues, community members, neighbors. You may have complex feelings when it comes to Israel (chances are they do, too). You may not know the right words to say. But right now the truth is Jews are in mourning and reaching out is a place to start.

Jewish Communities of Vermont identified resources for people who wish to support Israel and the Israeli people. See the list with links in this story as it is posted online at addisonindependent.com.

Gould

(Continued from Page 4A)

No matter the context of urgency, the peer pressure, the later regrets or the stubborn refusal to budge, I do not excuse the letter. But neither do I think that students’ names should be broadcast on electronic billboards or that their futures should be forever marked by their hastily scribed, truly damaging words. These students ultimately can choose to think, learn, read, reflect and make the kind of apology that is not mere “damage control,” but expresses some level of reflection and true contrition. I, in turn, can choose to forgive them. But for any of that to happen, we need both to wake up and to slow down. We must pause, open our hearts and *listen*.

What boggles my mind and breaks my heart is that the reactivity of these smart-enough-to-know-better young people are not outlier outbursts. They are utterly reflective of the dominant discourse in the United State at this moment, one shaped by a culture of polarization, reactivity and, with it, a rush toward false equivalencies: all injustices are equal, all stories of colonization are the same. As an educator, the kinds of phrases I am most apt to utter in any classroom (regardless of the subject at hand) are: “Well, yes, but it’s more complex than that” and “Could we take a more nuanced look at this?” No doubt, by halfway through any semester, the eye-rolls and inner groans have multiplied: “There goes Professor Gould again!

Complexity and nuance. Enough already.” But that’s okay. That’s my job.

How do we even begin to probe complexities, to discover and articulate nuance? We wake up. We slow down. We listen. We listen to texts. We listen to history. We ask genuine, sympathetic questions. We open our minds and hearts. We gently ask people if they would care to share their stories.

In these utterly wrenching last few weeks, what is *human* about the humanities has never felt more urgent and significant to me. Developing the core capacity of attentiveness to complexity feels more and more like its own act of both peace-making and resistance, however small. Hamas *wants* polarization. Netanyahu *wants* reactivity. Destroyers of democracy and dismantlers of peace everywhere are deeply invested in our continuing *not* to pause, ask a question and listen carefully to the response. But we have the power to do otherwise. We can urge ourselves to wake up from what Thoreau aptly called the “mud and slush of human opinion.” We can rein ourselves in to a slower pace. We can choose, for now, the radical act of Just Listening.

Rebecca Kneale Gould is a writer and Associate Professor of Environmental Studies at Middlebury College, focusing on comparative religion and the environmental humanities.

Medicare change is a challenge

Since Open Enrollment for medical plans runs until Dec. 7, our experience with changing from Medicare Advantage to traditional Medicare is relevant. If I’d had more information when I became eligible for Medicare, I would not have chosen Medicare Advantage. It works for me, so far, because I am generally very healthy and have had no healthcare denied. My premium has been \$0 for two years, however there are many copays.

My husband is also fit and healthy and he needs no medication. Last year, he decided to switch to traditional Medicare, having read the comparisons with MA, and on the recommendation of friends. The Medigap plan he chose has an annual premium of \$2,506, which is taken from his social security check. There were various

requirements, such as an interview and a home visit, and he now looks forward to his annual checkup.

As Dr. Marvin Malek said recently in a VTdigger article, “getting out of Medicare Advantage is not easy and likely to be costly.” It is therefore very important to get independent advice before signing up for Medicare Advantage since there are many reasons that traditional Medicare is a much better choice in the long run, despite the cost.

Information on traditional Medicare vs. Medicare Advantage in Vermont can be found at <https://www.healthinsurance.org/medicare/vermont/> and Vermont’s Senior Helpline at 800-642-5119.

Sally Roth
Bristol

Struggling to find the right Tile?

Let us help guide you through the decision process.



40+ years of combined industry experience



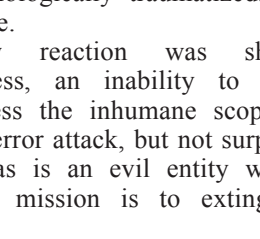
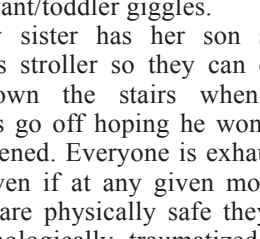
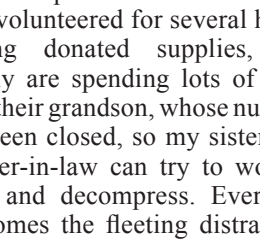
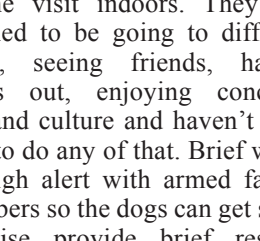
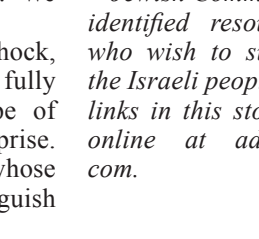
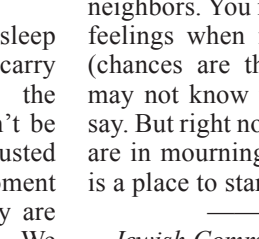
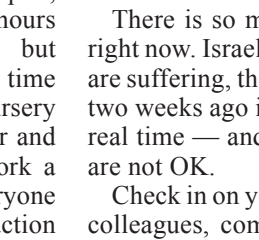
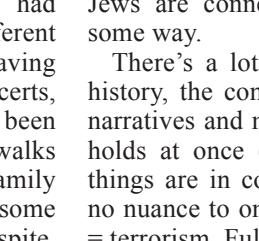
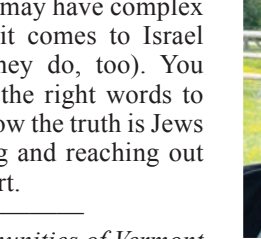
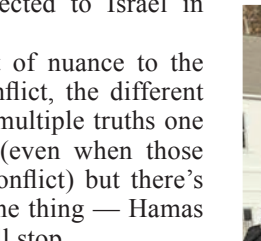
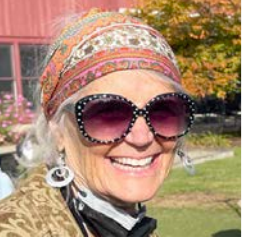
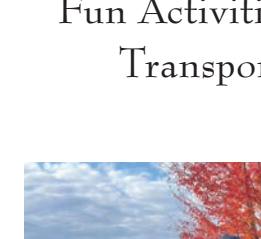
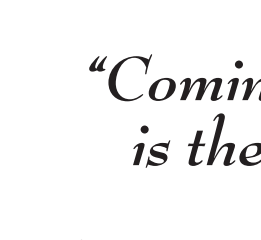
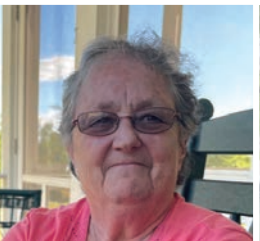
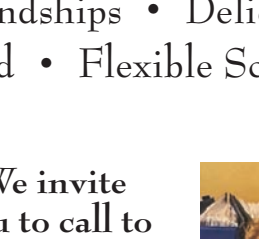
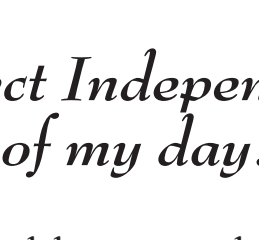
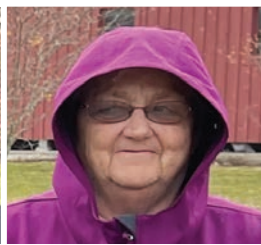
802-388-2500
M- F 7:30-5:30, Sat. 8-1
1396 Rte 7 South | Middlebury, VT

“Coming to Project Independence is the best part of my day....”

Fun Activities • New Friendships • Delicious Meals
Transportation Provided • Flexible Schedules

We invite you to call to schedule a visit and tour!

Call Eileen at 388-3983



DO YOU HAVE AN OPINION?

Email your Letter to the Editor to: news@addisonindependent.com

ADDISON
COUNTY

Obituaries

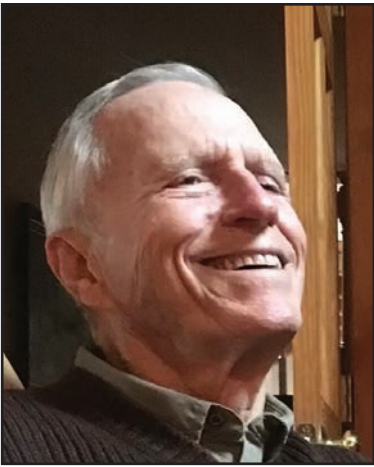
Robert E. Alberts, 95, of Middlebury

MIDDLEBURY — Robert “Bob” Alberts passed peacefully near his EastView home in Middlebury, Vt., in the presence of his loving wife of 72 years, Lois Cannon Alberts.

A loving and eternally supportive husband, father, grandfather and friend to many, Bob was raised by parents Mildred and Eugene “Roy” Alberts in Baltimore, Md. He served with the Army 1st Cavalry Division, including a tour in Japan post World War II, before graduating from Bowling Green State University, where he and Lois met.

Bob, dubbed “Bob the Good” by his siblings, earned the nickname through his selfless concern and care for the wellbeing and happiness of his family, friends and neighbors.

Bob and Lois raised their three children, Kathy, Jon and Rob, mostly in Northbrook, Ill., where Bob worked for Allstate Insurance and later founded Organizational Resources International (ORI), a cutting-edge management consulting firm that advised many



ROBERT E. ALBERTS

U.S. and International corporations and organizations.

After the children were off to college, Bob and Lois relocated to their long time summer destination of Cape Cod, first residing in their family cottage in the Yarmouth Campground Association (YCGA), and later to a home in Barnstable Village, where they lived happily overlooking the harbor for 28 years.

During his years on Cape Cod,

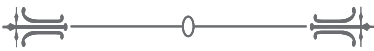
Bob worked with state agencies and conservation organizations to save vital ecological areas from development, including Hyannis Ponds Wildlife Management Area and the Salten Point Marsh.

Bob sang with the Chatham Chorale and the Chatham Chorale Chamber Singers, and attended the Unitarian Church of Barnstable, all key sources of community and friendship during his years on “the Cape.”

In 2006, Bob and Lois moved to Middlebury, Vt., where they have enjoyed the company of son Rob and his young family.

Bob is survived by his wife, Lois; brother, Richard; sister, Shirley Pohl; daughter, Kathy, sons Jon and Rob; daughters-in-law, Sarah Raunecker and Panravee Poolsawad; grandchildren, Elinor Westfold, Jamie Westfold, Griffin Harwood, Lydia, Lois and Maxwell Alberts, and Jacqueline and Samone Alberts.

Memorial donations may be sent to EastView at Middlebury Annual Giving Fund, 100 Eastview Terrace Middlebury, VT 05753. ◇



Judy Rogers, 93, of Addison

ADDISON — Judy Rogers of Addison, Vt., passed away on Oct. 9, 2023. Judy was born April 29, 1930, in Morristown, N.J., where she attended local schools and college. She was predeceased by her parents, Russell and Dorothy Rogers. In 1951 her parents relocated to a farm in Addison. Judy relocated to the farm a few years later.

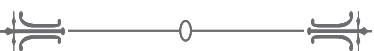
As a resident of Addison, Judy attended the Addison Methodist Church, participating in many church activities, enjoyed swimming at Vermont Sun, and was an active member in the D.A.R. She received an associates’ degree from the Community College of Vermont when she was 70, the oldest member of her class.

Judy was an avid sports fan. She particularly loved the Brooklyn



JUDY ROGERS

Dodgers, and followed Roger Federer, her favorite tennis player. She loved crossword puzzles and musical shows, including

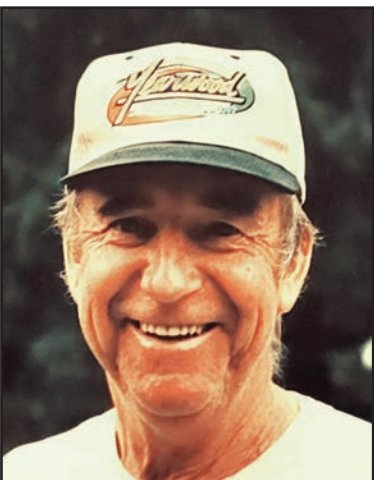


Allen “Laddy” Leroy Ladd, 77, of Shoreham

SHOREHAM — Allen “Laddy” Leroy Ladd, age 77, passed away Monday, Oct. 16, 2023, at the University of Vermont Medical Center.

Allen was born in Benson, Vt., on June 27, 1946. He was the son of Warren and Ruth (Barber) Ladd. He grew up in Benson, where he received his early education and graduated from Fair Haven Union High School, class of 1964. Following graduation, he joined the United States Army and served in Korea. Following his honorable discharge, he returned home and began his working career.

Allen served the town of Shoreham for over 30 years, as Road Commissioner, a member of the selectboard, lifetime member of the Fire Department, and was deeply involved with the 911 Committee naming roads to allow quicker response times in emergencies. He enjoyed hunting, fishing, coaching Little League,



ALLEN “LADDY” LEROY LADD

and especially building and riding in his 1935 Hudson Terraplane.

Surviving are his wife, Diana Foley Ladd of Shoreham, whom he married in Fair Haven on Aug. 29, 1970; one son, Jeffrey Allen Ladd and wife Dallas of Brandon; one daughter, Jolee Ann Ladd and

her wife Alejandra of Addison; two sisters, Joan Patnode and Betty Moyer, both of Castleton; three brothers, Raymond Ladd of Castleton, Charles Ladd of Cornwall, and Richard Ladd of Sudbury; six grandchildren, Zacchues, Orion, Hunter, Osten, Dillon and Calvin. Two great-grandchildren and many nieces, nephews and cousins also survive him. He was predeceased by his parents and two brothers, George Ladd and Donald Ladd.

A private graveside committal service and burial, with Military Honors, will take place on Saturday, Oct. 28, at 10:30 a.m., in the family lot at Fairview Cemetery in Benson.

Following the ceremony, the family will welcome friends from noon until 3 p.m. at the Brandon American Legion Post 55 for a time of remembrance.

Memorial gifts in lieu of flowers may be made in his memory to The Shoreham Volunteer Fire Department.

Arrangements are under the direction of the Mallory Funeral Home in Fair Haven. ◇

Dr. David Alan Hills, 93, formerly of Middlebury

NEW BOSTON, N.H. — David Alan Hills passed away peacefully at his home in New Boston, N.H., surrounded by family on Monday, Oct. 2, 2023. He was 93 years old. For nearly four decades, he practiced dentistry in Middlebury at his 11 Court Street office.

Born in Columbus, Ohio, on June 26, 1930, David was the son of William and Ava Hills. His siblings were older brother Jim and younger brother Bill. In the later 1930s, the family of five moved to Chevy Chase, Md., a suburb of Washington D.C.

From a very young age, David exhibited a deep passion for sports, attending almost every home game of the Washington Redskins and Washington Senators. He also was a lifelong fanatic for collecting autographs from his sports heroes.

David himself was an athlete, too, playing on the football and golf teams at Devitt Prep School in the Forest Hills neighborhood of Washington. After graduating from Devitt in 1948, he enrolled at St. Lawrence University in Canton, N.Y. There he became vice president of the Beta Theta Pi fraternity and a star player on the varsity football team. David graduated from St. Lawrence in 1952 with a degree in English and a dream to become a sports journalist.

But the Korean War interrupted those plans and made him rethink his dream. David was drafted and

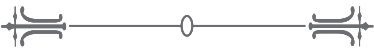


DR. DAVID ALAN HILLS

assigned to an army base in France, working alongside a military dentist. That experience is what kindled his love for dentistry. Upon completing his military service, David attended Georgetown University Dental School. Then in 1962, shortly after graduating, he moved to Middlebury where he set up his general dentistry practice, which thrived until his retirement in 2000.

In the early 1980s, David met the love of his life, Leslie (Keyworth) Hills. They married and their 41 years together were full of love for each other and their family.

David was a kind and gentle man, beloved by his wife, children, grandchildren, and many lifelong friends. He loved Vermont and felt

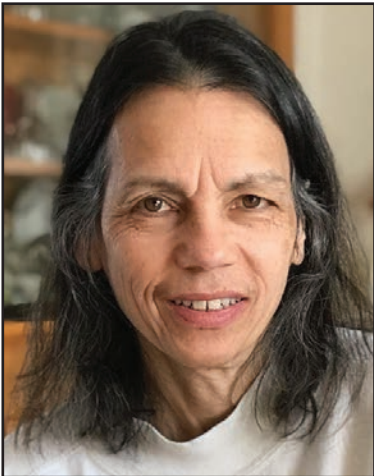


Nancy Myrick, 66, of Bridport

BRIDPORT — Nancy Myrick, 66, of Bridport, daughter of Robert and Rita (Counter) Myrick, transitioned peacefully on Sept. 26, 2023, after a courageous battle with cancer.

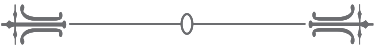
A beloved daughter, sister, aunt, niece and dear friend, her journey began on March 2, 1957, growing up on a dairy farm with eight siblings. She was a graduate of MUHS class of 1975 and went on to take childcare courses. She had a love for children, enjoyed walks and taking pictures in nature, tending to her flowers, and going out to eat. She was a private person, very smart and lived a simple lifestyle, while striving to be independent. She was very conscientious, always remembering family and friends on their birthdays and special occasions.

Nancy enjoyed puzzles and games, especially Jeopardy, and certainly challenged us all with her quick answers. She enjoyed



NANCY MYRICK

listening to some of her favorite artists like the Beatles, Fleetwood Mac and the Bee Gees, while baking in the kitchen. She also loved gathering around the campfire with family and friends, enjoying good food and conversation. She will be dearly missed by all.



Theresa R. Clark, 86, of Vergennes

VERGENNES — Theresa R. Clark, 86, passed away peacefully at home on Thursday, Oct. 19, 2023, surrounded by her family.

She was born on July 22, 1937, in Massachusetts, to Harold and Christine Russell and moved to Addison, Vt. as a young child. Theresa married Donald Clark Sr. on Nov. 7, 1953, at St. Peter’s Catholic Church in Vergennes.

Theresa was a member of Vergennes Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary and the American Legion Post 14 Ladies Auxiliary. She recently celebrated her 50th anniversary of membership. Theresa owned and operated Clark’s Nursing for 50 years with her husband Donald.

She enjoyed spending winters in Florida, traveling, camping, and playing cards with family and friends.



THERESA R. CLARK

Theresa is survived by her children, Donna Desjardin (Dave), Tim Clark (Sue) and Donald Clark Jr., all of Vergennes; her grandchildren, Heather Desjardin,

that there was no better place to raise his four children. He and Leslie kept a beautiful country home on the outskirts of Middlebury, with an immaculate lawn, beautiful gardens, a never-ending woodpile, and their dogs Bailey and Piper. For many years, too, the Hills family enjoyed summers at “Camp” on Lake Dunmore, a very special place for David and all of his children. If you knew David, you would know that in addition to his family and friends, his true loves were the Redskins, Red Sox, Ted Williams, and Civil War history.

David is survived by his wife, Leslie; his children David L. Hills, Mark (Linda) Hills, Tim (Andrea) Hills, Cristina (David) Martin; and former spouse and mother of his four children Marguerite JoAnn Austelle. “Papa” is also survived by his 11 extraordinary and beloved grandchildren, Evan and Emily Hills, Ben, Dylan, and Ethan Hills, Aidyn Rose and Tatum Hills, and Eliot, Lucy, Henry, and Stella Martin. He was predeceased by his parents and two brothers.

According to David’s request, there will be no public memorial service. The family will have a private celebration of his life at a later date. David’s family would like to thank the VNA of Manchester and Southern New Hampshire Home Health and Hospice for their caring attention at the end of David’s life. ◇

The family wishes to acknowledge with much gratitude, special friend Carma Fitzpatrick who selflessly provided support and care to Nancy.

Nancy is survived by three brothers, Larry Myrick and wife Tammy, Steve Myrick and wife Cindy, Dennis Myrick and wife Andrea; three sisters, Mary Myrick-Paquette, Susan Myrick-Gilbert and Lori Myrick; aunts Sister Gertrude Myrick and Kathryn Myrick; as well as many nieces, nephews and cousins. She was predeceased by her parents, Robert and Rita Myrick, and brothers Stanley Myrick and Dana Myrick.

A memorial service is being planned for a future date to be announced.

Arrangements under the direction of Sanderson Ducharme Funeral Home. Online condolences at www.sandersonfuneral.com.

Heidi Stearns (Dan), Kevin (Chelsea) Desjardin, Katherine Desjardin, Elizabeth Clark (Bruce), Grady Clark and Allie Clark; her great-grandchildren, Zachery, Jacob, Garrett, Caleb, Jace, Zakery, Aden, Thomas, Ava and Anderson; her great-great-granddaughter Kinsely; her sisters Kat Veysey of Titusville, Fla., and Eliane Whipple of Fitzwilliam, N.H.; and her brothers Gary Russell of Vergennes and Craig Russell of Monkton, Vt.

She is predeceased by her parents, husband Donald in 2022, her son Thomas, son-in-law Walter Desjardin and sister Barbara Roberts.

The family wants to extend a heartfelt thank you to her caregivers, Carleen Atkins and Tammy Booska.

Calling hours will be held on Wednesday, Oct. 25, from 10 to 11 a.m. at Brown-McClay Funeral Home, 48 South Maple Street, Vergennes, Vt. Funeral services will be held 11 a.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 25, at Brown-McClay Funeral Home. Interment will be in Prospect Cemetery in Vergennes, Vt. In lieu of flowers contributions may be made Vergennes Area Rescue Squad, or Vergennes Fire Department.

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

Celebrating 93 years | 1930 - 2023

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

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

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

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

Obituary Guidelines

The Independent will publish paid obituaries and free notices of passing. Paid obituaries cost 25 cents per word and will be published, as submitted, on the date of the family's choosing. For those who do not wish to purchase an obituary, the Independent offers a free notice of passing up to 100 words, subject to editing by our news department. Photos (optional) with either paid obituaries or free notices cost \$10 per photo. Obituaries may be emailed to obits@addisonindependent.com. Submissions must be received by 11 a.m. on Wednesday for publication in the Thursday paper. Email obits@addisonindependent.com or call 802-388-4944 for more information.

Planning
*Planning for Your Funeral,
the Smart Thing to Do...*

Many people are planning for their funeral in advance in a sincere effort to ease the stress loved ones will face at an emotional time. It takes only a little time and can be handled in the privacy of your home or at the Sanderson-Ducharme Funeral Home.

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

**FUNERAL
MEMORIAL
SERVICE
CREMATION
PRE-PLANNING
SERVICES**

**BROWN-McCLAY
FUNERAL HOMES**
BRISTOL **VERGENNES**
802-453-2301 802-877-3321
brownmccclayfuneralhomes.com

Richard George Payne, 86, formerly of Bridport

CABOT — Richard George Payne, born in Burlington, Vt., May 2, 1937, to Irene (Fennell) Payne and Harold Payne. Dick grew up in Bridport, Vt. on the family farm. He attended Northfield-Mt. Hermon School in Massachusetts and graduated from Hobart College in Geneva, N.Y., in 1959. He taught English at Shoreham High School in Shoreham, Vt., and then worked with his brother on the family dairy farm in Bridport. He was later employed at Job Corps in Vergennes, Vt.

In 1992, he married Carla Thomas and moved to East Cabot, Vt. He was employed as a

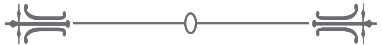
paraeducator at Barre Town School for a number of years. In his retirement, Dick was active with the Mt. Sinai Shriners in Barre and in the local community theatre and he also volunteered with the Twin Valley Senior Center. He served as a representative from Cabot to the Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission for many years.

Dick is survived by his wife, Carla Payne of East Cabot; stepchildren, David Thomas (Lu) of Plainfield, Vt., and Jessica Salinas-Thomas of Revere, Mass.; grandchildren, Jakob, Liorah, Ernesto, Juan Pablo, Nicole, Jenna

and Maria; his brother, Edward B. Payne and sister-in-law, Rosemary Payne; nephews, Harold, Charles and Arthur and their families; friends and neighbors.

A graveside service will be held at 1 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 28, at the East Cabot Cemetery on Mack Mountain Road. Friends and neighbors will be welcome at the family home at 1554 US Route 2 in East Cabot following the service from 2 until 4 p.m.

Arrangements are with the des Groseilliers Funeral Home in Hardwick. Memories and condolences may be shared at dgifunerals.com.



Helen Ida Blyther, 83, of Middlebury

MIDDLEBURY — Helen Ida Blyther passed peacefully on Friday, Oct. 20, 2023, with her loving caregivers at Helen Porter Memory Care by her side and after video chats with her children and a visit by her brother and his daughter.

Helen was born in Hubbardston, mass., to Walter P. Blyther and Lillian (Paro) Blyther on May 12, 1940, then moved to their farm in Hubbardston, Mass., as a youth and lived there for many years. She was one of seven children: Eunice, Dean, Helen, Carolyn “Cookie”, John, Duane and Betty.

She enjoyed time with family, fishing. In her later years, she loved Bingo and coloring. She had many challenges in her life, one of outliving two sons along with having a stroke in 1994. But she was a strong-willed woman who loved to have fun.

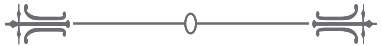
Helen was predeceased by her parents; siblings Eunice Lajoie,



HELEN IDA BLYTHER

Dean Blyther, Carolyn “Cookie” (Blyther) Vermett and Betty Ann Blyther; sons Alexander Royal Vaillancourt and Roland John Vaillancourt; stepdaughter Alicia Hargett; and son-in-law Daniel Cox.

She is survived by her beloved



Monique Bernadette (Lussier) Bourgeois, 87, formerly of New Haven

ISLE LA MOTTE — Monique Bernadette (Lussier) Bourgeois passed to her eternal rest on Sunday, Oct. 22, 2023, at the age of 87. She was born in St. Rosalie, Quebec, Canada, to Irene (LaFlamme) and Rosario Lussier as the middle child of nine.

She met her husband, Louis, while picking apples in a Vermont orchard. They married in 1956, raising their four children on military bases from Maine to New York. When Louis retired from the military they returned to Vermont and built their home in New Haven, spending many wonderful years there. Following Louis’ retirement from his second career, they enjoyed traveling in their RV, square dancing and spending time with their children and grandchildren until his death in 1997 after 41 years of marriage.

After Louis’ death, Monique moved to Isle LaMotte, Vt. and enjoyed creating a life for herself at “The Lake,” sharing her home with family and friends. Monique was an amazing wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, daughter, sister and friend. She enjoyed spending time with her family watching hockey games, baking cookies, and catching frogs. She was an accomplished seamstress, quilter, and handcrafter, but her truest passion was working in the beautiful flower gardens and



MONIQUE BERNADETTE (LUSSIER) BOURGEOIS

landscapes she created in each of her homes. She couldn’t walk past a weed without stopping to pull it.

Among her many additional interests and accomplishments, Monique was a one-room schoolteacher in Quebec, sang in the choir at St. Mary’s church, taught French to the children of St. Mary’s school in Middlebury, and spent many years working and volunteering at St. Anne’s shrine in Isle LaMotte.

Monique is survived by her children, Fabian and wife Amy of New Haven, Steven and wife Valerie of Bridport, Denise and husband Salvatore Colombo of Hyde Park, and Cynthia and

husband David Gagne of Everett, Mass., as well as 10 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren, and her long-time caring and devoted partner William (Bill) Cousino of Bristol, with whom she spent many enjoyable years in Vermont and Florida.

She is also survived by her brothers, Garcia Lussier, OMI of Our Lady of the Cape Shrine in Three Rivers, QC; Normand and wife Laurel Lussier of South Windsor, Conn.; Renald and wife Agnes Lussier of Charlotte, Vt.; her sister Carmen Lussier of St. Hyacinthe, QC; her sister-in-law, Lilian Lussier of South Windsor; Conn., and many nieces and nephews.

She was predeceased by her parents, brothers (and sisters-in-law), Gilbert, George (Laurette), Richard (Simone), and Jean-Marie, and brother-in-law Denis Caron and sister-in-law, Delia (Blaise/ Bourgeois) Litch and her husband Ervin.

Calling hours for the family will be from 9-10 a.m., all others are welcome from 10-11 a.m. on Saturday, Oct. 28, followed by a Mass of Christian burial at 11 a.m. at St. Mary’s Catholic Church in Middlebury. ◇

Joy E. Hunt, 91, of Middlebury

MIDDLEBURY — Joy E. Hunt, 91, left the earth side unexpectedly, but peacefully, on Oct. 21, 2023, with family by her side.

She was born Feb. 24, 1932, in Middlebury, the daughter of Guy and Lydia (Severy) Bishop. Joy was a graduate of Middlebury High School class of 1949.

She had various employments throughout her lifespan, but her favorite space was being a stay-at-home mom. Joy enjoyed decorating mini furniture with her husband, was an avid reader, and loved spending time with her grand (and great-grand) children. Joy — the ultimate definition of who she was — defined by her name and carried through to all that she knew.

She is survived by her daughters, Terry (Mike) Quinn, Susie Cyr and Gail Mannigan (Chris); by her grandchildren, Megan (Dan),



JOY E. HUNT

Nathan, Brianna (Tarry), Desi, Anna (Tom), Caleb, Mathew, Jonathan, Jesse, Ryan (Alison), Katie (Steve), Cody (Catherine), Rob (Delia), Kristi, Tamra

(Frank) and Andy; by her 18 great-grandchildren; an adopted daughter, Lisa Schroeder; and many extended family members and friends.

She is predeceased by her parents; her husband, Donald E. Hunt; her brother. Bud Bishop; Ed Cyr, Jacob Quinn, Jenna Cyr and many furry friends.

Many thanks to the hospice care team at Porter and Helen Porter.

A Celebration of her life will be held at a later date.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Homeward Bound Addison County Humane Society at 236 Boardman Street Middlebury, VT 05753.

Arrangements are under the Sanderson-Ducharme Funeral Home. Online Condolences at www.sandersonfuneralservice.com. ◇

Man cited for domestic assault

MIDDLEBURY — Middlebury police cited Zachary Robbins, 26, of Middlebury for domestic assault and unlawful mischief, following investigation of an alleged domestic dispute in the South Village Green neighborhood on Oct. 21.

Separately, Middlebury police conducted extra patrols on Bakery Lane and under the Cross Street Bridge every day between Oct. 16 and 23, noting that officers patrolled there multiple times on Saturday, Oct. 21, and conducted multiple checks on houseless individuals camping under the bridge on Oct. 18.

In other action last week, Middlebury police:

- Helped a local resident understand the terms and conditions of a restraining order on Oct. 16.
- Assisted the Essex (N.Y.) County Sheriff’s Department with an investigation involving an Ossie Road location on Oct. 16.
- Assisted Middlebury Regional EMS with a medical call in the Buttolph Drive area on Oct. 16.
- Responded to a trespassing complaint at Hannaford Supermarket on Oct. 17. Police said the person agreed to leave the property.
- Helped a stranded person find overnight shelter in town on Oct. 19.
- Responded to a noise complaint at 112 South Main St. at around 10 p.m. on Oct. 19.
- Investigated a report of someone driving erratically in the Marble Works complex on Oct. 19.

- Received a report about someone allegedly driving erratically on Case Street in East Middlebury on Oct. 19.
- Heard from a woman who said her car had been entered and rifled while parked off Case Street on Oct. 19. Police on that same date received reports of cars being entered while parked off Monroe Street. Police said it appears nothing was stolen from the vehicles.

- Got help for a person who reported domestic strife on Oct. 19.
- Responded to a report of a fight at a North Pleasant Street home on Oct. 20.
- Investigated a noise complaint in the North Pleasant Street area on Oct. 20.
- Investigated a two-car accident, with one person suffering a minor injury, on Quarry Road on Oct. 20.
- Responded to a noise complaint at 112 Weybridge St. at around 12:35 a.m. on Oct. 20. Police returned to the same address and warned residents following complaints of a party that was in violation of the noise ordinance at around 11:30 p.m. on Oct. 21.

- Assisted a Main Street barkeep with an intoxicated customer who didn’t want to leave at around 10:30 p.m. on Oct. 21.
- Responded to a car-versus-utility-pole accident, with minor injuries, on Case Street on Oct. 21 at around 8:15 p.m. Police said

traffic on Case Street was delayed while the damaged utility police was replaced.

- Responded to a report of a drunken man yelling in a forested area off Court Street on Oct. 21. Police found the man, who was asked to move along.
- Responded to a report of a “disorderly man” sleeping outside a Court Street business during the morning of Oct. 21.

- On Oct. 21, assisted emergency responders at the scene of a fallen tree on Route 116, at the Bristol town line.
- Warned a person who was in violation of the town’s open container ordinance on South Main Street on Oct. 21.
- Conducted speed enforcement on Rogers Road on Oct. 22.
- Ticketed a person for littering after seeing that person drop a beer can off the Cross Street Bridge on Oct. 22.
- Assisted Vermont State Police in their investigation of a car crash on Boardman Street at around 1:50 a.m. on Oct. 23. Police said the driver crashed the vehicle — later determined to have been stolen — after its driver attempted to elude police.

Middlebury police and troopers said they collared three suspects in connection with the incident, one of whom they said was in possession of a stolen firearm.

Middlebury Police Log

Vt. minimum wage to rise in January

MONTPELIER — The Vermont Department of Labor recently announced an increase to the state’s minimum wage. Beginning Jan. 1, 2024, Vermont’s minimum wage will become \$13.67 per hour. This is an increase of 49 cents from the current minimum wage of \$13.18.

This annual adjustment also affects the minimum wage for tipped employees. The Basic Tipped Wage Rate for service, or “tipped employees,” equals 50% of the full minimum wage. On

Jan. 1, 2024, the tipped minimum wage will increase from \$6.28 to \$6.84 per hour.

The state’s tipped minimum wage law allows employers to pay a lower hourly rate, as long as the employee receives tips equal to, or greater to than, the standard minimum wage during a given shift. In cases where the employee does not receive enough in tips during a workweek to equal the standard minimum wage per hour, the employer is required to pay the difference in order to

ensure the tipped wage employee is compensated at the non-tipped minimum wage amount.

The minimum wage and tipped minimum wage are adjusted annually in accordance with Vermont law and take effect at the start of the new year.

If an employee believes they are not being compensated fairly, they are encouraged to contact the Department of Labor’s Wage and Hour Unit at 802-951-4083 or online at Labor.Vermont.gov/Rights-and-Wages.



You Don’t Have to Overspend for a Quality Hearing Aid

Forbes HEALTH

VOTED #1 HEARING AID IN 2021

- 3 Year Warranty on Lifetime Service
- FREE 2 Week Trial Period
- FREE Hearing Tests, Cleanings and Adjustments
- FREE Estimate to Upgrade Your Existing Device
- Home Visits Available at No Extra Charge

Call or email with any questions
advancedhearingofvermont.com

bernie344@gmail.com

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



BORN FOR WINTER

HAKKAPELIITTA® R5

PURE SAFETY

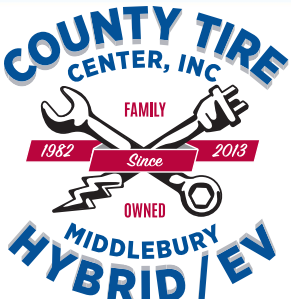
PURE WINTER GRIP

PURE DRIVING COMFORT

PURE CONFIDENCE

VISIT NOKIANTIRES.COM/WINTERLEGEND





802-388-7620 Mon-Fri 8-5

countytirecenter.com

33 SEYMOUR STREET, MIDDLEBURY

Orchards

(Continued from Page 1A)
most of what we had,” said Rob Rogers, who runs Woodman Hill Orchard in Ferrisburgh.
SMALLER CROP

Woodman Hill grows nine varieties of apples on three acres, and saw its crop depleted by more than 80% after the mid-May frost. “We elected to sell just our own crop, and we shortened our hours of operation rather than purchasing fruit from outside. This worked out from a budgeting and time-management standpoint,” Rogers said. “We were concerned about disappointing customers, but we found that folks were very understanding, and appreciated that we were open at all.”

The late-spring frost left more than half the orchard’s remaining crop with freeze damage, making it unfit for retail sale. Rogers said the orchard was able to find other uses for some of that fruit.

“We used much of the damaged crop for cider, and we sold a lot at a discount to people who press cider at home or had any number of other uses for imperfect fruit,” he told the *Independent*.

Other county orchards were also forced to contend with a smaller crop this year.

Sunrise Orchards grows 14 apple varieties on 160 acres in Cornwall, and also sells cider, cider donuts and other apple-filled goodies at locations throughout the county.

This year, the orchard lost an estimated 60-65% of its apple crop in the mid-May cold snap.

“We were able to harvest about 40,000 bushels, which is about 80,000 fewer than we normally would pick,” said Christiana Hodges, who runs the orchard with her husband, Barney.

The farm’s pick-your-own trees were largely spared from the frost, as well as other crops located on higher ground. Like Woodman Hill, Sunrise Orchards has used fruit that was damaged in the freeze to make cider.

The orchard received a grant from the Vermont Agency of Agriculture’s Working Lands Enterprise Initiative this past winter to bolster its cider production. Hodges said the grant has allowed the orchard to install a commercial cider press, which it will continue to use for cider making throughout the winter.

NEW OFFERINGS

This fall, Sunrise Orchards also added “Farmstand,” an heirloom hard cider, to its beverage offerings.

“It’s a new product and we’re really excited about it,” Hodges said. “It’s made with our Dabinett and Golden Russet apples, and it’s our first hard cider that we’ve made with our apples.”

Sunrise Orchards grows and



MONKTON RIDGE ORCHARD owners Charles and Christine LaFreniere say they’ve enjoyed a sweet apple season and welcomed more visitors to pick fruit than in previous years. The orchard’s crop fared well this season despite the weather-related challenges that hurt apple crops throughout the region in 2023.

Independent photo/Steve James

presses the apples, and the cider is fermented and bottled by Shacksbury Cider in Vergennes. A limited first edition batch of the cider is available at the orchard’s farmstand until the season wraps up on Oct. 29.

“It’s been very well received,” Hodges said of cider.

“We used much of the damaged crop for cider, and we sold a lot at a discount to people who press cider at home or had any number of other uses for imperfect fruit.”

— Rob Rogers

Other local orchards have also seen success with newer offerings this fall.

Shoreham’s Champlain Orchards this summer unveiled its Cider Garden, which features hard cider and other drinks, light food offerings and lawn and board games.

This fall, the garden hosted Cider Garden Cinema, a family-friendly movie night offered on Friday evenings in September and October.

Ben Rule, Champlain Orchards’ director of sales and marketing, said the Cider Garden and movie nights have both been popular among visitors.

“(Cider Garden Cinema) attracted a nice crowd and helped get people out, make s’mores,” he said. “The Cider Garden has been a huge hit and a nice addition to revenue that we didn’t have last year. That’s helping to mitigate some of the crop loss we experienced.”

Champlain Orchards, which acquired Douglas Orchards in 2020, grows 300 acres of tree fruit, including over 140 varieties of apples. The orchard experienced a 35% reduction in its apple crop after the mid-May freeze, though the frost largely spared the farm’s pick-your-own trees.

When the *Independent* spoke with Rule on Friday, Champlain Orchards still had several varieties of apples available for picking.

Rule noted some of those varieties have held up particularly well despite the weather-related

challenges brought by this year.

“We have an apple called the Keepsake apple. It’s one of the parents to the Honeycrisp apple that everybody loves and finds in the supermarket,” he said. “It’s not your perfect, Snow White apple, but it was seemingly completely unaffected by the frost, so that was another reason to look at each other and say, ‘Well it’s good we’re growing more of that.’ It’s hardy.”

Other apple varieties have fared less well due to extreme weather this season, such as a September heat wave.

“We had that week of 80 degree days that added some additional stress to the trees, so some varieties that would otherwise have held on and still be on the trees ended up falling prematurely,” Rule explained.

STRONG SUPPORT

From a heat wave to a devastating frost, orchardists have wrestled with a variety of challenging weather events this year. In the face

of those obstacles, growers expressed appreciation for the hearty support they’ve received from customers and orchard staff this season.

“Overall, (the season) was very challenging,” Hodges said. “One of things that my husband and I try to come back to is that we have a really amazing staff that works through these challenges with us, so we’re very thankful for our staff.”

Both longtime orchardists and newer growers were pleased with the turnout from local and out-of-state customers this fall.

In North Ferrisburgh, Monkton Ridge Orchard co-owner Christine LaFreniere said the farm welcomed more visitors this year than in previous seasons.

LaFreniere and her husband, Charles, grow nine different apple varieties on around three acres, about 90% of which was spared by the mid-May freeze.

“We have owned this orchard for about six years now, so we’re newer to the neighborhood,” she said. “Every year we build our customer base a little bit more and I would say this year it built on a little bit of a bigger scale because of the orchards that got frozen out.”

County orchardists with less fruit to sell this season were also pleased with the foot traffic at their farms.

“Our customers were exceptionally supportive and appreciative,” Rogers said. “We have a terrific group of local people who return every year. It was great catching up with folks in general, and we found that the regional crop loss was common knowledge thanks to the strong media coverage in the spring. The community wants to support

farmers and growers in a wild weather year like this one. It was great to see that.”

In Shoreham, Rule said Champlain Orchards saw an uptick in out-of-state visitors this year, likely due to the mid-May frost’s impact on New York farms, and is appreciative of the local customers who also stopped by this season.

“We’re just super thankful for all of the community members who came out and supported us this year and that visited other local orchards,” he said. “It’s hard to keep farms going these days as people know, so every bit of support helps.”

Addison County residents still have a chance to stop by local orchards before the end of the apple season. Monkton Ridge, Champlain and Sunrise orchards will be open for one final pick-your-own weekend.

Though picking opportunities will largely wrap up this weekend, community members can continue to enjoy goods from local orchards. Sunrise Orchards’ apples and treats can be found at locations like the Middlebury Natural Foods Co-op and Greg’s Meat Market through December or until the crop runs out.

The farmstand and Cider Garden at Champlain Orchards will also remain open after the pick-your-own season wraps up this weekend.

Manufacturing

(Continued from Page 1A)
juggernaut, turning out a wide variety of building blocks key to the fabrication of specialized tools and robotic equipment — particularly in the medical industry.

Cole began receiving enough orders to start adding employees back in 2015 and hasn’t stopped. Mechanical Advantage has grown four-fold in both order volume and customers since 2018, which has led to the current workforce of 15, a number that could easily grow to 20 within the next five years, according to Cole and his director of operations, David Castle.

Last year, the company made a whopping 112,000 parts.

“I couldn’t imagine filling the building as it was at that time — let alone pulling the trigger on a big addition,” Cole recalled.

Last week, workers were busy equipping Mechanical Advantage with a roughly 8,000-square-foot addition, which will give the company a total of around 13,000 square feet to do its thing.

Cole was asked for specific examples of the kinds of devices his company makes, and he dutifully grabbed a box brimming with what this right-brain reporter would describe as a fascinating array of doodads and whatchamacallits.

But each individual item plays a critical role in the anatomy of a tool — such as a mechanical scalpel — that performs an important job.

We’re talking about key parts of needle drivers for suturing, “graspers” that are part of medical machinery inserted through a small incision to manipulate organs during surgery, scalpels and staples for closing wounds.

Mechanical Advantage deals exclusively with product manufacturers and has a client list of around 10 right now. That list has included Johnson & Johnson and Google.

Each item is proprietary to the customer, so the *Independent* wasn’t allowed to photograph Mechanical Advantage’s wares. But you’ll find the sum of their parts working diligently in just about any hospital, whether it be the switches on a patient’s bedside electronic console, or the tiny gears in a surgeon’s operating room tools.

“Our specialty is very complex parts, with high precision,” Castle said. “That’s kind of what sets us apart from other machine shops.”

The company through the years has accumulated 20 CNC mills and lathes, along with automated inspection equipment. These machines are equipped with special software that Mechanical Advantage’s CNC programmers, operators and setup specialists use to relay commands that create the tool paths for the machines in crafting the desired object — precisely and repetitively, until the customer’s order is filled.

After several years of investing in much-needed equipment, Cole and Castle knew it was time this year to consider a different capital investment: a building addition.

The project should be completed by the end of this year and figures to open a new chapter of growth

for Mechanical Advantage and contribute to a new era of manufacturing prosperity in Addison County.

MANUFACTURING RETURNS

Vermont’s longtime relationship with manufacturing began more than two centuries ago, with the harnessing of waterpower to operate machinery for working marble and other products. Manufacturing continued to provide plenty of well-paying jobs in our area until the early 2000s, when companies like Standard Register and Polymers closed, due in part to overseas competition and automation.

But the industry is back in business in our region with companies like Mechanical Advantage and New Haven’s Champlain Precision for machine parts, Middlebury’s Bee’s Wrap and Seedsheets for consumer goods, a host of beverage and dairy operations, and longtime fixtures like Collins Aerospace in Vergennes and Maple Landmark in Middlebury.

“Things went elsewhere, and I think now there’s no reason

why they can’t come back,” Cole said. “Mechanical Advantage is the type of industry that can be located in remote areas. As long as we have FedEx and UPS, we can get our products to our customers.”

The company’s workshop was a beehive of activity during a visit last week. A staff of 15 eager, mostly youthful workers was dutifully overseeing and manipulating the massive CNC machines and standing by as they magically converted the technician’s electronic commands.

“It’s taking the manual machines of 20-30 years ago and having all the motions controlled by computer commands, instead of somebody turning handles,” Cole said of the process.

The fastest growing segment of Mechanical Advantage’s business is links, including articulating (flexible) links that are typically found in endoscopes, according to Castle. An endoscope is a long, flexible tube with a lens at one end and a video camera at the other; the lens end is inserted into the patient, allowing a physician to examine a particular organ, or assist in surgery.

Assisting in production of potentially lifesaving tools can be interesting work, and both Castle and Cole are willing to train the right people — including recent graduates seeking to gain a foothold in manufacturing. Cole has been a longtime supporter of the Patricia Hannaford Career Center’s industrial design & fabrication program, and there are currently two Career Center grads on the Mechanical Advantage staff.

The company is also working with Middlebury College to promote makerism. As recently reported by the *Independent*, the college’s Makerspace, under the direction of Daniel Houghton, is growing in space and interest.

“There’s a lot of opportunity for growth here, both personally and professionally,” Castle said. “That’s an important value of our business.”

“We’re constantly challenging them, pushing the boundaries of what we’re doing as a shop, and also what the individuals are doing and their skillsets,” he added.

Cole noted Mechanical Advantage offers people a chance to work in a quickly changing realm.

“We’re either controlling robots or fixing robots or adding robots to a process, or we’re displaced by them,” he said. “We really want to be on that automation curve, instead of waiting for it to get ahead of us.”

“Mechanical Advantage is the type of industry that can be located in remote areas. As long as we have FedEx and UPS, we can get our products to our customers.”

— Dave Cole

THANK YOU FOR A GREAT YEAR!

OPEN 8-4 EVERY DAY THROUGH
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29TH

Gift Cards Available
On Our Website Year Round

2638 Ethan Allen Hwy
New Haven, VT 05472 • 802-453-5382
greenhavengardensandnursery.com

THIS YEAR’S APPLE season has been a challenging one for Addison County orchardists. Many growers were left with less fruit to sell this fall after a late spring frost, excessive summer rains and other weather-related challenges depleted apple crops — though this beauty was still hanging on this week.

Independent photo/Steve James

VETERANS DAY

NOVEMBER 11, 2023

Please send form along with picture (if desired) and message to:
58 Maple Street, Middlebury, VT 05753 or submit your form online at addisonindependent.com/reader-submissions.

Your Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone #: _____ Email: _____

Service Member's Name: _____

Rank: _____ Branch of Service: _____

Where Stationed: _____

Message: _____

A SALUTE TO VETERANS

Your **FREE** Veterans Day tribute will be printed on November 9th in our special Veterans Day edition.

Deadline for submissions: NOVEMBER 3RD

ADDISON COUNTY INDEPENDENT

Serving Addison County, Vt., Since 1946

Email Us!

News Articles

news@addisonindependent.com

Advertise

ads@addisonindependent.com



RAFFLE TICKETS FOR a chance to own this beautiful queen size quilt will be on sale at the 99th Bazaar at the Congregational Church of Middlebury on Saturday, Nov. 4, from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Photo courtesy of Congregational Church of Middlebury

Church Holiday bazaar marks its 99th year

MIDDLEBURY — The Congregational Church of Middlebury is holding its annual Holiday Bazaar on Saturday, Nov. 4, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. This year's bazaar — the 99th — features a wide variety of items for sale on the building's two levels.

This year's annual church fundraiser will feature three special, very different items generously donated by church members: Shoppers will be able to choose from two dozen framed photographs from the collection of renowned National Geographic photographer James P. Blair. Also, raffle tickets will be on sale for a chance to win a beautiful new, handcrafted queen size quilt in the Starlight Waltz pattern — \$3 each, or 2 for \$5, or 5 for \$10. And finally, with this year's renewed popularity of Barbie, fans will discover a large selection of highly collectible Barbie dolls and Barbie accessories, donated by a longtime church member and collector.

Shoppers will find many other popular items that the Bazaar is well known for. Upstairs are handmade crafts, fashion and fine jewelry,

scarves, silk neckties, wall art, and a room full of gently used books, organized for easy browsing. Also upstairs, purchase your quilt raffle tickets and bid on a wide variety of theme baskets.

On the lower level in Fellowship Hall is a room with games, puzzles and toys (and Barbie dolls) for both children and adults. This year's Garden Table will have a wide variety of indoor plants and garden related items.

Homemade foods will be available and safely packaged for take-out. Food tables will be filled with jams and jellies, breads, as well as specialty and traditional pies. And, just in time for the chilly weather, a variety of delicious, homemade soups can be purchased by the pint or quart. Once again, there will be a limited collection of small home furnishings.

Entrances will be open at 30 North Pleasant St. and also under the Seymour Street portico. All proceeds from the Bazaar benefit the church's programs.

Face masks are optional inside the building. More at midducc.org.

Deer season opens Nov. 11

MONTPELIER — Vermont's 16-day regular deer season begins Saturday, Nov. 11, and ends Sunday, Nov. 26.

Hunters may take one legal buck during this season if they did not already take one during the archery deer season. The definition of a legal buck depends on the Wildlife Management Unit (WMU). A map of the WMUs is on pages 22 and 23 of the 2023 Vermont Hunting & Trapping Guide available from license agents statewide.

"The greatest numbers of deer continue to be in western regions of the state and other valley areas," said Vermont Fish and Wildlife's deer biologist Nick Fortin. "The Green Mountains and Northeast Kingdom offer more of a big woods experience with fewer, but often larger, deer."

Vermont hunting licenses include a buck tag for this season and a late season bear tag (for Nov. 11-19), cost \$28 for residents and \$102 for nonresidents. Hunters under 18 years of age get a break at \$8 for residents and \$25 for nonresidents. Licenses are available on Fish and Wildlife's website and from license agents statewide.

A 2023 Deer Season Hunting Guide can be downloaded from the department's website at www.vtfishandwildlife.com. The guide includes a map of the Wildlife Management Units (WMUs), season dates, regulations, and other helpful information.

Hunters are required to report deer in person at a big game reporting station during the regular season. Online reporting will not be available. This requirement allows biologists to collect important information from as many deer as possible.

Hunters who get a deer on Nov. 11 or 12 can help Vermont's deer management program by reporting their deer at one of the biological check stations. In Addison County the location is at Rack N Reel in New Haven.

Hunters who do not go to a biological reporting station are asked to provide a tooth from their deer. Obtain a tooth envelope from your regular reporting agent. Remove one of the middle incisor teeth, being careful to include the root. Place the tooth in the envelope and give it to the reporting agent. Each tooth will be cross sectioned to accurately determine the deer's age, and the results will be posted on the Fish and Wildlife website next spring.

Climate matters

Perspectives on Change

A conversation with Rep. Amy Sheldon on The Renewable Energy Standard



MIKE ROY

The Renewable Energy Standard, passed by the state Legislature in 2015, sets targets for the amount of renewable energy used in Vermont, states how much of that energy must be generated in Vermont, defines what kinds of energy count as renewable energy, and puts in place a system of renewable energy credits as a way to account for all of the above.

Climate Matters columnist Mike Roy sat down with Vermont State Rep. Amy Sheldon of Middlebury — who chairs the House Committee on Environment & Energy and co-chairs the Renewable Energy Standard working group — to talk about the Renewable Energy Standard and her views on energy and Vermont.

Here's their conversation:

Mike Roy: Before we get too deep into the weeds, why was the Renewable Energy Standard created to begin with? Why is it being looked at this fall? And why should anybody other than an energy wonk care about any of this?

Amy Sheldon: The Renewable Energy Standard was created to promote the transition to renewable energy. According to the folks who help us with the accounting, Vermont has the greenest grid of any state in the country now in large part because of it. It went into statute in 2015 and into effect in 2017. It is now six years later and other New England states have pushed the ball a little further up the hill, and it's time for us to look at our renewable energy standard.

To understand why this matters, you have to look at the bigger picture. Right now in Vermont and in the country and the world, we face three major crises. We have a public health crisis. We have a biodiversity crisis. And we have a climate crisis. For me, all three are interwoven. Every bill we take up this session is going to be evaluated in that frame. The biodiversity bill, which is also called the 30 by 30 bill, sets in statute the goals of conserving 30% of our lands and waters by 2030. We've also been working hard for a number of years to update statewide land use regulation, and this year we're going to be working on that again. We see that as a complement to the conservation bill.

But of course, you can't conserve everything! How does our statewide land use regulation support the goals of addressing human health, biodiversity, and climate resilience, and modernize those statutes? We're also going to be looking at the renewable energy standard, which is what a lot of people think of when they think of addressing climate. But I see all three efforts — land use, conservation, and renewable energy — addressing the overlapping crises that we face.

Mike: What is the rationale behind asking Vermont to generate increasingly more of its own renewable energy?

Amy: The thinking behind it is simple: We should do our part, even if Vermont is a very small fraction of the New England grid. Interestingly, I don't actually know yet how much we use RECs (Renewable Energy Credits) to meet our goals. There is concern that the use of RECs is actually keeping us from adding more renewables. Our work this fall is to make sure that we're legitimately increasing our reliance on renewables, including our in-state contribution to that.

Many of us care about climate change broadly and want to be part of the solution. And to be part of the solution is to electrify. And then to make sure that to electrify means not burning carbon to generate that electricity. The whole vision for a resilient grid is reliant on both being interconnected as a region and independent on the town level where we have redundancy and local generation so that when one part of the grid goes down, we can still have a functioning economy. When we invest in local renewable energy, we increase our own local resilience.

Mike: There is a great deal of debate about what should count as renewable energy. In these debates, three types of energy are usually targeted: biofuels, hydropower and wood. Is the question of what should count as renewable going to be engaged during the revision of the Renewable Energy Standard?

And to what extent will the decisions and recommendations be informed purely by science, and to what extent will economics come to bear on what gets to count as renewable?

Amy: Mother Nature bats last. No matter how we account for things, there are the laws of physics at work, and carbon is carbon. We can talk about whether the carbon we're burning is renewable because the trees will grow back in a hundred years, but the reality is we don't have 100 years. The other reality is we have invested in wood-fueled energy plants to create electricity, which we know is among the least efficient ways to make electricity. From where I sit, the things that we do have to be grounded in are the reality that we need to stop burning things, and the reality that we need to keep the lights on. In the case of Hydro-Quebec and hydropower, it is our baseload power supply now, and it's better than a lot of our other options and we want the power to stay on. And so it would be self-defeating not to use it. But we don't want to be part of a market that pushes Hydro-Quebec to get bigger and do more harm.

Mike: If people want to learn more, where can they go? And what are the venues available to citizens to have their voices heard as this process unfolds?

Amy: There are two processes going on right now. The Public Service Department is in the lead on a longer, more in-depth public engagement process that I hope people have known about and are aware of (publicservice.vermont.gov/renewables). And then we have the legislative Renewable Energy Standard Working Group, and we have a web page (ljfo.vermont.gov/committees-and-studies/renewable-energy-standard-working-group) at the Joint Fiscal Office that is tracking our committee's work. Every meeting, we have time allocated for brief public comments and we are taking written comments continually throughout the process.

Our two processes are nested together. The Public Service Department has hired an economic consulting firm that is looking at scenario modeling, noting the different benefits and costs of different scenarios involving changing the Renewable Energy Standard. Our consultant will take those scenarios and look at the ramifications for the Vermont economy.

Mike: Final Thoughts?

Amy: Front and center for me is how much energy we use as a state and as a country, in comparison to other countries. There is an environmental impact to all energy production and there are environmental equity and justice issues with both renewable energy and carbon releasing energy. Electricity can be an efficient way to heat our homes and drive our cars, but we still need to pay attention to how we can use less energy overall.

Mike Roy, a frequent contributor to Climate Matters, serves on the Middlebury Town Energy Committee and on the board of the Climate Economy Action Center of Addison County.



AMY SHELDON IS a natural resource planner and a member of the Vermont House of Representatives who works diligently on environmental issues.

Photo courtesy of Jason Duquette-Hoffman



A BETTER PLACE TO LIVE, WORK & PLAY

Spooktacular is Coming...

**Sunday, October 29th
1-3 PM**



Transform into your wildest beast, your most adored superhero or your fluffiest fur friend and join us for trick-or-treating through downtown Middlebury!

Volunteers will be handing out candy and other goodies at shops and stations throughout town from 1-3pm. Then head over to the Town Hall Theater for a Halloween Dance Party from 2:30-4:30pm.

We'll have a spooooktacular time!

EXPERIENCE MIDDLEBURY IS BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE BETTER MIDDLEBURY PARTNERSHIP

Climate

(Continued from Page 1A)

and to create additional opportunities for students to pursue climate action work at Middlebury and beyond. For its part, NextWorld pledged \$4 million to endow CAP.

“We know (climate change) is going to be different five years from now, and it’s nice being able to have a program that we know can be responsive to where our students, our faculty, our staff are at that point, as well as our community,” said Jack Byrne, dean of environmental affairs and sustainability and director of the Franklin Environmental Center at the college. “We’re really happy that we’re in a position to be able to support students who want to do work with climate-related organizations close to campus, as well as far away.”

The CAP, formerly known as the Climate Action Capacity Project, was established in the fall of 2020 with support from Erol.

CAP Director and Middlebury College alum Minna Brown said the program was created in part to further the college’s efforts to prepare students to engage in climate work.

“The idea was to say, ‘If we’re doing all of this stuff operationally in the classroom, how can we make sure that we’re really supporting students so that they can find their way through a complicated landscape,’” Brown said.

The CAP also helps tackle one of the four goals outlined in the college’s Energy2028 initiative. The 10-year plan outlines climate goals for the institution to meet in the areas of clean energy use and phasing out direct fossil fuel investments in the endowment.

The plan’s fourth goal is to incorporate the Energy2028 initiative into the college’s educational mission.

“The Climate Action Program gives us a really stable foundation for being able to engage students especially, but faculty and staff also, in... what do we need to be most effective and supportive



MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE STUDENTS and alumni gathered in March for a climate careers event organized by the Climate Action Program and Center for Careers and Internships. The college recently secured \$7 million in gifts to support expansion of the Climate Action Program, which helps students consider and engage in climate action work. Photo courtesy of Kamryn You Mak

of addressing this existential challenge,” Byrne said.

Work with the CAP is among the college’s ongoing efforts to meet the four goals detailed in Energy2028 (see related story).

CAP OFFERINGS

During the past three years, the CAP has worked to help Middlebury students navigate their role in addressing climate change and provide students with opportunities to consider and engage in efforts to tackle the climate crisis. Those opportunities have included organizing a variety of workshops, speaker series and other events in collaboration with partners on campus.

One of the CAP’s biggest programs is the Climate Action Fellowship. The year-long offering currently supports around 20 students in pursuing climate-related projects that interest them.

Students receive funding to explore those projects during the summer and throughout the following academic year. During

their fellowship, participants work with mentors and other students in their cohort to discuss and further move forward the climate work they’re engaged in.

You Mak said the fellowship program has helped her get involved in climate-related work. During her time in the program, she’s worked on projects like organizing a climate careers panel with Middlebury alumni and co-creating a J-term class on climate action.

“I was excited to join the Climate Action Program because especially as a student, it is often challenging to be able to dedicate time and energy to work that is outside of classes, jobs and spending time and making experiences with people. But climate action is not something that can continue to be pushed off.”

— Kamryn You Mak

something that can continue to be pushed off,” You Mak said. “With the Climate Action Program, I am able to set aside time and get paid for the work that I do. This sets a precedent of financially valuing

climate and environmental work and makes this line of work more accessible for more people.”

The CAP’s other offerings include the Student Funding for Climate Action, a fund that helps students cover costs of up to \$1,000 for travel to events, materials and supplies, and other expenses of climate action projects.

The program also works with the college’s Center for Careers and Internships to connect current students with alumni through a Climate Mentors Network, on-campus events and other opportunities.

You Mak said she’s found those introductions to alumni to be fruitful.

“I have been able to connect with various alumni in various fields because of this program. It has been really helpful, especially as I find myself in my last semester, in finding guidance and comfort in planning next steps,” she said. “It’s always good to learn about more ways that people are living the lives they want and doing what work is most important.”

Former students have also found the CAP to be helpful in navigating their role in addressing climate change.

Clara Wolcott was a CAP fellow for the 2021-2022 academic year, and during her time in the program worked with the Vermont Farmers Food Center in Rutland and helped spearhead an effort to have the college move toward adopting the Living Buildings Challenge, an international sustainable building certification program.

Wolcott said her participation in the fellowship program helped her work through a lack of direction in figuring out how to pursue climate action.

“A lot of times when I think of the climate crisis, I get overwhelmed, as I think many people do. I would see the groups on campus and the action that they were doing and at the same time, I was feeling really drained by that and it felt hard to be a part of those groups because I didn’t know where to put my feet,” she said. “I still felt that way during the program, but I would bring my feelings and struggles to the cohort

and would be able to talk about that and work through those feelings in a way that brought action.”

NEW FUNDING

The \$7 million in new funding will allow the CAP to continue supporting students through the Climate Action Fellowship and other programming. The gifts will also allow the program expand its work, including efforts to connect current students with alumni engaged in climate work through partnerships with the Center for Careers and Internships and other organizations on campus.

“We have really robust collaborations in the alumni and career space that we’ll continue to expand upon,” Brown said. “We have an amazing alumni network, people who are in decision-making spaces and people who have navigated what it looks like to make a career in this, even if they didn’t major in environmental

studies or something like that.”

The gifts will also support continued growth of the fellowship program and CAP events on campus.

Brown noted that the program’s future efforts will include offering opportunities for students and community members to think about, and engage with, the climate crisis together.

“I’m really looking forward to finding even more ways that we can bring the community back to campus because these aren’t conversations that are limited to just student audiences, these are things that we’re all grappling with all the time these days,” Brown said. “(Also) thinking about how we can leverage our college campus and how can we make sure that we’re doing that in connection and collaboration with the broader community is super important for us.”



KAMRYN YOU MAK

Stories from the Heart

Honoring the Spirits of Those Who Have Left This World

DATE Saturday, October 28, 2023
TIME 6:30—8:00pm / Doors open at 6pm



IN PERSON AT ST. STEPHEN'S CHURCH, MIDDLEBURY:
https://StoriesFromThe-Heart_InPerson.eventbrite.com



VIA ZOOM:
https://StoriesFromThe-Heart_Zoom.eventbrite.com



PALLIATIVE CARE DEPARTMENT
Louella Richer
Palliative Support Services Mgr.
Phone: (802) 388-4744
E-Mail: Iricher@portermedical.org

—THE—
University of Vermont
HEALTH NETWORK
Porter Medical Center

First-Time Homebuyer Seminar



Preparing to buy your first home?

Join us for a light dinner and learn more about the process of buying a home, what you need to do to prepare, and the programs available for first-time homebuyers.

DATE: November 7, 2023
TIME: 5:30pm - 7:00pm
LOCATION: Brandon Office
6 Park Street
Brandon, VT 05733
COST: FREE
DEADLINE: RSVP by November 1



Learn more & RSVP



 **National Bank of Middlebury**
Serving Vermont Communities Since 1831

EOE  **Member FDIC**

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

THE INDEPENDENT MAKES A GREAT GIFT! CALL 388-4944



IT'S CREEPY OUT THERE

HALLOWEEN REALLY BRINGS out the creative side of many people in Addison County. Our photographer captured a bit of the whimsy that went along with the scary edge that was on display in yards in Vergennes along Monkton Road and North Main Street, as well as the fantastic scarecrows at Helen Porter Nursing and Rehabilitation in Middlebury. See more on Page 14A and in Arts + Leisure.

Independent photos/Steve James





**FINAL DAY:
SUNDAY, OCT. 29!**
OPEN DAILY from 9 – 5

We still have great apples for picking and look forward to a fantastic final weekend at the orchard with fresh apples, cider, and a delicious lunch offering:
Curried butternut squash and apple soup with foccacia bread and Apple crisp!

Don't miss your last chance to pick up our NEW Hard Cider at the farmstand this season.

THANKS TO ALL FOR A GREAT SEASON!  

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

STICK SEASON SALE!

 2017 CHEVY SILVERADO XTD Cab, 4X4, V8, Auto, 87k miles \$25,995	 WIMETT TRADING COMPANY USED CARS AND TRUCKS 802 465 4688	 2016 RAM 1500 Reg Cab, 4X4, Longbox, Cap, V8, 63k miles \$23,995
 2015 TOYOTA SEQUOIA LDT 4X4, Auto, Loaded, 8 passenger, 136k miles \$26,995	 2018 KIA SEDONA SX Limited, V6, Auto, Loaded, 91k miles \$23,995	 2015 HYUNDAI TUCSON GLS, AWD, Auto, 4cyl, Loaded, 128k miles \$10,995

**AFFORDABLE, SAFE & RELIABLE
USED CARS AND TRUCKS**
We also buy cars,
locate specialty orders
& consider consignments
Call Dave for an appointment

Wimett Trading Company
at the Big White Barn in Leicester
Michael Jackman, 51 Years Experience
David Wimett, 38 Years Experience
Mark Grant, 10 Years Experience
2668 Route 7 • Leicester, VT 05733 • wimetttradingco@gmail.com

802-465-4688

More than a decade of delivering Quality!

Shelter

(Continued from Page 1A)
officials at the Charter House Coalition (CHC) are getting ready for those who'll be living inside of that often-full facility. And the organization this year has an extra heart and set of hands in the person of Tom Morgan, who last month signed on as CHC's associate director.

Morgan — who most recently served as a community service worker at Addison Community Action/Champlain Valley Office of Economic Opportunity in Middlebury — has been assigned varied duties at the shelter, including uniting CHC's many partners in the homelessness field, coordinating outreach to local houseless people, and connecting shelter guests with the services they need to become housed more and to become more self-sufficient.

Morgan said he's always had respect for CHC, an organization that mirrors his personal ethos.

"I feel that those of us that are privileged should really expend at least part of that privilege to lift up the disenfranchised members of our community," he said. "If we don't, aren't we kind of trading our humanity for our own comfort?"

Morgan will work in concert with CHC Executive Director Heidi Lacey, who joined the organization in 2020.

Lacey noted Morgan had originally applied to become a parttime case manager at the shelter. But the more she spoke with him, the more he appeared better suited to take on a leadership role.

She's particularly confident in Morgan's ability to multi-task and work with the Charter House's many partners, ranging from the Vermont Agency of Human Services to the Counseling Service of Addison County (CSAC). This cooperation allows Charter House to coordinate its efforts for the homeless and ensure it remains compliant with the conditions of its state grants.

"I'll be the first to admit that I haven't been able to nurture the partnerships that are necessary



THE CHARTER HOUSE Emergency Shelter leadership team of Tom Morgan and Heidi Lacey are getting the Middlebury facility ready for a busy winter that includes new length-of-stay limits for houseless guests. Among the preparations is this recently acquired a van, which will be used to take guests to vaccine clinics, rehabilitation services, doctor's visits and other appointments.

Independent photo/John Flowers

to keep us growing," Lacey said. "Tom will allow for that to happen."

Morgan and his spouse, Irena Pavlin, served as a licensed foster family in Virginia from 2016-2021. He noted foster children are essentially homeless and can harbor a tremendously complex kind of trauma. He worked in a variety of faith organizations' shelter operations in Virginia and Washington, D.C., and he's volunteered at orphanages overseas. While in seminary, he completed a clinical pastoral residency and chaplaincy training, which he noted can be helpful "when serving traumatized community members seeking meaning and healthful relationships."

NOT TOO COMFORTABLE

While they want shelter guests to feel safe and nurtured, Lacey and Morgan want to make sure guests don't become *too* comfortable in their temporary digs. The average length of stay within Vermont shelters now ranges from 150 days to more than 200 days, while the Charter House's average current length of stay is around 168 days, according to Lacey.

The duo wants guests to know their goal should always be a life outside of the shelter. To that end, Charter House has established a 90-day review for all of its guests. At the end of that 90 days, shelter

staff meet with the guest to see if they've made substantial progress in meeting their housing, employment and other life changing goals.

If the guest hasn't made substantial progress, they're given 30 days to transition out of the shelter, according to Lacey.

"It's about actions and it's about consequences," she said. "In some cases, they might find themselves leaving to an unsheltered space."

Establishing stay limits is key to extending CHC's safety net, according to Morgan.

"Where we have one person here, there are four or five folks in the community who are losing their housing this month," he said. "The idea is, we're a small shelter and there has to be space for everyone who needs it — in Charter House or some other place."

The new policy reflects the fact that CHC is but one step toward a better life, officials said.

"Guests stay here and start stabilizing," Morgan said. "If they stay here indefinitely, what's the motivation to have those difficult conversations?"

Lacey agreed.

"It's important that we remain temporary, otherwise we're a boarding house," she said.

Lacey and Morgan believe CHC has the resources people need to help them take flight after a temporary

JGHS

(Continued from Page 1A)
four affordable house properties in Vergennes, Bristol and Middlebury, and three zero-energy modular homes in Bristol. Whitmore, during a recent email exchange with the *Independent*, said the shelter waiting list recently included a single mom and three children who had been fleeing domestic violence.

"In the time that it took for them to move up on the waitlist, they had gone back to their unsafe home because they could not find another option," Whitmore lamented.

Also of concern: The shelter's waitlist includes four people older than 65, including an octogenarian.

"The waitlist is painful," she said.

Work is proceeding on the exterior of the shelter building to improve accessibility, along with roof and siding repairs and the replacement of both porches, the front steps and the sewer service line.

More work will follow, courtesy of a coalition of volunteers including Vergennes Union High School and Patricia Hannaford Career Center students, the Vergennes Lions and Leo's Clubs,

the Women of Wisdom group, and others.

"We are extremely grateful that a group of volunteers ... has offered to build a new playground and picnic area in the side yard, as soon as the other work is done," Whitmore said. "After that, we will start working to raise the funds for rehabilitation projects at three of our affordable housing properties in Vergennes, Bristol and Middlebury. As timing is contingent on funding, as well

high this winter," she said of the kits. "It's always a concern how we will cover this cost."

Fortunately, the United Way of Addison County will be supporting both the Charter House Coalition and JGHS warming kit initiatives this winter.

"We are so grateful," Whitmore said.

It should be noted that JGHS helps tackle homelessness beyond the confines of the Little

City. For example, the organization is joining other nonprofits in assisting the houseless campers in downtown Middlebury.

"Teams visiting the encampment visit with people,

provide any supplies they might need for their sustenance, safety and warmth, and let them know about services that are available for them when they are ready — shelter, primarily, but also assessment for coordinated entry into permanent housing, treatment for mental health or substance use," Whitmore said.

For more information about John Gram Housing & Services, visit johngramshelter.org.

Reporter John Flowers is at johnf@addisonindependent.com.



"We anticipate demand (for warming kits) will be high this winter. It's always a concern how we will cover this cost."

— Susan Whitmore, John Gram Housing & Services

as the availability of contractors, that work won't happen until 2024, most likely."

Each winter, JGHS gives out warming kits for those who don't have a spot in shelter or who prefer to stay outside. The kits include tent and tarp, mylar blanket, sleeping bag, winter coat, hat, gloves and socks, as well as hand and feet warmers, Sterno, flashlight and a solar charger. The kits cost about \$250 each, according to Whitmore.

"We anticipate demand will be

stay. Those services include:

- The Power, Choice, Voice program offered through CSAC. It's a six-month series of workshops where guests speakers impart life skills — such as budgeting, job interviewing techniques and dealing with emotions — to participants.
- An agreement through which CSAC provides credentialed interns (with at least two years of experience) to help out at the shelter.
- A case management program that's offered to guests and non-guests of the shelter. The program has successfully united people with mental health services and housing, according to Lacey.

- The Vermont Coalition of Runaway Homeless Youth Program (VCRHYP). Lacey explained that offering — which helps homeless individuals age 24 or younger find housing — had most recently been offered through the Addison County Parent-Child Center.

The Parent Child Center recently concluded its relationship with VCRHYP, and Charter House decided to take it on. The program carries four housing vouchers (subsidies), Lacey noted.

- A recently acquired a van, used to take guests to such appointments as vaccine clinics, rehabilitation services and doctor's visits. This should save Charter House

considerable money on taxi bills, official reasoned.

Morgan is looking forward to his work with CHC, where every day brings new challenges. He spent a big part of a recent weekend washing dishes in the shelter kitchen. Next week could see him organizing a summit between local stakeholders in the fight against homelessness.

"For the situation we're facing now, I feel that it will be the compassionate connections with, and intentional services delivered, to each individual in need that will lead to success," he said.

Reporter John Flowers is at johnf@addisonindependent.com.



Middlebury American Legion Post 27
& ALA Unit 27
will be hosting

HALLOWEEN DRIVE THRU

October 31st, 2023 from 5 p.m.
until candy runs out!

MIDDLEBURY AMERICAN LEGION POST 27
BOARDMAN STREET (BEHIND G. STONE MOTORS)
MIDDLEBURY, VERMONT 05753
(802) 388-9311

INDEPENDENT DIGITAL marketing

DIGITAL DOESN'T HAVE TO BE HARD

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

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

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



ONLINE
ADVERTISING



DIGITAL DIRECTORY
MANAGEMENT



WEB DESIGN &
DEVELOPMENT

CONTACT US TODAY TO GET STARTED!

802-388-4944

digital@addisonindependent.com

addisonindependent.com/independent-digital-marketing



Vt. sues Meta over teen mental health

By SARAH MEARHOFF
VTdigger.org

MONTPELIER — Vermont is suing the tech giant Meta, alleging that the company designed its social media platform Instagram to be addictive and otherwise harmful to the mental health of young users. Standing before the Vermont Superior Court in Burlington on Tuesday afternoon, Attorney General Charity Clark told reporters that her team had filed the lawsuit against the owners of Facebook and Instagram just minutes before. Clark coordinated with more than 40 other attorneys general across the country who also sued Meta on Tuesday in state and federal court. “We are suing to hold these corporations accountable for Instagram’s contribution to the mental health crisis that is gripping teens across the country,” she said Tuesday.

Vermont’s 117-page lawsuit alleges that Instagram has detrimental impacts on young users’ mental health, that usage correlates with social media addiction, sleep deprivation, poor self-image, feelings of loneliness and even the desire to self-harm. Citing a 2023 advisory by the U.S. Surgeon General’s Office, Clark said that excessive social media use in teens is suspected to impact neurological development in young brains, and can lead to diagnosable medical conditions such as anxiety, depression, attention deficit disorder, eating disorders, sleep disorders, addiction and suicidal ideation.

Meta knows that Instagram poses these risks to young users, Clark said on Tuesday, but has continued business as usual — and, she said, even lied to the public about the app’s safety for children — in pursuit of profits.

“In short, Instagram is addictive and harmful to youth,” Clark said. “There is a mental health epidemic happening among teens across this country. Meta is contributing to that epidemic, and we are here today to hold them accountable.”

Most of the 42 attorneys general participating in the coordinated legal effort opted to sign onto one joint lawsuit in federal court. That effort is led by the attorneys general of Colorado and Tennessee and was filed in the U.S. District Court for the Northern District Court of California. Clark’s office was one of eight that instead opted to file their own lawsuits in state court. It also conducted its own

independent investigation of Instagram’s practices in Vermont. Clark’s office hinged its legal argument on the claim that Meta violated Vermont’s Consumer Protection Law by engaging in unfair and deceptive trade practices — namely, by lying to the public about the safety of Instagram despite knowing its adverse impacts on young users.

In a written statement responding to the lawsuits filed in Vermont and other states on Tuesday, Meta wrote that they in fact “share the attorneys general’s commitment to providing teens with safe, positive experiences online,” but were “disappointed” in their approach.

“We’re disappointed that instead of working productively with companies across the industry to create clear, age-appropriate standards for the many apps teens use, the attorneys general have chosen this path,” Meta wrote.

In its state court suit, the Vermont Attorney General’s Office requested a permanent injunction against Meta, prohibiting it from engaging in unfair and deceptive trade practices in Vermont.

It’s also seeking civil penalties of \$10,000 for every one of Meta’s alleged violations of the Vermont Consumer Protection Act. Each violation, the office argued, should be defined as “each instance in which a Young person accessed the Instagram platform in the State of Vermont.”

Asked how many teens in Vermont are Instagram users, Assistant Attorney General Jamie Renner did not offer a specific number, but pointed to a Pew Research Center study that found in 2022 that 62% of teenagers nationwide between 13 and 17 years-old report being Instagram users.

Of course, Instagram is far from the only social media platform with a large teenage user base. The same Pew Research study found that 67% of teenagers nationwide use the short video sharing platform TikTok.

Asked if her office is pursuing similar litigation against other social media platforms, Clark cited her office’s policy of neither confirming nor denying ongoing investigations, but left the door open to speculation.

“I do think it’s already public that states are looking at TikTok, so I can acknowledge that, but I can’t say anything further,” she said.

More flood relief funds available

ADDISON COUNTY — The Vermont Community Foundation has awarded another \$2,359,846 in flood recovery and relief grants across the state, including \$418,500 in grants made directly to farmers under the Farm Disaster Relief Grant Program.

The new round of grants from the Foundation’s VT Flood Response & Recovery Fund 2023 brings the total awarded from the fund to \$4,430,284 since it was created ten weeks ago. Over that same time period, the fund has raised more than \$11.3 million.

The most recent grants include the first awards made directly to farmers, who as a group suffered extensive financial losses in flooding that affected over 27,000 acres of land. Some farmers lost an entire season of vegetables, berries, hay and other feed crops.

The latest grants from the VT Flood Response & Recovery Fund include a focus on longer-term efforts to help people put their lives back together. New grants will create more case-worker positions to assist people whose homes, mobile homes, apartments or businesses were flooded. Many of them face a complicated process to navigate all the options for government flood relief assistance. Vermont Legal Aid was awarded a \$100,000 grant to help support Vermonters with legal needs arising from the flooding, and the Champlain Valley Office of Economic Opportunity was awarded \$100,000 to support its Mobile Home Program and provide case management for flood-affected mobile home park residents.

Recognizing the challenge and stress the flooding created, grants are also supporting organizations that assist people with substance use disorder or mental health challenges. The latest grants also continue to help organizations such

as the United Way and the Red Cross respond to need in flood-affected communities.

Local organizations to receive grants awarded since mid-August from the VT Flood Response & Recovery Fund 2023 includes:

- Addison County Home Health and Hospice — \$2,500 to respond to individuals’ needs as a result of storms and flooding.
- Addison County Relocalization Network (ACORN) — \$10,000 for storm and flood relief efforts.
- Middlebury Fire Department — \$5,000 to support needed repairs for swift water rescue equipment for future response efforts.
- United Way of Addison County — \$80,000 to support grants to individuals and families impacted by flooding.

In addition to the grants listed above, the VT Flood Response & Recovery Fund 2023 is supporting storm and flood-related requests through the Foundation’s Special and Urgent Needs (SUN) grant program. SUN has temporarily modified its guidelines to support urgent nonprofit needs related to this disaster. Nonprofits directly impacted by storms and flooding are encouraged to visit vermontcf.org/sun to learn more about available funding.

The Farm Disaster Relief Grant Program has awarded funds to farms and farmers across the state. So far \$23,000 in grant funding has been distributed in Addison County.

In the coming weeks the foundation will continue to award grants through the Farm Disaster Relief Grant Program. Stay tuned for additional announcements regarding direct-to-farm grant awards.

Visit vtfloodresponse.org to contribute or learn more about the VT Flood Response & Recovery Fund 2023.

Homes

(Continued from Page 1A)

“We’re trying to do something that is gentle, that is organic,” Mueller told a standing-room-only gathering in the city hall conference room, plus a few more on Zoom that Friday morning. “We hope to establish a viable approach to deliver diverse, affordable homes.”

Homes For All is a three-year project in its initial phase of making five visits to what the agency is calling “pilot communities” that successfully applied to participate: Rutland, Fairlee, Bellows Falls and Middlesex, as well as Vergennes.

Eventually, Homes For All will offer designs, technical support, and at least some grants of up to \$50,000 per unit to communities, property owners and developers who wish to add infill housing. Funding will come least in part from the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Like the other four pilot communities, Tomasso said Vergennes was picked because of its commitment to housing and the progress it has already made in creating housing-friendly planning and zoning. Its city plan was recognized a decade ago as the state’s best by the Vermont Planners’ Association, and its zoning has already been eased in recent years to allow greater housing density.

“We received many amazing applications, and through a competitive process chose Vergennes,” Tomasso said. “So much planning work has been done.”

THREE PHASES

Over its three years under Commerce and Community Development Agency oversight, the Homes For All project is planned to consist of three phases. The first will be to create a “toolkit” for prospective builders and developers of projects that fulfill the Homes For All goals of blending in with existing neighborhoods and building patterns.

Presenters described in detail the types of “missing middle housing,” the project has in mind: structures containing one to four units including duplexes; second smaller homes and/or apartments added to single family homes; condos; apartment buildings, including what they called “courtyard apartments”; and second-story apartments above businesses in mixed-use neighborhoods.

Presenters said many of these styles of housing are not new — that they were more typical in the mid-20th century and remain common in many communities.

“These are already nested into many Vermont neighborhoods in various contexts, everything from a duplex to more concentrated development types, townhouses or buildings like that,” Mueller said.

She added Utile’s preliminary designs included cost-saving elements. For example, Mueller noted they did not include basements.

Presenters also said they are focusing primarily on one-to-four unit structures because financing, siting and code requirements become more complex for larger projects.

During the second phase, according to the experts at the meeting and Homes For All documents, a cohort of those potential builders and developers will be trained in the ins and outs of the developing projects and creating final designs. It will also include a design contest for construction-ready products.

The third phase will help guide developers and builders to the finish line and also show some the money: Grants will be awarded.

Attendees at the city hall meeting gave the presentation good reviews, including former mayor and city manager Renny Perry in a Zoom chat post, Vergennes Planning Commission Chair Shannon Haggett in an interview with the

Independent, and Councilor Cheryl Brinkman at the meeting.

“This gives me the energy to want to do more,” Brinkman told the presenters.

LOOKING AT THE CITY

After the one-hour Zoom meeting, the architects and state officials went on a one-hour tour of the area between New Haven Road and Otter Creek bounded by Victory and King street to the north.

That area includes more clustered homes near downtown, houses on larger lots and condos between South Green Street and New Haven Road and on some cul-de-sacs like Thomas Circle, and riverfront property along South Water Street.

A color-coded map they displayed at city hall appeared to show several dozen potential sites for more housing in those neighborhoods, assuming friendly zoning.

Haggett went along with the tour and said it “definitely” uncovered possible infill sites and was useful for both city officials and the Homes For All contingent.

“They can take their original (design) concepts and say, ‘It may be too big in these situations. It may be too small in other situations. And when they look at other towns ... they can go back and tweak and adapt their original concepts, and we hope make them more applicable for Vergennes as well as other communities throughout the state,” Haggett said.

“So when they come out with the finished product it’s going to be more useful for municipalities, for small developers, for homeowners who want to do these sorts of things.”

The visit also highlighted that some elements of the city zoning ordinance — and those in other communities — will have to be changed to conform with Vermont’s HOME Act, which passed this year and rewrote the statewide laws that underpin local planning and

zoning.

For example, according to an Agency of Commerce and Community Development summary of the HOME Act, several provisions directly apply to communities such as Vergennes and Middlebury. They include:

- “In residential districts served by municipal sewer and water, municipalities cannot require more than 1 parking space per dwelling unit.”
- “ADU (Accessory Dwelling Unit) review, dimensional, or other regulations must not be more restrictive than those for single-unit dwellings.”
- “In areas served by municipal sewer and water, municipalities must allow multiunit dwellings with three or four units to be a permitted (not conditional) use.”
- “In municipal water sewer service areas that allow residential development bylaws must permit a dwelling unit density bonus of 40% and a bonus of one habitable floor above the height maximum.”

Above and beyond what is mandated, Haggett said Vergennes and other communities should be motivated to adapt zoning to allow more housing. “More housing means more people. More people means more jobs, more commerce, more economic benefits,” he said.

And Haggett believes the Homes For All project will help guide Vergennes and other communities around the state in meeting that goal.

“From my perspective, once the recommendations come out, we may want to consider looking at our current zoning and subdivision regulations if we want to create an environment that would enable some of the infill ideas,” he said.

And he said the Homes For All experts appear to believe Vergennes can help to show the way.

“When we finished up they said, ‘Wow, this is really great. This is productive. Vergennes is really happening. There’s a lot of good things happening here, but we see a lot of potential for even more,’” Haggett recounted.

HOWL-O-WEEN IS CLOSE:
SEASONAL TREATS ABOUND



HARE AND THE DOG

Legendary
WINE • BEER • SPIRITS

260 Court Street, Suite 3
Middlebury, VT
(former location of Olympia Sports)

www.Hare.dog | (802) 458-8060

HALLOWEEN
COSTUME BARN
FUNDRAISER

at The Eddy Farm



Sunday, October 29th, 1pm-4pm

Trick or treat from stall to stall!

Horses in costumes

Pumpkin painting

\$10 per Family

Eddy Farm, 1815 South St Ext Middlebury, (802) 388-6196

Please no dogs or horse treats. Closed-toe shoes required.



HAPPY
OTTERWEEN

Stock up on some
cookies and treats
for your trick-or-treaters!





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

OtterCreekBakery.com

14 COLLEGE ST. | MIDDLEBURY, VT | 802-388-3371

Fall Antiques Sale

10 Green Street
Vergennes, Vermont

Thursday & Friday,
October 26th & 27th, 8am-5pm

Saturday the 28th, 8am-3pm

Loads of Fresh Items from Local Homes, Oak Curved Glass
Corner China Cabinet, Toys, Armoires, Lamps (for the
upcoming darkness), Rocking, Dining and Upholstered Chairs,
MCM Bedroom Set, Vintage Stereo Stuff, Electric Full-Size Bed,
Paintings by Arthur Healy, Georgia Balch + more, Stoneware,
Toy Tractors, Dressers, Asian Prints, Drop Leaf Tables, Dining
Tables, German Walnut MCM Cabinet, Secretary, Drafting
Table, Grandfather Clocks, Bookcase, Two Oak Card Catalog/
File Cabinets, Mirrors, China inc. Canton, Pierced Tin Pie Safe,
Primitive Benches, Cradles, Bowls + Woodenware, Antique
Beds, Pr Twin Canopy Beds, Early Walnut Tall Chest, Antique
Milk Sleds, Copper and Brass, Quilts, Sofas, Frames, Baskets,
Furniture Hardware, Hundreds of Small Items and
MUCH MUCH MORE

Stone Block
Antiques

cash, check, credit card, venmo

[instagram.com/stoneblockantiques](https://www.instagram.com/stoneblockantiques) • [facebook.com/StoneBlockAntiques](https://www.facebook.com/StoneBlockAntiques)

Vergennes Lions Club First Annual



Over 100 items donated from local merchants. All proceeds go back into the community through Lions programs.

The auction runs from **November 2nd – November 11th** but you can preview items now and get more info at:

www.32auctions.com/VergennesAuction
Questions? Email vergenneslionsclub8@gmail.com



Vergennes Lions — We Serve.

ACTIVITIES
FUN AROUND TOWN

Read our Arts + Leisure section to see what is going on in the local arts community and to plan a night out.
.....

Spotlight on Vergennes



THE OWNER OF this North Main Street home in Vergennes cleverly placed bats flying above the property. It's part of a larger Halloween display that mysteriously appears every autumn.

Independent photo/Steve James

City Legion Post hosts Trunk or Treat

VERGENNES — American Legion Post 14 in Vergennes will host a Trunk or Treat event for kids this coming Sunday. This free activity will take place from 2 to 3 p.m. in the post parking lot at 100 Armory Lane.

Trunk or Treat is a safe alternative to Trick or Treating and is done in a coned off area of the parking lot

Parents and community members will register to bring their cars and goodies to distribute from their decorated trunk. Families will be led to the parking area and will begin walking car to car for treats.

Offering treats here is great for people who live out of town and don't get trick or treaters, and for anyone with ambulatory issues. It is also great way to promote your business, civic organization or church.

It is done in the daylight and children will be home before dark.

If you would like to register your vehicle for Trunk or Treat, please contact Martha DeGraaf at 802-349-0299 or email at marsulli75@gmail.com.

Teen club seeks airline mile donations



ALICIA GRANGENT

VERGENNES — The Boys & Girls Club of Greater Vergennes has announced that United Airlines has approved its request to become a charity partner for their MilesPlus Miles on a Mission Donation Program. The club is in need of miles to help fund airfare for a future trip to South Dakota.

The club is hoping to take two staff members and 10 club members to South Dakota in the spring for a trip of a lifetime, said Boys & Girls Club CEO Alicia Grangent.

"The idea originated with a conversation held with youth about National Parks during our

Ultimate Journey programming," Grangent explained. "Within days of the conversation by pure coincidence, a KOA (Kampgrounds of America) grant request hit my inbox for their 'Get Out There' program. I submitted an inquiry and received a call back stating that KOA wanted to give us gear bags containing camping supplies. It was at that point that I recalled Mount Rushmore as a top destination for the members. I personally have fond memories of traveling through South Dakota and camping along the way and I would like the Club kids to experience that as well."

The Boys & Girls Club's goal is to take this trip the week of June 24, 2024, visiting Badlands National Park, Mount Rushmore National Park, and Crazy Horse Memorial. Youth will be selected based on participation in projects set up ahead of the trip.

United Airlines is allowing Vergennes-area people to donate their unused United Airlines miles by using this website: donate.mileageplus.com/Charity/Details/2145875. United Airlines will match the first 50,000 miles donated towards the goal of 500,000 miles needed to reach their destination.

Local police have a busy week

VERGENNES — Vergennes police dealt with if a variety of incidents between Oct. 16 and 22, including thefts of change from unlocked cars, a couple of accidents, animal problems, a noise complaint, an allegedly indecent photo and a resident with a medical issue.

They also escorted students walking for a good cause; worked with Vermont State Police several times; conducted 14 cruiser patrols, four traffic stops and a property watch; fingerprinted a job applicant; responded to a false alarm; and:

- On Oct. 16:
- Dealt with a two-vehicle accident in which one vehicle sideswiped another on Main Street and then left the scene and couldn't be found.
 - Following a complaint, asked the city animal control officer to speak to the Main Street owner of a dog that had reportedly been acting aggressively toward a child.
 - Told a Green Street resident to make less noise following a complaint from a downstairs

Vergennes
Police Log

neighbor.

On Oct. 17:

- After he turned himself in at the station, cited Eric Bynum, 22, of Ferrisburgh into court for failing to make an earlier court appearance.
- Following a complaint, told a vehicle owner to stop shining his headlights into a Hillside Drive residence.
- Along with state police, checked out a First Street residence to make sure all was OK after a neighbor reported an open door.

On Oct. 18:

- Escorted Vergennes Union High School students walking to Kingsland Bay to raise awareness on the issue of suicide prevention.
- Looked into a student complaint about an allegedly explicit photo of an adult female in the VUHS art room. Police said they've not yet determined if the complaint has

merit.

On Oct. 19:

- Were told by two vehicle owners that change and an unused wallet had been taken from their unlocked vehicles parked on Main Street. The case remains open, police said.
- Went to Plank Road property in Waltham near Route 7 to euthanize a bobcat that had been struck by a vehicle. The county game warden was unavailable to take on the task.
- Accepted a passport that had been found on Main Street. Police said they've been unable to contact its owner with only the information of his place of birth in Massachusetts, but hope he'll reach out to them.

On Oct. 20:

- Responded along with the Vergennes Area Rescue Squad to a medical problem at an Armory Lane apartment. VARS took the resident to the UVM Medical Center.
- Took a report from the Boys & Girls Club of Greater Vergennes that a juvenile had filed a false report of a kidnapping attempt on Monkton Road. Authorities spoke to the juvenile's parents about the incident.

- Searched unsuccessfully for a driver that a Shaw's Supermarket employee reported to be intoxicated.

- Conducted a background investigation on behalf of the Department of Homeland Security.

On Oct. 21:

- Joined state police and other local law enforcement agencies in searching for juveniles involved in a multi-county crime spree, including in parts of northern Addison County. Vergennes police said they didn't find them, but noted other agencies eventually arrested the juveniles.
- Helped state police by notarizing documents.

On Oct. 22, responded to a two-vehicle accident next to Maplefields on South Water Street.

ADDISON COUNTY

Student Briefs

Leah Croke of Ferrisburgh was named the recipient of The Rusty Smith Memorial Teaching Prize in Computer Science at Hamilton College's annual Convocation ceremony on Aug. 23. Croke, a senior majoring in Computer Science, is a graduate of Vergennes Union High School.

It looks like
you *can* put a
price on comfort.

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

vgsvt.com/heatpumps



VERGENNES
Service Directory

PLUMBING & HEATING



Serving the
Champlain Valley
Since 1887
877-3118
Main St., Vergennes



ADVERTISE WITH JESSE!

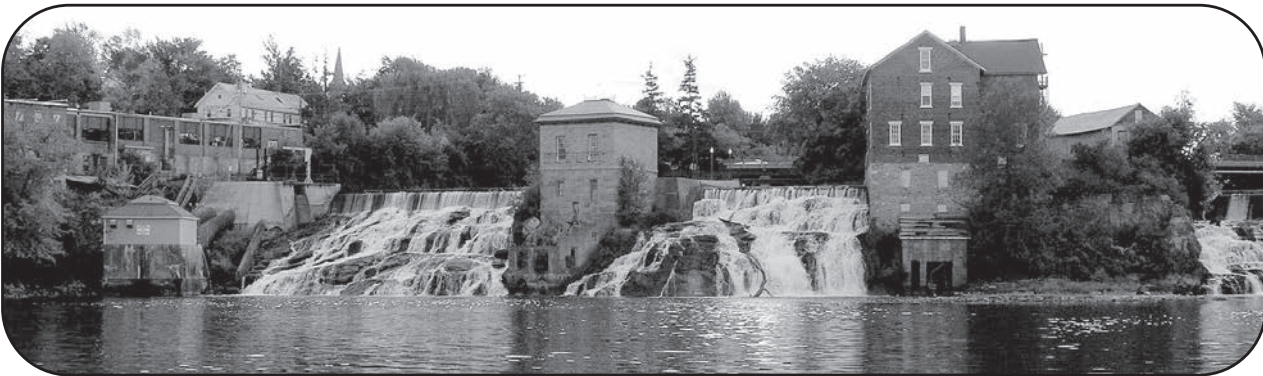
SIDING

CLOVER STATE
Window & Siding Co., Inc.

Replacement Windows • Vinyl siding
• Garages • Roofs • Additions

Phone: 802-877-2102 • Toll Free: 888-433-0962

To advertise in the
Vergennes Service Directory
call Jesse
802-388-4944, ext. 119
Jessen@addisonindependent.com





MIDDLEBURY MAPLE RUN 2023

Vermont's "Sweetest" Half Marathon!

It's not too late to sign up!
**HALF MARATHON,
RELAY & 3-MILE FUN RUN**

Sunday Nov 5, 2023
9 AM START • MIDDLEBURY, VT

Enjoy a scenic route with a mix of paved and dirt roads
through Middlebury and Weybridge.

Registration is open through Nov 3
MiddleburyMapleRun.com



THANKS TO OUR DEDICATED SPONSORS



Porter Medical Center



National Bank
of Middlebury



The Vermont
Since 1949



Book Shop



Middlebury
College



Maple Landmark®

ADDISON COUNTY
INDEPENDENT



Not up for running? No problem! Please consider volunteering! Visit our website for details and to sign up.
MiddleburyMapleRun.com

- School News
 - Legal Notices
- Classifieds
 - Police Logs

Score
BOARD

HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS

Football

10/20 Milton vs MAV 14-13
10/20 CVU vs MUHS 21-14
10/21 Mill River vs OV..... 7-0

Field Hockey

10/18 Mt Mansfield vs Mt Abe 5-0
10/18 Rice vs MUHS..... 6-0
10/19 OV vs Fair Haven 2-1
10/20 Rice vs Mt Abe 5-0
10/21 Essex vs MUHS Canceled
10/21 Windsor at OV..... Canceled

D-II Field Hockey Playoffs

10/24 #7 St. J. vs #10 MUHS..3-2 (OT)
10/24 #8 Mt. Abe vs #9 Bratt..... 1-0

Girls' Soccer

10/19 OV vs Hartford 3-1
10/19 MUHS vs Fair Haven ...5-4 (OT)
10/20 Stratton vs OV.....5-0
10/20 Mt Abe vs VUHS 8-0

D-II Girls' Soccer Playoffs

10/24 #5 Mt. Abe vs #12 Montpelier.3-0
10/24 #6 Spaulding vs #11 OV..... 6-1
10/24 #7 Rice vs #10 MUHS..... 3-0

D-III Girls' Soccer Playoffs

10/25 #9 GMUHS at #8 VUHS..... Late

Boys' Soccer

10/18 Mt. Abe vs Milton..... 2-0
10/18 VUHS vs Missisquoi..... 3-0
10/18 MUHS vs Rice..... 4-1
10/18 OV vs Proctor..... 6-2
10/20 Hartford vs OV 4-2
10/21 MUHS vs Missisquoi 8-0
10/21 Mt Abe vs VUHS 1-0

D-II Boys' Soccer Playoffs

10/24 #4 U-32 vs. #13 OV..... 3-1
10/25 #15 Spaulding at #2 MUHS. Late
10/25 #9 Rice at #8 Mt Abe..... Late

D-III Boys' Soccer Playoffs

10/25 #11 VUHS at #6 Fair Haven 3 PM

Girls' Volleyball

10/19 Enosburg vs MUHS..... 3-2

Girls' Volleyball Playoffs

10/25 #13 Montpelier at #4 MUHS.Late

COLLEGE SPORTS

Field Hockey

10/21 Midd vs Tufts 6-0
10/25 Midd at Williams Late

Men's Soccer

10/21 Midd vs Tufts 3-0
10/24 Midd vs Williams 1-0

Women's Soccer

10/21 Tufts vs Midd 1-1
10/24 Midd vs Williams 2-1

Football

10/21 Midd vs Bates..... 48-7

Schedule

HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS

Football

D-I Quarterfinal

10/27 #5 MUHS at #4 St. J 7 PM
11/4 or 5Semifinal

D-III Quarterfinal

10/28 #6 Poultney at #3 OV 1 PM
11/4 or 5Semifinal

Field Hockey

D-II Quarterfinals

10/27 #6 OV at #3 Spaulding..3:30 PM
10/27 Mt Abe at #1 Hartford....3:30 PM

Girls' Soccer

D-II Playoffs

10/27 #5 Mt. Abe at # 4 Harwood. 3 PM
10/31 Semifinal 3 PM

D-III Quarterfinal

10/27 TBD at No. 1 Fair Haven..... 3 PM
10/31 Semifinal 3 PM

Boys' Soccer

D-II Playoffs

10/27&28 Quarterfinals..... 3 PM
11/1 Semifinals..... 3 PM

D-III Quarterfinal

10/28 Quarterfinal 3 PM
11/1 Semifinal 3 PM

Girls' Volleyball

10/28 Quarterfinal 5 PM
11/2 Semifinal..... 5 PM

Cross Country

10/28 State Meet at Thetford .9:45 AM

COLLEGE SPORTS

Field Hockey

NESCAC Quarterfinal

10/28 TBD at #1 MiddTBA

Men's Soccer

NESCAC Quarterfinal

10/28 #8 Williams at #1 Midd..... Noon

Football

10/28 Midd at Colby 1 PM
11/4 Midd at Hamilton 12:30 PM
11/11 Tufts at Midd 12:30 PM



EAGLE JUNIOR HAILEE Allen flicks home the goal that proved to be the game-winner during the Mount Abe field hockey team's home playoff win over Brattleboro on Tuesday.

Independent photo/Steve James

Eagle field hockey advances

By ANDY KIRKALDY

BRISTOL — Maybe it was harder than it could have been given the Mount Abraham field hockey team's dominance in possession and 19-2 advantage in penalty corners,

but the 8th-seeded Eagles were all smiles after their 1-0 victory over visiting No. 9 Brattleboro in Tuesday's first-round Division II home playoff game. The young Eagles — they start

four seniors — had taken their lumps playing the state's top Division I teams this fall in the Metro Conference, and entered Tuesday's game with a 2-11-1 (See Eagles, Page 5B)



EAGLE SENIOR CENTER midfielder Morgan Barnard makes a move past a Brattleboro player during Tuesday's field hockey playoff game. Barnard set up the game-winner in Mount Abe's 1-0 win.

Independent photo/Steve James

Tiger football falls to CVU; to hit the road for playoffs

By ANDY KIRKALDY

MIDDLEBURY — The Middlebury Union High School football team on Friday came up on the short end of a 21-14 score in a hard-fought home game vs. defending Division I champion Champlain Valley. That means the Tigers' playoff path will lead away from home.

Champlain Valley improved to 7-1 and has the No. 3 seed that could have belonged to the 5-3 Tigers with a victory. Instead, the Tigers are the No. 5 seed as St. Johnsbury, also 5-3, edged the Tigers for the No. 4 seed based on a slightly stronger schedule.

MUHS will thus visit the Hilltoppers this Friday at 7 p.m. The Tigers and St. J didn't meet this fall. The winner of that game will almost certainly travel to face undefeated No. 1 Hartford a week later. Burr & Burton (7-1) edged CVU for the No. 2 seed, and those teams will likely meet in a semifinal.

On this past Friday a slow start, a couple costly mistakes, and Redhawk quarterback Ollie Cheer — who completed nine of

12 passes for 171 yards and two touchdowns — contributed to the Tiger loss.

MUHS Coach Jed Malcolm pointed to broken coverage on Cheer's first TD pass and a holding penalty on what would have been an 80-yard Avery Carl kickoff return for a touchdown as two of the errors. He also praised his defense for limiting the Redhawks to 123 rushing yards on 35 attempts.

"It's sort of a broken record on the big plays. It was a big secondary breakdown on the first touchdown," Malcolm said. "And we had a pretty massive penalty on the kick return on the touchdown. Those big plays, those are the difference in this game. That's a good football team, and especially in the trenches I don't know that we can play any better with our D line against the biggest and strongest offensive line we've seen in a long time."

Small mistakes also hurt. The Tigers bobbled both the opening kickoff and the first snap from center, hurting field position and (See Football, Page 2B)



TIGERS KYLE STEARNS (No. 54), Avery Carl (30) and Tim Whitney are among those gang tackling CVU's Dylan Frere on this play during Friday night's home football game.

Independent photo/Steve James

Mt. Abe girls prevail
Eagle soccer only winner in D-II

By ANDY KIRKALDY

ADDISON COUNTY — In high school girls' soccer playoff action on Tuesday Mount Abraham, also the only team to play at home, was the only local squad to advance to the second round of the Division II postseason. Middlebury and Otter Valley lost D-II first-round home games

Vergennes was set to debut in Division III on Wednesday after the deadline for this issue. This story will be updated online on Thursday to include the Commodores' result. EAGLES Mount Abe earned the No. 5 seed in D-II and defeated No. 12 Montpelier on Tuesday, 3-0. The Eagles scored all three of their goals in a nine-minute span of the second half.

Natalie Atkins got the party started with an unassisted blast in the half's 11th minute. In the 14th minute Lauren Cousino made it 2-0 on a play started by Louisa Painter on the left flank. Painter beat a defender to the end line and drilled the ball with the outside of her right foot to Cousino, who had gained position on a Solon near the penalty stripe. Cousino deposited the ball in the lower left corner. Painter also assisted Safi Camoura's strike in the 19th

minute, serving to Camoura in the middle of the Solon box from the right side. Camoura slipped to the ground while jockeying for position with a defender, but popped back up and left-footed the ball high into the left side of the net.

In the Eagle goal Joanna Toy made five saves, and Rosemary Behounek added one in the late going. Natalie Quinn blocked 11 shots for Montpelier (5-9-1)

The Eagles improved to 9-4-1 and advanced to a Friday quarterfinal at No. 4 Harwood (10-4-1).

TIGERS

The No. 10 Tigers fell at No. 7 Rice, facing their Lake Division foes for the third time this fall after a loss and a tie in the regular season. This time the Green Knights prevailed, 3-0, getting all three of their goals from Sadie Levinson and five saves from Sunshine Clark. Rice, the defending D-II champion, improved to 7-5-3.

Goalie Cassidy Brown made two saves for the Tigers, who finished at 5-8-2 despite the competitive effort.

OTTERS

Also on Tuesday, host No. 6 Spaulding eliminated the No. 11 Otters, 6-1. Spaulding (10-5) scored three goals in the first five (See Soccer, Page 3B)



EAGLE MIDFIELDER ABBA Parker battles for the ball with a Montpelier player during Mount Abe's first-round playoff victory on Tuesday in Bristol. The Eagles were the only local Division II girls' team to advance.

Independent photo/Steve James

Football

(Continued from Page 1B)
helping stall their first possession. After a 15-yard punt return, CVU was on the Tiger 40. On second-and-eight from the 27, Cheer found Jacob Armstrong with his own Zip Code at the goal line, and the kick made it 7-0 at 7:15.

The Tigers went three-and-out, and the Redhawks took over on their 43. They overcame both a Kyle Stearns sack and a bad snap with Cheer completions on third-and-long plays for first downs. A burst up the middle by Nolan Walpole moved the ball to the five, and from there, Billy Bates ran wide for the touchdown at 2:11, and it was 14-0.

Then the Tigers came to life, marching 85 yards to make it 14-7 with 1.6 seconds left in the first period. Key plays were a 22-yard run by Tiger QB Jacob Kemp on third and long early in the drive, and he later completed consecutive passes to Tassilo Luksch, the second for 27 yards to the CVU 8. From there, Luksch punched it in, and Tucker Morter hit the extra point.

A Tim Whitney sack on CVU's next possession forced a third and 33 from midfield, and Jackson Gillette picked off Cheer's long heave at the Tiger four. The Tigers soon had to punt, and the Redhawks got the ball back at midfield again.

From there, they marched to take a 21-7 lead. Cheer completed three passes on the drive, the last one a 5-yard TD strike to Armstrong at 2:48.

After that score, the Tigers had heartbreak on the kickoff return. Avery Carl received, faked a handoff to Gillette and raced past the defense down the left side about 80 yards to paydirt. But a holding penalty in the Tiger end

put the Tigers back on their own 24, and their possession stalled on the CVU 30 as time expired in the first half.

In the second half, the Tiger defense stiffened and forced CVU to punt on its first four possessions, allowing only three first downs.

The Tigers moved the ball on their first possession, with Luksch, Carl and Gavin McNulty finding running room. But on fourth and two on the CVU 28, Redhawk Orion Yates blew up a Tiger reverse for a loss to stop the march. An Anderson McEenaney sack and a delay penalty stalled the Tigers' second possession, and Dylan Frere picked off Kemp on the CVU 18 on the third.

The Tigers cashed in on the fourth, when a bad snap on a CVU punt attempt gave the Tigers the ball on the Redhawk 17. Two plays later, Kemp found Gillette on the CVU 4, and on the next play Carl cruised into the end zone. It was 21-14 with 3:36 left in the game.

The Tiger onside kick failed, and CVU took over at midfield. The Tigers repeatedly stuffed the CVU running game, but Cheer converted a third-and-8 pass from the 48 to Dylan Terriciano for 22 yards. Then on fourth and 4 from the 20 with less than a minute to go, Cheer found Terriciano for 16 yards to nail down the victory.

For CVU, Jacob Bose finished with 10 carries for 38 yards, and Walpole five for 38 yards.

The Tigers rushed 34 times for 172 yards, led by McNulty (eight carries for 49 yards), Luksch (nine carries for 58) Carl (eight for 32) and Kemp (four for 31). Kemp completed four of eight passes for 58 yards.

Malcolm said despite those numbers, there remains room for improvement in the running game, something he said the coaching

staff would take responsibility for. "Offensively on the line we just weren't communicating as much as we need to," he said. "That's on us as coaches, on me as a coach, that I've got to do a better job next week or we're not going to get over the hump. So I'm going to take the heat on this one, I think. We played a pretty even game, and we've got to be better, and we will be next week."

Malcolm remains confident in the Tigers, and said it will be important for them to believe in themselves.

"We can play with anybody. It's very evident," he said. "The key for me and the coaching staff is to keep the guys up and believing."



IGER RUNNING BACK Tassilo Luksch dives forward in this 27-yard pass reception that set up the first quarter Tiger TD in Friday's home game vs. Champlain Valley Union.

Independent photo/Steve James



TIGER RUNNING BACK Tassilo Luksch heads for the end zone during Friday's home game vs CVU. The Redhawks topped MUHS, 21-14.

Independent photo/Steve James

Tiger boys net high seed; OV ousted

MUHS soccer No. 2 in D-II, Eagles also host; VUHS must travel in D-III

By ANDY KIRKALDY

MIDDLEBURY — The Middlebury Union High School boys' soccer team earned the No. 2 seed for the Division II playoffs after ripping off six straight wins to conclude the regular season and finish with a 10-2-2 record.

Like Mount Abraham, the No. 8 seed in D-II at 7-5-3 after winning five of six down the stretch, and Vergennes, the No. 11 seed in Division III at 4-9-1, the Tigers opened their title quest on Wednesday after the deadline for this edition of the *Independent*. This story will be updated online on Thursday morning with results.

OTTERS
Only Otter Valley, the No. 13 seed in D-II with a 7-7 regular season mark, saw action on Tuesday, falling under the lights at No. 4 seed U-32, 3-1.

After a scoreless first half the Raiders got goals from Shiloh Weiss in the 54th minute and Ben Clark in the 66th minute to take the lead.

OV answered with a **Logan Letourneau** strike assisted by **Owen Thomas** in the 71st minute, but Maddox Heise added an insurance goal for U-32 in the late

going. Otter goalie **Isaiah Wood** had a big game for OV with 20 saves, while Cole Pittsley made just two for the 11-3-1 Raiders.

TIGERS
MUHS guaranteed itself homefield through the semifinal round with its strong finish, as did D-II top seed Montpelier (11-1-1). The Tigers were set to take on No. 15 Spaulding (1-13) on Wednesday, with No. 10 Lake Region waiting as the Tigers' quarterfinal opponent on Friday.

EAGLES

The Eagles edged Lake Division foe Rice (7-6-1) for the No. 8 seed and were scheduled to host the Green Knights on Wednesday. Mount Abe twice defeated Rice during the regular season, 2-1 on the road and 2-0 at home. The winner of the third match between the two teams will almost certainly visit Montpelier on Friday.

COMMODORES

The No. 11 Commodores drew a familiar foe in D-III on Wednesday, No. 6 Fair Haven: VUHS lost to the Slaters, 2-1, back on Sept. 15. If the Commodores reverse that outcome in the rematch, their likely foe in a Friday quarterfinal would be No. 3 Randolph (12-2), a team they have

not faced this fall.

REGULAR SEASON

On Saturday on a rain-soaked field at Mount Abe, the Eagles edged the Commodores, 1-0, for their fifth win in six outings. The game was moved from Vergennes because the Commodores' field was unplayably wet. **Judah Jackson's** unassisted goal 23 minutes into the second half stood up as the game-winner. Eagle Coach Rider MacCrellish said VUHS goalie **Devin Brisson** played well, including stopping a second-half penalty kick.

On Oct. 18 the Eagles picked up a 2-0 home victory over Milton. Both goals came in a 90-second span beginning 11 minutes into the second half, from Jackson and then **Nick Fox**. **Riley Coffey** picked up the assist on both strikes.

The Commodores prevailed at home on Oct. 18, blanking visiting Missisquoi, 3-0. **Oakley Francis** and **Ryder Messinger** each had a goal and an assist, and **Ethan Croke** also scored. Brisson made one save for the shutout.

On a busy Oct. 18 the Tigers also took a big step toward their high seed and clinched their second straight Lake Division title by defeating host Rice, 4-1. **Eddie**

Fallis poured in three goals, while **Oliver Choudhury** notched one, and **Caleb Burrows** and **Sem Weenk** contributed assists. Goalie **Jonathan Kafumbe** made six saves. Luke Broussard scored for the Green Knights.

The Tigers also rolled over Missisquoi on Saturday, 8-0. Fallis notched his second straight hat trick and added three assists. He finished the regular season with 23 goals and 15 assists. Weenk added two goal, Burrows chipped in a goal and an assist, **Theo Fallis** and **Ellington Patterson** scored, **Iver Anderson** and **Javi Fernandez Garcia** set up goals, and Kafumbe stopped three shots to earn the shutout. Two T-Bird goalies combined for 15 saves.

On Oct 18 OV cruised past visiting Proctor, 6-2. Thomas led the Otters with two goals, and **Luke Calvin**, Letourneau, **Drew Pelkey** and **Timothy Baron** added a goal apiece. Isaac Parker scored twice for the 6-7 Phantoms.

On Saturday host Hartford defeated OV, 4-2, dropping OV to 7-7 for the season. Baron and Pelkey, the latter on a penalty kick, scored for the Otters.

Volleyball earns No. 4 seed in initial season

By ANDY KIRKALDY

MIDDLEBURY — The Middlebury Union High School girls' volleyball team finished the regular season, its first at the varsity level, at 12-2, and earned the No. 4 seed for the playoffs that begin this week.

Essex (14-0) is the top seed, followed by CVU (12-2) at No. 2 and Enosburg (12-2) at No. 3.

The Tigers were set to host a familiar foe on Wednesday evening in the first round: No. 13 Montpelier (4-10). The Tigers defeated the Solons three times during the regular season, twice by three sets to none and once by 3-1. This story will be updated online on Thursday to reflect Wednesday's match.

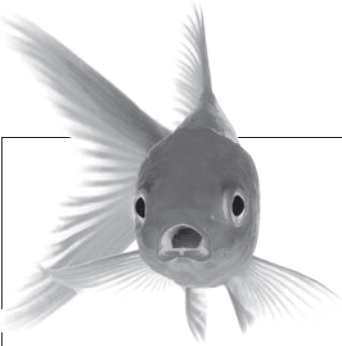
The quarterfinal round is set for Friday at 5 p.m., with No. 5 BFA-St. Albans a likely visitor to the MUHS gym and one that should pose a challenge. The 10-4 Comets are one of the two teams to defeat the Tigers this fall, three sets to one on Sept. 19.

In the final match of the regular season, on Oct. 19, host Enosburg topped the Tigers, 3-1, a result the dropped the Tigers from second place into fourth place in the quality points standings that

determine playoff seeds. Enosburg is the only other top-four seed the Tigers have faced.

Despite the setback, MUHS Coach Bethany Morrissey was not discouraged.

"It was a great match, lots of rallies, and just what we needed before playoffs," Morrissey wrote in an email.



Pet of the week

Send us your pet!

news@addisonindependent.com



2023 Garden Game

Time is running OUT!



No new entries this week...

If you still have submissions to show off (perhaps some plump pumpkins!?), please bring them into our office by **Monday, October 30th** then check next week's edition for the official 2023 Garden Game winners spread!

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) - Peter Demong, 8.75" x 7"
- **Cucumber** (length x circumference) - Roger Scarborough, 21.5" x 11.5"
- **Edible Leafy Greens** (length x width - leaf only) - Sue Galipo, 22" x 12"
- **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) - Ed Blechner, 12" x 2"
- **Melon** (circumference) - Paul Cousino, 30"
- **Onion** (circumference) - Carol Krawczyk, 16.75"
- **Parsnip** (circumference) - Ted Foster, 6"

- **Potato** (length x circumference) - Carol Krawczyk, 24" x 15"
- **Pepper** (circumference x circumference) - Gary Miller, 14.75" x 15.5"
- **Pumpkin** (circumference x circumference)
- **Radish** (circumference) - Theo, Elianna, & Willamina Venables Vogel, 10.5"
- **Rhubarb** (length) - Lorraine Abramson, 30.5"
- **Rutabaga** (circumference) - Sue Galipo, 23.25"
- **Summer Squash** (length x circumference) - Josh & Aubree Mohan, 21" x 15"
- **Sunflower** (diameter) - Ed Blechner, 10"
- **Tomato** (circumference) - Carol Krawczyk, 17.75"
- **Turnip** (circumference)
- **Winter Squash** (length x circumference) - Kathy Hodgdon, 30" x 44"
- **Zucchini** (length x circumference) - David Quenneville, 28" x 19"



ADDISON COUNTY
INDEPENDENT
Serving Addison County, Vt., Since 1946

Mill River 11 tops OV

BRANDON — In a rain-soaked Saturday afternoon game, visiting Mill River upset the Otter Valley football team, 7-0. The Minutemen improved to 4-4 and are the No. 5 seed in the Division III playoffs, which begin this weekend.

The Otters dropped to 6-2 and missed out on a chance to grab the No. 2 seed in Division III. They did earn the No. 3 seed and will host No. 6 Poultney (2-5) at 1 p.m. on Saturday. The Otters did not face Poultney this fall.

Next up if the Otters prevail this

weekend would almost certainly be a semifinal date the following weekend with No. 2 Windsor (6-1). OV and Windsor also did not square off this fall.

For Mill River this past Saturday, Mason Boudreau capped a 98-yard Minuteman drive with a 47-yard scoring run in the first quarter for the game's only points.

OV had promising drives end with an interception, a fumble and a bad snap in the difficult conditions. Isaac Whitney rushed for 100 yards for the Otters.

Tiger volleyball gets #4 nod

By ANDY KIRKALDY

MIDDLEBURY — The Middlebury Union High School girls' volleyball team finished the regular season, its first at the varsity level, at 12-2, and earned the No. 4 seed for the playoffs that begin this week.

Essex (14-0) is the top seed, followed by CVU (12-2) at No. 2 and Enosburg (12-2) at No. 3.

The Tigers were set to host a familiar foe on Wednesday evening in the first round: No. 13 Montpelier (4-10). The Tigers defeated the Solons three times during the regular season, twice by three sets to none and once by 3-1. This story will be updated online on Thursday to reflect Wednesday's match.

The quarterfinal round is set for Friday at 5 p.m., with No. 5 BFA-St. Albans a likely visitor to the

MUHS gym and one that should pose a challenge. The 10-4 Comets are one of the two teams to defeat the Tigers this fall, three sets to one on Sept. 19.

In the final match of the regular season, on Oct. 19, host Enosburg topped the Tigers, 3-1, a result the dropped the Tigers from second place into fourth place in the quality points standings that determine playoff seeds. Enosburg is the only other top-four seed the Tigers have faced.

Despite the setback, MUHS Coach Bethany Morrissey was not discouraged.

"It was a great match, lots of rallies, and just what we needed before playoffs," Morrissey wrote in an email.

MAV 11 falls on road

MILTON — The Division II playoff hopes of the Mount Abraham-Vergennes cooperative football team were dashed on Friday night when host Milton scored two late touchdowns to edge the Eagles 14-13.

The result left both teams at 3-5, but Milton edged MAV for the eighth and final D-II playoff spot based on quality points.

The Eagles took a first-half lead when Rhett Lathrop tossed a TD pass to Tyler White. But the Yellowjackets blocked the extra point, one of several special teams plays that ultimately would prove costly, as did a couple turnovers in the course of the game.

MAV marched to make it 13-0 as time began to wind down in the fourth quarter, with Jamison Couture punching it in from the one.

The Eagles then allowed Milton to return the ensuing kickoff to about the Eagle 30 and score quickly on one of the two late TD passes by quarterback Brian Scharff, to Matt Zeno for 22 yards and to Sam Plouffe for 16 yards.

Milton recovered the onside kickoff attempt near midfield after Scharff's first TD pass and marched for the winning score and extra point. Milton then sealed the victory with an interception of an MAV pass with 1:45 to play.



MT. ABE SENIOR Natalie Atkins uncorks a shot on Tuesday during her team's home playoff win. Atkins scored the first goal in Mount Abe's 3-0 win. Other local girls' teams were less fortunate on Tuesday. Independent photo/Steve James



THIS ISLA UNDERWOOD header sails high, but her Mt. Abe girls' team defeated visiting Montpelier on Tuesday in a first-round playoff game. Other local girls' teams were less successful that day. Independent photo/Steve James

Soccer

(Continued from Page 1B)

minutes, Sophie Guarriello notched a hat trick, and Tide goalie Deanna Wild made three saves.

Otter goalie Linnea Faulkner was credited with 22 saves and scored her team's goal on a penalty kick as OV wrapped up at 7-8.

COMMODORES

The Commodores (5-8-1) were seeded No. 8 in Division III and were set to host No. 9 Green Mountain Union (7-6-1) on Wednesday. Those two teams were not on each other's schedules this fall. The winner of that game advanced to play top-seeded Fair Haven (10-2) on Friday at 6 p.m. The semifinal round is set for next

Tuesday.

REGULAR SEASON

As the season wound down last week on Oct. 19 the Tigers wrapped up by defeating D-II's top team, Fair Haven, 5-4 in overtime at home. **Meredith Horne** netted the overtime game-winner by curling a corner kick directly into the net. Horne also assisted **Harper Werme's** tying goal with six minutes to go and Solstice Binder's strike early in the game. **Simone Duquette-Hoffman** and **Lily Dame** also scored for MUHS, and goalie Brown made five saves.

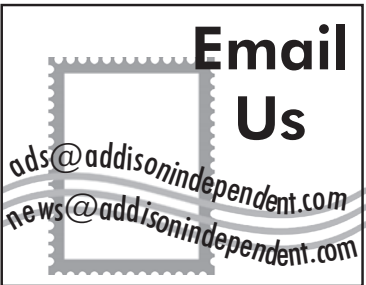
Lily Briggs led the Slaters with three goals and also set up a **Maddy Perry** score. Fair Haven goalie **Kate Hadwen** made seven saves.

Also on Oct. 19 the Otters defeated visiting Hartford, 3-1. **Tegan Boynton** scored to give OV the early lead with an assist from **Mallee Richardson**. Hartford equalized in the second half, but **Allie Charbonneau** soon afterward netted the game-winner for OV. Faulkner added an insurance goal by converting a penalty kick.

The Otters fared less well at Stratton on Friday, losing 5-0 and finishing the season at .500.

Also on Friday Mount Abe coasted at VUHS, 8-0, after scoring five times in the first half. **Hazel Guilmette** led the way with two goals and three assists; Painter scored twice; **Piper Guilmette** scored once and assisted two goals; Cousino and Atkins each had a goal and an assist; **Isla Underwood** opened the scoring; and Camara added an assist.

Quincy Sabick made eight saves for the 5-8-1 Commodores, and Toy (two saves) and Behounek (three) combined for five saves as the Eagles wrapped up at 8-4-1.



Field hockey teams enter the postseason

ADDISON COUNTY — Otter Valley (7-6) received the highest seed among the three local Division II field hockey teams, a No. 6 nod. The Otters will travel this Friday to take on No. 3 U-32 (11-2-1) in a quarterfinal matchup.

Mount Abraham (2-11-1) earned the No. 8 seed and hosted No. 9 Brattleboro (4-9) on Tuesday in a play-in game; see story on Page 1B.

Middlebury finished at 1-11-1 in the regular season and received the No. 10 seed and visited No. 7 St. Johnsbury on Tuesday for another play-in game. MUHS came away with a heartbreaking loss, 3-2 in overtime. The Hilltoppers' Molly Kimber knocked in the winning goal on a penalty corner with 4:19 remaining in the extra session.

In regulation, Esme Kimber and Maggie Langlais scored for St. J. and goalie Samara Rutledge was credited with nine saves as the Hilltoppers improved to 6-8-1.

The Tigers suffered the setback despite a strong effort overall and goals from **Quinn Doria** and **Ivy Gates**.

REGULAR SEASON

On Oct. 18, visiting Mount Mansfield defeated the Eagles, 5-0. Dorothy Kiruthi led the Cougars with two goals and MMU goalie Bea Dirkmaat made one save. Eagle goalie **Greta Jennison** was credited with 24 saves.

Also on Oct. 18, visiting Rice topped the Tigers, 6-0. Violet Clough led Rice with three goals. **Jolee Heffernan** made three saves for MUHS.

On Oct. 19, the Otters edged host Fair Haven, 2-1, on goals from **Ella Otto** and **Charlotte Newton**. **Megan Wetmore** scored for the D-III Slaters, who wrapped up their regular season at 5-8-1.

On Oct. 20, visiting Rice topped the Eagles, 5-0. Emeri Rasco scored

three times for Rice. Jennison was credited with stopping 16 shots as the Eagles wrapped up the regular season.

The Tigers' and Otters' Saturday home games against Essex and Windsor, respectively, their last of their regular seasons, were called off due to rain and poor field conditions.



Upcoming Events

Thursday October 26:
9:00 - 11:00 AM Public Skating
3:30 - 4:45 PM Stick & Puck

Friday October 27:
3:30 - 4:45 PM Stick & Puck

Sunday October 29:
1:00 - 2:30 PM Public Skating

Tuesday October 31:
9:00 - 11:00 AM Public Skating

Thursday November 2:
9:00 - 11:00 AM Public Skating

Tuesday November 7:
9:00 - 11:00 Public Skating

Thursday November 9:
9:00 - 11:00 Public Skating

Skate Sharpening available during all events.

Memorial Sports Center
296 Buttolph Drive • Middlebury, VT
802-388-1238
info@memorialsportscenter.org
MemorialSportsCenter.org



Take your skiing to new heights!

REGISTRATION OPEN THRU DEC. 1ST | SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE

For more information please visit us online at <https://www.middleburyskiclub.org>



Midd field hockey, men’s soccer get top seeds; football wins

By ANDY KIRKALDY

MIDDLEBURY — In action in the past week the Middlebury College field hockey and men’s soccer teams remained unbeaten and nailed down the top seeds for the NESCAC playoffs that begin this weekend, the football team won big to retain a share of first place in the league standings, while the women’s soccer squad split two outings to finish above .500 overall, but with a league record not good enough to earn a playoff berth.

Details of the field hockey and men’s soccer teams home playoff games on Saturday were not available before deadline. Opponents and game times will be updated in the online version of the Scoreboard/Schedule on Thursday at addisonindependent.com.

FIELD HOCKEY

The Panther field hockey team, ranked No. 1 in NCAA Division III, clinched the top seed for the NESCAC playoffs with a 6-0 win over second-place Tufts (10-4, 7-2 NESCAC) on Saturday. Middlebury outshot the 7th-ranked Jumbos, 32-1, and did not allow a shot on goal.

Amy Griffin scored twice in the first quarter, once with an assist from

Sadie LeStage, to help the Panthers start quickly. Caroline Segal, from Lilly Branka, and Katie George scored in the second period. George, from Audrey Lazar, made it 5-0 early in the third quarter, and Lazar frosted the cake in the game’s final two minutes with an assist from George.

Tufts goalie Lydia Eastburn made 10 saves, while Panther goalie KK Newton stood between the pipes at the other end and mostly admired her teammates’ play.

The Panthers were scheduled to visit Williams on Wednesday for their last regular season game. They will host the league’s No. 8 seed on Saturday, and in all likelihood the NESCAC final four the following weekend.

MEN’S SOCCER

The men’s soccer team, which rose to No. 3 in the NCAA D-III rankings last week, picked up a pair of wins to finish the regular season at 11-0-4 and clinch first place in NESCAC. Middlebury will host the league’s No. 8 seed on Saturday, and with a victory will then host the league’s final four next weekend.

On Saturday the host Panthers struck twice in the first 12:15 in a 3-0 victory over Tufts that dropped the

Jumbos to 9-2-3, 5-2-2 NESCAC.

Middlebury took the lead at 8:31 on a Tyler Payne strike. Gavin Randolph won a loose ball inside the Tufts box and fed Payne, who evaded Jumbo goalie Nikola Antic and tapped the ball home.

Randolph scored 3:44 later. Kyle Nilsson sent a through ball to Randolph, who blasted a low left-footed shot into the net. that found the bottom portion of the goal. Jordan Saint-Louis made it 3-0 at 3:05 on a penalty kick after Payne drew a foul in the Tufts box. Ryan Grady made three saves for Middlebury, and Antic made six for the Jumbos.

On Tuesday the Panthers wrapped up their regular season with a 1-0 win at Williams (8-5-2, 3-5-2 NESCAC). Saint-Louis scored in the second half’s fourth minute to provide the game-winner. The Panthers outshot Williams, 16-9, but did not allow any of the Ephs shots to land on goal. Williams goalie Ben Diffley made five saves.

FOOTBALL

The Panther football team remained in a three-way tie for first place in NESCAC after thumping visiting Bates on Saturday, 48-7. Bates fell to 0-6.

Middlebury is tied with Trinity and Tufts for first place, all with 5-1 records. The Panthers are on the road over the next two Saturdays, at Colby (3-3) this Saturday and at Hamilton (1-5) the following weekend. They then will host Tufts on Nov. 11 to close out their regular season.

Starting quarterback Cole Kennon threw for 353 yards and four touchdowns, including one of 83 yards. He is now tied for fifth on Middlebury’s all-time list with 38 career touchdown passes.

In the first quarter Kennon tossed a 56-yard TD pass to Mike Ahonen; Zach Levy hit a 47-yard field goal, the longest in the league this fall; and Kennon connected with Patrick Jamin from 11 yards out to make it 17-0.

Cody Weitzman nine-yard rushing touchdown made it 24-0 early in the second. Later in the quarter, Kennon found Donovan Wood for a 29-yard touchdown reception, and Levy was dialed in through the sticks to make the score 31-0.

Bates made its way down the field with 3:07 remaining in the half, eventually scoring when Colin Bosselait hooked up with Steven Guetrette for a nine-yard scoring

strike. Marcos Raiz converted the extra point to cut the deficit to 31-7 at the halftime break.

Levy booted a 24-yard field goal to give the Panthers a 34-7 lead early in the third quarter, and later in the period, Kennon slung an 83-yard touchdown pass to Caleb Smith to make it 41-7. Backup QB Brian Moran added a 58-yard scoring strike to Michael Yamin in the fourth quarter.

Lineman Tomás Kenary had 3.5 sacks to set a school career record with 22 and counting. Kenary finished six tackles, 4.5 for losses, and forced a fumble.

Levy tied the school record with the most kicking points scored in a game with 12. Kennon and Moran combined for 426 passing yards. Middlebury totaled 523 yards of offense.

WOMEN’S SOCCER

On Saturday the Panthers and visiting Tufts (7-3-4, 3-3-3) settled for a 1-1 tie. The result left the Panther’s league record at 1-4-4 and eliminated the team from playoff contention. Tufts held an edge in possession and created more chances, including hitting the post twice in the second half, and Panther

goalie Carolyn Kelly (six saves) played well.

Middlebury took the lead in the 34th minute when Gigi Day broke up a Tufts clearing attempt and ripped a left-footed shot from the 18 into the lower right corner.

Tufts pressed for much of the second half and scored at 58:19, when a streaking Elsi Aires slammed home an Erin Duncan serve from the right flank from point-blank range. Jumbo goalie Gigi Edwards made two saves.

The Panthers finished their season with an overall winning record of 6-4-5, but only 2-4-4 NESCAC, by upsetting host Williams on Tuesday, 2-1. Two goals from Day, both assisted by Abby Ward, came in the game’s 53rd and 71st minutes and put Middlebury up, 2-0.

Williams (9-3-3, 6-2-2) drew within a goal on a strike by Mirabel Dyson in the 84th minute, but the Panthers held on despite the Ephs’ 20-11 edge in shots. Kelly made seven saves for Middlebury. Two Williams goalies combined for three stops.

Black bears and peregrine falcons mark the return of ubiquitous generalists

A few weeks ago, the Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department estimated the state’s black bear population at something between 7,000 and 8,500 (based on 2022 data). That puts the bear population at a five-year high. Based on estimates from the 1970s, the new population estimate represents a two-fold to five-fold increase over the past half century. According to the report, black bears are once again found in every Vermont town except on the Lake Champlain Islands.

The number of bears I have seen this year — and seen evidence of around my house — gives testimony to our vibrant and growing black bear population. In the spring, a failure in my electric fence allowed a bear to get into and demolish one of my bee hives — eating not just

the honey, but the bees, the larva, and the honeycomb, while leaving the wooden hive itself in splinters. (I have since replaced the hive and also the electric fence.)

Despite the loss of my bees and equipment, I appreciate the fact that we live in an area where bears are once again abundant, a state that during the past century and a half has gone from nearly 80% deforested to nearly 80% forested. Except when I think about how big black bears can get. My brother and I were recently discussing the black bear that a hunter bagged in Maine in 2012 that weighed just one pound less than 700. When I walk out into my woods in pre-dawn hours to get into my tree stand, I think about bears like that — although I try not to.

Black bears are wonderfully

ubiquitous and versatile. Which is to say, they can live almost anywhere and eat almost anything. Fruit. Nuts. Ants. Grubs. The bird seed in your now-demolished birdfeeder that you put up too early in the fall or left out too late in the spring. The smelly stuff in your garbage. I’m quite sure that we have twice listened to, and later found the remains of, a deer being taken down by a bear. (Although black bears — especially the 700-pound ones — appear to be big, slow, lumbering beasts, they can sprint up to 30 miles per hour over short distances.)

Bears also like corn. Maybe even more than turkeys and deer and crows and racoons do. In addition

to the deer carcasses, I know we have, on occasion, found the partially digested remains of our neighbor’s corn in an impressively large pile in our driveway. A black bear’s ability to eat such a wide variety of food is likely why they are able to live in such a wide variety of places, from the southern Appalachian states all the way north and west to Alaska. Any place that is forested, from the arid forests of Arizona up to temperate rainforests of the Pacific Northwest.

Speaking of animals that hunt a variety of foods and live in a variety of places and are making a comeback, I have also recently read articles about peregrine



falcons, listing them as one of the most widely distributed birds in the world. It wasn’t that long ago (in my lifetime) that peregrines had been extirpated from the east coast, and even after extensive reintroduction efforts, biologists could still count the number of east coast peregrine falcons nesting sites on their fingers and toes. (I always felt special that one of those dozen or so sites was right in Bristol, Vt. — even though I’m not sure I ever actually saw one!)

Along with many other birds of prey, peregrine populations had been decimated by widespread pesticide use, especially DDT. So I was surprised reading a variety of articles lately mentioning that peregrines can be found not only in North America, but also in South America, Eurasia, African and

Australia. Every continent in the world except Antarctica. Although their range has been greatly reduced, they (like bears) can live in a variety of climates. In the U.S., they can be found in wilderness areas from the Southwest to the Northeast as well as in cities where they are notorious for using tall buildings as their cliff nesting sites.

And while it isn’t accurate to say they can eat anything — peregrine falcons are “specialists” in the sense that they only hunt and eat other bird species — they will prey on a wide variety of other birds. Given that they are among the fastest creatures on earth, able to dive at speeds up to 200 miles per hour or faster, there really aren’t any birds that can escape them.

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

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

FREE DELIVERY

NO

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

170

SUPER POCKETED COIL® SPRINGS
The gold standard in undisturbed rest.

Beautyrest. BLACK™ MAUI™ MEDIUM	Twin Set.....\$849 Full Set.....\$949 Queen Set.....\$999 King Set.....\$1399
Beautyrest. CAYMAN™ EXTRA FIRM	Twin Set.....\$895 Full Set.....\$1095 Queen Set.....\$1299 King Set.....\$1699
Beautyrest. BLACK™ C-CLASS™ FIRM	Twin Set.....\$3199 Full Set.....\$3599 Queen Set.....\$3899 King Set.....\$4799
Beautyrest. BLACK™ L-CLASS™ MEDIUM	Twin Set.....\$2599 Full Set.....\$3099 Queen Set.....\$3299 King Set.....\$4099
Beautyrest. BLACK™ L-CLASS™ Pillow Top	Twin XL Set.....\$2999 Full Set.....\$3299 Queen Set.....\$3599 King Set.....\$4399

Beautyrest.
BLACK™
C-CLASS™
MEDIUM

Twin Set.....\$3199
Full Set.....\$3599
Queen Set.....\$3899
King Set.....\$4799

Beautyrest.
BLACK™
L-CLASS™
FIRM

Twin Set.....\$2299
Full Set.....\$2799
Queen Set.....\$2999
King Set.....\$3799

1-800-261-WOOD
802-388-6297

New Horizons Club

www.woodwarevt.com

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

- **FREE** Delivery
- **FREE** Set-up
- **FREE** Removal



JUNIOR FORWARD HAILEE Allen, left, is greeted by teammates Morgan Barnard, front, and Isabelle Allenson (#15) after scoring the Eagles’ goal in their 1-0 playoff win on Tuesday. Barnard assisted her strike.

Independent photo/Steve James



THIS WAS A common sight during most of Tuesday’s home field hockey playoff triumph for the Eagle field hockey team: attacking in the Brattleboro circle. Here juniors Paden Lathrop (#2) and Hailee Allen (#3) apply the pressure.

Independent photo/Steve James

Eagles

(Continued from Page 1B)

record. Their two wins and a tie had come against the only other D-II teams on their schedule, U-32 and Middlebury.

They were happy to have a chance to fight in their own weight class, and approached Tuesday’s game with a confident mindset.

“That’s what we’ve been talking about,” said senior co-captain Morgan Barnard, who assisted junior Hailee Allen’s game-winner on Tuesday. “It’s a whole new season. Anything can happen. Record doesn’t matter now.”

The Eagles also felt, Barnard said, their schedule prepared them to play the tougher D-II teams that lie ahead, including top-seeded Hartford (12-2) on Friday at 3:30 p.m. That game will be a rematch of a 2022 quarterfinal won by Hartford, 4-1.

“We know going in there’s nobody we’re going to play that’s better than South Burlington or Rice,” Barnard said. “We’ve played all those teams multiple times this season, and we’ve been getting better, too. It feels good knowing that anything we see in the D-II playoffs won’t be any better than we’ve already seen this season.”

Certainly, the Eagles attacked from the outset against the Bears, who finished at 4-10. Mount Abe did not allow a shot on senior goalie Greta Jennison in the first half, although midway through the second quarter she did kick the ball out of the Eagle circle to blunt a rare Bear foray.

In the meantime the Eagle forwards buzzed around the Brattleboro circle and forced 14 first-half penalty corners, nine in the second period. Barnard, fellow senior Sarah Heath and sophomore Maris Laperle controlled midfield, and Allen and juniors Lily Case

and Paden Lathrop all created chances up front. Bear goalie Ericka Fletcher twice denied LaPerle in the first period, and stopped Barnard and Lathrop on a late corner.

But Fletcher could do nothing to stop Allen at 11:07 of the second period. On a penalty corner the ball went into Barnard, who stepped around the first Bear defender and

rolled a pass to Allen at the right post. Allen controlled quickly and flicked the ball into the cage.

The Eagles kept piling up corners as the quarter rolled along. Fletcher stopped Louisa Guilmotte

on the Eagles’ 13th of the half to snuff the best chance.

The Bears came out of hibernation in the second half. In the fourth minute Bear forward Erika Favreau made a 60-yard run into the Eagle box, but Barnard shadowed her the entire way and broke up the play without a shot fired. A couple minutes later Jennison cleared the ball out of harm’s way.

The Eagles reasserted themselves. Fletcher stopped Allen on one corner, and LaPerle missed just wide on another before the quarter closed.

Mount Abe took a hit, literally and figuratively, in the first minute of the fourth when a Bear stick accidentally whacked Heath in the face and she had to sit the rest of the game.

The Bears began to threaten more often, and Case and defender Helen Kihm broke up Brattleboro rushes. Eagle defenders Grace Bolton-Orvis and Bella Hartwell remained solid in the circle. The Bears earned their first penalty corner with about five minutes to go, but Bear defender Emily LaClair’s soft shot rolled wide.

After middle Isabella Anderson and LaPerle both made good defensive plays to defuse Bear attacks, Eagle Coach Jen Myers

called for time with 3:24 to go to settle the Eagles down.

LaPerle broke up one more Favreau rush, and the Bears earned a corner as time expired, but committed a foul before they could get a shot off. And the Eagles celebrated their third win of the fall.

Myers was not surprised to see her team pull it off.

“Conversation yesterday was just playoff hockey was for anybody, and just it can be anybody’s day any day of the week,” she said. “So we just had to go and play really strong hockey, like we can do, and we had to do it for 60 minutes. And I think overall we accomplished that today. And it makes us feel good heading into Friday. It will be tough, for sure, but our schedule does a good job prepping us for anything we’re going to see postseason.”

VSP pursuing leads in crime spree

Many cars entered or stolen in northern part of county

ADDISON COUNTY — Vermont State Police received an unusually large number of reports of vehicle thefts and thefts from vehicles in Bristol, Lincoln, Monkton and Starksboro throughout the early morning of Oct. 20. Troopers are actively working on solving these cases and identifying the people responsible.

They are encouraging people to remove anything of value from their vehicles and lock their doors.

Anyone with information related to these cases is asked to call the Vermont State Police at the New Haven barracks at 802-388-4919 (Option 3) or to submit an anonymous tip online at vsp.vermont.gov/tipssubmit.

Separately, state police cleaned up after a Jeep vs. pickup truck crash on Route 7 near South Middlebrook Road in Waltham on Oct. 17. Police report that at around a quarter after 6 p.m. that day, Michael Walker, 44, of Charlotte was driving a 2015 Jeep Renegade trying to enter the highway from Middlebrook Road when he failed to yield to oncoming traffic. A northbound 2010 Chevy Silverado driven by Justin Eckenhoff, 25, of Charlotte

struck the Jeep on its passenger side. Walker and his vehicle went skidding into the field on the east side of Route 7.

The Vergennes Area Rescue Squad took Walker, who was not wearing a seatbelt, to UVM Medical Center for suspected moderate injuries. No injuries were reported for Eckenhoff. The Vergennes Fire Department assisted at the crash scene.

Vt. State Police Log

In other recent activity, troopers:

- On Oct. 19 at around 1:30 a.m. stopped to check on a motorist in the parking lot of the Jiffy Mart in New Haven. Police said they noticed signs of impairment in driver Jeremiah Delorme, 27, of Vergennes. They screened Delorme, arrested him, took him to the New Haven barracks and cited him for driving under the influence, third offense, and driving with a criminally suspended license. Then police released Delorme to a sober

person.

- On Oct. 20 wrapped up an investigation into a domestic assault case. Police report that on Aug. 1 Anthony Miller, 25, of Middlebury caused bodily injury to a juvenile family member. Troopers last week cited Miller for domestic assault.

- On Oct. 21 at a quarter to 10 a.m. responded to a family fight at a Stonewall Drive home in Bristol. Police said their Investigation showed that Alishajane Martin, 30, of Bristol had recklessly caused bodily injury to a household member while in the presence of a child. Troopers cited Martin for domestic assault.

- On Oct. 21 at 8:30 p.m. closed Route 116 in Middlebury between Cobble Road and Quarry Road while Green Mountain Power repaired downed power lines. The road closure lasted a little more than an hour.

- On Oct. 22 at around a quarter of an hour before midnight responded to a minor motor vehicle crash on Pantton Road in Pantton. Police cited William Cash, 46, of Plantation, Fla., for driving under the influence.

Keep up to date with all the action, read

Arts + Leisure

every Thursday in the Addy Indy!

SUBSCRIBE

Subscribe online at addisonindependent.com
or fill out this form and mail it with payment

Name _____

Address _____

Town _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone Number _____

Email Address _____

Are you a senior (65+)? Yes ☐ No ☐

Sign me up to auto renew Yes ☐

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

Online access FREE with all print subscriptions!

Method of Payment:

Check Enclosed \$ _____

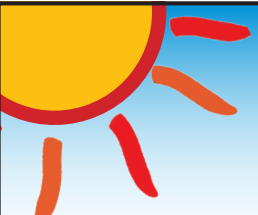
☐ Visa ☐ MC ☐ Amex ☐ Discover

Card # _____

CCV _____ Exp. Date _____

Questions? CALL US at 802-388-4944

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



Bristol, VT Homeowner Recommends Bristol Electronics

We are so pleased with our electric solar panels that we want to tell everyone about our great experience! The wonderful team at Bristol Electronics installed the ground-mount array last fall. We had them put in our solar hot water system several years prior and had established a good working relationship with them. We already knew them to be reliable and quick to fix any problems that arose.

We enjoy the idea of being a part of protecting the environment so when it came time to deciding on what type of solar panels to install for electricity, we contacted Bristol Electronics first, while also considering other companies and products as well. There’s a big world out there with a variety of choices and it was hard to know whose product was actually best for our needs. Finally in the end, we decided on choosing Bristol Electronics because of their reliability, best price, the best installment time frame and most efficient system using micro-inverters instead of the conventional less expensive string inverters.

The team provided very professional and pleasant service all the way from the planning stages to final clean-up. When we finally made the decision to “break ground”, they were exceptionally fast, professional and easy to work with. From start to finish, we were making electricity in about 2 weeks. Indeed, our yard looks better now than before they started! In the end, we are saving a lot of money on both our solar hot water and solar electric systems. Thank you Bristol Electronics for your excellent service in meeting our hopes and expectations!

Sincerely, Ed & Emily Hilbert – Bristol, VT



802 . 453 . 2500
BristolElectronicsVT.com
FREE SITE EVALUATIONS

ADDISON COUNTY

School News

Leah Croke of Ferrisburgh was named the recipient of The Rusty Smith Memorial Teaching Prize in Computer Science at Hamilton College's annual Convocation ceremony on Aug. 23. Croke, a senior majoring in Computer Science, is a graduate of Vergennes Union High School.

Eliza and Emma Doucet of Bristol were among the 69 students to join the fall 2023 class at Bard College at Simon's Rock. There they will embark on a rigorous liberal arts and sciences education designed for students ready to begin college early.





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

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

Helping Young Families Get The Right Start



THANKS TO ALL FOR A GREAT SEASON!
PICK-YOUR-OWN & FARMSTAND

OPEN DAILY from 9 – 5 through Sunday, Oct. 29

1307 North Bingham St., Cornwall, VT

SUNRISEORCHARDS.COM





Stock up on some cookies and treats for your trick-or-treaters!

OTTER EAST DELI & BAKERY

MON. 8 AM-2 PM
TUES.-SAT. 7 AM-2 PM
CLOSED SUNDAY

51 OSSIE ROAD | EAST MIDDLEBURY, VT | 802-989-7220

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

\$0 Cleanings!

For most insured patients. Call for details.

Further Heightened Sterilization Standards





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

Welcome Before & After Work or School!

Reader Comments

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

A subscriber from Weybridge writes:

"A wonderful local newspaper!"

Quotes are taken from reader comments submitted with subscription renewals.



ADDISON COUNTY INDEPENDENT

ADVERTISE Email us at: ads@addisonindependent.com

community calendar

THURSDAY

Book donation in Vergennes. Thursday, Oct. 26, 3-6 p.m., Bixby Memorial Library, 258 Main St. Finished with your summer reading? Donate your used books to the Bixby Library Book Sale. Donations accepted in the back parking lot from 3-6 p.m. Fiction should be published after 2010 or a popular author, and non-fiction should be current and saleable.

Open House for Retiring Police Chief Tom Hanley in Middlebury. Thursday, Oct. 26, 4-6 p.m., Town Hall Theater, 68 S. Pleasant St. Celebrate Police Chief Thomas Hanley as he retires from service to the town of Middlebury and its residents. Open mic for songs, tributes and roasting (in good taste).

FRIDAY

Spirits of Rokeby: Spectral Rooms in Ferrisburgh. Friday, Oct. 27, 5-9 p.m., Rokeby Museum, 4334 Route 7. Spirits is a short-form, environmental theater production drawing from historic records of 1850s séances held by the Robinson family in Ferrisburgh, and other local historic accounts. A short lecture from Museum staff about Spiritualism history in Vermont before a performance for small groups in timed slots. Actors bring the story to life and guide the audience with some participatory dramatization.

Annual Teen Halloween Party in Middlebury. Friday, Oct. 27, 6 p.m., Ilsley Public Library, 75 Main St. For the scary movie fans, we will be showing "A Quiet Place" (rated PG-13). Looking for something less spooky? Come for the games.

"The Cat and The Canary" silent film on screen in Brandon. Friday, Oct. 27 7 p.m., Brandon Town Hall, 1 Conant Sq. Can a group of distant relatives survive the night in a haunted house to learn the secret of a madman's will? Find out in the original Gothic Thriller from silent film director Paul Leni. Just in time for Halloween, a movie with deep shadows, dark secrets and a surprisingly timeless mix of humor and horror that will keep you guessing. A free will donation event.

SATURDAY

Stroke awareness walk in Middlebury. Saturday, Oct. 28, 9-11 a.m., Town Office Plaza, 77 Main St. In recognition of World Stroke Day take a walk around downtown to help raise funds for the American Stroke Association and increase awareness of the prevalence of strokes. While walking, learn the signs of a stroke and meet Miss Addison County.

Used book sale in Vergennes. Saturday, Oct. 28, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Bixby Memorial Library, 258 Main St. Friends of Bixby Library sponsor this sale downstairs in the Otter Creek Room. Enter from the back parking lot. Choose from a large variety of fiction, non-fiction and children's books, some of them freshly donated at our October Donation Day.

Ilsley Public Library's 3rd annual Photo and Video Challenge deadline. Saturday, Oct. 28, 4 p.m., ilsleypubliclibrary.org. Submit your photo or video (digital submissions only). This year's theme is Generations. By this judges will consider that Generations can be people but it can also be more. Use your imagination and creativity. More info at ilsleypubliclibrary.org.

"Stories from the Heart: Honoring Spirits Who Have Left This World" in Middlebury. Saturday, Oct. 28, 6:30-8 p.m., St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, 3 Main St. Porter Medical Center's Palliative Support Services invites the public to hear five brave storytellers sharing their stories of loss, grief, and healing. More info and registration at tinyurl.com/Stories-heart-st-stepons.

"King Pede" card party in Ferrisburgh. Sat., Oct 28, 6:30 p.m., Ferrisburgh Town Hall and Community Center, Route 7. A sandwich supper and then on to an evening of fun and games.

"The Dirt" Storytelling Event in Orwell. Saturday, Oct. 28, 7 p.m. Orwell Free Library, 473 Main St. Tell a story from Orwell-of-old. Tell a story from Orwell's past — five years or 50. Each storyteller has 7 minutes. No notes allowed. Interested in telling a story? Visit themoth.org/code-of-ethics-and-conduct to learn more about what we expect and themoth.org/share-your-story/storytelling-tips-tricks to learn a little about how to tell your story. Refreshments.

SUNDAY

Pumpkins in the Park in Bristol. Sunday, Oct. 29, 2-4 p.m., Bristol Town Green. Come grab a free pumpkin and help decorate the Bristol Town Green for Halloween. Free.

Spooktacular in Middlebury. Sunday, Oct. 29, 1-3 p.m., Main Street. Trick-or-Treat around downtown Middlebury from 1-3 p.m., then head over to the Town Hall Theater at 2:30 p.m. for a party.

Eddy Farm Halloween Barn fundraiser in Middlebury. Sunday, Oct. 29, 1-4 p.m., 299 South St. Ext. Come see the horses dressed up in costume and trick-or-treat from stall to stall. There will also be fortune-telling, face-painting, skeleton horse rides, a haunted bus, and more fun activities. \$10 for the whole family. Bring some extra cash for the yummy treats on the concessions table.

Trunk or Treat in Vergennes. Sunday, Oct. 29, 2-3 p.m., American Legion Post 14, 100 Armory Ln. Parents and community members register to bring their cars and goodies to distribute from their decorated trunk. Great for people who live out of town and don't get trick or treaters, and for anyone with ambulatory issues. To register your vehicle contact Martha DeGraaf at 802-349-0299 or email at marsull175@gmail.com.

Halloween Celebration in New Haven. Sunday, Oct. 29, 4-6 p.m., on the town green.

Annual Rabbi Victor E. Reichert Bible Talk in Ripton. Sunday, Oct. 29, 3 p.m., Ripton Community Church, 1329 Route 125. Middlebury College Siberman Professor of Jewish Studies Robert Schine will deliver the talk, referencing scripture from the Hebrew Bible. The annual Bible Talk is a unique ecumenical tradition established over 70 years ago by Ripton's "Rabbi-in-Residence." More info at 802-388-0338.

Affordable housing conversation in Middlebury. Sunday, Oct. 29, 4 p.m., Congregational Church of Middlebury. Learn about three different initiatives to help alleviate Addison County's housing shortage: HomeShare VT, Tiny Homes, and Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs). Meet individuals who are sharing their home and others who are building an ADU. Tour the tiny home built by Hannaford students beginning at 2 p.m. Questions? Email Mike Greenwood (mike802vt@comcast.net) or visit cvvus.org/news.

Harvest Party in Bristol. Sunday, Oct. 29, 4-6 p.m., Bristol Baptist Church, 10 Park St. Join us to celebrate the fall and harvest season. There will be fun, games and treats ending with a spaghetti supper. This is for all ages so bring the whole family

and friends. Dress in everyday clothing as you would if working in the yard or garden. More info at 802-453-5276.

Trunk or Treat in Monkton. Sunday, Oct. 29, 4-5:30 p.m., Town Hall parking lot, Monkton Ridge. Come collect treats from the Monkton Friends Methodist Church and Russell Memorial Library. There will be other activities happening on the library patio. If it rains, everything will move inside. The library will be giving free books to both children and adults. If you would like to be one of the treat contributors contact Terri Fitz-Gerald at 802-453-4918 to see if there is still room.

TUESDAY

Commemoration of Calvin Pier Tavern Site in Ripton. Tuesday, Oct. 31, 10:30 a.m., Route 125, 2.2 miles southeast of Ripton Country Store. A gathering to commemorate the site of Calvin Pier's tavern, the location of Ripton's first town meeting in March 1828, which accomplished the legal requirements for Ripton to become an organized town. Also celebrate the handicapped-accessible trail improvements made by the U.S. Forest Service within Robert Frost Recreation Area.

Halloween party in Salisbury. Tuesday, Oct. 31, 5:30 p.m., Salisbury Free Public Library 918 Maple St. Come show off your costumes and enjoy free pizza, cider, and getting together at the library's annual Halloween event.

FRIDAY

Knights in Italy spaghetti dinner in Bristol. Friday, Nov. 3, 5-7 p.m., St. Ambrose Parish, 11 School St. Menu includes spaghetti with sauce, garlic bread, salad and dessert. Meals are available for dine-in or take-out! \$12 for adults, \$6 for children 12 and under, and \$30 for a family. 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.

SATURDAY

Holiday Bazaar in Middlebury. Saturday, Nov. 4, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Congregational Church of Middlebury, 30 North Pleasant St. The church's Unity Hall, Fellowship Hall, other rooms and hallways are transformed into a holiday-style marketplace. The entire community is invited and welcomed into our church home to enjoy time for shopping.

TaeKwonDo promotional belt testing in Vergennes. Saturday, Nov. 4, 9 a.m.-7 p.m., Champlain Valley Christian School, 2 Church St. The public is invited to see students performing different skills as they rank up to new colored belts. More info contact Master Kellie Thomas at 802-377-0476 or tkdkicks101@yahoo.com.

Pottery sale in Middlebury. Saturday, Nov. 4, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Middlebury Studio School Clay Studio, 2377 Route 7 South. Looking for a unique gift ahead of the holiday season, or need a special something for serving your Thanksgiving dinner? Maybe you just need a mug for all that hot cider. Whatever you need, support our local artists and find something truly unique at the annual Studio School pottery sale. Proceeds are split between the artists and MSS, supporting our educational programs for all.

Conservation commission gathering in Bristol. Saturday, Nov. 4, 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Holley Hall. 1 South St. Join current members of Addison County conservation commissions and anyone interested in starting a conservation commission in their Addison County town or city to explore possible collaborations on issues of common concern, such as climate change mitigation, water, habitat connectivity and educational programs about conservation. Keynote address by Natural resource planner and State Rep. Amy Sheldon. Free-will donation. RSVP with your name and town by Oct. 20, to Heidi Willis, Salisbury Conservation Commission, redsprings@myfairpoint.net.

Used book sale in Middlebury. Saturday, Nov. 4, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Town Hall Plaza or inside at the Ilsley, depending on weather. In addition to books, there will be a huge selection of CDs for 25 cents each and all of the children's books will be reduced 25 cents each as well.

Sib2Sib Summit in Middlebury. Saturday, Nov. 4, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Center for Community Engagement, 26 Blinn Lane, Middlebury College. Middlebury College's Sib2Sib Program invites all middle schoolers to its annual summit. They'll have special workshops on sports and arts as well as discussion groups about social media, bullying and mental health. Free snacks and lunch. Please register at go.middlebury.edu/sib2sib.

"How To Trust the People With Reproductive Rights: The Supreme Court's Role in Reproductive Freedom" in Middlebury. Saturday, Nov. 4, 1 p.m., Ilsley Public Library, 75 Main St. In the first part of this three-part series, Meg Mott,

Ph.D., will lead this respectful discussion. The series examines the history and strategy of securing reproductive rights in the United States, considering the judicial history of reproductive rights, the best arguments on both sides, and the work we need to do to govern ourselves in a pluralist society.

HU Chant — The Sound of Soul in Middlebury. Saturday, Nov. 4, 6 p.m., Ilsley Public Library, 75 Main St. All are warmly invited to experience the HU at this chant. You are welcome to chant out loud or simply listen, whatever is right for you. The chant will last about 20 minutes, followed by brief contemplative time and spiritual conversation with others of like heart.

SUNDAY

Middlebury Maple Run in Middlebury. Sunday, Nov. 5, 9 a.m., Middlebury Regional EMS, 55 Collins Dr. Take on the Half-Marathon, two-person relay or the 3-mile fun run, with views of the Green Mountains and Adirondacks. Half marathon has a mix of trail, paved and dirt roads. Relay and fun run are on all paved roads. USATF Certified course Swag, music on course, post-race breakfast. Form a two-person team (6.5 miles each) and compete for team honors. More info and registration at MiddleburyMapleRun.com.

ACHHH Annual Candle Lighting Service of Remembrance in Middlebury. Sunday, Nov. 5, 2-4 p.m., Middlebury United Methodist Church, 47 North Pleasant St. Remember and honor the hospice and palliative care patients ACHHH were privileged to care for who have passed away during the past year, along with hospice staff and volunteers. All members of the community are invited.

WEDNESDAY

Button-up Brandon presentation in Brandon. Wednesday, Nov. 8, 5:30-7 p.m., Brandon Town Hall, 1 Conant Sq. A special presentation by the Brandon Energy Committee & SolarFest. Improve your heating and cooling needs that come with some once in a lifetime financial incentives that we all need to be aware of. Enjoy some tasty appetizers and beverages and chat with friends, neighbors and knowledgeable industry experts. Register at solarfest.org/brandon.

THURSDAY

Otter Creek Audubon Society talk and annual meeting in Middlebury. Thursday, Nov. 9, 7 p.m., Champlain Valley Unitarian Universalist Society, 2 Duane Ct. A celebration of the work OCAS has done in the previous year. Amy Weidensaul, Ph.D., Senior Regional Director of Mass Audubon, will give the talk "Protecting Nature for Birds and People: Opportunities, lessons and hope from the Massachusetts coast." Free and open to the public.

SATURDAY

Monthly Wildlife walk in Middlebury. Saturday, Nov. 11, 8-10 a.m., Otter View Park, Weybridge St. and Pulp Mill Bridge Rd. Otter Creek Audubon Society and MALT invite community members to help survey birds and other wildlife at Otter View Park and Hurd Grassland. Beginning birders welcome. Come for all or part of the walk. More info call 802-388-6019 or 802-388-1007.

Boys Scouts Wood Badge beading ceremony and other activities in Bristol. Saturday, Nov. 11, 11 a.m.- 5 p.m., Bristol Town Green. Troop 543 Boy Scouts of America will hold this ceremony for Scoutmaster Bill Mount. The Wood Badge is a Scouting leadership program and the related award for adult leaders in the programs. Other Veterans Day activities will follow, ending with a Veterans Day memorial presentation at 3:30 p.m.

"How To Trust the People with Reproductive Rights: Out of the Courts and onto the Ballots" in Middlebury. Saturday, Nov. 11, 1 p.m., Ilsley Public Library, 75 Main St. In the first part of this three-part series, Meg Mott, Ph.D., will lead this respectful discussion. The series examines the history and strategy of securing reproductive rights in the United States, considering the judicial history of reproductive rights, the best arguments on both sides, and the work we need to do to govern ourselves in a pluralist society.

Youth Ministry Bingo in Vergennes. Saturday, Nov. 11, 5 p.m., St. Peter's Parish Hall, 85 South Maple St. Doors open at 5 p.m., Bingo starts at 6 p.m. This is a family friendly event. All cash prizes, 50/50 raffle. Refreshments sold. Event sponsored by St. Ambrose and St. Peter's Youth Ministry to benefit the on-going program costs.



On your mark

THE MIDDLEBURY MAPLE Run returns to Middlebury on Sunday, Nov. 5. With a half-marathon, two-person relay, and fun run it's bound to draw a lot of participants, and enthusiastic spectators like this young girl at last year's race.

Independent file photo/Steve James



100+ Women Who Care grant funds to local organizations

ADDISON COUNTY — 100+ Women Who Care of Addison County ended the 2023 year on Tuesday, Oct. 17, at the New Haven Town Hall with cider and donuts kindly gifted by Champlain Orchards. This year marked the largest donation amount to date.

100+ Women Who Care, Addison County is a charitable giving circle that gathers quarterly to choose three nonprofits to receive its collective donations. Every quarter, each member contributes one hundred dollars to go toward local organizations — 164 members gave this quarter, which meant that \$16,400 was available to gift.

The three finalists for this quarter were the Middlebury's Town Hall Theater in support of their construction project for the new addition, The Boys and Girls Club of Vergennes for much needed basic needs and to assist in a Mt. Rushmore/Badlands excursion, and Middlebury Regional EMS for non-opioid pain reliever nitrous machines. After a very difficult choice, as all three finalists were captivating, The Boys and Girls Club of Vergennes was the top vote recipient. They received 70% of the available funds. The runners-up both received 15% of the available funds.

100+ Women Who Care Addison County has gifted a total of \$77,200.00 in 2023 to Addison County charities and would love to welcome new members who share

its commitment to supporting each other and our community. Find them at www.100wacvt.org to learn more. The next meeting will be online in January 2024.



ALICIA GRANGENT OF Boys & Girls Club of Greater Vergennes



LISA MITCHELL OF Middlebury Town Hall Theater



WALKER RANDALL, KIRK Gallipo, and Kate Rothwell of Middlebury Regional EMS

Building for kids

MEMBERS OF THE Middlebury Rotary and Addison Housing Works, joined by Lions Club member Jen Murray, teamed up to build a new playground at Lindale Mobile Home Park in Middlebury on Oct. 7 and 8. Here they are marking the completion of the work that Saturday. Pictured, from left, are Jason Larocque, Ben Fuller, Kati Larocque, Tori Marukelli, Chris Ouellette, Jen Murray and Fran Fraga.

Monkton

Have a news tip?
Call Liz Pecor at 453-2180

NEWS

MONKTON — Many Projects and events are still going on at the Russell Memorial Library. The Homeschooling Group continues on the last Friday of the month, being Oct. 27 for this month from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. This group gives homeschoolers a chance to meet others in the area, share ideas

on homeschooling, network and socialize while playing library board games in a friendly, peaceful setting.

Story Hour continues on Saturday, Oct. 28, from 10 to 11 a.m. for children of all ages. Halloween is featured this month with stories, songs and a simple craft project. Costumes are welcome but not required. Bring the kids and join in on the Halloween fun! All are welcome!

Watch for more info on a seed saving workshop that the library has coming up on Nov. 4.

The Monkton Friends Methodist

Church would like to thank all who helped to make their Harvest Supper a success. One third of the proceeds will be shared with the Vermont Flood Relief to help with recent flooding on Vermont.

It's Trunk or Treat time again! Come to the new Town Hall parking lot between 4 and 5:30 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 29, for treats from the Monkton Friends Methodist Church and Russell Memorial Library, plus other activities happening. If it rains, everything will move inside. Event goes may park in the church yard and walk through the pathway in

the fence to the town hall. There will be games on the library patio also. The library will be giving free books to both Children and adults. This event is sponsored in part by the Winnie Belle Learned Grant. If you would like to be one of the treat contributors for this great event, contact Terri Fitzgerald at 802-453-4918 to see if there's still room for you. Last year many town committees and organizations joined in on the fun. Hopefully there will be more this year!

Keep watching for the church's upcoming Bazaar in future news.

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK FROM AREA HIGH SCHOOLS

Middlebury Union High School

Diana Herasim

Middlebury Union High School introduces Diana Herasim as our next Student of the Week. Diana arrived in Middlebury in 2021 as an exchange student from Ukraine. Her father, Victor Herasim, and brother, Vladyslav, still reside there. Her mother, Natalia, passed away in 2020. When asked why she wanted to participate in an exchange program, Diana said she was interested in learning more about different cultures and studying in the United States. She is grateful to her two host families, Fernanda and Tim Wright, and Jeff Buettner and Jessica Allen, who have been so supportive and welcoming.

Diana says she has felt comfortable "right from the start" of her time in Vermont. While it is impossible for her to return to Ukraine at the moment, she is able to keep in touch with her family, and she is tremendously grateful to the entire ACSD community for their encouragement and kindness. Diana is fully involved in all aspects of the MUHS community and says her teachers have been "amazing!" She especially thanks Ms. Causton and Ms. Slater for always presenting interesting topics and discussion in the classroom. She is pursuing the full IB diploma and is writing the required Extended Essay, in Spanish, on dictatorship. She is active in Model UN and was awarded Outstanding Delegate at a recent conference for her work on Climate. She played on the Tigers field hockey team her sophomore year and is a class representative on the Student Council. Diana enjoys her involvement in the human rights club, SCHOR, and singing with the choir and camerata group.

Last summer she participated in Girls State, sponsored by the American Legion, and was chosen by her peers to serve as a member of the Supreme Court. She reports that Girls State gave her the opportunity to learn more about state and local government and meet with elected officials; she enjoyed visiting the Statehouse in Montpelier. Diana also enrolled in a two-week course, Introduction to American Government, at Syracuse University. Diana anticipates studying political science and history at a four-year liberal arts college in the Northeast when she enrolls in college next fall.

In her spare time, when not hanging out with friends, she is at Middlebury Fitness working out and enjoying her hobby of boxing. We know that a bright future awaits Diana, and we wish her well in her endeavors!



Diana Herasim
MUHS

Vergennes Union High School

Natalie Jackman

Natalie Jackman is Vergennes Union High School's Student of the Week. Natalie spent her early years in Lincoln with her two older sisters, Emma and Josie, but moved when she was six years old. She now lives in an old farmhouse in West Ferrisburgh, with her parents, Beth and Jesse, two dogs and two cats. She also owns a young mare.

Natalie has always been passionate about school, excelling academically and socially. She says she has consistently held herself to high standards over the years, and she has found it an excellent setting to host her vast curiosity. Natalie developed a love a science in her early years of high school. Ms. Thompson's Biology class is still her favorite to this day. Natalie has garnered leadership awards and is a consistent honor roll student. Her junior year she joined the Walden Project. It was here that her potential was fully released. In Walden she took her passion for science, combined with her passion for horses, and developed an educational agenda that was productive for her. She interned under a large animal vet in the area, began an equine vet tech course through AAEVT, took on the care of two rehab horses, and has written many reaction papers on horses she has encountered. The most important lesson Natalie has learned from school is the impermanence of everything. "When you are in those moments where you feel like you are suffocating, which is not a rare occurrence when navigating high school, know that that will end, and it is not worth your time to identify so closely with that weight, and carry it with you further," she says.

Natalie serves as the student representative on the Willowell Foundation board and is president of the Better Days 4-H club. This spring she qualified for the National 4-H Hippology Competition hosted annually in Kentucky. She will be joining three other girls in representing Vermont there this fall. She also volunteers as a herdsman at Better Days Ranch, and just recently began a job busing tables at Two Brothers Tavern in Middlebury.

In her spare time, Natalie likes to ride her horse, Sally, play guitar, and spend time with friends and family.

After high school, she plans on taking a gap year to work, save up some money, and spend lots of quality time with friends and family before going off to Missouri to attend Heartland Horseshoeing School, with her sights set on pursuing rehabilitative farriery. We wish her well as she moves forward.



Natalie Jackman
VUHS

CONGRATULATIONS
STUDENTS!



Telecommunications Sales and Service
Data Cabling & Fiber Optic Solutions
802-388-8999
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

JOHNSON LAW OFFICES

Congratulations!

Affordable & client-focused legal services

- Business Law
- Wills, Trusts and Estates
- Government Contracting
- Elder Law
- Property and Tenancy Issues

802-489-5099 or
Brad@LawDCVT.com
28 North Street • Bristol Village



Way to go,
Diana and Natalie!!

64 Jackman Drive • Bristol
802.453.2381 • JackmansInc.com



Keep up the great work,
Diana and Natalie!
877-3118
Vergennes, VT

Keep your Eye
on your
future goals!

Open every other Monday 8-4:45
and Tues-Fri 8-4:45

Peak View
EYE CARE
27 Main Street, Vergennes

Congratulations,
Diana and Natalie!

Rainbow
Pediatrics
802-388-1338
99 Court St., Middlebury, VT

Vermont Book Shop

We applaud the hardworking students in our community! Every Student of the Week will be entered in a drawing to win a \$100 Gift Card

VBS Creating a Community of Readers Since 1949

JACKMAN FUELS, INC.
Serving the Champlain Valley since 1945

Congratulations!!

JACKMAN FUELS
205 Main Street, Vergennes
877-2661 • jackmanfuels.com

Thursday & service
Business & DIRECTORY

auto body restoration
auto repair
auto sales & leasing
carpentry/contractors

cleaning services
computers
construction
duct cleaning

lawn care
firewood
flooring

AUTO BODY
RESORTATION

HILLTOP WELDING
AUTOBODY RESTORATION



Family owned & operated

Metal Fabrication
Agricultural Repair
Commercial Repair

Auto Body Repair
Rust Repair
Collision Repair

Full/Custom
restoration

We accept all major credit cards | We accept Insurance claims
Follow our projects on Facebook

 802-453-7345 | 138 Hunt Road, New Haven, VT

Certified
Collision Experts

**I-CAR**
Certified Technicians

All Makes and Models
Working with all
Insurance companies

**STONE**
stonecdjr.com

(802) 388-9961
Mon-Fri 8am-5pm
2196 Rt 7 South, Middlebury
stonecdjr.com

AUTO REPAIR

Hometown Service from
Your Hometown Dealers!

Factory-Trained Technicians
Servicing all makes
and models

**G Stone Motors**
36 Boardman St.,
Middlebury
(802) 388-6718
gstonemotors.com

**Stone**
Chrysler Dodge Jeep Ram
2149 Rt 7 So., Middlebury
(802) 388-9961
stonecdjr.com

REACH THE COUNTY
ADVERTISE HERE
ADDY INDY - 388-4944

AUTO SALES
& LEASING

G STONE MOTORS, INC.
NEW AND USED CARS AND TRUCKS

**Kennedy
Mitowski**
Sales Consultant

We will take anything
in trade!

Bus: 802-388-6718
Fax: 802-388-6891
kennedy@gstonemotors.com
www.gstonemotors.com

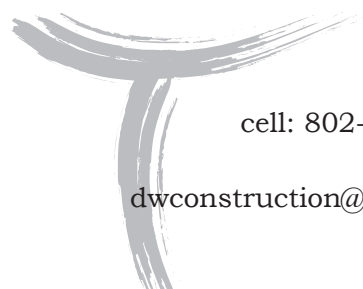


36 BOARDMAN ST | P.O. Box 527 MIDDLEBURY, VT 05753

CARPENTRY/
CONTRACTORS

David Walker Construction

298 Biddle Road
Lincoln, Vermont
05443



cell: 802-989-0320
email:
dwconstruction@gmavt.net

Entry Door & Storm Door
Installations
Small Jobs Only • Semi-Retired

CARPENTRY/
CONTRACTORS

**RAYMOND
RENOVATION
& NEW CONSTRUCTION**

Handling all phases of residential & light
commercial carpentry since 1992

Mark Raymond
Middlebury, VT **388-0742**

FULLY INSURED

Golden Ruler
Construction

AFFORDABLE & HONEST

Residential & Agricultural Construction
Old Home Renovations • Custom Homes • Barns
Painting: Interior/Exterior • General Repairs

Call Jonathan Hescoc
2217 Rt. 74, Cornwall
802-462-3737





VERMONT CUSTOM MOLDINGS

www.vermontcustommoldings.com

**Quaker Village
CARPENTRY**



Siding, Windows, Garages, Decks & Porches
New Construction, Renovations and Repairs

Maurice Plouffe
802-545-2251
1736 Quaker Village Road
Weybridge, VT 05753

**fjcbuilders.com**

F J C
802.310.1986

• Full service general
contractor
• Turn key construction
• Kind knowledgeable staff

One call does it all

Christopher Netelkos
cnetelkos@fjcbuilders.com • Sudbury, Vt.

CLEANING SERVICES

**Melissa's Quality
Cleaning Services**

Residential & Commercial
GREAT RATES • FULLY INSURED
Reliable & Thorough

802 345-6257

CHECK US OUT
ONLINE AT
ADDISONINDEPENDENT.COM

COMPUTERS

**PC MEDIC**
of Vermont

The PC Medic of
Vermont now offers
both on-site and remote
computer services for
your PC.

Call today to see which
type of appointment
you need, and get your
PC running correctly
again!



For an appointment , call The PC Medic of
Vermont at **802-734-6815**
www.pcmedicvt.com

CONSTRUCTION

**Vantage
Point
Homes**



Salisbury, VT
989-3974

New Construction
Additions
Renovations
Project Design

Like us on Facebook! 

DUCT CLEANING

**BOOT HILL
METAL BENDERS**

Specializing in
Duct Cleaning
And Duct Work
for Heating, Ventilation
and Air Conditioning
We use 5,000+ cfm HEPA
Vacuum Cleaning Systems

We can design, fabricate, seal, insulate, clean,
anything to do with your ducted systems.

Buy Local! 802.989.0396

Commercial/Residential • Owner Operated • Fully Insured • Neat & Clean

FIREWOOD

Are you looking for green or
seasoned firewood?
Well we've got it all right here in Addison, VT!

We cut, split, and deliver hardwood
firewood in 12-24 inch lengths.
And we now offer kiln dried firewood!

Contact us today for a quote!

**Gevry Firewood LLC**
gevyrefirewoodvt@gmail.com
or 802-349-0699

FLOORING

**Chris Mulliss**
FLOOR & UPHOLSTERY CLEANING

Stripping - Waxing - Buffing
Carpet Cleaning &
Emergency Water Removal



802-759-2706
phone or fax
or
802-349-6050
cell phone

email: cmulliss@gmavt.net
1900 Jersey St., S. Addison, VT 05491

Wales Floors, Inc.

For a free estimate call **877-8323**

Fully insured

Custom & non-toxic finishes



Installation refinishing & restoration of
residential and commercial wood floors

Over two decades experience!





Reach
more
potential
customers!

Place your ad in
the Addy Indy!



Leaves
are
falling!

Look here
first
for home
winterization
help.







ADDISON COUNTY
INDEPENDENT
CALL **802-388-4944**

Thursday

Business & service

DIRECTORY

lawn care
masonry
painting
plumbing
property maintenance

renewable energy
roofing
rubbish & recycling
septic & water
siding

surveying
taxes
tree service

MASONRY

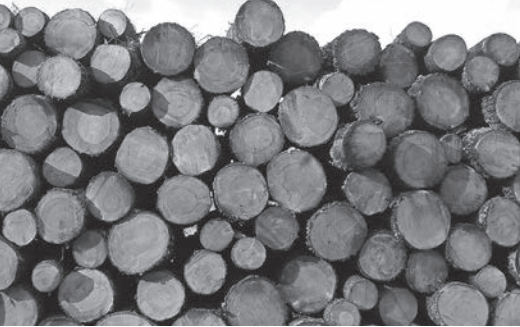
FINE DRY STONE MASONRY



JAMIE MASEFIELD
CERTIFIED BY THE DRY STONE WALLERS
ASSOCIATION OF GREAT BRITAIN

802-233-4670
jmasefield@gmavt.net

ADVERTISE
YOUR HEATING
BUSINESS
WITH US!



PAINTING

HESCOCK PAINTING



A friendly, professional,
and affordable family business.
Interior Painting
462-3737 or 989-9107
Kim or Jonathan Hescock
hescock@shoreham.net

PLUMBING



Timothy C. Ryan, P.E.
Serving the Champlain Valley
Since 1887
877-3118
Main St., Vergennes, VT

PLUMBING



J.D. Fuller
Plumbing & Heating, Inc.
Repairs • New Installations
John Fuller, Master Plumber • 388-2019

PROPERTY
MAINTENANCE

STEADY PROPERTY MAINTENANCE & EXCAVATION



CHUCK STEADY
Owner
194 Silver Lake Road
Goshen, Vt.

steadymaintenance@yahoo.com 802-247-5475
steadymaintenance.com 802-349-8265

POTENTIAL VIEW



PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

802-349-6163
Residential and Commercial
property maintenance, upkeep and installation.
Providing a comprehensive list
of every possible need with 24/7 response.

Contact us today
for a free consultation

RENEWABLE ENERGY

Go Solar with
AllEarth Renewables

Customer-driven solutions
designed, engineered and built
in Vermont, with over 3,000
installations in the state.

CALL 802.872.9600 x122
allearthrenewables.com



Soak Up The Sun!

Don't spend your hard-earned money
making the hot water or electricity that
you use today -
SOLAR IS MORE AFFORDABLE THEN EVER!
We've been here for you for 51 years -
Let us help you with your solar projects today.



Go Green with us -
Call for a FREE on-site evaluation



BRISTOL
ELECTRONICS
802.453.2500
BristolElectronicsVT.com

ROOFING



roofing
Michael Doran
as seen at Addison County Field Days!

• Standing seam
• Asphalt shingles
• Slate

Free estimates • Fully Insured
mpdoransr@gmail.com
Phone (802) 537-3555

SEPTIC & WATER



Celebrating 36 Years
Environmental Consultants – Licensed Designers
Steve Revell CPG, LD#178 BW
Jeremy Revell LD#611 BW • Tyler Maynard LD#597 B
• Water Supply - Location, Development and Permitting
• On-Site Wastewater Design • Single & Multiple Lot Subdivision
• Property Development & Permitting
• State and Local Permitting
• Underground Storage Tank Removal & Assessment

Toll-Free: 800-477-4384
802-453-4384

Fax 802-453-5399 • Email: jrevell@lagvt.com
163 Revell Drive • Lincoln, VT 05443
www.lagvt.com

Reach
more
potential
customers!



Place your ad in
the Addy Indy!

SIDING



CLASSIC VINYL
DOUBLE HUNG

Marcel Brunet & Sons, Inc.
Windows & Siding
Vergennes, VT
Siding • Windows
Additions • Garages • Decks
802-316-6060 • rbrunet1@myfairpoint.net • 802-877-2640

SURVEYING

SHORT SURVEYING, INC.



Serving Addison County Since 1991
Timothy L. Short, L.S.
Property Line Surveys • Topographical Surveys
FEMA Elevation Certificates
135 S. Pleasant St., Middlebury, VT
802-388-3511
ShortSurveyingVT@gmail.com

LAROSE SURVEYS, P.C.

Ronald L. LaRose, L.S. • Kevin R. LaRose, L.S.

Land Surveying/Septic Design
"We will take you through the
permitting process!"

25 West St. • PO Box 388
Bristol, VT 05443
Telephone: 802-453-3818
Fax: 802-329-2138
larosesurveys@gmail.com





Philosurveying
LLC
Serving all of Vermont!
ALTA Surveys • Full Boundary Surveys and Plat
Commercial and Residential Subdivisions
Light Boundary Work and Boundary Line Staking
Easement Surveys • Elevation Certificates
LOMA Surveys • Topographic Surveys
(802) 782-9273 • Philosurveying LLC • Charlotte, VT
Philosurveying.com • References available

TREE SERVICE

Serving Vermont for over 42 years!

BROWN'S TREE &
CRANE SERVICE

FREE
ESTIMATES
FOR TREE
SERVICES

WE HAVE THE RIGHT EQUIPMENT
FOR THE RIGHT JOB – TO GIVE YOU
REASONABLE RATES

Dangerous Trees Cut & Removed
Stumps Removed
Trusses Set
Trees Trimmed
Land Clearing



Reasonable Rates • Year-round Service • Fully Insured
(802) 453-3351 • Cell (802) 363-5619
24 Hour Emergency Service 453-7014
Brownswelding.com



DO YOU CLEAN HOUSES?
YOUR AD SHOULD
BE HERE!

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 montalananonlateen.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://aa.vt.org/> or call the 24 hour hotline at 802-802-AAVT (2288).

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

Public Meetings

inclusion without judgment or exception. If you think we can help, please join us on Thursdays at 6pm by contacting Vergennes-freethinkers@gmail.com for Zoom and in-person meeting information.

Services

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.

Public Meetings

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.

Services

C+I DRYWALL and plastering. Call Joe 802-234-5545.

CONSTRUCTION: ADDITIONS, RENOVATIONS new construction, drywall, carpentry, painting, flooring, roofing, pressure washing, driveway sealing. All aspects of construction, also property maintenance. Steven Fifield 802-989-0009.

Services

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.

WE BUY OLD STUFF Estates, collections, antiques etc. Also hunting and fishing items. Call Erik 802-345-0653.

Free

DIGITAL ACCESS View obituaries, calendar listings and classifieds online at addisonindependent.com. Don't miss out on events, garage sales, or opportunities- check out our free digital listings. Looking to read more? Become a subscriber!

Garage Sales

YARD SALE CONTEMPORARY and vintage finds: linens, vintage Christmas, ribbon, wool blankets, kitchenware, wood crates, baskets, galvanized items, furniture, pyrex, ephemera, puzzles. 2020 Route 74, Cornwall. Saturday 10/28 8:30 AM - 3 PM. Rain or shine.

Help Wanted

RESIDENTIAL CARPENTER. Goldeneye Design & Build is seeking a full-time Carpenter for residential new builds and remodels primarily in Addison county, and occasionally in adjacent counties. The ideal candidate is capable of efficient execution of high-quality construction and finish work. To apply, please email Nate Newman at goldeneyedesign2020@gmail.com and include your work history or resume.

TIRED OF BEING RETIRED? Limited hours, A&W and Greg's Market. Applications available at Greg's. Pick your own hours.

PART TIME PERSONAL CARE assistant wanted for 75 year old man, in Addison. To work for 3 hours/day, every other weekend, Saturday and Sunday. There is also a possibility

Help Wanted

of working one weekday every week for 3 hours. Help with light housekeep

Help Wanted

ing, cooking, and chores. \$25/hour. Contact Ellen at: eresnik@rcn.com.



Production Team Members

Vermont Soap is looking for attentive, reliable and responsible people to work in our production department.

This position requires basic computer skills, attention to detail, the ability to sit or stand for long periods of time and the ability to lift up to 50lbs. Must be a team player and also able to work independently.

This is a full time position (Mon-Fri 7-3:30) with paid vacation time, paid holidays, 401k with employer match, and more!

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

Help Wanted

Help Wanted

Help Wanted



We're hiring and we need... you!

Paraprofessionals:

- Are essential to our schools!
- Collaborate with teachers and support class instruction
- Support and supervise students with school work, social emotional needs, and play

Intensive Services Paras:

- Provide one-on-one support to a student needing individual services

This could be a great fit if you:

- Love supporting kids!
- Are flexible, energetic, inclusive, and kind
- Have experience with special needs students (but this is not required)

To apply: acsdvt.org/Page/4418 or scan the QRCode which will show all available ACSD jobs:
Questions: 802-382-1281





Looking for something different?

Your local newspaper is your **BEST RESOURCE** for local job opportunities!

Also available online:
addisonindependent.com
ADDISON COUNTY
INDEPENDENT



Addison County Parent/Child Center

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 d Bailey@addisoncountypcc.org



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.

Opportunities

Opportunities

Opportunities

Opportunities

Opportunities

Opportunities



AmeriCorps Seniors



Volunteer Tax Preparers

RSVP of Addison County is looking for Volunteer Tax Preparers. All training is provided through the AARP tax program. Join the fun and help someone in need today.

If interested please contact Maryesa at 802-468-7056.

Addison Independent CLASSIFIED ORDER FORM

Cash in on our 4-for-3 rates! Pay for 3 issues, get 4th issue free! An ad placed for consecutive issues runs the 4th time for free!

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Or, submit your classified ad on our website: addisonindependent.com

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

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| ☐ Notices | ☐ Work Wanted | ☐ Att. Farmers |
| ☐ Card of Thanks | ☐ Help Wanted | ☐ Motorcycles |
| ☐ Personals | ☐ For Sale | ☐ Cars |
| ☐ Services | ☐ Public Meetings** | ☐ Trucks |
| ☐ Free** | ☐ For Rent | ☐ SUVs |
| ☐ Lost 'N Found** | ☐ Want to Rent | ☐ Snowmobiles |
| ☐ Garage Sales | ☐ Wood Heat | ☐ Boats |
| ☐ Lawn & Garden | ☐ Real Estate | ☐ Wanted |
| ☐ Opportunities | ☐ Animals | ☐ Real Estate Wanted |
| ☐ Adoption | | ☐ Vacation Rentals |

** no charge for these ads Spotlight with large ✓ \$2

PLEASE PRINT YOUR AD...

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.

Number of words: _____
Cost: _____
of runs: _____
Spotlight Charge: _____
Internet Listing: **\$2.00**
TOTAL: _____

Addison Independent CLASSIFIEDS

Help Wanted

MIDDLEBURY UNION HIGH SCHOOL

VARSITY DANCE COACH

Middlebury Union High School is seeking a Varsity Dance Coach.

Applicants must possess a strong knowledge of coaching principles with previous coaching experience preferred. Must possess strong organizational skills and the ability to communicate and relate to student athletes.

Interested parties should send a letter of interest, resume, and three current letters of reference to:

Sean Farrell/Athletic Director
Middlebury Union Middle School
73 Charles Avenue
Middlebury, VT 05753

Applications will be accepted until the position has been filled.
E.O.E.

Help Wanted

For Sale

TWO RADIOS FROM the 1910s or 1920s. Several tall cabinets from the 1930s, 1960s and 1970s. Sold as a package deal for \$400. Cash only and must be able to pickup. Call Marvin at 802-425-3529.

Vacation Rentals

INVERNESS, FLORIDA; 2 bedroom, 2 bathrooms. Available Dec. 1 - March. Comp. \$2,500/week. Call 802-758-1234.

For Rent

12' X 25' STORAGE SPACES in Brandon. Call 802-349-4212.

HANCOCK: SENIOR WOMAN (and friendly small dog!) seeking female to share a home at minimal rent in exchange for help with errands, light cleaning and companionship. Shared bath. 802-863-5625 or HomeShareVermont.org for application. Interview, references, background checks required. EHO.

HOUSE IN CORNWALL. Furnished. 2 bedrooms, 1.5 bath. \$2300/month. Large living space with vaulted-ceiling, pine floors. Deck with beautiful view and sunsets. Tenant responsible for trash removal and shoveling walkway. Includes utilities and plowing. Available medium/long term starting 2024. s.rogers.oliart@gmail.com

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.

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.

FOR RENT OFFICE or retail space. Prime route 7 south location. Ample parking and great exposure for your business! Former US Forestry building with large reception area and 4 large offices. Serious inquiries only please 802-377-7588.

Help Wanted

For Rent

MIDDLEBURY SUGAR-WOOD APARTMENTS is currently taking waitlist applications for 2, 3, 4 bedroom apartments. Minimum occupancy requirements. No smoking/ No pets. Income limits apply- Rent based on income. Equal Housing Opportunity 802-247-0165 TTY: 800-253-0191 www.SummitPMG.com.

MIDDLEBURY, OFF CAMPUS HOUSING available. 802-388-4831, AJ Neri Property Rentals.

MIDDLEBURY: SHARE A HOME w/ well-traveled senior couple. No rent in exchange for providing occasional companionship for a gentleman w/ memory loss, and sharing light cleaning. Private bath. Must be dog-friendly! 802-863-5625 or HomeShareVermont.org for application. Interview, references, background checks required. EHO

SUDBURY; SEEKING FEMALE to share home with an avid reader in her 60s. Enjoys volunteering and classical music. \$500/mo. plus sharing companionship & outdoor chores. Must be cat-friendly! Private bath; shared kitchen. 802-863-5625 or HomeShareVermont.org for application. Interview, references, background checks req. EHO

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.

Att. Farmers

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

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

Trucks

2012 CHEVY SILVERADO truck. Standard cab, 8' box, 4 WD, 6 cylinder automatic. Only \$12,000. Call 802-363-7620 or email millbridgeconstruction@gmail.com.

Wanted

OLD & USED GUNS WANTED

Rifles, Hand guns, Shot guns
Top prices paid.

**P: 802-775-2859
C: 802-236-7213**

Full Passport Service

Addison County Courthouse

The Addison County Clerk located in Frank Mahady Courthouse is available to accept passport applications and provide passport photos.

REGULAR HOURS

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday -
9am to 1pm

Wednesday - **8:45am to 4:00pm**

Friday - **Closed**

APPOINTMENTS REQUIRED.

802-388-1966

addisoncountyclerk@gmail.com

Public Notices Index

Public Notices for the following can be found in this ***ADDISON INDEPENDENT*** on **Page 11B, 12B.**

Addison County Courthouse (1)
Bristol (1)
Middlebury (2)
New Haven (1)
Orwell (1)
Shoreham (1)
Starksboro (1)
State of Vermont (1)
Vergennes (2)
Weybridge (1)

Auctions

Advance Auction Notice

Tom Broughton Auctions continues to sell the late Ralph Farnsworth's museum-quality collectibles.

The next auction is upcoming on Sunday, Nov 5th, and will be all about TOYS — toys, toys, toys!

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

**We value
our faithful
customers!**

**Updated
market report
next week!**

We value our faithful customers.
Sales at 3 pm - Mon. & Thurs.
call 1-802-388-2661

TOWN OF MIDDLEBURY PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The Middlebury Development Review Board will hold a public hearing on Monday, November 13, 2023, beginning at 7:00 p.m. in the Large Conference Room at the Town Offices, 77 Main Street, to consider the following application(s).

1. Application (file #2023-24:277.000-W) requesting setback waivers pursuant to section 724 for a new office/residential structure proposed to be constructed at 150 South Pleasant Street by 150 South Pleasant Street, LLC and WSMIDD SPE, LLC. Specifically, the setback waivers requested are from the front and side yard setback requirements. The 150 South Pleasant Street property is in the Mixed-Use zoning district, parcel ID# 024277.000.

The hearing will also be available to participants via Zoom video link. The link will be provided on the meeting agenda posted on the Town's website. Plans and additional information regarding these application(s) may be viewed at the Planning and Zoning Office in the Town Offices or by calling 388-8100, Ext 226. Participation in this public hearing is a prerequisite to the right to take any subsequent appeal.

David Wetmore
DRB Coordinator, AZA

TOWN OF NEW HAVEN PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE AMENDMENTS TO ZONING BYLAWS AND SUBDIVISION REGULATIONS

In accordance with 24 V.S.A. §4441 and §4444, the Town of New Haven will hold a public hearing on Monday, November 13, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Offices, 78 North Street, New Haven. A remote option is available by logging onto:

<https://zoom.us/j/96189409121?pwd=R2hNVzFJM3M0T21Qa3pYVRaRHptdz09>

Meeting ID: 961 8940 9121

Passcode: qw8Yry

The proposed updated and revised Zoning and Subdivision Regulations have been combined and redesigned to navigate and interpret more easily. These proposed Regulations include a step-by-step Introduction to the building application process; an Index, updated Zoning Map; a Zoning Districts Table showing density and dimensional standards applicable to land development in each of the Town's eight zoning districts; and a comprehensive Table of Allowed Uses that lists standards which apply to specified uses as allowed within one or more zoning districts. A hard copy of the proposed Zoning and Subdivision Regulations is available at the Town Offices, 78 North Street, and on the Town's website: <https://www.newhavenvt.com/>

Town of New Haven's proposed Subdivision and Zoning Regulations – TABLE OF CONTENTS:

ARTICLE I: Enactment, Intent, and Organization

Section 100: Enactment

Section 110: Intent

Section 120: Repeal of Former Zoning Bylaws

Section 130: Interpretation

Section 140: Effective Date

Section 150: Amendments

ARTICLE II: Establishment of Zoning Districts and Zoning Map

Section 200: Application of Regulations

Section 210: Zoning Districts Designation

Section 220: Zoning Map: Establishment of Boundaries

Section 221: Zoning District Boundaries: Interpretation

ZONING DISTRICTS MAP

ZONING DISTRICTS TABLE

TABLE OF ALLOWED USES

Section 222: Density-Based Zoning – in General

Section 223: Minimum Required Acreage

Section 224: Density-Based Zoning Requirements

ARTICLE III: Administration and Enforcement

Section 300: Exemptions

Section 310: Zoning Administrator

Section 320: Zoning Permit Requirements

Section 321: Fees

Section 322: Building Application Requirements

Section 323: Building Application Review

Section 324: Certificate of Compliance/Occupancy

Section 325: Appeals of Decisions of Zoning Administrator

Section 326: Penalties/Enforcement

Section 327: Development Review Board

Section 328: Public Notice and Review Procedure

Section 329: Conditional Use Application for Approval

Section 330: Variance

Section 331: Renewable Energy Structure Variances

Section 332: Variance Conditions

Section 333: Waivers

Section 334: Site Plan Review

Section 335: Site Plan Map and Data

Section 336: Decisions

Section 337: Appeals to Environmental Court

ARTICLE IV: Required Regulations

Section 400: Affordable Housing

Section 410: Accessory Dwelling Units

Section 420: Accessory Uses and Buildings

Section 421: Existing Small Lots

Section 422: Frontage On, or Access To, Public Roads or Public Waters

Section 423: Home Occupations

Section 424: Non-Conforming Uses

Section 425: Non-Conforming Structures

Section 426: Public Use Exceptions

ARTICLE V: General Regulations

Section 500: Lots in Multiple Zoning Districts

Section 510: Setbacks

Section 520: Abandonment of Structures

Section 521: Temporary or Portable Uses and Structures During Construction

Section 522: Storage Structures

Section 523: Filling of Land

Section 524: Extraction of Soil, Sand, or Gravel

Section 525: Grading

Section 526: Corner Lot Exceptions

Section 527: Adaptive Re-Use

Section 528: Public Utility Substations

Section 529: Hazardous Materials

Section 530: Campers

Section 521: Roadside Agricultural Stands

ARTICLE VI: Conditions Attached to Specific Uses

Section 600: Gasoline or Motor Vehicle Service Stations

Section 610: Home Businesses

Section 620: Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Stations

Section 621: Planned Unit Development

ARTICLE VII: Design & Performance Standards

Section 700: Design & Performance Standards General Principles

Section 710: Specific Standards

Section 720: Parking

Section 721: Height Restrictions

Section 722: Signs

Section 723: Glare, Lights, and Reflection

ARTICLE VIII: Flood Hazard District (FHD) Regulations

Section 800: Flood Hazard District: Statement of Purpose

Section 810: Flood Hazard District: Lands to Which These Regulations Apply

Section 820: Flood Hazard Area Map

Flood Hazard Map

Section 821: Flood Hazard District Boundaries

Section 822: Flood Hazard District Permitted Uses

Section 823: Flood Hazard District Conditional Uses

Section 824: Flood Hazard District Permit Requirements

Section 825: Flood Hazard District Records

Section 826: Flood Hazard District Conditional Use Review

Section 827: Flood Hazard District: Development Review Board Considerations

Section 828: Flood Hazard District: Conditions

Section 829: Flood Hazard District: Acting on Application

Section 830: Flood Hazard District: Issuance and Transmission of Permits

Section 831: Flood Hazard District: Effective Date

Section 832: Flood Hazard District Variances

Section 833: Flood Hazard District: Warning of Disclaimer of Liability

Section 834: Flood Hazard District: Precedence of Regulations

Section 835: Flood Hazard District Annual Report to FEMA

ARTICLE IX: Subdivision Application and Approval Process

Section 900: Application of Subdivision Regulations

Section 910: Boundary Line Adjustments

Section 920: Sketch Plan

Section 921: Preliminary Plat (Major) and Final Plat (Minor)

Application and Review

Section 922: Preliminary Plat Approval Process

Section 923: Final Plat: Approval and Review

Section 924: Final Plat

Section 925: Subdivision Plat: Filing and Approval

Section 926: Public Acceptance of Streets, Recreation Areas

Section 927: Planning Standards

Section 928: Streets

Section 929: Pedestrian Access

Section 930: Utilities

Section 931: Drainage Improvements

Section 932: Site Preservation and Improvements

Section 933: Open Space and Recreation Areas

Section 934: Organizations and Management Restrictions

ARTICLE X: Definitions

Index

Appendix

**We do meaningful work
every day,
in every department.
Join us and see why people
love to work at EastView!**

We have open positions in the following departments:

A full-time and a part-time **Caregiver**, full-time and part-time members of our **Dining** team, a full-time **Housekeeper**, a full-time **Facilities** team member, and a part-time **Activities** team member,

We offer a generous benefits package, a complimentary meal with each shift, and paid time off.

To apply or for full job descriptions go to <http://www.eastviewmiddlebury.com/join-our-team/>

**Help Wanted ads can be
found on Pages
10B & 11B.**

ADDISON CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

CUSTODIANS

Addison Central School District is seeking Custodians full or part-time and day or night shifts.

These positions are full-year positions.

Addison Central School District

offers competitive wages.

Employee benefits include:

- Health, Dental, Life, AD&D, Long Term Disability coverage
- Contribution to up to a family health insurance plan, contribution to a Health Savings Account, or a Health Reimbursement Arrangement
- Access to a flexible spending account
- Single dental insurance plan funded by the school district with the option to purchase dependent coverage
- Long-term disability plan with a 90-day elimination period, benefit pays 66 2/3% of salary, funded by the school district
- Life insurance valued at \$30,000, funded by the school district

Other Benefits

- Paid time off
- Retirement annuity match of up to 5% of salary
- Employee Assistance Program

Apply by submitting a letter of interest, resume, and three current reference letters via School Spring or by sending a hard copy to:

Tim Williams, Superintendent
Addison Central School District
49 Charles Avenue
Middlebury, VT 05753

Applications will be accepted until positions are filled
E.O.E.

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

TOWN OF STARKSBORO
STARKSBORO, VERMONT
NOTICE OF TAX SALE

The residents and non-resident owners, lien holders, and mortgagees of lands in the Town of Starksboro, County of Addison and State of Vermont, are hereby notified that the taxes assessed by the Town of Starksboro for the 2018-2023 tax years remain in whole unpaid on the lands and premises as described below.

Said lands will be sold at public auction at the Town Clerk's office in the Town of Starksboro, on November 8, 2023 at eleven o'clock in the forenoon, as shall be requisite to discharge such taxes with costs, and fees, unless previously paid.

Dated at Richmond, Vermont this 6th day of October, 2023.

/s/ David M. Sunshine,
Attorney for Amy McCormick, Delinquent Tax Collector,
Town of Starksboro, Vermont

DESCRIPTION OF PARCELS

Parcel #1 - Being all and the same lands and premises conveyed to David Faircloth and Carol Faircloth by Warranty Deed of Esther Sederburg and Gerald Rheame dated January 25, 2008 and recorded in Volume 90 at Page 497 of the Land Records of the Town of Starksboro. Being a parcel of land with dwelling thereon, said to contain 1.00 acre, more or less, and depicted as Lot 4 on a plat of survey entitled, "Proposed Subdivision, Hillsboro Road, of a portion of lands belonging to Gerald & Louise Rheame, Esther Sederburg, Town of Starksboro, Addison County, Vermont", and recorded at Map Slide 38E of the Land Records of the Town of Starksboro.

Also referenced herein is an easement and right of way to use and maintain a well.

Said property being known and designated as 346 Hillsboro Rd, Starksboro, Vermont.
Being Tax Parcel No.: 000E2263S.

Parcel #2 - Being all and the same lands and premises conveyed to Suchman Family, LLC by Warranty Deed with Reservation of Life Estate for Hyman Suchman dated March 19, 2014 and recorded in Volume 108 at Page 69 of the Land Records of the Town of Starksboro. Being a parcel of land containing 8.9 acres, more or less, together with dwelling house and other improvements thereon, depicted on a survey entitled "Property of Hyman Suchman & Patricia Riley, Addison County, Starksboro, Vt." Prepared by Ronald L. LaRose, L.S., dated May 21, 1981, and filed for record in the Starksboro Land Records in Map Slide 24F.
Being Tax Parcel No.: 000E32816N.

TOWN OF BRISTOL
PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The Bristol Development Review Board will hold the following hearings on November 14, 2023, beginning at 7:00 P.M. The hearings will be held in person at the Town Office, located at 1 South Street. The hearings will also be available via Zoom and login information is below.

Permit #23-400: DMV Properties, Inc. located at North 116 Rd (Parcel #030111) is requesting Preliminary Plat Approval for a 5-lot subdivision per Bristol Unified Development Regulations Article IX, Section 930

Copies of the complete zoning applications are available for review at the Bristol Town Office during regular business hours.

Remote Access: Join Zoom Meeting

https://zoom.us/ • Meeting ID: 857 8676 1083 • Passcode: 805823

Phone In: 1-646-558-8656 • Meeting ID: 857 8676 1083 • Passcode: 805823

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85786761083?pwd=RFIWSGFwamJIRG5KOEpCaNI
TDczdz09

STATE OF VERMONT
SUPERIOR COURT
PROBATE DIVISION
ADDISON UNIT
DOCKET NO. 23-PR-5172
IN RE ESTATE OF:
JEAN VERA PAYNE
NOTICE TO CREDITORS

To the Creditors of the estate of Jean Vera Payne, late of New Haven, Vermont. I have been appointed to administer this estate. All creditors having claims against the decedent or the estate must present their claims in writing within four (4) months of the date of the first publication of this notice. **The claim must be presented to me at the address listed below with a copy sent to the Court. The claim may be barred forever if it is not presented as described above within the four (4) month period.**

Dated: October 3, 2023

Executor/Administrator:
Traci Payne
615 Cross Rd.
Bridport, VT 05734
802-556-3634
payne_traci@yahoo.com

Publication: Addison Independent
Publication Date: 10/26/23
Address of Probate Court:
7 Mahady Court
Middlebury, VT 05753

STATE OF VERMONT
SUPERIOR COURT
PROBATE DIVISION
ADDISON UNIT
DOCKET NO. 23-PR-06111
IN RE ESTATE OF:
MARILYN WOODS
NOTICE TO CREDITORS

To the Creditors of the estate of Marilyn Woods, late of Ferrisburgh, Vermont. I have been appointed to administer this estate. All creditors having claims against the decedent or the estate must present their claims in writing within four (4) months of the date of the first publication of this notice. **The claim must be presented to me at the address listed below with a copy sent to the Court. The claim may be barred forever if it is not presented as described above within the four (4) month period.**

Dated: October 13, 2023

Executor/Administrator:
Paul R. Woods
11851 High Cloister Ct.
Fishers, IN 46037
317-508-8414
paul@flyingpylon.com

Publication: Addison Independent
Publication Date: 10/26/23
Address of Probate Court:
7 Mahady Court
Middlebury, VT 05753

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
SHOREHAM PLANNING COMMISSION
SHOREHAM ZONING REGULATIONS

The Shoreham Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on November 13, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. on the proposed amendments to the Shoreham Zoning Regulations. This hearing will be held at the Shoreham Elementary School, School Street, Shoreham, VT. This hearing is held pursuant to 24 V.S.A. 4441. This notice is issued pursuant to 24 V.S.A. 4444(b).

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE AND AREAS OF TOWN AFFECTED

On October 16, 2023 the Planning Commission completed its work updating the zoning regulations, funded in part by a DHCD Bylaw Modernization Grant. A primary goal of this project was to increase housing opportunities for residents of all income levels by making it easier to develop affordable, smaller homes on smaller parcels in the Zoning Districts, particularly where there is municipal water and wastewater treatment. The Planning Commission proposes to reorganize and add subdivision regulations into the previous document and to change its name to the "Shoreham Unified Development Regulations".

The following list highlights the Articles amended in the proposed document. Other minor changes are proposed.

- (1) **Article II:** Dimensional Standards and Allowable uses
- (2) **Article III:** Administration & Enforcement
- (3) **Article V:** Development Review
- (4) **Article VI:** Subdivision Review
- (5) **Article VII:** Special Flood Hazard Area Regulations

Copies of the draft Shoreham Zoning Regulations are at:
Shoreham Town website: shorehamvt.org
or the Shoreham Town Office

Join Zoom Meeting
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89716031105?pwd=VlVlRTUwRlE1ZUlhbkNjQm9T-
dWVh6dz09
Meeting ID: 897 1603 1105
Passcode: 311706
Find your local number: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/kczdV1FJOZ

PROPOSED STATE RULES

By law, public notice of proposed rules must be given by publication in newspapers of record. The purpose of these notices is to give the public a chance to respond to the proposals. The public notices for administrative rules are now also available online at <https://secure.vermont.gov/SOS/rules/>. The law requires an agency to hold a public hearing on a proposed rule, if requested to do so in writing by 25 persons or an association having at least 25 members.

To make special arrangements for individuals with disabilities or special needs please call or write the contact person listed below as soon as possible.

To obtain further information concerning any scheduled hearing(s), obtain copies of proposed rule(s) or submit comments regarding proposed rule(s), please call or write the contact person listed below. You may also submit comments in writing to the Legislative Committee on Administrative Rules, State House, Montpelier, Vermont 05602 (802-828-2231).

Expansion of Eligibility Criteria for Temporary Housing Assistance.

Vermont Proposed Rule: 23E11

AGENCY: Agency of Human Services

CONCISE SUMMARY: Temporary housing assistance under the General Assistance program provides up to 84 or 28 days of housing in a hotel or motel. Households that are without housing due to a catastrophic situation may be eligible for up to 84 days. Households that are ineligible under catastrophic criteria may be eligible for up to 28 days if the household has a member belonging to a vulnerable population. This rule maintains categorical eligibility for 28 days of housing for families with children under 18 years of age or who are 18 or 19 years of age and attending school, as initially established in 23-E05. This rule also maintains the update to the basic needs standard chart in rule 2652.4 and the methodology for calculating the 30 percent income contribution in rule 2652.4, as initially established in 23-E05. This rule adds language addressing lodging licensing violations. Criteria related to the Act 81 transition benefit are not included in this rule and will be included in a separate emergency rule.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT: Heidi Moreau, Agency of Human Services, Department for Children and Families 280 State Drive, NOB 1 North, Waterbury, VT 05671 Tel: 802-595-9639 E-Mail: heidi.moreau@vermont.gov URL: <https://dcf.vermont.gov/esd/laws-rules/current>.

FOR COPIES: Jennifer Myka, Agency of Human Services, Department for Children and Families 280 State Drive, NOB 1 North, Waterbury, VT 05671 Tel: 802-798-9824 E-Mail: jennifer.myka@vermont.gov.

Emergency Housing Transition Benefit.

Vermont Proposed Rule: 23E12

AGENCY: Agency of Human Services

CONCISE SUMMARY: Act 81 established an emergency housing transition benefit that provides continued housing in a hotel or motel for households that were housed through the pandemic-era General Assistance Emergency Housing Program as of June 30, 2023. Under Act 81, the transition benefit ends April 1, 2024. This emergency rule maintains the eligibility criteria initially established in 23-E05, with the following changes: 1) language clarifying that a household must accept and maintain a hotel or motel housing placement for the duration of the eligibility reassessment period to maintain eligibility for the transition benefit; 2) not including "upon expiration of the eligibility reassessment period" from rule 2652.5(D)(i) to align with the requirement in Act 81 that eligibility terminate upon noncompliance with the criteria established in the Act; 3) new definition of misconduct; 4) language addressing hospital-level care and short-term alternative housing placements; and 5) language addressing notice and appeal rights.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT: Heidi Moreau, Agency of Human Services, Department for Children and Families 280 State Drive, NOB 1 North, Waterbury, VT 05671 Tel: 802-595-9639 E-Mail: heidi.moreau@vermont.gov URL: <https://dcf.vermont.gov/esd/laws-rules/current>.

FOR COPIES: Jennifer Myka, Agency of Human Services, Department for Children and Families 280 State Drive, NOB 1 North, Waterbury, VT 05671 Tel: 802-798-9824 E-Mail: jennifer.myka@vermont.gov.

Independent School Program Approval Rules.

Vermont Proposed Rule: 23P037

AGENCY: Agency of Education / Vermont Board of Education

CONCISE SUMMARY: The proposed amendments to the Independent School Program Approval Rules are designed to incorporate the principles and goals of Act No.1 (2019), seeking to ensure that schools (1) promote critical thinking regarding the history, contributions, and perspectives of ethnic and social groups; (2) include instructional materials and methods to enable students to explore and understand questions of identity and membership in ethnic and social groups, race equality, and racism; and (3) facilitate welcoming environments for all students without bias or exclusion. These amendments also establish a method for recognizing school accrediting agencies, create an annual compliance assurance requirement for approved schools, require a method for evaluating whether an approved school is compliant with nondiscrimination requirements, clarify the process for accredited and non-accredited schools to apply and become approved, and reorganize the order of the rules for clarity and to align sequentially with the steps for independent school approval and reapproval.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT: Jennifer Deck Samuelson, State Board of Education 1 National Life Drive Davis 5, Montpelier, VT 05602-2501 Tel: 802-828-0047 Fax: 802-828-6430 E-Mail: SBE.PublicComment@vermont.gov URL: <https://education.vermont.gov/state-board-councils/state-board/rulemaking>.

FOR COPIES: Sarah Buxton, Special Counsel - State Board of Education, 44 East State Street, Montpelier, VT 05602 Tel: 802-223-1112 Fax: 802-223-6225 E-Mail: sarah@tarrantgillies.com.

Children's Personal Care Services.

Vermont Proposed Rule: 23P038

AGENCY: Agency of Human Services, Department of Health

CONCISE SUMMARY: The rule sets forth the criteria for Medicaid coverage and reimbursement for Children's Personal Care Services (CPCS) under Vermont's Medicaid program. This rule revises and replaces current Medicaid covered services rule 4.233. The proposed amendments include the following: 1) Implements payment to legally responsible individuals for providing children's personal care services authorized under Vermont's Medicaid program. This was put in place as a temporary option during the public health emergency caused by COVID-19. It became a permanent option after the Vermont Medicaid program obtained the necessary 1115 Global Commitment to Health Waiver authority to continue payment to legally responsible individuals beyond the end of the public health emergency. 2) Implements the Electronic Visit Verification (EVV) tool for all CPCS providers as mandated by Medicaid through the 21st Century Cures Act. 3) Modifies the rule for clarity by defining program practices.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT: Natalie Weill, Vermont Department of Health, 108 Cherry Street, Burlington, VT 05401 Tel: 802-863-7280 Fax: 802-951-1275 E-Mail: ahs.vdhrules@vermont.gov. URL: <https://www.healthvermont.gov/laws-regulations/laws/public-comment>.

FOR COPIES: Brendan Atwood, Vermont Department of Health, 108 Cherry Street, Burlington, VT 05401 Tel: 802-863-7280 Fax: 802-951-1275 E-Mail: ahs.vdhrules@vermont.gov

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
OF THE
ORWELL PLANNING COMMISSION

PURPOSE: TO RECEIVE PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE REVISIONS OF THE TOWN PLAN

DATE: THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2023 AT 7:00 PM

LOCATION: ORWELL TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE, 436 MAIN ST., ORWELL, VT 05760

PURSUANT to 24 VSA §4384, the Orwell Planning Commission is charged with preparing or amending the town plan for the municipality. Accordingly, the Planning Commission must hold at least one public hearing within the municipality, after issuing public notice.

This **PUBLIC NOTICE** is to notify any interested person that the Orwell Planning Commission will hold a Public Hearing to receive public comment, consider revisions and approvals, and schedule submission to the Orwell Select Board. If adopted, the draft Town Plan would replace the current town plan, which is presently expired.

Under provisions of 24 VSA §4384, a copy of the drafted town plan is available for review in the Town Clerk's Office, and may be viewed on the Town of Orwell website at <https://www.townoforwellvt.org>

DATED in Orwell, Vermont this 16th day of October, 2023.

Joseph Andriano, Chair
Orwell Planning Commission

TOWN OF MIDDLEBURY
NOTICE OF PROPOSED CONVEYANCE

In accordance with 24 V.S.A. § 1061, the Middlebury Selectboard hereby gives notice of the proposed terms of conveyance of a private sanitary sewer easement in perpetuity, from the Town of Middlebury (the "Town") to the Raymond C. Churchill Family Trust and the Teresa F. Churchill Family Trust (the "Grantees"). The easement will apply to Town property (the "Town Parcel") located on Chipman Hill northerly and easterly of the Grantee's property located at 1 Forrest Lane in Middlebury, Vermont.

The proposed terms of the transaction are as follows:

1. A permanent easement and right-of-way given by the Town to the Grantee to construct, maintain, inspect, and repair private sanitary sewer lines, together with sewer clean outs and all appurtenances (collectively referred to as "sanitary sewer"), upon, over and under the Town Parcel, for the benefit of the Grantees' property at 1 Forrest Lane.
2. The Town, its successors, and assigns, shall have the right to make use of the Easement Area such as shall not be inconsistent with or interfere with the rights granted under the Easement Deed.
3. Grantees will agree to repair any land disturbance and to replace such land to a reasonable condition as it was before such disturbance, notwithstanding any permanent disturbances created by the sanitary sewer.
4. All terms and conditions of the Easement Agreement shall be binding on and inure to the benefit of the parties, and their heirs, successors, and assigns.
5. The purchase price of this sanitary sewer Easement Agreement shall be \$1,000 (One Thousand Dollars). In addition, the Grantees will be responsible for all for all taxes, recording fees, Town Attorney fees, surveyors' fees, permit fees, costs of notice publication, and any other expenses associated with this transaction.

This notice will be posted in three public places in the Town of Middlebury (the Municipal Building, the Post Office, and the Ilsley Public Library). Notice shall also be published in the Addison Independent, a newspaper of general circulation within the municipality, at least 30 days prior to the date of the proposed conveyance. Unless a petition objecting to the conveyance is filed in accordance with 24 V.S.A. § 1061(2), the Selectboard may proceed with the conveyance.

If a petition signed by five percent of the legal voters of the municipality objecting to the proposed conveyance is presented to the municipal clerk within 30 days of the date of posting and publication of this notice, the Selectboard shall cause the question of whether the municipality shall convey the easement to be considered at a special or annual meeting called for that purpose. After the meeting, the easement may be conveyed unless a majority of the voters of the municipality present and voting vote to disapprove of the conveyance.

Middlebury Selectboard
October 26, 2023

CITY OF VERGENNES
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the Vergennes City Council will hold two public hearings to hear public comments on the following proposed amendment to the Municipal Development Plan: Pursuant to 24 V.S.A. §4385, the City Council proposes to amend Section 7.2.8 Northern Gateway District (NG) of the Municipal Development Plan to modify the limitation on ground-floor residential uses in buildings which do not have direct access to Main Street by amending this section to read: "Residential uses are prohibited at the ground level in **buildings within 300 feet of the edge of the public right of way.**"

The first meeting will be held **Tuesday, November 14, 2023**, at 5:45 P.M. The second meeting will be held on **Tuesday, November 28, 2023**, at 5:45 P.M. Both meetings will be hybrid meetings, in person at the Vergennes Fire Station, 50 Green Street, Vergennes or through Zoom by computer at <https://zoom.us/j/561577976> or by phone at 1 (312) 626-6799. Meeting ID: 561 577 976. Meeting Password: 1234

A copy of the Plan is available for public review in the City Clerk's Office, or by contacting Peter Garon, Zoning Administrator at pgaron@vergennes.org.

October 17, 2023
Ron Redmond, City Manager

TOWN OF WEYBRIDGE
PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE (IN PERSON AND ONLINE)
PLANNING COMMISSION

A public hearing before the Weybridge Planning Commission will be held in person and via Zoom at the Weybridge Town Office on Tuesday, November 14, 2023, at 7:00 PM, to pursue the following business:

To consider the request of John D. and Katherine T. Feldman to adjust the boundary between their lands and those belonging to Aleta Sisson on Snake Mountain Road.

Persons wishing to be heard at this Public Meeting may do so in person or may be represented at the meeting by a licensed Vermont Attorney or an authorized agent; please note that in accordance with Chapter 117, Section 4464 of the Vermont statutes that participation in the Public Meeting is a prerequisite to the right to take subsequent appeal.

The full application and sketch plan can be viewed at the Town Clerk's Office – call 545-2270 for access instructions. Please call or email jjwolson23@gmail.com or clerk@townofweybridge.org for instructions on participating in the hearing via Zoom.

Jeff Olson, Chair
Weybridge Planning Commission

CITY OF VERGENNES
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the Development Review Board will hold a public hearing on November 20, 2023, as the first item of new business, for the following purpose:

To consider site plan and conditional use review for application #2023-42 by Ting Lee and Zhen Ting for a change of use to add office use to the property at 10 Main Street. Reviews will consider Article VII, Article VIII, and Section 1612.

Please note that the hearing will be held as a "hybrid meeting", with participation either in person, by Zoom, or by phone. The in-person meeting will be held in the conference room at City Hall.

Join by computer: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85906470948>, meeting password: 656417.

Join by phone: Dial 1 (929) 205-6099; Meeting ID: 859 0647 0948; Meeting Passcode: 656417.

For participants joining by phone:

To raise your hand during the meeting, press *9.

To mute/unmute during the meeting, press *6

If you experience any difficulty in accessing this meeting, contact Zoning Administrator Peter Garon at 802-377-9527.

You must participate in the public hearing either in person or in writing, in order to take any subsequent appeal. The City of Vergennes is an "on the record" appeal municipality with regard to appeals to Environmental Court from Development Review Board decisions. This means that the Environmental Court shall only consider testimony or information provided during public hearings on the application. Interested parties should therefore assure that their participation in the public hearing proceedings is complete and represents the totality of their desired considerations.

A copy of the application is available for public review by contacting Peter Garon at pgaron@vergennes.org.

October 17, 2023
Peter Garon
Administrative Officer

ARTS + LEISURE

The Addison Independent

October 26, 2023



Sixteen teams at Porter Medical Center participated in this year's scarecrow contest, led by Sharon Meacham (pictured below) and the Mission Possible Committee. See all 16 scarecrows at addisonindependent.com.

INDEPENDENT PHOTOS / STEVE JAMES

Creative caregivers craft scarecrows

If you haven't already been frightened by faux cobwebs with gargantuan arachnids tangled on neighborhood yew bushes, monstrous skeletons looming over driveways, or spooky masks lurking in shadowy trees... brace yourself, because Halloween is right around the corner, and the decorations on display around here teeter on terrifying.

BY ELSIE

LYNN PARINI

If all that scary stuff just isn't for you, steer clear and get

into the Halloween spirit by celebrating the work that 16 teams at Porter Medical Center put into their second annual scarecrow contest. The 16 not-terribly-spooky scarecrows are on display at the Helen Porter Rehabilitation & Nursing skilled nursing facility.

"Our Mission Possible Employee Committee decided to hold a scarecrow making contest for

the first time last year," explained Amy Bodette Barr, director of development on the UVM Health Network's Middlebury campus.

The Mission Possible Employee Committee facilitates "fun team building activities among staff, as well as encourages donations to the Mission Possible Club, which supports employee crisis grants as well as other small projects within our organization that make a difference for patients, Helen Porter residents and each other," Barr added.

Over the past 12 months, the Mission Possible Club has raised more than \$12,000

thanks to the donations of 175 staff members who enrolled in payroll deductions or gave one-time gifts. So far, the funds have been used to support 13 employees who applied for employee crisis grants when they were experiencing financial hardships. This coming year, 25% of the money raised will replenish the employee crisis fund and 75% will support project ideas that staff members suggest.

Sharon Meacham, clinical quality and patient safety nurse at Porter, suggested the scarecrow contest last year.



"I figured it was a simple thing
SEE SCARE ON PAGE 3

Local director takes on another creative role

The Vermont Creative Network (VCN) — a statewide collective representing Vermont's creative sector — welcomes two new Zone Agents who will lead the work of VCN regionally: Corinna Thurston of the Chittenden County Zone and Lisa Mitchell of the Addison/Rutland Zone.

An initiative of the Vermont Arts Council, the VCN encompasses organizations, businesses, and individuals working to elevate Vermont's creative sector, which comprises jobs in seven areas: design; the visual arts and fine crafts; specialty foods; performing arts; film and media; literary arts; and culture and heritage. At the grassroots level, the VCN comprises six geographic regions or "Creative Zones" in Vermont. Zone activities and projects are managed by Zone Agents in collaboration with a self-governed leadership team of diverse regional voices.

Established by the Vermont Legislature in 2016, the VCN facilitates advocacy, research, and networking to achieve its vision: that arts, culture, and creativity are essential Vermont infrastructure; Vermont communities thrive through creative expression and enterprise; and creative enterprises success in a diverse, equitable, connected, and collaborative environment. The vision is operationalized in the award-winning CreateVT Action Plan.

In 2021, arts and culture contributed nearly \$1.1 billion to the Vermont economy, ranking a close third behind retail and construction, according to the federal Bureau of Economic Analysis.

Both Thurston and Mitchell are longtime creative sector advocates.

Thurston is the executive director of the Milton Artists' Guild, a community hub and



Lisa Mitchell was recently named the Addison/Rutland Zone Agent for the Vermont Creative Network.

PHOTO / ELISABETH WALLER PHOTOGRAPHY

support network for creative individuals in the Chittenden County Zone. The Guild offers workshops, classes, exhibitions in its Gallery space, and a community meeting place for artists in Milton and beyond. As a professional artist, Thurston specializes in vibrant, detailed pencil drawings of wildlife and domestic animals. She is also an entrepreneur, speaker, author, business consultant, and wildlife conservationist.

"As I meet with creatives of all kinds — musicians, poets, visual artists, performers, graphic designers, fabric artists, and more — I am excited to help bring together creatives from all different backgrounds to work toward a bigger picture. I am constantly in awe of the

"BUILDING OUR COLLECTIVE STRENGTH AS A SECTOR IS THE SECRET SAUCE OF UNLEASHING COUNTLESS CULTURAL AND ECONOMIC GAINS."

— Lisa Mitchell

depth of creative talent in our state and thrilled to be able to play a bigger role in the research, networking, and advocacy for the creative sector, not only as executive director for the Milton Artists' Guild, but now in this role as Chittenden County Zone Agent," Thurston said.

Mitchell is the executive director of the Town Hall Theater in Middlebury, a restored and unique venue that offers a spacious hall for performances and gatherings of all kinds, in addition to the Jackson Gallery and Byers Studio downstairs. Experienced in multidisciplinary arts and event producing, as well as communications and management at the local and national levels, Mitchell works to expand the array of voices in the creative sector and create an accessible, inclusive space for all.

"Addison and Rutland Counties offer an incredible collection of creative minds and artists of every kind. It's an honor to work in the arts, have the joyful opportunity to showcase talent, and to exchange ideas with statewide leaders through Vermont's Creative Network. Being a creative collaborator and building our collective strength as a sector is the secret sauce of unleashing countless cultural and economic gains," Mitchell said.

For more information about the Vermont Creative Network, visit vermontcreativenetwork.org.

Little City Gala raises funds for elementary students

Vergennes Union Elementary School Community Group will host its annual "Little City Gala" on Saturday, Nov. 4 to benefit the school. This year the theme is "Back to the 80s." The event will kick off at 7 p.m. at the Eagles Club in Vergennes.

Dress to impress because the two best dressed attendees will be crowned the "Little City Royals" and each win a \$100 gift card to a local restaurant.

Tickets to the gala are \$35 each, and may be

purchased with cash at the door, or ahead of time at eventbrite.com/e/little-city-gala-back-to-the-80s-tickets-726372288067.

DJ Bruce Zeman, of 92.1, will be the emcee for the evening. There will be a cash bar and a big '80s inspired snack table with foods donated by local restaurants and businesses.

There will be a cash only bag raffle with prizes including: \$200 cash, Adult & Child season passes to Field Days 2024, key chains from Danforth Pewter, passes to Echo and

Shelburne Farms as well as many gift cards to local restaurants. Door prize is a one night stay at Middlebury Inn & \$100 Mister Ups gift card.

The students of VUES have been working hard to create all of the '80s themed decorations in support of this fundraiser; which will help achieve the goal of funding field trips, hosting family events and providing curriculum enrichment for the students, teachers and families of VUES.

SCARE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

allow them to vote for their favorite scarecrow," said Meacham, who also chairs the employee development committee. "I wanted people to be able to connect with Helen Porter and the amazing residents that we care for on our campus. There are some employees who had never been to Helen Porter so this was an easy way to let them come in and see the courtyard and set up their scarecrow."

The success of last year's scarecrow contest surprised Meacham.

"I never thought that we would get as much participation as we did," she said. "Last year we had 17 teams participate in building a scarecrow. The scarecrows were so loved that the residents asked on several occasions when we were going to do it again."

Naturally when the time came again to plan a fall festivity, "it was a given that the scarecrow contest needed to be the center of the fun," Meacham said.

"Sure enough, it was a hit again this year," Barr exclaimed. "Sixteen departments created some very impressive scarecrows!"

"This year the Mission Possible Committee provided 'Mystery Items' that included a Halloween wig, google eyes and gloves," Meacham said.

"The teams were given instruction that all the items needed to be included in the scarecrow but could be repurposed."

"Our scarecrow looks mostly like an alien," said Danielle Rheume, who works as the general surgery lead coordinator at Porter Medical Center. "If anyone has seen the movie 'E.T. The Extra-Terrestrial' You'll likely see the resemblance."

Rheume sculpted the head out of clay and was close to disaster when the clay began to crack.

"Dr. Davis quickly came to the rescue and helped heal his wounds," Rheume said.

and we could include the residents at Helen Porter in on the fun and

"It is amazing that we managed to pull this off — the face was almost split in half. All E.T. needed was some extra support, acceptance, and care from everyone.

"I am excited to do anything that allows me to think creatively," Rheume added. "It's therapeutic for me. I also enjoy making other people smile, which makes this my favorite work-related activity."

"It's important to offer ways for employees to connect and have fun, but it can be hard for medical center staff to participate in traditional full-staff team-building activities because so many employees are busy caring for patients and can't step away to join in," Barr said. "I suspect the scarecrow contest is so popular because folks can build their scarecrows either while they're at home, or as a team while they're at work, bit by bit, during breaks."

Jamie Armstrong and Susan Stocker worked together to build the "Tired Mom" scarecrow, which took second place in the competition.

"I AM EXCITED TO DO ANYTHING THAT ALLOWS ME TO THINK CREATIVELY.

(MAKING A SCARECROW) IS THERAPEUTIC FOR ME. I ALSO ENJOY MAKING OTHER PEOPLE SMILE."

— Danielle Rheume,
creator of the "ET" scarecrow.

"Sue did all the woodwork, and I did all the sewing, then we put it all together," explained Armstrong, who works as a lab assistant and is the mother of three. "We wanted to make something that people could relate to."

Armstrong said she tries to participate in all the work-fun. "The patients love it," she said. "So whenever there's an event like this, I take advantage of it and try to go all out."

As a Christmas enthusiast, Armstrong typically dresses in Noel-spirited attire at Halloween; but this year she'll be dressed up as Shrek, with Stocker

by her side as Fiona, and the rest of their department in supporting roles.

Why go to the extra effort?

"I'd do anything to make people happy," Armstrong said simply.

"Each morning I was met with smiles and excitement from residents who were so impressed by the time and creativity that staff put into the scarecrows," Meacham said. "I never thought that a scarecrow contest would be as popular as it has become. It has been a total hit and will continue to be a fun event that we host every fall."

SEE CROWS ON PAGE 4

ARTS



November 3 ■ 8:00 PM

Cocoon

A live storytelling event inspired by the Moth

\$15/10/8/5



November 9 and 10 ■ 7:30 PM
November 11 ■ 2:00 PM

INSPIRIT Dance:
What We Ask of Flesh

\$25/20/10/5



November 11 ■ 7:30 PM

Danish String Quartet

\$25/20/10/5

802-443-MIDD (6433)

go.middlebury.edu/arts



FILM SCREENING

Creepy haunted house silent film thriller to screen in Brandon, Oct. 27

DETAILS

FRIDAY, OCT. 27
7 P.M.

BRANDON TOWN HALL
"THE CAT AND THE CANARY"
SILENT FILM

"The Cat and the Canary" (1927), a haunted house thriller from Hollywood's silent film era, will be screened with live music on Friday, Oct. 27 at 7 p.m., at the Brandon Town Hall and Community Center, Route 7, in Brandon.

All are welcome to this family-friendly movie. Admission is free, with free will donations accepted in support of ongoing Town Hall renovations.

The screening, the latest in the venue's silent film series, will feature live accompaniment by Jeff Rapsis, a New Hampshire-based composer who specializes in creating music for silent films.

Note that this program takes place on a Friday, rather than the usual Saturday night for most Brandon Town Hall silent film programs.

"The Cat and the Canary" stands as the original movie thriller — the first picture to feature the reading of a will in a haunted mansion complete with clutching hands, a masked killer, disappearing bodies, and secret passageways.

Silent film starlet Laura LaPlante leads the cast as a young heiress who must spend the night in the creepy old mansion, which is filled with relatives who all have motives to frighten her out of her wits. Meanwhile, a dangerous escaped lunatic is loose on the grounds. Can she and the others make it through the night?

Created for Universal Pictures by German filmmaker Paul Leni and based on a hit stage play, "The Cat and the Canary" proved popular enough to inspire several remakes, including one starring Bob Hope. It was also the forerunner of all the great Universal horror classics of the 1930s and '40s.



Laura LaPlante stars in "The Cat and the Canary" (1927), a haunted house thriller from Hollywood's silent era, to be screened with live music on Friday, Oct. 27 at 7 p.m., at the Brandon Town Hall and Community Center, Route 7, in Brandon. Admission is free, with free will donations accepted in support of ongoing Town Hall renovations. For more info, visit brandontownhall.com.

The Brandon Town Hall screening will use a fully restored print that shows the film as audiences would have originally experienced it. "The Cat and the Canary" will be accompanied by live music by New Hampshire composer Rapsis, who specializes in silent film scoring.

Rapsis will improvise the score on the spot during the screening.

Critics praise the original "Cat and the Canary" for its wild visual design and cutting edge cinematography.

Next up in Brandon Town Hall's silent film series will be:

SATURDAY, NOV. 11, 7 P.M.

"The Big Parade" (1925) starring John Gilbert. We salute Veterans Day with this sweeping saga about U.S. doughboys signing up and shipping off to France in 1917, where they face experiences that will change their lives forever — if they return. MGM blockbuster directed by King Vidor; one of the biggest box office triumphs of the silent era. Sponsored by Donald and Dolores Furnari; Jeanette Devino; and Lorrie Byrom.

CROWS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

The residents at Helen Porter voted on the top three scarecrows this year. The winner was "The Three Blind Mice" by Chelsea Hescocock in the Education

department. Second place went to the "Tired Mom," by Armstrong and Stocker; and in third

place was "Florence Nightingale" by Linda Havey in the Nursing Leadership department.

"I just love a project that checks so many boxes," Barr said. "Our scarecrow contest allows our staff to be creative while having fun, it offers some friendly competition, and provides entertainment for the residents of Helen Porter who get to enjoy looking at the scarecrows. Who knew caregivers could be so creative!"

"Tired Mom" was crafted by Jamie Armstrong and Susan Stocker for this year's scarecrow contest at Porter Medical Center.

INDEPENDENT PHOTO /
STEVE JAMES



ART ON EXHIBIT

ART ON MAIN

25 Main St, Bristol

Visit artonmainvt.com or call 802-453-4032 for more info.

Encaustic painting and digital collage by Dominique Gustin of St Johnsbury and ceramics by Bristol potter Matlakwauhti Mayforth. Detailed imagery from both master artists suggests myth, tradition and whimsy. Whether on the intricate masks and vessels of Mayforth or the gold-embellished Bird Saints of Gustin, the imagination is invited in. On view through Nov. 8.

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. 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.

"Simple Matters," a solo exhibition of new work by Kathryn Milillo, featuring Vermont's rolling hills and interwoven fields and forests have a quiet rhythmic beauty. On view Oct. 3-Nov. 15.

JACKSON GALLERY

68 S Pleasant St, Middlebury

Visit townhalltheater.org/jackson-gallery or call 802-382-9222 for more info.

"Extraordinary Ordinary," a solo exhibit of portraits and landscapes by Ripton artist Molly Hawley. On view now through Nov. 4.

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

SEE EXHIBITS ON PAGE 15

Cosmic Forecast

ARIES: March 21/April 20. Aries, beware of misinformation and make an effort to form your own educated opinion. Take everything with a grain of salt and verify the facts.

TAURUS: April 21/May 21. If someone is struggling right now, show some support or offer helpful words, Taurus. A small gesture can go a long way, even if you do not think it will have a major impact.

GEMINI: May 22/June 21. Gemini, if you are feeling out of sorts in a situation or do not know how to proceed, ask someone who has been in this situation before. It never hurts to ask for help.

CANCER: June 22/July 22. It is time to balance the energy between yourself and another person that has felt cumbersome, Cancer. Start with a conversation and discover if the other party is feeling the same way.

LEO: July 23/Aug. 23. Leo, when you are full of self-confidence, others' actions do not bother you much. Those people can be arrogant or even abrasive and you'll be comfortable in your skin.

VIRGO: Aug. 24/Sept. 22. Virgo, ambition may be good for the workplace, but you need it in your personal life as well. Figure out some goals on a personal or even romantic level, and get started.

LIBRA: Sept. 23/Oct. 23. Be aware of someone who is trying to take advantage of you, Libra. Remind that person that you have strict limits. Never get pushed in a direction you do not want to go.

SCORPIO: Oct. 24/Nov. 22. Scorpio, you do not have to change your plans or ambitions to what others want. Stick with your own ideas and goals and you'll be surprised at what you can accomplish.

SAGITTARIUS: Nov. 23/Dec. 21. A friend might want to sell you on some big idea this week, Sagittarius. It may ultimately prove a sound venture, but you need to do your own research and figure things out for yourself.

CAPRICORN: Dec. 22/Jan. 20. Surround yourself with the best friends you can find, Capricorn. These people will have your back when a tricky situation pops up sooner than you might think.

AQUARIUS: Jan. 21/Feb. 18. Aquarius, embrace any challenges that arise in the days ahead. You can be successful if you maintain your focus and prevent distractions from blocking your path forward.

PISCES: Feb. 19/March 20. Pisces, if everyone seems to be moving at a faster pace than you, you may feel pressured to speed up. Just keep working at a rate that is comfortable for you.

Fall yarn sale this weekend!

Tues-Thurs 11am-5pm
Fri 11-7pm, Sat 10am-5pm
Sun 12-4pm • Closed Mon

HERMIT THRUSH
FIBER CO. 25a Main St.
BRISTOL • VT

453-7799
hermitthrushfiberco.com



Middlebury FLORAL & GIFTS

Friendly Service! Convenient Location!

Rt 7 South, Middlebury • 802-388-2800
Mon.-Fri. 9-5:30, Sat. 10-2

www.middleburyfloralandgifts.com



FREE fabric with the purchase of any in stock sewing machine.

See store for details.

QUILTERS' CORNER
MIDDLEBURY SEW-N-VAC
260 Court Street, Middlebury, Vt. 05753
802-388-3559 www.middleburysewnvac.com
OPEN: M-F 10-5 and Saturday 9:30-4



FAMOUS BIRTHDAYS

OCT. 27 — Joe Medicine Crow, Native American writer, historian and Crow Nation Chief (d)
OCT. 28 — Anne Perry, author (85)

OCT. 29 — Isao Takahata, co-founder of Studio Ghibli (d)
OCT. 30 — Louis Malle, filmmaker (d)
OCT. 31 — Katsushika Hokusai, printmaker (d)
NOV. 1 — Toni Collette, actor (51)
NOV. 2 — K. D. Lang, singer-songwriter (62)

CALENDAR

OCT. 26 - NOV. 5
2023

THURSDAY, OCT. 26

"ALFRED HITCHCOCK AND THE ART OF SUSPENSE" IN MIDDLEBURY. Thursday, Oct. 26, 6 p.m., Ilsley Public Library, 75 Main St. Film expert Rick Winston will discuss the evolution of Hitchcock's craft, exploring his favorite themes, his relationship with his collaborators, and his wry sense of humor no matter how grisly the subject matter.

ANNUAL TEEN HALLOWEEN PARTY IN MIDDLEBURY. Friday, Oct. 27, 6 p.m., Isley Public Library, 75 Main St. For the scary movie fans, we will be showing "A Quiet Place" (rated PG-13). Looking for something less spooky? Come for the games.

"GREEK TRAGEDY" ON STAGE IN MIDDLEBURY. Thursday, Oct. 26, 7:30 p.m., Wright Memorial Theatre, Chateau Rd. Middlebury College Theatre Presents this play by Lia Romeo, a new, dark comedy, chronicling the relationship between Anna, a famous and fabulous Instagram influencer, and her drab best friend, Jennifer, who just happens to be the one who's been writing all of Anna's content. When Anna spirals into addiction, Jennifer is the one who is left to tell her story — and she does it by writing this play. Tickets \$15 general public/\$12 Middlebury College faculty, staff, alumni, emeriti, and other ID card holders/\$6 Middlebury College students, available at (802) 443-MIDD (6433) or middlebury.edu/college/box-office.

FRIDAY, OCT. 27

GREEN MOUNTAIN CLUB TRAIL-WORK DAY IN RIPTON. Friday, Oct. 27. The trail crew will be out to work on any problem areas. 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 for more information at 908-595-2926. More at gmcbreadloaf.org.

SPIRITS OF ROKEYB: SPECTRAL ROOMS IN FERRISBURGH. Friday, Oct. 27, Rokeyb Museum, 4334 Route 7. Spirits is a short-form, environmental theater production drawing from historic records of 1850s séances held by the Robinson family in Ferrisburgh, and other local historic accounts. A short lecture from Museum staff about Spiritualism history in Vermont before a performance for small groups in timed slots. Actors bring the story to life and guide the audience with some participatory dramatization.

"THE CAT AND THE CANARY" SILENT FILM ON SCREEN IN BRANDON. Friday, Oct. 27 7 p.m., Brandon Town Hall, 1 Conant Sq. Can a group of distant relatives survive the night in a haunted house to learn the secret of a madman's will? Find out in the original Gothic Thriller from silent film director Paul Leni. Just in time for Halloween, a movie with deep shadows, dark secrets and a surprisingly timeless mix of humor and horror that will keep you guessing. A free will donation event.

MUSIC BY BRAHMS, DON JAMISON, FLORENCE PRICE AND PAQUITO D'RIVERA IN MIDDLEBURY. Friday, Oct. 27, 7:30 p.m., Saint Stephen's Episcopal Church 3 Main St. Vermont based clarinetist Elisabeth LeBlanc, pianist Cynthia Huard and violinist Emily Sunderman perform works by Brahms, Mozart, Florence Price, Paquito D' Rivera and Burlington based composer Don Jamison. Free concert, donations welcome.

"GREEK TRAGEDY" ON STAGE IN MIDDLEBURY. Friday, Oct. 27, 7:30 p.m., Wright Memorial Theatre, Chateau Rd. See Oct. 26 listing.

SATURDAY, OCT. 28

SPIRITS OF ROKEYB: SPECTRAL ROOMS IN FERRISBURGH. Saturday, Oct. 28, Rokeyb Museum, 4334 Route 7. See Oct. 27 listing.

"GREEK TRAGEDY" ON STAGE IN MIDDLEBURY. Saturday, Oct. 28, 2 and 7:30 p.m., Wright Memorial Theatre, Chateau Rd. See Oct. 26 listing.

ILSLEY PUBLIC LIBRARY'S 3RD ANNUAL PHOTO AND VIDEO CHALLENGE DEADLINE. Saturday, Oct. 28, 4 p.m., ilsleypubliclibrary.org. Submit your photo or video (digital submissions only). This year's theme is Generations — Generations can be people but it can also be more. Use your imagination and creativity. More info at ilsleypubliclibrary.org.

"STORIES FROM THE HEART: HONORING SPIRITS WHO HAVE LEFT THIS WORLD" IN MIDDLEBURY. Saturday, Oct. 28, 6:30-8 p.m., St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, 3 Main St. Porter Medical Center's Palliative Support Services invites the public to hear Five brave storytellers sharing their stories of loss, grief, and healing. More info and registration at tinyurl.com/Stories-heart-st-stephens.

"KING PEDE" CARD PARTY IN FERRISBURGH. Sat., Oct 28, 6:30 p.m., Ferrisburgh Town Hall and Community Center, 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 DIRT" STORYTELLING EVENT IN ORWELL. Saturday, Oct. 28, 7 p.m. Orwell Free Library, 473 Main St. Tell a story from Orwell-of-old. Tell a story from Orwell's past — five

years or 50. Each storyteller has 7 minutes. No notes allowed. Interested in telling a story? Visit themoth.org/code-of-ethics-and-conduct to learn more about what we expect and themoth.org/share-your-story/storytelling-tips-tricks to learn a little about how to tell your story. Refreshments.

MICHELE FAY BAND IN BRANDON. Saturday, Oct. 28, 7 p.m., Brandon Town Hall, 1 Conant Sq. The Michele Fay Band features original and Americana music that brings forth a comfortable groove of folk, swing and bluegrass-influenced songs that are woven seamlessly together. The songs are energetic, unpretentious, and appeal to a wide range of audiences. Tickets \$8 adults/\$6 seniors and students.

"HOW TO TRAIN YOUR DRAGON" ON SCREEN IN BRISTOL. Saturday, Oct. 28, 7 p.m., Bristol Town Green. Part of Bristol Rec's Movies in the Park After Dark. Free. Rain location Holley Hall.

HOUSE CONCERT WITH VA-ET-VIENT IN MIDDLEBURY. Saturday, Oct. 28, 7-9 p.m., Smith home. Local female trio "Va-et-Vient" will play a house concert of Quebecois, French and Cajun tunes at the Smith's home in Middlebury. Suggested donation is \$20 or more (cash please). All proceeds go to the artists. RSVP to bluebirdstudio46@gmail.com for more details and to claim a spot. Carpooling is encouraged as parking is limited.

SUNDAY, OCT. 29

SPOOKTACULAR AND HALLOWEEN DANCE PARTY IN MIDDLEBURY. Sunday, Oct. 29, 1-4:30 p.m., downtown. Transform into your wildest beast or your favorite superhero and trick or treat around downtown. Volunteers

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

MCTV SCHEDULE Channels 1071 & 1091		MIDDLEBURY COMMUNITY TELEVISION: P.O. Box 785, Middlebury, Vt. 05753		Please see the MCTV website, www.middleburycommunitytv.org, for changes in the schedule; MCTV events, classes and news; and to view many programs online. Submit listings to the above address, or call 388-3062.	
MCTV Channel 1071 Friday, October 27 Through the Night: Public Affairs 4 a.m. Selectboard 7:30 a.m. Congregational Church 9 a.m. Energy Week 10 a.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs 4 p.m. Memorial Baptist Church 5:30 p.m. Public Affairs 9 p.m. Dr. John Campbell Saturday, October 28 Through the Night: Public Affairs 6:30 a.m. Energy Week 7:30 a.m. Public Health In Vermont 10 a.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs 2:30 p.m. Public Health In Vermont 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. Public Affairs 11 p.m. Dr. John Campbell Sunday, October 29 Through the Night: Public Affairs 5:30 a.m. Dr. John Campbell 9 a.m. Catholic Mass 10 a.m. Energy Week 11 a.m. Memorial Baptist Service 12:30 p.m. Selectboard 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. Public Affairs Monday, October 30 Through the Night: Public Affairs 5 a.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs 10 a.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs 3:30 p.m. Dr. John Campbell 8 p.m. Public Health In Vermont 9:30 p.m. Eckankar 10 p.m. Dr. John Campbell Tuesday, October 31 Through the Night: Public Affairs 5 a.m. Selectboard 8:30 a.m. Energy Week 9:30 a.m. Eckankar 10 a.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs 4 p.m. Congregational Service 7 p.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs Wednesday, November 1 Through the Night: Public Affairs 4:30 a.m. Dr. John Campbell 6:30 a.m. Energy Week 7:30 a.m. Memorial Baptist Service 9:30 a.m. Catholic Mass 10 a.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs 5 p.m. Energy Week 7 p.m. Selectboard, Public Affairs	Thursday, November 2 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. Selectboard Channel 1091 10/27/2023 Friday, October 27 5 a.m. All Things LGBTQ 6 a.m. OLLI Lecture Series - Sophisticate of American Song 10 a.m. Foltz Studio Ep. 5 11 a.m. OLLI Lecture Series - The Many Variations of Medicare 5 p.m. All Things LGBTQ 6 p.m. School Board Meetings Saturday, October 28 5 a.m. What's So Great About Beethoven's 5th Symphony? 6:04 a.m. Foltz Studio Ep. 4 7 a.m. School Board Meetings 11 a.m. All Brains Belong VT 12 p.m. Foltz Studio Ep. 4 1 p.m. At the Ilsley 4 p.m. Foltz Studio Ep 5 5 p.m. The Constellations, History,	6:15 p.m. Mythology, and Identification OLLI Lecture Series - From the Parlor to the Polling Place 8 p.m. All Things LGBTQ 9 p.m. Sophisticate of American Song 11 p.m. The Many Variations of Medicare Sunday, October 29 5 a.m. All Things LGBTQ 6 a.m. Foltz Studio Ep 3 7 a.m. Foltz Studio Ep 4 8 a.m. Foltz Studio Ep 5 9 a.m. All Brains Belong VT 12 p.m. School Board Meetings 4 p.m. All Brains Belong VT 5 p.m. All Things LGBTQ 8 p.m. The Constellations Monday, October 30 5 a.m. OLLI Lecture Series - The Gideon Stoltz Novels 9 a.m. Food & Cooking Programs 10 a.m. Variations of Medicare 1 p.m. School Board Meetings 6 p.m. All Things LGBTQ 7 p.m. Foltz Studio Ep 5 8 p.m. Sophisticate of American Song 9:48 p.m. Foltz Studio Tuesday, October 31 5:30 a.m. Chair Yoga	6:30 a.m. Variations of Medicare 8 a.m. Foltz Studio Ep 2 9 a.m. Foltz Studio Ep 3 10 a.m. Foltz Studio Ep 4 11 a.m. Foltz Studio Ep 5 12 p.m. Variations of Medicare 1:30 p.m. OLLI Lecture Series 4 p.m. Yoga 5 p.m. School Board Meetings Wednesday, November 1 5 a.m. Chair Yoga 6 a.m. All Things LGBTQ 7 a.m. Gideon Stoltz Novels 8 a.m. Sophisticate of American Song 12 p.m. State Board of Education 6 p.m. School Board Meetings Thursday, November 2 5 a.m. Sophisticate of American Song 6:48 a.m. At The Ilsley 10 a.m. Yoga 11 a.m. Food & Cooking Programs 12 p.m. School Board Meetings 8 p.m. Foltz Studio Ep 5 9 p.m. All Things LGBTQ 10 p.m. Sophisticate of American Song	

will hand out candy from 1-3 p.m. Town Hall Theater will hold a Halloween Dance Party from 2:30-4:30 p.m.

TRUNK OR TREAT IN VERGENNES. Sunday, Oct. 29, 2-3 p.m., American Legion Post 14, 100 Armory Ln. Parents and community members register to bring their cars and goodies to distribute from their decorated trunk. Great for people who live out of town and don't get trick or treaters, and for anyone with ambulatory issues. To register your vehicle contact Martha DeGraaf at 802-349-0299 or email at marsulli75@gmail.com.

PUMPKINS IN THE PARK IN BRISTOL. Sunday, Oct. 29, 2-4 p.m., Bristol Town Green. Come grab a free pumpkin and help decorate the Bristol Town Green for Halloween. Free.

HALLOWEEN CELEBRATION IN NEW HAVEN. Sunday, Oct. 29, 4-6 p.m., on the town green. Come to the New town green to celebrate Halloween with Truck or Treat, crafts, activities, stories, a jack-o-lantern contest, hot cider, cocoa, cotton candy and other yummy treats.

TRUNK OR TREAT IN MONKTON. Sunday, Oct. 29, 4-5:30 p.m., Town Hall parking lot, Monkton Ridge. Come collect treats from the Monkton Friends Methodist Church and Russell Memorial Library. There will be other activities happening on the library patio. If it rains, everything will move inside. The library will be giving free books to both children and adults. If you would like to be one of the treat contributors contact Terri Fitz-Gerald at 802-453-4918 to see if there's still room.

TUESDAY, OCT. 31

"ROCKY HORROR PICTURE SHOW" IN MIDDLEBURY. Tuesday, Oct. 31, 8 p.m., Town Hall Theater, 68 S. Pleasant St. Tickets are \$16 dollars and include a participation kit that will help the audience become a part of the film. For more info visit townhalltheater.org.

HALLOWEEN PARTY IN SALISBURY. Tuesday, Oct. 31, 5:30 p.m., Salisbury Free Public Library, 918 Maple St. Come show off your costumes and enjoy free pizza, cider, and getting together at the library's annual Halloween event.

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 1

"MATISSE FROM MOMA AND TATE MODERN" ON SCREEN IN MIDDLEBURY. Wednesday, Nov. 1, 11 a.m., Town Hall Theater, 68 S Pleasant St. Filmed at both MoMA and Tate Modern, the

film reflects the preparation and exhibition of Matisse's simple but sophisticated cut-outs. Beautifully filmed footage of the exhibition is interwoven with Matisse's biography, behind-the-scenes material, and sequences featuring special guests. Tickets \$15/A Great Art Wednesday season pass \$75. More info at townhalltheater.org

POP ART PAINT NIGHT IN MIDDLEBURY. Wednesday, Nov. 1, 6 p.m., Ilsley Public Library, 75 Main St. Join us for an evening of painting. Everything you need is supplied, except your creativity and enthusiasm. Leave your self-criticism at home and get your artist on. Space is limited, please register on Adult Program page at ilsleypubliclibrary.org.

THURSDAY, NOV. 2

"DAD ROCK" ON STAGE IN MIDDLEBURY. Thursday, Nov. 2, 7:30 p.m., Hepburn Zoo, Hepburn Rd. The Middlebury College Theatre Department presents a collection of 10 scenes, songs, and monologues examining the complexities of masculinity as they affect fathers, mothers, partners, friends, and the men perpetuating them. Free. General seating — first-come-first-serve.

FRIDAY, NOV. 3

PHOTOGRAPHY OPENING RECEPTION IN MIDDLEBURY. Friday, Nov. 3, 3-7 p.m., PhotoPlace Gallery, 3 Park St. Reception for the exhibit "Poetry of the Ordinary."

"DAD ROCK" ON STAGE IN MIDDLEBURY. Friday, Nov. 3, 7:30 and 10 p.m., Hepburn Zoo, Hepburn Rd. See Nov. 2 listing.

COCOON IN MIDDLEBURY. Friday, Nov. 3, 8 p.m., Robison Hall, Mahaney Arts Center, 72 Porter Field Rd. Inspired by the popular storytelling phenomenon The Moth, Cocoon is a special evening of true stories told live and without notes. This year's edition, on the theme of "Playing the Long Game," will feature six storytellers. Stay after the show for a reception with the storytellers and organizers. Live and streaming. Tickets: \$15/10/8/5 available at go.middlebury.edu/tickets.

SATURDAY,

NOV. 4

GREEN MOUNTAIN CLUB HIKE IN MIDDLEBURY. Saturday, Nov. 4, Trail

Around Middlebury. Moderate hike of 3-5 miles (2-3 hours), route to be picked closer to date. Bring water and wear sturdy shoes. Option for lunch afterwards in downtown Middlebury. Contact leader Liana Merrill at merrill.liana@gmail.com for questions, details, or to sign up. More at gmcbreadloaf.org.

ART ON THE TRAIL IN BRISTOL. Saturday, Nov. 4, 10 a.m.-noon, Bristol Trail Network. Explore the world of nature and art journaling with BTN Artist-in-Residence Charon Henning. Bring a sketchbook with pens and/or pencils to begin your journal. Free, but registration is required. All ages and skill levels are welcome. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Email oddangelllc@gmail.com to register and for workshop location.

"BRANDON HAS TALENT" IN BRANDON. Saturday, Nov. 4, 7 p.m., Brandon Town Hall, 1 Conant Sq. It's the 9th year of Brandon's annual talent show, showcasing the multi-talented community members from Brandon and the surrounding areas. Tickets \$8 adults/\$6 Seniors/\$5 students/children 5 and under, free.

KERUBO AND HER NINE-PIECE BAND IN MIDDLEBURY. Saturday, Nov. 4, 7:30 p.m. Town Hall Theater, 68 S. Pleasant St. Kerubo wraps up Town Hall Theater's Women in Music series on the THT stage. Free. Registration required. More info at townhalltheater.org.

GINA COLEMAN AND THE MISTY BLUES BAND IN VERGENNES. Saturday, Nov. 4, 7:30 p.m., Vergennes Opera House, 120 Main St. Classic rock and folk tunes infused with a healthy dose of the blues, Misty Blues has produced ten albums. Lead singer Gina Coleman has been nominated for two Independent Blues Awards for writing songs in the Best Contemporary Blues category. Tickets \$20 advance/\$25 at the door. Doors and

cash bar open at 6:30 p.m. More info at vergennesoperahouse.org.

THE LADLES IN LINCOLN. Saturday, Nov. 4, 7:30 p.m., Burnham Hall, 52 E. River Rd. Burnham Presents welcomes the Ladles, who have three part female harmony perfected - but their sound is more than that. They are an amalgamation of their respective histories and influences. Doors open at 7 p.m. Refreshments available. Tickets \$15/\$20/\$25 or pay what you can. More info at burnhampresents.org.

"DAD ROCK" ON STAGE IN MIDDLEBURY. Saturday, Nov. 4, 7:30 p.m., Hepburn Zoo, Hepburn Rd. See Nov. 2 listing.

SUNDAY, NOV. 5

MIDDLEBURY MAPLE RUN IN MIDDLEBURY. Sunday, Nov. 5, 9 a.m., Middlebury Regional EMS, 55 Collins Dr. Take on the half-marathon, two-person relay or the 3-mile fun run, with views of the Green Mountains and Adirondacks. Half marathon has a mix of trail, paved and dirt roads. Relay and fun run are on all paved roads. USATF Certified course Swag, music on course, post-race breakfast. Form a two-person team (6.5 miles each) and compete for team honors. More info and registration at MiddleburyMapleRun.com.

"STRAIGHT WHITE MEN" STAGED READING IN MIDDLEBURY. Sunday, Nov. 5, 4 p.m., studio, Town Hall Theater, 68 S. Pleasant St. Middlebury Acting Company's 2023 Cutting Edge Staged Play Reading Series continues with this play by Young Jean Lee. When Ed and his three adult sons come together to celebrate Christmas, they enjoy cheerful trash-talking, pranks and takeout Chinese. Then they confront a problem that even being a happy family can't solve: When identity matters, and privilege is problematic, what is the value of being a straight white man?

HAPPY VALLEY ORCHARD

apples - cider - donuts - pumpkins - pomodoros pizza

FREE LIVE MUSIC

Saturday, Oct. 28

Acoustic trio playing fun and familiar Americana folk, blues and honky tonk songs.

The Rustics 2-5pm



AN EVENING OF POETRY & MUSIC WITH STEVE BRITTAIN

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 3rd @ 7PM

Gather,
48 Merchants Row, Middlebury

Steve will read from his new book of poetry, "Topping Trees," interspersed with him playing Celtic tunes on the Scottish small bagpipes and low whistle. Copies of Steve's books can be found at bloodrootmt.com

This is a free event.



GatherOnTheGreen.org
friends@GatherOnTheGreen.org

Gather is a project of
Bread Loaf Mountain Zen Community

SEE A SHOW ON STAGE

***Dad Rock:* A student-compiled performance with a classic rock twist shows Nov. 2-4**

The Middlebury College Theatre Department will present "Dad Rock." Beck Barsanti's senior thesis work in acting, directed by students Brianna Beach ('23.5), Maggie Blake ('24), and Gavin Richards ('25.5). Dad Rock is a collection of ten scenes, songs, and monologues examining the complexities of masculinity as they affect fathers, mothers, partners, friends, and the men perpetuating them.

"Dad Rock" aims to challenge the expectations our society places on male-identifying people that exist at the heart of many of the mental health crises affecting people of all ages, sexualities, and genders whether they themselves feel the pressure of these impossible expectations or are close to people who do. The four cast members each portray a certain type of character in these situations.

Barsanti plays men who embody traditional male archetype; Owen McCarthy plays men who exist outside of the male ideal; Charlotte Roberts plays powerful women who see through toxic masculinity; and Annabelle Iredale plays caregivers and loved ones.

The performance features scenes from familiar plays and newer plays audiences have yet to fall in love with, music from both contemporary Broadway musicals and nostalgic classic rock, and even a passage from Herman Melville's "Moby Dick" to create an overarching narrative of struggling people and the fears that drive them to put up emotional walls and eventually break them down. Directors Beach, Blake and Richards bring their unique areas of expertise to this project to create a dynamic, entertaining, and challenging night of scenes.

"Dad Rock" is free to attend. General seating will be available on a first-come-first-serve basis. The show will be performed in the Hepburn Zoo above Hepburn Hall on the Middlebury College Campus on Thursday, Nov. 2 at 7:30 p.m., Friday, Nov. 3 at 7:30 p.m. and 10 p.m., and Saturday, Nov. 4 at 7:30 p.m.

Content warning: "Dad Rock" contains coarse language, violence, allusions to suicide, descriptions and representations of death, alcohol and alcohol abuse, and familial abuse.

MORE SHOWS



COCOON BRINGS TRUE STORIES TO THE STAGE NOV. 3

The Mahaney Arts Center will host the live performance event Cocoon, inspired by the popular storytelling phenomenon The Moth, on Friday, Nov. 3 at Robison Hall (live and streaming). Six hand-picked storytellers will share a diverse range of stories around the theme of "Playing the Long Game." The audience is invited to a reception with the storytellers after the show.

This year's storytellers will include: Middlebury students Youness Cheboubi '24, Beckett Pintair '24.5, and Hannah Alberti '26; and Middlebury faculty and staff members Karl Lindholm, Mark Saltveit, and Raghad Sayyed. Middlebury
SEE COCOON ON PAGE 14

Middlebury Acting Company's Cutting Edge Staged Reading Series returns

Middlebury Acting Company's Cutting Edge Staged Reading Series returns, with its third and final offering this season of provocative, relevant, intelligent plays.

"Straight White Men" by Young Jean Lee, will be performed in the Byers Studio at Town Hall Theater on Sunday, Nov. 5, at 4 p.m. Admission is free (suggested donation \$10). In order to guarantee a seat, register at townhalltheater.org.

"Straight White Men" is a 2014 American play by Young Jean Lee. The play's 2018

production at the Hayes Theater made Lee the first Asian American woman to have a play produced on Broadway

When Ed, a widower, and his three adult sons come together to celebrate Christmas, they enjoy cheerful trash-talking, pranks, and takeout Chinese. None comes with wife, girlfriend, or children. The youngest, Drew, is an award-winning writer, the middle kid, Jake a swaggering hot-shot banker. Matt, the eldest, has been living with their dad for a while, working temp jobs at progressive non-profits. As the boys josh and roughhouse

they eventually confront a problem that even being a happy family can't solve: When identity matters, and privilege is problematic, what is the value of being a straight white man?

Directed by Rebecca Strum, the cast includes Gary Smith, Andrew Ritter, Andrew Castle, Johnny Viel, Cael Barkman and Serena Kim with Frankie Dunleavy reading stage directions.

Join us after the performance for refreshments and a talk-back with the cast.

FOR \$1 A WEEK...

GET THE ADDY INDY IN THE MAIL!

sign up for your subscription at
ADDISONINDEPENDENT.COM

PUZZLES

sponsored by SPARROW ART SUPPLY

ACROSS

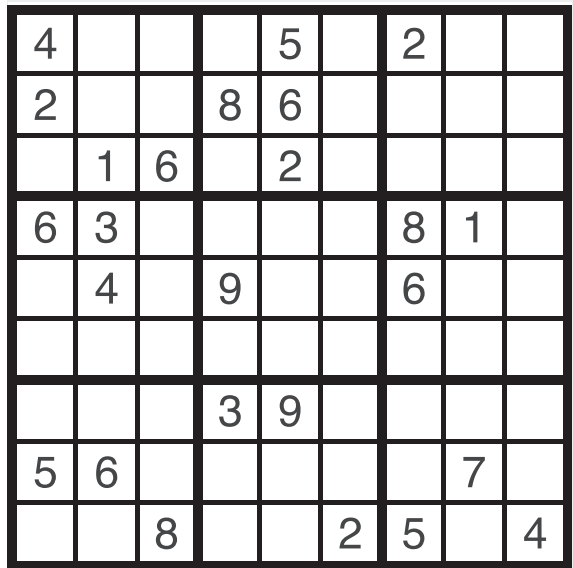
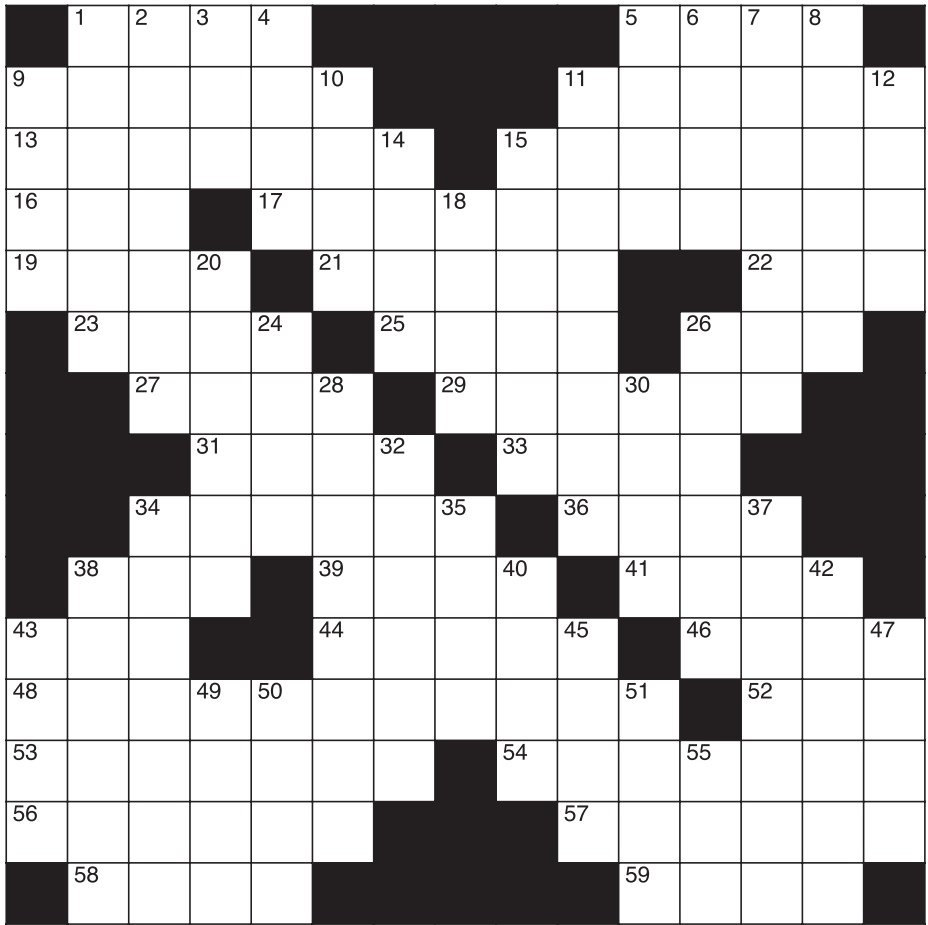
- 1. Male children
- 5. Robert Wagner series "Hart to __"
- 9. Unfolded
- 11. Digestive disease
- 13. Wednesday
- 15. Malignant tumor
- 16. Conscientious investment strategy (abbr.)
- 17. Slowed
- 19. Letter of the Semitic abjads
- 21. Weights of cars without fuel
- 22. Former CIA
- 23. Asian country
- 25. Instead
- 26. Ancient Egyptian

- King
- 27. Privies
- 29. Shopping trips
- 31. Paradoxical anecdote
- 33. It's on the table
- 34. Ancient Persia ruler
- 36. Small American rail
- 38. File extension
- 39. Days (Spanish)
- 41. Everyone has one
- 43. South American plant
- 44. About ilium
- 46. Vanished American hoopster
- Bison
- 48. A type of

- breakfast
- 52. Uncooked
- 53. Examined
- 54. Christian recluse
- 56. Strong posts
- 57. Some are for pasta
- 58. Skinny
- 59. School-based organizations

DOWN

- 1. Ringle
- 2. Type of complex
- 3. Midway between north and northwest
- 4. It becomes something bigger
- 5. German courtesy title



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

- 6. Genus of birds
- 7. Marked by public disorder
- 8. Least aggressive
- 9. Russian city
- 10. Insect repellent
- 11. Interruptions
- 12. Scoundrels
- 14. 1,000 calories
- 15. What one does overnight
- 18. Dwarf planet
- 20. Pipe
- 24. Black powdery substance
- 26. Set of four
- 28. Canned fishes
- 30. North Carolina college
- 32. Secured
- 34. A disgraceful event
- 35. Physical suffering
- 37. The home of the free
- 38. Some are boys
- 40. Satisfy
- 42. Makes very happy
- 43. South American plants
- 45. Modes of transportation
- 47. Female sheep
- 49. Type of torch
- 50. Piece of merchandise
- 51. Jump over
- 55. Wife of Amun

This week's puzzle solutions can be found on Page 13.



52 Main St
Middlebury, VT 05753
(802) 989-7225

Tuesday-Saturday
10:30 AM - 5:30 PM

info@sparrowartsupply.com
sparrowartsupply.com
@sparrowartsupply

Our online store is

OPEN!

Now browse our virtual aisles and place orders for in-store and curbside pick up!

Complete your order through our website and you'll be able to pick it up at the shop within a couple hours.

Start shopping at sparrowartsupply.com!

*Code valid through 11/11/23
Does not apply to gallery items

Use code
ADDYINDY10
for 10% off your first
online order of
art supplies!

ASK A MASTER GARDENER

PLAN A SPRING GARDEN THIS FALL

Every gardener has a fall to-do list to complete: pulling annuals, raking leaves and storing hoses and other garden tools. They aren't the most exciting tasks, but planning for your spring garden now saves time next year.

BY **DEBORAH J. BENOIT**

While you have your garden journal out to record this year's observations (see

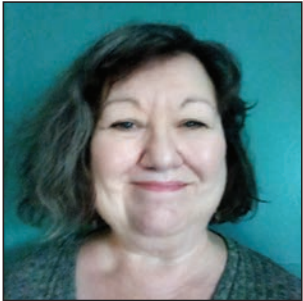
go.uvm.edu/garden-journal), do a garden inventory. Are there plants that aren't doing well that you may want to replace or try in another location? Is there a spot that's just right for a new garden bed or a place for plants on your garden wish list? The garden is full of possibilities.

If you plan on adding new beds, fall is a good

time to get started. Sheet mulching (also known as lasagna composting) will give you a head start on new garden beds in grassy or weedy areas.

By laying down cardboard or a thick layer of newspaper and covering it with mulch, the weeds or grass will be smothered over time. While this works well in the spring, starting in the fall will put you that much further ahead in the gardening game.

It seems that everywhere you look this time of year, there's a tempting display of spring-blooming bulbs for sale. Planting spring bloomers now will give you much welcomed color in early spring before the rest of the garden awakens. If planted in clumps, bulbs will provide a welcomed pop of color, while scattering them throughout existing beds will provide a subtler display.



Deborah J. Benoit is a UVM Extension Master Gardener from North Adams, Mass., who is part of the Bennington County Chapter.

Likewise, perennial flowers can be planted in fall to give them a head start to get established in advance of the next growing season. Check your local nurseries for sales on the perennials on your wish list.

This is the time to remove the remains of annual weeds (including disposing of seed heads outside the garden). Pull up perennial weeds now when they aren't actively growing. Any weed that has gone to seed should be disposed of in the trash rather than the compost pile, as should any diseased plant material.

If you don't already have a compost pile for yard waste, start one now. Even though the process will slow over the cold winter months, you'll have a head start when spring rolls around.

For more information on composting, visit the University of Vermont Extension Master Gardener Garden Resources web page at go.uvm.edu/garden-resources and click on the "Composting" tab.

Once you've cleared the weeds away, consider doing a soil test in the fall to beat the spring

SEE GARDEN ON PAGE 11



Planning a spring garden in the fall by completing tasks such as weeding, testing soil, cleaning tools and taking a garden inventory will save time next year when it's time to start the garden.

PHOTO / DEBORAH J. BENOIT



PLANT YOURSELF HERE.

Reach readers who are interested in all things gardening and advertise on this page. Contact us today.

ADS@ADDISONINDEPENDENT.COM

GARDEN

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

rush. The results can tell you the soil pH, available potassium (K), magnesium (Mg), phosphorus (P), calcium (Ca) and sulfur (S), as well as recommendations for soil amendments and other information specific to your garden. For more information on soil testing, see go.uvm.edu/soiltest.

If needed, by adding soil amendments and a layer of mulch in the fall, the garden will be ready with minimal additional work for planting in spring.

If you're interested in starting plants on your wish list from seed this year, check out available garden catalogs online, and add your name to the company's mailing list. Catalogs will arrive in time to chase the winter blues away.

Finally, instead of just storing garden tools and equipment at the end of the season, take some time to give everything a thorough cleaning. Oil and sharpen tools as needed and make note of any replacements to buy. If there's a tool you don't have, add that to your list and shop before you need it.

Spring is a busy time in the garden. By planning and doing some prep work in the fall, your garden will be as ready to go as you are come spring.



Pet of the WEEK

What is
Pet of the Week?

Here at the Addy Indy we LOVE our pets. We also love publishing here at the local newspaper. So... put them together and you get PET OF THE WEEK, where we publish the news of how fabulous your pets are for FREE!

All you have to do, dear reader with opposable thumb, is send a picture to our news team with a short description of your best buds.

Send us a picture
of your pet!

news@addisonindependent.com

Think of Agway when you think of your pets!

Proud to help you provide quality care for all of your pets,
we know your animal companions are a central part of your life!

PET FOOD

ASK ABOUT OUR **Pet Food Club**
Earn rewards for your purchases!

Quality Brands Including:

Everything you need for pet support!

TOYS & TREATS

Accessories & Grooming Supplies

Leashes • Harnesses
Collars • Clothing
Food Dishes
Storage Bins
Beds & Baskets

SELF SERVE

Brushes, shampoos, skin treatment, ointments to keep your
pets' coats healthy and problem free!

Kennels, Dog Houses & Carrying Cases

Come in and check the variety we have in stock!

Large & Small Animal Products

Feed • Supplements • Training & Grooming Supplies
Cages, Foods, Treats & Bedding
Bird food, toys and cages
Basics for fish, too!

Wild Bird Supplies

Feeders,
Seed & Suet,
Houses & Accessories.

MIDDLEBURY AGWAY

Open 7 days

338 Exchange Street, Middlebury
388-4937 • www.MiddleburyAgway.com
Mon - Fri 8-6 • Sat 8-5 • Sundays 9-4

Join our email list for preferred customer savings!

YOUR YARD, GARDEN AND PET PLACE™ • www.middleburyagway.com



Pets In Need HOMeward BOUND

Addison County's Humane Society

Capybara

Capybara is as sweet as sugar! She is a 3-month-old Teddy Bear Guinea Pig who lived with other female guinea pigs in her previous home. She has a meek, soft demeanor, and once she gets to know you, she is a big snuggle bug. She has not lived with children previously, but with a proper, gentle introduction would be a great pet for children in a home that is not too chaotic. She could also live with other guinea pig-savvy pets.



Beanie

Beanie is an adorable, plump 5-year-old who was found abandoned in an apartment. He is very affectionate and chatty when seeking attention. Beanie has lived with other cats and gets along well with them.

Riley

Riley is a goofy love bug. He was found abandoned in an apartment and is estimated to be 6 years old. We believe that Riley might have had a broken leg at some point that healed on its own, which resulted in a clear limp. He is not in pain and is fairly agile although he has trouble jumping up on things. Despite his past, Riley is super affectionate and loves to play with wand toys! He gets along well with other cats.



Andes

Andes is a 48-pound, 2-year-old German Shorthaired Pointer/Husky mix with gorgeous blue eyes. She is a former sled dog and a very active youngster. Andes is calm and sweet and can be a little shy and aloof, but loves cuddling after she has warmed up to you. Being a working dog, Andes will need time to adjust to a home setting and will need a lot of physical and mental exercise. Andes likes the company of the other dogs at the shelter.

Sugar

Sugar is a 7-year-old, 47-pound German Shorthaired Pointer/Husky mix. She is cuddly, friendly, and has a lot to say. Sugar has a big personality and is a very goofy dog. She takes her personal space seriously with other dogs and can be particular about who she wants to spend time with. Sugar is a former sled dog, but it was never really her thing since she would prefer to be a couch potato! She would be a good candidate for a home where she can be her leisurely self.



Want to learn more?

Call or check our website. We may have a pet for you!
802-388-1100 | HomewardBoundAnimals.org
236 Boardman Street | Middlebury, VT



485 QUAKER STREET, LINCOLN
\$625,000

THE HOME

A LOOK INSIDE ADDISON COUNTY HOMES FOR SALE

Farmhouse in Lincoln now *under contract*

The original charm of this vintage home together with the comfort of modern updates are perfectly blended in this tastefully updated 3 bedroom, 2 bath farmhouse nestled in a quiet Lincoln village setting with lovely mountain and meadow views. With two covered porches and lots of natural light from the home's numerous windows, you'll feel connected to the land from every part of this property. The barn, built in 2014, includes a 1 car garage, a studio/gathering space, additional finished area on the 2nd floor, and is home to the owned solar panels and 2 Tesla backup batteries. Close to hiking, river swimming, and skiing. Be sure to view the 3D tour on our website!



MLS: 4969097

This week's property is managed by The Real Estate Company of Vermont. More info at therealestatecompanyvt.com.





REAL ESTATE

The weather is cooling off but the market isn't!

Give us a call and we'll help you connect with Addison County homebuyers, sellers & professionals.

ads@addisonindependent.com

the REAL ESTATE COMPANY of VERMONT

Whether you're looking to sell or ready to buy, let one of our professional and knowledgeable agents get to work *for* YOU!



Jill Fraga
Broker/Realtor®



Danelle Birong
Broker/Realtor®



Orion Lazo
Salesperson/Realtor®



Tammy Petersen
Salesperson/Realtor®



www.theRealEstateCompanyVT.com

THREE MAIN STREET | BRISTOL, VERMONT 05443 | 802.453.6161



creative real estate solutions
IRENE POOLE, REALTOR®



COLDWELL BANKER
HICKOK & BOARDMAN

802-989-5563 | IreneVTRE.com



WALLACE REALTY

48 Mountain Terrace
Bristol, VT 05443
PH 802-453-4670 • FAX 802-453-5898
Visit our websites at:
www.wallacere.com
www.greenbuiltvermont.com



Please call Kelly, Claire, or Tom

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY



All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968 as amended which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, national origin, sexual orientation, or persons receiving public assistance, or an intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination."

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertisement for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination, call HUD Toll-free at 1-800-669-9777.



We take enormous pride in consistently outperforming the market averages - but even more importantly, our clients' expectations with a 99% satisfaction rating.

Contact us today to experience it for yourself.



Brandon | \$1,190,000
Michael Johnston
(802) 846-9518



Middlebury | \$1,190,000
Michael Johnston
(802) 846-9518



Cornwall | 575,000
Chris von Trapp
(802) 846-9525

268 Main St, Vergennes | HickokandBoardman.com | 802-863-1500

PUZZLE

SOLUTIONS OCT. 26, 2023

ADD YOUR PIECE!

BE THE NEXT SPONSOR OF THE PUZZLE PAGE.

EMAIL CHRISTY@ADDISONINDEPENDENT.COM TO FIND OUT HOW.



	S	O	N	S					H	A	R	T		
O	P	E	N	E	D				C	E	L	I	A	C
M	I	D	W	E	E	K		S	A	R	C	O	M	A
S	R	I	D	E	C	E	L	E	R	A	T	E	D	
K	A	P	H	T	A	R	E	S		O	S	S		
	L	A	O	S		L	I	E	U		T	U	T	
		L	O	O	S		S	P	R	E	E	S		
				K	O	A	N		S	A	L	T		
			S	A	T	R	A	P		S	O	R	A	
	S	C	H			D	I	A	S		N	A	M	E
O	C	A			I	L	I	A	C		D	E	L	E
C	O	N	T	I	N	E	N	T	A	L		R	A	W
A	U	D	I	T	E	D		E	R	E	M	I	T	E
S	T	A	K	E	S				S	A	U	C	E	S
	S	L	I	M						P	T	A	S	

4	8	9	1	5	3	2	6	7
2	7	5	8	6	4	3	9	1
3	1	6	7	2	9	4	5	8
6	3	2	5	4	7	8	1	9
8	4	7	9	3	1	6	2	5
9	5	1	2	8	6	7	4	3
7	2	4	3	9	5	1	8	6
5	6	3	4	1	8	9	7	2
1	9	8	6	7	2	5	3	4



MIDDLEBURY NEW LISTING!
16 LITTLE POND ROAD
MLS #4974236 | \$549,000
2 BD | 2.5 BA | 2027 SF | CONDO

Battell Hill condos have long been a desirable place to live. These townhomes are well situated to be able to take advantage of walking and biking trails as well as ease of access into town. Three floors of finished space, including two finished basement-level rooms with access to the lower level deck. Hardwood floors, built-in shelving, woodburning fireplace. Convenient layout on the 2nd level with a primary suite offering two large closets and a spacious private bath with soaking tub, double sink vanity and stall shower. Another bedroom, 3/4 bath, laundry and a storage closet round out the 2nd floor space. Attached garage and 2nd floor deck add to the appeal!



ORWELL NEW LISTING!
18 OLD FOUNDRY ROAD
MLS #4974469 | \$259,000
3 BD | 1.5 BA | 1164 SF | 10.00 ACRES

Unique opportunity! Come see this fixer upper property with picturesque Adirondack views. Situated on 10 scenic acres of wooded and pasture, this home features a tranquil pond and spring, perfect for relaxing and enjoying the natural surroundings. Attached parking in the poured concrete foundation under the main living area ensures easy access to your vehicles even during inclement weather. The property also boasts a large outbuilding, providing plenty of potential for storage, hobby space, or workshop. This home presents a unique opportunity for those seeking a peaceful retreat to customize and make your own.



NOW PENDING

MIDDLEBURY NEW LISTING!
32 TWIN CIRCLES
MLS #4974250 | \$310,000
3 BD | 1.5 BA | 1376 SF | CONDO

Sun pours in on three sides of this end-unit condo. Large kitchen with south-facing bay window. Generous living/dining area. Storage in attic, and full basement. Garage just steps away.

ipjrealestate.com

34 Main Street, downtown Middlebury
info@ipjrealestate.com | 802.388.4242

COCOON

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

Moth-Up producers Harper Nichols '24, and Joseph Wilson '24 will host, with Mahaney Center Technical Director Mark Christensen providing the musical interludes. This 11th

annual community-wide event is co-organized by Middlebury Moth-Up students Kristen Morgenstern '24, Ewan Inglis '24, Rach Peck '25, as well as Nichols and Wilson, in partnership with Mahaney Center Director Liza Sacheli.

Since 2013, Cocoon has brought students, professors, alumni, and members of the greater Vermont community together to tell stories on a given theme. The event has two rules: one, all stories must be true; two, no notes allowed. This event is presented with real-time captioning, and is appropriate for mature audiences.

Cocoon will take place at the Mahaney Arts Center's Robison Hall on Friday, Nov. 3, at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$15 for the general public; \$12 for Middlebury College ID card holders; \$8 for youth; and \$5 for Middlebury College students. This event will also be streamed; streaming tickets are \$15, or \$5 for Middlebury College students. Both live and streaming versions will offer live captioning. For tickets or further information, call 802-443-MIDD (6433) or visit go.middlebury.edu/arts.



Make the dream of home ownership a reality.
We can help. Contact us today or apply online.
Elizabeth Ryks | Community Lender | NMLS #1926197



**National Bank
of Middlebury**

EOE FDIC
Member
EQUAL
HOUSING
LENDER

nbmvt.com • 1-877-508-8455
Bank NMLS #403372

Thank You!

We do it ALL for you.

Addy Indy readers deserve the best!

That's why we work everyday to bring you excellent local coverage of our towns, schools, athletics, businesses, entertainment and more.

CONNECT WITH US  
@ADDISONINDEPENDENT

EXHIBITS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

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. On view through Oct. 31.

PHOTOPLACE GALLERY

3 Park Street, Middlebury
For more info visit photoplacegallery.com.

"The Poetry of the Ordinary," is a juried photo exhibit that captures the simple poetic elegance of the ordinary. Juror Sarah Sudhoff selected approximately 35 images for exhibition in the Middlebury gallery, and 40 more for the online gallery. On view Nov. 3-24. An opening reception will be held in

Middlebury. Friday, Nov. 3, 3-7 p.m.

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.

"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. On view through Nov. 4.

SUPPORT THE ARTS!

SUBSCRIBE
DONATE
ADVERTISE

ADDISONINDEPENDENT.COM



JAN BARK
(802) 989-0002
janbark@vtregroup.com



JEFF OLSON
(802) 989-9441
jeffolson@vtregroup.com



NIKHIL PLOUFFE
(802) 458-2968
Nikhilplouffe@vtregroup.com



SUE MACKEY
(802) 989-1417
suemackey@vtregroup.com



GEORGE BREWER
(802) 922-2127
georgebrewer@vtregroup.com



DEB HILLMAN
(802) 989-2962
debhillman@vtregroup.com



LISA SARGENT
(802) 989-8880
lisasargent@vtregroup.com



NEIL MACKEY
(802) 238-3865
neilmackey@vtregroup.com



SUE WALSH
(802) 989-3435
suewalsh@vtregroup.com



AMY YOUNG
(802) 345-8490
amyyoung@vtregroup.com



LIZ MARINO
(802) 989-1043
lizmarino@vtregroup.com



JAN JACOBS
(802) 373-0585
janjacobs@vtregroup.com



Come and see us at
32 Merchants Row this
Sunday, 10/29, from 1-3 pm
for Spooktacular!

BERKSHIRE
HATHAWAY
HOMESERVICES

VERMONT REALTY
GROUP



32 Merchants Row, Middlebury, VT
802-388-9836 • www.vtregroup.com

YOUR FOREVER REALTORS, BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS ONE HOME AT A TIME!



ADDISON COUNTY
INDEPENDENT

2023 HALLOWEEN COLORING & DECORATING CONTEST

Color and decorate this picture any way you wish (you can use this one, photocopy it, or go to addisonindependent.com/contests for a printable version).



Then submit your spooktacular masterpiece:

- **By Email** to contests@addisonindependent.com
- **By Mail or In Person** - Addison Independent, 58 Maple Street, Middlebury, VT 05753

Entries will be accepted through Monday, October 30th.

Two winners from each age group will win a prize from one of our contest sponsors. Winners will be announced in the November 2nd edition of the *Addison Independent*. All coloring pages and prizes can be picked up at our office between the hours of 9am - 4pm until Wednesday, November 22nd.



Thank you to our sponsors:



Name: _____ Age: _____

Parent/Guardian's name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Age Group: ☐ under 5 ☐ 5-6 ☐ 7-8 ☐ 9-11 ☐ 12-15 ☐ 16-Adult



A Special Section of the *Addison Independent* October 26, 2023

Addison County Responds: Flood Relief

In July 2023, historic levels of rain affected businesses, homeowners, and people living in many areas of Vermont. While Addison County seemed to avoid catastrophic damage caused by July's rainfall, the area did not fare as well in early August when more isolated storms brought heavy rainfall. The areas of the state affected by July's flooding have received a Federal Emergency Disaster Management Agency (FEMA) disaster declaration, but Addison County has not.

In the absence of Federal relief, United Way of Addison County has established the **Addison County Responds: Flood Relief** fund to support Addison County residents who have experienced home and/or property damage from this summer's rainfall and need financial assistance. This fund is made possible in part thanks to a contribution from the VT_Flood_Response

& Recovery_Fund_2023 of the Vermont Community Foundation.

Deadline: Applications may be submitted until November 15, 2023.

Review Process: A volunteer group of community members will review all applications and recommend award amounts to UWAC. Decisions will typically be made within one week of receipt of the request. Priority will be given to applicants that have:

- Significant documented home/property damage
- Experienced financial hardship as a result of flooding damage

Grant Size: Individual households may apply for up to \$1,500*

** The Steering Committee has the discretion to make grants larger than \$1,500*

Who is Eligible: Residents of Addison County who experienced home or property damage to their home/property caused by the July and/or August 2023 rainfall are eligible to apply. (Support must be for a home/property located within Addison County.)

What We Fund: Whenever possible, payment will be made to a third-party vendor, contractor, etc., to partially or wholly cover repair costs. (Applicants will be asked to provide a quote with their request.) Payments may be made directly to individuals at the discretion of the Steering Committee.

Reporting Requirements: There are no formal reporting requirements, but we'd love to hear how things are going if/when you find the time. No stories will be shared with our donors/community without express permission from recipients.

A time of transition

Dear Friends of UWAC,
This past year was — in many ways — joyful. Family gatherings, live

music, local theater, in-person meetings, and introductory handshakes returned slowly, restoring a sense of normalcy to our everyday lives. By the time May 11, 2023, rolled around and the COVID-19 public health emergency was declared over in the United States, some people may have been surprised to learn that declaration hadn't already been made. After all, we had been using pre- and post-COVID as time markers in our storytelling for months already.

But the end of the pandemic also signaled the end of relief programs

that were providing meals, shelter, and safety for hundreds of people in Addison County. Suddenly there was an increase of volatility, uncertainty, complexity, and ambiguity for people most negatively affected by the pandemic. A ripple effect strain was felt by UWAC's funded partners as they worked to comfort, feed, shelter, and support people thrown into a new crisis caused by the end of a familiar one.

In the pages that follow, you'll find compelling data that demonstrates that the needs in Addison County are ever present. You'll also read how UWAC has responded to these needs, shifting and increasing our community investments, the awareness of local issues, and the partnerships to strengthen the response. This content and our work simply would not exist if it wasn't for the generosity of folks like you. Thank you. Together, we can continue to take care of each other.

Sincerely,

Helena Van Voorst,
Executive Director
Ken Stockman, Board Chair



A trust-based approach to fund requests

We lowered the barriers for small organizations to apply

UWAC's Board of Directors approved \$132,000 in Community Impact Funding (CIF) for the 2023 priority area of Education. This increase of over \$36,000 was made possible by the community's strong support of UWAC's fundraising efforts.

UWAC focuses its efforts in three areas: Health, Education, and Financial Stability. Any organization receiving a CIF grant from UWAC must clearly align with one of these areas of need. Every year, UWAC enters funding relationships under one of these focus areas and makes three-year grants. A diverse team of dedicated Addison County citizens carefully review and evaluate applicants and make program funding recommendations to UWAC's Board of

(See Impact, Page 2)



Hands-on help

YOUNG VOLUNTEERS CLEAR some brush outside the Rokeby Museum in Ferrisburgh last month as part of the United Way of Addison County’s annual Days of Caring.

Impact

(Continued from Page 1)

Directors.

This year, UWAC took a trust-based philanthropy approach to its CIF application and review process. Rather than requiring nonprofits to submit a lengthy application scored by reviewers, nonprofits submitted a Letter of Interest. Instead of scoring written applications, UWAC’s volunteer review team spent time looking at local data, researching applicant organizations, and preparing for site visits that ultimately allowed reviewers to gain a deeper understanding of each organization’s work and how/if UWAC could best support them with its limited local philanthropic dollars.

UWAC believes the new application approach was key in welcoming 20 new nonprofits to submit their Letters of Interest in funding.

“We took a careful look at our funding structures and systems and determined that the barrier to applying may leave out smaller organizations doing big work,” Van Voorst said. “We expected to have some new-to-UWAC organizations apply - but didn’t expect to have 20! There is both great need and great work being done in Addison County.”

The process was also well received by 13 returning UWAC funded partners. Taylor Welch, executive director of the HUB in Bristol, said, “It is incredible to see UWAC shift more towards trust-based philanthropy, especially since it tracks so closely with the relationships UWAC works so hard to build with the agencies in the area. We are so excited that the HUB has the privilege of partnering with you folks.”

“The trust-based philanthropy approach to grant-making puts the burden of collecting information about applicants on the funder. We don’t want the grant application at UWAC to be a barrier for local nonprofits doing frontline, life-saving work and who need our financial support and resources.”

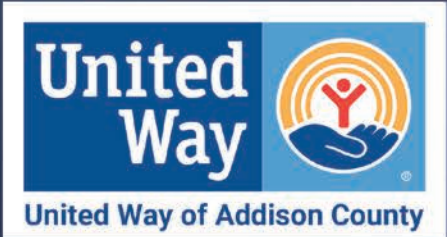
— Helena Van Voorst



Nothing makes us happier than connecting a volunteer to the needs in our community!

Visit our online Volunteer Center to find a volunteer opportunity that fits your interests, availability, and passion!
<https://bit.ly/UWACVolCtr>

For more information, contact Amy Hoekstra at amyh@unitedwayaddisoncounty.org



Bringing Grant Dollars to Addison County

United Way of Addison County has been the recipient of both State and Federal grants that allows us to invest in the community in different ways. See the description of those grants below, and visit unitedwayaddisoncounty.org/advocate for updates on our work.

Drug-Free Communities (DFC) Support Program

The Drug-Free Communities (DFC) Support Program is the nation's leading effort to mobilize communities to prevent youth substance use.

Funding Agency: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

Amount: \$125,000 Annually (\$625,000 over a 5-year period, 2019 - 2024)

Local Programs: DFC dollars support the Addison County Substance Use Prevention Coalition, serving all youth in Addison County with specific focus on grades 9-12. Initiatives within the DFC grant include substance use prevention community education and resource sharing. DFC supports the Coalition to help build capacity, engage partners, and provide trainings to our youth-serving organizations.

Partnership for Success (PFS)

PFS helps reduce the onset and progression of substance misuse and its related problems by supporting the development and delivery of state and community substance misuse prevention and mental health promotion services.

Funding Agency: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)

Amount: \$285,615 from 2022-2023 (\$1,002,449 over a 5-year period, 2019-2024)

Local Programs: In Addison County, PFS funding is used to collect data and inform families of protective factors that will prevent or delay youth substance use. The PFS grant supports our annual Celebrate Safely program in which all Addison County Juniors and Seniors receive a shirt with a reminder to "Celebrate Safely" before prom & graduation, both high risk times for substance use.

Homelessness Health Equity (HHE)

This capacity building grant from the State of Vermont supports the Addison County Homeless Health Equity Alliance (ACHHEA), a partnership of 10 local service providers and/or people with lived experience, in developing an action plan to systematize and streamline access to care for homeless individuals and families in Addison County.

Funding Agency: State of Vermont Department of Health

Amount: \$83,536 (over a 2-year period, 2022-2024)

Local Programs: Development of an action plan to increase access to healthcare among unsheltered.

Vermont Vaping Grant

The State Vaping grant was introduced to address the rising concerns and challenges around electronic vaping products (EVPS) and use of nicotine.

Funding Agency: State of Vermont Department of Health

Amount: \$30,000 Annually (\$90,000 over a 3-year period, 2022-2025)

Local Programs: UWAC is supporting schools, parents, and community members in understanding the harmful effects of nicotine and EVPs on youths development and mental health. This information is shared through community events, parent engagement, and directly with youth grades 3-12.

Sober Truth on Preventing Underage Drinking (STOP) Act Grant

The STOP Act Grant is crucial in honing in on the need to reduce underage drinking and will provide resources to youth, parents, and guardians about the harm of alcohol on brain development and performance in school.

Funding Agency: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)

Amount: \$60,000 annually (\$240,000 over a 4 year period, 2023-2027)

Local Programs: Funding will be used to promote protective factors, cultivate substance-free environments, and support Trauma-Informed Systems Training for our community. Therefore, for the next four years, each of Addison County's three public high schools, including Middlebury Union High School, Mt. Abraham Union High School, and Vergennes Union High School, will receive \$5,000 towards Project Graduation to promote substance-free events during high-risk times for underage drinking.





Helping Overcome Poverty's Effects

Thank you, UWAC!

282 Boardman St., Middlebury • 802-388-3608
www.hope-vt.org



CAMILA BLANCO

Youth Scholarship Award

United Way of Addison County fosters community service in all community members, but especially in our youth. In that spirit, we are pleased to honor a local high school senior through our “LIVE UNITED” Volunteer Scholarship Award. On behalf of a generous donor, an Addison County student is chosen annually for the “LIVE UNITED” Volunteer Scholarship Award, recognizing them for volunteering in their community and helping them in advancing their education. This award comes with a \$3,000 cash award, to be used for post-graduation education (college, trade school, adult education, etc.).

Congratulations, Camila Blanco!

The 2023 LIVE UNITED Volunteer Scholarship Award recipient is Camila Blanco of Salisbury. Fluent in both Spanish and English, Camila served as a volunteer at Open Door Clinic as their receptionist. She says it was a privilege to be a friendly face that welcomed patients into the clinic and communicated with them in a way that put them at ease in an unfamiliar setting.

Julia Doucet, Outreach Nurse and Case Manager at Open Door Clinic said that Camila’s presence at the clinic brightened many of their patients’ days. “At the end of a long work day, showing up to a warm welcome and a familiar accent is like a warm blanket. Camila would engage in brief conversations with each patient, knowing the cultural expectation of asking about their families. She is a valuable member of our clinic team.”

Camila graduated from Middlebury Union High School in June 2023 and plans to attend Tufts University to major in Political Science. From the Board and Staff at United Way of Addison County, congratulations, Camila! Thank you for your service to Addison County!



Volunteering helping hands

STAFF FROM OXFORD Rug Hooking take a break while improving the hallway at a local nonprofit during the 2022 Days of Caring.

UWAC
Board of Directors
2023-2024

Ken Stockman, President
Laura Mack, Vice President
Logan Price, Treasurer

Jon Crystal, Secretary
Ann Crumb, Member-at-Large
Maria Collette
Nikki Dobrev

Janet Franklin
Silvia Gonzalez
Mark Peluso

The impact Helena, and her team, have on our social service network is beyond inspiring. Our entire community is better served because the work of UWAC is intentional and timely.

THANK YOU!



27 North Pleasant Street | Middlebury, VT 05753
(802) 989-8621 | info@chcvt.org | www.chcvt.org

THANK YOU, UWAC
for supporting
mentoring
relationships!



MAUSD
Mentoring



Addison County goes to Washington, D.C.

What does it mean to advocate and support the community?

It means to elevate and amplify voices! Last week, United Way of Addison County staff, including Sylvie Choiniere (Director of Advocacy), Celia Heath (Public Health and Advocacy

Coordinator), and Helena Van Voorst (Executive Director), had the chance to meet with Federal Delegates during the United Way Advocacy Forum and Capitol Hill Day. They met with Representative Becca Balint, Legislative Staff from Senator Peter Welch's Office, and left materials with Senator Bernie Sanders regarding priorities

that need Federal support. During these conversations, they talked about priority areas for Addison County, including housing, workforce, healthcare access, food insecurity, transportation, and our aging population. Information gathered from the 2023 Addison County Data Meeting through funded partners and other local community organizations was shared with the offices to amplify the need for federal support. UWAC staff was there to amplify the voices of our community and bring awareness to the long waitlist for healthcare and mental health services due to the workforce and the housing crisis, coupled with the average age of residents rising and the need for additional services.

Additionally, UWAC staff discussed the need for support around the United Way Worldwide priorities, including the Help Act to support 2-1-1 funding nationally in order to provide this service 24/7. The continued support of the 2023 Farm Bill would help support SNAP Benefits and address food insecurity nationally and locally. However, UWAC Staff raised concerns about Delta 8 and Delta 10 synthesized cannabinoids derived from hemp that have psychoactive effects and are being manufactured into candies, fruit drinks, and other youth-targeted items. Coalitions across the nation are looking for Federal Support to ban these cannabinoids from the market. Another

priority included the Charitable Act to incentivize philanthropy by providing additional federal tax incentives for charitable donations for individuals, foundations, and businesses. This would help non-profits recoup from Covid-19, in which there was a major decrease in donations. Lastly, UWAC staff thanked the Federal Delegates for their continued support for substance use prevention and mental health needs and their openness to conversations and support for their constituents.

What is the goal of these meetings?

UWAC's goal in meeting and developing relationships with Federal Delegates is to be a resource and quickly respond to data needs (anecdotal, quantitative, and qualitative). These relationships help connect the community to the ears of federal support and ensure the needs of Addison County are seen and heard.

How can I help and get involved?

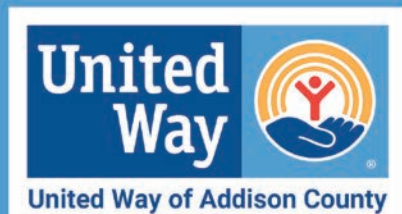
To learn more about what is happening in Addison County, please check out information from the 2023 Addison County Data Meeting. If you would like to donate, please click here! We are all in this together and working to build a healthy and thriving Addison County!

Contact Sylvie Choiniere for more information.



UNITED WAY OF Addison County staff attended a United Way Advocacy Forum and Capitol Hill Day in Washington, D.C. this past June and met with members of Vermont's Congressional delegation. Shown in the Capitol are, from left, Celia Heath, Helena Van Voorst, U.S. Rep. Becca Balint and Sylvie Choiniere.

Days of Caring connects hundreds of volunteers with dozens of nonprofits for two days of hard work, laughter, and making a change in our community.



Thank you to our 2023 Volunteers!



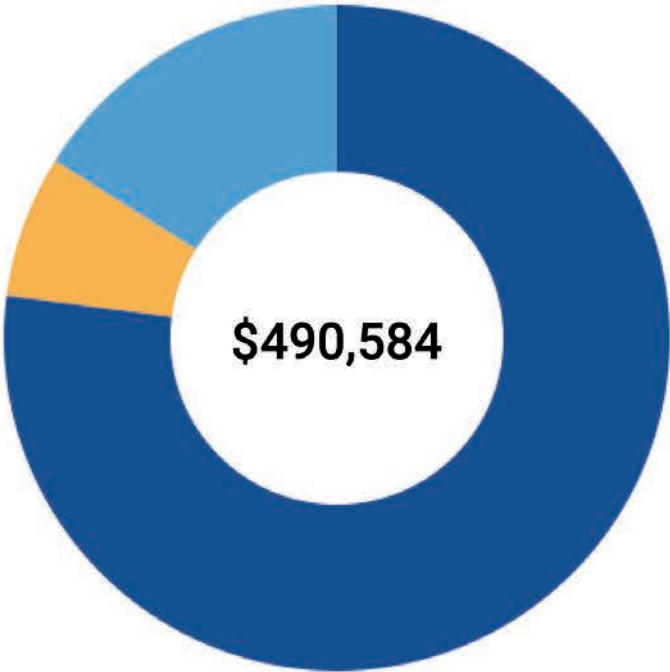
We are so proud to be a funded partner of UWAC.



254 Ethan Allen Highway, New Haven | P.O. Box 754,
Middlebury 05753 | 388-7259 | ACHHH.org

Korri Wass/photo credit

Community Investments

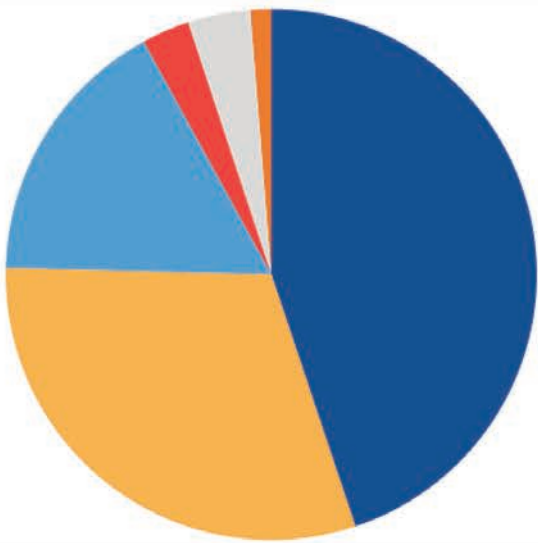


Community Impact Funding Grants
\$377,902

UWAC Community Programs
\$78,830

UWAC Mission Investments
\$33,852

Community Programs



- The Volunteer Center** connects volunteers with opportunities that match their interests, availability, and passion
- Vermont 2-1-1**, the helpline that connects callers to available human services including food, shelter and healthcare
- Stuff the Bus**, an annual program that provides 500 backpacks and school supplies to Addison County students
- Days of Caring** connects volunteers with nonprofits for two days of making a change in our community
- Youth Scholarship Award** recognizes an Addison County student for their volunteerism
- Learn United**, a collaboration with Hedgehog + Fox to bring free professional development opportunities to nonprofits

Mission Investments

\$25,352 **Addison County Housing Solutions Group:** to support individuals experiencing homelessness and the agencies providing services

\$8,500 **Addison County Racial Equity Learning Community:** to facilitate conversations with local nonprofit leaders who support each other to address and dismantle systemic racism both within our organizations and within our communities

Area students celebrate safely

Celebrate Safely is an annual social marketing campaign for local high school students and their families during prom and graduation season. It is a reminder to be safe and make good decisions before, during, and after these high-risk events. It is also a reminder to make a plan with your friends and family on what your activities will be following prom and graduation events.

UWAC wants to ensure that all Addison County students keep themselves, their

friends, and their community safe by riding and driving responsibly and being in safe environments at all times.

We had the opportunity to visit Middlebury Union High School, Mt. Abraham Union High School, and Vergennes Union High School in May 2023 to relay the Celebrate Safely message to juniors and seniors. The partnerships with our area high schools is imperative to encouraging our youth to live healthy and safe lives!



VERGENNES UNION HIGH SCHOOL



MIDDLEBURY UNION HIGH SCHOOL



MOUNT ABRAHAM UNION HIGH SCHOOL



We are proud to be a
United Way supporter.

WOODWARE

www.woodwarevt.com

Route 7 South • Middlebury • 388-6297

J.D. FULLER

PLUMBING & HEATING INC.

388-2019 ~ MIDDLEBURY • VT

Support our local agencies!

Contribute today to the United Way.

John Fuller, Master Plumber • 388-2019

Serving Addison County since 1989

Meet the United Way of Addison County team



Helena Van Voorst
Executive Director

- Hometown:** Vergennes
- **A member of Team UWAC since:** April 2018
 - **I knew I loved Addison County when:** I lived in another part of the country for a few years. I missed the trees, the lakes and rivers, and the people!
 - **My UWAC coworkers love it when I:** over-caffeinate
 - **My favorite weekday lunchtime location:** the UWAC picnic table (but only in perfect weather conditions)



Steve Williams
Director of Finance

- Hometown:** New Haven
- **A member of Team UWAC since:** July 2014
 - **I knew I loved Addison County when:** checking out the natural sights and wonders along the TAM Trail and occasionally encountering fellow nature walkers and their furry friends.
 - **My UWAC coworkers love it when I:** roll my eyes.
 - **My favorite weekday lunchtime location:** I can be found in the UWAC conference room during weekday lunches, but I'll jump around a bit when it comes to assigned seating. ;)



Erin Reed
Development & Marketing Director

- Hometown:** Addison
- **A member of Team UWAC since:** January 2020
 - **I knew I loved Addison County when:** I went out of state for college. That first fall in a city and away from Vermont foliage just felt wrong!
 - **My UWAC coworkers love it when I:** refuse to back down from a challenge.
 - **My favorite weekday lunchtime location:** UWAC picnic table! If the sun is shining, we should be there, no matter the temperature!



Sylvie (Choiniere) Morrison
Director of Advocacy

- Hometown:** Mineville, N.Y.
- **A member of Team UWAC since:** Feb 2023 (not counting my time as a UWAC board member from Nov 2022 - Jan 2023!)
 - **I knew I loved Addison County when:** My husband proposed to me right next to Middlebury Falls! Addison County will always have my heart.
 - **My UWAC coworkers love it when I:** ask everyone what they are having for dinner.
 - **My favorite weekday lunchtime location:** As long as the food is delicious, location doesn't matter!

We're so thankful for all that the United Way of Addison County does for our students!



 **Vermont Adult Learning**
In-person and remote instruction * Earn your diploma or GED * Learn English * College and Career Support

99 MAPLE STREET #18, MIDDLEBURY, VT | 802-388-4392
www.VTAdultLearning.org | addisoninfo@vtadultlearning.org



Proudly supporting the
VOLUNTEERS
of
UNITED WAY
and all the work they do for our community.

www.middleburyeye.com
91 Main Street | Middlebury, VT
388-2811
Monday • Wednesday • Friday 8am-5:30pm
Tuesday • Thursday 8am-8pm

Meet the United Way of Addison County team



Lee Bilson
Office Administrator

Hometown: Bristol

- **A member of Team UWAC since:** February 2016
- **I knew I loved Addison County when:** Every morning I get to drive to work seeing the beautiful mountains, the vast farm fields and I get to say, "I can't believe I get to live here."
- **My UWAC coworkers love it when I:** Buy snacks for the office
- **My favorite weekday lunchtime location:** At the UWAC picnic table with my coworkers



Amy Hoekstra
Volunteer & Donor Engagement Coordinator

Hometown: Middlebury

- **A member of Team UWAC since:** July 2021
- **I knew I loved Addison County when:** I started working at UWAC and felt how welcoming Addison County was.
- **My UWAC coworkers love it when I:** Talk about my former life as an Arizonan.
- **My favorite weekday lunchtime location:** If it's nice outside, at the picnic table. If it's cold (below 75), inside please.



Celia Heath
Public Health & Advocacy Coordinator

Hometown: Starksboro

- **A member of Team UWAC since:** September 2021
- **I knew I loved Addison County when:** I was making decisions about where to apply for jobs post college, I didn't want to work in any other community.
- **My UWAC coworkers love it when I:** laugh at my own jokes.
- **My favorite weekday lunchtime location:** UWAC conference room, in our assigned seats of course.



Gina Lebeau
Youth Coordinator

Hometown: Panton

- **A member of Team UWAC since:** November 2022
- **I knew I loved Addison County when:** I went to Field Days for the first time as a little kid.
- **My UWAC coworkers love it when I:** Tell them what's cool
- **My favorite weekday lunchtime location:** The Middlebury Natural Foods Co-op



The Addison County 365 Business Circle provides busy entrepreneurs, business owners, and managers an opportunity to make a significant impact on the lives of people in your community – with just one gift. Get involved at UnitedWayAddisonCounty.org.

Thank you to our 2022-2023 Members

Cambium Construction
Champlain Valley Plumbing & Heating
Champlain Valley Properties
Countryside Carpet & Paint
Co-Operative Insurance Companies
Fire & Ice
Forth 'N Goal
HomeSmith Services, LLC

IPJ Real Estate
J.D. Fuller Plumbing & Heating
Kennedy Brothers
Maple Landmark
Middlebury Bagel & Deli
Middlebury Fitness
National Bank of Middlebury
Otter Creek Engineering

The Oxford Rug Hooking School
Reed's Equipment/GEA
South Mountain Transport
Stonewell Properties, LLC
Travel by Heidi Cunningham, LLC
Vermont Gynecology
Vermont Water
Wildflower Ironworks

Meet the United Way of Addison County team



Aislynnne McGill
Youth Coordinator

Hometown: Bridport

• **A member of Team UWAC since:**
August 2023

• **I knew I loved Addison County when:** I got to participate in all the community activities/events.

• **My UWAC coworkers love it when I:** Sass and joke around with them

• **My favorite weekday lunchtime location:** Juice Amour



ACORN and the ACORN Food Hub thanks UWAC for its support of our Farmacy: Food is Medicine program.



Learn more at www.acornvt.org.



Thank you, United Way, for your work in our communities!



INSURING YOU AND YOUR NEIGHBOR

At Co-op, we're member owned and member committed. Since 1915, we've been providing protection for individuals, farms, and businesses with a large network of local agents, fast and fair claims service, loss control expertise, and affordable rates. At the Co-op, you're a member, not just a number.



HOME • BUSINESS • AUTO • FARM
Middlebury, Vermont • 802-388-7917 • co-opinsurance.com

MEMBER OWNED. MEMBER COMMITTED.



Strong communities need a strong United Way.

Please make your gift today at
UnitedWayAddisonCounty.org.



Joy is Ageless

We find joy in the simple pleasures in life:

- Fun Activities • Delicious Meals
- Friendships - new and old • And a Supportive Community.

Come join us!

Project Independence Adult Day Center
Supporting Elders and Families since 1981
Call for more information or a tour.



Elderly Services

Supporting Elders and Families since 1981

112 Exchange St., Midd., Vt. | 802-388-3983
www.elderlyservices.org

**Thank you to the staff and volunteers of
United Way of Addison County.**

**YOU MAKE A
DIFFERENCE IN
all OF OUR LIVES!**



34 MAIN STREET
downtown MIDDLEBURY, VT
info@ipjrealestate.com
802.388.4242

IPJREALESTATE.COM

**We know that strong communities
don't happen by accident.**

**Thanks to the United Way of Addison County
for all you do to keep us united and strong.**

We're proud to tell your story.

**ADDISON COUNTY
INDEPENDENT**

Middlebury, Vt. 05753 • (802) 388-4944 • Addisonindependent.com

Together, We Can

Support of United Way of Addison County is an investment that impacts the entire community - below are just a few of the statistics from 2022-2023.

750



The number of permanently affordable homes managed and stewarded by **Addison County Community Trust (ACCT)**.

UWAC's Funding: supported ACCT's ability to carry out infrastructure upgrades in their manufactured housing communities.

190



The total number of children served by UWAC's funded partner childcare programs: **Addison County Parent/Child Center, Bristol Family Center, Mary Johnson Children's Center, Starksboro Cooperative Preschool, and Otter Creek Children's Center.**

UWAC's Funding: supported traditional program funding, provided food for families, staff salaries, operational support, professional development, family/parenting education, and day-to-day business of providing high-quality early care and learning programs to children 6 weeks to 5 years old.

100

PARTICIPANTS



200

FAMILY MEMBERS

Received transportation, meals, and adult day services through **Elderly Services' Project Independence**.

Benefit from having a safe, loving, and stimulating environment for their loved one.

UWAC's Funding: supported programming, family counseling services, and continued growth of the program.



12,000

The number of books **Addison County Readers** mailed to preschoolers as part of the Dolly Parton Imagination Library.

UWAC's Funding: supported the purchase and mailing of books to Addison County children ages birth to 5 years old.

655



The number of hours that **Turning Point Center of Addison County** Recovery Coaches spent with people who are experiencing addiction, who are actively in recovery, or who are concerned about someone else's substance use.

UWAC's Funding: supported the payroll for Recovery Coaches.



2,696

The number of individuals who accessed the programs, services, and resources provided by **Helping Overcome Poverty's Effects (HOPE)**.

UWAC's Funding: supported HOPE's food programs including the food shelf, food availability, and more.

Addison County Youth Survey

The 2023 Addison County Youth Survey provides data that helps inform and improve substance misuse prevention programs for Addison County youth and families. 908 middle and high school students in Addison County schools participated in the survey, providing UWAC with some of the data below.

(2021 results appear in red)

Scan here
for full results
of the
Youth Survey



88.2%

of high schoolers believe their parents think it's wrong for them to have 1-2 alcoholic beverages each day.

5.2% decrease compared to 2021 results (93.4%)

90.5%

of middle schoolers agree

2.1% decrease compared to 2021 results (92.6%)

29.2%

Of high schoolers reported having at least one alcoholic drink during the past 30 days

1.8% increase compared to 2021 results (24.2%)

6.3%

Of middle schoolers reported that level of use

0.8% increase compared to 2021 results (5.5%)

14.2%

Of high schoolers reported having vaped during the past 30 days

1.8% increase compared to 2021 results (12.4%)

4.8%

Of middle schoolers reported to that behavior

1.2% increase compared to 2021 results (3.6%)

20.4%

Of high schoolers reported to having used marijuana/ cannabis during the past 30 days

3.4% increase compared to 2021 results (17.0%)

3.2%

Of middle schoolers reported to that behavior

1.0% increase compared to 2021 results (2.2%)



Stay Involved. Stay Connected.
Telecommunications Sales & Service
Data Cabling & Fiber Optics

Now offering
Security
Surveillance
Systems

John & Jim Fitzgerald 802-388-8999



We can all be Uniters!
PLEASE HELP WHERE AND WHEN YOU CAN. LET'S ALL DO OUR PART TO SUPPORT THE EFFORTS OF THE UNITED WAY OF ADDISON COUNTY!

802-989-7220
51 OSSIE ROAD,
EAST MIDDLEBURY, VT
MON. 8 AM-2 PM
TUES.-SAT. 7 AM-2 PM
EAST IS CLOSED SUNDAYS



802-388-3371
14 COLLEGE ST.
MIDDLEBURY, VT
802-388-3371
TUES.-SAT. 7AM-4PM
SUN.-MON. 8AM-2PM



OtterCreekBakery.com



FY24 Investment: \$377,902

The campaign dollars raised in 2022-2023 will allow UWAC to invest in three impact areas with the following partners in the coming Community Impact Funding cycle

Health \$115,062

- | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| Addison Allies Network: \$8,000 | Junebug: \$1,500 |
| Addison County Home Health & Hospice: \$7,392 | Lund: \$2,000 |
| Addison County Relocalization Network: \$5,000 | Open Door Clinic: \$22,500 |
| Age Well: \$10,690 | Pathways Vermont: \$3,000 |
| Elderly Services: \$8,709 | Prevent Child Abuse Vermont: \$3,000 |
| Green Mountain Foster Bikes: \$1,500 | Turning Point Center: \$5,000 |
| John Graham Housing & Services: \$16,771 | WomenSafe: \$20,000 |

Education \$132,000

- | | |
|---|--|
| Addison Central Teens: \$7,500 | Middlebury Area Land Trust: \$5,000* |
| Addison County Parent Child Center: \$12,000 | Otter Creek Child Center: \$12,000 |
| Addison County Readers: \$2,500 | Red Clover Children’s Center: \$5,000* |
| Bixby Memorial Free Library: \$2,500* | Starksboro Cooperative Preschool: \$12,000 |
| Boys & Girls Club of Greater Vergennes: \$7,500 | Teen Makery After-School: \$10,000* |
| Bristol Family Center: \$12,000 | Vermont Adult Learning: \$11,000 |
| DREAM Program: \$1,500 | Willowell Foundation: \$10,000* |
| The HUB Teen Center & Skatepark: \$7,500 | |
| Mary Johnson Children’s Center: \$12,000 | |
| MAUSD Mentoring: \$2,000* | |

* Indicates new funded partner in FY24

Financial Stability \$130,841

- | | |
|---|--|
| Addison County Community Trust: \$16,446 | John Graham Housing & Services: \$22,500 |
| Charter House Coalition: \$26,000 | New Community Project: \$2,000 |
| Counseling Services of Addison County: \$20,093 | Tri-Valley Transit: \$22,054 |
| HOPE: \$21,749 | |

Proud supporters of United Way of Addison County

ADDISON COUNTY
INDEPENDENT

Serving Addison County, Vt., Since 1946

58 Maple Street, Middlebury • (802) 388-4944 • addisonindependent.com

THANK YOU, UWAC!

the
TEEN^{CENTER}

77 Mary Hogan Drive, Middlebury
teencentervt.org • [@teencentervt](https://www.instagram.com/teencentervt)



THANK YOU UWAC!

**ADDISON COUNTY READERS IS PROUD
TO BE A FUNDED PARTNER.**

Thanks to **United Way of Addison County** and **Dolly Parton's Imagination Library**, Addison County Readers is able to send free books to any child under 5 in Addison County. Scan the QR code or visit the link below to learn more and register your child today!

SCAN ME



Register at addisoncountyreaders.org



Otter Creek Child Center Inc.
“Celebrating 40 years of helping children discover their love for learning”



Nancy Foster



Diana Berthiaume



January Stearns



Brenda Jaring



Heather Foster-Provencher

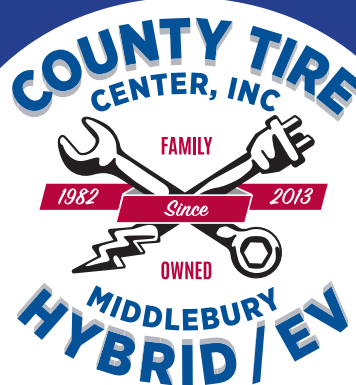
Champlain Valley Properties
appreciates all the good work done by
United Way of Addison County and is
happy to support this Agency!



Champlain Valley Properties

70 Court Street, Middlebury, VT | 802-989-7522

ChamplainValleyProperty.net



Supporting Our Community

As The Oldest Locally
Owned & Operated
Automotive and Tire Shop
in Addison County
for **41 Years!**

nokian[®]
TYRES



BORN FOR WINTER

HAKKAPELIITTA® R5

PURE SAFETY
PURE WINTER GRIP
PURE DRIVING COMFORT
PURE CONFIDENCE

VISIT NOKIANTIRES.COM/WINTERLEGEND



33 Seymour Street, Middlebury, VT
802-388-7620

www.countytirecenter.com
info@countytirecenter.com

8am to 5 pm • Closed Saturday and Sunday



When you support United Way of Addison County, you strengthen the interconnected network of local nonprofits that support people who need it most. No one organization can do it alone - we must be **United in Purpose.**

Please make your gift today and join the community of people working together to make Addison County a better place to live for all.

Make your gift today at UnitedWayAddisonCounty.org